

CHANNEL CHATTER EDITOR

GEOFF PECK

M: 0403 309 020

E: two.pecks@bigpond.com

Selcall: 0951

COMMITTEE

FOUNDER & PRESIDENT: Roy Watkins

VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Collis

TREASURER: Freda Madden

SECRETARY: Peter Shrader

CHANNEL CHATTER



Austravel Safety Net Inc.

HF Radio Communications Network for Trips, Treks, Tracks & Tours

Registered Office: 23 Ferguson Ave, Northgate Qld. 4013 (ABN 40 741 597 454)

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Christmas in July Muster Report (by Bob & Carmel 1750)

The "Christmas in July" Muster was held at Deepwater NSW, approximately half way between Tenterfield and Glen Innes and about 1000m above sea level, population at last count was 323 plus horses, dogs and sheep.

Well did we have a muster to remember, there were 18 units and 32 happy campers including 3 visitors, two became Austravel members over the weekend which was fantastic.

Cliff and Marj (9363) sent in apologies and would have loved to have been with us.

We arrived early on Wednesday the 20th to find that Geoff, Sandy and Ricky (8977) already in residence and waiting for the mob to arrive, with the majority of members arriving by Thursday afternoon, so there were plenty of handshakes and G'days to go around. It was decided to kick off the show with dinner by the fire in the Inn on Thursday night with a very interesting game of Trivia organised by Janette (0116) and what a way to go, with the bar staff and most of the local patrons all getting involved. A fantastic way for all to come together and be a part of the community. We have no idea who may have won and it was a laugh a minute

and a riot.

Friday morning started with the usual 10am morning tea under the cover of the Inn's back verandah to get out of what was developing to be a very ordinary cold winter event on the way.

Jeanette handed out tourist information brochures from both the Tenterfield and Glen Innes areas, including Deepwater of course, which was a great idea and an insight into the town's history. We all enjoyed some freshly baked pikelets thanks to Jeannie (2262) and not to be outdone Chef Doolan (6678) came up with a very tasty home baked banana cake; hidden talents there.

Many members did a town walk before lunch and enjoyed a look in at the

Brick-a-brac / gift shop, antique shop and on to the

historic Railway Station before returning, via the Bakery, back to the Inn to get warm.

Friday night was a look after yourself night with music and Karaoke going on in the bar for those who wished to enjoy some of the local talent, although a little bird told me that if your name was Gary they warmed to the occasion and participated along with the locals, although well after our bedtime (?).

(Continued Page 8)

Pictured below:-

Jack Frost visited Xmas In July at Deepwater NSW.





Presidents Report by Roy Watkins (6001)

Some important tasks,
close to our heart
where performed at
Yarloop this year, with
Jane & I
transferring the
remaining pieces of
Austral Safety Net
inc.
(the incorporated club).



Austral Founder &
President Roy Watkins
addressing the AGM.



Immediate Past Vice President
Denny Sharpe thanking
members for the past support.

Presidents Report

The AGM held at Yarloop (Kim's place) this year is over and it had a very good attendance from member from most states. My gratitude to Kim once again for the use of his hilltop.

The muster was very well organised by Tom Collis (2714) ably assisted by his wife Cristina and daughter Hanna and son-law to be, Stephen (2715). Good job Tom & family!!

Some \$600 was raised for the club from raffles, Bingo, sausage sizzle and other such dubious money making schemes. The core business of course was the ongoing club business and the election of office bearers. Denny Sharpe (1226) decided to have some time off and did not stand for the vice president position and Tom Collis was elected to Vice President. Thanks to Dennis (1226) for ALL his work as past Vice President and help with establishing Casino and Cooladdi Bases. Great work!

Congratulations to Tom Collis (2714) our new Vice President, Geoff Peck (0951) elected to Membership Officer and Pim (7255) was elected to the committee as our Face Book and Media. Officer.

Congratulations to ALL and welcome to the fray. Thank you also to all the hard working members who volunteered to continue for another 12 months tour of duty. Peter Schrader(2513) as Secretary and Freda Madden (6684) as Treasurer.

Thank-you very much once again to all our sched operators especially Cliff Herod (9363) Henk (Jonker 3928) Stephen Potts (0059) & Bob Carne (1750).

New operators Jim Hall (3086) & Paul Jones (5577) are up & running after a short training session undertaken at Yarloop. If you hear them 'ON', give them a call and if you are looking for something interesting to do, become a sched operator too and travel Australia from your lounge chair.

Some important tasks, close to our heart where performed at Yarloop this year, with Jane & I transferring the remaining pieces of Austral Safety Net inc. (the incorporated club). Some formal documents signed sealed and delivered; so now we are on

{holiday?} for a few days whilst "the two Geoff's" took on the Perth Base morning scheds. It was good to get a 'sleep-in' for two three days until 07:30 each morning before I had to get up for Janes' medication. It gave me a 'good break' from 6 years of routine morning and evening scheds. Thank you to the "two Geoff's" (1949 & 0951).

We are now a **real** Network or Club. I prefer Network. Definition - "a group or system of interconnected people or things." A Club - *"a heavy stick, usually thicker at one end than at the other, suitable for use as a weapon; a cudgel."* I am joking of course and I trust that our Club remains **Forever Friendly**, "The FRIENDLY NETWORK."

All in All - a very well attended, pleasant and well organised muster. Cheers.

TALK SOON!!!

Roy Watkins
President

AUSTRAL SAFETY NET.inc



Ceremonial signing at Yarloop W.A.

Well Yarloop has come and gone again for another year.

It was great weekend for myself and Cristina (2714) with about 50 members attending the AGM and general meeting. For John and Jodie (6014) and myself it started a few days earlier with a few task that had to be done before the weekend e.g. firewood, general clean up and preparation for our visitors from the eastern states.

The visitors were treated to some real south west coastal weather, as it rained everyday except the day of the AGM which is when the sun came out.

I must thank Geoff Hurst (1332), Geoff Peck(0951) and Denny Sharp(1226) for all off their input and assistance over the weekend, and must also thank Hanna Collis (2715) for her help taking the minutes of the AGM and general meetings. Our next gathering is already in planning for April / May 2017 with the hope of it being a little warmer.

Lastly but not least, I must thank Kim Rhodes (7880) for allowing us once again to use his property to hold the gathering and AGM.

Thanks

Tommy Collis 2714

Vice President



New Austravel Vice President
Tom Collis.....stop looking so
worried Tom !



Top photoa well attended AGM with a fortunate break in the weather providing a sunny day.



Left photo from L >R Denny Sharp (1226) , Geoff Hurst (1949), Geoff Peck (0951), Roy Watkins (6001), Kim Rhodes (7880) and Tom Collis (2714)

RV TRAVELLERS



- Do you enjoy travelling and being outdoors?
- Are you planning to see Australia?
- Would you like friends to contact as you travel?
- Join other like-minded people for a great time at our get-togethers.
- We have National, State and Regional rallies all over Australia.
- Club e-magazine, The Traveller, issued bi-monthly.

- Friendship list of members all around Australia whether it's for socialising or if you need a helpful hand.

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Alf Traeger at the Morse key.

In 1907 a quiet Australian farm boy astonished his family by building a telephone between the homestead and a machinery shed 50 metres away. He had no commercial equipment - the magnets were made from pitch fork prongs, the diaphragms from tobacco tin lids, and the charcoal for carbon granules came from the kitchen stove. The ubiquitous fencing wire was also called into service.

The boy's name was Alfred Traeger, and a shrewd father soon had him enrolled in an electrical engineering course. Before he was 20, Traeger had put together a transmitter, 1914 style, was sending Morse at 20 words a minute, and was working towards his amateur license.

1920's Radio In Australia - Australia is a big place, its land area is four-fifths that of the USA, so when radio took off in the early 1920's, it was hailed as the magic bullet for loneliness in the outback. Radio magazines and newspapers of the time crowed that wireless, as it was usually called, would help catch crooks, save lives, and educate the masses, but mostly that it would bring isolated people together.

It soon became obvious the talk was all hot air. Benevolence disappeared when serious broadcasting began in 1923. If people in the outback could afford a sophisticated 5-or-6 tube outfit, which would pick up an occasional capital city program when conditions allowed, the good luck to them.

While the indigenous population had learned to survive the arid interior, European immigrants found the isolation hard to bear. Giant pastoral properties of thousands of square kilometres meant women and children often had no human contact for months at a time. Clearly the situation cried out for more than fluky broadcast reception. These people needed a voice as well as ears.

Flynn of the Inland - among the most revered Australian names stands the Rev. John Flynn. "Flynn of the Inland" (as he became known) was a visionary fired by the huge difference both airplanes and radio could make outback life. From the early 1920's, Flynn became obsessed with what he called "a mantle of safety" for the isolated and the dispossessed. Writing about Flynn in his book on Traeger, Fred McKay said, "He had fire in his belly" about the creation of a scheme of flying doctors to bring medical security to the entire Australian frontier country. His name is still associated with the Royal Flying Doctor Service of the bush.

Flynn got right into radio, and soon became a proficient amateur himself. In mid-1925, he stashed his old Dodge with wireless gear, as shown, and headed north from Adelaide with retired army officer named George Towns. For their 800 kilometre exploratory jaunt they carried a 100-watt transmitter and demountable tube-section aerial mast. Also aboard the Dodge was a 600-volt generator, driven off a pulley specially mounted on the rear wheel.

Enter Alfred Traeger - The generator, made by a young Alfred Traeger, brought about his first meeting with Flynn. When George Towns' failing health forced him to pull out of the project, Flynn turned to the younger man. Fired by Flynn's vision, Alf Traeger was soon on the outback trail experimenting, modifying, improving. It was to become a way of life.

Together Flynn and Traeger set up the first base station at Alice Springs, Australia's geographical centre. A couple of outstations soon followed, and in 1926, 2-way radio became a reality in one of the most remote places on earth. But Alf Traeger quickly saw the major obstacle to a wider network - the awkward, heavy duty, glass, copper oxide Edison batteries - as well as the need for a reliable high-power voltage supply to the local transmitter. A simple, durable alternative was essential for ordinary outstation use.



Typical early days patient transport by air.



Patient transfer somewhere in the Australian outback.





June 1925, John Flynn and George Towns leave Adelaide in their laden Dodge.

"Together Flynn and Traeger set up the first base station at Alice Springs, Australia's geographical centre."



Figure 3. Traeger's solution to the outback's isolation was this prototype of a pedal-operated generator unit for radio sets.



Figure 4. Mrs. Gertrude Rothery of Augustas Downs, operates the first pedal radio June 19, 1929

In 1927, Traeger built a hand-powered generator. It was transported from Longreach to Cloncurry. Flynn turned the generator while Alf worked the Morse key. The rig performed beyond expectations. Excitement for a wider bush network mounted, with Cloncurry the proposed site for a base station. All systems were go, until the fatal flaw in the hand-generated outfit became apparent. A lone operator could not generate power and send Morse simultaneously, and most homestead emergencies involved a lone woman.

Traeger, now a man possessed, worked dawn to dusk in his Adelaide workshop to solve this problem. But at Flynn's request, he first remodeled the transmitter and receiver into a compact, easy-to-operate "baby set". He then returned his attention to the high voltage supply problems. His brother Jack remembered the moment in August 1928 when Alf, eating lunch in the workshop, suddenly stood up and said, *"I'm going to buy bicycle pedals."*

Flynn played down the idea. He had seen a bicycle-mounted generator used in traveling Pathe' picture show, and it produced nowhere near the required voltage. But, being a clever practical engineer, Alf turned generator armature winding into an art form. By late 1928, he had his prototype of a pedal generator, shown in figure 3. Flynn came to see it, was deeply impressed, and told Traeger to put on his Sunday suit. *"I want to take an important photo"*.

A Bush Network-The pedal wireless Alf posed with on that November afternoon spelled the end to outback isolation. Lonely homesteads, remote mission stations, aboriginal communities-every inhabitant of the outback would benefit. Figure 4 shows the first pedal radio unit being used on June 19, 1929. The bush network quickly grew to cover much of the remote centre and north. Figure 5 shows the 1930 Transceiver set #1 reconditioned and encased in a metal cabinet with telegraph key on the table at right.

Morse code had always been a problem for the lay operator. Although telephony was his ultimate goal, in 1931, Traeger devised an ingenious solution for the Morse-code illiterate - an automatic Morse keyboard. Resembling a typewriter, each key was connected to a pivoted steel bar with notched spacing's corresponding to the Morse alphabet.

In 1937, Fred McKay, then a young minister with the Australian Inland Mission (A.I.M.) used the Traeger radio system in his travels in the dry outback. Fred, now an active 93 year old, succeeded John Flynn as director of the mission.

Meanwhile, Alf was continually improving the pedal radio, and telephony soon became standard. Much of the rest of Traeger's life was spent bringing the latest radio to the bush. He introduced the new vibrator sets as soon as practical, and was actively involved up to and including the birth of solid-state technology. By the 1970's, the Adelaide workshop was turning out single sideband sets. The resulting HF radio network became the heartbeat of outback life. In conjunction with the RFDS, it turned Flynn's concept of a mantle of safety into an everyday reality. Best of all, the ever-changing radio equipment in the corner of a living room or kitchen lifted the final, ever-present burden of the bush pioneers—the blight of loneliness.

Article source *"The Pedal Radio of the Great Outback"* author Richard Begbie



Figure 5 Transceiver Set circa 1930, note telegraph key at right.



Traeger's Invention, the Morse Typewriter. Pressing letter keys activated strips of metal containing notches and indentations representing the dots and dashes of the Morse code.



Mr. Wayne Rankin of Twin Station with a Traeger Vibrator Radio



Early Traeger transceiver preserved at RFDS Port Augusta



Traeger RFDS transceivers preserved at Twin Station



A 3watt Traeger transceivers type 39

Photos from S.A. Medical Heritage Society Inc.

By now most Austravel Safety Net members would have replied to an e-mail and /or SMS survey asking each.....*did you wish your phone contact details listed within the periodically published Austravel selcall list?*

To explain the reason for this request by the Austravel committee - it is the case that the membership data base obviously contains private member information. The key reason for the members private details being recorded is directly connected to the appropriate management of the club (as an Incorporated organisation) as per the rules laid down by the Department of Fair Trading Qld. Proper communication with each member on the various business affairs of the club relies on accurate contact details, and these contact details are for the use of the Austravel committee only, and remain private.

However here has been positive feed-back from many sources that listing a mobile phone number within the periodically published selcall list has a range of benefits for all members. Not all Austravel members agree so your committee decided to:-

- Survey each Austravel member and understand their preference for publishing their phone number
- Ensure those Not For Publishing (NFP) wishes are respected
- Ensure "Publish Phone Number" Y/N is clearly displayed on the new member application form moving forward.
- Update the selcall list and publish/distribute it, while asking one more time for each member to review their selcall number and ensure that their contact detail wishes is correctly listed.

Please contact a Austravel committee member on this subject if there is something more that you need to know.



Which Telco Plan?

(article submitted by 3097 Richard Shea)

There are many telcos and many plans to choose from and it can be a challenge to choose the plan that is right for you, especially if you're unsure of how much data you will actually use when you're on the road travelling. So, the question of which plan is a bit like, 'How long is a piece of string?' – everyone's answer will be different. But let's see if we can narrow the field down a little.

Coverage:

The first thing to consider is where you are travelling. Most remote areas of Australia are only covered by Telstra, so that will limit the field immediately. To see if your carrier covers the areas you are travelling to, simply Google your service provider name and "coverage map" and each carrier will have a map outlining the areas where they provide service. Eg "Telstra coverage map".

Coverage maps for three carriers:

Telstra: <https://www.telstra.com.au/coverage-networks/our-coverage>

Optus: <http://www.optus.com.au/shop/mobile/network/coverage>

Vodafone: <http://www.vodafone.com.au/network/coverage-checker>



Hardware:

In addition to my smartphone, I use a Telstra Wireless 4G internet device, which you can buy from the Telstra shop for between \$110 and \$300, depending on the capacity and the features you want. This acts as my wifi provider and by connecting my laptop to this (wirelessly via a Bluetooth connection) I can access the internet and my emails. I can also plug my external aerial into this device and stream my television through it.

Plan:

The next question you need to answer is how much data do you use? For this information you can look on previous bills and see how much you used before, as a starting point. Of course, how much you used previously is not always going to be exactly the same as the amount you use when you're out on the road. My data usage may be a helpful guide. I left Mackay on 1 October last year (2015) and have been through New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia - as far west as Ceduna – and then travelled north to Darwin and am currently in Camooweal.

My Telstra Wireless 4G internet device comes with 8GB of data which cost \$45 per month. I haven't yet exceeded my 8GB a month plan and I use the internet on a daily basis, although I don't send many big-ticket items via email. For example, I don't email or text photos very often, choosing instead to share on social media or through Dropbox.

If you have a smart phone you will have a data allowance on the plan which can usually be increased if you find you're going over your data limit. However, if you get a plan that's too big, it's much harder (nearly impossible) to go smaller.

Using the data plan that your phone is connected to is the best option for most people as they can connect their laptop, iPad or Notepad to the phone's data via Bluetooth.

For most people, this is probably the cheapest option. Most phone plans come with either 4GB or 6GB data allowance. Check your monthly account for how much data you are using and if necessary contact your telco to discuss increasing your limit.

I am not trying to sell Telstra and I don't have shares in them but again if you are in regional areas they are the only carrier to use.



Tony Brougham (4198) had to be home by midnightor turn into a?



Ken Billings (8634) in the background with a few words to say!



The Deepwater camp fitted everybody in, no problem!



Ricky the wonder dog (8977.5) it's not cold dad, don't be a baby!!!!

It proved hard to get out of bed on Saturday morning with what appeared to be sleet (i.e. rain containing some ice, as when snow melts as it falls) coming in at an acute angle, morning tea started outside but soon moved indoors with the fire being lit for more comfort, Jeannie served up her famous sausage rolls which were very quickly devoured, the were just the answer on a cold and wet morning.

Evening saw the official "Christmas in July" dinner and full complements go to Andrew and Lynn and to their staff for a terrific meal topped off with Christmas pudding,..... well done to them.

The action on the night was a "pass the parcel" experience organised by Jeanette, with everyone making a contribution to Santa's stocking, the idea was to follow a somewhat rearranged version of a Christmas carol (I think), so whenever "left" was mentioned you passed the parcel in front of you to the left and when "right" was mentioned you passed it to the right, so when Santa left, that was all right and he left a present right in the middle of the table on the right and that was all right so he happily left : *get the drift ?.....right.*

It was a lot of fun and finally each person was able to open the present (left) in front of them. Check out the pics. There was a special present for Tahlia (1154.5) so she was able to join in and enjoy the evening.

There were many members in festive attire which really added to the atmosphere.

The raffles drawn on the night with the lucky winner being Geoff and Sandy



Janette Parkin (0116) smiling for the camera, where is Ian?.....never around when there are dirty dishes we are told!

Riseley (8977) who became the proud owners of a PowerStick Performance HF Antenna kindly donated by HF Radio Sales and Bushcomm On Line.

Please support our business friends as they support us in many meaningful ways.....looking for HF bits and bobs? - think www.hfradiosales.com and www.bushcommonline.com

Funds raised by the raffle and the small camping fee was just over \$1000 so well done to all our Australia wide, and those who could come and support the Deepwater Muster, together it was a great way to raise much needed funds for the club.

Sunday was a slow recovery day with the fire being lit in the Inn about 9am for those who wished to slowly thaw out, Geoff (8977) and Bob (1750) were appointed garbologists and did a dump run to save filling up the bins. Today was free time and a few left to make the trek home while others gathered around the fire and chatted, it was warm inside so

most stayed around for an evening meal and listened to the locals fire up the Karaoke again.

It was quite a cold night and we awoke on Monday to a cold and frosty morning with ice all about the place, Lindsay (2262) recorded -1 under his awning at 8am - well it was a "Christmas in July" muster.

Many many thanks must go to Jeanette Parkin (0116) for a well organised and great gathering and to Jeannie McIntosh (2262) as finance controller.

It was a tremendous effort and much enjoyed by all.



The muster at Yarloop in late September was also Austravel's AGM.

Requests for nominations for the new committee were sought and the results of the election process are listed below; noting that no ballot was required for the committee positions as there was only one nomination per position.

On behalf of all committee members listed below, I know we all look forward to a growth in the club, which will be a reality on the "back of" additional Austravel HF radio services and technologies currently under development, along with new bases planned for 2017.

Your Seven Member Committee:-

Roy Watkins	(6001)	Founder & President
Tom Collis	(2714)	Vice President
Peter Schrader	(2513)	Secretary
Freda Madden	(6684)	Treasurer
Geoff Peck	(0951)	Membership Officer & Channel Chatter Editor
Pim Domen	(7255)	Social Media / Website
Geoff Riseley	(2748)	Ordinary Committee Member

Posted by the Editor



AGM elects new committee

Members Market

MEMBERS...GOT SOMETHING TO SELL?

LOOKING FOR THAT THING TO BUY?

CONSIDER YOUR CHANNEL CHATTER NEWSLETTER "MEMBERS MARKET", AND PLACE AN AD.....NO COST!



Members Facebook



Trouble with Facebook or any questions?
Send me an email, I am happy to help.

My email address is;
pimdomen@icloud.com



TECHNICAL QUESTION AND ANSWERS



Hi to all from Kim (7880) in Western Australia. I have mentioned this before in another place but regardless of that, it is worth repeating here. I thought we could have a technical questions and answers section in the magazine. Often others have the same technical issues so to put it in print may help a number of people.

As part of this I would like to develop a list of devices found in motor homes and caravans / 5th. Wheelers that become known as noise makers causing interference on HF radio receivers. The ones of special interest are when the interference obliterates normal operation. In some instance some of these noisy devices will be able to be corrected for little cost. In most instances it is the fault of the manufacturers of the devices who have not met the Australian standards for these emissions. Similarly, there are some items on a motor home that the HF radio transmitter will interfere with. This is also

usually due to a lack of electronic design of the specific items. However, these problems can usually be fixed at low cost.

If technical questions could be sent to 7880@westnet.com.au I will do my best to answer them in the magazine. Please mention in the email if you are happy to have the question and your self-call printed in the magazine. I don't profess to be the only person in the club with some technical answers, we have some very talented members so I reserve the right to refer a

question to the magazine with an I DON'T KNOW response for others to have a go at as required.

Remember from the past that the only silly question is the one that is not asked. We are here to help and share knowledge as much as possible.

Regards

Kim Rhodes (7880)



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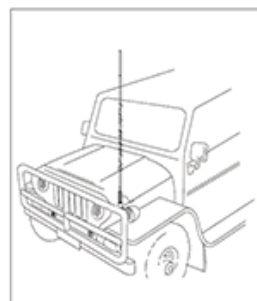
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How to be a responsible HF Radio user

Five top tips from an experienced radio hand

It's true, we spend thousands buying and installing sophisticated HF radio equipment because it's fun to use and, well, we might need it in an emergency, right?

But do we really know how to use it properly? And just as importantly, do our partners know how to use it?

Recently, a friend of mine suffered a serious heart attack in Alice Springs, having just returned from a trip across the Tanami Track. Fortunately he was in Alice Spring and his wife able to use the phone – how would you or your partner do if there was no phone available?

When we think of radios, we usually think of UHF first. It's simple to operate – you just pick up the handset and speak.

By contrast, HF radio is a much more complicated. It takes considerably more time to understand.

Tip 1: When you're travelling you should always have your radio on and scanning. As a sked operator I find it very frustrating trying to contact a member with an urgent message and they have their radio turned off.

Tip 2: Always answer the skeds (scheduled radio calls) in the mornings and the afternoons.

Tip 3: Practice using the radio by calling your mates regularly. (This is where the fun and responsible use overlap).

Tip 4: Make sure you and your travelling partners know how to use it correctly and comfortably. Make sure your companions also practice regularly. Make sure you know how to contact the RFDS and make emergency calls on your network.

Tip 5: Share your tips and advice with others, especially other newbies. The more we all share our knowledge and information, the stronger the community gets.

So, is it a boy's toy or emergency device? It's both, provided you're familiar with it and know how to use it. Fortunately, my friend who had the heart attack was fine, because he was in Alice Springs at the time.

I look forward to hearing from you next sked call

Rick 3097

For anything and just about everything 12 volt.....JGM Direct will have a product and price to suit.

Your Channel Chatter editor visits this favourite "men's toy shop" often when needing a 12 volt this or that.

Check their webpage, delivery Australia wide.

Looking for great quality stand alone Solar or LED lighting?
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*Members please note...
 Austravel Safety Net is pursuing technical updates to reinforce Austravel's H.E.L.P. (4357) HF emergency calling system.*

Austravel's H.E.L.P. (4357) call system is unique by virtue of its simplicity:-

- One Selcall Number
- All Bases
- Your H.E.L.P. (4357) selcall answered by an experienced Austravel member.

Other HF networks offering similar HF emergency call systems are considered by many as complicated due to requirement of the HF radio user to look up a diverse and complicated list of HF selcall ID's and bases ...that's before you can even make the emergency selcall on the chosen frequency.

The current H.E.L.P. (4357) emergency call system is planned to be further improved by updating our base station interconnected telephony systems.





A few people have said to me, all well and good to avoid picking up any of the little hitch hikers but how do I pull them out of my skin if I get one.



If you have very fine tweezers you can grab the mouth only not the body as close to your skin as possible and pull gently upwards until it comes out.

Last magazine I wrote an article giving some reasons to avoid tick bites. A few people have said to me, all well and good to avoid picking up any of the little hitch hikers but how do I pull them out of my skin if I get one.

I can't write much on this because there is a great number of differing opin-

ions and I don't know which is best or correct. It suffices to say that number one not to do. Do not squeeze a tick with fingers, pliers, tweezers etc. You will only squash goo out its gob into your skin. Number two not to do. Don't burn or kill the tick. It will get upset and also spew goo. Some things you can do. If you have very fine tweezers you can grab the mouth only not the body as close

to your skin as possible and pull gently upwards until it comes out. Personally from my research I believe that any tick bit should be followed immediately with a course of appropriate antibiotics. I doubt that you will get a doctor in Australia to do that but this is the time that antibiotics are

As I said last article I am not a doctor, just a researcher, so do your own research regarding this issue.

Stay safe, best not to get bit www.lymedisease.org.au for more information.

Tick Prevalence in Australia

Paralysis Tick



Brown Dog Tick



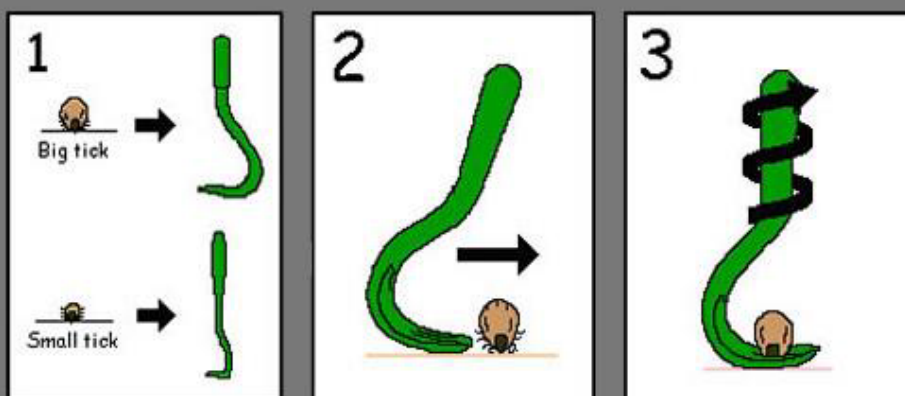
Bush Tick



ions and I don't know which is best or correct. It suffices to say that number one not to do. Do not squeeze a tick with fingers, pliers, tweezers etc. You will only squash goo out its gob into your skin. Number two not to do. Don't burn or kill the tick. It will get upset and also spew goo.

Some things you can do. If you have very fine tweezers you can grab the mouth only not the body as close

effective against Lyme and other pathogens from ticks. However, if your tick bite site develops a red bulls eye type rash and or you get flue like symptoms then you need to browbeat a doctor to definitely give you a course of antibiotics. There are some Lyme Literate Doctors (LLDs) in Australia. Have a look at the Lyme disease Association of Australia





2050 HF SSB transceiver



- **Software Defined Transceiver Core**
- **Advanced Digital Signal Processing (DSP)**
- **Lightweight and compact design**
- **Detachable front panel for remote extended control operation**
- **Secure Digital Voice Options**

The Barrett 2050 HF transceiver, the centrepiece of the 2000 series of HF communications equipment, combines current technology with the intuitive "ease of use" that has become synonymous with Barrett Communications equipment. When teamed with other 2000 series products the versatile Barrett 2050 transceiver provides secure e-mail data and telephone connectivity within a HF network and onwards to both international telephone network and the internet.



www.barrettcommunications.com.au

www.hfradiosales.com
Ph: 07 3118 5265

For all sales enquiries

If you wish to contact a club member who is out of mobile phone range but has a HF radio then you make contact by contacting a BASE OPERATOR by phone. Call one of the operators listed and request that a message be relayed to a specific person as soon as possible.

Give the operator the persons name and selcal if known.

The base operator can initiate selcall to the mobile station requesting them to phone home via the HF network. Or if the message is not so urgent a similar message to phone home can be passed on at the normal schedule time of day.

IN ADDITION TO THE AUSTRAL "H.E.L.P." SYSTEM

LIST OF OPERATORS THAT CAN ASSIST

	BASE OPERATORS	PHONE NUMBER	Local
1	Roy Watkins Home	08 95710612	W.A.
2	Roy Watkins Mobile	0427 000 995	W.A.
3	Kim Rhodes Mobile	0427 983 329	W.A.
4	Denny Sharp Mobile	0418 847 542	QLD
5	Geoff Peck Mobile	0403 309 020	QLD

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Have You Been to the Centre Of Australia ? Info from Westprint Mob



Officially, there is no centre of Australia. This is because there are many complex but equally valid methods that can determine possible centres of a large, irregularly-shaped area but here are some possibilities.

Centre of gravity: If you had a paper cut-out of Australia, the place where it would perfectly balance on a pin is the Centre of gravity. The result is 23° 07' 00" South, 132° 08' 00" East; or just north east of Papunya in the Northern Territory.

Lambert gravitational centre: Similar to the centre of gravity method, the location was calculated from 24 500 points at the high water mark of Australia's coastline. In the 1930s when Dr C.T. Madigan travelled through Central Australia he calculated the centre of gravity by using a metal cut-out of Australia with a plumb bob and string. His crude measurement was surprisingly accurate as he selected a point less than 11 kilometres due west of this present position. The computed result of the 1988 project was: 25° 36' 36.4" South, 134° 21' 17.3" East; or just to the west of Finke.

Furthest point from the coastline: Imagine the largest perfect circle that could be drawn anywhere inside Australia that only just touches the coastlines. The centre of this circle is 23° 02' 00" South, 132° 10' 00" East; almost the same position as the centre of gravity.

Median Point: If a box was drawn around Australia, just touching the northern, eastern, southern, and western-most points on the continent and drawing diagonal lines between corners the intersection is the median point. 24° 15' 00" South, 133° 25' 00" East; or just north of Orange Creek south of Alice Springs.

For similar information check out the Westprint Friday Five newsletter on our website. Subscription is free. <http://westprint.com.au/newsletter>



THATS FUNNY!

Some brilliant one-liners
from Phyllis Diller.

We spend the first twelve months of our children's lives teaching them to walk and talk and the next twelve years telling them to sit down and shut up.

My photographs don't do me justice - they just look like me.

I asked the waiter, 'Is this milk fresh?' He said, 'Lady, three hours ago it was grass.'

The reason the golf pro tells you to keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing.

You know you're old if they have discontinued your blood type.

Tranquillizers work only if you follow the advice on the bottle - keep away from children.

Burt Reynolds once asked me out. I was in his room.

Then someone once said this.....

Never argue with an idiot; because people watching may not be able to tell the difference.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

AUSTRAL SAFETY NET Inc.

HF Radio Allied Traders List

Connecting Austravel Members To HF Radio Sales / Service Providers
(Last update December 2015)



Watts Communications	Codan, Barrett, Icom, Bushcomm Antennas www.wattscom.com.au / sales@wattscom.com.au	Fyshwick ACT 02 6280 6416
Wes Follett	Codan, Barrett, Icom, Bushcomm Antennas wfollett@bigpond.com / 0412 885 817	Deniliquin 03 5881 3189
Eacom Communications	Codan www.eacom.com.au / ian.blackburn@eacom.com.au	Griffiths NSW 02 6964 2033
D.L. Communications	Codan, Barrett dlcerv@hotmail.com	Merimbula NSW 0418 280 270
Newcastle Pro Sound	Codan, Barrett www.npsonline.com.au	Newcastle NSW 02 4965 6899
Fettell Communications	Barrett www.fettell.com.au	Port Macquarie NSW 02 658 11341
Action Communications	Icom www.actioncommunications.net.au	Kingswood NSW 1800 802 948
Karera Communications	Icom www.karera.com / sales@karera.com	Tuggerah NSW 02 4355 1599
Phoenix HF Communications	Servicing most brands of HF	Kareela NSW 02 9544 6355
Independent Communications	Servicing most brands of HF radios www.independentcommunications.com.au	Tamworth NSW 02 6765 7555
Illawarra Communications	Codan www.illcom.com.au / robert@illcom.com.au	Wollongong NSW 02 4229 7300
Central Communications	Codan, Barrett www.centralcomms.com.au / sales@centralcomms.com.au	Alice Springs NT 08 8952 2388
Comspec (NT) P/L	Codan, Barrett www.comspec.com.au / sales@comspec.com.au	Alice Springs NT 08 8953 1903
Combined Comms Solutions	Barrett www.combinedcom.com.au / info@combinedcom.com.au	Darwin NT 08 8941 0644
ITS Communications	Codan, also servicing most brands of HF radios info@itscomm.com.au	Winnellie NT 08 8984 4855
Territory Comms Services	Codan, Barrett, Scout tcs@territorycomms.com.au	Tennant Creek NT 0418 814 978
HF Radio.Com On-Line Store	Codan, Barrett Sales Service and Installation www.hf-radio.com.au / david@hf-radio.com.au	Brisbane Qld. 0408 345 208
Mobile Communications	Codan, Icom www.mobilecomms.com.au	Brisbane Qld. 07 3373 2345
RF Technologies	Servicing most brands of HF radios www.rftech.com.au / maxr@rftech.com.au	Brisbane Qld. 07 3279 7177
Kyle Communications	Codan, Barrett, Icom www.kyle.com.au / kylecomms@specsafe.com.au	Burpengary Qld. 07 3888 7899
Miles Electronics	Codan, Barrett www.mileselectronics.com.au / john@mileselect.com.au	Cairns Qld. 07 4035 1133
Reids Radiodata	Codan reidsradiodata@bigpond.com	Cowra NSW 02 6341 1544

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Goondiwindi Communications	Codan www.goondiwindicomcommunications.com.au sales@goondiwindicomcommunications.com.au	Goondiwindi Qld 07 4671 3641
Linemaster Marine Electronics	Barrett www.linemaster.com.au / sales@linemaster.com.au	Maroochydore Qld. 07 5479 6851
TCQ Communications	Codan, Barrett accounts@tcq.net.au	Mount Isa Qld. 07 4743 4388
Capricorn Communications	Codan, Icom www.capcom.com.au / sales@capcom.com.au	Nth. Rockhampton Qld. 07 4926 1172
Beaney's Communications	Barrett, Icom www.beaneys.com.au	Rockhampton 07 4927 5049
Advance Communications	Codan, Barrett sales@advancecomms.com.au	Roma 07 4622 5842
Comptel P/L	Codan www.comtel.com.au / enquiries@comptel.com.au	Toowoomba Qld. 07 4639 8999
Navcom Electronics P/L	Barrett navcomadmin@bigpond.com	Townsville Qld. 07 4771 2422
Norcomm P/L	Codan, + servicing of most brands of HF radios www.norcomm.com.au / sales@norcomm.com.au	Townsville Qld. 0408 722 833
Digital Radio Solutions	Codan, with service to most makes of HF www.marktek.com.au / contact@marktek.com.au	Adelaide S.A. 0418 845 518
Electric Bug	Codan, Icom, Barrett www.electricbug.com.au / sales@electricbug.com.au	Adelaide S.A. 08 8346 9234
International Comms. Systems	Codan, Barrett, Icom, Wagner, Hawk www.intcomsys.com.au / intcomm@intermode.on.net	Port Adelaide S.A. 08 8447 3688
Marktek Installations	Codan, servicing most brands of HF www.marktek.com.au / mark@marktek.com.au	Adelaide S.A. 08 8250 2888
Northern Communications	Service of all brands of HF radios phil.48@bigpond.com	Gawler S.A. 08 8522 6081
HF Radio Solutions	Codan & Codan Auto Tune Repair www.hfradiosolutions.com.au / ivan@hfradiosolutions.com.au	Renmark S.A. 0428 882 719
Desmond Communications	Codan, Barrett, Icom desmondcomms@dodo.com.au	Howrah Tas. 03 6228 1331
Marcom Watson	Codan, Barrett, Icom, www.marcomwatson.com.au / info@marcomwatson.com.au	Launceston Tas. 1800 630 611
Weeks Radio Communications	Codan sales@weeksradio.com	Alexandra Vic. 03 5772 1292
Bairnsdale Communications	Codan, Icom sales@bcomms.com.au	Bairnsdale Vic. 03 5152 4622
Lara Electronics	Codan & Codan Auto Tune Repair www.laraelectronics.com.au / sales@laraelectronics.com.au	Geelong Vic. 03 5282 2751
Bushcomm Online Store	Buschcomm Antennas, Multi Tap Antennas, 2nd. Hand HF www.bushcomm-online.com / sales@bushcomm-online.com	Melbourne Vic. 03 9017 6777
Angus Communications	Codan, Barrett hofmann126.ph@gmail.com	Shepparton Vic. 03 5821 9155

AUSTRAVEL SAFETY NET Inc.

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AA Radio Services	Codan, Icom, + service of most brands of HF radios. www.aaradio.com.au / sales@aaradio.com.au	Vermont Vic. 03 9264 8333
Earth 2 Ocean Communications	Barrett, Codan, Icom sales and service www.earth2ocean.com.au / sales@earth2ocean.com.au	Bunbury W.A. 08 9721 1730
Esperance Communications	Barrett, Icom + servicing of most brands of HF radios www.esperancecomms.com.au / service@esperancecomms.com.au	Esperance W.A. 08 9071 3344
ACS Communications	Codan, Icom www.acs-marcomm.com / admin@acs-marcom.com	Perth W.A. 08 9277 4655
Allcomm Communications	Codan, Icom www.allcom.com.au / allcom@allcom.com.au	Perth W.A. 08 9479 4997
Barrett Communications	Barrett www.barrettcommunications.com.au / information@barrettcommunications.com.au	Perth W.A. 08 9434 1700
Mobile Masters	Barrett (sales no service) www.mobilemasters.com.au / mail@mobilemasters.com.au	Perth W.A. 08 9492 1777
Transair Two Way Radio	Codan, Icom www.transair.com.au / transair@transair.com.au	Perth W.A. 08 9209 2225

Austravel Safety Net Inc. Members please note.....The purpose of this list of "Allied Traders" is to offer a ready reference which may provide you with a source of sales and/ or service assistance when travelling away or near your home location.

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Allied Traders...please review your listing and advise the "Channel Chatter" newsletter editor of any listing detail that is incorrect or requires review. Additionally, if you wish to be removed from our Allied Trader e-mail contact list, please advise.
(editor contact details contained on page one)