

QRM

Bulletin issued by the Northern
Branches of the Wireless Institute
of Australia, Tasmanian Division.

July 1976
Vol.6 No.4

P.O. Box 1010
Launceston
Tas. 7250

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MEETINGS

- July 9th Northern Branch, S.E.S. rooms, Charles St. 8 p.m.
July 13th North West Branch, Lakins Hall, Ulverstone. 8 p.m.

Y.R.C.S. MEETINGS

- July 10 & 24th Kings Meadows High School, 10 a.m.

A.O.C.P. Classes

- July 5th
12th Kings Meadows High School
19th block B, room 35
26th CW, 7.30 p.m.
Aug. 2nd Radio Theory 8 p.m.
9th

Contests

- July 3/4 W - VK7 contest (see page 10 this issue)
" " Venezuelan phone contest
July 17/19 County Hunters CW contest
July 24/25 ARRL Bi-centennial
July 31/ Aug 1 Venezuelan CW contest
August 14/15 REMEMBRANCE DAY CONTEST

Notes from the Northern Branch by Norman VK7NR.

Thirty one members and two visitors attended the June meeting of the Branch and 6 apologies were received. The Chairman Brian VK7ZBY started the meeting by introducing the two visitors, Messrs. Beswick, senior and junior, Father and son. It would appear that the son could be an associate member and and from the questions the OM was asking, we might even get two new members.

Harvey Skegg VK7HK attended with his brand new call sign, a result of the February exam, congratulations Harvey and we believe you have already made it known, dear me, more QRM on the West Tamar.

The meeting was very quiet and despite the recent questionnaire in QRM regarding clubrooms, nothing firm came up. From written notes submitted it would appear that 60% were in favour of the Branch building and or owning it's own clubrooms, 40% were of the opinion that we should just continue to rent a room as and when needed. So it looks as if it's back to the executive for more head scratching on the subject.

The sad story of Mark Addison was brought to the notice of the meeting and several members offered to visit him at the Cosgrove Park Hospital and if possible take some portable gear with them to help him maintain his interest in Amateur Radio. The meeting also put the matter back to the executive in the hope that we can enlist the help of the Radio Branch in perhaps getting Mark a special restricted license, to at least operate on the repeater channels.

Once again suggestions were called for social evenings. Ed VK7ED suggested another film night at the Postal Institute and the executive suggested such things as, progressive dinners, dinner dances, wine and cheese evenings or just a straight out social nite. But what's your suggestion?

One thing was finalised and that was the Hamfest, this will be held on the weekend of the 13th and 14th of November at the Evandale Hall and grounds. Lindsay VK7ZLD the chairman of the Hamfest Committee said he had promises of help from some 6 persons, but said that the main topic at this time was ideas on what was wanted, especially if we wanted to get away from the normal stereo type of gathering. As the Hamfest is a Divisional function, he would welcome ideas from any member of the Division.

A volunteer is required to rebroadcast the VK7WI Sunday news broadcast on 27.125 MHz, can anybody help? perhaps later we can get one of the Novice licensees to do it, but we need somebody now to start it going.

It is hoped to hold a W.I.C.E.N. exercise in the near future, primarily to see if we are good enough to back up S.E.S. so be ready to turn out when you are called for.

Joe VK7ZGJ finished the evening off with a very enlightening talk on Meteor Scatter.

Don't forget the next meeting on July 9th at the S.E.S. rooms in Charles St.

Notes from the North West Branch by Lindsay Johnson.

The June meeting was held in Lakins Hall with a very good turn up of twenty one members, 12 full and 9 associates. Ian VK7ZIE and Max VK7MX were in their respective chairs.

It was reported that two more members had passed their exams and will soon be heard on air, they are, Lionel Stott and Neil Bird. During the meeting Neil Findlay was welcomed and later filled in a application form for membership to the W.I.A.

Apologies were received from Brian VK7ZBL who with his family is holidaying somewhere in Tasmania, also from Graeme VK7ZAO and Harold VK7MZ.

It was good to see more members turning up for this meeting than our last one. There was, as usual, some spirited debates, with Bob VK7ZJS holding his own. The meeting closed at 8.45p.m. after which supper was served by the Ulverstone and Devonport members. Following supper Winston VK7EM gave a very good and interesting talk on a 2.5 KW, MF transmitter, armed with circuit diagrams and some parts of a MF transmitter Winston was able to answer the many questions asked of him by various members. Not that he needed the diagrams to enable him to answer the questions, they were for the benefit of the members. Winston's talk was a fairly lengthy one but time went by very quickly. Following this there was the usual after meeting talk and the evening closed at 10.30 p.m..

The next after meeting programme will be a showing of slides by Brian VK7ZBL, who has a very good collection of aerial shots which should prove very interesting and we are all looking forward to seeing them.

Ellis VK7WA has recently purchased a new 2 metre rig and has been heard on air quite a lot of late testing the little beauty. We hear it is quite small in size, but not in capabilities and will soon be installed in his car, so he will shortly be heard mobile as well as from his QTH, where he's worked a YL off the back of his microphone.

Terry VK7TT has recently moved his QTH to Lonah, directly beneath the new 2 metre repeater site. Terry reports, from his backdoor he looks straight up at it. With the shifting and settling in, not much has been heard of him on air recently, but we are expecting some strong signals from over that way shortly.

Adrian VK7ZAT is also very active on 2 metres and is in the process of remodelling and erecting a tower at his QTH in Devonport, he will also be putting in some stronger signals when he gets up higher in the air.

Tony VK7AX is still laying tiles. Bob VK7ZJS is still boat building and Ian VK7ZIE and XYL Lyn are still waiting for the stork to arrive.

To the Editor QRM.

It has long been my opinion that WICEN is a lost cause. The only body that has ever shown any genuine interest in it is the W.I.A.

Officialdom has never been very enthusiastic about us, and we are led to believe that they have adequate communication to cope with any emergency. I for one hope that this never has to be proved. Nobody forecast the Hobart bush fires, but it happened.

The position today is vastly different and mainly because of the widespread popularity of 2 metres, the advent of repeaters, the introduction of hand-held units, the swing to mobile operation and solid state equipment with low current drain. We could now be considered to be a very efficient mobile group. At the drop of the hat we could mobilise a formidable array of mobile two way units. We are impressed anyway.

Following the preamble I now make a suggestion. Would it be a worthwhile idea for mobile operators to log ideal operating locations? This information could be channeled to a central point, where it could be collated and published for the benefit of all operators. The information could be very useful even in a small or personal emergency.

To illustrate the point, I recently worked VK7ZDA on channel B when he was parked at his place of work at Kelso. Very useful. Again there is a length of road a few miles from Hellyer Gorge where channel B is full strength at this QTH. Concerning repeater 4, VK7ZGG could pinpoint a few spots around St Helens where full communication is normal.

Periodically, this information could be published in QRM in such a way that it could be removed and filed for use in the car. At this point I can hear rumblings. Who the heck is going to take on a job like that? Well I thought of it, so I am prepared to do the job.

So what do you think? Perhaps it could be discussed at Branch meetings.

73, Max Ives VK7MX

Collecting news and bits and pieces for inclusion in QRM is sometimes very difficult, so please accept my apologies if you seem to be reading quite a lot of the same names and callsigns in every issue. I can assure you it's not meant to be this way. As I obtain these bits and pieces via the on air activities of the members and sometimes a note or two posted or given to me. That is why these are the members whose names and callsigns keep popping up from time to time, they are being heard! regularly on 2 metres, 80, 40, 20 etc. My QTH is, 4 Horsham St. Ulverstone 7315, my phone number is 252432, so if you have anything or are building something it would be appreciated and most helpful to both our editor, myself and you the members in general.

Lindsay Johnson

HF and DX notes by Col VK7LZ.

How unlucky can one be, imagine trying to write about DX when the sun spots are practically at the minimum of a cycle and the bands so uninteresting that the April issue of QST confined their "How's DX" department to novices only and Frank VK7BC sabotaged his own beam so that he could get out of the job, anyway, to hell with the sun spots, remember-DX is where you find it.

First lets put the record straight, these notes only cover the period from the first to the 21st of June, so here we go.

160 metres. Not much activity here, the only DX stations heard were W4EX, VR1AA and A35AF, all on CW with 559 signals, listen around 1000Z, other stations were only VK's and ZL's.

80 metres. Infrequent listening here has only produced, W, JA, KH6 and UAØ around 1100 to 1200Z.

40 metres. The band to watch but you need CW more than SSB to get the best out of it, prefixes heard were; EA, PY, I, YU, G, DJ, F, VE, VO, VK, VK/Lord Howe Isl. ZL, A3, KX6, KV4, JT, HC, VR1, HB, YV, EA6, UA9, UAØ 7J, HKØ/Serrana Bank, ZF, HI, HKØ/Bajo Nuevo, JA, TI, 3D2, OA, VP9, ZK1, W, UL7, ON, KJ6, CT1, a total of 39 countries in 17 days all heard between 0530 and 1030 hours Z, not bad for 40 metres. No listening was done in the mornings, local time, you can't expect to much from an old timer.

20 metres. Very patchy, the gem of the month was 7J1RL on Tori Shima Island reputedly listed as a new country for DXCC, otherwise not much to report, a ZS occasionally, some days produced Europeans, Central and South Americans but W's and VE's dominated the band. VK7BC reported M1B on SSB over the long week-end.

15 metres. Occasionally W's and JA's but nothing exciting.

10 metres. Very little listening, even less heard.

If you were lucky enough to work any of the following, here is where to QSL.

A35AF via WA4NRE	KJ6DL via JA1OCA
CO2OM Box 3011 Havana Cuba.	PJ8AS via WØIPU
HC1XG/HC8 via WA6PDE	ZK1DA via WA5OCN
HKØAA/ Serrana Bank via SM3CXS	ZK3AK via KH6AHZ
HKØAA/ Bajo Nuevo via SM3CXS	
HR3JJR Box 207 La Ceila, Rep. of Honduras	
JTØOAQ via UY5LK Box 88 Moscow	
VK2FT/ Lord Howe Isl. via K1TZQ	
7J1RL via JARL Box 377, Tokyo Central, Japan	

The following prefix changes have been noted, CR4 Cape Verde Islands now uses D4C e.g. CR4BS is now D4CBS.

CR6 Angola now uses the prefix D2A e.g. CR6SW now signs D2ASW.

Low sun-spot activity doesn't mean no DX but it does mean that you have to keep listening, a dead band for a few days can suddenly come to life so don't be fooled, just keep tuning and good hunting.

73 Col VK7LZ

VHF notes by Joe VK7ZGJ.

I have no record of 2 metre openings this month so all the news concerns 6 metres.

The first opening heard was on 27th May at 0749Z, when I arrived home from work TV was watchable on ch0 so I checked the 6 metre band for any activity, VK5VF was S5 for about 20 minutes, I called CQ several times on 52.050 with no response, this is when 52.525 often raises a contact.

Again on 5th June ZL TV was watchable for around 30 minutes at 0155Z. On the 6th I heard the ident from VK2WI beacon, also VK2BHO calling CQ using CW. VK2ZZV phoned from Sydney to let me know that he was hearing me, no contact was made as conditions were very sporadic.

12th June, again heard VK2BHO's callsign but that was all, possibly meteor scatter. On the 13th between 0210 and 0320Z the band was wide open to VK4 and VK5 although few operators were active, VK4ZRQ was running .5 Watt and his signal varied from 5/4 to 5/9 all reports received were 5/9. Stations worked included VK4's ZRQ, ZNC, ZJC, ZIT, ZRF and VK5's ZZZ, and ZSA. VK7JV was also active as well as some operators on 52.525 FM.

On Tuesday 15th June once again TV was watchable on ch0 and ch2, Bevan VK7CX checked 6 metres but apparently most amateurs work and missed out on these openings.

The VK7RNT beacon was heard by most of the above amateurs and it was their first indication of a band opening, apparently it has been heard S9 on several occasions in the VK5 area during working hours.

Once again, the band opened on the 19th June, myself, John VK7JV and Kevin VK7ZAH were all active, the opening lasted about an hour, in all 9 VK4's were worked around the Brisbane and Rockhampton areas. Allan VK4ZRF was running 200 milli Watts, I gave him a 5/2 report, this will give you some idea of conditions at the time.

Also on that Saturday the ch1 repeater from Melbourne was coming through and the VK3, FM station was giving almost noise free stereo on an indoor dipole.

The North West coast beacon on 432.475 MHz is now operating at Lonah keying the callsign VK7RTW, the signal is quite strong in the Launceston area.

73 Joe VK7ZGJ

July 1976

COMMUNICATIONS COMPONENTS AND KITS

from

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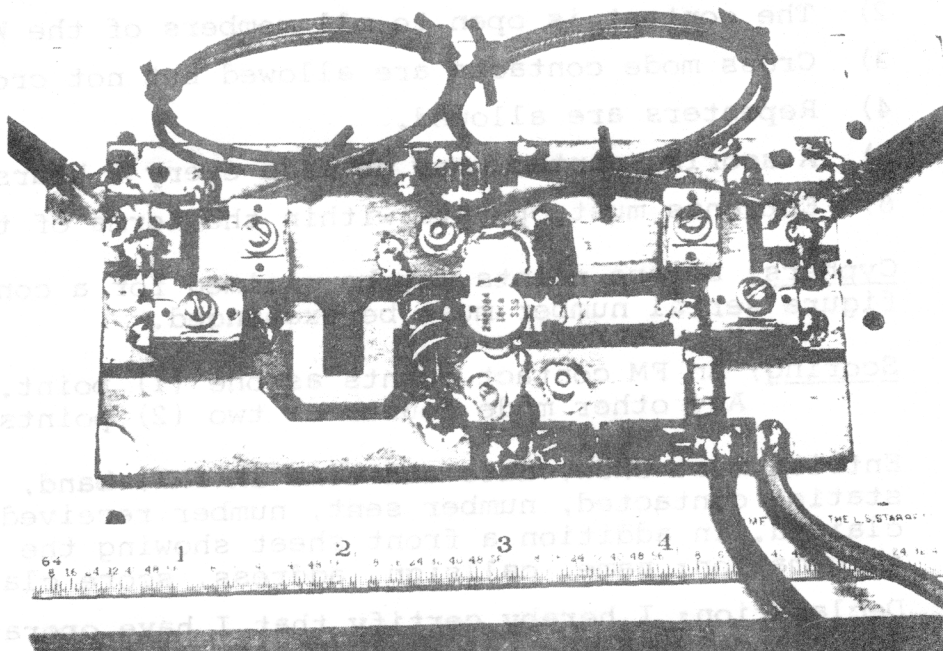
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B3-12	5W out	\$5.70	\$4.80
B12-12	15W out	\$7.70	\$7.10
B40-12	40W out	\$17.50	\$17.20
		or \$30 the set	

BM70-12 typically 80W out at 146MHz from 9-12W drive at 65% collector efficiency \$46.50

We also stock the popular 2N6084 made by both Motorola and SSS for only \$16.75
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POST AND PACKING

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10-160pF		50¢

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SPECIAL — MA4060 power varactors FOR MULTIPLIERS, 144-432 etc

\$7.50

ATHOL JOHNSON MEMORIAL CONTEST

The Athol Johnson Memorial contest will be run in conjunction with the R.D. contest on the 14th & 15th of August 1976.

Object; To promote VHF activity in VK7.

Rules

- 1) There is only one section, transmitting open.
- 2) The contest is open to all members of the W.I.A.
- 3) Cross mode contacts are allowed but not cross band.
- 4) Repeaters are allowed.
- 5) A scoring contact may be made every 2 hours.
- 6) Entrants must operate within the terms of their license.

Cyphers; Before points may be claimed for a contact, a 5 figure serial number must be exchanged.

Scoring; An FM contact counts as one (1) point.
Any other mode counts as two (2) points.

Entries must show, date and time in GMT, band, callsign of station contacted, number sent, number received, score claimed. In addition a front sheet showing the following information; name, callsign, address, score claimed (total).

Declaration; I hereby certify that I have operated in accordance with the rules and spirit of the contest.
signed date

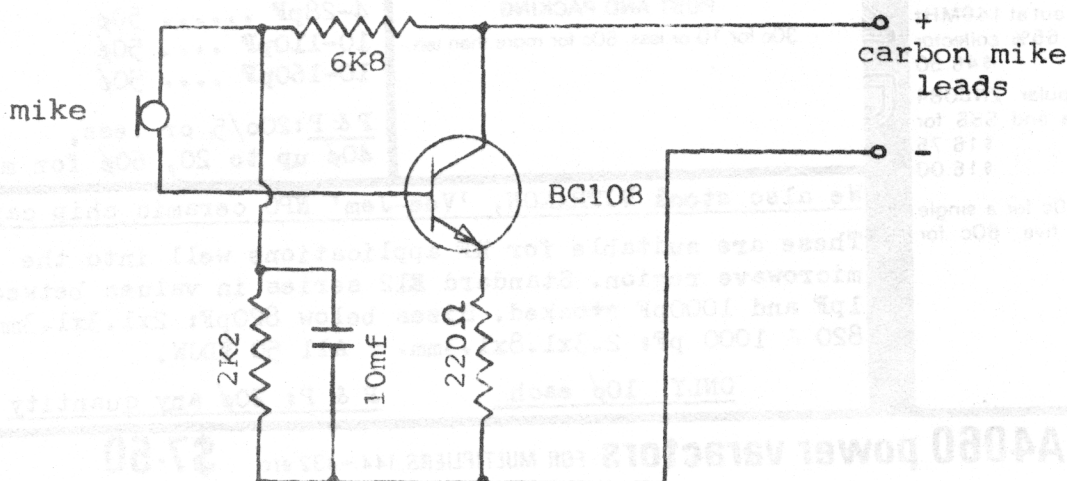
All logs to be sent to the,

VHF Officer
P.O. Box 1311
Launceston 7250

not later than 18th September 1976.



Replace your carbon mike with a dynamic type. by Glen VK6KY
copied from " The W.A. Bulletin " July 1975



Syllabus for the AOCB classes

June 28	Receiving systems
July 5	" "
" 12	" "
" 19	Transmitters HF and VHF
" 26	" "
Aug. 9	" "
" 16	Modulation systems, AM
" 23	" " SSB
Sept. 13	" " FM
" 20	Interference
" 27	Test equipment and measurements
Oct. 4	" " " "
" 11	Wave propagation
" 18	Transmission lines
" 25	" " " "
Nov. 8	Antennas HF
" 15	" VHF
" 22	Specialized communication systems
" 29	Digital and linear IC's
Dec. 6	Old exam papers and revision
" 13	" " " " " "
" 20	" " " " " "

The above dates are subject to change if and when required.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

1674, 2 metre transceiver with xtals for ch4 & ch B \$60.00
from Ed Hewens VK7HE, 43 Faulkner Rd. Ravenswood, phone 391863

J.H. belt drive turntable with, all balance arm and moving magnet cartridge, c/w base and cover \$65.00

RCA remote control unit with 6 channel facility \$10.00

432 transmit transverter with 3/20 linear c/w power supplies in 19" rack, 28MHz I.F. \$40.00

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2- 70MHZ hand held FM transceivers each \$ 1.00

Marconi standard signal generator model TF1446 85KHz - 25Mhz, AM modulation, weight 25Kg \$30.00

4 - black and white TV sets each \$ 1.00

FT101 transceiver with fan, all bands except 160m \$400.00

Joe Gelston VK7ZGJ, 40 Lavender Gr. phone 443882

Members would you please fill in the questionnaire on page 11 and bring it to the meeting or give it to any member of the executive or send it to, the secretary

P.O. Box 1010

Launceston 7250

W -VK7 CONTESTObject

Amateurs in all U.S.A. call areas will endeavour to contact amateurs in the VK7 (Tasmania) call area.

Contest Date

From 1400 GMT on Saturday 3rd July to 1400 GMT on Sunday 4th July.

Rules

- 1) There shall be two (2) sections to the contest,
 - a) Single band transmitting open, single operator
 - b) Multi band transmitting open, single operator
- 2) All U.S.A. and VK7 amateurs may enter the contest whether their stations are fixed, portable or mobile.
- 3) Amateurs may use all modes and cross mode contacts are permitted.
- 4) All amateur bands may be used but cross band contacts are not permitted. Skeds for other bands are allowed.

Scoring

VK7 stations; 1 point per contact per band and in addition 5 bonus points for each new State worked on each band.

U.S.A. stations; 1 point for the first contact, 2 points for the second, 3 points for the third etc.

A station may be contacted once only per band for scoring purposes.

Numbers

Before points may be claimed for a contact, numbers must be exchanged and acknowledged, the number will be made up of RS (phone) or RST (CW) reports plus the year in which the operator first received his license. U.S.A. stations must also give the State they are in.

Logs

Logs must show , date and time in GMT, band, callsign of station contacted, number sent, number received, and score. VK7 stations must also underline each new State worked.

Summary Sheet

To show, callsign, name and address, details of equipment and power used, whether single or multi band log (entry) and score.

Entries

All logs are to be in the hands of the contest manager before the 1st of November 1976.
addressed to:

The Contest Manager
P.O. Box 1010 Launceston
Tasmania 7250
Australia

The following questions are to supplement the questionnaire published in QRM May 1976 and to assist Bill VK7TE in his survey of clubroom requirements. Please tick the appropriate column.

In your opinion should we;

	YES	NO
1) Rent clubrooms, and if so should it be;		
a) Permanent clubroom (full use)		
b) A once a month meeting place		
2) Own clubrooms, and if so should we;		
a) Build		
b) Buy a suitable place		
3) If your choice is to own there will be a period in which we will have to rent until completion or acquisition of clubrooms, in that time should we rent;		
a) Permanent clubrooms (full use)		
b) A once a month meeting place		
4) Rent or buy, in what area would you like the clubrooms situated.		
a) Within the City		
b) Within a radius of 5Km		
c) Within a radius of 10Km		
d) Within a radius of 20Km		
5) We already have \$2000, obviously we need more, if in your opinion we have insufficient to consider building, at which point do you think we will have (please state an amount at present value)		\$

What would you suggest in ways of financing any possible proposition,

.....

Any further remarks or suggestions:

.....

If you have no objection, please give name or callsign,
 (for checking purposes only)

.....

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