



May 2003

NERG NEWS

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

This month:
7.45 pm, Thursday 8th May 2003

Guest Speaker:
Stephen Warrillow VK3JNH
Tales from Abroad

NERG Inc.
PO Box 270
Greensborough
Victoria 3088

MAY MEETING

This month NERG member Stephen Warrillow VK3JNH will report on his working holiday in England and travels around Europe with his family. Stephen operated as M0CYT while abroad so it will be interesting to hear how amateur radio operates over there.

Usual tea, coffee and chinwagging to follow.

See you at the NERG meeting 7.45pm Thursday, 8th May at the GreenHills Community House, Yandell Reserve, Greensborough.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday Morning Tea Group

We had VK3EGM, 3DBQ, 3JPK, 3XXX at Steve 3JSE's with Betsy 3HBK helping out and joining us for lunch. Great day and great company. Apologies from 3BIZ, 3JMB, 3BGE.

Next Meeting is Tuesday 27th May at Gerhard VK3EWM's QTH in Lower Plenty. All NERG's are invited.

73, Jim VK3DBQ

ANNUAL NERG DINNER Wednesday 28th May

NERGs and friends are invited to the Di Riccardos restaurant on Wednesday evening, 28th May, for the annual NERG Dinner.

Di Riccardos is a woodfired pizza and gourmet pasta restaurant located at 81 Main Road, Lower Plenty with plenty of parking opposite.

There will be a set menu for \$25.00 per person, which includes a variety of anti pastas and breads etc, for starters, followed by a good variety of pastas and pizzas for main course, finishing with fruit platters, coffee, tea, etc.

Drinks are BYO (no corkage charge) or can be purchased at reasonable prices at the restaurant.

Please, please, please! confirm your acceptance for the dinner and advise on your choice of main courses.

(A choice of main courses will be available at the NERG meeting and on the WEB site).

Also, Di Riccardos has kindly donated a dinner for two, which will be raffled at the August meeting for only \$2/ticket.

73, Don VK3KDT, ph 9439 1102,
vk3kdt@nerg.asn.au



LOCAL NEWS

Success at last over tower dispute!

Mark VK3PI has won his battle with the Banyule City Council after the council withdrew its demands that Mark remove his amateur radio mast from his backyard in Bundoora. Mark has thanked WIA Victoria, radio clubs and individuals who gave him advice and support during the long drawn out saga. Jim Linton (WIA Vic) and Greg Williams (NERG) were able to assist with valuable knowledge of previous cases and legal interpretations of the relevant legislations.

The council finally gave in after it was pointed out that the tower did not require a planning permit under the planning act due to it's limited height, nor could it be classed as a "telecommunications facility" as they claimed because the telecommunications act specifically excludes amateurs.

This case should help clear up the confusion between masts and towers above and below the 5 meter limit, helping both councils and amateurs determine when a permit is required. Amateurs should be able to get their towers and masts raised more rapidly in the future.

ARDF news

The most recent ARDF event was held at Darebin Park along side the Metro orienteering event. Turnout was very good. The weather was overcast - ideal for high-speed runners but still pleasant for the walkers. Several orienteer also gave ARDF a first go after completing their course.

This event was a little different from true ARDF in that it used six small continuously running transmitters all on the same frequency. Competitors were given a map with large circles indicating the general location of each transmitter. Once in the area, the competitors used directional receivers to locate the transmitter.

The next ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding) event will be held in combination with a Metro orienteering event.

Newcomers are always welcome. There will be some spare gear to borrow and hunters you can tag along with. To keep up to date, join the ARDF e-mail list in Melbourne, follow links from:

<http://www.nerg.asn.au/ARDFlist.htm>

di riccardos
woodfire pizza & gourmet pasta

IRLP back on air!

Node 6350 (Wattle Glen, Australia) at the VK3RMH 70cm repeater is back in action!

Our IRLP host, Mark VK3XXX has changed a few things following the long and challenging upgrade to a more reliable ISP for the Internet part of the link. The new, simpler operation is as follows:

- Only use the new four digit node numbers. We are Node 6350.
- Forget the extra '0' & '1' to connect and disconnect - just enter the 4-digit node number by itself to connect.
- Disconnect by sending '73' during a break between transmissions.
- Remember our node can't hear your DTMF commands while the other end is talking (just like a normal QSO!!) - wait for a break to disconnect.
- Send a single '#' (hash) to get a connection status report.

A complete list of nodes can be found at the IRLP web site:

www.irlp.org - look for the STATUS link.

LIPD interference hits VK3RMH

Help is required in locating the NERG 70cm repeater's first known doses of LIPD interference. In case you have forgotten, that stands for "Low Power Interfering Devices". In this case the "Low Power" device can be heard simultaneously in Watsonia and Wattle Glen, over a distance of at least 12 km!

The interference manifests itself as frequent but intermittent triggering of the repeater with very little audio content.

The interference would appear to be coming from cordless headphones as the signal content is music or video soundtrack, and has appeared late at night - perhaps while the user watches a video after the rest of the family has gone to bed.

Fortunately the signal is very weak at the repeater. Since the LIPD is using wide-band FM it only just manages to trigger the repeater during relatively quiet passages of the sound track. The rest of the time the signal mostly falls outside the repeater bandwidth. It can be heard more clearly on a handheld or scanner by leaving the squelch open.

Any reports of LIPD signal strengths on 433.325MHz will be appreciated. Often it is just a case of asking the LIPD owner to select another channel on their device to solve interference problems for both parties.

Mark Harrison, vk3byy, ph 9435-3043

Cordless phone trouble

Recent news from Jim Linton of the WIA Victorian division indicates the ACA is having trouble enforcing the regulations that should prevent the use of illegally imported High Power Cordless Phones in Australia.

These are cordless phones where you plug the base-station into the phone socket at home and then take the handset with you as you drive around the suburbs. They have a range of about 25km, giving the owner a "mobile" phone at home phone line prices.

Apparently the ACA inspectors are stuck in a loop-hole. Even though the transmissions of the phones are clearly illegal, they cannot legally monitor or record such transmissions, as they would require a phone-tapping permit to do so. Presumably this is complicated because they can't apply for the permit without first knowing who's phone line they want to monitor! Another one of those old chicken or the egg problems.....

So how does this affect amateurs? Many of these illegal imports randomly choose VHF frequencies covering the Aeronautic, Satellite, Amateur (2-meters) and commercial/emergency frequencies around 120-160MHz.

Presumably it is also illegal for amateur to monitor, track down, or interfere with these phone as that mean listening to private telephone conversation, which is prohibited by the telecommunications act. Theoretically we should turn off our radios

when one of these phones lands on our favourite 2m simplex channel or broadcasts through an amateur repeater.

This very problem occurred several years ago when a high-powered phone regularly interfered with the input to the Geelong VK3RGL IRLP link and was broadcast worldwide! That case was successfully solved by the ACA because the IRLP computer just happened to log all the DTFM tones it received and was able to record all the telephone numbers dialled by the cordless phone user. The IRLP operator was able to forward the list of telephone numbers to the ACA, who were in turn able to track down the phone owners phone number.

NEWS CONTRIBUTORS AWARD

Soon it will be time to vote for the annual NERG NEWS award for the best contributor of articles and news. A vote will be taken at the AGM in August. The perpetual trophy is a framed original John Kolm cartoon. There are still several more chances to get your contribution in before the AGM!

CONTESTS

John Moyle Field Day scores

The logs from the John Moyle weekend have at last been calculated.

The number of stations work and the total score are both up on recent years - well done NERGs! Also many thanks to those that sent us numbers, often after waiting patiently to get their numbers through.

Here are the results for each band over the past 5 years. The number of contacts are shown in brackets (). Note that 2001 was a 6-hour effort by three NERGs under extremely poor conditions. 2000 & 1999 we lost a few logs.

Band	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
23cm	176 (23)	194 (21)	-	190 (10)	-
70cm	1006 (76)	682 (50)	112 (8)	790 (49)	710 (55)
2m	1984 (150)	1588 (109)	428 (34)	2008 (162)	1158 (92)
6m	1096 (97)	1018 (75)	-	950 (60)	1296 (64)
10m	22 (12)	10 (5)	-	10 (6)	-
15m	18 (10)	24 (12)	-	-	-
20m	80 (40)	222 (111)	-	60 (30)	100 (50)
40m	218 (109)	120 (60)	42 (21)	200 (100)	142 (71)
80m	130 (65)	80 (40)	-	88 (44)	70 (35)
Total Score (contacts)	4730 (583)	3938 (483)	582 (63)	4296 (461)	3482 (370)

Lessons learned by the log keeper are the need to train operators how to write clearly, how to read a clock, and how to put the HF entries into the log sheet for the band they are on at the time :-). Also all operators need to agree on a time standard and set all clock to this (I could be wrong, but I'm pretty sure nobody was working VHF to Patagonia at 5am local time!). Next time the log keeper will be checking log sheets at the end of each 3-hour block so that errors and undecipherable entries can be corrected before it's too late.

VK/TRANS-TASMAN CONTEST 2003

Phone 24th May & CW 7th June

Clubs and individual amateurs and short wave listeners are invited to participate in the 2003 VK/ trans-Tasman Contest.

There is a "Multi-Operator" rule that allows you to use from 2 to 6 operators, during the 5 to 6 hour Contest. Last year a group of three ZL4's set up on a mountain, in a caravan, - and nearly won the Contest!

The Contest is all about VK's and ZL's, with everyone being given a fair chance. This year Phone and CW contests are on different weekends, regardless of their location or time zone. Operating just 5 to 6 hours from 6pm EAST time is enough for a night's fun and games!

I hope that everyone enjoys what was last year dubbed as a "very friendly Contest".

The only thing we ask is that you take the time to submit your log (even if you don't think you will win). This is essential to make it all worthwhile, and to ensure the on-going success of the Contest.

Detailed contest rules are available on the Contest web site: <http://home.iprimus.com.au/vktasman> or the NZART web-site/Contests.

Rules have also been published in most amateur magazines by now (incl. April AR magazine page 43)

73's, Bruce Renn, VK3JWZ, Contest Manager, vktasman@hotmail.com

Condensed VK/ trans-Tasman Contest rules:

(for VK3 region Single Operators only)

Dates: Phone: Saturday 24th MAY; CW: Saturday 7th JUNE

Time: 0800 UTC to 1400 UTC, (in one hour stages).

Categories: Phone, QRP Phone, CW, QRP CW, and SWL.

Frequencies: Phone: 3.535 - 3.625MHz; CW: 3.500 - 3.550 MHz

Modes: LSB (DSB optional for QRP), CW.

Max. Power: Phone 100 Watts pep. (QRP 5 Watts pep).

CW: 100 Watts pz. (QRP 5 Watts pz).

General:

1. The Contest is open only to all VK and ZL callsigns.
2. Stations can be worked only once in each hour block. Stations worked in the last 5 minutes of an hour must wait until 5 minutes past the hour before reworking.
3. 3-digit Serial Numbers commencing at 001 shall be exchanged. (No RST numerals are used!).

Callsigns:

1. The zone of other stations is determined by their callsign, however VK4's north of the Tropic of Capricorn will add "Central" to their callsign.
2. QRP stations identify by adding "Quebec" after their callsign

Scoring:

Scoring is complicated - please refer to the full rules. However, briefly, VK3's get 11 points for ZL contacts, 6 points for VK6 & VK0 contacts, and 3 points for all other VK areas.

Bonus points are given for working four VK call areas and/or three ZL call areas within each hour block. Bonuses also apply for working QRP stations; and for using a QRP rig that you built.

SWL's must hear the callsigns and contact numbers of both stations in a QSO to score and must log both stations.

Logs:

Keep a separate log sheet(s) for each hour block. Record callsign of station worked; numbers sent and received, UTC time and a column to the right for calculating the "contact" points.

All Operators are requested to submit their logs (even if you don't think you will win). This will justify the effort and expense involved by the Contest Manager, and ensure the on-going success of the Contest.

Awards are issued for all categories. Also awards for the Night-Owl (top scores in final hour of contests), and the Wooden Spoon award (Lowest Log score submitted).

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The myth about Mobile Phones and Petrol Stations

We have always been told to turn off our transmitters when stopped at service stations but should this practice still apply? The article below was recently published by the giant two-way radio and mobile phone manufacturer Motorola and says its all an urban myth

Never the less I think I'll still turn off the 400watt mobile when I'm near anything that's potentially explosive!

A Motorola Background Paper - 3 May 2002

Over the last several years, there has been occasional speculation in the media and over the Internet that the use of mobile phones at gasoline stations could pose a risk of fire or explosion. This issue can be traced to reports of alleged incidents that have been investigated and never verified. Having looked into this issue at some length, Motorola can report that:

"We know of no documented incident anywhere in the world where the use of a mobile phone or portable radio was identified as the cause of a fire or explosion in a gasoline station"

There is no credible reason to believe that the use of these products poses any such hazard.

In response to rumours that attracted considerable attention in 1999, Motorola commissioned a review by an independent scientific, engineering and technical consulting firm: Exponent Failure Analysis Associates. Exponent concluded in December 1999 that "the use of a cell phone at a gasoline filling station under normal operating conditions presents a negligible hazard" and that the likelihood of such an accident under any conditions "is very remote."

"Automobiles (which have numerous potential ignition sources) pose a greater ignition hazard," the report said. "Finally, other potential ignition sources are present, such as static discharge between a person and a vehicle."

An analysis by the Center for the Study of Wireless Electromagnetic Compatibility at the University of Oklahoma reached a similar conclusion in August 2001. It said research into this issue "provided virtually no evidence to suggest that cell phones pose a hazard at gas stations."

"While it may be theoretically possible for a spark from a cell phone battery to ignite gas vapour under very precise conditions, the historical evidence does not support the need for further research," the report said. "Until there is evidence to the contrary, we suggest that no further action be initiated in this regard, and that no recommendations for further action are required of the wireless phone or petroleum industries."

The Exponent and Oklahoma reviews agreed that the issue was whether a battery related spark could create a source of ignition. The radio signals from the phone were not at issue.

The use of mobile phones in gasoline stations long ago attained the status of an "urban legend" - rumour and supposition accorded undue credence because of repeated mentions in the media and over the Internet. In the end, public policies and consumer advice must be based not on speculation but fact. The facts in this case are clear. They are reinforced by extensive engineering analysis and suggest that there is no sound technical basis to prohibit the use of mobile phones in gasoline stations or single them out as hazards.

References:

“Cell Phone Usage at Gasoline Stations.” Report to Motorola by Exponent Failure Analysis Associates, Menlo Park, California USA. December 1999.

“Investigation of the Potential for Wireless Phones to Cause Explosions at Gas Stations.” Center for the Study of Wireless Electromagnetic Compatibility, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma USA. August 2001. <http://www.ou.edu/engineering/emc/>

“Gas Station Warnings Perpetuate ‘Urban Legend.’” Statement of Tom Wheeler, president and CEO of the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association. October 7, 1999. http://www.wow-com.com/news/press/body.cfm?record_id=407

“Fuelish Pleasures: Is Using a Cell Phone at a Gas Station Dangerous?” Urban Legends Reference Pages. January 2002. <http://www.snopes2.com/autos/hazards/gasvapor.htm>

The original article is available from: <http://www.motorola.com/mot/documents/0,1028,423,00.pdf>

30th Anniversary of the Cell Phone

Standing on a sidewalk across from the Hilton hotel in mid-town Manhattan 30 years ago today, Martin Cooper did something never done before reported Todd Wallack of the San Francisco Chronicle (*published Apr. 3, 2003 08:31 AM*).

To the bewilderment of passers-by, the Motorola project manager held a 2-pound box of wires and circuits to his ear and started talking into it - becoming the first person to place a public call on a handheld cellular telephone.

Today, mobile phones are in the pockets of 144 million Americans. And it's hard to find an urban sidewalk where pedestrians don't have them glued to their heads.

As for Cooper, the 74 year-old engineer - widely considered the father of the cellphone - is now chairman and chief executive officer of a San Jose wireless technology firm, ArrayComm. The company makes software to help mobile-phone carriers squeeze more calls on a network. And it's now testing technology, called iBurst, to use mobile-phone networks for high-speed Internet access.

The Chronicle caught up with Cooper earlier this week to talk about his invention, the industry and which mobile phone he prefers:

The Chronicle: What was the first phone like?

Cooper: The thing weighed 30 ounces. It was shaped like a brick. The thing was huge. I built up muscles just holding the thing.

Q: Many people consider you the father of the cellphone. How'd you and Motorola get started on it?

A: Bell Labs had invented this thing called cellular technology and told the government they would like to take over the entire personal communications business. They were telling the world they were the only one technically capable of executing it and the only ones with the money to do it. Their objective was to build car phones. But we thought the world was ready for portable phones.

We had been working on portable communications for years - antennas and things of that nature - and had this dream of building a personal, portable cell phone. But when this situation came up with the Bell system, we felt we had to demonstrate this. So in November 1972, I conceived of this portable phone, and my team and I built it over several months.

Q: Who did you make the first call on the phone to?

A: The guy who was promoting the car telephone at Bell Laboratories, Joel Engel. I called Joel and told him I was calling from a real cellular phone, a handheld cellular phone. I don't remember what he said, but I thought I heard gnashing of teeth.

Q: How clear was it?

A: We had one base station and one portable phone, so the call was perfect. The reason you have trouble now is that the carriers are

trying to squeeze too many people on every channel, and they keep bumping into one another.

Q: Did you receive a bonus for building the phone?

A: No. It was just part of the job.

Q: So you didn't get rich off the invention?

A: No. Only intellectually and with satisfaction.

Q: What mobile phone do you use now?

A: I still have a lot of loyalty to Motorola. I use a Motorola v60i. It's a top-of-the-line model. But I have yet to get one with a color screen. I haven't figured out what the benefit is.

Q: What carrier do you use?

A: I use Verizon. My wife uses Cingular. I also have an AT&T phone for the car.

Q: Which works best?

A: It really depends on where you are. Where I am at the moment (in Vail, Colo) Cingular will not work.

Q: Do you still have a landline?

A: Of course. I am talking now on a landline. I get as frustrated as you do with wireless service. I get infuriated ... because I know what the technology is capable of.

Q: Critics complain that wireless carriers generally won't say what percentage of their phone calls are dropped or where their dead zones are. What's your feeling about that?

A: That is a form of arrogance. If you are really interested in servicing your customers, there are a bunch of things that you could do to make the service better. And certainly, you would make sure people knew how your product compared to others. Number portability (which would let people change carriers and keep their old phone number) is absolutely essential if you are going to have real competition. That is coming, but the cell phone companies are resisting that.

Q: Do you use wireless text messaging?

A: To a very minor degree. I don't use it the way kids in Europe use it.

Q: Have you downloaded any distinctive ring tones?

A: I never use a ring. I have it on vibrate. I never have to worry about upsetting people in the theatre or public places.

Q: What do you think of all the complaints about poor cell-phone etiquette?

A: It doesn't take a cell phone to make a person rude. There are rude people all over the place. But people are learning. I have never heard a cell phone ring in the movies. We are going to learn how to live with the advantages of new technology.

Q: What about laws banning people from using the phones while driving?

A: I'm trying to think of a better word than nutty. It's been going on awhile. I was on a car telephone in 1950. The reality is that it's not the act of dialling or having a phone that is dangerous. The danger is the mental distraction, and you can get that smoking a cigarette. The biggest distraction is getting into an argument with someone next to you. The only solution is to get them to pay attention while they're driving.

Q: It took awhile for portable cell phones to catch on.

A: We had to fool people into buying the first phones 20 years ago. The public doesn't adopt radical concepts very quickly. The concept was freedom.

Q: How many companies have you started?

A: Four or five.

Q: You're 74. Are you considering retiring or slowing down?

A: The only thing that would slow me down is physical or mental impairment, and that hasn't happened.



Reprinted from the LMR Yahoo newsgroup, the Land Mobile Radio group for LMR professionals everywhere! To join, mailto:

LMR-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

WHERE DID YA GET IT?

It's time to reinstate the "Ham where to find it!" column. This column lists suppliers of all sorts of goodies that Ham regularly use but often have difficulty locating.

The latest additions to the list include sources of wire rope and fittings for erecting towers, as well as the elusive "conductive grease" used to protect joints in antenna.

John, VK3ZRV, put us on to these hardware suppliers:

- 1) **Wire and textile ropes including associated fittings:**
All Ropes and More
8 Mercedes Drive, Thomastown, 9465 4666
- 2) **Stainless Steel and HT nuts, bolts and wide variety of small associated fittings:**
Stuarts Industrial supplies
No.5 38 Bridge Street (Cnr Susan St.), Eltham, 9431 6888

Alminox "conductive grease" is apparently good for reducing corrosion wherever two pieces of aluminium join together while maintaining a low resistance connection. It is particularly useful for lubricating telescoping sections in antenna construction.

Unfortunately Alminox is very hard to obtain but a suitable substitute is **Utilux H2397 Electrical Jointing Compound** that is available from good electrical trade outlets.

Matt, VK2KVE, found it at:

- 3) Rep Elec, 16 Rayben St, Glendenning NSW 2761 Tel: 1300 555 586 for about \$26 for 325g. (via VK-VHF newsgroup).

Bushfires wrapped up

The North East Victorian bushfires were declared contained after 59 days. The Department of Sustainability and Environment thanked many organisations for their help, including WICEN (Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network) and their amateur operators.

These were the largest bushfires to occur in Victoria in 60 years. The fires, which stretch from Mt Buffalo in the west, to the NSW border and to the Tubbut area in East Gippsland, burnt nearly 1.09 million hectares. In total around 75,000 hectares of farming land has been burnt, 41 houses, over 200 other buildings, 3000km of fencing and 11,000 head of stock.

In total the Eastern Victorian fires have burnt around 1.12 million hectares of Victorian parks and forests. This figure includes the large number of lightning-caused fires that were contained in the first weeks of January.

At its peak the following facilities were called upon:-

- Over 1700 CFA volunteers
- 3350 DSE/DPI/PV staff & firefighters
- 120 Army/Navy personnel
- 120 SES staff & volunteers
- Metropolitan Fire Brigade staff
- 584 SA personnel
- 31 Tasmanians
- 68 QLD personnel
- 62 New Zealanders
- 35 US personnel
- a large number of volunteers in support roles
- 350 specialised 4WD (slip-ons)
- 81 4WD Fire Tankers
- 31 First Attack dozers
- Around 80 large bulldozers from DSE, the timber industry and the private sector

- 6 reconnaissance-type aircraft
- 8 light helicopters
- 10 fixed-wing aircraft
- 6 fire bombing helicopters
- 2 infrared mapping aircraft
- 2 Erikson Aircrews
- Over a dozen crew transport aircraft

Victoria has around 7.7 million hectares of parks and forests. In an average summer around 620 wildfires occur and these burn around 110,000 hectares. To date this season 746 fires have occurred. These have burnt over 1.34 million hectares. The 20-year average for this time of year is 396 fires, having burnt 80,263 hectares. (from the CFA newsletter)

2003 EVENTS

2003 Calendar

- May 10 Moorabbin Hamfest - Saturday 10am opening**
Brentwood Secondary College, Watsons Road (enter via Heath St), Glen Waverley, Melways 71 D7.
- May 22 WIA Vic Division AGM and elections**
- May 24 VK/trans-Tasman Contest - Phone, 6pm-midnight**
6 hour 80m SSB contest, for VK's & ZL's only.
- May 31 QRP Day CW**
- June 7-8 Mt Gambier Convention - CONFIRMED!**
South East Radio Group Annual Convention and Foxhunting championships. Details and table bookings Wayne Kilpatrick VK5ZX (08) 8725 4335
- June 7 VK/Trans-Tasman Contest - CW**
6 hour 80m CW contest, for VK's & ZL's only.
- June 14-15 Novice contest (All modes)**
- June 14-15 International Museums Weekend (?)**
- July 5-6 GippsTech 2003 - Gippsland Technical Conference**
VHF, UHF & microwave experimenters lectures. Peter Freeman VK3KAI (03) 5122 6416
- Aug 16-17 Remembrance Day (RD) Contest (All modes)**
- Aug 16-17 International Lighthouse weekend**
0001 UTC Sat. until 2359 UTC Sun.
- Oct 18-19 JOTA - Jamboree On The Air (Scouts and Guides)**
- Nov 28 - Dec 3 The 5th IARU Region 3 ARDF Championships**
Mt Helen Campus, Victoria University, Ballarat.
Info: www.wiavic.org.au/ardf



Di Riccardos

Woodfired pizza

&

Gourmet Pasta

Restaurant

81 Main Road

Lower Plenty

Plenty of parking opposite



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

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

Committee

President	Greg Williams	VK3VT	9432 0563
Secretary	Mark Beacham	VK3XXX	0417-597399
Treasurer	Marg Baxter	VK3VOJ	9467 1253
Committee	Dave Pricor	VK3JMB	9465 9708
	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 7.45 PM (excepting Dec. & Jan.)
Greenhills Community House, Yandell Reserve, off 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 <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

6m beacon VK3RMH CW 10 Watts 50.295 MHz – Soon!

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 (btwn. 7.30-9.30 p.m. please)

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NERG

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

MEETING this week

7:45 PM Thursday 8th May 2003

This Month – Travelling Abroad with Stephen Warrillow, VK3JNH / M0CYT

2003 CALENDAR (NERG ACTIVITIES IN BOLD)

May 8th	NERG Meeting - 7.45pm - see above
May 10 th	Moorabbin and Districts Radio Club HAMFEST 2003. 10am Saturday. Brentwood Secondary College, Glen Waverley (71 D7) \$6 entry web: www.mdrc.org.au
May 22 nd	WIA (Victoria) AGM and elections
May 24 th	VK/trans-Tasman Contest - 6 hour 80m SSB contest, for VK's & ZL's only. 6pm-Midnight.
June 7 th	VK/trans-Tasman Contest - 6 hour 80m CW contest, for VK's & ZL's only. 6pm-Midnight.
June 7-8 th	Mt Gambier Convention - yes it is ON! South East Radio Group convention and Foxhunting championships. Info Wayne Kilpatrick VK5ZX (08) 8725 4335
June 12th	NERG Meeting - 7.45pm