

# TASMANIAN AMATEUR RADIO

Registered for Posting  
as a Publication  
Category B

*Bulletin issued by the North, North West and  
Southern Branches of the Wireless Institute  
of Australia, Tasmanian Division.*



MAY 1980

VOLUME 10 NO 2

P.O. BOX 275  
LAUNCESTON  
TAS . 7250

MEETINGS - South 7th May; North 9th May; North West 13th May.

EDITORIAL - From the Northern Branch President.

QRM started as a bulletin distributed to North and North-West WIA members. Its role was to help us get to know each other better and to inform others of our activities. I believe its prime role is still in this direction. Its state-wide distribution allows it to be a vehicle to disseminate other information however I believe Northern Branch members want to keep it securely under their wing, however it appreciates being able to help to keep all VK7's in touch.

In the North we see our major goal this year to be attracting those who are presently not participating to take part in our activities.

- This we hope to do by:
1. Making meeting activities more meaningful. A short business meeting will be conducted each month however major discussions will be held quarterly, as decided last year. All meetings will, however, include some activity.
  2. Attention will be given to improving the club station.
  3. More facilities will be provided in the clubrooms.
  4. A membership drive will be instituted.

However there is scope for everyone to help. Committee meetings are held on the first Friday of each month. You are welcome to come, throw in ideas and help.

Will you help to make the Northern Branch more active?

73 *Key Emma*  
VK7KK

### Northern Branch Notes.

The april meeting of the northern branch took place at their Clubrooms, 34 Bourke Street, on Friday 11th. With 27 members and two visitors present, a welcome was extended to Jan Harper, who passed the last N.A.C.C.P. exam and is now sporting the callsign VY7JN. Congratulations also go to Peter Butler, VK7NPB on passing his L.A.C.C.P. exam in February, and to Roscoe Crawford VK7NSC, for being successful in the A.C.C.P. exam of the same month.

The President VK7IE pointed out to the meeting the format that will follow for Branch meetings, i.e. the 3 monthly business meetings will remain, and that the other meetings will contain limited business plus organised activities, lectures, etc. The 3-monthly business meetings will also contain some form of activities, similar to the other month.

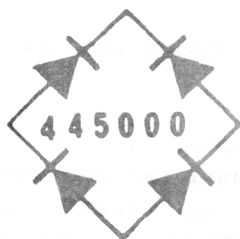
Just when we thought that the matter of heating and extra power points for the clubrooms had been sorted out, the Launceston City Council dropped the clanger stating that they would not fund the necessary work due to the low rent that we pay. To this end, the executive is following up other avenues to get this work done as a matter of urgency.

Advice has been received from Tandy Electronics in Launceston that they are offering discount cards to Northern Branch members. If you would like to take advantage of their offer, then contact the Secretary, Andre VK7AE, for details.

The meeting concluded with three lectures, the first by Andre VK7AE, on the subject of operating on HF DX, with the emphasis on station location, time of year, etc. The second lecture was given by Brian VK7ZBY, on Project ASERT, pointing out the aims of the project, and finishing with a description of his ASERT monitoring station at the Launceston Airport. Finally Joe VK7JG, presented us with a talk on an A.T.U. similar to the one used by the Branch club station VK7NB.

The lecture for next month will be one for the A.T.V. fans, as well as for the uninitiated. Bob Grant VK7ZRF, is going to tell us all about this interesting subject, so if you wish to expand your knowledge further, don't miss this lecture.

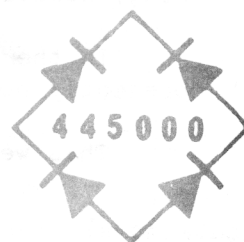
73 , Brian VK7ZBY.



**J. D. ELECTRONICS**

64 Wentworth Street,

NEWSTEAD



Suppliers of Yaesu Amateur equipment, Test Gear and all Accessories. Antennae and Fittings. Novices check us now for a really good deal.



### Northern Branch Equipment Store.

The Northern Branch Store is investigating the possible interest in providing in kit form the excellent DJ7VY Wideband pre-amp which appeared in Edition 1/1978 issue of VHF COMMUNICATIONS.

To give you an idea of how good this pre-amp is, the actual measured test fig,s are shown. Bob Grant VK7ZRF has built this pre-amp and can vouch for the fig,s.

#### DJ7VY PRE-AMP TEST FIGURES.

| <u>FREQUENCY.</u> | <u>ACTUAL MEASURED GAIN.</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 100 Mhz           | 16 db                        |
| 140 "             | 17 "                         |
| 200 "             | 18 "                         |
| 300 "             | 17 "                         |
| 420 "             | 17 "                         |
| 430 "             | 16.5 db                      |
| 450 "             | 15 db                        |

If sufficient interest is shown in this kit, steps will be taken to produce same. The kit will be complete down to the last nut and bolt.

All enquires and orders should be made to the northern branch store via p.o. box 275 Launceston, or to the equipment store manager David Bailey VK7YY.

### Northern Branch Clubrooms.

#### W A N T E D

The northern branch is looking for a refrigerator for its club rooms to help look after the liquid interest,s of its members. If you have an old one you no longer require, then the northern branch would like to here from you.

### WA6LCU Contacts.

Jerrie WA6LCU who visited VK7 on the USS Enterprise 5 years ago, sends his best wishes to all the VK7,s he met and qSO,ed when the Enterprise was in Hobart and states it was one of the high lights of his days in the U.S. navy. Jerrie has asked that it be passed about that he is often on 28 Mhz around 0200/0300 Z and would like to meet up with hams in VK7 again, so all you operators on the 10 Meter band keep an ear open for WA6LCU.

### Grapevine News.

is that Graham Rand VK7AQ has at last found another interest other than electronics. We believe, as did a lot of other people, that we would never see the day, but Graham has taken the first step, by getting himself engaged. Congratulations Graham to you and your fiancée.

## SOUTHERN BRANCH NOTES.

The next meeting for the Southern Branch will be held at S.E.S. Headquarters in Melville St. on Wednesday May 7th., starting time 8pm sharp. As with the previous meeting, the format will be a cut-down format to allow a shortened meeting time. This will allow a longer coffee break ie natter session; and more time for the lecture / film topic. This month a talk will be given by Neville Brown from 7HFC-FM, provided this date suits him. While on the topic of meetings, it is anticipated that a film will be shown at the June meeting - or rather a videotape, of the 7JIRL dxpedition, where something like 5000 contacts were made in one weekend.

Ian VK7ZZ, has started the new USEFUL SB library by donating a book. Other books are to be purchased, and a few retrieved from the now defunct Divisional library. Any suitable donations are more than welcome; please contact our librarian. Also, any suggestions as to what should be included will be appreciated.

One topic that will be included at the next meeting is a discussion on suitable meeting places, should the present one continue to prove not entirely satisfactory. Any ideas - please bring them along.

The equipment store SB, has a complete and exhaustive list of all goods presently carried elsewhere in this edition of QRM. It is to be hoped that members will read this list very carefully - Paul has put a great deal of work into the store - due to this, a lot of the items are very competitively priced. Paul is usually to be found at home after 4pm. most days - phone 287246. He has also available now from the store some books - copies of the current ARRL handbook, a VHF/UHF Manual, and also Two Cubical Quad, by W.I.Orr.

The WAGS barbeque underwent a metamorphosis and became a SES-WICEN exercise also last Sunday (20th) at Mt. Field National Park. The exercise was a success, however it threatened to turn into a reality with the disappearance of no fewer than 9 harmonics fairly late in the day. Fortunately they were found - having suffered no more than varying degrees of fright and some very tired sore feet. They were however lucky the day was not colder.

The next WAGS function is a Bingo/Games night in the beginning of July - the 4th. Venue at present not certain, but fireworks will be permitted for those of American descent!

Sue VK7ZSU/NSU

## WANTED

ONE 30 uA, 1500 ohm METER.

Please notify Barry VK7NBA Ph. 485125.



WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTHERN BRANCH

STORE

| <u>Article</u>                                     | <u>Price</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|                                                    | \$           |
| Resistor 10 - 3M Ohm                               | .05          |
| Potentiometer 1K5 - 3M3 Ohm                        | .50          |
| Potentiometer Trim 10K - 10 Turn                   | 1.00         |
| Capacitors - Ceramic, Polyester 3.3PF - 0.22 MFD   | .11          |
| Tag Tants 1 - 10 MFD                               | .35          |
| Electrolytic Capacitor Packs                       | 2.00         |
| Capacitor Trim - 65PF                              | .50          |
| Ass. Feed Thru Capacitors                          | .03          |
| Diodes 1N914 - 75V                                 | .08          |
| 1N4007 - 1000V                                     | .12          |
| BYX48 - 300VR                                      | 2.00         |
| BYX48 - 300V                                       | 2.00         |
| Standard L.E.D., Green                             | .25          |
| Diode Bridges MDA3504 - 400V 35A                   | 4.00         |
| Transistors NSB 319                                | .24          |
| 2N3819 J fet - ft=Mhz                              | .60          |
| 2N3904 NPN gen. purpose amp/switch to 100Mhz/100mA | .10          |
| 2N5086                                             | .45          |
| BF-200 NPN - VHF amp ft = 550 Mhz                  | .70          |
| NSD-202 PNP - 8w power or audio                    | .35          |
| MPS-3702 PNP gen. purpose 500mA                    | .10          |
| BC-547B gen. purpose                               | .25          |
| BC-308B                                            | .25          |
| 2N3055 gen. purpose                                | .75          |
| RF Power                                           |              |
| SRF 1076 - 470MHz 4W                               | 3.00         |
| SRF 1077 - 470MHz 10W                              | 3.00         |
| Integrated Circuits LM741                          | .45          |
| LM555/NE555                                        | .45          |
| LM380                                              | 1.30         |
| NE556A                                             | 1.98         |
| LM3900                                             | 1.60         |
| LM709                                              | .85          |
| LM111                                              | 4.37         |
| DM7410                                             | .60          |

|                                                |                  |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Voltage Regulators LM723                       | .75              |
| LM317T                                         | 3.30             |
| LM340-5                                        | 1.60             |
| 78L15 - 15V 100mA                              | .65              |
| 78L12 - 12V 100mA                              | .65              |
| 7812 - 12V 1 amp                               | 1.20             |
| I.C. Sockets 8 pin                             | .25              |
| I.C. Sockets 14 pin                            | .30              |
| Mounting kit - to suit 2N3055 (mica & bushes?) | .30              |
| Heat Sinks                                     | .10              |
| Balun Cores                                    | .15              |
| F29 Slugs 12-200MHz                            | .12              |
| Coil Can Retaining Clips                       | .05              |
| Coil Aluminium Cans                            | .10              |
| Crocodile Clips (small)                        | .15              |
| Neosid Coil Formers (small)                    | .12              |
| Basses (small)                                 | .12              |
| Bases (double)                                 | .18              |
| Sockets and Plugs: PL259 Large Hole            | 1.00             |
| PL259 Small Hole                               | 1.00             |
| SO239 Large Hole Mounting                      | 1.50             |
| SO239 4 Small Hole Mounting                    | 1.00             |
| SO239 Double Female                            | 1.00             |
| V.H.F. Plug Bases                              | .90              |
| Double Pole Push/Pull Switches                 | 1.50             |
| Copper (Fibre-glass) Circuit Board:            |                  |
| Single sided 300 x 300mm                       | 4.00             |
| Books: Australian Call Books                   | 2.95             |
| Novice Notes 1000 questions                    | 3.00             |
| W.I.A. Neck Ties                               | 1.00             |
| Coax - RG8 - A/U 50 Ohm                        | (per metre) 1.70 |
| Style 'D' Crystal Sockets                      | .10              |

ANY ENQUIRIES TO CONTACT VK7ZEA/NEA

36 Gormanston Road, MOONAH. 7009 or Phone

Hobart - 002 - 28 7246

NORTH WEST NOTES by JIM VK7NOW

The meeting was held at Club Headquarters on April 8 and it is pleasing to note the continued large attendance, 33 in all.

MINUTES of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE - A letter was received from the Forestry Commission advising their approval for the lease of a site on their property at Mt. Duncan in the Dial Range, as a site for the new ATV and VHF Repeaters.

A letter was received from the P and T Department, setting out details of requirements for the repeaters.

GENERAL - At the conclusion of the lunch break at the Mini Ham Fest at Port Sorell, a very nice presentation was made to Max VK8MX, who is regrettably leaving the district. Max also won the raffle, which, would you believe was a Digital Watch, so with the Ham Clock, Max now really has "Time on his Hands".

NEW CALLS - Ivan Ling VK7NOA/ZOA and Vince Henderson VK7NVH now have full calls. Andrew, an Associate, now has a limited call.

REPEATERS - A report on the new ATV Repeater was given by Tony, VK7AZ. It was announced that Jim VK7NOW had donated the large Solar Panel to be used to keep the batteries charged.

Peter, VK7BQ, gave details on the 2M VHF repeater and outlined details for the initial testing to be held on Saturday May 12.

It can be said that the tests were a complete success. A party lead by Winston, VK7EM, carried all the equipment to the transmitter site - no mean feat.

Pictures varying in strength, were received over an area from Burnie to Latrobe - all this on Low Power too! With the equipment finally installed, excellent results can be expected.

QSL DEPARTMENT - Don VK7NDP advised that this section is operating smoothly.

TARC 1980 - Don has got details well in hand.

COUNCIL - Ivan VK7NOA/ZOA spoke briefly on the AGM, and discussed the result of the Council meeting.

Ivan stated that QRM is running at a loss and discussed ways that this may be overcome. He also discussed some comments made by Northern members to overcome this.

CHAIRMAN - told the meeting about a phone call from Andrew VK7AW, regarding some arrangements for a police/wicen exercise scheduled for June. It was decided to refer this matter to Inspector Lello at Burnie, to see what course of action be taken.

ACTIVITY - At the conclusion of General Business, Steve VK7Z Silver MIC, gave an illustrated lecture on Heat Sinks, which included such matters as temperature difference, heat flow, thermal resistance etc. Steve was thanked for his effort.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a delicious supper was served by the Devonport members.

This wraps it up for another month.

### Amateur Advisory Committee

The second meeting for the year of the Committee was held on the 19th April. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Business arising- action has finally been taken, in another state, to stop the long standing abuse of the Regulations by a particular Amateur.

The normal channel of action is for a letter from the AAC be sent to an offending station, or if in another state to that state's AAC. If this fails the Committee can go to P&T Superintendent for him to take action. In the above case it took two Telex messages from the Superintendent (Tas) to get results.

A local matter relates to a recent WICEN exercise. It was reported that apparently cross band contacts were made to non-Amateur frequencies due to technical problems. No action will result from this as it was decided that the overcoming of communication problems, such as experienced, was part of the exercise.

Another matter brought up should be noted by Branches now that they all have Station licences. These stations operate under club conditions, and while this allows non licence holders to operate the station, the log should be endorsed by the licenced operator supervising for each session. Of course the station should only be operated under conditions appropriate to the operator or supervising operator's licence.

A date for the next meeting was set but due to a clash with a Council meeting it may be changed.

P.D. FRITH VK7PF

### A09 - Amsat Oscar 9

This is the name to be used for the next Amateur satellite due to be launched May 23 between 1100-1400 hrs. UTC from French Guiana. Refer to the article in Feb. AR for basic information. The final testing puts the General beacon on a frequency of 145.8046 mhz. and the Engineering beacon on 145.9834 mhz. The 435 mhz. translator receiver will probably have a working NF of about 4 db, requiring 500-1000 watts ERP at maximum height with a right hand circular polarised aerial. A RHC aerial is also needed for ground reception on 2 M. Don't let the high power requirement put you off thinking about using A09. The height when around our latitude will be around 11 000 km. 100W ERP i.e. 10W with 10 db gain aerial- will give us about 13 000 km. maximum range.

The input to the satellite will be centred on 435.215 mhz. with the output centred on 145.9 mhz. with a b/w of 180 khz.

The launch will be broadcast by WA6GFY using 28 880 or 21 280 or 14 280 khz.. As well W1AW will give out bulletins on normal broadcast frequencies. After launch do not try to use the translator until the final orbit is achieved in 2-3 weeks. Check the beacon on 145.8046 for information via CW or RTTY bulletins as listed in Feb AR.

VK7PF

---

Where are all the 2 Meter S.S.B. operators? Mike VK7MC is becoming frustrated. He sits at home listening to the north-west beacon. He occasionally gets to talk to Danny VK7DA. Is everyone else just listening on this part of the band too?

# ADVANCED ELECTRONICS

5A THE QUADRANT, LAUNCESTON, TASMANIAN, 7250 - P.O. BOX 328 - PHONE: 31 7075

## KENWOOD

TS 520 S 160-10 HF \$650  
TS 180 S No DFL \$1100  
TS 120 S 80-10 HF \$735  
TS 120 V 80-10 HF 10W \$600  
AT 200 ANT TUNER \$160  
AT 180 ANT TUNER \$170  
PS 20 4AMP POWER SUPPLY \$110  
PS 30 20AMP POWER SUPPLY \$210  
NEW KENWOOD R 1000  
RECEIVER \$500  
MC 50 DESK MIC  
DUAL IMP \$59  
YK-88 CW 500 Hz CW FILTER  
FOR TS 120 V + 120 S \$35

## SPECIAL

KENWOOD TR 7500  
MOBILE 2M FM TRANSCEIVER  
2 ONLY AT \$300 EACH.

## TOOLS

40PC SOCKET SET

$\frac{1}{4}$  &  $\frac{3}{8}$  DRIVE

METRIC & INCH.

4 - 50

## KITS

6 DIGIT LED  
CLOCK KIT \$22  
CAPACITOR DISCHARGE  
IGNITION  
\$35-40  
30 W. 80M LINEAR  
AMP \$36-00  
ANTENNA BALUN KIT  
\$9-00  
WHISTLE FILTER KIT  
\$19.75

## TEST EQUIPMENT

A.C. BRIDGE  
WITH SPOT OSCILLATOR  
\$90-00

LEADER  
TR DIP METER  
\$98-00

DICK SMITH  
MULTIMETER/TRANSISTOR  
CHECKER  
AND CAPACITANCE METER  
\$77.80

## SPECIAL

SANYO.

RECHARGABLE TORCHES  
HI & LOW BEAM  
\$69-00

# GELSTON COMMUNICATIONS

TWO WAY RADIO SALES & SERVICE

PLESSEY  
Electronics



AUTHORIZED  
DEALER

VICOM

40 LAVENDER GROVE  
P O Box 1311  
Phone 443882 (003)  
LAUNCESTON 7250  
TAS

IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

ICOM IC240 2 Meter FM Transceiver. \$265.00

HEATHKIT Bi-directional Wattmeter 100Mhz-1Ghz \$220.00

Drake 6 Meter low pass filter \$30.00

Aircraft scanning receiver four channels fitted \$180.00

AWA 18 channel SSB CB Transceivers \$90.00 each

Marine transceivers 27.88 mhz (two) \$45.00 each

Two meter mobile aerials Scalar \$9.50

Coax Cable RG213 RG58CU Connectors

RADIO equipment EX DCA

Variable Capacitors Transformers RF Finals suitable for  
Linear Amplifier Knobs Meters, etc. "BLOWERS", CABINETS  
MODULATOR - FITTED WITH PAIR Q900/4-

Make us an offer on any item. Will sell complete modules  
or dismantle for single items. CHEAP

PAIR TB3-5/750  
COMPLETE IN 14" RACK

\*\*\*\*\*

## VHF Notes by Joe VK7JG

During March Peter H44PT worked into Venezuela, at about the same time during a ZL/W5 opening Tony VK7TW heard WB5OHF on 50.110 Mhz but because of conditions no QSO on 52 Mhz.

Vk7TW also heard K6HCP on 30 March, but because the the MUF didnt rise above 51 Mhz the American was worked by ZL's but not VK's which seems to be the normal conditions.

In April the MUF began to rise as ZL/VK television audio was heard several times in W land as well as Mexico. XEIGE Geoff in Mexico almost had a contact with Tony VK7TW, Tony heard Geoff calling ZL40Y on 50.100, he then called Geoff on 28.885 and had him listen on 52.005 he heard Tony but conditions were not good enough to exchange a signal report. However both Geoff and Tony are trying every morning at 2200 GMT. Again on the 8th April Geoff was heard by Tony and worked by VK2BA.

Other 6 Meter DX so far during April has been ZL to VE1, ZL to C6ACY in the Bahamas, ZL to W4, W5, and XE1 so you can see that there would be plenty of DX if we had the lower portion of the 6 Meter Band. 7 April VK2/3/4 worked into KG6 at 2300 Gmt.

Continued.



VHF notes continued.

Beacon News.

3 April ZS6 beacon heard in VK6, the same day that ZS6 heard the 5B4CY beacon on 50.498 Mhz, and to confuse the matter even more VK5/6 heard the 5B4CY beacon as well.

4 April FY7FH 50.038 was heard in South Africa.

VEISIX beacon on 50.088. was heard in VK2 during april.

W7KMA beacon was heard by VK7KJ during March so Tom has since moved his beacon up to 51.793. The new beacon was heard for some time around 2400 GMT on the 2nd April in VK2/3 area. Tom's beacon runs 20 watts into a four element yagi directed toward VK/ZL area.

9 th April Vx7TW / VK2BA heard XEIGE on 50.1 Mhz but no QSO.

10 th April VK7JG heard XEIGE 539 at 2223Z worked by VK2BA. KH6EQI beacon Heard by Tony VK7TW 589 KH6IAA contacted on 28.885 but due to numerous JA stations on the band KH6 could not hear Tony.

At 0938 VK7DA/JG worked VK4AMP on 52.050

11 April once again XEIGE was heard by VK7TW at 2330 in qso with VK5SV ... XEIGE was sending on 50.095 and heard Tony VK7TW on 52.003 but because of poor signals at 52 Mhz no contact was made. (try tomorrow).

Z1 worked into Puerto Rico KP4EIP and Mexico as well as the States. At 2218 ZL Television was ten over nine in W6.

12 April Very little happened, although VK2 reports hearing stateside stations none were worked.

At 0640 ZS6LN in South Africa was copying the KH6EQI beacon 539 for about an hour. KH6IAA tried to work ZS6 although he was running 50 times more power than the beacon no contact was made due to his QTH being some 200 miles south of the Beacon. This just goes to show why VK2/3/4 work a lot more DX than we do in VK/

13 April Very little activity at 1930 the YV5ZZ beacon was heard in ZL, 2113 ZL2/4 worked XEIGE 2122 T12 beacon heard in VK4. 2218 ZL worked W6.

14 April 1930 Z ZL4 worked into KP4 W4 and NP2

2300Z KG6 Guam worked into VK4/2

2330 XEIGE heard working into VK3/5 signals peaked to twenty over nine Geoff was so strong that you could hear his carrier leakage. At 2341 He was worked by VK7JG, TW, LZ all 5/9 reports. Strang as it may seem no other signals from outside Australia could be heard at the time.

The following day Geoff was again heard by VK7JG but no contact made.

16 April KH6EQI beacon heard 539 at 0956Z, since then things have been very quiet.

Two Meters VK7DA has almost two pages of VK3/5 worked on 2,6,70cm, during the very good inversions we experienced during the month .

Best of DX 73 till next month  
Joe VK7JG

Council Meeting

17th May, 1.00 p.m. Ivan Lings, VK7ZOA, North Motton  
21st June, Reg Emmett, VK7KK, Launceston

Aprils' meeting was a six hour session - thanks to Sue Morgan for providing a welcome meal.

Remember, visitors are welcome to Council meetings - they aren't to be thought of as "closed meetings."

Broadcasts

Council has suggested that a variation in broadcast organisation be tried as a means of improving distribution and collection of news. Instead of the weekly rotation it is suggested that the South accept responsibility for May, North-West for June and North for July.

Where broadcasts from one area follow each other in this manner it may facilitate experimentation with format.

Divisional Officer

A number of positions remained unfilled after the A.G.M. Members are being approached to fill positions of VHF, Education and Intruder Watch Officers. Peter Frith, VK7PF, has agreed to continue as Repeater Co-ordinator and Graeme Johnson VK7GD as Awards Manager. Brian Morgan VK7RR is to be P & T Liason Officer.

Devil Award

Ten awards have been given to 21st April. One each to Germany, Japan and North America, the rest to VK7's.

Remember to keep the publicity going.

UHF Repeaters

As was mentioned previously all other states received a donation of a number of VHF transceivers from Phillips. VK7 was missed off the map again, but Council is actively chasing two avenues for procuring some units suitable for 70cm repeaters.

Licence Issuing

In a recent QRM I stated that P & T were issuing licences over the counter in Hobart. This system is not quite ready to go yet - apologies for setting your hopes high! It won't be long.

After my first attempt in the March issue it does appear my pen name was not understood so the identity is given in case all those novices with a few bricks to throw now know where to cast them.

Firstly your executive has decided to put on a special night in June to demonstrate some of the activities of Amateur Radio. At least some positive action appears to be in the pipeline with the aim of improved antennas, including a beam and rotator to be installed into our clubroom.

The activity on our last meeting was very well attended with at least six of our novices attending and interesting discussions took place to the benefit of all.

With reference to the broadcast on Sunday ~~morning~~ morning it will be on 28.350 Mcs followed by a call back of those interested in taking place. On Sunday 20th April last the first broadcast took place in Launceston on this frequency and on call back VK4NMP and VK4NVJ of Brisbane reported 5/9 plus as well as VK2DAE of Coogee also reporting signals. Unfortunately there was a NIL report by locals- perhaps lack of knowledge. Those novices with 2 metre receivers can still enjoy a talk back on cross band with VK7ZBY at the conclusion of the talk back on repeater 8.

In case you have not heard the AOCIP course is being sponsored by the Adult Education commencing on the 10th June. If you are interested in updating your license telephone or Register with the A. E. C. in York St. Dont delay.....

Congratulations to Jan Harper on receiving her call and station license. I am still waiting to contact her on air and next time you call QRZ please wait a while someone may be trying to catch up with you.

It may be a surprise to you all to know there are approximately 20 Novice operators listed as being resident in Launceston. A few are active but in the main the majority are QRT. Has interest gone or could it be revived with a little personal contact ?

If anyone has any ideas that may assist in a revival I would like to hear.

I am no Billy Graham (apologies to Mr Graham) but I would like to give it a go....

#### NAUGHTS AND CROSSES (VK7NAC)

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Ideal for Novices Bellcom Liner 10 Transceiver.

28.480 - 28.720 Mhz, including VXO, 12 watts ~~BEP~~ output

Not a converted CB rig, Mint condition, as new \$ 125.00 QNO.

Kenwood TS820 Including digital readout. Mint condition, approx 5 months old. \$ 850.00.

SP820 Extension speaker \$ 50.00

CNW217 Daiwa antenna coupler with power & SWR meter built-in to cover 1.8 - 30 Mhz. Direct coupling also built-in \$135.

For all of the above apply to -: VK7NAB on phone (003) 317914.

#### WANTED TO BUY.

One HY-GAIN 2 element Quad Model 244.

All details to -: Mr T.M. Baily VK7NZZ

184 Main Road

Huonville 7100

Phone 002-641320.

"HISTORICAL NOTES" by JIM VK7NOW

Historical Officer for Tas. Div. W.I.A.

Commencing next month - or when space is available, I propose to submit some interesting articles on the History of Radio, both in Australia and Overseas.

I have a most fascinating story about "The Radio Priest" the Late Father Shaw. I have in my possession, a hand written letter from Dr. Rumble - now a very old man - telling of the exploits of Fr. Shaw during World War 1. This even includes suspected murder.

To my knowledge, no Electronics Journal in Australia has ever printed this story, so I am giving it to "QRN" but I want copyright protection.

Also in the story of Roy Borderman 7ZL - now 86 years old - the man who put the first broadcast station on the air in "SA" - including full details of his mobile installation - perhaps the first in the world. These details are contained in a 4 page hand written letter.

And finally some definite information to prove that Telsa and NOT Marconi, was the father of radio.

Do you remember the "Zenith Transoceanic S/W Portable". In its day, it was famous. I have an autographed account showing how it came to be developed by the man who did it! Howard C. Lorenzen W7BI.

So if you are interested in some of the history of our hobby, I will do my best to write some interesting articles.

VY 73

Jim VK7NOW

P.S. If any readers have any details of historical interest I would like them to write to me.

\*\*\*\*\*

WICEN NOTES from VK7AW

Since the last WICEN notes in March QRN, members of the Southern WICEN group have assisted with communications at the Scout Association Regatta, held at Snug Beach over the March long weekend. A good time was had by all, and some valuable experience was gained, especially by operators in the communications caravan (courtesy of VK7HK) who at times had calls coming in to them from three different directions.

By the time you receive this issue, the WAGS picnic at National Park will have come and gone. The Regional Officer (South) of the State Emergency Service, Mr. Brian Brand, and several other officers of the S.E.S., have accepted an invitation to inspect WICEN field equipment and operations during that afternoon (April 20). An RTTY schedule has been arranged between Hobart and National Park, and HF and VHF links will be established between the two sites. Depending on the weather and the fitness of participants, there is also a proposal to walk in a portable two-metre repeater to one of the nearer peaks of Mt. Field National Park.

The experiments in underground communications continue. Thanks mainly to the efforts of VK7's HK and RM, we now have two 1.8 MHz transverters, which will be strapped to the top of converted Gemtronics transceivers (operating on 10 metres) and will provide an output power of about 3 Watts pep. On Sunday May 4

## WICEN NOTES Continued

the units will be taken underground during an outing with some Caving Club members and Police S.A.R. squad members. It is hoped that good 2-way communications can be established with a base station at or near the cave entrance. The aerial for the portable rigs is a single turn of twin-flex (two turn loop) worn over the shoulder and across the chest.

WICEN was recently invited to participate in the quarterly Police/Bush-walking Federation meetings, which are held to discuss matters concerned with the involvement of volunteer groups in Search and Rescue incidents. VK7AW and VK7HK attended. Matters discussed included such basic essentials as the types of ration packs available for field parties, updating of contact lists, and the organising of the S.A.R. Symposium. This Symposium is apparently held annually, and this year the venue is Launceston, the date June 6, 7 and 8. Workshops are conducted on various aspects of S.A.R. activity, and WICEN was asked to lead a workshop in radio communications. Anyone interested in attending the Symposium should contact VK7AW or VK7HK as soon as possible. The cost is something miserable about \$2 per night for a bed.

The other meeting which I attended as WICEN representative was the State Disaster Communications Planning Committee. There was nothing discussed at this meeting (for the March quarter) of special concern for WICEN, except that I am using the meetings as an opportunity to keep S.E.S. informed of our capabilities, e.g. in cave communications, portable repeaters, etc. If anyone is interested in more details, please contact me as I have complete records of all meeting attended, as well as a copy of the Communications Sub-Plan of the State Disaster Plan.

Finally, new WICEN Co-ordinators have been elected for the Northern and North-Western Branches. Ken Kirkman, VK7ZKT and Bob Simpson, VK7ZJS, are the respective office bearers. Those in the Northern Branch who returned the questionnaires of a year or so ago can expect to hear something in the very near future. Any others who are thought to have the slightest interest in this area will probably also be spoken to. North Western members will be aware of some movement, and Bob has indicated that he will be giving more attention to WICEN in about six months.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DX NOTES from VK7LZ

Although there are still reports of DXpeditions it is unfortunate that in this instance they will have become ancient history before these notes are being read, if they all eventuate your log could read something like this -

April 13, TI9's from Cocos Island - This in fact did take place as they were worked by 7BC on both 7 and 14 MHz.

April 16 Mount Athos, for 7 days by a group of SV's.

April 24 K6LPL/KH3 on Johnston Island.

The Gloriosa expedition which was due to commence operations on April 16 had to be cancelled due to the fact that permission to land on the island could not be obtained from the French government.

PJ2FR is due to operate from AVES island shortly. The previous attempt was aborted due to the Venezuelan navy landing the team on a different island in error. (Guess someone forgot to turn the hour glass over).

During the month the CQ WPX contest attracted a lot of interest for the SSB boys however there were very few DXpeditions active and generally it was a non-event as far as producing anything exotic from normal non-amateur countries.

## DX Notes continued

7MHz has produced some really good DX and VK7's have reported contacts with VK9XT, YB2CR, HC1HC, 9M3AGT, YV3AGT, EA7AGC, EA9HA several EA8's, VE's, G's, GW's plus PY, OA, PZ, LU, HK, GI and CE - all on SSB and all were QSO'ed between 0600 and 1100Z.

14MHz has shown plenty of activity being open to most of the continents daily but I've had no reports of anything exceptional being QSD'ed, the best I noted were: D4CBC, SV1W/A, TU2GA, TZ4AQS, ZL2UW/C, ZL2BCF/A, 9GIUI.

21 MHz had plenty of openings to southern Africa around 0500Z but they were only the usual ZA, 9J and ZE regulars, CP6EL was also heard regularly in the ANZA net.

Again 28MHz has been rather erratic, if you were there at the righttime you could be lucky, to use an anglers expression "there was a lot of water between the fish".

A22DW, CN8CN, CT2CB, EA9EO, HBOLL, HV3SJ, HZ1HZ, OHOAM, OH3JR/OHO, SV1TW/A, SVIJG/A, TI1CF, 4S7VZ, 4UI1TU, 4UIUN, 4X4UE, 4X4VL, 7X4MD and a 9Y4 were amongst the more interesting reported.

Chris A22DW is due to leave Botswana in July but has promised to put on a VK7/AZ field day before he goes RT to return to Tasmania.

TZ4AQS in Mali put on a special performance for VK & SZL's on two occasions recently and was QSO'ed by at least seven VK7's. CN6BC is his QSL manager and in the past his returns have been very prompt so lets hope the massive stack of QSL's waiting for him on his return home won't discourage him too much.

ZL2BCF/A on Campbell Island was a good catch for some of our more recent amateurs.

QST advises that the country status of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands has been changed for DXCC purposes however there will be no deletions or additions to the DXCC listings and in the new DXCC countries list they will be shown as follows:

- VR1, T3K - W. KIRIBATI (Gilbert and Ocean Is.)
- VR1, T3P - CE T. KIRIBATI (Br. Phoenix Is.)
- VR3, T3L - E. KIRIBATI (Line Is.)

73 & Good Dx

Col Vx7LZ

FOOTNOTE - From Frank VK7BC comes news that the Gloriosa expedition did finally get underway on or around the 18 April under the call sign FROACC/G and that from Gloriosa they are going to Comorios Island D68.

---

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Info-Tech M300, trimode Keyboard. RTTY features. 4 speeds, AFSK & FSK, CWID, RY, Brown Fox.

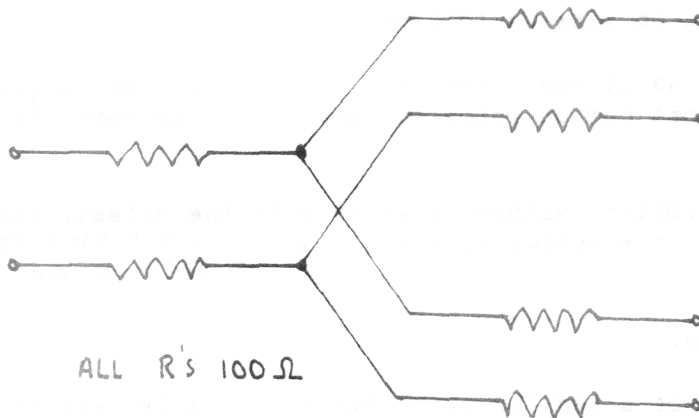
Also Model 200E Trimode Converter.  
Both as new, half price.

VK7HV, QTHR.  
Phone 002 284622.

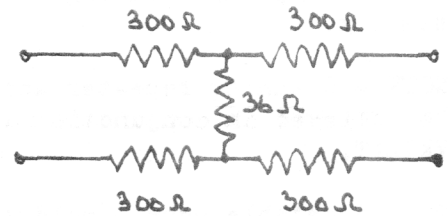


### Simple Audio Mixer.

If your interested in audio work, then this mixer is for you. It,s as simple as a mixer can be and yet will forfill most needs. The impeadance,s in and out are 600 ohms. Thanks go to Bob Grant VK7ZRF for the information.



600  $\Omega$  6db Loss MIXING PAD



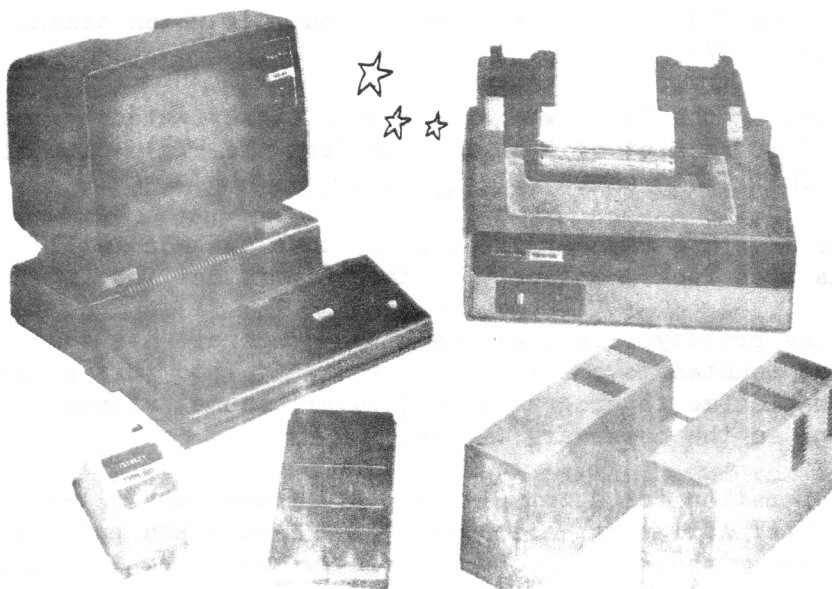
600  $\Omega$  30db Loss PAD

---

TANDY ELECTRONICS  
104 CHARLES ST. L/TON.  
31-8942.

---

## The TRS-80 Model 1, 32K Expanded System — Ideal for Business!



# 5104<sup>95</sup>

Includes TRSDOS® Disk Operating System Software

- Complete 16K Level II TRS-80 System 26-9056
- Expansion Interface, 16K RAM 269-1141
- Two TRS-80 Mini-Disk Systems 26-1180, 26-1161
- TRS-80 Tractor Feed Printer & Printer Cable 26-1152, 26-1401

TRS-80 32K Business System. Approximately 135,600 bytes of disk storage make this system ideal for many small business applications, as well as the smaller computing needs found in larger businesses. The versatile Tractor Feed Printer uses continuous stationary, or pre-printed forms such as cheques and invoices.



## "HOME BREW" SCANNER for the IC22S

Firstly I accept no credit for the design of this scanner, but I should receive some praise for being game enough to construct the prototype. The requirements which were decided on were as follows:

1. To scan only ten channels, as it was convenient to use only one IC (CD4017 has 10 outputs) scanning the most common repeaters and enough to boot for a few simplex.

NOTE - Scanning repeater and simplex, without playing with the offset, can only be achieved in conjunction with the auto-simplexer. QRM OCTOBER 1979 article by VK7ZAT.

2. Adjustable scan - hold time.

3. Visual indication - by use of a led for each channel. ( a led was considered easier to glance at while driving instead of trying to read a display).

4. Being able to TX on the channel to which the RX has stopped on without having to operate the channel selector.

5. The ability to lock-out or over-ride a particular channel. (in case someone is having a rag chew that you don't want to be subjected to).

This unit is housed in a box the same size as the 22S by 25mm deep (one inch for the old fashioned). It could be built into a much smaller box, but this size was used to allow for future additions and expansions. (microprocessor?)

The front panel consists of 10 switches each with a led underneath. The box was mounted directly to and underneath the 22S which was also fitted with the 24 pin accessory socket. (ex 1COM)

The layout is left to your own means as I used a chunk of vero-board. I also made a new diode matrix although the existing one in the 22S could be used.

### Operation

Position 23 on the selector switch is used to supply +9V to the scanner. The CD4001 oscillator pulses the CD4017 to switch the ten outputs which timing rate is varied by the IMR pot. (RV1)

The oscillator is stopped by the 74C00 when it in turn is activated by the +VE from the collector of Q12 on receipt of a signal (or from the PTT) which also has a variable time delay. IM pot (RV2)

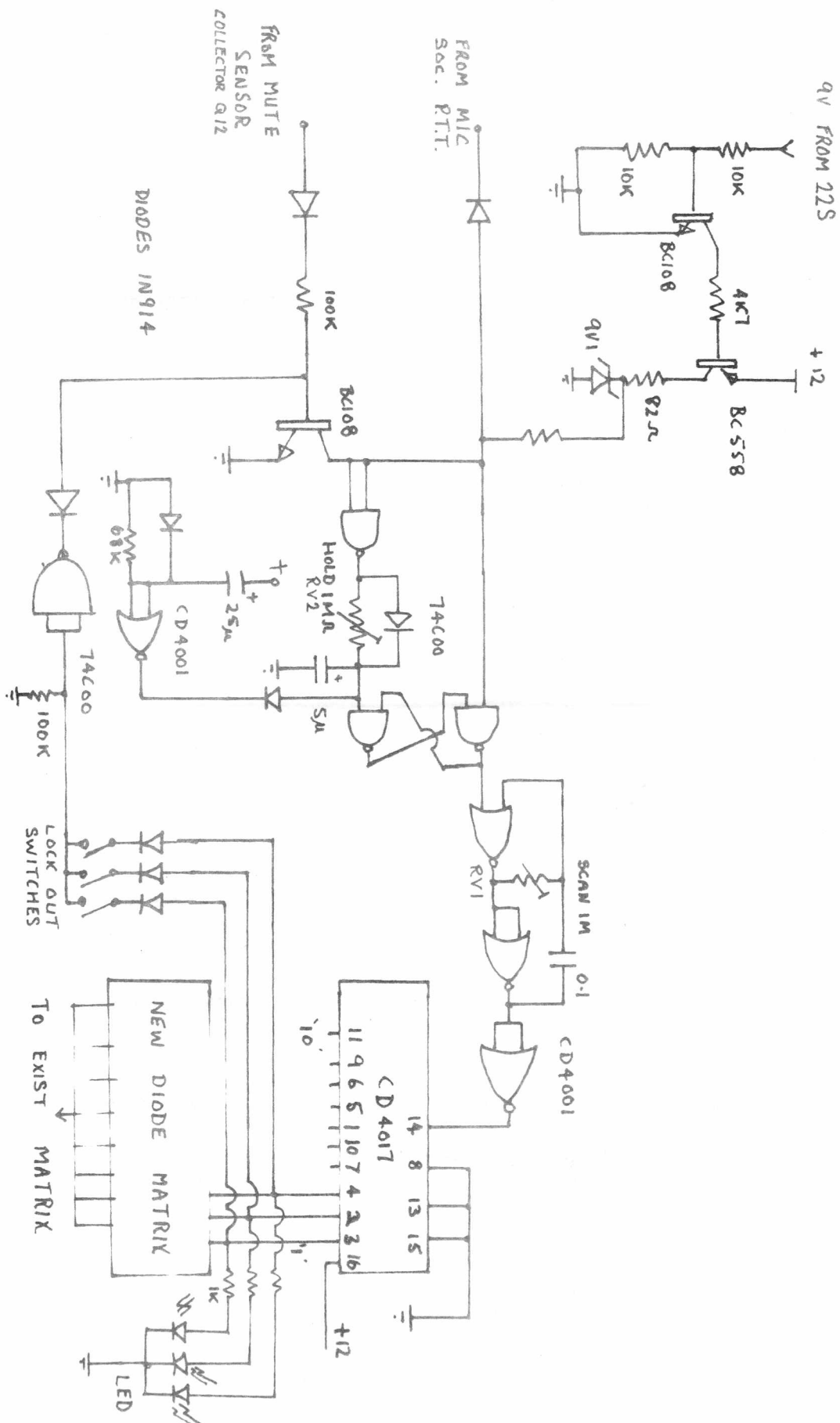
The only minor problems that has been experienced is that the scan will 'hold' on a channel that has been locked-out only if the mute is set too fine.

One other addition to the prototype is that one of the channels has been wired to an 8 pin I.C. socket mounted to one side of the case. Into this plugs an 8 pin DIL switch which enables me to program a particular channel without opening the box and soldering in the necessary diodes.

This unit has been in operation for about 9-12 months without any ill-effects to the unit or operator. VK7ZAT Adrian has also used this circuit and put the scanner inboard in the 22S case without the lockout facility, removing the channel dial and replaced it with a numbered display. (follow up article may soon appear).

SCANNER TO SUIT IC225

DESIGN VK7ZAD  
BUILT VK7ZIE



Home Brew Scanner for the IC22S continued

Finally I suppose I must acknowledge the designer Ivan VK7ZAO although he did have inspirational help from one or two others.

73 Ian Ellings VK 7ZIE

\*\*\*\*\*

"SCENE AND HEARD" by "EARWIG"

During the month of March, band conditions have been particularly exceptional mainly on the higher frequencies. On the 31 March, the solar flux was 199, and many stations above 25 Mhz, were heard including low powered 2-way F.M. stations in Malay/Filipino dialects on 31.200 Mhz at 0447z. Also many Radio Paging systems in America and Asia heard on 30.02 Mhz and 31.45 Mhz. At various times, several low power Beacons can be heard on the ten meter amateur band. 3B8MS at Signal Mount, Mauritius was heard for up to 10 hours. Listen on 28.210 Mhz at 0445z for this continuous c/w beacon. Others have been heard: GB3SX on 28.213 Mhz, Salzburg 28.205, and DK0TE 28.2755, all heard at about 1120z. DL1GI incidentally was also heard at 2249z, which is very unusual as European signals are not normally heard at that hour on this band.

A new seasonal propagation period will be commencing from the first Sunday in May. This will allow the broadcasters to make frequency alterations and programme changes in line with fluctuations in propagation. Many new outlets and transmissions will be logged especially during the daylight hours on the lower frequencies. The higher frequencies will be dropping out much earlier.

Radio Moscow's North American Service in English has been noted on 11.730 Mhz at 0300z. Programme content differs from their World Service format, concentrating on propaganda to American audiences. Yet the transmitter on this channel isn't in the USSR or Europe, but Cuba. The North American Service uses up to 16 channels simultaneously. It is fair to good signal strength.

On the 17 March, the BBC World Service was heard on 28.230 Mhz at 1130z. This is the only time I have heard this "birdie" and I suspect that it was a mistuned transmitter for the BBC have very high technical standards as a rule.

Also logged this month are Radio Vladivostock on 5.012 Mhz at 1000z, Sinpo 45434, Radio Pyongyang, N. Korea in English at 0945z on 9973 Khz Sinpo 45434. Trans World Radio, Monte Carlo on approx. 9.500 Mhz at 0700z with religious programming in English.

Well that is all for this month. Don't forget to send your loggings to me C/- Box 275, Launceston TAS. 7250.

73's DE "EARWIG"

\*\*\*\*\*

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

One HEATHKIT HA-14 HF LINEAR AMPLIFIER, 80 to 10 metres.

Features instant warm-up tubes (2 x 572B), built-in VSWR meter, and separate power supply. This amplifier is specified at 1000 Watts pep input, but the HT has been reduced so that an FT200 (or similar modern black boxes) will drive it to 400 Watts pep output.

Price: \$350 (or make a close offer)

Contact: 7Z7AW or VK7HK

(022 222290)

(002 456337)

N.W. BRANCH A.T.V. TEST from MT. LUNCAN held on 12/4/80

Stations at the transmitting site were Winston VK7ET, Noel 7ZNS, Ian 7MNN, Wayne Gibson, Stephen Russel and Colin Fuller. Equipment comprised a Sanyo camera, VHF Comm. exciter and linear amplifier running 1-2W (yet to be measured), 16 element broadside antenna and a 12V battery. With that lot the party took 1½ hours to reach the summit and transmissions lasted from 1100 - 1500 hours.

Mobile receiving stations were Tony 7AX, Martin 7MY and Ian 7ZIE. Other fixed field stations were Ivan 7EOA, Peter 7BQ, Don 7NOP, Bruce 7NDY, Jim 7NOW and Adrian 7ZAT.

It was generally agreed the exercise was very successful, pictures being noise free on the whole and slight noise in the Devonport area.

From my contact

7AX

\*\*\*\*\*

WANTED TO BUY, SELL AND TENDERTo Buy

- 2 Meter F.M. equipment (1) Transceiver with scanner facilities preferred.  
 (2) 2 Meter Linear  
 (3) 2 Meter Hi-Gain Yagi.

Contact Mr. W.M. Baily VK7NZZ Phone 002 64 1320

\*\*\*\*\*

To Sell

2 RCA TM35 Picture Waveform monitors \$75

Contact Mr. David Chadderton VK7NAD/ZCT Phone 002 43 8736

\*\*\*\*\*

To Tender

Two section crank-up tower complete with guy ropes and turnbuckles.  
 One only rotator (KR400)  
 TH3 Junior Tri-band beam.

Will not break up and no tender necessarily accepted.

Contact Mr. H.E. Hewens VK7HE  
 43 Faulkner Road,  
 Launceston Phone 003 39 1863

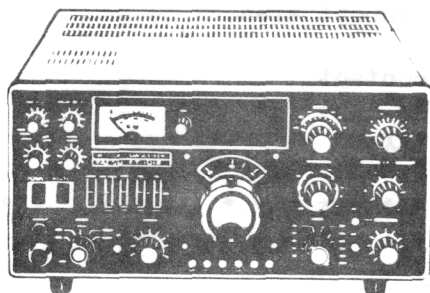
PH. 311708

VK7ZNS / NNS

**VK ELECTRONICS**  
57 WEST PARK GROVE BURNIE 7320



VK ELECTRONICS ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN APPOINTED YAESU DEALERS FOR NORTH WEST TASMANIA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER OUR BEST IN SALES AND SERVICE ON YAESU AND OTHER AMATEUR RADIO PRODUCTS.



## AUTHORISED YAESU DEALERS

N.B. WE HAVE A RANGE OF DICK SMITH COMPONENTS AND KITS ALSO AVAILABLE.

CALL US FIRST FOR A QUOTE ON ANY MODEL OR ACCESSORY.

YAESU - KENWOOD - ICOM

QRM PUBLICATION

REGISTERED CATEGORY 'B'

POSTAGE PAID

LAUNCESTON, 7250

NORTHERN BRANCH W.I.A.  
P.O. BOX 275 LAUNCESTON, TAS, 7250.