

NEWS DESK

Hey, the *news* is back! And so is John Koim, VK3YJK, to present it. This month we bring you a sneak preview of the **Yaesu FT-847**.

jxjSr-Tr

REVIEW: ICOM IC-746

Attach a bike pump to the side of your IC-706 and work for a while. You'll get an IC-746, with a lusty 100 watts all the way from HF to 2M! A very desirable radio indeed.



REVIEW: YAESU VX-1R

Strewth. Any smaller and you'd fose this little baby! The VX-1R covers the AM broadcast band then 76 to 999 MHz — and it even *transmits* too! How could they do it? A baffled Editor Chris Edmondson reports.



THE CONSTRUCTION ZONE

Here's a new monthly feature for you — a new and practical VK3AFQ construction project *every month* from now on! This month Harold presents a handy beam indicator.

PROJECT: SLINKY ON HF

Now this is simply the *cutest* HF Beverage antenna imaginable! And it (almost) fits in a suburban back yard! How? Ask Steve, VK6VZ...

Is this a Spiromatic TV antenna?

GREAT NEW COLUMNS!

44 JURASSIC QUARK —
...or how to buy a computer for the shack for about \$15. Hey, *read* it!

52 MILITARY IN 21st CENT
How will our military forces chat next century? Why, HF of course!! What else? Rob Williams reports...

THE MIR UPDATE

Did you know that Dr Andy Thomas, **VK5MIR** is in a stable Earth orbit? How about you call him up and say G'Day from Oz?



66 RADIO ACTIVE
Here's another new column. Let's welcome Kirsti, VK9NL to the pages. What's life like with Jim??

68 AIRSHOW SPECTACULAR
Pylon racing, jet fighter displays — not only can you be there, but you can *hear* all the activity to boot!

70 NORFOLK ISLAND
Any point taking a scanner to Norfolk? Scott, VK2XYI says you bet!

GSM PHONES SECURE?
Either they are or they aren't. Here's the definitive *technical* answer...

82 UNDERSTANDING SOL AND PROPAGATION...

So how does the Sun affect the way your radio works, and why? This is one of the best explanations we've seen on this topic. Pictures too. Thanks Jack!

06 THE LAST WORD...
Watch out — Kolm's on the loose!

85 o u r *Mundara* winner -is it you?