



**Volume 25 No. 1**

# **S.A. GROUP**

# **NEWSLETTER**

**July-August 2015**



**TCA (Philips) R5223 Reception Set**

# Historical Radio Society of Australia Inc. – S.A. Group

Web Site: [www.hrsasa.asn.au](http://www.hrsasa.asn.au)

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Valve Bank Manager	Vacant

## Forthcoming Meetings

<b>Sunday 26 July</b>	<b>Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Historical Radio Society of Australia – South Australian Group will be held at St Cyprian’s Church Hall, Melbourne Street, North Adelaide.</b> The AGM will be preceded by a General Meeting commencing at 1330 and followed by an internal Group auction.
Sunday 30 August	1330 A Show and Tell at St. Cyprian’s Church Hall.
Sunday 27 September	Annual picnic at Old Tailem Town, between Murray Bridge and Tailem Bend. The committee is investigating the hiring of a bus for the event.

- Sunday 25 October      1300 Auction at Tony Bell's.
- Sunday 29 November    1300 Meeting at Murray George's.
- Saturday ? December    1200 Christmas Luncheon at the Maylands Hotel.  
Date to be advised.
- Sunday 31 January      1300 Auction, probably at St Cyprian's Church Hall.

### **Retirees' Luncheons**

Luncheons are held for retirees at the Buckingham Hotel, corner of Walkerville Terrace and Northcote Terrace, Gilberton. Meeting time is 1200 for a 1230 luncheon. Forthcoming luncheons are;

Wednesday 9 September

Wednesday 11 November

Wednesday 13 January

### **Front Cover**

Applying power to my R5223 on display in the Museum for the first time in over 10 years and have the receiver work perfectly, gave me the inspiration for this month's cover. The receiver was designed by the Engineering Design Establishment in the early 1950s and it took Philips most of the 1960s to produce 212, by which time the R5223 was obsolescent. Most saw life with the P.M.G. or in overseas embassies as a 'hack' receiver.

### **Editorial**

The first thing to notice is that the local Group is now starting its 25<sup>th</sup> year. Unfortunately the Group, like many similar clubs and societies, is suffering from a lack of junior membership so that a succession plan can be put in place. Since the committee is made up of nearly all retirees, how about some of the younger members nominating for the committee. No committee, no Group. No Group, no auctions or other events. Finally, please note Miles' comment of not to park in the church car-park before 1200.

### **Presidents Report**

The last of the Codan parts were sold or auction off at Warren Lanes' in May allowing Warren to get his garage back. Well some of it!

The last meeting for this financial year was at the ETSA Museum at Kurrulta Park. Due to organisational problems we started late. But it was worth the wait. Based on a workshop principal plus a display of the benefits of electricity –cookers, heaters, radios.etc.

I would like to thank the committee members for their work during this sometimes challenging year. I would also like to thank Elisabeth Cox for all the great afternoon tea's she has provided to us. Thanks to Craig Jackson for bean counting and auditing work, and Peter Maddern and Warren Lane for auctioneering duties.

The main achievement this year is getting the valve bank sorted out with many thanks to Norm Scott, Duncan McDonald and John Crawford. We are at that stage of pricing the new valves, once done the price list will be available on the web site and the valve will be available for sale at Aztronics in Sturt St Adelaide.

The July meeting is the AGM at St Cyprian's Church Hall 70 -72 Melbourne St North Adelaide. Followed by the Auction. Access to the car park is from 43 Sussex St via East Pallant St. Please do not park before 12 noon, to allow parishioner to exit the church. The car park is available to unload for the auction. There is more parking available across the road in Dunn Street.

To book a table at the auction please contact Warren Lane on 8337 8709 or email him. No booking, no table.

As always we are looking for new blood on the committee. Please help your club by volunteering. To this end the committee is looking at ways to streamline the meetings and reduce the work done by the office bearers in between. We intend to establish more semi fixed meetings with only 3 members hosted meetings per year. Volunteers to host meetings will be gratefully accepted.

In September we are hoping to go to the Tailem Town Museum. Craig is looking into prices plus possibility of 3 course meal. We are prepared to hire a bus for this trip for about 40 members and partners. We will taking reservations at the next meeting.

Miles Essery

### **More from Jim Eason about the Little Astor *continued from last month.***

The Little Astor has been particularly difficult. I have an unshielded model, a shielded model both with Emmco dials, and a shielded model with Viking dial. I suspect probably at least one more model but try as I might, cannot identify it.

It's all a bit of fun and should help members more clearly identify their sets. With over 100 different sets now (counting different styles as "models" up until 1932), I will

have to stop soon just to get the revision to members. Fortunately many of the sets have the same circuit so that part isn't so bad.

Actually I have just realised that the Astor 5 Table and Console model for SA is different to the Victorian model in the period March to about July 1928. From the SA ads, the table model was a "plain jane" model with very little decoration on the lid edge or along the bottom of the baseboard. I have no information on the electrical side for the model. I am assuming that it was probably an extension of the 1927 model chassis in a different case.

The former console model (Jacobean legs) appears to have been carried through all the way to June or July. In Victoria the models switched in April.

The SA variant has 3 round dials and a separate push pull on/off switch that is located lower RHS

I am guessing that it's a wooden chassis model and the 3 RF coils only have 4 terminals, that the volume control is the plate circuit of the first two RF valves and the valve series is 4\*A609, B605. What I would like to know is where the factory adjusted rheostats for the filaments are. A common arrangement is for the first 2 RF valves for one rheostat and the last 3 for the other though some have the second rheostat controlling the detector only.

All very mysterious. Feel free to publish anything you think worthy in the last email (I struggle to find anything except to say thank you for getting it out there).

*If you can provide more information to Jim, please contact him directly or through our Group treasurer, John Crawford. – Ed.*

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Right: Morrie Rieger showing BVWS member, Phil Taylor some of his toys. When Phil visited his sister in Adelaide in 2011, we covered the north by visiting the NMVM, Les and Don. This time we covered the south.





Left: Peter Holland is showing Phil some of his vast collection of communications receivers following a most enjoyable lunch at the Torrens Arms Hotel.

Right: Duncan hard at work sorting the valve bank at Aztronics in the city. Duncan, Norm, John Crawford and Miles have been doing a stirring job. John was behind the camera, Norm on sick leave, hope you had a doctor's



certificate Norm and Miles was awol.

Left: this will give some indication of the magnitude of the valve sorting task.



Left: Members inspecting the ‘white-goods’ collection. Note the broadcast radios (wireless sets) in the background.

Right: Some of ETSA mobile radios. Left from the top, Traeger MA51 high frequency used on the Radium Hill line construction and an ETSA built 31 MHz mobile radio of 1945. On the right from the top, Kimberley, Philips 1680 and TCA (Philips) 1677.



Left: The July retirees’ luncheon had an excellent attendance of 12, complete with Warren’s debut and Alan’s Birthday.

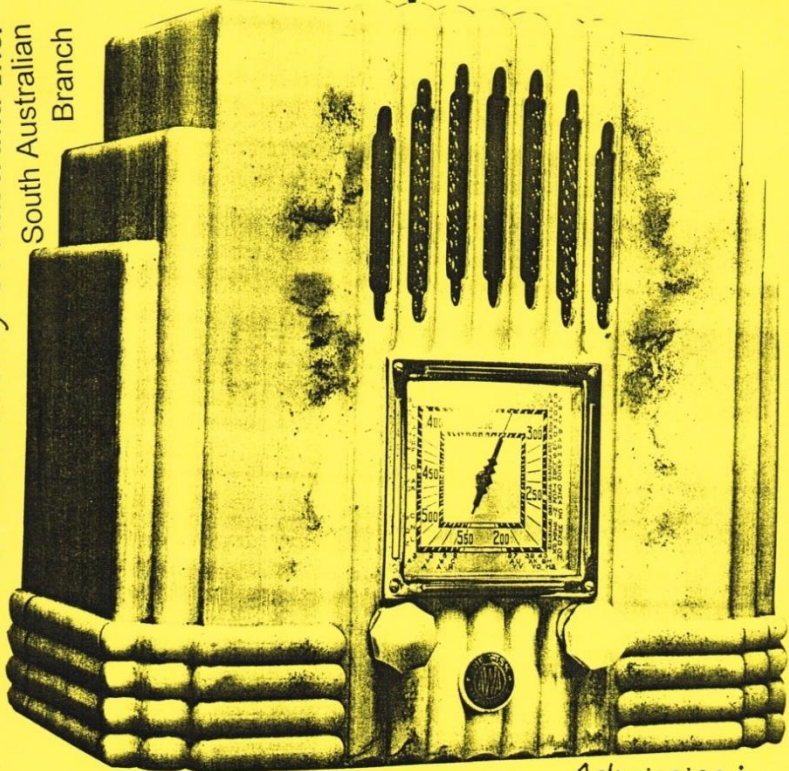
HRSA



# AN EXHIBITION

of Valve Radio's and  
Gramophones

Historical Radio Society Of Australia Inc.  
South Australian  
Branch



Phonograph Society  
of South Australia Inc.

Date: 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> of June

Admission:  
\$ 2 Adults  
\$ 1 Students/Pensioners

Place: Fullarton Park Community  
Centre, 411 Fullarton Rd, Fullarton.

Time: 10-5 Sat. and Sun

In circa 1996, when David Klarich was president, the Group held an Exhibition in conjunction with the Phonograph Society. The event was quite successful. Note the artwork was true cut and paste, before the days of p.c.