



# NERG NEWS

Incorporated 1985 in Victoria  
Reg No A0006776V - <http://nerg.asn.au>

June 2002

NERG Inc.  
PO Box 270  
Greensborough  
Victoria 3088

This Month:  
8:00 PM THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> June 2002  
Greenhill's Community Centre

## Ron Daniels, VK3AEO

### The future for Packet Radio in Melbourne

#### What's on this month?

This month our guest speaker is **Ron Daniels, VK3AEO**, from the **Melbourne Packet Radio Group (MPRG)**. Ron will talk about the basics of Packet Radio and MPRG's plans for the **Future of Packet Radio around Melbourne**.

This is rather timely as several NERGs are just getting into packet, many employing the MFJ TNC's and Philips FM900's purchased through the NERG a few years ago.

See you at **Greenhill's Community Centre** located in **Yandell Reserve, Greensborough (MELWAY 21-B1)**, off the intersection of Mountain View Road and St. Helena Road. Enter by the childproof gate into the child minding centre and follow the ramp to the meeting room.

#### April Meeting Report:

Our May Meeting was held to the Greenhills Community House Thursday May 9th and was well attended.

Guest speaker for the evening was John Kolm, VK3YJK, a cartoonist from Radio Mag and other mainstream publications. John provided an entertaining talk on cartooning and writing for a living and a number of humorous anecdotes of his experiences.

When questioned\* on the future of RadioMag John was unable to give any indication as to the current state of play - evidently there is a source of finance being investigated and if this eventuates then the magazine could be seen again.

The meeting closed with the usual hot drinks, biscuits and discussions on Dxing, Dog-Piles, etc.

73 Greg VK3VT

\* We tried grilling John but as they say, staff are always the last people to find out what management has in store for them... [ Ed. ]

#### WIA's AR mag in shops!

The WIA is trialing the sale of AR through selected newsagents for 3 months. It's been spotted at Greensborough and Watsonia. Worth a look if you are not already a WIA member!

#### NERG NOVICE CLASSES!

Classes are on again for those interested in gaining their Novice license.

Starting around Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, the classes cover all theory subjects and assist with regulations and Morse Code practise. Classes run for 12 weeks, after which exams are held.

Please phone Peter Cosway on 9379-3626 or email Greg at [vk3vt@nerg.asn.au](mailto:vk3vt@nerg.asn.au)

#### NERG DAYTIME MEETING

Last month the NERG Morning tea was held at QTH of VK3EWM with Gerhard being an outstanding hoist. His XYL, Barbara, out-did her previous preparation with an absolutely delicious apple pastry desert.

Those present were VK3BGE, VK3JMB, VK3BIZ, VK3DBQ, VK3XXX and VK3EWM. Steve, VK3JSE, was unfortunately attending a bereavement of close friend. **The next meeting is on the fourth Tuesday in June, 25th at VK3JSE's QTH.** We hope see everybody here.

73, Jim VK3DBQ

#### Urgent Safety Recall

has been issued for the following items which pose potential shock and fire hazards: **"YUN" brand extension lead**, has a white shroud around the socket end and marks with N16180 or N17533 approval number.

**"Click" brand double adaptors** models CDA-102, CSB, CSZ & CCL series if date code is pre-96. Discontinue use immediately and destroy or return to manufacturer.

#### VK/TT 80m activity

Activity in the trans-Tasman contest was disappointing this year, with participation down on last year according to contest manager, Bruce Renn, VK3JWZ.

From my vantage point in the VK3BY shack the atmospheric conditions were fair this year (\$5 noise on dipole, but no

lightning crashes). Contacts were made with several ZL's, VK2, a VK4, VK5, VK7, VK6, and of course many VK3's. Signals from VK7 were exceptionally loud but weren't many stations operating down there. A quick comparison with the 2001 log showed that this year was actually better for me - working ZL regions 1,2,3 and 4 (last year only ZL1 was heard). About the same number of serious contesters were worked (those with over 100 contacts), many of them finishing with more than 300 contacts (against my measly 54 contacts - but that wasn't bad since I sat down with the kids to watch the whole Harry Potter video half way through the contest!). Catch you next year!

#### EMC saves \$millions!

Australian banknotes have a plastic film embedded in them, RF welded into place. When the new bank note production line was first used, the emissions from the RF welder upset other printing machines and ruined large numbers of banknotes. They called in an EMC expert who fixed the problem, improving their productivity and saving them from burning hundreds of millions of misprinted dollars! (From Chris Zombolas, EMC Technologies Pty Ltd, Melbourne)

#### EMR compliance here soon

New amateur licensees are expected to meet new ACA guidelines on electromagnetic radiation safety from the 1<sup>st</sup> July. Existing licensees have until 1<sup>st</sup> Oct to comply.

The WIA says the guidelines may not be as strict as first thought and most amateurs will comply with little or no change to their stations. The WIA will publish a concise guide the June issue of AR. Meanwhile you can find the 17 page self assessment compliance guide at the ACA web site.

#### Regs. Question Bank online

280 questions used for the amateur regulations exams are now available for download from the WIA Vic web site. <http://www.wiavic.org.au/download/regsqb.pdf>

**The NERG Inc.** Reg No A0006776V <http://nerg.asn.au>

The North Eastern Radio Group, Inc. is an amateur radio club devoted to encouraging members and others to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio. It tries not to hang on ceremony and endless reporting but rather participate in the fun aspects of this fascinating hobby.

**Membership Fees (due each August):**

**Full: \$30 Family: \$40 Concession: \$20**

**Committee**

President	Greg Williams	VK3VT	9432 0563
Secretary	Mark Beacham	VK3XXX	
Treasurer	Marg Baxter	VK3VOJ	9467 1253
Committee	Dave Prictor	VK3JMB	9465 9708
	Betsy King	VK3HBK	9431 2191
	Peter Cosway	VK3DU	9379 3626
Social Sec.	Don Haslam	VK3KDT	9439 1102
Repeaters	Mark Harrison	VK3BYY	9435 3043

**Meetings**

2nd Thursday of each month at 8.00 PM (excepting Dec. & Jan.)  
**NEW VENUE !!!** Greenhills Community Centre, Yandell Reserve,  
St. Helena Road, Greensborough. (Melway map ref 21-B1)

**Classes**

NERG occasionally runs classes and exams for Amateur license candidates.

**Callsigns and Repeaters (25km North East of Melbourne)**

Club call - VK3CNE  
6m rpt VK3RMH FM 52.550 MHz in 53.550 MHz out  
70cm rpt VK3RMH FM 433.325 MHz in 438.325 MHz out  
IRLP node 635

6m beacon VK3RMH CW (10 Watts) - To be announced  
10m VK3RMH CW Beacon (20Watts) 28.2565 MHz  
Occasionally home to the Scout Radio & Electronics Group repeater:  
2m VK3RSR FM 146.375 MHz in 146.975 MHz out

**NETS**

NERG NETS run on 146.575 MHz FM Simplex (8.30 – 9.30 pm Thursdays).  
Please join the discussions. NERGs often monitor this frequency and the 70cm  
VK3RMH repeater.

**WEB Site:** <http://nerg.asn.au>, <http://www.qsl.net/vk3rmh> & /vk3cne

**NERG NEWS submissions and comments**

editor: Mark Harrison VK3BYY  
ph: 9435-3043 hm (btwn. 7.30-9.30 p.m. please)  
post: 266 Nell Street West, Watsonia, 3087  
email: [vk3byy@nerg.asn.au](mailto:vk3byy@nerg.asn.au)



**NERG**

North–East Radio Group VK3CNE  
Incorporated 1985  
BOX 270 GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

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## MEETING this week::

**8:00 PM Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2002**

on the 2<sup>nd</sup> THURSDAY of each Month at

Greenhill's Community Centre, Yandell Reserve, Greensborough

**This Month: Ron Daniels, VK3AEO, on the future for Packet Radio in Melbourne**

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### CALENDAR 2002

**June 13<sup>th</sup>**

June 15/16

July 6/7<sup>th</sup>

**NERG MEETING – This Thursday!**

International Museums Weekend – work the world's museum stations!

Gippsland Technical Conference 2002. Churchill Campus of Monash Uni.

See WIA EZARC website for program details.

**July 11<sup>th</sup>**

July 13/14<sup>th</sup>

**Next month's NERG MEETING**

World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC2002) - 52 teams with never before used OJ1-OJ8 prefix callsigns (e.g. OJ1A) compete in Finland during IARU Contest.

**August 17/18<sup>th</sup>**

**International Lighthouse Weekend (NERG activity)**

**AND** Remembrance Day Contest (HF & VHF)