



BULLETIN FEBRUARY 1996

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1996



THE WEST AUST VHF GROUP INC.
P.O. BOX 189 APPLECROSS, 6163

PATRON Mr F. W. DAWSON

PRESIDENT	TERRY	VK6ZLT	SECRETARY	BOB	VK6ZFY
VICE PRESIDENT	WALLY	VK6KZ	TREASURER	CES	VK6AO
COUNCILLOR	ALAN	VK6ZWZ	COUNCILLOR	KEN	VK6AKT
BULLETIN ED	BRUCE	VK6BMD	PUBLICITY	TERRY	VK6ZLT
ACTIVITIES	TERRY	VK6ZLT	MUSEUM REP	TOM	VK6ZAF
FEB	19	COMMITTEE MEETING	MAR	18	COMMITTEE MEETING
	24	FOXHUNT		23	FOXHUNT
	26	GENERAL MEETING		25	GENERAL MEETING
APR	22	COMMITTEE MEETING	MAY	20	COMMITTEE MEETING
	27	FOXHUNT		25	FOXHUNT
	29	GENERAL MEETING		27	GENERAL MEETING
JUNE	17	COMMITTEE MEETING	JUL	22	COMMITTEE MEETING
	22	FOXHUNT		27	FOXHUNT
	24	GENERAL MEETING		29	GENERAL MEETING

On Sunday 21/1/96 VK6BMD went to Karnet and had a 57 kilometre contact on 2.4 GHz with Alan VK6ZWZ at Reabold Hill.

This was followed up on Sunday 28 January with two very successful contacts between VK6BMD at Goldmine Hill North Dandalup, Al VK6ZAY at Leeming and Alan VK6ZWZ at Fremantle Memorial. A further successful contact took place between Al VK6ZAY at Leeming and Alan VK6ZWZ at Fremantle Memorial beaming through the trees and houses of the suburbs.

On Friday 2/2/96 Bruce VK6BMD at Falcon (South of Mandurah) and Alan VK6ZWZ at Reabold Hill and Al VK6ZAY at Leeming had further contacts on 2.4GHz for a distance of 77 kilometres between VK6BMD and VK6ZWZ. Bruce VK6BMD went on down to Bunbury and was heard by Wally VK6KZ at Hillarys but no 2 way contact took place.

On Saturday 3/2/96 Bruce VK6BMD at Guilderton (Moore River) contacted Al VK6ZAY at Rockingham signals 5/9 and 5/7 on 2.4 GHz for a distance of 110 kilometres, signals were 5/9+ and 5/7 and also contacted Al VK6ZWZ at Reabold Hill .

On Saturday 3/2/96 Alan VK6ZWZ contacted AL VK6ZAY on 5.7 GHz from Rockingham to Reabold Hill for a distance of 37 kilometres.

On Saturday 10/2/96 Bruce VK6BMD 7 kilometres south of Quindalup near Busselton contacted Alan VK6ZWZ on 2.4 GHz 4 kilometres south of Hillarys for a distance of 212 kilometres, signals were 5/9+ and 5/5.

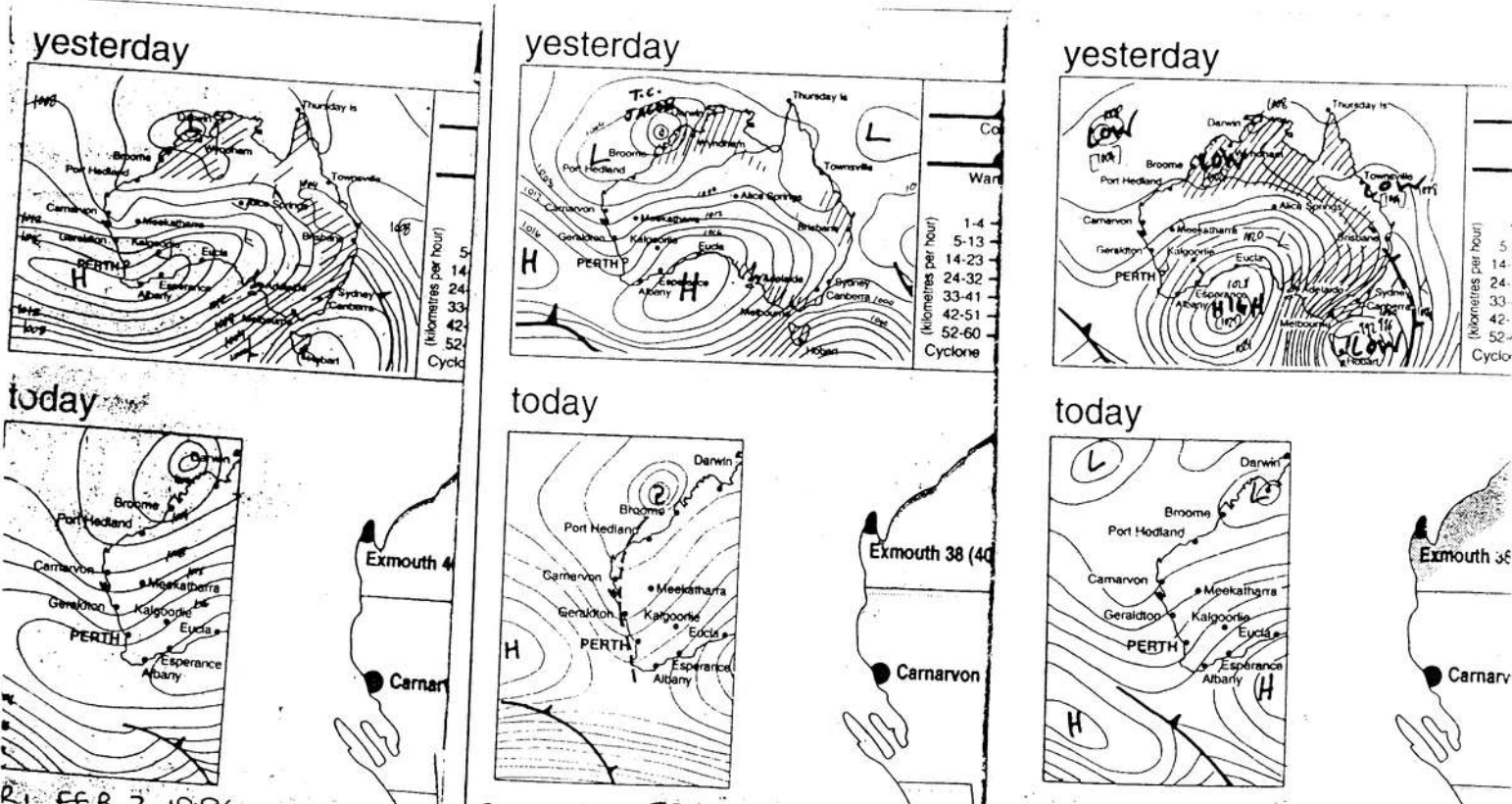
PROPAGATION UP AND DOWN THE WEST AUSTRALIAN COAST ON 2.4 GHZ

This article is a summary of information received from Bob VK6ZFY, Wally VK6KZ, Allan VK6ZWZ and VK6ZAY and the experience of VK6ZAY, VK6ZWZ and VK6BMD during the last month with contacts on 2.4 GHz of up to 212 kilometres.

Bob VK6ZFY used a receiver onto a chart recorder to monitor the Perth 1296 MHz beacon from Geraldton over several months. This showed a signal 5 days out of 7 with the strongest signal between 4 pm and 8pm. Wally VK6KZ advised that the presence of a trough along the coast and that hot weather was also a benefit for north south coastal operation.

Armed with this information Allan VK6ZWZ, Al VK6ZAY and Bruce VK6BMD studied the weather maps and discussed the four day forecasts and came up with some operating dates. We then assembled our gear on these predicted days and found success. The weather maps shown below all have troughs centred on the coast during the period of our contacts. The time we used was 4 pm to 7pm from Bob VK6ZFY. Allan VK6ZWZ also monitored the Busselton 1296 MHz beacon and found this to be extremely strong on these days. Effectively we look to the weather chart to predict a hot day with a trough up the coast and then check the strength of the Busselton 1296 MHz beacon. If it is extremely strong we go.

We have found that 70 cm is the best liaison frequency as it is usually very strong at the same time. However 2 m has been used successfully on each occasion so far. Anyone interested in joining us on 2.4 GHz or 5.7 GHz is extremely welcome.



POINTS GENERATED=134
 SHORTEST DISTANCE=>40 KM
 LONGEST DISTANCE=>182KM

TERRY VK6TRG TOTAL 54 CONTACTS

6M 2M 70cm 23cm 13cm 8.5cm 3cm
 3 38 16

POINTS GENERATED=83
 SHORTEST DISTANCE=>14 KM
 LONGEST DISTANCE=>155KM

CES VK6AO TOTAL 19 CONTACTS

6M 2M 70cm 23cm 13cm 8.5cm 3cm
 2 9 5 3

POINTS GENERATED=67
 SHORTEST DISTANCE=>15 KM
 LONGEST DISTANCE=>55KM

NEIL VK6BHT TOTAL 2 CONTACTS

6M 2M 70cm 23cm 13cm 8.5cm 3cm
 2

POINTS GENERATED=40
 SHORTEST DISTANCE=>455 KM
 LONGEST DISTANCE=>455KM

On a bright sunny Sunday morning an intrepid band of VHF enthusiasts set off to various points of the compass to rack up as many contacts as their equipment would allow in a portable situation, equally at least, a similar band of both city and county home stations prepared to fine tune their equipment. With the point system weighted in favour of country stations, portables and frequencies above 2 Metres, the scene was set for an exciting field day contest.

The statistics above show the results of their efforts. Not to be forgotten are the many stations that did not submit logs for the contest, but enabled the portables to generate points. A special thanks goes out to many country stations. Special thanks go to Bob VK6ZRT(Boyup) and Darryl VK6KDC (Manjimup). The results show the veterans won the day. Wally VK6KZ and Bob VK6ZFY adopted two different strategies. Wally VK6KZ positioned at Karnet in the Darling Ranges, operated on seven different bands over an extensive radio horizon proved to be a winning portable combination. Bob VK6ZFY used his single 2M operation to maximum efficiency by positioning himself at Barragoon approximately 88 km north of Perth, with a radio horizon encompassing Perth and a large proportion of the south west of West Australia. WELL DONE Wally VK6KZ and Bob VK6ZFY. The young bloods (to portable, multi frequency operation) learnt a lot. Experience in portable operation is unique and taxing on antennae, radios, batteries. So much so that moves are abounding to hold another field day very soon before winter at least. The smoke from resin cored solder has become thicker and the aluminium suppliers are rubbing their hands. This time increased activity on the GHz bands and more country station involvement will generate a higher point's score next time around.

Well Done all Participants. Till the next contest Terry VK6ZLT Contest Manager.

MORE CONTACTS MADE ON 24.048 GHZ, THE 1 CM BAND

Wally VK6KZ and Neil VK6BHT have continued their work on 24GHz with contacts between Karnet and Reabold Hill of 57 kilometres followed by contact between Reabold Hill and Goldmine Hill North Dandalup a distance of 69 kilometres.

MUCH ACTIVITY ON MICROWAVE FREQUENCIES DURING THE ROSS HULL CONTEST

15 individual 10.368 GHz contacts between Wally VK6KZ and Neil VK6BHT between Fremantle Memorial and Geraldton were made during the Ross Hull contest. This is a path length of 378 kilometres (and brings to 44 the total overall for Wally and Neil on 10 GHz between Perth and Geraldton). Also 29 individual 3.456 GHz contacts, 16 individual 2.304 GHz contacts and 87 individual 1.296 GHz contacts were made by Wally VK6KZ over the period of one month so you can see that operation in the microwave area of the amateur bands is alive and well in Western Australia.

PORTABLE OPERATION ON 5.7 GHZ, 2.4 GHZ, 1296 MHz AND MORE FIELD DAY PRACTISE

Al VK6ZAY at Dunsborough and Alan VK6ZWZ at Reabold Hill heard each others' keyers on 1296 MHz (as did Ces VK6AO at home) but no contact could be made. A reliable contact was made on 70cm between VK6ZAY at Dunsborough and VK6BMD at Fremantle, VK6KZ and VK6AO in Perth. No contact could be made on 2 meters. A 2.4 GHz contact was made between VK6ZWZ at Reabold Hill and VK6BMD at Fremantle Memorial signals 5/9 +.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN VHF GROUP NEWSLETTER P.O. BOX 189, APPECROSS W.A. 6153.

Circulation is 66. I would to remind members that some of you may have accidently overlooked paying your fees. Please forward \$20 to Ces VK6AO thank you. This consists of 36 city and 9 country fee paying members, 15 life members some of whom have donated \$10 to the club for the bulletin costs and 6 courtesy copies of the bulletin.

BEACON COMMITTEE

The new South West Site 50 MHz and 144 MHz beacons are complete awaiting installation. The radios, antennas, power supplies are finished and built awaiting frequency approval from the SMA. The site has been selected and it has a mast and power available. Once the license has been approved the installation will take place.

The Busselton beacon tower has been identified as having some serious rust problems with one of the main support legs. The beacons on this site are due for an overhaul requiring the replacement of antennas and redesign of the equipment. The beacon committee are formulating a plan for the work.

The Kalgoorlie beacon is now in the planning stage since the Bunbury beacons are complete.

BEACON FROM VK5 ON 2403.450 MHz HEARD FOR FIRST TIME IN W.A.

Wally VK6KZ heard the South Australian 2403.450 MHz beacon from Torbay a distance of 1900 kilometres for the first time. There is a proposal before the beacon committee to consider a 2403 MHz beacon for West Australia sometime in the future.

FIELD DAY CONTEST SUMMARY BY TERRY VK6ZLT CONTEST MANAGER

1. Wally	VK6KZ/P	(KARNET)	693
2. Bob	VK6ZFY/P	(BARRAGOON)	483
3. Bruce	VK6BMD/P	(N DANDALUP)	286
4. Al	VK6ZAY/P	(KWINANA)	251
5. Terry	VK6ZLT/P	(DAWESVILLE)	134
6. Terry	VK6TRG	(LEEMING)	83
7. Ces	VK6AO	(MELVILLE)	67
8. Neil	VK6BHT	(GERALDTON)	40

WALLY VK6KZ TOTAL 104 CONTACTS

6M	2M	70cm	23cm	13cm	8.5cm	3cm
15	48	24	9	3	3	2

POINTS GENERATED=693

SHORTEST DISTANCE=> 25 KM

LONGEST DISTANCE=> 455KM

BOB VK6ZFY TOTAL 55 CONTACTS

6M	2M	70cm	23cm	13cm	8.5cm	3cm
	55					

POINTS GENERATED=483

SHORTEST DISTANCE=> 78 KM

LONGEST DISTANCE=> 330KM

BRUCE VK6BMD TOTAL 54 CONTACTS

6M	2M	70cm	23cm	13cm	8.5cm	3cm
	38	16				

POINTS GENERATED=286

SHORTEST DISTANCE=> 25 KM

LONGEST DISTANCE=> 144KM

AL VK6ZAY TOTAL 38 CONTACTS

6M	2M	70cm	23cm	13cm	8.5cm	3cm
	18	14	4			2

POINTS GENERATED=251

SHORTEST DISTANCE=> 12 KM

LONGEST DISTANCE=> 98KM

TERRY VK6ZLT TOTAL 26 CONTACTS

6M	2M	70cm	23cm	13cm	8.5cm	3cm
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