



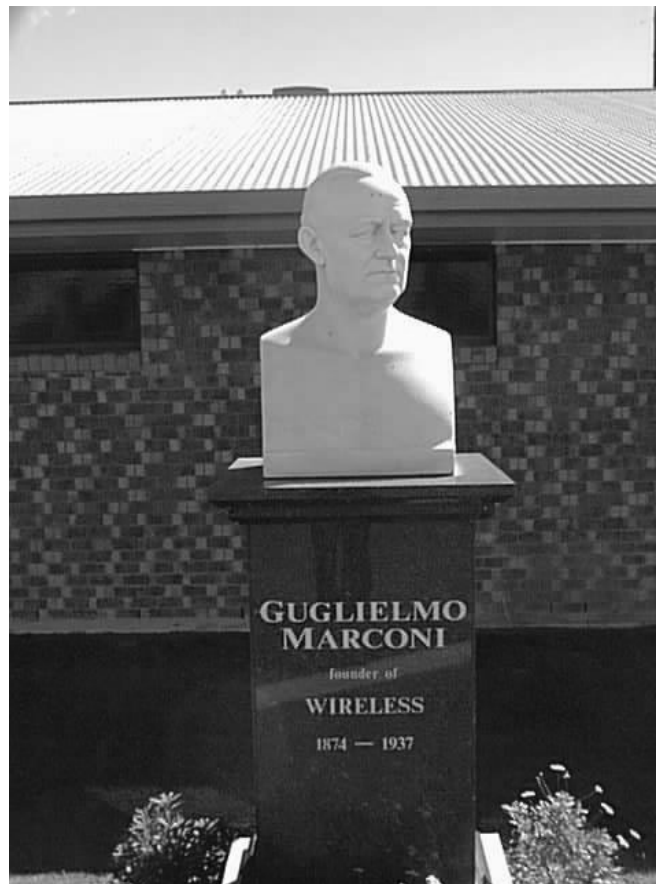
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The Bi-Monthly Magazine
of the
Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc.

ISSN: 1441-9386/ Vol. 9 No. 1

February 2007

Amateur Radio Stations VK4RC & VK4IZ



Marconi – the man we honour for making the magic possible

From the Editor

Greetings to all Club members, radio enthusiasts, family supporters and friends.

Welcome to QRM for February 2007. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year break, holidays and all such things, and is eager to get into their radio activities again if you have not already done so. I must admit that I haven't spent much time on air lately, because I have been rather busy and otherwise distracted with "competing interests". I have managed somehow over this time to build a small two valve receiver, which is a replica of what I built as a school boy long ago. I hope to bring it along to the club sometime to show interested people, and I may report on it perhaps next month in this magazine – that's if the editor will accept it – Hi! Hi! Much of my time lately has been taken up with our course work here at the club. We are now about 75% through our advanced course, and we completed a foundation course earlier in the year. Two people successfully sat their exams. We congratulate Shaun O'Sullivan (VK4FSOS) and Warwick Pezet, who is still awaiting allocation of his callsign. Our next foundation course is due to get underway on Sunday 11th February, beginning as usual at 10.30am. Anyone who wants to join this course is most welcome.

The main talk in the next few weeks will be the John Moyle Memorial Field Day, which will be held on the weekend of the 17-18th March. I have jotted down a few words on the background and purpose of this most important of amateur radio contests. We hope as many club members and other friends as possible can offer some of their time to support this great event.

Unfortunately, this edition of QRM is a bit thin, due to lack of articles. That's OK. We have to take the lean times with the good. But it would be good to get some articles in soon for the forthcoming editions. If you can contribute something, it will be most appreciated, and will help keep our magazine as one of the leading radio club publications. Last year we received an excellent batch of articles supplied by our members, and to all those contributing authors, we are sincerely grateful. So please, keep up the good work all, and don't stop writing.

Finally, but by no means least, a special warm welcome to three new (family) club members: the Strasbergs, Mary-Anne (VK4DJZ), Joe (VK4BYE) and Gal. It's great to have you with us. Gal is looking forward to attending the next foundation licence course. We all wish him the best of success.

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GET BEHIND THE JOHN MOYLE FIELD DAY

----- John Murray Moyle VK2JU (1908-1960) -----

by **Alan Jenner** (VK4KZ)

The Leaves

*The leaves are falling on my garden path,
One by wistful one, they flutter down,
Born on the wings of every little breeze,
Red, gold and brown.*

*Each day I needs must tread them underfoot;
Softly I take each single step, lest they
Should think that I, in passing, could forget
Their sun-sweet day.*

John Moyle

The John Moyle (JM) Memorial Field Day is **the** radio event for our Club and amateur radio throughout Australia and New Zealand, being only equaled perhaps by the Remembrance Day (RD) Contest. For those who may not know, it is an Australia/Pacific wide contest to honour the late John Moyle, who for more than twenty years was editor in chief of Australia's premier radio and electronics magazine, variously known as *Wireless Weekly*; *Radio and Hobbies*; *Radio, Television and Hobbies*, and finally, *Electronics Australia*. But John Moyle was more than this. He was multi talented, with expertise in literary, debating, poetry, musical, engineering, practical and human skills. He enjoyed a happy marriage and family life. He was equally at home writing technical articles, reviewing new classical music recordings, designing and building amateur transmitters and receivers, antennas and hi fi systems, hand grinding crystals and motivating and encouraging his staff. His pioneering research and development work into amateur VHF was a major force into the inclusion of these bands in our hobby. He worked tirelessly for the WIA, and represented Australian amateurs at International Telecommunications Union (ITU) conferences. He served in the RAAF from 1941 to 1946, reaching the rank of Squadron Leader, and worked on the highly secret radar projects as an instructor and writer of technical manuals. He married Alice (nee Brown) in 1933, who herself was a talented musician and musicologist, who became famous in her own right for her research into Australian aboriginal music. They were kindred spirits, and apparently enjoyed lifelong happiness together along with their daughters Josephine and Carolyn – see photo below.

Below is a brief extract taken from the WIA Website regarding the aims of the JM Field Day.

Overview

1. The aim is to encourage and provide familiarisation with portable operation, and provide training for emergency situations. The rules are therefore designed to encourage field operation.
2. The contest takes place on the 3rd full weekend in March each year, and runs from 0100 UTC Saturday to 0059 UTC Sunday, 17-18 March 2007.
3. The contest is open to all VK, ZL and P2 stations. Other stations are welcome to participate, but can only claim points for contacts with VK, ZL and P2 stations. **(Continued page 5)**

2006/07 COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CLUB DIRECTORY

President	David Close VK4FDRC	Phone: 3862 8700
1st Vice President	Steve Pearson VK4IT	Phone: 3284 8975
2nd Vice President	Peter Schrader VK4TGV	Phone: 0419676942
Secretary	Peter Richardson VK4TAA	Phone: 3261 4225
Treasurer	Glenn Wood VK4FZ	Phone: 3351 4295

*Meetings: EVERY MONDAY with regular guest speakers and ongoing projects
Time: 1930hrs (local)*

WHERE: Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club clubhouse - Cnr Klingner Rd & Macfarlane St, Kippa Ring

Clubhouse: Open every Monday evening 1930hrs (local) INCLUDING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

2nd Monday of each month : General Members Discussion Meeting

CLUB NETS: Sunday evenings at 1900K 2m on 146.925MHz Redcliffe repeater VK4RRC and 1945K 80m 3.618 MHz ± QRM VK4RC Net control : 27 MHz, channel 20, 27.205 MHz LSB, Thursday at 8pm

REDCLIFFE and DISTRICTS RADIO CLUB Inc.
PO Box 20, WOODY POINT QLD 4019
WEBSITE: <http://vk4rc.we.net.au>

EXAMS: Alan VK4KZ, Laurie VK4BLE & John VK4WX
NET_1: Sunday 1900K 146.925
NET_2: Sunday 1945K 3.618
REPEATERS: VK4RRC VR 146.925, 438.325

Contributions to Editor QRM - Alan Jenner VK4KZ

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The Editor thanks all contributors to QRM. Where possible, authors of non-submitted articles are contacted for permission to publish in QRM, and/or their authorship acknowledged. This magazine is not for sale and is distributed free to members of the Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club Inc. and other interested persons, libraries and clubs. ©2001

Forthcoming Events

- General business meeting, 2nd Monday of month
- Foxhunts, 4th Monday of each month
- Wednesday activities – mornings 8.30am each fortnight – next 21st February
- Trivia Nights every Wednesday evening on 70 cm repeater, 7.15pm for check-ins
- **John Moyle Field Day – 17/18th March – contact Andy (VK4KY) for details**



John Moyle and family (c 1950s)

The first point above is the real clue to what JM is all about. It is to help provide a ready trained pool of skilled radio operators for possible emergencies, where main communications facilities may be disabled, and in an environment not dependent on public electricity supply. It is most important for our Club to support this and to use the experience for the intended purpose. This is because we have cited in our grant applications, as one of our contributions to the community, the ability to provide this emergency communications backup. We also have an understanding with the Redcliffe City Council regarding our readiness to provide this service, which could be included in their disaster contingency plans. We must be able to demonstrate our continuing commitment and ability to do this, hence the need to be seen participating seriously in this event. It is also part of our obligations as amateurs, to be able to provide these services if required.

The rules for the JM Field Day are quite clear. It is a field event, not a comfortable shack affair. The whole operation must be portable, and must be able to supply its own power needs, hence the need for large diesel generators, batteries, etc.

So, when is it? Ink this date in your diary and calendar – the weekend of 17/18th March.

In past years, our RRC team has seen some formidable talent at this event, usually led by Andy (VK4KY). This is an event in which everyone can learn something and everyone is sure to have a marvelous time, both with the radio contest operating experience and the camaraderie. If you can possibly be part of it, you shouldn't miss it.

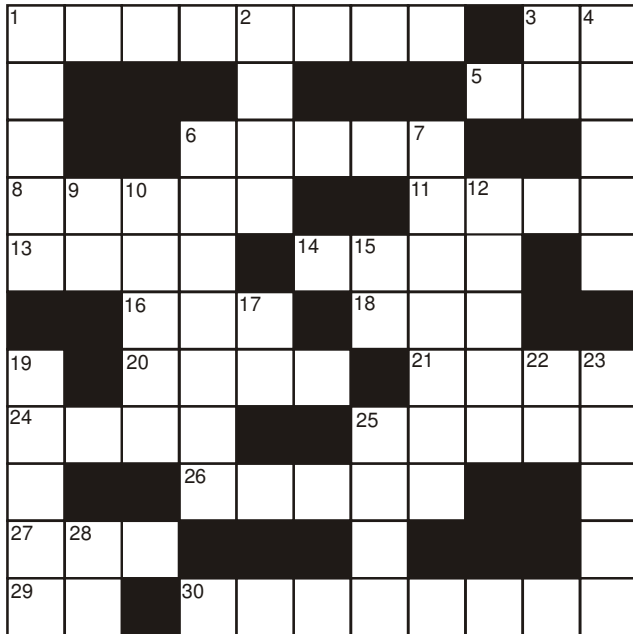
So “what can I do, especially if I have no callsign or have little operating experience?”. Well for a start, you do not have to be licenced to take part, because you would be under the supervision of a licenced operator. And there will be plenty of experienced operators who will soon set you on course. Also, besides operating, there is always a huge amount of work to do setting up the camp, erecting antennas, and helping in all kinds of ways. If you come along, being reasonably fit and willing, there should be plenty to do. But it is not all work. Everyone has a lot of fun, with like minded people, enjoying our beloved hobby.

So, how about it? In the next few weeks, the main buzz at the Club will be the JM Field Day. It won't be hard to find out what is going on. Volunteers to help with the loading and setting up on Friday will be especially appreciated because not all can be available at this time.

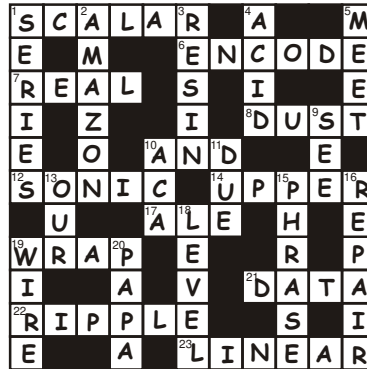


Last Year's John Moyle Field Day

R & DRC Crossword No. 16 (Solution next QRM)



R & DRC Crossword No. 15 solution



ACROSS

- 1 Performs numerical and logical operations
- 3 Monthly radio magazine (abbrev)
- 5 I can communicate
- 6 Put off
- 8 Enclose
- 11 Sonic reflection
- 13 Insulates and makes control shafts easier to turn
- 14 Australian gemstone
- 16 Weep
- 18 Tennis serve
- 20 Afflicts
- 21 Intermediate connections on coil
- 24 Story
- 25 Pertaining to sound
- 26 Smaller (as in increments)
- 27 Signal report
- 29 Chemical symbol for manganese
- 30 Sample and hold

DOWN

- 1 Bad CW wave pulses can cause key -----
- 2 Modern term for one who operates or controls
- 3 Chemical symbol for arsenic
- 4 Rotating part of variable capacitor
- 6 Interrogate particularly after mission
- 7 Inductance
- 9 Energised state
- 10 Pertaining to the voice
- 12 Good RF is said to be -----
- 15 Transmitter final stage (abbrev)
- 17 Lady
- 19 Atmospheric disturbance
- 22 Ratio of circumference to diameter of circle
- 23 Read from this as with a meter
- 25 Half
- 28 Chemical symbol for tin

© aj&jhj

----- **Contest Calendar** -----

ARRL Intl. DX (CW)	17/18 Feb	CQWW 160m (SSB)	24/25 Feb
ARRL Intl. DX (SSB)	3/4 March	John Moyle Field Day (CW, FM, SSB) 17/18 Mar	
CQWW WPX (SSB)	24/25 Mar	Marconi (CW, SSB, RTTY)	7/8 April
SP DX (CW/SSB)	7/8 April	Japan Intl. DX (CW)	14/15 April
Harry Angel Sprint (CW/SSB)	28 April	SP DX (RTTY)	28/29 April

Notes from the Executive/Club Meetings

General Meeting, 11/12/06

Reminder the membership fees are now due.

- 2006 Call books are available **at a reduced price – See Glenn for your call book.**
- 2007 call books have been ordered. Please let Glenn know if you want one.
- Foundation books available. Cost \$16.50. Get your copy from Glenn.
- WIA badges are also available from Glenn. \$8.

General Business.

- Jupiter's Community Fund Grant – Peter VK4TGV reported on meetings with Redcliffe City council on disaster recovery plans & sunshine coast on their project. More next meeting - ongoing.
- Web site - Steve – VK4IT – Redcliffe City award & the round Australia rally awards (ToBar award) added. VKHAM events pointing to the site created over 200 additional hits.
- Redcliffe City award & the round Australia rally awards (ToBar award). VK4WX – John reported everything is progressing well. Thanks to the guys on this important advertisement for the club.
- Rising from the opening was many discussions with our friendly dignitaries. Councillor Ray Frawley was impressed with our Redcliffe City Award & offered to assist with the printing costs. Tonight Councillor Frawley joins us & presented \$200 to the club for the printing of this prestigious award. Councillor commended the Club for getting the message out & highlighting Redcliffe. The Club thanks Councillor Frawley with a round of Applause.
- JOTA: As Peter is still OS for work the sponsor of 2 scouts getting their “F” calls is progressing slowly. Watch this space.
- Amateur Licence training courses – Advance licence course is underway & will break for Xmas recess on 16/12 & resume 20/1. Foundation training. Foundation training has also been occurring on Sundays with 4 new people training. Special thanks to Alan Jenner VK4KZ who has been doing both the advanced Course training on Saturdays and the Foundation training on Sundays, and Laurie VK4BLE for the Saturday course.

General business from the floor

- The Ham Disposal day was held last weekend at Noel (VK4CED) place. I know that everyone who went enjoyed the day & I would be surprised if anyone went home empty handed. Peter (VK4TAA) advised that he had written to Noel to thank him for the donations that he has made to the club. These included A climbing harness, a roll of 300ohm Ribbon (for members use), A digital training kit which will be a great training aid, Component bins with various radio bits, APO meter. Special thanks to Noel for his generosity.
- Xmas party: We had over 20 people at Suttons beach for the Xmas party. Although a little windy the afternoon was a great round off to a full year.
- Peter VK4TAA – Brought a DSP Speaker down for demonstration. The meeting endorsed purchasing 1 for the club.

- Charlie suggested we print Blue card Application forms from the intranet to allow the paperwork to start the process. We will pass these on to Warrick for processing through the Scout Association.
- James VK4TJM reported that he recently talked to the SE Michigan club (US) on the John Moyle & other Club activities. Interest was high. Thanks James.
- Search & rescue for the videos of 2 of Andy's tech Talks.. If you have the club copies we need them back.

General Meeting, 8/01/07

Welcome new members: family Marie-Ann (VK4DJZ), Joe (VK4BYE) & Gall; Joe Strasberg

General Business

- Jupiter's Community Fund Grant: Some discussions occurred on the WICEN / disaster recovery plans & where to from here. Peter TGV & Reg KMP – ongoing.
- Web site - Steve – VK4IT – Club pictures been upgraded on the site.
- Redcliffe City award & the round Australia rally awards (ToBar award). - monitor
- Ken reported that Councillor Frawley has some greeting packs for the club. Need to pick these up...
- JOTA – as Peter is still OS for work the sponsor of 2 scouts getting their "F" calls is progressing slowly. Watch this space.
- Amateur Licence training courses – Advance licence course & a foundation course is underway. Another Foundation course will start in 3 – 4 weeks. Andy will get something in VKHAM to advertise and Steve VK4IT will put it on the Club web page.

General business from the floor

- The DSP Speaker has been purchased & is under tests at VK4FZ's place.
- Peter TAA raised that we should purchase 2 low pass band filters for the club radios. Motion was carried. We will research the prices.
- Blue card Application forms – ongoing Warwick will process them through the Scout Association.
- Next weeks Tech Talks will be how to align the front end of Fox Sniffer's using Andy's test set. Time permitting we should be able to check the sensitivity of members radio's.
- David FDRC asked for a show of hands on who would agree with the club having the club name on the building. Approx 50% agree.
- Ken asked that a mop be purchased. Approved.
- 2m Repeater has developed a TX fault. Peter VK4YRU will investigate.
- John Moyle competition will be held on the 3rd weekend in March. 17/18th March. This is a full weekend of fun on the air camped out at Murrenbong Petrie. Peter TGV has offered to do a camp roast on Saturday night. Mark these dates on your calendar. We will need to know numbers of

participants for catering etc. This will be fantastic weekend which we have always won our segment in. Andy to check with Peter TGV re the trailer to carry the 20KVA gen.

- David FDRC advises that we will be approaching Bunnings for donation of 2 folding tables. We may look at purchasing some additional ones for club use.
- Alan KZ asked that we get an additional light over the board with its own switch so that it can be turned of when not needed.
- David asked that members remember to keep the club tidy by putting things away when finished with their projects. It is important that everyone does their bit to help.

CELEBRATIONS *(January/February)*

Birthdays: Margaret Haig (VK4MH), 27th January
Peter Breed (VK4PB), 6th January
Mark Hufnagle (VK4DGG), 16th January
Endah McDonald (XYL-VK4KET), 31st January
George Down (VK4XY), 6th February
Bill (jnr), Eleanor, James Isdale (harmonics-Bill Isdale (VK4TWI), 12th February
Vicki Bondarenko (XYL-Stewart (VK4TSB), 18th February
Kerrod Atfield (VK4TKA), 24th February

Celebrations: Bill (VK4TWI), & Anne Isdale, 6th January
Reg (VK4KMP) & Pat Page, 19th December

Congratulations and best wishes to all above.

Apologies to anyone who has been left out. If you are not the Celebrations List, please give Secretary Peter your details as soon as possible. Peter is currently updating the list.

NEW WEBSITE

The Club has a new website, the URL is <http://vk4rc.we.net.au>
Thanks to Brad VK4FAAF and his ISP business we.net.au for his generous contribution to the club. If you have internet needs, Brad can help you, and you would be supporting a member and sponsor of our Club – see advertisement at back page: wenet.au.

----- Club second hand market -----

Do you have any radio gear, components, bits and pieces you would like to sell or swap. You can advertise in QRM for free. Please call, email or send details to the QRM Editor, Alan (VK4KZ). Similarly if you want something you think someone might have, you can also advertise in QRM. Your Club is there working for you. For current items for sale/wanted, see below.

~~~~~ **WANTED** ~~~~~

We are looking for a Dummy Load for the club to be located in the new radio room. The Dummy load will be used for Foundation training courses & for repairs as & when needed. A larger power rating would be nice but will be happy with up to 100watts.

Power supplies - 10 amps. We are looking a couple of suitable power supplies to run the club 2m & 70 cm radios. These are the ones that remain in the club rooms for calls etc.

----- **WIA Membership** -----

Please let the Secretary, Peter know if you have recently become a member of WIA. WIA membership of our Club members is important because we are able to derive insurance benefits. If you are not in WIA, please consider this seriously – it is our representative body.

**AMATEUR RADIO THEORY COURSES AT REDCLIFFE**

If you would like to get your amateur license, upgrade, or do a refresher course, you can study for the theory, regulations and practical for Foundation, Standard or Advanced at Redcliffe Radio Club. See Alan VK4KZ, Laurie VK4BLE, Glenn VK4FZ, or anyone from the Executive. You don't have to be a Club member to participate. Special courses will also be arranged to prepare people for the Foundation License. Please let one of the above know if you wish to attend one of these. There may be limits to class sizes.

An advanced course is has recently begun and will probably finish early this year.

**MAINTAINING REPEATER RADIO EQUIPMENT**

The Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club's VHF and UHF repeaters are available for all amateurs to use, and all are welcome to use them, however, the radio equipment must be maintained and upgraded from time to time. If you would like to make a donation towards this upkeep, it may be forwarded to: The Secretary, Redcliffe and District Radio Club Inc, PO Box 20, Woody Point, QLD, 4019.

~~~~~ **CURRENT RADIO COURSES AT REDCLIFFE** ~~~~~

We are currently running two courses at the Redcliffe Club, an Advanced Course which has been running for some time, and a Foundation Course which begins Sunday 11th February. If you wish to join the Foundation Course you will be most welcome. Please contact me (Alan VK4KZ, my contact details are under "Contributions to Editor QRM", page 4 of this magazine). If you do contact me, please keep in touch, to make sure I don't forget (which unfortunately I am sometimes inclined to do).

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