

NETWORK

A VOICE FOR AMATEUR RADIO
IN NORTHERN TASMANIA

VOL. 1 NOVEMBER 1991

R.S.P. \$1.00

Amateur Radio in ACTION in Northern Tasmania



PHOTO. The Special Event Station VI7NB set up at the Launceston Show 9-12 October 1991

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN BRANCH
OF THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA,

Tasmanian Division

REPRESENTING ALL NORTHERN AMATEURS AS...
THE NORTHERN TASMANIAN AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

P.O. BOX 275, LAUNCESTON TASMANIA 7250

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AWARDS-

Tamar Valley Award

AMATEUR TELEVISION (ATV)

Bob Grant VK7ZRF

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS.

Barry VK7BE, Craig VK7VEE,
Robin VK7RH, Bob VK7NRR

MEETINGS

Monthly every second Wednesday of the month
at 1930k (7.30pm) in the Theatre Kings
Meadows High School, Guy Street,
Kings Meadows, Launceston.

"NETWORK" The official voice of Amateur
Radio in Northern Tasmania. Editor Barry Hill
VK7BE. PH 272096. Designed and edited on
Mac Plus, using Pagemaker & Personal
Laserwriter LS.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

As required, generally once per month, Monday nights 1900k.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS.

For joining the Wireless Institute of Australia,
Tasmanian Division.

Full Membership \$65.00 per year.

Pensioner/Needy/Student \$52.00 per year.

Full Membership but non receipt of the

Amateur Radio Magazine. \$38.00

(An Application form is available by writing to P.O.Box 275,
Launceston. 7250)

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "NETWORK"

\$10.00 Per year.

Non Members of the Institute who utilize repeaters etc
and who wish to help fund these local facilities can forward a
donation and will receive 12 months subscription to Network
Magazine free.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence and subscriptions, article for Net-
work etc to be posted to Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio
Group / W.I.A. Northern Branch. P.O.Box 275, Launceston.
Tasmania. 7250.

GROUP STATION VK7NB

Club Net, The AMATEUR HOUR on air each
Wednesday night 1930k (7.30pm) on repeater 8 (147.000), ex-
cept the second Wednesday which is meeting night. With a relay
on Repeater 6, 146.900. & VK7RTV on the N.W.Coast

REPEATERS AND BEACONS

VK7RAA 147.000 output 146.400 input Voice
2Mts.Repeater Mt Barrow

VK7RAB 438.550 output 433.550 input Voice
70cm Repeater Mt Arthur

VK7RTY 147.575 input/output Packet Digi
repeater MT Barrow

VK7RNT 52.470 6Mts. Beacon St Leonards

VK7BBS 147.575 Packet Radio Bulletin
Board.

Novice Theory classes,

held every Tuesday night at 7.00pm sharp at the Kings
Meadows High School, Guy St. Kings Meadows, in "B" Block,
using Video from Gladeville Amateur Radio Club N.S.W.

CLASS CO-ORDINATOR, Craig VK7VEE.

Phone 447777

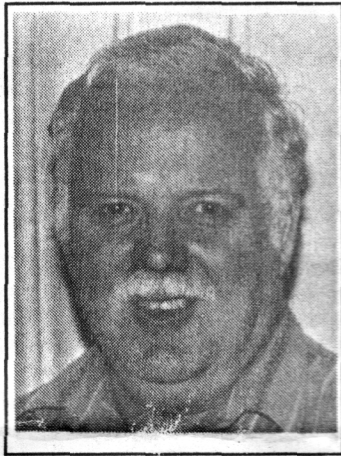
OTHER STATE OPERATIONAL REPEATERS

SOUTHERN TASMANIA

146.900 / 146.300 VK7REC EAST COAST
146.700/146.100 VK7RHT HOBART
147.250/147.850 VK7RAF HOBART
147.575 VK7RIT DIGI REPEATER HOBART
438.600/433.600 VK7RAC HOBART
438.500/433.500 VK7RIN CENTRAL TAS

NORTH WEST/WESTERN TASMANIA

146.750/146.150 VK7RNW PENGUIN
146.625/146.025 VK7RMD ULVERSTONE
147.075/147.625 VK7RWCMTREIDROSEBERRY
53.825/52.825 VK7RMD ULVERSTONE
426.250/444.250 VK7RTV ATV ULVERSTONE



From the desk of the President

With Christmas just a few weeks away it is good to reflect back and see what has happened in Amateur Radio throughout the year with the activities of our Northern Branch. Most of our short term goals have been reached, but one of the major ones of finding a clubhouse has been the most challenging. I am currently negotiating for a property with good access to our repeaters. I just want to remind you that this important need for us to have a permanent location has not been forgotten... more as this develops.

Since the last issue of Network two major events have taken place...

1. The special Event Station VI7NB at the Launceston Show. I believe this was a great success and your executive have planned to do the same thing next year, but as well to get involved in Agfest. Not only did we give out over 200 Network Magazines but were able to talk and meet many amateurs who did not know that we even existed, or what we were doing. The bonus of course was the use of the Special Event Callsign VI7NB, with over 250 contacts made, over 30 countries worked, plus in one night we were able to work 27 States of the USA. Many thanks to VK7NSS who was also able to work Albania on CW.

Our special thanks go to Frank VK7ZMF & his son Bradley, for being our on sight caretakers for 3 of the night at the show, this was on top of their other activities during the day, also thanks to Mark VK7KMA, Malcolm VK7NSS Craig VK7VEE, Bob VK7NRR, who also lent us his caravan and annex, for the show, Robin VK7RH, your president was also present every day, and of course the many members of the Novice theory class who saw some of the things that can happen when a station is set up portable. Antennas used were a 5 band trapped Vertical, a G5RV for 80 & 40 Mtrs and a Emtronics rotatable tribander Dipole, on which most of our contacts were made. (This is actually similar to the driven element of a 3 element tri-band beam)

2. The other activity of course was the 5 Five HF stations active at the Showgrounds to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of CUBS in Australia. It was hectic but the exercise meant putting over 900 cubs on air in 4 hours. We almost made it with over 800 of the cubs able to at least say hello on air.

Our special thanks to Joe VK7JG, Bob VK7NBO, Bill VK7AV, BOB VK7RP for manning the

stations..making it all happen, this made my task of co-ordinating this event much easier.

3. As well as this other JOTA stations were manned in the North by Brian VK7TAH on site at Derby in the N.East, Don VK7EK at Underwood, Bob VK7NBO at Ravenswood, Robin VK7RH at West Launceston, Lionel VK7HL, Barry VK7BE, Robin VK7RH at Exeter, Bob VK7RP at George Town, John VK7NJC with VK7GG with a ships mast & a driven element of a beam on top of Cradle Mountain..

Is not this the spirit of Amateur Radio in Action!!!!

Barry VK7BE (President)

COMING EVENTS

November 13th 7.30pm KMH School

Computers and Amateur Radio

A working display of computers and Radios (handshaking) with many displays.

December 11th 7.30pm KMHS

Christmas break up. With a live Amateur Hour. You can do an item Skit, or relate an interesting experience that has happened to you, in Amateur Radio over the years.

January Saturday 11th 1992 11.00am

QTH Barry VK7BE, Hurst Road, Pipers River. BYO, Food, Drinks/Tents.

A Portable DX Competition

A Cricket Match against any other

Branch Challengers. (No replies as Yet)

Barbeque lunch & tea. BYO.

February 12th 1992 7.30pm KMHS

Annual Branch Meeting. All positions open for nomination. Nominations close 1 Feb 1992

March 1992 HAMFEST

Date and place to be arranged

Northern Tasmanian HAMFEST

Plan now to be a part of this action !!!

Novice theory Class News.....Exams.!!!!

The Novice Class draw near to exam time with most of them partaking in the Exams being conducted on Wednesday 20th November. The Exams for the Novice class are set down for the 17th of December, but many are keen to get their licences as soon as possible. We wish them all the best with 28 applying to sit for their licences.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST

LISTEN EACH SUNDAY MORNING
AT 9.30 AM (0930K) ON YOUR NEAREST REPEATER
OR 3.570 MHZ FOR THE
WEEKLY NEWS BROADCAST OF
AMATEUR HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT TASMANIA.
A REBROADCAST TAKES PLACE EACH TUESDAY
EVENING AT 1930K (7.30PM) ON 3.590 MHZ

A USERS REPORT ON THE ATS803A RECEIVER - By Garry VK7EL

Barry VK7BE has asked me to do a review on my new "toy", a Sangean ATS803A Receiver. Not being a technical genius in that department what follows is more a satisfied owners report. Listed below are first of all the good points then some of the bad points.

FIRST THE GOOD POINTS

1) **Price** - approx a 1/4 the price of a Yaesu FRG 8000.Icom etc.

2) **Bands** - AM 150Khz- 29.999 Khz continuous
FM - 87.5Mhz - 108 mHz
AM is subdivided into LW, MW, Sw
SW into 12 subbands - PLL tuning.

3) **Performance** - FM - very good, didn't realise there were so many FM station in Vt7 (Hobart Fm stations are recieved here at Devon Hills virtually full quietening on the sets own telescopic whip). On FM the tuning and scan rate is in .5MHz steps. Stereo reception is possible with headphones.

AM - works well on the B/C band, 520 kHz - 1620 kHz and you don't find many blank spots, will scan in either 9 ro 10 kHz steps (presettable)

Can't really comment on LW stations "Launy Tover" is easy to pick up (about 1 km from here) but haven't looked about those frequencies much.

AM 1620 kHz plus very good results with its own telescopic whip, but much better with as external antenna. (G5RV in my case) Sangean call the ATS 803A a "World band Receiver" and in the spectrum from 1.620 - 29.999 MHz it certainly is. Stations from everywhere are there. Never having a really good receiver I was pleasantly surprised at the set's performance in this area, I expected it to be reasonable but found it to be better than expected. Strong signals can be attenuated by backing of the RF gain control. AM band width can be switched from wide to narrow. Tunes in 1 kHz steps, scan up only unless in one of the designated SW bands also in 1 Khz steps. SSB and CW reasonable, BFO tricky to adjust.

4) **Tuning** - 5 methods available

A) Direct entry via keyboard
B) Rotary - via knob on side tuning rate depends on how fast it is turned from 1Khz steps - 10 KHz to 100 Khz.

C) Scan - scans up on all bands then returns to bottom of hand (if not started is a designated hand it will only scan up and keep on going to 29.999 then I assume return to 150 Khz).

D) UP/down keys each push 1 Khz, hold down 10 Khz steps.

E) Nine memories are available

5) **CLOCK** - alarm - sleep just like most clock radios. Uses 2 AA batteries for back up(Memories also).

NOW THE BAD POINTS

1) **Selectivity** - though reasonable for most short wave listening, not really good on the Amateur bands, especially SSB. Strong signals tend to "Drown" weaker ones when close together. This occurs also with the narrow AM setting selected and RF gain backed off. My trusty old FT200 will separate then using the same antenna, but then 803A looses them although in the clear it our performs the FT200 slightly, the FT200 is not so sensitive but is more selective.

2) **Thirst for batteries** - uses 6 "D" cells and 2 "AA" cells. Samgean recommend ALKALINE cells, so its expensive to feed. They recommend a 9v 500 mA supply in lieu of batteries, though the "AA"'s are required if you turn off the power to retain the memories or the clock. I've had mine running off a 100 mA supply and have the "AA"'s n place, I found the supply handles the ATS803A with no problems - it doesn't even start to warm up.

Conclusion - I feel the ATS803A has some short comings but at the price it works well. Its not in the same class as the Yaesu's, Icoms, etc but at 1/4 the price it takes a lot of beating.

An interesting sideline, when first comparing it to my old FT200 it walked all over it until I connected it to the G5RV, it died. I assumed the extension on it was for a High Impedence antenna as the "FT200" was still working. Closer inspection revealed a short in the coax to the G5RV once cleared both the "803A" and the "FT200" burst into life, and I thought the OLD GIRL was deaf!

The ATS803A now resides by my bed and is used there more than in the Radio Room. Best alarm I've ever had. Whats more I can check the "bands" out or listen to Radio Moscow, VOA, HCJB etc just using the telescopic whip.

73 GARRY, (VK7EL)

FOOTNOTE.

Since doing this article Garry's FT200 had developed a small smoke problem, resulting with a damaged power supply, and two final valves actually melting down. a safety device he had built to stop accidental, powering up of the FT200, became activated with a room filling with smoke in the late evening after 10.00pm. As this is the second time smoke has come from an amateurs shack.. perhaps we all need to check.. have the necessary fire extinguishers available, possibly some smoke detectors too... Maybe some kind Amateur may have some6J6C finals Garry could have.. (Ed.)

NEXT MEETING

DECEMBER 11th 7.30pm
KINGS MEADOWS HIGH SCHOOL
GUY STREET, KINGS MEADOWS
LAUNCESTON. - .SEE YOU THERE

NEWS FROM THE WEST COAST

Dick VK7KVB was testing the Reception with Barry VK7BE the other day in preparation for the setting up of a Packet Digi on Mt ried on the West Coast. A Beam Antenna supplied by Frank VK7ZMF is to be installed, and within a month, will be looking for connects in the Launceston Area. There is no doubt about those boys down the West Coast they are always on the move, even have their own club rooms in Rosebery.

NEWS FROM THE EAST COAST

Bob VK7NBF advises that the Sewing Circle Bar B Que will be held at Rosybanyon, approx 10Km on the Port Arthur Rd from Sorrell on Sunday 24th November... He advises that Santa VK7??? will also be there.. all are invited to come. The net meets every night on HF Radio on 3.590 LSB..Listen in!

MORE NORTHERN NEWS

The Packet Digi VK7RTY has been moved to a higher location on Mt Barrow, with some accesss now available into the south and the North West. It is still to be lifted to a higher position and these negotiations are continuing. Our thanks to Joe VK7JG. The Antenna of Repeater 8 VK7RAA has again been relocated, we would like your reports on this, Bob VK7ZRF is back and is hard at work with Col VK7LB on the new Repeater for this sight.

It is great to hear the our QSL Officer Col VK7LZ is back home and is recuperating well. He is a little disappointed that he has not heard from many of his amateur friends, so call in and say hi to him. Col its great to see you back on deck.

VK7BBS the PRBBS is back on air with Barry VK7BE as the new SYSOP. The Branch has now aquired a stand alone genuine IBM XT with 20MB HD. Our thanks to Phil VK7JJ.

WANTED - SOME MORE GOODIES TO PONDER ABOUT - FOR SALE

WANTED

ICOM 251 all Mode 2mtr Transceiver.

Frank VK7ZMF in the Central highlands.
Phone 002- 598214

2MTR ALL MODE MOBILE OR BASE STATION all
MODE if possible.

BOB VK7NRR Phone 003. 262401

TILT OVER TOWER

Wanted by Peter **VK7PF 003 431082**

Clearance Sale

All the following Items are available subject to prior sale from one of Australia's most respected, but semi retired Yaesu distributor.

Stan Roberts VK3BSR

P.O. Box 506 WANGARATTA Vic 3676

Phone 057-662359

Telescopic ant ft 290R	\$10.00
YHA-15 Flex Ant FT290R	15.00
Telescopic ant for FT690R	12.00
Yaesu M150sglx 5/8 ant 2mts	30.00
7 Core Rotator Cable VCTF-7	1.75/mtr
6 Core Rotator Cable VCTF-6	1.50mtr
5 Core Rotator Cable VCTF-5	1.00/mtr
Co-Axe cable 8DFB LOWloss	3.25mtr
Mast clamp 1213 suit Emotator 502	30.00
Yaesu FAS 1-4R Ant Switch	185.00
Yaesu RSM-4M Magnetic mount	20.00
SWR meter FSI-5 (2 meters)	39.00
FT101Z am unit	22.00
FT101Z Fm unit	38.00
Mobile bracket suit FT77	23.00

Yaesu FT23r with FNB-10 Bat	295.0
Yaesu FT703 with FNB-4 Bat 70c	285.00
Yaesu FT770r 25Wat Mobile 70c	350.00
Mobile MountMMB15 forFT230/730	15.00
Mobile Mount MMB31 FT290R11	30.00
Yaesu YH-1 Headset/mic	39.00
Yaesu YH-2 Headset/Mic	43.00
Yaesu FRG9600 Receiver 60-915mhz	770.00
Coverter suit FRG9600 to 1300MZ	99.00
Converter suit FRG9600 to 20MZ	150.00
Mobile mt Suit FRG9600 MMB28	10.00
Yaesu FRT7700 ant Tuner suit frg 7700 & FRG8600	120.00
Yaesu FC700 ATU 150watts	285.00
Boom MikeMF-1a3b	24.00
Mic suit FT290R etc MH10e8	24.00
Speaker Mic MH12-a2b Suit HT.	39.00
Headphones YH55	20.00
Headphones YH77	21.00
HD Power supply FP757HD	489.00
Power supply FP-7 3amps	75.00
Nicads FNB2 FNB4 FNB10 FNB11 B/Packs	
Valves	
6J6C Nec	25.00
6KD6 Nec	25.00
6AH6	8.00
12BY7-A	20.00

Manuals for all Yaesu gear Available, plus many spare parts, semiconductors etc....

Service from Stan is excellent, he is most co-operative... Advise him you saw this advert when ordering.(Ed)

NB.The cost of freight & postage is extra...E&OE.

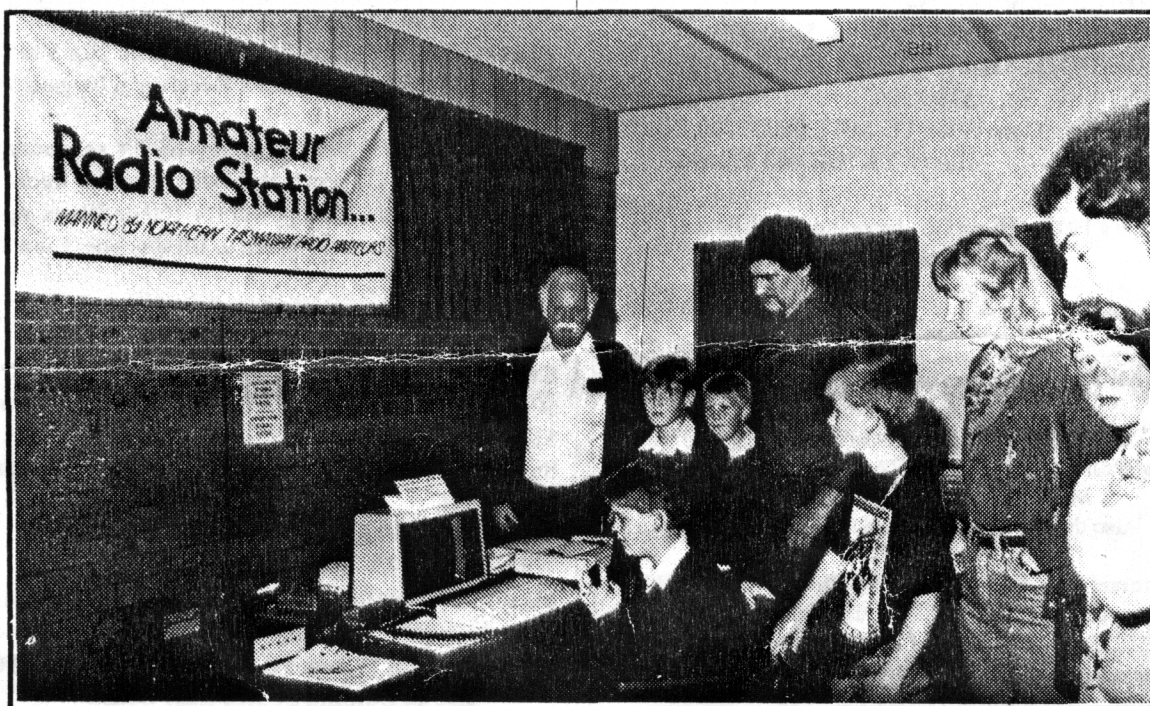


PHOTO. Children & their parents see an Amateur Station in action when VK7NB went Mobile recently at the Launceston Christian School Riverside. The station was manned by Robin VK7RH & Barry VK7BE. There is a big demand amongst schools in the North.

NETWORK- RADIO CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Cro tube 3" flat face unused in carton- Phillips C/w socket
BILL VK7AK, PHONE Deloraine 622479

Master Call Telephone call Diverter, Model MC-4044 with remote control DTMF encoder \$500.00.

Phillips FM320 (Two off - will not separate)

UHF CBRs Radios with Mobile alert Paging System. \$600.00 pair.

Commodore Vic 20 Computer c/w 32K Ram extension. Can be used for packet. \$120.00

CRAIG VK7VEE. Phone 447777

A K6400 2Mtr FM Transceiver Kit, brand new, not assembled. Has 24 memories, 5/25 Watt Output.

\$350.00 **Andrew VK7XR 004 -248322**

Yaesu FT301 c/w FT 301 ATU, very good condition \$550.00. **Ken Hunter (002) 445499**

YAESU Ft 101E, mint condition \$500.00 **Malcolm VK7NSS Phone 003-826248**

ICOM 1271A 23cm all Mode built in Power supply. Mint condition \$1500.00 ono

Commodore C64 Computer for Satellite Coms, c/w 1541c Disk Drive Star NX10c printer, Mains supression filter c/w 4 outlets 5 computer programmes.. the Lot \$750.00

34cm National colour TV used as monitor TC-1450AN for C64..cost \$500 sell as new \$300.00 **Frank VK7LO 20 Lions Cres, Umina Park Burnie 7320. No Phone.**

YAESU FT101E TRANSCEIVER C/W Eternal VFO \$425.00

YAESU FT101 GOES WELL \$350.00.

KENWOOD TS811A 70CM ALL MODE BASE, MINT CONDITION \$1300.00

2Mtr & 6Mr Converter TO SUIT FRG7700 Receiver \$100.00 **Barry VK7BE 003 272096**

Yaesu FT101Z HF rig Good condition \$600.00 ono **Peter 003 982722**

Wanted

for Testgear in service & Training Technicians
RTL 3.6 Volt Logic IC's

Cat Numbers required, they all start with MC & end with P
ie. MC880P, MC890P, MC889P, MC817P, MC891P, MC790P,
MC789P, MC9818P, MC892P, MC792P,

Also the following Fairchild Cmc960, Cmc9959
3N138FETS

Contact Trevor Briggs VK7TB Phone H. 003 982118
or phone at L'ton TAFE, Electronics Dept.

Please note that Amateur Transmitting gear will only be sold to Amateur Licence holders only.

FOR SALE

AWA RT80 Low Band Transceivers Suit conversion to 6MTRS \$45.00

Phillips 828 Mk2 Low Band suit for conversions \$45.00

2 ONLY CENTRONIC 351 15" INCH DOT MATRIX PRINTERS, both working. \$100.00 the pair.

RATHEON SPRINT PRINTER, 15" carriage, c.w a carton of printer ribbons. Good machine \$100.00

KEN Hand held Trans. 4Rep. 2 Simp., Bat & Charger \$90.00
Frank VK7ZMF. (002) 598214 (Arthurs Lakes)

ICOM IC751 Current Model 32 Memories, inbuilt CW Keyer 10Db Preamp, 20Db Attenuator. Excellent value. \$1950.00

MICROWAVE MODULE 144/432 MHZ 10 watts output \$100.00

TELEX 2000 TELETYPE, has built in VDU and Original roll of paper \$150.00

ELECTROPHONE CS951 Cassette recorder /Radio FM/ AmLCD display etc. etc. \$180.00

AWA GT85s MARINE TRANSCEIVER AM/SSB 10 Channel operation \$150.00

AWA 25M converted to 52.525 MHZ 30 watts output \$100.00

ICOM HAND HELDS, 2 OFF IC02A 2MTRS, 1 OFF IC04A 70CMS \$200.00 EACH

WOW & FLUTTER METER \$45.00 (Yes it is...Ed.)
Joe VK7JG 003 272256

KYOKUTO 2mtr FM 1/15 watts Mobile, Digital read out 12Vdc VGC \$250.00 Firm.

Peter VK7CT Phone Wk 003 445665, H 982772

RCA 1950 Vintage AR8505 .5-30mhz receiver \$50.00

Traegwer Low Band vhf mobile small FM25 \$50.00

AWA 25m High Band & 25M low band c/w spare boards.. the lot \$125.00

Pye Overlanders t/ receive Valve Finals 2 for \$20.00

RCA ar88 Communications Receiver a bargain at \$180.00

Transformer HV 240V primary-2800V secondary each side of the CT, current to burn..heaps of transmitting valves to suit, Ideal power for 160 or 80mts..open to offers..(You'll need a crane to lift this one..I saw it Ed.)

Marconi Sig Generator Model TF801/a 25/300MHZ excellent Unit... \$200.00

Chart recorders Solid state, twin graph, speed 25/50mm/second sensitivity x1 or 1/2 \$80.00 each ..Both \$130.00.

Sagem Modem TX20 circuit Boards.. dozens of these \$50.00 Lot.

Signal Corps Vhf RX 90-155MHZ From USA Warship 1942/43... offers.

Many other Items too many to mention, including hundreds of all types of transmitting valves new and used.

Graham Wilson P.O.Box 95, Swansea.7190 or Lot 64 Dolphin Sands. East Coast.