

Special Features

- 14 COVER STORY:** Morse Code is a dead duck. Or is it? There are signs that CW, the oldest mode of them all, is enjoying new-found popularity. We asked confirmed Codeaholic Neil Duncan, VK3OK, to put the case for code, and to try a few leading CW-related products.
- 20 EQUIPMENT REVIEW — YAESU FT-1000:** Well, it's here at last. Yaesu's new flagship (actually, it's their *battleship* — this thing weighs a heap) has dual receivers, a whopping 200 watts out, and a price tag competitive enough to have the opposition worried...
- 31 THE ARA NOVICE THEORY COURSE — PART 3:** This month we introduce magnetism and its relationship with electricity, and take a first look at Morse Code.
- 33 THE VK3OK MORSE CODE GENERATOR:** Give yourself five minutes to type this BASIC program into your PC and voila! instant Morse Code. It's very simple... and very effective.
- 37 EQUIPMENT REVIEW:** Packet Radio for the masses arrived with modems like Pac-Comm's Tiny 2. The one we're reviewing here looks the same, but CMOS technology means it draws only a fraction of the current. Tom Moffat reviews the PacComm Micropower.
- 44 THE DICK BIRD LINEAR AMPLIFIER:** Your requests answered: here are the circuit diagrams, construction notes and layout suggestions for Dick Bird's home-brew HF linear amplifier.

Cover: How do all those keys, keyers and paddles compare? Is there any point spending \$200 for a paddle when you can get a perfectly serviceable key for \$10? These questions and others were put to **Neil Duncan, VK3OK** — along with a boxfull of various Morse Code devices — he obviously relished the job ahead, for he rubbed his hands with glee for a full 10 minutes. Neil also took the time to state his case for retaining the code. You may or may not agree with his sentiments, but his account is well worth a read.

Next issue out July 10. Classifieds deadline June 25.

Regular Features

- 5—QSP:** By editor Chris Edmondson, VK3YID.
- 8—NEWS DESK:** Compiled by John Kolm.
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- 49—HEROES OF HAM RADIO:** By Kolm.
- 50—SHORTWAVE:** The latest SW broadcast news from the ARDXC's Bob Padula.
- 53—YL FORUM:** When the cat's away, the mouse misbehaves... or does she? Kirsti describes the other end of a DXpedition.
- 54—ON-SIX:** Peter Sumner, VK8ZLX, on the magic band.
- 56—DX & BAND:** The triumphal return Jim Smith reports on the DX scene...
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The image shows the cover of the magazine 'amateur radio action'. The title is in a large, stylized font. Below the title, it says 'Geopica's Amateur Magazine' and 'Vol.13 Number 2 \$3.00'. The main headline reads 'MORSE KEYS, KEYERS, PADDLES—HOW THEY STACK UP...'. There is a photograph of various Morse code devices, including a box with a dial and several paddles. A speech bubble-like graphic says 'RETURN TO BHUTAN—DXCITING!'. At the bottom, it says 'WE REVIEW FT-1000'.