

THE PROPAGATOR.

VOLUME 03/04 ISSUED 1 October 2003. PRINTED BI MONTHLY
PRICELESS.

Meetings held second Tuesday of each month (except January).
S.E.S building Montague Street Nth Wollongong. Starting at 7:30pm.
Official newsletter of the ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC.
PO Box 1838 WOLLONGONG 2500.
WEB Page www.iars.1earth.net E-MAIL www.iars@1earth.net

Welcome to the new look PROPAGATOR.
Editors for this issue were David VK2TDN and Brian VK2UBF

We would like to thank Rob VK2XIC for his efforts in the past two years. If any members has ANY items that they think may be of interest to OTHER members PLEASE send them to Dave VK2TDN at his e-mail address found elsewhere in this issue, or to ANY committee member. If NO items are forthcoming, the newsletter will go to a **SIX MONTHLY** issue.

The new committee for the coming year has been elected at the AGM. Have a look on Page Six, to see if you got that position, you never applied for. It is hoped that you will do a GREAT job in keeping our club running. With the site fees, the fund-raising committee will have a job; a head of them to keep the repeater networks together.

Thank to the efforts of many club members the fund raising committee have collected another 50 books of ART UNION tickets. When all of these tickets are sold, the amount raised from ART UNION sales will be \$400 over the total expenses of the site and licence fees.

At the AGM it was moved that the fund raising committee disband at the December meeting and a new committee be formed at the First meeting in the new year. Would you like to have membership fees of around \$10 per year, or even less?. Then get behind this new fund raising committee and help raise the money to keep our club from folding from lack of money. I for one would not like to see the repeater network that our club has, have to come back to one site.

The comments that I have heard on our system have all been positive and it would be a shame if this were to CLOSE because of LACK OF INTEREST. If any members has any ideas to raise money. Kindly nominated yourself for the new committee. We are communicators so lets communicate to each other. Also, remember that there is NOT a member on the membership register called **VK2SOMEBODY**. As **EVERYBODY** knows. **SOMEBODY** thinks that **EVERYBODY** will do it but UNFORTUNATELY, **NOBODY** ends up doing IT. The more hands rowing a boat the easier it is for **EVERYBODY**. (There is that word again.)

COMING EVENTS.

- 1) Any Day soon items for the next issue of this newsletter.
- 2) ART UNION SALES IN WOLLONGONG MALL OCTOBER 4TH.
- 3) November 11th, Club AUCTION Night. See Page **SEVEN** for rules of AUCTION.

ALSO RETURN YOUR ART UNION TICKETS BY THIS MEETING SO WE CAN RETURN THE MONEY TO THE PROMOTER.

- 4) December 9th, meeting Christmas meeting and social gathering.

DO YOU REALLY KNOW ?????

A stranger was seated next to Little Tommy on the plane when the stranger turned to the boy and said, "Let's talk. I've heard that flights will go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger."

Little Tommy, who had just opened his book, closed it slowly, and said to the stranger,

"What would you like to discuss?"

"Oh, I don't know," said the stranger. "How about nuclear power?"

"OK," said Little Tommy. "That could be an interesting topic. However, let me ask you a question first. "A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat grass. The same stuff. Yet, a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, and a horse produces clumps of dried grass. Why do you suppose that is?"

"Jeez," said the stranger. "I have no idea."

"Well, then," said Little Tommy, "How is it that you feel qualified to discuss nuclear power when you don't know shit?"

Remember about 2 years ago when the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society got the IRLP node? We were number 90 in the world!

Well why not check out www.status.irlp.net. This gives you all the nodes in the world, and there are many now. Which nodes are working, which are off-line and who is connected to whom? I think our node does not get as much use now, which is good, as the club would not like to pay for the extra use.

We must thank Ken VK2TKE for the IDSL link for the IRLP connection. We have had MANY comments as to how good our node sounds from the other side.

The committee would also like to thank Jack from NEWTEK for his donation towards the site fees. Another BIG thanks to you DAVID VK2AWZ for your donation as well.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CLUBS SPONSORS AS THEY SUPPORT OUR CLUB.

The world is a small place when you connect
To the World Wide Web with **1EARTH INTERNET**

A guaranteed immediate connection.

All lines 56K V90 modems.

The Internet provider for the
Illawarra Amateur Radio Society.

Give **1EARTH** A CALL now and
connect to the World Wide Web.

Ask about a broadband connection for your shack.
Phone on 4229 9008 now. Unit 5 6-8 Ralph Black Drive
North Wollongong. e-mail sales@1earth.net

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16-7-2003

The meeting was opened by President John VK2JJP at 7.40 pm

Apologies:

Brian 2UBF, Geoff 2HIC

The minutes of the previous committee meeting were read and confirmed on the motion by Ted 2ARA, seconded by John 2KEJ and carried.

Corresp. In:

Megjay Albury Re: Radio Course Books

EMC offering courses in EMR.

VK2AUB Membership Application Passed

VK2PGB Subscription \$20 VK2JAJ Subscription \$25

VK2ZHU Subscription \$20 VK2ZUH Subscription \$20

David Warner SWL Subscription

ACA Regulatory consultation process

Kiama Council Receipt for Saddleback site

WIA NSW Div'n CD promoting Ham Radio by ARRL

Smoke Signals newsletter from Gosford

Moorabbin & District ARC Newsletter to all members.

Corresp. Out:

Change of Address to Transgrid

Welcome Letter to Geoff VK2HEF

Letter to Michael VK2GNV re becoming Webmaster

Letter to Ken VK2AKK receipt for \$25 for laptop

Check with Brian 2UBF re Thanks for Sponsorship to: Dave 2AWZ for \$150

Jack 2XGD (Newtek) for \$150

Corresp. In/Out

Moved Peter 2HPR, seconded John 2JJP and carried.

Reports:

Dave 2EZD reported on the WICEN courses and stated he had finished one course and was now doing two and three. He also suggested a netlink across the state to demonstrate to SES what could be done in case of flooding of local exchanges etc. when the phone system is out of order.

Treasurers Report:

John 2KEJ presented his End of the Financial Year Report and stated that the current balance was \$ 4178 up \$153 from the previous year. A motion was tabled by John 2BHO that the treasurer be authorised to pay "Recurring" bills. Seconded Ted 2ARA and carried.

General Business:

Ted 2ARA referred to a large amount of interference experienced on Sunday 13 July. Not only on Amateur Frequencies but also on Coastguard frequencies resulting in serious problems in berthing a ship. The ACA is now investigating following a Coastguard complaint. Ted also referred to the "Parrot Repeater" being used to retransmit some 30 seconds of somebody else's transmission.

Brian 2UBF was mentioned in this regard.

Propagator Ted 2ARA mentioned that most of the Propagator had gone out via electronic means and he queried compliance with the Corporations Act.

Hank 2BHL stated that to the best of his knowledge, electronic means are legal provided a reception report is obtained. We may have to change to Club Constitution to read: "By Nominated Means of Communication". This change must be voted in at either an AGM or Special meeting called for that purpose.

Meet the new Committee. OR The position you never applied for.

At the 41st AGM of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society INC, the following members were elected to positions listed below.

President. John Peary VK2JJP 42614762

Vice President. Ted Thrift VK2ARA 42729521

Secretary. Brian Farrar. VK2UBF. Phone, 42672296. vk2ubf@fishinternet.com.au

Treasurer. John Lawer VK2KEJ 42289856

Committee. Brian VK2UBF, Peter VK2HPR, Ned VK2AGV, David VK2EZD

Fund Raising Committee. Peter VK2HPR, Geoff VK2HIC, Brian VK2UBF.

Editor. Dave Nelson VK2TDN , Ph 98085902 e-mail davenn@optusnet.com.au

Publicity. Hank Lauuw 02 95200237

Membership secretary. John Bennett VK2AAL 42976065

Repeater Committee. Rob VK2MT Simon VK2XQX. Phil VK2TPH, John VK2AAL

Canteen. TO BE ADVISED.

Web Master. Mike VK2GNV with help from Daniel VK2TAU.

ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
AUCTION NIGHT RULES.

THE AUCTION WILL TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 11TH STARTING AT 8PM.

All items for the **AUCTION MUST** be booked onto the auctioneers sheet by
7:30 PM.

Items for personal sale MUST be in working order. Any items sold and NOT working. It is the **FORMER OWNERS JOB** to repair or replace the faulty item.

All Items to be CLEAN and not considered JUNK by the auction organisers. Use the Council clean up. Not some FELLOW club member, getting a **HERNIA** Carrying, **YOU'RE JUNK** to the Garbage for **YOU**.

Lot numbers will be issued when the item is booked in.

The cost of this lot number is \$1:00 and is **NON REFUNDABLE.**

ALL ITEMS MUST HAVE

SELLERS NAME AND CALL SIGN FIXED TO THE ITEM.

ALL ITEMS MUST HAVE A RESALE VALUE OF \$5:00

The Illawarra Amateur Radio Society Inc will take **10%** of the sale item as commission, rounded up to the nearest dollar. To a maximum value of \$15:00

EG. \$79:00 10% commission is \$7:90 rounded to \$8:00.

The IARS is working as **RE SELLERS**, and are **NOT** responsible for **ANY** item sold.

They give NO warranty AND none will be implied. All goods are sold as SEEN and

BUYER BEWARE.

All items are sold to the best of the clubs knowledge, to be **IN WORKING** order.

At the fall of the hammer the item **WILL** be paid for and given to the member.

If the treasure cannot give, change and **IOU** will be issued and a cheque will be written at the end of the auction. The club **WILL NOT** accept **IOU'S** from members.

If you do not have the money with you, make **YOUR** own arrangements with the owner.

SO BRING ALONG SMALL NOTES / CHANGE.

DO NOT HASSLE THE HELPERS.

THEY WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY THEMSELVES AS WELL.

DISPOSAL SALES.

The only disposal sales will be for items donated to the club. 100% of which will go the IARS. **NO JUNK PLEASE**, only items associated with Amateur Radio and Amateur equipment sold to known licenced Amateurs.

The ART UNION tickets should be returned by this meeting also. If you have NOT sold your tickets by now, start to sell them. The club has to send the MONEY for the books of tickets **IF THEY ARE SOLD OR NOT**. So don't waste any more time get into selling them so the club will have a good return for little effort. The current fund raising committee will **DISBAND** at the **December** meeting. So if you have ANY ideas to help raise money why not stand up for the **FUND RAISING** committee which will be reformed at the meeting to be held on February 10th 2004. They might like to keep this ART UNION ticket sales going as it had a GREAT return for not much effort. They may even have other ideas you never no.

MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW OVERDUE

According to IARS rules, Members Annual subscriptions are due to be paid **BY** the 30th of August each year. If you have not paid your sub since 1 May 2003 (which includes 2 months extension), **YOU ARE NOT FINANCIAL FOR 2003 / 2004**.

This is the last reminder to members before removal from lists offices etc.

Members fee is \$ 25-00
Concession fee is \$ 20-00

At the last Committee meeting a resolution was passed regarding payment of fees. When making your payment 'please' include a renewal form (available on the web site) and post your payment to IARS, PO Box 1838, Wollongong NSW 2500. or make your payment in person to the Treasurer at a club meeting.

Do not pass your payment via another club member !

The club / committee cannot accept any responsibility for this and your fellow members are not 'messenger boys'.

Any questions complaints or concerns about the above should be addressed in writing to the Secretary at the above address.

Ted Thrift VK2ARA, Vice President.



Batemans Bay

Call in and visit Michael Corbin

266 Beach Road
Batehaven
Phone 02 4472 7555

We have the latest video titles, top quality games, DVD titles and a great selection of classics.

ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC

Committee meeting held August 20th 2003.

Present where VK2JJP, in the chair. VK2KEJ, VK2BHL, VK2AGV, VK2UBF, VK2ARA AND VK2HPR.

Apologies where from VK2TPH.

The meeting opened at 19:30.

Correps. Out.

Card to Ted VK2TTH. Get well soon. A Letter to the W.I.A re affiliation.

Letter from VK2ARA, to the Lord Mayor.

Letter from John VK2KEJ, end of year statement to the Dept Fair Trading.

Letter to Anne Phillips from Kiama Council, to update the clubs records with them.

Correps. In.

Letter of resignation from Geoff VK2HIC from the committee and tea lady.

E-mail received 04/04/2003 from W.I.A re affiliation with them.

Membership renewals from VK2XGD and VK2TNK.

Membership application from Bill Knobel VK2XYZ.

Kiama Council re the clubs information to be updated.

Art Union tickets sold by VK2KFQ.

Letter from the Lord Mayor, re a meeting with him. Brian VK2UBF to arrange a date.

NEWLETTERS. from Moorabbin and e-mail news letter from BRAG.

Correps In / Out. moved Brian VK2UBF seconded by Ted VK2ARA. **Carried.**

MATTERS ARISING. Ted VK2ARA spoke about the letter to the Lord Mayor re the scout hall at Port Kembla. The IARS, where to be the custodians and maybe, the up keep of the hall.

TREASURERS REPORT.

John VK2KEJ read his report and the bank balance at July 30th was \$4178:21 with \$25:30 petty cash. Surplus for July was \$366:50.

John also reported that about, 20 members had, **NOT** renewed their membership and will give VK2UBF a list so he can remind them.

GENERAL BUISNESS.

A CHANGE TO STANDING ORDERS.

At future meetings and where the guest speaker has finished and the meeting is just about over the key holder will lock the building and **LEAVE at 10:30 PM.**

The KEY HOLDER is responsible for the building and compound to be secured when he leaves. **Moved** Ted VK2ARA; **Seconded** by John VK2JJP.

With the resignation of Geoff VK2HIC, from the committee. Peter VK2HPR, was asked if Lee Whitmash would do the job of tea lady. Peter said yes on her behalf.

Brian VK2UBF will arrange for the cups to be returned ASAP.

Brian VK2UBF suggested that instead of having a raffle each meeting, that a

LUCK DOOR prize and membership badge draw be held.

It was suggested, that at each meeting for a donation of \$2. Each member will be given a ticket and half of the money collected will be drawn as the **LUCKY DOOR** prize. The other half will go into a **MEMBERS BADGE** draw. The member **MUST** be **A FULLY PAID UP MEMBER** and **PRESENT** when the number is drawn.

If the member is **NOT** present half the money from next meeting will go into this fund.

The money will keep JACKPOTTING until won. If not won until the AGM in August 2004. The numbers will be drawn until won.

The membership badge draw numbers will be as recorded in the register of members book. **Moved** Brian VK2UBF **Seconded** John VK2JJP.

It was suggested that the article by David VK2EZD be published in the Propagator. This would have to be RE-TYPED by SOMEBODY. THAT MEMBER AGAIN Members that would like to READ this article from David VK2EZD re the foundation licence. This can be read in AR magazine Page 50 August 2003.

Those members that where **NOT** fully paid up **BY AUGUST 31TH WILL HAVE** their **NAME REMOVED** from the membership and mailing lists.

Moved Ted VK2ARA **Seconded** VK2KEJ **Carried** by all present.

No date was set for a social meeting in September but Ted spoke about having social meeting with a difference maybe in December.

The September meeting will have a guest speaker of either John VK2BHO or John VK2AAL. Brian and Ted to arrange this.

John VK2KEJ tabled an interest rates notice form IMB and the club will asap. INVEST \$2,500 into a term deposit for 12 months. The rate suggested was 2.5 %.

Moved VK2KEJ **Seconded** VK2BHL **Carried**.

John VK2KEJ also spoke about getting a retired accountant to do the books next year.

John VK2JJP will ask at the next meeting.

Being NO further buisness the meeting was closed at 20:30.

Submitted by Brian Farrar VK2UBF.

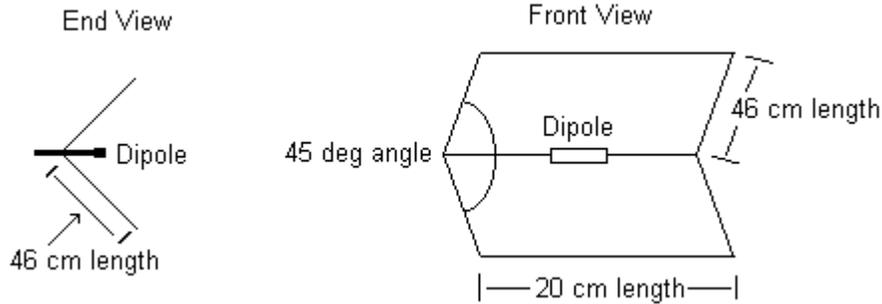
NEUTEK ELECTRONICS
Phone and Fax 4227 1620
RESELLER FOR
Altronics Arista Jaycar Avico
Stockists of: Alarm Accessories, UHF Antennae, Tools,
Computer Accessories, Test Equipment, Cables, Plugs,
RF Sprays and Components for the
Professional and the Amateur
Call in and see Jack at 345 Keira St., Wollongong
IARS Art Union Tickets Available Here

A 23 cm Dipole suitable for dish or corner reflector feed
Dave VK2TDN

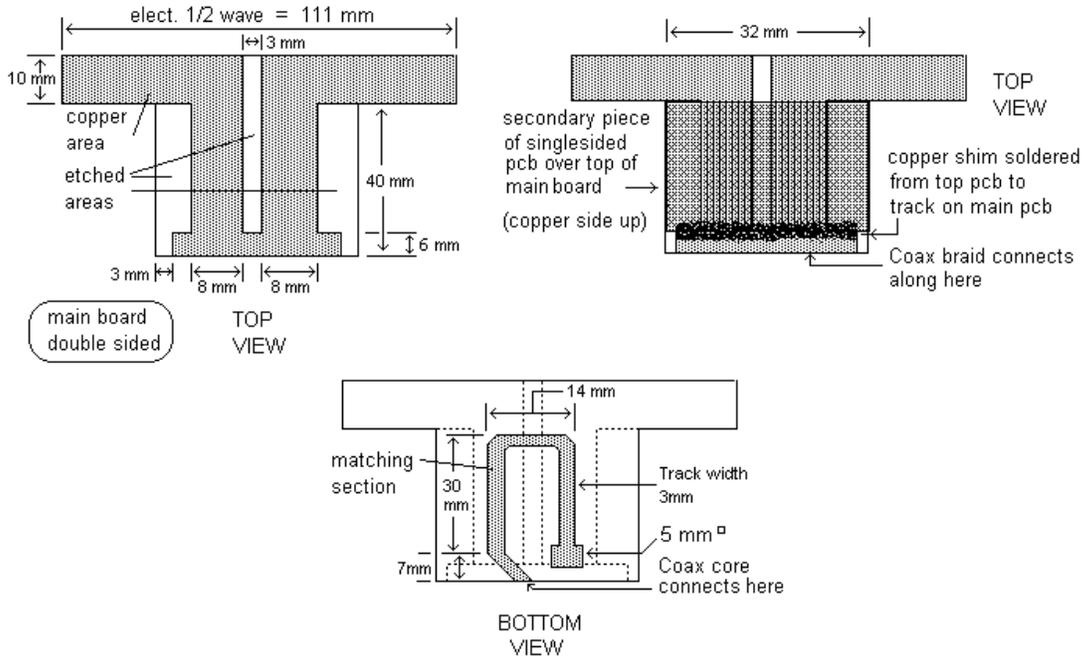
In my experiments on the 1296 MHz (23 cm) band, I have tried various antennae designs with many and varied levels of success. "Success" being the operative word... some I determined were more successful as a dummy load rather than a radiator.

But as they say no experiment is a total failure ... it can always be used as an example of how not to do something in the future.

The design diagrammed below is the result of redimensioning an antenna used by Telecom NZ for 1500MHz terrestrial telephone linking systems from outlying farm houses back to a centralised small country telephone exchange (I installed many of these in my time with the company). Telecom also went through a few antennae trials in this system. Initially they used 20 element yagis mounted in a long plastic radome tube ~ 14cm (5 inches) in diameter, but the harsh winter climate of snow loading, frosts and high winds cracked and damaged the radomes and element boom to the point of antenna failure. They then hit on the idea of using a dipole mounted in front of a solid aluminium corner reflector. With a corner reflector that has sides of at least 2 wavelengths long, a minimum of 10 – 12 dBd gain can be easily achieved.



1296 MHz Dipole



On 23cm I was using a Microwave Modules varactor tripler (a future project I will describe) which was producing ~ 8 Watts out at 23 cm for ~ 20 Watts in on 70cm (conservatively calculated). This was followed by a 3 pole interdigital filter which knocked out ~ 1.5 Watts in loss. The remaining 6.5 Watts was fed to the dipole/corner reflector via 1/2 inch semi-rigid coax cable. The cable went through the apex of the corner reflector and supported the dipole, at the focal point, which was soldered directly to the end of the cable.

Have fun, go forth and propagate hihi

de Dave VK2TDN

-
- Q BIT'S LAW No.9: INTERCHANGEABLE PARTS WON'T BE
 - Q BIT'S LAW No.10: ANY WIRING ERROR IN ANY CONSTRUCTION WILL
IN THE DIRECTION OF THE MOST DAMAGE
 - Q BIT'S LAW No.13: IDENTICAL PARTS AREN'T

That's it for this issue see you at a meeting or maybe hear you on the repeater.
73 Dave VK2TDN