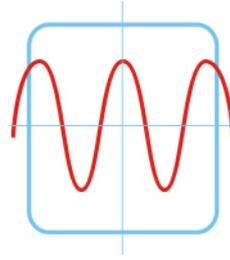


Waverley Amateur
Radio Society



VK2BV **May 21**
Presidents
Report **2014**



Ladies and Gentleman,

It is a privilege for me to be able to present the Presidents Report once again.

I should begin by acknowledging our members who became silent keys during the last year. Colin Marks, VK2LV became a silent in the last twelve months.

In a wonderful gesture, Colin's family donated his radio equipment to the Society. The Committee decided to sell this equipment, which is not unusual in itself, but then resolved that the funds raised should form a scholarship to enable a number of young people under 25 not in full time employment to obtain their first licence and be supplied with a radio at no cost.

I sincerely trust that this scholarship fund will continue to grow with the support of members funding the scheme by bequests.

Activities

As I alluded in my January missive, this past year members have been attending around fourteen or so events each month, these include the:

- Monthly Shack Night
- Fortnightly Moon Bounce evening
- Weekly Tuesday special projects
- Monthly Society meeting night
- Saturday project day
- Weekly Bench of knowledge

The monthly shack nights and fortnightly moon bounce meetings being the relatively new venture.

Moreover, there are other events, contests, WICEN activities that take up members time.

I should also add that the Society continues to be represented on the Council of ARNSW and the State Committee of Management of WICEN.

Technical development and Projects

The members that have been attending these activities have also been very busy contributing to the ongoing development of the Societies areas of coverage. These include APRS, D-Star and P25.

D-Star: Some fine work by members has seen a ICOM and other amateur Radio Club “pool” some equipment such that WARS will in all probability install not one but two repeater systems that will provide coverage from the eastern and western areas of the CBD.

APRS: It is envisaged that the same site will be used to further enhance the Society’s coverage.

P25: Our coverage from the repeater site remains and interest is slowly increasing with the GPT repeater now linked to NZ and Hawaii.

And of course, **Moon Bounce**, who could forget. A small band of members have pooled their collective resources to the point where we now have most of the equipment assembled to facilitate contact with hams on a world wide basis by bouncing signals off the moon. I continue to be astounded by the knowledge and skills of these people.

The sad part about Moon Bounce is that I can no longer look at a full moon without wondering much antenna gain you would need!

We have two projects that continue to present challenges in our functioning:

1. The need to have a robust and foolproof remote access logging where members can use the radio facilities from remote locations.
2. And the need to have a housekeeping policy that ensures that the Society equipment and operating areas are maintained in a state of readiness.

Education

This year the team have continued their efforts in introducing a number of people to the joys of Amateur Radio and assisting existing hams to progress to standard and advanced licences.

We extend a hearty thanks to the team for their efforts over the year

Auction

Once again our annual auction proved to be very popular with the amateur radio fraternity and continues to provide the Society with modest income that allows us to meet or ongoing financial commitments.

Membership

A wonderful by product from education has been the new members who have joined the Society that continues to see new members.

So where does the Waverley Amateur Radio Society stand now and what of its future.

As I have mentioned the Society is experiencing a surge in activities, and projects which will benefit the amateur radio community in the Sydney Basin. In addition, other club projects are bringing a huge amount of enjoyment for some and a steep learning curve for others.

By now, you will understand that I usually refrain from mentioning people by name, principally because of my own failings to recall the wonderful contributions that are made on a day to day basis.

WARS is the beneficiary of these projects because of the generosity of time, knowledge, skills, labour, and materials donated by our members.

Members also donate equipment, often their company's time and resources and knowledge.

On behalf of the Society, I extend heartfelt thanks.

I should also acknowledge the generous grant from the ARNSW development fund, which is assisting the Society in these projects.

So let's turn our minds to the future of the Society.

Facilities

Waverley currently maintains facilities here at Rose Bay and our repeater site at Paddington, in addition and as I alluded in speaking about technical developments we will in all likelihood, have a new repeater site at Rozelle.

I would commend the Society to consider the formation of a station group responsible for ongoing maintenance and operations of the sites. This would of course be under the charge of the Station Manager.

Location

I also suggest that the Society consider our facility here at Rose Bay. There is some views that the licence to operate from this wonderful site may have a finite time and there is the suggestion that the Foreshore Authority may review the site lease in a few years time.

With those factors in mind, I suggest that the committee be empowered to see how the site license can be secured into the future to a point in time well past our centenary which take place in four and a half year time.

And with the Centenary on the horizon, do we want to approach ARNSW and the WIA to co-jointly host a conference in our Anniversary Year?

In conclusion

In providing this report tonight I wish to make it very clear that I do not claim credit for the successes over the past year. Each and every one of you are jointly responsible and I extend my thanks to you all.

73 John VK2LJ