

QRM News



Newsletter of the Wagga Amateur Radio Club (WARC)

July 2010

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Secretary: Jorgen VK2KJJ
PO Box 294 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
Meetings at Small St Clubrooms
Last Friday of each month

Callsign: VK2WG – VK2RWG – VK2RTW
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President's Report



Members,

Welcome to another club year and despite the way in which we actually elected the executive for another term, thank you again for your confidence in me to lead the club for another year. Whilst on the subject of the AGM though, I do apologize for having to rush back to work that night; unfortunately work does take priority for me over the hobby. But do let me take the opportunity to also thank those who carried on with the rest of the evening without me, particularly to John VK2TH for doing AGM supper.

With the cold weather continuing I cannot blame people for not wanting to go out and leave a warm house to attend a meeting and whilst this coming meeting doesn't really have anything big planned in the way of entertainment I am excited to tell you that we have purchased our new HF rig for the club shack and it will be a great opportunity for you all to see and have a play with it. We received an excellent deal from ATRC who were showing their wares at the recent Riverina Field Day in Albury last Sunday. I am very happy to unashamedly give them a plug as they were quite knowledgeable and gave us a really good discount

because it was a club purchase and I would recommend them again as a supplier of ham gear. In fact quite a number of our members who did attend on Sunday also came away with some new purchases. Look out for some new gear on air.

We did manage to move some of our junk as well– not a lot but it raised a small amount of income. My thanks to all those who helped pack on Saturday morning and then assisted at Albury on the Sunday and unpack it all again in Wagga Sunday afternoon. Thanks to Jeff VK2SW and Alan VK2KAW for their respective vehicles to move the junk.

I sent an email to the club tonight asking for volunteers to assist to strip what's left of the junk to enable us to get a better scrap price for it and I hope we can kick that off over the next few Tuesday evenings for a couple of hours. Bring along some stripping tools (screwdrivers, side-cutters etc).

And whilst on the subject of club activities, don't forget the Education nights being run by Andrew Cole down at the clubrooms on Monday evenings. At the moment a small but dedicated group is gaining some valuable insight in the world of electronics. Thanks Andrew – keep up the good work.

The next major event for the year will be our Annual Dinner. The Executive met last week and agreed on 20th August for the dinner. As last year's event went off so successfully at the Lum Inn we have decided to again repeat that and so it will be a Chinese banquet again. More information at the meeting and also to gain numbers.

We also set the 7th August as a working bee at the clubrooms to finish the shed off so please put that in the diary as well.

That's enough for this month – I look forward to seeing you at the meeting this Friday evening the 30th July.

John VK2YW



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Black Box Inventor Dies**
- 2 Latest Executive Meeting**
- 3 Taking Ham Radio Into the Classroom**
- 3 WD40**
- 4 Report on the Riverina Field Day - Albury**

Proposed "Linked" Repeaters, their Call Signs and Frequencies:

Bethungra	VK2RBE	146.775
MIA	VK2RGF	146.850
Galore	VK2RGA	146.875
Tumut	VK2RTD	146.800
Wagga	VK2RWG	146.750

It is expected that all of the systems will be operational soon. Each links back to VK2RWG via a UHF link.

Black Box Flight Recorder Inventor Dies

July 22, 2010 by *Arvadmin*



Dr David Warren AO

The death of Dr David Warren brought to the close a very interesting life of a man who developed the black box that has played a crucial role in improving aviation worldwide.

He was born in 1925 at a remote mission station on Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria, North Australia, and the first European child to be born on that Aboriginal settlement.

His father was killed in one of Australia's earliest air disasters in Bass Strait, and the last gift received from his dad was a crystal set.

That encouraged the young David in boarding school to build radio receivers and enroll to sit for his ham ticket, hoping to become Australia's youngest radio amateur.

But this ambition was thwarted when the government imposed a ban on amateur radio with the outbreak of World War II.

However his schoolboy knowledge of electronics led him to later build the world's first flight data recorder.

Being involved in the accident investigation of the world's first jet-power aircraft, the Comet, in 1953, led him to advocate that there be a cockpit recorder as a means of solving otherwise unexplainable aircraft crashes.

The idea initially raised little interest, so while the Principal Research Scientist, Aeronautical Research Laboratories in Melbourne, he designed and built an experimental unit that could record four hours of speech as well as flight instrument readings.

The idea took five years to be finally accepted. Dr David Warren died aged 85.

Courtesy of *Amateur Radio Victoria*

Latest Executive Meeting



Report from the Executive meeting 12/7/2010

General Business:

1. Riverina field day will be held in Albury on Sunday 25th July. VK2KAW and VK2YW are going. We hope to sell the Kenwood TS140, some FM100 rigs, Codan HF rig, a WW2 Transceiver plus a mixture of aerials and other excess equipment.
2. Repeater News: Bethungra will be fixed in September, weather permitting. Hopefully Galore will be completed before that. Crew are needed for a working bee at Bethungra. If members wish to help out, they should contact Alan WK2KAW.
3. Cleaning roster to be Emailed to members. A letter to be sent out to the other clubs who utilize the clubrooms, regarding the disposal of rubbish (ie. That it should not be left in the clubrooms)
4. Ideas are required for entertainment for the next general meeting. Please forward ideas to John VK2YW.
5. Club Dinner 20th August at the Lum Inn. Please advise VK2DAI if you wish to come. We had a great dinner last year.
6. Fox Hunt: Jeff VK2XD the lonesome hunter, but very successful!!! He will organize the next fox hunt for the club.
7. There will be a working bee on Saturday 7th August. It is hoped that we will be able to complete the back shed.
8. Member list to be placed in QRM.

The meeting ended at 2140 hours



Taking Amateur Radio In To The Classroom

Primary school students are being shown aspects of amateur radio by members of the **Orange and District Amateur Radio Club** in Central West New South Wales.

As part of the club's celebration of the Centenary of Organised Amateur Radio in Australia, club members have been visiting the Glenroi Heights Public School. Year five and six class teacher Rachael Livingstone says her students have been learning basic Morse code and new construction skills.

The boys and girls are enjoying learning something new. Orange and District Amateur Radio Club member **Ross Wilson VK2ER** has been teaching the code and they are able to communicate using it, while **Richard Morrison VK2SON** has been conducting the weekly classes on electronics and soldering.

First starting out with small projects to learn the skill of soldering, they have recently built a radio transmitter.

The training will continue for the rest of this year and sounds like a good model that could be picked up by other radio clubs around Australia.

Well Done Orange!



ON THIS DAY - 30 JULY ____

- 1502 - Christopher Columbus landed at Guanaja in the Bay Islands off the coast of Honduras during his fourth voyage.
- 1619 - The first representative assembly in America convened in Jamestown, VA. (House of Burgesses)
- 1733 - The first Freemasons lodge opened in what would later become the United States.
- 1889 - Vladimir Zworykin, called the "Father of Television" was born in Russia. He invented the iconoscope.
- 1898 - "Scientific America" carried the first magazine automobile ad. The ad was for the Winton Motor Car Company of Cleveland, OH.
- 1932 - Walt Disney's "Flowers and Trees" premiered. It was the first Academy Award winning cartoon and first cartoon short to use Technicolor.
- 1945 - The *USS Indianapolis* was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. The ship had just delivered key components of the Hiroshima atomic bomb to the Pacific island of Tinian. Only 316 out of 1,196 men aboard survived the attack.
- 1956 - The phrase "In God We Trust" was adopted as the U.S. national motto.
- 1974 - The U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee voted to impeach President Nixon for blocking the Watergate investigation and for abuse

of power.

- 1990 - The first Saturn automobile rolled off the assembly line.
- 1997 - 14 Israelis were killed in a double suicide bombing in a Jerusalem marketplace. The Islamist group Hamas claimed responsibility for the bombings.
- 2000 - Jennifer Aniston and Brad Pitt were married.
- 2001 - Lance Armstrong became the first American to win three consecutive Tours de France.
- 2003 - In Mexico, the last 'old style' Volkswagen Beetle rolled off an assembly line



WD40

Before you read to the end, does anybody know what the main ingredient of WD-40 is? Don't lie and don't cheat. WD-40. Who knows?

I had a neighbour who had bought a new pickup. I got up very early one Sunday morning and saw that someone had spray painted red all around the sides of this beige truck (for some unknown reason). I went over, woke him up, and told him the bad news. He was very upset and was trying to figure out what to do, probably nothing until Monday morning, since nothing was open. Another neighbour came out and told him to get his WD-40 and clean it off. It removed the unwanted paint beautifully and did not harm his paint job that was on the truck. I'm impressed!

WD-40 who knew? 'Water Displacement #40' The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. **WD-40 was created in 1953** by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a 'water displacement' compound. **They were successful with the fortieth formulation, thus WD-40.** The Convair Company bought it in bulk to protect their atlas missile parts.

Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you. When you read the 'shower door' part, try it. It's the first thing that has ever cleaned that spotty shower door. If yours is plastic, it works just as well as glass. It's a miracle! Then try it on your stove top Viola!

It's now shinier than it's ever been. You'll be amazed.

Here are some other uses:

1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars.
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floors that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
5. Keeps flies off cows.
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewellery chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.
12. Keeps ceramic/terracotta garden pots from oxidizing.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing.
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly.
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on vehicles and doors in homes.
18. It removes black scuff marks from the kitchen floor! Use WD-40 for those nasty tar and scuff marks on flooring. It doesn't seem to harm the finish and you won't have to scrub nearly as hard to get them off. Just remember to open some windows if you have a lot of marks.
19. Bug guts will eat away the finish on your car if not removed quickly! Use WD-40!
20. Gives a children's playground gym slide a shine for a super fast slide.
21. Lubricates gear shift and mower deck lever for ease of handling on riding mowers.
22. Rids kids rocking chairs and swings of squeaky noises.
23. Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open.
24. Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.
25. Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, as well as vinyl bumpers.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.
29. Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.
31. Removes splattered grease on stove.
32. Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and

knees to relieve arthritis pain.

37. Florida's favourite use is: 'cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'
38. The favourite use in the state of New York, WD-40 protects the Statue of Liberty from the elements.
39. **WD-40 attracts fish.** Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time. Also, it's a lot cheaper than the chemical attractants that are made for just that purpose. Keep in mind though, using some chemical laced baits or lures for fishing is not allowed in some states.
40. Use it for fire ant bites. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.
41. WD-40 is great for removing crayon from walls. Spray on the mark and wipe with a clean rag.
42. Also, if you've discovered that your teenage daughter has washed and dried a tube of lipstick with a load of laundry, saturate the lipstick spots with WD-40 and rewash. Presto! The lipstick is gone!
43. If you sprayed WD-40 on the distributor cap, it would displace the moisture and allow the car to start.

P.S. The basic ingredient is FISH OIL.

Contributed by Bill VK5WCC and Alan VK2KAW

The Wagga Amateur Radio Club (WARC) would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsor EACOM for their continued support and assistance.

Report on the Riverina Field Day – Albury

After a very foggy start to last Sunday, Alan's trailer plus Jeff's brand new Klueger were pressed into service to transport the clubs's goodies (read 'junk') down to the Field Day in Albury. This year it was held in at the 1st Lavington Scout Hall. Not a big venue but seemed to fit everyone in. After a couple of misunderstandings were sorted out we unpacked to one of the tables down the middle. Mind you, we didn't unpack everything, just enough to do some selling and then pointing interested parties to the trailer outside for more goodies.

Once we were firmly entrenched it was time to look at what was on offer and as I said it was a smaller gathering. There was only one other 2nd hand seller with the rest consisting of the local Jaycar store, Vertex with displays only (no sales), ATRC and a couple of others who weren't selling radios but were more in the accessory department. One of these was selling some very interesting portable aluminium masts, not to mention a very large sling shot for antenna launching plus missiles such as weighted tennis balls. This stall

attracted quite a lot of interest.

I made a beeline for the Yaesu dealer Vertex with cheque book in hand only to be directed back to ATRC where I got a good run down on a couple of different rigs. Although at Vertex I was able to see most of the Yaesu range on display. In the end though it was clear to me that the best buy for the club rig would be the Yaesu FT-950, and so, after a quick run around the Exec who were in attendance, we wrote a cheque. It was a good deal and he threw in a couple of Vertex coffee mugs just to sweeten it. Of course that swayed my decision ☺.

Then it was back to the hard sell of the goodies which was being ably managed by Alan and we managed to move roughly a third of what we brought down and to raise about \$175. So well done.

Early in the afternoon the reality set in that we weren't going to sell or force any more junk on any more people so we packed it all up and brought it back to the clubrooms where we will now strip it for scrap.

I certainly saw quite a few 'boxes' (read radios) being purchased by our club members. Seemed to be a few VHF radios from handhelds through to mobiles being purchased and maybe someone in the Ashley family ended up with a HF mobile. Keep an ear out for these new rigs as they come on air!

Overall, I thought numbers were down and also that the venue was a bit too small but I am sure for the Albury Club this was a good compromise from the school where it had been held for many years. Our club managed about 10 members in attendance so quite a good roll up.

Some details of the Yaesu FT950 transceiver follow, so have a good read before you see it at the Club

John VK2YW



Product Details – Yaesu FT950 Transceiver



The FT-950, the newest radio in the direct lineage of the FTDX-9000 and FT-2000 series radios, has been developed to fit the needs of both casual and serious DX enthusiasts, as well as new HF licensees eagerly seeking to discover the magic of the HF and 50MHz bands. Prospective owners will find that this radio comes in an appropriately-sized desktop package that provides them with loads of easily located controls and features to ensure they enjoy all of the excitement available on the 160 through 6 meter Amateur Radio bands.

Features:

160 - 6 meters, 100 Watts of Reliable Power from a cool radio!

Solid SSB and CW power on 160 through 6 meters adjustable in increments from 5 watts to the full 100 watt output. AM - 5 to 25 watts output. • Ultra-stable and high-power Final Amplifier Stage incorporates a high efficient reliable RD100HHF1 MOS FET in a push-pull configuration, using a supply voltage of 13.8 V, cooled by a huge 1400 cc die-cast aluminum heat sink with a high coefficient of thermal conductivity. • A thermostatically-controlled 2.35"/60mm axial cooling fan engages at 40 deg C/104 deg F, and it features four speeds, depending on the degree of cooling required. The large bearing surface of the fan, its floating mount, and the unique heat sink design combine to make the cooling system incredibly calm and quiet, yet very efficient.

General Coverage Receiver 30 kHz to 56 MHz

Enjoy the full range 30 kHz to 56 MHz general receiver coverage of the FT-950 for shortwave listening across the HF spectrum.

High Speed Automatic Antenna Tuner

The 100 memories of matching-point data make it possible for you to tune around the bands without the need to re-tune as you go. The special antenna tuner memories ensure efficient operation, as well as lightning-fast matching at new operating frequencies, as needed.

Yaesu's Popular Front Panel Proprietary High-visibility Fluorescent Display (VFD)

The front panel oversized VFD Display provides higher

brightness and contrast compared to TFT displays, allowing clearer viewing from a wider range of angles than on other transceivers

Front Panel Block Diagram Display for Function Status

The front panel "Block Diagram" display shows the current status of a number of functions in the receiver of the FT-950. With one glance, you can see your settings for a number of critical functions of the radio. And you will also see Bar Graphs depicting several different DSP filter settings at the same time for quick alignment.

Contest-ready Antenna Selection Capabilities

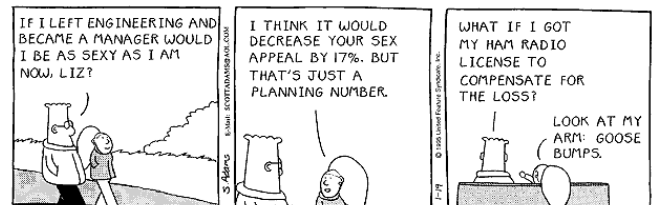
The FT-950 is designed with today's fast-moving contest operator in mind. Two antenna jacks (SO-239) are provided along with one-touch access capability. The antenna selection is memorized in each VFO and memory channel register, and the radio remembers which antenna you last used on that band or memory!

And much more for the active HF and 50MHz enthusiasts....

- Quick Memory Bank (QMB) for instant storage and recall of frequency/mode information.
- Five-channel digital voice message memory function for repetitive voice messages with each channel capable of storing up to 20 seconds of audio using the optional DVS-6.
- The optional FH-2 Keypad provides message storage and recall of voice and CW messages together with remote control functions.
- VOX (Voice-operated TX/RX control)
- MOX (Manual TX/RX control)
- All-mode Squelch function
- 50-tone CTCSS Encoder/Decoder for FM operation
- Automatic Repeater Shift function with 88.5Hz PL Tone Encoder for 29 MHz FM.
- Wide/Narrow modes for AM and FM
- LOCK function
- Flexible, easy-to-use VFO/Memory command selections: VFO A VFO B , VFO A VFO B, VFO/Memory, Memory VFO A, VFO A Memory
- Memory Channel Offset Tuning function (MT)
- Versatile Scanning Capability
- Versatile Menu Mode for customization of setup and features
- Constant-level rear-panel (transmit + receive) audio sound recording jack
- Comprehensive external RS-232C computer control (CAT) protocol
- The Rotator Control function which enables you to control the speed and direction of a YAESU G-800DXA, G- 1000DXA, or G-2800DXA rotator using 10 key pad.
- Various easy connection availability for RTTY, SSTV, PSK31, JT65 (EME) and other digital modes
- Optional VL-1000 Quadra System HF - 50MHz Linear Amplifier for fully-automatic operation

- General coverage reception: 30 kHz - 60 MHz (specifications guaranteed only in Amateur bands)
- Mode-optimized Automatic AGC decay selection (OFF/SLOW/MID/FAST)
- Versatile Memory system: 99 channels and up to 5 Memory Groups
- Four-position receiver front-end attenuator (0/6/12/18 dB) for operation in noisy or strong signal reception environment

Courtesy of YAESU



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