

SOTA stands for Summits On The Air, and was invented by British hams. It involves radio amateurs called Activators to climb any designated mountains and set up a portable radio station within 25m vertically from the peak. They then call CQ SOTA, and listeners have quick QSOs with them, much like a normal radio contest.

The Activators need to be fit and have the right clothing. They need lightweight and efficient stations, since they must carry it in and out of the area. They also need to carry safety gear to protect them if the weather turns nasty – as can happen suddenly on most mountains.

The Activators can win "Mountain Goat" awards from SOTA. And the hams who talk to them from home can win SOTA awards as a "Shack Sloth", because they work from the comforts of home. There are also awards for peak to peak contacts between SOTA Activators.

SOTA is popular in many countries already, and is now starting to happen in Australia.

VK1 recently celebrated its 6th-month anniversary of being active in SOTA. VK3 and VK5 are also active in SOTA, but VK2 is in the process of getting organised for it right now.

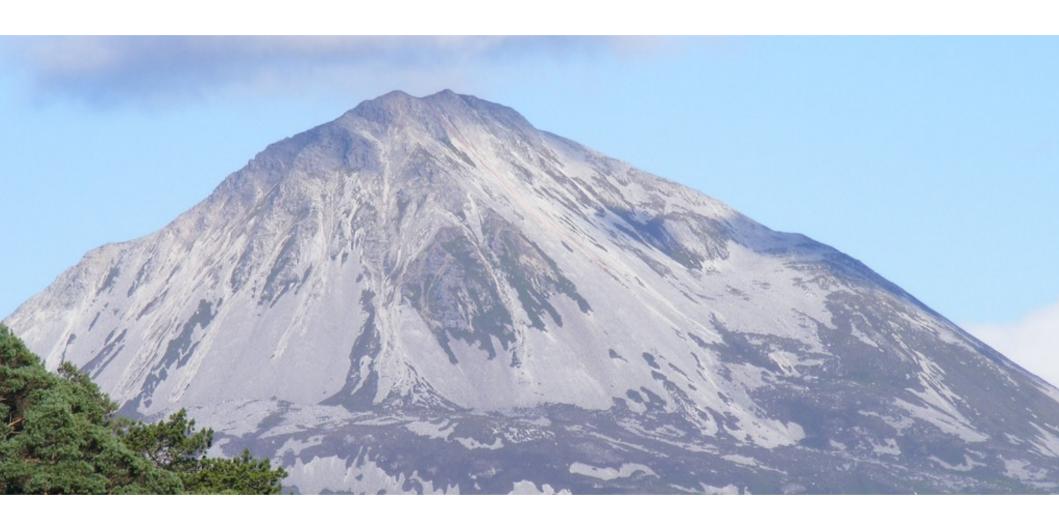
There is a list of eligible mountains in NSW that is being assessed by the home SOTA organisation back in the UK.

For more information, join Yahoo Groups. (Info at the end of this presentation.)



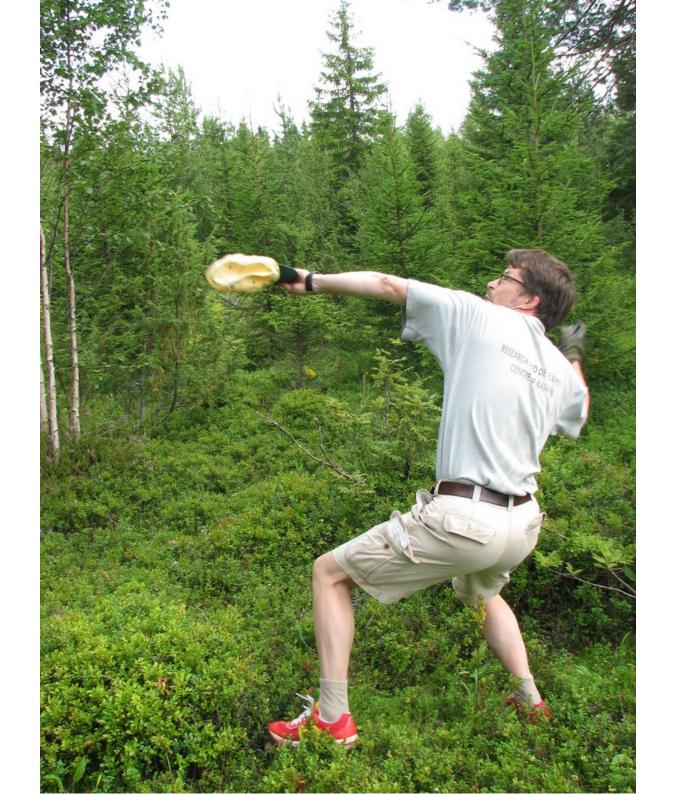














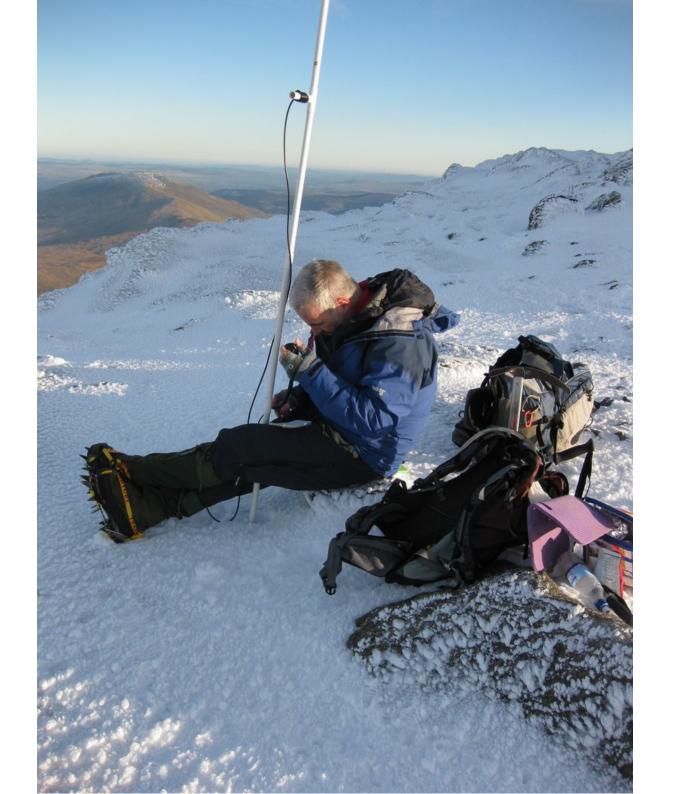












































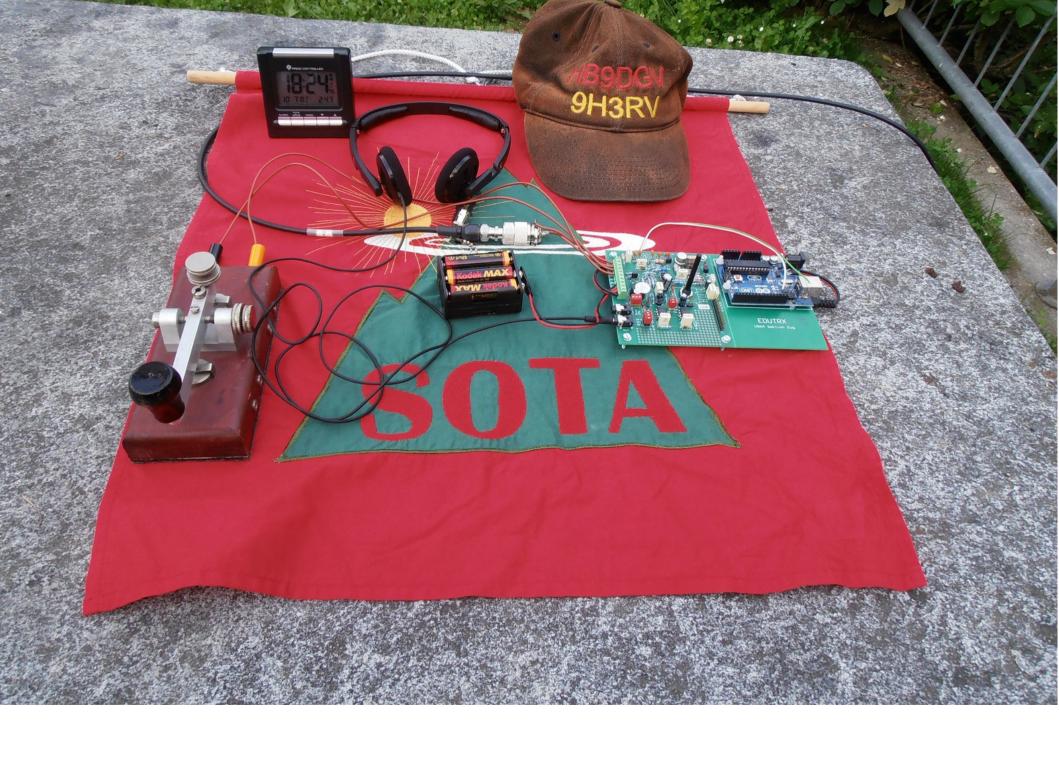




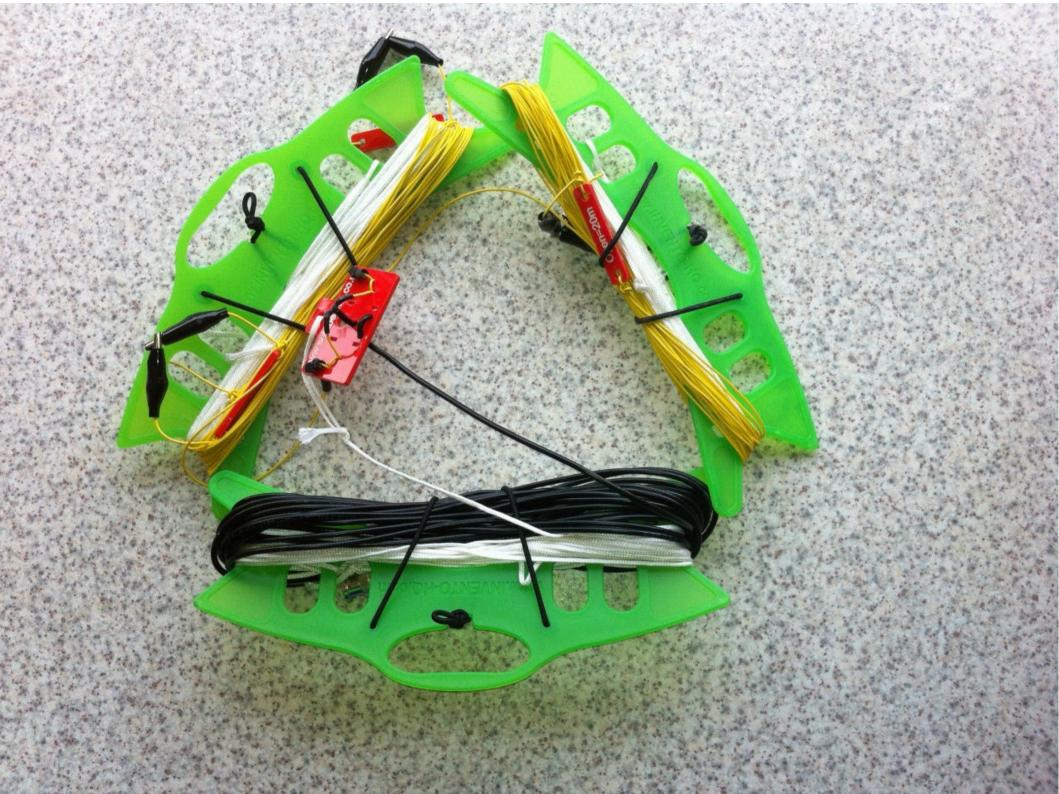
















Summits On The Air

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

Ian Sinclair VK1DI

In recognition of his achievement 100 points in the Activator Section

Barry Horning GM4TOE

Barry Horning Awards Manager

Qualifying date:

15 Jun 2013

Certificate number: SA-100-194

Summit to Summit Award

Recognising two-way Amateur Radio communication between SOTA summits

WK1DI lan Sinclair













Certificate No.: S2S-014

Endorsements:

Red 9 Jun 2013

Bronze Silver

Gold Platinum



Summits On The Air **Shack Sloth**

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

Peter Fraser VK3ZPF

In recognition of his achievement 1000 points in the Chaser Section

Barry Horning GM4TOE

Barry Horning Awards Manager

Qualifying date:

25 Apr 2013

Certificate number: SC-1000-159















The original parent body for Summits On The Air is:

http://www.sota.org.uk/

Then go to Yahoo Groups:

http://au.groups.yahoo.com/

Search for SOTA and you will find both SOTA_Australia, and SOTA_VK2

Then, go and *Google* the word SOTA, and you will discover scores of blogs and web sites all belonging to active hams who do SOTA.

Also, for pictures, go to flickr.com and search there for SOTA. That's where I got most of these photos from!

But SOTA isn't the only portable 2-way-radio game in town.

The WWFF (World-Wide Flora and Fauna in amateur radio) has awards, and VK5 hams are busy activating and working places such as National or Conservation Parks. There are probably more as well, but do look at:

http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/sanpcpa/

http://www.wwff.co/

73 from David, VK2DMH