



*** QDG DIGIPEAT January 2017 ***

Digipeat is the Official Newsletter of the Queensland Digital Group
Incorporating 'Amateur Eye', the Official Newsletter of the
South East Queensland Amateur Television Group

January QDG Meeting

The Next QDG general meeting will be held on Friday January 20 at the Redcliffe club rooms.
Doors will open at 7:00pm for a meeting start of 7:30pm.

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring. (UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

Editorial

Happy New Year to all, I hope Santa brought you lots of radio gear.

I hope to hear a few members on air during the January VHF Field day.

Alan VK4NA

VHF-UHF Field Days

Summer 2017 – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 January

The VHF-UHF Field Days provide VHF-UHF operators with the opportunity to "head for the hills" and see how far and how many they can work.

The Field Days have separate sections for single and multiple operator stations. The duration of the Field Day is 24 hours, but there are also 8 hour sections for operators who may not be able to camp overnight. Most club stations prefer to operate for the full 24 hours.

The Field Days also generate plenty of activity from home stations, so there is also a separate Home Station section.

All contacts must be simplex: contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed. There is plenty of FM activity, but one feature of the Field Days is a high level of SSB activity.

It is possible to do very well with only modest antennas if you pick a good hilltop. Another option, if your station is easily transportable, is to operate from more than one location during the contest period.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

My DMR, Fusion, MMDVM Information

Some information on my DMR, Fusion and MMDVM projects along with links to other Digital Voice sites.

<http://ve1cra.net/main/dmr.html>

EEVblog Electronics Community Forum

<http://www.eevblog.com/forum/other-blog-specific/dd/>



Shop and Bog

<http://www.jpole-antenna.com/>



News from VK6

<http://www.vk6.net/>

StackExchange CHEMISTRY

Chemistry Stack Exchange is a question and answer site for scientists, academics, teachers and students.

Water extraction of ethanol from petrol

<http://chemistry.stackexchange.com/questions/38058/water-extraction-of-ethanol-from-petrol>

How to Start a Blog

Easy step-by-step guide, create a blog in 20 minutes.

<http://www.stepstostartablog.com/>



HUMBUG is a Unix (*BSD, Linux, Mac OS X, Solaris, etc.) and Open Source user group that meets fortnightly at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

<http://www.humbug.org.au/>

Removing Ethanol from E10 Fuel

Information for anyone that needs to remove ethanol from fuel for lawn mowers, boats, bikes etc.

<http://www.mcnews.com/mcn/technical/2012decethanol.pdf>

Radio Garden: An addictive way to scan online radio stations

An interactive map that lets you tune into any one of thousands of radio stations all over the world in real time.

<http://swling.com/blog/2016/12/radio-garden-an-addictive-way-to-scan-online-radio-stations/>

VK2ZOI

Half-Wave Flower Pot Antenna

Dual Band Half-Wave Flower Pot Antenna

Single 5/8 Flower Pot Antenna

Double 5/8 Flower Pot Antenna

Experimental Dual Band High Gain Flower Pot Antenna

<http://vk2zoi.com/articles/half-wave-flower-pot/>

SolderSmoke Daily News

Serving the worldwide community of radio-electronic homebrewers. Providing blog support to the SolderSmoke podcast: <http://soldersmoke.com>

Blog

<http://soldersmoke.blogspot.com.au/>

VK4ZQ

Amateur Radio with an Emphasis on Microwaves

Having Fun with Amateur Radio Satellites

Four years ago I dismantled my amateur radio station and moved to a new location. The new location, while perfect for my lifestyle, is less than ideal for amateur radio. To begin with, it is only 10 meters above sea level and surrounded by houses and apartments. Not the location for towers and associated antennas. I have however erected a small mast with HF wire antennas and VHF, UHF & SHF Yagi antennas that allow me to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio.

<https://vk4zq.wordpress.com/2016/09/24/having-fun-with-amateur-radio-satellites/>

5 Band Indoor Magnetic Loop

A indoor magnetic loop antenna that covers 20 17 15 12 and 10 meters band with a 3 meter length of 22 mm copper tube by G4IZH

<http://www.dxzone.com/dx30397/5-band-indoor-magnetic-loop.html>

Your guide to some of the best meteor showers for 2017

[http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2017/01/best-meteor-showers-of-](http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2017/01/best-meteor-showers-of-2017?adbsc=social_20170105_69177026&adbid=10154232495938339&adbpl=fb&adbpr=100614418338)

[2017?adbsc=social_20170105_69177026&adbid=10154232495938339&adbpl=fb&adbpr=100614418338](http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2017/01/best-meteor-showers-of-2017?adbsc=social_20170105_69177026&adbid=10154232495938339&adbpl=fb&adbpr=100614418338)



Jake's Electronics

Jakelec is an electronics blog, centered around IOT, home automation and smart electronics to improve our lives.

<https://www.facebook.com/jakeleccom-101519403679430/>

VK5KBB



Welcome to 30 years of RF design experience!

Not many people can boast designing the industry standard HF mobile automatic tuning antenna and have that design stand unchallenged for over 20 years!

I'm fortunate that my business is also my hobby and now after many years my friends and colleagues have finally convinced me to start making some of my projects available for the wider Amateur radio community.

Some of these projects were nothing more than heavily modified first revisions of hand built boards.

I've needed to take my industry experience in commercialisation of new technology and apply it to some of the more promising projects and turn them into saleable products.

Bookmark this site and keep checking back as more projects get revealed.

<http://vk5kbb.com/>

Folded Dipole Calculator

A simple online folded dipole antenna calculator

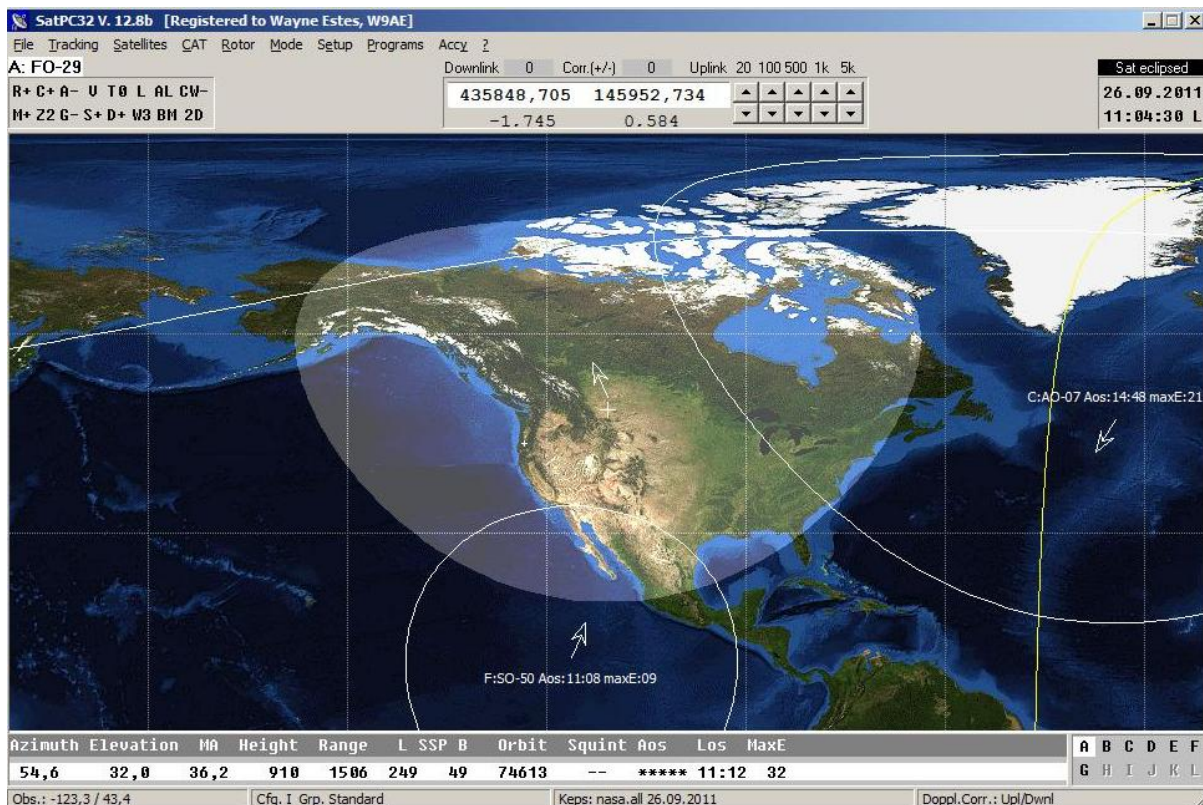
<http://www.dxzone.com/dx32420/folded-dipole-calculator.html>

GFS forecast charts

This section features GFS forecast charts for the Australian region with an emphasis on providing charts related to forecasting thunderstorms. Each of GFS's 4 daily runs/forecasts are available.

Modifiable forecast soundings are also available by clicking anywhere on an image once a regional map is selected. All times are local for Aus.

<http://forecasts.bsch.com.au/stormcast.html>



DK1TB

Software, descriptions and screenshots and downloads of my programs for satellite tracking and antenna

<http://www.dk1tb.de/indexeng.htm>



Sound Preservation Association of Tasmania

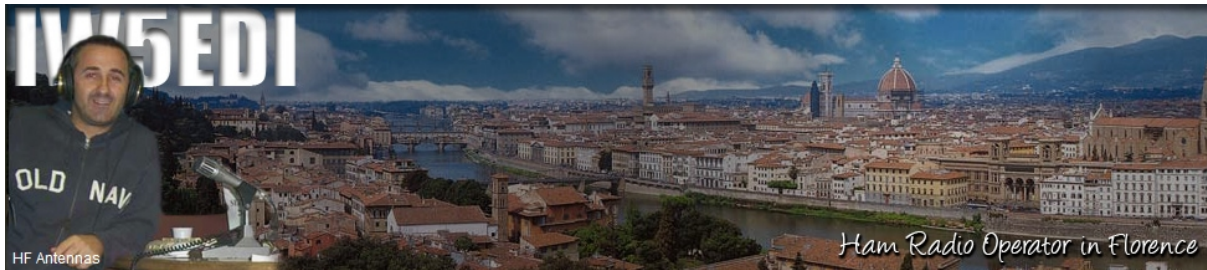
The Sound Preservation Association of Tasmania is an incorporated body that aims to identify, collect and preserve recorded sound, equipment, literature, memorabilia and oral histories of especially Tasmanian origin.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sound-Preservation-Association-of-Tasmania/517492184958866>

KiwiSDR

The KiwiSDR is always accessed over a network connection using a browser running on another computer or mobile device. This can be from your local network or by anyone on the Internet if you have chosen to make your KiwiSDR publicly available.

<http://kiwisdr.northlandradio.nz/>



3 Element 28 MHz light weight Yagi

In the solar maximum years 28 MHz is full of DX stations, that can be worked with very simple equipment. However the fun will be even greater with a proper antenna. So I decided to build a 3 elm. yagi and took the design from ARRL's: "Yagi Antenna Design" by W2PV.

<http://www.iw5edi.com/ham-radio/?3-element-28-mhz-light-weight-yagi,107>

Difference Between ADSL and VDSL

Very High Bitrate Digital Subscriber Line or VDSL/VHDSL is an improved version of the technology, ADSL or Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line, which we use to connect to the internet. They are different in how they are implemented so you probably cannot use the equipment of one for the other. The most significant difference between the two technologies that is most relevant to the use is speed. ADSL can reach maximum speeds of 8mbps download and 1mbps for upload. In comparison, VDSL can have up to 52mbps for download and 16mbps for upload.

<http://www.differencebetween.net/technology/difference-between-adsl-and-vdsl/>



HF Terrain Analysis

It doesn't take much operating experience for a Ham to realize that the terrain around their station has a significant impact on the strength of the signal radiated from their antennas. A Ham with a location in a valley isn't going to "get out" as well as the Ham located on a ridge line above surrounding terrain. But beyond these "obvious" cases, most Hams need help in understanding how the surrounding terrain impacts their station and how they may be able to mitigate these effects by choice and placement of antennas.

<http://k6tu.net/?q=TerrainProfiles>

Small "Magnetic" Transmitting Loop for 80-20 mtrs

I wanted a small transmitting loop (STL) antenna that covers at least the 80 and 40 meter bands (preferable 80 - 20). Why?

I want to do 80 mtrs DX, but I have no room for a decent 80 m wire-antenna, nor would I be able to install such an antenna high enough above ground. I have had some success with short, loaded vertical antennas with a single elevated radial, see here and here. But I cannot install those permanently at my QTH.

Below 10 MHz, our apartment building generates a large amount of "electro-smog" QRM. An STL tends to be less sensitive to picking up electrical noise in the near-field ($< 1 \lambda$), which appears to be the reason why this type of antenna is also referred to as a "magnetic loop antenna".

STLs have a radiation pattern with directivity. They are also small enough to rotate with a small motor, or TV-antenna rotor.

They are less conspicuous (to my friends of the home-owners association "police") than a wire antenna that is strung along the outside of the building.

I don't want to have to mess with radials, counterpoises, RF-grounds, etc. Loops are inherently symmetrical, like dipoles.

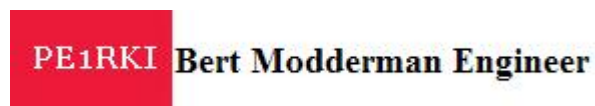
Can be installed close to the ground (vertically oriented), without significantly losing efficiency. Yes, higher is better.

http://www.nonstopystems.com/radio/frank_radio_antenna_magloop.htm

Internet Archive

Internet Archive is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more.

<https://archive.org/>



SHF products for the radio amateur

If you are building or buying equipment for SHF this is a MUST visit site.

<http://www.pe1rki.com/>

ACMA Radcom Database

Register of Radiocommunications Licences

http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register_search.main_page

2m SSB

Sunshine Coast 2m SSB net

19:30 Sundays on 144.300 MHz

Don't just use your equipment on field days; come up on air every Sunday.

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights

8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

2017 dates

Redfest April 22, 2017 <http://www.redclifferadioclub.org.au/>

Contests 2017

VHF-UHF Field Days

Summer 2017 – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 January.

Winter 2017 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June.

Spring 2017 – Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November.

Summer 2018 – Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 January.

Winter 2018 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June.

Spring 2018 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November.

Summer 2019 – Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 January.

Winter 2019 – Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June.

Spring 2019 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 November.

Summer 2020 – Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 January.

Winter 2020 – Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 June.

Spring 2020 – Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

QDG information

QDG meeting dates 2017

January 20

February 17

March 17

April 21

May 19

June 16

July 21

August 18

September 15

October 20

November 17

December 15

Unless otherwise noted, QDG group general meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

QDG Membership

QDG Membership is presently free.

As of June 2015 the QDG has 65 members.

Information and a list of members are up on the web site <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgmemb.htm>

Membership forms are on the web site.

QDG Membership services

Members receive additional 'Digipeat Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat newsletter.

Sound Card to Radio Interface

This computer to radio interface can be used for any audio mode including voice.

The SCI provides isolation to remove earth loops as well as providing switching and level adjustment.

Contact Richard VK4ZA on 07 3376 5231, email richatkn@tpg.com.au or via the QDG web site.

Please contact Richard if you are interested in a dual interface PC board or a mark 2 version with modified connections.

Alan Simpson memorial home brew competition

August QDG general meeting www.qdg.org.au

QDG club contacts

Club contact: Alan Wills VK4NA

Digipeat Editor: Alan Wills VK4NA

Web site: Alan Wills VK4NA

Web site hosting: Tim O'Donohoe

Supper: Alan Wills VK4NA

JOTA: John VK4CJO

Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032

Mobile: 0401 716 778

Twitter @VK4NA

Email: qdg@qdg.org.au

Web site: <http://www.qdg.org.au>

Digipeat <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgdigi.htm>

QDG

37 Evergreen Parade

Griffin QLD 4503

Australia

South East Queensland ATV group Information

SEQATV meeting dates 2016

Please check the SEQATV [Web site](#)

Unless otherwise noted, SEQATV group general meetings are held on the first Tuesday on the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

SEQATV group Membership

SEQATV group Membership is set at the AGM, please contact the secretary for the current fee.

The membership fee remains at \$20.00 for 2016

SEQATV group Membership services

Members receive additional 'Amateur Eye Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat or Amateur Eye newsletters.

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights

8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

The SEQATV group Officers

Elected officers:-

President: Arnold Youngberg VK4SU

Secretary: Bruce Jones VK4EHT

Treasurer: Andy Beales VK4KCS

Coopted Officers:-

Callback Officer: Peter Jones VK4YAC

Vice President: Alan Wills VK4NA

Assistant Secretary Bill VK4ZWJ

Additional coopted officers will be added as required.

SEQATV group Contact Information

South East Queensland Amateur Television Group

PO Box 643 Kallangur, Qld 4503, Australia

Amateur Eye (club mag) Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032

Email: secretary@seqatv.org

Web site: <http://www.seqatv.org/>

Enjoy your hobby!

73 Alan VK4YAR / VK4NA

*** Queensland Digital Group ***

*** SEQATV group ***

** Supporting Radio Communications in VK4 **