

Changes to the CB class licence

My name is Simon Templar, [REDACTED] I have been a radio hobbyist for over 40 years including monitoring the CB Emergency Channels.

The use of Frequency Modulation on the HF band will be of benefit to the hobby for the availability of new AM/SSB radios is becoming more difficult with most regions around the world adopting AM/FM/SSB. FM is already common place on the band anyway.

The use of call channels on both CB bands may well be an out dated concept and officially dropping them is maybe a good idea. Keeping them as recommended channels is possibly the way forward.

I don't believe an inspector would have ever given consent to altering a CB radio for testing so there no need to have this.

Prohibition of certain 'on-air' conduct should remain in the act, the ACMA might not want to enforce this important part of the hobby but other law enforcement agencies need to have this available to them if required. I strongly request this remains.

There are several problems related to the Emergency channels on CB bands, not least of which is the deliberate lack of enforcement by the ACMA over many years allowing the miss use to get to the levels at which it is today. As a result active monitoring by volunteers has dramatically dropped. Unless new technology is allowed to be employed on Emergency channels to minimise miss use this in not going to change.

UHF channels 22 and 23 should not only become narrow band but relaxed to allow location services. As UHF channels 61, 62 and 63 they should be opened up for other data like packet radio that the average user can make use of rather than restricting it to commercial applications. Also at the same time one or two HF CB channels should be allowed to run location and packet radio services also.