Radio Club www.omegaradioclub.org News Letter

Vol. III Issue 9 - October 2017

End of Year Get-together Date Change:

The new date for our End of Year lunch will be *Saturday 9th December*. It has been necessary to change the date as we could not secure a booking for our preferred shelter at Emerald Lake Park on the original date.

On the day we will enjoy a roast lunch - roast meats, potatoes, salads and desserts which will be supplied by the club. Those attending should bring their own drinks.

Any members looking for a different day out it is possible to travel to Lakeside Station on Puffing Billy as our shelter is only a short walk from the station. For more information see the Puffing Billy website at:- http://puffingbilly.com.au/en/

All Omega Members and immediate families are invited to attend. If you would like to bring other visitors they would be most welcome however a small charge will be necessary for non members. Please contact the Secretary for further information.

All who attended last year agreed it was a great afternoon so if you missed out come along this year and enjoy good food, good company and great surroundings in a nice park venue.

The Messmate shelter shed will be reserved for Omega's sole use so we will be covered no matter what the weather throws at us.

Remember the date - Saturday 9th December, Messmate Shelter Emerald Lake Park, Lakeside Drive Emerald (*Melway 127 K4*) commencing at mid-day.

Next Meeting:

Don't forget our next meeting will be on 26th October at the school in our new location. All being well we won't have the parking problem that occurred last month.

Recent Events:

The last rally was the Akademos on 22nd October. I believe all who attended enjoyed a day time event for a change from having to be out at night. After a wet start leaving Melbourne the day was fine but quite cold in the mountains. Radio coverage was again very successful with only with only the service park finding it hard going. Special thanks to Brian 982 to his efforts at the service park getting around on his electric scooter.

Coming Events:

The next rally will be the Autumn Midnight Trial on Saturday (next) 28th October. This one will be based at Seaton near Heyfield in Gippsland and should be our last for the year.

At the time of writing we are still short one member so if you are able to attend please contact Len 124 as soon as possible.

Member of the month:

The award for September goes to **David 580** for his great work under very difficult circumstances at the recent Marysville Stages rally.

October's award goes to **Brian 982** for his work at the Akademos rally. Brian cruised the service park on his electric scooter finding service crews as needed, a task made difficult as radio coverage was not good for a hand held.

Thought for the day:

A sign seen on a repair shop door. "We can fix anything" (please knock as the bell doesn't work) Hmmmm!

Akademos 2017

By Mike 220

On Saturday 22nd October some 13 members headed out to the Akademos rally in the Rubicon Blue Range area. The Akademos is run each year by the Melbourne University Car Club. Omega and the Akademos rally have a very long relationship as it is one of the first car rallies we attended back in late 1979. We have performed radio work at just about all of them since. During those years the radio system we use has evolved from the earliest days of UHF CB to UHF CB repeaters then a single VHF channel through to the VHF repeater system we use today. While the radio system has evolved considerably over the years one thing had remained constant and that is the support and dedication of our members through the work done for these events. One of our members, Brian 982 has been involved with MUCC and this event since his university days and told me recently he has attended every Akademos since 1961. I'm sure not too many others in car rally circles could claim that level of continuous involvement. Brian was able to mark his 2017's attendance down as the radio operator at the Thornton Service park where he was able to get around on his trusty electric scooter. He found radio coverage rather patchy for a hand held at Thornton so I think we will have to help him arrange a proper radio installation on the scooter for next year. What do you think Brian?

Below scenes from around the event including our new display signage at Rally Base—Alexandra.













Events Calendar—Club Diary

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Thursday 26th General Meeting New location at the School Saturday 28th Autumn Midnight Trial (in Spring) Seaton / Heyfield

November

Tuesday 7th Committee meeting Mike 220's home Thursday 23rd General Meeting at the School

December

Saturday 9th End of Year Lunch Emerald Lake Park

Contributions for eNews:

If you have anything you think would be of interest to members that could be included in eNews please send to us at *omega.radio.club@gmail.com* or contact Mike 220 or any committee member to make other arrangements.