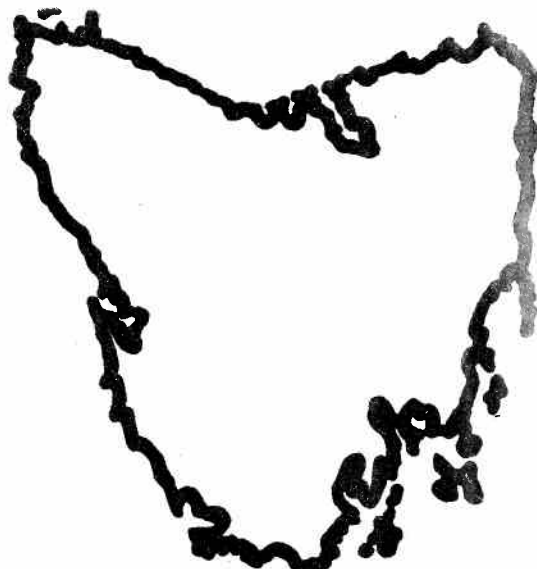


AMATEUR QRM RADIO

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

Registered for Posting
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Category B.



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MARCH 1979

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VOL. 8 NO. 3

M E E T I N G S

March 7	Southern Branch - SES Rooms Melville Street,	- 8.00 p.m.
March 9	Northern Branch - Clubrooms, 34 Bourke St.,	- 7.45 p.m.
March 13	North-West Branch - Lakin's Hall, Ulverstone,	- 8.00 p.m.

C O N T E N T S

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QRM Comment

Another fascinating (?) aspect of Amateur Radio that nobody bothers about too much these days is the collection of the various award certificates. Perhaps its because no one really seems to know what are available or how to obtain them. Col, VK7LZ has agreed to do a small article each month, discussing the requirements of some of these awards, and telling us how to win them - good hunting! and thanks Col.

It would appear that even with the unrest in Iran, people still think we are going to have unlimited fuel, however being pessimists (fuel) we would like articles on invertors, wind generators, alternative power sources etc. thank you.

We nearly won it! the RD Contest, to those who took part, thank you - Next year, just a little more effort from a few more, and we can have the trophy on the mantle piece.

To Annette, and her XYM Reg, VK7KK congratulations on the birth of their son Ashley.

On a personal note, its time for me to vacate the Editors chair, and give someone else a chance. I've enjoyed working on QRM; to everyone who has helped, particularly Joan Fudge, Mike Hennessy, Jim Davies, Bob Grant, I wish to record my thanks. Getting the notes on time makes things much easier. To those who turned up each month to wrap and curse, I thank you and look forward to helping you myself in the coming weeks.

Mac, VK7CCC

* * * * *

ANNUAL REPORT - EDUCATION SERVICES

This office has acted as a referral point for individuals and class instructors requiring assistance. Interstate sources now have a variety of material available and this means that one must be aware of what's available and make appropriate suggestions.

Launceston, Burnie and Devonport now have Novice classes run by Technical Colleges. These have achieved notable successes but as they are run by non-amateurs depend greatly on support from amateurs with, particularly CW and on-air experience.

Amateurs assist with A.E.B. sponsored classes in Hobart and a W.I.A. class at A.O.C.P. level continues in Launceston.

The only Youth Radio Group affiliated this year is at Marist College, Burnie.

Reg Emmett, VK 77KK
Education Officer.

NOTES ON NORTHERN BRANCH ACTIVITIES - FEBRUARY, 1979

A well attended meeting of Northern Branch (26) members discussed a range of topics from W.I.A. stores trading to Group Activities evening; and proposals were put forward by members and discussion ensued. It is hoped to arrange an "Activities Night" on a regular basis in the future. On completion of general business members enjoyed a very informative talk from Mr. L. Jinks of Federation Insurance on aspects of Household Insurance in general and in particular the situation in respect to the Radio Amateur within the confines of the household. Arrangements were finalised for the Club Station to take part in the National Field Day to be held on Saturday 10th February at Everton Springs. Mr. & Mrs. Lockett offered the use of their caravan to house the gear and operators. Volunteers to be on site on 10th as directed by the Point Project Managers, John (VK7CCC) and Ian (VK7IC).

REPORT ON FIELD DAY - SATURDAY 10th/SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY

A good roll up of regular members resulted, but more could have been utilised if they had fronted up, and so eased the work load. Power supplies and antennae were set up and brought into commission and gear checked out in readiness within the terms of the condition pertaining to the Contest.

Rostered members turned up and took their turns as requested and in general many contacts were carried out throughout the period. All the gear performed well.

Simplex contacts on 144 MHz band were most disappointing to say the least.

It was indeed pleasing to see old and new members co-operating in an endeavour to make a worthy contribution from VK7 in respect to the John Moyle Memorial Field Day Contest 1979.

Maurice - VK7J4

* * * * *

NORTHERN SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Ladies Social Committee will be held on 8th April, 1979 at the home of Noeleen Hewers at 3.00 p.m.

Owing to other commitments I will be forced to resign this year and would like to call for volunteers for the position of Convenor for the ensuing twelve months.

More ladies are required to participate if the Committee is to function satisfactorily. Wives and friends of members are invited to attend.

Marg. Grant.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY 1978-79 ANNUAL REPORT.

This year, I am pleased to report, has been a most successful one for the VK7 Division. It is pleasing to see the number of Associate Members taking out either Novice or Full Call status.

The position of Membership Secretary is to remain as a portfolio of Council so Council is in a better position to be in touch with the needs of the membership at large.

The breakdown of new members for 1978/79 as of the February Council meeting is as follows:

1. 45 full grade members, made up from 26 novices and 19 full calls.
2. 40 associate members.
3. 2 student members.

This totals 87 new members for the year.

During the year we lost to the ranks of the W.I.A. VK7 Division:

1. 3 full calls
2. 5 associates
3. 5 members to other Divisions.
4. 2 members who became silent keys.

Therefore, the membership of the VK7 Division as of 17/2/79 is as follows:

1. 204 full grade members.
2. 79 associate members.
3. 5 life members.
4. 9 pensioner grade members.
5. 6. student grade members.

This totals 303 members of the VK7 Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

While this has been without doubt one of the most successful years as far as membership is concerned, we should not just sit back and rest on our endeavours. We must at all times, strive to improve our membership as we can only survive if our numbers are strong. It is up to those people in positions of authority in branches or council to ensure that the members are kept full informed of all aspects of Amateur Radio.

73,

Brian Yeoman, VK7ZBY
Divisional Membership Secretary
1978-79

NORTHERN BRANCH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This report brings us to the end of another year of the Northern Branch. However, despite the efforts of a very good and active Executive Committee, attendances at meetings were generally down on previous years.

The A.O.C.P. Classes were once again held by Brian VK7ZBY and our thanks go to him for his support, his efforts have been shown by the numbers who are sitting for and passing the Amateur exams.

The equipment store is to be wound down, as trading through the year has decreased, possibly due to the fact that people aren't constructing projects and the availability of cheaper components from other sources. Our thanks go to Ian VK7IC and the members who attended the store each week.

A Ladies Committee was formed during the year and successful social events have been held the most notable being the Wine & Cheese Evening at the Margaret McIntyre House.

Q.R.M. went state wide late in the year thus increasing the work load on John VK7CCC. Our thanks go to John and the regular band of helpers who turned up once a month to wrap and pack Q.R.M. Joe Richter has also done an excellent job in printing the magazine for us.

VK7NB went portable on two occasions i.e. the Scout Jamboree and the National Field Day. With a little more organisation we could make both these events more attractive to the members thus increasing amateur activity in this area.

The clubrooms still require a lot of work to be done on them and I feel that next year most of this will be achieved. An activities night has been very well accepted with 17 members turning up the first night and 14 the second night.

I will not be standing for re-election due to business commitments and would finally like to thank all office bearers and members who have contributed to the success of the branch during the term of my office.

73's

Joe Gelston
VK7JG

* * * * *

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - AFTERNOON FOR THE GIRLS

Peter VK7ZFP and Joan invite all wives and companions of members attending the Annual General Meeting to spend the afternoon at their home, 22 Elliott Street, West Ulverstone. A get-to-know afternoon will be the format as so many XYL's miss out on contacts. Transport available from Lakins Hall.

Also limited changing facilities are available for those members and wives who will be returning home after the social evening. For those who have this need please indicate on the registration form.

DX NOTES

Unfortunately most of the supposedly sure fire DXpeditions scheduled for the last couple of months either haven't eventuated or have been "fizzers".

BOUVET ISLAND. This sad story has been told so many times that its pointless going over it again however the latest is that Willy de Roos VK9XRYMM could not land on Peter Island to operate as 3Y0BZ and is now en route to Bouvet so we may eventually get this island operational.

SPRATLEY ISLAND. Whether the unrest between Vietnam and China will cause any problems for this venture is yet to be found out, however listening on the air to arrangements being finalised it is apparent that all systems are on go and the 27th March, is the sailing date from Brunei to Amboyna Cay.

ST. FELIX. HC5EE advises that this operation was called off last October due to a licensing mix-up, however K1MM is expected to arrive at HC5EE's QTH on a business trip and expects to clear up the problems so St. Felix could be activated in the near future.

SERRANA BANK. Due to a transportation problem this expedition has to be postponed however alternate arrangements are under way however some of the members have used up their holidays and this adds further problems.

SOMALI 601FG left Italy on the 21st February for another visit, he will be in Somali for 30 days and it is said that all QSO's must be in English and his frequency to be 14.205 MHz.

MALDIVES ISLANDS. This operation will have possibly ceased before these notes are read, however if you did QSO, 8Q7AF or 8Q7AG, QSL to WB4ZNH.

As this is the end of my period as the writer of these notes I would like to take the opportunity of wishing our readers - if any - good hunting.

* * * * *

MINI HAMFEST

ANNUAL PICNIC DAY FOR
NORTH & N.W. MEMBERS

<u>WHEN:</u>	April 1, 1979	
<u>WHERE:</u>	Port Sorell	
<u>TIME:</u>	From 11.00 a.m.	
<u>WHAT TO BRING:</u>	Family	Food
	Fun	Friends

E V E R Y O N E M O S T W E L C O M E

Previous years have shown this day to be a really good Family Day.

STATE NEWS1. New Members - welcome to

John Baldock	Derwent Bridge	VK7NJB
Harry Bracken	North Hobart	VK7BR
Lloyd Cherry	Leslie Vale	VK7LC
Stephen Charles	Burnie	VK7NBB
Robert Davies	Legana	Associate
Kenneth Davern	Launceston	Student
Lewis Davies	Launceston	VK7NLD
John Gates	Howrah	Associate
Fred Harland	South Hobart	VK7FC
Geoffrey Harper	Bellerive	VK7NGR
Brian Hutchinson	Penguin	VK7NHB
Ian Hutchinson	Penguin	VK7NNN
Peter Ralph	New Norfolk	VK7NPL
Brett Williams	Heybridge	VK7NBW

2. Amateur Advisory Committee

The following volunteers have been accepted by P. & T. for this years committee.

Mr. F. Beech	VK7BC
Mr. R. Emmett	VK7KK
Mr. J. Vansteveren	VK7JV
Mrs. S. Morgan	VK7NSU/VK7ZSU
Mrs. H. Dowde	VK7HD
Mr. I. Nichols	VK7ZZ
Mr. G. Johnson	VK7GD
Mr. J. Cordell	VK7NJC/VK7ZJP

G E L S T O N C O M M U N I C A T I O N

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Electronics

Your Local VICOM AGENT

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P.O. Box 1311
Phone: 44 3882
LAUNCESTON. 7250

See us for your next purchase. In stock RIN60- Ranger 2m aerials
\$48.00

Two metre 10 element crossed YAG I \$85.00
Here you get two aerials for the price of one.

6JS6 valves coat cable and connectors

VHF NOTES

Due to work committments the gear in the shack has not been turned on over the last month. So I have very little to report.

Daniel reported that 6 has been open to JA on several occasions with very good signals. Don't forget the equinox period when some good **EX** should be available.

The beacon VK7RNT was off the air for the first time in 3 years, due to a faulty fuse holder. While the unit was out (3 days). The P.A. heatsink was replaced and a new antenna fitted.

2 metres has been open on several occasions with Kevin VK7ZAH being the most active station in this frequency in the North.

We will be looking for a new writer for this column for the next 12 months. If you can contribute please let us know.

73,

Joe.

* * * * *

FOR SALE : EQUIPMENT EX THE LATE VK7CK

KW VICEROY (MKIII) Transmitter	\$150
KW 500 LINEAR Amplifier (813)	\$129
Drake 2A Receiver (Mods to 2B) with Transformer	\$150
Type A Mark III. Suitcase Radio, complete with spares and hand-book. Even a key (see Review A.R. Nov.78)	
A collector's item that works. Offers?	
Ferrocarril VTVM with RF Probe and Date	\$30
Dow key aerial c/o relay 6V AC	\$20
Four gang tuning cap with copper tube coil and reduction gear	\$5
Two Selysin motors 3"	\$4
ARRL Handbook 1951	\$2
Radio Handbook 1941 ed.	\$3
ARRL Antenna Book 1949	\$1
Approx. ninety copier A.R. late 1960's, very good reading	\$3
Enammelled copper wire approx. 16g 1½lb	\$4
Enammelled copper wire approx. 18g 2lb	\$4
Good solid desk mike stand (needs insert)	\$5
GP power supply	\$3
Box of odds and ends wire insulators, relay valves etc.	Offers.

Apply to VK7BC. QTH.

VK7QSL BUREAUAnnual Report for year ending 31 December, 1978

Excellent band conditions and the number of new stations active have resulted in a record year in the total of cards handled by the Bureau. Comparative figures for the past four years are:

	<u>Outwards</u>	<u>Inwards</u>	<u>Total</u>
1975	2392	4362	6754
1976	4777	4623	9400
1977	8054	7413	15467
1978	15133	14021	29154

I have included the 1975 figures as they were the lowest for ten years and will give a better idea of the rapid increase.

Although there was another rise in postal rates average postage per card increased only slightly to 1.38¢ due to the larger quantities being handled.

In all 669 articles were despatched, postage amounting to over \$210. Of those sending cards 50 were in the South (approx. 8200 cards), 19 from the North (5700), 6 North West (1000) and 3 Country (100).

In a lot of cases more cards could be taken in the preparation of outward QSLs. I have noticed some that do not even state that a QSO has taken place. Others omit the date, mode, time etc. Time is frequently shown by the 12 hour clock system and often essential details have been altered.

Bureau business is now taking considerably more time so the co-operation of all in presorting, counting cards etc, would be appreciated.

My thanks to the Branch QSL Officers, Col Wright, Harold Hancock, and Bill Reid for their assistance, and to my wife who usually clears the P.O. Box and must have carried home over 12,000 cards this year!

Chas. Harrison VK7CH
QSL Manager.

* * * * *

"Scene and Heard." by "EARWIG".

Iran has been in the news lately and their programmes have been somewhat irregular due to the civil strife in that country. Listen for Teheran on 15084 Khz at about 0530z which is a relay of their domestic Service. There has been quite some changes to their programme format since the Khlomeiny faction has gained power with programmes of a "revolutionary" theme being aired. These broadcasts on 15084 are in Persian, whilst English language broadcasts have been reported at 2000z on 9022 Khz beamed to Europe.

"Scene and Heard cont'd.

American Maritime Communications Station KPH located near San Francisco was heard at 0415z on approx. 13.000 Mhz sending their Traffic List and also taking a list of ships with traffic. This station is operated by RCA Communications, who also operate WCC near Cape Cod, Mass. It was a 599 signal.

The Solomon Islands are heard at 1020z on 5020 Khz. This station is located in Honiara and programmes are in pidgin and in English. VQ05 is operated by the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation and the signal here was 53434 on the SINPO scale.

Radio Pyongyang in North Korea is being monitored here on several frequencies in the 9 Mhz band. On 9420 Khz, it is transmitting programmes in Spanish at 1040z from its 240 KW transmitters beaming to central and South America. Sinpo 53444. Also Pyongyang is also broadcasting in Russian on 9977 Khz at the same time with a reading here of 44344.

Radio Japan was logged at 1030 z with its General service in English and Japanese. It was heard simultaneously on 9585 and 9505 Khz and both have excellent signals here.

If you want to hear Radio Nederland actually broadcasting from Holland and not from their relay bases in Bonaire, or Madagascar, tune to 9895 Khz at 1040 z and you might be able to drag Hilversum through the severe RTTY and c/w on the frequency and hear their program in Dutch for Europe.

And now for some real DX! Those who reside out of Launceston and not in the Service area of 7NT will hear this one. Suva, Fiji was heard signing off at 1100z on 711 Khz with the National Anthem. This transmitter is only 2 Kw and was heard under the 10 pm news. You will possibly hear this one with a loop or ferrite rod to null out 7NT. Incidentally I also note that 2BL has moved to 702 Khz from 740 and 2FC has shifted from 610 to 585. Also 3NE is no longer the band edge as it has shifted to 1566 and 3 WL Warnambool is now on 1602 making it the band edge.

Now for some aviation listings logged recently. The Air/Ground link between Aircraft in the Northern Pacific and Anchorage and Tokyo can be heard at approx. 8935 Khz at 09-1200z SSB. Sinpo 5333. Some Teletype interference. Aviation Weather Broadcasts are also heard on 8905 Khz. At 0905z Oakland Radio was heard giving the U.S. West Coast Air Terminal Reports and Forecasts and this DSB signal was 54545. After Oakland signs-off then Tokyo comes on the same channel with reports of Japanese Air Terminal Reports and Forecasts. Also on DSB with a reading of 4333.

The Russians have an aviation Weather Service also. It is the A3H mode with reports in Russian on 8855 Khz at 0910z from an unknown QTH. 54454. Shannon Air Terminal in Ireland also broadcasts the Major European Terminal Reports and Forecasts on 8825 Khz at about 0915z in English. 54545.

Well that is all for this month. 73's and Good listening DE

"Earwig"

NORTH WEST BRANCH NOTES

The meeting for February, 1979 was held in Lakin's Hall Ulverstone on February 13th. The near record attendance of 38 is indicative of the growth of and the interest shown in, the North West Branch.

In the absence of the Chairman, Brian VK7ZBY, Max VK7MX, took over the chair and judging by the way the meeting was conducted, one gained the impression that he had fulfilled this role before.

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

NEW MEMBERS. Many new members were welcomed.

CORRESPONDENCE. Inwards - several letters were dealt with and passed.

It was felt that "AR" would not be put on the News stalls for sale, although it was thought that this would increase circulation. It was left in the hands of a member, who is an Amateur and also a NEWSAGENT, to make investigations of possible sales, and report to the meeting next month.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Presented by Ivan VK7NOA/ZOA. Accounts were passed for payment.

COUNCIL

Paul VK7ZPB advised that he had nothing to report.

WICEN

Peter VK7ZPF advised of activities and requested that WICEN forms be handed in as soon as possible.

ACTIVITIES

The activity Officer Stephen, advised the meeting that he was obtaining a suitable film to be screened at the appropriate time.

RE A.G.M.

Joan, XYL of Peter VK7ZPF, informed the meeting that her home would be made available to ladies attending the A.G.M. - for the purpose of changing etc, and if necessary, would also arrange transport from the Hall to her home for those ladies interested.

Joan received the thanks of all those present at the meeting. Tremendous, Joan!

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Name Tags - Jim reported that VICOM were not interested in quoting on small numbers. Paul VK7ZPB, will follow this matter up with another company.

NORTH WEST BRANCH NOTES cont'd

New Memberships - Applications were received from Stephen VK7NBB and Brett VK7NBW. Carried unanimously.

AX7 QSL Cards - Are now to have.

Mini Ham Fest - It was decided to write to the Northern Branch advising that this event is to be held at Port Sorell on Sunday 32nd March (April Fool's Day) commencing at 11.00 a.m. (2400 GMT). A Committee has been formed to look after arrangements.

At the conclusion of General Business, Max VK7MX gave an interesting talk entitled "Hints and Tips to the New Operator".

The many years that Max has had in Amateur Radio and the wealth of experience gained - proved invaluable to the new operators. Stress was placed on general procedure, "Cross Band" operation, Playback and Recording of Transmissions Third Party Traffic etc.

A tasty supper served by Terry VK7TT and helpers put the finishing touches to a most successful evening.

Until next month then, good DX and we'll see you further down the Curly Cord.

Vy 73

Jim VK7NOW

VK7 NEWS BROADCAST ROSTER : APRIL TO SEPT.Co-Ordinators

North-West	VK7TT	Telephone Work	302221	Home	252073
North	VK7ZBY	" "	918288	"	441466
South	VK7GD	" "	306460	"	726412

Re-broadcast Frequencies

North-West	Repeater 3, 52.525 MHz FM.
North	" 8
South	" 2, 28.570 MHz A.M. 144.1 MHz A.M. 52.525 MHz FM. 435 MHz FM.

Re-broadcast Stations

North-West	VK7s AX, TT, MX, ZIE, ZPB, HOW, NVH.
North	VK7s ZBY, PF, HE, JV, NJD, RH, GW, KK.
South	VK7s ZJG, PS, BJ, AL, ZAJ, ZZ, RR, HK, ZTA, AW, N(2)XJ, NAD, PA, RM, NHT, NRT, GM, PH.

Home Telephone Numbers of all Originating Stations

North-West	T. Tongs VK7TT 252073, K. Hancock VK7KH 312164 M. Ives VK7MX 3278973, S. Medford VK7SF 313943.
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SOUTHERN NOTES

These will be very brief this month as your southern scribe is moving Q.T.H. from Mt. Nelson to New Town in two day's time

For those who may have missed recent WIA broadcasts, here is a list of the 1979 Office Bearers for the Southern Branch.

President: Andrew VK7ZAJ

Vice Presidents: Ian VK7ZZ
Paul VK7PA

Immediate Past President: Harvey VK7HK

Secretary: Helene VK7HD

Treasurer: Lionel VK7SL

Stores: Until April - Graham VK7AD
From April - Lex VK7ZXJ/NXJ

Repeater Committee: Phil VK7SS, Andrew VK7AW,
Brian VK7RR, Dick VK7ZDF

Beacon Committee: (As last year) Allan Ruthven,
Peter Cox VK7ZPA, Andrew
VK7ZAJ

WICEN Co-Ordinator: Andrew VK7AW

Q.S.L. Cards: Bill Reid

The 6 metre beacon is progressing well and is expected to be operational within two months on 52.370.

A WICEN exercise was organised for the weekend of 2-4th March at St. Helens in conjunction with the Scout Regatta. Participants were Harvey VK7HK, Greg VK7FT; and Helene VK7HD.

Amateur Advisory Committee: The first meeting for this year was held on Saturday the 24th February. All amateurs and listeners should feel free to report any infringements of the rules and regulations governing transmission within the Amateur bands; either to any member of the A.A.C. or directly to the Chairman. Remember these are our bands, and if we don't police them some other authority may have to.

Sue Morgan
VK7ZSU/NSU

