

The Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club of Western Australia

RADIO-GRAM

Issue 114

February 2010



The Christmas party in November, Christmas, and the big January Auction were the main activities during the last Quarter. This issue comprises the November, January and February Meetings!



Vince Taylor provided some festive music for the Christmas party with his portable gramophone



Christmas party—from left—Garry, Len's friend, Len, Garry's wife and Laurie on front verandah of Clubhouse.



Tony Smith and Andrew Wakeman enjoy a quiet chat at the Christmas party on 24 Nov 2009..



Steve Austin and Rod Edwards at the Christmas party.

VINTAGE WIRELESS AND GRAMAPHONE
CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.

EXECUTIVE 2009-2010

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Club Website: <http://vwgc.org.au>

Committee: Trevor Currie, Barry Kinsella, Andrew Wakeman., John Newman, Vince Taylor, Tony Smith and David Tennant.

Appointments: Librarian: Garry Stoyles; Editor: Rob Nunn; Publicity/Website: Rob Nunn

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (with the exception of December) at 8pm in the Veteran Car Club rooms at 6 Hickey Street, Ardross. Visitors are always welcome!

Although the main interests of members are wireless receivers and gramophones (or phonographs), many members are also interested in amplifiers, telephones, musical boxes, tape recorders, television receivers and other associated equipment and memorabilia.

Radio-Gram is published four times per year, in February, May, August and November.

Please send any articles and advertisements to the editor:

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Email: ranunn07@bigpond.com

Phone : 94486143 or 0418 922 629

Please make sure your 'copy' is submitted by the meeting night prior to the issue month.

Advertisements are placed FREE of charge, but should be of a non-exploitive nature.

Subscriptions: \$25 (payable in June)
(Concession rate: \$20)

Presidents' Report

Here we are into March and the February edition of "Radiogram" is finally going to press! A bit late but has enabled me to include the February Meeting, my first for the year, having been away in January.

I would like to extend a big welcome to our new members! We hope you enjoy the Club as much as we do, and we encourage you to tell us about yourself and your hobby, whether it be radio or TV or gramophones or related subjects. Every monthly meeting we have an "Items of Interest" spot—so bring along some favourite toy and tell us about it..

A big thank you to those members who worked to increase our membership, in particular to Tony Smith on the Committee.

There was no December meeting as usual. In January we held a big auction which was well-attended and according to Treasurer Barry, raised a tidy sum for the Club. Tony Smith distributed a pre-auction list of items for auction, which was a good idea and no doubt encouraged attendance.

At the February Meeting Richard Rennie, in his usual informative and interesting way, discussed and demonstrated apparatus used by Blake Horrocks, who developed the first TV transmitting and receiving system in Harvey, WA.

On 10 February your Committee had a Meeting at Secretary Trevors' house to discuss Club Activities for 2010 and general business.

Trevor has been also been working on obtaining HRSA (Historical Radio Society of Australia) affiliation with our Club.

See you at our 23 March Meeting.

Best regards

Rob Nunn,
President, VWGC



The Secretaries' Report

Thanks to all who helped make this years January auction a success. Particularly to Tony Smith for preparing the items list. This event has become an excellent start to our year.

I am pleased to report we have added four new members to our club.

The clubs committee meet on the 10th of Feb and have proposed the program for this year. It will be published elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to read it. I am sure you will find plenty to interest you.

Trevor Currie
Secretary, VWGC

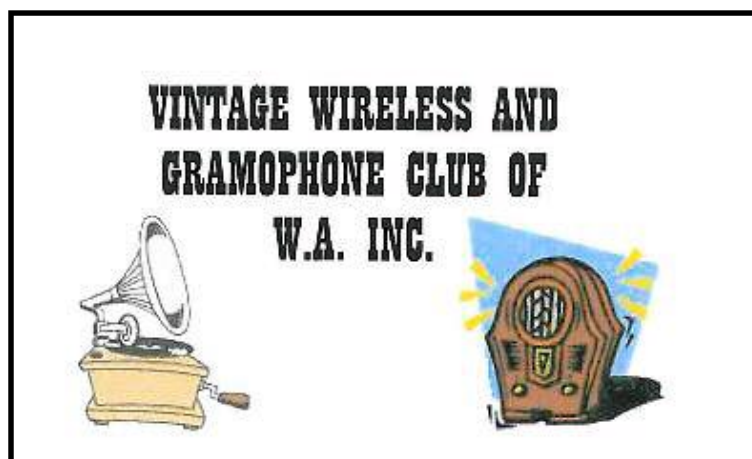


Club Treasurer, Barry Kinsella



Vice-President, and Auctioneer
Wizard!, - Steve Austin.

**What do you think of this as a possible letterhead?
Tell a Committee Member what you think.**



Example of potential letterhead to be used by
our Club. (Thanks to Richard Rennie)

Coming Events

February 23, 2010 : Richard Rennie will present the Blake Horrocks story - WA's first TV transmitter and receiver in Harvey in 1936. With working models.

March 23, 2010 : David Littley will present the story of Brunell Mastertone radios

April 27, 2010 : Rod House - 100 years of the diamond disc

May 25, 2010 : Richard Ashton will show some CD and DVD, from National Film and Sound Archives.

June 22, 2010 : Tony Smith will show DVDs. Also an Auction and our AGM.

July 27, 2010 : John Skevington on the technology of CD recording and introduction to digital radio.

August 24, 2010 : Ian Vibart will talk about his career in broadcasting.

September 28, 2010 : Tony Smith will put on a film night.

Watch this space!

We welcome volunteers and ideas for Guest and Member Speakers at our monthly meetings.



Richard presented at the February Meeting (see story elsewhere in magazine)

Photos of David Littley and Richard Ashton not yet available.



Rod plans to present the diamond disc in April.

IAN VIBART

"My Life in Sound"

Ian will talk to us about his experiences in the entertainment business focusing on the audio aspect.

Starting at age 14 Ian joined radio station 2UE in Sydney. At age 15, and with a note so he could get out of school, Ian was sent out for the audio in the Palmolive/Colgate show "Rise and Shine" emanating from various Army camps. This show went to air through station 2GB.

After getting his broadcast licence Ian was involved with outside broadcasting and sound recording, and as well did camera work.

Joining station 2UW he became audio director before finally going to channel Nine in Sydney as their senior sound recordist.

Ian retired from active work in 1990.

The Preservation of Historical Images and Sounds

A presentation by RICHARD ASHTON

Member of the Australian Museum of Motion Picture Technology

The program by Richard will include an overview of his experiences at the National Film and Sound Archives Canberra.

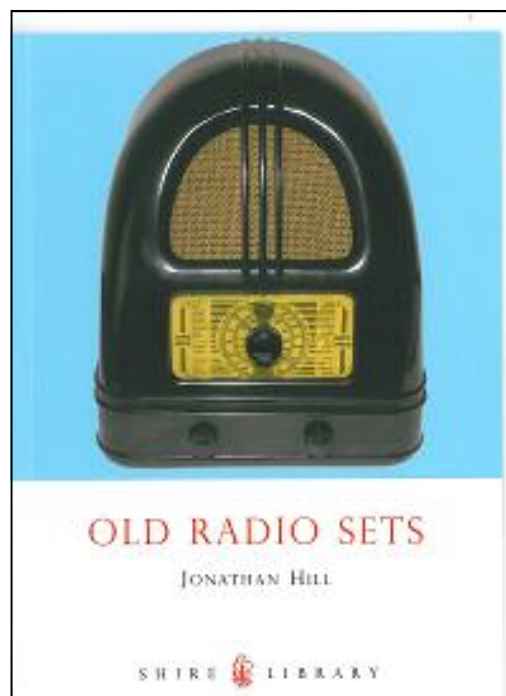
He will explain details of the methods and technologies used to preserve film and sound.

He will describe how cylinder recordings are preserved and will play some highlights from the early days of radio.

Following will be some memories of Richard's days as a cameraman, producer and outside broadcast director.

The talk will include some DVD showings and CD recordings of historical sounds.

Check this lovely little book out at our Club library!



SHIRE LIBRARY

OLD RADIO SETS

The radio has been a part of home entertainment since the 1930s, and tens of thousands of different models have been designed, manufactured and enjoyed, and then discarded as a new or improved model came on the scene. Generations have enjoyed their favourite programmes or have been entranced as some historic event unfolded through the radio's loudspeaker. This new edition of a classic Shire title describes the development of the radio from the late Victorian era until the 1970s, showing both common and rare examples of the radio sets in use during this period. Evocative colour photographs of a plethora of old wireless sets and transistor radios bring this relation to life – so sit down, turn on and tune in to this fascinating subject.

Jonathan Hill is a freelance writer and photographer and a founder member of the British Vintage Wireless Society, which was established in 1976 to encourage the preservation of early radio equipment and the study of broadcasting history. In 1992 he established the National Vintage Communications Fair, which continues to be one of the most important collectors' fairs in the country.

www.shirebooks.co.uk

The "Cockies" Answer to Computer Jargon

Log On	Putting more wood on the Barbie
Log Off	No more wood on the Barbie
Monitor	Keeping an eye on the Barbie
Download	Getting the wood off the Ute
Hard Drive	Making a trip in the Ute without any tinnies
Keyboard	Where you hang the keys to the Ute
Windows	What you shut when it is cold
Screen	What you shut during the mozzie season
Byte	What mozzies do
Megabyte	What large mozzies do
Chip	A snack on the bar
Microchip	What's left in the bag when all the chips are gone
Modem	What you have just done to the lawns
Laptop	Where the cat sleeps
Software	Knives and forks from Red Rooster
Hardware	Knives and forks from K-Mart
Mouse	The rodent that cats the grain in the shed
Mainframe	What holds the shed up
Web	What spiders make
Website	In the shed or under the verandah
Search Engine	What you do when the Ute won't go
Cursor	What you say when the Ute won't go
Yahoo	What you say when the Ute does go
Upgrade	The hill at the back of the property
Server	The person in the pub who brings out the lunch
Mail Server	The male person who brings out the lunch
User	The neighbour who keeps borrowing things
Network	Repairing the fishing net
Internet	Where you hope the fish will go
Netscape	What the fish do when there is a hole in the net
Online	Where you hang the washing
Offline	Where the washing is on a windy day

New Members!

The Club welcomes the following new members joined recently :

David Fisher (returning)
Colin France (Albany)
Richard Jeffree (Cottesloe)
David Littley (TBA)
Kevin McQuillan (Booragoon)
Barry Oldfield (Lesmurdie)
James Wenn (Atwell)

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at club rooms Tuesday 19th January 2010. 15 visitors, 19 members present.

8.01pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by vice president Steven Austin. Apologies were given for Rob Nunn, Gary Styles and Shane Austin. A welcome was extended to visitors to the club. There were no previous minutes for scrutiny.

Secretary's Report. Incoming correspondence. 1) There was a response from HRSA president Mike Osborne with an affiliation agreement to allow us to tie in with that group. 2) Advice from Seniors Have a Go Day organisers of a date change for this event to the 3rd Nov 2010. 3) Vintage Phonograph Society of New Zealand magazine.

4) HRSA magazine. 5) HRSA magazine. 6) Copy of book *The Best Years of Australian Radio* by Rob Smith. This shall be placed in the library.

Treasurer's Report. Tabled as a separate document. The club presently has approx \$6,200 in the account. Barry advised that the base line for a 6 month term deposit at 6% + is \$5000. Merv Thompson moved that the club should transfer these funds to such an interest bearing account. This was seconded by Rod Edwards. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Richard Rennie- advised that the guest speaker at our next meeting will be Blake Horrocks who had Western Australians first TV transmitter and receiver in Harvey in 1936.

Merv Thompson- advised that members of the Auto Club may pay us a visit at the next meeting.

Vince Taylor- enquired on how the display at the Swan - Guildford fairday went. Trevor replied that the display was cancelled due to lack of support from our members.

Steven Austin- thanks to Andrew, Trevor and Richard for the organisation of the Christmas wind up.

Items of Interest.

Tony Bayliss- showed an early 1920s Grippa portable gramophone. Purchased at auction and missing its horn. This machine has an expandable turntable for playing 10 and 12 inch records. Norbert Tournay- showed a recent restoration. 1954 GEC AM/FM radio. A total wreck when purchased, this is the earliest British FM radio.

Meeting closed 8.15pm. An auction was held after the meeting.

Vince Taylor



**Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms
Tuesday Feb 23rd 2010.** 21 members present. 3 visitors.

8.03pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by president Rob Nunn who thanked the committee for the input given to the committee meeting held on Wednesday Feb 10th. At this meeting a program was finalised for talks to cover the regular meetings for the rest of the year. Special thanks were given to Tony Smith for his ongoing work in attracting new members / visitors to the club and the organisation of the auction lists. The club magazine will be out in early March and submissions are welcome. The website will also be updated soon. Trevor is still working on the affiliation with the HRSA. Rob also received some magazines from the UK by member Alex Coppin. These were *Radio by-gones* and *Bulletin*. Both are high quality and full of information and it is hoped to bring our own magazine up to this standard. A special welcome was given to new members and visitors.

Secretary's Report. Incoming correspondence. 1) A copy of the affiliation agreement was received from the HRSA. 2) A letter to Tony Smith from the State Library regarding the deaccessioning and disposal of some film and 78s from their collection. 3) An email from Mr Clint Black asking for help regarding the valuation of some items in his collection. There was no outgoing correspondence. Trevor also stated that a copy of the auction guidelines were available for the perusal of new members. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Colleen tourney and seconded by Laurie Bugeja. Passed.

Treasurer's Report. Tabled as a separate document. The bank statements are now issued quarterly and so this month's document is in a different form. A query was received from the server regarding the payment of the web site account. This needs to be acted upon. Last months auction made \$650 for the club. \$5,000 has been put in an interest bearing account. \$1,400 is at present available for use. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie, seconded by Merv Thompson Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Richard Rennie- Melville City council who administers the Wireless Hill Museum has issued an online survey regarding the future of their museums.
There was no other general business.

Items of Interest.

Norbert Tourney- noticed the interest shown in amplifiers at the last meeting and bought in some from his collection. These were all circa 1960s and compare well with their modern counterparts. Norbert also spoke of a book of circuit diagrams he obtained some years ago that covers most of the amps of this period.

Vince Taylor- showed a small 1940s STC tabletop radiogram that has been repaired by Trevor Currie. A discussion ensued of the difficulties found in obtaining the right form of rubber to rebuff the pickups on these machines.

Meeting closed 8.30pm. Guest speaker was Richard Rennie who related the story of Blake Horrocks who operated the first television transmitter and receiver in Western Australia.



Somebody must have found a piece of microwave equipment and tried to rebuild the set around 6 rather interesting microwave valves: the result was an unbelievable mess and I doubt very much that it ever worked. At first I was quite intrigued because just the thought of using microwave valves for AM radios would have never occurred to me. When I tested these valves they all checked like brand new, however I could not get the set working like that. So a complete rebuild was necessary.

The Nauen was built from 1933 to 1937 with a lot of upgrades though the first model was the 330WL with the 2 unobtainable tetrodes. The next model the 351 used the newer RENS1284 pentodes, but is still an autodyne with a reactive detector. The next one is the 332 now we have a modern multiplicative mixer with the new ACM1 triode/heptode mixer, the detector uses an odd ball RENS1234 12 control grids. The next one the 337 made my heart beat faster as it uses AK1 as mixer, AK7 as IF, AB2 as detector and AL4 as audio O/P all of which I have in stock.

Finally I took a look at the 338, which was the last one of the series. This circuit was almost a text book circuit stock standard super using EBL1, EFG, EK2 and AZ1, these are very common valves of which I have several each. Being such a basic circuit this would be the one to use. Next stop was stripping the chassis completely, cleaning repairing and spray-painting it. Adapter plates had to be made to fit the "P" base sockets, all bolts and nuts had to be replaced with plated ones. I managed to get the unusual 3.5mm bolts and nuts from a guy in Germany. All that done the set was re-wired, now it works very well and looks good inside and out.

During the period 1930-1933 Telefunken built Bakelite or wood cathedrals or tombstone radios just like anybody else, however for 1933 Telefunken decided on a symbol of their own achievements. The Nauen radio station was built in the state of Brandenburg in 1906 and was then the worlds first high power overseas transmitter. Its main purpose was to provide a communication link with the African colonies. By 1912 continuous reliable radio communication with Lome Togoland and Dar-es-Salaam German East Africa was established. During the First World War after British troops had cut the overseas telephone cable, the Nauen radio station was the only communications link.

The radio transmitter Nauen caused inadvertently the loss of the Colony of German East Africa. Because early during WW1 the British navy had succeeded in blocking all harbours, despite these difficulties General Von Lettow-Vorbeck not only managed to hold the Colony but made forays into neighbouring British and Belgian territories. The only way he could get equipment from Germany was via air. On the last crucial supply run only 500kms away from Dar-es-Salaam, the airship LZ104 received a radio call from Nauen to retrun immediately as General Von Lettow-Vorbeck had surrendered. The airship dumped 52 tonnes of badly needed equipment just to find out in Jamboli its home port that the message was faked, nobody knows the circumstances.

The radio transmitter continued to serve its purpose, the last rebuild was done in 2007, it houses now 2 short wave transmitters run by the DW. Sadly Telefunken ceased to exist 20 years ago. The name is now used for pretty poor Chinese products, however reminder of the companies capabilities are still around all over the world. Wireless Hill in Perth is one of the achievements, the PAL colour TV system is another one. The video disc, the tape recorder and the worlds first electronic video camera are also some of the companies achievements.

Unfortunately Europeans and their North American cousins were not very happy to see their electronics industry disappear including service and development. Soon nobody remembers that it ever existed.

By Norbert Tourney

(typed by Rob Nunn, who accepts any errors in transcription)





Past-President, Len Lewis and friend at the Christmas party in Nov 2009



Merv Thompson, Steve Austins' son () and Rob Nunn at Christmas party.



Any ideas on a caption for this one?




Alex also sent this photo of a Telegraph office morse set in very nice condition



BBC TV camera tube sent in by Alex Koppen— anyone know the model or age?

Wikipedia contains a large and detailed section on valves (thanks Trevor) - check out this link -

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_vacuum_tubes#British_Military_CV_Naming



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List of vacuum tubes

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is a **list of vacuum tubes** or thermionic valves. For even types existed 50 years ago.

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 - 1.4 U.S. Military Systems
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 - 2.2 1 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.3 1.25 Volt filament subminiature tubes
 - 2.4 1 prefix for home receivers
 - 2.5 2 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.6 5 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.7 6 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.8 "7" prefix loctal tubes
 - 2.9 12 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.10 "14" prefix Loctal Tubes
 - 2.11 25 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.12 35 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.13 50 volt heater/filament tubes
 - 2.14 117 volt heater tubes
 - 2.15 Shielded tubes for Majestic radios
 - 2.16 Lettered loctal tubes used in Philco radios
- 3 European designation (with American equivalents)
 - 3.1 EA

Blake Horrocks

Western Australian Inventor and Television Pioneer

In 1936 in Harvey, Blake Horrocks created Western Australia's **first workable television** transmitting and receiving system.

Horrocks' initial television experiments involved the construction of a Baird type 30 line '*Televisor*' (the world's first domestic television receiver). He built this in order to view a 'Phonovision' record. These were 78 rpm records that were sold during the first half of the 1930s, each containing a 30 line video signal lasting about 3 - 5 minutes.

The '*Televisor*' used a 30 hole Nipkow disc. It produced moving picture at 12.5 frames per second.

He next used the same Nipkow disc to produce his own television pictures. By July 1937 he had progressed to a 45 hole Nipkow disc, followed by a 60 hole disc 18 inches in diameter. He initially used magic lantern slides as the subjects.



Inside a 30-line televisior

In August 1937 he used the Nipkow disc to produce television images of solid objects by the '*flying spot*' method.

Despite having some initially difficulty with synchronisation, by 1938 he had progressed to a cathode ray tube receiver. Although the tube was only one inch in diameter, the image was good enough to photographed.

In 1939 he began experimenting with a Mihaly Traub mirror scanner. With these, and using the flying spot method, he was able to produce an 88 line picture. Around 1940 he built a mirror drum scanner.

Horrocks' original photo-cell housing and amplifier



Blake Horrocks scanning disk and light source



Mihaly Traub scanner (demo model)

Horrocks also developed a disc scanning system to televise 35 mm movie film, which he viewed on a war time 3 inch cathode ray tube.



Simulated 1 inch TV receiver

A

In 1948 Horrocks gave the **first public demonstration of television in Western Australia**. This was made to the Perth Division of the Institute of Radio Engineers. It was reported in the *Broadcaster* and the *Daily News* as being a "telecine type" producing a "50 line picture".

In October 1949 the Shell Company presented the first public demonstrations of **electronic** television in Perth; the 405 line system from England.

In the 1950s Horrocks worked on his own electronic television system. In the 1960s he joined the PMG Department's Research Laboratories in Melbourne. There, in 1962/63, he worked on a television-telephone, and was one of the first to use transistors instead of valves.



Some of the audience present for Richards talk.



Richard explains the cam-operated rocking mirror

Presentation on the work of Blake Horrocks was made to the Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club at the February meeting.

Richard Rennie



Norbert presented some amplifiers as an item of interest

RADIO REPAIRS

TREVOR'S RADIO RESURRECTION

I am a qualified technician with over 40 years experience in the service industry and hold a Western power license.

I can repair and restore the following.

**VALVE RADIOS , RADIOGRAMS
RECORD PLAYERS , CAR RADIOS
VINTAGE AUDIO AND HIFI EQUIPMENT
EARLY TRANSISTOR RADIOS**

Quotes are given on all jobs before repair.

I can also repair and re polish wooden and bakelite cabinets.

Please contact Trevor Currie

Phone (08) 9386 7475

Email tjc60@iinet.net.au



This advertisement has been paid for by donation to The VWGC.

February 3, 2010

WANTED TO BUY:

HMV 'Picnic' wind-up gramophone in good working condition, made between 1925-1935.

Contact: Virginia Giles Ph: (08) 9336 7272

Please leave message if phone unattended

Email: v.giles@optusnet.com.au

FOR SALE

Yaesu Communications Receiver

Included:

FRG 8800 Receiver, 200kHz to 30MHz
(Plus 50 - 150MHz with converter)

FRT 7700 Antenna Tuner

FRA 7700 Active (Electronic) Antenna

FRV 8800 VHF Converter, 50 to 150 MHz

All in new condition in original box and with all the handbooks

(Current market value in excess of \$400)

Contact Rod Edward or Steven Mudge direct on 9386 8894

Request from David Littley ...

David Littley has asked if Members have any Mastertone radios would they please bring them along to his presentation on 23 March 2010.

FOR SALE

PYROX Wire Recorder

Contact : Nick Watling

Phone 07 4038 1731

Note : Advertisements are placed free-of-charge, but should be of a non-exploitive nature. (Editor)