



**September 2010**

**NERG Inc.**  
PO Box 270  
Greensborough  
Victoria 3088  
[news@nerg.asn.au](mailto:news@nerg.asn.au)

### WHAT'S ON AT NERG IN SEPTEMBER

Our guest speaker is a NERG that has a very interesting and important job. **Stephen Warrillow, VK3SN**, will talk about his part-time job with **Adult Retrieval Victoria (ARV)**, a section of **Ambulance Victoria**.

They fly all over Victoria, SA, southern NSW and Tassie in fixed and rotary wing aircraft collecting critically ill patients and bringing them to Melbourne for definitive care. The talk will cover some medical, communication, safety, and air logistic issues and will have some nice photos of helicopters etc. On the communications side they mainly use VHF radio systems, as well as special beacon and predictive GPS mapping systems (which are really fun!).

Meetings are held at the Briar Hill Community Hall, 126 Mountain View Rd, Briar Hill, MELWAY 21 C3.

Following the meeting there will be time for friendly chatter and delicious Margherita pizzas for supper!

73, Mark Harrison, VK3BYY, NERG NEWS Editor

### THE GAINFULLY UNEMPLOYED GROUP

The group met at the home of our new president Ewen, VK3OW and XYL Janelle. Great day was had by all present – Dave VK3JMB, Ernie VK3FM, Greg VK3VT, Ian VK3QL and myself Jim VK3KE. The discussions were as usual wide and varied but always interesting. The pre diner food was delicious, but I had too much. Lunch was pumpkin soup and chicken casserole with potato and green vegetables. The desert was large and very nice, I am told; as I was too full!

The next meeting will at the QTH of Jim VK3KE and Margie VK3VOJ.

The October meeting is marked in for Ernie, VK3FM and November for Greg VK3VT.

### NERG MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE

**Membership fees were due in August** – these can be paid in person at NERG meetings. The treasurer will be at the AGM this month to accept memberships.

Alternatively please fill out a membership form (found on the NERG web site) with your up to date information and post to the NERG mail box.

#### Membership Fees:

**Full: \$30 Family: \$40 Concession: \$20(Pension/student)**

**Send to: NERG Treasurer,  
PO box 270, Greensborough, Vic., 3088**

### LAST MONTH AT THE NERG

Last month the NERG committee was re-elected for another year with the only changes being the stepping down of Greg Williams VK3VT being replaced by Ewen VK3OW as NERG President. Greg will remain on the committee, taking up the position of meeting coordinator.

# NERG NEWS

Incorporated 1985 in Victoria, Australia  
Reg No A0006776V - <http://nerg.asn.au>  
Affiliated with the Wireless Institute of Australia

## NEXT MEETING: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010 **Aeromedical Retrieval in Victoria** With Stephen Warrillow VK3SN



Photo Adult Retrieval Victoria, Ambulance Victoria

**Next Coffee Night: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Our guest speaker Chris VK3JCN covered the history of marine distress and safety systems from the days of Morse code through to satellite communications and the digital systems used today. How things have changed! But more on that subject next month.

### SEPTEMBER HAMFEST



**Shepparton HAMFEST 2010**

Sunday 12th September, St Augustines Hall, Orr St, Shepparton.

Doors open @ 10am to the public (8am Traders)

Entry for the public is \$5 per person (and \$10 for a table)

Fully catered canteen available for good healthy food

This year's DOOR PRIZE is a Yaesu VHF handheld very kindly donated by VERTEX STANDARD.

GPS COORDINATES 36°22.57' S 145°24.18' E (Approx)  
Maidenhead Locator = QF23QO, VicRoads 673 P8 (ed. 7)

For directions call on VK3RGV (repeater) 146.650Mhz.

## OCTOBER HAMFEST

### BARG Hamvention 2010



Sunday 24th October, at the Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club, located at the corner of Rubicon and Sutton Streets, Ballarat (next to the Trotting Track).  
GPS: Lat -37.580618 Long 143.83024

\* Doors open at 10:00 am.

- \* Entry is \$6.00 and cost of hiring a table \$15 each
- \* There will be Trade displays from the usual traders.
- \* The usual and popular pre-loved equipment displays and sales. (you never know what you may find!!)
- \* Home Brew Competition
- \* Food and drinks will be available on the premises.

Hamvention Coordinators: Craig VK3CMC, Doug VK3VBA, Bob VK3NBV, Gordon VK3FGC, Doug VK3FDRE, Warren VK3FWJW, Bill VK3PAL, and John VK3CFH. See web site for location maps, table bookings, and home brew competition rules at [www.barg.org.au](http://www.barg.org.au) or E-Mail: [hamvention@barg.org.au](mailto:hamvention@barg.org.au)

### POWER SUPPLIES

Interested in purchasing a high current power supply for the shack or portable use? The NERG is investigating a bulk purchase of SPS-8400 or SPS-9400 series 40 Amp continuous supplies that are adjustable from 3 to 15 Volts DC. There is also a 60 Amp version.



The SPS-8400 (above) has analog meters and is also available in dark grey (SPS-8400G).



The SPS-9400 is the same as the 8400 but with digital volt and current meters.

These are switched mode power supplies that are relatively small, efficient, and light weight for their power rating.

These supplies are manufactured by Manson (Hong Kong) who rebrand under a lot of other names with various option combinations. Their design has been used for around 10 years, so should be pretty reliable by now.

A service manual with schematics is available on the Internet – just search for “manson SPS-8400 service manual” to find the PDF.

User reviews on eHam and our own experiences indicate that these devices produce little RF noise and don't have any trouble driving modern HF and VHF/UHF transceivers. Some have commented on a fairly noisy fan (acoustically) when running a heavy load or in hot conditions. Some reviewers complained they could have produced even lower RF noise if it had better shielding and filtering, but then they

are very cheap compared to other supplies! Our experience is that you won't normally have any trouble with power supply noise when using properly terminated external antennas (just don't sit your AM broadcast receiver on top of the power supply!).

Prices? The more we buy, the cheaper they get! But, they are only available to NERG members – so join up to find out how low we can get the price ☺

### BONAIRE DX'PEDITION

The upcoming Bonaire DXpedition plans on using the large antenna farm of Radio Netherlands between October 10-24 when they activate this new DXCC entity.



Bonaire is currently part of the Netherlands Antilles which are scheduled to be dissolved as a unified political entity on October 10, 2010. The five constituent islands will each attain a new constitutional status within the Kingdom of the Netherlands creating several new DXCC entities.

This will mean the end of the two call areas PJ2/PJ4 & PJ5/PJ6/PJ7, and will create four new

entities for DXCC enthusiasts to gather. The new callsign for the DXpedition is currently unknown but is expected to have a PJ4 prefix.

Operations will use the 21dB curtain array of the Radio Netherlands shortwave transmitting station whenever the broadcaster is off air. They expect to run across all bands from 160m to 10m including WARC bands between 12:30–16.30 UTC from 10–24 October 2010.

Bonaire sits in the Caribbean Sea, just above the top of South America. For more info about to Bonaire DXpedition see:

<http://www.bonaire2010.com/>

and for DX World:

<http://dx-world.net/2010/bonaire-2010-dxpedition/>

### 2010 AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

H = Hamfest, A = ARDF/RadiO/Foxhunt, C = Contest, M = Meeting, S = Special event, G = General, W = WICEN

**FoxHunt** = Friday night or weekend daylight mobile hunt.

**RadiO** = a simplified direction finding competition usually held at an orienteering event. **BushO** = Bush orienteering event. Check the ARDF web site for updates and further details at: [www.ardf.org.au](http://www.ardf.org.au)

#### September 2010

H Sep 12 Shepparton HAMFEST 2010

#### October 2010

G Oct 16-17 JOTA - JOTI 2010 – Scouts Jamboree On The Air / On The Internet

G Oct 23 WIA National Field Day - National Public promotion of our Hobby.

H Oct 24 BARG Hamvention 2010, Ballarat

**NOTE: always confirm details closer to the posted dates!**

*UTC dates may be used for International events.*

Dates gathered from WIA, AR Vic, ARRL, various clubs, VK Contest Club [www.vkcc.com](http://www.vkcc.com), and Banyule City calendars.



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**The NERG Inc.** RegNo A0006776V <http://nerg.asn.au>

The North Eastern Radio Group, Inc. is an amateur radio club devoted to encouraging members and others to enjoy the hobby of amateur radio. It tries not to hang on ceremony and endless reporting but rather participate in the fun aspects of this fascinating hobby.

**Membership Fees (due in August):**

**Full: \$30 Family: \$40 Concession: \$20**

**Send to: NERG Treasurer, PO box 270, Greensborough, Vic., 3088**

**Committee**

President	Greg Williams	VK3VT	9432 0563
Secretary	John Weir	VK3XD	9431 0667
Treasurer	Marg Baxter	VK3VOJ	9467 1253
Assistant	Jim Baxter	VK3KE	
Committee	Betsy King	VK3HBK	
	David Aston	VK3UQ	0411-877-051
	Peter Cosway	VK3DU	9379 3626
	Don Haslam	VK3KDT	0409 024 597
News/Repeaters	Mark Harrison	VK3BYY	9435 3043

**Meetings**

Main Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.45 PM (ex Dec & Jan)  
Coffee Shop nights: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month.  
Briar Hill Community Hall, 126 Mountain View Road, Briar Hill  
(Near Sherbourne Road intersection) Melway map ref 21-C3

**Classes & Exams**

NERG occasionally runs classes and exams for Amateur licences

**Callsigns and Repeaters (25km North East of Melbourne)**

Club call - VK3CNE <http://www.nerg.asn.au/vk3cne>

6m repeater VK3RMH FM 52.550 MHz in 53.550 MHz out

70cm rpt. VK3RMH FM 433.325 MHz in 438.325 MHz out

with 70cm IRLP node 6350, EchoLink node 140587

6m beacon VK3RMH CW 10 Watts H 50.2950 MHz

10m beacon VK3RMH CW 20 Watts V 28.2565 MHz

**Packet Radio VK3CNE 2m 144.700 MHz, 1200 bps**

**VK3CNE-1 for mail,BBS; VK3CNE-7 for the DX Cluster.**

Occasionally home to the Scout Radio & Electronics Group repeater:

2m VK3RSR FM 146.375 MHz in 146.975 MHz out

**NETS**

NERG NETS run on 146.575 MHz FM Simplex (8.30 – 9.30 pm Thursdays).

Please join the discussions. Also used as a general Net frequency.

**WEB Sites:** <http://nerg.asn.au> and <http://www.qsl.net/vk3rmh>

**NERG NEWS submissions and comments invited:**

editor: Mark Harrison VK3BYY

ph: 9435-3043 hm

post: 266 Nell Street West, Watsonia, 3087

email: [news@nerg.asn.au](mailto:news@nerg.asn.au)



**NERG**

North-East Radio Group VK3CNE

NERG Incorporated 1985  
BOX 270 GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

STAMP

**Next Meeting: 7.45 pm Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010**  
**From with**

2010 CALENDAR (NERG ACTIVITIES IN BOLD TYPE)

<b>Sept 9</b>	<b>NERG September Meeting, 7-45pm, Briar Hill Community Hall</b>
<b>Sept 16</b>	<b>NERG NET – 146.575MHz FM 8.30-9.30pm</b>
Sept 17	Friday Night Transmitter Hunt
<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>NERG coffee shop</b>
<b>Sept 28</b>	<b>NERG Morning tea/lunch group 10am-2pm</b>
<b>Sept 30</b>	<b>NERG NET – 146.575MHz FM 8.30-9.30pm</b>
Oct 3	Daylight Savings starts!
<b>Oct 7</b>	<b>NERG NET – 146.575MHz FM 8.30-9.30pm</b>
<b>Oct 14</b>	<b>NERG October Meeting, 7-45pm, Briar Hill Community Hall</b>
Oct 15	Friday Night Transmitter Hunt
<b>Oct 21</b>	<b>NERG NET – 146.575MHz FM 8.30-9.30pm</b>
<b>Oct 26</b>	<b>NERG Morning tea/lunch group 10am-2pm</b>
<b>Oct 28</b>	<b>NERG coffee shop</b>