

R.UKI CB RADIO GUIDE

All Neighbourhoods

GENERAL: You do NOT need a licence to buy/operate/talk over a CB radio.

A CB radio, also known as a *Citizens Band* radio, is a short-range communication device that lets you talk with another user with no fee.

The CB radio can reach up to a range of 5-kilometer radius but things like terrain, as well as the weather, affect the transmission/reception quality.

USEAGE:

Keep your handheld radio on its charging station so it is always charged.

Turn the volume down or turn the radio off, as all the local chatter [road works, landscaping, trucking etc] will drive you crazy. Keep it on the charge stand.

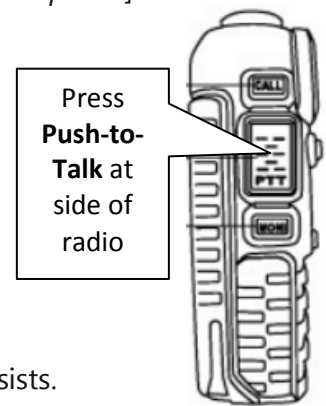
Turn your radio on and turn the volume to a reasonable level. [see end of notes re *Squelch*]

ALL CB radios are 'two way' but they can only talk **OR** listen. Not like a phone.

Press the **PTT** [*Press to Talk*] button to **talk** to the other party.

Talk across the face of the microphone rather than directly into it.

When you finish talking, leave a second or so before **releasing** the **PTT**, so you don't cut off your last words.



You can use your name or your Street+StreetNumber as your identifier:

[*Glenock142* or *Braeside24*] or both [*McCallum18/Tim*] –or whatever assists.

CALLING ANOTHER USER OR BASE

- 1) Change to a selected channel (your neighbourhood channel) or try the common channel **#11**
- 2) On the selected channel, firstly **listen** in to see if someone is already talking.
 - a. If they are talking – wait until they have a break or are finished
 - i. If it is **quiet**, press the **PTT** button and speak in a clear normal tone
Example: "*Kyogle123 calling McCallum18*"
 - ii. Do this 3 times, but no more than that. If you don't get a reply then wait 2 or more minutes
- 3) If they respond, tell them to change to another selected channel – to free-up the calling channel
 - a. Generally you would move to your local group second channel (or any unused channel).
- 4) If the channel you are using is not crowded, stay on that channel.
- 5) Both of you change to the 'new' 'clear/un-occupied channel and start your conversation.

Each R.UKI neighbourhood has separate channels so that we do not overlap another group's conversation. See over for ALL R.UKI channels. If you cannot raise your own neighbourhood, try a call-out on a neighbouring channel.

Try to keep the aerial vertical and, if reception is poor, try higher ground to transmit/receive.

*It is good practice to test/call your neighbourhood on a regular basis.
Next blackout you have, get on the radio to your neighbourhood!*

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On a fixed radio, the easiest way to change channels *quickly* is, by using the microphone/handset, type in three number channel:
so Ch9 = '009', Ch80 = '080', Ch18 = '018'

On a handheld use up/down arrows
or rotate one of the knobs on the top of your radio

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NEIGHBOURHOOD	Name shown on fixed radio	Main Channel	Back-Up
Bonnydoon/Braeside/Toon/Meadow	BRAE	16	17
Byrriil Creek	--	VHF	VHF
Doon Doon/Commissioners Creek/Midginbil	DOON	39	40
Dum Dum*	DUMDUM	15	
Kunghur	KUNGR	18	
Mt Burrell	MTBUR	25	
Mt Warning Road*	MTW-RD	28	
Rowlands Creek/Chowan Creek Road	ROWLD	26	27
Smiths Creek	SCRD	12	13
Uki to Terragon*	UKITER	9	
Uki Village	UKI	21	20
UKI BASE	UKIB	80	79
RFS	RFS	11	

If you cannot raise your own neighbourhood,
try a call-out on an adjoining neighbourhood channel.

Some basic protocol principles for good radio practice:

- **Do not talk over someone else.** If you hear someone talking, wait until you hear them stop before chiming in.
- **Only respond to a call that is for you.** Often people will call using a call sign. For example, they will report by saying, "Glenock91 to McCallum18, are you there?" A standard answer would be, "McCallum18 here, go ahead." The idea is that the call has been acknowledged and the message is waiting to be received.
- **Be aware that others could listen in.** Since many radio channels are open to the public and monitored via scanners and other devices, it is important to never give out confidential or private information since this information can be easily received by third parties.
- **Check in on a regular schedule.** During an emergency, check in with your neighbourhood hub every couple of hours to make sure that the radios are in good working order.
- **Get to know the short language of radio communications.** Clarity, simplicity, and brevity are the core rules for the language of radio communication. You're probably aware of some of them, like saying "over" to tell the listener you are done speaking
 - "Affirmative": Yes
 - "Negative": No
 - "Roger" or "Roger That": this means the message was heard and understood
 - "Stand By": Please wait
 - "Say Again": a simple way to get the speaker to repeat what they just said
 - "Over": I have finished speaking; often used at the end of a sentence to let the other party know they can speak
 - "Wilco": I will comply/follow instructions
 - "Copy": usually used in a sentence to confirm your message was heard/understood, as in "Do you copy me?"
 - "Out": This is said to indicate the conversation is finished ("Over and out." Is Ok as well)
 - "Break, Break, Break" is an important one to know – it is used to silence all conversation on the channel to communicate an emergency

- **Do not use a crowded channel for small talk.**

SQUELCH:

Squelch is a filter to remove background static. Generally you want to adjust squelch so it *just* cuts out the static. Too little: you only hear static, too much and you may filter out the voice component.

See your manual to adjust squelch. Manuals for most Handheld & Fixed radios are available from Google drive. Ask your friendly Hub operator.

Main controls and parts of the radio



1. **Antenna**
2. **Encoder:** rotate clockwise or counter-clockwise to select the different settings.
3. **Power/volume knob:** turn clockwise to power on and increase the volume level. Turn counter-clockwise to decrease the volume level and power off.
4. **Speaker**
5. **Built-in microphone**

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