



2013  
Open Forum Reports

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# THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

ABN 56 004 920 745

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Grand Hotel, Mildura, Vic.,

9.07 am, Saturday 26 May 2012

### Present:

101 members were present.

### Opening:

The Chairman Michael Owen, VK3KI declared the meeting open at 9.07 am, and welcomed all present.

### Apologies:

Chris Platt VK5CP; Colin Hirst VK5HO; Kerry Adams VK2BXT; David Hunt VK2IX; Col Christiansen VK2BCC; Wayne Dowie VK6WD; David Williams VK3RU.

### Silent Keys:

The Chairman followed the previous practise and honoured Silent Keys. There were 119 Silent Keys, of whom 63 were WIA members and 2 Honorary Life members, since the last AGM.

He paid particular tribute to Wally Green VK6WG; Pierce Healey VK2APQ; Keith Malcolm VK1KM; Dennis Muldownie VK6KAD; Horrie Young VK2AMZ; and Bruce Hedland-Thomas VK6OO.

At the request of the Chairman, the meeting stood in silence in memory of all the Silent Keys of amateur radio in Australia.

### Procedure:

Under the Constitution proxies could be voted on a show of hands, and proxies had been verified as follows:

Chairman	19
Philip Adams	1

Each of these could be exercised by the holder, who would hold up a blue card with the number of proxies he was exercising.

The Chairman then pointed out that every member was entitled to offer comment and ask questions during the formal statutory meeting.



**Minutes:** The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were amended to record the callsign of Silent Key Alf Chandler as VK3LC.

Moved Eric van der WeyerVK2VE seconded Geoffrey Atkinson VK3AFA that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting having been distributed, and amended, be accepted as a true record.

Carried unanimously.

### **Financial Statements:**

The Treasurer John Longayroux VK3PZ presented the Annual Financial Statements, Directors Report and Independent Audit Report for the year ended 31 December 2011.

Moved John Longayroux that the Annual Financial Statements, Directors Report and Independent Audit Report be received and adopted, seconded Phil Wait VK2ASD.

Carried unanimously.

### **Election Of Directors:**

There being the same number of nominations for Director as there were vacancies, no election was necessary.

The Chairman thanked the Directors for their willingness to offer themselves for service to members of the WIA.

### **General Business**

The Chairman opened the floor to General Business.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.13 am.

Signed as a true record

.....  
Michael Owen  
Chairman

Date:



# THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

## OPEN FORUM

Mildura, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2012

### Note of Proceedings

#### Opening of the Forum

The Forum opened at 9.45am immediately following the closing of the Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all present, explaining that the purpose of the Open Forum is to allow presentation of reports on activities during the past year and to allow questions from members that which will be addressed by the Board members present. Additionally, it allows the raising of any issue by any member present, without the formal restrictions of the statutory meeting.

The Chairman proposed to commence the meeting with the presentation of Awards, pointing out that the awards do two things, both acknowledging the contribution by the recipient to amateur radio and the WIA and also honouring the people after whom the awards are named, who have in the past done much for amateur radio and the WIA.

#### Presentation of Awards

**The Al Shawsmith Award** was awarded to **Justin Giles-Clark VK7TW** for his article 'Modern communications technologies - a quick Centenary review and the future', published in the December 2011 issues of *Amateur Radio*.

**The Amateur Radio Technical Award** was awarded to **James (Jim) Tregellas VK5JST** for his articles 'An introduction to stepper motors' and 'Building an 80 metre magnetic loop antenna for your attic', published in the May, July and August 2011 issues of *Amateur Radio*.

**The Higginbotham Award** was awarded to **David Clegg VK5KC** in recognition of his contribution to amateur radio and the Wireless Institute of Australia including his support of the North East Radio Club and as a very active Secretary and now President of the Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society and as a member of the South Australian Advisory Committee and his untiring support of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

**The Ron Wilkinson Award**, was awarded to **Dale Hughes VK1DSH** for his contribution to amateur radio in representing the amateur service in the preparation for WRC-12 and as a member of the Australian delegation to the APG and the WRC and his long history of technically excellent articles published in *Amateur Radio* magazine.

**The Chris Jones Award** was awarded to **Gavin Reibelt VK4AZZ**



**The G. A. Taylor Award** was awarded to **Peter Young VK3MV**

**Presidents Commendation Awards:**

**Neil Husk VK6BDO** in recognition of his contribution to amateur radio and the Wireless Institute of Australia over many years, including supporting the WA Repeater Group and the WIA news broadcasts, but most particularly his ongoing support of the education of potential amateurs including his role in the foundation of HAM college and his role training and assessing since then.

**Keith Bainbridge VK6XH, VK6EME, VK6RK** in recognition of his contribution to the Wireless Institute of Australia and amateur radio over many years including serving as a member of the Council of the Wireless Institute of Australia Western Australia Division and thereafter as a member and Chairman of the WA Advisory Committee, his different roles in the Northern Corridor Radio Group, his compilation of notes for Amateur Radio magazine, his support of the WIA Awards program and his untiring support and promotion of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

**Onno Benschop VK6FLAB** in recognition of his active participation in various aspects of amateur radio during his first year as a licenced radio amateur.

**David McAulay VK3EW** for his valuable ongoing contribution to the WIA's Awards Committee.

**Valek Petkovic VK6APK** for his valuable ongoing contribution to the WIA's Awards Committee.

**Roger Cordukes VK4CD, Peter Willmott VK3TQ, Terence Ryeland VK2UX, Peter Watts VK5ZFW, Ronald Bertrand VK2DQ, Larry Lindsay VK2CLL, Peter Dowde VK7PD, Colin Pomroy VK3BLE, Craig Cook VK3CMC, Trevor Quick VK5ATQ, Lyle Dobbs VK4LM, Trevor Connell VK8CO, Laurie Pritchard VK4BLE, Dale McCarthy VK4DMC, Tony LaMacchia VK2BTL, Eric Van De Weyer VK2VE, Ian Ellings VK7QF, Philip Adams VK3JNI, Paul Hoffmann VK5PH, Owen Clarke VK3BC, Steven Tregear VK3TSR, Scott Habgood VK2UBQ, Kathi Suminer VK6KTS, Gail Lidden-Sandford VK4ION,** in recognition of their valuable contribution to amateur radio and the Wireless Institute of Australia as Nominated Assessors – a role requiring specific qualifications and central to the effective operation of the WIA Exam Service.

The President then introduced the President of NZART, Vaughan Henderson ZL1TGC, who addressed the Forum.

**President's Report**

At 10.00am the President commenced presentation of his review of WIA activities in the year to date.

He concluded by thanking the Treasurer and the Board of Directors for their contribution to the Institute through the year.

The President then invited comments from the meeting generally.



Attraction of new members and new operators Roger Harrison VK2ZRH proposed “marketing to misfits”

Raffy Shammay VK2RF reported that he had introduced training at high schools. He suggested marketing to high school physics teachers.

Ross Masterson VK2VVV reported that he was targeting Illawarra High Schools (60 of them) making presentations via the science curriculum. He added that, as far as Scouts are concerned, the internet tent is always the most sought after location during ‘free time’ at their gatherings.

Graeme Scott VK2KE (a TAFE teacher) sent some Foundation Manuals to a young chap who has expressed interest in the hobby via an IT guy at school. His follow up question was “Do we write to lapsed members?” The President responded.

Onno Benschop VK6FLAB began by saying all clubs should support the WIA. But what do they get for their support? WIA should facilitate an exchange between clubs. Why are not more people WIA members? It depends on how individuals were exposed to amateur radio. He suggests that information isn’t getting thorough to potential new members. How do we attract ‘more blood’? He suggests that people who get a licence and then disappear do so because they are not welcomed on air. He concluded by stating the WIA News should be re-broadcast on the satellite service.

Robert Broomhead VK3DN suggested the website “hack-a-day” might be a good place to find the ‘misfits’ referred to earlier.

At 10:35am a break was taken for morning tea.

The meeting resumed at 10:55 am.

The President gave a brief summary of each Open Forum Report, highlighting key points and inviting comment.

### **ARDF**

Report presented by Jack Bramham VK3WWW. Report was acknowledged with thanks. Comments were invited, no comments were added.

### **ARISS**

Report presented by Tony Hutchinson VK5ZAI. Report was acknowledged with thanks. Comments were invited.

Tony called for more schools to apply for contact. Onno Benschop VK6FLAB encouraged clubs to get involved.

### **WIA Awards**

Report presented by Trent Sampson VK4TS. Comments were invited.

John Dawes VK5BJE hopes the WIA doesn’t follow the path of abandoning QSL/logbook mix as the ARRL has. Trent Sampson VK4TS responded.





Graeme Scott VK2KE asked if the DXCC Certificate is still being issued? Answered – yes it was.

Preferred the use of endorsements on original certificates to the issue of separate new ones.

Report was received with thanks and an acknowledgement of the contribution of the rest of the committee.

### **Bookshop**

Report presented by Mal Brooks VK3FDSL. Comments were invited. Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **BPL, Standards & Radio Interference Activities**

Report presented by Phil Wait VK2ASD. He encouraged people to submit interference reports via the ACMA website for any genuine long-term interference, otherwise the ACMA might not act. Comments were invited.

Bob Tait VK3XP noted that he came across a Jaycar ozone generator which had significant interference potential.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **Clubs**

Report presented by Ted Thrift VK2ARA. Comments were invited.

Peter Freeman VK3PF advised that any club news for publication should be submitted to the Publications Secretary in the first instance, before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month preceding publication.

Received with gratitude.

### **Contests**

Report presented by Trent Sampson VK4TS, John Martin VK3KM, Denis Johnstone VK4AE, and Tony Burt VK3TZ. Trent spoke to Christine Taylor's submission regarding the use of paper logs. Comments were invited.

Rob Gurr VK5RG advised against the repeated use of acronyms as he found they were frequently misinterpreted. He reminded that the John Moyle Field Day and Remembrance Day Contest are Memorial events and should be publicised as such.

David Wardlaw VK3ADW noted that QRP was not defined in the Remembrance Day Rules. Trent Sampson VK4Ts responded.

Brian Farrar VK2AH – Asked about the simplified logging system referred to in the Ross Hull Contest Report. Discussion ensued.

Reports were acknowledged with thanks.



## **DSTAR**

No report produced.  
Comments were invited.

John Dawes VK5BJE was thanked for establishing the repeater at Mildura.

## **Emergency Communications**

Report presented by Phil Wait VK2ASD. He spoke of increasing activity through the WICEN and RECOM Groups. Comments were invited.

Peter Young VK3PV spoke of his experience at the Dayton Hamfest and meetings there involving US Congress.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

## **Historian**

Report presented by Peter Wolfenden VK3RV. He added a request for a Librarian to contribute advice. Linda Luther VK7QP responded. Comments were invited.

Eric van de Weyer VK2EW gave Peter a name to follow up

Onno Benschop VK6FLAB called for the collection of oral histories from living hams.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

## **WIA Monitoring System**

Report presented by Peter Young VK3MV. He added information received whilst in Dayton, including meeting with IARU President Tim Ellam VE6SH.

Comments were invited.

Michael Owen VK3KI appealed for more volunteers to assist with Monitoring.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

## **ITU & WRC**

Report presented by Dale Hughes VK1DSH.  
Comments were invited.

Peter Young VK3MV spoke regarding retention of spectrum. This was also highlighted by Roger Harrison VK2ZRH.

Rob Gurr VK5RG stated that 5mHz was very much misunderstood by amateurs.

David Wardlaw VK3ADW stated that preparation for WRCs was vital. He said that the WIA must continue to be involved with Study Groups, in co-operation with the IARU and NZART.



Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **National Technical Advisory Committee**

Report presented by John Martin VK3KM.  
Comments were invited.

Ross Masterson VK2VVV registered concern regarding repeaters in the 2 metre band.

Bob Tait VK3XP spoke of his experience getting the Mount Hotham repeater back on air.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **Publications Committee**

Report presented by Peter Freeman VK3PF  
Comments were invited.

Geoffrey Atkinson VK3AFA commended the Committee on all aspects of the new magazine. His comments received applause.

Les Dicker VK5KID asked who bought AR magazine from the newsagent? The President responded.

Rob Gurr VK5RG said he donated his old magazines to Op-Shops. Graeme Scott VK2KE added surplus copies could be sent to school libraries.

It was suggested that email addresses be included in callbook together with a WIA identifier.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **QSL Bureau**

Report presented by Geoff Atkinson VK3AFA.

Comments were invited, no comments were added.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

### **Repeater & Beacon Co-ordination**

Report presented by Peter Mill VK3APO. Comments were invited, no comments were added.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.



## **Webmaster**

Report presented by Robert Broomhead VK3DN. He acknowledged his son's contribution through the year.

Comments were invited.

Max Brighton VK3ZMT asked WIA to make more use of technology in making information available to regional areas. Robert responded.

John Fisher VK3DQ moved a vote of thanks to Robert.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

## **WIA Assessment and Training System**

Report presented by RTO Fred Swainston VK3DAC. He acknowledged the contribution of Dianne Ashton VK3FDIZ through the year.

Comments were invited.

Raffy Shammay VK2RF mentioned that Ron Bertrand VK2 had uploaded a series of Foundation Licence tutorials to the Radio & Electronics School website.

Brian Farrar VK2AH raised an issue of an incorrect question/answer being present on an exam. Response – item in question has been eliminated from the databank.

John Fisher VK3DQ called for greater interaction within the Assessor/Facilitator Group, including online Forum.

Lynne Kelly VK2FLMK reported Foundation Licencees received their first year's club membership for free (Fishers Ghost ARC). Ross Masterson VK2VVV said his club did too (Illawarra ARS)

Chris Newton VK2JCN asked for details regarding currency of exam papers. How old is old?

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

## **WIA National News**

Report presented by Graham Kemp VK4BB.

Comments were invited, no comments were added.

Report was acknowledged with thanks.

President Michael acknowledged the work of all co-ordinators and volunteers.

## **Club Grant Scheme**

The President spoke to his Report, followed by Ken Fuller VK4KF. He then asked for feedback from the Forum.



Martin Luther VK7GM supports the Scheme. He doesn't think criteria should be too focussed - Clubs should be trusted to apply for only worthy projects.

Robert Broomhead VK3DN wants the application form kept as simple as possible.

Garry Briant VK3KYF supports the Scheme.

Raffy Shammai VK2RF wants the Scheme kept simple, with no deadlines for projects.

Bob Tait VK3XP – former Grants Committeeman – stated that application forms need a certain degree of complexity to keep applications relevant. “Too simple is too simple”.

Peter Wolfenden VK3RV supports the Scheme.

Roger Harrison VK2ZRH asked how a Club was defined.

David Box VK5KC suggested a levy on per member per state to fund the scheme

Terry Ryeland VK2UX supports the Scheme

John Dawes VK5BJE put forward the contrary view that the Scheme's funds could be better used elsewhere.

Glenn Woodrow VK4FARR asked is the funds could be used in any other way.

### **Operating Principles**

The President spoke to his report and invited comment.

Martin Luther VK7GM suggested that the proposed principles would be widely ignored and more detail was required, and drew attention to the model put forward by the Finnish. The President responded.

### **Annual Conference**

The President called for comment regarding the structure and content of the Annual Conference weekend. The meeting endorsed the current “mix’ and urged the Board to continue this way in future.

The President thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in what was a most special weekend.

The meeting closed at 1.00pm.

The meeting closed at 12.52pm.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Introduction

This report is submitted to the Open Forum on behalf of the Directors and with my own comments, and must be read in conjunction with the statutory Directors' Report.

This report includes matters not included in the statutory report and matters that have happened since that report, as well as additional comment on matters in the annual report.

We would appreciate comments and opinions on any of these matters during the Conference weekend.

As in previous years the President's Report is submitted on behalf of, and following consultation with, all of the directors. I do however, make some comments that are personal, and in doing so I represent my own view, rather than a group view.

## The Passing of Michael Owen

By far the most pivotal event of 2012 was the untimely passing of Michael Owen. Michael was instrumental in the formation of the WIA into a national organisation with a direct membership and Affiliated Clubs.

Michael was also a strong contributor to the work of the IARU and achieved significant advances for all Radio Amateurs, particularly Article 25.

Michael's work will be remembered through the Michael Owen Trophy which is to be awarded annually and presented by the WIA to the Highest Point Scoring single operator station in IARU region three (3) in the IARU HF Championship.

The Board of the WIA is greatly indebted to the passion and life-times work of Michael Owen for Amateur Radio. A person like Michael is simply impossible to replace and your Board has been working very hard to make the transition as smooth as possible.

## WIA Committee System

During the latter period of last year, and continuing this year, the WIA Board has been introducing a new WIA Volunteer Committee System, which divides the workload of the WIA into ten broad committee areas.

**Spectrum Strategy** – All matters dealing with the ACMA, ITU, IARU, Standards and interference, technical committee's, repeater and beacon frequency assignments etc.

**Administrative & Financial** – All functions concerned with the administrative and financial aspects of the WIA, membership administration, the ACMA contract, and all WIA Office administrative functions.



**Affiliated Clubs** - Services the WIA provides to Affiliated Clubs including the Insurance and the Club Grants Schemes.

**Communications, Marketing, Publications & the AGM** – Functions associated with member communications such as the WIA weekly broadcast, AR Magazine, the Call-book, Social Media, and running the AGM each year.

**Education Committee** – Development and maintenance of the WIA training and assessment scheme. Development of syllabi in association with the ACMA and the Spectrum Strategy Committee.

**Community Service** – Promoting the public benefit aspects of Amateur Radio.

**Radio Activities** – All actual on-air activities such as contesting, awards, QSL service, etc.

**Historical & Archive** – Preserving the history of the WIA and Amateur Radio in Australia, and maintaining the WIA's historical collection.

**IT Services** – Developing and maintaining the office IT/database systems and the WIA website.

Each committee will have a Leader and Deputy Leader and a WIA Board member. To spread the workload and encourage the independence of committees, WIA Board members will not serve as Leaders.

Work on the Committee system is ongoing. At this time we have formed the committees and various sub-committees and some committee's are starting to become active. Some Leaders and Deputy leaders are yet to be selected.

## **Regional Club Advisory Committees**

The State Advisory Councils were formed at the time of nationalisation of the WIA, in part to smooth the transition from State-based Divisions to a single national organisation with direct membership.

Section 18.12 of the WIA Constitution requires an Advisory Council.

It is the Board's view that the State Advisory Councils should now be discontinued and replaced with a Regional Affiliated Club Advisory Committee. The Board believes such an initiative would improve communications and issues management between the WIA and the Affiliated Clubs and the WIA and its members.

The Board encourages comments from Affiliated Clubs and their members, especially how the regions may be geographically determined, what clubs should be included in each region, and how clubs could select a regional representative.



## **MEMNET**

The WIA is introducing a new on-line cloud-based membership management system called MEMNET.

The MEMNET system will totally replace the old office based WIMS membership database system. Maintenance and development of the membership management system will now be the responsibility of an external contractor rather than volunteers.

We expect MEMNET to be up and running in test mode prior to the AGM. Member login will be by WIA member number.

## **Volunteers**

The WIA relies very heavily on its volunteers, but with an ageing amateur population is it inevitable that some volunteers are not able to do as much as they have in the past.

The restructuring the WIA Volunteers into a committee system and the introduction of MEMNET are intended to reduce the load on our volunteers, and spread the work more evenly, and to protect the WIA against the loss of key people.

In general, the WIA uses paid office staff and external contractors to do routine membership management and ACMA Contract functions, and then uses volunteers with specialist skills to provide the many specialist member services.

Ageing membership is a looming problem for organisations like the WIA which heavily rely on the ability and good-will of volunteers. I expect a feature of the next decade or so will be a re-evaluation of what volunteers do for the WIA, with some rebalancing of the functions performed by volunteers and paid office staff, and naturally subsequent cost implications.

## **Towers in NSW**

As this report goes to press the WIA has received early reports that antennas and masts in NSW up to 10 metres height will be an exempt development within residential zones R1 to R5. It is expected there will be no need for a development application to your local council, or a consent certificate, provided the structure meets a few simple parameters – such as complying with Australian Standard AS 1170, footings to comply with Australian Standard AS 3600, the structure positioned at a specified set-back from the nearest boundary depending on its height, and so on.

If all goes to plan, that the legislation is due to be passed towards the end of this year.





## **2300MHz Spectrum Re-farming**

The ACMA announced a proposal to reallocate the 2300 – 2400MHz spectrum to new generation wireless telecommunications technologies, such as LTE and WI-MAX. Such a proposal would remove access to the 13cm amateur band which is used for weak-signal and EME work in Australia.

The WIA lodged a submission with the ACMA proposing a workable solution where a 150kHz segment at 2300MHz could be retained for amateur radio use, on a Primary basis.

At the time of writing we are waiting for a response from the ACMA.

## **The Higher Power Trial**

The 1kW higher power trial has continued through 2012 and 2013. The ACMA evaluated Radio Amateur's compliance with the Trial requirements by way of desk audits and site inspections.

In order to gain further understanding of the success of the trial, the WIA called for comments from participants and, using those comments and its own views, lodged a submission to the ACMA.

The WIA noted that it believes the trial has gone very well, with very little evidence of non-compliance or interference to other spectrum users, and therefore the WIA supports the adoption of the higher power limit for Australian Radio Amateurs. The WIA also advised ACMA it would like to see the higher power limit extended to cover the 160 metre amateur band.

At the time of writing the Trial is still in evaluation phase.

## **The ACMA Contract**

The WIA performs certain functions under a 5-year contractual business arrangement with the ACMA. These functions are performed on a revenue-neutral (cost-recovery) basis only, on the premise that they are an important member service.

The current 5-year term expires shortly and the WIA has informed the ACMA that it wishes to enter into a further 5-year contract to provide these services.

## **The Future WIA Annual Conferences and AGMs**

Over the past few years the WIA Conference has become a major event for the WIA. So much so that I am concerned about the work-load on the WIA office and some volunteers in the months leading up to the AGM.

The prime role for the WIA is to promote member services, and it is somewhat concerning when a single event which is attended by a fairly small proportion of



members starts to consume too many resources, and also poses significant financial risk.

There are suggestions the AGM Weekend could be simplified and run entirely by a local club, or the clubs from a region, and the WIA's AGM would simply being a small part of some other event - part of a field-day perhaps.

The Board would be interested in your comments.

## **Board/Secretary**

The Directors in office at the date of the statutory report remain in office. Nominations for director were called for by notice published in the December 2012 issue of *Amateur Radio*.

As the number of nominations exceeded the positions vacant elections were held.

The results of those elections are as follows:

There were 1176 valid returns plus 12 informal votes. (This total represents approx 25% of members.)

R. Broomhead VK3DN	860
E. McLeod VK4ERM	824
F. Swainston VK3DAC	791
R. Harrison VK2ZRH	772
S. Fillmore VK5STU	603
J. McRae VK5PO	520

The first four named individuals were dually elected to the position of Director of the WIA as defined in the WIA Constitution.

David Williams VK3RU has continued to act as Secretary of the WIA and I thank David for his work over the past year.

Unfortunately, because of pre-existing commitments David will be unable to join us in person at the Annual Conference, but I'm told he will have a cyber presence.

## **Administration**

Margaret Williams retired from the WIA early this year. Margaret's position has not been replaced due to the introduction of the MEMNET system. The Board thanks Margaret very much for her seven years with the WIA.

Mal Brooks has continued as Manager, and Dianne Ashton continues to take primary responsibility for exams and callsigns and member enquiries, as well as, with Mal, attending a number of hamfests and field days.

The Board acknowledges the continued cheerful support of our staff.



John Longayroux VK3PZ has been the WIA's Treasurer since May 2009. John has made an invaluable contribution to the WIA during what has been a very testing time following the passing of Michael Owen.

John has not only continued to manage the WIA's financial affairs, including satisfying the ACMA, but has also championed the introduction of the MEMNET system. John is now joined by an Assistant Treasurer, Greg James VK2 GRJ who is specialising in the MYOB accounting software.

I would like to personally thank John and Greg for the great work they have done this year in steering the WIA financial and administration systems into the future.

No doubt the staff and volunteers in Melbourne are suffering from having a somewhat remote President in Sydney, but to their credit they have not shown it.

## **WIA Membership**

There is considerable information about WIA membership in the statutory report. However, for consistency I update the table that has appeared in each Open Forum Report.

### WIA Total Membership

31 December 2004	3,494
31 December 2005	3,851
31 December 2006	4,114
31 December 2007	4,302
31 December 2008	4,376
31 December 2009	4,541
31 December 2010	4,641
31 December 2011	4,649
31 December 2012	4,589
26 April 2013	4,570

In the period since 1 May 2012 56 WIA members, including 2 Honorary Life Members became Silent Keys.

A significant number of new members continue to be former members rejoining.

Unfortunately, each year a significant number of members do not renew. We hope to be able to further explore why some members do not renew, and take steps to reverse that trend both by encouraging a greater participation in the WIA by Affiliated Clubs, improving member services, and more diligently following-up of overdue renewals.



## **The WIA Examination Service**

I will not repeat the information on the Exam System published in the statutory report.

However, I would particularly like to acknowledge all those volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to the WIA's examination system, including our Office Staff, our RTO, the Nominated Assessors, the Assessors, the Learning Facilitators, the trainers and all those who contribute.

## **The WIA and Callsigns**

Again I will not repeat the information in relation to callsigns set out in the statutory report.

## **IARU/IARU Region 3**

Geoff Atkinson VK3AFA, and Peter Young VK3PV attended the 15<sup>th</sup> IARU Region 3 Conference will commence in Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam. The theme of the Conference was emergency communications and the future funding of the Regional organisation was discussed and some issues resolved.

Last year Michael Owen remind WIA members that with the growth in importance of the APG of the APT and the fact that the regional telecommunications organisations preparation for a WRC is the responsibility of the IARU Regional organisation, IARU Region 3 is not something that can simply be ignored.

## **ITU Matters**

Dale Hughes VK1DSH has continued to do a fantastic job representing the WIA to the ITU. Dale is Chair of ITU Working Group 5 (WG5), concerned with developing a proposal for a new frequency allocation for radio amateurs around 5MHz.

Dale's work is long and arduous and we are very lucky to have him. Dale's travel and accommodation expenses as Chair of WG5 are partly met by the IARU.

## **Publications, the website, the WIA Broadcast and Social Media**

I refer you to the Statutory Report for important information regarding the publication of the magazine.

AR Magazine continues to look very good indeed and I very much thank the Publications Committee and our Editor, Peter Freeman, for an excellent job.



Graham Kemp VK4BB and his team produce the Broadcast week after week and I very much thank them for their tireless effort.

To my mind AR magazine and the Broadcast must be like feeding two insatiable monsters. We are all indebted to the very many people who produce the Magazine and the Broadcast, as they are two of the most tangible member benefits.

Both the Broadcast and AR magazine need more news items, so one of the requirements of the WIA committees will be to generate regular news contributions, (at least 4 per year per committee), for publication on all WIA media channels.

So far the WIA has generally ignored social media. The new Communications, Marketing, Publications & AGM committees has the charter of developing a Social Media presence for the WIA. Hopefully work can commence sometime this year.

### **WIA Merit Awards**

The WIA has received several nominations for Merit Awards. Awards receiving Board approval are presented during the Open Forum and the AGM.

Congratulations to all those who have received merit Awards.

### **Conclusion**

I came to this position rather unexpectedly, and with some trepidation, but with the support of the other Directors and close associates within the WIA we seem to have gotten through in one piece. I don't see myself as a long-term WIA President, rather somebody to fill the gap so to speak.

Without doubt, the most important thing for the continuing health of Amateur Radio in Australia is the health of its representative organisation - the WIA.

The WIA is a very complex organisation doing a very great number of specialist functions for Amateur Radio. Most of the time we get it right, sometimes not, but what the WIA does achieve is quite remarkable considering its small membership base and limited income.

Ultimately everything the WIA does depends on the goodwill of its members and volunteers, and I thank you all very much for that!

If we need one single thing its more members, without a strong membership the WIA is nothing.

**Phil Wait**  
**26 April 2013**



# WIA ARDF Annual Report

Not received at the time of publication

**J. Bramham VK3WWW**  
**WIA ARDF Coordinator**



## ARISS (Australia) Report for year ending 2012

Again 2012 was busy for ARISS Australia with seven student groups and schools taking part during the year.

The highlight for the year was the John Glenn 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event held at the Northbridge Piazza in Perth. After working with the WA government and the City of Perth for several months it all came together on the evening of February 20<sup>th</sup> 2012 exactly 50 years since John Glenn passed over Perth and said he could see the city lights below.

Perth has been known ever since as "The City of Light" John Glenn opened the evening with a video address followed by a very excited group of students asking astronaut Dan Burbank, KC5ZSX questions about life on board the Space Station as he circled the Earth.

This was the 684th ARISS contact since year 2000.

This was followed by six other Australian schools :-

- 03. April St,Anthony's Parish School in Canberra, ACT
- 01. June St.Mary's Primary School in Hay. NSW
- 13. June St.Annes Primary School in Strathfield. NSW
- 14. Aug. Kangaroo Inn Area School. Kangaroo Inn. SA.
- 09. Sept Tara Anglican School, North Parramatta NSW.
- 12. Sept Maroochydore State School. Maroochydore QLD.

Our three Australian Telebridge stations also handled the radio link to the ISS for following International schools and moderated numerous others.

Salem Elementary School. North Carolina USA  
Scouts Canada Nova Scotia. Canada  
Wattsburg Area School Erie. Pennsylvania. USA  
National Scouting Museum. Irving, Texas. USA

As I write this report for the 2013 WIA AGM. ARISS has just completed its 800<sup>th</sup> school event.

Over the years schools from as little as twenty and up to several thousand students have taken part. Let us be conservative and average the school size to say three hundred students and include parents and invited guests, this adds up to over a quarter of a million people who have witnessed what amateur radio can do. Again this doesn't include the TV, radio and press publicity that comes with the event.

The success of ARISS in Australia relies heavily upon amateur radio clubs and individuals assisting at the various venues, taking part by helping setup equipment and speaking to students about our hobby. Although there are too many to mention I would like to thank them all for what they have done, this is the true amateur spirit and without them ARISS would not be able to function.



I would especially like to thank Shane, VK4KHZ and Martin, VK6MJ the other two members of ARISS in Australia for their untiring support over the years. Working with Australian schools usually involves a late afternoon or evening commitment, however ARISS is an International organisation and it means being called at any time during the night to moderate or handle a telebridge for a group of students anywhere in the world.

Although ARISS is managed entirely by amateurs it is run strictly along professional lines. It must be done this way if we want NASA and the other space agencies to continue to support us.

Again I ask everyone to try to get a school involved, maybe your child or grandchild's school or even a school in your town or suburb. The program is open to students of all ages and youth groups alike and is free!!

Finally it's now twenty years since I first linked the Loxton High School science students up to the Mir Space Station to ask Alex Serabrov about his life in space. This was followed by more schools and handling Andy Thomas's family linkups when he spent five months in 1998 on Mir.

In year 2000 I was asked to join the newly formed ARISS group that would be run on more formal grounds. This I accepted and for the past thirteen years have held the position of Australasian ARISS coordinator and been privileged to work with a fantastic group of amateurs from around the world, however I'm getting older and having had a few health problems I feel it's time to lighten the load a little.

I asked Martin, VK6MJ if he would take over my position and he has graciously accepted. I will still remain as an ARISS telebridge station and Martin can count on the full support from both Shane and myself. Over the years that Martin has been with us, and with his enthusiasm I'm sure he will breathe new life into ARISS in both Australia and internationally.

In concluding, I wish Martin all the success in the years ahead and I know his input will be valued by the rest of the ARISS team.

This concludes my report for year ending 2012

73's

J.A.(Tony) Hutchison VK5ZAI  
Australian National ARISS Coordinator

**J.A. (Tony) Hutchison. VK5ZAI**  
**Australian National ARISS Coordinator**





## WIA Awards

The WIA Awards committee is now has a fully functional modern upload facility with the recent appointment of Marc Hillman VK3OHM as the Awards Technical software engineer.

For some time there has been delays in handling the current applications and we still need to pick up our game, quickly ensuring those delays are minimised.

We welcome on to the Awards Committee Marc Hillman VK3OHM and the departure of Chris Chapman VK3QB, due to work duties.

2013 has seen the appointment of VK7ZE to be accredited as ARRL Card checker in this country.

The following enhancements has allowed us to offer a world class awards system and while we have moved away from a defined target we realise that to continually improve is the only way forward.

We are now able to report in 2013 that we have implemented, with the efforts of Marc VK3OHM who has re-engineered the old spread sheet systems;

- Introduced LOTW checking software for WIA awards purposes
- Introduced LOTW as an accepted confirmation path
- Introduced a WIA Web Page Honour Roll for awards purposes
- Introduced EQSL checking for WIA awards purposes
- Retained Traditional paper qsl practices for WIA Awards purposes

The past 18 months has seen 66 Updates or New applications for our awards , we have produced a video explaining how the new system works. But we still need to get the message out to the amateur community worldwide.

The committee now comprising Bob VK3SX, David VK3EW, Marc VK3OHM, Alek VK6APK, Alan VK2CA and Laurie VK7ZE bring to the WIA an immense amount of operating skill and knowledge and need to be commended on the roles they are playing in the day to day process on behalf of the WIA.

We look forward to constantly improving the WIA awards system so as to make it user friendly to future managers and enhancing applicants ease of use to apply for awards in this electronic age. In other words we are thinking of future generations keeping a tradition since 1947.

**Bob Robinson VK3SX**  
**Trent Sampson VK4TS**  
**WIA Director**



# Bookshop

The WIA gives Australian radio amateurs and electronics enthusiasts online access to an extensive range of locally and internationally sourced publications including those from the ARRL, RSGB and the WIA Callbook and Foundation Licence Manual. In addition we offer a variety of WIA branded merchandise, including caps, hats, badges and polo shirts.

Volunteers assist office staff in the timely processing and dispatch of all orders.

Some of the more popular titles we have sold in the 2012 calendar year include;

Title	Quantity
Antenna Handbook - 22nd edition	31
ARRL Handbook – 2012	49
ARRL Handbook - 2013	30
ARRL Logbook	31
ARRL Minilog	16
ARRL's Wire Antenna Classics	3
Experimental Methods in RF Design	6
Get on air with HF Digital	21
LF Today - 2nd edition	3
Low Power Communication	17
Morse Code for Radio Amateurs	12
ON4UN's Low Band Dxing	5
Practical Antenna Handbook	6
Practical Wire Antennas - Volume One	1
Practical Wire Antennas - Volume Two	9
Radio Projects (Diamond) - Volume 1	14
Radio Projects (Diamond) - Volume 2	10
Radio Projects (Diamond) - Volume 3	8
Radio Projects (Diamond) - Volume 4	13
Radio Theory Handbook (Swainston) - 5th Edition	84
Robinson's map of the world	11
RSGB Radio Communication Handbook - 11th edition	26
Small Antennas for small spaces	17
VHF/UHF Handbook - 2nd Edition	5
2012 WIA Callbook - (Released October 2011)	265
2013 WIA Callbook - (Released October 2012)	412
WIA Foundation Licence Manual	624

**Mal Brooks VK3FDSL**  
**WIA Manager**



# Report on BPL, Australian Standards, and Radio Interference Activities

Not received at the time of publication

**Phil Wait**  
**VK2ASD**



# CLUBS

## **New! Clubs Committee:**

By now you are probably aware of a recent change in the WIA organisation. As for many other functions and groups there is now a “Clubs Committee”, which is responsible to the WIA board and includes a Board member. In our case it is the WIA President, Phil Wait VK2ASD. You can take this as an indication of the importance placed on continual improvement in the WIA – Affiliated clubs relationship. The other Committee members are Mal Brooks, John Longayroux and myself, Ted Thrift.

The functions of the Committee and tasks for the Committee members will be developed over the coming months. Already the number one priority is “Communication”. Not just the ability to “Broadcast” information and hope that some people read it. The obvious communication need is to create a new culture of open and easy two way exchange of events, needs and ideas.

We so often hear the question posed; What does the WIA do for Affiliated clubs? Some may reply, not much, or nothing, and in their perception feel justified.

The WIA may equally ask; What do Affiliated clubs expect the WIA to do for them?

One of the aims of this new Committee is to deliver answers to both sides of the questions.

## **Affiliated Clubs:**

I was very pleased to see the formation of a small number of new clubs during 2012. I encourage those clubs to develop their clubs page on the WIA website, and let us all know who you are. In a similar vein I will repeat a question that I posed last year, as it is still very relevant.

“[Are you satisfied that the information on your club page in the WIA website, does all that it should to promote the hobby and activities of your club?](#)” When did you last look at it?

To take it a little further, “[Is it possible simple and easy for an unknown person to make contact with your club, by email, telephone, radio, or by visiting a club meeting?](#)” This must be done using ONLY the information on the club page!

Perhaps you could ask your YL, XYL, son or daughter to try.

**Club Committee Members** please be aware that when you ask your web manager to provide filtering so that only club members can reach individual members of your committee, you are effectively blocking out the rest of the world. If you want new members to be able to find out about you, you need at least one open contact address.

The name, call sign, email and phone number of, the President, Secretary, and Learning Organiser.

There are a small number of club web pages, which have never had data.

If there is not a member in your club with the skill required, or the facilities to do the update, please contact me Ted Thrift on [vk2ara@wia.org.au](mailto:vk2ara@wia.org.au) and I can at least set up the basic information.



Clubs and WIA Membership; has always been a problem area which provokes some kind of hostility. I ask each club and in fact each WIA members present to think about the following when we hear “ you don't have to be a WIA member, it is up to you”.

I believe from last years report that there are about 14,000 amateur licences in Australia. having nearly finished this years Liability insurance, I can tell you that the WIA members add up to 4407. Of that number 2697 are members of our Affiliated clubs. In those same clubs there are 1200 club members who are not WIA members.

My response to those figures is this. It cuts both ways. It seems to be popular and accepted that you “Should” be a member of the local club. To that I agree but if that is the case, why is it acceptable to say that WIA membership does not matter.

It is a reality that no members means no club. I suggest that it is also a reality that no or few WIA members will result in weaker representation and perhaps no hobby.

### **Clubs Annual General Meetings:**

May I suggest that you make updating the club page part of your AGM process. Access your page, print it and attach the access code and password so that it can be passed on to the incoming President or Secretary.

After the AGM make it a high priority task to access and update your page.

[A reminder about AGM's and the end of your club year](#). If you are an Incorporated Association, in most states the Dept of Fair Trading or Consumer Affairs require an annual report. As some clubs have found, failure to send this report can be embarrassing, costly and can go as far as De-registering your club.

### **WIA – Clubs mailing List:**

This is a list of club nominated email addresses, which is intended to make it possible for the WIA to reach every club with a single email message. Over the years the list has grown and not every address can be identified and associated with a particular club. If you are receiving list mail and are no longer an office bearer or committee member, it would help me a lot if you let me know and I can take you off the list.

Clubs too may use the list for brief messages to all other clubs. **No attachments please** and maximum message size is about two pages. The address is [clubs@lists.wia.org.au](mailto:clubs@lists.wia.org.au)

Your message may come to me for approval but you can be assured that I will only ensure that the message CAN be sent effectively. It works well if the addresses are current and read regularly. To change the email address for your club, send an email to me [vk2ara@wia.org.au](mailto:vk2ara@wia.org.au) .

### **Clubs listed in the Call book:**

The information comes from the affiliated clubs listed on the WIA clubs web pages. The web page only lists affiliated clubs, so if your club is not there, perhaps you could ask your own club WHY? Are we not an affiliated club?

Just in case you do not know. There is no cost involved with affiliation. There is a set of criteria and an application form on the WIA website. The WIA cannot do any thing for you if they do not know that you exist!



Whatever is there at **30<sup>th</sup> June** is what will go into the Call book. Please check early in June and ensure that it is updated. If not, contact the person who has access for your club and ask for the details to be updated.

### **Clubs offering Licence courses and exams:**

Any affiliated club can now show their course and exam schedule on their club web page. The better you promote your club the more participation you can expect. Please list your activities and the contact details for your Learning Organiser. The person listed as your Learning Organiser **MUST be an accredited Facilitator or Assessor**, and their number be shown, as this is a WIA Exam Service requirement. Without the Assessor or Facilitator number, I may from time to time ask for it to be corrected or removed. Make sure that you include WHO to contact and HOW.

### **WIA Events Calendar:**

This facility was set up on the WIA web page to allow clubs to give other clubs and WIA members, advance notice of their planned events. The new format is a simple calendar, with a brief description of the event. More details can be seen when an event is selected.

Input to the list is as simple as an **Add Event** input screen, which is emailed to me when you submit an event. It is preferred that you supply a name, phone number, email address or web address for contact and further information. It does not mean that your event date is "Reserved" but at least there is a chance of avoiding conflicting dates in your region.

The calendar is for events of **Regional, State or National interest**. It is not intended as a schedule of regular monthly "club" events. Special occasions at club level, such as your AGM or Annual Dinner are welcome but routine and recurring meetings or activities should be shown in your own club page.

### **Other WIA – Club Services:**

#### **Club publicity:**

Affiliated clubs are welcome to send club news articles to AR magazine. Input is via email to the Editor at [editor-armag@wia.org.au](mailto:editor-armag@wia.org.au) Note that the deadline is the **10<sup>th</sup> of the pre-eding month**.

Affiliated clubs with a need for AR advertising or inserts in AR distribution should contact **ONLY** the Editor at the address above. Do not assume it will be OK.

Ask the Editor well in advance. Do not ask at the last minute, as you will only be disappointed. **Please be aware that some charges may apply.**

#### **Liability Insurance:**

Affiliated clubs are welcome to join the WIA/QBE Liability insurance package. A cover package was negotiated by the late Chris Jones whereby costs are minimised by the WIA doing most of the administrative work and combining all clubs into one invoice which is paid by the WIA.

Note that as the WIA already pays for all WIA members, clubs pay only their club premium and the charge per head for non-WIA members. There are now over 100 clubs covered in this package.



The annual renewal is from **1 April** each year but clubs may apply to join at any time and there is a minimum broker fee of \$30.00.

The Liability cover is nominally for \$10 million but this year 2013, the Broker has suggested that clubs consider upgrading their cover to \$20 million. The reason for this is that many of the sites owned by Government or Council organisations now DEMAND the higher cover before access is permitted. It is not mandatory but you do need to consider needs in advance as it can take up to a month to arrange an upgrade.

**This is an annual recurring event.** Even in this the 8<sup>th</sup> year of exactly the same process, there are clubs which have not given it any thought until the mail out is received. They then are unable to meet the deadlines.

Costs for next year are normally available in **early February**, then if you wish to renew, we/ need the number of club members who are and are not also WIA members, so that we can estimate your premium and advise the Broker of the number of members to be covered. All of this has to happen **BEFORE** we ask for payment, and payment is required **NO LATER THAN** the nominated date a week before the renewal deadline of 1 April each year.

For details about the policy, see QBE Broad form Brochure in the WIA website under Members Area, WIA Affiliated clubs. All participating clubs are asked to be aware that this is a WIA service to your club and you need to be ready and able to respond when requested. If your renewal Declaration form is not received in time, your club may be excluded from the list and your renewal will become a "One Off renewal" with extra costs as above.

### **Promotional Material:**

The WIA has a number of promotional posters for use at field days. Affiliated clubs may borrow or buy posters by contacting the national office. The Calling CQ brochure has been updated is readily available from the WIA office.

Whilst orders have closed for most Centenary merchandise, some material is still on hand. If interested, contact the WIA office

### **Club copy of AR Magazine:**

Affiliated clubs are invited to subscribe to AR magazine to receive one copy of each monthly AR magazine, for an annual fee of \$ 45-00.

### **Club fund raising:**

The WIA provides an opportunity for clubs to benefit from sales of items such as, **Call books, Foundation Licence Manuals, Bookshop items, WIA merchandise, and Image wear.** [The opportunity is there.](#)

It will not leap out at you but if you look with a positive attitude, you will see quite a few opportunities where your club can gain from cooperation with the WIA.

Why not consider becoming a resource centre for adjoining clubs and their members. [Pricing of these items is up to each club.](#) The WIA may advise but does not control the final price that you set for any item.





## WIA – Clubs Grants Scheme;

The clubs grant scheme continues each year. Typically, the grants were to support innovative projects or projects, which added facilities to support and promote our hobby. [The preferred focus may change from year to year, so check on the WIA website and plan well ahead.](#) The Grants are intended to ASSIST your club, not, to DO IT FOR YOU. In preparing a submission, you must demonstrate how you will COMPLETE the project.

Please do not lose sight of what the grants are about. The WIA Board is using [WIA member's money](#) to assist affiliated clubs. As such, it should not be difficult to see why the benchmark is greater than **50% WIA membership**. If your club hopes to benefit from a grant, you should in return, actively promote WIA membership.

## Have Your Say!

One of the most discouraging things about doing volunteer work for the WIA, and I am sure that I am not alone, is that individuals and groups complain about what is not being done, or how it **is** being done, but do little or nothing to help.

The WIA is not “Somebody Else, up there” who are supposed to do the work for us. They are the people that we chose to represent and support our hobby.

If you do not like it the way it is, get your club to become more active in working with the WIA. Even better, why don't YOU put your hand up when it come time to elect Board members. You never know, your efforts may be more effective than those you complain about.

As a closing note, I have a simple request to all clubs, to make my job easier and more effective. **Please stay in touch, if you think I should know but may not, please tell me.** No I am not lost but the club info will help!

Report prepared by:

Ted Thrift VK2ARA  
National Clubs Coordinator  
[vk2ara@wia.org.au](mailto:vk2ara@wia.org.au)

**Ted Thrift VK2ARA**  
**National Clubs Coordinator**  
**[vk2ara@wia.org.au](mailto:vk2ara@wia.org.au)**





# Contests

## VHF-UHF Field Days

The rules for the Field Days remained unchanged in 2012, but there have been changes to the presentation of the results. The results now include a separate subtotal for the four lowest VHF-UHF bands, and separate recognition for Foundation stations.

In late 2012, VK1DA and VK5DK published a proposal for a change to distance based scoring, plus an opinion survey in support of their proposal. I declined to change the scoring system for four main reasons.

1. The published proposal included arguments on only one side of the issue, and the survey respondents did not have the opportunity to consider arguments on the other side.

2. The opinion survey represented the views of less than 20 per cent of those amateurs who have sent in logs over the last five years, and the votes for a change to the scoring system amounted to around 12 per cent. I felt that it would not be appropriate to make a radical change to the scoring system when 80 per cent of the regular entrants were not represented in the vote, and 88 per cent have not expressed any dissatisfaction.

3. The major aim of the Field Days is to generate activity and to put the emphasis on participation rather than on who wins. A change to distance based scoring would have increased the scoring advantage of the biggest and most DX capable stations, and this would have reduced the incentive for amateurs with more modest stations.

However the opinion survey revealed a number of good suggestions. Some changes to the presentation of the results have already been implemented. A review of the contest dates is under way, and there will also be a review of the band multipliers during 2013.

Another issue raised was the ability of stations making EME contacts, or using computerised weak signal DX modes, to make very large scores that could reduce the incentive for other amateurs. Nobody likes to compete against stations that will inevitably beat them hollow, no matter how hard they try. For future Field Days, the general rules will prohibit not only satellite and repeater contacts, but also EME or computerised digimode contacts. This will help to keep the playing field as level as possible.

**John Martin VK3KM**  
**Contest manager**

## Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest

There has been modest increase in Ross Hull Contest activity, but it is still low compared with the activity in previous decades. However I feel that there is still a



place for a DX contest during the time of year when DX opportunities are at their greatest.

Another comparison with past results - the Ross Hull Contest was traditionally dominated by stations in VK3, VK5 and VK6. In recent years the winners have been in VK2, VK4, VK6 and ZL.

As with the VHF-UHF Field Days, I received comments that stations making EME contacts, or using computerised digital DX modes, can easily work up far bigger scores than amateurs making conventional tropo contacts and using modes that are not computer assisted. This is discouraging for amateurs who do not use these modes.

This is the line of thinking that was taken some years ago when satellite contacts were excluded from the contest. With digital modes, the approach was different. They were still allowed but were put into a section of their own, so that digital operators are not competing directly against non-digital stations.

In the case of EME contacts, the same question arises. Should they be excluded, or should they be moved into a separate section?

This raises the possibility of the contest taking two possible directions in the future. One option is to keep the emphasis on traditional tropo activity, and to exclude more specialised modes of operation. The other is to shift the emphasis and make it more of a "state of the art" contest, with one section for traditional tropo operation and other sections for digimodes, EME and possibly other categories.

**John Martin VK3KM**  
**Contest Manager**

### **John Moyle Memorial Field Day 2013**

This year's contest was held over the weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

However, as electronic entries will still be received up until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April and postal entries as long as they were postmarked on or before the 19<sup>th</sup> are also eligible and will be received up to 7 days later. Hence it is not possible to provide more than general comments about this year's contest in time for publication.

For full details of this year's contest you are invited to visit the W.I.A. website and use the following U.R.L. - <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/johnmoyle/>, where full details will be published as soon as they are completed and the results will be also available in a PDF for you to download.

The number of logs submitted up to the 11<sup>th</sup> April – was only 100 (Portable 59 Home 41) – This is substantially lower than at the same period in the contest last year - 122, so it is unlikely that there will be more entries this year than last year. This contest



had recently enjoyed a gradual increase in activity, but this year it unfortunately looks unlikely to continue this upward trend.

In 2012 a total of 140 logs were submitted from 77 portable stations and 63 home stations.

In 2011 a total of 129 logs were submitted from 83 portable stations and 46 home stations.

In 2010 a total of 122 logs were submitted from 73 portable stations and 49 home stations.

In 2009 a total of 124 logs were submitted from 63 portable stations and 61 home stations.

In 2008 a total of 104 logs were submitted from 59 portable stations and 45 home stations.

In 2007 a total of 76 logs were submitted from 48 portable stations and 18 home stations

### **Lasts Year's Winners**

The winners in the various categories for 2012 are as follows:

#### **24 Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operators**

VK3ER – Multi Operators, All Mode, All Band, with 1,050 contacts and a score of 10,026 points.

VK5OM – Multi Operators, Phone only, VHF Bands, with 174 contacts and a score of 4616 Points.

VK2SRC – Multi Operators, Phone Only, All Bands, with 739 contacts of 6663 points.

VK4IZ – Multi Operators, All Mode, HF Bands, with 679 contacts and a score of 2114 points.

VK5LZ – Multi Operators, Phone only, HF Bands, with 1036 contacts and a score of 2066 points.

#### **24 Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator**

VK4OE – Single Operator, Phone only, All Band, with 155 contacts and a score of 1802 points.

VK3KQ – Single Operator, Phone only VHF, with 82 contacts and a score of 974 points

VK4KRX – Single Operator, Phone only, HF, with 266 contacts and a score of 532 points.

VK1WJ – Single operator, All Mode, All Bands, with 45 contacts and a score of 171 points.

#### **Six Hour Portable Operation – Multiple Operators**

VK4WIL – Multi Operators, All Mode, All Bands, with 170 contacts and a score of 470 points.



VK3AWS – Multi Operators, Phone Only, All Bands, with 169 contacts and a score of 955 points.

VK2SF – Multi Operators, Phone Only, HF Bands, with 195 contacts and a score of 390 points.

VK4CHB – Multi Operators, All Mode, HF Bands, with 40 contacts and a score of 72 points.

### **Six Hour Portable Operation – Single Operator**

VK3WAM - Single Operator, All Mode, VHF Bands, with 78 contacts and a score of 1,069 points.

VK3PI - Single Operator, Phone Only, VHF Bands, with 105 contacts and a score of 730 points.

VK4GH - Single Operator, Phone Only, HF Bands, with 231 contacts and a score of 462 points.

VK5CZ - Single Operator, All Mode, HF Bands, with 63 contacts and a score of 132 points.

VK5RX - Single Operator, Phone Only, All Bands, with 129 contacts and a score of 823 points.

VK4JAZ - Single Operator, CW Only, HF Bands, with 4 contacts and a score of 16 points.

### **Home Station – 24 Hour**

VK4VDX - Home Station, All Bands with 384 contacts and a score of 1118 points.

VK2LAW - Home Station, HF Bands with 718 contacts and a score of 1031 points.

VK3DI - Home Station, VHF Bands with 66 contacts and a score of 616 points.

### **Home Station - 6 Hour**

VK2DAG - Home Station, All Bands with 167 contacts and a score of 291 points.

VK3BQ - Home Station, VHF Bands with 23 contacts and a score of 102 points.

VK2MCI - Home Station, HF Bands with 197 contacts and a score of 291 points.

The President's Cup was awarded to VK3ER for the highest score by a WIA affiliated club Station in any category.

Full details of the results for previous years are freely available for download as a PDF at the URL <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/johnmoyle/>.

### **Comments Regarding this Year's Contest**

The number of logs entered in this year's contest is significantly reduced compared to the last few years at this stage of the contest. As far as can be judged the number of stations taking part and the number of contacts is about the same as for last year, just the number of logs submitted is well down compared to last year..

Two items of disinformation were circulated, and commented upon by a number of entrants, on one of the logger websites and elsewhere which could perhaps have a



significant impact on entries. Both items have been discredited, however the confusion that was created might not have been resolved for many amateurs.

1. Somebody spread a false story that the John Moyle Memorial Field Day Contest (JMMFD) was only available to members of the WIA. This is completely untrue as the JMMFD contest is open to all licensed amateurs from VK, ZL and P29 who can submit a valid log. Being a member of the WIA, while desirable, it is in NO WAY COMPULSORY. One comment was made, that since the details of all contests as well as the JMMFD contest are on the website under the For Member's tab, and so it was only for Members. Since the JMMFD contest information has been under the For Member's tab on the WIA website since when the new website was created a number of years ago, it is hard to accept that this was the only reason. There was some discussion on one of the loggers, which had a number of active contesters in the thread, who were indicating that the contest was only open to WIA members. Whether this was another significant reason for the reduction in logs being entered is not known. Maybe a specific statement from the WIA Board clarifying the matter could be useful.
2. The other disinformation that has been circulated is that the only valid contacts for the JMMFD are with VK, ZL, and P29 stations. Contacts with 'DX' stations should, in their view, only score 0 points for any station operating in the JMMFD. **This has never been the case and ALL contacts with any station anywhere in the world for Portable and Home Stations alike that can exchange correct receptions reports and serial numbers form a valid scoring contact.** Curiously, one of the most vocal groups had approximately 10% of their contacts from DX stations, which were scored with points as allowed under the rules and the score included in their total. Maybe a way to increase their score relative to other contestants? This situation is not clearly explained in the rules as it has never been seen as under contention. However this will require a small change in the rules to clarify the point.

Following the lengthy discussions in late 2011 which resulted in the publication of the **WIA General Rules for Contesting**, in which an unbending rule was that all logs in future, would have to be submitted in the electronic format called Cabrillo. Further the rules also stated that in future no logs would be permitted to be submitted on paper.

However, many hours were spent in 2012 preparing software to deal with any logs in this format – if any were submitted. My activities were a complete waste of my time as not a single log in 2012 was entered in that format. My thoughts are that this contest is a field day contest and supplied by portable power and so many stations would keep their log on paper and only convert it into an electronic format after the contest. Despite of the General Rules requiring Cabrillo Format no entry was submitted in either 2012 or 2013.

Further, I still feel that to exclude paper logs would prevent a significant number of entries from sole operator stations. In 2011 some 16% of logs were submitted on paper and in 2012 only 9% were on paper. So far only 5% of the logs have so far been submitted on paper this year, but of course the expected late run of logs



submitted by mail are yet to arrive and it is very likely that number will increase as it did last year.

Hence, it is my conjecture, that in both of these examples, the present version of the WIA **General Rules for Contesting** is wrong and needs revision, as it is trying to force some Australian contests to fall into line with a few big overseas contests. Hence they are pointing Australian contesting in the wrong direction and are not required especially for the popular Field Day type contests.

**Denis Johnstone**  
**VK4AE/VK3ZUX**

## **OCEANIA DX CONTEST**

### **Introduction**

The Oceania DX Contest has been managed by the Oceania DX Contest Committee since approximately 2000 when the committee was formed with volunteer committee members selected from the active contesting community within VK and ZL. From an administrative point of view the OC DX Committee manages the rules, running, scoring, log checking, adjudication, allocation of awards and the publication of results on behalf of the WIA and NZART who are jointly, the major sponsors of the contest.

### **Committee Activities**

The committee has been moderately active over the year, with the contest running smoothly, processes and procedures now well established, roles appropriately allocated and many functions automated, there is less mundane work to do. This leaves the committee with more easily handled workloads and the ability to focus on promotional improvements. The main activities conducted include:

- Updates and maintenance of the Oceania DX Contest web site [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com)
- Conduct, preparation and publication of the results for the 2011 Oceania DX Contests.
- Log checking and preparation of the 2012 Oceania DX Contest, with results yet to be published but due within a few of weeks. Log checking and processing is now faster than ever and we anticipate results to be dispatched within 6 months of the contest weekends.
- Production and dispatch of the 2011 winners plaques and awards.
- Production and dispatch of the 2011 certificates.
- New sponsorship has been obtained for several new award categories to encourage further participation in the OC DX Contest.
- Recently an offer for sponsorship for the SWL category has been received and will be followed up and accepted if funding from the sponsor is appropriate.
- Financial details still handled by Martin VK7GN with an Australian Bank Account to handle funds for web page costs, results, certificate production, certificate postage and plaque production and postage.





Once again, the committee extends thanks to Paul Crossan, of Corio Printing for production of very high quality plaques at a very reasonable price.

## **2011 Contest – A huge Event**

What a difference one year can make! After many years of hibernation the 10M band finally exploded back to life with more than 20% of the action in the 2011 contest occurring on this band. The low bands were in poor shape but this was more than offset by the great conditions on the higher bands. The 2011 OCDX contest was the biggest so far with a total of 1259 logs being submitted. This represents a 15% increase over the previous record of 1092 logs in the 2010 contest. In particular it was fantastic to see a huge (81%) increase in the number of logs submitted from North American stations.

The increased activity can be attributed to excellent conditions on the HF bands, the efforts of the T32C and YJ0VK DX expeditions, and a growing awareness of the contest and the unique opportunity that it provides to work DX from the Oceania area. The participation of the T32C team in Eastern Kiribati was a huge draw card in the PHONE section and similarly, the YJ0VK team in Vanuatu attracted a lot of interest in both the PHONE and CW sections. Considering the great conditions on the higher bands and increased participation, it is not surprising that many new records were set in the 2011 contest. Some of the more notable achievements are listed below.

The outstanding effort of the T32C team in the MM PHONE category deserves special mention. The T32C score of over 49 million is a formidable new record and one that is likely to stand for many years to come. It just shows you what can be achieved in this contest by a team of good ops with relatively simple equipment and antennas, in a good QTH, and with some decent conditions.

To date there was no noticeable interference or clashes identified with the new WAPC contest in China running on the same weekend as the OC DX contest. Time will tell whether this new contest clash and other minor contests popping up on these weekends cause any significant impact.

## **Plaque and Contest Sponsors**

The committee hopes that further sponsors can be found so that plaques for the best scoring stations in each of the continents of the world can be awarded plaques for each of the Phone and CW contests each year. The current list of sponsors includes:

- New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters,
- Wireless Institute of Australia
- Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group Inc.
- Pacific Dxers Group.
- VK Contest Club.
- Central Coast Amateur Radio Club
- Wellington Amateur Radio Club
- South Pacific Contest Club
- Northern Corridor Radio Group
- QRO Communications and OM Power
- Rippletech Electronics
- Ken Keeler – N6RO



- Lee Moyle – VK3GK
- Mirek Rozbicki - VK6DXI
- Chris Chapman – VK3QB
- Tony Hambling - VK3VTH
- Wes Printz - W3SE / ZL3TE
- Lee – ZL2AL
- Brian – ZL1AZE
- Mike – ZL2CC
- Win – ZL2GI

It should be noted that the above list of sponsors has grown significantly over the years, testament to the hard work the committee has expended in this arena.

## 2012 - Recent Contest Results

The most recent CW and SSB contests were held in the first and second weekends of October 2012. Sunspot numbers were not outstanding but definitely improved with the number of logs submitted almost the same as 2011 at 1196 and additional 10 SWL logs. Most importantly there is a significant number of logs submitted in Oceania and Australia. A table of the 2012 entries is as follows, full results are not yet available.

	VK	ZL	YB	Other OC	OC	ALL LOGS
Phone	82	21	45	16	164	653
CW	22	14	9	8	53	543
All	104	35	54	24	217	1196

Participation from Oceania Stations is still increasing although there is still a much greater need for participation in the CW event where the number of Oceania stations is far less a percentage of overall participation. This makes it difficult for international (non-Oceania) station to make QSOs.

Paper log entries continue to decline and this is assisting with a reduction in administrative time required. Some other contests no longer accept paper log submissions. We will continue to accept paper logs to ensure that all hams are able to participate in this contest. In 2011, paper logs comprised less than 2% of all logs submitted. WA7BNM provides an on-line web form that can be used by entrants to manually enter log data to produce a Cabrillo file and then submit it to the email robot. This form is intended for entrants who are using paper logging, or logging software that doesn't produce a Cabrillo file

Submitted logs and claimed scores are available on the website within hours of submission and ZL3GA continues to do a sterling job ensuring that updates are quickly loaded onto the web site. Current rules are published in time for participants to note and slight rules changes, new plaques and awards for the upcoming contest. Contest stories are also available for casual reading and enjoyment. PDF versions of past results and reports are easily and quickly available. In short the web site is our portal to the contesting community and it is of world class, providing the same information as that available on the major contesting sites.

The list of software that supports the OCDX Contest includes Writelog, N1MM logger,





CT, Win-Test, AALog, DxKeeper, SD Logger, TRlog, Genlog, OH2GI's software Hamsystem and VKCL.

## **Funding and Future Improvements**

The financial aspects of the contest have been running smoothly. Nevertheless, the committee is focused to ensure that financially we run a very tight ship, keeping costs to an absolute minimum. A "no fee" bank account would be a significant benefit.

One of the major costs associated with the contest is the postage associated with results and certificates. As stated in the 2011 report the committee were investigating PDF'd, online certificates. This has been implemented, drastically reducing postal expenditures associated with mailing out certificates.

Recently Australia Post has significantly increased postage costs for overseas parcel mail as well as local parcel costs. These costs have far outstripped inflation and will affect amateurs in general, mostly for direct QSLing. Plaque costs have not risen in 10 years, however parcel postage has increased at what seems like astronomical rates. The committee faces significant challenges to keep sponsorship for plaques at \$50.

As results are being produced earlier, we will now be using surface mail for delivery of all plaques, even though some plaques may take 3 months to deliver.

## **OC DX Contest Committee and Contributing Amateurs**

The current committee comprises Brian ZL1AZE (VK3MI) (Chairperson), Tony VK3TZ (Deputy Chairperson), Martin VK7GN (Financial Controller/Treasurer), ZL3GA (webmaster), ZL2BSJ (European Correspondent), VK2FHN (Log checking and certificate production, VK6DXI (paper log conversion) and VK4TI (Internet group moderator).

The Committee is most grateful for the support provided by:

- NZART, WIA and the other sponsors of awards.
- K1EA for the provision and development of the log checking software.
- N5KO for developing and hosting the email robot.
- K5TM for publishing the on-line certificates.
- WA7BNM for the provision of the on-line Cabrillo web form.
- ZL1AXG for the hosting of the [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com) web pages.

**Tony Burt**  
**VK3TZ**



# D STAR

Not received at the time of publication

**Richard Hoskin – VK3JFK**  
**National D-Star Coordinator**



# WIA Emergency Communications

Not received at the time of publication

**Phil Wait**  
**VK2ASD**



# Historian's Report 2012

Activities within the Archive have continued on a number of fronts throughout the year not only involving collecting, sorting and indexing material, but importantly, firm foundations have been laid for the long term operation of our Archive with the drafting of a *Collection Policy*.

The restructuring of WIA Committees has involved the Archive and the resultant alterations to our structure should provide benefit for all in the long term.

Since restructuring, the **Historical and Archive Committee** now consists of:  
Peter Wolfenden VK3RV, WIA Historian/Interim Leader.  
Drew Diamond VK3XU, Linda Luther VK7QP, Martin Luther VK7GN, Ian Morris VK3IFM, Will McGhie VK6UU, David Wardlaw VK3ADW and Jennifer Wardrop VK3WQ/VK5ANW.

At the time of preparing this report, the committee has not meet formally and a Deputy Leader has not as yet been chosen, however emails have been used to enable continuation of the Archive's present activities.

## Collection Policy

Linda VK7QP, held a number of university librarian positions over the years and at the Mildura AGM offered to assist with Archive policies and general guidance .

In November 2012 a *Collection Policy* and a *Donation Form*) were prepared. These are both important documents which set the agenda for operation of the Archive in policy and procedure. These are attached for consideration at the AGM.

[*Collection Policy* (Attachment 1), *Donation Form* (Attachment 2)]

**Archive Activities** during the year have included:

Requests for callsign information from family historians and others.

Information about aspects of WIA history from various individuals within the WIA such as AR Editor, Contest information and those preparing articles for future publication.

Progress has been made in collecting early State/Division based magazines including some VK2, VK4, VK5, VK6 and the RAOTC magazines as well as a few early commercial radio magazines which reported amateur activities. To all those who responded to our "Wanted" advertisements in AR Hamads, thank you!

I am pleased to report that a laptop computer and A3 scanner have been sourced and made available to the Archive. We have continued to add to our interim data base although new software has been purchased but not as yet implemented.

Although we have scanned all known callbooks, callsign information is still appearing from early commercial publications such as *The Listener In* and *AWA Handbooks*. These have been scanned and added to our callbook collection.



### **AR magazine Scanning Project**

Will VK6UU has continued with his AR digitisation project and a more detailed report from Will is attached to this report [See Attachment 3]. This has been and continues to be an arduous task ably handled by Will. and is a great resource for the future.

### **Reference Library**

Combining the Archive's activities together with that of the Library at Bayswater under the WIA's committee restructure is logical as there are a number of "cross-overs" between the activities. Drew Diamond, VK3XU continues to oversee the establishment of the library and at some time soon we hope that it shall be possible for members (and other interested persons) to have full access to the journal collection.

### **Raising the profile of our Radio History**

It is important to keep before the amateur population, our desire to preserve our Australian radio history. Hamads in *AR* has provided an important link between the Archive, institute members and the general public. This can be further enhanced by adding an historical section to our website, a logical place for those wishing to obtain a little history about amateur radio and the WIA.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the WIA Board give favourable consideration to adding an **Historical Section to the WIA website.**
2. That the Board adopt the **Collection Policy** and **Donation Form**

Attachments:

1. WIA Archive Collection Policy
2. Donation Form
3. *AR* Scanning Report by VK6UU

**Peter Wolfenden VK3RV**  
**WIA Historian, April 2012**



## WIA Monitoring System

The WIA Monitoring System, formerly known as Intruder Watch (IW), is one of many radio societies reporting arrangements of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). The IARU is heavily reliant on volunteer observers who provide reports of intruders into the "Primary" status Amateur Service high frequency bands.

Like many other areas of the WIA, the monitoring system relies upon volunteers for without their significant contribution each month the WIA could not provide its reports to the ACMA. Again this year, the majority of the regular reports have come from two WIA members; Karl Henning, VK6XW and John Kirk, VK4TJ, I wish to record my sincere thanks for their monthly reports.

In the year 2012, WIA observers detected 5869 intruders, which contrasted with 5029 reports in 2011. Detection reports were provided to the Australian spectrum regulator, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). Due to the iterant nature of some intruders, the ACMA has difficulty in determining which ITU member administration is responsible. There are, however, some Administrations that ignore requests for removal of services from our Primary status bands.

There has been some success in the removal of a broadcast station operating on 7110 kHz from Burma. Some broadcasting services in Region 3 (the ITU Region that covers Australia) located in the segment 7100-7200 MHz of the 40 meter band have been authorised by Radio Administrations that have used the provisions of ITU Table Frequency Allocations by way of footnotes which allows operation in this segment. Australia is a participant in these arrangements, but to date has not made any assignments for the Broadcasting service.

There has been a multitude of OTHR systems reported including the JORN like technology with multiple pulse rates. There is still a large proliferation of Chinese, Turkish and British OTHR system along with CODAR systems (oceanographic radars) particularly on 20 and 15 meter bands. The use of Software Defined Receivers (SDR) has been able to identify the extent of military like transmission systems called "HF Man Packs", which use Phase Shift Keying and frequency hopping techniques across the HF spectrum with short 6-8 audible pulses in length. These technology systems will only increase in the future putting more pressure on our spectrum allocations.

In conclusion, the WIA monthly monitoring reports, with all the details, are placed on the members section of its website. We really do need more volunteer observers to assist with the detection and reporting of intruders. Can you help? More information can be found on the WIA website on how to become an observer and what's involved.

**Peter Young**  
**VK3MV**  
**WIA Monitoring System Coordinator**



# ITU AND WRC COORDINATORS REPORT

My apologies for not attending the AGM as I am attending the working group in Geneva which overlaps the WIA AGM.

## Background information

This report covers my activities as a representative of the Wireless Institute of Australia at meetings of:

1. Australian Radio Study Group #5 (ARSG-5)
2. WRC-15 Preparatory Group (WRC-PG)
3. ITU working Group 5A-1 (WG 5A-1)

ARSG-5 and WRC-PG meetings are held under the auspices of the Australian Communications and Media Authority as part of Australia's input to the international negotiations which will determine the final outcome of the 2015 World Radiocommunications Conference.

See [http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC\\_2719](http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC_2719) for more details.

The working group meetings of the International Telecommunications Union are to discuss WRC agenda item issues relevant to the Amateur Service as well as to maintain and update various ITU reports and recommendations that cover many aspects of the Amateur Service.

WRC15-PG meetings and ARSG-5 meetings occur roughly twice a year and last approximately a day for each; these meetings are generally held in Canberra, although they are sometimes held in Melbourne. WG 5A-1 meetings occur twice a year and last for 10 days each and are held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Attendance at WRC-15 preparatory meetings of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APG meetings, see <http://www.aptsec.org/APTAPG>) may be necessary to assess and support regional positions on WRC agenda items. Regional groups are becoming much more important in the ITU processes.

The content of this report is drawn from the Draft WRC-15 Australian Delegation report which develops through the WRC-PG and ARSG-5 meeting where the various stakeholders have their say. The Australian Preliminary view is used to guide discussions and the APV often changes as meetings discuss the issues. Eventually the APV becomes the Australian Position and the Australian Government of the day 'signs off' on the position which is Australia's starting point for negotiations leading to a new international treaty which is the final outcome of the WRC process.



## WRC-15 Issues relevant to amateurs

There are three significant issues for the Amateur Service that will be decided at the next World Radiocommunications Conference:

1. Agenda Item 1.4: Seeking a new secondary allocation for the Amateur Service in the high frequency band between 5250 – 5450 kHz.
2. Agenda Item 1.12: An extension of up to 600 MHz of the Earth Exploration Satellite Service band may affect the secondary allocation of the Amateur Service between 10 and 10.5 GHz (3 cm band).
3. Agenda Item 1.18: A new primary allocation to the Radio Determination service in the band 77.5 to 78 GHz (4 mm band) may affect the primary Amateur Service allocation in that part of the spectrum.

### Agenda Item 1.4

AI 1.4 appears to be the most contentious at this time and the APV is:

Australia will monitor studies conducted under this Agenda item.

At this time the APV for AI 1.4 is to observe what develops and not to commit to a particular view. While the WIA supports the need for a secondary amateur allocation around 5300 kHz there is strong local opposition to any new amateur allocation from parts of the ACMA and the Department of Defence. The opposition is due to the fact that the spectrum around 5300 kHz is heavily utilised by land mobile and outpost services as well as by Defence HF radar systems which operate under a footnote (AUS57) to the Australian Radiofrequency Spectrum Plan.  
([http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC\\_2713](http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC_2713))

However, there is support for the AI 1.4 by a number of other countries, so it remains to be seen what the final outcome will be.

### Agenda Item 1.12

For AI 1.12 the APV is:

Australia supports in principle an extension of the current allocation to the Earth exploration-satellite service (active) in the 9 300-9 900 MHz band by up to 600 MHz, on a primary or secondary basis as appropriate, in accordance with Resolution **651 (WRC-012)**, specifically ensuring protection of existing primary services in the band, and in bands adjacent to the existing allocation and proposed new allocations as identified in *recognizing d), e) and f)* of the Resolution.

Reference documents for this issue are being developed at the ITU and by other national administrations e.g.

- ITU Working Party 5A liaison statement to ITU-R Working Party 7C, 22 Nov 2012 - *Characteristics for systems operating in the mobile service in the frequency bands 8700-8750 MHz and 10.0-10.45 GHz and systems operating in the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service in the frequency band 10.0-10.5 GHz.*





There is a lot of discussion at the ITU about this issue and there are conflicting positions from many sectors and countries. If the decision is made to extend the allocation upward from 9900 MHz, it's likely that the satellites will cause periodic interference to amateur receivers. The amateur allocation at 3 cm is 'secondary' and cannot claim protection from interference or cause interference to other services in the band. However, such interference will be transient and unlikely to present a serious threat to amateur operations, although the impact may be more severe for weak signal and Earth-Moon-Earth operations.

### Agenda Item 1.18

The third WRC-15 issue is a possible new primary allocation to the Radio Determination Service in the band 77.5 to 78 GHz (4 mm band) which may affect the primary amateur allocation in that part of the spectrum.

For AI 1.18 the APV is:

Australia supports a primary global allocation to the radiolocation service for automotive applications in the 77.5-78 GHz band noting that operation is already permitted in Australia under the *Radiocommunications (Low Interference Potential Devices) Class Licence 2000*.

Australia supports studies under Resolution **654 (WRC-12)** including compatibility studies with services in adjacent bands and operational characteristics and evaluation of Intelligent Transport Systems safety related applications that would benefit from global or regional harmonisation.

Australia also supports sharing studies with incumbent users i.e. the Amateur Service.

Reference document for this issue include:

- ITU Document 5A/163 *Draft liaison statement to Working Party 5B: Information on amateur service systems at 77.5-78 GHz for use in sharing studies for WRC Agenda Item 1.18*
- *76 GHz and 122 GHz in a single transverter*. Devlin, A. Amateur Radio Magazine, Volume 80, Number 9. September 2012

The VK3XPD document is referenced in the Australian delegation brief as an example of amateur usage of the band. This information is important as it shows that amateurs are capable of developing technology that can be used in the higher microwave bands.

The crux of the agenda item appears to be to allow operation of short range (typically several hundred metres) collision avoidance radar in a contiguous frequency band between 76 and 81 GHz. The wide bandwidth is required to achieve the required range resolution. Vehicle radars are short range collision avoidance systems which are being promoted as a means to reduce injury and death on the roads. Intelligent cruise control is seen as a useful safety feature so that collisions with other vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians can be avoided. Due to the need for sub-metre distance resolution a significant bandwidth is required, up to 4 GHz in some cases.

It is known that such radar systems are already in use on Australian roads; in any case they will almost certainly become much more common in years to come. This most common view is that there is likely to be little, if any, impact to amateur



operations as antenna beam widths are narrow and most amateur operations is likely to occur from hilltops away from roads.

However there are a number of administrations that are hostile to any sort of amateur activity and they may argue that any amateur activity in the 4 mm band is an interference risk to vehicle radar systems, therefore amateur operation should be prohibited on that basis. This is a risk and the sharing and compatibility studies that will be undertaken as part of the ITU process will need accurate technical information to make a fair judgment.

### **Other issues**

As AI 1.4 was proposed by the Cuban administration, the United States administration decided that it was not appropriate for an American to chair WG 5A-1, this meant that Brennan Price N4QX (ARRL Chief Technology Officer) had to step down from the position. I was asked to chair the working group and this was supported by the WIA and the IARU, authorised by the ACMA and approved by the ITU. I will be chairman of the working group, which deals with all amateur issues, until the next WRC.

**Dale Hughes VK1DSH**



# National Technical Advisory Committee

## TAC MEMBERSHIP

Chairman John Martin VK3KM

## Technical Advisors

VHF/UHF	Walter Howse VK6KZ
Microwaves	Peter Freeman VK3KAI
Repeaters	Peter Mill VK3APO
Band Plans; Beacons	John Martin VK3KM
EME	Doug McArthur VK3UM
ATV	Peter Cossins VK3BFG
Satellites	Paul Paradigm VK2TXT
Digital DX Modes	Rex Moncur VK7MO
Packet Radio	Barry White VK2AAB
D-Star; APRS	Richard Hoskin VK3JFK

## Regional Advisors

VK1	President, CRARC
VK3	Peter Mill VK3APO
VK4	Bill Sebbens VK4XZ
VK5/8	Paul Bell BK5BX
VK6	Eddie Saunders VK6ZSE
VK7	Rex Moncur VK7MO

## Administrative Tasks

National Repeater Co-ordinator	Peter Mill VK3APO
Data Bases; VHF-UHF Records	John Martin VK3KM
TAC Email Admin	Robert Broomhead VK3KRB

## BAND PLANS

The band plans now include a tentative plan for the 137 kHz band. This plan is based on the informal band plan being followed in Region I.

There is no band plan as yet for the new 472 - 479 kHz band. A plan will be developed as patterns of operation in Australia and overseas become clearer.

Following a request from IARU Region I, a discussion paper has been published regarding possible changes to the 40 metre band plan, in particular the size and location of the digital modes segment. The proposal is to move this segment higher in the band to provide harmonisation with the new Region I segment, which begins at 7040 kHz.

Initial work has been done on planning for possible additional 6 metre repeater channels. Detailed proposals await ACMA's decisions on the future of the 50 - 52 MHz band segment after the closure of analog TV services.



Work was completed on the revision of the 2 metre band plan to accommodate new channels using 12.5 kHz channel spacing.

The 70cm band plan has been updated to reflect the loss of general amateur access to 420 - 430 MHz.

## **ATV**

The band plans for ATV on the 23 cm and higher bands were revised to allow for the existing 18 or 20 MHz wide channels to be subdivided into narrower channels for digital ATV. The band plans will be further updated to provide a greater range of recommended options for different channel widths.

## **REPEATERS**

The 2 metre band plan has been revised to provide for 12.5 kHz channel spacing in a portion of the band beginning at 145 MHz. This provides additional channels for newer digital voice and data modes. The changes will also provide clear input channels for new digital repeaters using a 1.6 MHz offset.

## **BEACONS**

Minor adjustments have been made to the 6 and 2 metre beacon allocation plan to help avoid clashes with internationally agreed frequencies for WSPR operation. Frequencies have been reserved in the band plan for use by VK0 beacons.

## **DATA BASES**

In the twelve months from April 2012 to April 2013, the beacon data base was updated six times, and there were 25 updates to the repeater data base.

The repeater data base is now available on the WIA web site in both PDF and CSV formats, along with script files provided by Steve Ireland VJ2MD, which allow amateurs to program the repeater frequencies directly into their radios.

## **VHF-UHF RECORDS**

During 2012, a total of 18 new record claims were processed. In 2013, there have been ten further record claims between January and April.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

I wish to thank all members of the TAC advisory panels for their contributions. I recommend that the appointment of these members be continued for the coming year.

**John Martin VK3KM**  
**TAC Chairman**



## Publications Committee

With the January/February 2012 edition of *Amateur Radio*, we switched to new paper stock. With 64 page issues, the new stock brought the magazine very close to the mass limit for the postage category. It was likely that the addition of even a single sheet insert would tip the mass into the next mass category and thereby incur significant additional postage costs. Therefore it was decided to slightly reduce the size of the magazine, although some members of the Publications Committee (PubCom) were of the view that we should retain the previous size.

Production of *Amateur Radio* continued with only one continuing issue – the variation in colour reproduction on the internal pages. This is due to the print process used. We could improve colour reproduction by changing the print process to offset printing, but this would incur very large additional costs. Our production house *Fontana Design* has worked with the printer to minimise the issue, but we still see some variation in colour reproduction.

PubCom continues to work well. The entire package of processing routines used by PubCom worked so well that it was decided at the October PubCom meeting to schedule quarterly meetings for 2013 rather than monthly. We also cancelled the November 2012 meeting. It was decided that if any urgent issues arose, they could be dealt with by email discussion or calling an additional meeting if warranted.

During 2012, some 245 articles, club news items and columns were entered onto the Article Register. The Register does not include items such as the Editorial, President's Comment and WIA News. There were a small number of articles which were processed without being added to the Register, but the number of items added during the year indicates an on-going interest from contributors.

We also saw some changes in column contributors during the year, but have largely managed to continue to provide coverage of a range of activities. New suggestions are always welcome, but remember that we need someone to write the column!

As indicated in the financial reports, the production costs for *AR* have largely been stable. However, there has been a gradual decline in advertising revenue. This decline is of concern to PubCom and the Board, and the WIA has been exploring options to attract new advertisers.

Discussions regarding a “one shot” publication continued sporadically during the year, with the Board indicating its support for a publication based on articles previously published in *Amateur Radio*. The total workload experienced by the Editor has prevented significant progress, but it is intended that the project will see advancement during 2013. Some are of the opinion that the publication might be done in a similar format to the magazine, whilst others believe that it should be more substantial, perhaps in a format similar to the *Callbook* or the Foundation manual. Cost will be a factor and decisions will be deferred until the project is ready to advance.



The *Callbook* encountered some delays in its project milestones, but was available for sales only marginally late. The *Callbook* Editor Greg Williams VK3VT indicated at the October PubCom meeting that he would not be able to continue in the role beyond the 2013 issue. At the December issue, PubCom thanked Greg for his work on the *Callbook*.

As most are aware, we all lost the guiding hand and support of President Michael Owen VK3KI, who became a Silent Key in September 2012. Michael was a great supporter of PubCom and its work and we all miss his presence and contributions to discussions. Michael's contributions to the hobby were significant, and we all enjoy the fruits of his work over many years. Vale, Michael Owen VK3KI – SK.

Finally, I wish to thank all members of PubCom, our proof reading team and all contributors for their efforts. Without the support received from them all, we would not be able to bring you *AR* and the *Callbook*.

**Peter Freeman VK3PF**  
**Editor & Chair**



## QSL Bureau

2012-2013 has been another busy year for the operation of the National and State Bureau distribution Centres.

The National Inwards Bureau processed almost 135,000 cards, the bulk of which went to NSW, Qld and Victoria. VK6 is a close runner up. Not sure which State wins on a per capita basis, but good to see a lot of callsigns and countries.

Cards arrive at the Bureau in an envelope with one card, to a box from Japan that may weigh 22.5 Kgs! Sorting is done as expeditiously as possible, with consignments despatched to the State QSL Managers as consistently as possible to try and smooth the process of sorting at State level.

In April AR President Phil writing in WIA Comment, raised the functioning of the WIA QSL Bureau as his topic for the month. I would encourage everyone to read it in conjunction with the QSL information published on the WIA website.

Not all cards are printed to the internationally agreed size of 140mm x 90mm. As a consequence large cards often are damaged in packing and post, and the recipient doesn't receive a card in 100% condition. If you are having new cards printed, please ensure compliance with size. Further standard copy paper doesn't handle well and tends to stick to other cards. It has also been found that inkjet printing on glossy paper causes sticky cards.

One difficulty for the inwards bureau is dealing with cards for VK9/0. Sadly many operators don't advise QSL details, or they are ignored and not contained on the incoming card. Sorting is delayed and unfortunately when sorted the bulk of the cards have to go back overseas to the appropriate QSL Manager. This adds to costs for the WIA and extra lookup time for the volunteer sorters.

If you are planning a DX trip to VK9/0 or another "special" activity please ensure the Bureau has the appropriate QSL contact details.

Members are reminded that outwards cards, sorted in DX CC prefix order can be sent to

**WIA Outwards QSL Bureau  
P.O. Box 66  
Boolaroo NSW 2284**

Again, it is appropriate to acknowledge the regular work of the volunteers who provide the service behind the delivery of the QSL cards to WIA members and overseas. Thank you.

**Geoff Atkinson VK3AFA  
National Inwards Co-ordinator**



# REPEATER and BEACON COORDINATION

Not received at the time of publication

**Peter Mill VK3APO**  
**National Repeater and Beacon Co-ordinator**





# WEBMASTER REPORT

## **Webmasters : Rob Broomhead VK3DN & Tim Broomhead VK3KTB**

Welcome to the 2013 open forum and for your interest in our report on the WIA website. As usual, the report consists of many interesting usage statistics that we report on each year. It's a great tool for gauging the level of interest and activity on the website. Our WIA website utilisation or "hits" to our website has continued to grow year on year. Two areas of particular note are the continued and steady uptake of the [callsign@wia.org.au](mailto:callsign@wia.org.au) email address facility and increase in the weekly downloads of the WIA news broadcast.

### **This years stats for the period April 30<sup>th</sup> 2012 through to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

- The WIA website has received just over 11.3 million hits in the last 12 months.
- During the last 12 month period we have served out 215 gigs of website data, this figure does not include the data associated with the email system and the many hundreds of gigs of email associated with members [callsign@wia.org.au](mailto:callsign@wia.org.au) email addresses, Both the number of hits and amount of data served represent an increase from last year.
- In the last twelve months the website has serviced 68,773 downloads of the weekly news broadcast, which is an increase of approximately twice the number of downloads in the previous 12 months. Many people subscribe to the podcast version of the news broadcast which is incrementally and dramatically adding to the number of downloads, we believe the significant jump in downloads is a result of podcast or auto download subscriptions. A feature of our website is that all weekly broadcasts produced since May 2009 are archived and remain available for download. We see a surprising number of people browsing and listening to archived broadcasts. One very popular broadcast is the Centenary broadcast live from the Rydges Hotel during the Centenary Weekend in Canberra. At the time of writing this report the broadcast MP3 file has had a further 138 downloads compared to this time last year.
- 675 people have used the websites "contact the WIA email form" during the 2012-2013 period compared to 806 people who completed the form in the previous 12 months a decline of approximately 20%.  
The breakdown of these contacts using the contact the WIA form are:
  - 560 selected to send an email to the National WIA Office
  - 53 selected to send an email to the WIA President
  - 62 selected to send an email to the WIA Webmaster
- In the last 12 month period 253 people chose to join and become members of the WIA as new members by way of the "Join The WIA Online" web page.
- 909 members have renewed their membership through the online membership renewal web page, this represents a slight increase in renewals compared to



the previous 12 month period.

- There were 698 transactions made throughout the WIA online Ecommerce system these included bookshop books, merchandise sales and other sundry items, items sold online included:
  - 292 copies of the Foundation Manual
  - 58 copies of the Radio Theory Handbook
  - 174 copies of the WIA Call book
  - 6 Polo Shirts
  - 4 Caps
- In the last 12 months there have been 54,998 lookups of callsigns on the online available callsign database page this compared to 75,635 lookups that occurred during the previous 12 month period, representing a 30% decrease in callsign lookups.
- Currently 1,837 members have taken advantage of the WIA [callsign@wia.org.au](mailto:callsign@wia.org.au) email address forwarding service forwarding email to an ISP email account of their choice, this is an increase of 160 members since this time last year. Members with WIA email addresses also receive periodical WIA's news bulletins and news alerts which are sent to the WIA email address.

The website also provides a public enquiry form that can be completed by anyone seeking further information on how to get into the hobby of Amateur Radio. In the last 12 months 183 people have completed the form in the previous 12 months 154 so an increase of around 20%. The WIA office staff follow up each and every enquiry mailing out information packs on amateur radio, included are a personalised letter and some promotional literature including a Calling CQ brochure and a sample back issue of AR magazine. The public enquiry form also asks people to identify the age bracket they fall into, the results are always of interest. Listed below are both the current 12 month period and the previous 12 month period, they are as follows...

- |                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • 6% are in the age bracket 10 – 19  | (in the previous 12 months was 6%)  |
| • 16% are in the age bracket 20 – 29 | (in the previous 12 months was 16%) |
| • 21% are in the age bracket 30 – 39 | (in the previous 12 months was 22%) |
| • 23% are in the age bracket 40 – 49 | (in the previous 12 months was 23%) |
| • 16% are in the age bracket 50 – 59 | (in the previous 12 months was 14%) |
| • 12% are in the age bracket 60 -69  | (in the previous 12 months was 14%) |
| • 6% are in the age bracket e 70 +   | (in the previous 12 months was 5%)  |

In February 2012 we released new member only functionality to the website, 669 members have now registered for members only access and many have provided helpful member detail updates and corrections back to the National office. The new WIA Memnet member management system is being introduced this year allowing members to update their membership details online in real time. With the implementation of Memnet things will be a little different to the system we have currently have, the current online renewal page allowing a member to renew membership by credit card will disappear from the website, replacing this will be the ability to renew your WIA membership through Bpay.



In July 2012 radio amateurs in VK4 celebrated 100 years of the Wireless Institute in Queensland, in support of this a series of commemorative web pages were placed on the website and the website Online Logook logged 5589 contacts made with VK100WIQ.

A recent edition to the website is a "Amateur Radio Nets" section under the For Members tab. The first Net page added was The Travellers Net. Thanks go to Bob Tait VK3XP who is looking after the travellers net page ensuring details are kept up to date.

Development work continues in a number of areas on the website. The Awards section now has an easily maintainable online DXCC standings list which is controlled by members of the awards committee. Work continues towards a full-blown contact tracking and awards application system, this has turned out to be a bigger project than originally anticipated. Thanks go to Marc Hillman VK3OHM for his work on developing an awards application spreadsheet, which has provided an effective interim solution to for an easy to use semi automated award application process.

**Robert Broomhead VK3DN & Tim Broomhead VK3KTB**  
**WIA Webmasters**

[vk3dn@wia.org.au](mailto:vk3dn@wia.org.au)

Mobile : 0403 066 686



# WIA Assessment and Training System

Not received at the time of publication

**Fred Swainston VK3DAC**  
**WIA RTO**



# WIA NATIONAL NEWS

Not received at the time of publication

**Graham Kemp VK4BB**  
**Walking Softly**



## WIA ARCHIVE COLLECTION POLICY

### 1. Introduction and Mission

The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) collection policy is a document that guides the management and development of the Archive Collection. It outlines why, what, where, how and when the WIA collects, and how and why items may be disposed of.

The collection is a source of knowledge, ideas, stories and memories. It was initiated in 2008, prior to the WIA centenary (2010), when aspects of history were sought out for historical articles and publicity. It was soon recognised that significant items should be systematically held and recorded as part of the organisation's history. Since then the collection has developed and is managed as a resource to inspire, educate and inform members, radio amateurs and the wider community, and to contribute to the conservation of the history and heritage of the WIA.

There are three collections within the WIA

- The Archive Collection is concerned with the history of amateur radio in Australia and its protectorates
- The QSL Collection which collects QSL cards of historical interest internationally
- The Library which collects journals and books as a reference collection for WIA members

### 2. Purpose of the Archive Collection

- Collect and conserve important records and objects associated with the history of the WIA
- Collect photographs and other pictorial material relating to amateur radio in Australia
- Build an historical resource for the WIA and its members.

### 3. Content of the collection

#### 3.1 Business of the WIA

Minutes of meetings of the WIA and its State Divisions and branches

#### 3.2 Clippings and articles

Clippings and articles from newspapers, journals and magazines etc about Australian radio amateurs or about the development of amateur radio in Australia

#### 3.3 Journals and magazines

Journals, magazines and pamphlets produced by the WIA and its State Divisions and branches

Commercial publications for Australian radio amateurs



### 3.4 Books

Books written by Australian radio amateurs or about the development of amateur radio in Australia. Other books relating to the early development of radio which in some way contributed to the development of amateur radio and the science of wireless in all of its forms

### 3.5 Regulations and licensing

Information published for the purpose of licensing radio amateurs and regulating their activities

Material prepared by WIA for assisting those seeking a licence

Licences and certificates held by radio amateurs to authorise their activities

### 3.6 Call books

Lists of callsigns, either commercially published or published by WIA

### 3.7 Photographs, Films, Sound Recordings and Videos

Photographs, films and videos of Australian radio amateurs and their activities in Australia and overseas

Photographs, films and videos of amateur radio activities in Australia

Sound recordings and oral histories relating to the development of amateur radio in Australia.

Posters depicting or promoting amateur radio activities in Australia

### 3.8 Plaques and trophies awarded to Australian radio amateurs

3.9 Equipment will not generally be collected. Exceptions may be made for selected items of outstanding historical significance for exhibition purposes.

## 4. Collection policies

4.1 Objects and collections may be acquired as donations, bequests, purchases, transfer or commissions.

4.2 The archive will only acquire objects that can be properly stored, documented and managed.

4.3 The archive provides access to information in the collection to WIA members on request. It

may publicise its holdings through articles on information in the collection for publication in Amateur Radio and travelling exhibitions for radio clubs in Australia.

4.4 The archive only acquires objects that are provenanced to amateur radio in Australia and its protectorates, or in the opinion of the Historian have some significance to the development of Australian amateur radio.

4.5 The archive aims to build historical records about amateur radio in Australia through the collection, related archives and associated projects.

4.6 The archive seeks to cooperate with state and regional amateur radio clubs and organisations to archive any material they wish to have held in the central archive, within the ambit of this collection policy.





4.7 Some objects are best left in the family context in which they have most meaning. Any such items offered to the WIA will be returned to the family with appropriate advice.

4.8 Where possible the archive will record the owner's memories of the object and photograph and document objects in their original context, before removal to the archive.

4.9 The archive works in partnership with other collecting organisations of similar interests, developing a collaborative approach to collecting, and the research, analysis and interpretation of collections.

4.10 No objects or collections will be acquired or accepted with conditions or restrictions on the way they might be used or displayed in the future.

4.11 The archive will adhere to the Copyright Act and the Australian Copyright Council guidelines in all collecting activity including acquiring new objects for the collection.

For any acquisitions where copyright is unsure, details will be held on a temporary separate database as an interim measure until the legal situation is clearly established.

4.12 The collection policy is a public document that is readily available in the WIA Office for inspection by visitors and volunteers. A copy is provided to anyone enquiring about making a donation of material to the WIA

## 5 Acquisition and Assessment Policies and Criteria

5.1 The Archive will keep accurate, up to date and detailed records.

5.2 The Archive will establish object files for the most significant items and all new acquisitions.

5.3 The Archive will prepare a Statement of Significance for all new acquisitions detailing:

- Historic significance
- Scientific or research significance
- Provenance: the life history of an object, its story, context, and use and ownership
- Representativeness
- Rarity
- Condition, intactness, integrity

5.4 New acquisitions will be assessed in light of the scope and content of the Archive's collection.

5.5 Items will not be accepted which duplicate items already in the collection unless the proposed acquisition is more significant than the items already in the collection. The item already held may then be disposed of.



## 6. Acquisition Procedures

6.1 A donation form will be completed by the donor for any item or collection of items donated.

A copy of the donation form will be held by the donor and by the WIA.

6.2 The donor will be requested to write down the history, associations, context and significance of the object they are donating on the donation form. Alternatively the person receiving the item should make notes on the object's history and associations.

6.3 The Historian will assess the significance of the object and consider the proposed acquisition against the collection policies, themes and acquisition criteria. For standard items such as journals, this can be done by volunteers with guidelines.

6.4 The donated item will be recorded in the database noting the date, description of the object, object number and reference to the donation form and donor details.

6.5 The object will be numbered, photographed for security purposes where appropriate, catalogued and the contextual information stored in an object file.

6.6 A letter of thanks will be written to donor.

6.7 An index of donors will be maintained with a list of their donations and the object numbers.

6.8 Items that are not approved for acquisition will be considered for inclusion in the QSL collection or Library, and then may be passed to other collecting bodies, or may be discarded, unless the donor has specified on the donation form that the item should be returned.

## 7. Disposal Policy and Procedures

7.1 Disposal is the process of de-registering an object from the collection for clearly stated reasons, and disposing of it in accordance with approved policies and procedures.

7.2 To dispose of an object from the collection, the item will be assessed against the Archive's mission, the collection policy and the assessment criteria.

7.3 The criteria for disposal include:

- Little or no significance – using the assessment process and significance criteria
- Poor condition and lack of provenance
- Duplication
- Inability to safely store and manage the object
- Lack of relevance to collection themes and policy
- Lack of relevance to the Archive's mission and purpose



7.4 Items disposed of which have been identified as items on the database should remain on the database with a note of when they were disposed of and why.

7.5 There are four main methods of disposal:

- Return to the donor (if specified on the donation form)
- Transfer to another collecting agency
- Sale
- Destruction

7.6 In the first instance, if specified on the donation form, the item will be returned to the donor.

7.7 Alternatively, items may be offered to another collecting institution.

7.8 Items may be sold through public auction or other method of sale. All funds raised through the sale of items will be held by WIA.

7.9 In other cases, where the item is incomplete, in poor condition, and of no value, it may be destroyed or sent to the tip.

7.10 The reasons for disposal will be noted in the database. The record will not be deleted.

7.11 No members, volunteers, staff, or committee members, or their relatives, may benefit or in any way acquire objects that have been disposed of.

## 8. Loans

8.1 No objects will be accepted on indefinite or long term loan.

8.2 Loans in or out may only be arranged for fixed periods and for specific purposes.

8.3 Before accepting or making a loan, a photograph and detailed description of the object's condition will be made.

8.4 A written and signed loan agreement will be made between the Archive and the lender or borrower, detailing the condition of the object and a fixed time span for the loan. This will be signed by the Historian or their representative and the lender or borrower.

8.5 Items lent from the archive's collection should be in good condition, and displayed in appropriate environmental conditions, in places with adequate security and supervision.

## 9. Promotion and Exhibition Policies

9.1 Articles will be prepared based on the contents of the collection to promote the archive and inform the amateur radio community of its history.

9.2. Opportunities will be explored to make the collection accessible on the web.



9.3 The collection will be made accessible through displays and travelling exhibitions.

9.4 Where possible original historic photographs will be copied, with the copies placed on exhibition and the original photos kept in secure storage and shown for limited periods of time.

Historic photographs in their original frames and mounts should be considered as objects and kept intact, and rotated on display for limited periods or copied.

## 10. Management of the Collection

10.1 A team will be identified to support the Historian in the management of the collection. The Historian will report to a member of the WIA's management committee.

10.2 Training will be provided for volunteers working on the collection. This might include funding their participation in workshops and conferences.

10.3 There will be a clean, secure working space for collection documentation, research and significance assessment.

10.4 The condition of the collection on display and in storage will be regularly monitored.

10.5 A stocktake or audit of the collection will be conducted every 5 years.

10.6 The collection policy will be regularly reviewed as knowledge of the collection develops.

## 11. Related Collections

11.1 The Archive will complement the collections in other radio amateur clubs and associations throughout Australia

11.2 Other related collections include:

Army Signals Museum

Essendon Aviation Museum

Historical Radio Society of Australia

Kurrajong Radio Museum VK2ZIO

Other collections will be added to this list as they are identified.

## 12. Adopting the Collection Policy

The Collection Policy and collecting priorities should be formally adopted by the WIA management committee



# WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

## DONATION OF ITEMS/PUBLICATIONS TO ARCHIVE

(To be completed at time of donation)

<b>Name of donor;</b> ..... ..... <b>Callsign (if any)</b> ..... <b>Address</b> ..... ..... ..... <b>Phone</b> .....		
<b><u>Items donated</u></b> .... 1. 2. 3.		
<b><u>Provenance and specific details relating to the donated items.</u></b> (Eg. ... Originally owned by the licensee of radio station 7BX in Hobart and used for 25 years at the station.)		
<b><u>Agreement:</u></b> I understand that the donation of material to the WIA in accordance with the following conditions:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donations will be assessed by the WIA for suitability for inclusion in its collections, according to its collection policies.</li> <li>• The WIA may dispose of unwanted items without further reference to the donor, unless the donor specifically identifies an item to be returned. Items may be passed on to other collecting bodies, may be sold with the funds being retained by the WIA, or may be discarded.</li> </ul>		
Signed.....Date ..... Accepted by WIA Representative.....Date.....		
WIA REF. No. Location. Comment. Archive database entered?		
	DB.Ref. No.:	Date:



Amateur Radio digital scanning report.

I volunteered to scan as many Amateur Radio Magazines as possible, beginning in 2007.

The 1933 to 1939 series were completed after about 2 years and are available via the National WIA on CD.

After a couple of years break from scanning I started scanning the WWII series and continued on and have completed up to 1959. There are 2 missing years and a small number of individual ones. These have now been sourced and will have arrived by the time this report is presented. I would like to scan further, including the 1960's. My collection begins in 1971 when I joined the WIA.

Amateur Radio magazine holds a great amount of our history and it can not be stressed enough how important the preservation of these magazines are.

I would like to add my support to the on going digital conversion of material that the National WIA holds. This is a most important function that current and future generations will thank us for.

The format that I scan the magazines in is jpg with low compression so they look good and are easy to read. I have also presented them in a web page format. It is possible to convert these pages to pdf that is text searchable. This has been tried by another amateur with good results. However I believe scanning the magazines should be the first priority.

As with each report I propose that these historical Amateur Radio Magazines be made freely available on the Internet for all to enjoy, both the casual reader and the researcher. The good will and publicity gained would exceed the monetary gain, if they were only available at a cost.

My recommendation is that the web based format, that is not text searchable, be available on the Internet for free and a pdf searchable format be available for sale via the national WIA.

My thanks to Peter Wolfenden VK3RV and those at Bayswater for support and sourcing the magazines via the National WIA collection.

**Will McGhie**  
**VK6UU**

