



All Access

A newsletter for members and friends of ARNSW, facilitating access to all areas of Amateur Radio.

Issue 25-03 - May 2025

Editor: Eric VK2VE

Editorial

Welcome to the third issue of All Access for 2025.

We are experimenting with a new look and logo for ARNSW with the header of this issue – let us know what you think.

It is a bit disappointing that we haven't had any entries for the QSL card design contest. If you'd like to have a go at designing a QSL card for ARNSW. See the requirements later in this issue.

Megan and I recently spent a week in VK3 to attend the WIA AGM, held in Bendigo. We spent a couple of days in Ballarat around Sovereign Hill, the historic gold mining location before heading up to Bendigo for the AGM on the Saturday and a Tech Fest on the Sunday put on by the Bendigo Amateur Radio and Electronics Club (BAREC). The president of BAREC, Neil Patton VK3ZVX, gave a very interesting welcome address which is reproduced, in part, with his permission, later in this issue. Note that it is quite long!

The latest Foundation course and assessment weekend was held a couple of weeks ago with 10 participants in the course and one upgrade. In the course there were three youth candidates aged 14, 12 and 10. The upgrade came to do the standard and, after getting 100% in the theory was encouraged to have a go at the advanced, which he also passed, much to his surprise.

To correspond with us, you can just email editor@arnsw.org.au or write to The Editor, ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, NSW, 2158.

Eric - VK2VE – Editor

A note from the President

After considerable deliberation, the board of ARNSW has approved an introduction of a Code of Conduct for all members.

The Code of Conduct helps to set clear guidelines for behaviour, providing everyone with a common understanding of the values that our organisation upholds – mutual respect, understanding, support and collegiality.

You may be wondering why we have taken this step – after all, we have been here a great many years without one. That's true, but this is more about looking ahead and being ready for the future. Our organisation, in its various forms, has always supported our members and stood for a diversity of activity. But one of the challenges in communicating what is "Amateur Radio" – not only within our own community, but especially externally – is this very diversity of activities and viewpoints. While this diversity is part of the appeal of the Amateur Radio community, it can also lead to misunderstandings and friction.

All Access is a newsletter published by Amateur Radio New South Wales (ARNSW) for distribution to members and friends of ARNSW. If you wish to comment on any item published or, perhaps, suggest further matters for publication or even submit an article, please contact the editor, Eric – VK2VE by email to editor@arnsw.org.au or post to Editor, ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, 2158.

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Now, as we look to the future, and welcoming new people into the Amateur Radio community, we want to continue to be the place where a diversity of people can come and be supported in a diversity of amateur radio activities. Creating a formal framework for how we treat one another, helps us preserve our values, our common ground and prevents any misunderstandings that can arise as the organisation evolves.

This is a proactive step that ensures we are all aligned on how to create a respectful, inclusive space where everybody can take part – no matter their age, background or experience within the Amateur Radio community.

The goal is not to restrict anyone's freedom, or to introduce bureaucratic baggage – but rather, to ensure that all members can enjoy their involvement in the organisation and take part without fear of negativity or disrespect. Everyone's voice is important, and this Code of Conduct is intended to enhance the sense of belonging and support, which has been the cornerstone of this organisation since its genesis in 1910.

The Board welcomes any questions or feedback as we move forward with this important change.

Mathew – VK2YAP – President

A reminder

Over time, people change addresses, emails, phone numbers, callsigns and so on. This often results in our correspondence being returned. **PLEASE**, if any of your details change, remember to let us know your new details otherwise you are likely to miss out. Now that the ACMA database no longer has your details for us to check against, this is going to be even more important into the future because if you don't tell us, no one else is going to.

All Access goes out to all members who have an email address, it is NOT sent by post. So, if you don't keep us up to date you won't receive it, nor other correspondence from us.

To notify any changes to your details, you can use the membership form on our website at https://www.arnsw.org.au/forms/ARNSW_Membership_23.pdf. The one form can be used for new applications, renewals, updates or badge requests—just tick the appropriate box(es) at the top of the form and mail it to PO Box 6044, Dural DC 2158, or email to membership@arnsw.org.au. If you are making a payment, our preferred method is direct deposit, remembering to send us the details of your payment so we know what to attribute the payment to. Preferably, do not send credit card details in emails.

Remember, if we don't have your correct details, you won't get important documents.

Eric – VK2VE - Secretary

A note from the Treasurer

Cheques are being discontinued by the Federal Government in 2029 with most banks discontinuing them around mid-2028.

“So, what” you say that is 4 years away. Not so fast! We have already had a cheque refused as at least one bank has started early (Mid 2024 (Police Bank)).

ARNSW banks with the NAB and they act as an agent for Police Bank. In fact, they stopped over the counter Police Bank cheque transactions in March 2024.

Thus, it is not a simple as it may seem with the possibility of other banks starting early or bringing forward their cutoff date.

So please pay electronically or by credit card as that way you are ensured of the payment being accepted. If paying by direct debit you need ARNSW's BSB and account number. An email to office@arnsw.org.au will get you a printed copy of the numbers so you can cut and paste to reduce the chance of errors. It's also on the membership form which can be downloaded from the website.

These methods of payment have been in use for most of the 21st century and provided you have your computer or smart phone (i.e., internet connection) secured (running a robust and frequently updated internet security package) the chance of fraud is small. Most banks allow you to set limits on account withdrawals to provide extra security. I would also advise regular checks of your accounts to see if there are any dubious transactions.

If the above is not acceptable to you then as a last resort method you can deposit cash into the ARNSW account at any NAB branch or many Australia Post branches, of course you still need ARNSW's BSB and account numbers.

Finally, if you must use a cheque then please check with your bank that they are still accepting cheques. ARNSW cannot be responsible for cheques not accepted due to them being beyond the cutoff date.

Mark – VK2XOF - Treasurer

Member Meetup & Disposals

Next Sunday, March 30th, is the next Member Meetup and disposals day (Trash and Treasure) in the morning and the ARNSW Experimenters' Group meeting from midday. Members will also be able to sell their own items on the day so bring along any items you'd like to sell and browse the items available for sale.

It starts at 9:00 am for buyers, with sellers allowed access from 8:30 am to set up their stalls. Buyers will be allowed in, to park to the north of the VK2WI building but only sellers will be allowed into the sales area to set up prior to 9am. When parking, please have consideration for other members and park in a way that others can get access and as many cars as possible can be accommodated. Also, please leave access to behind the Vertel compound so that vehicles can get around there if necessary.

The Experimenters' Group meeting will commence at midday.

Below are some items which will be for sale in the disposals room. Credit card facilities will be available.

All the following equipment has been tested and is in good working condition unless otherwise noted. Transceivers.

Yaesu FT991 (Not the A) HF to 70cm in very good condition with power cable, microphone and user manual. Price \$990.00

Yaesu FTdx10 (HF/50Mhz all mode) in very good condition with power cable, microphone and user manual. Price \$1650.00

Yaseu FT-950 (HF/50Mhz all mode) in very good FT condition with power cable, microphone and user manual. Price \$1200.00

TYT UVF1 hand held 2m/70cm FM transceiver with drop in charger base (requires a 12V plug pack) and user manual. Price \$75.00

2 x Codan 8525 HF transceiver, local front panel, fitted for USB only, no microphone (7 pin plug supplied) in working order \$200.00 each

2 x Codan 7727, local front panel, crystal locked 100W PEP HF transceiver, fitted with USB only, no microphone in working order \$50.00 each.

1 x Codan 7727 TB, remote front panel, crystal locked 100W PEP HF transceiver, fitted with USB only, no microphone in working order \$50.00.

Remote front panels for Codan 8525 and 8528 (1 each) Price \$30 each

Accessories.

LDG Z-11 Pro. Low power automatic antenna tuner. With cable for connection to a FT-817 Price \$250.00
Daiwa CN 801 1.8- 200Mz 20/200/2kW cross needle power and SWR meter. In very good condition Price \$125.00

Daiwa CN 103L 140 to 525MHz 200W cross needle power and SWR Meter in good condition. Price \$75.00

Wawasee JB-2000SW Power and SWR Meter. 3 ranges 20/200/2000W SO239 connectors. Price \$75.00

Midland 23-136 SWR meter good for 50W Price \$25.00.

Kenwood SM220 station monitor. No panoramic adapter module. Multifunction monitor oscilloscope and two-tone audio signal generator designed for use with the TS-520 and TS-820 transceivers. Nice bright trace and will work with other transceivers to monitor the transmitted RF waveform Price \$150.00

Sierra TS-1285 RF Power meter with 25 to 52MHz insert 1-50W . Price \$50.00

Power Supplies.

Codan 7113 13.5V 20A power supply. Price \$75.00

Dick Smith D3800 13.8V 25A Linear power supply in good condition Price \$110.00

Dick Smith Q1753 13.8V 23A switching supply x 2 Price \$75.00 each.

Fold up solar panel with charge controller 20W. Price \$55.00

Fold up solar panel with charge controller 120W. Price \$145.00

Power Amplifiers.

Icom IC-2KL 500W HF Linear amplifier. Price \$600.00

Microwave Modules 70cm 50W Linear amplifier Price \$50.00

Test Equipment

NanoVNA-F V1 1GHz Vector Network Analyser in case with cables and calibration loads. In good condition. Requires a USB C charger of the type used for smart phones. Price \$100.00

Tiny Spectrum analyser 100Khz to 350MHz with reasonable accuracy and 250 to 960MHz with limited accuracy. In good condition and original box and accessories. Price \$75.00

Rhode & Schwartz CMT52 with all accessories communications test set. In Fair cosmetic condition, powers up and seems to be working sold as is Price \$500.00

Rhode & Schwartz 500MHz AM/FM signal generator in good condition and seems to be working. Has a stuck ON power switch (mechanical fault) Price \$200.00

Rigexpert AA-54 HF/6m Antenna analyser in very good condition. Price \$220.00

Professional 150W dummy loads x 3 Price \$50.00 each.

Professional 50W dummy loads x2 Price \$25 each.

Fluke 801-800. 0.1 to 800A AC clamp on current transformer. Intended for low frequency measurements. Price \$25.00

Wandle and Goltermann SPM6 selective level meter and PSM 6 level generator.

6KHz to 18.6MHz signal generator and level meter Good for testing and aligning filters. SPM-6 manual on line. Price \$220.00

Anritsu MG714A microwave seep generator 3.6 to 6.5GHz

Has output across the full frequency range. In good physical condition. Price \$275.00

Marconi TF2300B AM/FM modulation meter

8MHz to 1200MHz AM and FM modulation meter AM to 100% and FM to 200KHz in working condition after repair. All bands now work. Price \$200.00

Marconi TF2300A AM/FM modulation meter

8MHz to 1200MHz AM and FM modulation meter AM to 100% and FM to 200KHz in working condition after repair. All bands now work. Price \$150.00

Farnell synthesised signal generator DSG2.

0.001Hz to 110KHz balanced and unbalanced outputs with output level meter. Price \$50.00.

Gould-Advance J35 low distortion (0.05%) sine wave signal generator

10Hz to 100KHz. In good condition and working Price \$50.00.

Topward dual tracking linear power supply 0-30V at 3A x 2 outputs that can be parallel, or series configured. Price \$100.00

Mark—VK2XOF—Disposals

Experimenters' group meeting.

The last get together of the ARNSW Experimenters Group was part of the members meet up on Sunday 30th March. The get together was well attended with over 30 amateurs in the audience.

The next get together will be on Sunday, May 25th, following the Member Meetup, from about midday. It will start at noon with a "show and tell", followed by a feature presentation on Radio Receivers.

The presentation will cover the main building blocks of a radio receiver and how they go together. There will also be examples of a variety of circuits, and even demonstrations featuring various home-brewed receivers.

Peter - VK2EMU – Experimenters' Group

ALARA.

The Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association (ALARA) will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary on 26th July 2025. There will be a formal lunch at the Novotel in Glen Waverley as well as tours of the Phillip Island Penguin Parade and Puffing Billy for those who can stay longer. In addition, a casual pizza and trivia night will be held on the Saturday evening, for those who would like to meet some of the ALARA members. Details of all the Anniversary events and registration information can be found on the ALARA website at www.alara.org.au

Norma - VK2YL - ALARA

Address from WIA Dinner

Good evening,

On behalf of the Community and City of Greater Bendigo, Welcome..... to the traditional lands of the Dja Dja Warrung and Taungurung nations.

We invite you to join with us in acknowledging the wisdom of their elders, and in welcoming all First Nations people who may find themselves among us this evening.

We welcome our special guests:

- Our esteemed Emeritus Mayor, Councillor Andrea Metcalfe
- The President of the Wireless Institute of Australia, Scott Williams VK3KJ, the Vice President and Board members of the **WIA**.
- The Victorian Secretary of the Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association, Jean Fisher, VK3VIP, and her partner, John, VK3DQ.
- From Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club, Ray Gardner, VK3YNV, Head of their Technical Team, and his partner, Una.
- Joe Balassa VK3MA, President of the Macedon Ranges Amateur Radio Club, and his partner, Wendy.
- Councillor Nick Angelo VK3UCK, President of the Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Group

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- Representing the Central Victorian Radio Operators Group, Erik Erdmanis, VK3BO.

And our special guests from across the ditch, representing the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters,

Don Wallace ZL2TLL and his partner, Lynne ZL2LKW . Kia-Ora - Welcome.

And to all WIA members and their partners - Welcome

Amateur Radio and Community-Based Emergency Response

For the last 100 years, Amateur Radio has been a well font of innovation. But history is not always kind or just.

And from time to time, we need to remind ourselves that, as a community, we are responsible for many of the technological innovations society takes for granted.

This continues to this day.

But Amateur Radio has an image problem.

It is perceived by the mainstream community as no longer relevant, an anachronism, or not to be taken seriously - a pastime of a past time.

Many of us may sense that the recent introduction of the class license designation to Amateur Radio reflects this.

But what it truly reflects is a decline in technological literacy across society itself.

People are obsessed with what happens on their screens but have no grasp of what is happening behind the screens - a phenomenon that has taken only a generation.

Technological innovations rarely come from large corporate laboratories with government funding. Such facilities can certainly develop ideas and always have the resources to take the next step.

But true innovations come from the curiosity and persistence of people like us, testing and tweaking, trying wild ideas, and constantly asking, "What if..?".

In this, Amateur Radio stands apart.

As a group, we defy convention, and we lead. But we receive little recognition.

We are not dubbed heroes, or rewarded for our efforts, and we are rarely mentioned in the news.

And we are not taken seriously.

We are, after all, 'amateurs' - are we not?

Dilletantes surely, dabblers and tinkerers, who disappear for hours, beavering away in our little backyard shacks, conducting strange experiments that are incomprehensible even to those closest to us.

The English language is a marvelous invention - **not** one of ours, perhaps - but a masterpiece of

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subtlety and nuance, and capable of an infinity of colour and meaning.

Yet it is maddening for the same reasons.

That's because the truth about the English language is that it's a mongrel dog of a thing, derived from a dozen other languages, which keeps changing because it can and because no one knows how to stop it.

In English, an amateur is defined as either 'unprofessional' or 'inept'. And this is a travesty of mistranslation.

That is because the word 'amateur' is derived from the Latin 'amare' - to **love**.

We **love** what we do.

What we do is for the joy and fulfillment that comes from creativity.

We are good at what we do - inventive, innovative, even masterful in our craft. Yet, every day, in the minds of those we encounter, we are silently mocked.

It is not done maliciously - it is our own language that insults us.

But combine that with the notion of Amateur Radio being a 'hobby' and it is little wonder that we are not held in high regard.

So what are we really?

To most people we are a bunch of mostly old guys faffing about in their sheds. Well, looking around the room, 'mostly old guys' is fair - I guess.

There are some notable exceptions.

'Retirees' would be kinder - but we're all old enough to know better than to care. 'Retired professionals' is far more accurate.

We are technicians, teachers, engineers, physicists, designers, builders of national infrastructure, masters of the scientific method, and veterans of the technological enterprises that created the world we see around us.

Many in the Amateur Radio community have had careers in the telecommunications and allied industries spanning decades.

Look around you. The combined technical and professional experience in this room alone can be measured in the thousands of years.

The technological literacy of Amateur Radio is formidable.

With our unique combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills, we are a human resource like no other.

Amateur Radio Operators form the largest non-professional technology community on Earth.

In Australia, we are 14,000 strong.

And while they may not realize it yet, our community has need of us. History may be neither kind nor just.

But Nature is cruel.

And she is preparing to punish us for our neglect and our misdeeds.

In the coming century, our society will be challenged like never before. Any historian will tell you that a civilization is defined by its technology.

Like the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, and the Iron Age, ours is the Electronic Age.

We illuminate our homes and enterprises with electricity.

We accomplish feats of engineering and manufacturing with electricity. We socialize, communicate, negotiate, learn, and transact with electronics.

The networks that underpin these services are the foundations of our society. And radio technology, in one form or another, is their cornerstone.

Whenever these critical infrastructures go offline, we quickly find ourselves back in the 19th century. Isolated, ignorant, and fearful.

Were these critical infrastructures to be damaged permanently, our society would take generations to recover - and it would not be the same.

History teaches us the lesson - that empires fall.

And the modern multidisciplinary approach to archaeology tells us that climate change is almost always a factor in that fall.

So, in the face of climate change, its natural disasters, pandemics, and the interruptions to supply chains, our infrastructures are more fragile and our society more vulnerable than most are ready to contemplate.

But what is this to us? What can this mob of aging geeks do about it?

Well, for a start, everyone here knows that Amateur Radio can solve certain problems easily.

At the very least, Amateur Radio can form a buffer against the isolation caused by natural disasters.

That's because Amateur Radio overcomes the tyranny of distance every day.

And, indeed, for its entire history, Amateur Radio operators have sought to support communities in times of need.

So, if Amateur Radio can send isolation, ignorance, and fear packing at the press of a button, why is it not being used as the go-to technology when disaster strikes?

Why is it, that after decades of diligence and commitment by generations of organized Amateurs such as WICEN, communities like Mallacoota, when impacted by a natural disaster, still become isolated and unable to communicate with the outside world?

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In the last few years, BAREC has given priority to finding a way to contribute to emergency preparedness in Central Victoria.

Yet despite all our efforts at outreach and transparency, we have been deliberately and comprehensively ignored by the Emergency Management Agencies here.

Other Amateur Radio Clubs in our region have reported the same thing. Apparently, the EMA's are 'professionals' and cannot be bothered with 'amateurs'.

It is not an accident that they ignore us.

There is a history to this, and it appears to be policy.

EMA policy is evidence-based, and therefore the reasons will be sound reasons. But in Victoria, to all intents and purposes, even WICEN has been sidelined.

We DID miss something.

But that does not release us from our social obligation.

The result of this policy is that it is now BAREC policy to no longer bother with the Emergency Management Agencies either.

Now this is not some silly tit-for-tat reaction or some absurd declaration of war. It is a pragmatic - and necessary - declaration of independence.

As pointed out by William Craig Fugate, the former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the United States, the power of Amateur Radio is its independence.

It is his contention that attempts to integrate Amateur Radio with Emergency Management Agencies results in a net loss of capability.

And history bears this out.

The record of natural disasters shows that the greatest effect of Amateur Radio Operators occurs when they act on their own initiative, using their own resources.

This is an operating model which is diametrically opposite to that of Emergency Management Agencies.

It seems counter-intuitive, but trying to impose order on Amateur Radio actually results in a net loss of capability.

This is because **independence** lies at the **core** of Amateur Radio. It is how we have accomplished so much.

In attempting to make ourselves part of something larger, we have torn the heart from our own bodies and sold our souls.

And - we have failed.

But now, at this moment in history, like it or not, we are ALL part of something larger.

In response to climate change, we are told by our politicians that 'Communities must

become more resilient'.

Given the history of climate impacts on previous societies, the difference between 'resilience', 'self-reliance', and 'independence' begins to blur.

When the former Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, said publicly that 'Communities must become more resilient', his underlying message was 'you are on your own'.

And our communities have started looking for help.

The most common complaint among disaster victims worldwide is: 'The phones are down and we don't know what's going on'.

How can communities become more resilient, or even know what is going on, when they cannot communicate - either with each other or with the outside world?

We are experts in communication. **We** are part of our communities. So **we** must be ready to help them.

And for that, **we** must be prepared to set our own agenda.

We must do what the Emergency Management Agencies have proven time and again they **cannot** do - and what **we** have proven time and again we **can**.

So, BAREC has taken responsibility for technological leadership in community based emergency communications in Central Victoria.

Why? Because everyone you meet in Amateur Radio is concerned for its future and wants to see it grow and flourish and continue.

What better way to ensure this than to mobilize Amateur Radio in response to climate change and in the cause of community resilience?

What greater relevance to the community could we be than to fill this essential gap in emergency preparedness?

The mobilization of local Amateur Radio Clubs, in the defence of the communities of which they are part, will raise public awareness and understanding, provide STEM learning opportunities to our young people, ensure the growth of Amateur Radio through community engagement, and, most importantly, deliver a strong return in terms of community resilience on the resources that are invested in it.

The key element of this strategy is DIRECT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

We all know what Amateur Radio can do. Perhaps it's time we told **everyone else**.

Perhaps it is time for us to once again show leadership and initiative.

Perhaps it is time for us to formulate an Australian Amateur Radio Climate Action Policy.

Perhaps it is time for our peak body to encourage, support, and perhaps even direct, its affiliated clubs to form partnerships with community-based organizations and prioritize community resilience in the face of natural disaster.

Perhaps it is time to create regional emergency communication networks managed by people who actually live in those regions and who actually **care** about what is needed to support their community.

Perhaps it is time to build resilient communications infrastructures owned by the communities themselves.

Perhaps it is time to provide radio operator training to key members of our communities so that those communities can continue to function into the next century, even under the worst imaginable scenario.

BAREC has focused its efforts on this new approach to community resilience with a view to extending the reach and influence of Amateur Radio.

But what does community-based emergency communications even look like?

Are we somehow proposing the use of unlicensed equipment by untrained operators? Yes - that is precisely what we are proposing.

BAREC members are spread from half-way to Shepparton in the east, half-way to Ballarat in the west, and as far north as Deniliquin.

The township of Rochester, 60km north of Bendigo, is in our backyard. It was flooded twice in two years, 2022 and 2023.

The community was completely cut off.

In such circumstances, there is no prospect of BAREC getting boots on the ground.

But our repeater station, VK3RCA, near Rochester, was in need of refurbishment. It is now being replaced with new Amateur Radio unit.

But the upgrade includes a Citizens Band radio repeater station.

As an automated emergency communications hub, this CB repeater will form a new element of Rochester's community-based emergency response capability.

It's purpose is to enable the community to help itself when phones and internet go down, regardless of whether Emergency Management Agencies are present or not.

It is solar powered and will be available to the community 24/7 free of cost. It will go online before the year is out.

It has been built by BAREC's own 'amateur' engineers and technicians.

Using software written by other 'amateurs', the antenna system has been custom designed to ensure exclusive coverage of the lower Campaspe floodplain, targeting the community most at risk.

A second station is planned for the upper floodplain below Lake Eppalock.

Both stations are being funded by BAREC activities and are made possible by equipment donations from BAREC Members and our affiliates.

They are **proof** of BAREC's commitment to community service. They are community resilience made **real**.

BAREC's role during an emergency will move from the old model of providing communications equipment and manpower on the ground, to monitoring communications within the floodplain from our headquarters here in East Bendigo.

From there, we can provide lines of communication to the outside world using whatever networks are available to us - mobile phone, internet, or email via intermediate range Shortwave radio, depending on the situation.

If BAREC has its way, Rochester, and the other communities along the Campaspe, will never again be cut off from the outside world.

I know many of us have long sought the chance to be of service to our communities in an emergency.

It is an aspiration harboured by all Amateur Radio Operators. The climate emergency is that chance.

The old 'thunderbirds are go' model, that we all grew up with, has not worked. History has proven it cannot work.

The Emergency Management Agencies have abandoned us.

So let's all stop trying to act like puppets under someone else's control. Instead, let's take the initiative, and lead.

I understand that the WIA executive will need to consider its position on what I propose.

The formulation of a national policy on climate change is no small ask, but I urge them to take it on.

The matter is, after all, urgent.

However, public statements encouraging local action on the part of clubs, and letters of introduction to local officials urging support for local initiatives, are not hard to do.

Such simple measures on the part of the National Executive will raise awareness where it will count the most, and provide a starting point for discussion in communities seeking emergency communication solutions.

Indeed, given the current community momentum, they may be **all** that is required.

While our peak body is figuring all that out, my advice to Amateur Radio Clubs seeking to help prepare their communities for a regional emergency is this:

Your community will rally when the time comes - communities always do. Your job is to add value and to facilitate their efforts.

So firstly - Be seen to be involved.

Turn up in numbers, and in uniform, to public events and meetings. It gets people's attention.

Neil Patton – VK3ZVX – President BAREC

QSL Card design competition

Over the last couple of years, we have received a few reports from overseas stations of reception of our beacons, mainly the 10 m one.

Currently, ARNSW does not have a proper QSL card and we would like to have one designed, using the new logo at the head of this newsletter. The idea will be to have a standard QSL card which we can print off as needed. The reception details will be printed on a sticker to go on the rear of the card for paper cards and be included with electronic versions of the card. There are a number of callsigns in use including VK2WI, VK2AWI, VK2BWI, VK2RSY (beacons) and VKE580.

Please submit your entries to the editor (editor@arnsw.org.au). There will be a small prize, yet to be decided, for the design chosen.

Eric – VK2VE - Secretary

Don't forget— Member Meetup, Trash and Treasure & Experimenters' Meeting

:- When: next Sunday, May 25th

:- Where: 63 Quarry Road Dural:-

:- Sellers admitted: from 8:30 am to set up

:- Other admitted for parking 8:30

:- Starting: at 9:00 am for buyers

:- Sausage sizzle will not be running this month as BBQ staff are not available.

:- Drinks will be available at the in the Centenary Building.

:- Experimenters' Group starting from Midday

We hope to see you there.