Omega Radio Club Inc

e News Letter

Vol. II Issue 11 - November 2016

End of Year Lunch in the park:

Members are reminded our Lunch in the Park is getting close now and it isn't too late to book your place. The date is Saturday 3rd December and the location is Emerald Lake park. We have our own private shelter so we will be comfortable no mater what the weather throws at us. Food is fully provided by Omega so all you need to bring is your own drinks. It should be a great day so come along and be a part of the fun. RSVP to omega.radio.club@gmail.com or phone Mike on 0428 516 219 no later than Friday 25th November. This has to be the final deadline as we have to confirm the numbers with the caterer.

Car Rally Communications:

The Car Rally Communications team have had an extremely busy time with 3 events in a little over 4 weeks. This has only been possible through the efforts of all involved, especially the members who attended all 3 events. Events covered in this short time were Akademos on 16th October followed a week later by the Blue Rock Stages on 22nd October and then Begonia on 13th November. Both Blue Rock and Begonia needed field tests in advance to prove radio coverage to all required locations. Special thanks must go to Dick 808 who attended 2 test visits for the Begonia rally as well as the event itself. This means Dick did 5 trips for Omega in a little over 4 weeks so a very big thankyou Dick for all your good work.

Unfortunately the weather impacted quite badly on the Blue Rock and Begonia making conditions quite unpleasant for all involved. Very wet weather caused both events to be abandoned after the cars had completed the first lap of the course. The Begonia was particularly bad with very strong wind and rain making setting up the repeater and translator systems very unpleasant indeed. Hopefully next year things will be a little more comfortable.

Looking forward to 2017 the draft rally calendar shows dates for most of the usual rallies we are involved with however the first ones may not be until early April. This gives us chance to have a well deserved summer holiday.

Melbourne Repeater Site:

Some upgrade works are planned at our Melbourne repeater site commencing in the new year. Following discussions with the site owners some improvements will be able to be made to our system which it is hoped will return our coverage nearer to what it was earlier in the year. Hopefully we will have more news on this in the coming months.

Omega "Person of the Month" award:

This month's award goes to **Russell 545** for his good work at Rally Base for the Akademos rally. Well done Russell.

Windfall:

Recently Derek 742 alerted Alex to some surplus equipment which had become available through a company he knew of. Subsequently Derek and Alex attended their office and collected a quantity of aluminium masts, deep cycle gel batteries and other items. These will be made available to members for a nominal cost on a first come first served basis. A full list of this equipment is included later in this edition. For more information please contact Alex 510.

Contributions for eNews:

If you have anything of interest to members that could be included in eNews please send this to us at *omega.radio.club@gmail.com*. If your contribution can't be emailed, please contact Mike 220 or any committee member to make other arrangements.

For Sale, Swap or just plain Free.

For sale this month:

ICOM F1010 – VHF FM Commercial Radio. $110.00

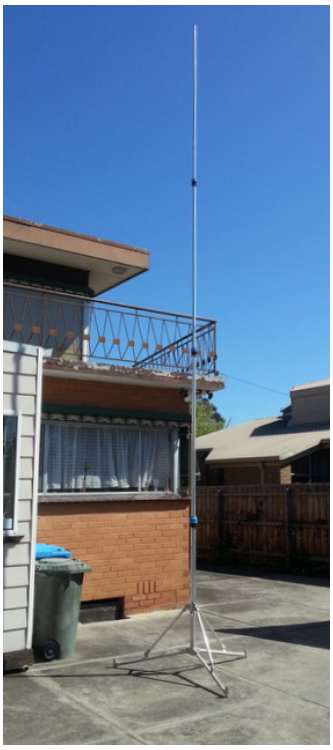
Remote Mountable – ICOM RMK-1 Remote kit NOT INCLUDED!

Fully programed for use on Omega Radio Club Frequencies
- 5w Low & 25w Hi Power
- Fully programmable CTCSS encode decode features.
- Alpha Numeric display
- Up to 25 programmable channel memories.
- Front panel buttons programmable for multiple functions
- Supplied with new Genuine ICOM Microphone

For more details or to arrange a purchase please email 483 Frank at VBX483@moshari.net
Other makes and models available on request.

Masts & Batteries:

Aluminium tripod mounted mast, 2M folded extends to nearly 7M.
Only 2 are left at $50 so be quick, Fuel Fund money can be used.



80Ah deep cycle batteries: they have all been tested with a load battery tester.
Ideal as second battery in car or just as a portable battery to run radios, lights, fridge etc.
All have carry handles, clamp posts and screw terminals.
There are 12 left at $20, Fuel Fund money can be used.
Please send order to the club email address.

Events Calendar—Club Diary

24th November	Last General Meeting for the year
3rd December	**Club End of year get-together Full details on next page**
6th December	Last Committee Meeting for the year
2017	
26th January	Australia Day—General Meeting night—TBA.

Some scenes from recent rally events.

The Akademos rally seemed to be about the only one for a while where the weather was good. Some areas had quite strong wind but at least it didn't rain on us.

Left: Flying finish at end of stage 3.

Centre: Time to complete the paperwork

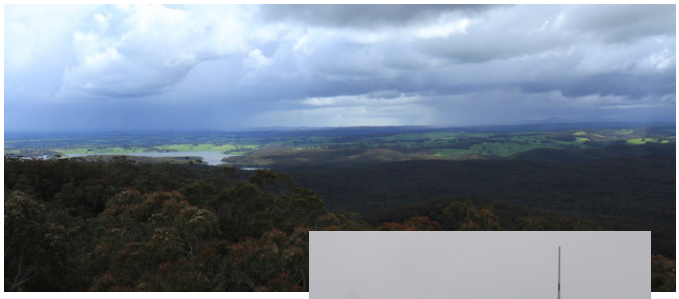
Right: Duel band antenna set up at rally HQ at Alexandra

Blue Rock Stages: A very cold and wet day from start to end. Radio coverage throughout the event was very good enabling operators to make good use of hand held radios.

Right: *Spot the radio*.— waiting for the next competitor to fly past SOS RC 2.6.

Below left: Wet, cold & foggy at repeater site Mt Tanjil.

Below Right: more rain squalls approach Blue Rock Lake.



Begonia Rally:
We are on a roll here; still more Wet weather…

Left & Right: Whiteout in cloud and rain. Translator site amongst wind turbines at Waubra neat Talbot.

Below left: Up close and personal. (these things are huge when you are close to them!)

Below: Coffee break after a lot of driving on the second test day.

Below right: Advertising at Rally Base— Ballarat Airfield.

Omega Radio Club

EoY Get-to-Gether

Emerald Lake Park

Year end is near so come for some Christmas Cheer

When? **Saturday 3rd December**

Where? **Emerald Lake Park—Emerald** *(Melway 127 K4)*

Messmate Shelter - Reserved for Omega

From 12.30pm

All food provided - Cooked meats, Baked Potatoes, salads etc. + dessert

All you need to do is BYO Drinks

Can't Find us on the day?? Call on VHF Chn. 3 local

RSVP absolutely essential
By Friday 25th November

To: omega.radio.club@gmail.com
Or by phone to Mike on 0428 516 219

Save on parking catch Puffing Billy from Belgrave, Menzies Creek or Emerald town station.

Messmate Shelter
Its fully undercover so we can enjoy the day no matter what the weather throws at us.

Puffing Billy departs Belgrave **11.10am**
Menzies Creek **11.35am**
Emerald township **11.50am**
Arrives Lakeside **12.08 pm** *nicely in time for lunch*