



*** QDG DIGIPEAT March 2017 ***

Digipeat is the Official Newsletter of the Queensland Digital Group
Incorporating 'Amateur Eye', the Official Newsletter of the
South East Queensland Amateur Television Group

March QDG Meeting

The Next QDG general meeting will be held on Friday March 17 at the Redcliffe club rooms.
Doors will open at 7:00pm for a meeting start of 7:30pm.

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring. (UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

Editorial

The Chermside library has been rebuilt and opens on the 15th March, I'll check it out to see if we can move the QDG meeting back to this more central location.

Alan VK4NA



Radio Slovakia International asks, "Why is shortwave radio still alive?"

<http://swling.com/blog/2017/03/radio-slovakia-international-asks-why-is-shortwave-radio-still-alive/>

{turnoff.us}

<https://turnoff.us/all/>

Raspberry Pi Applications built with BitScope Blade

BitScope Blade solves the “power and mounting problem” using Raspberry Pi.

<https://www.element14.com/community/community/raspberry-pi/blog/2017/02/07/raspberry-pi-applications-built-with-bitscope-blade?CMP=SOM-FACEBOOK-PRG-BLOG-BTULLOCH-BITSCOPE-BLADE-APPLICATIONS-COMM-GBL>

Solar Choice Solar & Battery Storage Sizing & Payback Calculator

With demand for solar battery storage in Australia growing quickly, Solar Choice has developed the below Solar PV & Battery Storage Sizing & Payback Estimator tool below to help Australian households & businesses to make a decision about whether to install a solar PV system, a battery storage system or both.

<https://www.solarchoice.net.au/blog/solar-pv-battery-storage-sizing-payback-calculator>

Simple Solar PV System Sizing & Payback Estimator

<https://www.solarchoice.net.au/blog/solar-pv-solar-system-sizing-tool>

Taupo Maritime Radio Matea Goudies Transmit/Receive Sites Oct 2016

<https://nztony.smugmug.com/Taupo-Maritime-Radio-Matea/>



Fuses and other electrical items

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

Radio and electronic products, Datasheets, Reference Designs, Articles and videos, Design center

<https://www.arrow.com/>

Predictions for all HF amateur radio bands

VOACAP (Voice of America Coverage Analysis Program) is free professional high-frequency (HF) propagation prediction software from NTIA/ITS, originally developed for Voice of America (VOA).

<http://www.voacap.com/p2p/index.html>



Mobile-Mate is a very successful online company that specialises in providing a huge range of high-quality accessories for mobile phones and electronic devices at competitive prices. We pride ourselves on going above and beyond our customers' expectations in pricing, product range & quality, and customer service.

Mobile-Mate specialises in providing an enormous range of accessories for many different phones and other electronic devices, new and old.

<https://www.mobile-mate.com.au/Mobile-Accessories.html>



Radio link calculator

<https://airlink.ubnt.com/#/>

Antenna Grounds

What does the ground on or under an antenna do?

- 1.) Provides something for the antenna to push against. In other words, a ground supplies the "other terminal" for the feedpoint of Marconi-style or single-wire end fed antennas
- 2.) Provides an alternative path for currents that would normally be induced in lossy soil or objects under the antenna
- 3.) Provides a low loss return path for displacement currents caused by the antenna's electric field
- 4.) Provides lightning protection

<https://www.w8ji.com/Antenna%20grounds.htm>

Amateur Radio Station Grounding and Lightning Protection

<http://www.bwcelectronics.com/articles/WP30A190.pdf>



HF Marine Radio Services (Voice and Fax)

<http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/radio-sat/marine-weather-hf-radio.shtml>



operations

Ground Software, Telemetry, Command and Control, Global Positioning Systems, Extra-Vehicular Activity, Radio, Communications

Free NASA Software

<https://software.nasa.gov/operations>

Ham Radio Articles

http://www.rightrelevance.com/search/articles?view=trending&orderBy=relevance&query=ham%20radio&days=2&taccount=hamradio_rr



VKLink - The VK Repeater Linking Project

Introducing VKLink, the VK repeater linking project

For a couple of years now, VK3VS and VK7DB have been working on a project to link the countries repeaters without the problems associated with poor audio, limited connections, and "drive by" operators from other countries that connect, listen, hear nothing and then disconnect again.

The idea behind it was to use something cheap, readily available and open source software to connect repeaters via the internet, and make it work. 2 Years in the making, it is finally at a stage that can be released to the Amateur population.

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

Your 'anonymous' browsing history can reveal your identity

Researchers have managed to pin anonymised web browsing histories back to an individual and reveal their identity in almost three-quarters of cases.

<https://www.itnews.com.au/news/your-anonymous-browsing-history-can-reveal-your-identity-450359>

Airspy Low Cost High Performance SDR

Airspy is a popular, affordable SDR (software defined radio) based communication receiver with the highest performance and the smallest form factor. It is a serious alternative to both cost sensitive and higher end scanners while featuring the best radio browsing experience of the market thanks to the tight integration with the de facto standard SDR# software.

The Airspy series offer continuous spectrum coverage and blazingly fast and accurate scanning anywhere between 24MHz and 1.8GHz with 10 or 6MHz instantaneous view. External GPS or Rubidium clocks are also supported for professional usages in the R2 version.

With its powerful architecture, careful implementation and open API, Airspy is the weapon of choice for professionals and advanced radio enthusiasts seeking cutting edge performance at the lowest cost.

<http://airspy.com/>

HamGPS

Android app for pointing antennas. Amateur ham microwave radio

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=5WM25xBn9ak>

NØ UK's Maidenhead Grid Distance & Bearing Calculator.

<http://www.chris.org/cgi-bin/finddis>

The agony of trying to unsubscribe | James Veitch

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Dceyy0cX6J4>

Why I Swapped VLC for MPV

mpv is a free, open-source and cross-platform media player available for Windows, macOS, Linux and even BSD! I'll skip over the family tree of where MPV comes from (short version: it's a fork of a fork of mplayer).

<http://www.omgubuntu.co.uk/2017/02/swap-vlc-mpv-ubuntu>

RF Coax Cable Data: UR & RG systems

Tabular data from both the UR and RG systems for coax cable providing data on size, impedance, loss propagation constant, etc for the more commonly used types of RF coax cable.

<https://www.electronics-notes.com/articles/antennas-propagation/rf-feeders-transmission-lines/coaxial-cable-data-parameters-rg-ur-types.php>

Cheap INMARSAT

World's cheapest INMARSAT reception system using DVB-T USB dongle (RTL SDR)

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=zuyHpx1tnWI>

VMA's Satellite Blog

Read about terrestrial, cable and satellite TV, both analog and digital. Reviews, repairs and use of DVB-S/S2/C/T receivers, field meters, JTAG, repair, cool auctions at eBay: you name it! Contact me for any review request or collaboration regarding articles, user manuals, translations, etc. Have fun!

<http://vma-satellite.blogspot.com.au/2016/12/vma-simple-spectrum-analyser-download.html?m=1>

VK3XDK

Microwave boards

<http://www.vk3xdk.net46.net/>



ARISS HamTV Minitiouner

<http://www.amsat-on.be/hamtv-summary/ariss-hamtv-minitiouner/>

ACMA Radcom Database

Register of Radiocommunications Licences

http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register_search.main_page

2m SSB

Sunshine Coast 2m SSB net

19:30 Sundays on 144.300 MHz

Don't just use your equipment on field days; come up on air every Sunday.

Brisbane 160m net

Monday nights at 7:30pm local 1.848 MHz. LSB

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights

8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

2017 dates

Redfest April 22, 2017 <http://www.redclifferadioclub.org.au/>

WIA 2017 AGM and Weekend Of Activities – Hahndorf; 19th, 20th and 21st of May 2017

<http://www.wia.org.au/joinwia/wia/2017agm/>

Contests 2017

John Moyle Memorial Field Day; 18th - 19th March 2017,

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/johnmoyle/>

VHF-UHF Field Days

Summer 2017 – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 January.

Winter 2017 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June.

Spring 2017 – Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November.

Summer 2018 – Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 January.

Winter 2018 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June.

Spring 2018 – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November.

Summer 2019 – Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 January.

Winter 2019 – Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June.

Spring 2019 – Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 November.

Summer 2020 – Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 January.

Winter 2020 – Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 June.

Spring 2020 – Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November.

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/>

QDG information

QDG meeting dates 2017

January 20

February 17

March 17

April 21

May 19

June 16

July 21

August 18

September 15

October 20

November 17

December 15

Unless otherwise noted, QDG group general meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

QDG Membership

QDG Membership is presently free.

As of June 2015 the QDG has 65 members.

Information and a list of members are up on the web site <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgmemb.htm>

Membership forms are on the web site.

QDG Membership services

Members receive additional 'Digipeat Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat newsletter.

Sound Card to Radio Interface

This computer to radio interface can be used for any audio mode including voice.

The SCI provides isolation to remove earth loops as well as providing switching and level adjustment.

Contact Richard VK4ZA on 07 3376 5231, email richatkn@tpg.com.au or via the QDG web site.

Please contact Richard if you are interested in a dual interface PC board or a mark 2 version with modified connections.

Alan Simpson memorial home brew competition

August QDG general meeting <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgmemb.htm>

QDG club contacts

Club contact: Alan Wills VK4NA
Digipeat Editor: Alan Wills VK4NA
Web site: Alan Wills VK4NA
Web site hosting: Tim O'Donohoe
Supper: Alan Wills VK4NA
JOTA: John VK4CJO
Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032
Mobile: 0401 716 778
Twitter @VK4NA

Email: qdg@qdg.org.au

Web site: <http://www.qdg.org.au>

Digipeat <http://www.qdg.org.au/qdgdigi.htm>

QDG
37 Evergreen Parade
Griffin QLD 4503
Australia

South East Queensland ATV group Information

SEQATV meeting dates 2017

Please check the SEQATV [Web site](#)

Unless otherwise noted, SEQATV group general meetings are held on the first Tuesday on the month at the Redcliffe Club rooms

The club is located at MacFarlane Park in Klingner Rd, Kippa Ring.(UBD Map 91 Ref G 1)
<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/MacFarlane+Park,+Kippa-Ring+QLD+4021/@-27.2214151,153.0882619,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x6b93e5f47d867511:0xe926a70030364326>

SEQATV group Membership

SEQATV group Membership is set at the AGM, please contact the secretary for the current fee.
The membership fee remains at \$20.00 for 2016

SEQATV group Membership services

Members receive additional 'Amateur Eye Extra' emails and invitations to other club activities not included in the Digipeat or Amateur Eye newsletters.

SEQATV Club Net

Wednesday nights
8:00 PM EST on VK4RRC 146.925MHz repeater

The SEQATV group Officers

Elected officers:-

President: Arnold Youngberg VK4SU
Secretary: Bruce Jones VK4EHT
Treasurer: Andy Beales VK4KCS

Coopted Officers:-

Callback Officer: Peter Jones VK4YAC
Vice President: Alan Wills VK4NA
Assistant Secretary Bill VK4ZWJ
Additional coopted officers will be added as required.

SEQATV group Contact Information

South East Queensland Amateur Television Group
PO Box 643 Kallangur, Qld 4503, Australia

Amateur Eye (club mag) Phone: Alan Wills VK4NA 61 07 3491 8032

Email: secretary@seqatv.org

Web site: <http://www.seqatv.org/>

Enjoy your hobby!

73 Alan VK4YAR / VK4NA

***** Queensland Digital Group *****

***** SEQATV group *****

**** Supporting Radio Communications in VK4 ****