

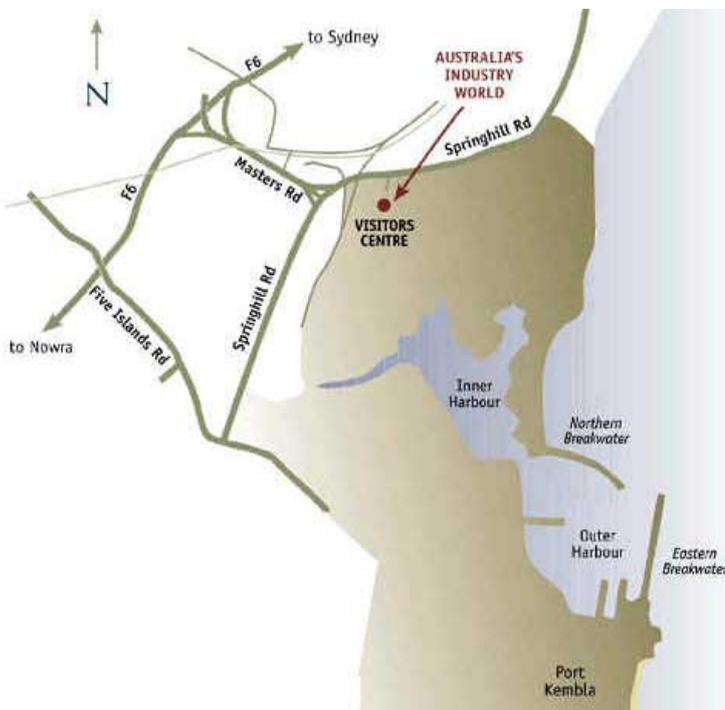
# The Propagator



CLUB CALL VK2AMW  
VOLUME 05/06 ISSUED MAY, 2006  
NOW PRINTED MONTHLY  
WORTH MORE THAN PETROL  
MEETINGS HELD SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT JANUARY).  
INDUSTRY WORLD VISITORS CENTRE, SPRINGHILL ROAD, WOLLONGONG  
THE PROPAGATOR IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC.  
PO BOX 1838 WOLLONGONG 2500.  
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EDITOR- MAEVA BENNETT VK2HUG

## THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY HAS A NEW MEETING VENUE

Our June 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting is to be held at our new meeting Venue



### Industry World Visitors Centre

'You can find the Australia's Industry World (AIW) Visitor Centre at the BlueScope Steel Northgate Entrance, Springhill Rd Coniston. The entrance is marked with extremely large Australian and BlueScope Steel flags.

Road and rail access are easy.

Road connections, via the F6 Freeway and the Princes Highway, are fast and reliable with fine views over the Royal National Park and the Northern Illawarra beaches.

From the North, take the Master's Rd exit into Springhill Rd or travel down Corrimal St from the Wollongong Central Business District.

Coming from the South, take the Port Kembla exit from the F6 and turn right into Five Islands Rd then the first left into Springhill Rd. The rail journey to Port Kembla from Sydney is comfortable, with spectacular views. The nearest railway station to the AIW Visitor Centre is Coniston, just south of Wollongong. To walk from Coniston Station to the Visitor Centre may take 15-20 minutes.

### EDITORIAL

Once again I find I have to apologise for this issue being late. Fortunately, or unfortunately, my schedule is fast running out of space, so much so that I am now up to September to find a free weekend.

I will endeavour to have it on time next month, but I am now also doing Doll Making Classes so it depends on my homework – something I haven't had in years! But it is something I have always wanted to learn, but it's a lot harder than I thought and the brain is now well and truly being used. I am sure that as we get older, new things take longer to sink in and fly out faster.

Maeva Bennett  
VK2HUG  
Editor.

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**Club Broadcasts for 2006 – Each Tuesday, except Meeting night, at 7.30 pm with Geoff, Jack and Peter**

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Call in and see Jack at 345 Keira St., Wollongong

*\* See at his store or  
phone Jack for  
June Member  
Specials*

## Let's Go T-Hunting

by Joe Moell KØOV

**Here's an introduction to RDF contesting in southern California, updated from a paper originally submitted for Proceedings of the West Coast VHF/UHF Conference**

VHF/UHF enthusiasts often install yagis and quads at their home stations. Many take them out on camping trips and use them on public service events. But did you know that some enjoy flying the freeways and beating the back roads with one hand on the steering wheel and the other on a rotating antenna mast?

Perhaps you have seen these hams on weekends, intently driving and turning their beams. What are they doing? They are competing in hidden transmitter hunts.

If you've never experienced one of these mobile radio direction finding (RDF) contests, you have missed some of the greatest excitement a ham can have. While there are several names for it such as "fox-hunting" and "bunny chasing," in southern California this sport is almost always referred to as "T-hunting."



Transmitter hunting seems to be one of the best kept secrets in ham radio, even though dozens of hams here consider themselves to be regular hunters. They range in age from the teens to the eighties. Besides keeping the coordinated two-meter hunt frequency (146.565 MHz FM) hopping, hunters love to hash over their exploits by the hour on their favorite repeaters.

The idea is simple: One or two hams take a transmitter, antenna, and some sort of distinctive audio source to an carefully selected spot, then make continuous or intermittent transmissions. Usually they remain stationary, though mobile "bunnies" are popular with some groups. Sometimes there are more than one "T" to be found.

Surplus ammunition cans are often used as hidden transmitter enclosures. The hunters, as individuals or in teams, do their best to home in on the hidden station(s) with their mobile and portable RDF gear.

### **Fun, But Beneficial**

T-hunters think their events are more fun than any other ham contest. You get to meet and socialize with your competitors both before and after the event. Usually, you'll find out your score and how well you placed before you go home. You may encounter your competitors along the way, with opportunities to try to "psych them out" or misdirect them. (Hence the southern California maxim: "Never trust anything said by a T-hunter or hider.")

"Techies" like the thrill of finding the hidden T with gear they made themselves. They relentlessly work to improve their setups. Mystery lovers and dyed-in-the-wool contesters love the challenge, because every hunt is a fresh start to a new adventure. Your past performances are forgotten. It's just your team and your equipment against today's hider and the other hunters.

At some point, every ham will find knowledge of RDF techniques useful, because it simplifies such chores as finding a neighborhood source of power line interference or TV cable leakage. T-hunters here frequently are called upon to track down sources of "spurs," intermodulation and noise that can plague amateur (and sometimes commercial) repeaters.

RDF plays an important part in Amateur Radio self-policing. In many areas of the country, including southern California, there are standing agreements between Local Interference Committees and district FCC offices, permitting volunteer ham RDFers to gather evidence leading to prosecution in serious cases of malicious interference.

You have up to a dozen competitive hunt opportunities to choose from every month in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and Santa Barbara Counties. They are all different in some way, such as time or mileage scoring, day or night start, single or multiple transmitters, intermittent or continuous signal, wide or narrow boundaries. (Or perhaps there are no boundaries at all!)

Most hunts are on two meters with FM signals, but there are occasional FM hunts on the 50, 223, 440 and 1200 MHz bands. There have even been hunts for Amateur Television transmissions on 434 MHz.

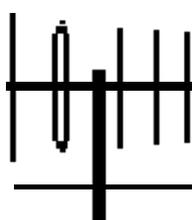
### **Winning Isn't Easy**

There are many ways to score mobile T-hunts. Due to traffic problems, "First-In-Wins" hunts are less common than "Low-Mileage-Wins" hunts in southern California. Odometer calibration differences are resolved by requesting hunters to obtain an odometer correction factor by driving a standardized course in advance of the hunt. This correction factor is called the Crenshaw Factor because the course runs along Crenshaw Boulevard for approximately 9 miles.

T-hunters have become very sophisticated at finding dastardly hiding places. With the right combination of location and antenna, they make it difficult for hunters to get reliable bearings. Like a ventriloquist, a good hider can make the signal appear to be coming from some other location. With careful planning (and a little luck), the signal's characteristics can cause the hunters to approach the transmitter from the most difficult direction, with impassable roads or other obstructions, even though the T may be easily accessible via other routes. Perhaps the hider will camouflage the setup so well that the hunters won't find the transmitter unless they literally trip over it.

The most challenging of all southern California 2-meter RDF events are the All Day Hunts. Despite their difficulty, many enthusiasts like them best of all. The name is a misnomer, because these marathons often last the entire weekend. The transmitter(s) can be anywhere in the continental USA. The hunt starts in Rancho Palos Verdes. Hiding spots have included locations near Yosemite National Park (California), Las Vegas (Nevada), Yuma (Arizona), and St. George (Utah). The record path distance for a two-meter hidden transmitter signal to be heard at the starting point was set on the St. George hunt, well over 300 miles!

Not every T-hunt is this arduous, of course. Several clubs have sponsored hunts just for Beginners, to get things started. Hiders make brief transmissions on a repeater, encouraging hunters to come out and find them. After a while, they give clues to narrow the search area. The idea is to give every participant a good first-time experience, including a story-telling session at a restaurant after the hunt.



**Vertically polarized  
5-element yagi**

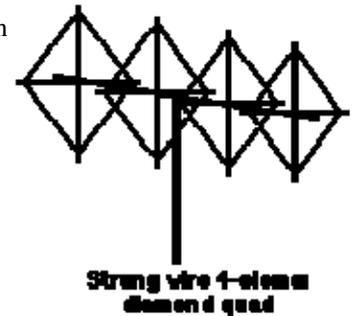
While some hunters prefer to go it alone, most have more success by teaming up. The driver concentrates on handling the vehicle, while the DFer turns the beam and reads the meters. The DFer also handles maps and plotting, unless there is a third team member for that task.

## Inexpensive Beams Work Fine

In the Los Angeles basin, most hunters use some sort of beam antenna. Three to five element quads are most popular. Usually they are built in "diamond" form with a PVC pipe or wood boom and elements made of thin wire strung on fiberglass spreaders. Variations include the "stiff wire" version, which is much more tree-resistant. (It can get mashed, but is easily re-shaped and returned to service, as compared to "strung-wire" quads which more readily suffer wire breakage.)

Yagis are second to quads in popularity. Commercial models work fine, provided that the mast is attached at a good balance point. Occasionally you will see some other kind of gain antenna, such as a "ZL special." Small-diameter loops are seldom used for RDF above 54 MHz because of their bidirectional pattern and low sensitivity.

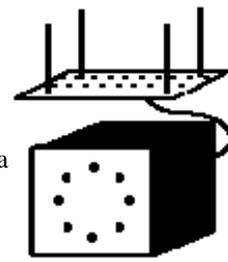
No matter which gain antenna is used, it is important that the mounting system allow for quickly changing polarization. Hiders can use any wave polarization on most hunts, so hunters must attempt to determine the correct polarization and hunt with it. Hunting a horizontal signal with a vertically polarized beam, for example, causes the direct signal to be attenuated. Reflections and scattered signals (multipath) from buildings and terrain features are enhanced relative to the direct signal when the wrong polarization is chosen.



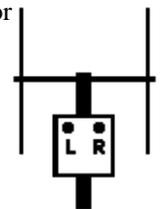
Hunters need sensitive mobile RDF setups for events like the All-Day hunts. They achieve it with their long beams, plus GaAsFET preamps, noise-quieting meters, and SSB receivers (even though the hider is transmitting FM).

## Homing Sets Sniff Well

Another type of RDF instrument, called the homing or dual-antenna RDF, has its place in the arsenal of the well-equipped hunter. These units have a pair of vertical antennas, a switching circuit, and a direction sensor with some sort of left-right indicator, such as a meter or a pair of LEDs. They are easy to use: When the indicator says LEFT, turn the unit left; when it indicates RIGHT, turn right. There is a sharply defined crossover at which the unit points toward the signal source direction.



There are two types of dual antenna sets. One type is called a switched-pattern set and requires a receiver with AM detection. It is used mostly on the aircraft band. More popular with hams is the phase-front detector or Time-Difference-of-Arrival (TDOA) set. It is designed to work with any narrowband FM receiver that covers the frequency of interest. While they could be used in vehicles, these dual-antenna sets are used mostly for on-foot RDF. They are excellent for closing in at the end of a hunt ("sniffing") and for wilderness search/rescue work. Be sure to build or buy one with left-right indicators.



## Dopplers Have Their Place

An ideal RDF system would not require constant manual antenna turning. It would take directional readings hundreds of times per second, and continue to indicate the bearing after the signal leaves the air. Doppler type RDF sets, though far from ideal, fulfill all these wishes. The typical four-whip antenna system can be mounted without drilling holes in the vehicle.

Doppler readouts usually feature a ring of at least 16 LEDs, and may also include a three-digit display in degrees relative to the vehicle. In the clear, a well-installed doppler has about +/-5 degree bearing accuracy. Accuracy is degraded by multipath, just like it is with the homing RDF, but "eyeball averaging" while the vehicle is moving helps counteract this problem.

While popular in places such as Cincinnati and the San Francisco Bay area, doppler RDF installations have not caught on among most southern California competitive T-hunters due to their lower sensitivity compared to beam setups. Vertically polarized doppler antennas are at an extreme disadvantage if the hider transmits horizontal polarization, especially if the signal is weak and non-direct.

On the other hand, dopplers are a popular choice of jammer hunters, who are usually tracking strong vertically polarized signals. They like the rapid indication update rate and the ability to quickly get bearings on short-duration signals. Occasionally, you may see RDFers using both a beam and a doppler set on the same vehicle.

*Would anyone be interested in participating in a Fox Hunt? Or organizing one for the IARS? If so, let the Committee know.*

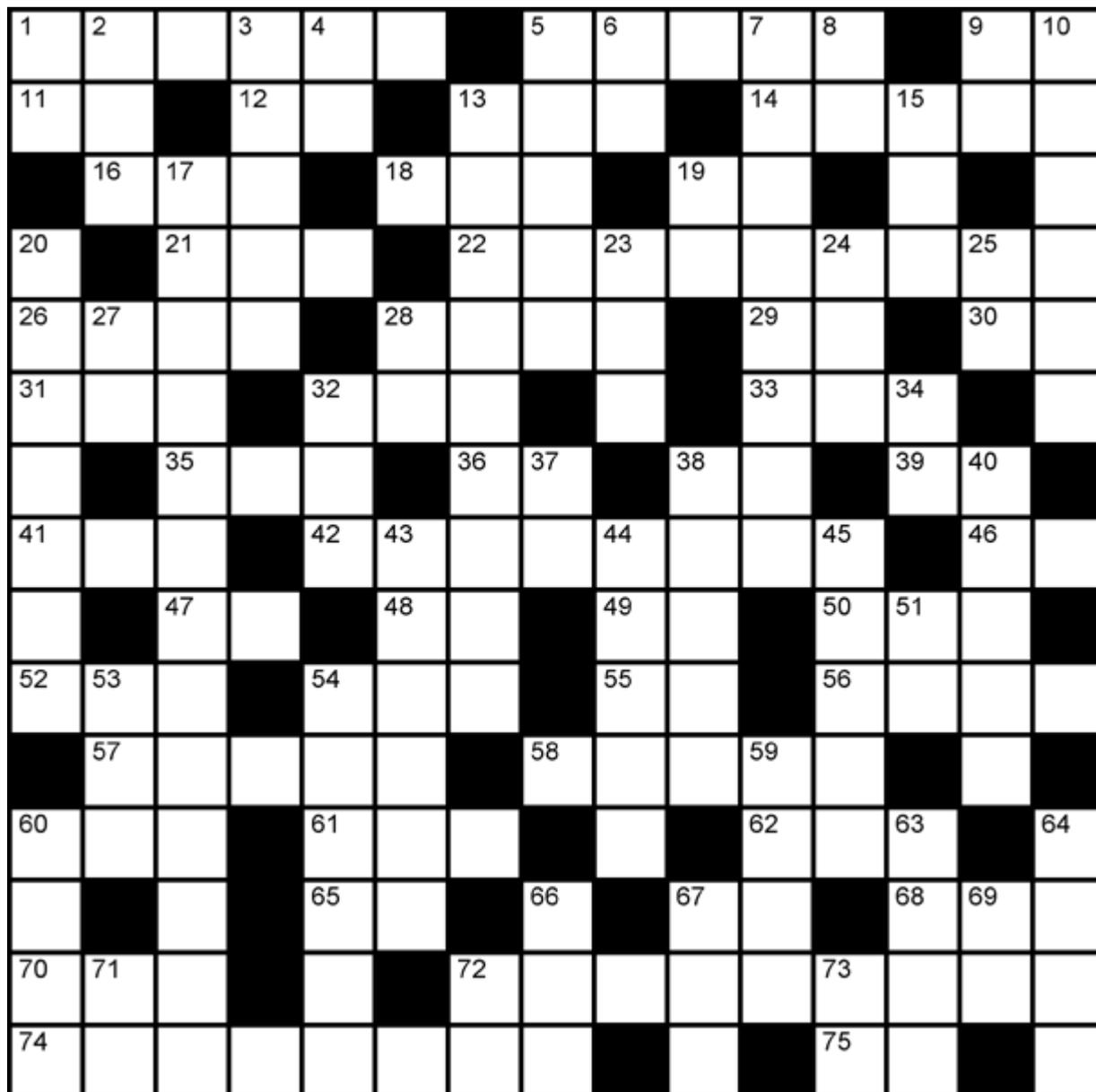
## The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

May 12, 2006

*"Electric Electric #8"*

Here's a plethora of perplexion, with pithy pointers to persuade pencil-pushers. Perhaps you will prevail over pitfalls to positively pop with pizzazz? Don't procrastinate! Perambulate to the puzzle, post-haste!



### Across

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Keeps you awake at night</p> <p>5. Means "received"</p> <p>9. Wire thickness (abbr)</p> <p>11. Cousin to "um"</p> <p>12. Prefix for Luxembourg</p> <p>13. Contact one station after another</p> <p>14. 7J and 8J stations are from this country</p> | <p>16. Encryption standard (abbr)</p> <p>18. 1/10th of this makes a dB</p> <p>19. Add "O" to make a highly conductive, but toxic, insulator</p> <p>21. You can only use 50 W of this on 60 meters</p> <p>22. A receiver that can reject nearby signals</p> <p>26. Polite or friendly</p> <p>28. Output of a receiver with no signal present</p> <p>29. Thanks! (CW abbreviation)</p> |
|---|--|

30. What you eat on Thanksgiving (prefix)
31. Sticky stuff
32. Excessive power
33. Company that invented the disk drive
35. Gov't agency that funds science (abbr)
36. Time delay (abbr)
38. Center frequency (abbr)
39. Opposite of RH (abbr)
41. Logical complement to 48 Across
42. Checking for accuracy before publishing
46. Common connector plating metal (chemical symbol)
47. The two fields that make up a radio wave
48. Logical complement to 41 Across
49. Abbreviation that indicates an explanation
50. Unit of current
52. Document that defines XML objects
54. Weight (abbr)
55. Postal code for VO1 stations
56. Graphical description of a route or region
57. With curriculum, describes your history
58. Formal address for a YL
60. Often picked
61. Comes after months (abbrs)
62. Conducted
65. Long-time ham (CW abbr)
67. Between QRP and HP
68. Number of elements in a rubber duck
70. First sale of stock to the public (abbr)
72. The last element of a radiogram
74. To lower an antenna's resonant frequency, do this to it
75. Both a fourth-district postal code and a rare African prefix

#### Down

1. Most common material in wires
2. Creates the "woodpecker signal" (abbr)
3. One of these on the sun wipes out HF
4. Prefix meaning "no longer"
5. Contest constraints
6. Powered up
7. The E in CME
8. Egyptian name for heavenly body that affects radio communications
9. Fourth call district state (postal code)
10. Heating and cooling process that reduce brittleness in metals
13. Type of electronic component
15. Greek letter used as a symbol for angle
17. A book that has been edited and reprinted (two words)
19. What Hamlet is trying to decide
20. G, M, and 2 stations are from this country
23. Opposite of USB
24. Vat of water
25. Between NY and NH (postal code)
27. Bidirectional data interface
28. Neighbor to S5, YO, and SP (prefix)
32. Safety component that detects imbalances in ground current (abbr)
34. Equal to one cc (abbr)

37. Prefix for leaded diode packages
38. An antenna has both a near and a far
40. What a DXer is after working a New One
43. Whose rules of order run meetings
44. Last transmission
45. Follows UV and X rays
51. Small unit of current (abbr)
53. Abbreviation for television interference
54. Arrangement of components
59. Gov't agency that funded early Internet development
60. Pointed fastener
63. Word that refers to a thing or place
64. Slang for a technically-inclined person
66. Coat with solder
67. Microwave receiving amplifier (abbr)
69. Number (abbr)
71. Has to stamp tower plans (abbr)
72. Internet domain abbreviation for Sweden
73. That (CW abbr)

Answer in the July Propagator  
Have fun!

Ed.

A little ponderance:

One of the city's top cardiac specialists died. At his funeral, his coffin was placed in front of a huge replica of a heart made of red roses.

When the pastor finished the sermon, and everyone said their good-byes, the large heart opened up, the coffin rolled inside, and the heart closed again. It was a majestic tribute to the much loved cardiologist.

Suddenly, one of the mourners burst into a fit of laughter.

Irritated by his insensitivity, the man sitting next to him asked, "Why are you laughing, Mister?"

"I was just thinking about my own funeral," the man replied. "I'm a gynecologist"...

## Wood County to eliminate sheriff's radio dead spots

By JENNIFER FEEHAN

(From Website <http://www.radioreference.com> a good reference site for all things to do with radio)

BOWLING GREEN - For years, Wood County sheriff's deputies have encountered dead spots in the county where neither their two-way radios nor cell phones work.

Sheriff Mark Wasylyshyn is pretty sure he's got a solution to that problem.

Yesterday, Wood County commissioners approved spending \$78,619 to purchase and install new equipment intended to alleviate dead spots. A key part of the system, the sheriff said, is changing the location and increasing the height of radio antennas around the county.

"There are places in the county such as between West Millgrove and Fostoria where deputies have no radio communication, no cell phone communication, and to me that's extremely dangerous," the sheriff said. "It's been a problem, I've been told, forever. No one could come up with a solution."

He said clearing up the problem was one of his first priorities when he took office in January, 2005. The problem was a matter of safety for his deputies and for the public.

He said he invited local ham radio operators in to meet with him, and they helped pinpoint the problem and formulate a solution. Several of the county's antennas were only about 25 feet high, the sheriff said, and it was clear they needed to be elevated to be more effective.

Sheriff Wasylyshyn said in addition to the main antenna near the sheriff's office, he will have ones in Perrysburg Township, Grand Rapids, Bowling Green, Fostoria, and in southern Wood County near State Rt. 25 and Bays Road. Several will be atop water towers, which puts them more than 120 feet in the air.

"If I can get reliable radio communication for all deputies, I can't imagine anything more important I could accomplish as sheriff," he said.

County Administrator Andrew Kalmar said commissioners began talking with the sheriff about the problem last year and included the expenditure in this year's budget.

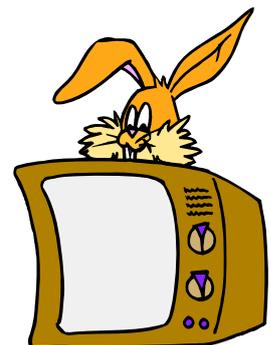
"They are very supportive of these efforts because there have been several places in the county where there are radio dead spots and that's not good when you may have someone's life on the line," he said. "This will eliminate all of that."

## *Mother's Day Raffle For Fathers!*

Congratulations to our winners – Bill Stone who won the TV for his wife. He is hoping when she sees the TV, she won't ask how much he spent at the Auction! Bill hasn't attending meetings or been a regular Club member for a few years, but came to the Auction to grab a bargain or two. He also rejoined our Club on the night. Welcome back Bill, we hope to see you and hear your over the airwaves.

Second Prize was won by Rochelle Fittler, daughter of Barry – VK2DLI, a timely win as her DVD player failed to play a few weeks ago. She won thanks to a generous Dad. Barry, does she now owe you \$5 for the winning tickets?

Once again, thank you to Total Concepts Projects for the donation of the TV and to Phil Greaves, VK2ZZY for the DVD player and organising the donation for our Club to raise funds to keep us on the air.



**How old is Grandpa?** Stay with this -- the answer is at the end. It will blow you away.

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events. The grandson asked his grandpa what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general.

The Grandpa replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before:

television  
penicillin  
polio shots  
frozen foods  
Xerox  
contact lenses  
Frisbees and the pill

There was no:

radar  
credit cards  
laser beams or  
ball-point pens

Man had not invented:

pantyhose  
air conditioners  
dishwashers  
clothes dryers and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air  
and man hadn't yet walked on the moon

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to the Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan ' on it, it was junk.

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam.

Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of.

We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents.

Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all 5 cents.

And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your 5 cents on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Chevy Coupe! for \$600, . . . but who could afford one? Too bad, because petrol was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day:

"grass" was mowed,  
"coke" was a cold drink,  
"pot" was something your mother cooked in and  
"rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby.  
"Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office,  
"chip" meant a piece of wood,  
"hardware" was found in a hardware store and software" wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap... and how old do you think I am?

I bet you have this old man in mind...you are in for a shock!

Read on to see -- pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.

This man would be only 58!



## The Secretary's Desk

I would like to announce with great sadness the passing of CS – the deceased was held in very high regard by all that knew about this great asset. CS was the envy of all who came in contact with the ideas and knowledge that were passed on through generations and for those who did not come in contact with CS, its something that now cannot be enjoyed.

CS was lost during birth of PC and MC, OHS and at the same time the death of PR. You might ask who was CS? What ever happened to CS?

Common Sense was lost during the birth of the Politically Correct, Multiculturalism and death of Personal Responsibility.

We now live in a world that is totally regulated by legislation and enforced by litigation. Big brother looks after us and tells us constantly, that they know best.

This came to my attention when Integral Energy did not read my electricity meter. For the past 6 years, 4 times a year, my meter had been read, the only hiccup, we had to change the gate lock to an Integral Energy master system so they could gain access – it was not cheap I might add – I wonder what they make the most profit out of! During this time, the reader has patted and played with my two dogs, Sascha and Schelli, (both German Shepherds admittedly). I received my account last week with an estimate rather than a meter reading. Why you might ask! There are new rules – meter readers are not allowed to enter yards that have dogs in them! Did they knock at the door to see if we were home, and we were? No!

Most things in life, are regulated by Common Sense, but now, things are different. If you trip on a stone in the park because you weren't looking where you were going, you sue the Council, if you don't do the right thing your job in the workplace, its not your fault – even though you have been trained and know the right thing, the employer is responsible because you are doing the work for them.

What has happened to self responsibility? We are taught that if it is hot, don't pick it up, if it is heavy get someone to help you or get some lifting equipment – don't injure yourself by not lifting correctly. It's easy, "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." – I think that is what Newton said....but I could be wrong.

If you are driving your car – you know to give way to your right, observe and follow the speed signs and don't drink and drive. Accidents are not accidents – they are caused by someone not using Common Sense. On Sunday, both the Pacific and the Princes Highway were closed to traffic because of accidents – or I would rather say Negligence. Why do people think things will not happen to them? Do they think they are bullet proof?

Our Politicians and our Judiciary are no better – where is their Commonsense. Last night I was listening to the radio, two young men were arrested for carrying petrol in soft drink bottles travelling on the bus to Bondi – a week after the Cronulla riots. They were arrested and charged but they were released. Why? No they weren't carrying potential Molotov cocktails, they told the court, one was used for sniffing and the other was bringing petrol to a friend whose car needed fuel. I don't think so considering the fact that the petrol was purchased in the south west of Sydney and taken by bus and train to Bondi.

Politicians approved the building, the builder and the conditions of traffic of the Cross City Tunnel – enough said!

In Amateur Radio, common sense is now taught via the Competency method of testing. If you cannot do it physically correct – no licence. If you can't demonstrate how to use electricity correctly you can get electrocuted and die – this method of Competency prevents and teaches the correct methods. But even here there is a problem – candidates are taught the right way, frequencies they can use etc, but they don't! The last few weeks, there have been incorrect use of frequencies, did they think they wouldn't be noticed?

Its time to rethink our methods of operandus.....reintroduce common sense.....think before you act.....if in doubt ask.....if unsure don't. The handbook of instructions isn't the last thing you read after the blows up. And gentlemen, do ask for directions – its quicker and cheaper in the long run.

Maeva Bennett  
VK2HUG  
Secretary

## **The Funnies**

### **DORMITORY:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
DIRTY ROOM

### **ASTRONOMER:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
MOON STARER

### **DESPERATION:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
A ROPE ENDS IT

### **THE EYES:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
THEY SEE

### **GEORGE BUSH:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
HE BUGS GORE

### **THE MORSE CODE:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
HERE COME DOTS

### **SLOT MACHINES:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
CASH LOST IN ME

### **ANIMOSITY:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
IS NO AMITY

### **ELECTION RESULTS:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

### **SNOOZE ALARMS:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
ALAS! NO MORE Z 'S

### **A DECIMAL POINT:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
IM A DOT IN PLACE

### **THE EARTHQUAKES:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
THAT QUEER SHAKE

### **ELEVEN PLUS TWO:**

When you rearrange the letters:  
TWELVE PLUS ONE

Yep! Someone with waaaaaaaaaay too much time on their hands!  
Thanks Rob Heyer VK2HIC

## **See how smart you are:**

### 1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

The correct answer is: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe, and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

### 2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Did you say, Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator? Wrong Answer.

Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.

### 3. The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend.... except one. Which animal does not attend?

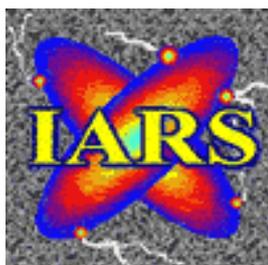
Correct Answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there.? This tests your memory. Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities.

### 4. There is a river you must cross but it is used by crocodiles, and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Correct Answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Have you not been listening? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Meeting.

This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers. Anderson Consulting says this conclusively disproves the theory that most professionals have the brains of a four-year-old.



# ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (INC)

## Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2006 Club Meeting

### First Meeting at our New Venue

Appologies: Tony Stone VK2TS  
Rob Heyer VK2HIC  
Frank Diggle SWL  
Bob Walker VK2WRJ  
Barry Fittler VK2DLI

Visitors: Bill Stone VK2JAS

Meeting opened by Vice President Rob McKnight who welcomed all to our new venue. Thanks to John Lawer VK2KEJ and Jack Decesco VK2XGD for finding the venue

#### Repeater Report:

- Pager interference at Knights Hill, ACMA have checked out. Interference from another site, has been cleaned up and interference gone
- 6M lost power, unsure of why, wrong unit, adjusted and now working well
- Mt Boyne low on power Graham Cashion VK2TQI to look at when able

Minutes from last meeting, read and accepted.

Treasury Report – read and accepted

Correspondence – IMB

#### General Business

- Vaughan VK2KBI displayed an RF probe he had constructed from the Drew Diamond Series of Books
- Phil Greaves VK2ZZY displayed a 25w 6 volt linear built using bits
- John VK2HBO displayed an 807 gassy valve

Meeting Closed at 8.11 pm

- The Auction followed the meeting with very spirited bidding, and managed by our auctioneer, Simon and monies collected by Treasurer John
- The Mothers Day raffle for fathers was drawn by Phil Greaves VK2ZZY
  - First Prize TV Bill Stone
  - Second Prize DVD Player Rochelle Fittler

At the Conclusion of events a supper was held with cakes from Michelle's of Warilla

#### The New Venue

The new venue is excellent with **padded** seats for comfort, white boards, tables and good kitchen facilities. It is quite a large area, with areas that can be blocked off for group activities. The lighting is good as is the décor of the room as are the bathroom facilities.

There is plenty of parking at the venue and it is security guarded so there is no problem with cars.

An excellent choice by John and Jack – well done fellas!

### *About the Airwaves.*

- 1 If you have any items you would like broadcast on Tuesday nights, please contact Geoff Howell VK2HIC either by phone on 42725134 or by email at vk2nsw@optusnet.com.au, or Jack Decesco VK2XGD 4227 1620 or at jack@newtec.com.au. If it interests you it will interest others, it's for the enjoyment of our members and other listeners.

I know many listen to the broadcast, please participate in the call-backs – Geoff and Jack put a lot of hard work into doing this each week, let them know their effort is appreciated.

- 2 Over the past few months, many members have changed their email addresses, as emails sent by the secretary have come back undeliverable. If you have changed your email address, could you please let the secretary know, so that our Member Registry is up to date.
- 3 Many thanks to Jack Desesco at Newtek, for his monthly specials for our members.
- 4 If you have any knowledge of competitions that involve amateur radio could you let the editor know for inclusion in the Club Calendar.
- 5 Bob Walker is recovering from his second hip replacement and is immobile for a few days – if you hear him on the radio, via his handheld from bed, have a chat with him. It helps pass the time before he is back up on his feet. Hope you feel better soon, Bob.
- 6 A reminder that Membership renewals are due in August – please start saving your pennies.
- 7 The monthly raffle and snowballs at the Meetings will start again this Month. Remember to win the Snowball, you must be present at the Meeting.
- 8 The 2006 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> August. Please think about standing for a position in your Club. Your voice is important and your ideas are invaluable. Nomination forms will be in next months – July – issue of the Propagator.
- 9 Mt Boyne repeater, 146.675 will be de-linked from the South Coast Repeater System for approximately 2 hours from 7.30pm until 9.30 pm each Wednesday for the Mid South Coast Weekly net until their new aerial is constructed.
- 10 The Committee is thinking about starting a Club Library of current Amateur Radio books. If you have any suggestions regarding books to purchase, please let the Secretary know. Books would be on loan for a period of 1 month (Meeting to Meeting) to financial members and managed and maintained by the Secretary.
- 11 The idea of a bimonthly workshop has been suggested to the Committee. At these workshops, it is envisaged that members could use this as a forum for ideason home brewing, repairing of equipment, sharing of spare parts and finding sources, problem solving and designing and constructing new equipment under the supervision of other members. If you would be interested in participating, please contact the Secretary.

**You may not know this but many nonliving things have a gender.**

- 1) Ziploc Bags are Male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.
- 2) Copiers are Female, because once turned off; it takes a while to warm them up again. It's an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed, but can wreak havoc if the wrong buttons are pushed.
- 3) A Tire is Male, because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.
- 4) A Hot Air Balloon is Male, because, to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it, and of course, there's the hot air part.
- 5) Sponges are Female, because they're soft, squeezable and retain water.
- 6) A Web Page is Female, because it's always getting hit on.
- 7) A Subway is Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick up people.
- 8) An Hourglass is Female, because over time, the weight shifts to the bottom.
- 9) A Hammer is Male, because it hasn't changed much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.
- 10) A Remote Control is Female. Ha! (You thought it'd be male, didn't you?) ... But consider this - it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying!

# June 2006

<u><i>Sunday</i></u>	<u><i>Monday</i></u>	<u><i>Tuesday</i></u>	<u><i>Wednesday</i></u>	<u><i>Thursday</i></u>	<u><i>Friday</i></u>	<u><i>Saturday</i></u>
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	13
14	15	16eeting	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			