

Bulletin issued by the Northern
Branches of the Wireless Institute
of Australia, Tasmanian Division

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Launceston
Tas. 7250

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It has been suggested that QRM should have an Editorial about C.B. Well that is easy, there is no such thing as C.B. in Australia ! As for the illegal operators on 11 metres (as well as 80 and 20 metres) they are pirates and therefore criminals !

All this probably would never have happened if it hadn't been for a few people, without principles where a Dollar is concerned, selling equipment that can not be used legally unless the purchaser is licensed.

The argument, there are so many doing it we may as well make it legal doesn't hold water when you consider the number of people that have been convicted for stealing, they very likely outnumber 11 metre pirates, should we make stealing legal too ?

Some of these people are scout leaders and school teachers, in other words, people engaged in criminal activities are teaching children, teaching children WHAT ? that breaking the law is alright, as long as you don't get caught ?

If you have read any of the lists of C.B. jargon you will have realised that the terms not copied from amateurs or armed services are mainly designed to evade detection of other illegal activities, mainly related to traffic infringements.

Why should we always look to the U.S.A., what about Denmark and Holland, they withdrew C.B. on 11 metres because it was impossible to control piracy and violation of regulations.

I am not against some form of C.B., but I am very much against it being on 11 metres or any HF band. They may be right when they argue that C.B. would be of great benefit in emergencies, traffic congestion, sports and talking to the family when away from home, but all this can be done more efficiently on VHF or UHF as there would be less traffic due to the absence of skip, yet local range would be better and FM more efficient than AM. As for cost, there isn't a great deal of difference between amateur VHF, FM units and 11 metre 23 channel rigs.

As for the W.I.A., they are now looking for views from members, a few years late but better late than never. As for the office bearers of the Tasmanian Division and the Northern Branch, I have yet to find one that is against C.B. on 11 metres.

cont. page 2

Northern Branch notes by Joe VK7JG.

The Northern Branch meeting was held on the 14th January at the S.E.S. rooms in Charles St. The attendance was down on previous meetings with only 24 people present. We had one visitor John McCulloch VK7CCC who is about to settle down and become a permanent VK7.

Amongst the correspondence was a letter from the Launceston City Council concerning the leasing of 34 Bourke St. stating that the Council is willing to grant a lease for a period of 5 years at a rental of \$50.00 per annum and to be reviewed annually. At the next meeting a leasing agreement will be presented for your inspection and if satisfied it will be passed over to the council. So next month attend the meeting and have your say as to whether we accept Bourke st. or not.

A lot of discussion took place concerning C.B. radio and a suggestion was made that a questionnaire be put in QRM to obtain your views on the matter.

This is my last issue of Northern Branch notes as Graeme and myself have swapped positions, with the meetings approval, so next month Graeme VK7ZGG will provide you with the news.

The Northern Branch equipment store is now at 40 Lavender Grove, Summerhill, Phone 443882. When I am home the store will be open 7 days a week but is closed after 2100 hrs and Sunday mornings.

Don't forget that the March meeting is our A.G.M. so if you are interested in holding a position get someone to nominate you, please don't stay away from the meeting thinking that you may get dobbed in for a position.

The North and North West Branch field day is being held this year on the 27th of February, your attendance will be most welcome.

Frank VK3BSJ made the most of the two repeaters while he was here and had several eyeball QSO's with local amateurs.

That is all from me

73 Joe VK7JG

Editorial cont.

The W.I.A. is supposed to look after the interest of the members and the most precious possession we have must surely be our amateur bands, where would amateur radio be without frequencies in which to operate? Yet we hear that a councillor of this Division is lecturing in favour of giving a whole amateur band away.

Maybe we were given a hint of things to come when the President of this Division, at the Special General Meeting at Evandale in November said, "if C.B. is legalised in Australia we may be looking at a grade of membership in the W.I.A. for them.

When you are considering putting your views to paper, consider why Japan, the world's largest manufacturer of C.B. equipment, hasn't got a 11 metre C.B. band, like in Australia it is an Amateur Band.

John van Staveren VK7JV
Editor

Notes from the North West Branch by Lindsay Johnson.

The final meeting for 1976 was held at the QTH of Jim Davis in Latrobe on Friday 10th December. This meeting was very well attended by some 30 odd members, XYL's and girlfriends.

It was reported by Graham VK7ZAQ that the YRCS classes will commence again at the end of January 1977. Brian VK7ZBL thanked Graham for his time donated in the running of these classes and also for the many other jobs done by him for the branch over the past 12 months.

Bill Carter VK7AK gave a talk on the very much talked about Citizen Band in Australia as there are some thousands at present operating illegally throughout the country, Bill and several others agreed it would make sense to get these fellows licensed and then they would have to do the right thing or else, the same as other licensed operators.

Towards the end of the meeting the President, Ian VK7ZIE thanked Jim for having the meeting at his QTH and the very fine evening he and his XYL turned on for everyone present. Jim gave a very lengthy response to Ians remarks and extended further invitations to us all to come again, the meeting closed at 9p.m. with Max VK7MX thanking all for turning up.

Following the meeting Jim treated us to a cinemascope film which everyone enjoyed very much, this was followed by one of the biggest and best suppers I ever attended, everyone seemed to be eating for hours and the table seemed to be getting more food on it than less. A big thanks to all XYL's and YL's for this magnificent spread, we are looking forward to the next one.

As I was unable to attend this meeting my thanks go to Max VK7MX for supplying me with the following notes. Max reports the meeting was held at the home of Tony VK7AX on Tuesday the 11th of January at 8.30 p.m.. This meeting was very well attended with 16 full, 9 associate members and 2 visitors. A visitor from Burnie Mr. Hedley Charles gave a talk on the World DX Club which proved very interesting and went over well. Another visitor Mr. Charlton a community development officer, lectured on FM radio, which also proved very interesting.

The meeting was a very good one and some lengthy discussions took place. A big thanks to Tony and his XYL for throwing open their QTH at the last minute for this meeting, which was to have been held at the usual place at Lakins Hall Ulverstone, but as we were unable to obtain a key Tony helped out. The meeting finished at 10.30 and was followed by supper.

The next meeting will, I think, be held at Lakins Hall on February 8th at 8 O'clock.

A reminder to all that the next get together will be held at Port Sorell on February the 27th, so all members, XYL's, YL's and visitors are asked to turn up and make this a big one.

73 Lindsay Johnson

Deadline for the March issue of QRM is February 18 .

HF and DX notes by Col VK7LZ.

Perhaps the best DX for a lot of VK's since our last notes was YJ8KM on 52 MHz, however thats someone elses story. Incidentally Ken does QSL.

Over the holiday period listening time was limited so these notes will of necessity be rather brief.

Last December was patchy but good at times, early in the month Europeans came through well of an evening local time on 14 and 21 MHz both on Phone and C.W., also on 14 MHz during our afternoons South Africans were workable most days short path from 0500Z, unfortunately most were ZS's, the only other prefixes heard were, A2, FB8X, ZE, ZS3, 3B8, 9J and 9Q5, this is possibly due to the political unrest prevalent in some of the rarer African countries, also of interest was the middle and far east areas where SU, 9K, JY, A6, A9, AP, VU and most USSR prefixes were workable from 1000Z onwards. However just as we were thinking conditions were on the improve along came January and at present any really good DX is hard to come by, Africans are now almost non existent and European signals are well down on last month. I can't recall hearing a European signal on 21 MHz during our evenings although JA's are still workable afternoons local time.

ITEMS OF POSSIBLE INTERST.

VK9ZM - is operating from Willes Island for 6 months and has been heard on both 14 and 21 MHz using SSB, on 14MHz Bill operates around 14.165 MHz and on 21 MHz between 21.100 and 21.250 MHz. Bill also mentioned that on Saturday and Sunday mornings he operates on 7 MHz usually between 7.080 and 7.110 MHz.

VQ9R - in the Seychelles Isl. is now signing S79R.

OD - Lebonese stations are now appearing on the bands, OD5FB was heard on 14 MHz SSB, S9 at 1200Z, advising QSL's could be sent via Box 50314 Beirut but not before February 1977.

VK7JV has supplied an up to the minute list of stations heard at strengths greater than S7 on 14 MHz SSB and this should be very helpfull in assessing present band conditions.

0500 - 0530Z, HI8XBH, YV5EUX and W's

0900 - 0930Z, G3MMN, HM2KH, HA2GM, IK1XBY, VS6FN and JA's

1130 - 1200Z AP2MQ, AP5HQ, DK5MC, EP2SB, G4JY, GW4NZ, OH8OF, OE3BKC, SM2FZX, UK6LEZ, UW6FZ, UK7LAA, UL7NW, UF6VAG, VS6FN, VU2BUI, VU2GZE, VE2ZM/SU, YB2CN, 4S7DA, 5B4ES.

1200 - 1300Z HA4PW, OH5PY, SL7BS, SM5CXC, SP3CQP, UT5VU, 4Z4UW.

1300 - 1400Z DK9CW, EP2PW, GW4AYJ, IK4LEC, LA7F, OE3KSC, OK1VE, PAØRSR, SM7OE, SP9EYZ, SV1IP, VS5MC, W4IC, YO4WY, YB5ACJ, YU2RUO, 4X4FQ, 9K2EP, 9K2AH, 9M2MC, also F's, G's and various USSR stations

1500 - 1530Z F6EMT, G3YSV, ON8XB, IK4VEQ, DL8FL, 9V1SZ.

Also heard on C.W. on the 14 MHz band at 0900Z were, DJ5DA; F8TQ, G3HW, LU3ELK, UK5XBA, VS6HF.

cont. page 6

VHF notes by Kevin VK7ZAH.

These notes contain happenings on the VHF bands for December and January.

The Ross Hull contest has come and gone and won, by whom is the question. There are a number of VK2's and 4's who were exchanging rather large serial numbers at about half way through the contest, but due to the lack of 6 Mx openings it is not known if these increased significantly in the latter part of the contest. There is one VK7 who ended with a very large serial number.

A number of operators have expressed the opinion that the Ross Hull contest still favours the operator who has high power SSB equipment and more than one band. For those who operate 6 Mx and/or 2 Mx FM the task of winning any section of the contest is an impossibility. It has been suggested that a more equal situation may occur if there were a greater number of sections in the contest. By this it is meant separate sections for 6 Mx, FM, SSB, portable and similarly for all other bands. Each of these sections having a State winner, the overall winner to be eliminated and in its place have a winning State on the basis of, number of contacts, participation, bands used etc. this type of Award should encourage greater participation to enable one's State to win the Trophy. If you agree with this or have any better ideas please forward to the contest Manager as soon as possible so next years contest may be better than the previous ones.

Now to the subject of band happenings.

6 Metres, Up to about the 4th of January the band opened nearly every day. During this period all States were worked as well as P29, YJ8 and ZL. Peter VK7PD finally managed to work a VK6 which completes his W.A.S., Peter has been trying to work VK6 for about ten years. The FM net channel has also been very active with stations operating from the South, North and North West areas of the State.

On the 29th December the band opened at about 11.30 p.m. local time and closed at 3 a.m.. VK5,4 and 2 were worked, three local stations were operating during this period, these being 7JV, 7JG and 7ZAH, Ian VK7ZIF was there keeping the Southern end of the State in the picture.

2 Metres, Probably the most interesting happening on this band was the opening to VK4. On the 11th December VK7PS heard VK4ZCL on 144.1 SSB but unfortunately did not work him. On the 27th Dec. Peter VK7PD was parked in Ulverstone, with who we are not quite certain, Peter was reading the VK4 repeater beacon from Brisbane at noise free strength at times but when he tried to break in on the QSO in progress the QSB had taken the signal down to a level where he could not trigger the device. Kevin VK7ZAH was heard in Brisbane whilst exchanging reports with VK3YJI on 144.1 SSB, later in the evening the report was QSL'ed from a VK4. Prior to the 5th of January no inversion type of openings occurred although Kevin worked VK3ZQV and VK3YJI everyday since the start of the Ross Hull contest. When the band finally opened it stayed open to varying degrees until the 13th of January, mostly Geelong and Gippsland stations were the strongest and most consistent. Occasionally during this period Melbourne stations were worked. Hobart stations VK7's PS, MC, ZIF, AZ and ZJG worked into Geelong and Gippsland with good signal strengths. It just goes to show that almost anything is possible if one is around at the right time.

cont. next page

VHF notes continued.

The Hobart repeater has been worked from VK3 with signals over S9. Bill VK7AK is now a very keen 2 Mx operator using his IC202, 3W P.E.P. out. Bill has been going out portable in the evenings North of Deloraine to a hill overlooking the sea, where he has had many contacts with VK3 using the inbuilt whip of his IC202. Sounds like a good QTH to built a shack.

Ian VK7ZIE is another active station on 2 Mx SSB having worked a number of VK3 stations with his IC202 from his home QTH. Ian has completed his solid state linear amplifier and reports indicate an improvement of up to 4 S points over the rig barefoot.

432 MHz. Not a great amount of activity on this band, Joe VK7JG and Kevin VK7ZAH are the only active stations in the North. Ron VK3AKC is the only VK3 that has been worked although 3ZPA has also been heard.

More activity should occur late January and during February when better temperature inversions usually exist.

That seems to be the bulk of the news for this month. Just to complete this months notes a reminder to send in your comments regarding the Ross Hull contest.

Happy DX hunting on VHF

73 Kevin VK7ZAH

HF notes continued.

QSL INFORMATION.

AP2MQ - Box 1480 Lahore, West Pakistan.
FB8XO - via F6CRT
HI8XBH - Box 2171 Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.
JY9HQ - via DJ9ZB
VE2ZN/SU - via VE2YM
VK9ZM - via VK4ABW
VK5MC - via DK5JA

MEETINGS

Febr. 8th North West Branch, Lakins Hall, Ulverstone. 8 p.m.
Febr.11th Northern Branch, S.E.S. rooms, Charles St. 8 p.m.
Febr.27th North and North West Branches, Field Day at Port Sorell.

CONTESTS

Febr.5/6 ARRL DX Phone contest
Febr.12/13 John Moyle Memorial National Field Day
Febr.19/20 ARRL DX C.W. contest
Febr.26/27 French Phone Contest
Mar. 5/6 ARRL DX Phone Contest
February 18th - Deadline for QRM articles and notes.

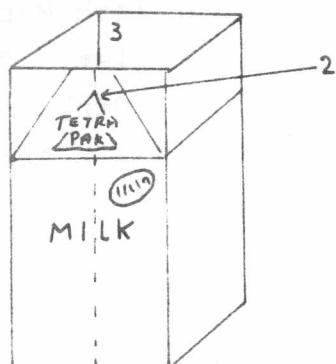
1977 A.O.C.P. CLASS TIME TABLE.

Week	Subject	Date
1	electrical laws and circuits	14th March
2	" " " "	21st "
3	" " " "	28th "
4	vacuum tube principles	4th April
5	" " "	11th "
6	" " "	18th "
7	semi-conductors	25th "
8	" "	2nd May
9	" "	9th "
10	power supplies	16th "
11	receiving systems	23rd "
12	" "	13th June
13	" "	20th "
14	transmitting systems	27th "
15	" "	4th July
16	" "	11th "
17	modulation systems A.M.	18th "
18	" " S.S.B.	25th "
19	" " F.M.	1st Aug.
20	interference	8th "
21	test equipment and measurements	15th "
22	" " " "	22nd "
23	wave propagation	19th Sept.
24	transmission lines	26th "
25	" "	3rd Oct.
26	antenna HF	10th "
27	antenna VHF	17th "
28	basic digital	24th "
29	specialized communication systems	31st "

revision, 7th November - 19th December.

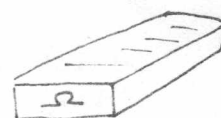
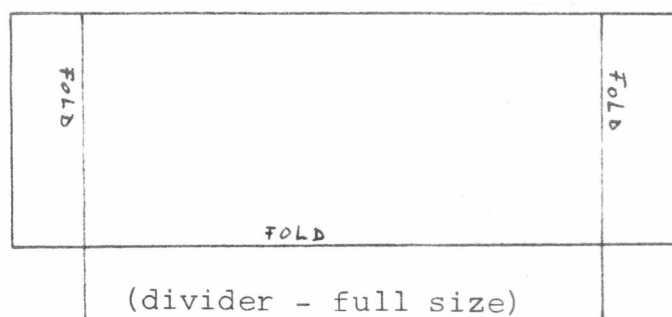
Hinks and Kinks

Having some components but nothing to store them in, I made trays out of 1 litre milk cartons as follows;



- 1 - rinse carton out and dry
- 2 - cut off top at apex of Tetra
- 3 - cut carton in half
- 4 - fold top back into position and staple. This gives two trays approx. 195 x 70 x 35 mm

Dividers were made out of cardboard or other milk cartons and stapled through the side flaps only. A plain piece of paper was stapled to the side to write values or part numbers of the components on, on the plain end of the carton I wrote the symbol in felt pen. The number of dividers per tray is determined by the size and quantity of components. These stack very nicely. I crimped all staples with pliers to prevent snagging.



-----O-----

TO BLACKEN ALUMINIUM SHEETING;

The surface of the sheet should be polished with very fine emery powder or emery cloth. After polishing, pour a thin layer of olive oil over the surface and heat slowly over an alcohol lamp. Large sheets can be heated in an oven. Under the action of the heat the plate will first turn brown, then black according to the degree of heat.

ROT PROOF LINES;

Ropes and lines can be made rot proof and water resistant by dipping in raw linseed oil and then drying.

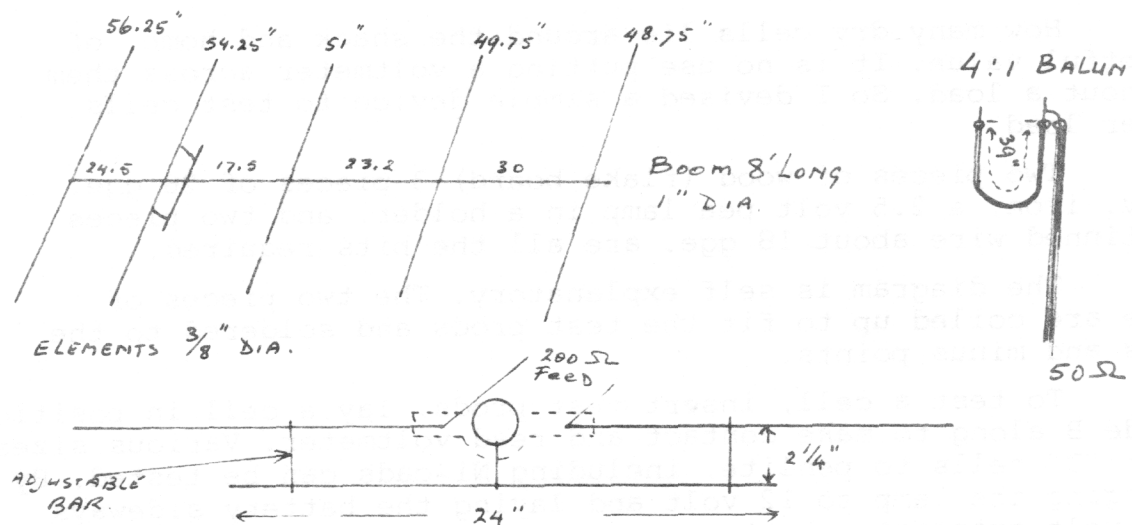
A 5 Element yagi for 105 MHz FM reception, by Joe VK7JG.

With the recent temperature inversions it has been possible to listen to the Melbourne FM station on 105.7 MHz.

You can use a TV aerial or construct your own for a little more gain. I constructed this 5 element yagi designed for the operating frequency.

For convenience I fed my yagi with 50 Ohm coax, but if you wish, by adjusting the beta match it could just as easily be fed with 300 Ohm ribbon or 75 Ohm coax.

The feed impedance is adjusted by sliding the adjustable slider bars along the matching section. To do this you require an impedance bridge or use the S meter on your receiver and adjust for maximum signal.

FOR SALEFOR SALEFOR SALE

Electronic Timeband digital watch, L.E.D. readout, 12 months warranty, Fairchild chip. \$24.00

EA digital frequency counter, good to 28 MHz \$80.00

also many other bits and pieces, must clear out the shack

Joe VK7JG

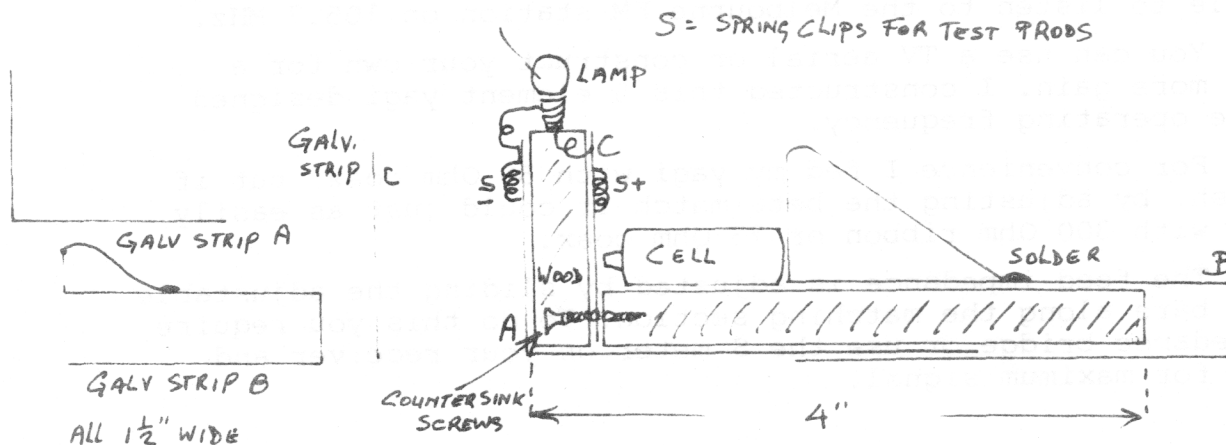
40 Lavender Gr. Summerhill

1 only, Lafayette, HA600A solid state amateur short wave receiver, 2 years old, with set of cans, operating manual etc. in mint condition. \$200.00 or near offer.

Lindsay Johnson

4 Horsham St. Ulverstone 7315

Phone 252432



How many dry cells lie around, the shack and home, of doubtful value. It is no use putting a voltmeter across them without a load. So I devised a simple device to test cells under load.

Two pieces of wood (flake board) 3 pieces of 26 gge. galv. iron, a 2.5 volt pea lamp in a holder, and two pieces of tinned wire about 18 gge. are all the bits required.

The diagram is self explanatory. The two pieces of wire are coiled up to fit the test prods and soldered to the plus and minus points.

To test a cell, insert test prods, lay a cell in position slide B along to make contact and read voltmeter. Various sizes from "D" cells to penlite, including Ni-cads can be tested. By changing the lamp to 12 volt and laying the battery sideways a 9 volt transistor battery can be tested. Cells can be checked at 20 per minute. Put half exhausted cells into Mum's flashlightHi...

Max VK7MX

WANTED

WANTED

WANTED

Any old magazines, publications, schematics etc you don't want don't throw them away, see me.

Also I need a VU meter for my tape recorder, if you have a spare.

Ed Hewens VK7HE, 43 Faulkner Rd. Ravenswood. Phone 391863

FOR SALE: John VK7JV has received a donation to the clubroom fund in the form of xtals, if you can use any of these make an offer, remember monies received go to the clubroom account. All frequencies listed are in KHz.

1659.375, 2567.0, 2760, 2967.09, 2978.33, 2977.09, 3038.34
3088.34, 3063.333, 3152.08, 3107.09, 3215.0, 3382.500, 3450.0
3452.5, 3452.51, 3473.75, 5954.17, 6280.0, 6284.17,
6286.67, 6765.41, 6860.41, 6905.0, 7042.50, 7047.50, 15187.5,
15705.0, 16852.2, 17620.0, 18167.5, 64710, 64740, 73050.0,
73810.0, 73870.0, 76975

COMMUNICATIONS COMPONENTS AND KITS

from

AMATEUR COMMUNICATIONS ADVANCEMENTS

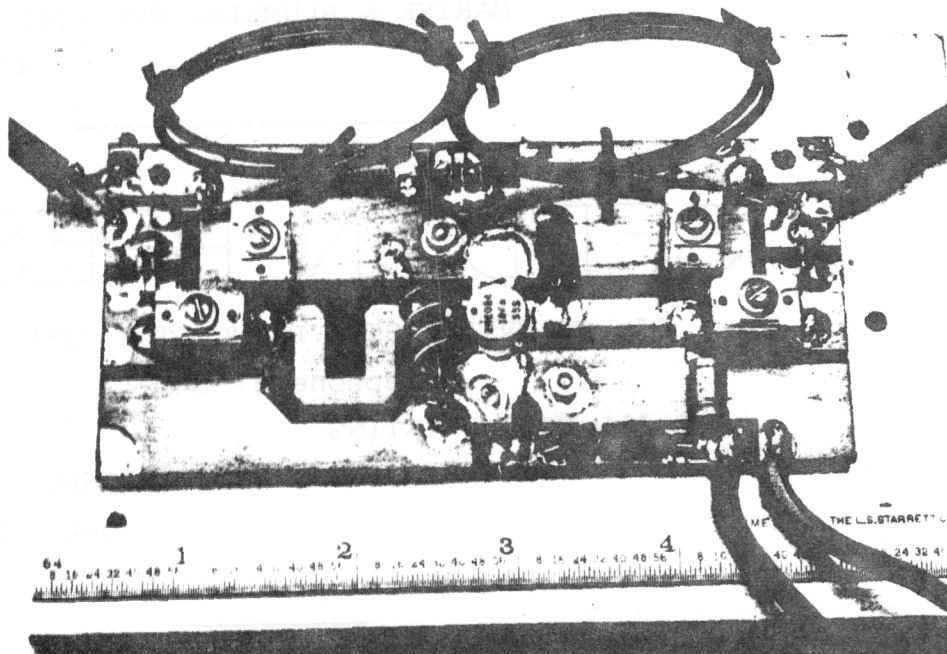
P.O. BOX 57, ROZELLE 2039

45W TWO METRE BOOSTER AMP.

This kit was featured in the April issue of Electronics Today International page 86. It delivers 35-45W output from about 10W drive on a 13.6V supply. It features the 2N6084 diode changeover switching, simple construction.

only
\$26.50! + 60c P&P

Heatsink \$2.50
+ 60c P&P



The 45W, two metre RF power amplifier. The 2N6084 transistor is visible in the centre of the p.c. board. The mica compression trimmers located on the right hand side are for tuning the input, those on the left for tuning the output. The printed inductances are readily visible. The two quarter wave coax lines are visible at the top. They may be coiled up as shown or conveniently arranged in some other way. Note that the components are soldered on the copper side of the printed circuit board.

RF POWER TRANSISTORS

We are proud to present these premium quality RF power transistors by C.T.C. They are rated to withstand infinite VSWR at all phase angles and are suitable for use in class AB or C circuits up to 220MHz from a 12.5V supply. The set of three is suitable for a three stage 1/2W to 40W power amplifier.

		1-4	5up
B3-12	5W out	\$5.70	\$4.80
B12-12	15W out	\$7.70	\$7.10
B40-12	40W out	\$17.50	\$17.20
		or \$30 the set	

BM70-12 typically 80W out at 146MHz from 9-12W drive at 65% collector efficiency \$46.50

We also stock the popular 2N6084 made by both Motorola and SSS for only \$16.75 or for 10 or more \$16.00

POST & PACKING is 20c for a single device, 40c for up to five, 60c for more

SPECIAL CAPACITORS FOR RF APPLICATIONS

These are suitable for RF tuned circuit, DC blocking and bypass applications to several gigahertz at power levels to many hundreds of watts. Silver-mica construction rated at 350V DCW. Extensively used in high power solid state RF power amplifiers.

	1-10	11up	Values stocked
22-62pF	\$1.85	\$1.75	33pF, 47pF
68-250pF	\$1.95	\$1.85	68, 82, 100, 150, 200
270-500pF	\$2.20	\$2.10	300, 470

POST AND PACKING

30c for 10 or less, 60c for more than ten.

metal-clad mica's

ELMenco trimmers for RF power uses to 500MHz

7-60pF		75¢
35-160pF	...	75¢
25-280pF	...	95¢

Other types for RF power to 200MHz, suit HF uses

4-28pF		50¢
10-110pF		50¢
10-160pF		50¢

P&P: 20c/5 or less, 40¢ up to 20, 60¢ for more

We also stock VITRAMON, 'Vee-Jem' NPO ceramic chip cap's

These are suitable for RF applications well into the microwave region. Standard E12 series in values between 1pF and 1000pF stocked. Sizes below 820pF: 2x1.3x1.3mm, 820 & 1000 pF: 2.3x1.8x1.3mm. All 50 VDCW.

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