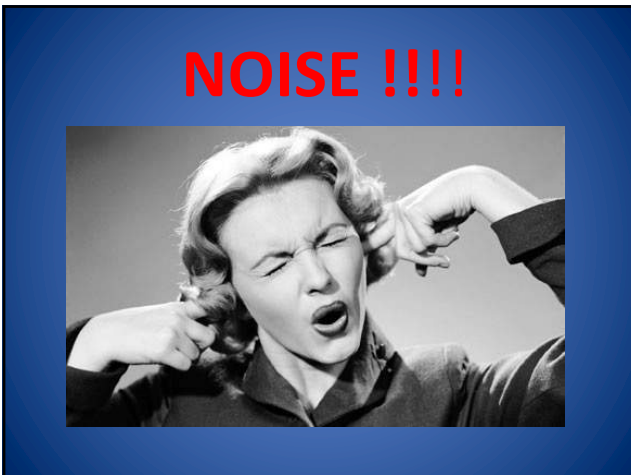


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4

VK5 National & Conservation Parks Award



5

VK5 National & Conservation Parks Award

- The aim of the Award is to encourage **portable operation** by amateur radio operators from within **South Australia's 21 National Parks and 266 Conservation Parks.**



6

Who can participate ?

- Activators
- Hunters
- SWL's



7

Basic rules

- Must be National Park or Conservation Park
- No mobile
- Strictly portable
- No repeaters, IRLP, Echolink
- NP – 2 points
- CP – 1 point



8

Levels (Australia)

- **Bronze** 10 points
- **Silver** 20 points.
- **Gold** 35 points
- **Platinum** 50 points
- **Diamond** 70 points (incl all 21 NP's)

9

Endorsements

- QRP
- CW
- Single band operation
- VHF/UHF only (no repeaters)
- Other endorsements considered



10

Rules

- Each park can be activated for points, each 12 calendar months
- 1 QSO deemed to be activation
- Each park can be worked as a Hunter for points every UTC day.
- Park to Park certificate
- Uniques



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VK5 National & Conservation Parks Award

Issued to.....

John DAWES,
VK5BJE

For contacting portable stations from South Australia's National & Conservation Parks, and achieving **"SILVER"** level as a **"HUNTER"**.



Awards Manager

2nd August, 2013



12



13



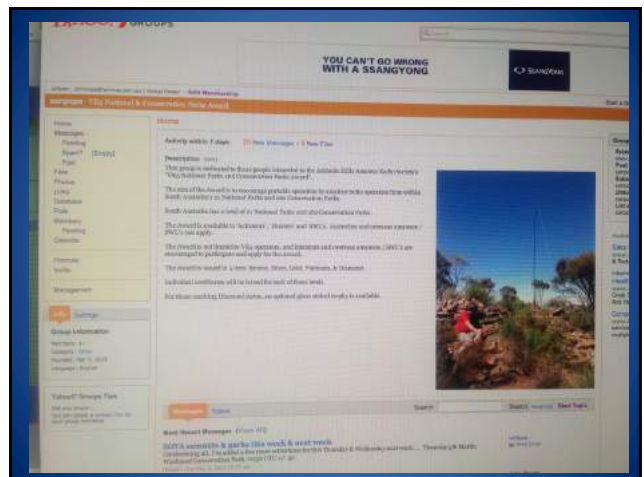
14

Other info

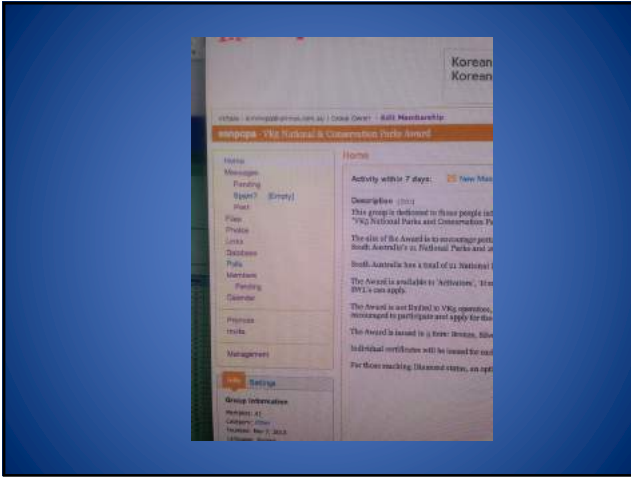
- 7.100 mhz (40m)
 - Birdie/interference?
- Award website
 - <http://www.vk5parks.com>
- AHARS website
 - <http://ahars.com.au>
- Yahoo Group
 - 88 members.
 - <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/sanpcpa>

vk5parks.com

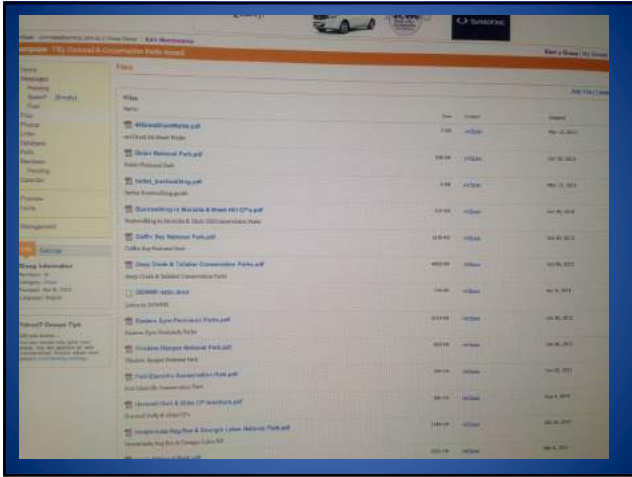
15



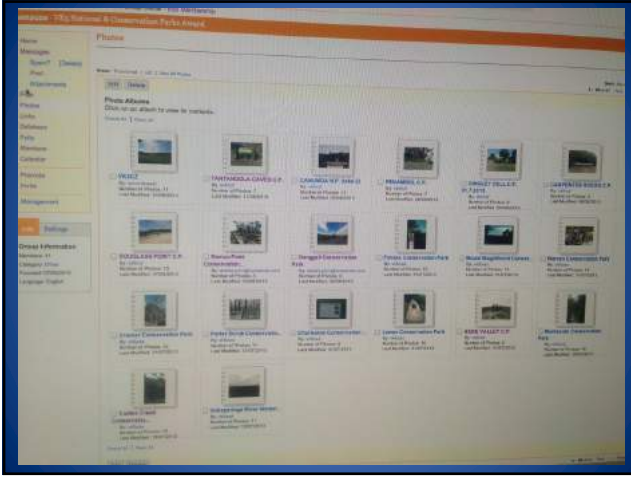
16



17



18



19

Applying for the Award

- Via mail to
 - The Awards Manager,
 - Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society Inc,
 - P.O. Box 401,
 - Blackwood,
 - S.A.
 - 5051.
- Extract of log (Excel spreadsheet is preferred)
- FREE – PDF format
- \$5.00 - cheque, or bank deposit
- \$60.00 for trophy

20

VK5 Parks Award stats

- ❑ Commenced in April 2013
- ❑ Over 120 different parks activated
- ❑ Popularity
 - 1st year anniversary.....
 - 98 parks
 - 29 amateurs



21

VK5 Parks Award stats

- **HUNTER**
 - 27 x Bronze
 - 22 x Silver
 - 15 x Gold
 - 12 x Platinum



22

VK5 Parks Award stats

- **ACTIVATOR**
 - 4 x Bronze
 - 3 x Silver
 - 3 x Gold
 - 2 x Platinum



23

VK5 Parks Award stats

- 4 x Bronze Park to Park
- 3 x Silver Park to Park
- 3 x Gold Park to Park
- 2 x Platinum Park to Park
- 2 x Diamond Park to Park
- 14 x Uniques (National Parks)
- 10 x Uniques (Conservation Parks)

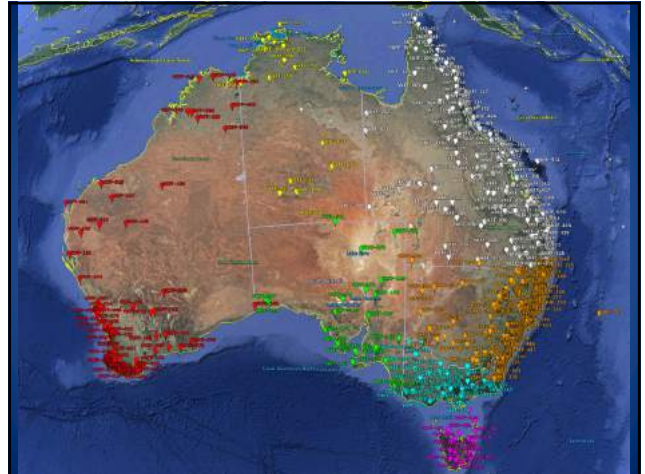
24

WorldWide Flora & Fauna (WWFF)

- ☐ International program.
- ☐ 34 participating countries.
- ☐ Importance of protecting nature, flora & fauna
- ☐ Designated nature parks & protected nature areas
- ☐ Australia
 - National Parks




25



26

WorldWide Flora & Fauna



- Activators
- Hunters
- SWL's





27

WWFF

- WWFF Directory
- Each park has a unique reference number
 - VKFF-022
 - Belair National Park
 - DLFF-006
 - Harz National Park

28

WWFF

- GLOBAL Awards
 - Activators
 - Hunters
- National Awards





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WWFF

- GLOBAL
 - 44 contacts
 - 2 hour period
- AUSTRALIA (VKFF)
 - 10 contacts
 - 30 minute period

Can be over multiple activations.

30

WWFF


AUSTRALIA (VKFF)

- Five levels.
 - Bronze (10 VKFF parks)
 - Silver (20 VKFF parks)
 - Gold (30 VKFF parks)
 - Platinum (40 VKFF parks)
 - Diamond (50 VKFF parks)

31

WWFF LogSearch

- Activator logs uploaded.
 - ADIF, CVS template
- 4,441,090 QSOs
- 6,355 different references
- 92 DXCCs



32

WorldWide Flora & Fauna

- ❑ Global website
 - ❑ www.wwff.co
- ❑ Australian website
 - ❑ www.wwffaustralia.weebly.com
- ❑ Australian Yahoo group
 - ❑ <https://au.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/wwffaustralia/info>

33

VKFF Award stats

- ❑ **ACTIVATOR** certificates
 - 9 Bronze
 - 5 Silver
 - 1 Gold



34

VKFF Award stats

- ❑ **HUNTER** certificates
 - 41 Bronze
 - 33 Silver
 - 20 Gold
 - 9 Platinum
 - 5 Diamond



35

VKFF Award stats

- ❑ 51 certificates issued to DX stations



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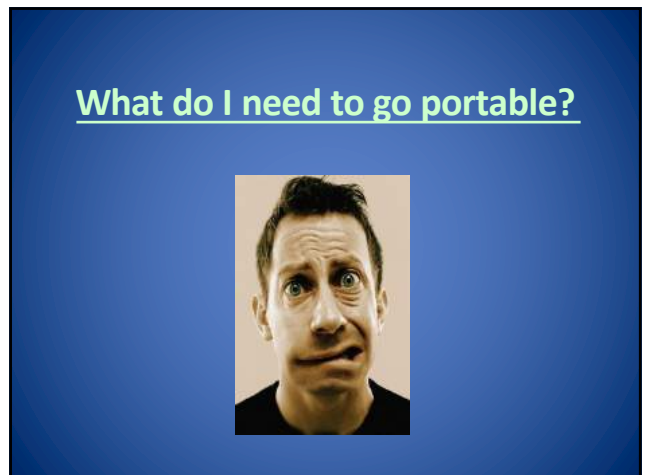
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38



39



40

Transceivers

- Yaesu FT-817nd
- Elecraft KX3
- Wouxon X1M
- Yaesu FT-857
- Icom IC-706
- Ten-Tec Argonaut



41

Antennas



42

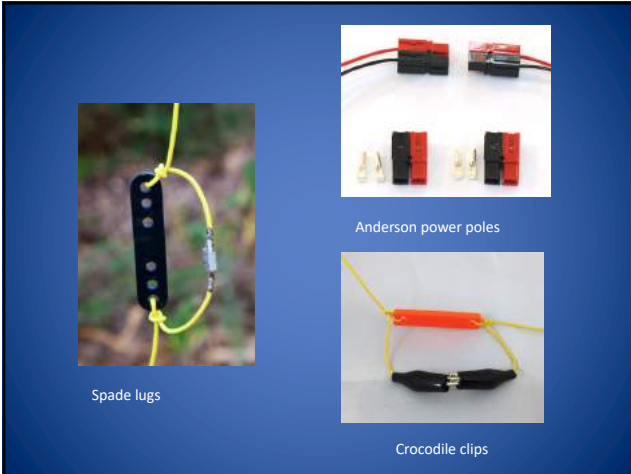


43

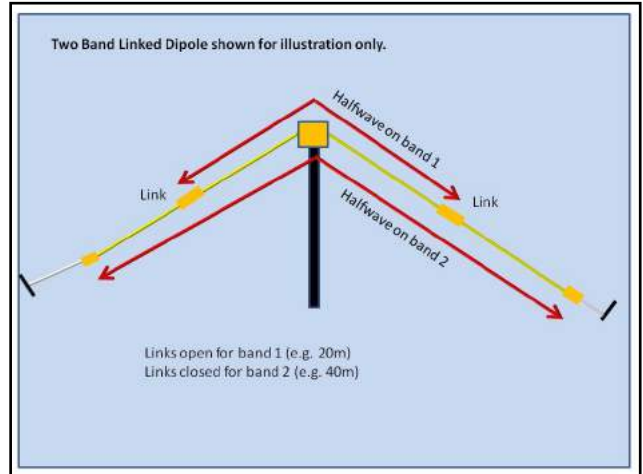
Linked dipole.

- Lightweight
- Able to work more than 1 or 2 bands
- Easy to change bands
- Easy to repair and maintain – including in the field
- Generally supported on a squid pole
- Commerically made / home brew

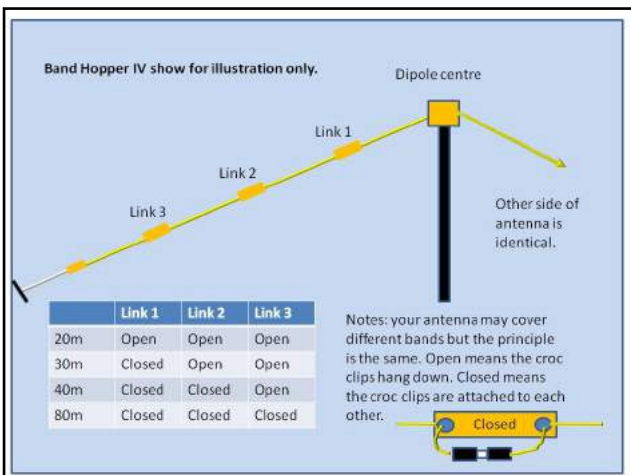
44



45



46



47

Orientation.

- Don't get too flustered.
- At this height is is....
 - omnidirectional

48






49



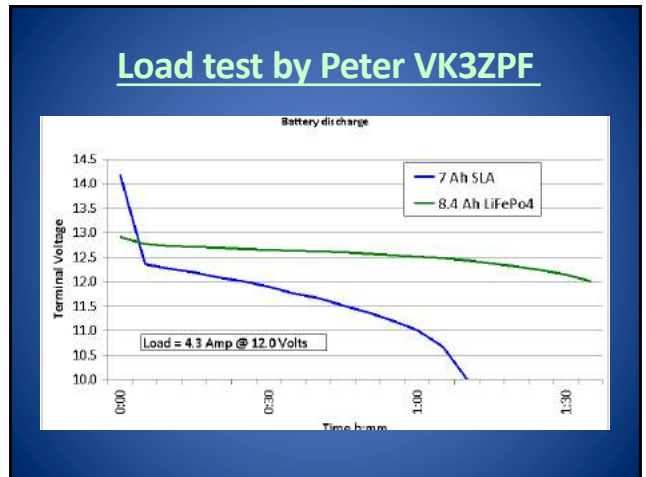
50

Power sources

- SLAB
 - Sealed lead acid
- LiPo
 - Lithium polymer
- LiFePO4
 - Lithium iron phosphate



51



52

Advantage of LiFePO

- Longer time
 - 8400 mAh LiFePO4
 - 1 hour 45 minutes of operation
 - At full power
- Lower weight
- Smaller size

Bigger cost

53

Resources on power sources

- <http://vk3zpf.com>
- <http://vk3pf.wordpress.com>
- <http://vk5bje.com>
- <http://vk5la.wordpress.com>

54

Other accessories

- Squid poles
- ATU
- Watch
- Pens/pencils
- Log book
- Camera/video



55

SOTA Activator Logbook

Date (UTC): / / Call sign: _____

SOTA Ref: _____

Location: _____

FREQ	TIME (UTC)	Number call rec'd	PSK	ISSUE	REMARKS / NAME

56

Safe & enjoyable !

- GPS
- Compass
- Maps
- Water
- Food
- Torch
- Knife
- Appropriate clothing/footwear
- Gloves – cold & protection



57

Safe & enjoyable !

- First aid kit
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Sit mat/cushion
- Booby bag
- Whistle
- Spare clothing (in the car)



58

Safe & enjoyable !

- Know your limitations.
- Advise someone of your intentions.
- A place for everything
- Beware the descent.



59

parksnpeaks

VK Spots VK Alerts VK History VK QRP ERDMENIA SAKTICPA VK WWPF VK Resources Data Tables FAQ

VK History

Previous 48Hrs Activity

UTC Wed22-05-11 7:34 SOTA VK6QZB in VK6/20Y/000 7:30h sub Calling CQ Nov. Posted by VK6P95B

UTC Wed22-05-11 7:31 SOTA VK6EAAA in VK6/AC/040 7:07h sub *Mtn first SOTA activation (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 7:18 SOTA VK6EAAA in VK6/AC/040 7:07h sub *Mtn first SOTA activation (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 7:11 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:07h sub *calling eq. Posted by YOBRAW

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:57 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:07h sub *eq. with Mtn Vaillee (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:55 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:07h sub *calling/eq. Posted by YOBRAW

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:50 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub Good sign 79 and 1st Andrew!. Posted by SASCW

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:50 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/005/040 7:00h sub my way up to summit grt intine. . Posted by VK6QR

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:45 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub *eq th Europe (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:39 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub *eq th Europe (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:39 SOTA VK6EAAA in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub *calling CQ (via RRT). Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:39 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub Strong signal 6 via Central Europe looking for EU contacts. Posted by DP6JLP

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:15 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub good signal. Posted by OBLAX

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:10 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub Cq th. Posted by VK6NAM

UTC Wed22-05-11 6:08 SOTA VK6NAMJZ in VK6/AC/040 7:00h sub Cq Cq. Posted by VK6NAM

VK Blogs

VK6DA
VK6DH
VK6NAM
VK6PMA
VK6R
VK6S
VK6TWE
VK6VW
VK6XBR
VK6YD
VK6ZB
VK6EAAA
VK6EAB
VK6EAC
VK6EAD
VK6EAE
VK6EAF
VK6EAG
VK6EAL
VK6EAM
VK6EAN
VK6EAO
VK6EAP
VK6EAS
VK6EAT
VK6EAV
VK6EAW
VK6EAX
VK6EAY
VK6EAZ

VK Groups

VK QRP Club
SOTA Australia
SOTA VK

60

Most popular bands & modes

- 40m
 - SSB & CW
- 20m
 - DX
 - Further afield VKs
 - WWFF hugely popular in Europe



61

The secret is the antenna

- We have all heard this...
 - but it is true!
- Followed by your operating equipment &
- Your operating skills

62

Some tips

- Try different bands
- Place your intentions on as many forums as possible
 - Parksnparks
 - VK5 Parks Yahoo group
- Consider the time of day for your activation.
- Solar figures / propagation conditions
 - Solar flares
 - Is the band going to be open at that time ?

63

Some tips

- Help Activators, by placing a spot on the DX Cluster.
- SMS group
- Email to friends
- Local repeater
- Check out the various Blogs/Wordpress sites of other activators. You can find a lot of very useful info there

64

Some tips

- Do not rely on Google maps. Not all Conservation Parks are shown. Try the following:-
 - # Mapcarta.
 - # Protected Planet
 - # Geoview
- Sadly, do not rely on the DEWNR website. It is not accurate, nor complete.

65

Some operating tips.

- Call for any park activators
- Then QRP
- Then portable and/or mobile
- Then DX
- Then those that can hear you, but with difficulty
- Finally, call for everyone else.

66

**Work the pile up first,
and then chat to your
mates or those that
want a 'rag chew'.**

67

Questions ???



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