



- QRM -

The Bi-Monthly Magazine
of the
Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc.

ISSN: 1441-9386/ Vol. 9 No. 2

April 2007

Amateur Radio Stations VK4RC & VK4IZ



The “Secret Weapon” – the “Big Shot” operated by George, Peter and Shaun

From the Editor

Greetings to all Club members, radio enthusiasts, family supporters and friends.

Welcome to QRM for February 2007. We've had a pretty busy couple of months since the last edition. Another successful John Moyle Field Day has come and gone, which of course includes an enormous amount of planning and preparation, as well as the setting up and dismantling of our field station at Murrumbong Scout Camp. We especially thank project leader Andy (VK4KY), and all those who helped at the various stages and also to those who participated during the event to gain what we all hope will be the winning score for our Club. We also thank our generous sponsor Coates Hire for their support.

We are happy to report the completion of another Foundation licence course at the Redcliffe Club, which has culminated in four more successful candidates. We congratulate Wendy Cosgrove, Gal Strasburg, Chris Day and Glenn Gustafson, who should all be receiving their shiny new call signs before long, which we look forward to hearing in the near future. My special thanks to Ken (VK4FKEN) for his valuable help and support in the course and with the exams, and also to Invigilators John (VK4WX) and Charlie (VK4YZ). Meanwhile, our Advanced course is nearing completion. This has been run principally by Laurie (VK4BLE), with assistance from myself and Glenn (VK4FZ). A combination of work, university study and family commitments may make it difficult for Laurie to give the same time in the future which he has generously given up until now. However this may turn out, everyone who has had the good fortune to come under the tutorship of Laurie (myself included) will wish to express their heartfelt thanks for all his efforts to help bring new amateurs into the hobby. The exam success rate under Laurie has been nothing short of remarkable, which speaks for itself of his teaching skills and knowledge.

In the last edition, I bleated a little about not having much in the way of articles. Well, I'm glad to report that articles for this month's QRM have come streaming in. My thanks go to all authors for their much appreciated and high standard of contributions. We begin this bumper edition with a report by Steve (VK4IT) on the JM Field Day, followed by details of a visit by Peter (VK4TGV) to the Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club to look at their disaster recovery caravan, and to discuss with them their approach to supporting their local government council in this important community service. Peter shares some good ideas which will help as we prepare for our similar support role for the Redcliffe City Council. Next, Karl (VK4PRO) writes of an interesting display of historic radio equipment preserved in the Gunnedah Rural Museum. As I am planning to visit South Australia later next month, I certainly hope to see the museum for myself at some stage of the journey there or back. Last but not least, Peter TGV puts on his skilled technical writer's hat for an article about that problem for which everyone is searching for the perfect answer – the multiband HF antenna that doesn't take much space and which the neighbours never realise is there! Well I think he may have almost done it! It's a good follow on from Andy's excellent talk on dipole antennas a few weeks ago. I liked this article, because I'm a bit of an "open wire freak" myself, and I think the advantages of this feedline solution for multiband dipoles far out way any disadvantages.

In this Edition

John Moyle 2007 Redcliffe Style	page 3
2005/06 Committee Members & Club Directory	page 4
Forthcoming Events	page 4
Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club – WICEN caravan	page 5
A blast from the past	page 8
Multiband horizontal antennas	page 9
R & DRC Crossword No. 15, Contest Calendar	page 13
Notes from the Executive/Club Meetings	page 14
Celebrations	page 16
Corporate sponsors	page 17

DISCLAIMER: While every care has been taken in the preparation of this magazine, neither the Redcliffe & Districts Radio Club Inc., nor its Executive, nor the authors of any articles, nor any of its members can be held responsible in any way whatsoever for consequences arising from the use persons may make of the information published herein. Readers relying on such information do so at their own risk, and are advised to check the accuracy of data and information for themselves, and to take due care.

John Moyle 2007 Redcliffe Style

by *Steve Pearson (VK4IT)*

The Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club participated in the 2007 John Moyle Field Day using the call sign VK4IZ. A portable multi-operator station was setup at the Murrumbong Scout Camp at Petrie, 25km North of Brisbane. This event is one of the highlights of the club's calendar, and as per previous years, a great weekend was had by all who attended.

Two operating positions were set up at the campsite, one for 80, 40 and 10 metres, and the other for 20 and 15 metres. Yagis were used on 10, 15 and 20, with a vertical and dipoles for 40 and 80. Full legal power was used on all bands with both phone and CW operation. A few changes were introduced this year and proved to be very successful.

CW operation

In previous years, CW operation has been minimal and usually separate from phone operations. This year, a team of CW enthusiasts joined in the action and worked in tandem with the phone operators. When voice contacts were few and far between, the CW operators sprung into action. The team approach worked brilliantly, maximizing contacts on the bands with the added bonus of getting a number of voice operators interested trying their hand at CW. The club will be doing a CW "Tech Talk" presentation in April, so watch out for details on the website.

Our Secret Weapon

One of the most time consuming tasks setting up in previous years has been the method used for getting wire antennas up into the tall trees. The bow and arrow and fishing rod approaches have been retired and the "Big Shot" has been called into action. The "Big Shot" is an oversized slingshot, and it proved to be a much easier and faster way to get wires over large trees. A number of setup hours were saved using this device and the dipoles were up in no time flat!

Saturday Dinner

In previous years it has sometimes been a difficult task attracting the numbers required for a full 24 hour effort. How do you attract people out to the site? Provide a fully catered lamb roast meal! Peter VK4TGV started this tradition at last years JOTA activity and it looks like it is here to stay. Attendees at this years' field day enjoyed roast lamb and vegetables cooked to perfection from a number of camp ovens. Now we just have to work out how to keep people on the radios while we serve dinner!

The club would like to extend thanks to all who attended on site and the hundreds of stations in VK and beyond who answered our calls. Also thanks to Coates Hire for supplying the generator and Murrumbong Scout Camp for the use of their campsite and portable toilet. A big thank you to the event organisers and all those who assisted throughout the weekend. Another great John Moyle weekend Redcliffe Style! More photos are available on the club website <http://vk4rc.we.net.au>

See photo on front page and page 12

2006/07 COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CLUB DIRECTORY

President	David Close VK4FDRC	Phone: 3862 8700
1st Vice President	Steve Pearson VK4IT	Phone: 3284 8975
2nd Vice President	Peter Schrader VK4TGV	Phone: 0419676942
Secretary	Peter Richardson VK4TAA	Phone: 3261 4225
Treasurer	Glenn Wood VK4FZ	Phone: 3351 4295

Meetings: EVERY MONDAY with regular guest speakers and ongoing projects
Time: 1930hrs (local)

WHERE: Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club clubhouse - Cnr Klingner Rd & Macfarlane St, Kippa Ring

Clubhouse: Open every Monday evening 1930hrs (local) INCLUDING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

2nd Monday of each month : General Members Discussion Meeting

CLUB NETS: Sunday evenings at 1900K 2m on 146.925MHz Redcliffe repeater VK4RRC and 1945K 80m 3.618 MHz ± QRM VK4RC Net control : 27 MHz, channel 20, 27.205 MHz LSB, Thursday at 8pm

REDCLIFFE and DISTRICTS RADIO CLUB Inc.
PO Box 20, WOODY POINT QLD 4019
WEBSITE: <http://vk4rc.we.net.au>

EXAMS: Alan VK4KZ, Laurie VK4BLE & John VK4WX
NET_1: Sunday 1900K 146.925
NET_2: Sunday 1945K 3.618
REPEATERS: VK4RRC VR 146.925, 438.325

Contributions to Editor QRM - Alan Jenner VK4KZ

15 Spoonbill Drive Elimbah QLD 4516
Mobile: 0407 130 677

Phone (H): 5497 4634
Email (H) alan.jenner@bigpond.com

The Editor thanks all contributors to QRM. Where possible, authors of non-submitted articles are contacted for permission to publish in QRM, and/or their authorship acknowledged. This magazine is not for sale and is distributed free to members of the Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc. and other interested persons, libraries and clubs. ©2001

Forthcoming Events

- General business meeting, 2nd Monday of month
- Foxhunts, 4th Monday of each month
- Wednesday activities – mornings 8.30am each fortnight – next 18th April
Contact Ken (VK4FKEN) **32832564** for further information or to offer suggestions for activities.
- Trivia Nights every Wednesday evening on 70 cm repeater, 7.15pm for check-ins
- **Harry Angel Sprint (CW/SSB) – 28th April**

Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club – WICEN Caravan

by **Peter Schrader** (VK4TGV)

Recently two club members visited the SCARC clubhouse for the unveiling of the emergency caravan; this is an account of the visit. I have also written a few words about how your club could get involved in the local disaster recovery plans.

The SCARC has been lobbying the local council emergency services group to become involved with their disaster recovery plan, and as a result of the lobbying the council gifted a derelict caravan and \$4000 to restore said derelict. Probably a gross understatement, in my view, according to the before photos, a can of kerosene and a match would have completed its restoration.



To SCARC's credit, and with the help of local business, they have completely revitalised the caravan. New wheels and tyres, new windows and cabinets, and a nice bright paint job to go with it!

The SCARC clubhouse is a sight to behold, their radio room should be the model for everybody to follow. Of course, they are rather fortunate to have an excellent facility for their activities, the building used to be the Sunshine Coast Tollway administration facility. The tower infrastructure alone would have been a good enough reason to take up the lease.

SCARC are now seeking funding to fit out the caravan with radio equipment, suitable for deployment when the local disaster recovery protocols are engaged.

Your club is also investigating how to best become involved with the local (Redcliffe City Council) disaster recovery plans. At the moment the proposal is to setup a trailer containing all the required equipment, or to go down the same path as SCARC and fit out a caravan. In the interim it is my recommendation to get the clubhouse radio room fully fitted out, and to get our club written into the Council emergency communications protocols. So far I have come up with this list of required equipment :-

- Standby generator
- Deep cycle 12 V batteries and charger
- Marine VHF (and antenna)
- Marine HF (and antenna)
- Land Mobile HF for RFDS, WICEN and VKS-737 4WD network (with broadband antenna)
- Ch35 emergency services

-
- HF and UHF CB
 - Tower infrastructure for all these antennas!

I believe most of these items can be sourced from club members, or good friends of the club. Keep your ears to the ground and let me know if you can help.

The other key point is commitment from the club members to assist when required. Without this commitment this exercise will be fruitless. The exact details of the required commitment are unclear at this time. We hope to further clarify the involvement over the coming months through meetings with the local SES and council representatives.





----- 000000000000000000 -----

NEW WEBSITE

The Club has a new website, the URL is <http://vk4rc.we.net.au> Thanks to Brad VK4FAAF and his ISP business we.net.au for his generous contribution to the club. If you have internet needs, Brad can help you, and you would be supporting a member and sponsor of our Club – see advertisement at back page: wenet.au.

----- Club second hand market -----

Do you have any radio gear, components, bits and pieces you would like to sell or swap. You can advertise in QRM for free. Please call, email or send details to the QRM Editor, Alan (VK4KZ). Similarly if you want something you think someone might have, you can also advertise in QRM. Your Club is there working for you. For current items for sale/wanted, see below.

~~~~~ CURRENT RADIO COURSES AT REDCLIFFE ~~~~~

At the Redcliffe Club we are nearing completion of the Advanced Course which has been running for some time, and a Foundation Course which began in February has been completed. If you wish to attend future course at the Redcliffe Club, please contact me (Alan VK4KZ, my contact details are under “Contributions to Editor QRM”, page 4 of this magazine). If you do contact me, please keep in touch, to make sure I don’t forget (which unfortunately I am sometimes inclined to do). The dates for future courses are not known at this stage but will depend on demand at the time.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

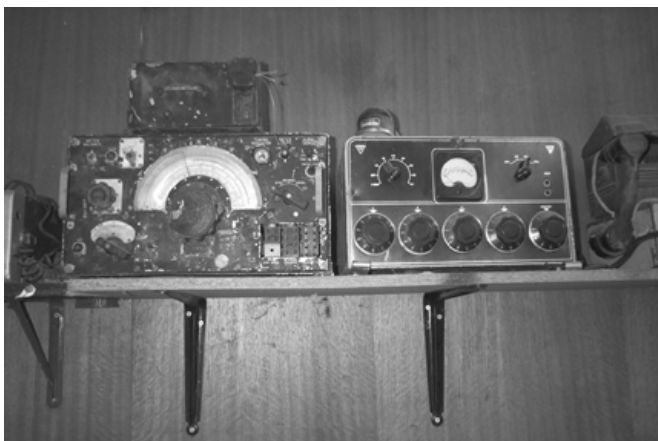
by **Karl Dornmayr** (VK4PRO)

Recently I had the pleasure of traveling back to my hometown Gunnedah, in rural NSW. Pleasure probably isn't the word I'm looking for. This trip involved packing the wife and kids and all the luggage a three-month-old girl and a three-year-old girl required for a week away. It would've been nice to get my Yaesu FT-897D setup for mobile work, but I don't think the QSOs would've been the same with The Wiggles playing loudly in the background.

One of the highlights of the trip, and the reason I'm writing this article, was a visit to the Gunnedah Rural Museum. This is a working display of farm machinery, vintage cars, equipment and artifacts mostly from the region. My father, now retired, volunteers most of his time to the museum and handles a lot of the woodworking and carpentry tasks they need. His father was a cooper, so building wine barrels, wishing wells, replacement wagon wheels and restoring horse-drawn carts fills a large portion of his time.

Amongst this vast array of memorabilia I found a radio section. At first, it took me a while to identify a lot of the equipment. Way before my time I'm afraid. Eventually, I was able to discover that this display holds a fantastic collection of old field radios, oscilloscopes, ex-military transmitters/receivers as well as old telephones, tuners and various odds and ends. The local AM radio station (2MO, now also FM 2GGG) donated its decommissioned 2kW AM broadcast transmitter. Consisting of a large metal cabinet with gauges on the front, we were unable to open the front cover to see the tubes within. There's a small viewing window on the front though, and you can just make out the large components inside.

If you ever find yourself driving through north-west NSW or are planning a trip southwards, I recommend including Gunnedah (and the rural museum) in your travels. Located 1km west of the Visitor Information Centre on the Oxley Highway, the museum opens 9am to 3pm, seven days a week. Entry fee is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. There are numerous large sheds full of stuff, and more out in the open, and you can easily spend a whole day browsing. Who knows, you might even see them fire-up one of the many steam engines or start the old diesel back-up power station. This station has it's own switchboard which can be legally utilised for powering the museum. For the real enthusiasts, they also have a functional blacksmiths. **For more info, you can call them on (02) 6742 4690.**





----- 000000000000000000 -----

Multiband horizontal antennas

by **Peter Schrader (VK4TGV)**

You can have all HF band capability, with limited space; I've done on it a 400 square metre property in the middle of suburbia. My experience proves you can do it without requiring the real estate for 4 square arrays, wire yagis or monster verticals. Don't get me wrong, if you have the room for full size arrays, you are mad if you don't utilise the space. There is no substitute for lots of copper in the air, and getting it as high up as possible.

This article is about the rest of us living on a suburban block, in my case 415 square metres in suburban Northgate. My house is a two story post war timber dwelling with a zincalume corrugated roof, occupying 50% of the land. Needless to say, my mowing time is now down to 15 minutes every month (just the way I like it!). The experience with long doublet antennas at the recent JOTA got me thinking about my situation, in that I simply do not have the room for a full size 80 dipole at least $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength off the ground, and I also wanted 30 and 40 metre capability, with perhaps the added bonus of 160 metres. The JOTA antennas were delightfully simple, a 100 metre roll of 2.5 square mm building wire was cut in half, attached to a piece of fibreglass in the centre and fed with 450 ohm open wire feeder (ladder line). They were then put up as high as possible, the ends of the feeder were terminated into a Woodtech current balun, and co-ax feed from the balun connected to an Antenna Tuning Unit (ATU).

This antenna is known as a Doublet, it has been in use since Marconi was in nappies (well maybe that's an exaggeration, but you get my drift?). There are plenty of references to this antenna in print publications and on the Internet. A Google search on Doublet Antenna yielded 99,100 results, so I do not intend to replicate the theory of operation of the antenna in this article – it has been done quite enough.

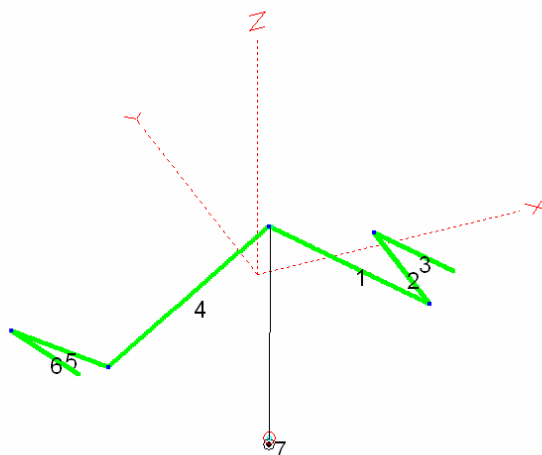
At my place 100 metres of wire would probably circle the property a couple of times, so I went for 25 metre legs. The centre of the antenna has been hoisted via an endless rope to the top of a galvanised pipe located in the centre of my roof, at about 6 metres from the roof surface, the physical height above the ground would be about 15 metres. The effective height above ground will be less than this due to the effects of the metal roof. The two legs then travel to the extreme ends of the property to 6 metre lengths of 90 mm pine studs bolted to the fences. So effectively that part of the antenna is in an inverted vee configuration, that consumed 10 metres of wire each, the remaining 15 metres was zig-zaged across the front and back of the property using various trees and house attachment points. The feeder is 300 ohm open wire feeder, terminated into a current balun at the entry point to the shack and a short run of RG58 coax to the ATU.

Viola! The antenna loaded up on every HF band (160 -> 10) using my MFJ roller inductor ATU, except for 40? Grrr, that was one of my target bands, so I simply added another two metres of feeder and hey presto it loaded up fine on 40. I conducted some very fine QSOs on 40 metres that afternoon, getting easily into JA, QRM

ZL, VK7 and VK3. I was also pleased to learn that Peter (VK4TAA) heard me fine on a recent 80 metre club net, while he was stationary mobile in VK3 land. So it works!

Next the tech head part of brain started to ask, just how does this thing radiate. So I modelled the “as-built” antenna in EZ-NEC. This screen shot depicts the physical layout of the radiators, note, the legs DO NOT need to be straight!

EZNEC

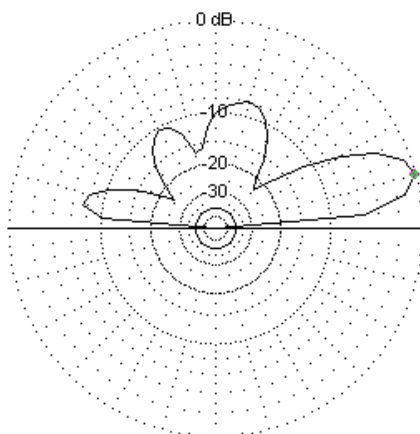


The junction of wires 1 and 4 is the feedpoint, wire number 7 is the balun point. Wire 3 is supported by the Poinciana tree on the footpath, wire 6 ends up in the large tree in the backyard.

Following are some azimuth plots from the model at 80, 40 and 10 metres, some surprises here!

^ Total Field

EZNEC

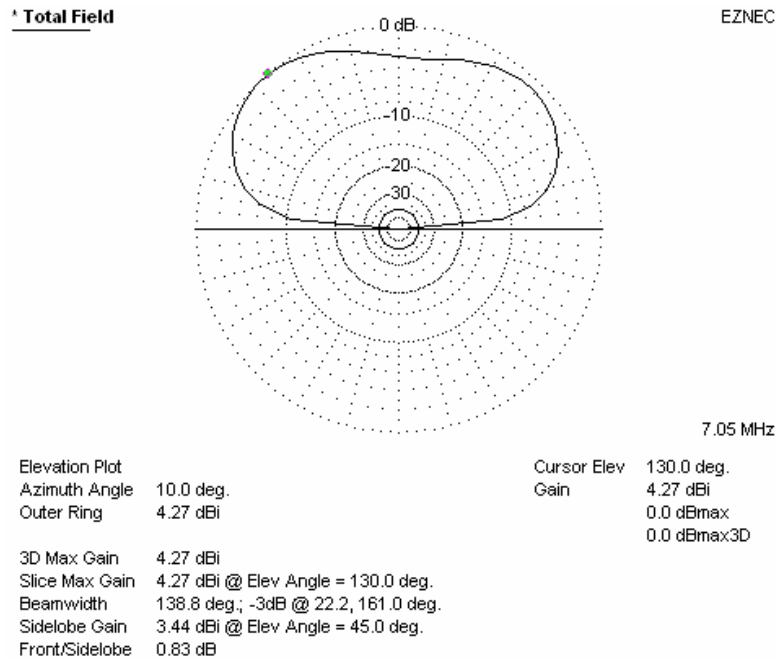


28.5 MHz

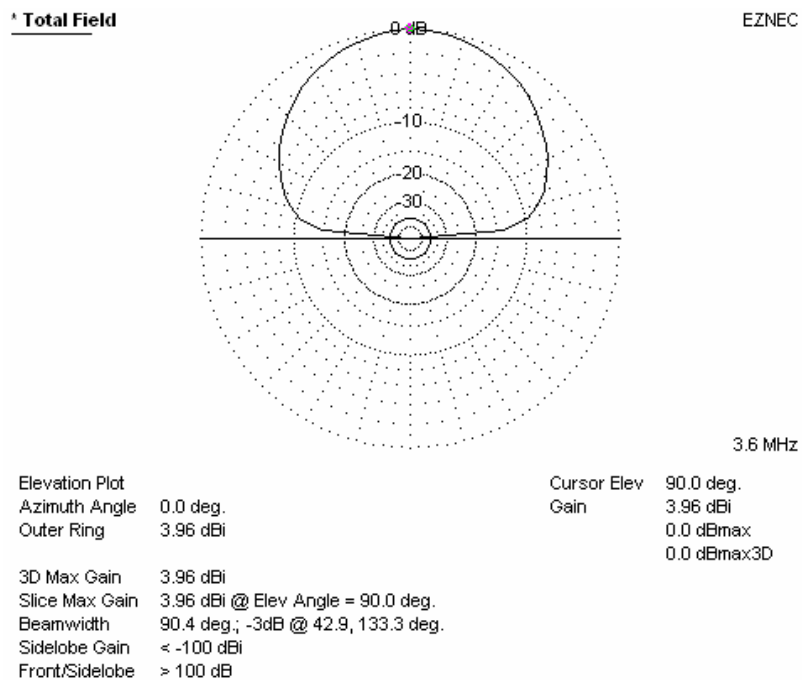
Elevation Plot
 Azimuth Angle 35.0 deg.
 Outer Ring 10.06 dBi
 3D Max Gain 10.06 dBi
 Slice Max Gain 10.06 dBi @ Elev Angle = 15.0 deg.
 Beamwidth 17.4 deg.; -3dB @ 8.0, 25.4 deg.
 Sidelobe Gain 2.71 dBi @ Elev Angle = 170.0 deg.
 Front/Sidelobe 7.35 dB

Cursor Elev 15.0 deg.
 Gain 10.06 dBi
 0.0 dBmax
 0.0 dBmax3D

What's this, 10 dB gain on 10 metres? And a nice fat lobe facing south, Very cool! This will be a great backup antenna to the rotatable quad on 10 metres.



And on 40, I get a slight front to back ratio biased to the north. No wonder I could work the JAs no problem.



And at 80 metres, typically how a dipole pattern would look, with slightly less gain than a perfectly flat dipole, over ground and and least 1/4 wavelength off the ground.

Feedpoint impedances are fairly horrible to look at, resulting in some very high VSWR's on all bands. However, because I used open wire feeder the losses introduced by the VSWRs are very low. If I had used

coax to feed this antenna I would lose at least $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$'s of my transmitter power in the feedline. My thumb was getting sore from adjusting the roller inductor ATU all the time, so I got lazy and ordered an automatic tuner kit from Elecraft to suit my K2/100. Now it is an easy press of the band switch to flick between 30, 40, 75 and 80 metres, and when I go to 20, 17, 15, 12 or 10 metres the tuner switches automatically to the quad.

Now I am pleased as punch, I have a wire antenna that is truly multi-band, and in the context of my limited space relatively efficient in getting my humble 100 watts into the air rather than heating up my feedline. Although, I need more power!

----- 000000000000000000 -----

More scenes from the John Moyle Field Day *(Continued from page 3)*

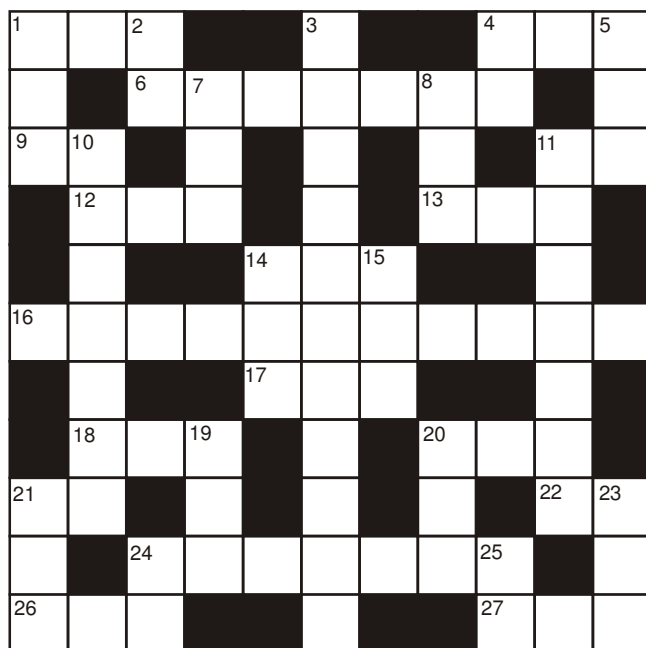


Charlie & Shaun on 20m ↑

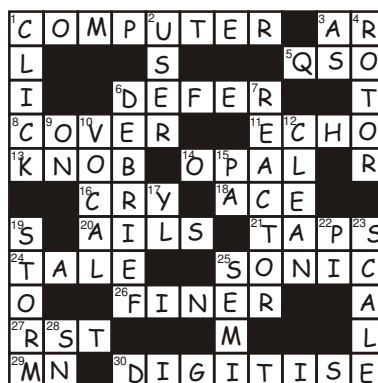
Peter cooking the roast lamb ↓



R & DRC Crossword No. 17 (Solution next QRM)



R & DRC Crossword No. 16 solution



ACROSS

- 1 Matches transceiver to transmission line (abbrev)
- 4 Supply rail
- 6 Unspecified time
- 9 Calcium - chemical symbol
- 11 Type of angle modulation (abbrev)
- 12 Force of magnetic flux (abbrev)
- 13 Instrument to display waveforms (abbrev)
- 14 Record of contacts
- 16 Measure of hotness
- 17 Unit of current
- 18 And so forth
- 20 Now payable
- 21 Type of logic circuit
- 22 Radium - chemical symbol
- 24 Device having inductive reactance
- 26 Force to produce electric current (abbrev)
- 27 Organ of hearing

DOWN

- 1 Controls gain of receiver RF & IF stages (abbrev)
- 2 Objective case of we
- 3 Measure of how well something fulfils its purpose
- 4 Near to
- 5 Addition
- 7 De-energised
- 8 Conduction through ionised gas
- 10 Measures current
- 11 Series of harmonics (named after French mathematician)
- 14 Meadow
- 15 Iron cored inductor usually has an air ----
- 19 Hint or suggestion for action
- 20 Pertaining to two
- 21 Integer greater than zero
- 23 Mixture of atmospheric gases
- 24 First amplifier stage in receiver (abbrev)
- 25 Regarding (abbrev)

© aj&jhj

----- Contest Calendar -----

Marconi (CW, SSB, RTTY)	7/8 April	SP DX (CW/SSB)	7/8 April
Japan Intl. DX (CW)	14/15 April	Harry Angel Sprint (CW/SSB)	28 April
SP DX (RTTY)	28/29 April	CQ-M Intl. DX (CW/SSB)	12/13 May
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m phone	13 May	Baltic Contest (CW/SSB)	19/10 May
CQ WW WPX (CW)	26/27 May	VK/Trans-Tasman 80m CW	27 May

Notes from the Executive/Club Meetings

General Meeting, 12/2/07

Reminder the membership fees are now due.

- 2006 Call books are available **at a reduced price – See Glenn for your call book.**
- 2007 call books have been ordered. Please let Glenn know if you want one.
- Foundation books available. Cost \$16.50. Get your copy from Glenn.
- WIA badges are also available from Glenn. \$8.

General Business.

- **Jupiter's Community Fund Grant** – Reg VK4KMP reported that there is 2 possibilities for the grant. The membership is to consider the options.
 - Setup a disaster station at the club with radios, antennas & Tower for all bands, Marine, CB, Amb, police etc.
 - Set up a caravan with the radio installed in it. (Gary was offered a 15' caravan to the club)
- **Web site** – Steve – VK4IT – have you seen the web site lately?
- **Redcliffe City award & the round Australia rally awards** (ToBar award). George VK4XY has offered to be the awards manager. John advised he was happy continuing with the roll. Moved, Seconded & carried in no time flat.
- **Amateur Licence training courses** – Advance & foundation licence course's are underway. Shane VK4FSOS & Warwick (call sign coming) passed the last foundation course. Well done guys!
- **Yesterday's WIA News** had our club publicised in both the national & state news.
- **General business from the floor**

A motion was put to the meeting to purchase 4 foldup tables for \$68 ea. 1.8m x 800 legs fold & it fold to 900 by 800. We have tried Bunning's for a donation but were unsuccessful. Motion carried. We will try once again for 1 donation when we buy!

Andy raised the purchase of a MFJ 998 ATU. This unit is new on the market & can cover 1.5KW. Cost is ~\$1000. Moved VK4WX, Seconded VK4VKC – carried. Will see if it can be here for the John Moyle.

David asked if we could have a receipt book held at the club. The treasurer advised that he has moved the books over to MYOB & that he does not normal issue receipts unless requested. After some discussion to issue is that the treasurer has been very busy & this has caused delays in issuing of receipts for those who need one.

Note: A receipt will not be issued unless one is requested.

We attended the Recap briefing meeting last week & your exec has decided to try for a grant to covert the toilet to disable & install a shower. Peter moved a motion to precede seconded Charlie VK4YZ – carried.

Blue card Application forms – awaiting Glenn's before lodging them all....

The club recently had all the fire extinguishers checked & purchased an additional CO2 extinguisher. This provides better coverage for the club.

Next weeks Tech Talks will be on the John Moyle competition & the set up. Come along & join in the discussion. John Moyle competition will be held on the 17/18th March. This is a full weekend of fun on the air camped out at Murrenbong Petrie. Peter TGV has offered to do a camp roast on Saturday night. This year we will be entering both SSB & CW. We will need to know numbers of participants for catering etc. This will be fantastic weekend which we have always won our segment in. Cost will be \$5 a night for camping fees plus a donation for diesel (gen) & Cost of Saturday night Roast TBA.

Car park

David (FDRC) & Peter (TAA) met with council last Friday afternoon. Basically, we are to only park in the car park as council bylaws prohibit parking on the grass. We asked for 20 parking spaces for club members & council will be drawing up some alternative plan for our consideration. In the short term we will see a gate placed over the road entry & we will have a key to allow us entry.

One of the options is for us to seek extension of our lease to accommodate future building expansion, car park, additional antenna etc. The council officers advised we should ask council whether they would approve such a proposal before seeking architects & surveyor's reports. Expected cost \$1700. We discussed putting a request for seed money for this work in the Jupiter's grant. (Peter TGV & Reg KMP please add into docs.)

Peter VK4TAA suggested the long term strategy of the club should be expansion, so a building extension should be considered in the extension of the lease.

General Meeting, 13/3/07

Welcome new members: family Marie-Ann (VK4DJZ), Joe (VK4BYE) & Gal Strasberg

General Business

- **Natural disaster planning / Jupiter's Community Fund Grant** – Peter VK4TGV presented to the meeting the presentation pack that he will present to the Redcliffe disaster planning committee on Tuesday 13/3/07. Peter further explained the options on the board. Copy left for members' perusal. Peter also showed letters of support from MLA Pat Purcell & training manuals produced by SCARC. These will be valuable in completing our own versions.
- **Redcliffe City award & the round Australia rally awards** (ToBar award) – the President presented the first Redcliffe City Award to Ces VK4VKC. This & the ToBar awards are available to anyone so please have a go & tell your friends & contacts.
- **Amateur Licence training courses** – Advance training course is expected to be completed in 4 – 6 weeks.. The foundation licence course's is also progressing although the trainees were disappointed last Sunday when they opened their exam packs to find missing elements of the exam papers which caused the postponement of their exam. The Examiners are chasing up with the WIA replacement packs
- **General business from the floor**

Redcap grant – Peter advised that on the 28th March the club lodged a submission for over \$7000 with the Redcliffe City Council for the building of disable toilet & shower facilities.

Charlie raised the purchase of a devised "Big Shot" to launch ropes for the installation of antennas high up in the trees. The tool is reported to be able to launch weighted bags to 45meters. Andy advised that at the Jota the arrow shattered while trying to get the antennas up & was nearly a bad accident which could have seen the arrow pierce his forearm. After some discussion, Ces moved that the club spend up to \$350 to purchase one. Seconded – VK4TAA – carried. VK4TGV will requisition one before the weekend. As with all Club assets they are available for club members use & this tool will be a valuable asset for antenna erection.

CELEBRATIONS (*March/April*)

Birthdays: Stewart Bondarenko (VK4TSB), 13th March
Jason Morris (VK4YOL), 14th March
Amy, Jared, Joel, Paul Wood (harmonics, Andy VK4KY), 28th March
Alan Jenner (VK4KZ), 2nd April
Sally McAleer (XYL, VK4BCM), 5th April
Reg (VK4KMP) & Pat (XYL) Page, 14th April

Celebrations: Jason (VK4YOL) & Vanessa Morris, 4th March
Peter (VK4PB), & Sandra Breed, 27th March

Congratulations and best wishes to all above.

Apologies to anyone who has been left out. If you are not the Celebrations List, please give Secretary Peter your details as soon as possible. Peter is currently updating the list.

----- WIA Membership -----

Please let the Secretary, Peter know if you have recently become a member of WIA. WIA membership of our Club members is important because we are able to derive insurance benefits. If you are not in WIA, please consider this seriously – it is our representative body.

AMATEUR RADIO THEORY COURSES AT RECLIFFE

If you would like to get your amateur license, upgrade, or do a refresher course, you can study for the theory, regulations and practical for Foundation, Standard or Advanced at Redcliffe Radio Club. See Alan VK4KZ, Laurie VK4BLE, Glenn VK4FZ, or anyone from the Executive. You don't have to be a Club member to participate. Special courses will also be arranged to prepare people for the Foundation License. Please let one of the above know if you wish to attend one of these. There may be limits to class sizes.

An advanced course is has recently begun and will probably finish early this year.

MAINTAINING REPEATER RADIO EQUIPMENT

The Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club's VHF and UHF repeaters are available for all amateurs to use, and all are welcome to use them, however, the radio equipment must be maintained and upgraded from time to time. If you would like to make a donation towards this upkeep, it may be forwarded to: The Secretary, Redcliffe and District Radio Club Inc, PO Box 20, Woody Point, QLD, 4019.

These advertisers support us - please support them

Platinum
**PAINTERS
& DECORATORS**

PH: 1300 739 859 Fax: 3264 1566
Mobile: 0433 339 733 BSA # 702280

"PETER RIMMER"
ppainter@bigpond.net.au

ALCHEMET Pty Ltd
3 Ceccato Drive, Murrumba Downs, Qld, 4503

Doug McDonald (VK4KET)

Ph: 07 3480 5861 Mob: 0407 915 111
Alchemet@smartchat.net.au
Engineering, chemistry, geology, metallurgy

**engineering
& sheetmetal**

Greg Nagg

Phone 07 5438 0466 Fax 07 5438 0477 ABN 25 010 799 229
Shed 1/7 Sydal St Caloundra Q 4551 PO Box 3749 Caloundra Q 4551

BESTEEL FRAMES Pty Ltd
The Professionals in Steel Framing
David Sharples BSc (Hons), C Eng, MIE

Mobile: 0412 753 562
PO Box 4050, Caloundra MC, Qld 4551
14 Daniel Street, Caloundra, Qld, 4551
Factory: Ph (07) 5492 8244 Fax (07) 5491 7488

Email: admin@besteelframes.com.au Web site www.besteelframes.com.au

Coates Hire

Lot 102, South Pine Road, Brendale
Ph: 3205 3677

*When you want the Hire Advantage...
Think Coates*

DENTURES

New dentures	David Close VK4FDRC
Repairs	2 Waterford Place
Relines	Bridgeman Downs 4035
Mouthguards	3862 8700
Health Funds	<i>also at</i>
Veterans Affairs	Sandgate 113 Brighton Rd Shop 6 Laurel's Arcade
	3869 3361

Amoru Fashion



Ladies Tailoring
Dress Making
Alterations
Repairs
Shop 1, Upper Level
Kippa Ring Village
Ph: 3889 3534

ANIMALS PRO SHOP
*Lawrie (Animal) Hill
Pro Shop Manager*



'For all your Bowling needs'

Caboolture Bowl
207 Morayfield Road
Morayfield, Qld, 4506
Ph (07) 5495 6000
Fax (07) 5495 6091
Mobile 0403 352 501
E-Mail: animal@microed.com.au

BRAD FRANCIS VK4FAAF



we.net.au
AUSTRALIAN INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER

For all your internet requirements

Stewart Bondarenko
Mobile Phone: 0407 590 295



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

A.B.N. 40 522 827 173
Contractors License # 11783