

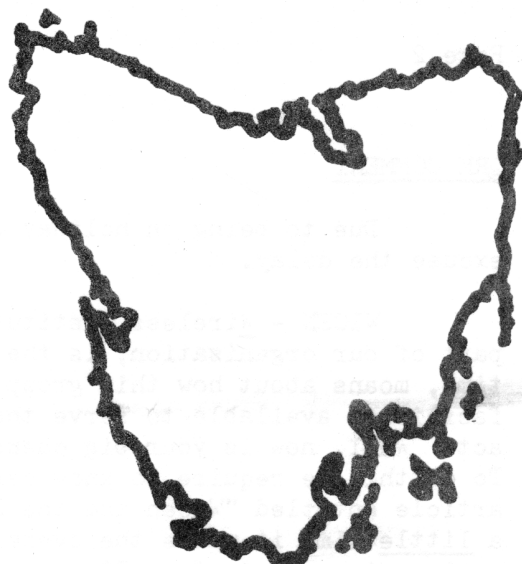
OCR

AMATEUR



RADIO

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



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November 1978

Vol. 8 No. 8

80m QRP

Price 40c

7EM

MEETINGS

- Nov 14 Northwest Branch - Lakins Hall, Ulverstone - 8.00 p.m.
Nov 10 Northern Branch - Clubrooms, 34 Bourke Street - 7.45 p.m.
Nov 1 Southern Branch - SES Rooms, Melville Street - 8.00 p.m.

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STOP PRESS

THE AMATEURS HAVE WON ON CHANNEL 5A.
PLEASE DIRECT A LETTER OF THANKS TO
YOUR RESPECTIVE MP.

STOP PRESS

QRM COMMENT

Due to being on holiday QRM is running behind time - I hope you will excuse the delay.

WICEN - Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network - a very worthwhile part of our organisation, is the topic for this month. We hear from time to time, moans about how this group and that group are making their communications facilities available to serve the general public but the WIA never gets into the act. Well, now is your big chance! We all should be ready to serve if necessary. To do this we require to know certain facts - Andrew VK7AW explains fully in an article entitled "Wicen and the State Disaster Plan". Remember if all of us give a little time it makes the overall task easier. To help those who haven't suitable equipment, part 1 of an 80 meter transceiver starts this month. Any volunteers to prepare a board layout? Thanks.

The Russian Satellite is up at last - and higher than the rest - input 145.85 to 145.90 MHZ. Beacon 29.4 MHZ. Look for orbit data in the next issue of QRM.

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NORTHERN BRANCH NOTES

An enjoyable monthly meeting was held on 13th October at the Club Rooms - an excellent turnout was recorded. The various officers reported on different aspects of Club activities, and the Stores officer advised that BFT 66 are now available at \$4.50 each. These wideband RF devices are good 144-432 MHZ. A good article in Ham Radio describes Pre-amps using these devices. Some aluminium tubing is still available ex VK7JG's QTH.

At the conclusion of the business, the large attendance of Members enjoyed a most interesting and absorbing talk from Col VK7LZ on the many and various aspects of DX, which after all is really what our hobby is all about.

Some of the points raised by Col, whose operating experience alone covers a span of 46 years were, "The Radio Amateurs Code of Ethics", Operational Efficiency, and a thorough understanding of your "Rig" and its aerial system.

Other matters of equal importance were dealt with, such as a knowledge of geography, Great Circle Bearings, Beam Headings, and Whether or Not Signals were coming to you via the "LONG or SHORT PATH", etc.

Col stressed the importance of a filing system, the keeping of permanent tidy notes on seasonal and yearly propagation conditions on various bands.

The advantages of a clear and concise Q.S.L. card were pointed out as approximately 8,000 cards had passed "Via the Bureau" in Northern Branch alone this year to date.

Further points made by Col were the use of Standard Phonetics on S.S.B., the advantages of C.W. operating, and the desirability of synchronising your speed to that of the distant "contact" being worked when using Morse Code.

The President thanked Col for his fine contribution to Amateur Radio and echoed the hopes of all present when saying that he hoped Col would be able to present part 2 of his talk on V.H.F. in the not too distant future.

Thank you Col.

Supper was served and this concluded the evening.

* * * * *

NORTH WESTERN BRANCH NOTES by Jim VK7NOW

The usual monthly meeting of the North West Branch was held on Tuesday 10th October, when we had another good turn up of members. We have been averaging around 30 for most of the year.

Minutes: The Sec. Kirby VK7KC, read the minutes of the last meeting which were carried.

Visitors: Peter VK7PF and Bill VK7AK were welcomed.

Apologies: Were received from Stewart Madigan and Graham VK7ZAQ. Graham has an injured thumb and it has been whispered that this could have occurred whilst "thumbing through" the piles of "DB" which could be coming his way since the opening of his new Electronics Repair establishment.

Correspondence: No inwards.

Outwards - The Sec. wrote to the Authorities seeking permission to relay the Sunday Broadcast on 6 metres.

Treasurer: Ivan VK7NOA/ZOA reported that, after all accounts had been paid, the Branch had a satisfactory bank balance.

General: Bill VK7AK suggested that the proposed Personal Accident Insurance scheme be reviewed. Perhaps a much larger cover for a few people over a limited period would be advisable. This matter to be discussed.

Fees for Next Year - The Treasurer suggested that the levy for the N.W. Branch for the year 1979 would be \$2. Carried unanimously.

Syd VK7SF made a motion that a Committee be formed to make arrangements for the Annual General Meeting. The Activities Committee will assist in this matter.

Activities: Next month the NASA film on "Weather Satellites" will be screened by Jim VK7NOW.

J.O.T.A. Terry VK7TT asked for volunteers to man VHF and HF gear at the camp site at Myalla. Terry, together with a number of Scouts, are camping at Sheffield during the whole period.

VK7 Award: Fred, VK7NFR advised that this matter is being looked at by Council.

Guest Speaker: At the close of business, Bill VK7AK gave an interesting and educational talk on the important aspect of "Log Keeping", as applied to Amateur Radio. If log keeping was to be abolished it would tend to degrade the

whole aspect of the hobby - apart from the fact that it would be hopeless to keep track of QSL's etc. Bill received a round of applause at the conclusion of his talk.

T.A.R.C. 1978: Interest is being shown by many overseas stations regarding the use by VK7 Amateurs during the weekend November 3 to 5 of the "AX7" prefix.

DX: 15 and 10 metres is providing plenty of good openings and many exotic "calls" are being worked by the N.W. Coast novices.

Well this about "wraps it up" for this month. See you further down the "curly cord".

Jim VK7NOW

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WANTED: ARTICLES FOR Q R M

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"TOPICAL TOPICS" by Jim VK7NOW

I was most interested in the article by Winston VK7EM on Page 8 of the October issue of "QRM", excerpts from "The Boys Wireless Book 1924".

I guess we all thought it was a "scream" - but was it? Not at all, because in 1924 "wireless" to most school boys (like myself) was a real "miracle", and articles such as this were a great help in helping us towards understanding the basic principles of radio communication.

Referring to paragraph 3 regarding construction of horn type speakers, this is not so humorous as it sounds, because several leading makers of horn speakers around 1924 did, in fact, spend a lot of time on researching the best materials from which to make the horns. I have three superb examples of the most popular horn speakers of the period. Each one is constructed of different materials for the flare, and although each speaker uses the same "metal diaphragm" type of driver unit for its operation (around 2000 ohms impedance), the sound quality is unmistakably different in each case, when operated from the same radio. The "wooden flare" ampion "AR-19" has a more "mellow" tone than the "Audivox" metal flare speaker, or the "Sterling" composition (like bakelite) flare.

Now let me take you back to the year 1908 for another "screamer".

I refer you to Page 10 of the Instruction Book for the Operation of the (then) new 1908 "Edison Diamond Disc" Gramophone - the most advanced machine in the world, at the time. I possess one and would gladly show it to anybody who is interested. Look at some of the features it had - even back that far in time:

Cueing Device, Automatic Stop, etc. PLUS a Diamond Stylus. Yes, that is correct! Edison used diamond styli before the turn of the century and this leads me up to three "screamers" under the heading of "Hints and Tips":

No. 6. "The record should never be oiled". To us, very humorous, but to people not used to the "scratching" sound of a badly worn disc, this instruction could well apply.

No. 7. "The diamond never needs oiling".

No. 8. "Be careful of the diamond! It is not very delicate, but it isn't a lump of iron either".

We have indeed, come a long way - but have we? Just a couple of quick questions (I will supply the answers next month).

Question 1. What year did the first L.P. (microgroove) disc come into being? Which company made them?

Question 2. What year did "quadraphonic sound" first appear? Which company introduced it?

Come on you electronic and hi fi buffs.

More for you next month.

Jim VK7NCW

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SOUTHERN BRANCH NOTES

A good meeting at the Clubrooms was held on 4 October 1978 with 37 members present.

Most of the items discussed revolved around T.A.R.C. 78. Other matters were the possibility of a 40 meter rebroadcast in the South. Names were taken for a 10 meter rebroadcast.

A list of unknown callsigns that the QSL Bureau had cards for was read. No one knew any of them and the list was passed, in full, on to the Amateur Advisory Committee. JOTA groups and operators were read out.

The idea of a special VK7 award was discussed and the meeting was in favour - think about the requirements. Honorary Night Owl Garry 7GM passed on rules of the All Night Award.

The meeting passed onto Council that they were in favour of the Division taking out insurance.

After the meeting VK7FT and ZAJ became mobile Fox's. They gave out clues for the hunters to follow and find, or, for most, to lose.

A good meeting and see you at the next.

Glad I saw you at T.A.R.C.

VK7ZAJ

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NORTHERN LADIES PAGEChristmas Barbecue

The Ladies Committee is presently organising a Christmas barbecue to be held at the Kings Meadows High School sports centre on 9th December (Saturday). It will be in the form of a Christmas party for the children and will begin at 3 p.m. Santa Claus has generously agreed to attend, despite his very hectic schedule at this time of the year! Each parent is asked to buy a gift for their children to the value of \$2.00 only and leave it at Diane Yeoman's address - 10 Reid Street, Kings Meadows. Santa will present the gifts during the afternoon. A Christmas tree will be there for the occasion at the sports centre.

At the centre, activities will include table tennis, badminton, indoor bowls - to name a few. All equipment will be there at your disposal. It is requested that those interested in taking part in these activities wear tennis shoes or any soft soled shoes, please, to avoid marking floors.

Salads will be provided for the barbecue tea, but everyone is asked to bring their own meat and drink. Perhaps at the November meeting, members could advise of their intention to join in what should be a most enjoyable afternoon.

The next scheduled Ladies Meeting is for 2.30 p.m. on Sunday 3rd December at the home of Judith Henricks, 8 Clarendon Street, Youngtown. Anyone wishing to help with this Christmas function is welcome to attend.

Diane Yeoman

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"THE LISTENING POST" by "Earwig"

It is said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery; Radio Moscow now calls its English Programmes as World Service, with programs such as Radio Moscow Newsreel ("with reports from our correspondents"), Sports Scoreboard, Press and Opinion Round-up, etc. Also they have increased the music content of their broadcasts. But their propaganda has not altered one iota! It is on the air during various times of the day and on many frequencies. Listen for it at about 0530 0700z on 15360 Khz. It has also been logged on the unusual channel of 22140 at about 0540z at 45434, but it is a third harmonic (7380) and its fundamental was not readable here in the Southern Hemisphere.

Take a listen on the higher frequencies these nights; plenty of DX is starting to appear as the Sunspot Count decreases. For example, Radio France International from Paris was logged on 25620 Khz on Tuesdays at 1115z. The broadcast is in French and is for French personnel in Antarctica. This is the only station heard broadcasting on the 11 meter broadcasting band here at the moment, although it seems that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is transmitting on the channel of 25690 judging by the presence of the "jammers" at 1030z. Also on the unusually high frequency of 30030 Khz, an Asian broadcasting station's harmonic logged at 0730z with a program in Chinese; suspect is Radio Peking.

Between 26425-26625 Khz, numerous a.m. transmissions can be heard during daylight hours here. These stations are a part of the New Zealand CRS and operate on these channels with power limited to 1 watt. Listen at about 0730z.

(Cont. P7)

Radio Teheran, Iran, can be heard throughout the day on 15084 Khz with a relay of the First Network in Farsi (Persian). The transmitter located at Kamalabad, near Teheran, is rated at 250 KW. Its reading of 55445 is quite good but there is some distortion on the modulation. Listen between 2300z-0700z.

Now for some overseas loggings: Saudi Arabia has been logged on 11685 Khz between 1800-2100z with the "Holy Koran" program according to the BBC. Also they report that they are hearing several Angolan stations in the 60 meter band at 1900z in Portugese. Also is reported that Algeria was heard on 10195 Khz in Arabic; the result of a mistuned transmitter, an often occurrence of Algiers. The CBC International Service from Montreal has a DX Digest at 0420z Mondays. You can hear it on 11840 Khz at quite good strength - 45544. Incidentally, the future of Radio Canada-International is in doubt as the Government has drastically slashed its budget, and it is rumoured that it will sell or lease its short wave transmission facilities at Sackville, N.B. to either the BBC or Deutsche Welle. Both now currently utilize Sackville for relaying their programs to the Americas. As for the CBC itself, it is also rumoured that it will be abolished and turned over to private enterprise. However this could be halted as the political climate in Canada could change, as seen by recent events, and both the CBC and its International Service could well continue.

According to The DX Guide, the station that has been heard broadcasting in Standard Chinese at 1100z on 14330 Khz is Radio Tirana, Albania. Until a few years ago, Albania was China's only ally and provided relay facilities for the Chinese to broadcast to Europe, but the Chinese rapprochement with the West and the general relaxation of tensions have not gone down well with the Albanians. They have continued to espouse their own brand of doctrine and relations are now somewhat cool between Peking and Tirana. Tirana is no stranger to scheduling its transmissions on amateur radio frequencies as for many years, it has continued to be heard on several frequencies in the 40 meter allocation, namely 7065/7090 with its programs to Europe.

A new station broadcasting in English logged here is the Spanish Foreign Radio in Madrid. It is being heard on 9630 between 0515-0610z at 55445 with a program beamed to North America. It has also a DX program on Mondays at about 0600z. For many years, we have heard the service in Spanish to the Americas on approx. 9360 Khz at 0400z in the winter months but it is the first time that I have found Spain with English language broadcasts.

There is to be a world-wide change in medium wave frequencies on the 23rd of November. Most stations will be altering their frequencies between 1-4 Khz including the local stations, so if you have a world-wide broadcast list, throw it out as it will not be much use after that date. We will endeavour to obtain the exact frequency of your local station in the next issue to help with your calibrations.

Please send your contributions and reports for this page C/- Box 275, Launceston, 7250 to reach me by the 6th of November for inclusion in next month's issue.

So 73's and good DX.

* * * * *

DX NOTES

On checking through my log for this period last year, it became apparent that conditions have changed considerably, whereas last year most entries in the log showed a frequency in the 14 m/hz band, this year 90% of stations worked were on 21 m/hz.

28 m/hz produced openings into South America, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean area as well as the JA's and W's but not with any consistency. With the sunspot numbers steadily increasing next year should show 28 m/hz the glamour band.

With the higher frequency bands producing so much of interest, it becomes difficult to give the lower frequencies much listening time, however VK9ZR on Mellish Reef was contacted by VK7's on 1.8 m/hz both on SSB and CW with good signals.

Although propagation charts didn't give 7 m/hz any chance for long path contacts with Europe, stations have been copied occasionally both on SSB and CW whilst JA's and W's are easily QSO'ed if one can get interested enough. Listen late afternoon and evenings local time. The appearance of VK9ZR gave many DX'ers a new one for this band.

14 m/hz is still full of interest if one can put up with the QRM and the bad operating techniques of some amateurs - some of which are old enough to know better.

A cross-section of stations heard were:

SOUTH AFRICA: CT2CB, EA8LO, EL2AV, TR8LE, TU2FH, ZS6AV, 7X2LS, 7XLMD, 5U7AG, 5T5ZR, 9G1GU, 9G1G1.

EUROPE: EA6DX, EL2CZ, GJ3PRA, GU5CIA, LX1JO, M1C, OX3BX, Y08AP, YZ9MG, also DL, DM, G, F, EA, HA, SM, LA, OH, UA & YU.

SOUTH AMERICA: PJ2MI, VP8HZ, VP8QJ, CE9AH (South Shetland), LU3ZY (South Sandwich), also CP, HC, HK, LU, OA, PY.

In Oceania VR80 (Tuvalu) is now using the T20 call-sign and several Pacific Islands including Mellish and Kermadec kept interest high.

21 m/hz produced some really exciting DX, however, "QRM" is produced by volunteers so the difficulty of typing strings of call-signs will be minimized by only listing the less common ones:

CP7GM, CX1CO, D68AD, DM2CPF, GM3FUT, HR1RMG, HP1XIW, OA4ARX, PYQGA, PYQEG, (Trinidad Island) SV1CS, TG9RB, VK9ZR, YV1AB, ZS4MG/H5, ZS6BOK/H5, ZP5RS, 3D6BP, 7P8AF, 9H1EU, 9H4K, 9J2GJ, 9X5AL.

All continents including Antarctica were logged on several occasions. It's rather difficult to give specific times, however, all the above were logged between 0100 and 0800z and other stations report openings to Europe much later than I have listened.

(Cont. P 9)

We are indebted to David Simpson VK7-70152 for a very informative list of stations he logged and these have been included in these notes - Many thanks David.

NAVASSA ISLAND - for those interested in CW. Navassa will be on the air during the CQ, WW, DX contest CW section and will also be using SSB before and after the event; they will be on the island from 26th November to 4th December QSL to NQITG.

BOUVET ISLAND - A Norwegian Antarctic Expedition is expected to land on Bouvet about mid December to install a meteorological station and hams in the party hope to be active; they will be on the Island approx. three weeks.

SOUTH GEORGIA - The RSGB magazine advises that VP8PL should be active by now on CW; watch for him 14.025, 21.025 m/hz.

LESOTHA - 7P8AF has been heard on 21 m/hz around 0500z using SSB.

SAN FELIX - Was due to be activated during the CQ WW DX Contest SSB section in October but it has been reported that the visit has been delayed.

QSL INFO:-

CE9AH via ZP5CD

PY8EG via PY5AA

EL2AV via N6EL

PY8GA via PY5AA

LU3ZY via LU2CN

PZ2AC via WB4RXX

VP8PJ via GM3ITN

9X5AL via SM5HHJ

FW8AC Box 13 Wallis Island

VE3BWK/4U via WA3HUP

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VHF NOTES

Joe VK7JG

At last we have something to report. Last month I forgot to mention the aurora scatter contacts with VK3OT and VK3ATN on the 28/9/78. Again on 29/9/78 David VK7DA first observed the aurora while observing CHØTV at 0500z. At 0700z he worked Steve VK3OT; it was good to see so many VK7's active during the evening. Stations worked by myself, David VK7DA, Kevin VK7ZAH and Col VK7LZ and includes VK3's OT, AQR, 3AZY/P running 25W to a 3el beam, BMV, VK1RK and EP. VK7's AZ, PH, MC, VK5OK, K^K and the VK2WI beacon was also there. Had there been some VK2's and 6's on we should also have worked them as well. Unfortunately I did not have a two metre beam but Kevin worked VK5KK on 2 as well as VK3's up to 5 + 9 reports being exchanged. On the weekend of the 21st a large inversion across Bass Strait produced the usual VK3 contacts via the repeater as well as stations on 144 SSB.

STOP PRESS * * * On the evening of the 24th at 0800z six opened to Japan with JA1, 2, 3, 4, being worked by myself, Col VK7LZ, David VK7DA, Kevin VK7ZAH. With the sunspot numbers increasing we should have a very good DX season this year.

73 till next month.

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FOR SALE

16' aluminium parabolic dish - outer 4' segmented. All network for mounting tower - \$50 - VK7CCC

FOR SALE

Several 6UP converters \$20.00 each. FRG7 receiver - excellent condition, in original carton, clarifier fitted \$260.00. 6 metre transvertor (transmit only) \$30.00 - internal power supply - VK7JG - 443882.

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GELSTON COMMUNICATIONS

Your local VICOM agent, also SCALAR antennae. R.L. DRAKE -
ELMEASCO - HANDIC - MARINE - CB. Contact Joe for a good deal.

Discone 50-500 MHZ antenna \$40.00

432 MHZ Helix \$5.00 - ideal for satellite work.

6 metre 5 element yagi - Worked all states, including most
JA and ZL. \$35.00.

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80M Q.R.P.

This month we commence the first of a two part series from our N.W. friend Winston, VK7EM. This compact little phasing rig should create a bit of interest, so here is Winston's description:

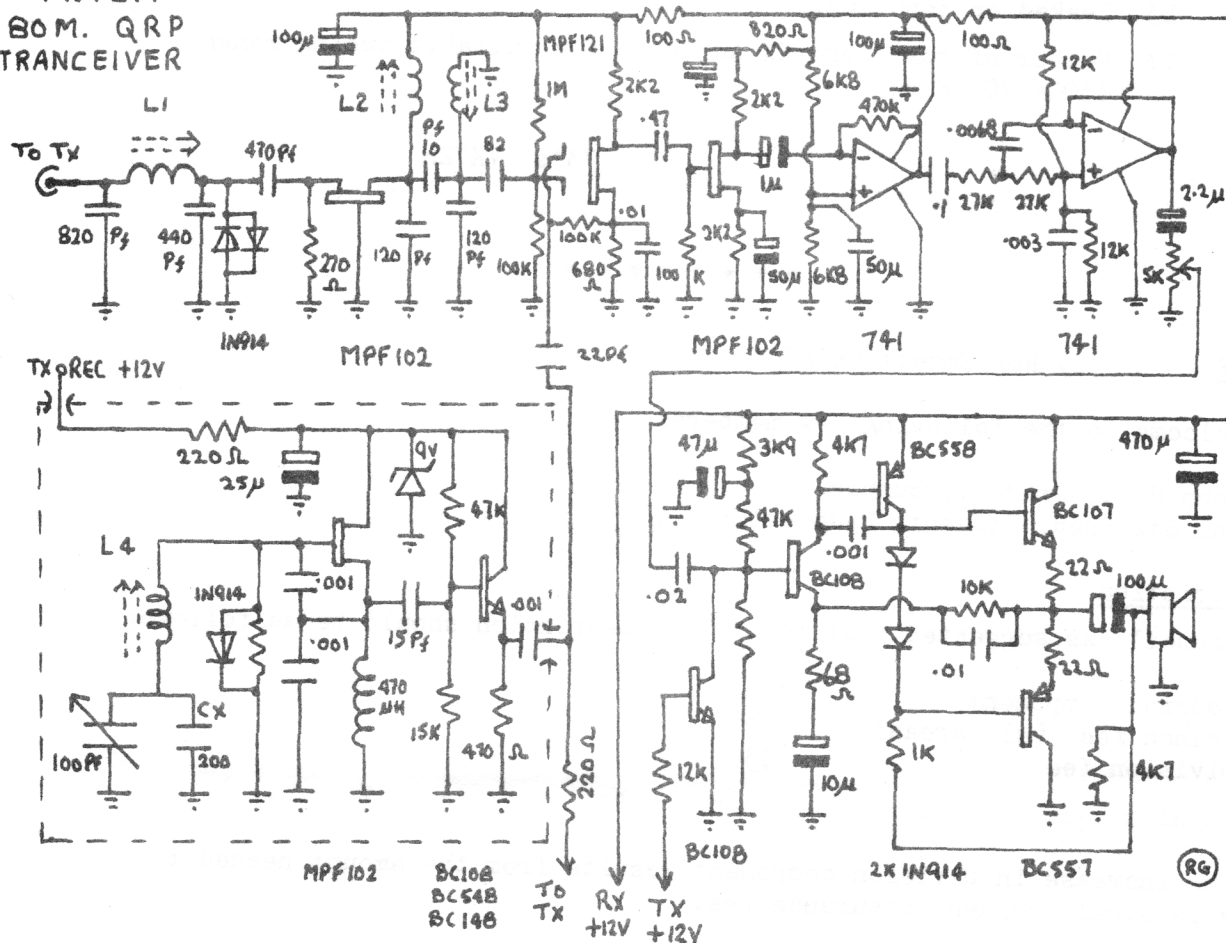
When bushwalking in Tasmania, particularly in the south-west, there are many reasons why a party can become overdue. The rapid rise of some rivers is an important one.

A small, lightweight H.F. SSB transceiver would be a very useful addition to the rucksack on an extended trip. This design is not modern but is effective and was built mainly from the "junk box". Excellent reports and comments have been received from many VK's and ZL's.

Features include;

- Low battery drain, Receive 20-30 mA, quiescent
Transmit 80-280 mA.
- Output power - 2.5 watts P.E.P.
- Press to talk operation without relays.
- Excellent frequency stability.
- Single dial transceiver operation (using miniature Japanese vernier drive).
- Transistor and FET types not critical.

VK7EM
BOM. QRP
TRANCEIVER



NOTES ON RECEIVER CIRCUIT:

- * Principle - direct conversion
- * Receiver excluding VFO can be built on a piece of 0.1 inch veroboard 4" x 4".
- * VFO, is built in airtight box $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 x $3\frac{1}{2}$ cm.
- * All capacitors in VFO must be STYRO or MICA for temperature stability. Rigid construction is vital.
- * Active filter used to reduce weight.
- * A.F. output stage could use LM380 if higher quiescent current is not important.
- * Both 741's were fitted into one 16 pin D.I.L. socket.
- * LM3900 could be used, with spare sections used in TX audio, s.meter etc.
- * Careful layout is needed due to high gain audio amplifier.

Coil Data: L1 22T, 7mm Diam. slug tuned 28G.
L2, L3 40T, 7mm Diam. slug tuned 28G.

Alignment: L1 Will be adjusted when aligning transmitter.
L2 Peaked on 3500 Khz.
L3 Peaked on 3650 Khz.
L4 Number of turns and CX adjusted for suitable tuning range
3500-3700 Khz.

73's VK7EM

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STATE NEWS

by Reg Emmett VK7KK

Welcome to the following new members:

John Hall, Grade B, Burnie
Len Stearnes, Student, Launceston

1979 Subscription

Council has suggested that the 1979 subscription should be as follows:

Federal component	\$15
Branch fee (all areas)	\$2
Division fee	\$3

Total subscription for all branches \$20 (Grade A, B members)

The increase in Division component results from the amount needed to cover the personal accident insurance fee.

No separate branch fee will now be needed for any branch.

P and T Liaison

As you are probably aware, Tasmania is one of the few States which have an effective Amateur Advisory Committee. We are very fortunate in having good relationships with P and T, however, Council has felt that there are matters which could profitably be discussed in meetings with P and T personnel after the style of the Joint Federal W.I.A. - P and T meetings. The Superintendent of P and T has agreed to such a meeting and a suitable time is under review.

One problem which we are concerned about is the need for inspection of novice equipment prior to licencing. Methods of facilitating this are presently being discussed.

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MUSINGS BY THE QSL MANAGER

S'pose I'd better get stuck into this pile of outward cards handed in at the meeting. Must be 4/500. First log - no note of how many so will have to count 'em. Later - make it 125. Time wasted. Wish they would put in a slip showing the number and hope they don't put it down near the bottom of the pack where I won't find it until I've nearly finished counting them! Now to put

each in its right container in the file. Turn them over - call signs not on back so will have to get it from front of card. This always takes longer, or seems to, when the call is mixed up with the other details. Would be nice if everyone put the call on the back, but of course it can't be done with double sided cards. One for ZZ5XX. Know he has a QSL manager. Look in list in Call Book but not there so it will go to the ZZ Bureau with much less chance of getting a reply. More time wasted. Have another look at the card and see "QSL viz XX2QQ" written over near the right hand side. No wonder I didn't notice it. I don't look further than the Call Sign. If it isn't on the back, at least it should be put near the Call where I have a chance of seeing it.

Now to the next lot. Slip says 93 cards and call signs on back. Fine. This won't take long. First card is for PY then back to DL, then ZL, JA, DL again and so on. Not sorted. Must have opened the DL file, among others, at least half a dozen times. Much waste of time and most annoying. Surely it's not asking too much to sort them into alphabetical order of prefixes, with Australian and U.S.A. into Call Areas. All the various U.S.A. prefixes can be mixed.

The above does not apply to our Worthy President who is the one person using the Bureau who has a special exemption; the said exemption having nothing to do with the fact that he is President, hi!

In sorting outward cards I notice that some of our Novices are showing date and time in EST, some even using A.M. and P.M. instead of the 24 hour system. It is most confusing to an overseas station to whom EST probably doesn't mean a thing. If it is for a contest QSO, with a DX expedition or even a busy station, he probably won't bother to look through several pages of his log perhaps over two days to find the QSO, will put your card on one side to be attended to later and there it will remain. By the way, don't expect many cards for QSO's with stations such as these (except Japs) until they get yours.

It is strongly recommended that GMT (or UTC which is near enough to the same) always be used. It is quite simple. Here in VK7 we are 10 hours ahead of GMT, i.e. 2130 EST is 1130 GMT the same date, but remember that from 0000 to 1000 EST the date will show as the day previous to ours, i.e. 0815 EST May 24 is 2215 GMT on May 23. Get used to making all entries in your log in GMT - even local ones - and of course use the 24 hour clock. A 24 hour clock in the shack showing GMT is a big help. It will not be altered when Daylight Saving Time is in force but remember that local time will then be 11 hours ahead.

As a matter of interest I checked on 100 foreign cards as I was counting them on receipt and found that GMT was shown on 98, the two exceptions being Japs.

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RS (RUSSIAN SATELLITE)

P.D. Frith

This was launched on 26 October 1978 and first heard Saturday, 28th with the translator used the night of 28th and morning 29th. It has been off since but beacons still going.

Data from Moscow:

Average Height	1082 miles
Max. Range	2700 miles
Period	120.29461 minutes
Inclination	82.5587°
Beacon	29.402, 435.103 mhz

Not reported by Moscow, but translator found to have 29.36 to 29.4 mhz output for 145.86 to 145.9 mhz input.

The beacon is 20 wpm CW telemetry with mixed letter figure groups; the meanings are unknown.

Track The tracking maps can be used by using track for OSCAR 7 but reverse the direction of travel and change time scale to 60 minutes between equator crossings. This will also change the equator start point to the other side of the map.

Reference Orbits

1/11/78 orbit 69 at 0059z at 248° West, and increases by 12 orbits, 48.54 min, -88° West per day and appears it will cycle to same times after 408 orbits, 34 days.

Data for 1/11/78

<u>Orbit</u>	<u>Time z</u>	<u>°W</u>	<u>AOS</u>	<u>LOS</u>	<u>Direction</u>
69	0059	248	-	-	-
72	0700	338	0802	0824	NE - SE
73	0900	008	1002	1027	NNW - SSE
74	1100	038	1207	1229	NW - S
77	1702	128	1832	1849	S - E
78	1902	158	2034	2057	S - NE
70	2102	188	2237	2259	S - North
80	2303	218	0042	0052	SW - NW

* * * * *

ATV - SIMPLE AS ABC - PART IV

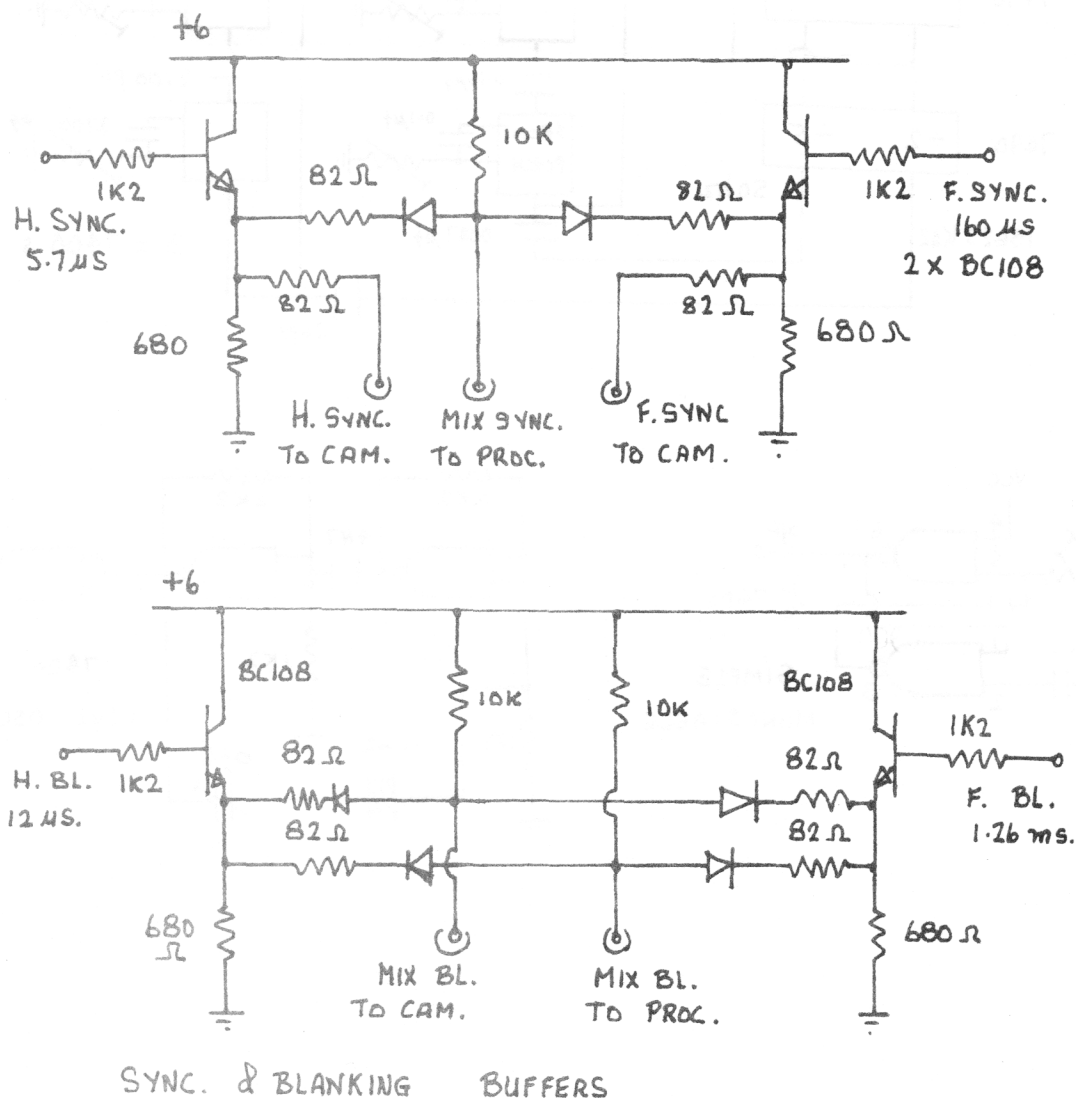
This month sees the last of my TV circuits (relief). The heart of most successful systems is the synchronising signal generator. The type I used is similar to one described in "VHF Comm", with some minor differences.

This generator will give adequate drive signals for preliminary systems; the main downfall is lack of "equalising pulses or serrations". This can give rise to slight curvature at the top of the frame when viewing vertical transitions. To incorporate these serrations requires a far more complex logic assembly.

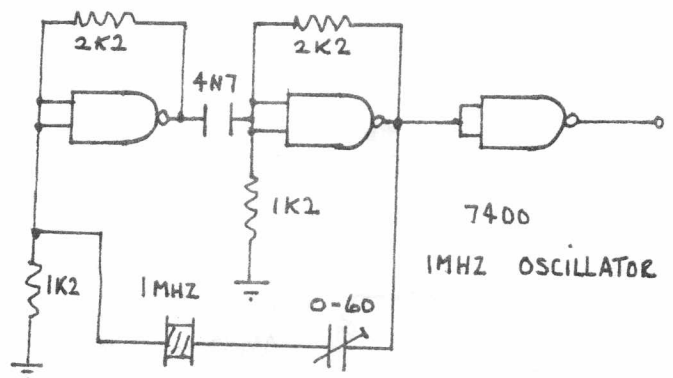
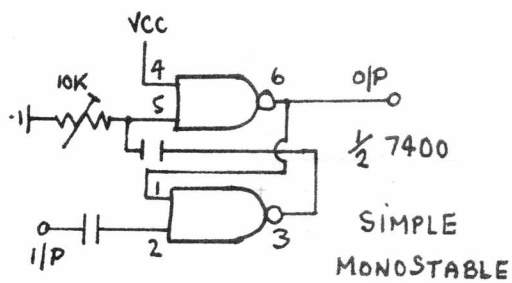
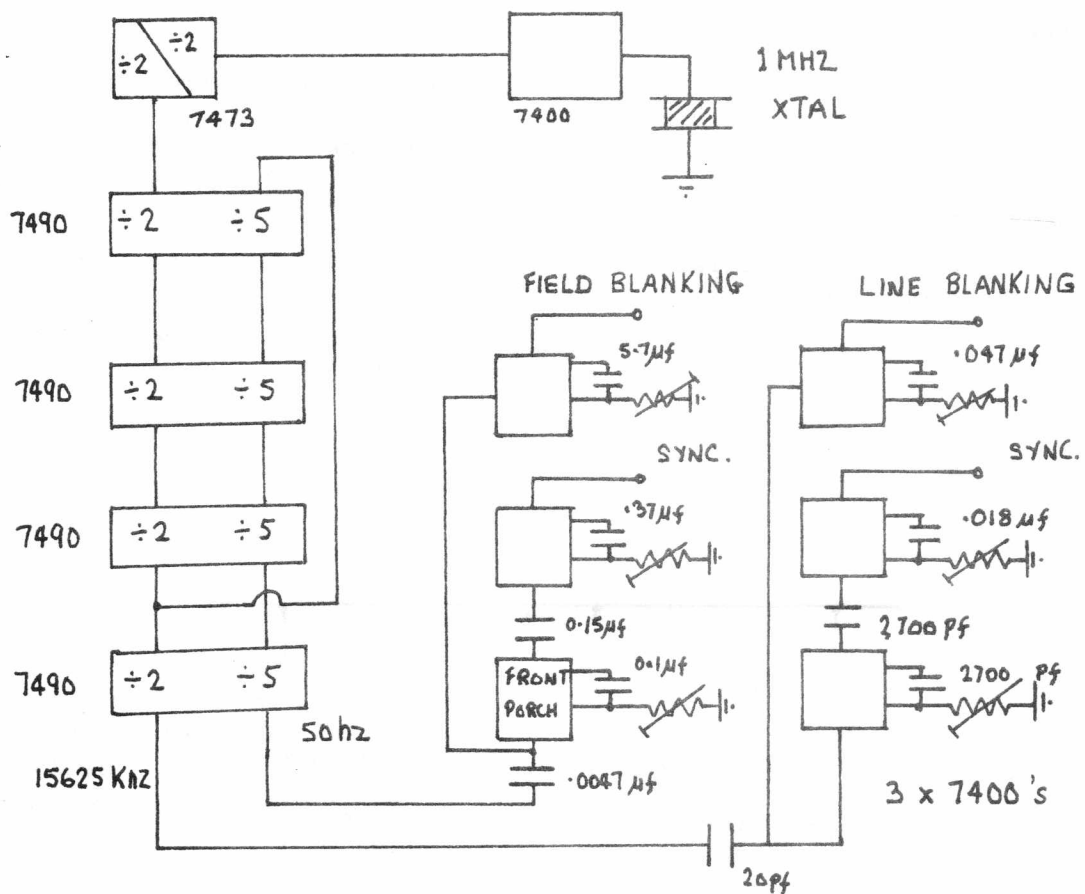
The output pulses in this design are set to the required duration by a simple pot adjustment in the monostable. The first delay in the line labelled "front porch" is to ensure that blanking has commenced before the synchronising pulse arrives. The oscillator is straightforward; if trouble is encountered with incorrect operation, the bias resistors may need changing.

The remainder are straightforward buffers and combine to give adequate drive to the camera and processing amplifier.

To be continued, 73's Bob VK7ZRF.



SIMPLE SYNC. PULSE GENERATOR



WICEN AND THE STATE DISASTER PLAN

The Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network (WICEN) is represented on the State Disaster Communications Planning Committee by VK7AW. The Committee held its first meeting on Thursday 12th October in Hobart. Made up of representatives from Government and semi-government agencies, and WICEN, the task of the Committee is to prepare the Communications sub-plan of the State Disaster Plan and it is hoped that this work can be substantially completed before the end of 1978.

The Communications sub-plan is one of nine sub-plans included in the State Disaster Plan. The others are: Police, Fire Services, Medical, Resource, Welfare, Housing and Engineering, Transport and Electrical Power. The scope of the Communications sub-plan (draft) is:

- (a) To detail the existing major communications systems and their capabilities;
- (b) To detail the day-to-day functions of these systems;
- (c) To detail the functions of these systems in an emergency/disaster situation;
- (d) To state the method of co-ordination of all communications facilities during an emergency/disaster;
- (e) To outline the method of repair and maintenance of these systems during an emergency/disaster.

So far as WICEN is concerned, the first task to tackle is the compiling of a complete list of personnel and equipment available for WICEN use in an emergency situation. The second task will be to ensure that everyone who volunteers for WICEN duties receives a basic grounding in emergency operating procedures. This will enable us to fulfil our prime function, i.e.

To provide a pool of licensed, trained operators, with equipment, available for deployment to aid communications in an emergency.

Addressing ourselves to the first of these, attached you will find a three-page questionnaire. If you are willing to volunteer yourself, and/or your equipment, for WICEN use during an emergency, and are willing to attend whatever training sessions are necessary and exercises as are organized, would you please fill in a form. Note that the questions all refer to emergency situations, but please answer them on the assumption that you have not been affected by whatever disaster may have occurred, i.e. your equipment is not rendered unserviceable, and you and your family are out of danger.

It is essential that all information is accurate, so please be careful with your answers. Don't volunteer someone else's equipment which you happen to be borrowing, nor any equipment which you think you might be getting some time in the future. If it isn't 100% serviceable and reliable, better to leave it out until it is repaired. Any future changes to your equipment can

be notified to your Branch WICEN co-ordinator, as soon as they occur.

The next meeting of the State Disaster Communications Planning Committee is on Friday 10th November; consequently I am anxious to have as much information as possible before that date. Would everyone who fills in forms please send them directly to me - my address and some other notes will be found on the last page of the questionnaire.

After extracting the information from the questionnaires, I will return them to the respective Branch WICEN co-ordinators, who will be responsible for maintaining a register for their Branch. Meanwhile, if anyone has any comments or queries regarding WICEN or the State Disaster Plan, they can contact me at home (002) 285807, at work (002) 208290, or on Repeater 2 (sometimes).

Andrew Boon VK7AW

FOR YOUR WICEN INFORMATION

VK7 WICEN REGISTRATION FORM

PERSONAL DATA

Surname First Name Callsign (if any) VK7.....

Address Postcode

Telephone: Home (STD code) Work (STD code)

Do you have a phone (or phone socket) in your shack?

Employer Occupation

Usual work address

Will your employer release you for WICEN activities in an emergency situation (ask him) ?

Normal hours of work

Age20.....30.....40.....50.....60..... (Place x in appropriate range).

CW Speed Nil..... 5-10 wpm 11-20 wpm Over 20 wpm

AVAILABILITY

Are you available to proceed to any area in Tasmania?

How much notice would you require before proceeding to any area? Hours

Do you have bush-walking/camping equipment (rucksack, tent, sleeping bag, etc.)

Give brief details

For how long can you afford to be continually absent from: a) Home

b) Work

Do you have any objections to a relief operator using your equipment?

If you have a fixed station only, will you be available as a relief operator for another station?

TRANSPORT

Do you own your own vehicle? Or have guaranteed use of another vehicle?

..... If so, what type? (make, model, age, seating capacity)

..... Do you have a current Driver's Licence?

Can you live in your vehicle for up to 24 hours? Is it fitted with

radio equipment? HF

(equipment & aerial types)

VHF

RADIO EQUIPMENT

List major items of equipment, (e.g. FT101E, IC22A, etc. If home-brew, list as "HF SSB transceiver", etc.)

.....

Available Frequencies: (enter output power in Watts under each relevant section).

BAND (MHz)	FIXED				MOBILE				PORTABLE				Actual Freq. range
	AM	SSB	CW	FM	AM	SSB	CW	FM	AM	SSB	CW	FM	
1.80-1.86													
3.50-3.70													
7.00-7.15													
14.00-14.35													
21.00-21.45													
28.00-29.70													
32.00-54.00													
144.0-148.0													

2m FM Fixed: Output power ...W Channels: R2 R3 R8 40 50 Other

Mobile: Output power ...W Channels: R2 R3 R8 40 50 Other

Hand-held: Output power ...W Channels: R2 R3 R8 40 50 Other

(Circle available channels) 2m FM VFO or synthesised transceiver covering all 25 Khz channels 146-148 MHz? Yes/No. Any separate HF or VHF receivers?

ANTENNAE

All details including towers, heights, rotators, power capacity if known, etc.

HF and VHF. Home station:

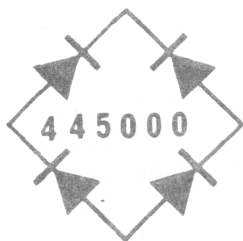
Mobile:

Portable:

Power Equipment

Capacity (Watts)	Fuel	Fuel Capacity(1)	1/hr	Weight(kg)
240 VAC generator				
12 VDC generator				
Other				

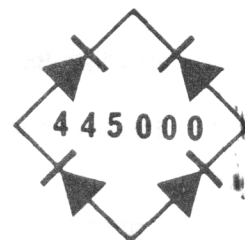
1. Answer all questions as accurately as possible. Any changes should be made known as soon as possible, to your Branch WICEN Co-ordinator.
2. If you have any personal objections to supplying any of the information, just put a dash in the appropriate section.
3. Do not put your equipment in the mobile or portable section unless you have actually installed the equipment in your vehicle, and have the mounting cradle, power leads, aerial mount and ignition suppression equipment installed. Similarly, the fact that you have an FT101 does not mean that you have a portable station. You must also have an A.T.U., a portable aerial, batteries or suppressed generator, etc.
4. Send or give the form to your Branch WICEN Co-ordinator, or preferably post it to:
A. P. BOON (VK7AW)
5 Flint Avenue, NEWTOWN. 7008



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