One of the best ways to learn about Amateur Radio operating procedures is to listen, listen and listen some more.

Spinning a dial across the amateur bands will ususally uncover many conversations going on. There will be one on one, and many “nets”comprising many stations; all speaking about many different topics.

The main thing to keep an ear out is for how the different stations interact with each other; how they pass the discussion between themselves and how they maintain “order” in a multistation net.

You will find some operators are very pedantic in their operating, and others will be not so.. 😉

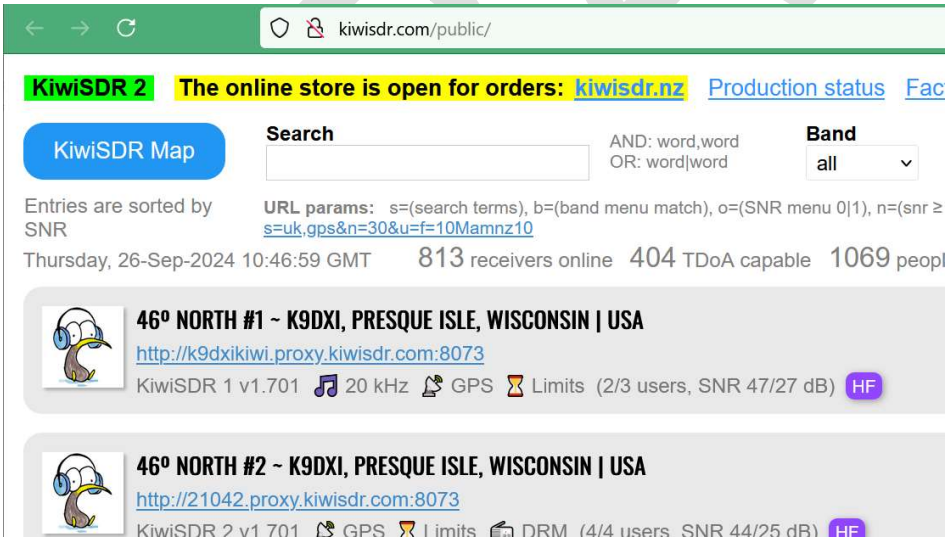
We can all learn what works and what doesn’t.. Is it important to use phonetics for your callsign everytime?

Go have a listen and gain some experience and confidence.

If you don’t have equipment that can tune the Amateur Bands you can use any one of a multitude of online Software Defined Radios (SDR) that are available.

Using your favourite internet browser take a wander off to

http://kiwisdr.com/public/

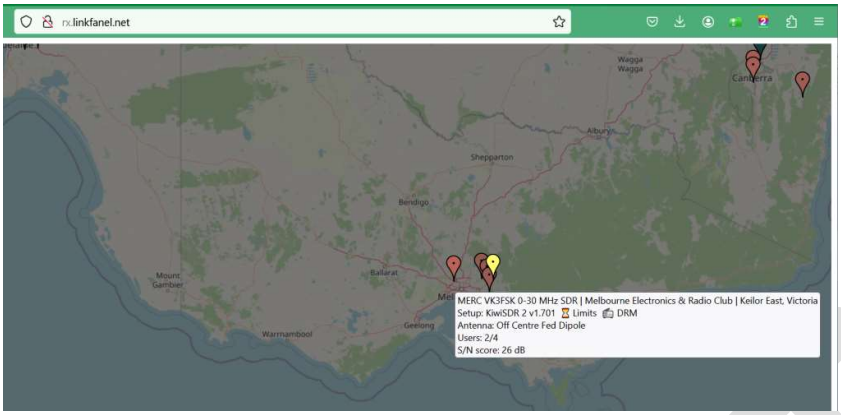


Then click on the “KiwiSDR Map “ button in the top left hand corner.

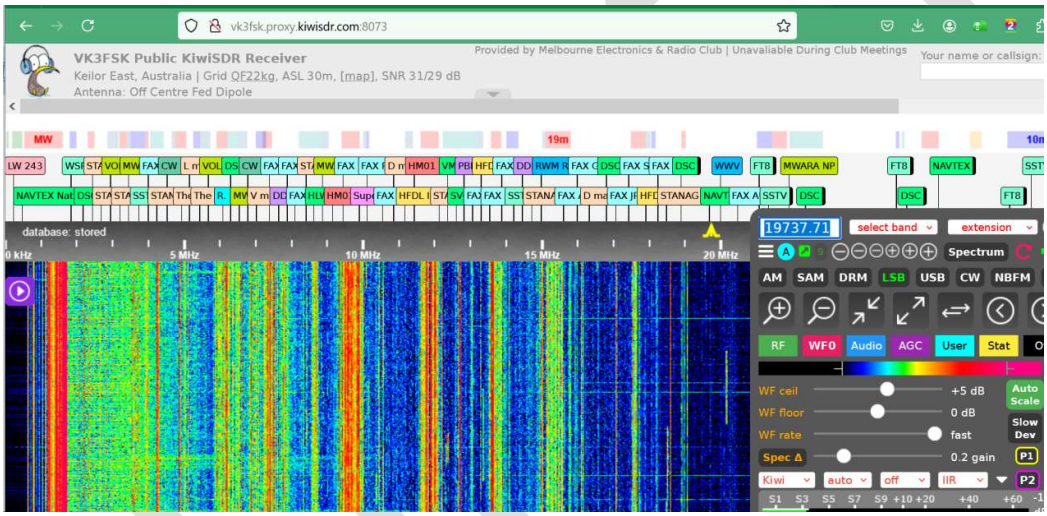
This will present a world map showing the locations of SDRs that you can connect to.

Pick one that suits... I usually try to find one that is close to my location: The following just

an example. Zooming into the map :



Double click on one of the available SDRs



Radio band	Frequency	Note/Listening
2200 Metres	135.7 - 137.8 kHz	
630 Metres	472 - 479 kHz	
160 Metres	1.800 - 1.875 MHz	
80 Metres	3.500 - 3.700 MHz 3.776 - 3.800 MHz	Listen early morning, early evening until late
40 Metres	7.000 - 7.300 MHz	Early morning til midday, mid/late afternoon early evening
30 Metres	10.100 - 10.150 MHz	
20 Metres	14.000 - 14.350 MHz	Mid /late afternoon til

		early evening
17 Metres	18.068 -18.168 MHz	
15 Metres	21.000 - 21.450 MHz	
12 Metres	24.890 - 24.990 MHz	
10 Metres	28.000 - 29.700 MHz	
6 Metres	50.000 - 54.000 MHz	

The Non VHF and above amateur bands are noted above.

Use these and any SDR to tune the bands and listen for activity.

These SDRs can be used for general listening across the shortwave bands.

This website https://www.bom.gov.au/marine/radio-sat/marine-weather-hf-radio.shtml details the marine weather HF radio service broadcas provided by the Bureau of Meteorology.

This website https://jackandjude.com/freestuff/oz-weather-info/ Though dated, goes into a bit more detail.

** draft**

Prepared Colin / VK3NCC