



OXTALES

Newsletter of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.
PO Box 712 Port Macquarie 2444

June 1996

Compiled by VK2TT

PRESIDENT: David Smith VK2DAL 85.1004
VICE PRES.: Bill Sinclair VK2ZCV 82.0329
TREASURER: John McDonagh VK2VY 82.0020
SECRETARY: David Pilley VK2AYD 85.2647

President's Report

"When you tell the truth you never have to worry about your lousy memory." (H. Jackson Brown Sen.)

Well, a sincere vote of thanks must go to Bruce Walker for the effort that he put into the co-ordination of this year's field day. It has been voted as an outstanding success by all those who attended, both Club members and visitors. It also has added substantially to the Club's coffers. Thanks must also go to all Club members who pitched in and assisted on the day, and comments which have been made to me from persons outside of our Club indicated that they are looking forward to the 1997 field day at Port Macquarie.

I would also like to personally thank Wendy Monck who, behind the scenes, did so much to assist in the organisation of raffles and competitions.

I would now like to mention that both David Pilley and I will have served for three years as Secretary and President at the conclusion of this year, and, in the interests of the

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Club we feel that most definitely it will be a time for a change of management at the conclusion of this year. Consequently, neither he nor I will be seeking re-election at the next Annual General Meeting, so, now is the time for you to start thinking who is going to assume the vacated positions and perhaps take the Club to bigger and better things.

As you may have heard on the grapevine, at our monthly meeting on Saturday 3rd of August we will be having a guest speaker, Mr. John Daniel who will speak on flying devices which have been used over the years for various purposes. This will be a very unusual talk and it should be of great interest to Club members. We will be putting on a better than usual afternoon tea which will be paid for by the club, so, lets have a good rollup. If it is desired at a later date, Mr. Daniel has indicated that he would be prepared to put on a demonstration.

I note on looking through my diary that we have tentatively nominated Saturday the 7th December, 1996 as the date for our Christmas BBQ.

Please give some thought as to where we should have it, and should it be on the 7th which would be our monthly meeting date.

"Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out."

(Frank A. Clark)

73's to you all, de VK2DAL



The O.R.A.R.C. Field day, held on 9th June, in typical Mid North Coast Winter sunshine, was, as hoped for, a successful event.

With 139 registrations for the day, organisers, under the co-ordination of Bruce (VK2HOT) were well satisfied with the outcome of their efforts.

The major traders were well represented with Lee Andrews, Kevin Kavanagh, Kenwood, and the Internet Shoppe all putting in an appearance and attracting interest and patronage from those present.

The major raffle prize was won by one of our members, Philip Bowman of Stuarts River. Phil won the six nights free accommodation for two. OXTALES extends congratulations on behalf of the membership Phil!

Second prize, a Chinese dinner setting, was won by John Jones (VK2DX) Third prize, a water Jug, was won by Lester (VK2BFP)

There were some 30 minor prizes associated with the major raffle, and by sheer coincidence (no cheating... honestly!), five of them were won by VK2ADA and three of them by Mark (VK2XFK). They must have really bought heaps of tickets, or were they just lucky? That prompts a question though.. Were the bulging pockets in Mark's salesman's apron stuffed with purchased raffle ticket butts, or was it clear profit from his entrepreneurial activities on his for sale stall?

The results of the Fox Hunts were as follows:-

40 Metre Event - Won by Geoff. Pages (VK2BYY)

2 Metre (Two Transmitters) - Won by Ken Golden (VK2DGT)

*2-Metre (Talk-in) Won by VK2XSO
Championship - Won by Ken Golden (VK2DGT)*

Best Presented Vehicle Ken Golden (VK2DGT)

Lucky Door Prize - Won by Noel (VK2ZNS)

The catering seemed to be adequate for the day, because there were quite a few of our sizzled sausages left over after the barbecue lunch, so it must be assumed at nobody went away hungry.

The XYLs of VK2ZCV, VK2VQT, and VK2TT Ruth, Kath and Phyllis respectively, slaved tirelessly and willingly in the catering area to feed the hungry hordes. They were each presented with a small token of the club's appreciation at the end of the day. Another XYL, who has already been mentioned in despatches by the President, did great support work behind the scenes. It was Wendy (XYL of VK2ATM) who did valuable work behind the scenes for weeks prior to the event. As in many previous years, Wendy's efforts have been of great support to the club.

The barbecue staff, Larry (VK2CLL), Bill (VK2ZCV) and Trevor (VK2TT) were assisted on the wielding of the tongs, forks, and spatulas by a distant member from VK4. He was Ken (VK4WKB) from Caloundra, who arranged his travel on his way to Melbourne to include a couple of days stop over

and thus coincide with our field day event. (Members will perhaps remember Ken who did a first class chef job at an earlier field day weekend at Lighthouse Beach, when he undertook the role of Poppa Guiseppie and produced a classic "Spag-Bol" to satisfy the appetites of the multitudes on that occasion). Thanks for the help on this occasion too, Ken.

It was most unfortunate that our President, David Smith, (VK2DAL) was unable to be with us on the field day. Sadly, only a few days before, David suffered an injury to his back and was confined to cot for a spell. David's role in the proceedings was ably undertaken by Bill (VK2ZCV) our Vice President.

OUR MAN IN USA

By the time members read this item, our valiant "Olympian" will have completed his pre-event training and will be lining up at the barrier for the great day of WRTC-96.

Yes, David (VK2AYD), has travelled to the US for this event that will be taking place on 13/14th July. Prior to his departure, he did a few days of training with his partner down in VK5, and was quietly confident of getting a good score for VK land during the event. We

do not yet know what call sign David will be allocated as call signs will not be issued until a matter of hours before the starting pistol is fired. However, we understand that David will be on the air from the US prior to the event, using his personal US call sign.

Those of us who are CW minded (and there ARE some still within our ranks) should keep an ear out for him at 0400 UTC daily on 14.025 MHz from 9th July. You may hear him working other stations, but he will also be listening for calls from this neck of the woods. So give him a call. His personal call sign at this time will be N3AFU. You can then wish him well in the forthcoming "battle of the giants".

OXTALES CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions from ORARC members are still urgently required for inclusion in this newsletter. It is no doubt rather boring for readers to find that most of the items appearing in these few sheets originate from the same old pens (or keyboards) month after month.

Thanks go to Wendy (VK2ATM's) XYL for the collection of some raw material for our future pages. She asked not to be identified along with the items, for fear of reprisals, so we shall maintain her anonymity and not link her name to any of the items when they appear from time to time. But please, the rest of you frustrated journos out there, give it a go and inject some new vim and vigour into our pages.



It was noted during the field day on 9th June, that all has not been standing still at the Sea Scout's Hall In Buller Street. Paul Romaine (VK2UPR) with some help, from time to time, from other club members, Ian (VK2XU), Bruce (VK2HOT), Col (VK2GMD), and John (VK2VY), have undertaken some very worthwhile projects to assist the Sea Scouts. The team has provided the local scouting group with some radio facilities to assist in the rapid setting up of a JOTA station, or other special event station, at the Scout Hall.

VHF antenna installations are now a permanent fixture, comprising a 10-element Yagi, and a Slim Jim for 2-Meter use plus a 2-Meter 5/8th (mobile). For HF operation, a Cushcraft Multiband antenna has been installed. These antennae were donated by Paul to the Sea Scouts.

A 2-Meter transceiver, donated by Arthur (VK2ATM), has been installed as part of the facilities. Another donation from Peter (VK2BZA) is awaiting collection and installation in due course.

The Sea Scouts have lodged an application for a club call sign, and pending a successful outcome, Ian (VK2XU) is performing the role of the "full call custodian".

Paul has asked that we relay his plea to the membership at large, for donations of time or unused equipment that could go towards what he describes as a future "smorgasbord" of communications media he has in mind for the Sea Scout's headquarters.

This project, under Paul's guidance, and with the help from his colleagues, has certainly been a worthwhile exercise, and has no doubt assisted in enhancing the image of the Amateur Radio Hobby in the eyes of the community and the Sea Scouts themselves.

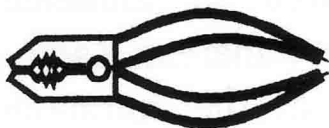
MORE RECRUITS FOR THE PACKET SCENE

Over the past few weeks, there has emerged a bunch of newcomers to the packet scene. "Snow" (VK2DV), Verne (VK2VLK), and David (VK2HBC) have all broken into the VHF side of packet, all operating with "software TNC's".

"Snow" has got the relatively new ZPACKS (written by Mike VK4AZM) running with a BayCom style Modem. Verne and David have both set up BayCom packages, and from time to time their call signs appear in the HEARD lists of other stations in the Hastings Valley and elsewhere.

OLD TIMER MEMBER LEAVES DISTRICT

Recently, Ken Brown (VK2AJJ), resigned from the club because he has taken up residence out of our region. Ken held membership of the club for quite a few years, and was seen from time to time on the pack scene on VHF. We all wish Ken all the very best in his new location.



At our June monthly meeting, there was discussion regarding the concern for the state of some of the club's equipment. There were many reports of equipment being borrowed by members for use at their home QTH, only to find that it was not working. A recent example of this was the club's video recorder, when borrowed, it was not functioning and needed professional service to restore it to operation.

Our equipment officer reported that many items of our obsolete equipment are not in a working condition and agreement was reached to check these all out and assess the worth of repairing individual items.

Members are requested to report all instances of faulty club equipment to the equipment officer (VK2FSH) who will take

responsibility for having the item assessed for repair.

STOP PRESS:

Major Raffle Prize Donated Back to Club.

Just as "OXTALES" was about to go to press, we received a call from Phil Bowman advising that, because of work commitments between now and the expiry date of the prize, he was unable to take up the benefits it offered.

Phil, having the club's wellbeing in mind, donated the prize back for the club's action in whatever manner was seen fit. Fast action has been necessary to devise the fairest method of distributing the prize to another member.

It was decided that all members of the club who were financial at the close of the 1995/1996 financial year be invited to submit a confidential "bid" or "tender" for the prize. The highest bidder will receive the prize.

Accordingly, all members who were financial at the close of the financial year 30th June 1996, are invited to submit their bid in a sealed envelope addressed to:

*The Secretary,
PO BOX 712,*

Port Macquarie. NSW. 2444

Bids should reach that address no later than the 31st July, 1996. The envelope should be marked on the rear with the word "BID" in bold letters. The envelopes will not be opened until the closing date, and this will be undertaken by the members of the executive.

Remember, there are conditions placed on the prize by the donors, which are, in summary, the offer must be taken up and completed prior to 1st October, 1996, and that breakfast and evening meals must be purchased at the establishments where the winner selects the accommodation. SEE YOUR FIELD DAY PROGRAMME FOR FULL PARTICULARS

Novice Theory Classes

Another Novice Theory Course will commence on Wednesday July 17 at Wauchope High School. Classes will start at 7pm each Wednesday night and run for the remainder of the year. For details call Larry (VK2CLL) on 87 1155 after 7pm.

Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.
List of Current Members June 1996

	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	CALL SIGN	TOWN/CITY	TPH. NO.
1	PETER	ALEXANDER	VK2PA	ROLLANDS PLAINS	065 85.8254
2	KEN	BECK	VK4WKB	CALOUNDRA	074 91.5798
3	COLIN	BELLENGER	VK2GMD	PORT MACQUARIE	065 82.3803
4	KATHRYN	BILGER	VK2CKB	TAREE	065 51.2024
5	KARL	BILGER	VK2DYX	TAREE	065 51.2024
6	W. L. (BOB)	BLYTH	VK2XIQ	PORT MACQUARIE	-
7	PHILLIP	BOWMAN	-	VIA JOHNS RIVER	065 56.9664
8	MARK	BRENTON	VK2XFK	COLLOMBATTI	015 401508
9	KEN	BROWN	VK2AJJ	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.1738
10	KEVIN	COULTER	VK2MAM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.8325
11	RICHARD	COURT	VK2CHC	WAUCHOPE	065 85.2379
12	PETER	COX	VK2IPC	PORT MACQUARIE	065 81.1236
13	IAN	DALRYMPLE	VK2XU	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.9922
14	JIM	DANIELS	-	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.1933
15	TRACY	DIGNUM	VK2GTM	HERONS CREEK	065 85.7061
16	CHARLES	EDMONDSON	VK2FSH	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.0495
17	BADEN	GLEESON	VK2MOQ	HELENSVALE	-
18	RODNEY J	GOW	VK2NO	CUNDLETOWN	065 53.9933
19	LUKE T	GOW	VK2EQ	CUNDLETOWN	065 53.9933
20	LEWIS	GREEN	VK2AG	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.9162
21	GRAEME	GREENWOOD	VK2ZIS	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.4684
22	SAM	GRIFFITHS	VK2LSG	TAREE	065 52.3149
23	KEITH	HANLON	-	PORT MACQUARIE	-
24	PETER	HILL	VK2BZA	LAKE CATHIE	065 85.5349
25	SNOW	HODDER	VK2DV	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.7095
26	JOHN	JONES	VK2DX	LAKE CATHIE	065 85.4522
27	HORST	KOPPEL	-	LAKE CATHIE	-
28	JACK	LEEDS	VK2KN	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.1206
29	GARY	LEEDS	VK2NOV	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.3978
30	ADRIAN	LEVI	-	WAUCHOPE	065 85.2040
31	LARRY	LINDSAY	VK2CLL	BAGNOO	065 87.1155
32	TONY	LONSDALE	VK2DHU	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.0345
33	HENRY	LUNDELL	VK2ZHE	PORT MACQUARIE	065 -
34	KEITH	LUTTON	VK2KDL	TELEGRAPH POINT	065 85.0321
35	ALLAN	MADIGAN	-	WAUCHOPE	065 85.2043
36	JOHN	MCDONAGH	VK2VY	PORT MACQUARIE	065 82.0020
37	DOUG	MCDONALD	VK2EUM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.6157
38	JIM	MCINTYRE	VK2CJM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.5696
39	JOHN	MCLEAN	VK2KCE	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.1998
40	LEO	MCPHERSON	VK2CLM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 82.3183
41	TERRY	MEEHAN	VK2KL	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.2997
42	ARTHUR	MONCK	VK2ATM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.1311
43	RAY	MULLINS	VK2WRM	PORT MACQUARIE	065 81.0685
44	LAURIE	NEWHAM	VK2ELN	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.3981
45	LESTER	O'CONNELL	VK2BFP	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.4274
46	DAVID A	PILLEY	VK2AYD	KING CREEK	065 85 2647
47	PAUL	ROMAINE	VK2UPR	PORT MACQUARIE	065 84.1830
48	BILL	ROTH	VK2CWR	PORT MACQUARIE	065 81 1776
49	BILL	SINCLAIR	VK2ZCV	PORT MACQUARIE	065 82.0329
50	GERRY	SLADE	-	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.3817
51	DAVID	SMITH	VK2DAL	WAUCHOPE NSW	065 85.1004
52	WILLIAM	STOFMEEL	VK2WST	BONNY HILLS NSW	065 84.8104
53	COL	TERRY	VK2VQT	PORT MACQUAIRE	065 83.5268
54	TREVOR	THATCHER	VK2TT	WAUCHOPE	065 85.2278
55	BRUCE	WALKER	VK2HOT	PORT MACQUARIE	065 83.8360
56	PAUL	WEBSTER	VK2BZC	PORT MACQUARIE	065 82.3377
57	RONALD W	WYLES	-	PORT MACQUARIE	065 81.1085