

The Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club of Western Australia

RADIO-GRAM



Issue 129

September 2016

News from the Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club, Perth. WA.
This issue comprises the February 2016 to August 2016 Meetings.



Barry Kinsella presented Batteries and Cells at our February 2016 meeting, with some nice examples of vintage equipment to display.



Richard Rennie and Stephen Austin presented Compressed Air Gramophones at the March 2016 meeting. Many fine examples were displayed.



Tony Smith and Richard Rennie presented The Case of the Cassette at our April 2016 meeting, with an excellent set of examples on display.



Dennis Grimwood presented The Evolution of High Quality Valve Amplifiers at our May 2016 meeting, with some good displays to show our members.

VINTAGE WIRELESS AND GRAMAPHONE CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.

EXECUTIVE 2015-2016

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Editor: Rob Nunn; Publicity/Website: Reg Gauci

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 currently published twice per year, in about February and August.

Send articles and advertisements to the editor:

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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)**

President's Report

Welcome to Edition No 129 of our Club magazine, "Radio-Gram"! This issue covers the period from February 2016 to August 2016. The magazine complements our Club Website, managed by Reg Gauci with up to date information on the Club activities.



Rob Nunn

Many thanks to our Committee for their hard work this year, and especially to Reg Gauci, our Vice-President, for taking over my role in a seamless manner while I was away on a extended caravan holiday for 3 months from March to May.

A big thank you also to Andrew our Secretary for his hard work, and to Barry our Treasurer for the tedious work involved in keeping track of membership and finances.

It's been a busy year and our Club members have enjoyed a variety of interesting talks, presentations, auctions and get togethers. Many thanks to the members and invited speakers who have made our monthly meetings such a success.

Also a big thank you to the contributors to this edition of our magazine and those members who sent in photos! Without you there would be no magazine.

Thanks to the expertise of our Auctioneer Tony Barbatano and his Assistant Syd Pateman we have continued to improve the smooth running of our very popular auctions. The auctions would not go so smoothly without Rodney House and his Excel spreadsheet program!

Your Committee met on 19 February 2016 and 5 July 2016 to discuss and finalise a plan for our upcoming club program. Other matters such as purchase and sale of gramophone needles, club outings, Have-A-Go Day venue issues and participation in public exhibitions were also discussed.

On 30 March 2016 club members enjoyed an outing with Peter Calleja and Tony Smith to inspect the Australia Post automatic sorting equipment. Thanks Peter and Tony!

"Old Radio Information Day" at the Wireless Hill Museum was held on 15 May 2016, as part of the new museum established at Wireless Hill under the title of "Radiosonic Sounds Like History." Many thanks to Richard Rennie, and those members attending who provided their expertise to public enquires.

Cheerio for now
Rob

The Secretary's Report

Radiosonic! The First 50 Years of the Wireless and Gramophone in WA held at the Wireless Hill Museum ran from May 2016 to August 2016 and was a great success with many members helping out and giving presentations to the public.



The 2016 AGM was held at our June Club Meeting, thanks again to the dedicated members that have stepped up and taken on roles as office bearers and committee members.

Andrew Wakeman

Thank you to those members that attended our Club displays at the Guilford Heritage Day in April 2016 and the Arthur Grady Day in May 2016.

Displays are also planned be held at the Railfest annual open day on 9th October 2016 and Have a go Day on 9th November 2016.

The monthly meeting presentations provided by members over the last 7 months have been outstanding and appreciated by all attendees.

The auction of donated and members goods continues to be popular thanks to the efforts of our Auctioneer and his helpers.

Andrew

Guildford Heritage Day , 3 April 2016



Guildford Heritage Day , 3 April 2016, taken by Reg Gauci. Always a good opportunity for presenting our club activities to the public. A bid thank you to members participating.

A display of radios in the Science Museum, London.

Photos by Richard Rennie on recent trip to see his grandchildren in the UK.



CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS EDITION



Tony Smith



Vince Taylor



Reg Gauci



Rodney House



Richard Rennie



Dennis
Grimwood



Rob Nunn
-Editor



Andrew Wakeman



Peter Browne



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Geof Lilburne



David Littlely

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS



President and Editor
Rob Nunn



Webmaster and Vice-President
Reg Gauci



Secretary
Andrew Wakeman



Treasurer
Barry Kinsella



Minutes Secretary
Vince Taylor



Committee
Tony Smith



Tony Barbatano
-Auctioneer

Recent Events

February 23, 2016: Batteries and Cells (Show and Tell) by Barry Kinsella.

March 22, 2016 : Compressed Air Gramophones, presented by Steve Austin and Richard Rennie.

April 26, 2016 : The Case of the Cassette, presented by Tony Smith and Richard Rennie.

May 24, 2016 : The Evolution of High Quality Valve Amplifiers, presented by Dennis Grimwood.

June 28, 2016 : AGM and Members Mega Auction.

July 26, 2016 : “The Kindest Cut—How to make a Record” Plus film on making a 78 record, and mini auction. (Tony Smith and Graham Khan).

August 23 2016 : “Early FM Radios 1948-58” with examples (Norbert Torney).

Coming Events

September 27 2016 : “Vintage Telephones” with examples, (John Pasculich).

October 25 2016 : “Vinyl Record Cutting” with demonstration. (Megamichael/Richard Rennie).

November 22 2016 : Christmas Party. Catered by Temptations Catering. At Clubhouse start 6.30pm

January 24 2017 : Monster Auction.

February 28 2017 : Rare Cylinder Gramophones (Rodney House).

March 28 2017 : Show and Tell on Portables and Power Supplies and Replacing old batteries (Reg Gauci and Barry Kinsella).



Barry Kinsella



Richard Rennie



Steve Austin



Dennis Grimwood



Tony Smith



Graham Khan

Norbert Torney



John Pasculich



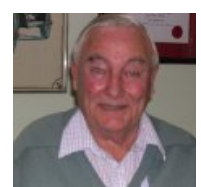
Richard Rennie



Rodney House



Reg Gauci



Barry Kinsella

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at club-rooms Tuesday 23 Feb 2016. 20 members present.

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

President Rob welcomed members to our 23 February 2016 meeting. A special welcome also to new members and visitors.

Rob reported the January Auction went very well considering the large number of lots. Thanks to our Auctioneer Tony Barbatano and Syd Pateman for their hard work and smooth running of the auction. The labeling of successful bidder names on items sold contributed to the success of the auction.

The Club magazine "Radiogram" No 128 has been published and emailed out to email members a few days ago. Printed copies are available to both email and non-email members tonight.

Radio-Gram 129 is in preparation. Please send some photos and stories of your collections and experiences, case histories etc for this next issue. And please keep up to date with Club activities on our Website. Reg Gauci would love to hear from you with any photos or stories.

Your Committee met on Friday 19 February to discuss our upcoming program for the latter half of 2016. Other matters that were discussed include gramophone needles, club outings, Have-a-Go-Day issues, Fremantle Heritage Festival on 28 May and Guildford Heritage Day on 3 April.

The State Department of Commerce has advised that new laws have been passed covering the operation of incorporated associations in WA. These come into effect on July 1, 2016.

As previously advised, the Club has formed a sub-Committee to provide support and advice to Wireless Hill for a planned exhibition this year. Richard Rennie is organizing this so if you would like to participate please see Richard.

Secretary's Report.

John Pasculich and Andrew met Fremantle City Council and stated they were not happy with the inside venue, and prefer to be outside. No further information on Guildford Heritage. Also expressed to Have-A-Go Day organisers that we are not happy with the location provided to us.

There has been no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Barry Kinsella and seconded by Tony Smith. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. Our last auction raised \$129. \$4500 in bank a/c. \$6000 in term deposit. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Lawrie Bugeja congratulated Rob Nunn on the quality of the "Radiogram" club magazine.

Richard Rennie discussed the upcoming program at Wireless Hill.

Tony Smith asked for a show of hands of those interested in a visit with Peter Calleja to see the postal sorting machine, set for 30/3/16. About 10 members responded. Reg Gauci discussed the availability and sale of gramophone needles.

Denis talked about cats whiskers

Rodney house discussed an acetate recording disk of a wartime soldier leaving Melbourne in 1943.

Reg asked if any members recalled a Betamax recorder sold at an auction.

Denise – xenon gas and mercury switches.

Items of Interest. Nil.

Meeting closed.

Barry Kinsella, Treasurer, presented "Batteries and Cells". A talk on the evolution and history of the various types of batteries used in vintage radios.



Portable gramophone sold at the auction. Origin uncertain, possibly European.



Some fine 78 records were also up for auction.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at club-rooms Tuesday March 22nd 2016. 24 members present.

8.10pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice Pres Reg Gauci. Apologies from President Rob Nunn, away on holiday. Secretary Andrew Wakeman, Treasurer Barry Kinsella and Minutes Secretary Vince Taylor present.

Secretary's Report.

There are some items to bring to members attention. The club has been invited to participate in the following events;

The Guildford Heritage Day on Sunday 3rd April, Stirling Square, 10am-5pm.

The Old Radio Information Day Sunday 15th May, Wireless Hill Museum, 12-3pm.

Arthur Grady Day, Saturday 28th May at Fremantle Town Hall, 11am-3pm.

There has been no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Reg Gauci and seconded by Tony Smith. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document.

Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Merv Thompson- The Museum of Perth is holding an exhibition of the history of cycling in the city. Situated in Grand Lane (off the Murray St Mall) and open 9am-3pm. It closes this Saturday.

Tony Smith- The Postal Sorting Machine Visit/Tour is set for the 30th March. See Tony Smith for all details.

Items of Interest.

Laurie Bugeja- Transistor Radio.

Norbert Tourney- 3 Radios, one German, one Polish and a Russian Transistor model.

Merv Thompson- White phonograph cylinders c.1910, purchased at auction. 3 hand wound childrens music boxes c.1860.

Rodney House- Wind up record player fitted with ac/dc radio that plays 33,45,78rpm with a crystal cartridge.

Meeting closed.

A talk on compressed air acoustic reproduction in gramophones was given by Steven Austin.



One of the Compressed Air Gramophones displayed and presented by Steve Austin.



An HF Oscillator donated for the mini-auction.



Norbert shows the members a European radio.

Photos from 22 March 2016 Meeting and mini-auction



Some of the members present at the March meeting to hear about Compressed Air Gramophones.



Close-up of a Compressed Air Gramophone.



Rodney House showed a wind up record player fitted with ac/dc radio that plays 33,45,78rpm with a crystal cartridge.



An example of a Compressed Air Gramophone displayed by Steve Austin.



Lawrie Bugeja does Show n Tell on his transistor radio.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at club-rooms Tuesday April 26th 2016.

26 members present.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice Pres Reg Gauci. Apologies were received from Rob Nunn and Barry Kinsella.

Secretary's Report.

The launch of the Radiosonic exhibition at The Wireless Hill Museum will be Friday May 13th at 6pm. All members are invited to attend and a pamphlet is available tonight for those who are interested.

The Old Radio Information Day will take place on Sunday 15th at Wireless Hill and all club members are invited to attend and lend their expertise.

The club will exhibit at the Arthur Grady Day in Fremantle on 28th May. The club is being paid \$250 for attending this event.

Incoming correspondence- notification from the organisers of the Have A Go Day to say that there will be changes to the exhibition spaces this year due to ongoing road works at the Burswood venue.

There was no outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Merv Thompson and seconded by Richard Rennie. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. Income has consisted of 4cents interest gained in bank interest, \$12 in subscriptions and \$26 in auctions. Expenditure has been \$14 in petty cash and \$90 in hall hire. There is roughly \$4500 in the main account and \$6000 in the term deposit. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

A vote of thanks was given to Tony Smith for organising the postal tour for the club.

Tony Bayliss- has another contact to bulk purchase needles if the club has not already found a new supplier.

Items of Interest.

Tony Barbatano- A complete multipack (10x10) of Songster gramophone needles.

David Little- Wishes to endorse a car jump starter sold by Autronics. Retails at \$199 and says it's well worth it.

Rodney House- There was an interesting gramophone advertised on Gumtree. It is an extremely rare Auxeto-

phone priced at \$15000. There was no interest shown in it when it previously was offered at auction in Perth.

Meeting closed 8.50pm.

A talk was given by Richard Rennie; The Case of the Cassette.



Richard Rennie presents his talk on "The Case of the Cassette".



Some of the very fine examples of cassettes and various tape devices shown by Richard.



More displays of various cassette devices.

Photos from 26 April 2016 meeting



A good attendance at the April meeting to hear about Cassettes.



An excellent set of displays were provided for the presentation on Cassettes.



Reg Gauci does some Show N Tell on Cassettes.



Vice-President Reg Gauci and Secretary Andrew Wakeman conduct the business on the April meeting



More examples of Cassettes provided by Richard Rennie.

Photos from 26 April 2016 meeting



VWGC Monthly meetings are popular for general discussions of things in common.



More displays of cassette –related material provided by Richard.



Tony Smith raises some matters of interest to members.

Photos sent in by David Littlely taken at the Wireless Hill Open Day on 10 April 2016.



Andrew Wakeman and Reg Gauci at the Wireless Open Day



Some radios on display at the Wireless Hill Open Day. Eg Centre—Astor mantle.

Photos from 24 May 2016 Meeting and mini-auction.



A good turn-out of members attended the May meeting to hear Dennis Grimwood tell them about his interest in amplifiers.



Western Electric 7A amplifier—1922 vintage.



Williamson 807 amplifier rear view.



Quad II and 22—1953 vintage amplifier



Quad II 5 amplifier under chassis.



Dennis shows a Daven RC amplifier—
1926 vintage

Some more photos from our May 2016 Meeting



MC 3500 amplifier front view.



MC 3500 amplifier wiring.



MC 3500 amplifier top view.



A small valve amplifier on display.



Some of the valves being auctioned.



Simple one valve kit radio at auction.



Some very early cylinders at the auction.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at club-rooms Tuesday June 28th 2016.

37 members present.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn who gave sincere thanks to the committee and those who work so hard to make the club a success. Special thanks to Tony Barbatano, Sid Pateman and Rodney House for handling the club auctions.

Thanks were also given to Richard Rennie for organising the Radiosonic events.

Magazine #129 is in preparation. Stories and contributions are needed. The website is also in need of an update and some new contributions.

After the election of office bearers tonight there will be an auction. Members are reminded that memberships should be current to bid in club auctions. Memberships are due tonight so see Barry if you have not already paid your subs.

Secretary's Report. Barry Ford has donated a book Early Radio to the club library.

Incoming correspondence: The latest instalments of Radiowaves, The Phonographic Record and an invitation to the Permafest held at the Swan Valley Grounds, Yule Ave, Middle Swan. There was no outgoing correspondence.

The Radiosonic exhibit has been going well. It is open Wed, Fri and Sun. Talks will be happening every Sunday till the end of August. This Sunday is the Old Wind Up Gramophone Day, 12-3pm.

The secretary's report was moved as correct by Reg Gauci and seconded by Gary Cowans. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Barry gave his apologies for no official report due to unforeseen circumstances. Moved by Reg Gauci and seconded by Richard Rennie.

General Business.

Reg Gauci- Has the clubs stock of gramophone needles and wonders if we need to take them along to the Old Wind Up Gramophone Day to sell to the public. There was general agreement to this proposal.

David Tennant- Would like to thank Tony Smith for the great job he did promoting the club and its activities during his recent interview on Curtin FM Radio.

AGM/ Election of Office Bearers

There was no formal business to be attended to at the AGM. In light of no other nominations for positions it was decided that the committee stand as is.

President: Rob Nunn

Vice President: Reg Gauci

Treasurer: Barry Kinsella

Secretary: Andrew Wakeman

Minutes Secretary: Vince Taylor

Auctioneer and assistant: Tony Barbartano and Sid Pateman.

Librarian: Paul Hansen

Website Manager: Reg Gauci

Magazine Editor: Rob Nunn

Items of Interest. No items were shown.

Meeting closed 8.30pm. An auction was held after the meeting.



HMV portable plastic case valve radio 1950's on display at the June auction



Palsonic CTV/Monitor at the June auction.

Photos from the June 2016 AGM and Members Auction.



Plenty of members showed up for the June AGM and Members Auction—probably mainly for the latter!



AGE Hotpoint bakelite mantle-portable radio (c1952)



Decca Junior portable gramophone.
Passed in.



Peal portable radio, wood cabinet. Sold \$50



UHF/VHF PAL colour bar generator—something for everyone at our auctions!



Weston Model 785 Industrial Circuit Tester built in to a carry case.

Photos from the June 2016 AGM and Members Auction.



A great variety of interesting items were lined up for our big June auction.



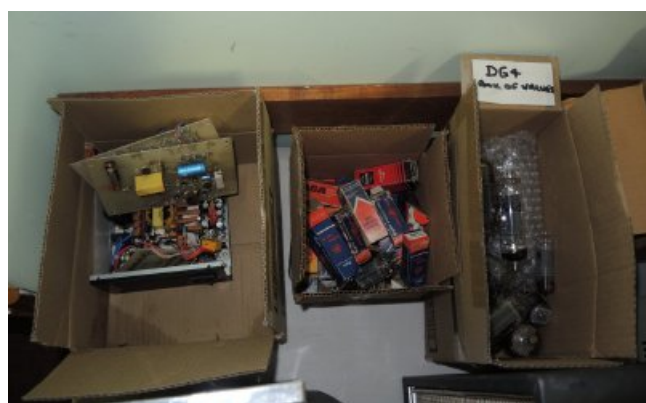
This unusual Motorola portable attracted some interest.



GEC "Miniscope" oscilloscope in case.
Sold for \$25.



Some more of the variety of items up for auction.



Always some interesting spare parts at our auctions, and they always sell.



Udaya Halim discusses an item with John Pasculich before the auction.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday July 26th 2016.

35 members present.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn. Apologies received from Steve Austin and Phil Oxwell. Magazine #129 is in preparation. Rob thanked those members who have made contributions to the magazine, and reminded members to keep up to date with Club activities on our website, managed by Reg Gauci.

Members are reminded that memberships should be current to bid in club auctions. Please see Treasurer Barry Kinsella if you have not already submitted your Membership Renewal and payment.

Radiosonic Sounds Like History public presentations are in progress this month and next month. Please refer to the website for details. Rob thanked Richard Rennie for his amazing work in organising and presenting talks and exhibitions for the Radiosonic series.

Secretary's Report. A Committee meeting was held on 5 July 2016 to discuss upcoming program and other club matters. We attended Railfest last year, and will again be there at this years Railfest held on 9/10/16. Have-A-Go Day will be held at the Burswood on Wed 9/11/16. There was no outgoing correspondence. The Secretary's report was moved as correct by Paul Hanson and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Barry gave his report and noted \$4689 in cash and about \$6000 in the bank. Online banking for payment of dues is now available to members. Acceptance of the Report was moved by Lawrie Bugeja and seconded by Richard Rennie.

General Business.

Norbert asked for confirmation that his presentation will be at our August meeting. Confirmed by President. Russell Nash asked if anyone had a Philips AG4000 recorder.

Items of Interest.

Norbert showed his 1933 Batyphone console radio and told the story of how he acquired and restored it. Merv showed a poorly made gramophone he acquired for \$50 and told the story of buyer beware.

Meeting closed 8.40pm. An mini auction was held after the meeting, followed by tea, coffee and cake.

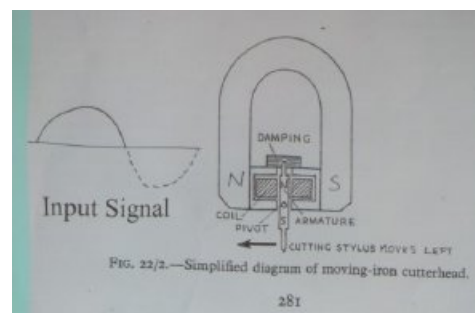
The presentation tonight is by Tony Smith and Graham Khan, titled "The Kindest Cut—How to make a Record", together with a film on making a 78 record. Graham will demonstrate the making of a record.



Tony (left) and Graham demonstrate the making of a record.



Recording making apparatus made by Byer Industries P/L of Melbourne.



Physics behind the method.



Snapshot of the film presented on making records.

Some photos of the July Meeting



Some of the members that attended the July meeting.



Norbert tells the story of his 1933 Batyphone console radio.



Merv tells the story of the poorly made \$50 gramophone.



Norbert's 1933 Batyphone console radio.



Ex- Flying Doctor transceiver up for auction.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms

Tuesday August 23rd 2016. 25 members present, 1 guest.

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice President Reg Gauci and welcome extended to visitor Bob Fore. Apologies were given for President Rob Nunn and Treasurer Barry Kinsella. The topic of the talk tonight is early FM Radios presented by Norbert Tourney. A reminder that subscriptions were due on July 1st. If you have not yet paid, you may wish to take advantage of the clubs new direct debit facility.

Secretary's Report.

Incoming correspondence; nil. Outgoing correspondence; nil. There was little to report other than confirming the dates for the upcoming club displays. Rail fest is set for 9th October. Have a Go Day is one month later on 9th November (it is hoped this year that a better position will be offered). The latest copies of Radiowaves and The Phonographic Record were received by the club. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie, seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Richard Rennie- Wished to express thanks for those who have helped to make the recent Exhibition and Events at the Wireless Hill Museum. The exhibition will be closing at the end of August and has been well patronised.

Items of Interest.

Tony Smith-At the last big club auction a Phillips reel to reel tape machine was sold. The capstan cover has been found for it and is here for the purchaser.

Richard Rennie- A genuine Tin Foil Phonograph c.1880s. This machine was originally a part of the Kemp Hall Collection.

Paul Hansen- A very professional looking Portable Record Player with a vinyl case and Collaro mechanism.

Meeting closed 8.35pm.

A talk was given on early FM Radios by Norbert Tourney.



Norbert presented his talk on Early FM radios 1948—1958



Some of Norberts collection of early FM radios.



Norbert brought along a good display of early FM radios for his presentation.



Crosley AM/FM radio, 1953, one of the first truly modern FM radios. See more on this radio and others in next edition of "Radiogram" magazine.

Some photos from the August meeting.



A good showing of members attended the August meeting



From Left : Vince Taylor (Minutes Secretary), Reg Gauci (Vice-President) and Andrew Wake-man (Secretary) run the August meeting.



Richard shows a Tinfoil Phonograph, made by the London Stereoscopic Company.

Thomas Edison (1847-1931) invented sound recording in 1877. The Phonograph used a sheet of tinfoil wrapped around a grooved cylinder.

The cylinder revolved under a needle attached to a diaphragm which vibrated in response to the sound.

The tinfoil became indented by the needle with a wave pattern which could be played back.

The flywheel was added to smooth out the variations in speed as it was wound.



VBE Stern Beethoven ! Radio (1955-6).
More on this radio in the next edition of "Radiogram" magazine

The Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club presents

SOUNDS LIKE HISTORY

A series of free public presentations

in support of the new exhibition in the Wireless Hill Museum

RADIOSONIC

The First 50 Years of Wireless and The Gramophone in WA 1884-1934

May 15 (noon - 3 pm) — Old Valve Radio Information Day

Bring your old valve radio to the Wireless Hill Museum and the VWGC members will provide information about its history, its age and its care and conservation. (No valuations)

May 22 (2 pm) — The First Radio Experiments in WA.

In 1899, **Mr. G.P. Stevens** of the Telegraph Department in Perth carried out the first radio experiments in Western Australia. With demonstration of his original technology. (Or did someone else do it first?)

May 29 (2 pm) — Professor Archibald and the First Phonograph in WA.

Story of the first **Edison Phonograph** in Western Australia demonstrated by **Professor Douglas Archibald**, and hear a re-creation of a speech by **Sir John Forrest** recorded by Archibald in 1891, and played on an Edison Phonograph.

June 5 (2 pm) — 6WF and the Mulgaphone radio

Hear the story of the establishment of 6WF, the first radio station in WA; and the history of the **Mulgaphone**, the legendary Western Australian wireless receivers

June 12 (2 pm) — Edison and his Inventions

Edison's inventions, from the Electric Vote Recorder, improvements to telegraph and telephone, 35 mm movie film, Mimeograph, batteries, light globes, to the **Phonograph**; with actual demonstrations.

June 19 (2 pm) — Royalty on Record (The Real King's Speech)

Hear **original** recordings of the Kings and Queens of Australia; including Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII, George VI, Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, Elizabeth II; and possibly Queen Victoria.

July 17 (2 pm) — First Television Experiments in WA (1936—1950)

Hear the story of Blake Horrocks who built WA's first television transmitter and receiver, in Harvey in 1936. At this talk you will see working replicas of his television apparatus, including a Nipkow disc, a Mirror Drum Scanner, a Mihaly-Traub Mirror Scanner and a one-inch receiver, as well as a replica Baird Televisor.

July 24 (2 pm) — The Story of Analogue Television (1935—1981)

From the end of mechanical TV to the end of analogue tube TV. Hear about the start of High Definition television in 1935 in London and Berlin : the effect of the war on television ; demonstrations of post-war television sets; to PAL colour TV and the beginning of digital TV in c1981—with special demonstrations of working 1940's American and British sets. And more.

July 31 (2 pm) — From 6WF to the ABC (1924—1932)

The Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club invites you to hear the story of the transition of 6WF from Western Farmers Ltd to the Australian Broadcasting Commission, in a presentation based on a scrapbook kept by Western Australia's radio pioneer (and the man who set up 6WF) Wally Coxon.

August 7 (12 noon—3 pm) — Dinosaurs of Sound (1925—1935)

A display, with demonstrations, of the largest horn gramophones and wirelesses ever sold. From the giant 2.5 meter long horn of the EMG, the Expert, the HMV Re-entrant horn, to the Amplion Dragon radio horn.

August 14 (2 pm) — Coming of Sound in WA Part 1. Cinemas (1904—1914)

Synchronised sound in the movies in WA prior to World War 1. This presentation covers the five technologies that were used in WA cinemas ; the Auxetophone, Gaumonts Chronophone, Gaumonts Chronomega-phone, Edisons Projecting Kinetophone and the myserious Auxetophonoscope.

August 21 (2 pm) — Original Records of Famous People (78 and cylinder records)

Hear rare voice recordings of famous people; including Thomas Edison, Kingsford Smith, Amy Johnson, Edgar Wallace, Sir Robert Baden Powell, Florence Nightingale, Charles Court etc played from original records.

August 28 (2 pm) — F.R.I.E.D. (1879—2016) First Real International Exhibition of Dark suckers. The Science and Technology of Darksuckers.

We used to believe that light globes gave out light. Science has now proved that they actually suck in dark, and thus must now be known as darksuckers. F.R.I.E.D will be accompanied by and explanatory talk on the Science and Technology of Darksuckers, from Edison Dark Globes to DAD (Dark Absorbing Diodes).

Member—Udaya Halim writes :

I attended the opening ceremony of 50th Year of Radiosonic at Wireless Hill this evening and met a few of our friends there.

It was modestly opened by the Deputy Mayor of Melville and attended by roughly thirty people or so. Met Tony Smith, Steve and another Tony and a few others, of course the star and the key person Richard Ren-
nie!



Gramophones display and banner at Opening Ceremony of Radiosonic.



ALBA

The Go Anywhere Radiogram "Now for Something Different"

Our very good friend Rodney House said to me one day — "I have a little radiogram that is perhaps a bit unusual — would you please have a look at it?"



Tony Smith

A request phrased like that means only one thing! — it isn't working so can you



fix it? With a rush of blood to the brain, which at that stage I think was asleep, I

said "of course".

As depicted in the attached advertisements, it was a portable radio and Gram., both mains and battery operated. Whilst the add featured a single speed wind-up turntable, this one used a three-speed system, and with the appropriate turn-over pickup cartridge connected to the audio section of the battery set.



Alba portable radiogram Seven-O-Seven

The unit was also designed to receive Short-Wave and is fitted with a terminal for the connection of an external aerial.

As well, the radio part was designed to be used on both AC and DC, with voltages from 110 to 250. Needless to say the radio was thus a live chassis receiver, fortunately completely enclosed in the wooden case. For battery operation, the set required the usual 7.5 volts for the filaments, and 90 volts for B+.

The valves in the line-up as listed in the advertisements and found fitted to the set were identified with the English Mullard nomenclature system, being in fact the exact equivalents of 1R5 (converter), 1T4 (I.F.), 1S5 (Audio) and 3V4 (output).

I had never seen a three speed wind-up turntable before, thus making this Gram. to me a unique set. In effect the turntable and spring motor were conventional, but with two adjustable governor controls, enabling it to run at the required three speeds.

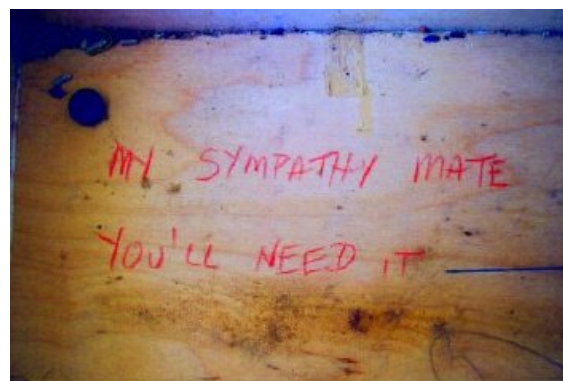


The accompanied photos show the positions of the speed controls for each speed.

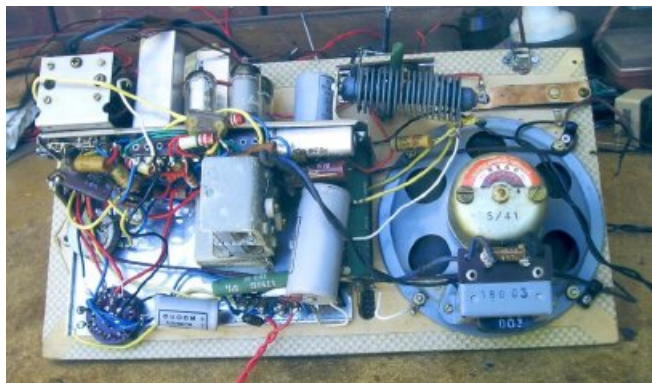
What to do? First get the radio section out of the cabinet and see what has to be done.

Upon removing the radio chassis from the cabinet, I discovered a little note from presumably a previous enthusiast. Written the bottom of the case was—

"My sympathy Mate, you'll need it".



Not the best introduction to the task at hand! Looking at the chassis it is fairly obvious why the note was written — Just look at the jumbled wiring for a start, and the half-wave selenium rectifier hanging in mid-air!



The rather jumbled ALBA chassis layout

As well the original electrolytics had been replaced with oversize Australian made parts. These were immediately replaced with modern miniature ones.

Then it was necessary to identify the wiring to the switch that changed the operation of the set from mains to battery. Following that the circuitry of the mains supply which gave the required voltages for the set had to be drawn and clearly identified before trying the set.

The safest way to proceed was to get the set running on batteries first. Using a mains battery eliminator for the B+ and some torch cells for the filaments would you believe that the radio burst into life — a miracle I reckon!

Next was to look at the mains power supply section. The B+ and filament supply were basically from a typical voltage divider network. To change the set from one mains supply voltage to another the divider network was adjusted with a plug and socket system accordingly.

Having drawn the circuit, each component was checked before attempting to run on the mains. Immediately it was discovered that one of the divider resistors was open circuit, which would have put thus full B+ to the filaments. This situation was rectified quick-smart!

Before attempting to run the set on mains, discretion set in. Dummy loads in the form of resistors, one representing the drain on the B+, and one representing the drain by the filaments, were wired in, in place of the set itself. Now it did not matter if all was not well. Firing up the

chassis from the mains it was now possible to ensure that the power supply was OK. Sure enough the circuit worked, including the old selenium rectifier. The voltages from the power supply under load turned out to be 6.8 and 100. It was now safe to wire in the set to the supply.

Finally, as the set was a goer, I reckoned that one should straight away re-assemble it into the cabinet and keep fingers crossed! To make the set perhaps a little bit safer to handle the mains cord was wired so that the chassis would be automatically connected to Neutral provided the mains wall socket was wired correctly.

A unique set well worth preserving!

.....Tony Smith

Some radios seen by the Editor in a Second Hand Shop in Bendigo, Vic



Listed as "Astor Mickey" c1940's. Lights up and has audio, repaired cracks—As is—\$90"



Listed as "Retro radio tin—with assorted toffees 400gm—\$15!"

Dobbico Centenary Model

Restoration and Renovation

The Dobbico Radio Centenary Model is considered by some to be the **second rarest** Western Australian made and branded wireless set. The Centenary Models was made and sold in 1929, to coincide with the centenary of Western Australia.



Richard Rennie

Recently a Centenary Model was sold in a club auction.

However, it was in a distressed condition. Various sections of the (largely Jarrah) cabinet had contracted. However, they had contracted to a greater degree across the grain and less so along the grain. This basically caused the cabinet to 'shatter'.

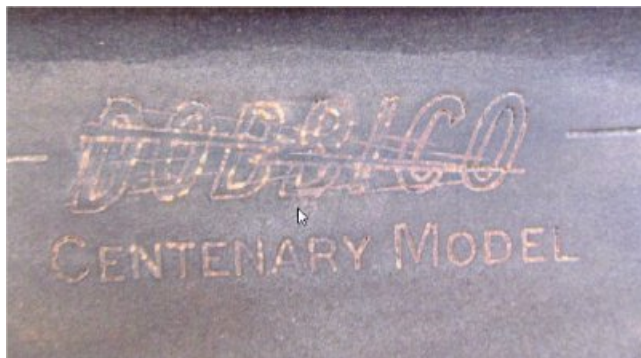


The box was first cleaned to preserve the remains of the original finish, and then waxed.

Various sections of wood were then glued back together, as best they would fit without modifying the wood section.



The front panel (which was originally black) was cleaned. The colour in the engravings was almost non-existent.



Some white wax was added to show the beautiful Dobbico logo.

The internal circuitry was still fairly complete, but not in working condition. It was cleaned and conserved.



It turned out to be an excellent historical piece....Richard



The Groan-a-Phone

By Richard Rennie

Last year I was very fortunate to purchase the only known example of a Groan-o-Phone in WA.



Richard Rennie

What is a Groan-o-Phone?

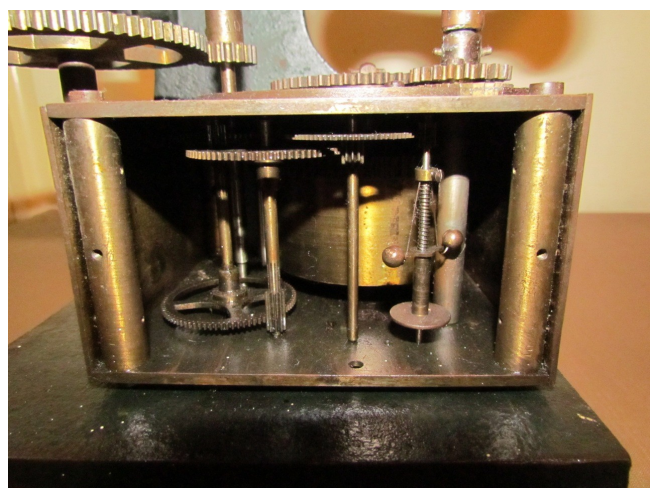
In the 1920s, Patrick Groan was a record collector who lived in the hill and dales of England. In early 1926 he purchased one of the Broadcast brand Long Long Playing Records. These amazing records played at 78 revolutions per day, with a playing time of about 48 hours per side.



However, he found that his Brunswick kilogram-o-phone could not be slowed down to the necessary speed. Even his Columbus potable milligram-o-phone was too fast.

In frustration he decided to build his own machine on which he could play his Broadcast Long Long Playing Record.

The motor he used came from an old First World War wind-up coffee machine. It could be easily made to operate at the desired speed.



The horn was an original exponential model made in India. To the horn he attached one of the latest toe-narms, made by His Master's Vice.



For the sound box he chose a sensitive model made by the great English company P.M.G., which had been established in the early 1920s by the famous gramophone inventor Pulse Modulation Ginn.



Needles proved to be a problem. They had to last at least 48 hours without having to be changed. Fortunately he was able to locate a supplier of Number 5 Embroidery needles that served the purpose.

His machine worked very well, and it became known as the Groan-o-Phone. Patrick Groan decided to manufacture and market the Groan-o-Phone. He also marketed the long long playing needles that were required.

However sales were slow and by the end of 1926 he ceased manufacture.

In Perth the Groan-o-Phones were marketed by Musgraves and Vyper-Howards, selling at about £20. However very few were sold, mainly because the Broadcast Long Long Playing Records could only be purchased by special order and few were available in WA. The records cost £45 each.

.....Richard Rennie

Restoration of an early 1930s Cossor radio

As it happens from time to time I was offered a very interesting and sophisticated mid 1930s English Cossor radio. This radio caught my attention as it was the earliest multiband push button radio I've come across.



Norbert Torney

It has long wave (like almost all European radios), medium wave and shortwave, additionally a phono input for a record player or gramophone with magnetic pickup. Seven buttons are station buttons similar to the program



English Cossor wood cabinet valve—1930's

mable buttons of 1960s car radios, two long wave, one short wave and four medium wave station buttons, one for phono and one for off; a different station maybe programmed on each button.

It also uses standard dial tuning with a large semi circular dial and tuning knob. The dial lights up in a subdued, rather eerie green.

Unfortunately the model number and back are missing; lengthy research produced no results, except it resembles more common 1935/36 Cossor radios. Irrespective of this setback I liked the radio a lot and started a ground up restoration as soon as I could.

There are two separate chassis on top of each other. The top one is audio and power supply, the lower one the RF stages and mechanical assemblies. The chassis were in very clean and in original condition.

I switched the set on via my test globe box, only a thin glow emitted from the test globes; a clear indication there was no short and voltage checks could be carried out safely. The plate supply was well below 180 volt and no hum or any noise could be heard. I assumed a dud rectifier tube.

Commonly I would substitute the rectifier with a proven working one. Cossor made their own tubes with their own identification numbers. These numbers are nowhere listed because of their limited use. - A common situation with English radios. The Telefunken RGN1064 appeared to be sufficiently similar for a start. Bingo the HT jumped up to 320 volt.

Yet nothing could be heard in the speaker.

I pulled the output tube and hardly any noise was heard; a clear indication that the tube was either biased off or simply dud. Pulling the tube out there are only four pins, clearly a directly heated triode.

A very uncommon situation for a mid 1930s radio, as usual for English sets Cossor had used its own type number which was nowhere listed. After long hours on the internet I managed to find a reference to this particular tube; it happened to be a two volt type triode that nobody else ever made. Testing the tube showed zero emission – a totally dud tube – unobtainable, for all practical purpose.



The question was how to substitute? Practically only the much more common 2A3 was a suitable substitute. I've got a very good, probably new old stock one, in my possession. The 2A3 is actually a 2.5 Volt tube, checking the voltage on the socket of the original tube, it happened to be 2.1 volt.

Hooking up the 2A3 with clip leads produced plenty of hum and crackling/rumbling noises. Checking the filament voltage again with the 2A3 working, only 1.9 volt was left – no good, an under heated filament tube will

definitely break down, even though it works well in the beginning. What now?

The transformer had three heater windings, two 4 volt ones, one for the rectifier and another one for all the other tubes. The best would have been to add turns to the original 2 volt winding. On large 50 Hz transformers the turn ratio is usually 2.5 turns per volt, meaning 1.5 turns of medium gauge coil wire was all that's needed and would do the job.



Unfortunately the transformer was tightly packed. A cheap and much simpler method needed to be found. Taking stock I found a number of 4 volt pentodes and a huge number of 6.3 volt pentodes. AL5, REN1375d in the 4 volt range, EL12, EL12N, EL34, EL38 & 6L6 would do the job quite well.

I chose a good looking coke bottle shaped 6L6G with a Philips logo + made in UK. This tube resembled in shape



and size the original one. To make a triode from a pentode is easy, you simply connect grid 2 and grid 3 together with the plate, automatically a pentode becomes a triode with triode performance figures.

To get the required 6.3 volt for the heater I simply connected the original 2 volt windings in series with the 4 volt ones for the other tubes. Of course the B4 socket had to be replaced with a common octal one. The hole for the socket fitted spot on and so did screw holes.

Next in line was the mains electrolytic condensers and the audio coupling condenser, after that I managed to receive our local station "6 MM" fairly well, however the overall performance was very poor, with plenty of pop, splatter, bang. A lot more had to be done.

While the Australian and American manufacturers used metal shielding on their tubes their European counterparts painted their tubes with conductive paint. After a few years the paint flakes off bit by bit and the glued on wire which connects the conductive paint to the socket becomes intermittent. After a while howls, squeak, crackle and lots of other undesirable noises develop. This set had plenty of all of it.



The main problem was the IF tube another odd ball Cosor tube with a B6 socket that nobody else seems to have used. This tube was fortunately listed and could be replaced with either a Philips AF3 or an electrical similar Russian loctal metal tube.

I chose (mainly for looks) the AF3. Tweaking the IF alignment to suit the new IF tube and compensating for component drifts produced the desired performance. Now the set performed like a typical 1930s radio.

After a few hours of playing the sound got softer and softer and finally disappeared. A typical pitfall for radio restores.

Hooking up the signal generator to the required IF frequency through the AF3 top cap, produced no sound or noise of any kind. I replaced the AF3 with a brand new old stock one – again no success.

Putting my finger on the top cap of the audio pre-amp produced a healthy hum, Meaning the fault was back in. After cleaning all switches, replacing the dial lights, fixing the dial drive and restoring the case, I ended up with a very impressive 1935 push button radio.

the IF stage. All voltages appeared to be o.k. around the AF7 but nothing seems to come out. Checking the IF transformer primary and secondary turns indicated no problems with this one.

After lengthy experiments I came to the conclusion the detector had to be faulty. Again an oddball Cossor tube similar to a 6B6 with the grey conductive coating and an oddball B7 socket. No easy substitution possible. The tube needed to be tested, my alligator clip, fly lead octal socket adaptor proved to be its worth on this job.

There was plenty of emission on the triode and absolutely nothing on the diode. This was clearly the fault. I wired across the tube socket an OA81 germanium diode, bingo everything back to normal. However the tube's metalizing had flaked off to a large extent and the tube was knock sensitive.

Realistically speaking a new tube had to be fitted. There is nothing to fit the B7 socket and waiting before a working Cossor tube turns up would probably get me past my 97th birthday. The only solution was a common Philips ABC1 "P" base tube.

Finally the set worked happily for a full day.

.....Norbert

Some radios for sale in a 2nd hand shop in Tasmania

On a recent trip to Tasmania I entered a 2nd hand shop that revealed a few interesting vintage radios for sale. Here are a few examples with prices where exhibited.



Rob Nunn



Astor Bakelite radio with carry-handle.
Price tag \$90.



Philips Bakelite valve mantle radio—
working—price tag \$145



Kreidler Duplex 6 plastic mantle valve radio—did the handle give way? Tag \$45



AWA plastic mantle valve radio. No price tag.



Philips Bakelite mantle valve radio—
price tag \$80

An Article by our new member: GEOFFREY LILBURN



In November last year I had the good fortune to meet Andrew Wakefield at a Craft Fair at the Claremont Show Grounds. Andrew was selling some renovated vintage radios and after about ten minutes reflection I decided to purchase an adorable little 1947 AWA mantel set.

Taking it home I plugged it in and soon warmed to its mellow tones. Fact is, I'd been searching in junk stores for months for old radios, which used to be plentiful in such stores but seemed to have dried up in recent years. Why did I want a valve radio?

As a teenager in the fifties I'd tinker with radios and then began to haunt the army surplus stores for parts. Soon I built my first crystal set, then a simple regenerative receiver and later more elaborate sets and finally using a disposal 5AP1 an oscilloscope.

I also gave myself numerous electrical shocks, but was more deterred as new interests in literature and religion emerged. My sets sat in my father's garage for years, until my move to the USA, when Dad tossed them all out! Now that I've retired from academic teaching, this old interest has reignited.

After a couple of weeks enjoying my little AWA, I went back to Andrew to see if he had any other sets for sale. Oh my, he had more than a few! Soon I had under my arm a non-functioning Healing Golden Voice and a similarly stricken Stromberg Carlsson!

Now to see if my repairing skills were still sharp enough to gets these old sets going. When after a few weeks the Golden Voice sang again with new capacitors, I felt "re-capacitated" myself and literally sang with joy. The Stromberg was also soon in working order and I wondered what next.

Then I discovered the Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club and learnt that there was a bunch of folk as crazy as I was! What fun! Soon I was in the thick of members' auctions, bidding on old bits and pieces and meeting many new friends. Andrew had been very supportive as I've chased down circuit diagrams and high tension electrolytics.

I now have taken over my wife's sewing room and filled it with Bakelite radios, most of them functioning quite sweetly. My next project is a valve FM tuner to increase the appeal of old valve radios.

When Sally Ingham said she had some old *Radio and Hobbies* for sale, I couldn't resist. Now as I take the train into the city to meet my wife I take along an old *Radio*

and *Hobbies* to read. It makes me the only person on the train reading print from a magazine, and if that is not anachronistic enough, the only one reading a magazine from 1956! I'm confirmed in my ways.

I've even invented a new Facebook identity for myself, "Geoffrey Bakelite Man". Friends ask me why I do it? The answer is simple. It is joy, sheer joy. I figure that needs no justification!



Geoffrey poses with an AWA ("Fisk") Radiolette radio, vintage 1935-6 at the Radiosonic opening.



Geoffrey in his den with some of his radios!



Foreground from left : Andrew Wakeman, Geoffrey and Tony Barbatano

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

WANTED

Acetate records

'Acetate records' are aluminium discs coated with a thin layer of Cellulose acetate. They were used for one-off recordings by radio stations and private individual.

Contact Richard

Ph 9330 1636

email rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au

Check out our Club Website!

VWGC.ORG.AU

There are also Links to other pages relating to Membership, Meetings, Auctions, Contact Details, Club Magazine, Advertisements, Gramophone Needles etc. We are fortunate to have an excellent site managed by member Reg Gauci So check it out and keep up to date!

An elderly lady was a magnificent **1968 Philips radiogram in top condition**. She needs to part with it. If you need such a beautiful piece please phone her on 9344 7719. She is very keen to find someone interested.

WANTED TO BUY

BTH - BBC headphones, same as in photo. Working or not. Even a broken set would do.

Richard Rennie 933011636

(rennie@lightandsound.net.au)



WANTED

One 6 inch electrodynamic speaker.

Contact Fred Franklin, 12 Dulverton Ct, Karama, Darwin, NT 0812.

Phone 0428 883 195.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WIRELESSES AND GRAMOPHONES



The stories and catalogues in this book were largely produced by documenting those Western Australian wirelesses and gramophones that exist in local museums and private collections, and by interviewing, over the past 20 years, many of the people who actually built and/or sold them.

207 pages

400 illustrations, most in colour.

The book may be purchased through:

Richard Rennie 9330 1636

WANTED FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

Does anyone have in their collection a 10 inch 78 rpm record with a Gaumont Studio label stuck over the original label, like that shown below.

The record may be by Zonophone or Victor (HMV) from circa 1910. I would be interested in seeing what is written on the over-pasted label. A scan would be appreciated. Richard Rennie Ph 9330 1636 email rsrennie@lightandsound.net.au



FOR SALE—Half dozen cylinder records—blue amberol. Contact Roma 9528 2998.

CONTACT WANTED

Recently a member or visitor to the club showed a machine that looked like a phonograph—but it wasn't (as shown below). If that person reads this article, can you please contact Richard Rennie (9330 1636). I have some information for you.

