



# \* OXTALES \*

*Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club*

P.O. BOX 712 PORT MACQUARIE. 2444. NSW.

May 1989

PRESIDENT: VK 2 MPK      SECRETARY: VK2 MAZ



## FIELD DAY FIENDS

"Wait Till I Unload The Bloody Truck!"

## In this Issue:

A.G.M. Rundown.  
New Office Bearers.  
Heard on 2 MTS      VK2      ZCV.  
Oxley Packet Bulletin Board VKZ      ATM  
DX Notes      VKZ      PA.  
New Club By Laws.

CLUB STATIONS:      VK2      :      VK 2 RPM (ch 2): VK 2 WIQ: Ph:065-831100

May 24th, 1989.

FROM THE SECRETARY.

The 1989 Annual General Meeting took place on the 4th February, 1989.

The following information outlines the results of that Meeting.

Reports were submitted to the Committee by the President, Treasurer, Education Officer, Publicity Officer and Repeater Committee.

The President in his report stated disappointment in the lack of support for the John Moyle Field Day, which is a regular event held by the Club and in the past has been well supported. Also the lack of support for the Club Nett which was changed from Thursday to Wednesday at the request of Members. This change has brought little response even with the added incentive of a prize as detailed in the previous issue.

In general, more input by Members in club events and in offering suggestions as to the running of the Club in general.

The Education Officer in his report said that over the year we have had regular classes with positive results, however, now having converted all the interested CB'ers to amateur radio, a publicity campaign is needed to bolster our dwindling classes (See Presidents contribution for results of this campaign).

The Treasurers report stated that we have a balance of \$2,448.23 in our St George account, as of the last Meeting on 7/4/89.

New club By Laws were adopted at the Meeting after speakers for and against pursued their arguments and the ballots drawn in favour. (A copy of these By Laws is attached.)

Also suggested at the Meeting was that the Club run regular Fox Hunt Events throughout the year for Club Members. (See Presidents contribution).

The election of office bearers took place with the following officers being elected:

President	VK2 MPK	Peter Kucera
Vice President	VK2 ATM	Arthur Monck
Secretary	VK2 MAZ	Bruce Clark
Treasurer	VK2 FSH	Charles Edmondson
Education Officer	VK2 CLL	Lorry Lindsay
Publicity Officer	VK2 LS	Lewis Smith

Delegates:

Wicen	VK2 VLK	VERN		
Wia	VK2 ZHE	Henry	VK2 DPE	Geoff Clarke.

A new position of equipment officer has been filled by VK2 XU Ian.

From the President:

An open night was held on the 7/3/89 with a series of advertisements and an article in the local papers preceding the night.

The results of the night were quite pleasing with the results of three new Members joining the classes. Also on the night a talkin 2 mts Fox Hunt was held which hopefully will be the first of many.

Our move to the Lighthouse Beach Surf Life Saving Club for our annual Field Days should provide better facilities for our very welcome visitors.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Field Day .  
VK2 MPK

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DXTAILS HF DX NOTES.

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De Pete VK2PA. Roilands Plains.

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With the dramatic rise in the sun spot numbers in recent months the activity on the higher HF frequencies on all modes has increased considerably. Here are some of observations from operating during this period.

28.Mhz

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This band started to open again with some regularity early 1988, and there has been increasing activity on both SSB and CW. I have not worked many SSB stations but have concentrated efforts on CW where of course you can work stations right down into the noise. From 4th Sept.88 to 12th Feb.89, have had 425 DX contacts on this band. Opening up in the early morning to USA then later to Japan, and finally in the evenings to Europe. The same propagation pattern has been fairly constant with daily variations in signal given and received. some of the rarer calls worked were BV2DA Feng in Taipei, HK7/SMSHV Otto in Bucaramango, FO8JR Albert in Tahiti, HL4CFL Sun in Mokpo Korea, YBOBAG Tom and YBOCXN Darto in Jakarta, KP4PI Pepe in Puerto Rico, 3D2HD Hamish (60GLJ) visiting his parents in Suva. Many W VE UA G F JA GW GM etc etc. The interesting part about 28 Mhz, most of the stations are only running 50 to 100 watts output on CW using anything from dipoles / verticals to beams.

One little point regarding 28 Mhs. We have an infestation of CB type pirates who cover the complete band from 28 Mhz to 30 Mhz, mostly AM signals but some on SSB. Many are located on the Islands north of Australia and also there is a big problem in Hong Kong, we may have to wait until the Chinese take over to solve the problem there, although several complaints have gone into the H.K. authorities nothing seems to have happened. These signals are most prevalent when the band is open to the North in the afternoons. I have been told that the same problem exists in America, 'south of the border', and I have heard them here when the beam is in the south east direction. You can work over the top of these illegal intruders if you have good filters, and can even make them move or close down.

18 Mhz

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This band has sprung into life since the 1st Feb. when the Americans were given the OK, and it has'nt stopped. The W activity must have inspired the Europeans to fire up as well also a few VK and ZL's. Prior to 5th Jan. 89 I had'nt given this band much attention since May 1988. from 5th Feb 1989 75 DX contacts have been made with W VE F PA G SM DL OE GM LA GW Y24 OH Y42 SP VU KH6 EA. In VK we have to watch the 'NO NO' frequencies as we do not have unrestricted use of this band. We can use the following frequencies:

18.068 to 18.071  
18.079 to 18.101  
18.109 to 18.121  
18.134 to 18.141  
18.151 to 18.156  
18.164 to 18.168

From the suggested Band Plan SSB above 18.110

Sometimes it is unfortunate when you hear nice dx in portions that we cannot operate without the possibility of a 'blue' from D.O.T.C. I have found, depending on the activity that the lower portion of the band is OK and also around 18.085 to 18.100. The BBC have an overseas service on 18.080, its a good programme too, it roars in here when the band is open to Europe in the evenings, it does worry the European stations within its ground wave. There is sometimes a FAX station around 18.095 and a commercial CW on 18.070 the latter closes the small portion down this end, but in all so far there seems to be plenty of space. Some good SSB signals from USA have also been heard above 18.134 and between 164 and 168. Once again most of the CW stations that I have contacted run low power ( even the W's) and there are a lot of dipoles and verticals, and bits of wire being loaded up to try the band. Wont be long before peaks come into play. The antenna here is a resonant dipole until recently when I added a wire director, and with this the European signals have improved by a good S unit in that direction.

You have to be an early bird to catch the peak to Europe between 0300 and 0700 our local time. Band has been opening again around 2000L for a couple of hours.

Go to it you will be surprised how many stations tell you how pleased they are to work their very first VK on 18 Mhz.

14 Mhz.  
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This Band has been wide open of course most of the time and now starting to peak up with some very big signals, and generally DX right through 24 hours from somewhere. DK2 DK2 HA3 EA5 PA0 YU1 FE1 YU5 DL4 have been worked on the short path in the early morning, an W's and South Americans on the long path at the same time. Signal reports around S7 or S8 with power this end on both CW and SSB 100 watts output. Some very big signals from the European 'Louden Boomers', compare their signals with the Pacific Service of the BBC hi.

10 Mhz.  
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This band has always been good if you can squeeze yourself in between the strong commercials. Generally a narrow filter for CW is a must. The W and VE stations have had this band for some time, also most European countries and more recently followed by the Eastern Block countries. Only a few contacts this year due to lack of time. Band opens up in the early afternoons, and also in the early mornings for a few hours. Mostly CW as in Europe many countries are not permitted to use SSB on 10 Mhz and in the UK they have a gentlemen's agreement not to use SSB when the band is open to DX because of the very restricted available working space in the 50 Khz total band allocation. Here the band has worked out very well in the day time for cross VK and mobile contacts on SSB. Most of the CW activity has been confined to DX.

We have a little 'NO NO' portion up on the top end:

10.141 + - 4 Khz

You will hear Packet activity above 10.146 and at times Amateur RTTY. One of the very regular CW signals on this band well known to many VK's was Andre F3NB who delights talking to Australians.



7 Mhz.  
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Listening around in the evenings plenty of good W signals on CW and SSB, and of course the Europeans in the early evenings Bill VK2WC, Old Peter VK2BZA and Tom VK2SV have many regular SSB contacts with G's on this band and the various antenna types provides opportunities to compare signals. Early mornings Russians and Europeans and some Asians.

3.5 Mhz.  
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On this band of course there has been the big Westlakes Radio Club QRP competition using the Westlakes CW transmitter kit that proved so popular they ran out of stock. Anyway it put another 60 cw stations on the air all on the same xtal locked frequency. By all accounts it has proved most popular. The prize was donated by Fred VK2AXX of Hamilton. I understand that a VFO kit is now being designed to help with the congestion when the next contest is run. It was quite amazing how big the signals were on 80 meters from two watts or less. Perhaps later Westlakes will have a SSB kit for those that want to chase QRP DX on this mode.

1.8 Mhz.  
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Nothing here in recent weeks except the regulars who only use 160 meters and there are quite a few of them that have by constantly using the band have perfected antenna systems and work a lot of dx when the band opens.

VU2IN Mulla in Bombay would like to have a QSO on 'Top Band' for his first VK. I tried on the morning of the 11th Feb. but nothing heard either way. According to my Grey Line information the sunset and sunrise times of both countries are not yet suitable to provide an opening. He told me that he could hear VK5BC working Europeans but could not get through - frustrating! In mentioning the Grey Line, if you are chasing DX on the lower frequencies this is a great aid and will accurately predict band opening times to various areas that share the same sunrise/sunset or sunset/sunrise times.

That's all from Holland Plains. I think the suggestion at the A.S.M. of DX notes for Qxtails could have some interest for members but feedback of what YOU have worked etc would be helpful, lets make it a club effort. Let us hear what the novice members have been doing especially on 21 and 28 mhz for inclusion, so now about it chaps. I would be happy to compile and type it up on the W/P as required. 73' for now de Pete VK2PA.

OXLEY PACKET BULLETIN BOARD

The Oxley PBBS is a packet bulletin board system run under the Callsign of VK2ATM-1 and is owned and operated by Arthur Monck. It is a message electronic mailbox with File uploading and downloading facilities. It uses standard 1200 baud packet radio protocols and has a very extensive Help file.

The hardware in use is a Hills FM600 transceiver crystal locked to 147.575mhz feeding a Pac-Comm Tiny 2 TNC connected to an IBM XT clone computer running at 10mhz with 640k bytes of Ram and a 20mb hard disk. This unit is a dedicated PBBS running 24 hours a day.

Access is free with full access to all files for the members of the Packet Enthusiasts Group (PEG). There is limited access to guest users for messages.

The information and facilities available vary from personal messages to and from fellow Hams to regularly updated Satellite parameters and all the WIA broadcast news items. International messages and bulletins pour in at the rate of 10-20 per night. The files are subdivided into various directories like BAS for basic programs, IBM for technical notes and hints, SAT for satellite info etc. There is also a YFILES directory with all the binary programs which can be downloaded using the YAPP protocol.

To use it just connect to VK2ATM-1 direct or via a digipeater installed and maintained by PEG. Then you wait until the greeting and command line appears. If you are unfamiliar with the WA7MBL style of BBS then the ? used with a command letter gets you help on any command. If you are a first time guest user then you may leave a message for Arthur the SYSOP requesting full Local access.

This PBBS is linked each day to VK2CZZ, VK2BBD and VK2YDN bulletin boards for all the latest exchange of messages and bulletins from Australia and around the world.

The PEG users, by their membership and contributions together with AAPRA (Australian Amateur Packet Radio Association) fund, supply and maintain all the local Digipeaters on the Mid-North Coast and New England areas.

All times shown with : are after midnight all times shown with \* are before midnight and may be more than one day old. Simply check the times carefully.

From the above list which is Packet Radio Stations heard by VK2ZCV to 11-02-1989 it is easy to see when any 2mtr., Band lift was on, CAN YOU ?

>>> 08:03 Connected To: VK2ZCV via VK2RPM

//MHEARD

HEARD DIRECT	HEARD	VIA	HEARD DIRECT	HEARD	VIA
09*04 VK2CZZ	10*29 VK2BRH	VK2RPL	09*56 VK2BTC	19*20 VK4ZOO	-- 3 --
11*16 VK2CKL	10*25 VK4SF	-- 2 --	11*16 VK2XY	11*16 VK2XY	VK2RAW
11*17 VK2RAW	11*17 VK2CKL	VK2RAW	21*01 VK2EXN	14*22 VK2BF	-- 2 --
21*12 VK2BRL	19*21 VK2EGC	VK2RPL	00*36 VK2RPN	21*09 VK2KFE	-- 2 --
11*56 VK2YDN	21*25 VK2CMC	VK2RPL	12*54 VK2RPL	21*29 VK4CXX	-- 2 --
12*56 VK2RPL-2	22*07 VK2EVB	VK2YDN-2	17*50 VK2DHS	23*19 VK2KHK	-- 2 --
19*31 VK2RCH	23*54 VK2TMO	VK2RPM	07:04 VK2AGA	00*22 VK2DKP	VK2RPM
07:49 VK2BZC	11*59 VK4ZEV	-- 2 --	07:49 VK2ATM	14*58 VK4ZLJ	-- 2 --
07:58 VK2PA	23*13 VK2FNW	-- 2 --	07:58 VK2ATM-1	07:14 VK2FKZ	-- 2 --
08:03 VK2YDN-2	07:32 VK2CZZ	VK2RPM	08:03 VK2RPM	07:49 VK2YDN-1	VK2RPL-2
08:03 VK2ZCV-1	08:01 VK2BBD	VK2RPM	08:03 VK2ZCV	08:03 VK2YBE	-- 2 --
08:03 VK2RPM	08:03 VK2AFX	VK2YDN-2			

>>> 08:04 Disconnected From : VK2ZCV via VK2RPM

OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BY-LAWS

LONG TERM PLAN FOR MANAGEMENT.

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: 1 year only term required for President, Secretary and Treasurer.
  - : 3 year maximum consecutive term for anyone.
  - : Each position to have the right to select a consultant, deputy or assistant.
  - : Volunteers for any position accepted as nomination for election in a ballot.
  - : Leave bank signatures unchanged for 3 years, Add Treasurer if requested.
  - : Authorize petty cash fund of \$50.00.
2. CLUB RADIO NET
  - : Set up a roster of "Controllers for a night".
  - : Allow more open round table conversation after initial call in.
  - : Allow technical discussion and question time.
  - : Have short club news session at 20.15 when all are present.
3. CLUB ACTIVITIES
  - : Monthly properly constituted committee meetings.
  - : Quarterly General meetings.
  - : Have a minimum of twice yearly outing for families.
4. FIELD DAY
  - : Separate committee to include President, Secretary and Treasurer plus 3 others to organize, run and delegate jobs.