[Member's Articles](https://sites.google.com/a/parg.org.au/www-parg-org-au/members-articles)‎ > ‎

**Fox Hunting**

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| **Peel Amateur Radio Group Fox Hunts**  [www.parg.org.au](http://www.parg.org.au/)    What is PARG Fox Hunting?    Fox Hunting (also known has ‘hidden transmitter’ or ‘radio direction finding’) is a popular amateur (ham) radio ‘sport’ or activity.  It is an electronic variation of the ‘hide and seek’ game. No actual foxes or hounds are involved or harmed in this sport.  The ‘Fox’ is a hidden radio transmitter which may be remotely controlled by a Fox Hunt organiser. The ‘Fox’ is programmed to intermittently transmit a series of identifying tones and a Morse Code (CW) call sign. The ‘Hounds’ are trackers (licensed amateur radio operators, short wave listeners, their friends and family) who use radio receivers and directional antennas.    When the ‘Fox’ is on the air, the ‘Hounds’ take bearings with their directional antennas. The ‘Hounds’ must carefully determine the direction of the strongest radio signal from the ‘Fox’, while ignoring reflections. It is easier said than done, so practice and skill are important.  This process continues throughout the Fox Hunt until the ‘Fox’ has been found! PARG Fox Hunts may venture anywhere within the Peel Region of Western Australia, which includes the municipalities of Boddington, Serpentine-Jarrahdale (including Byford and Mundijong), Waroona, Murray (Pinjarra and Dwellingup), City of Mandurah, and alsothe City of Rockingham (including Baldivis and Kwinana).  Although Fox Hunts will often commence in Mandurah, the Fox Hunt could end almost anywhere in the region and perhaps beyond? Some commence and end with inRockingham and Perth Metro.  The great thing is anyone, licenced amateur radio operator or not, can be actively involved because it does not involve transmissions – only receiving the radio signal from the ‘Fox’. Therefore, the Peel Amateur Radio Group (PARG) welcomes the participation of ALL Fox Hunt enthusiasts from far and wide to attend and take part in the fun.  Attached are articles showing how to construct your own tape measure Yagi antenna for Fox Hunts, and more detailed general information.    Also attached for a laugh is an extract from the WA VHF Group monthly newsletter which shows how it was done in the 70s, when the fox used in the Perth fox hunts was on 2m AM - when not identifying, the fox sent a continuous amplitude modulated tone so a simple 'crystal set' detector diving an earphone worked just fine - lots of people won fox hunts with this simple thing, made out of a lump of wood, some coat hanger wire, and audio amplifier (try buying a TAA100 these days!) and a few bits and pieces.  And by the way, Gil VK6YL (SK) wasn't quite correct - VK6QI (me) didn't design it - it was published in an earlier VHF Group monthly newsletter which I no-longer have... so I don't know who designed it initially.    *The Scooby Doo character image is (C) Copyright owned by Warner Bros Discovery. Used by PARG with thanks by Warner Bros.* |

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