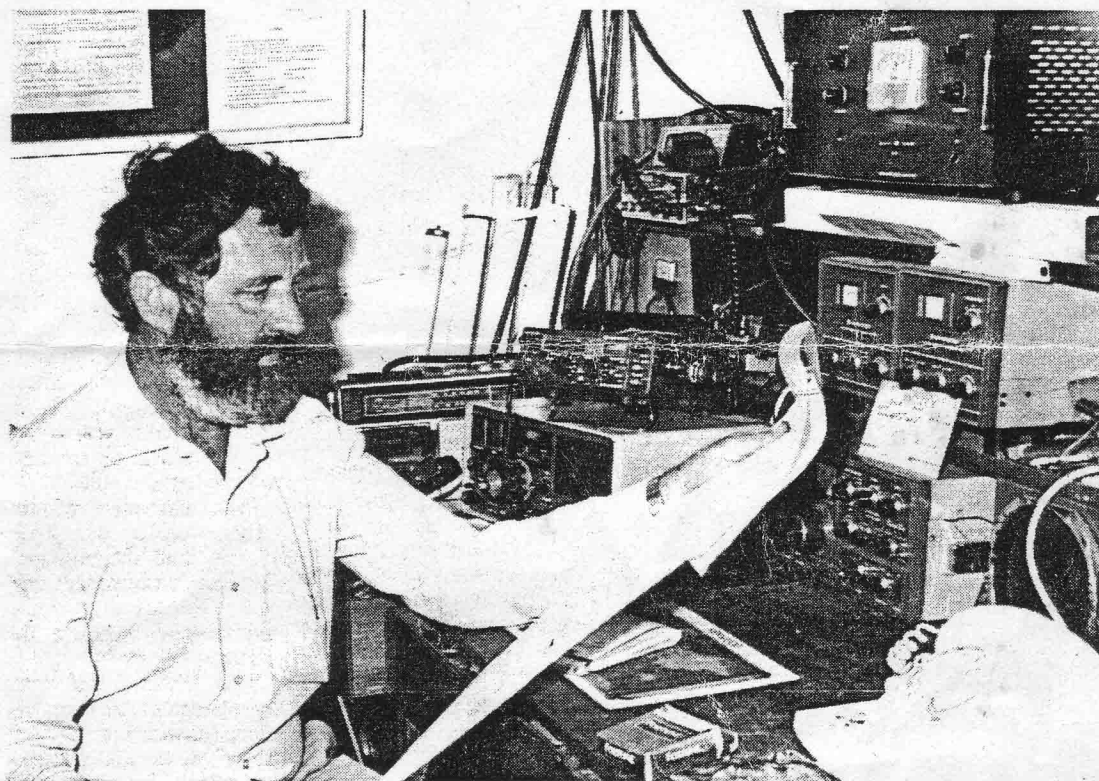


OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.
P.O. BOX 712, PORT MACQUARIE. 2444.

1988/89

NEWSLETTER.

Astronomers Terrace reaches the stars



Bill Sinclair at the radio set through which he spoke to Russian cosmonaut Musa Manarov.

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1988 ROUND UP.

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CLUB STATIONS

VK2 BOR VK2 RPM (CH2) VK2 WIQ

FROM THE SECRETARY.

Well 1989, our Bicentennial Year almost over, a year I think which has been time for reflection on historical events which have shaped our present and perhaps a year of progress and renewal, of goals and ambitions.

It is also the year that has seen the end of an era for our Club with the retirement of our long standing Club Secretary of 8 years in fact, Lester O'Connell BFP, 1988 Club Man of the Year! Lester's service to the Club has always been far more than his Secretarial duties. His expertise in public relations, organisation and appropriation have been invaluable.

His tireless efforts organizing Club events, producing Club Newsletters, liaising with official bodies associated with Amateur Radio and putting forward a respectable and professional image for both our Club and Amateur Radio in general have always achieved impeccable results.

So as we bid farewell to Lester with many thanks and Best Wishes from past and present Club members, we must look forward to 1989, with enthusiasm and a dedication to maintaining a strong and efficient Club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank a man, who has for the better part of this year, served both the offices of Treasurer and Secretary to this Club as well as services to several other organisations.

I refer of course to Charles VK2 FSH, our official Treasurer who has re-organised our finances in keeping with the times. Provided considerable help in organising the Field Day as well as handling general correspondence.

This unfortunate situation arose with the resignation of our elected Club Secretary, Miss Peggy Creed, due to other commitments. With my instalment as Temporary Secretary, an office to which I was unable to devote enough time due to a large family and Business commitments it left most of the work load falling to Charles who has carried on through times of ill health and a high work load with his other commitments.

I sincerely hope that 1989 does not see a reoccurrence of this situation with enough Club members making themselves available to fill all Vacant Positions and carry out their respective duties with enthusiasm and dedication.

MOVING SOUTH.

John Bussing VK2 AVE has moved from Lake Cathie to Colo Vale to be closer to family members in that area. John and Corrie bid their farewells at this year's Christmas Dinner and I must say they both will be sadly missed as they not only put in a great deal of work for the Club preparing Field Days and always assisting at all Club events but also helping individual Club Members in any task where assistance was required.

I am sure their clubmanship and good fellowship was appreciated by all and on behalf of all Club Members we wish them a happy future in their new surroundings and look forward to seeing them at our Annual Field Day.

NO PROBLEMS HERE.

Quite regularly we hear on the News about the problems in our Education System with a lack of funds and overcrowding. How fortunate we are in this Club to have the services of two excellent instructors with that special dedication that achieves good results.

I am referring to Larry VK2 CLL our Education Officer and Keith Hanlon, the Port Macquarie Post Master. Larry runs theory classes every Friday night at the CES Hall and Keith conducts Morse lessons on the same night beginning at 7pm.

With the abundance of knowledge available from these two professionals as well as other Club Members, such as Arthur VK2 ATM, Ian VK2 XU, Bill VK2 ZCV and Keith VK2 KDL, there is always someone available to assist students in problem areas and to answer those questions from other Club Members with less technical expertise.

MASS EXODUS.

Well not quite, but we might be losing another one of the Clubs' top working duos. Allan VK2 ALI and Molly Hartley may be moving to Gosford in the New Year to be closer to family in that district.

This lovely couple have soldiered on through a year of misfortune and Allan's own health suffering during the year, but like the true troopers they are, they have never let the side down with Allan working as the Field Day Co-ordinator and Club Librarian and Molly working on the Field Day and other Club events.

It will be another sad loss to the Club when Allan and Molly leave the district but I am sure that with their positive outlook on life and tremendously friendly nature, they will make many new friends in their new environment.

Thanking you Allan & Molly for all your efforts during the Years.

CLUB COMPETITION - ON THE NETT.

As you know, the Club nett is now being held on Wednesday Night at 8pm on 3.597S MKZ. This change was made in order to be convenient to more Members who were unable to make the Thursday Night schedule. This change has met with some mixed reaction but in general seems to be attracting fairly good response, however in order to incite more interest in the nett a competition has been arranged at the suggestion of Lewis VK2 LS and put together by Peter VK2 MPK.

Well, over to Peter:

From VK2MPK Peter QTH Wauchope.

Re Competition.

Yes a Competition for all the club members to compete in, as most of you will know that the Club Nett on a Wednesday night on 80 and 2 metres is not getting much support.

Well here is a way that I have been thinking about for some time now, and with the help of Bruce VK2MAZ and also Trevor VK2TT I have come up with a answer I hope might solve the Club Nett from vanishing off the face of the earth.

The Competition will start on the first Club Nett of the New Year, and will run for 6 months. What can I win I hear you ask, well with the Donation from Big W in Port Macquarie of half the cost of a Commodore 64 Pack, can be Won.

All you have to do is call in on the Club Nett on a Wednesday night its that simple, and only applies to Club Members. For every time you call in and lodge your Call Sign on the Nett, your Call will be put on a piece of paper and placed in a box. The more times you call in on the Nett the more times you get your call put in the box, and the more chances of winning the prize. Also it might save the Nett here's hoping, we can only give it a try and see what becomes of it.

The draw of the prize will be done by the Manger of Big W, and the winner will be Announced on the next Nett after the draw. There is an old saying that says, you can't win it if your not in it.

If anyone has got any other ideas for the next Competition please get on the Nett and tell someone, or get in contact with Bruce VK2MAZ and get it put in the Club News Letter.

I only hope that this will spark some interest within the Club and its Members, and get the ball rolling.

A CALL FROM ABOVE.

No, not the divine type, but definitely one to remember.

So without further adeiu over to Bill UK2 ZCV to tell the story:

A MILLION TO ONE CHANCE.

T'was 5AM local time on Saturday the 25-11-1988 when I was disturberd;by what I know not. Being one of those who cannot lay arround in bed once awake I decided to make the move and slip into the 'SHACK' where I maybe could do something fruitful without disturbing the rest of the household. Once in the SHACK what to do ? "AHH" turn on the monitors and have a look on ART'S BBS,(I run the receiver with a dummy load on the speaker...so no noise.)

Here we go,thats what I want ,some more info on the MIR space station,that could be interesting and maybe usefull,I'll save that lot to disk and print it out a little later.

Now it is a lot later,having attended to the calls of nature, I was ready to print out the info that I had saved to disk,if only I can find that program to read sequential files! There it is, only take a minuite to load that,there thats done,now to get the printer on line and away we go. With paper tumbling out it was much easier to read the info than whilst I had been down loading,it scrolls too fast for my tired old eyes,there's an important bit, frequency of expected opperation, 145.500MHZ to 145.600MHZ , most used 145.550MHZ simplex F.M.. I may as well turn the gear on while I wait, you never know your luck in the big city.

Off the roller chair and over to the gear, think I'll give the clubs rig a run, keep it dried out. It was only a moments work to hook up the coax from the Slim Jim and the DC leads,what's the printer up to,what's that !!Whose that calling "CQ Australia - this is U2MIR calling CQ Australia."

Quick as a flash after picking myself up from the floor I grabbed the Mic and called, "This is Australian station VK2ZCV calling U2MIR..do you copy".Yes came the reply,a quick exchange of reports followed.

Musa spoke very good English,just as well as my' Russian is non existant. The contact lasted approx. one minuite. The signal strength here was S2 and Q5 copy. Well thats one for the book...here I am getting the info and he pops up out of the blue..has to be at least a million to one chance.

The time of the contact 06.41am local time.

W.M.Sinclair VK2ZCV

FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE.

With 1989 almost upon us, preparations will soon start for our 1989 Field Day in June so within the next couple of months, the committee will be looking for suggestions and hearing any complaints in order to further improve our already very successful events. Any input from Club or Non Club Members is both appreciated and essential in order to prepare and stage such an event successfully, so if you have any ideas or constructive criticism could you please put pen to paper and send your ideas to the Field Day co-ordinator, P.O. Box 712, Port Macquarie. N.S.W. 2444.

The first item on the Agenda in 1989 is the Annual General Meeting which will be held on the 4th of February at the CES Hall, Gordon Street, Port Macquarie in the hall clubrooms and starting at 1.30pm.

All members and new members are welcome as an election of a new Committee takes place and your attendance if at all possible is required to nominate and elect a new committee.

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Nominations for positions on the Committee may be sent to the Secretary at P.O. Box 72, Port Macquarie 2444.

Nominations by mail should be in by the 22nd January 1989.

Positions for which nominations are required are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary Treasurer
- Publicity Officer
- Social Director
- Wicen Officer
- Education Officer
- Field Day Co-ordinator
- WIA Delegates
- Repeater Committee
- Library Officer
- Three Committee Men

Please return this page indicating nomination.

Our present Committee is as follows:

President	VK2KDL	(Keith Lutton)
Vice President	VK2ATM	(Arthur Monk)
Secretary	VK2MAZ	(Bruce Clark)
Treasurer	VK2FSH	(Charles Edmondson)
Publicity Officer	VK2LS	(Lewis Smith)
Social Director	VK2KDL	(Keith Lutton)
Wicen Officer	VK2VKL	(Vern Keena)
Education Officer	VK2LLL	(Larry Lindsay)
WIA Delegates	VK2ZHE, VK2DPE	
Repeater Committee	VK2ATM, VK2ZLV, VK2XU	
Library Officer	VK2ALI	(Alan Hartley)
Field Day Co-ordinator	VK2ALI	(Alan Hartley)
Three Committee Men	VK2ATM	(Arthur Monk)
	VK2ZCV	(Bill Sinclair)
	VK2XU	(Ian Dalrymple)

As some of the present Committee will not be serving another term, your support and participation is necessary to fill the vacancies left and I am sure you will find your respective office both rewarding and essential to the running of a successful club.

Well, I think that's about it from me so I will wish you all well over the festive season and look forward to seeing you at the A.G.M. in 1989.

Yours sincerely,
CLUB SECRETARY

VK2MAZ - BRUCE CLARK

