

# QRM

BULLETIN ISSUED BY THE NORTHERN ZONES OF THE  
WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA TASMANIAN DIVISION

P.O. BOX 1010  
LAUNCESTON,  
TAS. 7250

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## EDITORIAL

Congratulations to the VK5 division on a very fine win in the R.D. Contest. Looking at some of the scores they really set out to win, with 8 logs of over 1000 points and 46 logs of over 300 points.

I hope the VK7's take note and give them some competition next year..

The weekly news broadcast is now emanating from the Northern Zone and the job of the news reader is in the capable hands of Reg VK7KK. Of course, no matter how good he is at reading news if there is nothing to read he obviously can't do a good job. It is up to you, the members, to supply him with those juicy bits of information, gossip and ideas to fill and improve the broadcast. Reg will listen for any information on Fridays at 7.30pm on Channel 4 and 3.672 MHz. Will you help. TNX

JOHN VK7JV.

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## COMING EVENTS

|                 |   |                                                     |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Sat. Oct. 4th   | ) |                                                     |
| " 18th          | ) | Y R C S CLASSES - Room 38 Kings Meadows High School |
| Dec. 2nd        | ) |                                                     |
| Tues. Oct. 7th  |   | NORTH WEST MEETING - Lakin's Hall, Ulverstone       |
| Frid. Oct. 10th |   | NORTHERN ZONE MEETING - 8 High Street, Room 10      |

### HAMFEST

Dec. 2nd & 3rd KENMORE CARAVAN PARK - SWANSEA

### CONTESTS

Nov. 25th-26th C.W. "CQ" W.W. DX CONTEST  
Dec. 9th - Jan. 21st 1973 Ross Hull Memorial VHF Contest

### NORTHERN ZONE NOTES

Thirty four members attended the October meeting held at the College of Advanced Education in Mowbray. Once again we were pleased to welcome Ian VK7ZIE and Graham VK7ZAQ from Devonport.

The prime reason for our visit was an inspection of the CCTV facilities. They have a small studio, 3 video tape machines and telecine equipment reticulated throughout the building and to study carrells in the Library. Seeing the plush carpet and the wealth of facilities available in the building indicated that we're getting something back from our taxes!

Business was dispensed with quickly being mainly a discussion of Satellite working and repeater frequency problems.

For our next meeting bring those slides you picked out a few months ago, about 6 on Electronics or allied subject.

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### REPEATER

Advice has been received of a change in call sign to VK7RAA in keeping with new WIA - PNG policy. The contrary of frequencies still rages however it appears that VK3 will change on February 1st so that we will follow suit. It is hoped that channel 3 (46 in the new nomenclature) can be used for Mt. Barrow. It is likely that channel 4 will be used on Mr. Wellington. The superior receiver aerial is back in service and improved coverage has already been noted. There now appears to be little difficulty experienced in the city area and Ron 7ZRC at Howrah can often be heard. Our best DX report so far was a reception report from Bob VK6BE on the 16th October. The repeater was S9 and stronger than VK5WI/RI at 7.45 pm.

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THE OSCAR SATELLITE is up and working beaut. Peter 7PF was the first Australian station to be heard through it. Both Peter and John 7JV have had in excess of 30 contacts through it. Other Tasmanians heard are WALLY 7ZAZ, JOE 7ZGJ, COL 7LZ. WINSTON 7WH is set up with SSD and should be heard shortly.

The tracking calculator designed by Peter 7PF is a must for successful operation as it will show you what time you'll first hear it, how long you'll be able to use it for during the pass and what direction to beam.

They are still available at \$2.00 incl. post. write to:

WINZ. TAS. P.O. BOX 1010, LAUNCESTON. 7250

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BRIAN 7ZBY must have been studying CW on the quiet for months and then without telling anyone he springs it on us with an entry in the open section of the R.D. contest, I think you may have a first there Brian!

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A.W.A. and VK7ZGJ have donated some equipment to us. This will be auctioned at the next meeting, the proceeds to go to the clubroom account, so bring your MONEY fellows!

NORTH WEST ZONE NOTES

The highlight of the month was Ladies Night held on the third of the month in place of the usual meeting. Although a brief meeting was held it was the fastest meeting on record. As Tony our President dryly remarked "It's a pity we couldn't get them all off as quickly as that".

Sid 7SF turned on a fine picture show, coloured talkies and some silent 16 mil film taken over the years at various zone functions. They were well worth viewing and aroused some memories.

About 10 local hams voices had been taped and were played to the ladies who had to identify them. We were all amazed when Lyn XYL 7ZIE picked the lot. She must be an avid listener.

The door prize was won by Glen XYL 7MZ. Supper was handed round by the men and the ladies enjoyed being waited on for once.

We were delighted to have Frank 7FZR and XYL Brenda with us, not forgetting the harmonics.

The ham fraternity has been solidly bit by the current brand of 'flu. I can think of 7AX, 7ZIE, 7MS, 7MX and others and XYL's haven't escaped either. It has been very nasty.

Two meter activity has been very good in the area with new rigs appearing from time to time. David 7MS is the latest addition to the ranks.

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A VERY SUCCESSFUL Fox Hunt of the Yes, no variety was held on Friday the 27th October. Brian 7ER proved that birds of a feather flock together and hid his car amongst those of the boys in blue. As for NORM 7MR hiding south of Brisbane Street in the Gorge Quarry, it's a wonder JOE 7ZGJ didn't find him earlier than what he did cause if my memory serves me right Joe didn't know where South was either. We were pleased to see Allen Davis there and join in the hunt as a passenger in REG 7KK's car, KEVIN 7ZAH proved that you can join in the fun with a receiver only and carefully listening to the others questioning the Fox!

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CONGRATULATIONS to Brian and Diane - Mr. & Mrs. VK7ZBY on the birth of their first daughter FALICIA FLEUR - a sister for Scott.

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FARADAY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Those of you who missed this IREI sponsored Lecture should feel disappointed. It was aimed at giving the educated public an insight into the development of PMG communication system, and was presented by Mr. A. H. KAYE Assistant Director of PMG in S. A. If nothing else it was an insight into Audio-visual presentation. Three slides projectors were linked together and operated by a punched tape system to give a wide screen presentation, synchronised with movie projection and taped commentary. It included a discussion of carrier systems. The IREE are to be congratulated on their organisation. They held four sessions to a total audience of 1200 in Launceston.

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HAVE YOU BEEN FISHING YET

Naturally the fish being Oscar, the first obbit was most interesting with many different lures being offered. However to no avail no one got a bite. VK7PF trying CW bait was the first VK to be heard through the satellite. Several passes later John 7JV was casting with his special SSB spinner when Peter announced on Channel B "John has caught one", this being VK5ZK. Since then Peter and John have worked most VK-ZL states. I have been trying with a much used FM Wobbler but have managed only one contact. Best of fishing! from 7ZGJ

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DURING a QSO between John 7JV and Bill W6TEZ in California USA Bill mentioned that he would sure like to hear the activity of the stations using the satellite but had no information as to what time and what direction. John called PETER VK7PF on channel B and asked whether he could help. Peter then worked out with the use of his tracking calculator the next best pass for Bill. Another satisfied customer!

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SORRY to hear that Doug 7AB had to spend a few days in hospital. Doug tripped and fell down the stairs breaking his nose and a couple of ribs. Look on the bright side Doug and think of all the DX you'll be able to work while recovering.

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PETER VK7PD has left Phillips and now once more working alongside MIDE VK7MMH with a slight difference he's also employed by MIKE!

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CONGRATULATIONS to Kerry Black on his recent passing of the ACLCP, to my knowledge Kerry hasn't taken a call yet, but let's hope he doesn't take too long showing himself both on the air and at our meetings.

\*\*\*\*\*

TRAN SISTORS

F. E. T.

## DIODES

RESISTORS

## CAPACITORS

COIL FORMERS (NEOSID)

MISC.

|                                        |     |                      |         |        |
|----------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------|--------|
| XTAL SKTS PRINTED BOARD MOUNTING       | 20¢ | Miniature 12V relays | 2c/o    | \$2.00 |
| BELLING & LEE PLUGS                    | 40¢ |                      | 4c/o    | \$2.50 |
| " " SKTS                               | 35¢ | Relay Sockets        |         | 45¢    |
| " " SKTS printed board mounting        | 30¢ | Valver Kit. Consists | 1x6AK5, |        |
| UHF TYPE COAX CO NECTORS. PL259 (Plug) | 75¢ | 2x6AU6, 2x6BA6       |         | \$1.00 |
| " " " " SC239 (Socket)                 | 70  | Intergrated Circuits |         |        |
|                                        |     | MC1550G RF/IF AMP    |         | \$1.80 |

MR20B POWER SUPPLY BLOWN UP.

If you have been unlucky, as I have, in your 2N1163's ceasing to function in your power supply, you may find the following Mod useful. Possession of spare 2N1163 transistors poses no problem, however if you are having trouble acquiring 2N1163's, here's a solution which I tried in my rig and to date, is still working O.K.

Having a pair of 2N3055 transistors on hand, I wondered if I could press these into service. As the 2N3055 is an NPN and the 2N1163 PNP, polarity changes where necessary. I reversed the wiring on terminals 1 and 2 of the L.T. Filter Transformer IV57945. The 10 Ohm and 390 Ohm resistors were replaced with 2 Ohm 1 watt and 200 Ohm 2 watt resistors respectively. It was discovered it was easy to get the supply operating reliably on receive only, the rough adjustment being in the transmit mode where extra load on the power supply takes place, and additional feed back is required to sustain reliable oscillation. The 2 and 200 Ohm resistors appear to be working reliably to date. If you have to resort to the use of 2N3055's, these resistors may need adjusting to suit your particular rig for optimum results.

TCNY. VK7AX.

BOB VK6ME is locking VK7-wards on 2 metres 144.007 MHz. He has an excellent location at Albany with only a water path between us, Bob also has 432 MHz equipment.

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VK7MZ was quite active during the Jamboree on the Air weekend from Mt. Arthur. The boys and girls were quite interested and made a number of DX contacts. Thanks to those who assisted, particularly Peter VK7PD who pun in 28 HOURS!

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FOR THE INFORMATION of those that missed out - all the FM sets advertised last month went very quickly. There should be some 52.525 activity before too long we hope!

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THERE HAVE BEEN some very good 2 metre openings to VK3 in the last month and quite a few contacts were made through the VK7 and VK3 repeaters, the only sore point was that there was no activity on the lower parts of the 2 metre band except for 1 contact between JOHN 7JIV and BILL VK3AMH in Ballarat with 5/9 sigs. both ways.

STOP PRESS

REG 7KK worked VK8AJX Bill with 5/7 sigs.

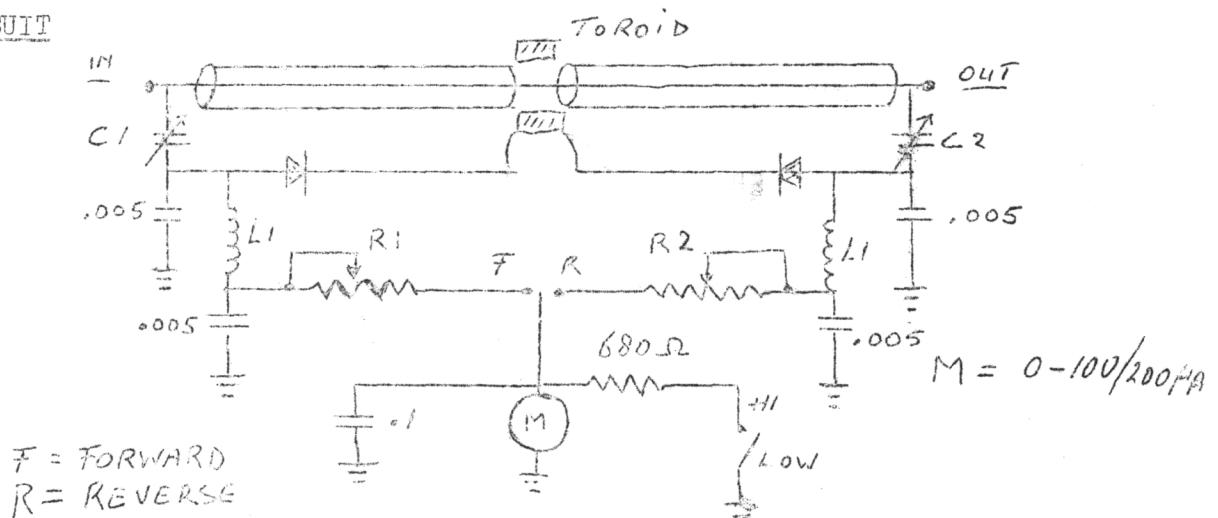
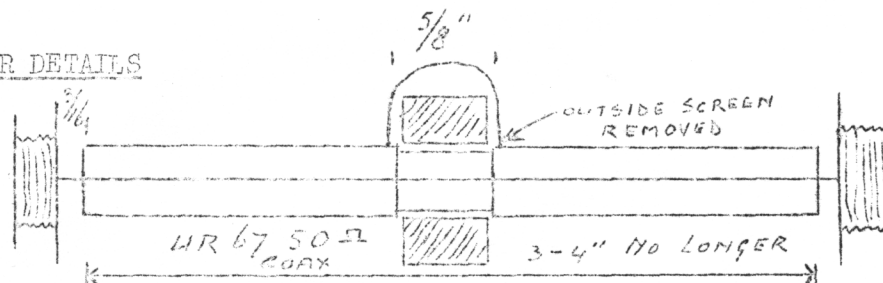
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FRANK 7BC (BIG COCONUTS) still hasn't got that quad on his tower, it seems his labrador dog decided to sabotage the works by running across the yard tripping over one of the elements and duly breaking it. LESS QRM! Seriously though Frank hope you get it up soon, more QRM!

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THRU-LINE WATTMETER - S.W.R. METER

Having made a directional coupler type SWR meter and being suspicious of its conclusions and the fact that this type is very frequency conscious, I decided to investigate the T Bar on current transformer possibilities. Results were outstanding over range 3-50m/c and suggest that with very little care frequency range could be extended but I think a separate unit for VHF would be the best as a 16:1 frequency change is considerable anyway. Graph obtained should convey the story, Calibration does not change more than 2% over entire range

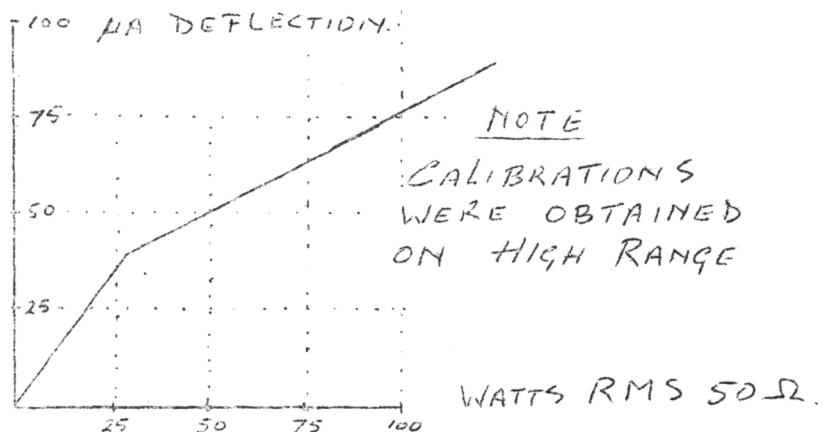
CIRCUITTRANSFORMER DETAILSTOROID

3/8" inside diameter Q2 material. Wound 36 turns of 26-28 enameled.

Evenly spaced secured over aperture in coax sheath. Taped in position.

NOTE: For all applications outer sheaths connected via small wire loops over toroid 3 sufficient.

SILICON  
DIODE - EX COMPUTER  
L1 1MH TV PEAKING COIL  
C1 0-7PF CONCENTRIC  
TRIMMER  
R1 5K PRE SET TAB  
POT

CALIBRATION

Feed power in and terminate output, adjust into suitable load pot to obtain a certain value. Reverse Unit and adjust the other pot to get same result. e.g. R1 for Max forward, reverse switch operated adjust C2 for null. Reverse unit, R2 for same reading as R1. Throw reverse switch and adjust C1 for null.