

THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY BULLETIN.
Price 6d.

Tasmanian Division
Box 851J, G. P. O.
HOBART.

MARCH 1961.

PRESIDENT.
Mr. T. Allen.
VK7AL.

TREASURER.
Mr. C. Harrison.
VK7CE

SECRETARY.
Mr. K. Millin.
VK7KA.

Registered at G. P. O. Hobart, for transmission by post as a periodical.
Division

GENERAL MEETING. The next General Meeting of the Tasmanian/Will be held at
the Club Rooms, 147 Liverpool St., Hobart on Wednesday, March 1st. next
at 2000 Hrs.

LECTURE.

The Lecture this month will be given by Mr. R. Dowden, Officer in Charge of the Ionospheric Prediction Service. Mr. Dowden will talk to us about the research work on V.L.F. (Very Low Frequencies) being undertaken in Tasmania at the present time. This should be a very interesting evening, V.L.F. is being used more and more these days, and conditions on these low frequencies seem to very nice and quiet, quite a change from the ~~packet~~ which persists on 3.5 to 30 Mc/s. So COME ALONG AND BRING A VISITOR OR TWO.

NORTHERN ZONE.

The Annual General Meeting of this Zone will be held on March 10th. next at the residence of the Zone President, Mr. C.G. Waldon, 11 Woolvens St. King's Meadows, Launceston. ZONE MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE and keep this date free.

North-Western Zone.

No details of next Meeting at time of writing.

V.H.F. Group. (Notes supplied by R. Emmett, Group Publicity Officer.)
ATHOL JOHNSON CONTEST.

Logs should be forwarded by March 30th. to the Divisional Secretary, G. P. O. Box 851J, Hobart. Envelopes MUST be endorsed "Athol Johnson Memorial Contest". Even if you made only one contact, send in a log, they all help to show how much the V.H.F. bands are being used.

The February Meeting took the form of a visit to a place of H.F. & V.H.F. interest. The transmitters inspected proved of extreme interest to those attending. The next Meeting of the V.H.F. Group will be held on March 15th., details of the activity arranged will be supplied later.

50 Mc/s.

Local activity is quite good, there is one newcomer to the 50 Mc/s brigade and Ted Beard is expected any time now. Main band openings for the month ending 17/2/61 in Southern Tasmania were:

Jan. 17th. VK2, 4 & 5 at terrific strength; the local press reported reception of ABT2 in Alice Springs. No reports, however, of the VK8 sigs.,

Jan. 21st. VK2 at S9 plus. Jan 22nd. JA signals heard but none worked.

Jan 24th. VK2. Jan 25th. VK5. The 1st. & 3rd. of February were also good. A foreign F.M. station was heard on Feb. 16 th. at 1500 hrs. but no JA's eventuated however.

144 Mc/s.

We hope to crack the North-South barrier this season- Dave VK7ZAI is considering a 48-element watsit !!!

286 Mc/s.

VK7ZAI now has xtal controlled mobile in operation.

576 Mc/s.

VK7ZAI, VE7ZAO and VK7ZAI have gear operating.

S.W.L. Group (Notes supplied by Group Sec. Mr. Mike Jenner.)

The next Meeting of this Group will be held on Wed. March 8th. This will be a special meeting for new Members, and there will be

equipment of all descriptions on display. There will also be a short Lecture on the operation of a S.W.L. Station. It is also hoped that there will be a demonstration of communication on V.H.F.

Mike also informs me that he is sending a letter to all the senior schools in Hobart in order to attract some more Members. This is a very good move and if YOU know of any youngster who is interested in Radio, then he will no doubt be very interested to know that that there is a S.W.L. Group in operation. After all, from my own personal experience, and possibly yours, that is how the bug first bites, so let us do every thing possible to encourage the coming generation, they will have to carry on in the not so many years to come. Also, and this is IMPORTANT? the S.W.L. Group would greatly appreciate some of the Full Members giving them a talk on various matters appertaining to Radio, it does not have to be a Technical treatise, just a talk on simple equipment, antennas etc. Volunteers contact Mr. Mike Jenner, 20 Church St. New Norfolk or at the General Meeting. And one for the Members of the S.W.L. Group, don't forget that there exists a very efficient form of communication which it will pay to cultivate, C.W. or brass-bar modulation.

B. E. R. U. Contest.

This contest will be held on March 11th. - 12th. I have not a copy of the Rules but if possible they will be given over the VK7WI Broadcast, times etc. This a C.W. Contest and is a very popular one. Time and circumstances permitting, I hope to have a go at it this year. WHAT ABOUT YOU.?

ELECTION OF FEDERAL COUNCILLOR.

The result of the Ballot for Federal Councillor is that Mr. I. Nichols, VK7ZZ is the Federal Councillor for this Division for the year 1961-62. A rather staggering number of Ballot Papers were returned, fourteen of them. Rather a poor percentage of those Members eligible to vote, would you agree?

ELECTION OF COUNCIL 1961-62.

Included with this Bulletin (for Full Members) is a Ballot Paper for YOU to elect the Council for the ensuing twelve months. The full instructions are on the Ballot Paper. READ and UNDERSTAND the simple directions and then send the Ballot Paper to the Returning Officer, Mr. J. Brown 12 Thirza St. NEW TOWN? NOW. Let us see if we can have a bigger percentage of Ballot Papers returned than was the case for the election of the Federal Councillor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER.

As mentioned in last month's Bulletin, this years Annual General Meeting and Dinner will be held on March 25th. (it is a Saturday) and the venue will be "Lynfield" 320 Davey St. HOBART. This is located $\frac{1}{2}$ mile past the Globe Hotel, on the same side of the road travelling towards the Mountain. The Annual General Meeting will commence at 6.30 p.m. and the Dinner at 7.30 p.m. Members are invited to bring one Lady Guest to the Dinner. For those Members who wish to bring their Guests along at 6.30 p.m. facilities are available for the entertainment of said Guests while the Annual General Meeting is in progress. The cost of the Dinner will be One Guinea (£1-1-0) per person.

NAMES OF THOSE WHO WILL BE ATTENDING THE DINNER MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF Mr. E. J. CRUISE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 16th. NEXT. HIS ADDRESS. @6 COLVILLE ST. BATTERY POINT, PHONE 25617.

As you will realize, catering arrangements must eventually be finalized and that is the deadline, MARCH 16th. DO IT NOW, do not defer or neglect it, because if your name is not in that will be your bad luck. Remember that this is the first time that we have had the pleasure of the Ladies company at the Annual Dinner, so make an all out effort to make this event an outstanding success.

COUNCIL MEETING.

The next Council Meeting will be held at the residence of the President, Mr. T. Allen on Thursday March 16th.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. The financial year of the Tasmanian Division is from March 1st, each year to February 28th, in the following year.

Notices of Subscriptions due are NOT sent out individually, but are inserted in the February Bulletin.

Article 47. "In the case of a Member whose Subscription remains unpaid by the first day of April in the Current year the Secretary shall notify him by registered mail to his last known address that unless he makes himself financial on or before the first day of May next following he shall cease to be a Member of the Institute but shall remain legally liable for his subscription then due and failing payment by such Member of his Subscription on or before such last mentioned date he shall cease to be a Member.

Whilst Registered Post is now rarely used in this Division, notices have been sent to those members concerned, in the past, as late as May or June. BUT NO MORE. At the end of the period specified in the Constitution Council will have no option but to order the deletion of those unfinancial Members, an unpleasant task and one which causes much confusion and often some ill-feeling from the habitual forgetful few who are deleted and subsequently pay up. The adjustment of Circulation Lists for both the Bulletin and "Amateur Radio" gives everyone concerned a lot of unnecessary work, to say nothing of the postage costs involved, and the dilatory Member has generally lost 2 or 3 month's issues of the Bulletin and "Amateur Radio".

ANNUAL

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

SUBSCRIPTION.

Please note that the Annual Subscription for the year ending February 28th, 1962 is due and payable on March 1st, 1961.

The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is: Full Member City £2-0-0. Full Member Country £1-15-0, Associate City. £1-15-0. Associate Country £1-10-0. Student City or Country £1-5-0.

PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY.

REMITTANCE FORM.

Name.....

VK.....

Associate.....

Postal Address.....

- . Exchange is not needed on
- . Institute cheques.
- . Money Orders or B/N
- . should be payable at G.P.O.
- . HOBART.

Enclosed for the sum of £..... being my Annual Subscription for the year 1961-62.

Please check the address shown on your Bulletin.

Are you receiving both Bulletin and "A.R." regularly?.....

Are the particulars and address shown, correct?.....
If not, please let us know.

MEMBERSHIP BADGES.

At the present time the only badges available are Associate Member's badges. I believe that in the possible near future that a new miniature badge will be available for both Full and Associate Members. However, if you require one of the present designs, which, no doubt, you are acquainted with, then please let me know, there are not many and will be available at the General Meeting and at the Annual General Meeting. Also have a couple of car badges for the Mobile enthusiasts. Could do with a few more Mobileers here in VK7, by the way.

Q. S. Bureau.

QSL Cards are sent through the Bureau as Commercial Papers. Postal Regulations for this classification require that the QSL cards MUST NOT carry personal comments in written form, which includes type-written, between operators, but ONLY details of the QSO filled in between the printed sections. Cards which do not comply with these regulations will, in future, be returned to the sender from the VK7 Bureau. Your co-operation in this matter will be appreciated. If you must add personal comments, then please send your card direct. QSL means acknowledgment of receipt, and you can say all you like as far as personal comments go in the QSO in the first place. Remember, personal comments on the card will not ensure that your DX will send his card any sooner, in fact he may not even get yours due to aforementioned personal comments. It has happened that a large batch of cards have been returned from the U.K. Bureau owing to one or two cards not meeting Postal Regulations. The QSL Bureau is NOT a Pen-friends Club.

USE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

The P.M.G. Dept. advises that the ban on the use of foreign languages has been lifted. So all the linguists on 'phone can maybe rake in a few more exotic DX stations.

Well. I think that is all for this month. DON'T FORGET THE BALLOT FOR THE COUNCIL AND THE ANNUAL DINNER. Tear off the form on the other side of this and send it together with YOUR Subscription to the Secretary or Treasurer Box 851J. G.P.O. Hobart. NOW ? - - - IMMEDIATELY } - - IF NOT SOONER.

Hope to see YOU at the Dinner and don't forget to notify the fact that YOU will be attending.

73

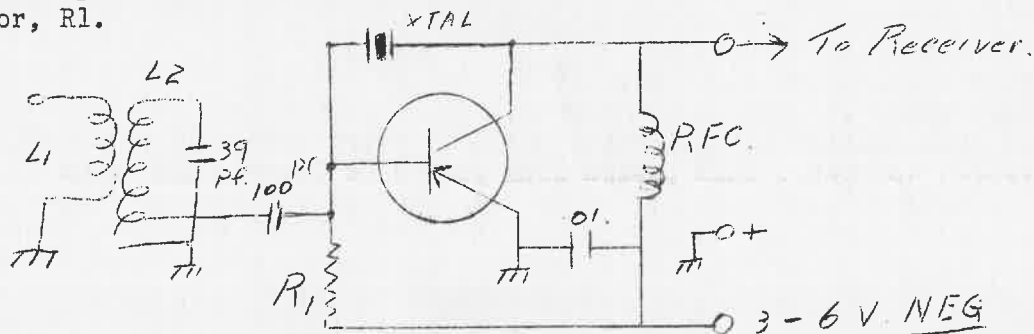
K. E. Millin.

Hon. Secretary.

TRANSISTORIZED CONVERTER FOR FIELD DAY ENTHUSIASTS.

It is not claimed that the circuits which follow are the ultimate in performance, but it is suggested that they would be quite handy to convert B/C sets, either car radio or portable, for field day operation. As transistors are not particularly uniform, it may be necessary to experiment with the bias resistor, R₁.

Convertor.



R₁. Select for best results. 390 to 470K is a good start.

Crystal.

3.5 Mc. band. 4.4 Mc/s gives I.F. of .9 to .6 Mc/s for 3.5 to 3.8 Mc/s.
5.1 " " " " 1.6 to 1.3 " " " " " "

7 Mc. band. 6.4 " " " " .6 to .9 Mc/s For 7. to 7.3 Mc/s.
5.7 " " " " 1.3 " 1.6 " " " " " "

Any crystal between these limits would be OK.

L1 and L2 are wound on $\frac{1}{8}$ " slug tuned forms.

	3.5		7
L1	$\frac{8}{8}$	T	$\frac{6}{6}$
L2	60	"	32
Tap	15	"	8

Use 28g. enamel close wound, $\frac{1}{8}$ " spacing between L1 & L2.

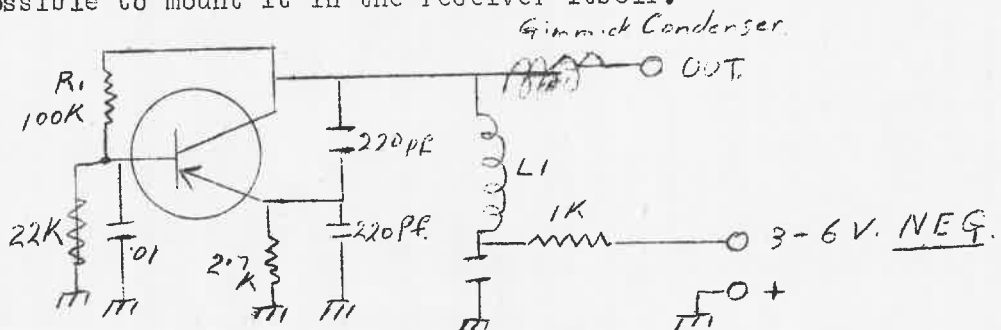
Check for oscillation by listening to the crystal frequency on a receiver.

Suitable Transistors. OC44, 2N246, 2N372, 2N252.

The lead to the B/C set should be short and UNSHIELDED.

Although the converter will allow you to tune in 3.5 or 7 Mc/s A.M. Sigs on your B/C set, it will not let you receive the C.W. signals used on field days so it is necessary to add a B.F.O. This can also be transistorized and being small it may be possible to mount it in the receiver itself.

B. F. O.



Again it may be necessary to experiment with R₁. L1 should be chosen for the required I.F. and should be slug tuned. For 455 Kc/s one winding of an I.F. transformer would do.

The drain of the converter and B.F.O. should both be well under 1 Ma. so a battery made up of pen-lite cells should have practically their shelf life.

ONCE AGAIN, if you have any articles suitable for the Technical page of the Monthly Bulletin, please let me have them. Any of your pet schemes, and everyone has something which he considers is very handy, are the things that we want to hear about. Also remember that any item you wish included in the Bulletin must be in the hands of the Secretary on or before the third Saturday morning in the month.

