OXLEY REGION

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB:

P.O. Box 712

Port Macquarie. 2444

# OXTALES

CLUB STATIONS: VK2BOR VK2RPM (Ch.2)

Volume 1: No.7 Price-Less 9 8 8 2 2 F F I E E L D D D D A Y I S 5 U · E \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* <del>\*\*\*\*\*\*</del>

FIRST CAB OFF THE RANK with an entry for the Old Gear Display was VK2AHH (Noel) of Kempsey. Former County Engineer, now retired; an exponent of RTTY - SATELLITE WORKING AVID DXer - accomplished ORGANIST, plus a great personality; that's VK2AHH !!!

STOP PRESS: Tamworth Amateur Radio Club Noel Taylor Memorial Field Day will be held on 4th and 5th September, 1982 - start arranging transport fellows:

Guess you have all read August edition of Amateur Radio; especially page 56! Much appreciated, W.I.A!

Another WOODPECKER? Ham Radio April 1982 says the USA will begin an OHR system later this year, operating with an ERP of 1.2mW from a location near Moscow in MAINE and sweeping from 5 to 35 MHz. What happens when the two Woodpeckers clash? A heap of sawdust, I guess!!!

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## BON VOYAGE, DICK!

Club member VK2ZIP (Dick) now VK2DIK; carries with him our very best wishes for a safe and successful trip on his Around The World Flight. He sets "sail" on August 5 from Fort Worth in his new helicopter; the Bell Jet "Ranger III". Keep an ear out for him on 20 - 40 - 80 metres, on and off from 5th to the time for arrival back home (about 3rd October). A world "first" solo chopper flight!

## CLUB NEWS VIA 2 METRES:

Prior to our Field Days, we tried an experiment in the form of broadcasting "Club News" via VK2RPM (Port Macquarie) at 7.30am each Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. As a venture, it was a great success and assisted no end in helping to organise the big days. Call-ins averaged seven - including call backs from interested "nobiles" - Maybe we should look at a regular weekly report on channel 2 ??. Not forgetting our regular 80 metre net, Thursdays!

## A STERN LESSON:

The very first morning we tried to go to air with the Club News, we had some drama on our hands! At 7.30am there was a serious car accident on the Pacific Highway. VK2QV (Percy) from Urunga was first car on the scene and immediately put out a call on 2 metres for assistance. VK2LS (Lewis) responded and in a matter of minutes had the message through to police and ambulance. Good work fellows! The lesson, of course, is: "Do you have all necessary emergency 'phone numbers at hand; not just your own local numbers, but all that are in our VK2RPM repeater range?" AND for Pete's sake get full info and straight nessages!

## CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP PARTY:

For 1982??? Good Lord, not this early? Well, not really, except to give forward warning that we will be holding our annual "do" at Swans Crossing. Get your map out, it's west of Kendall or Kew area. A really top spot, believe us! The Bar-B-Q will be at 12.30pm and plans are in hand for a few suitable events. Fox Hunts, quizzes and another Crossword etc.. Very early December ... keep listening!

FOR SALE: Yes, those nobile whips at the super prices!!! Now only precious few left! So, here we go!

(a) 28Mhz whips @ \$.2.50 each.

(b) 2 Mtr 4 wave fibre-glass @ \$.5.00 each

(c) 2 Mtr 5/8 wave fibre -glass @ \$.10.50 each Contact us via mail or 'phone - see front page for address details. Should we be sold out, sorry!

Should any of our DX boys hear KE4QF (Ron) around 2330 or 2400 UTZ operating at 21.275 or 14.225 (+ or -) please give me a land line reverse charge call. 'Phones are (065) 83-4274 (home) 83-1100 (work) Ron's QTH is Miani and I have been trying to make contact, unsuccessfully; so if you can help me (VK2BFP) it will be greatly appreciated.

SPECIAL "AX" PREFIX CALL: Just a reminder that the use of special prefix "AX" in place of your regular "VK" prefix has been granted to the amateur service during the Commonwealth Games to be held in Brisbane (during period 15 August - 15 October, inclusive).

CHEERS! Well, that's it folks! Hope you found a smile or two whilst reading what my Irish typewriter has tried to put together! Cost of production and mailing charges are helping to keep "OXTALES" less active BUT we do need to thank Budget Electronics plus the Catholic Church Gestetner for giving us a helping hand! "OXTALES" must be kept alive and well, no matter what cost!

Yours in Amateur Radio: .....

VK2BFP. Secretary & Ed.

## "I'M FINE, THANK YOU!"

There is nothing the matter with me, I'm healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet,
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night,
But every morning I find I'm alright.
My memory is failing, my head in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is this, as my tale I unfold, That for you and me, who are growing old, It's better to say I'm fine, with a grin, Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent?
Well, my "get up and go" has got up and went.
But I really don't mind, when I think with a grin,
Of all the grand places my "get up" has bin.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed.
With my ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on the table until I wake up.
Before sleep overtakes me, I say to myself,
"Is there anything else I could lay on the shelf?"

When I was young my slippers were red,
I could kick up my heels over my head.
When I was older my slippers were blue,
But still I could dance the whole night through.
Now I am old, my slippers are black,
I walk to the store and puff my way back.

I get up each morning and dust off my wits, And pick up the paper and read the "obits". If my name is still missing I know I'm not dead, So I have a good breakfast and go back to bed.

Author Unknown.

1st CANNIBAL: "I hate my mother-in-law!"

2ND CANNIBAL: "Well, put her to one side and try your vegetables!"

NOVICE: " I need some help to make a Venetian blind!"

FULL CALL: "Just poke your finger in his eyes!"

## 

Yes, we now have a copy of the World Call Book in our Club Library. Should you need an "O.K-In-The-Call-Book" address; contact VK2DPE (Geoff) for the info. Take it easy fellows; over use of this little privilege could ruffle an otherwise placid Geoff or XYL Meg!

OXTALES: -1982.
Quite often, I hear the questions; "When, where and how did the Oxley Region Radio Club come into existence?" Well, the inaugral meeting was held on 3rd October, 1971. Below is an excerpt, taken from our records.

ANOTHER question is: "How did Oxtales get its name?" O.K the Club's first publication "hit the streets" on 24th Feb; 1980 under that great banner - "NEWSLETTER"! Following upon a discussion with my two young sons (Ian & Ross) and after many suggestions the name "OXTALES" emerged. It is a latin word - oxtarliss - meaning "Tales of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club" and the new banner first saw print on 21st May, 1980.....so now you know!!! (Hi! Hi!)

Secondar with the following call signs abtended the meeting V.K2P.H; VK2BGF

VK2ZIX, VK2ZVI, VK2ZGC;

VK2 HEB: VK2ZHE, VK2 HWS:

and bill Collinson who has yet to receive his call sign. (VK2ZYC).

Apoliques from VK2 HT.M. (Arthur)

moreed by I feof i 2nd by hobert that I amounted be accepted: Agned. Of popper



Club member VK2DIK (Dick's) now famous chopper on a visit to 1979 Field Day Rollands Plains.

"You must practice to pass". Tanya (Now VINQT) at the first Club Class, 1977.



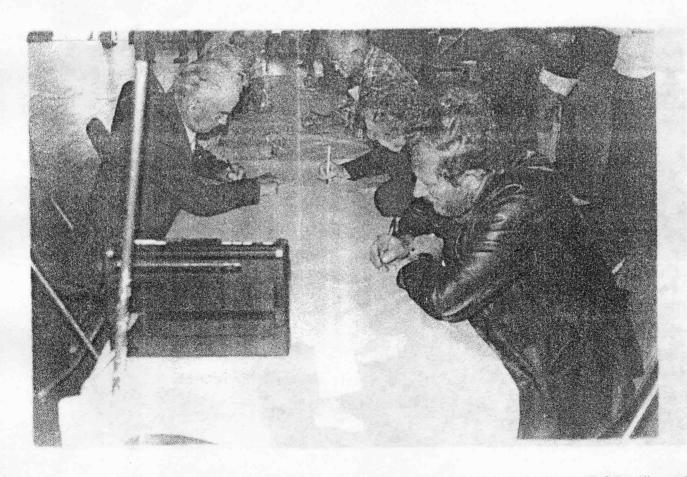
"But, Ian – you must consider this point".....VK2WF (left) making his point to VK2XU (right) whilst Lester (VK2KI) in the far background and VK2R7A (Deter) listen intently to the discussion.



We certainly had some entries in the various cuizzes and cross-word puzzle. Here is your Secretary, VK29FP (Lester) doing the final checking.



History in the making: First President of any club to kiss the very first female President of W.I.A (NSW Division). <u>PUP</u> "press" VK27C" (Bill) congratulates Sue (VK2PSB) on her achievement.



Tyes down: Mo, its not Bingo - its the start of the C.W RECEIVING CONTEST 25 WOM section at our Port Macquarie Field Days, 1982. The ultimate winner is mearest to the ramera on the left (MK2%I, Lester of laree Club), Everyone really enjoyed watching this event.



A well deserved and popular win the Home Brew Receiver Contest for WK2VQT (Col) resulted in him winning a DM-81 Dip Meter kindly provided by Kenwood Trio. Here Col is presented with his trophy by company Sales Manager - WK2AD - (Sandy).



Some of the large crowd of visitors (and club members) beginning to assemble prior to presentation time at the 1982 field days, held at Port Macquarie.

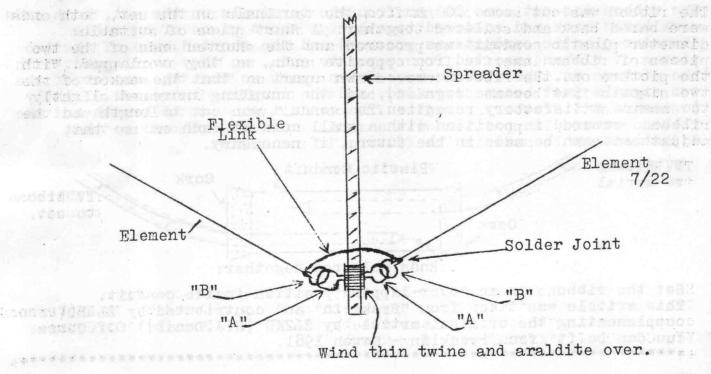
## QUAD CONSTRUCTION HINT: by VK25V:

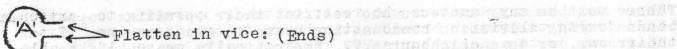
Many Hams have experienced mechanical troubles when using Quad or Loop Antennae and most of these troubles are due to element wires breaking at the point of attachment to the spreaders. Having used Quad for several years; I have developed a method of eliminating this problem.

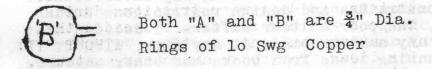
The drawing below, should make the mechanical arrangement quite clear.

Essentially, the system enables each wire in the loop to move quite independently of all other wires and of the spreader; while, at the same time, retaining the full I wave loop essential to Quad performance.

Since using this method of construction, I have experienced no breakages over 12 months despite an extremely high and windy QTH location.







NOTE: Of course you won't forget that ring "B" must be passed through ring "A" before element wire is fitted and soldered!

ALSO: The flexible link must be VERY flexible. RG58 braid is suitable provided that solder is not permitted to flow up braid.

(Ed. Note: TNX Tom! Practical info such as this, is greatly appreciated)

contributors:

## BASIC RULES FOR T.V.I.

(1) A cure can be found for all cases of T.V.I.

(2) Before a cure can be effected the cause of the TVI must be found.

(3) Use a good TVI diagnosis chart (the RSGB chart is recommended. See RSGB Radio Communications April 1973 and May 1975:

Frank Hunt, ZL2BR:

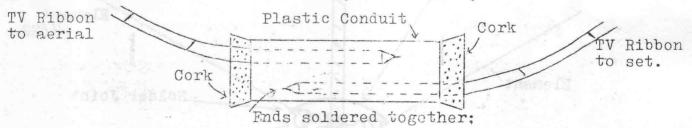
R.F.I. Radio signals do not CAUSE interference; it is rectified radio signals that do. Therefore always look for a rectifier, especially in the audio chain, and most especially in the FIRST audio amplifier. Bypass any possible rectifiers with small RF capacitors, always directly across the possible diode, NOT to earth. The next step is to look to your power supply diodes and again always bypass with small RF bypass capacitors.

Raymond Eaton, ZLIGG:

"BRUTE FORCE" DOWN THE 300 ohm TV RIBBON: (A note on TVI by ZL2KU)

Books make much of "braid breakers" for 80 ohm coax leads but do not appear to cover the problem of brute force interference getting down 300 ohm TV ribbon. The following cure has been completely effective without a reduction in picture or sound quality.

The ribbon was cut some 500 nm from the terminals on the set, both ends were bared back and soldered together. A short piece of suitable diameter plastic conduit was procured and the shorted ends of the two pieces of ribbon inserted from opposite ends, so they overlapped. With the picture on, the ribbons were drawn apart so that the weaker of the two signals just became degraded, and the coupling increased slightly to ensure satisfactory reception. The conduit was cut to length and the ribbons secured in position with a small cork at each end so that adjustment can be made in the future, if necessary.



"There must be many amateurs who restrict their operating to particular bands during television broadcasting hours to avoid causing TVI to their own, or to a neighbour's TV. Theoretically, we should be able to operate on any band at any time without causing any interference. However, due to monetary constraints and design restrictions during the manufacture of TV sets, the poor amateur suffers. I decided that I wanted to be able to use any amateur band, at any time, WITHOUT TVI. A lot of time was spent gleaning ideas from books and other amateurs, but the end result was very satisfying." .......

..... "As a general rule, if a complaint is received from a neighbour, never modify or do anything to THEIR TV as any future problems could result in you being blamed etc. etc." .......

ZL3VY (A.P. Dixon)



"Hi! fellows: Can you tell me where I can meet VK2PA?" - VK2BVS (Sam) enjoying a chat with other visitors at the 1982 Oxley Region field days held at Port Macquarie.



"Congratulations, Brian!" WK27CV (Bill) presenting VK2DLM (left) of Urunga, with his trophy for winning the "mid lime Gear Display" event.



Laughing or crying? Iwo of our "dirls" (Hettie O'Connell, left) and Kath Terry take a well deserved spell during the "battle of the kitchen":



"8.K fellows. I'm ready to roll it:" - Meville Toyce (President of Hastinos Computer flub) is all set to demonstrate his computer - did they get some "flat out business??""

## VISITORS:

Yes, we had visitors from points north, west and south. Must make mention of one of our first YL to become licenced - great to see you again Megan (VK2NYM) and husband Noel of Rose Bay, these days. AND a belated congratulations on the arrival of baby Leanne! If VK2ATM (Art) and Wendy are happy Grandparents, then Oxtales must be a happy Aunty! Another visitor, this time from the "Sunshine" state, VK4BN (Bill) all the way from Caloundra. Give us a shout next time you are down on a visit to your daughter in Port Macquarie, Bill.

Also great to see the WIA up here in force. Thanks for the support President Sue (VK2BSB) and Secretary Athol (VK2BAD). Hope you like the photo, Sue. Hi! Hi!

## TRAVELLERS:

VK2ADT (Jack) and XYL Rita could not make it to the Field Days; they were enjoying a trip up Darwin way! Must have sure found some top eat houses on the journey - because Jack is back - and looks a picture of the sun tanned north.

G40CM night well be new foreign call sign; but there was no mistaking the voice or the "fist"! Welcome home VK2PA (Pete) and Ina. Sounds like you had a great trip over the oceans. Thanks for your thought-fulness in sending cards "home" - they were much appreciated. AND after VK2KT (Lester) had won the CW contest, he quipped; "Thank Heavens I won; it cost me a lot of money to get Pete on that plane and out of the country!"

## TAKE IT EASY!

A great friend to everybody, VK2AHH (Noel) has found it necessary to give up that old fashioned scheme of working for a living! Doesn't seen to have done him any harm; looks fitter than a video machine!

Have never heard of a fellow getting gout from the fumes of "rough red" but Frank (VK2DUG) is rumoured to have done just that. Sorry you could not help with the Chef's job this year Frank - but a"bunged up" foot will also keep you out of front row for Manly, too!

## THIRD PARTY TRAFFIC:

Just been announced we have a Third Party Traffic arrangement with the United States; effective June, 25th 1982. Make sure you read paragraph 6.4 of the Amateur Radio Operator's Handbook, as a caution. (We first heard the news when VK2XU (Ian) copied a call from WIAW offictation of ARRL in contact with VK3ADW; president to president, 9.7.'82).

### TRAINING SCHOOLS:

Congratulations to Frank (VK2DUG) at Port Macquarie and also to Ron (VK2DQR) up Kempsey way for the great job done in keeping the training schools firing. Believe there are some good results to hand. Will give more info in next issue, when we will have a round up of new members and call sign up-dates. Whew! takes some keeping up with, these days. BUT - thanks to VK2ATM and his home brew computer, we now have a programme set up to provide membership details for our club. Tnx, Art!

## CLUB PURCHASES:

We were lucky enough to have been offered some very super buying scoops during the year. Not that we are really in that game, but when very special specials come our way; its a benefit all round. The "aluminimum" rod was in short supply and sold out very smartly. The coax cable went just as quickly (2 complete rolls) AND we have very few whip antennae left. See details further on for what is still available; remember, when they have gone, we cannot get a repeat at those prices, not by a proverbial nile!

Thanks go to President Bill (VK2ZCV) for taking much of the organising

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load, in procuring these special buys.

## FIELD-URY NUTES.

We hope the few photos in this issue will help tell the story of our 1982 Field Days at Port Macquarie. Weather wise we were blessed - financially the result was far better than we expected and socially a great success! What more could we wish for? Thanks to each and every member of "our crew" (and XYL's) who pitched in and made the days run so well AND thanks to all who attended and gave us such wonderful support.

## MURPHY BEATEN:

We now know how to handle "MURPHY". Here is the recipe: Get hold of Murphy; in fact several dozens of "Murphys" - wash them and place them in a large aluminium boiler and boil "hell" out of them. Then serve them up at a snorgasboard and at lunch time with plenty of butter..... delicious!

## THAT SOUP: ??????

The soup "ration" at smorgasboard time on Saturday night caused a sensation - never before have we received so many genuine compliments. Seriously, one highly regarded "cook" insisted it was home made. Well, in answer to many inquiries, it was Heinz 'Pot o'soup' Beef Vegetable. We served up 16 tims of 900 ml containers "straight from the can". The also to Gwen for providing the French Toast to go with the soup!

## THOSE "GIRLS" AGAIN!

At presentation time, President Bill (VK2ZCV) "brought the house down" when opened proceedings by thanking the "girls in the kitchen" thus giving them pride of place instead of the usual "last but not least". Continuous morning and afternoon tea on both days; a top line, tasty smorgasboard PLUS a heart winning Sunday lunch and dessert brought a rousing salvo of applause. Thanks girls.....AND....thanks fellows for the Bar-B-Q chef work.

## SURPLUS GEAR:

It had to be the biggest and most varied display of surplus gear we have ever seen on our Field Day. Business was quite good, so was the never ending inspections and "know most everything" talk. Great!

## TRADE DISPLAY:

Thanks VK2 AD ( Sandy Brucesmith) and Trio-Kenwood. Thanks also, David from Hall of Electronics. Your efforts in bringing along a worthwhile display were greatly appreciated by our committee and all who attended

DONATIONS:

Trio-Kenwood (Grid Dip Meter) - W.I.A. (Books) - Retravision (Radio) - Todd Holden (Car Care Kit) - Westlakes Radio Club (Books) Hall of Electronics (Soldering Iron) and Marg.Gerrity (Special Duck) ...your support just doesn't go without saying. We appreciated it! Thanks (TNX

## HASTINGS COMPUTER CLUB:

Neville JOYCE.... you could well become a life member for your effort. No wonder you had non-stop interest. Congratulations on a fine display and entertainment from the world of computers. TNX also to VK2ATM (Art for being a great "tie-in" partner to Neville with your RTTY demo. All in all, that end of the hall provided relaxation and entertainment which drew compliments and thanks all day long. A great effort fellows

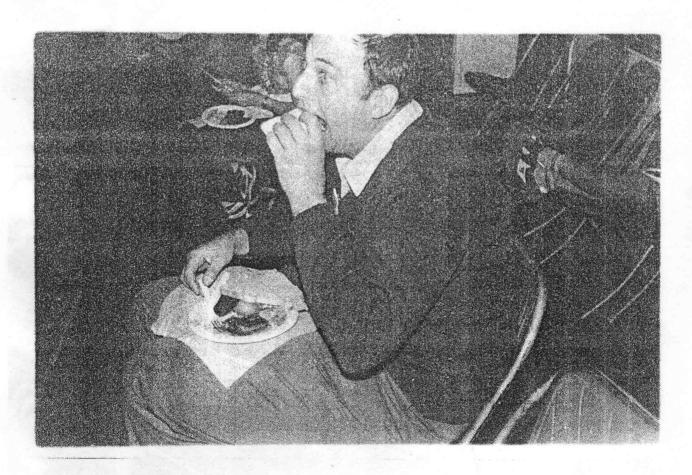
## CENTURY OF SOUND:

At virtually a minute's notice, John Smith organised and set up his fabulous Century of Sound Mobile Museum. A masterpiece in the art of collecting and restoration. Thanks John. Saw a few nostalgic tears during the day, as customers left John's magnificient museum. No wonder, the sample collection from his permanent static award winning Museum in town, really has to be seen to be appreciated.

PHOTOS: TNX Geoff (VK2DPE) for the shutter-bugging, also Cliff (VK2VWC for organising the reproductions. Hope we do a "Herald" job this time!



"Steaks are ready, tell the girls:" - says VK2LS (Lew) on the right: VK2ZCV (Bill) gives a few more an extra "turn" and VK2KDL (Kieth) does some "side band" cooking.



Whose boy: There's plenty of seconds to come. VK2ZHE (Henry) "tucking in" and like every one else, really enjoyed the eats: with whole-hearted compliments to the "chefs":



Zoooom::: "Beat that and you beat me:" Twen, (XYL of VK2KDL, Kieth) seems to thinking as she hurls the Radio in the throwing contest for ladies.



"Let that fox loose: We're rearing to no:" Athol (WK2BAD) looks relaxed and confident as his crew prepares to do hattle in one of the many Fox Hunts.

## FIELD DAY RESULTS 1962.

Firstly, let's deal with the Fox Hunt events. The tremendous amount of effort that goes into these events by the competitors and organisers alike, will never cease to amaze me. Consequently, we might be forgiven if we tend to overlook the major bi-product of the Fox Hunt events. And that is, the technical knowledge which these events help to develop in the field of "home brewing". Each year we see more advanced and more efficient equipment being put to the test; gear that has been designed and modified - modified and re-designed by stalwarts of amateur radio. Surely then, this has to be a sector of our hobby which provides a rewarding opportunity for the advancement of technical ability, research and, as a consequent; knowledge.

This year, we conducted our EIGHT fox hunt events on a points score system. Ten points for first place; 8 for second; 6 for third and 4 for fourth. Each starter who finished, gained 2 points. Results were as follow:

Ist Place: VK2KKW - (Kevin) from Normanhurst. (Won a multimeter)

2nd: VK2BAD - (Athol) - Villawood.

3rd: VK2BSB - (Sue) - Macquarie Fields.

7th: VK2ZFI - (Lyle) - Padstow.

5th: VK2BME - (Mark) - Newcastle.

6th: VK2VRG - (Bruce) - Fairfield.

7th: VK2EYL - (Debbie) - Tamworth.

8th: VK2DPE - (Geoff) - Port Macquarie.

9th: VK2??? - (Ross) - Comboyne.
10th: VK2DLM - (Brian) - Urunga.

HOME BREW RECEIVER BUILDING CONTEST: Won by VK2VQT of Port Macquarie.

(Col won a Grid Dip Meter kindly presented by Trio-Kenwood company) OLD GEAR DISPLAY: Won by VK2DLM (Brian) of Urunga.

C.W.RECEIVING CONTEST 25 W.P.M. won by VK2KT (Lester) of Taree.

C.W.Receiving Contest 10 W.P.M. Debbie (VK2EYL) from Tamworth.

LUCKY REGISTRATION: VK2BME (Mark) of Newcastle.

LUCKY REGISTRATION: VK2NYM (Megan) Rose Bay.

QUIZZ: (Full Call) VK2BSB (Sue) Macquarie Fields.

QUIZZ: (General) G. Savins.

LADIES 80 Mtr SPRINT: Lee Barry - Padstow:

GENTS 80 Mtr SPRINT: VK2BRG (Ray) from Coffs Harbour.

LADIES RADIO THROW: Lee Barry - Padstow:

GENTS RADIO THROW: VK2VRG - (Bruce) Fairfield:

GUESSING COMPETITIONS: Number of Cents (Joan Brockbank)

Bomb Time (M. Savins)
Last Page No. (A. White)

RAFFLE: 1st: A. Stevens (Ticket C68)

2nd: H & Y Auto Staff (Ticket C27)

3rd: Col Mavin (Ticket B8)

SPECIAL NOTE: No entries were received in the Home Brew Antenna Construction and Erection Contest ....so...a Gents Digital Watch prize went begging!

Total Value of Prizes for the two days was in excess of \$.350.00.

Congratulations to all winners; sincere thanks to all who entered the various events - trust you enjoyed the days - thank you for being a great bunch of competitors and good sports !! We really enjoyed your company.

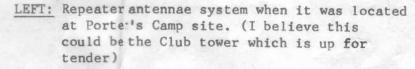
REMEMBER: Our Annual Field Days at Port Macquarie are ALWAYS held during the Queen's Birthday long week-end in June, each year.

## Mini- "OXTALES" - Christmas 1982:

Not so very long ago the competitors in the Commonwealth Bank Cycle Classic from Brisbane to Sydney, passed through our local area. Through W.I.A and W.I.C.E.N., that genial and dedicated man, Tim Mills, contacted our Club to enlist the aid of a few stalwarts who would have the time to help with communications during that sector of the race. I know that Lew, Bob and Henry were our main stays for the all day reporting session in which we were involved. Plus a few of our other lads who pitched in from time to time. In particular, VK2LS (Lewis) must take the award for sheer dedication, simply because he manned the base station non-stop for the entire day. He handled the job in a truly professional manner and to wrap it all up, Lew TYPED THE ENTIRE LOG for the day and sent it on to WICEN H.Q.. Believe me, that was no mean effort! To all who assisted and to-operated on that important day we offer our congratulations and an old fashioned thank you for a big job, extremely well done.

## HOW GOOD IS YOUR MEMORY?

I have taken a bit of a gamble witj the following two photos, in the hope that they will kindly respond to our re-production process. If they don't, please excuse the two "blank" spaces! (That's got to be Irish)



BELOW: The inner sanctum or, the Repeater in Person - again, back at the experimental site a Porter's Camp. A very tidy set up inded.



