

BULLETIN ISSUED BY THE NORTHERN
BRANCH OF THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE
OF AUSTRALIA, TAS. DIVISION

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This issue as you can see is a bit different due to circumstances beyond our control. Anyhow the main thing is that you get your copy with the news. A very important feature this months meeting (February) is the decision to keep QRM or not. Don't forget to give it lots of thought and present your suggestions and comments at this meeting. The February meeting as will be seen is to be held at the State Emergency Services building, Charles Street. All members are asked to bring a cup for their tea or coffee, which can be left. As the Ham said when caught in a delemma "things can go ether wave".

73

Ed - itor
VK 7 HE

M E E T I N G S

Northern Branch - Friday 13 February - 2000 hrs. SES building Charles Street. This will be an equipment display evening.

Meetings of the Northern Branch will until further notice be held at the State Emergency Services building Charles Street.

YRCS - The first meeting of the year will be held on Saturday 28 February; Kings Meadow High School at 1000 hrs. Bring your friends and start the year with a good roll-up. I reckon that the same date will apply for the North West Branch at Lakins Hall Ulverstone commencing at 1400 hrs. (SEE BRANCH NOTES)

North West Branch - Tuesday 10th February, Lakins Hall, Ulverstone, 2000 hrs.

NOTES

North West Branch - the branch has been quiet due to most people being on holidays this time of the year. However a bit of DX has made up for this and the locals have still been active. Work is still progressing on our repeater. We were held up for a week or so for a couple of parts and by the fact that my Ham Shack was being remodeled. It is still proposed to have it ready for testing as a manned repeater from my QTH in about 2 weeks.

Just a note about our YRCS Classes. Due to problems with Hall bookings the next two meetings will be on Jan 31st and Feb 21st, then we will be gettings back to the once every two weeks routine.

73 VK 7 ZAQ Graeme Rand

P.S. Rumour has it that VK 7 ZIE and XYL are expecting first harmonic some time this year. Congratulations to Ian and Lyn. Now we know what Ian was up to when he had TVI problems. I think I got your notes put in properly Graeme.

WINE AND CHEESE EVENING is set for Saturday 28th February at Reg's VK 7 KK QTH New World Avenue. This will cost about \$2.00 a head which covers everything. All those attending are asked to advise Reg ASAP.

March Meeting is also the Annual Branch Meeting. Notices of Motion are to be in the hands of the Secretary by the 21st of February.

Present Officers	President	Brian Yeoman	VK 7 ZBY
	Vice-Presidents	Lindsay Dowl	VK 7 ZLD
		Reg Emmett	VK 7 KK
	Secretary	Ed Hewens	VK 7 HE
	Treasurer	Peter Dowd	VK 7 PD
	Equipment Store	Danial Apted	VK 7 ZDA
	QRM Editor	Graeme Reardon	VK 7 ZGG
	Lecture Officer	Wally Murphett	VK 7 ZWX
	QSL Manager	Col Wright	VK 7 LZ
	Publicity Officer	Bob Grant	VK 7 ZRF
	Refreshment Officer	Reg Emmett	VK 7 KK
	Auditor	Carl Waldron	

Mini - Hamfest is set for March 14th and more details will follow.

AGM will be held on 3rd April. Tentative venue is - meeting is to be held at the residence of Jim Davis, Latrobe and Dinner at the Elamata, Devonport. This will be confirmed by the host branch which is the North West Branch. Notices of Motion are to be in the hands of the Divisional Secretary, P.O. Box 1010 Launceston by 13th March.

EQUIPMENT STORE

Double sided printed circuit board now in stock. \$3.00 square foot.

FOR SALE

For Sale National NCX 3 S.S.B. Transceiver 80-40-20 180 watts PEP. Good condition. Home made power supply. \$150.00 AS IS WHERE IS

Norm VK 7 NR

NOTE

From the SERG November Newsletter.

The PMG has approved the clubs application for a special call sign for the Back to Mt Gambier celebrations - VK 5 BMG

FOR SALE

Shack clearance sale - AGAIN! - at Joe's VK & ZGJ Ph 443882 or 40 Lavender Grove.

Creed 7B Teleprinter \$40 Three 2M converters, Nuvistor 6mhz IF \$10, 3ABP Valve 7mhz IF \$5, Transistor \$4. 6' dish 24db gain at 1296mhz \$45. Pair 16 el 432mhz yagis with horizontal stacking array \$10. Pair book shelf speaker enclosure \$45. Various other items - transformers - TV chassis - Meters etc

NOTE

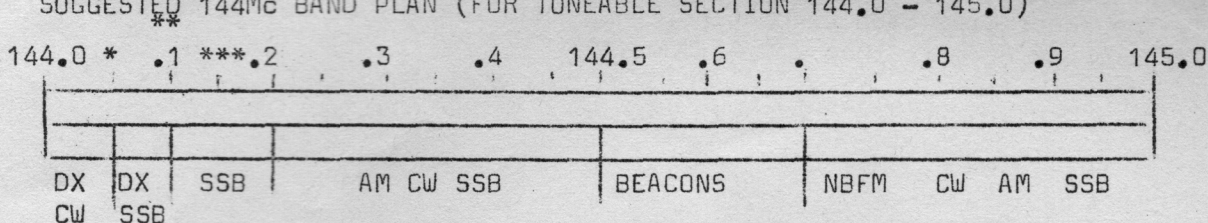
North West Branch - List of Officers

President	Ian Ellings	VK 7 ZIE
Secretary	Graeme Rand	VK 7 ZAQ
Treasurer	Max Ives	VK 7 MX
Equipment Store	Adrian Sherrif	VK 7 ZAT
Zone Correspondence	Graeme Rand	VK 7 ZAQ
WICEN	R Groome	VK 7 ZGR

Wine & Cheese Evening - PLEASE ADVISE REG BY NEXT MEETING OF YOUR INTENTION. Due to lack of facilities this evening is suggested as an Adult Evening. Give

GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO T.V. CLUB NEWSLETTER DECEMBER - JANUARY 1975-6

SUGGESTED 144Mc BAND PLAN (FOR TUNEABLE SECTION 144.0 - 145.0)



144.00 - 144.05 DX CW
 144.05 - 144.10 Serious SSB DX
 144.10 - 144.20 SSB
 144.20 - 144.50 SSB, AM, Rag Chews, Nets etc
 144.50 - 144.70 Beacons
 144.70 - 145.00 Narrow Band FM, AM, CW, SSB

* 144.10 National Calling Frequency
 144.05 - 144.15 Secondary Calling Frequency

** Beacons

144.50 - 144.70 Eg. 144.51 VK1 Beacon
 144.52 VK2 Beacon
 144.53 VK3 Beacon
etc

Similarly for secondary beacons in each State an exact replica of the 144.50 - 144.60 could be set up between 144.60 - 144.70.

***SSB DX

144.05 - 144.1 Serious DX QSO's, country and interstate (and hopefully overseas) DX.

With the ever increasing use of the 2 metre amateur band, due to the ready availability of ready to go equipment currently on the market, it has been decided to present a suggested "band plan" for the tuneable part of the band.

The "band plan" shown above is in fact a black and white representation of what could be called a "gentleman's" agreement, which has been developed over the years, and has been successful in avoiding large scale anarchy.

Comments by users of this band would be very welcome, and we would like to remind you that this is not presented as the end-all of band lay-outs, but as an aid to new comers to this band. Daryl St John VK3AQR Carlo Gnaccarini VK3ZSG

6-9V STABILISED SUPPLY

This inexpensive unit will enable cassette recorders, portable radios, portable record players and the like requiring 6 to 9V to be run from a 12V car battery, in or out of the car. This not only saves their internal batteries but ensures that they run at peak efficiency.

CIRCUIT. In the basic circuit, Fig. 1, the reference voltage is determined by a zener diode ZD which controls the output voltage. Tr1, a power transistor, takes a small current from ZD, amplifies it, and feeds the resulting current to the output circuit. With the output circuit left open Tr1 remains off, but as soon as a load is connected the current will increase until the voltage at the output is a little less than that of ZD. If for any reason the output voltage increases the voltage across Tr1's base-emitter decreases causing the collector current to drop. Conversely, if the output voltage decreases the base-emitter voltage will increase, raising the collector current. The overall effect being that the output voltage will remain constant despite varying load currents.

OVERLOAD: Although the basic circuit will work quite satisfactory, if the output leads are accidentally shorted together a heavy current will flow which may damage the transistor before the fuse can blow. To insure against this the circuit can be modified to the form shown in Fig.2. Here, no matter what the

DX	DX	SSB	AM CW SSB			BEACONS	NBFM	CW	AM SSB
CW	SSB								

144.00 - 144.05 DX CW
 144.05 - 144.10 Serious SSB DX
 144.10 - 144.20 SSB
 144.20 - 144.50 SSB, AM, Rag Chews, Nets etc
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OVERLOAD: Although the basic circuit will work quite satisfactory, if the output leads are accidentally shorted together a heavy current will flow which may damage the transistor before the fuse can blow. To insure against this the circuit can be modified to the form shown in Fig.2. Here, no matter what the load, even a short circuit, no more than 330mA will flow. Under normal loads the voltage across R2 will be less than the 500mV or so required to start Tr2 conducting, so the circuit will work as in Fig.1.

However when the current exceeds 280mA this will no longer obtain and Tr2 will start to draw current from ZD. At first this will have no effect, but if the voltage across R2 increases further Tr2 will draw more and more current until finally the zener will stop conducting, thus enabling the output voltage to fall to a level where no more than 330mA flows.

OUTPUT VOLTAGE	ZD (400mW)	R1 (1/8W)
6V	6.2V	680 ohms
7.3V	7.5V	390 "
9V	9.1V	220 "

CONSTRUCTION: The unit is built into an aluminium box approx. 3x2x2in, the power transistor being bolted to the box after applying silicone grease. The few components are connected directly to the pins of the power transistor. Since the quiescent current is only about 13mA no on-off switch is required.

Presented in PW Experimenters Corner by J. Rowley.



Fig.1. Basic stabilising circuits for a) neg and b) pos earth

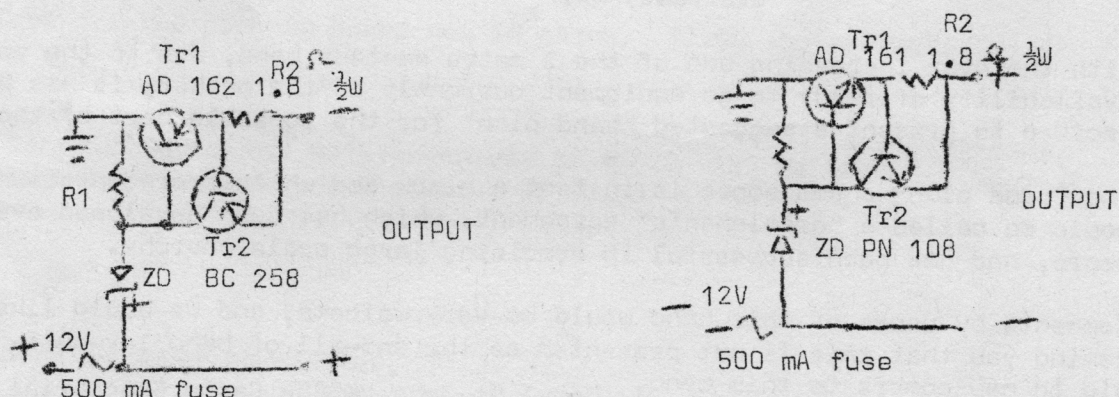


Fig.2. Protected circuits for neg or pos earth

V.H.F. NOTES

The Ross Hull contest is over with some very high scores achieved. Kevin VK 7 ZAH and Kerry VK 5 SU both had in excess of 600 contacts. All States with the exception of VK 0 were worked on 6M. I had only one contact with a ZL, although ZL TV was watchable on many occasions. New Guinea now P29 has only 6 amateurs active on 6 metres and have been worked by Kevin during the month.

New Years day would have been the most active day when 9 VK 6's were worked along with most other States. In the evening 2 metres opened up to VK 3, Kevin and I worked about 12 stations in Vic. The 3rd of January was another good day on 2 metres with about two dozen VK 3's being worked. Kevin also worked Ron VK 3 AKC on 432 and 1296 twice during the day.

Openings during the month are too numerous to list. I only hope that next year we will have more active VHF operators to enjoy the activity. Please, now that the Ross Hull contest is finished, don't go QRT. How about a call some time - most VHF and some HF operators monitor 52.050 and 144.1 mhz.

ANNUAL REPORT 1975 - 76

The average meeting attendance for the year 1975-76 was a little down on the previous year, but still good at 31 members. Activity throughout the Branch meetings continued to be at a high level, with subjects spoken on at meetings ranging from Stocks and Shares, The History of False Teeth to practical hints for the home constructor, as well as the usual auction and equipment display. Also this year saw seven associate members join the Branch.

On the social side, functions were well supported by members and their families. These events ranged from a family film afternoon to barbecues and other New Year's Eve function. (Seems this may become a regular event). Many thanks to those people who made their homes available for these functions.

The equipment store has again been very successful this year, mainly due to the efforts of Kevin Henricks and later on in the year, Danny Apted. One has only to tally up the sales figures to see just how successful the equipment store has been, and it is this support by you, the members, that helps to make it that way.

On the public relations scene, one event stands head and shoulders above the rest. I refer to, of course, the amateur radio display at the Northern Regional Library. My thanks go to the organisers of this event and to the members who helped man this display.

The repeater VK7RAA, is doing its bit in creating a close, family-type atmosphere in the Branch, being used for just rag-chewing, working DX, or helping interstate visitors feel at home. The repeater has also been used for originating and re-broadcasting the official Sunday morning news broadcasts. While on the subject of broadcasts, this Branch has been well represented in the area of originating with ample stations being available, but the 80 meter re-broadcast situation still seems to be the problem area.

During 1975 the old Rule Book that carried the Northern Branch since its conception was replaced with an updated set of by-laws.

On the Clubroom scene, most of 1975 has been taken up with awaiting replies from the Launceston City Council on the Bourke Street Rooms. Some difference of opinion still seems prevalent on what form our Clubroom should take; whether it is to be a full-sized Clubhouse or just a place to hold regular meetings and special events. Whatever, members will have to decide one way or the other, so this area of the Northern Branch's activities can be dealt with promptly and properly.

"Q.R.M." continued this year with a new Editor. The standard of Q.R.M. continues to be high, but despite calls for Technical articles, none seem to be forthcoming. The future of Q.R.M. will also have to be decided this year, due to increased production and postage costs.

It was heartening to see a good roll-up from the Northern Branch at the Divisional Hamfest held at Richmond, and it is hoped that the Northern Branch will be well represented at the usual North-Northwest Mini-Hamfest and Annual General Meeting and Dinner in the North-West Branch later this year.

Individual members have kept the Northern Branch well represented in both the HF and VHF sections of our bands, with activity ranging from working exotic stations in the HF bands to striving for that new station via Oscar 6 or 7. Activity in other areas such as ATV, RTTY, and meteor scatter etc. continues to be high.

ANNUAL REPORT (Contd.)

As last year, regular meetings have been held throughout the year. These meetings have been useful in planning such things as Branch meetings, special events, etc. and ensuring that these events go off smoothly. I would like to thank all the Executive members for their support and enthusiasm shown during the year, as it is never an easy job to work for a group without such support.

Concluding this report, one can only say that while this year's meetings have been reasonably well attended the numbers are down a little as well as total membership in the Branch. The reasons for this drop in active members is unknown; they are many and varied, but if anyone has the answers to improving the membership of the Northern Branch, and hence meeting attendances, I am sure any member of the future Executive will be only too pleased to hear from you. Perhaps more Branch involvement in areas such as Clubrooms, S.E.S., etc. may help.

No matter what the reasons, all of us should strive to make sure the Northern Branch continues to grow and develop into a strong, united Branch. Remember this Branch cannot flourish unless we are all prepared to do our fair share of the work.

Brian Yeoman VK7ZBY
Branch President
17/1/76.

HF NOTES

Conditions have been generally poor during the month, more so on the three higher bands with some openings on most days on 10 and 15 metres for short periods mainly to the north. For three days during mid January the JA stations were heard working into Europe on 15 metres and giving out some very good reports. The 20 Metre band has varied between very strong short skip conditions to very quiet wide open on most days with the best DX being heard after 0900Z.

Some good signals have been heard on the 40 and 80 metre bands from 0600Z onwards with VR8B and ZL3LN/C generating a lot of activity from European stations. The 160 metre band has not been tuned this month though VR4AA Jim at Honiara is looking for VK's.

Some of the latest HF antennas to grace the Northern Branch skyline this summer are 7HE's X-beam, 7NR's TH6 and 7BC's Quad - all working well.

With the U.S. Bicentennial celebrations this year some of the prefix's to be heard from the islands are; KJ6 Johnston Is, now AJ7, KP4 Puerto Rico, now AJ4, KV4 Virgin Is, now AJ3, KC4 Novassa Is, Now AL4, KL7 Alaska, now AL7, KS6 American Samoa, now AH3 and KH6 Hawaiian Is, now AH6.

A few QSL routes; KB6CU Box 1158 Canton Is, 96736. VR4AA c/o GPO Honiara, Brit Solomon Islands. 9M8HB HB9 Bureau. AH3FF Box 182 Lapuente, Calif 91747. VR8B Yasme Foundation, Box 2025, Castro Valley, Calif 94546. WB9AJF/6Y5, Box 38 Kingston 4, Jamaica. KC6AQ via WA6AHF. CR9AJ Box 798 Macao. C9MJO via W8CNL. VP1BH via VE2AKZ. 9K2DR Box 2 Kuwait and A4XFE Box 248 Muscat.

Some band times/heard listings for this month SSB. 20 Metres 0100/0600Z
VK9RH KS6CC LZ1VD HP1YY KZ5TS DJ5MS SV1GP BV2B 0600/0900Z KB6CU AH6HSN VR8B
ZL3LM/C K4AEA C9MJO VS5DB G2SB HZ1TA VR6TC G2AMV YV5ETD 0900/1200Z
VP8HZ SM2DMU UK2GKW VS6AF KC6AQ ZSIMI AH3FF ON4NV KG6JAR VR4AA UD6HB
CR9AJ EI2CN CE4PM ZK1CV CP5DT 9Y4CR LU5EIO 9M6MU 1200/1500Z G6ZO IT9TIA
VU7ANI VU2DK WB9AJF/6Y5 OE7KPI HI8XFD GW4AYJ UL7OE F8DC 4S7PD HS5VD A9XBD
9K2DR A4XFE

CW between 1100/1300Z gave UP2DK SP2AJO SM5GFK GI3OLJ UA1-~~PA~~ PA/JMH OZ6XT
HB9AQA DL7TA F6DEV YZ5CCJ 40 metres 0600/0900Z AH3FF VR8B OZ5KF OZ4MQ
VR1AA VS5DB JA'S and W'S 80 metres 0600/0800Z P29 ZL VK6 VK8 JA ZK1.

Ladies Page -

CHOCOLATE RUM CAKE

Ingredients: 4 oz Butter 1 tablespoon boiling water
scant 3/4 cup castor sugar 2 eggs
pich salt 1 tablespoon rum
2 cups plain flour 2 teaspoons cream of tarter
5 tablespoons drinking chocolate 1 teaspoon carb soda
3/4 cup milk

Mixing: Cream butter and sugar with boiling water until white and fluffy. add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add rum. Fold in sifted dry ingreients alternately with milk. Place mixture into two well greased seven inch tins and bake in moderate oven 25 to 30 minutes. When cold fill, and top with fluffy chocolate frosting.

Frosting

FROSTING

Ingredients: 2 oz butter 1 1/2 cups sifted icing sugar
2 oz drinking chocolate 1 teaspoon rum
1 egg white

Mixing: Cream butter, gradually add one cup sugar, drinking chocolate and rum. Beat egg whites stiffly, gradually add remaining icing sugar, fold into chocolate mixture. Spread between layers of cake and over top. Decorate with almonds and crystallised cherries.

We may live without poetry, music, and art,
We may live without conscience, and live without heart;
We may live without friends, we may live without books,
But civilised man cannot live without cooks!

He may live without books; what is knowledge but grieving?
He may live without hope; what is hope but deceivinh?
He may live without love; what is passing but pining?
But where is the man that can live without dining?

Noeleen

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