

## Presidents Report 2007/8

In the last year the club has been managed using a different format foreshadowed at the last AGM. The Committee met four times a year and brief reports to members were given by the President and Committee members at Meeting Nights. Guest Speakers were organized by Doug VK2DCR and "Show and Tell" segments were included and became popular with about 20 members regularly attending monthly meetings.

Just after the last AGM the yearly Auction proved very successful with many amateurs including a club member Morven Dan VK2ABU donating most of his Amateur Station for Auction.

In July several members participated in the 160m Trans Tasman Contest as VK2BV and also the Lighthouse Weekend. Six members of the Club went overseas together in August to Italy and UK and visited Bletchley Park (the home of the WW2 Code Crackers). Whilst there they saw the WW2 Spy Transceiver called "Paraset" and on their return several members decided to build a replica 80m/40m cw transceiver.

A 21m Tower which was spotted in October by Grant VK2TU in AR and was purchased for the club but is delayed in being erected because of building works being carried out by the Scouts since then. These building works have considerably upgraded the facilities at the club but unfortunately it means we don't have as much freedom as we did in the past. We have had to progressively shrink in size even while we were donated a pallet load of mobile transceivers for disposal. Many Tait 2000s were distributed to club members at a token cost but the Nokia Transceivers are still awaiting disposal.

Raffy VK2RF, Eric VK2VE and Brad VK2CEC, and others who do the lecturing, are doing a sterling job in running regular Foundation Courses as well as assessments for Standard and Advanced licenses. Many members of the club have upgraded since last year and some are also still studying.

The Tuesday Group have been very productive in the last year, not only did they process all the donated transceivers by making them suitable for Amateur use, but disposing of transceivers and donated Wifi equipment on eBay. They also have refurbished the VK2BV Club Room and made the area more habitable, and less confined.

In 2008 Laurie VK2JAH was inspirational in pushing the Contest envelope for the club particularly in the John Moyle Contest where the club won the "All Mode all Bands" category with 2000 points. Some members are also considering doing a DXpedition in 2009.

2009 is our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and several projects are underway towards its celebration: Jim VK2JA and Larry have volunteered to restore two 1920 radio receivers obtained by Brad VK2CEC, and of course the Parasets are being built. An Award is being considered but has yet to be fully articulated.

It looks like an interesting year coming up, so lets get in there and make it worth remembering.

Eddie Hanham  
VK2BEH  
President