

The Propagator



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, CONISTON

THE PROPAGATOR IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC.

PO BOX 1838 WOLLONGONG 2500.

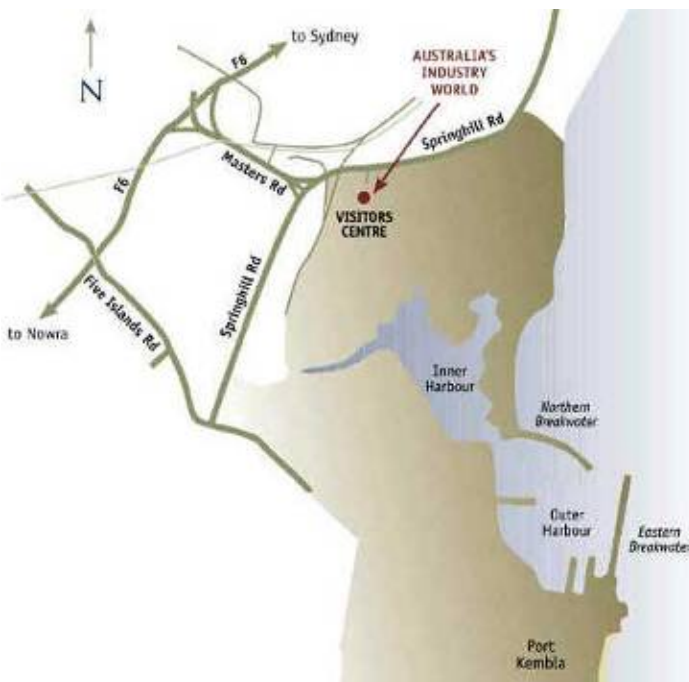
WEB PAGE - WWW.IARS.ORG.AU

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EDITOR - MAEVA BENNETT VK2HUG

THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY HAS A NEW MEETING VENUE

Our 9th May 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.

To celebrate our new venue, our 9th of May Meeting it will be a very busy night!

Auction of Radio Equipment

Drawing of our 2006 Mothers Day Raffle

(Please make sure all raffle books are returned for the Draw)

Coffee and Cake

All members, present, past and future members are invited to come and help celebrate

See you at 7.30pm

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 must take this opportunity to thank John Lawer, VK2KEJ, and Jack De Cesco, VK2XGD, for finding our new meeting venue at Industry World. It is because of their great efforts we have found a new home. John spent much time chasing the correct contact person and Jack actually closed his business, Newtek, to investigate the site and its appropriateness with John.

If you are uncertain regarding which entry gate to use, look for the IARS sign and a member will direct you to the correct entrance gate.

The IARS would also like to take this opportunity to thank our previous host of our meeting venue for over 20 years, Wollongong City Council and the SES for allowing us to use the SES Centre at Montague Street and wish them well in the future.

Maeva Bennett
VK2HUG
Editor.

THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE FOR 2006

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Canteen. Peter Reid VK2HPR.

Web Master. Michael Eckardt VK4GNV

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

NEWTEK 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

*** See at his store or phone
Jack for May Member
Specials**

Build a Space-Efficient Dipole Antenna for 40, 80 and 160 Meters

A new trap design, using only RG-58 and PVC pipe, yields better space efficiency than conventional coaxial traps.

By A. C. Buxton, W8NX
2225 Woodpark Rd
Akron, OH 44333

These days more than ever before, many hams who want to work the low bands need an effective antenna that fits on a small lot. I'll show you how to build a shortened dipole for 160, 80 and 40 meters using improved coaxial-cable traps that I call Super Traps. The antenna, which covers the three ham bands below 7.3 MHz, is about the same length as a full-size 80-meter dipole. If you install the antenna as an inverted V with a 90° included angle, the baseline length is 88 feet. The antenna uses traps that are easily constructed, rugged and weatherproof. They use no exposed capacitors or inductors.

You can feed the antenna directly with balanced 75-Ω line or via a 1:1 balun with either 50- or 75-Ω coaxial cable. Feed-line length is not critical. The antenna resonates at 1.865, 3.825 and 7.225 MHz. I installed such an antenna on my lot as an inverted V, with the apex 38 feet high and the ends at about 15 feet.

As part of this project, I developed a BASIC-language computer program¹ for trap design; a listing is available from the ARRL.² You can use this program to design these traps for frequencies of your choice, but you don't need a computer to make the antenna described here.

Fig 1 shows the antenna layout. The antenna is made of #14 stranded wire and

two pairs of coaxial traps. Construction is conventional in most respects, except for the high inductance-to-capacitance (L/C) ratio that results from the unique trap construction. Two recent *QST* articles give tips on dipole construction and feeding.^{3,4}

The traps use two-layer windings of the core (dielectric and center conductor) of RG-58 coaxial cable. Coaxial cable with flexible, rugged stranded-wire center conductors is preferable to that with a more brittle solid-wire center conductor. Fig 2 shows the traps. The 3.8-MHz trap is shown with the weatherproofing cover of electrical tape removed to show the construction details.

Precautions and Trap Specifications

With this trap-winding configuration, there are two thicknesses of core dielectric material between adjacent turns, which doubles the breakdown voltage of the traps. The transformer action of the two windings gives a second doubling of the trap-voltage rating. Thus, the trap voltage rating is 5.6 kV (four times RG-58's 1.4-kV rating). Conventional coaxial-cable traps made of RG-58 have a rating of 2.8 kV.

The 7-MHz traps have 33 μH of inductance and 15 pF of capacitance, and the 3.8-MHz traps have 74 μH of inductance and 24 pF of capacitance. The trap Qs are over 170 at their design frequencies, as measured on a Boonton Q meter.

These traps are suitable for operation at

the 1-kW power level. When making the traps, *do not* use RG-8X or any other foam-dielectric cable. Winding such cables on small-diameter forms causes the center conductor to migrate through the dielectric toward the inside, decreasing the breakdown rating and compromising trap performance. The core diameter also differs from that of RG-58.

Construction

Although these traps are similar in many ways to other coaxial-cable traps, the shield winding of the common coax-cable trap has been replaced by an outer winding that fits snugly into the grooves formed by the inner layer. Capacitance is reduced to 7.1 pF per foot, compared to 28.5 pF per foot with conventional coax traps made from RG-58. Trap reactance can be up to four times greater than that provided by conventional coax-cable traps.

The coil forms are cut from PVC pipe available at plumbing-supply stores. The 7-MHz trap form is made from 2-inch-ID pipe with an outer diameter of 2.375 inches. The 3.8-MHz trap form is made from 3-inch pipe with an outer diameter of 3.5 inches. The 7-MHz trap uses a 12.3-turn inner winding and an 11.4-turn outer winding. The 3.8-MHz trap uses a 14.3-turn inner winding and a 13.4-turn outer winding. All turns are closewound. The inner-trap frequency is 7.17 MHz and the outer-trap frequency is 3.85 MHz.

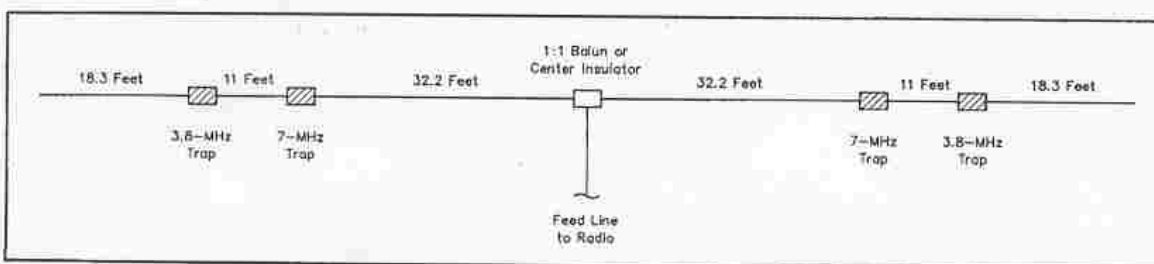


Fig 1—The shortened dipole resonates in the SSB portions of the 40, 80 and 160-meter bands. The antenna is 124 feet long.

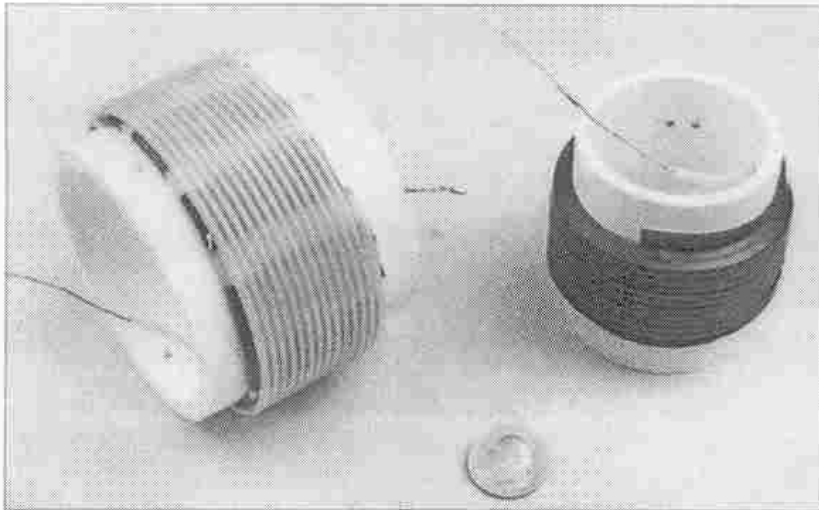


Fig 2—The improved coaxial-cable traps use two layered windings to provide an unusually high inductance-to-capacitance ratio, higher Q, and twice the breakdown voltage of single-layer traps. The 3.8-MHz trap is shown without its protective electrical-tape wrap to show the details of trap construction. This construction method makes for simple, lightweight, rugged and weatherproof traps.

If you are unable to get PVC forms of exactly the same diameters as those called for here, compensate for the effect of form-size differences by taking advantage of the fact that the number of turns varies inversely with the form diameter. Thus, if the form diameter you use is, say, 5% larger than mine, reduce the number of turns by 5%. If necessary, add or remove fractions of a turn at the end of the outer winding. If you have a computer, you can use the BASIC program¹ to calculate the exact number of turns for other form diameters. Stay as close as you can to the prescribed diameters because too much deviation changes the loading effect of the traps. A small change in trap loading may require a change in the lengths of the tip segments beyond the traps.

¹Use a #30 (0.128-inch diameter) drill for the feed-through holes in the PVC coil forms. The start and end holes of the 7-MHz traps are spaced 1.44 inches center to center, measured parallel to the trap center line. The holes in the 3.8-MHz traps are 1.66 inches apart. Wind the traps with a single length of coax core. The unsplined lengths are 17.55 feet for the 7-MHz traps and 28.45 feet for the 3.8-MHz traps. These lengths include the trap pigtailed and a few inches for fine tuning.

Strip the jacket from the coax. This is easily done using a wood vise with wide jaws to hold the cable while cutting the jacket longitudinally with a sharp knife or razor. The coax outer conductor (braid) is best removed by pushing (not pulling) it off.

Use electrical tape to keep the turns of the inner-layer winding closely spaced during the winding process. This counter-

acts the tendency of the tension in the outer-layer winding to spread the inner-layer turns. Stick the tape strips directly to the coil form before winding and then tightly loop them over and around the inner layer before winding the outer layer. Use six or more tape strips for each trap.

If possible, check the resonant frequencies of your traps with a dip meter. Try to maintain an accuracy of 50 kHz or better.

For low-noise reception, erect the antenna as close to horizontal as possible. If you let the ends of the antenna droop toward the ground, as I have done with my inverted-V installation, you may have to accept a somewhat higher noise level in the interest of structural simplicity and reduced baseline length. Some feel that the inverted-V configuration is better for DXing than a horizontal dipole at the same height. For an inverted V with a 90° included angle (legs that slope downward at 45°), you'll need a minimum apex height of about 55 feet and a baseline length of 88 feet. Get the apex as high as you can and keep the ends at least 10 feet above the ground for safety.

Configuration and Performance Trade-Offs

You seldom get something for nothing. This antenna proves no exception to that rule. As with all trap dipoles, this one has less-than-ideal bandwidth due to the loading effect of the traps. This is the price paid for multiband coverage and physical shortening. This antenna covers 65 kHz of 160 meters, 75 kHz of 80 meters and the entire 40-meter band with SWRs under 2:1. The bandwidth limitations on 160 and 80 meters can be largely offset with an antenna tuner.

It is also important to recognize that the traps are used in low-current portions of the antenna, minimizing I²R trap losses. A relatively high radiation resistance is therefore also retained.

Good luck with your low-band antennas!

Al Buxton was first licensed in 1937 as W7GLC. He has had careers in both industry and academia. He spent 21 years with Goodyear Aerospace Corp, 6 years with Tulane University and 11 years with the University of Akron (Ohio). He is a registered professional electrical engineer in Ohio and earned BS and MS degrees in electrical engineering from Tulane University. While in industry he worked in the fields of automatic controls, computers, radar and antenna development. He retired as Associate Professor Emeritus from the University of Akron.

In retirement, Al is active in Amateur Radio and computer application studies in antenna development. He's writing a series of articles on transmission lines, antenna traps and trap-dipole antennas.

Notes

¹I wrote the program in GWBASIC 3.2. It uses generic BASIC commands and can be easily converted for use with computers other than IBM PCs and compatibles.

²For a copy of the BASIC program, send a business-size SASE to the AFRL Technical Department Secretary, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494. Request the July 1992 QST BUXTON BASIC PROGRAM listing.

³J. Healy, "Antenna Here is a Dipole," QST, Jun 1991, pp 23-26.

⁴J. Healy, "Feeding Dipole Antennas," QST, Jul 1991, pp 22-24.

⁵See note 2.

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The IARS and its members would like to thank Paul Ferguson, VK2FE, for the article on the the triband Trap Diapole, and his talk to the April meeting, which was first in the QST Magazine from the ARRL America.

Paul re-engineered the traps so that they will take the weight of the diapole and by winding traps with a double winding on top of eachother, he could do away with the capacitor normally found in traps.

Paul also used 240V insulated earth wire to wind the traps and found no trouble using high power settings. The aerial was a good compromise and space efficient.



One of Paul's traps

The Mother's Day Raffle For Fathers!

Mum and the girls get a big TV for their favourite programs and DVD's

And Dad and the boys get a big TV for the football and the car races!

Ticket Sales Starting 14th February

Drawn Tuesday, May 9th Meeting

Just in time for Mothers Day!

\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Our major fund raiser this year will be "The Mother's Day Raffle For Fathers!" Total Concepts Projects, see the December issue for details of TCP, has donated a 30inch LCD Television and Sony DVD player to the

IARS to raffle.

Thanks must go to Steve VK2TSB and Tracey Benko for organising the printing of the raffle tickets. The Club has ordered 100 books of 21 tickets, we hope to raise \$35.00 per book of tickets, but we can have more printed if required. Your chances of winning are 1 in 2100 – good odds!

Please see the fundraising committee, Geoff VK2HIC, Jack VK2VGD, or Peter Reid VK2HPR for a book of tickets or books, to sell to family, friends and workmates. Every ticket sold goes to our hobby to keep it running in 2006, as it is not a cheap hobby to maintain with repeater licencing, maintenance etc.

All books must be returned to the Club by the May meeting for the draw.

Coming Events

Does anyone have any ideas for a Competition for all our members to participate in?

Would anyone like to organise a Fox Hunt or DX competition?

If so, could they contact me to put into the Club Calendar.

Port Macquarie Field Days

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 10 & 11th JUNE 2006

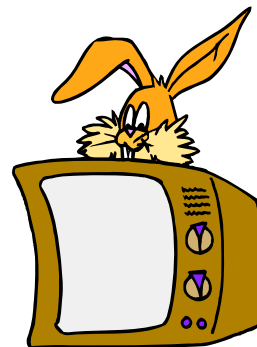
HOSTED BY THE OXLEY REGION A.R.C.Inc.

HELD AT SEA SCOUT HALL, BULLER STREET, PORT MACQUARIE

DISPOSALS FOX HUNTS DEMONSTRATIONS HOME BREW DISPLAYS

CONTACT CLUB SEC. PO BOX 712 PORT MACQUARIE 2444

Or Bill Sinclair On (02) 65839302





From the IARS President – Tony Stone VK2TS

Hello one and all. Well it sounds like we might have a new club venue beginning this month. Thanks to John VK2KEJ we will be holding the next meeting at Industry World. It is located to the right just before you reach the security hut at the North gate of the BHP Billiton Steelworks. John 2KEJ and Jack 2XGD had a look at it last week and found the facilities to be suitable for our club meetings. Apparently there is plenty of parking and is located relatively close to Coniston Railway station and also is only a few turns off the expressway. I would go so far as to say it is a quicker and

easier to get to location than the old venue at Montague Street. Hopefully now we will be clear of the worry of finding a permanent venue so we can carry on with other matters.

I have just returned from a 10 day holiday in South Africa with the XYL. I was fortunate enough to make contact back to Australia to John VK2AAL via the IRLP node whilst I was visiting Pretoria and it sounded great. It was ironic that John answered me as he had kindly loaned me a dual band Yaesu handheld and this is the radio I was speaking to him on.

South Africa was a very interesting place and in some ways similar to Australia. I must admit I was totally wrecked upon my return as I hadn't slept for 42 hours and it felt like the ground was moving about under foot as we had a lot of turbulence on the way back. Anyway I am sure there is much I can tell you all about it in the near future.

Anyway as usual that's about it from me. See you all at the next meeting.

Cheers
Tony Stone
VK2TS
IARS President

Why you should always be the boss.
(or get at least a promotion!)

I was having trouble with my computer.....
So I called Sam, the computer guy, to come over.
Sam clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.
He gave me a bill for a minimum service call.

As he was walking away, I called after him,
"So, what was wrong?"
He replied, "It was an ID ten T error."
I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, "An ID ten T error?"
What's that in case I need to fix it again?"
"Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out."

So I wrote down. I D 1 0 T

I used to like Sam.

Bird Flu Prevention





From the Secretary's Desk

Over the past month I have had a very different role to the one I usually have, school holidays, Grandma. Usually during the school holidays, I am very fortunate to have my 4 grandchildren come to stay for a while. During this time, housework is forgotten, food doesn't have calories, and grandma and grandpa get to play and spend time with them, doing what they want to do, and loving it. Grandpa gets all the dinners he loves, you know the kind I mean – the vegies are hidden, and tomato sauce is on everything and allowed! Morning and afternoon tea always has a cake, biscuits or muffins cooked with great care by Misses 9, 7, 3 and Master 8, and there is always mixture left in the bowl and on the spoons for licking. And I won't mention what the bribes are to eat all your dinner and for good behaviour – they work very well by the way, even with grandpa's, though I often wonder who encourages the kids for bribery treats – I think it could be grandpa – the biggest kid of all!

This holiday I also housed an additional 3 dogs, Harvey, a Rhodesian Ridgeback, Jerry, a German Shepherd and Kristy - the ball of fluff, a cross King Charles Spaniel and Maltese terrier – I might add, dogs are more trouble than kids! With the addition of our own 2 German Shepherds, we had a full yard. All of the dogs love children and all of the children loved the dogs so there was no problem there – the dogs seem to sense they would not be harmed and let the kids do things with them that I would not be game to – take the ball out of a strange Shepherds mouth! My dogs, I know backwards, I know they wouldn't harm the kids but Jerry was different, I didn't know him – but the kids loved him and he would just let them do what they wanted as long as they threw the ball for him and gave him breakfast goodies and lots of pats and scratches behind the ears.

Dogs and cats play a very large role in our lives – just think what life would be like without them. I know Geoff, VK2NSW would be lost without Missy and as for Hank, VK2BHL, and the "Great Dane", well, that is not worth thinking about. I have met each of these dogs, and they are almost human and are the most important thing in their owner's life – even more important than ham radio!

But there is a dark side. Sharing your life with a pet has responsibilities that are there for life, like children. I know both Geoff and Hank would do anything rather than let their dogs suffer or be neglected, they share and do everything together- they are truly best mates.

Jerry was dumped on me – he has had 2 previous owners – one moved into a villa and couldn't have the dog, the other decided he was too much trouble, they were the ones that dumped him on us, and went overseas and said to send him to the pound they didn't want him any more. That I couldn't do – he is a good loyal dog and deserves better out of life. I found him a home with a friend of ours, a butcher who fed him rump steak and sausages, walked him twice a day and let him sleep on the new lounge overnight – doggy heaven. But he had to go to work each day, so Jerry decided to come back to us, he jumped a 6ft fence and by 8.15am he had found his way back, I don't know how but he did. He was taken back to his new home, but by 9.00 the next morning he was back again, so much for staying with that owner.

At our last venue, we were next to the Wollongong Dog pound, and we all heard the calls of the dogs from there. Bought and then abandoned – the novelty ran out and they became too much trouble to their owners.

Why do people buy animals and not take responsibility for them? They are loyal, and they behave as they are treated and trained, by their owner. It is not the dogs fault he becomes unruly, it is the owners, but the owner dumps this problem on someone else, or the pound.

Our dogs, Sascha and Schelli, are treated as dogs, they do not come inside, they are pampered with lots of pats and scratches, training, treats, the poodle parlour every month for shampoos and clippings, walked and fed by John who goes to a lot of trouble to give them hot dinners in winter. They are our children now the kids have left home, I might add the kids leave home, but their pets stay!

Look after and cherish them – they give so much love and affection, company and loyalty and all they want is a pat and a kind word in return. They are truly are mans best friend.

Maeva Bennett
VK2HUG
Secretary



ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (INC)

Minutes of 11 April 2006 Club Meeting

Attendance: As per Attendance Book

Apologies: VK2XIC
VK2MT

VK2DLI
VK2WRJ
VK2ZZY

Visitors: Jacob Benko VK2FIXX

Meeting opened by President Tony at 7.38 pm at President Tony Stone's home at Primby

Correspondence In: IMB
Accounts from WIA for Foundation Licence Manuals
Wollongong Library
ACMA licence renewal

Minutes Read from March Meeting

Business Arising – New location venue to be discussed in General Business.

Repeater Report: Tabled by John Bennett VK2AAL
Aerials have been changed, triband for VHF UHF and 6m, steel caps fitted to new aerials and is operating better

Saddleback – not linked, interference, aerial?
10m repeater at Maddens Plains and gateway
Gosford Link still faulty and being repaired
Bateman's Bay ok
Saddleback being used by Mid South Coast Club till their new aerial installed on site, to be attached to new commercial radio tower
Knights Hill OK, still linked to Goulbourn
Janime used as X band antenna , discussion on 2, 70 and VHF only

Treasurers Report: Tabled by John Lawer VK2KEJ See attached

General Business:

- **New Venue – Tony Stone VK2TS**
Still to find a permanent venue
Possible to find a sponsor and venue
Steve Benko offered his premises at Albion Park
Sailing Club at Kannahooka
Security problems – locking
Community Hall Berkley – security and parking
Increase cost of membership to cover costs associated with new venue?
\$2.00 cost for each meeting to members to cover costs of new venue?
The Scout Hall was approx \$50 – costing \$500 per year and availability problems as used for scouting activities
New venue should be close to Wollongong, Port Kembla, Figtree or Fairy Meadow
John Lawer suggested Visitors Centre at Bluscope Steel – he volunteered to investigate and check oput site for suitability, cost and availability
- **Sunday Broadcast Survey – Geoff VK2NSW**
No general consensus
Morning OK but evening starts at 7.45 and finishes 8.40pm
Teck Talk Tasmania, MP3 program from internet, could be substituted in stead – technical broadcast

VK2AH – National broadcast only, drop NSW
VK2NSW – Mornings are OK, National also available at 8.00pm 4.38.225 link
Change things around – notify Canberra and Goulbourn of changes

- **New Look for our Webpage – www.iars.org.au - Maeva Bennett VK2HUG**
Thanks to Michael VK4GNV for all the work in the new webpage, new items to investigate, chat rooms., and a email service to members of IARS happenings and past issues of the Propagator
Members invited to look at it
- **Background Banner at Meeting**
Found by President Tony, wording on Banner – “Illawarra Branch of the WIA NSW Division”, from the 1060’s, before then Wollongong Radio Club
John VK2BHO invited to be Club Historian
- **John Morressey – donation of equipment to the IARS**
President Tony to catalogue and write letter of thanks for donation, will be used for a special auction, members present invited to inspect after the meeting
- **Antenna To be erected – Brian Farr VK2AH**
Brian asked for help to erect a new aerial at his home in beautiful downtown Bulli – and to see him re help required.
- **General Discussion on how to attract new members.**
- **Thank you to Tony Stone from John Lawer for use of his garage for the meeting.**

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm

Tony Stone invited member to inspect IARS IRLP set up at his home.

Paul Ferguson, VK2FE, gave a brief talk on Traps and how to construct them, and showed the members the ones he had made, and discussed medication he had done to improve the original design.

Tea, Coffee, biscuits and general rag chew ended the meeting.

Computer Illiterate?

So you think you're computer-illiterate? Check out the following excerpts from a Wall Street Journal article by Jim Carlton --

1. Compaq is considering changing the command "Press Any Key" to "Press Return Key" because of the flood of calls asking where the "Any" key is.
2. AST technical support had a caller complaining that her mouse was hard to control with the dust cover on. The cover turned out to be the plastic bag the mouse was packaged in.
3. Another Compaq technician received a call from a man complaining that the system wouldn't read word processing files from his old diskettes. After trouble- shooting for magnets and heat failed to diagnose the problem, it was found that the customer labeled the diskettes then rolled them into the typewriter to type the labels.
4. Another AST customer was asked to send a copy of her defective diskettes. A few days later a letter arrived from the customer along with Xeroxed copies of the floppies.
5. A Dell technician advised his customer to put his troubled floppy back in the drive and close the door. The customer asked the tech to hold on, and was heard putting the phone down, getting up and crossing the room to close the door to his room.
6. Another Dell customer called to say he couldn't get his computer to fax anything. After 40 minutes of trouble-shooting, the technician discovered the man was trying to fax a piece of paper by holding it in front of the monitor screen and hitting the "send" key.

7. Another Dell customer needed help setting up a new program, so a Dell tech suggested he go to the local Egghead. "Yeah, I got me a couple of friends," the customer replied. When told Egghead was a software store, the man said, "Oh, I thought you meant for me to find a couple of geeks."
8. Yet another Dell customer called to complain that his keyboard no longer worked. He had cleaned it by filling up his tub with soap and water and soaking the keyboard for a day, then removing all the keys and washing them individually.
9. A Dell technician received a call from a customer who was enraged because his computer had told him he was "bad and an invalid". The tech explained that the computer's "bad command" and "invalid" responses shouldn't be taken personally.
10. An exasperated caller to Dell Computer Tech Support couldn't get her new Dell Computer to turn on. After ensuring the computer was plugged in, the technician asked her what happened when she pushed the power button. Her response, "I pushed and pushed on this foot pedal and nothing happens." The "foot pedal" turned out to be the computer's mouse.
11. Another customer called Compaq tech support to say her brand-new computer wouldn't work. She said she unpacked the unit, plugged it in, and sat there for 20 minutes waiting for something to happen. When asked what happened when she pressed the power switch, she asked "What power switch?"
12. True story from a Novell NetWire SysOp:
 Caller: "Hello, is this Tech Support?"
 Tech: "Yes, it is. How may I help you?"
 Caller: "The cup holder on my PC is broken and I am within my warranty period. How do I go about getting that fixed?"
 Tech: "I'm sorry, but did you say a cup holder?"
 Caller: "Yes, it's attached to the front of my computer."
 Tech: "Please excuse me if I seem a bit stumped, It's because I am. Did you receive this as part of a promotional, at a trade show? How did you get this cup holder? Does it have any trademark on it?"
 Caller: "It came with my computer, I don't know anything about a promotional. It just has '4X' on it."

At this point the Tech Rep had to mute the caller, because he couldn't stand it. The caller had been using the load drawer of the CD-ROM drive as a cup holder, and snapped it off the drive!

SOMETIMES KIDS ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO MAKE SENSE!!!

A three-year-old boy went with his dad to see a litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother, "There were 2 boy kittens and 2 girl kittens."
 "How did you know?" his mother asked.
 "Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it's printed on the bottom."

Another three-year-old put his shoes on by himself. His mother noticed that the left shoe was on the right foot. She said, "Son, your shoes are on the wrong feet." He looked up at her with a raised brow and said, "Don't kid me, Mom. They're the only feet I got!"

On the first day of school, about midmorning, the kindergarten teacher said, "If anyone has to go to the toilet, hold up two fingers." A little voice from the back of the room asked, "How will that help?"

A mother and her young son returned from the grocery store and began putting away the groceries. The boy opened the box of animal crackers and spread them all over the table.
 "What are you doing?" his mother asked.
 "The box says not to eat them if the seal is broken," the boy explained. "I'm looking for the seal."

A father was at the beach with his children when his four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore, where a seagull lay dead in the sand.
 "Daddy, what happened to him?" the son asked.
 "He died and went to Heaven," the dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, "Did God throw him back down?"

After the church service a little boy told the pastor, "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money."
 "Well, thank you," the minister replied, "but why?"
 "Because my daddy says you're the poorest minister we've ever had."

A man wanted to get married. He was having trouble choosing among three likely candidates. He gives each woman a present of \$5,000 and watches to see what they do with the money.

The first does a total make over. She goes to a fancy beauty salon gets her hair done, new make up and buys several new outfits and dresses up very nicely for the man. She tells him that she has done this to be more attractive for him because she loves him so much.

The man was impressed.

The second goes shopping to buy the man gifts. She gets him a new set of golf clubs, some new gizmos for his computer, and some expensive clothes. As she presents these gifts, she tells him that she has spent all the money on him because she loves him so much.

Again, the man is impressed.

The third invests the money in the stock market. She earns several times the \$5,000. She gives him back his \$5000 and reinvests the remainder in a joint account. She tells him that she wants to save for their future because she loves him so much.

Obviously, the man was impressed.

The man thought for a long time about what each woman had done with the money he'd given her.

Then, he married the one with the biggest boobs.

There is more money being spent on breast implants and Viagra today than on Alzheimer's research. This means that by 2040, there should be a large elderly population with perky boobs and huge erections and absolutely no recollection of what to do with them.



To all the Mums

A baby asked God, "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?"

God said, "Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

The child further inquired, "But tell me, here in heaven I don't have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy."

God said, "Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you. And you will feel your angel's love and be very happy."

Again the child asked, "And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language?"

God said, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."

"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?"

God said, "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."

"Who will protect me?"

God said, "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its life."

"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."

God said, "Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you."



At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, "God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."

"You will simply call her, "Mum."

Happy Mother's Day

About the Airwaves.

- 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 vk2hic@nsw.chariot.net.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.
- 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.
- Many thanks to Jack Desesco at Newtek, for his monthly specials for our members and his donation of a Newtek Gift voucher to a lucky callback person.
- If you have any knowledge of competitions that involve amateur radio could you let the editor know for inclusion in the Club Calendar.
- Good health and our best wishes go to Bob Walker, VK2WRJ, he goes into Sutherland Hospital this month to have a second hip replaced. A speedy recovery from all at the IARS, Bob.

May 2006

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 May Meeting	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17 IARS Committee Meeting	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			