



NERG NEWS

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

AUGUST 2005

NERG Inc.
PO Box 270
Greensborough
Victoria 3088

AUGUST MEETING

It's August and that means it's time for the NERG annual general meeting. It's also time to elect office bearers, pay up membership dues, and celebrate the NERG turning 22 year old!

As usual everyone is advised to turn up early or risk being 'volunteered' for an office position.

The meeting co-ordinator position has been vacant since Don VK3KDT took up the quest for a permanent NERG home (and hasn't finished yet!). Therefore we need someone to take up the very important (but not very arduous) co-ordinator position.

Don't forget to renew your membership - the boost in membership last year has kept the tower viable and provided encouragement to move to the larger, more functional hall. We'd hate to lose momentum on several projects that will benefit all in the NERG and the local community so please renew ASAP.

Following the formalities, which are always kept to a minimum, the NERG will celebrate its 22nd Birthday with the traditional Chocolate Cake and other goodies for supper.

Remember - If you miss the meeting then there is every chance you'll be elected. We'll also have to send out the heavies to collect membership dues - so you may as well come along and enjoy the supper ☺

See you at the meeting! Mark, VK3BYY

The August meeting is on Thursday, 11th at 7:45pm, at the Briar Hill Community Hall, 126 Mountain View Rd, Briar Hill, Melways 21 C3.

GRAND OPENING! 16TH OCTOBER

The North East Radio Group (the NERG) invite all people interested in Amateur Radio to come and visit the new NERG home at 126 Mountain View Road Briar Hill between 1.00pm and 4.30pm Sunday Oct 16 and see what the hobby has to interest them, along with a sausage sizzle.

An official opening by Banyule Mayor Greg Ryan and Deputy Mayor Jenny Mulholland will be made at 2.00pm.

The aim behind this event is to publicise the hobby of Amateur Radio and the presence of the NERG within the local community, focusing on ages from school to those well into retirement. Basically we are intending to have a "SHOW AND TELL" with displays from our group as well as other including WICEN to show the many facets of the hobby. We are hoping to get some good local media coverage prior to and at the event.

For more information please visit www.nerg.asn.au or phone NERG Secretary, John Weir, on 9431 0667

NEXT MEETING:

7.45 pm, Thursday
11th August 2005

at the NEW NERG meeting place:
Briar Hill COMMUNITY HALL
126 Mountain View Road, Briar Hill

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & BIRTHDAY SUPPER



WE LOVE OUR PIZZAS!

Don has been busy again, this time gaining support from Margheritas Pizza and Pasta located just down the road in Lower Plenty. They'll be supplying us with pizza for supper following our meetings. If you were at the August meeting then you'll already know how good they are!

Margherita is well worth checking out next time you feel hungry and want something a little special. Please say hi to manager Richard and mention how much you enjoy pizzas at the NERG.

Not only do Margheritas make traditional and gourmet pizzas but also make special combinations you won't find elsewhere! They also offer takeaway pastas and have a comprehensive catering menu. Everything is made with freshly prepared produce.

NERGs will remember the dinner we held at Margherita's sister restaurant, Di Riccardos, where there is a friendly atmosphere for dining on wood-fired gourmet pizzas and pastas, as well as meat and seafood dishes. Di Riccardos is fully licensed and has live music of classic, acoustic, jazz and pop flavours each night.

Richard, the manager of Margheritas Pizzas and Di Riccardos restaurant has been a huge sponsor to local sports clubs for many years, returning a sizable portion of profits back into the community.

Margaritas is located at 89 Main Rd, Lower Plenty. Look up their menu at www.margheritas.com.au and phone 9434 4980 for delivery or pickup.

FROM THE JULY MEETING

The July meeting was the first to be held at the BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY HALL. The seats were comfortable, the heating worked, the coffee was hot, and generally the venue was a great success.

Mark Stephenson, VK3PI, was our guest speaker with an excellent multi-media presentation on Victoria Police communications.

Communications is of course an essential part of Policing. It's come a long way from when D24 was a single central CW transmitter sending messages one way to mobiles. For some time AM transmitters were used just above the MF broadcast band, later moving to the current VHF and UHF FM repeater systems where it has been used for many decades. The only significant change in recent years has been the introduction of digital computer information terminals in cars.

However time doesn't stand still. These days modern police and emergency services demand better integrated and efficient communications networks. To this end the entire metro police system will shortly change over to a fully digital APCO-P25 trunked radio network. With this change in technology come some radical changes in methodology. For instance the new system is owned, operated, and maintained by Motorola under contract to the state government. The only part 'owned' by the emergency services are the frequencies used by the system. Another big change is full encryption of all voice and text messages throughout the system. Don't bother rushing out to buy a new scanner as not even the latest trunk trackers can decode it, nor are they ever likely to (and it's likely it will be illegal to do so). Stealing a radio for listening purposes won't work either since the radios can be identified and disabled remotely from the control centre.

Both the existing analog and new digital networks will run side-by-side during the commissioning period, with Ambulance and other emergency services joining the network after the commonwealth games.

The APCO-P25 system is design specifically for emergency work and is designed to fall back to simplex digital modes if a base station or network component fails or is overloaded. Radios can also operate in analog FM mode where interworking with other services is required, or as a further fail safe fallback. Some other advantages of APCO-25 are the more efficient use of channels, flexibility in forming functional groups, wider coverage areas, group and person-to-person calls, and text messaging.

Mark's talk was most interesting. Some of us even got to play with the new handhelds but only after promising NOT to push the RED button! Mark's video "A day in my life at headquarters" was also classic!

THE GAINFULLY UNEMPLOYED GROUP

The July meeting of the gainfully unemployed was held at the home of VK3KE and VK3VOJ. A great rollup included Gerhard VK3EWM, Ernie VK3FM, Alan VK3JPK, Ian VK3BGE, Steve VK3JSE, John VK3ZRV along with Dave VK3JMB and XYL Carole. The company and conversation was enjoyed by all and was at its usual high standard. The food was not too bad either, many thanks to Marg.

The next meeting will be at 10am on the Tuesday 23rd August at the QTH of Ernie VK3FM., hope to see you there.

73 Jim, VK3KE

Listen out on the NERG chat channel of 146.575 MHz simplex during the day for more information and general DX updates.

LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

The international lighthouse weekend, where amateurs communicate with amateurs stations operating from lighthouses and light ships around the world, will be held over the August 20-21 weekend.

This year the event occurs the weekend after the RD contest, meaning the VK operators will a much better chance of hearing overseas lights without being drowned out by local RD contest activity.

This event is not a contest, but celebrates the role that radio, lighthouses, and their keepers, played in keeping maritime travel safe.

More info can be found at: www.vk2ce.com/illw

FORTHCOMING NERG MEETINGS

September 8: DXpedition to St Peter Island in the Nuys Archipelago - Earlier this year Peter VK3QI, Keith VK3FT, Jack VK3WWW and Max VK3WT set up a DX station on this isolated and restricted access conservation island off the coast of South Australia. This is another in their quest to active rarely worked (if ever) islands for IOTA. The talk will be accompanied by another of Jack's excellent video and slide show productions.

October 13: Bob Tait, VK3UI will talk about advances in Modern Vehicle Electronics and their implications for the mobile amateur. Vehicle systems are now using devices running from DC right up to 17 GHz, so fitting a radio to a car is not as simple as it used to be. He will also explain why wires don't necessarily carry 12 volts DC anymore - it could be a variety of voltages and data signals. Tapping into a vehicle's wiring system at the wrong point could produce some very unexpected results.

BPL SUBMISSIONS ONLINE

The ACMA (formerly the ACA) has published many of the submissions concerning the BPL discussion paper on their web site.

Amateurs sent in the majority of submissions as can be seen in the breakdown below. And this list doesn't include all the supporting letters sent in after the closing date.

Interest group	No of submissions
Amateurs	222
Model Aeronautical enthusiasts	5
Telecommunications companies	3
BPL equipment suppliers	2
Hobby equipment suppliers	4
HF communications equipment suppliers	4
Power companies	4
Government agencies	3
Medical	4
Broadcasters	3
Other	21
Totals	275

Not surprisingly, a quick browse through the responses indicates that only the Power companies and BPL equipment suppliers (and a consultant in the 'Other' category) were in favour of BPL.

Few of them acknowledged that amateurs exist, and only one admits amateurs could be affected. One scary submission argues that "*the discussion paper lists only 1369 licensees of HF services throughout Australia at 3855 locations; so band clearance in areas where BPL is to be deployed will only inconvenience a few people - but the outcomes will benefit many*", and, "*To optimise BPL operations, 'notching' and other interference mitigation techniques should only be applied to protect radio services considered more important to the community For instance, hobby radio services should not be protected to the detriment of BPL deployments*".

Fortunately the overwhelming majority of HF spectrum users oppose BPL, including Defence, the ABC, HF radio manufacturers and government agencies. None of these organisations want to loose radio spectrum to BPL companies who would essentially be monopoly players in the broadband market.

You can read many of the submissions at:

http://www.acma.gov.au/ACMAINTER.2163012:STANDARD:2092513692:pc=PC_9240

Unfortunately the new ACMA web site uses these ridiculous link names, making it near impossible to quote to anyone! Alternately, go to www.acma.gov.au and search for BPL submissions.

REMEMBERANCE DAY CONTEST SPECIAL - 13th-14th AUGUST

NERG R.D. STATION UNCERTAIN

Unexpected family commitments may mean that I have to cancel plans to run a RD contest station for NERG members this year - however plans may change at the last moment and will be discussed at the NERG meeting.

NERG had planned to run a station from the NERG hall with the aim of getting as many members on the air under their own call signs as possible, especially for those without HF facilities at home.

I can still bundle up and submit your (small and legible) logs to the contest manager so that as many VK3 logs are entered into the overall state score. For this contest it's recommended to submit logs with at least 10 contacts, a log for HF & another for VHF.

Apologies, Mark, VK3BYB

HOW TO WORK A CONTEST

(This article was written by Geoff, VK3VR way back in 1999 but it's still quite relevant and entertaining!).

That's right folks, the RD Contest is only days away.

Recognising that the RD is, for many, their first attempt at contesting I promised to put together a tips and hints article. Many others offered suggestions and took the trouble to put pen to paper - the hints below are theirs as well as mine. If I've failed to acknowledge any of these, please accept my apologies.

RD Tips and Hints:

It's Saturday. The RD Contest starts in a couple of hours, but you're ready for it! (...if you're like me you're frantically coding the latest innovation to your contesting software or 45 feet up in the air making last minute repairs to an antenna). You run through last minute checks; each of the antennas seems to tune up OK, you've made a note of equipment settings for the frequencies you plan on using, the paperwork is all ready and you've sharpened as many pencils as you can find. The aroma of freshly brewed coffee emanates from the percolator as you settle into the operating position.

Although you plan on entering both the HF and VHF categories (for the maximum number of contacts and enjoyment), you know that it's best to leave VHF alone initially. Give the guys up there a while to sort themselves out before you put in an appearance. Besides, you know from previous years that it's quite difficult to find a position on 80m unless you're there right from the start.

As the contest approaches, you put out a brief call for a signal report; more to make sure the frequency is clear than for the signal report. You crank the other VFO around to listen to the pre-Contest address; it pays to listen to this, and in so doing observe the required silence prior to the contest; it also gives you a clear indication as to when the contest starts.

The address finishes; your carefully adjusted clock shows that 0800 UTC is approaching...6, 5, 4, 3; Damn! Someone else, a very big signal, comes up right on top of your (Hi-Hi) frequency; quickly flicking the tuning knob to one side you put out a brief 'Is the frequency in use', listen for the mandatory 2-300 microseconds and put out your first CQ. The guy up above is still causing some QRM, so you switch in the Pass-Band Tuning and pull the skirt in on one side. After a couple more calls you get your first contact, rapidly followed by the second, third....

Ewen, VK3OW, suggests that newcomers simply take their time, relax and enjoy the contest. Don't be concerned about being too slow, or making mistakes; in general, the guy at the other end will be more experienced and will help out. Above all, don't get caught by someone who wants to rag-chew; this will cost you a considerable amount if the conversation goes for any length of time.

Greg, VK3VT, suggests that you 'talk narrow' on HF. He did recount the tale of the novice amateur caught below a MUCH bigger station; "the frequency is in use Old Man" squeaked up from below. "Ah know brother, ah's using it!" came the stern reply. Might does not make right, but it certainly helps in the dogpiles! Resist the temptation to stomp on others; this is, after all, the 'Friendly Contest'.

Other suggestions made included:

Don't sacrifice accuracy for speed; even though you've got a lot of contacts, there is little satisfaction in knowing that a large number of them are questionable, and could be eliminated by the Contest Manager. Remember, most contests apply an additional penalty (of say 3 QSOs) for any invalid contact or unmarked dupe.

Use 80m early in the contest, switching to 40m as things become a bit thin. Use the higher HF bands during the day, but don't forget to go back to 80/40 about an hour before the end of the contest.

Make sure you don't rework too early by setting up a dupe-sheet. If you want to be reminded within minutes of the appropriate time you could have a ruler further up the log that you moved forward periodically...and this would show you who to look for. Several stations use a different colour pencil for each hour; say three colours in total; as they find each station they tick him off on the appropriate colour; a quick check of the number of missing ticks then tells them how they are going.

Most importantly, know where to find the contacts:

Band	SSB	FM
6m	50.200 MHz	52.525 MHz
2m	144.200 MHz	146.500, 146.525, 146.550, 146.575 MHz
70cm	432.200 MHz	439.000, 439.025 MHz
23cm		1296.000 MHz

A brief word on Contest Ethics (contrary to what many people believe, the term Contest Ethics, is not mutually contradicting!):

In all cases, listen first. If there is a QSO in progress, do not transmit.

If a station is calling CQ and you give him a number, QSY as soon as you have finished the contact.

Accept the fact that you may be "stomped on" periodically, in the rush to get to a new station that has just arrived on frequency. Resist the temptation to retaliate, this does not help anyone; instead work out the best way to get your call sign in next; consider tail-ending, a partial-call with say the last 2 letters of your call sign...but be careful! If you regularly cause interference to others, they will be reluctant to work you later in the contest; and this does not help anyone.

That's enough for now! If you're a member of a club, find out if your club is running a club station. If you're new to contesting this is the best way to learn. You get the chance to operate a good station, put together by friends and fellow members, and they provide the initial tuition that you will need to operate in future contests.

The John Knox ARC, has been handing out Contest Kits to VK3 amateurs; expect competition from VK3 this year (we've been quiet for a few years - but we're back...). Finally, if you hear VK3GUS on frequency, please call in and give them a number.

73 de Geoff,

VK3VR

GET YOUR RD CONTEST KIT HERE!

The RD Contest Kit published back in 1999 by Geoff VK3VR and the John Knox ARC has been updated and is available for download from the NERG web site at:

www.nerg.asn.au/rdcontest

The kit includes instructions, tips, log sheets, and dup sheets in both acrobat PDF and MS-WORD formats.

VK3 CAN WIN RD CONTEST 2005

All radio amateurs in Victoria are being encouraged to prepare for and participate in the WIA Remembrance Day Contest on the 13th and 14th of August.

Victoria last won the RD trophy in 1995, the year before the rolling two year bench-marching improvement factor formula to measure state performance was introduced. Under that formula Victoria had little chance of winning again until the Year 2010.

The WIA has responded to concerns about the rules. Under the new rules for 2005 the winning State will be the one with the highest participation rate, that is the percentage of stations in the callbook which submit entries.

A campaign is now underway to get as many VK3's as possible in the contest, and very importantly, submitting log entries. All radio clubs are being asked to get behind and actively support this campaign.

The contest is an important commemorative event held in the memory of those Australian radio amateurs who died serving their country in World War 2, and as a fun activity for individual radio amateurs and shortwave listeners.

Submitting more than one log/entry for your station (callsign) will greatly boost VK3's tally in the Remembrance Day Contest, 13-14 August. Since there is a requirement of separate logs for HF and VHF/UHF, it is vital that each VK3 radio amateur (who can) submits 2 logs each, therefore maximising the ratio.

It is suggested that a minimum of 10 contacts be made per log entry. If you have more than one callsign – please submit logs for each of them.

Rgds Jim Linton, VK3PC, President, Amateur Radio Victoria.

CONDENSED RD RULES

The rules for the RD are fairly simple - here are the basics for single operator stations based in VK3 (for other categories or if in doubt, ask for help over the air! Full contest rules are published on the WIA web site and in JULY AR magazine).

General Rules:

- Log must show Time (UTC), Band, Mode, Call worked, number sent & received, and points claimed.
- As a single operator you can enter logs in these categories: HF Phone, HF CW, VHF Phone, VHF CW, HF Open, VHF Open. VHF, HF, & Open Receiving categories are for non-transmitting stations only.
- Exchange RS numbers for phone and RST for CW, followed by 3-digit serial number starting at 001, incrementing by 1 for each contact (e.g. 59012 for phone or 599012 for CW).
- Relays may not be used (I.e. no contacts via repeaters, IRLP, Echolink, Satellite, or Remote Internet controlled radios).
- Double points for each contact with VK0, 8 & 9.
- Double points for contacts between 1am-6am local time.
- Owners of multiple licenses may submit logs under each license.
- Send logs to: Contest Manager, VK4AA, PO Box 123 Eagle Heights, QLD, 4271 by Friday 16 Sept, 2005.

HF (up to 30MHz):

- Keep a single log for all contacts below 30MHz.
- No points for contacts between VK3's on 80, 40, 20 & 15m.
- 2 points per contact on 160m to all call areas, incl. VK3 to VK3.
- 1 point per contact on 10m to all call areas, incl. VK3 to VK3.
- 1 point per contact on 80, 40, 20, 15m for interstate only.
- Multipliers: Double points over 1,000km.

29MHz FM special note:

FM above 29MHz is separate from SSB below 29MHz, allowing SSB & FM contacts to be made during the same rework period.

VHF/UHF+ (all above 50 MHz):

- Keep a single log for all contacts above 50MHz.
- 2 points per contact on 23cm and above.
- 2 points for all CW contacts.
- 1 point for all other contacts on VHF bands.
- Multipliers: Double points for contacts over 100km.
- Rework time: 4 Hours between contacts on same band & mode.
- A station may be worked with all modes (CW, SSB & FM) within the same time period, but must use frequencies for each mode specified in the WIA band plan. (eg CW=144.050-144.100; SSB=144.100-144.400; FM=146-148 ex-repeaters).

VK3WIA ON AIR FOR RD CONTEST AT SCIENCEWORKS

To encourage even more participation in this year's Remembrance Day Contest, the WIA intends to host a number of competing RD stations around Australia.

In Melbourne the callsign VK3WIA will be activated from the Scienceworks Museum in west suburban Spotswood (just next to the Westgate bridge). VK3WIA will operate from the Scienceworks carpark on Saturday the 13th of August and move inside the Museum building during Sunday.

The venue will enable amateur radio to put on a show for museum visitors who are predominately young people.

The WIA and Amateur Radio Victoria are seeking amateurs who would be interested in operating VK3WIA at the museum.

To register, please contact Robert Broomhead VK3KRB via email vk3kreb@wia.org.au or by phone on 0403 066 686.

SEEKING MARATHON OPERATORS

It's time to remind all WICEN operators of the annual Red Cross Murray River Canoe Marathon, being held as usual from 27th December 2005 through to New Year's eve 2005, and to solicit your ready assistance.

Although this is only August, the Red Cross Marathon committee has been very active since February. I have been specifically asked to give the organisers the numbers of operators we will have available, and although that is really still a crystal ball job at this stage, never-the-less we have been formally asked to provide as much detail as possible. This year's event will be conducted along the similar lines as last year.

Please ask for a report of our requirements if you are unsure.

I will be sending around the normal sheets in a couple of months which will inform you all of the overall requirements, and expected conditions. However, in light of the above, I now request your initial response along the following lines.

1. YES, I am available, count me in, thank you. .
(please specify the days available full period, or part only)
2. I am unsure at this stage, I may be able to help, please contact me later in the year.
3. NO, I am not available this year, but keep me on the list.

We require a minimum of 28 operators to ensure all points are covered, last year we were light on, some confusion was evident, but I trust we will be on top of any perceived problem well before this year's event.

If I could have your responses ASAP, I will then be in a position to inform the organisers at the next committee meeting.

Thanks everyone,
Bruce Bathols VK3UV
2005 Murray River OIC on behalf of WICEN Victoria
Tel (03) 9772 8867 , Mob 0418 386 030
Email: bruce (at) bookmate.com.au

Or post to:
Amateur Radio Victoria (WIA Victoria)
40G Victory Boulevard
ASHBURTON 3147

*We don't want to be the best in the world.....
We just want to be the best for our local community*



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**Proud sponsors of the NERG
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more enjoyable!**



Do you have a Special Event coming up?
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www.margheritas.com.au

FRIDAY NIGHT TX HUNT

The next hunt will be run on August Friday 19th. The start location will be in the inner west, at the car park of the Yarraville Bi-Lo, in Williamstown Road Yarraville. More details to follow. The start location is within easy reach of the Western Ring Road, City Link (via Westgate Freeway) and all places east, north etc. Those in Warranwood will find it particularly convenient. Hunts on 2m, liaison as usual on 146.575MHz, fox callsign VK3HRL.

Supper will be in my shed. Since I'll be doing all of the catering, both numbers and forgiveness are sought in advance. The dog's name is Bob (funny name for a girl), no poking please.

Regards, Roger Lewis

2005 AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Aug 13-14 | Remembrance Day Contest - 0800z Sat. - 0759z Sun. |
| Aug 20-21 | International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend
Info: www.vk2ce.com/illw |
| Aug 27 | ALARA Contest (CW/SSB) |
| Sept 3 | Australian ARDF Championships, Glenluce |
| Sept 24 | Wadda Cup Contest – 80m dash, SSB only, 1030-1130 UTC (8:30-9:30pm EST). Rules in AR mag July 2005 |
| Oct 15-16 | 48th Annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) |
| Oct 16 | Official opening of the NERG home, 1:00pm-4:30pm, Briar Hill Community Hall. |

YAGICAD 5.1 COMPUTER AIDED YAGI DESIGN

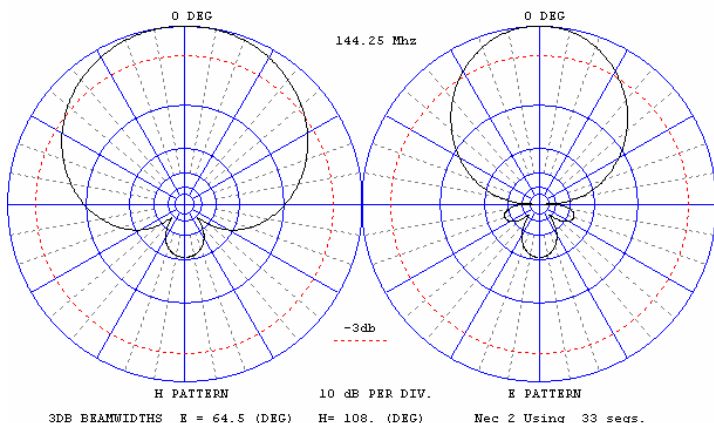
YagiCAD is a fully integrated analysis and design package for Yagi antennas. The latest version 5.1 works under all flavours of Windows and was written by NERG Paul McMahon VK3DIP.

YagiCAD 5.1 is available for downloading from
www.nerg.asn.au/software/yagicad51.zip

YagiCAD can either a design from scratch or use one from a library of well known designs as a starting point. The design can then be optimised or scaled to suit particular requirements. Once this has been done a matching unit can be estimated and overall performance characteristics can be calculated and displayed graphically.

Radiation patterns, gain, Front to Back ratio, and feed impedance can all be plotted over a frequency range of interest. All plots can be printed or copied to other windows applications. Numeric data can also be exported to other applications like Excel for further analysis.

YAGI COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN Version 5.1 Copyright 1991/2003 Paul McMahon VK3DIP
 VK3DIP NARROW BAND FOX HUNT



Allowances are made for element cross sections other than simple circular ones, as well as various boom mounting techniques.

Most antenna analysis programs either analyse designs from first principles or simply scale known designs to a new frequency. Both have their idiosyncrasies and faults. YagiCAD merges both methods, using NEC2 as the numerical analysis engine and empirical data from scaled models to fine tune practical aspects of a design.

Paul has verified many designs by building them and says the biggest variable is in the matching section. Element lengths and placing are very accurate but the matching sections usually need some tweaking to account for stray capacitances and inductances.

A text help file supplied with the program contains many important and useful notes on optimising your design for the best possible outcomes.

Version 5.1 is free; unlike earlier versions of YAGICAD which were released under a shareware banner (not that Paul ever made any money out of them!). Paul offers it to the worldwide community of antenna experimenters as part repayment for the advice and invaluable input he has received from them over the years. It is his hope that it will be useful to them and also help to introduce new people (and especially radio amateurs) to the joys of antenna experimentation.

FOX-ORING REPORT - DAREBIN PARK

A fine but windy day greeted the competitors of the Fox-oring event at Darebin Parklands. This event was held in conjunction with the Micro Orienteering event run by Bayside Kangaroos orienteering club. A total of 16 competitors tried the 80 metre (just above AM radio) or 2 metre (just above FM radio) courses. Fox-oring is a combination of Orienteering and Radio Direction finding. The competitor needs to navigate with a map to an area defined by a circle (approx 100-200m diameter). From within this circle they will hear the transmitter with their direction finding equipment (sniffer) and use this to locate the control (transmitter) and punch their card.

The 2m course had 4 controls (transmitter locations) to find over a minimum distance of 1.9Kms. This course had been laid out so as new people to the sport could have success and gain confidence using the equipment. When reading the results, it should be noted that this was

advertised as a beginners / walkers event and as such there is a mixture of runners and walkers in the results.

2m Results

Place	Competitor	Call	Controls found	Time	Comments
1	Tony Langdon	VK3JED	4	13:32	runner
2	Ewen Templeton	VK3OW	4	13:37	runner
3	Peter Maloney		4	15:25	runner
4	Mark Besley		4	18:35	
5	Catherine Sheahan		4	21:00	first event tried
6	Marta Salek		4	28:00	
7	Thomas Pfiesser	DK5DF	4	28:45	1st event in Aust.
8	David Beard	BLN	4	34:46	
9	Dianne Shalders		3	67:00	

The 80m course had 7 controls (transmitter locations) to find over a minimum distance of 2.8Kms. This course had been laid out so as the more experienced Radio Direction Finders had to work hard on their orienteering, direction finding and route choice. Time limit for the event was 60 minutes.

80m Results

Place	Competitor	Call	Controls found	Time	Comment
1	Bruce Paterson	VK3TJN	7	25:50	
2	Mark Besley	-	7	49:45	
3	Geoff Hudson	VK3VR	6	36:38	
4	Tony Langdon	VK3JED	6	45:00	
5	Bryan Ackerly	VK3YNG	6	50:55	
6	Ian Stirling	VK3MZ	6	52:45	
7	Thomas Pfiesser	DK5DF	6	53:55	1st event in Aust.
8	Catherine Sheahan	-	6	60:00	1st event tried
9	David Batt	Junior	7	1:58:45	overtime
10	Pam King	-	5	1:19:00	overtime

It was noted at the end of the event that the most difficult transmitter to find had come down from its lofty position and direction finding range was less than 15m.

Thanks go to the Bayside Kangaroos for the organization and maps, and to the Vic ARDF Group for the transmitters and sniffers to hire.

73, Mark Diggins VK3JMD

ARDF EVENTS

6 August - Snow-DF Cancelled

Just in case anyone was still wondering, the Ski-O at which a Snow-DF was to run last Saturday 6th Aug was been cancelled because no snow was forecast for Lake Mountain ! *(Naturally that announcement prompted a huge dump of snow the following day! Ed.)*

3rd IARU Region 2 ARDF Championships & USA Champs:

Brian VK3YNG is currently running (literally) in the USA championships, winning the M40 event.

More Dates:

World Orienteering Champs, Japan, 3-15 August, 2005 (comps 7-14)

Aug Wed 31 st	StreetO		Blind Creek	
Sept Sat 3 rd	ARDF	2m	Glenluce	Australian ARDF Championships!
Sept 19 th -24 th	ARDF	2 & 80m	Japan	Region 3 Champs
Oct Sun 23 rd	Fox-or	80m	Latrobe Uni	Final: Series Cup

A note to new members: for the latest RadiO bulletins subscribe to the melb-ardf mailing list. Visit the web page at:

<http://lists.id.oz.au/www/info/melb-ardf>

Cheers, Bruce, VK3TJN, Vic ARDF Group, brucep (at) netpace.net.au

The NERG Inc. RegNo 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

Send to: NERG Treasurer, PO box 270, Greensborough, Vic., 3088

Committee

President	Greg Williams	VK3VT	9432 0563
Secretary	John Weir	VK3ZRV	9431 0667
Treasurer	Marg Baxter	VK3VOJ	9467 1253
Committee	Betsy King	VK3HBK	
	David Aston	VK3THY	
	Peter Cosway	VK3DU	9379 3626
Repeaters	Mark Harrison	VK3BYY	9435 3043

Meetings

2nd Thursday of each month at 7.45 PM (excepting Dec. & Jan.)
Briar Hill Community Hall, 126 Mountain View Road, Briar Hill (Near off Sherbourne Road intersection) Melway map ref 21-C3

Classes

NERG occasionally runs classes and exams for Amateur license candidates.

Callsigns and Repeaters (25km North East of Melbourne)

Club call - VK3CNE <http://www.qsl.net/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 6350, EchoLink node 140587
6m beacon VK3RMH CW 10 Watts 50.295 MHz -Off air
10m bec'n VK3RMH CW 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 Sites: <http://nerg.asn.au> and <http://www.qsl.net/vk3rmh>

NERG NEWS submissions and comments invited:

editor: Mark Harrison VK3BYY
ph: 9435-3043 hm
post: 266 Nell Street West, Watsonia, 3087
email: vk3byy@nerg.asn.au



NERG

North-East Radio Group VK3CNE

NERG Incorporated 1985
BOX 270 GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

STAMP

**NEXT MEETING:
7:45 PM Thursday 11th August 2005
Annual General Meeting**

2005 CALENDAR (NERG ACTIVITIES IN BOLD TYPE)

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| August 11 | NERG Annual General Meeting and Party. |
| Aug 13-14 | Remembrance Day Contest - 0800z Sat. - 0759z Sun, HF/VHF/UHF, Phone/CW, with new rules! |
| Aug 20-21 | International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend, Info: www.vk2ce.com/illw |
| Sept 3 | Australian ARDF Championships |
| Sept 8 | NERG Meeting - DXpedition to St Peter Island in the Nuyts Archipelago
- with Peter VK3QI and his team. |
| Oct 13 | NERG Meeting - Advanced Automotive Electronics and the Amateur by Bob, VK3UI |
| Oct 15-16 | Jamboree On The Air - Scouts and Guides communicating via amateur radio around the world. |
| Oct 16 | Official Opening of the new NERG home with public information displays and amateur radio
demonstrations - 1:00pm-4:30pm Briar Hill Community Hall. |