



OXTALES

First published 1980

Club Nets on VK2RPM
146.700MHz
(CTCSS 91.5Hz)
Sundays
(during EADST at 0900)
(during EAST at 0830)
Every Thursday at 1930

Newsletter of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.,

PO Box 712 Port Macquarie 2444

Club email address: vk2bor@orarc.org

Club Website: <http://www.orarc.org>

ORARC's Forty-fifth Anniversary Year

November 2016

Compiled by VK2AYQ & VK2TT

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President's Report

JOTA 2016



On Saturday the 15th of October club members set up two stations for the 59th annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA).

VK2BOR operated from the club's communications caravan adjacent to the Port Macquarie Sea Scouts' Boatshed at McInherney Park on the banks of the Hastings River. The second station operated from the communications caravan of Lyle Smith VK2SMI which he set up the Wauchope Scout Hall. VK2BOR operated during the daylight hours of Saturday the 15th of October only but VK2SMI also operated on Saturday night and Sunday as well.

Please see the separate excellent report on the Wauchope JOTA station written by Lyle

ORARC VHF/UHF Repeaters

MIDDLE BROTHER

VK2RPM 2 metre (Voice - CTCSS 91.5Hz)
O/P 146.700MHz - I/P 146.100MHz

VK2RPM 70 cm (Voice - CTCSS 123Hz)
O/P 438.525MHz - I/P 433.525MHz
C4FM digital mode capability

VK2RPM-1 (APRS Digipeater)
SX 145.175MHz 1200bps

TELEGRAPH POINT

VK2RCN 2 metre (Voice)
O/P 147.000 MHz - I/P 146.400 MHz

VK2RCN 70 cm (Voice - CTCSS 123 Hz)
O/P 438.425MHz - I/P 433.425MHz

VK2RCN-1 (APRS Digipeater)
SX 145.175MHz 1200bps

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Down The Coax

Monthly meetings & Friday Nights held in
the S.E.S. Building Central Road, Port Macquarie.

Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 5 November 2016 2:00 pm

Friday Night Get-Together
Friday 18 November 2016 7.00 pm

Spring VHF-UHF Field Day
12 noon Sat 26 to 12 noon Sun 27 November 2016
VK2BOR North Brother Mountain Sat 26 Nov
Set up 9:00 am BBQ Lunch 12 noon

White Ribbon Port Macquarie Coastal Walk
Sunday 27 November 2016

ORARC Christmas Party
Saturday 3 December 2016
Long Point Winery Picnic Area
From 9 am. BBQ Lunch 12 noon
No December Monthly General Meeting

Friday Night Get-Together
Friday 16 December 2016 7.00 pm

Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 7 January 2017 2:00 pm

Friday Night Get-Together
Friday 20 January 2017 7.00 pm

Net Controllers' Roster

Nets on Voice Repeater VK2RPM 146.700 MHz

Sundays
(0900 AEDT)

Thursdays
(1930 AEDT)

November 2016

VK2FMGM Nov - 06 VK2ICQ Nov - 03

VK2CHC Nov - 13 VK2EM Nov - 10

VK2TT Nov - 20 VK2ZHE Nov - 17

VK2FMGM Nov - 27 VK2ICQ Nov - 24

December 2016

VK2CHC Dec - 04 VK2EM Dec - 01

VK2TT Dec - 11 VK2ZHE Dec - 08

VK2FMGM Dec - 18 VK2ICQ Dec - 15

VK2CHC Dec - 25 VK2EM Dec - 22

VK2ZHE Dec - 29

January 2017

VK2TT Jan - 01 VK2ICQ Jan - 05

VK2FMGM Jan - 08 VK2EM Jan - 12

VK2CHC Jan - 15 VK2ZHE Jan - 19

VK2TT Jan - 22 Jan - 26

VK2FMGM Jan - 29

(from front cover)

VK2SMI.

JOTA was very popular this year with Scouts and Guides at both locations very keen to make their on-air contacts.



Clubs communications caravan in position

HF was reasonable at Port Macquarie on the 40 and 20 metre horizontal dipoles set up along the river bank. As usual one leg of the 40 metre dipole was over water as it spanned over the boat ramp. This year the feed point of the 40 metre dipole was elevated an extra 2 metres to ensure that there would be more than sufficient clearance for the tall masts of some of the sailing boats using the ramp.

VK2BOR made many contacts on 40 metres and all the Scouts and Guides patiently waiting for their turns on air got to talk with JOTA stations in NSW, ACT and Queensland. Many stations were heard on 20 metres but very few of them were JOTA stations. A far cry from the great HF DX contacts that we took for granted during previous solar cycles, but much better propagation than in some of the recent years.

A highlight of the day was listening to the 2016 JOTA/JOTI opening address by Chief Scout of Australia Sir Peter

Cosgrove and Chief Guide of Australia Lady Cosgrove. This year the signal from VK2WI was loud and clear on 40 metres at Port Macquarie when VK2WI transmitted the opening address. A large number of the Scouts and Guides gathered in the Club's Communications Caravan and attentively listened to the address. The quality of the audio was particularly good as the strong signal enabled us to listen in the AM mode. VK2BOR was among a great many JOTA stations that called back to VK2WI after the opening address.

This year we did not end up working any JOTA stations via EchoLink from VK2BOR. Interestingly, after we had packed up the caravan and most of the Scouts and Guides had departed for the day, a couple of UK JOTA stations connected to the VK2RPM 2 metre repeater via Echolink and called CQ but it was too late to respond to them. They didn't stay long before disconnecting and no doubt trying other Australian Echolink Nodes where I am certain they would have found other JOTA stations still active.

At Port Macquarie the 1st Port Macquarie Sea Scouts set up several outdoor activities and a sausage sizzle. The outdoor activities nicely complimented JOTA. The Jamboree on the Internet was set up with several computers under a marquee erected adjacent to the Communications Caravan. This year was the 20th JOTI. JOTI was popular but interestingly, most Scouts and Guides ranked talking on the radio for JOTA, sailing and canoeing, and Morse Code as their favourite activities. The weather was fine and sunny with a good Nor'Easter so it was a perfect day for the water activities.

Thank you to the many members who helped to make JOTA such a great success. Lyle has separately thanked the Wauchope participants in his report. At Port Macquarie, thank you to Mark McGuire VK2FMGM who helped Henry Lundell VK2ZHE set up and run VK2BOR for the
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day, and to Ivan Southwell VK2FIJN who assisted with the packing up at the end of the day.

Beechwood Billycart Classic



This year the Beechwood Billycart Classic was held on Sunday the 23rd of October 2016. This event is run down the longest course in Australia. It is about 5 kilometres long. As usual, ORARC members provided the safety communications for the event. The safety communications is critical to the running of the Classic. Richard Court VK2CHC again co-ordinated the many volunteers who were needed to man all the check points, and to set up and operate the communications for the commentary vehicle, the finish and public address interface, the net control and the liaison with first aid.

Thank you to all the volunteers. There are too many names to include in this report but those who participated in the day will recognize themselves in the group photographs included in this issue of "Oxtales". Paul Colledge VK2ICQ again enjoyed an adrenalin fueled white knuckle ride in the commentary vehicle. Lyle Smith VK2SMI provided the public address interface and the liaison with the officials. Don't forget to read Lyle's amazing story of being reunited with the magnet that he thought he had lost forever from the magnetic antenna base that he used last year!



Crew assembling for briefing Dennis VK2DAM, Dave VK2AYD, Bob VK2ZRE, Steve VK2ZSW, Lyle VK2SMI, John VK2AYQ, Bob VK2FBOB, Arthur VK2ATM, Rob VK2CRF Larry VK2CLL, Mark VK2FMGM, Peter VK2MPK.



Richard VK2CHC wearing a camouflage jacket gives the 'how to be a flag marshal 101 course' to Bob VK2ZRE, Steve VK2ZSW, John VK2AYQ and Larry VK2CLL.



Waiting to lead out Paul VK2CIQ, Paula VK2FPDC, and Dennis VK2DAM.



Some of the carts in the race

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Cheering spectators line the finishing line



The event ran smoothly. The leading carts managed some serious speeds down the mountain and provided a great sight for the spectators who watched from their favourite strategic vantage points. This year, in a departure from the order in previous years, the main race was run and completed before the junior event started.



Junior events are always fun to watch.

As always, Beechwood put on entertainment with food and drink stalls to make the Classic an enjoyable family day

out. In keeping with tradition, the weather was perfect.



Plenty of refreshments available

2WAY FM community radio broadcast live from the finish. Henry Lundell VK2ZHE as ORARC president was ushered to the desk for an interview after the races were completed.



Henry VK2ZHE being interviewed by "SAV" from 2WAYFM

The organisers formally thanked ORARC for its role in helping to make the Classic safe and enjoyable. ORARC received a cheque for \$150.00 as a kind donation which will greatly assist with club projects. We look forward continuing our long-standing support and participating in next year's event.



A formidable body of ORARC club members. Henry VK2ZHE, Steve VK2ZSW, Rob VK2CRF, Mark VK2FMGM, Larry VK2CLL, Bob VK2ZRE and Lyle VK2SMI.

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Spring VHF UHF Field Day

The annual Spring VHF UHF Field Day takes place from 01:00 hours UTC on Saturday the 26th of November to 01:00 hours on Sunday the 27th of November 2016. This equates to 12 noon Saturday to 12 noon Sunday Eastern Australian Daylight Saving Time.

The contest rules are available on the WIA website at <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/documents/2016%20Spring%20VHF-UHF%20Field%20Day%20Rules.pdf>

The ORARC club station VK2BOR will participate in the Field Day during daylight hours on the afternoon of Saturday the 26th of November 2016 from North Brother Mountain. As the road up the mountain is not suitable for caravans the club's communications caravan will not be used. Instead, VK2BOR will be set up in a gazebo for shelter.

It is intended to operate on 6 metres, 2 metres, 70 centimetres and hopefully on 23 centimetres as well. Horizontal gain antennas will be used to work stations in the SSB mode. North Brother Mountain is a proven VHF DX location with excellent unobstructed coastal outlooks to both the north and south so there is an expectation of making long distance contacts as far as at least Sydney and Brisbane. Contact VK2BOR Station Manager Lyle Smith VK2SMI if you are able to assist by bringing antennas and equipment for the station.

Set up will be from 9 am with a sausage sizzle lunch to provide sustenance for the afternoon's operating. Everyone is welcome. It is great opportunity to participate in a VHF UHF Field Day and enjoy a day on the mountain.

North Brother Mountain is near Laurieton. The road up the mountain is called Captain Cook Bicentennial Drive. It is

well signposted and runs off Ocean Drive about half way between Laurieton and Lakewood Village.

Christmas Party

Members and their families and friends are cordially invited to attend the club's 2016 Christmas Party on Saturday the 3rd of December. While the party itself will feature the traditional sausage sizzle lunch followed by fruit salad and ice-cream provided by the club, the venue this year will be different. The new venue is the picnic area at the Long Point Vineyard and Art Gallery at 6 Coinda Place, Lake Cathie. Coinda Place runs off Long Point Drive which in turn runs off Houston Mitchell Drive. This is the "Ghost Road" which runs between Ocean Drive just south of Lake Cathie, and the Pacific Highway. The location is easy to find but a map is available on the Vineyard web site at <http://www.longpointvineyard.com.au/contact-us/>

Please see the separate notice of the Christmas Party in this issue of "Oxtales".

During the Christmas Party, Bruce Ekert VK2EM will demonstrate his portable digital HF station which he will set up so people will be able to see the station in action making JT65 digital contacts.

For many years the ORARC Christmas Parties have been held at Settlement Point Reserve but that venue has become far too popular and the overcrowding has made it difficult for our members to relax and enjoy the day. Thank you to Secretary Jim Neil VK2VIV for finding the new venue and negotiating free use of the picnic facilities for the ORARC Christmas Party.

In another break with tradition, the club's communications caravan will be not on site for the party but the club will still provide tea and coffee and soft drinks as usual.

In a further break with tradition, there will not be a December Monthly General Meeting during the Christmas Party. If business arises during December such items will be discussed *(continued on next page)*

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at the normal December Friday Night Get Together at the SES Building at 7:30 pm on Friday the 16th of December 2016. The next Monthly Meeting will be the normal January Monthly General Meeting at the SES Building at 2 pm on Saturday the 7th of January 2017.

ORARC 2017 Calendar

Steve Wynn VK2ZSW has been busy creating the club's 2017 calendar. Calendars will be available at the Christmas Party for a mere \$2 each. The annual calendar has become a "must have" for every ham shack. The calendar is indispensable for putting a face to members' callsigns. In addition the calendar will ensure that you never miss a club meeting or net.

2017 Callbook

The club will have a limited number of copies of the 2017 Amateur Radio Callbook available as soon as they are printed in late November. Price is yet to be confirmed but it is expected that they will be approximately \$25 each. Please contact club president, Henry Lundell VK2ZHE vk2zhe@orarc.org, to reserve your copy. Mobile phone number is 0427 947 921. The callbooks are running a little later than usual this year so there will be a big rush for them when they are released.

Middle Brother Repeaters VK2RPM

The radio link site on Middle Brother Mountain at which the VK2RPM repeaters are located is now owned by TPG Telecommunications. They will soon be upgrading the site. It is hoped that after the upgrade works are completed the interference that has been reducing the sensitivity of the VK2RPM 146.7 MHz two metre repeater will be less of a problem.

The VK2RPM 438.525 MHz UHF

repeater continues to provide excellent coverage. This repeater supports C4FM digital transmissions in addition to analogue FM. The repeater is set to the auto mode and will retransmit in the mode that it receives. Analogue FM access requires a 123 Hz CTCSS tone. The repeater transmits a 123 Hz CTCSS tone on analogue FM transmissions so users can use tone squelch to only hear analogue transmissions and not have to listen to "noise" during C4FM digital transmissions. It is good to hear stations making use of the C4FM digital mode. Remember though, that if you hear digital transmissions but only have an analogue FM transceiver, you can always break in as the repeater will automatically switch back to analogue FM as soon as you transmit in the analogue mode. Most users have their transceivers set the auto mode so reversion back to analogue FM is totally seamless.

The VK2RPM-1 APRS digipeater works well. It is pleasing to see a good number of both local and transiting APRS trackers being digipeated.

Telegraph Point Repeaters VK2RCN

The VK2RCN 147.0 MHz two metre repeater, 438.425 MHz UHF repeater and the VK2RCN-1 APRS digipeater are all working well.

The VK2RCN 147.0 MHz two metre repeater is one of the few repeaters that does not require a CTCSS tone for access.

The 438.425 MHz UHF repeater needs a 123 Hz CTCSS tone for access. Like the Middle Brother VK2RPM 438.525 MHz repeater, the VK2RCN 438.425 MHz UHF repeater is C4FM digital capable and is set to the auto mode so works in exactly the same way.

Work is well advanced on completing the duplexer for the VK2RCN 6 metre
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repeater. This repeater will have an output frequency of 53.8 MHz and an input frequency of 52.8 MHz.

In the new year the VK2RCN mast guy wires will be replaced. At the same time the new antenna for the 6 metre repeater will be installed. During the mast works there will be some interruptions to the existing repeaters. When the works are completed the VK2RCN 6 metre repeater will be installed.

I wish all members and their families and friends a safe and happy Christmas and best wishes for 2017.

Henry Lundell VK2ZHE
President

White Ribbon Coastal Walk Sunday 27th November 2016



Mayor Peter Besseling at last years walk

This year's White Ribbon Coastal Walk takes place on Sunday the 27th of November 2016. The walk commences at 8 am from the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club at Lighthouse Beach. The finish is at the Town Green in Port Macquarie. Walkers can start from

Lighthouse Beach, Flynn's Beach or from the Town Beach Kiosk. A bus will transport walkers from the Town Green to the Lighthouse Beach and Flynn's Beach starts.

Full details of the walk and an entry form are available at <http://www.pmhastingsdfv.com.au/events-1/white-ribbon>

Members of ORARC provided the safety communications for the event last year and we have been invited to provide the safety communications again for this year's walk. This is a call for at least 10 volunteers to assist with communications for the walk on Sunday the 27th of November 2016. The bus for walkers leaves the Town Green at 07:30 am and the opening address at the start at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club takes place at 07:50 am with the walkers starting at 08:00 am. The event should be over by 12 noon. Communications will need to be in place by 07:30 am. Net control will run from the Town Green and check points can close down when all the walkers have reached the next check point. The walk is an important community event that the club is proud to support.

Check Points:

Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club at Lighthouse Beach
Shelly Beach Picnic area
Flynn's Beach Surf Life Saving Club
Town Beach Kiosk
Town Green Port Macquarie

Two operators are needed for each check point so that someone can remain at the radio in the event that it is necessary to speak with the officials at the location.

If you can help, please contact Henry Lundell VK2ZHE vk2zhe@orarc.org or phone 0427 947 921

Sunday the 27th of November is the day after the VK2BOR Spring VHF UHF Field Day at North Brother Mountain. Both these events will be discussed at the ORARC November Friday Night Get Together in the SES Building at 7:30 pm on Friday the 18th of November 2016.

The ORARC Christmas party will be held this year at a fabulous new venue:

[The Long Point Vineyard & Art Gallery](#)

6 Coinda Place, Lake Cathie

Saturday 3rd Dec, 2016, at 10am.

The December monthly meeting, usually held at this event, has been postponed to encourage our partners to attend and enjoy the party.

The Entrance Gate



(Below) The large viewing deck which overlooks the picnic area, has been reserved for our Christmas Get-together. There is one large table with seating, but it might be advisable to bring a chair and a small table if you have one. There is plenty of shade with a covered BBQ, and the toilets are nearby. Members can drive up to the area, unload, then park back under the shade of the trees.

The club will supply the usual BBQ meal, as well as a pre-lunch cheese platter.



ORARC - JOTA Wauchope 2016



On Saturday the 15th of October, I arrived at the 2nd Wauchope Scout hall with my communication caravan in tow, ready for JOTA. I was welcomed by 18 scouts and several leaders.

Shortly after, Rob, VK2CRF, arrived and we erected a 20/40/80 fan dipole from a squid pole and readied ourselves for the event. Stuart, VK2FSTU, and Peter, VK2MPK, arrived later in the day, assisting with the scouts to make contacts.

Scouts arrived in small groups at the caravan and contacts were made. Each scout chatted to other scouts/guides/cubs from around Australia.

Propagation was working in our favour, with a total of 22 contacts made, with an estimated on-air time of around 12 hours over the weekend.

The scouts continued to return to the caravan over the weekend during the other activities that were running.

During the day, we setup a Diamond CPVU-8 multiband antenna on a six foot pole, and a FT-991 with computer. We demonstrated the digital mode, JT65, in receive operation. This was viewed as an interesting activity in weak signal contacts by the scouts.

The International Space Station was also a subject of discussion over the weekend, with the trackers from

www.isstracker.com and www.iss.astroviewer.net also running on a computer. Unfortunately, we kept forgetting it was due to pass over and did not see it, but I was awoken during Saturday night with a short conversation (15 seconds or so) received on the 145.800 MHz downlink frequency left running in the caravan.

Sunday morning resulted in an invasion of the caravan of scouts and visiting cubs wanting to talk to other groups. The radios were fired up and contacts continued until lunch time.

After lunch, activities involved packing up the camp site and with that, I started to pack up the radio gear. I left the camp site around 2pm after receiving a B.R.A.V.O.O.O from the scouts, and delivering my response on behalf of the participating club stations and members.

Next year the scouts may be attending a district camp up north, so we will see what plans will be needed closer to the event.

Ideas for future JOTA weekends – CW demonstration, ISS contact and use of the ISS repeaters, more digital modes, scouts assisting in tower erection for antennae, EME and fox hunting. Scouts are potential new amateurs and their involvement should be encouraged.

Lyle VK2SMI

Vale: Coralie Ann Dawson



Coralie enjoying a moment with long time partner Bill VK2ZCV (SK)

It is with sadness that we record the passing of Coralie Dawson. Coralie had been a long-time partner of Bill Sinclair VK2ZCV (SK) who recently became a Silent Key as reported in September 2016 "Oxtales".

Coralie passed away peacefully on the South Coast of NSW surrounded by her loving Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. She was aged 75 Years.

The funeral service for Coralie was held at Kembla Grange on Friday 21st of October 2016.

The funeral notice was published in the "Illawarra Mercury" on the 19th of October, 2016

Thank you to Keith Anderson VK2FKJA for advising the club of Coralie's passing. Coralie will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Submitted by Henry Lundell VK2ZHE on behalf of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.



Coralie enjoying a Christmas get together with Heather, Dennis VK2DAM, and Bill VK2ZCV (SK)



Coralie receiving a prize from Henry VK2ZHE in the Major Raffle draw at the 2012 Field Day with Bill VK2ZCV (SK) in the background.

Blast from the Past

In this section we have been selecting items from past Oxtales.

Paul VK2ICQ keeps an archive of Oxtales on the club's website www.orarc.org *Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club*. These articles provide hours of fascinating reading. It is interesting to see what the club was doing 10 years ago. I have reproduced the Magazine Index from Oxtales November 2006 which was our 100 issue.

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As one can see we have been involved in events such as JOTA and the Beechwood Billy Car Classic for a considerable length of time. Oxtales then was only distributed in paper form and we had far fewer photographs than today. Partly because cameras were bulkier and had to be remembered to be taken specifically to events; unlike today when many of us have a smart phone with us all of the time!



The sandwiches were given exotic names for the fillings!



Competition the first club member who can name, with the call signs, all of the people in the photographs on this page will receive a copy of the 2017 club's calendar at the clubs Christmas Party in December.



To claim prize please present names to the editor.

Equipment from the past



Heathkit HW-101 Transceiver

Heathkit used to produce a variety of kits that amateurs could assemble to produce a very desirable amateur radio station. These kits contained all parts for the build. The constructional manual was enormous and contained exploded diagrams to guide the constructor through the build process. *(Editor's note: It is fascinating to download the manual as a pdf file from the net just to see the detail of construction).* The final build was a fine piece of equipment that would rival many of the transceivers on sale at the time.

The Heathkit HW-101 above was released for Christmas 1970 and was offered for sale for about 12 years. Building the kit offered considerable savings; for example the kit was around \$400 USD compared with a similar specification Yaseu at more than \$1,300 USD. Many amateurs took the time and built a HW-101 for their shacks. The sets would glow in the dark as they used 20 valves! *(Editor's note: Unbuilt HW-101 kits can still be found on ebay today at prices between \$1,000 and \$2,000 USD and are considered to be collectors items).*

It would probable have taken a dedicated constructor at least a month of solid work for the build and alignment. However if constructed with care the result was a magnificent piece of useful equipment.

A power supply, speaker and microphone was needed to complete the station set up.

General Specifications:

Frequency coverage: 80 to 10 meters
 Power output: 100 watts to 15 meters
 80 on 10 meters.
 Mode: SSB (A3J) and CW (A1)

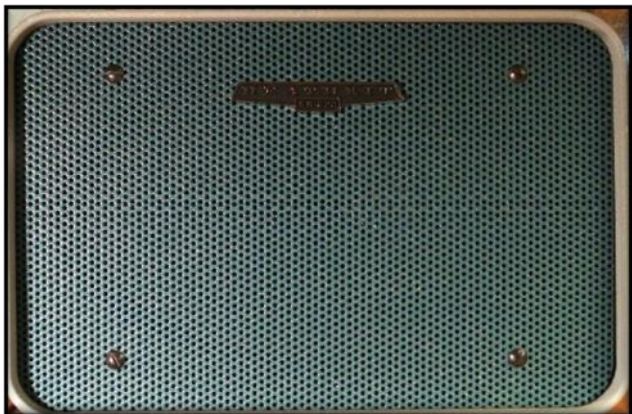
Valves:

OA2	Regulator
6HS6	RF Amp
6HS6	1st receiver mixer
6AU6	Isolation amp
6AU6	1st IF amp
6AU6	2nd IF amp
6BN8	Product detector and AVC
6AU6	VFO Amp
6CB6	2nd transmitter mixer.
6CL6	Driver
6EA8	Speech amp and cathode follower.
6EA8	1st transmitter mixer
6EA8	2nd receiver mixer and relay amp
6EA8	CW side tone oscillator and amp
6GW8	Audio amp and audio output
12AT7	Heterodyne oscillator
12AT7	VOX amp and calibrator oscillator
12AU7	Sideband oscillator
6146 x2	Final amps

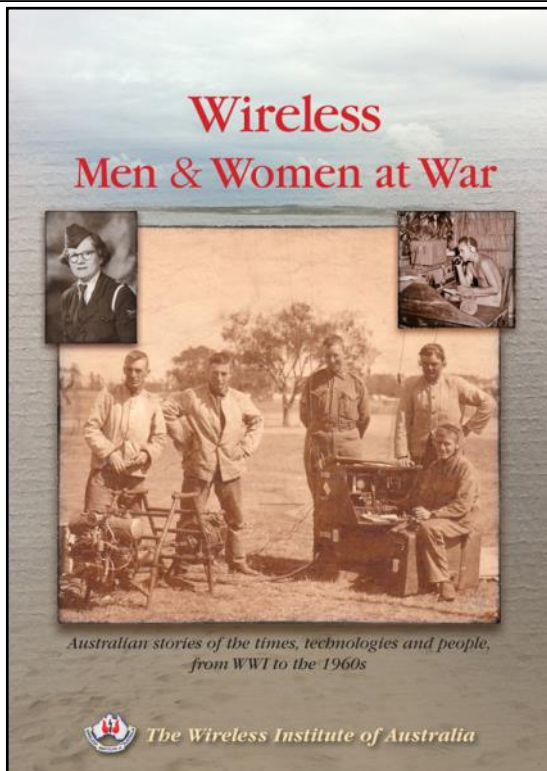
Power requirements:

700 to 850 volts at 250 mA
 300 volts at 150 mA
 -115 volts at 10 MA
 12 volts ac/dc at 4.76 amps

A popular power supply and speaker combination



was the HP-23 and SB-600 combination Note the size of the transformer in the power supply.



Pre-sales of history book begin

Author : Jim Linton - VK3PC

The WIA Bookshop is now taking orders for the 'Wireless Men and Women at War' publication that details the history of wireless communications before World War I, and in later years and conflicts. The price is \$29.95 plus postage for members and \$35 for non-members, plus postage.

The pre-sale period is now available, with a discount applying for orders received by December 21. The pre-sale price for Members is \$23.00 and non members \$28.00

WIA Historian Peter Wolfenden VK3RV has fully researched the content. Together

with numerous additional contributors, the WIA Board fully supports this timely record of history as a must read volume.

Selected Contents

World War I:

- An inspired experimenter and leader: Walter Hannam – his part of the jigsaw!
- The spark gap signal that changed ANZAC history: Telegrapher William Wolseley Falconer, RAN

Between the Wars:

- Bert Billings XJP, his service through WWI and WWII [The First and Last ANZAC Wireless Operator?]
- YLs at War
- HK Love A3BM/VK3KU: WW1 fighter pilot, engineer, magazine editor, explorer, electronics developer, WIA executive

World War II:

- "Snow" Campbell VK3MR, International DXer, Prisoner Of War
- Making 'Winnie the war winner'
- Recollections of Air Warning and Coast Watching in New Guinea

The modern Era:

- Australians at war get a radio station
- Radio DJ Vietnam
- Things Naval

Epilogue

- The ANZAC 100 activities begin
- The Centenary of Gallipoli: The opening address for the Centenary celebrations
- Closure of the ANZAC Centenary
- Stories from Centenary activation events.

The WIA Publications Committee is proud to make it available and after printing the book will be a mail order item from the WIA Bookshop. To secure your limited edition copy, visit the WIA website.

The Case of the Missing Antenna Magnetic Base

It happened in 2015, at the Beechwood Billycart Classic, but was not discovered until a week ago, while preparing for this year's event.

Running the commentary interface from the PA-truck, involves the use of an external antennae on the hand-held radio (Baofeng UV5R), and, last year, I had used a 409shop, SMA, magnetic-based dual-band cheapie device, at \$20 for the purpose. As the PA-truck had a metal frame to cover with tarps (for weather protection be it rain or hot sun) I had just "stuck" the antenna/base up on top of the frame and the coverage was satisfactory for the purpose.

In the process of preparing my gear for *this* year's event, the radios, antenna and interface were pulled out of storage and charged/checked. At this point, I noticed that the magnetic-base of the antenna was discovered missing! "Oh crap!", plus other words, were spoken... \$20 down the tube and little time to arrange a replacement! Consequently, a roll of electrical tape was added to the kit to cover the missing magnetic base.

Sunday morning arrived and off to Beechwood I went. When it came time to set-up the gear, I was preparing to attach my antenna, when I looked down and there, on the back of the truck, stuck to the metal tool-box lid, was the missing magnetic base!

Initially, I thought it couldn't be! But I looked at it, and checked the base of the antenna, and then pushed it into place with a perfect fit, complete with the plastic scratch resistant cover! How could this be?... 12-months on the back of a truck, travelling all over the Hastings, the weather, the pot-holes, the loading and unloading of cargo, and, potentially tens or hundreds of people on and off the truck and there was my missing magnetic base.

The moral of this story is "not everything lost, is lost forever", but to be on the safe side, I will be gluing the magnetic base back in place... soon. And yes, I checked it when I finished this year, to make sure it came home with me.

- Lyle (VK2SMI)

For Sale

From John VK2KC

Rare Multimeter fuses for sale

I have for sale six 1" x 1/4" 10 amp 600v genuine Bussman TDC180-10A fuses to suit some digital multimeters.

These fuses are very hard to get, and extremely expensive, check eBay, you will get a shock!

The cost is \$2.50 each, let me know by email vk2kc@bigpond.com if you wish to purchase.

73

John McLean
VK2KC

2017 Club Calendars

The 2017 Club Calendars will be on sale for \$2 at the December Christmas Party. These calendars will help put face to the name and call sign.

2017 Call Book

Remember to contact Henry VK2ZHE (President) to secure a 2017 call book. Estimated cost approximately \$25.



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