#### Volume 11, Issue 13

## On Sale: 18 April, 1989

## **Special Features**

# 12 COVER STORY — BUILDING YOUR GEAR: Neil Duncan's 'what you need — and how it's done' checklist. Better heat that iron up...

THE APPLIX COMPUTER: Tom Moffat, VK7TM, examines an all-Australian kit computer.

**23** THE RADCOM ACT: Tony Tregale, VK3QQ, worries over our current operating conditions.

THE G4ZU 'BIRDCAGE': The untold story of one of Dick Bird's most famous antennas.

32 TETHERED SATELLITES — THE REAL STORY: Fantasy or next century's technology? Tom Moffat, VK7TM, reports.

**33** RADIO LISTENERS' GUIDE: Arthur Cushen's latest book is reviewed by Ash Nallawalla, VK3CIT.

36 ASSEMBLING THE DICK SMITH HF
TRANSCEIVER KIT: An easy task for the
experienced builder, says Neil Duncan, VK3OK.

4 SILVER THREADS: John Kolm, VK3YJK, reports on the recent Bendigo convention.

**42 DXPEDITION TO ROTUMA:** Eddie DeYoung, VK8XX, reports on a new country's activation.

THE UNBREAKABLE WORLD RECORD: Les, VK3ZBJ, and Andrew, VK3KAJ, set a new distance record — just in the nick of time...

Cover: would-be deputy editor Justine Edmondson demonstrates the finer points of how to use your microphone to greatest advantage: "The noise comes out here, doesn't it, daddy?" She had just finished a meal of a tasty torroid with power diode chaser... You'll find 'her' Dick Smith HF transceiver kit reviewed on page 36, and many of the tools examined in our child's play! story starting page 12. Right: You wouldn't believe the lengths we went to setting up the cover photo! Here, editor explains to harmonic why we shouldn't eat the review equipment. Great photos by ARA lensman Peter 'Blitz' Fritz, kit transceivers by Dick Smith, components from Stewart Electronics. Thanks all.

#### **Regular Features**

- **4—QSP:** Chris Edmondson, VK3YID, with exciting news.
- 8—NEWS DESK: The day the sun went BANG!
- **10—HEROES OF HAM RADIO:** Kolm on sun blemishes...
- 17—ISSUES: Tony Tregale, VK3QQ, on falling standards and Morse Code.
- 24—G4ZU ANTENNA COLUMN: Dick Bird, G4ZU / F6IDC reminisces on the 'Bird Cage' antenna.
- **48—YL FORUM:** Kirsti Jenkins-Smith, VK9NL, mixes with the 'amateur spirit'.
- **49—SHORTWAVE:** The latest on international broadcasting. With the ARDXC's Bob Padula.
- **52—ON-SIX:** Steve Gregory, VK3OT, reports on a band gone tropo...
- **56—DX & BAND:** Jim Smith, VK9NS, checks out the HF spectrum.
- **59—CONTEST:** The contest scene, with Eddie DeYoung, VK8XX.
- 60—PREDICTIONS: IPX Grafex charts for May.
- 62—CLASSIFIEDS: More red-hot DEAL\$!
- 65—SUBSCRIBE: Here's how ...
  66—ADVERTISERS' INDEX



Next issue out May 16. Classifieds deadline April 26.