

THE PROPAGATOR

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 99

FEBRUARY 1999

Wyong Field Day bus movements

* Departs VK2TKE's QTH at 5.30 am the morning of the 28th of February

* Departs Baby Health Centre at Fairy Meadow at 6.00 am.

* Departs Bulli Public School by 6.10 am.

* Arrive between 8.30 am and 9.00 am at Wyong race course.

* Departs Wyong race course at 3.00 pm

* Bus opened on the hour to deposit all contraband gleaned from the field day

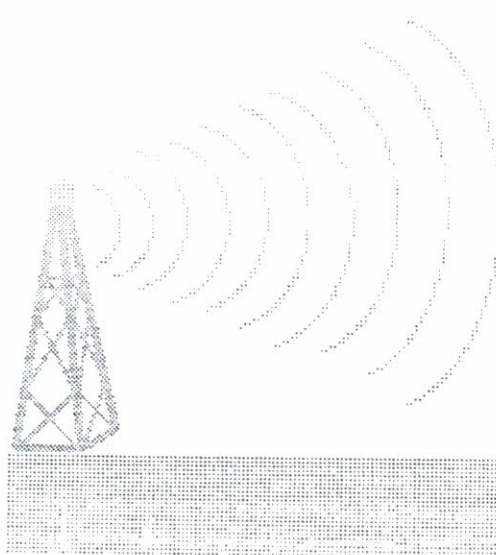
Gosford Field Day

Hi there ! It's me again. Each year the Illawarra Amateur Radio Club Inc. charts a mini bus for the day of the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club's Wyong field day. This year will be no different, provided that

*FM 900
mods in-
side this
issue*

sufficient members have paid a deposit of ten dollars to reserve a place. Ken VK2TKE will be at

the February meeting to take



the deposits from those interested.

A good time is always had by all who go on the bus.

VK2AMW 50 years Since Issued

The committee would like to thank those who took part in the weekends activities. Approximately 60 contacts

were made over the weekend by the club station, with about 30 QSL's received to date. I trust you had a good time.

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Millennium Bug Bites Early

The Millennium is just about old hat to a lot of people. Those who were worried about it have probably already had a go at setting their PC's date forward about a year to see if the blue smoke was released by a mysterious power. Well one of our members released some smoke of his own when his contents renewal came through the post earlier this month. Check out these one's for size.

* This policy does not cover loss, damage or liability caused directly or in the case of spoilage of food indirectly, by the Year 2000 bug as defined. **That is , if your fridge craps itself coz the microchip goes troppo on the change of millennium, and your**

food goes off and your ice cream runs out the seal, you 'aint covered.

* The year 2000 bug means the inability of any computer, data processing equipment or media, microchip, integrated circuit or similar device or any computer software, whether or not it is your property and occurring at any time, to satisfactorily deal with:

(THAT WAS A REAL SENTENCE ON THE FORM)

a) any date on or after January 1 2000 , including February 29 2000 or the computer equivalent of any of those dates.

b) any computer date including September 9 , 1999 used otherwise than as representing that actual date.

Boy oh boy !!!

Coming Attractions

* Wyong field day. Don't forget to pay your ten dollar deposit at the February meeting for a seat on the bus.

* Vaughan , VK2 KBI at the February meeting will give a

talk on transmission lines and what they really do.

* Guest speaker for March. He doesn't know yet either.

* April, The Great Debate

Y2K Bug

Other observations about the Y2K bug.

**If your computer in your car fails and you have an accident, the cost of repairs to your vehicle and any other party involved etc is covered, but not the cost of replacing the faulty computer. So after the car is repaired, it won't go any where.*

They've got you stitched up haven't they.

FM 900 Mods

An interesting modification for the FM

900 can be found at the web site

www.pnc.com.au/~md/pascalng/s-meter.htm

As you may have guessed it a signal meter that mounts in the front of the unit just under the channel change buttons. Looks quite neat.

Just ask Denis VK2DMR, he's done one.

FM900 and The Beep.

As promised, but a bit late, here are some mods for the FM 900's

* The beep when it changes channels can be almost silenced I am told by doing the following;

1. remove both covers
2. turn the radio so that the smaller of the 2 hinged boards is facing up. Turn the radio so that the 2 din connectors on the rear of the unit are facing towards you. I think from memory that this means that the BNC socket is in the upper right position.
3. loosen the 6 phillips head screw around the edge of the board (the ones with the silver arrows pointing to them).

4. lift the board to the vertical

position and it will lock into place. Any resistance to this and you still have a screw in place.

5. look at the bottom right hand corner of the board and you will see IC202. It is a black chip with all its legs on one side. Horizontally in line with pin 8 about 8mm to the left is a vertical standing resistor surrounded by capacitors of different shapes and sizes.

6. cut a leg of this resistor. There is no need to remove it.

7. if you are not sure, don't cut it. If you are really clever, attach a switch to it.

These are not my mods. Proceed at your own risk.

Tiny 2 To an FM 900

This mod from Torn Panty Hose.

What I did was to rewire the 5 pin din to suit myself. I first removed the grey and purple wire that jumps across from the 8 pin din connector. The black one is the earth. I left it as is. I wired the 5 pin one to suit the TNC2/Tiny2 pin

configuration.

1. you should still have the covers off from the previous mod. Turn the radio over and expose the larger board, still with the BNC and the din sockets facing you.

2. loosen the 4 screws, again

FM900 Mods Cont.

marked with the little silver arrows that hold the board in place, and raise the board to the vertical position so that it clicks into place.

3. Receive audio can be found on SK408, top right hand corner of the board. Hole 15 is the one that you want. Top row is odd numbers and the bottom row is even numbers. Run a wire from hole 15 to where ever you decide.

4. Transmit audio. At the centre of the board at the bottom you will see 3 grey ribbon cables going to the din connectors. SK401 is the one that you want. There is provision for 4 cables, however, only two are used, 3 and 4. Attach your transmit wire to the vacant no. 1 position on

the plastic connector and then the other end to where ever you decide.

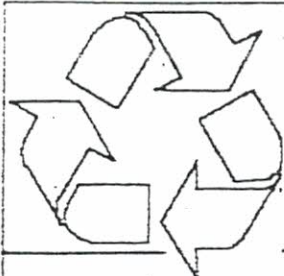
5. PTT. The ptt line is the easiest to find. Next to SK401 is SK406. Only wires on this one and number 3 is the one you want. Now the easiest way out of this is just about the 3rd is a little round solder hole, just beneath the number 6 where SK406 is written. This is a "through" hole to carry the track from one side of the board to the other. I reckon you could solder a wire to the hole and there is your ptt. Failing that, just splice your wire into the black wire coming from SK406. This mod is suitable for 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600 baud. Rig can be used for voice as long as the TNC is not connected. Audio level is set from the drive pot in the TNC.

The Great Debate

A couple of topics being thrown around for the great debate are:

Will amateur radio survive in the suburbs.

Amateur radio is more fun



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VK2RBT	146.675	VOICE	MT BOYNE	
VK2RIS	146.975	VOICE	SADDLEBACK MT.	FUTURE
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VK2XGJ	144.700	PAKET	DAPTO	

CLUB MEETING ARE HELD THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY
MONTH EXCEPT JANUARY @ 7.30PM IN THE SES HQ MONTAGUE ST
NORTH WOLLONGONG. COMMITTEE MEETS THE 3rd WEDNESDAY
**MEMBERSHIP \$22.00 PA \$17.00 CONCESSION EXPIRING
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AGM IN AUGUST**

COMMITTEE

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VICE PRESIDENT	VK2TPH	PHIL HOWCHIN	
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