

# Omega Radio Club Inc

## e News Letter

Vol. II Issue 6 - June 2016

### **Annual General Meeting:**

All members are reminded the Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday 23rd June at our usual venue Carwatha College, Browns Road Noble Park North commencing at 8pm. Following the meeting and presentation of club awards supper will be available. If you haven't been to a meeting for a while, come along and be a part of what should be an enjoyable evening.

### **PRM80 Radio microphones:**

Do you have a PRM80 radio with a damaged or faulty mic cable? We have the opportunity to get some replacement key pad type microphones at a very good price of \$33.00 each (reduced from \$95.00) if we can get a bulk order. If you have these radios and have a crook mic this could be the last chance to obtain a replacement (as well as some added functionality) as PRM80s are now considered obsolete. Please contact Mike 220 as soon as possible if you would like to order.

As advised in the last eNews, Simoco (formally ComGroup) will no longer repair PRM80s as they consider them obsolete, however we understand an exception will be made for our club members. We currently have several radios needing repair and will book them in as a group. If any members need to have a PRM80 repaired, please contact Mike 220 as soon as possible as we are hoping to book all the repairs in at the same time.

### **New Batteries:**

Len 124 has arranged for the club to purchase 2 more 55Ah batteries for use at repeater sites. These are the same type as recently purchased and will now give us 6 small capacity batteries that will be used in pairs to power our repeaters. As we are all getting older the smaller size (55Ah) makes for much easier carrying and loading in and out of cars at events.



### **“Very” short notice event:**

On Tuesday 17th May two members, Len 124 & Mike 220 attended an event in the Toolangi Forrest at very short notice. In fact we were asked to attend at only 1pm on the day before. The event was a car testing session for an ARC team competing in the National Capital Rally (formally Rally of Canberra) on 27th to 29th May. Apparently the organiser had arranged communications in advance however this had fallen through at the last minute. Fortunately 2 of our members were able to attend and being the Toolangi forest, wasn't too far away. We provided 3 club radios and a operator for each end of one closed road.

Fortunately even though the event was only the following day Omega was able to help out in an awkward situation. It may even lead to some involvement in similar events in the future.

### **Car Rally Communications:**

The next rally event on our calendar is Nissan Nightmoves on Saturday 18th June at Heathcote. As this years event is based in Heathcote and the course is new from last year we have needed to do some testing to be sure of our coverage in the new area. The test uncovered a significant interference issue which would seriously affect the operation of our VHF repeater. To overcome this some changes will be needed to the way we operate on the night. Alex 510 will be distributing instructions quite soon so if you are coming to this rally please have a good look at Alex's notes regarding the channel to be used so you don't have trouble on the day.

### **Omega “Person of the Month” award:**

Member of the month award for this month goes to **Russell 545** for stepping in at the last minute to assist with testing for the Nightmoves Rally. Congratulations Russell and thankyou for your help.

Don't forget: If you would like to nominate another member for “Member of the Month” please send your nomination to [omega.radio.club@gmail.com](mailto:omega.radio.club@gmail.com).

## Events Calendar—Club Diary

<p><b>18<sup>th</sup> June</b> 23<sup>rd</sup> June</p>	<p><b>Nightmoves</b> <u>Annual General Meeting Night</u></p>	<p><b>Heathcote</b></p>	<p><b>Confirmed</b></p>
<p>28<sup>th</sup> July</p>	<p>General Meeting Night</p>		
<p>25<sup>th</sup> August <b>28<sup>th</sup> August</b></p>	<p>General Meeting Night <b>George Derrick</b></p>	<p><b>Avoca</b></p>	<p><b>To be confirmed</b></p>
<p><b>17<sup>th</sup> September</b> 22<sup>nd</sup> September</p>	<p><b>Spring 200</b> General Meeting Night</p>	<p><b>Marysville</b></p>	<p><b><u>Confirmed</u></b></p>
<p><b>16th October (Sunday)</b> 27th October</p>	<p><b>Akademoss Rally</b> General Meeting Night</p>	<p><b>Alexandra (Blue Range)</b></p>	<p><b>Confirmed</b></p>

### 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](mailto:omega.radio.club@gmail.com). If your contribution can't be emailed, please contact Mike 220 to make other arrangements.

### From the archives.

What were we doing 10 years ago?



The radio equipment is what we used for our repeater system at the time. The repeater radio was a Phillips FM828. These radios were widely used for Amateur and CB repeaters due to their unique design of having completely separate receiver and transmitter units within the one radio. Unfortunately these days they don't meet the required specifications for channel spacing and band width so can no longer be used for our repeaters. We now use



two separate radios for our repeaters, one for the receiving and one for transmitting function. The site was a good one as it had mains power so only a backup battery was needed. Indeed a luxury we don't get very often.



The Cavity diplexer seen in this setup is now used at our more permanent Melbourne repeater site. This type of cavity system does not take well to being transported all over the place so is better suited to a more permanent site.