

The Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club of Western Australia Inc.

RADIO-GRAM

Issue 131

October 2017



News from the Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Club, Perth. WA.
This issue comprises the March 2017 to October 2017 Meetings.



Norbert Torney gave a Show n Tell at our 28 March 2017 meeting on a modulator he built that enables FM stations to be received through AM station-only radios.



At our 25 April 2017 meeting, Richard Rennie presented a talk on the introduction of synchronized sound in WA theatres during 1906-14.



Vince Taylor gave a presentation on rare and unusual gramophones at the 23 May 2017 meeting.



Matthew Cass did a Show n Tell at our 27 June 2017 meeting on a German Lorenz AM/FM wood cabinet table-top vintage radio (circa 1946). A high quality superhet tuner with Telefunken tubes.

VINTAGE WIRELESS AND GRAMAPHONE CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.

EXECUTIVE 2015-2016

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Secretary: Andrew Wakeman

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Vince Taylor (Minute Secretary)

Treasurer: Barry Kinsella

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Committee: Rob Nunn, Barry Kinsella, Andrew Wakeman, Vince Taylor, Tony Smith, Reg Gauci. Tony Barbatano and Sydney Pateman (Auctioneers). Paul Hansen (Librarian).

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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Phone : 94486143 or 0418 922 629

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)**

Editorial

Welcome to Edition No 131 of our Club magazine, "Radio-Gram"! This issue covers the period from March 2017 to October 2017. The magazine complements our Club Website, managed by Reg Gauci and provides a record on our Club activities.



Rob Nunn

I would like to thank Reg Gauci, Vice– President, Andrew Wakeman, Secretary and Barry Kinsella, Treasurer, for managing our monthly meetings and activities in my absence from March to May 2017.

Our second Committee meeting for the year was held at my home on 2 October 2017, to discuss the club program for the January to June 2018 period. All Committee members were present and a preliminary program of monthly presentations was agreed upon.

The Committee also discussed the proposed club banner for use in public display functions, the website, the magazine, finances, membership, possible club outings, the new regulations for Associations and the overcrowding of our meeting rooms especially during big auctions in January and June.

Thank you to those members who gave presentations at our regular monthly meetings. I would like to encourage our members to put together a little talk with a few pictures on a subject that of interest to them. We all enjoy hearing about other members experiences either as a hobby or in employment.

Reg Gauci gave us an interesting talk on power pack adapter prototypes on 28 March 2017. Reg demonstrated his ideas on how to use modern batteries in old radios.

On 26 March 2017 Rodney, Andrew, Barry and tony represented the club at the Guildford Heritage Festival, noting a good response from the public visitors to our stand.

On 25 April 2017 Richard Rennie gave us a talk on the introduction of synchronized sound in WA theatres in 1906-14. Richard's enthusiasm and knowledge was much appreciated by members present.

Vince Taylor, whose special interest is gramophones, gave us an interesting talk on 23 May 2017 on rare and unusual gramophones. Thank you Vince!

On 27 June 2017 we had our AGM and Members Special Auction. All Committee members were re-elected for the coming year. Special thanks to the Committee and those members that are always there to help out. Thank you Rodney House for your continuing assistance with the auction record-keeping on the laptop.

On 25 July 2017, Russell Nash presented some interesting films on radio, and a number of special items of interest were brought in by members.

Our 22 August 2017 meeting featured Richard Rennie and Rodney House presenting a talk on the early years of the Victor and Gramophone Company ("Before HMV"). Thank you Richard and Rodney for your work in making a great display of gramophones etc and a great talk.

Norbert Torney gave one of his interesting and detailed talks on some German history titled "Volksempfänger—The Peoples Radio—1933-49". Norbert's knowledge and enthusiasm is a great inspiration to the club.

At our 24 October 2017 meeting, Richard Rennie, Rodney House and Stephen Austin introduced us to the magic and myth of the Klingsor gramophones. They brought in some beautiful examples which were appreciated by the members.

Also on 24 October 2017 a number of club members visited the ABC transmitter facilities in Hamersely, WA and enjoyed a guided tour by Ray Archibald. Thanks to Russell Nash for setting this visit up for the club.

A planned tour on 25 October 2017 of the Dalkeith Sunset facility where equipment owned by AMMPT is stored, was postponed due to the tour being booked out. A couple of members did manage to get on the tour.

Our Christmas party will commence at 6.30pm on 28 November 2017, at the clubhouse. The event is being catered, and all you need to bring is any alcoholic drinks if you want them. All food and soft drink is provided. Hope to see you there.

Thank you very much to the contributors to this edition of our magazine and those members who sent in photos! Without you there would be no magazine.

Rob Nunn
Editor

Norbert's

Novelty Tube chess game!

Norbert Torney, inundated by mostly useless TV tubes, decided the TUBE CHESS GAME is the answer!



Remember these?!



I went to the doctor the other day and he asked me if I got plenty of exercise

I replied that yes I do. He asked me what sort of activities did I undertake.

I said that the way I got my exercise was :

Running up a Bill

Jumping to Conclusions

Changing my Mind

Going from Pillar to Post

Bending my Elbow

Getting over the Flu

Exercising my Rights

Flogging a Dead Horse

Sitting on the Fence

Raising Cain

Balancing my Books

And – Pushing my Luck! (Thanks Tony Smith)

"Television won't last because people will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night." – Darryl Zanuck, movie producer, 20th Century Fox, 1946



CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS EDITION



Tony Smith



Vince Taylor



Norbert Torney



Fred Franklin



Russell Nash



Geof Lilburne



Rob Nunn
-Editor



Andrew Wakeman



Peter Browne



Stephen Austin



Richard Rennie



Morgan Wilde

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS



President and Editor
Rob Nunn



Webmaster and Vice-President
Reg Gauci



Secretary
Andrew Wakeman



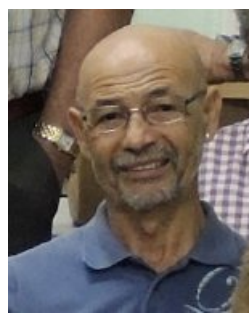
Treasurer
Barry Kinsella



Minutes Secretary
Vince Taylor



Committee
Tony Smith



Tony Barbatano
-Auctioneer

Recent Events

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

April 25, 2017 : Coming of Sound in WA Cinemas—Part 1 (1904 –1914) (Richard Rennie and Steve Austin).

May 23, 2017 : Rare and Unusual Gramophones (Vince Taylor)

June 27, 2017 : Monster Members Auction and AGM.

July 25, 2017 : Films on radio (Russell Nash)

August 22, 2017 : Before His Masters Voice (1887—1908) (Richard Rennie and Rodney House)

September 26, 2017 : Volksempfaenger-The Peoples Radio: 1933-1949. (Norbert Torney)

October 24, 2017 : Klingsor : The Magic and the Myth. (Richard Rennie and Rodney House)



Barry Kinsella



Reg Gauci



Steve Austin



Richard Rennie



Vince Taylor



Russell Nash



Richard Rennie



Rodney House



Norbert Torney



Dennis Grimwood

Coming Events

November 28, 2017 : 6.30pm, Christmas Party.

January 23, 2018 : Monster Members Auction.

February 27, 2018 : Manufacturing of AWA radios and other equipment. (Dennis Grimwood)

March 27, 2018 : Digital Broadcasting (Alan Hughes)

April 24, 2018 : “Distant Lens” Film on WA history (1905-50) (Tony Smith)

May 22, 2018 : The Billy Edwards Music Company (Richard Rennie and special guest)

June 26, 2018 : AGM and Members Auction

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday March 28th 2017.

35 members present.

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice Pres Reg Gauci. Apologies were received from Rob Nunn, Steve Austin and Phil Oxwell. A welcome was extended to new member Gail Cleland.

Secretary's Report.

The club exhibited with the Vintage Telephone group at the Guildford Heritage Day on the 26th March. Thanks to Rodney, Barry, and Tony who helped. There was a good response from the crowd who attended and showed much interest.

There was no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Rodney House and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. There is approx \$3,700 in the bank and \$6,000 in the fixed deposit account. There is a discrepancy in receipts and expenditure caused by the inclusion of foreign currency in the kitty. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Dennis Grimwood. Passed unanimously.

Items of Interest.

Tony Smith- Showed a display box for interesting valves made by Graham Kahn to be used in future club displays.

Merv Thompson- A selection of transistor portable radios from the '50s to '70s, some in their original boxes. Also some novelty radios; Piggy, Ring ding Frog and Burlesque Girl.

Kevin Chant- An old car radio (c.1953) made by Bright Hope of Bentley Victoria.

Norbert Tournay- The last AM radio transmitter in Western Europe closed on 31st Dec 2016. European collectors are now using a modulator like a set top box which plugs to the antenna to play FM stations through their AM sets. Norbert has built one based on a 1935 design using an old radio chassis. He is also working on a smaller improved version.

Dennis Grimwood- Has had problems receiving station 6PR and has discovered that it was due to a fluorescent light tube causing splatter on the station.

Barry Kinsella- Showed some portable radios. Phillips 5 valve super het, AWA Bakelite; Interesting 1935 Picnic Radio 3 valve TRF (an expensive radio though not high performance).

Meeting closed 8.50pm.

A talk was given by Reg Gauci on power pack adaptor prototypes for portable radios. A club auction was held after.



Presiding over the 28 March 2017 meeting are (from left) Barry Kinsella (Treasurer), Reg Gauci (Vice-President) and Andrew Wakeman (Secretary)



Reg Gauci gave a presentation on power pack adaptor prototypes for portable radios at the 28 March 2017 meeting.

28 March 2017 Meeting and mini-auction.



A full house of members turned out for the 28 March 2017 meeting.



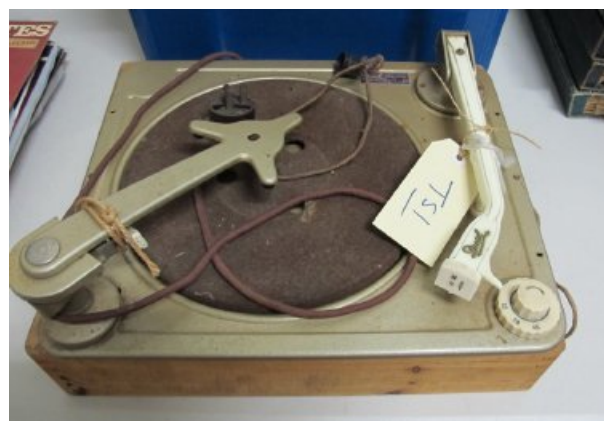
Graham Kahn made this excellent display box for valves.



How to power vintage portable radios with modern batteries is an art of innovation.



Merv Thompson brought along a selection of transistor and novelty radios from the 50-70's



A Dual brand turntable was auctioned at the March meeting. Dual, a European brand were known for reliability

28 March 2017 Meeting and mini-auction.



A circa 1953 car radio made by Brighthope of Bentleigh Victoria, was included by Kevin Chant in Show n Tell.



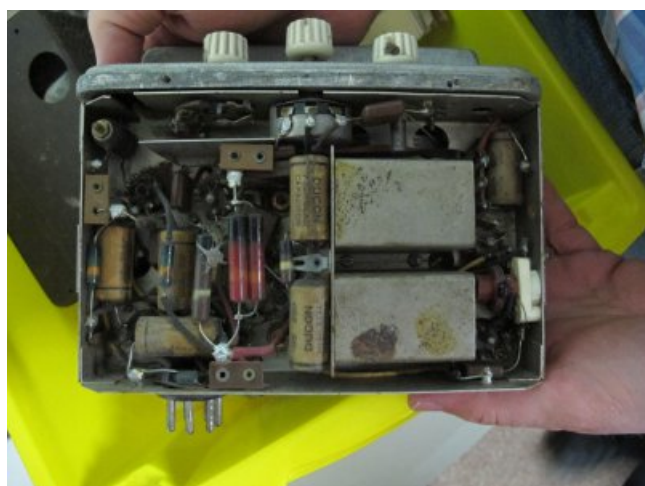
The car radio was powered by a Dynamotor made by Pioneer Gen-E-Motor of Chicago USA.



Rear-top view of the Brighthope car radio chassis shown by Kevin Chant.



Rear view section of the Brighthope car radio chassis shown by Kevin Chant.



Inside chassis components of the Brighthope car radio.



A Texen Master radio used at the Mount Henry Hospital Cloister 1951-98 was auctioned at the March meeting.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday April 25th 2017.

Members present : 23

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice Pres Reg Gauci. Apologies were received from Rob Nunn and Dennis Grimwood. A welcome was extended to visitor John Parker.

Tonight's presentation will be given by Richard Rennie and Steven Austin on the coming of sound to Western Australian cinemas. This also included a demonstration of a Columbia BC Graphophone

Secretary's Report.

The club has been informed that the Have a Go Day will be held on Wednesday November 1st at Burswood Park.

Incoming correspondence- 1) Have a Go day notification, 2) the Phonographic Record, 3) Radio Waves magazine. There was no outgoing correspondence.

Clarification on the format of auctions. There will be 2 auctions per annum held for the sale of member's goods. These will occur in January and June. All other auctions through the year are reserved for the sale of items donated to the club.

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

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. There is approx \$3,800 in the bank and \$6,000 in the fixed deposit account. Income has been from needle sales and club auctions. The suppliers are being paid out of petty cash.

Moved as correct by Gary Cowans and seconded by Colleen Tourney. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Gary Cowans- Wishes to be taken off the mailing list for the club newsletter. Barry wished to remind members that they can opt out of the newsletter/magazine by ticking the box on their membership renewal form,

Items of Interest.

Norbert Tourney- A 45V battery made by using 5x9V batteries. The last time 45V batteries were available commercially was in 1975.

Meeting closed 8.26pm.

The Coming of Sound in WA Part 1 (1906 - 1914).

At the April meeting, Richard Rennie presented the coming of synchronized sound in the cinemas in Western Australia prior to World War I.

It covered the five technologies that were used in WA.

Auxetophone

Gaumont's **Chronophone**

Gaumont's **Chronomegaphone**

Edison's Projecting **Kinetophone**

Auxetophonoscope

In the presentation, each technology was described:

How it worked.

Why it was innovative.

How each was an improvement.

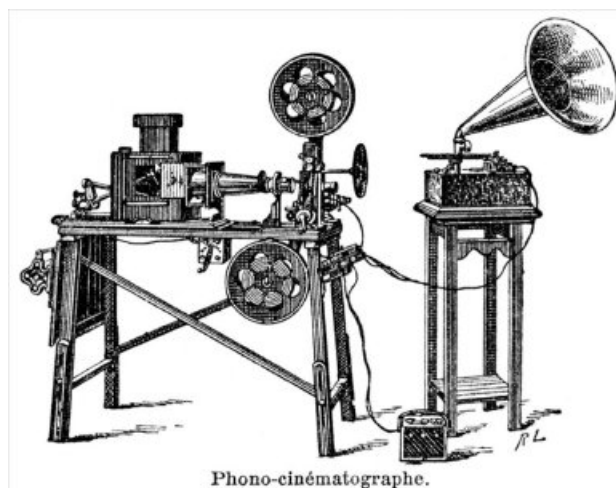
What was the public reaction.

In which theatres were they used.



The presentation included a playing of the only working **Auxeto**-type compressed air sound amplifier in WA; as was used by two of the sound projection systems:

Gaumont's **Chronomegaphone** and the **Auxetophonoscope**.



Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday May 23rd 2017.

34 members present.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice Pres Reg Gauci. Apologies were received from Rob Nunn who will be back on duty at the next meeting. A special welcome was extended to Tim Gillette who has not been to one of our meetings for a while. Membership renewals are due on the 1st July and renewal forms will be available on the net soon.

Secretary's Report.

A reminder that the club will be exhibiting at the Have a Go Day on Nov 1st.

There have been a number of emails sent out to club members regarding items the general public wish to sell. As we do not give valuations it is up to the potential buyer to make an offer if a firm price is not stated. If anyone has problems opening these attachments let us know (it may be due to incompatibility of old systems).

Next month will be the AGM and members auction. There was no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Rodney House and seconded by Colleen Tourney. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. At present there is over \$10 000 in the bank. The recent auctions have made over \$400 for the club.

Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Sid Pateman. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Richard Rennie- 1) In 1984 a booklet was published by the late Brian Williams on how to date records by labels. Richard is looking into getting this reprinted for sale to club members.

2) Was looking back through old photos and found one of an early club display going back to 1989 featuring Tony Bayliss. This photo was framed and presented to Tony in appreciation of the support he has given the club over the years.

Tom Constant- Was given a chassis for a Howard console radio. If any club member needs it for a restoration project it is available.

Tim Gillette- 1) A neighbour gave him some radio parts that will be available tonight at the donated items auction. 2) Is after a Bakelite cabinet Phillips 122 that is in working condition. If anyone has one for sale could you please contact.

There is at present no plan for the discontinuation of AM radio in Australia.

Items of Interest.

Merv Thompson- 1) A 16mm Piccolo toy film projector and tin of children's films purchased through another club. Norbert stated that these projectors were very common in Germany when he was a child. 2) A customised album sleeve (featuring Merv) that was given as a present. A very professional job done by his son that was a great idea.

Dennis Grimwood- After 50 years has finally purchased an inductance meter. Has found that it needs calibrating with a known inductance.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

A talk was given by Vince Taylor on rare and unusual gramophones. A club auction was held after.



Vince Taylor showed this Edmac console wind-up gramophone circa 1920, as part of his presentation on rare and unusual gramophones.

Some photos from the 23 May 2017 Meeting



Some of the members present at the 23 May 2017 meeting (thanks to Peter Browne for the photos)



A 16mm Piccolo toy film projector and a tin of films for children was shown by Merv Thompson



A Yaesu FRG-7700 Communications Receiver in good condition was shown at the meeting



A German Grundig Satellit 2000 multi-band radio was auctioned at the meeting.



Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms
Tuesday June 27th 2017.

43 members present. 2 visitors.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn who gave sincere thanks to the committee for keeping things running during his absence over the last 3 months. Special thanks also to Tony Barbatano, Sid Pateman and Rodney House for handling the club auctions.

Apologies were accepted for Barry Kinsella and Rodney House and a welcome extended to visitors Rosie Constant and Kim Young.

Magazine #131 is in preparation. Stories and contributions are needed. The website is also in need of 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 and all items must be paid for on the night. Memberships are due tonight if you have not already paid your subs.

July's presentation will be courtesy of Russell Nash and feature films on radio wave propagation.

Secretary's Report.

Upcoming events are the Have a Go Day on Wednesday Nov 1st. The Tesla society is holding an event in July and details will be emailed to members. There was no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Rod Edwards and seconded by Merv Thompson. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer's report was presented by Reg Gauci as a separate document. \$4562 is available in the general account and \$6044 in the term deposit. Moved as correct by Gary Cowans and seconded by Richard Rennie.

General Business.

Russell Nash- Recently visited the Hamersley Broadcast facility on Wanneroo Rd. It houses the Radio National Transmitters and will offer a free tour for club members. Details to be made available via email.

Items of Interest.

Matthew Cass- German Lorenz AM/FM wood cabinet table top radio c. 1946. A high quality super het tuner with Telefunken tubes.

Merv Thompson- White plastic portable Studebaker AM/FM radio. Features include clock and weather reporter. Runs on battery and mains.

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 Barbatano and Sid Pateman.

Librarian: Paul Hansen

Website Manager: Reg Gauci

Magazine Editor: Rob Nunn

Meeting closed 8.35pm. An auction was held after the meeting.



Left to right : Reg Gauci (Vice-President, Acting Treasurer, Rob Nunn (President), Andrew Wakeman (Secretary)



A Rheem Caliphone cassette tape deck for auction

Some photos from the 27 June 2017 meeting.



It was a full-house at the 27 June meeting, with a busy agenda and large members auction.



Merv Thompson shows a retro Studebaker white plastic portable AM-FM radio with inbuilt clock



Studebaker white plastic portable AM-FM radio.



A retro Teac plastic portable radio.

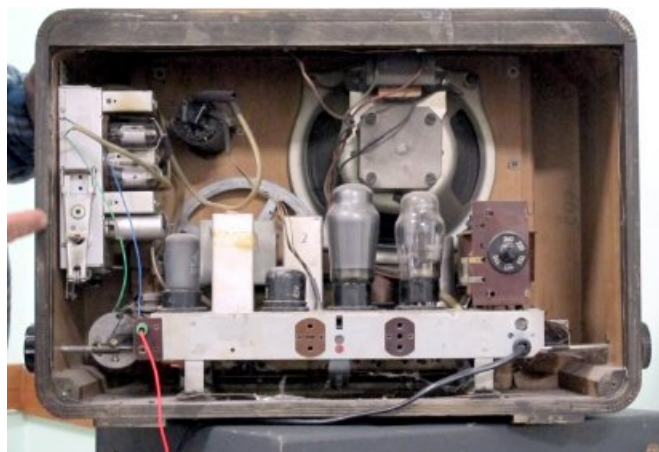


A Universal Bridge meter up for auction.

Some more photos from the 27 June 2017 meeting.



Matthew Cass showed a wooden-cabinet valve AM-FM radio made in Germany by Schaub (circa 1946). High quality super het with Telefunken tubes. See also front cover page.



Rear cabinet view of the Schaub AM-FM radio. Refer left photo and front cover photo.



A Yaesu Musen FT-7 solid state CW/SSB 20W transceiver for 80/40/20/15/10m bands. Circa late 1970's—popular ham radio.. Auctioned.



An attractive restored STC wood-cabinet valve mantle radio with shortwave, up for auction.



A considerable variety of items were auctioned, including radios, LP vinyl records, magazines, transceiver, music box, CD's, headphones etc



A Ekco A-147 wood-cabinet valve radio made in the UK, with 4 pre-tuned AM channels, circa 1951, restored by Tony Smith—see article this magazine

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday July 25th 2017. 34 members present. 2 visitors.

8.05pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by Vice President Reg Gauci. Apologies from President Rob Nunn.

Tonight's presentation will be by Russel Nash who will show a series of early Telstra training films on radio wave propagation. A reminder that subs are due and if you have not paid yet you can do so tonight.

Secretary's Report.

Upcoming events are the Have a Go Day on Wednesday Nov 1st at Burswood Park. Queries are still coming in through the website. Most are for radiogram repairs. Anyone who is wishing to take these on will be referred to the enquires. There have also been a number of radiograms offered free to good homes.

An event is on offer to tour the Hamersley Broadcast facility on Wanneroo Rd. It houses the Radio National Transmitters and will offer a free tour for club members. Details to be made available via email.

There was no incoming or outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Gary Cowans and seconded by Tony Bayliss. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer's report was presented by Barry Kinsella as a separate document. So far 40 members have renewed their subs. The subs are at present paying for the club magazine. Moved as correct by John Pascolich and seconded by Sid Pateman.

General Business.

John Pasculich – 1) Wondering is it workable to ask for donations to fund the supper supplied by the club. The answer from the chair was that since we are making money from donated items at auction there is no need to do this at present. 2) Is at present going through the new constitution for the club as required by the changes to the law regarding non profit incorporated bodies.

Dennis Grimwood- When would the Hamersley tour take place? Chair has thought it will probably be arranged for September.

Richard Rennie- National Science week is 13th-20th August. Coming events of note are; Aug 30th, a presentation on the first radio experiments in WA. Aug 20th, Presentation on the challenge of the East-West Telegraph line. Aug 20th Wireless Hill Museum has an open day titled Science and Communication.

Items of Interest.

John Pasculich- last auction purchased a telephone made in Yugoslavia in 1950.

Andrew Wakeman- TV Boom Box by Sharp Corp c.1970s. Has B/W TV, AM/FM Receiver and Dual cassette.

Steven Austen-1) Pathe Actuelle mechanism and diffuser c.1920s. Has been restored and is now looking for a suitable Pathe cabinet. 2) THE RESONATOR c.1926. An invention made by Claude Davis of Queensland maple. It does away with the tone arm and reproducer. Complete and in original box with instructions.

Tony Bayliss- German radio, Lowe OPTA, AM/FM 4 Band circuit board with valves. c. late 1950s.

David Fisher- Compact Recorder Transistor, Dictaphone type machine. In a round vinyl case with separate attachments to play 7 inch 45rpm records. Battery powered and knows of 3 more available.

Dennis Grimwood- Mentioned a new item that has appeared for sale; Underwear designed to protect the male reproductive system from damage by radiation from phone towers.

Meeting closed 8.35pm. Films were shown after the meeting.



A Universal voltmeter in good condition was up for auction at the July meeting.

25 July 2017 Meeting and mini-auction



A good attendance at the July meeting resulted in no spare seating again.



Part of an Edison Home phonograph, with a repeater attachment fitted, owned by Stephen Austin—working on fitting it to a coin operated phonograph.



A Sharpe 10P-35 portable stereo AM/FM radio cassette with TV circa 1960's



Stephen Austin show his restored Pa-the Actuelle mechanism and diffuser, c. 1920's. Looking for a cabinet.



Tony Baylis does a Show n Tell with his recent acquisition, an attractive circa 1960's

25 July 2017 Meeting and mini-auction



Barry Kinsella, Treasurer and Reg Gauci, Vice-President caught during a lighter moment.



A very compact reel-to-reel tape recorder in a ladies makeup case look a like.



John Pasculich shows one of his vintage telephones



Reg and Andrew contemplate this gramophone displayed and discussed by Stephen Austin.



Vince Taylor our Minutes Secretary finds a tight spot to record the Minutes!

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday August 22nd 2017.

39 members present. 1 Guest (Keith Nunn).

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn. Coming events for the club are the visit to the Hamersley Transmitter complex.

Memberships are now due and can be paid to the Treasurer tonight.

The coming talk in September will be by Norbert Tourney on the Volksemphanger Radios of Germany. An auction of donated goods will follow that presentation.

Secretary's Report.

The National Science Week events were a great success and many thanks to Richard Rennie for manning the displays in the cottage at Wireless Hill with the Deaf Society and the Vintage Cinema groups. Thanks also go to Rodney House, Reg Gauci and Richard for entertaining the kids and the effort they put in to the event.

There was no Incoming or Outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by John Pascolich and seconded by Tony Bayliss. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Paul Hansen. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Richard Rennie- 1) due to the large number of people who attend the January meeting and auction he would like to move that the committee investigate the possible use of Karanjini Hall for that event. The motion was seconded by Steven Austen and carried.

2) On Saturday Nov 19th the Melville City Council will be holding their Emerge Festival at the Melville Civic Centre. They have asked the club to display on the day. The theme is Vintage Radio 1920s-1960s.

Items of Interest.

Norbert Tourney- A 1920s Raxonola Gramophone purchased by Colleen Tourney at one of the recent club auctions.

Meeting closed 8.19pm.

Tonight's presentation is by Richard Rennie on Before HMV. A look at the early years of the Victor and Gramophone Co's. An auction will also be held.



Richard Rennie (above) and Rodney House gave an interesting presentation titled "Before His Masters Voice (1887—1908)"



Rodney House (above) also gave an interesting presentation titled "Before His Masters Voice (1887—1908)"



Norbert Torney brought along a 1920's Raxonola Gramophone that he and Colleen had purchased at a recent club auction

20 August 2017 Meeting and Mini auction



Members and visitors (front row—second right — Keith Nunn) gather for the start of the meeting.



Auctioneer Tony Barbatano and Assistant Syd Pateman during the auction.



Some of the rare and valuable gramophones displayed



Many thanks to Richard and Rodney et al for bringing in these lovely gramophones as a display for their talk..



"HMV Model 2001 3 speed record reproducer for AC mains"

Rexonola gramophone



Items up for auction attracted plenty of interest.

The story of the dog painting (1899) used by Victor



Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday September 26th 2017.

34 members present, 1 guest.

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn and welcome extended to visitor Mark.

Club magazine Radiogram 131 is in preparation. Contributions are welcome.

A committee meeting is scheduled for Monday 2nd Oct. Items for discussion will be the possibility of other premises to alleviate overcrowding and future presentation topics for regular meetings.

Russel Nash is organising the visit to the Hamersley Transmission site and a tentative date for that visit is Tuesday 10th Oct.

The club regularly receives calls from the public for information on their radios and gramophones. If anyone would like to act as consultants for the club then let the committee know.

Tonight's presentation will be by Norbert Tourney on the Volksempfänger- The Peoples Radio; 1933-39. Next month Richard Rennie, Rodney House and Steven Austen will be presenting Klingsor Gramophones; The magic and the myth.

Secretary's Report.

Have a Go Day is approaching. It will be held on Wednesday 1st November at Burswood Park. There was no Incoming or Outgoing correspondence. The secretary's report was moved as correct by Merv Thompson and seconded by Warren Peg. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Tabled as a separate document. Moved as correct by Richard Rennie and seconded by Tony Bayliss. Passed unanimously.

General Business.

Tony Smith- the Western Australian Museum of Motion Picture and Television are looking for a museum space. At present they have a temporary storehouse at Sunset Hospital Dalkeith. There is an opportunity for the club to tour this collection in October or November.

Richard Rennie- Melville Council is hosting an event on Nov 18th at Wireless Hill. The WA Museum is also involved and would like the club to display at the event. The club needs more people to help with this event and is also looking at hosting an old valve radio information session on the day.

Items of Interest.

Merv Thompson- 1) Kreisler Duplex Radio c.1955. 2) Airzone Cathedral Radio c.1933-34.

Tony Bayliss- Astor Transistor Radio, 300 Series in white plastic. c.1969-72.

Richard Rennie- A novelty...Wellington or Shooehorn gramophone.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

Tonight's presentation is by Norbert Tourney. An auction of donated items follows.



Norbert Torney gave an informative presentation on Volksempfänger—"The People Radio - 1933-46".



Some of Norberts fine collection of German Volksempfänger radios.



Some of the generous donations of items to be auctioned at the Oct meeting.

26 September 2017 Meeting and Mini auction



Members await the opening of the 26 September 2017 meeting.



Merv Thompson does Show n Tell on his Airzone cathedral valve radio circa 1933-4



A large donation of valves were received and auctioned at bargain prices.



A most unusual novelty item, A wellington shoe-horn gramophone was shown by Richard Rennie.



Tony Bayliss shows his Astor transistor radio, 300 Series in white plastic. c.1969-72.

Minutes of Vintage Wireless and Gramophone Collectors Club meeting held at clubrooms Tuesday October 24th 2017.

33 members present, 3 guests.

8.00pm. Meeting commenced.

The meeting was opened by President Rob Nunn and welcome extended to visitors Dean Hashworth, Godfrey Howard and Keith Bunn.

The club magazine Radiogram 131 is in preparation and contributions are welcome. Keep up to date with club events by following the website. See Reg for any suggestions or contributions.

The committee met on the 2nd Oct to formalise meeting programs, public displays, end of year wind-up etc. Thanks to Russell Nash for organising the tour of the Broadcast Australia Transmitter site in Hamersley.

Tomorrow afternoon the club will be visiting the AMMMPT storage site at Sunset hospital, Dalkeith. A special exhibit will be held at Wireless Hill on Sat 18th Nov, 1-4pm. This will be a sequence of displays tracing radio in the home from the 1920s-60s. Radio information session will also be held.

The John Glenn Park in Muchea will be launched on 22nd Nov, see John Paskolich for details.

The end of year dinner will be held at the club rooms on 28th November 6.30pm. It will be a fully catered affair and partners are welcome.

Tonight's presentation will be by Richard Rennie, Rodney House and Steven Austen on Klingsor Gramophones; The Magic and the Myth. An auction of donated goods will be held after.

Secretary's Report.

Incoming correspondence; 1) the details of Have a Go Day on Wednesday 1st November have arrived.

Outgoing correspondence; nil. The Guildford heritage Festival is set for Sunday 18th March 2018.

The secretary's report was moved as correct by Tony Bayliss and seconded by Paul Hansen. 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.

Paul Hansen- Did the committee come to any decision regarding the clubrooms. The chair answered that since the present rooms come at little cost and have storage

space it is preferable to stay with the current arrangement. It is thought that by changing the manner in which auctions are held more space may be made available. The committee is still looking into the possibility of finding an alternate venue that would suit needs and not be cost prohibitive.

Reg Gauci- is working on an old Phillips record player and trying to source a cartridge for it.

Items of Interest.

Tony Bayliss- Philco Cathedral Radio c.1933. 240v, 4 valve. Original finish on case.

Dennis Grimwood- unusual 4CX1000 and 4CX250 valves. Copper planar types used for broadcasting by the ABC. The 4Cx type valves have Beryllium in them and are highly toxic if broken.

David Littlely- saw in the Sept 2016 issue of Silicone Chip magazine a gadget for aligning a valve radio. It is a sweep generator that sweeps and shows the frequency and wave form. Can be constructed for under \$130.

Russel Nash- Massive valve from an STC Transmitter. 3J261E ran in parallel with 2 others to power the 50kw STC transmitter.

Meeting closed 8.37pm.



Rodney House shows how restoration work is carried out on Klingsor gramophone.



Stephen Austin, looked on by Richard Rennie, talks about his experiences with Klingsor gramophones

24 October 2017 Meeting and Mini auction



Richard Rennie gave a great talk, with fine examples, on the Klingsor gramophone,



Rodney House showed how the painstaking work of restoration of Klingsor gramophones was carried out.



Some fine examples of these beautiful Klingsor gramophones on display.



Some of the collection of Klingsor gramophones.



Russell Nash showed a massive valve that ran in parallel with 2 others to power a 50kw STC transmitter.



David Little shows a project sweep generator for aligning a valve radio. Courtesy Silicon Chip.



Dennis Grimwood- unusual 4CX1000 and 4CX250 valves. Copper planar types used for broadcasting by the ABC.

SIMPLE RECEIVER BECOMES A TOILET ROLL FOUR: A TEENAGE PROJECT MATURES Geoffrey Lilburne



I've always been fascinated by the possibilities of regeneration in simple valve receivers, and now that I've reached the age of retirement, it seems time for me to dabble a bit in my own re-generation. And unlike the proverbial housewife, I don't mind fiddling with knobs to get the best reception from a home-made set!



AWA Radiola Bakelite cabinet (c.1950's)
used to house the project radio.

The first radio I ever built-- after the obligatory crystal set, that is—was a simple two valve regenerative receiver. Utilizing a miniature 6U8 (pentode and triode in one envelope) and a 6X4 it pumped out enough volume to drive a small loudspeaker on the broadcast band and could be relied upon to pull in short wave signals with ear-phones.

When I recently rediscovered the circuit in a 1957 *Radio Television and Hobbies* magazine, I was once again captivated by the set's simplicity and functionality. Could I make it work again, wind those coils with these less-than-dextrous fingers, enjoy the music of such a wide band receiver?

I started with the coils. The circuit called for $\frac{3}{4}$ inch paper coil formers. None were available, so I resolved to purchase a length of polythene piping of the right diameter and try winding the coils on this. Next valves. I have a lot of old valves, but no 6U8, so I reasoned that a suitable pentode and one of the ubiquitous 6V6's should work just as well.

I had also acquired from Frampo an early 1950's AWA Radiola chassis and Bakelite cabinet, fitted with a 6x9 electro-magnetic speaker. I was sure it could house my little regenerative experimental receiver. Of course, modification, experimentation and making do was the order of the day! First I tried a 6U7 and 6V6 and

wired in my little pipe wound coils. After fiddling with wiring, I managed to get a soft 50 cycle hum out of the speaker but nothing in the way of a radio signal. I substituted a 6AC7 for the 6U7, which was possibly dodgy. A better volume of hum but still no signal.



AWA Radiola chassis used to house
the project, showing hand-made coil.

I wound another pipe coil with no different result and decided that perhaps this type of piping had some unhelpful Q characteristics. Next I tried a defunct toilet roll tube, of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter. Number of turns was scaled down to accommodate this new size, and whoopee. A whistle appeared when the regenerative potentiometer was advanced. Progress. Now a very faint signal could just be heard in the speaker.

With patience and an ear glued to the speaker, I could just discern signals from across the broadcast band. I fiddled with resistor values but was not able to make much improvement. Time for a rethink. Perhaps the old speaker and the aged 6V6 were not efficient enough to get speaker volume out of this kind of simple set. Why not add a further stage of amplification? I found an unused 6AK5 in my valve box and wired in an audio amplifier stage.

While I was at it, I might as well make the grid resistor of the output valve a top-cut tone control potentiometer. Suddenly I had volume in my speaker, but the sound was that of a healthy Seagull outboard motor! Time to develop a slightly different high tension arrangement. I wired in a voltage divider for the audio stage, and found a reduction in the motor boating volume.

I thought I could exclude the RF detector stage from this reduced voltage supply, but then realized that this valve also functioned as an audio amplifier. Once it was included in the divider circuit, the motor boating disappeared and we started to get a good volume of audio out of the little speaker. The set was certainly shaping up, could be listened to with pleasure, and had now grown to a four valve regenerative receiver. It was time to clothe it in my favourite Bakelite!

.....Geoffrey Lilburne

THE ABC OPEN DAY IN DARWIN

Fred Franklin

During World War II Darwin was bombed by the Japanese air force on many occasions.

The American troops were hot on the heels of the Japanese and saved Darwin from the Japanese. This action lasted through out the war. The American military like to travel with all the comforts of home. These included a small radio station with a range of about fifteen km. It had an output of 200 watts at 1500 KHz.



ABC radio station in Darwin with Natasha, the Marketing Manager.

After the war, the Americans packed up and left the radio station to the Post Master General (PMG). The station was given the call sign 5DR. At that time, we were still a part of South Australia. That is where our name came from; the Northern Territory of South Australia.

The station had two studios and a control room, all installed in a Sydney Williams hut at the end of Blake Street on Gardens



Hill. During 1960, the station was moved to the Fisheries Building at 1 Cavenagh Street. To start with the Fisheries Department and the ABC shared the building.

The call sign was changed to 8DR, transmitting on 633KHz. From a transmitter in Douglas Street, Fannie Bay. A location on the edge of a swamp.

By 1989 the ABC had taken over the Fisheries Building and modern radio and television studios installed. We had had ABC television since 1971 (ABD6) but now some local productions could be made, especially ABC News and Weather featuring local ABC staff. The radio

station changed its call sign to 8DDD and transmitted on 105.7MHz., from a transmitter at Shoal bay.

The station is now known as ABC Radio Darwin using the same frequency and transmitter. The studios were refurbished and now feature all the latest technology.

Recently an open day was held 11-3-2017 so that the public could be shown through the facilities, meet the presenters and staff and see how their favourite radio and television programs are made and presented.

This event celebrated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the station. I have been listening to this radio station for fifty years.

Here are some photos from the event.
Happy restoring, collecting and listening.
Fred



Eleni Roussos , ABC Darwin newsreader.



Record player—part of yester-year equipment.

The (Almost) Impossible Restoration of the Saba 212 WL.

Norbert Torney

Three years ago I found on ebay this very early 1930s Saba radio, the seller advertised same as a Saba 311. All valves were missing but otherwise it appeared complete. The case was in v.g. condition by the ebay photo.



Norbert Torney

Just over four weeks later the parcel arrived; extremely poorly packed with big dents in the cardboard box, the case badly broken through the front. plus cracks on the top and on both sides. After my initial anger had subdued I poured the whole contents of the box onto a white sheet and collected all broken pieces.

All bits and pieces went into plastic bags and the radio and everything that went with it went into a dark corner. Since then I've been trying to find another one but without success. Quite recently I decided to have a go, I glued over the broken out front a stiff plastic sheet and



Saba 212 WL

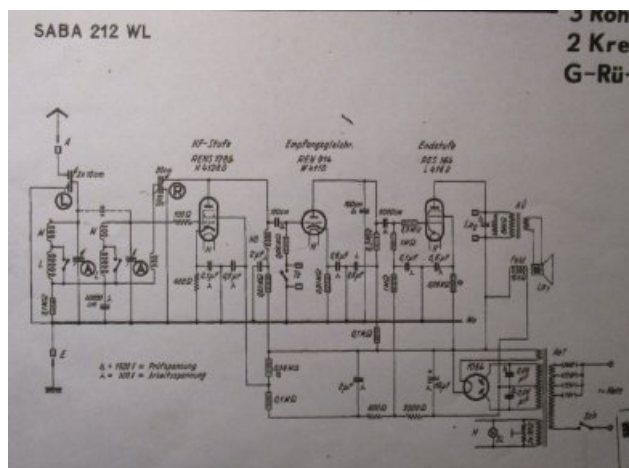
fitted all broken bits, like a puzzle into the gaps. Everything glued in with epoxy glue proved it was possible to restore the case. Back to the chassis, the dial had been smashed to pieces and the underside consisted of three different poorly executed rat-nests of modern, up to date components. – It looked terrible, obviously a first ever attempt of restoring a radio.

Time for stock taking, a new dial, a circuit diagram, four rare tubes, a lot of resistors and caps were needed. – On my disc I found the diagram for the Saba 310/11 and on ebay I found an add for Saba replica dials. I concluded it was possible to bring the radio back to life.

Saba lists two sets of tubes, the Telefunken variety and to my delight the Philips variety, of which I had a full and tested working set. German manufacturers that did not make their own tubes often listed the equivalent numbers and used randomly tubes from different manufacturers during production. In 1932 when my Saba was made,

standard numbering had not been introduced yet, meaning naming of tubes was very different from factory to factory.

As soon as the dial arrived I had a go unfortunately the wiring had been ripped out together with the original block condenser and replaced with freely flying wires, without terminals or any resemblance of a tidy wiring concept. This type of amateurish wiring method makes fault



Saba 212 WL circuit diagram

finding impossible. So out comes the side-cutter and anything not original was removed. I always start with the mains switch and the power supply. The switch was open circuit but could be dismantled by taking out two screws; cleaning the contacts and greasing the mechanism fixed the problem.

The old power cord went into the bin, next the set was hooked up via my globe box with only one globe in circuit and all tubes out of their sockets, nothing happened, the globe didn't even dim. Checking the voltages coming out of the transformer, I had across the dial light 4 Volt and on the rectifier tube socket 4 Volt on the filament pins and 235 Volt to earth on the two plate pins.

This meant all is O.K. ready for the rectifier tube and the filter condensers. The two filter condensers had to be refitted and the speaker rewired with the field coil and output transformer rewired. I found the speaker tranny was only bolted onto his bracket with one bolt because the other side didn't line up. I removed the transformer for a closer inspection and found a label attached "220 Volt – 4 Volt" obviously a filament transformer.

Hooking up the tranny to the mains produced 4.3 Volt on the secondary – clearly a mains transformer. – At this stage I like to explain why mains transformers cannot be substituted for output transformers; in a class "A" single ended audio output stage; approximately 50% of the maximum current flows without any input signal, this current is actually DC and will saturate the transformer core.

Best you can hope for is low badly distorted sound. I wired the speaker up with a substitute standard O/P

transformer and proceed cleaning up the wiring. Having fitted the not so common 1054 rectifier tube with caution a healthy 320 Volt appeared across the filter caps. Next in line was the output tube (L416D) the two 20 Ohm earthing resistors where missing and the screen grid dropper had the wrong value. All this done a healthy hum was produced when I touched tube grid 1 with my finger.

The detector and audio amp was one of the first pentodes a Philips H4128D. The wire with the usual top cap was missing and what was left of



Top[view showing differential tuning condenser of the RF volume control.

the original wiring didn't make sense. All the circuits I had on the Saba 310 WL, WLK, GL etc were all similar, but nothing fitted the set. The set didn't come with its back and there was no model number anywhere. Obviously it



Original tuning condenser with defective rotor.

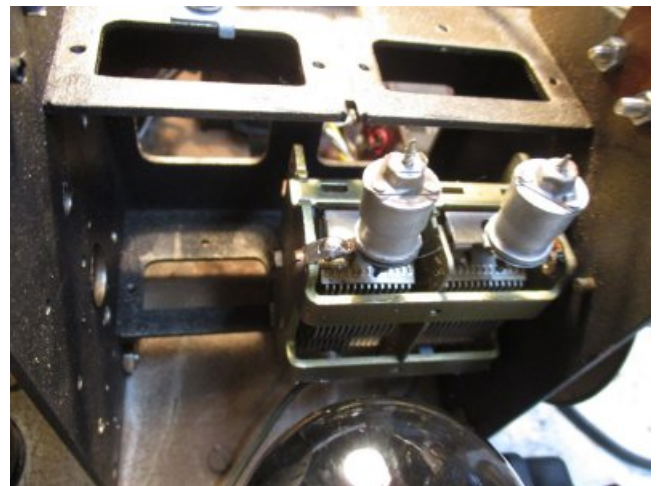
wasn't a 310/11 or 12. It turned out to be a much rarer 212 WL. This set comes in a number of different designs, all of them unusual and not seen in other sets. The most striking difference is the "aperiodic" or un-tuned detector, a circuit I have never seen or heard of.

Reading what I could find in reference of the circuit philosophy and its use, I found out it was a short lived experiment. At this stage I continued to get the set back to its original wiring and see what performance it might produce. The top cap wasn't there because there never was one, because the detector on this set was a triode REN914 which doesn't have a top cap.

I proceeded to rewire the set as a Saba 212, it clearly was a Saba 212, most models from 1932 to 1934 use the same case, therefore positive identification is not easy without the back or better the compliance label. However the circuitry of the 212WL differs greatly from all other models. Having the wiring corrected and everything else checked, the set did not work.

Hooking up the signal generator to G1 of the detector tube (REN914/W4110) produced a loud 1000Hz note as expected, being an un-tuned detector it didn't matter what frequency was fed into G1. Feeding a medium wave signal into G1 of the RF amplifier produced nothing because the tuning condenser was short circuit.

A fix proved impossible and replacement would be unobtainable. My solution was to fit a modern tuning condenser into the frame work of the old one. It was time consuming but worked like a charm. Now the set worked well with the signal generator feeding into G1 of the RF tube but not when a signal was fed into the antenna socket.



Modern tuning condenser used to replace defective rotor on original tuning condenser.

I needed nearly full generator output to hear something in the speaker; checking the coils etc produced no result. Everything was right but it didn't work! Next I linked the two separate band-filters with a coupling capacitor bingo the set worked – not very well – but it worked. Back to the computer and looking for assistance; Radio Museum org. had a story on the 212 and its pro and cons. Its poor performance was pointed out including its short term existence.

I am not particularly fond of things that don't work well especially when I already invested a lot of time and money. A solution needed to be found. In 1943 Telefunken manufactured an RF preamplifier to spruce up the "Goebbel's Schnauze" the DKE 38 and its successors, these sets were of particularly poor RF performance. The Telefunken Hannover kit as it was called turned next to useless radios into great performers.

About 10 years ago when I obtained my first DKE I replicated the Telefunken Hannover kit. It turned an otherwise useless radio into a great performer. At the time I used the original RV12P2000 tube and copied the circuit exactly. Since then I've used common tubes with identical results. The only difference is the cathode resistor, to compensate for different bias requirements. I've got a stock of 4GK5 and 4EH(J)7 for sets with 4 Volt tubes, they work even better than the RV12P2000.

I didn't want to spoil the antique look of the chassis, however there was plenty of room underneath where the block condenser used to be. A no longer used angle bracket with a noval valve socket already fitted was found. I have a box full of TV IF tubes mostly 6BX6 and also 6EH7/EJ7. These tubes are ideal replacements for the RV12P2000, as all of these are wideband RF tubes with a 250 Mhz frequency ceiling, gain wise they greatly outperform the much earlier Wehrmacht tubes.



In the past I have used the 4EJ/EH7 as a wideband pre-amp in a VE301w and in a VE301dyn. The performance of these sets is now almost undistinguishable from a super, plus better treble response. The 4EJ7 & 6EJ7 are identical except heater rating.

I disconnected the first band-filter, this became now the plate load for the 6BX6, the antenna is now fed into grid 1 of the 6BX6. The result is breathtaking, with a piece of 6' wire every available station comes in loud and clear. Because of the low "Q" factor of these early coils I've got now a HiFi AM radio.



The treble performance rivals a common FM radio. Because the set has got a reactive detector with a feedback controller (a differential variable capacitor – the only one I've ever seen), the feedback sharpens the coils Q, resulting in a reasonable bandwidth decrease and thereby allowing acceptable station separation; which is quite a problem with TRF radios.

.....Norbert Torney

EKCO A147

Another interesting radio made in the UK came through one of the Club's auctions.



Tony Smith

The set was manufactured with the concept of being the simplest of radios to operate. It incorporated a system of 4 pre-tuned AM channels, presumably they being the BBC frequencies on air at the time. There were three medium-wave channels, and one long-wave. The tuning was a simple selector switch, with the added feature of an illuminated identification bezel for each station.



Ekco A147 before restoration

First step was to take the chassis out of the cabinet, and upon doing so it was discovered that the wiring of the set was done with rubber covered wire, which we all know the insulation of which goes rotten with time.

This poses the question — what to do? In this case, as others, the easiest way in refurbishing such a set is to simply leave as much of the wiring alone and undisturbed. From experience the rubber will keep its insulation property even when it has hardened and become brittle. Thus it then is only necessary to carefully replace any connections that might pose a problem down the track.



Ekco A147 rear view with antenna disconnected

The set was fitted with the usual portable set type tuned antenna coils for medium wave and long wave, and mounted on the back cover. Thus the set would not even require an external antenna, so adding to the simplicity of operation.

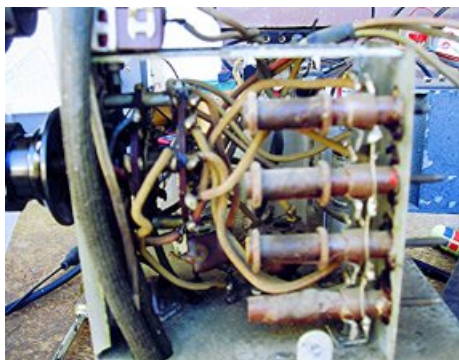
The tuning system was actually quite simply in that there was an appropriate oscillator coil and aerial trimmer for each frequency. Upon trying out the set, it was discovered that one medium wave channel was not operating, the fault finally being traced to an open circuit oscillator coil. There was no way one could remove the faulty coil as the coils had been glued in place with some substance that was impossible to shift. Another question -what to do?



Akco A147 under chassis rough wiring

Would there be something in the junk box to suit? An old model oscillator coil from a pre-war set came to light and might just work. Mounting this trial coil over the top of the other ones and wiring in brought the set back to life on the missing channel.

A quick check of some of the capacitors lead to the decision not to touch any, other than the audio coupling to the output stage, which was replaced.



Ekco A147 tuning coils

The valve line-up used the Mullard type miniatures with the glass spigot used to line up the valves in their sockets. (ECH42 converter, EF411F stage, EBC4 diode/audio, EL41 output, and using EZ40 rectifier)



Ekco A147 medium and long wave antenna coils.

The set performed well, with the three medium-wave channels set to 6WF, 6IX, and 6PR. with the long-wave channel left as-is.

It was now time to attack the cabinet and knock it into shape. With all the old coatings removed so as to take the cabinet back to the wood, and a couple of coats of a gloss applied meant that the set was now a worthy example of the "Golden Years of Radio".



Station indicator lights.



The finished set!

.....Tony Smith

A contribution by Dennis Grimwood.

AN ODE TO -ODES

When I was young and full of hope
The diode tube was all the dope,
Then came the triode and high-mu,
The latest thing, I'm telling you.
Next came the tetrode with its screen,
And then the pentode hit the scene.
We thought they surely were the last,
But from then on things happened fast.
Duo-diode, pentode-triode,
Pentagrid converter;
Duplex-diode, detector triode,
Pentagrid inverter;
New tubes arrived by every train,
'Twas at this point I showed the strain.
Now I am old beyond my years,
I've got gray hair above my ears,
And to this world I tell my wrongs,
Why do tubes have so many prongs?
(*Sylvania News*, Vol. 6 No. 1, 1935)

HOV WELLINGTON TALKING MACHINE

Recently a club members found a rare Wellington gramophone. The Wellington Talking Machine was a



Richard Rennie

unique Western Australian invention. In 1910, the sole agent in WA for the Wellington was the HOV Shoe Stores on the corner of Barrack Street and Wellington Boot Street, Perth.



HOV Shoe Stores, Cnr Barrack St and Wellington Boot St. Perth, WA



HOV Wellington gramophones played size 6 records using a shoe horn.

They were excellent for playing sole music



The brand was HOV. Their trade mark was registered with a Blue Heeler listening to His Owners Voice.



There was a stereo version of the HOV Wellington gramophone

HOV Accessories



A volume control was also available at an additional cost.



A brush for cleaning records was also available from HOV.



Special needles were manufactured by HOV for the Wellington gramophone.



HOV supplied a special record polish.



National Science Week 2017

WIRELESS HILL MUSEUM Science Event

Sunday August 20, 10 am to 4 pm



Science and **COMMUNICATION** How Science helps us communicate



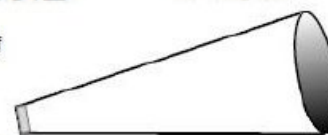
Our club participated in the Wireless Hill Museum—National Science Week event on 20 August 2017. Various groups presented activities and displays. The event was a considerable success with approx 170 visitors.

Home Activity

MAKE A TOOTH PICK GRAMOPHONE

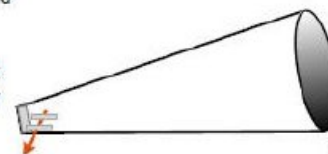


Roll a large (A3) sheet of paper into a cone or funnel.



Flatten the pointy end and seal it with sticky tape.

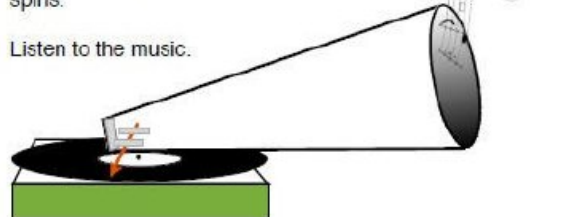
Attach a sharp tooth pick (on a slope) to the pointy end with sticky tape.



Put an "old" record on a record player.

Lightly put the point of the tooth pick on the left hand side of the record as it spins.

Listen to the music.



One of the activities at the WHM Science Day.

Managing a Large 78 Record Collection

By Morgan Wilde



Morgan Wilde

"I came to the house in North Perth. A deceased estate. Despite sitting on a valuable block of land the fibro house was showing signs of serious neglect. Inside the house were various bit and pieces. In one corner, photographic equipment. In another, artworks. Out the back, vintage car parts, wheels, fenders, dashboards. The estate heirs were in the process of selling off all the artefacts left over from their recently departed uncle. They wanted to empty the house and demolish it. I asked them about the 78's and they showed me a room. There they were, stacked up in random piles, covered in dust, apparently not touched in years. Collected by a man who needed to possess them but did not have the time or the energy to sort them out into a working collection. There were so many I had to come back with a trailer to take them away. And six months to clean and sort them."

Such is the state of the average 78 rpm record collection. Untouched for years with the heirs not knowing what they have or even why the collection was amassed in the first place. But it doesn't have to be like this. Properly managed and planned, a 78 rpm record collection can be just as convenient as cd's or lp's.

I think at this stage I should point out that there really are two distinct hobbies here albeit with a great deal of overlap. Collecting gramophones, which is really about the technology of sound reproduction and the records, which is about the musical culture of the times.

Of course a gramophone collector needs something to play and a 78 rpm record collector needs something to play them on but I think it is clear that they can be considered different although related hobbies.

Why collect 78 rpm records?

From around 1900 to 1950, the 78 disc was the main format for the commercial distribution of music. One could argue that in the early days, some significant works were produced on cylinders and of course from the 50's lp's and 45's gradually replaced the 78 format.

But in the main all the important works of music in the first half of the 20th century was recorded on the 78 rpm disc format. For anyone having an interest in music of that period, the 78 rpm disc is the original source material.

The film "How Shellac Records Are Made - RCA Victor presents: Command Performance"

"https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zL53iEHf_0" demonstrates how 78 rpm records were made in the day.

From the film, the intriguing conclusion is that a 78 rpm record is a direct impression of the original recording and therefore a possibly better version than any later re-release provided it is in good condition.

Another reason is that the 78 rpm disc is the format that the artists themselves would have seen their music being put out at the time and owning the disc is the authentic means of possessing that piece of music.

And finally, the music on 78 rpm discs is fabulous. So why not own it on the right format. Early music does have a different aesthetic to more modern music and it does require a different mindset to appreciate it but once you "get it" a whole new world of music opens up.

I would also like to add one more point. It is perfectly possible to play 78 rpm records on a modern turntable with a light weight magnetic cartridge, provided the turntable can spin at the right speed with an appropriate diamond stylus. A set up such as this can provide a "transparent" reproduction of the music on the disc and is the most accurate way of reproducing the sound as heard by the artists who made the record.

Gramophone reproduction is what the record buying public would have heard in their homes at the time of the original purchase. Either method is a valid way of listening to the records but for me I use a modern turntable set up as this sounds better for my ears and minimises damage to the records.

So what makes a large 78 rpm collection and what are the challenges?

I'll define a large collection as anything consisting as anything more than 200 records. Anything less can be put in the storage compartment of a gramophone and can be conveniently retrieved for play back. Once a collection gets above this number then alternative measures need to be taken.

For a collection to be effective for me means that any record in the collection should be able to be located and brought to the turn table within three minutes, the time to play a disc. Piling them in crates in the back of the shed is not a solution.

The first challenges are space and weight. Good quality storage is simply not available "off the shelf". Generally storage systems need to be custom made to be both strong enough to hold the records and deep enough. Modifications had to be made to prevent the shelves sagging.

The final cabinet is one I obtained while purchasing records. The former owner claimed it was from a radio station but I can't verify it. It is well made but the lack of doors doesn't make it child friendly (see photo next page)



Custom made cabinet



Cabinet from an office supply shop

The next challenge is cleaning and re enveloping the records. Most records I have bought haven't been played in possibly over fifty years and are unplayable in their current condition. However a good clean can make even the filthiest record perfectly playable. Cleaning 78's is an essay topic in itself so I will pass here on describing the various techniques and save it for another time.

The envelopes which they come in have generally deteriorated to such a point that they are unsuitable for record storage due to age. Many 78's now are missing their covers entirely. Because of the generic nature of 78 envelopes I always replace mine. Tudor sell an envelope 305x255 mm (140201).



These can be cut with a guillotine to make an envelope which will fit 90% of 10 inch records. These can be bought in a box of 250 for usually less than \$50. There is a larger envelope which can hold 12 inch records. Having new envelopes does make a 78 record collection much more attractive. The original envelopes shouldn't be thrown out but kept as a separate collection for the artwork.

The final challenge I wish to discuss is how to arrange a collection. I have come across several methods. Each has there own advantages and disadvantages.

The first method is the random catalogue method. On processing each record is given a number. The number and the record details is entered into a spread sheet or data base. To find any record, search the data base which will give you the number to find the record. The main advantage is that subsequent records will never be

placed before previously collected records, saving re-shuffles. The disadvantage is that no records bear any relation to their neighbour so finding similar styles of music can be difficult. This method also requires meticulous updating of the database. Lost entries mean lost records.

For the completionist, using the records own catalogue number could be a viable method of arranging records but again has the difficulty of dissimilar music being



placed together and also requiring a database or a discography to find records. It should be noted that records pressed in different countries can but not always have different catalogue numbers for the same track. Some music, notably classical, was released with multiple catalogue numbers for sets which had manual or automatic couplings. Although I mainly use a genre / alphabetical system, catalogue numbers can be useful for preventing the collection of duplicates for such artists as Bing Crosby who had a large number of releases (I have over six hundred Bing Crosby records)

The system I use is a genre / alphabetical system. Music is placed in its genre and then sorted alphabetically according to the artist with the exception of classical music which is sorted by composer. The main advantages of this system is that the music around each of the records neighbours is of a smiler type.

Thus I can pull a random record of the shelf and have a good idea what it will sound like before I play it. I can also find a record by a particular artist very quickly.

The disadvantage of this system is that as new records are added to the collection then some shuffling is required to create more space.

The other peculiarity of a genre based system is the nature of genres themselves. Genres are a subjective classification and while many records fit neatly into a genre, many records don't and could be considerably placed in different categories depending on the prejudices of the collector.

Despite the initial work required, a genre / alphabetical system has worked for me in being able to have a working collection of over seven thousand records and allows me to find the records I want to hear, when I want to hear them.

My next essay will be about about musical genres and cataloguing them.....Morgan Wilde

Club visit, 24 Oct 2017 to Broadcast Australia, Hamersley WA.



Rob Nunn

Thanks to the foot work by member Russell Nash, some members of our club enjoyed a guided visit to the Broadcast Australia transmitter site in Hamersley, WA on 24 October 2017.

Nine members were given an excellent tour of the facilities by Technical Specialist, Ray Archibald. We were very impressed by the history of the site and the highly specialized technical knowledge required to run the transmitters with the least disruption. Here are some photos of our visit.



Left to right—Lex Curnow, Peter Browne, Dennis Grimwood, Richard Jeffrey, Ray Archibald, Denis Brown, Russell Nash, Barry Kinsella, Tony Barbatano.



Ray showing the group the main control equipment for the transmitter station.



An array of electronic control cabinets



The onsite technical specialists had plenty of test equipment to do their own servicing and repairs.



A coil of the massive cable used in the antennas.



One of the transmitter antennas.

Radio National

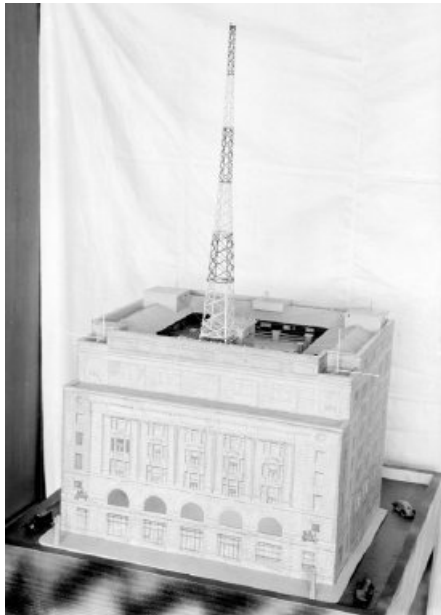
Russell Nash



In 1938 Western Australia's second Radio Broadcasting Station (6WN) hit the airways. It was designated an A Class station as was 6WF. 6WF was initially installed on the Wesfarmers building in the Perth City in 1924...

The 6WN transmitter was installed on the 6th floor of the General Post Office in Perth in 1938 and just recently the GPO building was purchased and is now occupied by the Swedish fashion retailer H&M.

The GPO building at Forrest Place Perth was built in 1923.



Soon after 6WN was installed, It was thought that the station moved to the Wanneroo Broadcasting Site (Hammersley) to the same location as 6WF. A well-kept war secret perhaps?

In fact the 6WN transmitter did relocate from the GPO in the year 1941 but not to Wanneroo and the aerial tower was still at the GPO until 1945 and then it too relocated but not to Wanneroo. Nor did the aerial tower shift to the same location as the 6WN transmitter.

Both stations 6WN and 6WF were joined together in harmony at the Wanneroo site in 1953, the same year I was born and my father was working in the GPO trunk room at the time.

Stay Tuned and in Harmony, Russell Nash

Rare Hand-Cranked Rasp-o-Phone



Richard Rennie

On my recent visit to the Melbourne Museum I saw this rare hand-cranked machine; a Rasp-o-Phone.

The instruction were "Wind the handle to hear excerpts from Home Sweet Home by Nellie Melba."

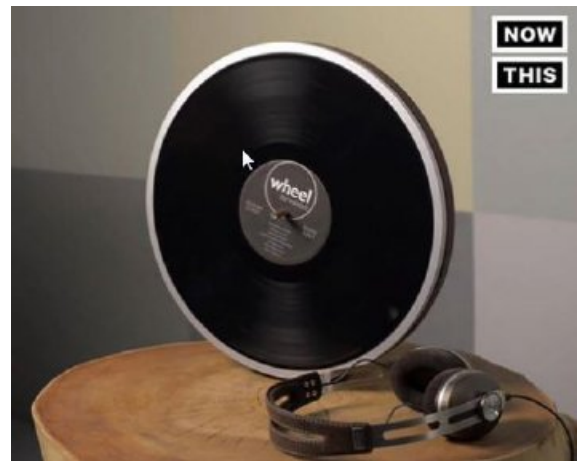
To make the sound sweeter you were instructed to "sprinkle icing sugar on the record."

As you can see from the white surface of the record this must have been done many times.



John Newman sent this in—check it out on—

<https://www.facebook.com/NowThisFuture/videos/1459758987398610/>



A VWGC Club meeting in 1988. Can you identify any people? How many are still members?



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!

FOR SALE

THE EDISONIC Long Playing Disc Phonograph
It has 3 reproducers. For Diamond Discs, Long Playing Discs and for 78 records. Works very well. \$1400

Richard Rennie 9330 1636



Wanted

Step-down transformer—commercial unit in a metal carry case with handle 240 or 250 volt—1000W (1 kVA)

Dennis Grimwood

diyaudio@oestex.com

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.

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

RARE early Sonora Radiogram c1924
Any condition. Richard Rennie 9330 1636