



Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

# Propagator April 2021

## Upcoming Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

If the COVID19 conditions and restrictions for NSW do not change

The next meeting **will be at the** Blue Scope Steel visitors centre 7.30pm.

Blue Scope Northgate entrance off Springhill road

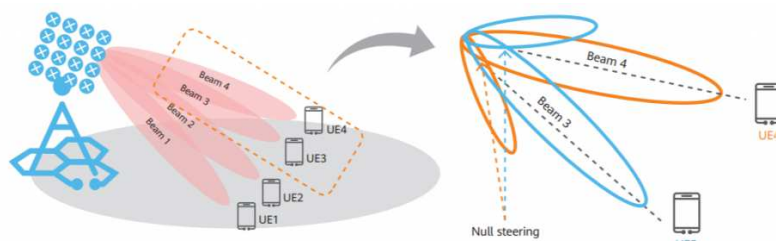


## THE FOLLOWS A COVID19 SAFE PLAN

There will be distancing and preventative measures still in place with hand sanitisers available for use, please adhere to info below as a minimum.



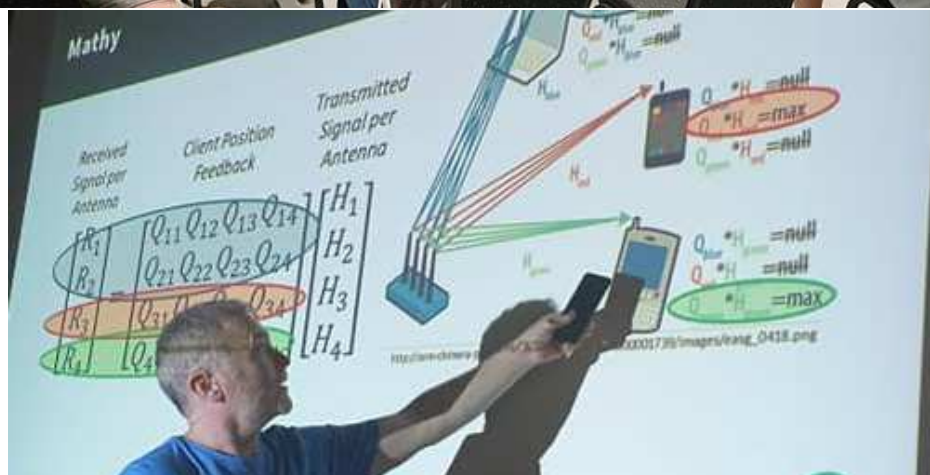
# Our last meeting 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021



We were beamformed straight into March with a very interesting presentation by Mal, VK2DXM. Mal took us through the basics and advanced theory of beam forming antenna systems. Surprisingly not new technology but the use of it becoming more relevant with the arrival of the 5G networks.

We all enjoyed the presentation very much, including the coffee and cake.

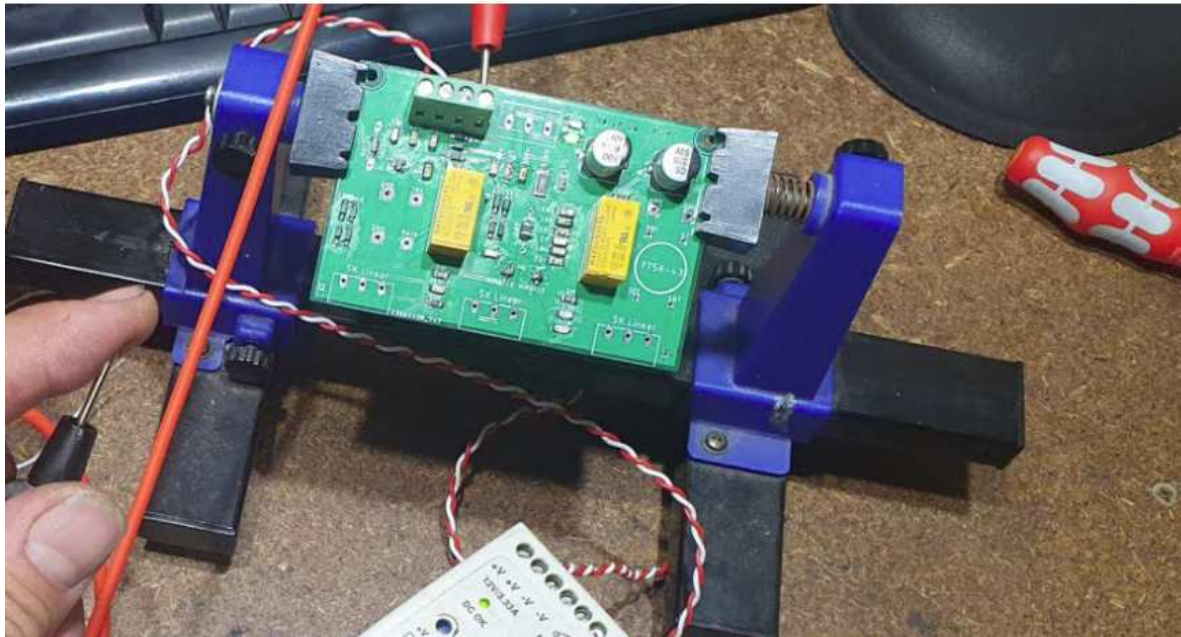
**Thank you Mal and all involved**





# NEXT MEETING .....

## Noise Cancelling Filter , Simon VK2KU



Simon VK2KU will be discussing the noise filter project in depth. There will be a filter at the presentation so we hope there will be some noise to filter out.

You can also place your orders with Simon and discuss the options of parts and PCB only or if you don't feel confident enough to build it yourself, the option of a ready populated PCB.

So, if you are like me who struggles to get any use out of 80 and 40m, then this unit is for you. Why pay in excess of \$300 for a commercial unit when a homebrew unit operates in a very similar way.

Using this filter has allowed me to join the Tuesday night 80m nets which was difficult in the past.

Same as the previous meetings there will be tea, coffee, biscuits and cake.

**Looking forward to seeing you all there on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

# SNOWBALL

The SNOWBALL was drawn at the last meeting with no winner so the monies have “snowballed” for the next round make Please be a part of this fundraiser which can get you some cash in a hurry. You will need to be a IARS member to participate, if you not then speak to John VK2EJL on the night and he will be more than happy to fix you up.

**Simon VK2KU, the good looking fellow with BALLS will book you in for \$5**



As always all monies received goes straight back into your club for your enjoyment 😊

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**Don't forget the two weekly IARS nets as below**



**to the IARS NETS**



IARS Tuesday evening weekly 80m NET on 3.666MHz at 8.30pm hosted by Mal VK2DXM and Rob VK2MT

Don't forget to join us every Tuesday evening, expect the second Tuesday of the month for a great get together on 80m. Signal reports, news and general discussions are the agenda. All you need is 1 x HF rig, Piece of wire + tuner, good cuppa and good chair.

There have been some really good conversations so if you are bored on Tuesday evenings, pop in for a chat.

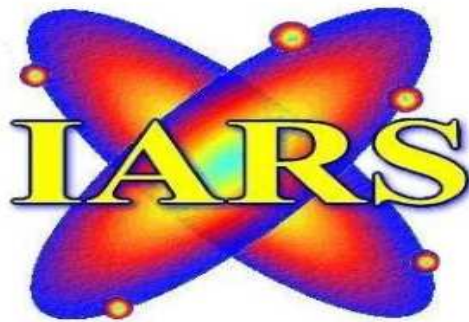
Saturday Morning EAST COAST NET hosted by Steve VK2BGL

You are invited to join Steve every **Saturday at 9.30am** on our **146.850MHz** repeater (linked to 146.675MHz) or **VK2BGL-R** on Echolink for a very enjoyable morning of general discussions from amateurs who log in from all over the world. This is a great net which is growing in popularity due to the wide range of subjects that get discussed.

# REPEATERS



VK2RUW (Knights Hill)



VK2RMP (Maddens Plains)

## STATUS

- 438.225 with a - 5MHz offset. Currently off air due to local interference at the repeater site
- 146.975 with a -600kHz offset NO CTCSS, C4FM enabled **OK**
- 146.850 with a – 600kHz offset (linked to 146.675) NO CTCSS **OK**
- 146.675 with a – 600kHz offset (linked to 146.850) NO CTCSS **Back on air**
- 53.650Mhz with a – 1Mhz offset 123Hz CTCSS (or key PTT 5 times to open squelch) **OK**
- 438.725Mhz with a -5mHZ offset DMR only **OK**
- 1296.850Mhz Beacon with simplex repeater function – **OK**

**The IARS welcomes any feedback on our repeater systems.**

**Please send all your feedback to [iars.keithb@gmail.com](mailto:iars.keithb@gmail.com) or [secretary@iars.org.au](mailto:secretary@iars.org.au) and it will be passed on to our repeater team.**

Any donations to help us maintain our great repeater system will be greatly appreciated. Please check our banking details on our website at [www.iars.org.au](http://www.iars.org.au) under the Contact details page.

As reference of the donation please add your Call sign and the words "Repeater Donation"





## John Moyle Field Day Contest Weekend 2021

Rain, rain and more rain could not stop the IARS and their determination to have a successful contest.

**Mission accomplished with 385 QSO's**

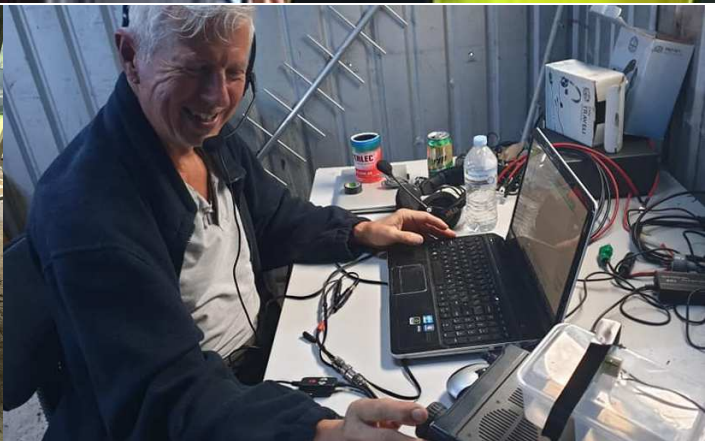
Possible winning team 2021 😊

It was a very enjoyable weekend with the newly erected shack and awning proving their worth in gold.

Without the new additions we would have been saturated but the new clubhouse was truly broken in style.

Complete with batteries, solar panels and controller

There was plenty of food, fun, fire, drinks, radios, friends and good vibes, a very memorable weekend, can't wait until we do it again! 😊











A GREAT WEEKEND WITH GOOD MATES

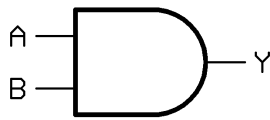




## Looking to Upgrade your Foundation or Standard licence?

As mentioned previously, let 2021 be the year. The IARS has two options, Ted VK2ARA who is our club tutor and the Radio and electronic school or both 😊. Your society supports further learning, please find out more on how we can help you.

We also have approved AMC assessors and can get your upgrade fast tracked. Please email [secretary@iars.com.au](mailto:secretary@iars.com.au) or return email if you wish to receive more information on **how the IARS can help you achieve this goal in 2021.**



**BUY..SWAP..SELL..GIVEAWAY**

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING to SWAP, BUY, SELL, an OLD PART

Parts you may need for repairs or some radio gear you no longer need that could go to a new home.....?

Email [secretary@iars.org.au](mailto:secretary@iars.org.au) or [iars.keithb@gmail.com](mailto:iars.keithb@gmail.com)

- Still looking for some output tubes for a Kenwood TS520. This is to repair a rig donated to the IARS by a silent key. Willing to pay. 52001 or 6146B type will be ok. Keith VK2KQB



- Yaesu FT2900 75Watt 2m rig with external speaker, DTMF mic and original factory manuals, [excellent condition](#) \$185.00, [a steal](#) .



## *Disposables Donation Table*

Each meeting we have the disposables table with items donated to the club.

Please keep the support for this going and bring oddities in and take some home for a small donation to the IARS.

With the next meeting please bring along an donate those old items that you no longer use and may even have thought about throwing it in the bin, someone else may be looking for that very part.

Wire, pieces of coax, old parts, plug packs, power supplies, capacitors, resistors, coils, tubes, knobs, anything that someone can use.







Share it with us, this could be suggestions, technical ideas, circuit diagrams, IARS community projects, pictures of your latest shack project

Let us know by return email or [secretary@iars.org.au](mailto:secretary@iars.org.au)

Also, if you have some IARS related pictures or information that we can put on the **IARS website**, please let us know and we can get that happening.

### *This month's project/Idea*

*Build your own 1kW HF AMP for a fraction of the price of a commercial unit  
Parts and PCB's supplied*



*The IARS have secured a special pricing deal with VK Amps Australia for our club members, with a special discount code that can be applied to the shopping basket. (Only for Financial IARS Members)*

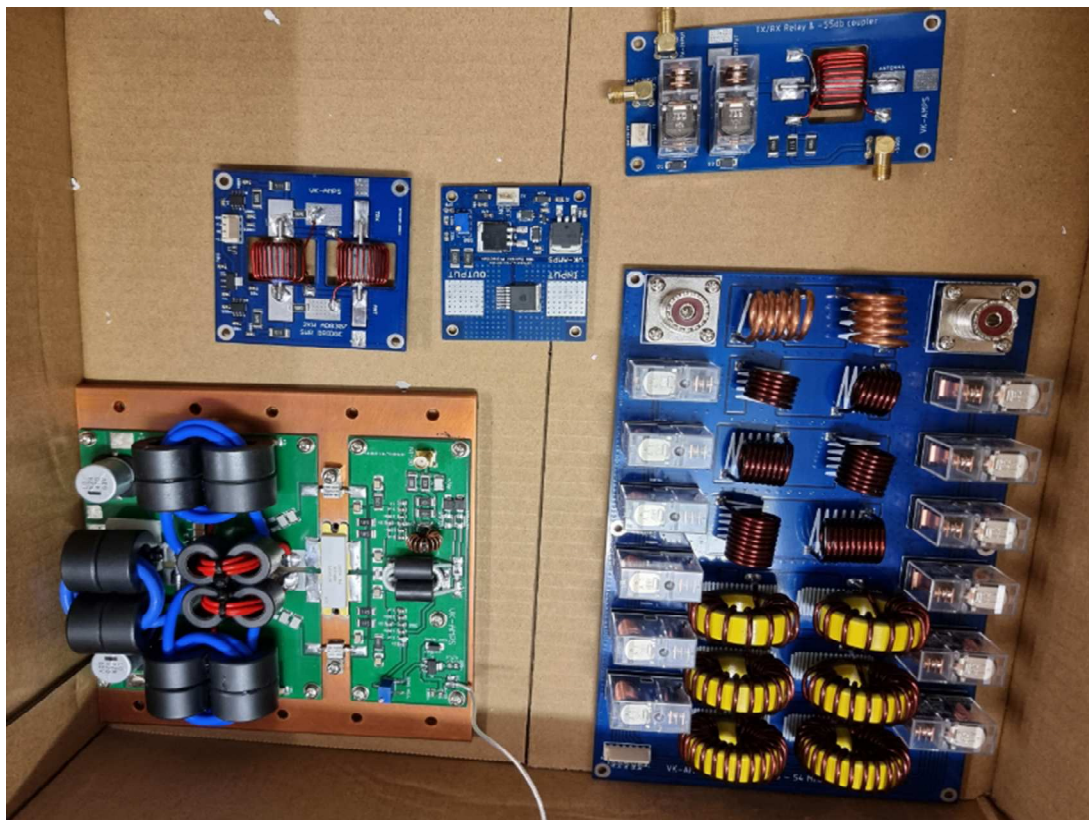
*VK Amps have a wide range of amplifier kits that you can build from scratch or have one ready built and tested for you to put in your own box.*

Check out their website at [www.vk-amps.com](http://www.vk-amps.com)

Please send an email to [iars.keithb@gmail.com](mailto:iars.keithb@gmail.com) or [secretary@iars.org.au](mailto:secretary@iars.org.au) for more information about your discount codes



My parts arrived this week 😊 will tell you how it goes





## Upcoming events .....

### Combined picnic

Combined picnic between MSCARC and the IARS is still on for the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at the Killalea State Park.

**NEED YOUR RSVP BY THE 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL PLEASE**



&



Amateur Radio in Wollongong since 1948

# *Invite you to a* **PICNIC & FOX HUNT**

**WHEN : 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021**  
**TIME : From 10H00 till whenever**  
**WHERE : Killalea State Park Shell Cove**  
**WHAT TO BRING : Yourself and some 2m fox hunting gear**  
**Free sausage sizzle and drinks for club members**  
**and family, \$5 for non-members unless you help with**  
**the COOKING and CLEANING . 😊**

**PLEASE RSVP by the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

*RSVP MSCARC*

**David VK2LDW**

**mscargcinc@gmail.com**



*RSVP IARS*

**Keith VK2KQB**

**secretary@iars.org.au**

## Lighthouse weekend

There may be a opportunity for the IARS to have a joint lighthouse weekend with the MSCARC. Rob VK2XIC has advised that the MSCARC had booked lighthouses for the lighthouse weekend. If you are interested in taking part in this contest **please contact Rob VK2XIC** [vk2xic@wia.org.au](mailto:vk2xic@wia.org.au)

## Harry Angel Sprint 80m

Don't forget the upcoming Harry Angel contest in May. If I may, I recommend this for anyone who does not like long contests, get in and give it your all for 106 Minutes. Can't get any better than that and using the VK logger software does help 😊

**Saturday May 1st 2021. 10:00 - 11:46 UTC. For more information go the WIA at the link below**

[www.wia.org.au/members/contests/harryangel/](http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/harryangel/)

latest version of VK contest log see link below

[www.mnds.com.au/vkcl/](http://www.mnds.com.au/vkcl/)

**Wyong Field Day**  
**30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021**



More info go to the link below

[www.ccarc.org.au/category/wyong-field-](http://www.ccarc.org.au/category/wyong-field-day/#:~:text=The%20club%20wishes%20to%20announce,fresh%20date%20and%20new%20name.)

[day/#:~:text=The%20club%20wishes%20to%20announce,fresh%20date%20and%20new%20name.](http://www.ccarc.org.au/category/wyong-field-day/#:~:text=The%20club%20wishes%20to%20announce,fresh%20date%20and%20new%20name.)

## Upcoming meeting presentations .....

- **April 2021:** Simon VK2KU will be presenting the IARS noise canceller kit and how to use it
- **May 2021 :** Rob VK2MT will be presenting repeater management. What it takes to have a good repeater network including the fail-safe methods in linking multiple repeater sites.
- **June 2021 :** Keith VK2KQB, Power supplies, Keith will be sharing some tricks on power supply design, repairs and maintenance with a look at switch mode and linear type comparisons.
- **July 2021 :** Construction night. We will build a VK2KU noise canceller kit on the night.
- **August 2021 :** AGM with SHOW & TELL, bring along videos and pictures of your latest projects.

That's all for now, hopefully see you at the Blue Scope Visitors centre on Tuesday evening, 13<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

Stay Safe

**73's**

**Keith VK2KQB**

**IARS Secretary**

**IARS, Amateur Radio in the Illawarra since 1948**