

OXTALES

First published 1980

Newsletter of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.

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July 2011

Compiled by VK2TT & VK2AYQ

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President's Report

Despite the wet and windy weather the ORARC 2011 Field Day was a great success over the Saturday and Sunday of the June 2011 Queens Birthday long weekend.



The Tacking Point Surf Lifesaving Club hall in Matthew Flinders Drive proved to be a great venue with plenty of room in the hall and no parking problems. There were 80 registrations and 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 the disposals tables.

The raffle and lucky door prize winners were all smiles but the broadest smile was worn by Cameron Williams of Hornsby

who won the radio controlled helicopter donated by Jaycar Port Macquarie.

The Field Day dinner at the Port Macquarie Golf Club at Tacking Point was very popular indeed with 43 people enjoying good food and a pleasant social evening.

The real heroes of the Field Day weekend are the very competitive fox hunters who defied the weather to find the transmitters hidden by foxes Larry Lindsay VK2CLL and Brian Linsley VK2BI. Due to the heavy rain and wind the final 2 metre pedestrian fox hunt on Sunday afternoon was conducted inside the surf club building. This gave many spectators an insight into the effort
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Down The Coax
Friday Night Get-Together
Friday 15 July 7.00 pm

AGM and Monthly Meeting
Saturday 6 August 2:00 pm

Friday Night Get-Together
Friday 19 August 7.00 pm

RD Contest
Saturday 13 August, Sunday 14 August

International Lighthouse Contest
Saturday 20, Sunday 21 August

Monthly Meeting
Saturday 3 September 2:00 pm

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 (as at 30th June 2011)

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Net Controllers' Roster
 Nets on Voice Repeater VK2RPM 146.700 MHz

Sundays (0830 Local) **Tuesdays** (1930 Local)

July 2011

VK2OA	Jul - 03	VK2AYD	Jul - 05
VK2VIV	Jul - 10	VK2ZCM	Jul - 12
VK2TT	Jul - 17	VK2ATM	Jul - 19
VK2OA	Jul - 24	VK2ZHE	Jul - 26
VK2VIV	Jul - 31		

August 2011

VK2TT	Aug - 07	VK2EI	Aug - 02
VK2OA	Aug - 14	VK2AYD	Aug - 09
VK2VIV	Aug - 21	VK2ZCM	Aug - 16
VK2TT	Aug - 28	VK2ATM	Aug - 23
		VK2ZHE	Aug - 30

September 2011

VK2OA	Sep - 04	VK2EI	Sep - 06
VK2VIV	Sep - 11	VK2AYD	Sep - 13
VK2TT	Sep - 18	VK2ZCM	Sep - 20
VK2OA	Sep - 25	VK2ATM	Sep - 27

(Email Directory continued)

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DES	VK9FLHI	lhibluelag@bigpond.com
TONY	VK2FVAA	tony.perett1@bigpond.com

Reminder

Annual General Meeting

SES Building 2:00 pm

Saturday 6 August 2011

(President's report continued from page 1)

and techniques employed by the hounds to find those elusive transmitters. Thanks to Brian VK2BI for providing the transmitters. Congratulations to Fox Hunt champion Ashley Anderson VK2XSO of Kootingal, and to Runner-up champion Craig Martin VK2ZCM. Ashley's father Keith VK2FKJA was observed picking up many tips during the weekend and is rumored to have been bitten by the fox hunting bug!

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 chef Barry Gilson VK2FBRG and his 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. The generosity of the benefactors who so kindly donated all the prizes 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.

The Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club has been issued the special event call sign VI40BOR for the period 1 June 2011 to 30 October 2011 to commemorate our 40th birthday. Thank you to station manager Bruce Walker VK2HOT for activating the call during the ORARC Field Day weekend. It is planned to activate the call sign on at least three other occasions and to issue a certificate to stations that work VI40BOR on four activations. More news of this

award later. VI40BOR will be activated during the RD contest on 13 and 14 August, and again the following weekend during the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on the 20th and 21st of August. The final activation will take place on the October Long weekend to coincide with the actual 40th anniversary on Sunday the 2nd of October 2011. The Oceania DX Contest also runs on the Saturday and Sunday of the same weekend so VI40BOR is certain to be very popular.

The Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club 40th Anniversary lunch will take place in the function room at the Port Macquarie Golf Club on Ocean Drive at 12 noon on Sunday the 2nd of October. This is the same venue as where the Field Day dinner was held. Now is the time to mark your calendars. Please bring your family and help us celebrate 40 years of supporting Amateur Radio. Visitors will be made very welcome. We extend a special invitation to amateurs in the surrounding areas. The celebration is being held at lunch time so that most people will be able to travel during daylight hours. There will be a substantial lucky door prize donated by Radio Supply of Bellingen. All amateurs who attend the lunch will receive an attractive personalised commemorative certificate. The golf club offers an \$8.50 two course lunch special as well as a full lunch menu. There is no cost to attend the celebration other than to buy your own food and drinks at menu prices on the day. Closer to time we will take bookings to ensure that we have sufficient tables, and to enable the attendance certificates to be printed.

The Remembrance Day contest this year will as usual be operated from the club communications caravan at the QTH of VK2ZHE. The RD contest starts at 6pm local time on Saturday the 13th of August. The barbeque will be lit at 6pm for a sausage sizzle meal. 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

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

sizzle to maintain stamina until the conclusion of the contest at 6pm on Sunday the 14th of August. 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 20th and 21st of August. Come along and support this operation.

The special event call sign VI40BOR is expected to be well sought after so we expect a record number of contacts. 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 6th of August.

The Middle Brother VK2RPM 146.7 MHz two metre repeater is working well following installation of the new equipment. It has been necessary to activate the 91.5 Hz CTCSS to overcome the problem of interference holding the more sensitive repeater receiver open. Echo Link is available via the VK2ZCW node. The VK2RPM 2 metre repeater transmits and receives on the same dual band antenna as the co-sited 438.525 MHz UHF repeater. The UHF repeater requires a 123Hz CTCSS sub audible tone for access.

The new 438.425 MHz UHF repeater has been installed at the VK2RCN site at Telegraph Point and is working well. 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.

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 6th 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! The Constitution Review Sub-committee has been working to amend the existing constitution in order to comply with the requirements of the new Associations Incorporation Act 2009. The amended constitution will be tabled for adoption by the meeting. Hence the Notice of Motion for this purpose.

Don't forget that membership subscriptions became due on the first of July 2011. You must be financial in order to vote at the AGM. If you are not able to pay the Treasurer John Bailey VK2KHB in person please mail your payment to the club at PO Box 712, Port Macquarie NSW 2444. Ordinary membership is \$35 per annum and distant membership is \$10 per annum.

Henry Lundell VK2ZHE
President

Thank You to the Traders who Supported the ORARC 2011 Field Day

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

ORARC's 36th Annual Field Day Weekend

The major highlights of our 36th annual field day weekend have already been covered in our President's report on page 1 of this issue of OXTALES and it is now fitting to include some of the many pictures that were taken by various photographers who brought their cameras along. Very few pictures were taken out-of-doors because of the disagreeable weather conditions that prevailed over the two days, but we did manage to capture just a few shots of the work that was necessary to make the day the success that it was.



Field Day Venue

An efficient HF antenna for the event's base-station was smartly erected on the Surf Club's spacious patio overlooking the beach.

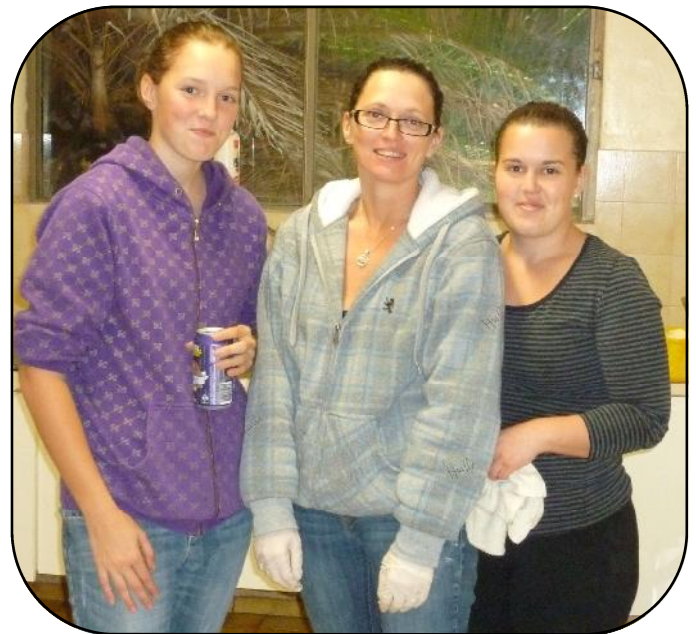


Supported by a "Squid-Pole", an Inverted Vee was put together in rather troublesome breezy conditions, by an expert team lead by Henry (VK2ZHE) supported by Neil

(VK2EI), Arthur (VK2ATM) and a few others who were so busy in the breeze that your OXTALES timid reporter -who didn't venture outside- failed to recognise in the murky weather.

A willing team attended to the kitchen duties under the care and organization of our catering experts, John (VK2KHB) and Barry (VK2FBRG). A sterling servery-window job was done by Charleen, Trudy, (daughters of Fay and Barry Gilson), Sommer, (a Gilson Grand Daughter), Dustin (Charleen's partner) and Mark. The latter two gents seemed to be missed by the camera... obviously too busy to be caught in focus.

The catering crew



John (VK2KHB) and Barry (VK2FBRG) prepare the BBQ.

The registration desk was manned on the Saturday by Allan (VK2OA) and Trevor (VK2TT). On Sunday, the busier day, Fay Gilson (XYL of Barry – VK2FBRG), and Ailsa Brooke (VK2FAB) handled the desk from “go to whoa”; smiling throughout, despite the drippy umbrellas that frequently scudded by.



Arthur (VK2ATM) demonstrating digital techniques

Sadly, it was found that there was no fluid in any of the pipes, so Arthur and the gear had to be satisfied with just plain air convection cooling. Pity!



Bruce (VK2HOT), Trevor (VK2TT) and Allan (VK2OA)



Bill (VK2ZCW) testing the set up!

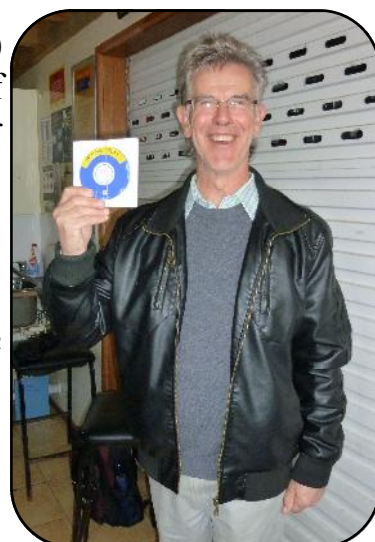


Fay Gilson (XYL of Barry – VK2FBRG), and Ailsa Brooke (VK2FAB)

Arthur (VK2ATM) handled the operation of the event’s HF and VHF Base stations, and performed demonstrations of the various digital modes. This station was most comfortably installed on the Club House Bar, right at the taps!

Arthur (VK2ATM) also sold copies of the ever popular DVD of HAM Stuff.

Graham (VK2VV) with a copy of HAM Stuff



The base station was also operated from the bar area.



Arthur (VK2ATM), Bill (VK2ZCW) and Dave (VK2AYD) at the base station.

Henry (VK2HE) in the role of Master of Ceremonies, and presenter of the trophies and prizes for the large range of events.



Club President and MC Henry (VK2ZHE)

Overall, it was another enjoyable Field Day Weekend at Port Macquarie. The poor weather tried, but failed miserably, to dampen the spirits of the attendees.

Trevor VK2TTT



John (VK2KHB) Treasurer counting the spoils!



Joe (VK2IEV) checks out the gear



The Field Day a time to reflect and catch up with old mates. TIM (VK2ZTM), Henry (VK2ZHE), Charles (VK2KCE) and Dave (VK2AYD).

**Field Day
Raffles , Guessing Competition
& Lucky Door Prize Winners**

Major Raffle

1st Prize Wouxun Hand-Held Transceiver donated by John McLean VK2KC
VK4ICE, David Tavener, Scarborough Qld.

2nd Prize Radio Controlled Helicopter donated by Jaycar Port Macquarie
Cameron Williams, Hornsby, NSW

3rd Prize Digital Multimeter donated by Faye and Barry Gilson VK2FBRG
VK2XSO, Ashley Anderson, Kootingal, (Tamworth) NSW

4th Prize Analogue Multimeter donated by Radio Supply, Bellingen
VK2ELH, Rob Gallagher, Hograth, (Lismore) NSW

5th Prize Coaxial Switch donated by Radio Supply, Bellingen
VK2EM Bruce Ekert, Forster, NSW

6th Prize Gent's Wrist Watch donated by VK2ZHE
VK5JL Les Janes, Salisbury Heights, SA

7th Prize Digital Multimeter donated by Radio Supply, Bellingen
VK2EI Neil Sandford, Port Macquarie NSW

8th Prize Digital Multimeter donated by VK2ZHE
VK2EJK Bob Brodie, Port Macquarie NSW

Gents Lucky Door Prize

1st Prize Multiband HF/VHF/UHF Mobile Antenna donated by VK4ICE
VK2ZTM Tim Mills, Beecroft, NSW

2nd Prize Coaxial Switch donated by Radio Supply, Bellingen
VK2KCE, Charles Edmondson, Port Macquarie NSW

3rd Prize Amateur Radio Centenary Commemorative Mug donated by Amateur Radio NSW
VK2IEV, Joe Bivona, Port Macquarie, NSW

4th Prize Amateur Radio Centenary Commemorative Plate donated by Amateur Radio NSW
VK2JWA, John Alcorn, Lismore, NSW

5th Prize Digital Multimeter donated by Radio Supply, Bellingen
VK2ZOI, John Bishop, Hornsby Heights, NSW

Ladies Lucky Door Prize

1st Set of 4 Mugs donated by Coralie Dawson
Gloria Savins (XYL of Merv VK2DMS)
Toormina (Coffs Harbour) NSW

2nd Wine Opening Set donated by VK2ZHE
Pam Linsley (XYL of Brian VK2BI) Booral
NSW

3rd Display Frame donated by Coralie Dawson
Helen (YL of Stuart VK2KSM) Bonny Hills
NSW

Guessing the Number of Jelly Beans in the Jar

Jar of Jelly Beans donated by VK2ZHE

VK2BZC Paul Webster, Port Macquarie
NSW

Fox Hunt Winners, Best Presented Vehicle & Best Home Brew Display Trophies

Saturday 2 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt
Chris Williams, VK2YMW, Hornsby NSW

Saturday 80 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt
Chris Williams, VK2YMW, Hornsby NSW

Saturday 2 Metre Talk-in Fox Hunt
Craig Martin , VK2ZCM, San Crox
(Wauchope), NSW

Sunday 80 Metre Fox Hunt
Chris Williams, VK2YMW, Hornsby, NSW

Sunday 40 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt – Held
as 2 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt due rain
Paul Webster, VK2BZC, Port Macquarie,
NSW

Sunday 2 Metre Mobile Fox Hunt
VK2XSO, Ashley Anderson, Kootingal,
NSW

Sunday 2 Metre Pedestrian Fox Hunt (Held
Indoors)
VK2XSO Ashley Anderson, Kootingal,
NSW

Fox Hunt Champion (Overall Winner on
Point Score)
VK2XSO Ashley Anderson, Kootingal,
NSW

Runner Up Fox Hunt Champion
VK2ZCM, Craig Martin, San Crox
(Wauchope), NSW

Best Presented Amateur Vehicle
VK2FCVI, Lyle Smith, Wauchope, NSW

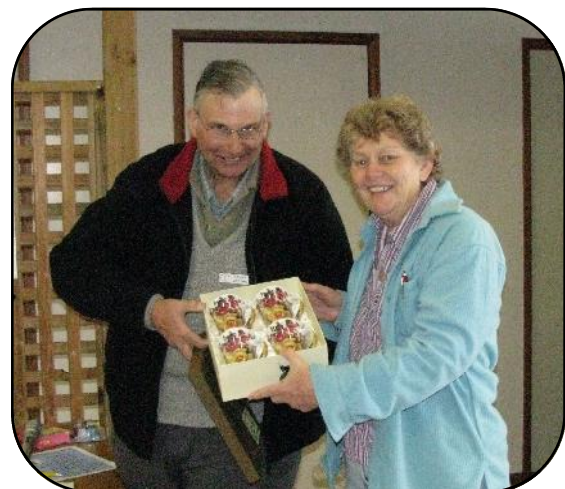
Home Brew Display
VK2ZCV, Bill Sinclair, Port Macquarie
NSW



Major Raffle
*1st Prize Wouxun Hand-Held Transceiver
VK4ICE, David Tavener, Scarborough Qld.*



Major Raffle 2nd Prize Radio Controlled Helicopter
Cameron Williams, Hornsby, NSW



Ladies Lucky Door Prize Mugs
*Gloria Savins (XYL of Merv VK2DMS) Toormina
(Coffs Harbour) NSW*



Guessing the Number of Jelly Beans in the Jar
VK2BZC Paul Webster, Port Macquarie NSW



Runner Up Fox Hunt Champion
VK2ZCM, Craig Martin, San Crox (Wauchope), NSW



Fox Hunt Champion
 (Overall Winner on Point Score)
VK2XSO Ashley Anderson, Kootingal, NSW



Lucky Door 2nd prize
Pam Linsley (XYL of Brian VK2BI) Booral NSW



80 Metre Fox Hunt
Chris Williams, VK2YMW, Hornsby, NSW

Ham radio far from over or out

Katie Cincotta Saturday Jul 09, 2011

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD



Justin Stewart and Monique Golub take to the airwaves at Sherbrook Community School. Photo: Rodger Cummins

The pioneering electronic social network is experiencing a resurgence.

WHEN you think of the instant communication at our fingertips thanks to web-enabled mobile devices and the social media explosion of Twitter and Facebook, it's easy to dismiss amateur radio as a dusty relic destined for oblivion.

But the bastions of ham radio believe the century-old form of radio communication is as relevant as ever - it proved invaluable during recent natural disasters in Australia, Japan, China, Pakistan and Haiti.

One amateur radio veteran of more than 50 years, Doug McArthur (whose call-sign is VK3UM), lived through the Black Saturday bushfires, relying on his UHF CB radio to warn neighbours of the approaching flames.



A curious koala climbs on the frame of Doug McArthur's giant satellite dish at Glenburn. Photo: Doug McArthur

When the mobile phone network was jammed and the fire had damaged landlines, locals flocked to citizen band radio. "UHF CB was certainly a great communication tool during the fires ... we knew where the trouble spots were, which neighbours had stayed and those who had left," he says. "Since that time, about 60 locals have bought UHF CB radios."

McArthur, 69, turned the early days of a hobby into a career in high-powered broadcasting, setting up the first radio telephone system in Alice Springs and working for the International Telecommunication Union to establish communications in the Middle East.



Ham radio stalwart Doug McArthur outside his radio shed near Glenburn. Photo: Doug McArthur

When Cyclone Tracy hit Darwin, he flew up to assess the damage done to phone systems. It was exactly the meltdown he had predicted, with Darwin's telephone exchange unable to withstand a "big blow".

An amateur radio operator from the Australian Capital Territories, Bob Hooper, was the first to announce to the world that Darwin had been hit.

McArthur says that even in a society of mobile phones and social media, amateur radio is a critical part of the emergency communication mix. "In a crisis, the mobile phone network will never handle the traffic that's imposed on it."



Radio volunteers Jim McNabb (left) and Randall McDonald. Photo: Rodger Cummins

That's why many in the hobby take part in "field days", setting up a radio station in the bush using alternative power sources. But it's not all serious stuff. Radio hams like to experiment and McArthur's toy is a giant satellite dish built in the US in the 1960s and used to test the radio path across Bass Strait.

He bought it from Telstra before it could be sold for scrap metal and erected it on his Glenburn property. Not even a near-fatal stroke stopped him from attempting to reach the moon with his one-tonne dish.

"My neighbour is a welder, so we set to rebuild the frame and control system," he says. "I use it for reflecting signals off the moon, the detection of deep-space signals and astronomical noise sources, which has been a lifetime ambition for me. Only a couple of people in Australia have ever done it."

It might seem a strange pursuit, but the precision and the challenge of the moon bounce thrills this Morse-code expert.

"Of all the power that you radiate off your aerial, 98 per cent of it is lost getting to the moon and of what hits the moon, only 0.6 per cent gets reflected, with 98 per cent of that

coming back."

McArthur Skypes most nights to amateur radio friends in Sweden, the Netherlands, France and Britain but ditched Facebook after a day because he found it to be too impersonal.

Eastern and Mountain District Radio Club president Jack Bramham (VK3WWW) regards amateur radio as the original social network.

"Facebook and Twitter are about wanting to know what your friends are up to," he says. "The radio is exactly the same."

Bramham has embraced digital technology and broadcasts his Wednesday-night news program (which includes vision) on frequency 446.500 MHz via the Melbourne Amateur Radio Repeater on Mount Dandenong. In his spare time he enjoys ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding), an electronic version of orienteering that's also called radiosport or fox-hunting.

"You're out in the bush with an antenna and a map and you listen for the transmitter signal, which comes on for one minute and then turns off for four minutes. You find it and check it off and move on to the next one." It might not be everyone's idea of a good time but for Bramham, hitting that elusive target while traipsing through the bush gives him a huge buzz.

"There's a lot of skill involved, especially on VHF and UHF, because you get a lot of reflections. You might think it's in that direction but it's bouncing off a hill over there.'

When Australian astronaut Andy Thomas was on a mission to the Russian Mir space station in 1998, Bramham managed to arrange a time to speak with him during a 10-minute window of opportunity when the space shuttle was just 400 kilometres away

from Melbourne.

"I asked if he could talk to our radio club and because it was May Day, he had been given the day off," Bramham says. "We had 70 or 80 people in here listening. A lot of the guys will never forget that night."

Wireless Institute of Australia spokesman Jim Linton (VK3PC) says one of the biggest things to happen to amateur radio is the removal of Morse code as a minimum requirement for an operator to obtain a licence.

The foundation licence is now simple enough for young children to acquire.

About 20,000 Australians have amateur radio licences, with increasing interest being shown by younger people and women.

"There was virtually no one interested before the arrival of the newest entry level," Linton says. "Now we have more activity on air, increased numbers being assessed and a higher level of club membership."

With the higher standard and advanced licences, people can operate on more bands and modes, including digital transmissions online.

Using radios at both ends and the internet as the conduit, it is cheap and easy to make international calls known as IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project).

Maths teacher Edward Seeto (VK3LIP) of the Sherbrooke Community School, which has its own radio club, demonstrates on a hand-held radio, typing in a code on a keypad and accessing a web-enabled local repeater to connect to a user in Dallas, Texas.

"Radio continues to exist because it's integrated the new digital technology, and convergent technology is how it will survive," Seeto says.

From an outdoor radio gazebo with its 15-

metre-high Nally radio tower, a dozen of his students are learning the ropes from ham radio veterans Randall McDonald (VK3RM) and Jim McNabb (VK3AMN), who volunteer their time on Thursdays and on weekends.

Grade 8 student Monique Golub achieved her foundation licence in grade 6 and now competes in amateur radio challenges such as the 160-metres Trans-Tasman contest, with points scored for contacts made over a six-hour period.

"I just love the people you meet and the competitions," the 13-year-old says. "I've spoken to a chef in Texas and an astronaut on the International Space Station. "I was the first girl in the club and now some of my friends have joined."

Seeto says students have learnt to be resourceful and experimental through building their own equipment, and it has given them a practical understanding of mathematical equations such as Ohm's law. "They're not passive consumers," he says.

"They make things like their own antennae from cast-offs. There's quite some maths and dexterity involved. [Amateur radio] is encouraging them to pursue maths and sciences, and providing social interaction."

As a relative newcomer in the past five years, Richard Holmes (VK3TXD) is keen to dispel the amateur radio stereotype of old blokes tinkering in beeping sheds.

"I think we have to demystify amateur radio," he says.

"You don't have to be a propeller-head to be in it. There are a whole range of personalities that do this, including a few bombastic fools - we've got it all."

He hopes a new generation of young amateur radio operators will find clever ways to

evolve the hobby and embrace its global connections.

For Holmes, the mystery of contact has always been the real lure.

"Amateur radio is a bit like fishing - you never know who's going to come back," he says. "You twiddle around on the bands and you can hear the world come in."

Amateur radio jargon:

Ham - an amateur radio operator.

HF - High frequency range, between 300 kHz and 30 MHz.

VHF - Very high frequency, between 30 MHz and 300 MHz.

UHF - Ultra high frequency range, between 300 MHz and 3 GHz.

VK - prefix for Australian amateur call signs.

Foundation licence - the entry-point amateur radio licence in Australia.

Rag chewing - talking for longer than 30 minutes.

Homebrew - building your own equipment.

DXing - tuning in to a distant radio signal.

Porcupine - a car with several antennas on it.

Sandbagging - listening, not talking.

Sched - to schedule a time to talk.

Dogpile/logjam - people all trying to talk at once.

LINKS

Sherbrooke Community Radio Club,
vk3kid.org.au.

VK3RTV Mount Dandenong, vk3rtv.com/index.html.

Doug McArthur's Moonbounce Communications, vk3um.com.

Submitted by John VK2KC

Change default calendar starting week-day in Windows XP

John VK2KC

In the "Date and Time Properties" dialog of Windows XP (reachable by double-clicking on the time/date on the taskbar) the week in the calendar starts on Monday. I would like to change it so that it starts on Sunday. How can this be done?

It's region specific. I have Windows XP set up with English (Australian) regional settings; that automatically changes the first day of the week to Monday, but you can't change only that setting by yourself.

However, there is a registry setting that can change this, but you can take a look there and see (though I strongly recommend not mucking about with the registry unless you really know what you're doing):

Procedure:

Do a System Backup BEFORE you change the Registry, that way if you mess the change up; a System Restore can be done to undo the damage!

With your mouse select *START*, then *Run*, then in the Open window type *regedit*, then click *OK*, this will open the Registry.

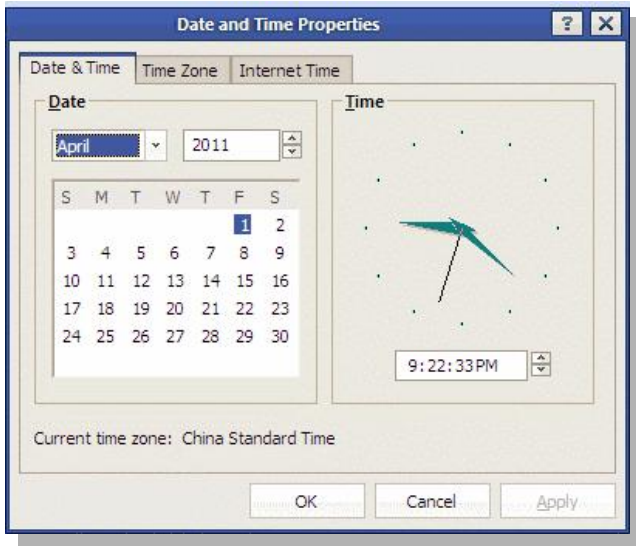
The value is stored in the registry at *HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\International*.

With that key selected you will see *iFirstDayOfWeek* entry in the right pane.

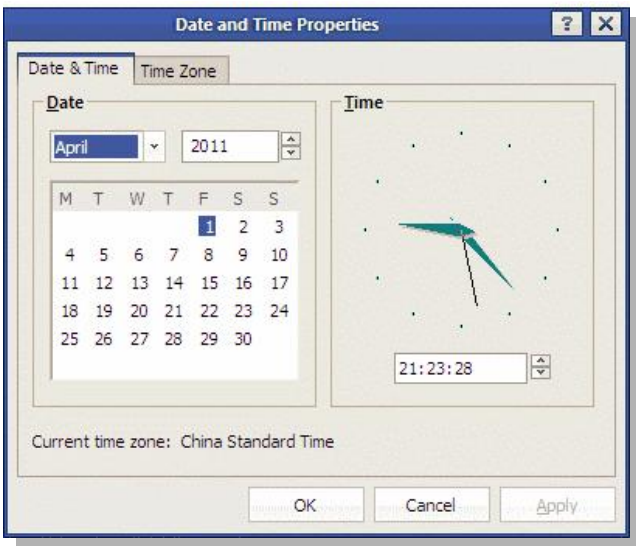
Click on *iFirstDayOfWeek*, a new window will appear, called "*Edit String*", change the "*Value data*" from 0 to 6. Then *exit*.

If you have the Calendar open close it and then reopen it, and now you will see that the week now starts with Sunday!

Before Registry change:



After registry change



Radios from yester year AR8

John VK2AYQ

In my recent travels I came across an AR8 in the Bega Historical Museum as part of their World War Two exhibits. Thanks is given to the museum for allowing the photography of the items.

The AR8 receiver was built by AWA at Ashfield, Sydney, Australia during WW2. They were part of the AR8/AT5 aircraft MF/HF system.

The receivers were unique in design, having two front ends (MF and HF) which were switched into a common IF Channel of 755kc (KHz). This feature enabled two frequencies to be rapidly selected. For example, the MF tuner could be tuned to a broadcast station

for DF purposes while the HF unit was set to a communication channel. The sets were supplied with loop antennas for direction finding on the MF bands. The audio amplifier in the receiver was also utilized as an intercom amplifier that could drive five pairs of service headphones in parallel.

Reception modes were:

MF: CW, MCW, RT, Aural DF and Sense

HF: CW, MCW and R/T

Sensitivity: 6mw audio output-

Below 9.5 Mc (MHz) Not more than 3uv input

Above 9.5 Mc (MHz) Not more than 10 uv input

Valve line up:

- V1 6U7G 1st IF Amp
- V2 6A8G Beat Osc
- V3 6U7G 2nd IF Amp
- V4 6G8G Det/AF Amp
- V5 6J7G Audio Output
- V6 6X5 Limiter Diode TX protection
- V101 6U7 HF RF Amp
- V102 6A8G HF Converter
- V103 6J5G HF Oscillator or (6V6)
- V201 6U7G MF RF Amp
- V202 6A8G MF Converter

Power Requirements:

The station could be configured for 12 or 24v operation. HT was supplied by a dynamotor during aircraft or portable operation, supplying 250vdc for the receiver. A mains supply, Type 'S', to run the complete station was also available. It was very heavy!



On my travels I am always on the look out for interesting stories about old radios and electrical equipment. When visiting the Bega Cheese Factory and Heritage Centre (well worth the visit) at Bega I found the following radio set.

John VK2AYQ

1937 Weldon Wireless



Components:

7 Valve superheterodyne battery powered

Batteries

2 Volts for filaments (rechargeable)

3 by 45 volt (135v) for hi-tension

1 by 9 volt back bias



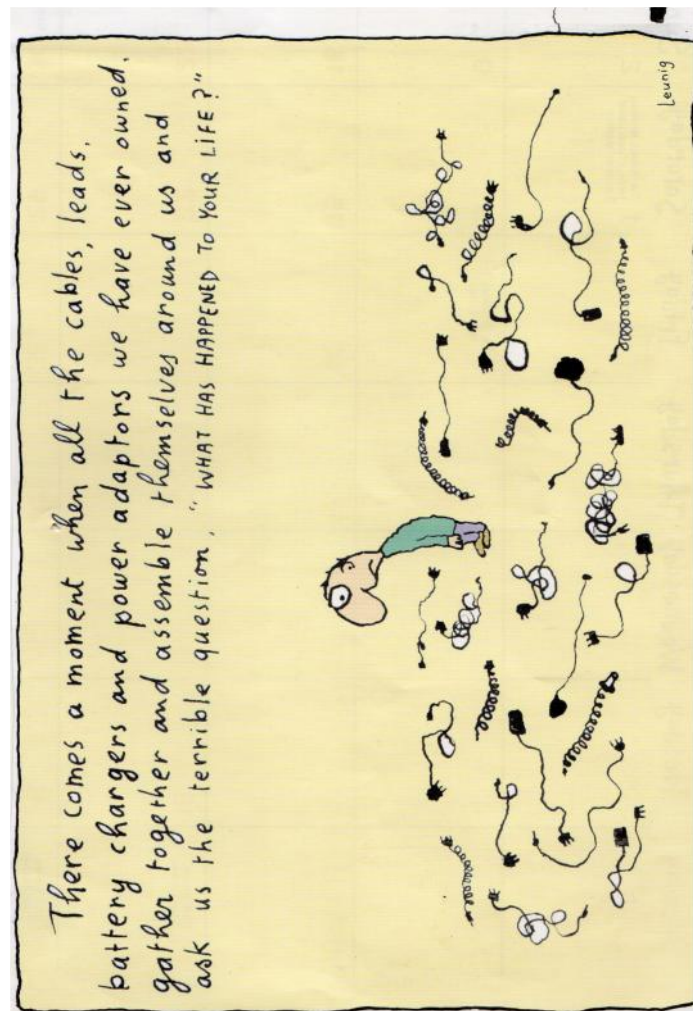
Applicable to any electronic installation!!

Built by the Weldon Radio and Finance Co.
4 Martin Place Sydney.

This wireless was used by Gus and Vera Heffernan and children, Frank, Vin and Des at the Buckajo Farm, Bega. When the electricity was connected in 1950 to the new dairy and house it was 'pensioned' off to the dairy. Long distance stations could be received especially at night (except during storm activity).

Radio 2BE operating on 1,480 Kc (KHz) was the only local station at the time and was owned by Mr John Kerr during the 1940's and a Mr Bill Jardine was the local news-reader.

Donated to the Bega Cheese Factory and Heritage Centre by Brother, Frank, Vin and Des Heffernan.



OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

Notice of 2011 Annual General Meeting

2pm Saturday 6 August 2011

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 6 August 2011 in the SES Building, Central Rd, Port Macquarie NSW.

All members are cordially invited to attend the AGM and the August 2011 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 6 August 2010 at the latest.

NB The following Notice of Motion for the AGM

That Oxley Amateur Radio Club adopts an amended Constitution in order to comply with the requirements of the Incorporated Associations Act 2009.

Notice of Motion for the ORARC 2011 AGM: Moved by Bruce Walker VK2HOT, Seconded by Bill Sinclair VK2ZCV, that the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc. shall adopt the amended Constitution which will be tabled at the 2011 Annual General Meeting by the Constitution Review Committee.

Note to accompany the motion: The existing constitution does not fully comply with the Incorporated Associations Act 2009 which is now in force. At the 31 May 2011 meeting the ORARC Committee appointed a Constitution Review Sub-Committee to produce an amended Constitution which fully complies with the Act. On being adopted the amended Constitution will be registered as the club's constitution.

Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Annual General Meeting to be held at 2pm on Saturday 6 Aug 2011
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 2011 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.....

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FORM

I, being entitled under the Rules of the Club to
vote at the forthcoming Annual General meeting scheduled for (Saturday 6 August 2011)
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*



OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTER.

No.	Cat.	Surname	Given	Spouse	Call	Locaon	Tph
1	O	ANDERSON	KEITH		VK2FKJA	LAKE CATHIE	02 6586.3988
2	O	BAILEY	JOHN	(FLORENCE)	VK2KHB	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.2192
3	D	BELL	ALAN		VK2BEL	COOLONGLOOK	02 6554.1689
4	O	BIVONA	JOE	(ROSE)	VK2IEV	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0405040953
5	L	BLYTH	BOB		VK2XIQ	TELEGRAPH POINT	-
6	D	BRICE	GRAHAM	(CYNTHIA)	VK2VV	SCONE	02 6545.0411
7	O	BRODIE	BOB		VK2EJK	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.0592
8	O	BROOKE	AILSA	(BILL)	VK2FABJ	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0547
9	O	BROOKE	BILL	(AILSA)	VK2ZCW	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0547
10	O	BROWN	STEVEN		VK2VTH	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.7885
11	O	BURGES	ROY	(JUNE)	VK2YOR	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8801
12	O	COURT	RICHARD	(LINDA)	VK2CHC	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.6872
13	O	DANIEL	JIM		VK2FJKD	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	PETER	CAROLINE	VK2CZF VK2HPF	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.5191
18	O	FROST	ROBERT	(SUSAN)	VK2CRF	PAPPINBARRA	02 6587.6129
19	O	GILSON	BARRY	(FAY)	VK2FBRG	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8814
20	O	GREEN	LEWIS	(PAMELA)	VK2AG	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.9162
21	O	GREENWOOD	GRAEME		VK2ZIS	McMAHONS POINT	-
22	L	HANLON	KEITH		-	PORT MACQUARIE	-
23	O	HANSEN	JOHN		VK2AYQ	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.7932
24	O	HARDING	DAVID	(ISABELLA)	VK2AIF	WAUCHOPE	02 6586.4980
25	O	HOLMES	JOSH		VK2FJDH	BONNY HILLS	02 6585.5148
26	D	HUTCHESSON	COLIN	(PAULINE)	VK5DK	MT. GAMBIER	08 8725.5527
27	O	INGS	ALAN		VK2FTAB	SOUTH WEST ROCKS	02 6566.5342
28	D	JANES	LES	(BEVERLY)	VK5JL	SALISBURY HEIGHTS	08 8281.3878
29	O	KOPPEL	HORST		VK2FHKO	LAKE CATHIE	02 6585.5992
30	L	LINDSAY	LARRY		VK2CLL	WAUCHOPE	02 6587.1155
31	L	LUNDELL	HENRY		VK2ZHE	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.0534
32	O	MADIGAN	ALLAN	(DAWN)	VK2OA	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2043
33	O	MARTIN	CRAIG	(JENNY)	VK2ZCM	SANCROX	02 6585.3452
34	O	McGUIRE	MARK		VK2FMGM	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8875
35	O	MCLEAN	JOHN	(CORRINE)	VK2KC	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.6220
36	O	MEEHAN	TERRY		VK2KL	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.2997
37	O	MELVILLE	STUART		VK2KSM	BONNY HILLS	Mob 0419043316
38	D	MILLS	TIM		VK2ZTM	BEECROFT	02 9868.1434
39	H	MINAHAN	CHRIS		VK2EJ	HALLIDAYS POINT	02 6559.3516
40	L	MONCK	ARTHUR		VK2ATM	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.0960
41	O	NEIL	JIM	(CAROL)	VK2VIV	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6581.2481
42	O	NEWWEY	DAVID	(LEONIE)	VK2DEN	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0439925065
43	O	NEWWEY	LEONIE	(DAVID)	VK2LPN	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0401015220
44	O	NEWHAM	LAURIE	(ROBIN)	VK2ELN	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.5387
45	D	NIVEN	TREVOR	(BETH)	VK5NC	MT. GAMBIER	08 8723.2432
46	O	PERRETT	TONY		VK2FVAA	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6584.1262
47	O	PILLEY	DAVID	(DEE)	VK2AYD	KING CREEK	02 6585.2647
48	O	SANDFORD	NEIL	(VERENA)	VK2EI	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6582.5830
49	L	SINCLAIR	BILL	(CORALIE)	VK2ZCV	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.9302
50	O	SMITH	LYLE	(JEANNINE)	VK2FCVI	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2497
51	D	TARRANT	DAVID	(AILEEN)	VK2TBC	ILUKA	-
52	O	TRAYNOR	JOHN		VK2FMJT	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0487748338
53	O	THATCHER	TREVOR		VK2TT	WAUCHOPE	02 6585.2278
54	O	THOMPSON	DES	(BETTY)	VK9FLHI	LORD HOWE ISLAND	02 6563 2152
55	O	VAN ACKER	GERRY		-	LAURIETON	02 6559.6194
56	O	WALKER	BRUCE	(GWEN)	VK2HOT	PORT MACQUARIE	02 6583.8360
57	O	WARD	MICHAEL	(RUTH)	VK2FMDW	PORT MACQUARIE	Mob 0427291276

Category Key: O = ORDINARY A = ASSOCIATE D = DISTANT H = HONORARY L = LIFE