The monthly newsletter of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society Inc.
Registered by Australia Post publication number: - NBH - 1491.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday each month (except January) at 7.30 pm in the State Emergency Services building in Montague St, Nth Wollongong.

Visitors are most welcome.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

1990 - A New Year, Better worse than 1989? Happier? More rewarding? Whatever type of year it's going to be, bear in mind, YOU are the one who makes it that way. Yes, I know there are external events that you have no control over, and alter your circumstances, but basically, you are in control of your own desting. If you are a grumpy old basket, how do think others will treat you? If you go around knocking everyone / thing, how do you expect others to treat you? If you are bludging on your mates, how do you think they see you? If: you are always sad and mone, would you expect others to try to cheer you up all the time? If you are always negative, would you others close to you to be positive?

Instead of the usual useless New Years Resolutions, how about making just one very simple one

I resolve to be better.

ALIEN

Our 'friend', Mr Ford Prefect certainly stirred up a few operators last time. No! I regret to inform you, I wasn't the writer. In fact, until I heard that a couple of others had a guilty conscience, I thought he was talking about Harry VK2JHW and I!!

Occasionally, I will call ask Harry how HF is and he will talk to me whilst he listens to an HF station (I hate this cause he always gets better reception than I do). Or we will carry out some HF tests. We do eventually, (when one of us realises we are using VK2RAW). use the frequency. I think we'll be just that little bit more aware in the future.

It's the old saying;
If the cap fits then wear it!!!

By the way, Ford Prefect will be appearing from time to time (I hope). If his next article strikes a nerve, then maybe you ARE doing the wrong thing.

******** Page 1 ******

Wollongong

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JEALOUS

Last year, we had another trip to Sydney to 'liberate' more old equipment for the Club. We went to Waltham Dan shop in Oxford Street, as a follow up to all the other trips we have been making. You

cause I expect that most amateurs would have had a wander through the shop at one

you recover your

of history before it

tine or another. Anyway, a lot of this will be at the next club auction in March. The supply of this type of equipment is drying up, and once gone, won't be available.

suggest

piece of disappears.

HISTORY

Do you realise it was ly in 1901 that Marconi first transmitted over the Atlantic Ocean. 89 years ago! Hell, that's only yesterday.

John Logie Baird displayed TV in 1926. Colour TV was in use by the 1950's. The first satellite was launched in 1957. Man landed on the moon in 1969. Think of the advancement in communication in that short time, then ponder what will happen in the future. It's mind boggling.

AIW

AR and noticed the fees have gone up as from December. Guess who's membership wa ue (and paid for) in November!!!!

I hope you are all going to remain/join. I know it's a burden, and we don't always see things for our \$\$\$'s but it is vital to have one organisation that can negotiate for us and ensure we get a fair slice of the cake (or bands). Imagine what our club would be like with out someone at the top. is just like our MIA The committee and we deserve it's support.

would have cried to see all the there going equipment waste. There were 10.000's of 100's of reels of mag 100's of transformers, tape, radio's. army projectors. speakers. headsets and untold number of miscellaneous of equipment. I don't

XMAS PARTY

Well. The Xmas party has been and gone, and the kilo's stay!!!!

I must thank the ladies for the EXCELLENT spread they provided. Several people made pigs of themselves. (Luckily, I'm the editor and no one can

write about what I ate) One of the un-named XYL's (I can't tell you her name, but I'll give you some clues) was asked if she wanted a piece of Black Forest cake (she is very fond of it). She is the of a well known club member (he gave permission to write this) and is very trim and tiny. She said she only wanted a very small piece as she is on a diet (doesn't need to be). I gave her a largish (even for me) piece and she gave a giggle and scoffed it down. She refused a second piece, but I saw her eating a couple of pieces of sponge chocolate cake! Later, a slice of buttered tea cake went down. (this while I was watching her, which wasn't all Oh! Amongst this, the time) there were several glasses of Moselle. Finally, there was only half a slice of the Black Forest cake left so I asked her if she would like it as the owners (sorry, I don't know who yr are but it was a beautiful ca) of the plate wanted to leave. Out of the goodness of her heart, she agreed to this 'Just To Help As She Didn't Really Want It.

The above true story just goes to illustrate the quality of the food. I would like to suggest we hold these types of nights more frequently

about once a month!

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THIRROUL
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Wayne Newport
VK2KWN

SOLD

Hey! It pays to advertise in this quality publication. I have sold my HF rig. Tom VK2JTB mobile has sold the tower. Some of the other equipment that was advertised has also been sold.

I hope all our advertisers had a successfull Xmas and that 1990 brings them everything they wish.

I also hope you are supporting our advertisers. If it wasn't for them, our fees would be higher.

******* Page 3 ******

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ONE MORE CLUE

l might not have given you enough clues in the XMAS PARTY story to enable you to discover who the lady concerned was. The final clue

The lady concerned is married to \$8#h&8vdpoi)(7T.

Oops about that, it appears my computer has gone crazy. Now that this is pronted, it's too late to alter so her name will have to wait until the next edition. Sorry about that.

*************** XMAS_PICNIC

This is the Xmas Picnic, as opposed to the Xmas Party. It was held just under Mt. Keira. The weather was period the company was the same, as was the food and drink. What more can a man ask for.

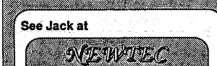
There are a million (almost) stories that could be told about the day, but I regret they eill remain lost in the annals of history, unless you attend this months meeting and see the video's that Vic Hee took. (He is open to bribery if anyone is interested

****** Page 4 ******

It seems to me that these days we don't spend enough time communicating. Sure, we talk, but are we communicating?

I know I spend too much time in my own little world surrounded by computers and radios. I'm enjoying life, and I enjoy it even more when I'm with good friends and company, but I still seem to hibernate back into my own little world.

Are you the same? Why?



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THIS MONTH

This month, we will have a great meeting.

First up, or maybe second, we have Dave VK2YKQ. Late last year, Dave had a trip overseas to India and Nepal and will entertain us with slides (only a few) and tales of his encounters with yaks and other strangers. Dave's last talk on his trip through Russia and China was most entertaining.

Next, or previous, depending on whether Dave is first or second, dynamic club member Vic Hee will be showing his (edited I hope) recording of the Xmas Picnic.

Now the boring part. Our President Peter VK2KHE (no, he's not the boring part (at least, I'm not game to say that)) will conduct a rather lengthy meeting to give us all an update on what has happened over the Xmas break, and what is happening over the next few months.

REPEATERS

It's now 23:50 on the 19th December and I'm just about to go to bed. I have just spoken to VK2TMO in Tamworth. He put out a CQ on our repeater. This has set me thinking. What other repeaters are around that we could 'hit' if the conditions were right? How often does this happen, or it it like 6M ... only happens when you are not listening!

I know I don't use the radio anywhere enough and maybe a bit of 'stimulation' might help. Overr to you Mr Repeater Chairman

****** Page 5 ******

1 DON'T BKLIKVK IT

What is well over 2m tall, weighs over 150 kg, is 2 axe handles wide across the shoulders and does everything except fold Propagators?

No!!! It's not our Treasurer.

More clues? Darth Vader is dead

Another one? It's always MOBILE

YES !!!!!!! It's SUPER ROBOT.

VK2JTB mobile creating a monster. (his wife married one a long time ago). This monster will do just about include move (Lyle anything VK2ALU said he hoped it moves 5 kph slower than he can!!), talk, protect (bloody sure I won't agrue with it!!) and has more uses than it's owner!! (No! I won't make the obvious comment). Tom says it be able to crush full steel beer cans (FULL?? What a waste!) and pick up an egg. Protect the wife and take the dog for a walk (or the other way around). It is both radio and computer controlled (intelligence IQ of 182 above the owner). At the moment, it doesn't have voice recognition but as soon as from has a spare \$30,000 he'll also install It has true 3 D vision and can track a moving object. Total cost will be \$35. (I had to say that in case his wife reads this!)

Tom has offered to give the club a talk about this MONSTER. (Hey Tom, we have a 20 min slot this month after Dave and Vic, how about coming to the meeeting for a change).

When IT is completed, Tom might even bring it along and give us a demonstration.

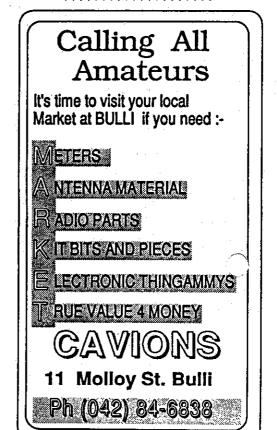
(continued next column)

I can just see Tom saying "Hey Monst! Wash the car." and IT picks the car up and stuffs it into the washing machine!!

The major delay at the moment is the motors to make it move. These are special and Tom has had all sorts of problems. (don't ask him, or you'll be held captive for three days while he tells you about it).

Tom expects it to be ready very soon but then, we all know how many slips there between the cup and the lip.

Tom, the next advert is placed here especially for you.



****** Page 6 ******



YYHW

would you believe that the ONLY mber of the committee who doesn't have a club T-shirt is the PRESIDENT!!!!!

President; Peter VK2KHE.

10 m

This article is to remind Rob VK2MT he promised me an TVI from WIN 4!!! article about the 10m repeater.

Once upon a time well, maybe not that long ago. but it seem a long time, you were asked about the dual gate MOSFKT as a mixer. The answer 'D'. WAS The MOSEKT gives reasonable conversion gain while keeping the noise figure low in a VHY mixer.

This month, Keith asks

A 300 microhenry inductance is used as a choke at 14MHz. At 21MHz the choke

- a) Does not have inductance.
- b) Has more reactance. c) Has less reactance.
- d) Needs more turns.
- I haven't a clue.

************ COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting in December was reasonably short although there was a lot of discussion.

First a welcome to a new member Ron VK2XKB.

In an endeavour to remove the noise on VK2KAW, we will replace the guy wires with 'DEKBEGLAS', synthetic a replacement for guy wires.

Keith VK2OB said it looks like the Tech will soon be taking over the running of the amateur exams. Don't expect If you want one, see our that to help though, they could be more difficult!!

> VK2RAH is now located at Mt. Murray and Knights Hill and is operational although it stll needs some fine tuning. Ironically, we are suffering This was

****** Page 7 *******

solved by Steve VK2XNH.

PROTOCOL

of the are some Here 'unwritten rules' when using a repeater. These are my own observations, and I would ask for your additions and comments as I am sure this list isn't complete.

Keep your overs long! How long? Long enough to time out the repeater. This enables your mate to make a cup of coffee while you are waffling It helps ensure we keep the band allocation as it is in perpetual use. It also stops

gives others an excuse to do nothing as they are listening to your words of wisdom whilst waiting to pass on a short message.

2 If there is a breaker.

others using YOUR repeater. It

answer him IMMKDIATKLY. It is unlikely it is an emergency, but if it wasn't important he wouldn't have broken in. It only takes a minute to say "What the hell do you want?"; listen to his reasonable request then say "NO. POQ.", and carry on

your vitally imortant

Use the repeater whenever possible. This SSB stuff for local use is too noisy and it means remembering which memory button to push and it's a hassle to rotate the antennae. Besides, it keeps those who aren't in our area off the repeater. and who wants a bunch outsiders using OUR

conversation.

equipment.

4. Never answer a CQ call. If you do, you will have to talk to someone who knows absolutely nothing and whose sole aim in life is to waste your valuable time.

Don't leave a break between overs. As soon as your mate has finished speaking. press your button, even if you have nothing to say. That will stop those pesky breakers from using YOUR repeater, and with a bit of luck, could also time it out.

6. Listen to the repeater When it is low, it means tone. the batteries are low. This is the ideal time to have 1-o-n-g overs and conversations. With a bit of luck, you can drain them completely and stop other dickheads from using YOUR

7. When you are sitting down with nothing to do and want to see if you can reach the repeater, just do 1 KKRCHUNK. This will then force the ident and others will listen and say 'Ah! I wonder who that is?. You can then KKRCHUNK at least another 10 times. This will also help stuff the relays in the system.

repeater.

8. Wait till some twit leaves a reasonable break between his overs. You can then call in and put out a call for your mate. At least 5 calls are required, and don't let go the button in case the original user gets back on.

VK2TKK

This is to remind Ken VK2TKE that he promised me an article on the Hospital monitoring, security and closed circuit TV system.

Talking about Ken, he has a new antenae system so he can sit in the lounge room and use his hand held in comfort (when he talks on the input and not the output!!!)

(Continued next column) ******* Page 8 ********



NICKNAMKS

Some of our members have amusing names made out of their call signs. I have heard some and forgotten a lot more. Maybe seone could expand the list.

Xtra Giant Jawbreaker.

Torn Panty Hose (his version)

Tea Pot Holder (the polite version)

Toilet Paper Holder. (the real version)

Dirty Yellow Underwear.

Or maybe program is a better title. This is list of the 'planned' events for the rest of the year.

FEBRUARY A talk and short slide show by Dave VK2YKQ on his recent travels around India, Nepal, Tibet and Malaysia.

Fossibly a quick talk by Tom VK2JTB MOBILE on

THE MONSTER.

MARCH Auction night.

APRIL Hopefully Roger Harrison (editor of ETI) will be down to give us a talk.

(The AUCTION will possible be held in April as it clashes with the St. George club.

MAY Technical night. Video's and discussion. Maybe a representative from the WIA.

JUNK Rag Chew. Discuss the future of the club, next year's committee, bitches. Also a wine, cheese and bickies.

JULY AGM. If you're not there, you've got the position!

Short

You would think that after a 2 month break I would have a lot to say but I have run out. I have our 'KRIEND' Mr Kord Prefect back, and a file I resurected from a month or three back. I'll have a bit more news next month. My radio and computing scene is growing very nicely.

******* Page 9 ******

TROUGH A LOOKING GLASS DARKLY! i there, it's me again! The bnoxious one, Ford Prefect. ith a few more Home Truths. How do you feel about the that YOU follow? obby omfortable, content to follow sit back and let Mob. omeone do it or do you get in nd get your hands a little irty? A few friends and I were attering some time back, (Yes! aspite of what you think, I do ave a friend or two) and it eems that a lot of prestiege oes with having the FULL CALL nd having sat for the Morse est. How many of these FULL ALLS actually use Morse Code?? know one or three that swear y Morse and don't even have a icrophone in their shacks! hen again I know of other FULL ALLS who can't read or send heir calls in Morse code so all this hoohah about hу FULL CALL!! How aving a bout, if we are going to be air dinkum about all of this, e have a re-test every five ears and if you pass it at our original speed then you etain your FULL CALL?????????? you fail to meet your riginal speed then you are lown-rated to, Gosh, should I ay it!!!!! A LIMITED call or .f you must use the HF freq's to a NOVICE call!!!!!! then was the last time that you istened to Morse Code? Sounded. good didn't it? How about some of these new fangled modes RTTY MTOR PACKET ATV or have you ried to work the satellites or further up into the SHF Tried them? Probably not, just use the rig to chat to a mate over in Woolamakanka to see how the footie is going over in VK8 or some other Glorified CB type activity. Where I come from. Betelguese, just three light years south of Canopus.

off the air due to the exciter to operate somewhere ceasing around. 2100K on Saturday and is now in the 27/01/90 tender care of VK2CAG. Seeing that the VK2RAW repeater has been in operation since 1972. that is the date that Graeme put on the outer case, that repeater has done an excellent Hopefully all will be dot. fixed by the time this goes VK2RAH, 1ØMx into print. repeater is down as well having a major rebuild of the RX due a need for greater selectivity. The new solar panel was installed some few weeks a at VK2RAW and we found with the four panels operating we had a too high a voltage across the repeater so VK2YKQ now has his panel returned to him. Many thanks for the loan Dave, I think he suspected that he'd lost it forever. Also the packet digi now has its correct antenna and is working well. That just about wraps it up for this month 73 de VK2XGJ. ******** Page 10 ******

you have to use all of the

for, not just parts of the ones

that everyone else is using.

spaces of 6MX SSB, 2MX SSB,

70CM SSB and find that there is

This being the first repor of the New Year I'd like to wish

all members the Best for the

First the bad news. VK2RAW is

REPEATER REPORT FEBRUARY 1990

life without a microphone.

another of your Earth months.

Get

So

73 & 55.

New Year.

that you are licenced

out into the wide open

there we have it for

Mr. Ford Prefect.

A visit to VK2FPN QTH. (or Tiger trains Man!)

This episode started some time ago after watching the cat that lives in the QTH of VK2FPN.

The cat looks like your common moggy with a few odd first he is habits. yellow tortise-shell or in

colour and goes by the name Tiger. This cat loves to train the humans that live within its area of control, for instance if hungry, he tells you by loud is, (common moggy type you say) well if ignored for a time, the next thing is a leg full of claws. (Just to get your attention so to speak.) Then while sitting on the side bench, from where he can see what you are doing he waits for you to put his dish of food in front of him, he then sits, and sits, and sits, until someone picks up a piece of meat, or

piece by piece. He also likes

Microwave, some ice cream with

chocolate flavouring doesn't go

home comforts must make a cat's

life hard to take. His human also buys bird seed, (he has no

cage birds), it is for the wild

birds that he feeds from his

f at verandah, just so Tiger

moggies get up to from time to

own entrance cut into the wall

little

sn't have to go too far for

activities

bit of

Tiger also has his very

and hand-feeds him

warmed up in the

These little

whatever

milk

astrav either!

his

that

time.

sporting

so that he can come and go anytime he feels like a stroll.

So the next time you are in the vicinity of Wonderful Dapto, drop into the VK2FPN QTH and watch one of the training sessions, they are held every day and the cat is very patient training his human. doesn't use bad language or strike him and afterwards if the human needs more training then the whole process is repeated the next day.

On my trips over there I give Tiger a pat and he tolerates me, his results in training me so far have failed, then again I might be a bad pupil!

I trust this has been of interest and now you won't have to wonder why Peter VK2FPN sometimes has a few scratches on his hands and arms: Tiger has had to finally resort to disiplining his human to get lessons into his mind. the After all Peter is only Human!!



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P.O. Box 1838. Wollongong. NSW. 2500. VK2RAW - 146.850 Voice VHF Mt. Murray Repeaters VK2RAW - 147.575 Packet VHF Mt. Murray Voice & RTTY VHF Sublime Point VK2RIL - 147.275 UHF Hill 60 Pt Kembla VK2RUW - 438.225 Voice UHF Sublime Point VK2RIL - 438.725 Voice & RTTY VK2RAH - 29.520/.620 Voice HP is on Sunday evening at 6.45 pm. RTTY mode transmitted on 147.275 and relay on 3.562 Mhz +/- QRM. Callbacks taken immediately after. Voice broadcast held after WIA broadcast on 146.850 Mhz Broadcast (VK2RAW) and 3.562 +/- QRM. is on 146.850 at 10.45 am and 7.15 pm each Sunday. WIA Relay is published monthly to reach all financial members in the week Newsletter preceding the club meetings. Articles and letters are welcomed. costs \$12 per annum. Concessions are \$9 per annum. Hombership Lawrence Hargreave Award

VK stations require 10 contacts with I.A.R.S. members. Ov stations require 5 contacts. One contact with the club ion VK2AMW is suitable. Details of contacts to be sent to secretary. The club runs a store each meeting where the unusual and hard to Store

obtain hardware may be purchased.

******** COMMITTEE ******* VK2KHE - Peter Tomlin 30 Kotara Cr Unanderra.

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