



Lockyer Valley Radio and Electronics Club

Jan/Feb
2010

Well It's 2010

And we have a big year ahead.

Quite a few things have happened since the last news letter.

A few more contest, with very good results.

The 2 meter repeater is off air. Repairs are pending, the spare repeater is being repaired at this moment and should be in service by the first weekend in February

Echo Link is now up and running on the repeater frequency. I have included some info on Echo link to keep you busy for a while.

And the planing has started for the clubs involvement in the WIA Centenary celebrations, with the three days in August.

Apologies for the December issue It didn't make it to the web site I thought it was there, but didn't realise unit Alan told me this week I have included the few pages that were in that issue

73 Peter VK4KHP

Introducing Echo Link

Echo Link® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities.

There are more than 200,000 validated users worldwide — in 162 of the world's 193 nations — with about 5,000 online at any given time.

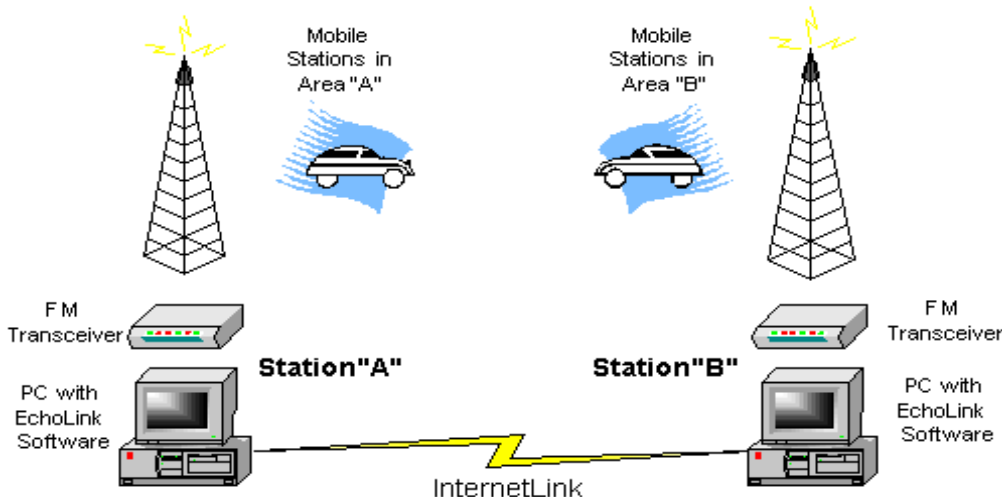
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Club Radio Contact Details

- Repeater 147.700 MHz
- Club Net 3570 KHz Friday nights at 1930 local
- Testing 444.250 MHz VSB ATV repeater
- **SSTV Repeater** 145.625 MHz (requires EasyPal software)
- To contact the newsletter editor vk4khp@netspace.net.au

Linking Example



3rd Issue December 2009 *From The December issue*

Getting started in VK contests

Club news

Welcome to the 3rd issue of the contesting column. Once again the club has pride in announcing that its operators have been honored with the following awards.

1. VK4WIL - 1st Place Multi-Two in VK SHIRES 2009

2. VK4ZD - 2nd Place SSB SO in RD Contest 2009

Remember the ARRL 10mtr contest on the 12th and 13th December. If you're not contesting, then have a listen and see how it's done.

For the beginner Part 2

Now that you have decided to give contesting a go, I'll suggest a few items that will hopefully help the beginner.

If you are not real confident to kick off on your own, then I am sure any contesting Amateur you ask will let you drop in and let you watch and get some useful operating tips. Any contest group would welcome you to join them for a weekend and more than likely you would get a go on the radio, and guidance would be forthcoming if requested. Most Aussie contests are fairly casual, and you can just call or answer calls at your leisure to get into the swing of things.

Before making your first QSO, there are certain things you must do. Well you don't have to, but prior planning prevents poor performance. And if it's your first time, it's good practice to have a system check over.

1. Select the contest you would like to enter and read and understand the rules.
2. Check your radio for operation. You may have lent your ATU to someone and forgotten to get it back.
3. Check your antenna is resonant on the frequency(ies) of operation.
4. Decide whether to use a logging program or hand write the log.
5. If you are using a computer for logging, make sure you have the latest version of software as last minute rule changes or point scoring will have been updated in the software.
6. Check the logger program serial connection to the radio is working if you want automatic frequency and mode logging.
7. Check the rules for start time and have a bottle of water nearby to keep the vocal cords lubed.
8. If you have decided to hand write the log, you may like to draw up a log sheet with information already known to save time during logging. The consecutive serial number that you give out can be written in. Most signal reports are 59. No-one seems to care that you may be 57. 59 is easier and normally pre entered in logging software. Cater for 80 to 100 contacts if you are going in a sprint / one hour contest.

A contester may wish to hand log and enter details in the logging software at a later time. If you are not familiar or quick with a keyboard, or the software, then this is for you. Typing directly into logging software is for those confident on a keyboard and with the software in use. Most loggers allow post entry of contacts.

Logging Software

There are many logging software programs around to try.

SD LOGGER by Paul O'Kane EI5DI <http://www.ei5di.com/>

W3KM Logger by Dave Mascaro <http://mysite.verizon.net/dmascaro1/>

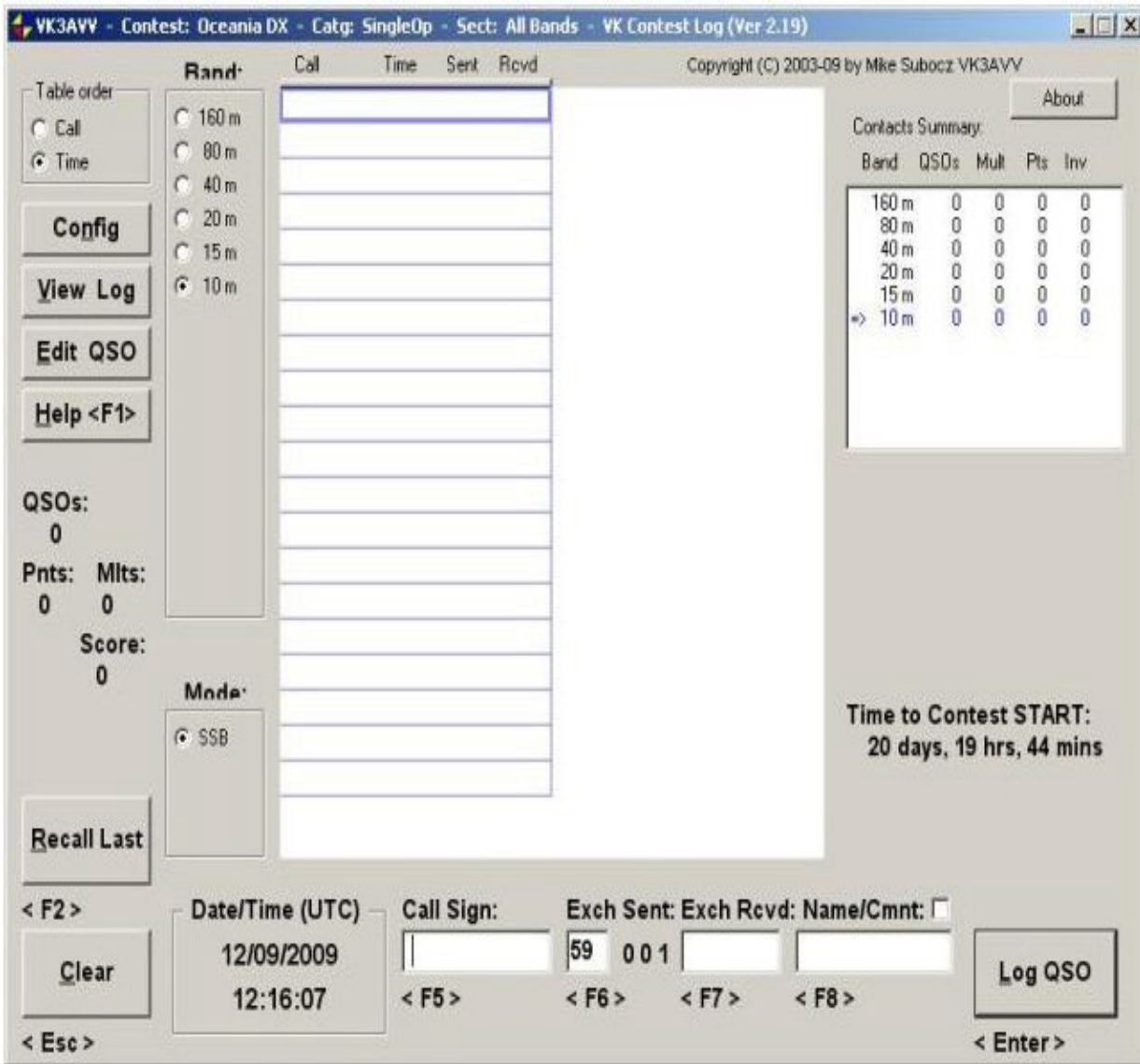
My choice for VK contests is VKCL Logger. <http://web.aanet.com.au/~mnds/> is the website for downloading and is the only logger I have seen that caters for all the VK contests. N1MM and Writelog are well known and proven loggers for the international contests. I have a preference for N1MM logger probably because Writelog requires an exchange of dollars. But N1MM is certainly a complex and well written masterpiece in my opinion. Maybe more on advanced contest logging at a later date.

The following picture is a screen shot of the VKCL logger.

Once the contest is selected from the setup window this screen appears. The big white area is the 'logbook' and along the bottom are the entry windows. Remembering the call example in last issue, when you hear the stations call sign it is typed into the call sign box and press Tab to take you into the received exchange box and enter the number given. Pressing enter logs the contact and clears the entry boxes ready for the next entry. After the contest click on 'View Log' and save the log book to a file. This file is then sent to the relevant email address as an attachment. This information is found in the rules of the contest sheet. Remember that there is a help icon in the program window which will explain how to use the logger. I have merely given a brief description here.

Notice the version number in the title bar. V2.19. Always check the website to see if there is a later version. If there is, download and install over the top of the existing one.

See you next issue.
Alan VK4SN





I have included a list of com-

mands, that you can use for echo link contacts

Basically, you just need to use the node number of the station you want to connect to .

Don't know the node numbers, I will give you the information on where you can find the numbers you require, later.

Say, you want to call a station, on the GB3KE-R repeater, in Glasgow.

You would Listen on our local repeater to ensure there was no connected stations,

Announce your call sign and the fact that you will be connecting to Echo link

Ok, here goes. Press your Mic button and then type in the node number, which , for GB3KE is 5411, release the mic button

And with a bit of luck, you should hear “ connecting to GB3KE repeater” then a pause and “ Connected to GB3KE Repeater”

Ok Your in . It now works like you are in Glasgow, talking to the repeater.

But before, you pick up the mike to talk, leave a pause of at least 4 seconds or more,

Leaving the break is good practice, as echo link, may drop you into the middle of a conversation on the repeater.

Also try to leave a 4 second break between an over , as the system has delays, plus it allows other people the chance to break in.

Ok, if it's clear , announce your call sign, or if you know an amateur in the area give them a call.

If there is a conversation going, wait until there is a break and announce your call sign.

Ok when you finish your contact, announce your intentions to disconnect, just in case some one local would like to use the node , or some one on the node would like to use the connection, if there is no response

the best way to disconnect is to press your mic button and press the # key

You should hear a response of “disconnected”

Ok , it doesn't get much easier, but please remember to keep the break between overs to at least 4 seconds.

The best place to find the node numbers is

<http://www.echolink.org/>

It has the node numbers and their status

Just a quick, edited look at some nodes for Australia, note the -R for repeater and -L for Link in the callsign

VK4RBT-R	Gold Coast,	147800
VK4RC-R	Redcliffe	44666
VK4RIL-R	LVREC Laidley Repeater	491940
VK4RGC-R	Cold Coast UHF	66702
VK4WIS-R	Sunshine Coast	316084
VK2EX-L	Tweed Heads 146.475	89333
VK4XMH-L	Nanango Net book	308154
VK4TPT-L	Maryborough QLD	348609
VK2CJC-L	Coffs Hbr 145.350	475538
VK2UNI-L	Occupied. Sorry...	41285
VK2RNC-R	Newcastle 146.975	1474
VK2JTP-L	Sydney [Nth] 146.425	3133
VK2IO-L	Sydney - RX all 2m FM	2509
VK2HSL-L	SYDNEY CITY	258361
VK2HSL-R	SYDNEY CITY 438.575	305559
VK2AFC-L	vk2afc.weebly.c-m	244270
VK2BLO-L	Orange VK2RAO Rep (1)	270506
VK2VVV-L	Ingleburn NSW145.375	315845
VK4RSA-R	Sarina, Qld	360460
VK2BGL-R	Kiama 147.300 Rpt (1)	325276
VK2RED-R	Wollongong 439.275 Rptr	478757
VK2CRN-R	In Conference VK2RNC-R	261307
VK2CPR-L	Albury 145.350	264395
VK3HAU-R	Mt Taylor - Bairnsdale	362226
VK3VGK-L	Bendigo, Vic. 145.350	388273
VK3JED-L	3.600 MHz WICEN Net	22497
VK3RSV-R	HARAOA Repeater (1)	9698



DTMF Commands

Connect

Connects to a station on the Internet, based on its node number.

Num eg to connect to the Sunshine coast repeater you would type in 316084 on your DTMF Microphone

Random Node

Selects an available node (of any type) at random, and tries to connect to it.

00

Random Link

Selects an available link or repeater (-L or -R) at random, and tries to connect to it.

01

Random Conf

Selects a conference server at random, and tries to connect to it.

02

Random User

Selects an available single-user station at random, and tries to connect to it.

03

RandomFavNode

Selects an available node (of any type) at random from the Favourites List, and tries to connect to it.

001

RandomFavLink

Selects an available link or repeater (-L or -R) at random from the Favourites List, and tries to connect to it.

011

RandomFavConf

Selects a conference server at random from the Favourites List, and tries to connect to it.

021

RandomFavUser

Selects an available single-user station at random, and tries to connect to it.

031

Disconnect

Disconnects the station that is currently connected. If more than one station is connected, disconnects only the most-recently-connected station.

#

Disconnect All

Disconnects all stations.

##

Reconnect

Re-connects to the station that most recently disconnected.

09

Status

Announces the call sign of each station currently connected.

08



I have installed Echo Producer software that compliments the Echo link software And gives us a great deal of user options. Some of which include the voice messages that you now hear on the repeater, like the time and weather announcements, or latest club news

There are so many features, I am not sure we will ever use. Although, with all these features, comes more DTMF commands. I won't give you all the commands, as we can change them as required

So here we go again
This time with the dtmf code first followed by it's actions

123 Will, Talk the time, temperature and repeater ident, Plus the status of the connection

***55** Will, speak the Temperature

***99** Will, speak the current weather conditions, indirectly from my weather station

44* Will, speak the weather forecast

****3** Will, speak the weather warnings short version, Not fully functional

****4** Will, speak the weather warnings summery version, Not fully functional

****5** Will, speak the weather warnings full version, Not fully functional

AA Will, speak the WIAQ news broadcast

BB Will, speak the WIA News Broadcast

CC Will, speak the RSGB News Broadcast

By the way the computer voice is 16 KHz Kate. A text to speech engine.

Conference nodes

These nodes allow many stations to chat, very similar to a Net, in many ways

I have set up a few, conference nodes and DTMF commands

There are many more conference nodes, if you find one you like, I can add a command for you

Just hit the DTMF keys as you would, with a normal connect. And to disconnect, use 73 or # or the same number you used to connect

***AUSSIE* 901**

***IRELAND* 902**

***NASA* 903** This is a receive only node, for the live space shuttle audio

***MANCHSTR* 904**

***ENGLAND* 905**

***MICHIGAN* 906**

***DODROPIN* 907**

That about wraps it up, if you need any help with the system or have some suggestions. Give me a call, on the repeater. The system will evolve over time and with your needs



<i>Connected</i>	<i>Disconnected</i>		
2009-12-26 21:31:54	2009-12-26 21:36:21	VK4RAI-R	The Knobby Ipswich QLD
2009-12-26 21:48:54	2009-12-26 21:50:58	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek
2009-12-26 21:58:11	2009-12-26 22:01:01	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek
2009-12-26 22:57:25	2009-12-26 23:02:50	VK4TEC Andrew	Brisbane
2009-12-26 23:03:00	2009-12-26 23:04:22	VK4TEC Andrew	Brisbane
2009-12-26 23:06:55	2009-12-26 23:12:10	VK4TEC Andrew	Brisbane
2009-12-26 23:17:12	2009-12-26 23:17:37	VK5RSC-R	Mt Terrible, IRLP Node6278
2009-12-27 09:48:38	2009-12-27 09:49:32	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [19])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-27 10:41:31	2009-12-27 10:42:37	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek
2009-12-27 13:22:25	2009-12-27 13:22:55	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [16])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-27 15:44:32	2009-12-27 15:45:12	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [9])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-27 19:58:31	2009-12-27 20:01:16	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-27 20:17:22	2009-12-27 20:17:31	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-28 12:37:56	2009-12-28 12:38:58	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [11])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-28 14:40:44	2009-12-28 14:41:30	VK4RKP-R Asterisk-EL-channel-driver	Allstar Node 2134
2009-12-28 19:44:28	2009-12-28 19:45:55	VK4XMO-L michael	blackbutt
2009-12-28 20:40:40	2009-12-28 20:42:40	MB7IMS-L CONF	In Conference *KENT*
2009-12-28 21:11:27	2009-12-28 21:12:50	VK4RKP-R Asterisk-EL-channel-driver	Allstar Node 2134
2009-12-28 21:15:58	2009-12-28 21:16:47	VK4RKP-R Asterisk-EL-channel-driver	Allstar Node 2134
2009-12-28 21:24:37	2009-12-28 21:25:01	*NASA* (Conference)	CONF Space Shuttle Audio
2009-12-28 21:33:50	2009-12-28 21:34:29	*AMSAT* (Conference [1/100])	CONF Amateur Satellites [0/100]
2009-12-28 21:44:59	2009-12-28 21:45:51	VK4RAI-R	The Knobby Ipswich QLD
2009-12-28 21:53:49	2009-12-28 21:54:43	VK8DA-R D.A.R.C.	Darwin VK8RWI 439.975
2009-12-28 21:57:57	2009-12-28 21:58:05	VK5RAH-R	Adelaide Hills.
2009-12-28 22:02:52	2009-12-28 22:03:34	GB3YR-R (Conference)	CONF EchoIRLP, Maltby UK
2009-12-28 22:05:37	2009-12-28 22:06:25	GB3KE-R	Glasgow
2009-12-28 22:06:39	2009-12-28 22:07:35	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [9])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-28 22:07:51	2009-12-28 22:10:41	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [7])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-28 22:11:27	2009-12-28 22:12:57	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [10])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-28 22:13:36	2009-12-28 22:14:24	GB3PZ-L	#2 Manchester UK [0/4]
2009-12-28 22:16:01	2009-12-28 22:16:08	VK6RNC-R (Conference)	CONF Wanneroo VK6RNC link
2009-12-28 22:19:05	2009-12-28 22:20:18	VK4RKP-R Asterisk-EL-channel-driver	Allstar Node 2134
2009-12-28 22:21:59	2009-12-28 22:23:32	VK6LD-R	Perth 70cm Rpt 438.425
2009-12-29 05:51:55	2009-12-29 05:52:42	*ECHOTEST* (Conference [10])	CONF Audio test server
2009-12-29 05:55:30	2009-12-29 05:56:10	G8JYV-L Ken >	Liverpool Liverpool 144.825Mhz
2009-12-29 12:24:46	2009-12-29 12:25:26	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-29 21:14:04	2009-12-29 21:14:16	VK6RNC-R (Conference)	CONF Wanneroo VK6RNC link
2009-12-29 22:59:24	2009-12-29 22:59:50	GB3KE-R	Glasgow
2009-12-29 23:00:46	2009-12-29 23:20:19	MM0DMU John	EDINBURGH
2009-12-30 18:18:59	2009-12-30 18:30:21	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-30 19:38:45	2009-12-30 19:39:49	G7BQY Arthur	Chester UK (1)
2009-12-30 20:09:43	2009-12-30 20:09:50	VK6RNC-R (Conference)	CONF Wanneroo VK6RNC link
2009-12-30 20:22:21	2009-12-30 20:23:05	VK4RSA-R Sarina 146.675	Sarina, Qld
2009-12-30 20:24:16	2009-12-30 20:25:02	VK6LD-R	Perth 70cm Rpt 438.425
2009-12-31 15:33:05	2009-12-31 15:33:14	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-31 15:33:27	2009-12-31 15:35:07	VK4SN Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2009-12-31 15:49:36	2009-12-31 15:49:43	VK6RNC-R (Conference)	CONF Wanneroo VK6RNC link
2009-12-31 19:15:24	2009-12-31 19:18:04	VK4FDGM Daryl	Brisbane Logan City
2009-12-31 20:26:07	2009-12-31 20:27:36	VK4KRS KURT	TOOWOOMBA (1)
2009-12-31 21:26:39	2009-12-31 21:26:49	VK4MIM Trent	Forest Lake
2010-01-01 09:22:21	2010-01-01 09:27:03	DL1MSE-R Alztal-Repeater	Connected... (1)



Connected

Disconnected

2010-01-01 17:31:42	2010-01-01 18:14:19	VK4TEC	Andrew	Brisbane
2010-01-01 18:14:36	2010-01-01 18:18:53	VK4TEC	Andrew	Brisbane
2010-01-01 18:19:26	2010-01-01 18:59:28	VK4TEC	Andrew	Brisbane
2010-01-01 20:41:42	2010-01-01 20:53:18	VK4VKX	Kevin	Toowoomba
2010-01-01 21:22:53	2010-01-01 21:24:13	VK4ZD	Bill	Gatton
2010-01-01 21:36:43	2010-01-01 21:37:25	VK4ZD	Bill	Gatton
2010-01-01 21:39:01	2010-01-01 21:39:09	VK4ZD	Bill	Gatton
2010-01-02 09:34:50	2010-01-02 09:35:03	VK4TEC	Andrew	
2010-01-02 10:35:35	2010-01-02 10:40:07	VK4TEC	Andrew	Brisbane
2010-01-02 22:46:27	2010-01-02 22:46:35	VK5RAH-R		Adelaide Hills.
2010-01-03 04:09:51	2010-01-03 04:10:07	IX1MOT	Bruno	Aosta
2010-01-03 04:19:13	2010-01-03 04:19:33	DL3BAL	Uli	Uli, Edeweucht, Germany
2010-01-03 11:54:41	2010-01-03 11:54:50	VK4TEC	Andrew	
2010-01-03 15:48:39	2010-01-03 15:50:55	DH9AF-L	Andy	JO52HR
2010-01-04 10:21:05	2010-01-04 10:21:39	N5USN	Perry	Baton Rouge
2010-01-05 10:07:11	2010-01-05 10:07:32	VK3NUT	Peter	
2010-01-05 17:48:37	2010-01-05 18:02:41	VK4SN	Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2010-01-06 17:36:49	2010-01-06 17:40:08	VK4SN	Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2010-01-06 17:40:15	2010-01-06 17:48:53	VK4SN	Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2010-01-07 19:48:34	2010-01-07 19:48:44	VK2BOA	Anthony	Newcastle
2010-01-07 20:37:20	2010-01-07 21:18:21	SM6DPT	Sture	Gothenburg, Sweden (1)
2010-01-08 21:52:02	2010-01-08 21:52:56	VK4KRS	KURT	TOOWOOMBA
2010-01-09 18:38:45	2010-01-09 18:39:20	*ECHOTEST*	(Conference [8])	CONF Audio test server
2010-01-11 05:01:26	2010-01-11 05:02:00	K0KJL	Kyle	Brooklyn, Ia
2010-01-12 09:24:55	2010-01-12 09:25:40	R4UBK-R	Sysop	IZ4ISN RU8 Montescudo RIMINI
2010-01-14 14:35:41	2010-01-14 14:36:31	WA2IVO	Tony	Washington DC
2010-01-15 12:36:09	2010-01-15 12:37:20	N9JUA	gary	southern illinois
2010-01-15 16:44:34	2010-01-15 16:45:41	VK4AJ0	Jim	Chinchilla
2010-01-16 10:31:36	2010-01-16 10:31:47	KJ6AUI	Michael	fortuna, ca
2010-01-16 14:23:39	2010-01-16 14:25:00	VK4AJ0	Jim	
2010-01-17 10:22:45	2010-01-17 10:23:45	VK2ZLH	Charlie	Warners Bay
2010-01-18 07:52:54	2010-01-18 07:53:12	F4AAI	Stéphane	DALOU 09
2010-01-18 10:02:37	2010-01-18 10:03:44	VK4RY	Richard	
2010-01-18 18:10:14	2010-01-18 18:10:58	VK4PDR	david	
2010-01-19 02:32:39	2010-01-19 02:33:30	M0PBN	Paul	Isle of Wight
2010-01-19 03:18:21	2010-01-19 03:18:33	MB7IMB-L	CONF	Colwyn Bay, Wales (2)
2010-01-19 04:14:50	2010-01-19 04:15:00	KJ6AUI	Michael	fortuna, ca
2010-01-19 06:35:51	2010-01-19 06:36:24	KE5ZQG	terry	ARKANSAS
2010-01-19 16:37:02	2010-01-19 16:37:05	K7IXI	bob lutz	fort collins, co
2010-01-19 18:39:27	2010-01-19 18:40:11	VK4AJ0	Jim	
2010-01-20 21:53:20	2010-01-20 21:54:29	YO8CYN	Mike	Cotu-Vames. kn36lw
2010-01-21 02:03:40	2010-01-21 02:03:50	KJ6AUI	Michael	fortuna, ca
2010-01-22 00:07:49	2010-01-22 00:07:54	DL4RN	Hans	Burglengenfeld, Bayern
2010-01-22 07:36:29	2010-01-22 07:36:49	G3SIQ	Arthur	Nr City of Chester
2010-01-22 20:02:07	2010-01-22 20:09:17	VK4FGCC	Gray	Ipswich Qld
2010-01-24 09:01:40	2010-01-24 09:03:01	VK3DKN	Kingsley	Frankston Vic Australia
2010-01-24 21:49:25	2010-01-24 22:03:07	N4ASF	Dave	23480 (1)
2010-01-25 21:15:55	2010-01-25 21:16:02	VK6RNC-R	(Conference)	CONF Wanneroo VK6RNC link
2010-01-25 21:22:55	2010-01-25 21:25:03	VK4SN	Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2010-01-25 21:25:27	2010-01-25 21:25:35	VK4SN	Alan	QG62ek Glenore Grove
2010-01-26 07:52:15	2010-01-26 07:52:39	DB0GV-L	Maintal-Link	Frankfurt/Main Maintal
2010-01-26 08:45:41	2010-01-26 08:46:15	*NASA*	(Conference)	CONF Space Shuttle Audio
2010-01-26 08:50:20	2010-01-26 08:51:14	*NASA*	(Conference)	CONF Space Shuttle Audio



<i>Connected</i>	<i>Disconnected</i>			
2010-01-26 09:32:30	2010-01-26 09:33:07	N7CMC	Gary	St Charles, Mo
2010-01-26 20:42:36	2010-01-26 20:42:53	VU2HBV	Huafrid	India
2010-01-27 03:25:43	2010-01-27 03:38:14	VU3PKQ	CONF))))Kollam Kerala((4)
2010-01-27 07:28:09	2010-01-27 07:29:07	VK4AJ0	Jim	
2010-01-29 05:38:12	2010-01-29 05:38:51	MB7IBA-L	Node 1332	Barry, Wales, UK.
2010-01-30 00:30:40	2010-01-30 00:31:43	VK4MOD-L	Bundaberg	Bundaberg & Coral Coast
2010-01-31 13:37:59	2010-01-31 13:38:36	VK4FDGM	Daryl Brisbane	Browns Plains QLD AU
2010-01-31 14:55:07	2010-01-31 14:55:43	WB9VIF	Preston	Indianapolis, IN
2010-01-31 15:33:31	2010-01-31 15:33:53	VK4FFFF	Dave	gold coast
2010-02-01 15:53:15	2010-02-01 16:07:44	*AUSSIE*	(Conference [4/1000])	CONF Australian Confere [3/1000]
2010-02-01 16:58:56	2010-02-01 17:25:40	*AUSSIE*	(Conference [3/1000])	CONF Australian Confere [1/1000]
2010-02-01 17:46:39	2010-02-01 17:47:36	*AUSSIE*	(Conference [3/1000])	CONF Australian Confere [2/1000]
2010-02-01 17:47:52	2010-02-01 17:49:20	*IRELAND*	(Conference [28/6009])	CONF Ireland. Donegal. [26/6009]
2010-02-01 18:28:38	2010-02-01 18:29:03	*ALLJAPAN*	(VK4RIL-R peter)	CONF * ALL-JAPAN Net * [12/500]
2010-02-01 18:29:13	2010-02-01 18:29:49	K9QIN-L	Tony, Jesup, Ga	Jesup, Ga
2010-02-01 18:30:54	2010-02-01 18:32:05	IQ3AZ-L	ARI - GRADO	ARI - GRADO 145.337,5
2010-02-01 18:37:58	2010-02-01 18:40:01	*AUSSIE*	(Conference [6/1000])	CONF Australian Confere [5/1000]
2010-02-01 18:40:28	2010-02-01 18:41:51	*IRELAND*	(Conference [27/6009])	CONF Ireland. Donegal. [27/6009]
2010-02-01 18:58:22	2010-02-01 18:59:52	*NASA*	(Conference)	CONF Space Shuttle Audio
2010-02-01 19:20:31	2010-02-01 19:21:36	*ENGLAND*	(Conference [2/100])	CONF SOLUHULL UK [1/100]
2010-02-01 19:21:50	2010-02-01 19:22:52	*MICHIGAN*	(Conference [3/500])	CONF Michigan [2/500]
2010-02-02 11:25:38	2010-02-02 11:26:35	GB3KE-R		Glasgow
2010-02-02 14:43:24	2010-02-02 14:43:48	*NASA*	(Conference)	CONF Space Shuttle Audio
2010-02-02 16:11:43	2010-02-02 16:12:10	*DODROPIN*	(Conference [12])	CONF Do Drop In [13]
2010-02-02 16:25:40	2010-02-02 16:25:47	SW2HSW-L	syndos	

Well , that's about it. As you can see there have been many stations connect to our node
And a small number of connections from our repeater .

I would love to see the number of connections from our repeater increase
Want to impress a non amateur person, With the hobby.
Pull out the hand held and type in a node number, from the other side of the world.
And watch their pupils get larger as they take in the concept. And enjoy the noise free conversation.

Might just add another amateur to the community.

There are a lot of amateur operators out there, that will say that Echo link and IRLP is not amateur radio.
This is rubbish, Yes, it does use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) but you need to be licensed to use the system. And most times it is repeater to internet to repeater or Link to internet to link or link to internet to repeater

You can also just use computer to internet to computer, a lot of people do,
But if you can't put up antennas where you are living, using the computer to internet to repeater or link.
Still allows you to operate amateur radio, not in the traditional sense, but the hobby is about self education and experimentation, its not a stagnant hobby, it is continuously expanding in different directions and at the moment I am learning heaps

Hope I haven't bored you too much with Echo Link
We may be able to do the same sort of linking with the ATV repeater once it's up
How ever, we may have to wait, until we get larger internet bandwidth.
I have the ideas, but sadly lack the required time to achieve them
Cheers Peter VK4KHP



With all the things happening, it's a little slow on the ATV side of the Hobby
Alan and Myself will be doing some more testing on 444.250 MHz
I have been looking at the input frequencies to use with the repeater

I initially looked at 10 GHz, using Gunn Diode modules, that were used in door openers in shopping centers
As I had a number of these and the interface electronics are cheap and easy to setup. The modules come with a
horn antenna giving, I think around 15db of gain. The output of the Gunn Device is around 10mW.
I have a modified LNB for 10 GHz I can use with a satellite receiver, so the receiving side is ready to go.

There are a few issues, the main problem is the path that the 10 GHz signals have to work through would be mar-
ginal on some paths, from different members.

We may still incorporate 10 GHz on the input, at some later stage.

I have been trying to find the cheapest / easiest way to allow members to be involved in sending pictures

Having looked at 2.4 GHz and 5.7 GHz video senders
2.4 GHz Video senders run with power output levels from 1 mW to 2 Watts
Have reasonable sensitivity around -80 to -84 dbm are a good price on Ebay

We can add a pre-amp on the receive side and add an amp on the transmit side
To increase the range, also using 25 dbi reflectors
And the paths between most members and the repeater are much better than 10 GHz

The only drawback is, that nearly every thing is on 2.4 GHz these days
From wireless LAN's and most laptop computers, to cameras to sound systems and badly leaking microwave ovens
There is so much noise on 2.4 GHz that it could be unworkable, however, we should try first and see what sort of
results we get.

Now 5.7 GHz is not as polluted as 2.4 GHz yet.
The video senders are a bit more expensive, but still cheap, under \$100.00 for transmitter and receiver, even
Cheaper on eBay.
They have an output around 15 mW and a receive sensitivity of around -84 to -80 dbm
There has been a few distance records broken in Australia for ATV, on 5.7 GHz.
With this type of setup using 25 dbi reflectors, the paths for most members should work well

The other way to go, is to use 1.250/1.283 GHz
There are kits available from Mini-kits in South Australia
That allow up to 18 watts transmit power on either 1250 or 1283 MHz
This will cost about 3 times the cost of the video senders, (plus the time to build the kits) but is well worth the
effort
There is the option of just using a 1 watt amp on the transmitter.
Might be all that is required to get into the repeater.
The satellite receiver can be pressed into service at the repeater with a low noise preamp
The normal extended C Band satellite receiver covers 950 to 2150 MHz, so is perfect for 1250/1283 MHz
Giving very good performance
And an ideal choice for members further out from the repeater.

If this seems a little confusing, that's ok
Over the next few months, I hope to walk you through the steps to receive the repeater and get your own pictures
through the repeater.



*December's Issue. That never made it
Well Part of it !*

Good News

This Sunday

It's come to this

"This Sunday that is"

Sunday 13th December
is the
LVREC XMAS Lunch

Location Tarampa Hotel

Time 11:00 am and we
should be lunching
by 12:00

Every one is welcome !



Why is Bill (VK4ZD), So Happy ? Check the contest pages
Or Better Still, come on Sunday and ask him.



Well if you didn't make it
the lunch. Come to the
meeting
The 14th of February

Swine Flu, 5 November 2009

by

Bob McKernan, VK4BYX

If you catch the flu now, it would be only *very rarely that it was not swine flu*.

So what! Isn't swine flu just a bit of a snuffle and we get over it in a week or more, hardly worse than past flu? If most of us get it now, and the second wave hits in a few months won't we have some immunity? Better to get it now than to die from the next wave! Anyway, nobody seems to be taking precautions to protect themselves, or to prevent passing on the virus to others. Why should I do anything that will ultimately be meaningless? The government didn't even try to stop it coming into the country, and taking children out of school was just a joke.

In fact everyone entering Australia should have gone through quarantine for at least 48 hours. Swine flu sufferers are infection 24 hours *before* symptoms! So you can see the problem of trying to contain it or slow the progress. If there was little chance of antiviral resistant and more severe mutations, we could all rest easy. The dry rub is that there are so many cases that there is increased opportunity for mutations. In fact mutations have been observed, and some of these are resistant to our main antiviral drug, Tamiflu, made by Roche. The Roche PR machine and their spin doctors try to tell us that a few people are resistant to Tamiflu, but they are very slow to admit that there are *swine flu virus mutations* that are resistant. They also failed to properly inform us that seasonal flu viruses were already substantially resistant to Tamiflu. Even W.H.O. is spinning a yarn about tamiflu resistant swine flu being more difficult to catch.

The Tamiflu resistant swine flu mutations are far from dominant, and there are suggestions that it is a naturally occurring change. There is no widespread opinion yet that the mutation is connected with over-use of Tamiflu. There has been one report indicate that the active ingredient of Tamiflu is finding its way into rivers, downstream of sewage treatment facilities in Japan. Researchers taking these samples noted large numbers of ducks congregating in these warm and nutrition rich areas and there is concern about resistant swine flu strains in such circumstances. Check out the following: http://www.hotcopper.com.au/post_threadview.asp?fid=1&tid=1003328&msgno=4561906#4561906

There are other swine flu changes, like the preferred temperature for transmission has risen from 33C to 41C, the temperature of birds. I don't know if this means birds are increasingly likely to get swine flu, but if it does, we have more opportunity for birds to combine increasing elements of avian flu. Let us not forget that swine flu already is a combination of avian, swine and human flu. Some mutations will make humans much less susceptible; others will have no real affect. However there is considerable concern about the more adverse mutations, particularly those associated with avian flu and those that are resistant to Tamiflu.

An important consideration is the affect on those who are more vulnerable due to pre-existing risk factors, resulting in overstressed hospital ICUs, pain, amputations and death. We can rapidly be faced with time sharing of vital life maintaining equipment, as experienced in Samoa during their recent emergency. We cannot assume there will be anywhere near sufficient hospital facilities and staff to care for our critically ill flu victims or others.

Let us assume that we cannot influence the genetic progress of the virus or health authority activities. What are our choices?

- Go into hermit mode, but I do not believe there will be more than a few committed survivalists who will adopt this course
- Religiously follow health instructions to minimise sending or receiving. i.e. N95 masks, gloves, frequent hand washing.
- Avoid danger locations, i.e. public events, schools, elevators, public transport, crowds. Note that unless you can avoid people completely, you are only *reducing* the chance of swine flu infection.
- Have the vaccine, with the considered advice from your doctor.
- If you are in an at risk group, consider a script for tamiflu or relenza and have the actual medication on hand. The first dose needs to be taken within 48 hours of the beginning of symptoms.

Links for general info re Relenza.

<http://www.csiro.au/solutions/Relenza.html>

<http://www.biota.com.au/>

Robert McKernan



This will be the page you can submit a website that you may have come across

This one is from bill VK4ZD

This site is excellent for ham radio.
It also includes an add on called propfire for firefox that allows real time viewing of HF propagation conditions.
Could be good to put in the Newsletter.
<http://www.n0hr.com/>
73's
de Bill, VK4ZD

Also from Bill

_ _ _ _ _
This item may be of interest to our members and other hams.
Haverford Pty Ltd offer fibreglass rods of many different sizes.

I have identified one size that may be of interest.

They have stated...

Please note that in the 7m Heavy
Duty we only have available stock in White colour.

Quote:
2 x 7m Heavy Duty Telescopic Poles White - \$63.80
Freight - \$16

Total Price - \$79.80

They also offer a 20% discount for a carton lot (20 units).
These telescopic rods are 45 mm at the base and 8 mm at the tip.

Take a look at their web page here <http://www.haverford.com.au/telescopic-poles.html>

73's

Here is one site you may have come across

<http://www.users.on.net/~trevorb/wspr.htm>

The WSPR (Weak Signal Propagation Reporter) program sends and receives low-power transmissions to test propagation paths on the MF and HF bands by implementing transmitting and receiving functions for a digital soundcard mode called "MEPT_JT", which stands for "Manned Experimental Propagation Testsis.

Have a read you will be surprised at the signal levels

Cheers Peter VK4KHP

Here is another site submitted by Bill, not a bad site, although full of Jargon.

http://www.dxpub.com/dx_news.html