

Presidents Report for 2008/2009

The club continues to be well supported by its members with regular weekly meetings of a core group every Tuesday at the club and every weekend in Centennial Park for coffee. Monthly Meetings have been well supported by members bringing along "Show and Tell" items which have been varied and interesting. They have varied from antique restorations and collectible items to modern home built complex digital projects which include software programming.

Our first major event was our regular mid year Auction which this year was changed to the middle of the July School Holidays. It was again well supported and successfully run.

The Monday Night sched on 2 metres is also well supported and run by Laurie VK2GZ who has even experimented with streaming video whilst he is on the air.

Much of last years calendar was devoted to preparing for our 90th Anniversary. Alan VK2TUI proposed a new multiband transceiver (a Kenwood TS2000) as well as a new computer to control the transceiver with Ham Radio Delux. These were acquired before the end of the year and Doug VK2DCR applied for a Special Event callsign for our 90th Anniversary. Our callsign VI2BV90 was assigned just before Christmas and to be used from the 24th January till the 1st February. We operated the VI2BV90 from the Club Premises 24 hours a day during the period and Alan VK2TUI and Brad VK2CEC are to be commended on their effort during this period. Much is owed to these two for creating a presence on the bands even though conditions weren't that favourable. Over 800 contacts were made and eQSLs have been issued and printed ones also.

On Australia Day we operated VI2BV90/P from Centennial Park and Colin VK2LV is to be commended on his excellent DX voice skills.

Raffy VK2RF suggested and organized a linkup with the International Space Station. Two initial attempts were unsuccessful but on the 30th January 2009 Ben VK2XUF and Eddie VK2BEH contacted Mike Fincke KE5AIT the commander of the ISS.

Several years ago Brad VK2CEC was successful in obtaining two 1920s radios which needed restoring. Jim VK2JA and Larry VK2LPH took on the job and did an excellent restoration of both radios and displayed them at the HRSA and Wyong Field Day - well done Jim and Larry.

Raffy VK2RF, Eric VK2VE and Brad VK2CEC have been very active every quarter in running licensing courses for Foundation, Standard and Full Licenses, well done fellows and also for those who lecture too. Raffy also got us an article in the local press.

Again Laurie VK2GZ has been instrumental in being the motivational force for Contests, Sprints, and the Lighthouse weekend. We haven't won any this year but we're in the top 10 every time.

Simon also needs a special mention for all his effort in supporting the VK2BV web site and especially in publicizing the VI2BV90 Event.

Well our 90th Anniversary year is not over yet so what's left to do?

Eddie Hanham
VK2BEH
President