



# OXTALES

First published 1980

Newsletter of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.

PO Box 712 Port Macquarie 2444

Club e-mail address: vk2bor@orarc.org

Club Website: www.orarc.org

ORARC's Forty-first Anniversary Year

Club Nets on VK2RPM  
146.700MHz  
(CTCSS 91.5Hz)  
Every Sunday at 0830  
Every Thursday at 1930

## July 2012

Compiled by VK2TT & VK2AYQ

PRESIDENT: Henry Lundell VK2ZHE 6582.0534  
VICE PRES: Bruce Walker VK2HOT 6583.8360  
TREASURER: Keith Anderson VKFKJA 6586.3988  
SECRETARY: John McLean VK2KC 6584.6220

### President's Report

The ORARC 2012 Field Day was a great success over the Saturday and Sunday of the June 2012 Queens Birthday long weekend. The Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club hall in Matthew Flinders Drive again proved to be a great venue with plenty of room in the hall and no parking problems. The hall had been freshly painted and new carpet laid just before the Field Day.



This year the weather was fine throughout the two days of activities although it did rain on the Sunday night. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the weekend with many complimentary comments regarding the venue and the excellent catering together with the strong support from the traders who attended. No-one went hungry and lots of people found great bargains from the traders, and at the disposals tables.

Raffle first prize winner Rob Frost VK2CRF was extremely pleased with his Uniden 80 channel UHF CB transceiver donated by Jaycar Port Macquarie. Prior to the drawing of the Lucky Door prizes Paul Webster VK2BZC was seen seeking out details of the Baofeng VHF/UHF transceiver donated as first prize by VK4ICE Communications. To say that

### 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

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 held in the S.E.S.  
Building Central Road, Port Macquarie.

Friday Night Get-Together  
Friday 20 July 7.00 pm

Annual General Meeting and Monthly  
Meeting  
Saturday August 4 2pm

Remembrance Day Contest  
Saturday 11 August 1pm QTH VK2ZHE  
Concludes Sunday 12 August 1pm

Friday Night Get-Together  
Friday 17 August 7.00 pm

International Lighthouse Lightship  
Weekend  
Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 August 2012  
(Contact Bruce VK2HOT for set up times)

## e-mail Directory

Reflects ALL changes notified up to  
30th June 2012 for Financial Members at that date

VK2AG	LEWIS	lewisgreen@bigpond.com
VK2EI	NEIL	neilsan@tpg.com.au
VK2EJ	CHRIS	Chris@CalmDowns.org.au
VK2EM	BRUCE	vk2em@tpg.com.au
VK2KC	JOHN	vk2kc@bigpond.com
VK2RR	ROSS	urracov8@gmail.com
VK2TT	TREVOR	grumps@midcoast.com.au
VK2VV	GRAHAM	vk2vv@wia.org.au
VK5DK	COLIN	vk5dk@bigpond.com
VK5JL	LES	lnbjanes@tpg.com.au
VK5NC	TREVOR	vk5nc@bigpond.com
VK2ATM	ARTHUR	arfamo@midcoast.com.au
VK2AYD	DAVID	dvdply@midcoast.com.au
VK2AYQ	JOHN	hansenjo@ozemail.com.au
VK2BEL	ALAN	bellybengal@gmail.com
VK2BST	BILL	vk4bst@optusnet.com.au
VK2BZC	PAUL	paul.b@exemail.com.au
VK2CHC	RICHARD	yachtsman@midcoast.com.au
VK2CLL	LARRY	vk2cll@gmail.com
VK2CRF	ROBERT	robfrst780@hotmail.com
VK2CZF	CAROLINE	fletcher@physics.usyd.edu.au
VK2DDL	STAN	stanellis89@bigpond.com
VK2DEL	PAUL	gracie12@tpg.com.au
VK2DFN	DAVID	davidnewey@ymail.com
VK2EJK	BOB	rbr01962@bigpond.net.au
VK2EVB	PETER	vk2evb@swiftdsl.com.au
VK2HOT	BRUCE	bw_vk2hot@yahoo.com.au
VK2HPF	PETER	fletcher@physics.usyd.edu.au
VK2KCE	CHARLES	cpedmond@midcoast.com.au
VK2KSM	STUART	stuartmelville@bigpond.com
VK2LPN	LEONIE	leonienewey@ymail.com
VK2UPR	PAUL	vk2upr@dodo.com.au
VK2VIV	JIM	jim.neil@gmail.com
VK2VQT	COL	colinpterry@bigpond.com

## Net Controllers' Roster

Nets on Voice Repeater VK2RPM 146.700 MHz

Sundays  
(0830 Local)

Thursdays  
(1930 Local)

Jul 2012

VK2TT	Jul - 01	VK2ZHE	Jul - 05
VK2OA	Jul - 08	VK2EM	Jul - 12
VK2CHC	Jul - 15	VK2ATM	Jul - 19
VK2TT	Jul - 22	VK2ZHE	Jul - 26
VK2OA	Jul - 29		

Aug 2012

VK2CHC	Aug - 05	VK2EM	Aug - 02
VK2TT	Aug - 12	VK2ATM	Aug - 09
VK2OA	Aug - 19	VK2ZHE	Aug - 16
VK2CHC	Aug - 26	VK2EM	Aug - 23
		VK2ATM	Aug - 30

Sep 2012

VK2TT	Sep - 02	VK2ZHE	Sep - 06
VK2OA	Sep - 09	VK2EM	Sep - 13
VK2CHC	Sep - 16	VK2ATM	Sep - 20
VK2TT	Sep - 23	VK2ZHE	Sep - 27
VK2OA	Sep - 30		

## e-mail Directory Cont'd

VK2XDX	PAUL	pauliejane@bigpond.com	
VK2XOF	MARK	m.blackmore@optusnet.com.au	
VK2ZCM	CRAIG	vk2zcm@dodo.com.au	
VK2ZCV	BILL	ws54224@bigpond.net.au	
VK2ZCW	BILL	cabrooke@westnet.com.au	
VK2ZHE	HENRY	hlundell@bigpond.net.au	
VK2ZIS	GRAEME	admiral@midcoast.com.au	
VK2ZTM	TIM	tim.ztm@gmail.com	
VK2FABJ	AILSA	cabrooke@westnet.com.au	
VK2FBRG	BARRY	fgilsen@bigpond.net.au	
VK2FCVI	LYLE	vk2fcvi@cv27.net	
VK2FGAA	JOHN	winch@midcoast.com.au	
VK2FJDH	JOSH	joshuaholmes91@gmail.com	
VK2FJKD	JIM	jaidanl@bigpond.com	
VK2FKJA	KEITH	vk2fkja@exemail.com.au	
VK2FMDW	MICHAEL	wardymd@gmail.com	
VK2FMJT	JOHN	vk2fmjt@gmail.com	
VK2FVAA	TONY	tony.perett1@bigpond.com	
VK9FLHI	DES	lhibluelag@bigpond.com	
	TBA	ROY	rjburgess@bigpond.com

Thank You to the Traders who Supported the  
ORARC 2012 Field Day

Radio Supply Pty Ltd  
VK4ICE Communications  
Jaycar Electronics Port Macquarie  
Amateur Radio NSW  
Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association  
(ALARA)  
John Alcorn VK2JWA

*(President's report continued from Page 1)*

Paul was over the moon at winning this radio would be an understatement! The two soldering stations donated by Radio Supply of Bellingen were particularly coveted.

The Field Day dinner at the Port Macquarie Golf Club at Tacking Point was very popular indeed with 38 people enjoying good food and a pleasant social evening.



*Bill VK2ZCV and others ready to tuck in at Field Day Dinner*

Fox hunting has a strong tradition at the annual Field Days and this year competition was intense. The transmitters hidden by foxes Larry Lindsay VK2CLL and Brian Linsley VK2BI sent the hounds searching in perfect conditions. Congratulations to Fox Hunt champion Craig Martin VK2ZCM, and to Runner-up champion Ashley Anderson VK2XSO of Kootingal. Chris Williams VK2YMW of Hornsby came a very close third. We can expect some spirited competition at next year's Field Day. Top hunters Craig VK2ZCM, Chris VK2YMW, Ashley VK2XSO and Jeff VK2BYY all have their names engraved on the perpetual trophy as Fox Hunt Champion in previous years and are keen to again see their names engraved on those little shields added to the trophy each year. I am assured that they all have space at their respective homes to display more of the individual trophies that are awarded to the Champion and Runner – Up Champion each year.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Field Day weekend. There are too many people to individually thank in this column but it would be remiss of me to not mention the hard working volunteers who kept us so well fed

throughout the weekend. Barbeque master chefs Barry Gilson VK2FBRG and Richard Court VK2CHC and their helpers under the watchful eye of kitchen manager John Bailey VK2KHB all deserve special mention for producing a never ending supply of delicious hot food.



*Richard VK2CHC and Barry VK2FBRG cooking up a storm.*



*John VK2KHB master chef.*

The generosity of the benefactors who so kindly donated all the prizes and most of the food is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to those who tirelessly ran the registration desks at the entrance to the hall. Thank you to the many willing hands who set up the hall on Saturday and then packed everything up and vacuumed the carpet on Sunday afternoon. Finally, thank you everyone who attended the Field Day. A full report appears in this issue complete with an extensive picture gallery.

The 2013 Field Day is only 11 months away. It will be held at the same venue as this year's Field Day, the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club Hall. The dates are Saturday and Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of June of the 2013 Queens Birthday Holiday long weekend.

The 145.175 MHz VK2RCN-1 APRS digipeater was installed at the club's Telegraph Point repeater site during a working bee on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2012. The digipeater uses a new dual band 2 metre / 70 cm antenna which replaced the previous 2 metre packet Slim Jim antenna which was found to be faulty. The VK2RCN-1 digipeater is providing excellent APRS coverage in the Port Macquarie and Wauchope areas. The VK2RCN 438.425 MHz UHF voice repeater has been duplexed onto the new dual band antenna which is more elevated than the antenna it was previously using.

*(President's report continued on Page 4)*

*(President's report continued from Page 3)*

This repeater both transmits and receives on the same antenna via a duplexer. The additional height has improved the signal strength in the coverage area of the 438.425 MHz repeater.



*Digi and 70cm voice repeater antenna*

Remember that a 123 Hz CTCSS subaudible tone is required in order to access this repeater. The co-sited VK2RCN 147.0 MHz 2 metre repeater does not require a CTCSS subaudible tone for access.



*Henry VK2ZHE and Arthur VK2ATM observing APRS plots*

Special thanks must go to Trevor Thatcher VK2TT for cutting the grass around the VK2RCN building and mast with his whipper snipper during the working bee. The grass had grown much taller than expected so cutting it was a much bigger task than envisaged. Thank you, Trevor, for a job well done.



*(VK2RCN-1 APRS Digipeater Hardware)*

The Remembrance Day contest this year will as usual be operated by the club station VK2BOR from the club communications caravan at the QTH of VK2ZHE. This year the RD contest starts earlier than previously. The new starting time is 1pm local time on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August. The barbeque will be lit at noon for a sausage sizzle lunch. A barbequed sausage and steak evening meal will be provided. Operation will continue until late in the evening. Operation will recommence on Sunday morning with a barbequed bacon and egg sandwich breakfast. Sunday lunch will be a sausage sizzle at noon to maintain stamina until the conclusion of the contest at 1pm on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of August. The contest runs for 24 hours, hence with the earlier starting time the finishing time is also earlier than in previous years. The rules have been simplified and contacts may now be made with stations in the same call area. The incentive of double points per contacts on 160 metres remains. See the WIA web site <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/rdcontest/> for details. Everyone is invited. There is no charge for the food which includes biscuits, tea, coffee and soft drinks.

On the weekend after the RD contest, the club's communications caravan will be at the Tacking Point Lighthouse during daylight hours for the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of August. Come along and support this operation. Again as usual there will be a free hot dog lunch with biscuits, tea, coffee and soft drinks provided in the caravan. Normally we only take the caravan to the Lighthouse on the Saturday but if there is enough interest we will take there on the Sunday as well this year. We will make this decision at the club meeting on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August.

Finally, a gentle reminder that the club's Annual General Meeting will be held at the SES Building in Central Road, Port Macquarie immediately following a short August Monthly General Meeting at 2pm on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2011. The notice of this meeting appears in this month's Oxtales. All positions fall vacant at the AGM. Please consider nominating for one of the positions to help run the club. Your club needs you and your expertise!

Don't forget that membership subscriptions became due on the first of July 2012. You must be financial in order to vote at the AGM. There has been an excellent rate of renewals already

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(continued from page 4)

paid in response to the subscription invoices which Treasurer Keith Anderson VK2FKJA recently sent out. If you are not able to do a direct deposit into the club's Holiday Coast Credit Union Account or pay the in person, please mail your payment to the club at PO Box 712, Port Macquarie NSW 2444. President Henry Lundell VK2ZHE will be accepting payments in person at the July and August Monthly General Meetings, and at the Friday night get together on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2012. Ordinary membership is still only \$35 per annum and distant membership is a mere \$10 per annum.

Henry Lundell VK2ZHE  
President

### John Moyle National Field Day

In the recent John Moyle National Field day exercise the club came third in the overall point score. This was a very good result due to the great effort of all of those members involved in the day.

### WIA President's Commendation – Congratulations to Larry Lindsay VK2CLL

Congratulations to WIA Nominated Assessor Larry Lindsay VK2CLL on being awarded a President's Commendation at the Wireless Institute of Australia Annual Conference held in Mildura over the weekend of 25, 26 and 27 May 2012. The WIA board decided to recognise the valuable work carried out by the 24 Nominated Assessors throughout Australia. The WIA Examination System relies heavily on its highly qualified Nominated Assessors who perform regular audit functions, conduct Special Assessments and other functions, and are central to the efficiency and credibility of the system. At the conference, WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI paid a warm tribute to their contribution to Amateur Radio and the WIA.

Adapted from "Amateur Radio" magazine, July 2012.



## HF High Power Trial

(From WIA Website)

### Purpose of the trial

The purpose of the trial is to allow a period of time for the ACMA and the WIA to evaluate any likely impacts from the use of high powers on the Amateur Service HF Bands before considering any possible long term arrangements.

This page is provided by the WIA as guidance for those Advanced licensees considering whether to apply for a high frequency high power authorisation.

### What is the trial period

The trial commenced on 1 March 2012 and will conclude on 31 August 2013 which allows Advanced amateur licensees to vary their conditions of licence to permit use of higher power.

The 18 month authorisation is intended to provide the ACMA with time to evaluate the success of the trial after a 12 month period and to consider permanent regulatory arrangements, if warranted, while avoiding dead air between the evaluation time and the implementation of permanent arrangements if appropriate. It is important to remember the success of this trial will require all licensees to act responsibly.

The ACMA information in respect of the trial can be found on its website.

The WIA is providing some additional information which it hopes will assist amateurs considering taking advantage of the opportunity to vary their licence conditions to allow the use of higher output power.

### Who can participate in the trial

#### 1. Introduction

Any Advanced station licensee may apply for a variation to their licence to participate in the trial.

(Continued page 6)

*(Continued from page 5)*

In agreeing to the WIA's request, the ACMA has for the purpose of the trial period has imposed number of conditions which places the onus on Advanced licensees.

These are:

- the condition only applies to the Australian Amateur Primary Service HF bands 3.5 to 29.7 MHz,
- to comply with the ARPANSA standard requirements in respect the electromagnetic radiation,
- transmissions are limited to the specified locations,
- up to a maximum power of 1000 watts peak envelope power, having regard to the emission mode employed, and that
- EMI interference is not caused to other devices – including but not limited to domestic consumer devices.

The process of applying is straight forward.

Advanced licensee may apply for a variation of their licence conditions to their existing licence, or apply for a new licence (and callsign), using the ACMA Apparatus Licence Application form R057 that can be down loaded from the ACMA website, or from the list of documents below. Information such as client number can be found on your station licence certificate.

In considering whether to apply for a high power authorisation a number of factors should be considered. One important one is the ACMA will not issue an authorisation if a station is located in an ACMA "Defined Trial Location" for other technologies. Location of trial areas will be placed on the ACMA website.

Another consideration is what are the chances of causing interference (EMI) or excess EMR exposure limits as defined in the ARPANSA standard? Applicants will not be required to demonstrate compliance with the ARPANSA standard at the time of application. However, at any time during the trial the ACMA may request a licensee demonstrate compliance with the standard.

Well, if you live on an average suburb house block, or a high density housing estate, you probably will cause problems. If you are located in a rural or semi rural area you have the best chance of gaining an authorisation, bearing in mind the onus is on the licensee.

Once you have obtained your authorisation your obligations don't end there. In granting the authorisation the ACMA expects that any interference issues will be immediately resolved between the affect parties. The ACMA has limited resources and will not provide assistance. The sorts of devices that may be affected include, but not limited to, domestic radios and televisions, audio systems, computer PC speakers, landline telephones including answering devices, security alarms, garage door openers.

It is important to remember the success of this trial will require all licensees to act responsibly and react accordingly to resolve any problems using a range of techniques published in amateur radio reference material. A log of high power transmission times may assist in this regard to eliminate other sources of interference.

## **2. The ACMA Licence Conditions**

### **The Higher Power Licence Conditions**

The further licence conditions set out in this Notice take effect on [insert date] and expire on 31 August 2013.

The licensee may, subject to clauses 3 to 6 below, operate an amateur advanced station at a Permissible Output Power Level.

The licensee must not operate an amateur advanced station using a transmitter output power of more than 1000 watts pX with any emission mode.

The licensee must only operate an amateur advanced station at a Permissible Output Power Level on a frequency that is in one of the following frequency bands:

- (a) 3500 to 3700 kHz;
- (b) 3776 to 3800 kHz;
- (c) 7000 to 7100 kHz;
- (d) 14000 to 14350 kHz;
- (e) 18068 to 18168 kHz;
- (f) 21000 to 21450 kHz;
- (g) 24890 to 24990 kHz; or
- (h) 28000 to 29700 kHz.

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**OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

**Notice of 2011 Annual General Meeting**

**2pm Saturday 4 August 2012**

**SES Building, Central Rd, Port Macquarie NSW**

Members are hereby notified that the 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club (ORARC) will be held at 2pm on Saturday 4 August 2012 in the SES Building, Central Rd, Port Macquarie NSW.

All members are cordially invited to attend the AGM and the August 2012 Monthly General Meeting which will be held immediately after the AGM is closed.

The agenda for the AGM is included in this notice.

The election of office-bearers, Committee members, officers and appointments will be conducted at the AGM. This is item 7 on the agenda.

Nominations of candidates for election to the above positions should reach the Secretary, ORARC, PO Box 712, Port Macquarie NSW 2444 **seven** days before the AGM. Please use the nomination form which is included in this AGM notice.

Also included in this AGM notice is a Proxy form which you may use to appoint a proxy to act on your behalf at the AGM if you are unable to personally attend. Completed proxy forms must be received by the Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Please post your form to the Secretary, ORARC, PO Box 712, Port Macquarie NSW 2444 in time to reach the Post Office box on Friday 3 August 2012 at the latest.

**Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.**  
**Annual General Meeting to be held at 2pm on Saturday 4 Aug 2012**  
**SES Building Central Rd, Port Macquarie**

**AGENDA**

Chairman: Henry Lundell- Meeting declared open at ..... hours

1. Welcome visitors.

2. Apologies

*Motion to accept apologies*      Moved VK2.....      Seconded VK2.....

3. Distribution of Proxies

4. Minutes of previous A G M held on 7 Aug 2010

*Motion to accept minutes*      Moved VK2.....      Seconded VK2.....

5. Matters arising from minutes.

6. Appoint Returning Officer to take chair for election

7. Election of officers & Appointments (Returning Officer to take chair for election)

**Note:** Call for nominations from floor if insufficient written nominations received prior to the meeting

President	.....	VK2.....
Vice President	.....	VK2.....
Secretary	.....	VK2.....
Treasurer	.....	VK2.....
Committee Member 1	.....	VK2.....
Committee Member 2	.....	VK2.....
Committee Member 3	.....	VK2.....
Public Officer	.....	VK2.....
Auditor	.....	
Repeater Chairman	.....	VK2.....
Oxtales Editor	.....	VK2.....
VK2BOR Station Manager	.....	VK2.....
Welfare Officer	.....	VK2.....
Publicity Officer	.....	VK2.....
Education Officer	.....	VK2.....
Equipment Officer	.....	VK2.....
Club Historian	.....	VK2.....
Social Director	.....	VK2.....
WIA Liaison Delegate	.....	VK2.....
SES Coordinator	.....	VK2.....

8. Treasurer's annual report including audited financial statement:

*Motion to receive & accept Treasurer's Report*      Moved VK2.....      Seconded VK2.....

9. Any other reports:

- President
- Repeater Chairman
- Oxtales Editor
- Welfare Officer
- VK2BOR Station Manager
- SES Coordinator

10. NOTICE OF MOTION--

11. General business

\*Honorary members to be considered for renomination .....

12. A G M closed at ..... hours (To be followed by August 2012 Monthly General Meeting)



**APPENDIX to the CONSTITUTION OF THE  
OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**

**OFFICE BEARERS NOMINATION FORM**

**I Nominate .....** for the position of  
**President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Member**  
(Strike out the offices which do not apply)

**Name of Nominator.....**

**Signature.....**

**Name of Secunder.....**

**Signature.....**

**Nominee's Agreement:** I accept the nomination for the above position

**Signature.....**

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**APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FORM**

I ....., being entitled under the Rules of the Club to  
vote at the forthcoming Annual General meeting scheduled for (Saturday 4 August 2012)  
do hereby appoint .....  
to act as my proxy on that occasion.

Signature:..... Date:.....

**Notes:**

- Print full name of Member*
- Annual, General or Special General*
- Date of scheduled meeting*
- Print full name of eligible Member acting as proxy*



**Please note that only financial members are eligible to vote  
in the**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Meeting Date Saturday 4 August 2012**

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The licensee must not operate an amateur advanced station at a Permissible Output Power Level at any location other than a Nominated Location.

The licensee must not operate an amateur advanced station at a Permissible Output Power Level at a Nominated Location if the Nominated Location is within a 40 kilometre radius of a Designated LTE Trial Site.

Sections 10 and 16 of the Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Amateur Licence) Determination No. 1 of 1997 do not apply with respect to the operation by the licensee of an amateur advanced station at a Permissible Output Power Level where the station is operated in accordance with these further licence conditions.

Radio Clubs if they hold an advanced operating licence may also apply to be part of the high power trial.

The above information is abbreviated and taken from the WIA website. Please see the website and the appropriate links for further details.

## Telegraph Communications Cape Otway Telegraph Station

By John Hansen VK2AYQ

I find that its fascinating to think that electronic communications is not just the preserver of the 20th and 21 Centuries. The electric telegraph was extensively in use by the middle of the 1850's. Morse was the 'way of the future' in communications and messaging by telegraph was an essential part of conducting business. A network of submarine cables were being laid to connect countries together and the telegraph network was continually being expanded.

Telegraphy revolutionised communications. It provided new ways of doing business and introduced activities that we now take for granted, law enforcement, meteorology and accurate time-keeping—as well as the day to day tasks of administering sparsely settled colonies.

Telegraphy broke down the barriers of time space and distance which separated the isolated colonies. No wonder it was taken up so rapidly and enthusiastically.

The first telegraph lines around Melbourne 1854 and Adelaide 1856 joined in July 1858 and were then linked to Sydney in October 1858. Hobart and Launceston were linked in 1857 and Tasmanians were very keen for a direct link with the mainland. In 1859 the submarine cable across Bass Strait was the longest laid anywhere in the world.



*Cape Otway signal station restored today*

The Cape Otway Telegraph Station was originally built in 1859 for the first submarine cable to Tasmania. It housed the telegraph office and living quarters for the telegraph operators and their families. It has also been a signal station post office, school and home for lighthouse staff and defence personnel in two world wars.

Electricity from sulphuric acid batteries powered the telegraph. A steady, reliable source of electric power was needed for the telegraph and in the 19th century batteries were the only choice for stations such as Cape Otway. Telegraphy over hundreds of kilometres required a large bank of cells to build up enough voltage to overcome losses from leakage and resistance.



*The battery room at the signal station. Note the bathtub like floor to help contain sulphuric acid spills.*

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(from page 7)*

Unfortunately the cable failed within six months and it would be 10 years before another submarine cable was laid between Victoria and Tasmania. However the telegraph station remained and would transmit details of shipping movements through Bass straight to Melbourne.

Messages would be passed from ships to shore using signal flags and then telegraph operators would send the messages. The morse was sent with a hand key and received via the use of a 'sounder'. This produced a loud click and the operators actually 'read' the spaces between clicks.

Editors note: I have talked to telegraph operators and they said that usually there is no problem in transferring the skills to reading radio mores of dots and dashes however its much harder transferring the skills the other way.



*A sounder box similar to the ones used at the telegraph station at Cape Otway.*

The telegraph signalling staff and lighthouse staff were both employed by different Victorian Government Departments. Although telegraph staff were expected to assist the lighthouse staff there were a different set of work regulations and pay rates. This sometimes led to disputes between the two sets of staff. Occasionally the disputes were

referred to Melbourne for arbitration. Considering that the location was quite isolated and a considerable distance from the nearest settlement this must have led to some extremely strained living relationships!



*Cape Otway Light Station*



*Signalling by flags at Cape Otway*

This article compiled from material presented on information boards within the Cape Otway National Park.

## Field Day Results 2012

Fox Hunt Results	Participant	From
Saturday 2 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt,	VK2ZCM Craig Martin	Sancrox
80 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt	VK2ZCM Craig Martin	Sancrox
2 Metre Talk In Fox Hunt	VK2BYY Jeff Pages	Umina
80 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt	VK2ZCM Craig Martin	Sancrox
40 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt	VK2YMW Chris Williams	Hornsby
Sunday 2 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt	VK2ZCM Craig Martin	Sancrox
2 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt	VK2XSO Ashley Anderson	Kootingal
Fox Hunt Champion	VK2ZCM Craig Martin	Sancrox
Runner Up Fox Hunt Champion	VK2XSO Ashley Anderson	Kootingal
Best Presented Amateur Vehicle	VK2XSO Ashley Anderson	Kootingal

### Major Raffle Results

	Description	Donated By	Winner
1st Prize	Uniden 80 Channel UHF CB Hand Held Transceiver	Jaycar Port Macquarie	VK2CRF Rob Frost, Pappinbarra
2nd Prize	48 watt Soldering Station	Radio Supply Bellingen	VK2FKJA Keith Anderson, Lake Cathie
3rd Prize	Work Zone Swivel Table Vice	VK4ICE Communications	VK2ZHE Henry Lundell, Port
4th Prize	73 Magazine - Complete set four DVD RAM Disks	ORARC	VK2FBRG Barry Gilson, Port
5th Prize	Wireless Institute of NSW Centenary Plate	Amateur Radio NSW	VK2ZCW Bill Brooke, Port
6th Prize	Wireless Institute of NSW Centenary Mug	Amateur Radio NSW	VK2BI Brian Linsley, Booral
7th Prize	Insulated Travel Mug	VK4ICE Communications	VK2FCVI Lyle Smith, Wauchope
8th Prize	Digital Multimeter	Radio Supply Bellingen	VK2YMW Chris Williams, Hornsby
9th Prize	Digital Multimeter	Radio Supply Bellingen	VK4WC Wayne Love, Beaudesert
10th Prize	Tape Measure	VK2ZHE	Coralie Dawson, Port

### Call sign Lucky Door

	Description	Donated By	Winner
1st Prize	Baofeng VHF UHF 2 Metre/70CM handheld Transceiver	VK4ICE Communications	VK2BZC Paul Webster, Port
2nd Prize	48 watt Soldering Station	Radio Supply Bellingen	VK2HOT Bruce Walker, Port
3rd Prize	Digital Multimeter	Radio Supply Bellingen	VK2ZTM Tim Mills, Sydney

### Non Call sign Lucky Door

	Description	Donated By	Winner
1st Prize	DVD Player	VK2ZHE	Beverly Smith, Wauchope
2nd Prize	Insulated Travel Mug	VK4ICE Communications	Helen Williams, Hornsby
3rd Prize	Insulated Travel Mug	VK2ZHE	Jenny Martin, Sancrox

### Winner of the Guess the Number of Jelly Beans

Faye Gilson, Port Macquarie (191 Jelly Beans in the bottle)

### List of where participants came from as compiled by Trevor (VK2TT).

Beaudesert Qld, Booral NSW, Brisbane Qld, Coffs Harbour NSW, Darwin NT, Forster NSW, Grassy Head NSW, Hornsby NSW, Kempsey NSW, Kinchella NSW, Kootingal NSW, Lismore NSW, Lord Howe Island, Moree NSW, Newcastle NSW, Sydney NSW, Taree NSW, Temagog NSW, Umina NSW, Werris Creek NSW, Wingham NSW, Wollongong NSW

# The Field Day Picture Memories



President Henry VK2ZHE



VK2BOR Club station antenna on squid pole



Welcome come right on in!



Items for Sale



Field day dinner



Items for Sale



*Chris William VK2YMW receiving 40 Meters Pedestrian award.*



*Ashley VK2XSO 2 metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt award*



*Jeff VK2YY Two metre talk in fox hunt award*



*Craig VK2ZCM responding to his massive wins*



*VK4ICE Communications*



*Dot Bishop VK2DB*



*The Registration desk in good hands*



# OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

## MEMBERSHIP REGISTER.

(As at June 30th 2012)

<i>No.</i>	<i>Cat.</i>	<i>Surname Given</i>		<i>Spouse Name Call</i>		<i>Location</i>	<i>Tph</i>
01	O	ANDERSON	KEITH	(HEATHER)	VK2FKIA	LAKE CATHIE	02 6586.3988
02	O	BAILEY	JOHN	(FLORENCE)	VK2KHB	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.2192
03	D	BELL	ALAN		VK2BEL	COOLONGLOOK	02 6554.1689
04	D	BLACKMORE	MARK		VK2XOF	BAULKHAM HILLS	02 9639.0663
05	L	BLYTH	BOB		VK2XIQ	TELEGRAPH POINT	-
06	O	BOYD	ROSS		VK2RRR	LAKE CATHIE	02 6585.4903
07	D	BRICE	GRAHAM	(CYNTHIA)	VK2VV	SCONE	02 6545.0411
08	L	BRODIE	BOB		VK2EIK	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.0592
09	F	BROOKE	AILSA	(BILL)	VK2FABJ	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0547
10	F	BROOKE	BILL	(AILSA)	VK2ZCW	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0547
11	L	BURGES	ROY	(JUNE)	TBA	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8801
12	O	COURT	RICHARD	(LINDA)	VK2CHC	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.6872
13	O	DANIEL	JIM		VK2FKD	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.1933
14	O	EDMONDSON	CHARLES	(PAT)	VK2KCE	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.0495
15	D	EKERT	BRUCE	(YULIA)	VK2EM	FORSTER	Mob 0414532496
16	D	ELLIS	STAN	(BETTY)	VK2DDL	TUNCURRY	02 6554.7996
17	F	FLETCHER	CAROLINE	(PETER)	VK2CFZ	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.5191
18	F	FLETCHER	PETER	(CAROLINE)	VK2HPF	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.5191
19	O	FROST	ROBERT	(SUSAN)	VK2CRF	PAPPINBARRA	02 6587.6129
20	O	GILSON	BARRY	(FAY)	VK2FBRG	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8814
21	O	GRAHAM	PAUL	(JANE)	VK2XDX	WAUCHOPE	02 6586.4720
22	L	GREEN	LEWIS	(PAMELA)	VK2AG	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.9162
23	D	GREENWOOD	GRAEME		VK2ZIS	McMAHONS POINT	-
24	L	HANLON	KEITH		-	PORT MACQUARIE	-
25	O	HANSEN	JOHN		VK2AYQ	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.7932
26	O	HARDING	DAVID	(ISABELLA)	VK2AIF	WAUCHOPE	02 6586.4980
27	O	HOLMES	JOSH		VK2FIDH	BONNY HILLS	02 6585.5148
28	D	HUTCHESON	COLIN	(PAULINE)	VK5DK	MT. GAMBIER	08 8725.5527
29	D	JANES	LES	(BEVERLY)	VK5JL	SALISBURY HEIGHTS	08 8281.3878
30	O	JONES	PAUL	(SANDRA)	VK2DEL	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.3772
31	O	KOPPEL	HORST		VK2FHKO	LAKE CATHIE	02 6585.5992
32	L	LINDSAY	LARRY		VK2CCL	WAUCHOPE	02 6587.1155
33	L	LUNDELL	HENRY		VK2ZHE	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.0534
34	O	MADIGAN	ALLAN	(DAWN)	VK2OA	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2043
35	O	MARTIN	CRAIG	(JENNY)	VK2ZCM	SANCROX	02 6585.3452
36	D	McADAM	PETER		VK2EVB	COFFS HARBOUR	-
37	O	McGUIRE	MARK		VK2FMGM	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8875
38	O	McLEAN	JOHN	(CORRINE)	VK2KC	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.6220
39	O	MEEHAN	TERRY		VK2KL	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.2997
40	O	MELVILLE	STUART		VK2KSM	BONNY HILLS	Mob 0419043316
41	D	MILLS	TIM		VK2ZTM	BEECROFT	02 9868.1434
42	D	MINAHAN	CHRIS		VK2EJ	HALLIDAYS POINT	02 6559.3516
43	L	MONCK	ARTHUR		VK2ATM	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0960
44	O	NEIL	JIM	(CAROL)	VK2VIV	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.2481
45	F	NEWY	DAVID	(LEONIE)	VK2DFN	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0439925065
46	F	NEWY	LEONIE	(DAVID)	VK2LPN	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0401015220
47	O	NEWHAM	LAURIE	(ROBIN)	VK2ELN	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.5387
48	D	NIVEN	TREVOR	(BETH)	VK5NC	MT. GAMBIER	08 8723.2432
49	O	PERRETT	TONY		VK2FVAA	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.1262
50	O	PILLEY	DAVID	(DEE)	VK2AYD	KING CREEK	02 6585.2647
51	O	ROMAINE	PAUL		VK2UPR	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0428466075
52	O	SANDFORD	NEIL	(VERENA)	VK2EI	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.5830
53	L	SINCLAIR	BILL	(CORALIE)	VK2ZCV	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.9302
54	O	SMITH	LYLE	(JEANNINE)	VK2FCVI	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2497
55	O	STOFMEEL	BILL	(TONI)	VK2BST	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.5612
56	D	TARRANT	DAVID	(AILEEN)	VK2TBC	ILUKA	-
57	O	TERRY	COL	(KATHLEEN)	VK2VQT	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.3505
58	O	THATCHER	TREVOR		VK2TT	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2278
59	O	THOMPSON	DES	(BETTY)	VK9FLHI	LORD HOWE ISLAND	02 6563 2152
60	O	TRAYNOR	JOHN		VK2FMJT	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0487748338
61	O	WALKER	BRUCE	(GWEN)	VK2HOT	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8360
62	O	WARD	MICHAEL	(RUTH)	VK2FMDW	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0427291276
63	O	WEBSTER	PAUL	(CAROL)	VK2BZC	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.3377
64	O	WINCHESTER	JOHN	(PAULINE)	VK2FGAA	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6580.3031

Cat Key: O = ORDINARY    A = ASSOCIATE    D = DISTANT    H = HONORARY    L = LIFE    F = FAMILY