

O.K! It looks like "OXTALES" has been accepted as the official name for our Club newsletter! And why not - it is taken from the Latin word "oxtarliss" meaning "Tales of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club! Hi! Hi!

ANNUAL FIELD DAYS:

The Queen's Birthday Week-End did not start off too well with overcast skys and rain showers on Saturday. However, Sunday produced beautiful warm sunshine and the smiles told the story.
Club members and visitors rolled up in-force (including two from VK3 land) and we enjoyed two great Field Days - socially and financially successful....so what more could we wish for.

W.I.A. EXECUTIVE:

The Wireless Institute of Australia paid our Club a great tribute when four of the top ranking executive of the New South Wales Division journeyed from Sydney to attend at the Field Days. Club president VK2ZCV (Bill) extended a warm welcome to the WIA personnel - VK2BAD (Athol) President - VK2BSB (Sue) Secretary - VK2BOT (David) Treasurer and committæ/local club member VK2ZHE (Henry). Smiles all round when they were presented with a genuine Rollands Plains hand made leather key tag complete with call sign etched upon. Tags were beautifully made by VK2PA and family.

SATURDAY'S EVENTS:

Rain clouds or not - our visitors started rolling up and were greeted with a warm handshake and a hot cuppa or two.

Club station VK2BOR fired up and VK2VQT (Col) - VK2VYN (Mark) had a busy time keeping up with call-ins and instructions from the FOXES.

The big display of suitably carded trophies and various guessing competitions drew many favourable comments and held continued interest.

Wow! Did that beaut Club Raffle draw some starry eyed customers! Why not! You don't get a chance to win a Kenwood Digital WorldClock worth around # \$.105 # every day. New member Doug and VK2VWC wore out a couple of pencils and did a roaring trade!.

A noticeable feature of the Fox Hunts was that although several competitors did not have sophisticated Hunt gear; they did very well when the results came in! F.B.

LAUGHS ALL ROUND when we heard old Mobile Fox come to a halt when claimed by a "hound" fitted out with a great battery of fog lights up front and a smart looking whip antenna! "Took a while to find us eh!" chirped the Fox to his co-pilot - "over here for your cards boys - why so long catching us? - Where have you blokes been?" !!!!!! " Gulp! Good evening Officer - no Officer - we are members of the Oxley Radio Club sir! - Yes - Yes Officer - thank you Officer - Yes - Good night Sir !"whew! "come to think of it - wondered why he had that blue flashing light up on the turret!" Yelp! Yelp! (Its pretty dark on a wet night!)

RESULTS: (Saturday Fox Hunts)

2 Metre 2 Transmitter: VK2BYY (Jeff-Sydney) first: VK2BLI (Ian-Maitland) second.

40 Metre: VK2BSB (Sue-Macquarie Fields) first: VK2BLI (Ian) Runner up again:

10 Metre: VK2BAD (Athol-Sydney) first: VK2BSB (Sue) runner up.

2 Metre Mobile: VK2AOZ (Aldis - Sydney) first VK2BYY (Jeff) second this time.

Whilst all this was going on, our ladies served up afternoon tea and the rest of us enjoyed making new friends and meeting up with old ones. Right on the dot of 6pm the hot dishes arrived and a really first class smorgasboard became the focal point. Gee! VK2ATM (Art) those prawns were dispatched with much gusto! It really was a top line serve-up and terrific value for only \$3 per head. The girls reckon they can improve on this next year! Blowed if I can see how!

NOW, ON TO SUNDAY'S EVENT:

Rollands Plains, with its magnificent scenery and beautiful drive, really excelled and turned on a top day of glorious sunshine.....around 24 degrees.

The Trade Display - The Surplus Gear - The Stamp Sale supplied by John McIntyre - The beautiful hand painted china ware exhibition featured by Mrs Margo Monck etc etc set the scene for a hubble of excitement and activity for the day. Also the bright new wall paer in the kitchen and dining area at Rollands Plains Hall is a great credit to the committæ out that way - really first class indeed.

X VK2BYJ (Jeff) GOT LOST
AT ROLLANDS PLAINS.

X There was drama at our Field Day
As the word was passed around
That an ardent hound was missing
And was no where to be found.

(With deep respect for the late and
great Mr. Patterson)

We "scanned" the far horizon
We "probed" the deep blue sky
Then came a far off signal

Hurráh! We'hd found poor Bee Why Why!

('nuff said!)

RESULTS:

7 Mhz Hunt: VK2BME (Mark-Newcastle) first: VK2BLI (Ian again) Runner Up.

146 Mhz 2 Trans: VK2ZFI (Lyal-Sydney) first: VK2BSB (Sue) Runner Up.

10 Metre: VK2YGM (Peter-Newcastle) first: VK2BSB (Sue"Can't stop her) Second.

144 Mhz 3 Trans.Pedestrian: VK2BLI (Ian-at last) first: VK2??? (Joey Nicholls) second:
VK2BME (Mark) Third.

Lucky Registration: VK2ZHE (Henry) Gents Digital Wrist Watch.

Lady Passenger in Fox Hunt: Lee Barry.

80 Metre Sprint (Ladies) Jodj Terry.

Radio Throwing Contest: VK3NLJ's XYL - Marion

RAFFLE: Kenwood Digital World
Clock was won by:

Open General Quizz: VK2AND's XYL - Sadie.

HAM's Quizz: VK2BSB (That girl Sue)

Bill Nichols - Macquarie Fields,
Sydney.

C.W. Golden Key Award: VK2PA (Pete)

Tnx to all who supported us!

SALUTE THE PIONEERS.

As a special tribute to honour the older hands in radio, President VK2ZCV (Bill) introduced the men of the two letter brigade. When he asked these "boys" to come forward and assist with the presentations, a warm and lasting round of applause greeted them as they moved forward to accept his invitation. They were: VK's 2Ls (Lewis) 2RD (Dick) 2DK (Chic) 2XU (Ian) 2WD (Bill) 2EE (Cliff) 2PA (Pete) 2WC (Bill) 2OK (John) 2VK (Cliff) and 2BEK (Eric) a former 2 letter call now on the sunny side of four score.

Thanks fellows - we all felt very proud of you and we appreciated your co-operation.

VK3 ...WILL YE NO COME BACK AGIN?

"Surprise - Surprise" is what the ticket said on a humble looking parcel in amongst the big array of trophies. Well, it turned out to be a special surprise for VK3NLJ (Max) and his XYL Marion all the way from Terang Victoria. It was a special Port Macquarie "Boomerang" awarded for the "Long Distance Traveller". Max also scored another "Shack" Rollands Plains key tag. Fine Business!

GOLDEN KEY AWARD: C.W.

The Club decided to answer the critics of C.W by putting on the "GOLDEN KEY AWARD" as a contest for CW receiving. Speeds ranged from 5wpm thru to 40wpm and were mixed random letters and numbers in groups of five. Novices appeared to shy to enter the contest and a really top trophy went begging! You know, only one Novice needed to enter and take the very first letter or so and the prize was theirs! Simple as that. The local club members took out the big event, with VK2PA (Pete) running out the winner. VK2BJH (Jack) and VK2DK (Chic) were runners up and there was not a lot in it, I can assure you. VK2PA had only 19 errors in over 20 minutes of continuous CW; his top speed peaked at 35wpm and in legible hand written copy. Pete's normal plain language speed is around 50 wpm. The magnificent trophy consisted of a miniature morse key (working model) mounted and framed in a highly polished rose-wood frame and base. It was designed and made by local member VK2VWC (Cliff) who received spontaneous congratulations on his excellent craftsmanship. Thanks to all who entered and made the contest really worth while. Thanks VK2ATM (Art) for preparing and decoding the tapes. Also VK2BXO (Rick) VK2ZUM (Graham) who assisted Art with the judging. We've learned a lot from our first try - perhaps you might see the event next year as a perpetual "Challenge" award.

LUCKY REGISTRATION PRIZE:

Just about all our new name tags came back for the lucky registration drawing. No wonder! A gents digital Wrist Watch is some prize! "I needed a new watch - I've never won anything before in my life" stammered VK2ZHE (Henry) when his name came out. Last heard of was a time signal from Henry as he cleared O'Sullivans Gap en route to Sydney. (Anyway a Just reward for the years of help given, Henry!)

APOLOGY TO TAMWORTH:

Sorry, Tamworth - I had it in mind to mention the big Field Days coming up over your way October long week-end this year. Its the Noel Taylor Memorial Field Day and details can be obtained from P. O. Box W107, West Tamworth NSW 2340. It went out of my mind in the final rush of the day; however, I did QSO with VK2NCL (Carol) a few days ago and asked her to please pass on our apology. Some of our boys are already planning to make the trip.

QUIZZEZ:

Next year we are going Irish; we are going to give you the answers and you have to come up with the questions! Hi! Hi!. AND pigeon English for Wednesday is TRINDE!

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

VK2BGG (Jim) who won the Gent's Guessing comp., and VK2VWC (Cliff) did a really fine job of shutter work for which we thank them. Contact VK2ATM (Art) or Wendy at their business in Horton Street, and you will see some excellent colour shots which are available for \$2 each. Enclose 50c for postage if you live away and someone tells you not to miss getting a record of the day for your album.

SINUS:

Boy, did I see some bad attacks of SINUS (Sinus another cheque mum, sinus another cheque) when the Trade Display and Surplus Gear went on sale!. Otherwise healthy men succumbed! Saw VK2YJU/NUG tip toeing out one side door with a new hand held rig under the arm....and....VK2BXO going out the other door trying to get a 2m all mode rig up his jumper! But, the values were really too good to pass up and as the song goes "Never Let a Chance Go By Boys, Never Let a Chance Go By!"

(P.S. My XYL actually gave me a packet of SINU tabs and NOT the cheque book!. I'll have to talk to that girl.....(PPS. Of course YJU/BXO were'nt "pinching" anything, They were only sneaking past envious mates!)

TNX GIRLS:

If ever you saw sheer efficiency in action - it was our team of girls in the kitchen and Registration table. What a top job ladies! Thank you again for your wonderful help. 88's. Hope the little gifts at Presentation Time and the big round of applause helped in some way to show our appreciation.

TEAMWORK:

There is something very special about a club when its members pitch right in and help share the big load of organisation - AND - it is a good feeling to know that our club is blessed with such an attribute! It would take a page or more to list what was done.....TNX.....TNX very sincerely to all.... we saw each of your efforts not only with eyes, but in our hearts...and that's where it counts.

LAUGH A WHILE & DR. MURPHY:

- * Oh! Yes, Dr. Murphy gave us a visit. The 40 metre fox was set up in a very sneaky manner whilst the previous Hunt was under way. It was beeping like a beauty..UNTIL.. 10 minutes before starting time....thon Murphy came along.
 - * Murphy even followed us to the printers.....he gave VK2ZHE a much deserved full call.....he sent VK2ATM and Wendy off to some exotic island which has a VX call.... he made VK2BAD's call much better with .BDA....whew! Thanks Dr/ Murphy...please come again next year, but pay your few bucks and register, old man!
 - * I was thinking about giving a prize for the best dressed full call on Saturday at the smorgasboard...by gee he really looked dapper and suave....except he left the stable door wide open!
 - * Yours truly pinned name badge on and got out to Rollands Plains bright and early and met a lot of visitors, who looked at me in a funny way...could'nt work it out until I found I had the XYL's name badge on!Hi! HETTIE...nice red face you have!
 - * How about fellows who don't read programmes properly.....the smorgasboard was at the RSL Youth Hall, not the RSL CLUB Henry!
 - * And one for Ripley. VK2ZUM (Graham) lost a brief case full of important documents (including last copy of OXTALES) in Sydney. The other day a Woolworths brown carry bag arrived with all the documents, and a note. "You were pretty careless anyway".No brief case came back!. Honest people, dishonest? Never heard of $\frac{1}{2}$ Honest says Graham.
- CONGRATULATIONS TO: VK2AHH (noel) who's name appears in the Open Top 20 DXCC list as at 1st April, 1980... great work Noel.By the way, thanks for providing and setting up the very popular RTTY display at the Field Day, Noel. Also, Rick and Graham for giving you a hand.

VK2SV (Sugar Victor) is feeling just a little bit pleased - he has just had the honour of having an article featured in the June issue of QST (the official journal of the American publication ARRL). Tom's article dealt with the use of a Heathkit style Noise Blanker for use in the Collins S Line - with a big saving in dollars too - quite a great achievement Tom - our congratulations to you!

A TRIP INTO THE PAST:

DAEW

I almost overlooked mentioning an exhibit at the Field Days which, continuous and obviously genuine interest. Thanks go to VK2ADT (Jack) for bringing along his "home brewed" 2 Metre (AM) Rig of the days gone by. Briefly, the line up of this "make it yourself days" transmitter is 6A6/C.O./Tripler to 24Mc - 807/Doubler/48Mc - 815/Tripler/144Mc - 829 in the P.A.. The rig first saw the airwaves on 16th September, 1949.

Jack also held a few records with "old faithful" back in those days of very few operators. Most notable was the distance record of 126 miles between Beural and Aberdare (Jack's then QTH) which was logged with VK2BG on 5th March, 1950. I also took a look over Jack's shoulder at his Log Book of those times - well over 2,000 contacts in the year - that's really working - remembering its around 30 years ago!

SICK CALLS:

Cheers to VK2AQH (Noel) - glad to hear you have progressed really well following your stay in hospital, city way, Noel. VK2PA stood in for you at Auction Time on Sunday but he wasn't so hot at swearing the top values available!! Hi! Hi!

Also, to Bev - XYL of VK2ZUM (Graham) believe you were really pushing the front doors off the hinges so as to get back home, Bev! Great news - happy to hear ~~you are~~ back at the QTH and that some big meals are being dreamed up!

LADIES NITE:

Under threat of dire punishment I must not miss giving a mention regarding the next Ladies Nite....its being organised by INA towards the end of July, girls... keep a curl out for later details.

Well, that's it folks; what I missed was meant to go on the next page! Hope you have enjoyed reading this epistle.....OXTALES will (of mailing cost necessity) go QRT for a while....but will be back!

Yours in Radio.....

VK2BFP (Lester) 73's - 88's.