

Special Features

- 12 CRISIS IN SAMOA:** Pacific Island group Samoa had its ears thoroughly boxed last December when a tropical cyclone descended — and *stayed* there. For several days, amateur radio provided the only communications in and out of the area — using a creaky old Kenwood into an Emtronics beam. Reg Hardman reports...
- 16 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT — BUILD A 70cm BEAM:** It's a *great* band, is 70cm, with loads of good gear available at good prices. But antennas! There's not all that many available, is there? Why not build *this* one; it's compact and sturdy, simple to construct, and works a treat.
- 20 EQUIPMENT REVIEW — AMERITRON AL-811A HF LINEAR:** There are times when an extra S-point or two would be a decided bonus at the other end — like those times when the other guy just can't hear you! But home-brewed HF linear amplifiers are hard and expensive to build, and commercial ones cost a bundle. Until now...
- 24 THE MICHELANGELO VIRUS — THE TRUE STORY:** Everyone panicked before it hit, then came the collective sighs of relief as they woke up to being victims of 'media hype'. Ah, but was it really? We asked Tom Moffat to investigate this April phenomenon.
- 42 BUILD A RTTY MODEM, PART 4:** The final part in John Brennan's interesting series. This month we detail modifications to the popular ETI-730 demodulator.
- 50 1992 AOCPT THEORY COURSE — PART 4:** After some reader feedback we explain last month's questions. Then it's back into semiconductor theory.

Cover: Hands up those who remember what happened to Darwin on Christmas Day, 1974? Of course, it was the day that Cyclone Tracy tried to blow Darwin down to Alice Springs. But how many of you know what happened to Samoa in December 1991? Not too many, eh? This month's report on the much more fierce cyclone disaster which hit Samoa will come as quite a shock to some — it hardly rated a mention in our main news services. But I'd commend the report as a 'must read', and be glad that it was amateur radio which came to the rescue in this time of great need.

Next issue out May 12. Subscriber copies posted May 7.

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