



*** QDG DIGIPEAT June 2013 ***

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

June General Meeting

The June QDG general meeting will be held on Friday June 21 at the Chermside Library, meeting Room 1.

The doors will open at 7:00pm for a meeting start of 7:30pm; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry.

The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

Change of room, the QDG will be meeting in room 1 unless otherwise notified.

NEWS FROM THE SEQATV GROUP

Outside Broadcast (OB) Day, 22nd June. The second only OB day in South East Queensland, we are heading to the hills, same day as the VHF/UHF Field Day. The intent is to broadcast, live, vhf/uhf activity from hills tops around South East Queensland. Liaison is via 147.400 MHz simplex. At the moment we have confirmed operators for Mt Gravatt and Howell's Knob (Maleny), our director for the day is Richard (VK4XRL). Keep an "eye" out for our transmissions on 446.5MHz DVB-T from about midday.

Cheap 23cm ATV FM transmitter option, the SEQATV Group is seeking expressions of interest for a group buy of Comtec 23cm ATV transmitter modules. Combined with a PA kit we are expecting that you can get an 18W ATV transmitter going for about \$150 (heatsink and enclosure not

included). If you are interested please contact the secretary ->
seqatv@rumpleteazer.net

Even cheaper 13cm ATV FM transmit and receiver modules available. The VK4RKC ATV repeater has an output on 2.415 GHz, which is easily received using a \$25 module, a few electrolytic capacitors and a cheap grid pack, and even better there is \$100 option to get transmitting on 2.415GHz with about 0.5W. The 2.415 GHz receiver has seen inputs from Moreton Island and Kobbie Creek, a cheap and easy way to get on. If you are

interested please contact the secretary -> seqatv@rumpleteazer.net .

Stay tuned (pun intended) for articles describing economical 2.4GHz and 10GHz ATV FM options in the Amateur Eye publication.

Audio subcarrier for VK4RKC is moving to 6MHz, inline with the rest the country. If you need assistance please get in touch. For operators using the VK4EME 23cm FM kits, this moves the audio out of the video passband improving picture quality.

The VK4RKC repeater will have a 10GHz output, it's licensed at 10.43GHz. To receive this our technical officer has secured a very good deal for German made LNBS for 44 Euros + freight. If we get enough interest we can share the freight cost of 40 Euros (8 pieces). A standard FM or digital satellite STB can provide the IF and power. Please let us know if you are interested.

Ham Video

A DATV transmitter on Columbus

As far back as the year 2000, a proposal for an ATV system on the International Space Station was submitted to the ARISS Project Selection and Use Committee by Graham Shirville G3VZV. <http://www.ariss-eu.org/Ham%20TV.pdf>

APRS

APRS information maps and status

<http://aprs.fi/>

VK Radio

Australian Amateur Radio

The purpose of VK Radio, Australian Amateur Radio is provide the Amateur Radio Operators, whether they be VKs' or from around the world, a site where a consolidation of information about Australian Amateur Radio can be found.

<http://www.vkradio.org/>

With Varying Frequency – Amateur Radio Ponderings

K9ZW – Steve, amateur extra first licensed in 1989 as KB9GPN. More information at my QRZ listing on QRZ.com

<http://k9zw.wordpress.com/>

WD5WR

Amateur Radio

Interesting Web site

<http://www.wd5wr.com/>



WSJT-X

WSJT-X implements JT9, a new mode designed especially for the LF, MF, and HF bands.

<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjt.html>

144 MHz Halo Antenna

Construction of a Low Cost Omnidirectional Horizontally Polarized Antenna for 144 MHz

http://www.qsl.net/kp4md/144_mhz_halo.htm



Review VK4-ICE Broadband End Fed HF Wire Antenna Version 3.0

This antenna comprises a 12m length of wire and matching network and designed for continuous use from 80m to 10m.

I purchased the review antenna at the recent BARCfest as a temporary and portable antenna. When I got home it took all of 15 minutes to open the packet, read the instructions (yes I really did) and erect the antenna as a long wire about 6m above the ground. Connected with 9m of RG213 coax to my HF rig with internal tuner, I immediately checked that it would tune up in the Amateur bands from 160m to 6m; I was pleasantly surprised when the internal tuner had no problems.

Signals were 3 or more S points below my 4 band trapped dipole on Amateur bands 80, 40, 15 and 10m with the difference being taken up with noise pickup possibly from the close proximity of my house.

I was able to have local contacts on 160m and 80m which is very good considering the length of wire.

I'm happy with this antenna and plan on packing it ready for portable operations.

Information can be found at <http://www.vk4ice.com/>

(Alan VK4NA)

RFREPAIRS - Amateur Radio Repairs

RFRepairs is a professional, independent repairer of communication equipment and associated electronics including; Scanners, CB's, Amateur Radios and Power Supplies. We repair most major brands including Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, Vertex, Alinco, Uniden, AOR, MFJ, Manson, LDG, GME, Ranger and Radio Shack.

<http://www.rfrepairs.com.au/>

6m beacons

G3USF's Worldwide List Of 50MHz Beacons

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/por/50.htm>

WA8LMF

USB-to-Serial Adapter Cables for Ham Applications

<http://wa8lmf.net/ham/USB-Serial-Dongles.htm>

Wire Antenna Calculator

The following program will calculate the lengths needed to construct several popular wire antennas.

All you need to do is enter the desired resonant (center) frequency in the form below, then click "Calculate". The correct lengths for the various models will be displayed in the chart.

(To better understand the variables be sure to read the application notes and study the drawings, following.) This calculator will accurately compute values for all HF antennas — 1.8 - 30 MHz.

http://www.ccdxc.org/ant_calc.htm

The Register

IT information, reviews and news

<http://www.theregister.co.uk/>

WavePad Audio Editing Software

Studio Audio Editing Software Anyone Can Use

This audio editing software is a full-featured professional audio and music editor for Windows and Mac.

It lets you record and edit music, voice and other audio recordings. When editing audio files, you can cut, copy and paste parts of recordings, and then add effects like echo, amplification and noise reduction.

WavePad works as a wav or mp3 editor, but it also supports a number of other file formats including vox, gsm, wma, real audio, au, aif, flac, ogg, and more.

A free version of WavePad audio editing software is available for non-commercial use only. The free version does not expire and includes most of the features of the normal version.

I've been using the free version for a few weeks; it was easy and quick to learn the simple editing I required.

<http://www.nch.com.au/wavepad/index.html>

(Alan VK4NA)

FlexRadio Systems Announces the FLEX-6000™ Signature Series SDR

The FLEX-6000™ Signature Series transceiver is based on a new hardware architecture and SmartSDR™ software platform.

This new ultra-high performance software defined radio uses Digital Down Conversion (DDC) to convert from RF directly to digital and Digital Up Conversion (DUC) to convert from digital to RF.

<http://www.flex-radio.com/>

raving about radio

Al VK4BL's site, a must visit

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

YAGI DESIGNS BY G4CQM

A great many designs

<http://g4cqm.www.idnet.com/>

Select a company

Links related to Amateur Radio equipment

<http://73s.com/companies>

VK1OD on the 'net

This website is a collection of articles related to my pursuit of the hobby of Amateur Radio, my experimenter's notebook online.

<http://vk1od.net/>

WOLF RIVER COILS LLC

Quality antenna coils that are easy to tune and easy to install.

<http://wolfrivercoils.com/>

New WIA outwards QSL Bureau address

Please inform everyone that the new qsl address is
WIA outwards QSL Bureau
P.O. box 66
Boolaroo NSW 2284
(James Fleming VK4TJF)

2m SSB

Sunshine Coast 2m SSB net
19:30 Sundays on 144.4 MHz
Don't just use your equipment on field days, come up on air every Sunday.

New 13CM repeater

The Sunshine Coast 23CM FM voice repeater is now on air.
Tx 1293.3 MHz Rx 1273.3 MHz
91.5 Hz tone
This can be accessed from Brisbane

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights
7:30 PM EST on VK4RAX 147.075 MHz repeater

2013 dates

Wide Bay Mini Ham-Fest Maryborough Qld

July 13th

The Venue will be the West Maryborough Scout Hall on the corner of Ariadne and Ward Streets, Newtown area.

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

Caboolture Hamfest/Field Day

July 20th

9am start, entry \$5.00

The Caboolture Scouts Ground
169 Smiths Road

Caboolture QLD 4510

<http://www.vk4qd.net/>

SARCFEST 414 Richmond Hill Rd near Lismore

AUG 11

<http://sarc1.webs.com/>

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

August 17-18 Duration 48 hours from 0001 UTC 17.8.2013

AN ANNUAL AMATEUR RADIO WEEKEND EVENT.

CONDUCTED UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE AYR AMATEUR RADIO GROUP, (AARG), SCOTLAND.

HELD ON THE THIRD FULL WEEKEND IN AUGUST.

<http://illw.net/>

Sunfest Woombye Qld

September 14th

<http://www.vk4wis.org/>

North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention Charters Towers

October 3- 7

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

Redcliffe Hamfest

October 5th

Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc.

Date has been set as the 5th October 2013 for inaugural event.

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

Gold Coast ARS HamFest at Albert Waterways Hall

November 2nd

<http://www.gcars.com.au/hamfest-2013>

Contests 2013

Winter VHF-UHF Field Day 2013 - 22/23 June

Spring VHF-UHF Field Day 2013 - 23/24 November (date to be confirmed)

Summer VHF-UHF Field Day 2014 - 11/12 January (date to be confirmed)

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

QDG information

QDG meeting dates 2013

January 18 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting, meeting Room 1)
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 6 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting, meeting Room 2b)

Unless otherwise noted, QDG group general meetings are held on the third Friday on the month at the Chermside Library, Meeting Room 1.
The doors will open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry.
The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

QDG Membership

QDG Membership is presently free.

As of June 2012 the QDG has 59 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 vk4za@qdg.org.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.

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: Richard VK4ZA

Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA after hours on 61 07 3351 1673
Twitter @VK4NA

Email: qdg@qdg.org.au

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

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

South East Queensland ATV group Information

SEQATV meeting dates 2013

January 18 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting, meeting Room 1)
February 1
March 1
April 5 (AGM)
May 3
June 7
July 5
August 2
September 6
October 4
November 1
December 6 (Combined SEQATV Group QDG meeting)

Unless otherwise noted, SEQATV group general meetings are held on the first Friday on the month at the Chermside Library, Meeting Room 2B.

The doors will open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start; if you arrive late, please push the buzzer for entry. The library is near the shops on the corner of Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Dr (enter from Kittyhawk Dr).

Location map:

<http://my247.com.au/brisbane/Chermside-Library.6803>

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 2013

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
7:30 PM EST on VK4RAX 147.075 MHz repeater

The SEQATV group Officers

Elected officers:-

President: Arnold Youngberg VK4SU
Secretary: Peter Schrader VK4EA
Treasurer: Richard Cardon VK4XRL

Coopted Officers:-

Technical Officer: Danny Granger VK4KI
Callback Officer: Peter Jones VK4YAC
Vice President: Alan Wills VK4NA

Additional coopted officers will be added as required.

SEQATV group Contact Information

South East Queensland Amateur Television Group
PO Box 3, Chermide Qld 4032, Australia

Amateur Eye (club mag) Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA after hours on 61 07 3351 1673

Email: seqatv@qdg.org.au

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

Enjoy your hobby!

73 Alan VK4YAR / VK4NA

*** Queensland Digital Group ***

*** SEQATV group ***

** Supporting Radio Communications in VK4 **

This newsletter has been sent to members of the QDG as part of the membership service; if you do not wish to receive this newsletter please send an email to qdg@qdg.org.au stating that you no longer wish to receive it.

This newsletter has been sent to members of the SEQATV club as part of the membership service; if you do not wish to receive this newsletter please send an email to seqatv@qdg.org.au stating that you no longer wish to receive it.

If you are a member of both clubs you WILL receive it twice.