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August 2021



**S.A. GROUP
NEWSLETTER**



Expo 70 Transistor Radio

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

Web Site: www.hrsasa.asn.au

All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary, HRSA-SA Group, 2-13 Chester Street, Glenelg South, S.A. 5045.

Committee

President:	Chris Ratcliff	0419 834 502	pres@hrsasa.asn.au
Vice President:	Keith Ellison	0407 304 028	vicepres@hrsasa.asn.au
Secretary	Ian Smyth	0488 488 776	sec@hrsasa.asn.au
Treasurer:	John Crawford	8344 4978	treas@hrsasa.asn.au
Editor:	Tony Bell	8269 4095	editor@hrsasa.asn.au
Public Relations	Alan Taylor	0417 859 074	alantaylor47@bigpond.com
Shop Keeper:	Rob Olding	8365 3168	shop@hrsasa.asn.au
Web Master	Ian Smyth	0488 488 776	sec@hrsasa.asn.au
Valve Bank Manager	John Crawford	8344 4978	vbm@hrsasa.asn.au

Planned Forthcoming Meetings (some are tentative)

Sunday 29th August	1300 A.G.M. and Auction at St. Cyprian's Church hall.
Sunday 26 th September	1300 Audiophiles meeting at Warren Lane's home.
Sunday 31 st October	1300 Book and Magazine sale day.
Sunday 28 th November	1300 Possible practical workshop on wooden cabinet restoration.
Saturday 4 th December	1200 Combined 30 th Anniversary and Christmas Luncheon.
Sunday 30 th January	1300 Auction.

Component Corner

Many new members are probably wondering where to obtain components and valves. The following is a list in order of preference;

HRSA-SA Group Shop (See the Directory above). We are working towards a publishable catalogue,

AZTRONICS, 170 Sturt Street, Adelaide. Houses the HRSA-SA Group valve bank and modern components,

HRSA Melbourne (see *Radio Waves*) Houses the HRSA valve bank and odd passive components and kits,

AZTRONICS, 470a Main North Road, Blair Athol for modern components,

WES Components, Sydney. The catalogue is viewable on-line and orders through the Shop Keeper or Secretary, as the SA Group has an account.

Retiree's Luncheons

Luncheons are held for retirees and those that can escape work for the day on the second Wednesday of the odd month. An excellent attendance of 16 at the July meeting is a good indicator of the popularity of the Reephams. It is again the turn of the Earl of Leicester Hotel to host the September meeting. The Earl is at 85

Leicester Street, Parkside.. Meeting time is 1200 for a 1230 luncheon. All members, including those from interstate, are welcome. Forthcoming luncheons are:

Wednesday 8th September at the Earl of Leicester

Wednesday 10th November at the Reepham

Wednesday 12th January 2022 at the Reepham

Wednesday 9th March 2022 at the Earl of Leicester

Wednesday 11th May 2022 at the Reepham

Committee Meetings

The tentative dates for committee meetings are given, not that you are expected to attend, but if you have anything that you wish to have discussed by the committee. The date for the last meeting for the present committee is the of 26th August. The new committee will no doubt soon have a further programme.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held on Sunday 29th of August at the St. Cyprian's Church Hall, a short General Meeting will be held at approximately 1300, followed by the A.G.M. At the A.G.M., all elected positions will be declared vacant and elections held to fill the vacant positions. Should only one person be nominated for a particular position, a vote will not be required. Nominations of either oneself or another person (with their permission) is encouraged and should be sent to the Secretary. **COVID-19 requirements will be adhered to.**

Front Cover

I resisted the temptation to put a large '30' on the front cover following the style of my front cover for the 25th anniversary *Newsletter* of the SA Group.

Further to the front cover story of the radio featured in the last June *Newsletter*, Peter Field wrote "there is a very brief mention of the Gerard & Goodman pedestal radio in a book re Gerard & Goodman history titled *Home of the Trade* published in 1987. It gives it a name and a possible designer (Lewis), here is a quote- *Experimentation [in the radio workshop] wasn't discouraged and one of the men made a radio set which they called the Gerard Lewis radio. A gimmick and never intended for production in perpetuity, it resembled a large grandfather clock on a swivel base.*" Many thanks Peter for the most interesting further information.

Now for this month we go from one of the tallest radios to what must be one of the smallest production radios at some 70 x 80 x 25 mm. Of unknown Chinese manufacture, this 6 transistor superheterodyne radio is designated 'Expo 70'. It has a 40 mm diameter loudspeaker and is powered from a single 1.5 volt cell. This radio is listed in *Radiomuseum* under Expo 70. I seem to recall either Coles or Woolworths selling the radio in around 1970 for \$4. It was cheaper to buy the complete radio than to buy a small 2 or 3 inch loudspeaker from Truscott's in Hindmarsh Square at that time. **Ed.**

Editorial

The second sale of Don's collection, held on the 26th of June and consisting of test equipment, tape recorders, microphones, headphones, valves and a wide range of components, was highly successful. It was somewhat disappointing that some buyers swapped valves in storage boxes, completely against the spirit of the sale and cheating fellow members who bought the depleted boxes in good faith.

The Technical film day of the June meeting included some originally serious material, but some 80 years later more closely resembled *Dad's Army*. Since the schedule for further meetings was thrown into disarray with the cancellation of the July meeting due to COVID-19, no doubt the forthcoming committee meeting

and a presumed meeting by the new committee will come up with an updated schedule. Unfortunately we missed the actual 30th anniversary of the formation of the SA Group due to the cancellation of the July meeting.

Your attention is drawn to the next Retiree's Luncheon moving south to the Earl of Leicester for September Ed.

President's Report

Unfortunately, the A.G.M. and consequently the Group 30th anniversary has been delayed by a month due to the COVID lockdown. To celebrate the 30th anniversary, there will be a nice chocolate cake, nut free for the benefit of those with a nut allergy.

Regrettably the last year has been disrupted somewhat due to COVID-19. You are reminded that masks **MUST** be worn and social distancing applies at the A.G.M.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee and members for your support during my term as president.

I will see you at the August meeting,

Christopher Ratcliff (President)

Broadcasting Centenary

Failing anyone coming up with an contradictory argument, I have tentatively selected 5CL receiving its transmitting licence on the 14th of January 1925 as the official start of broadcasting in South Australia. I recently visited the State Library of South Australia to enquire about a display for the centenary and was given an email address. Preliminary correspondence has been encouraging. The most likely 'showstopper' for the State Library gallery is envisaged renovations sometime over the next 2 to 4 years and the future of the gallery. The length of the display is still undecided, but I would expect possibly from the first half of January until just after 5DN received its full licence on the 24th of February 1925. I have emphasised that this is very much a tentative booking, however I have not been overwhelmed by other venue suggestions.

I envisage the main feature to be something in the form of a 'pathway' lined with a radio, hopefully from each year of the centenary. I have started a 'register' of radios that may be available to complete this idea. So you may be asked in the near future to provide a list of radios that you would be prepared to lend for the display.

Other possible display are;

- 1931 5CK producer's console,
- relatively modern decommissioned transmitter,
- typical radio repair bench of the 1930s,
- radio shop counter of the 1930s,
- montage of photographs showing the various transmitter sites and antenna arrays, particularly those in the central business district and charts,
- posters and diagrams showing the change in broadcasting over the century.

For those that are having club funds burning a hole in their pocket, this may well be a worthwhile project to spend some of those funds. Other than preliminary contact with the *Broadcast, Radio, Electrical Industries Fellowship* (BREIF), little has been done towards assistance and sponsorship from the broadcast industry. Ed.

H.R.S.A. Rules

I have been asked to publish the following extract from the membership form of the Group's parent body, with emphasis on the second paragraph for your information;

“The Society is governed by model rules set out by Government for all registered not for profit Associations. The rules are listed on the WEB page. They include reasonable conduct within and outside the HRSA, including honesty.

They also state as the HRSA is a not for profit organization. Therefore, HRSA sales or auctions of Radios and associated spares, books and the like are to further member’s collections and should not be sold for profit, on say Ebay. If in doubt, please contact the President or Vice-President.”

Wanted

To buy, a HP 410C or I think there was also a D version V.T.V.M. in good working condition or to swap with an early HP test equipment collector for a HP 410B that I have. The plug in R.F. probe is not a necessity. Please contact the Editor.

Availability of tools and a soldering iron as used in a 1930s radio repair shop for the Centenary of Broadcasting display. I do have a good selection of wooden handled screw drivers and nut drivers, but trying to identify pliers, side cutters and adjustable spanners of the period. I would expect a sliding joint pliers to be typical. Please contact the Editor.

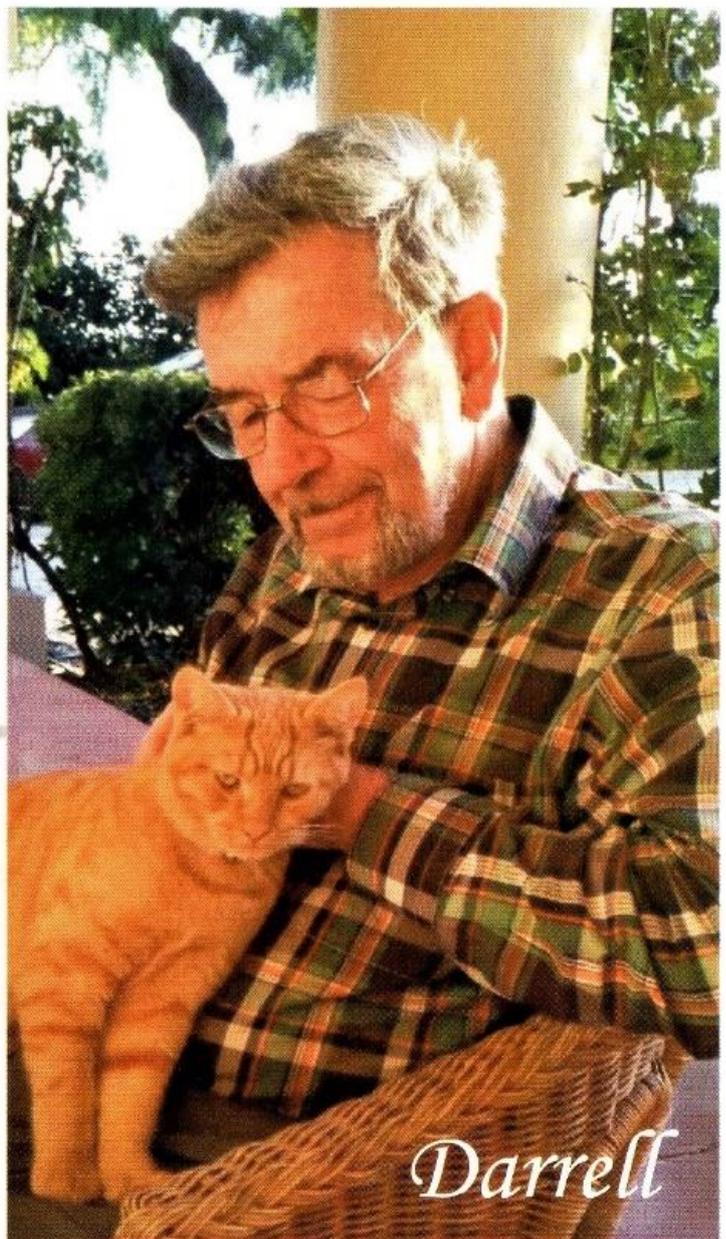
From the Past

From “The Last Word” in *The Advertiser* of 27 July 2021. On the 27th of July 1950 “Jennings and Olding, radio and repair specialists, 187A, Main North Road, Nailsworth (opposite the Ozone theatre), advertised the opening of the new record bar.” Yes, you do know the son of Mr Olding, our ‘shop keeper’, Rob.

Obituary

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of long-time member, Darrell Owen Clarke (DOC) on the 16th of May 2021 at the age of 77years. Darrell joined the H.R.S.A. in 1991 and was one of the founding members of the S.A. Group. He hosted a most enjoyable meeting when he and his family lived in a lovely old rambling house in Houghton and further meetings after moving to Medindie. Like many of us, he had many other interests, besides radio, such as clocks, pianolas and so the list goes on. Darrell worked at the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (D.S.T.O.) and in the days before the home computer, used to prepare the ‘sticky’ address labels on the big IBM computer to assist me in posting out the local *Newsletter*. Our sympathies to his wife, Pauline, two daughters, Silvia and Bronwyn and their families.

Vale Darrell. Ed.



2020-2021 HRSA SA Group Financial Report

The statement of income and expenditure is my eighth yearly report since I was elected treasurer in July 2013. When I was nominated for the position, I said I was willing to serve if the books were audited. Hence Craig Jackson was also elected as our Honorary Auditor. He served as auditor up until health problems last year prevented him from completing the audit. I am most grateful to Craig for his generous effort in serving the SA Group in this role over these years.

We owe a vote of thanks for Craig for tolerating my approach to accounting, and his tolerance of my rudimentary accounting skills. Thank you, Craig.

I remain hopeful that our association will find a volunteer happy to fill this position in the future.

Looking at the accounts for the past financial year I can comment on a few issues. With the disruption of Covid lockdowns throughout this 12-month period I expected our income would fall significantly. For example, our cash received from our club auctions fell from almost \$6,000 to \$3,500. Note that in the report the full auction money received is given as auction income, and the payment we make to our vendors is an expense. I feel this gives us a better overview of how large our auctions are, and what was the total turnover.

The difference between these two figures is our club profit. It can come in three ways: first by items donated and sold on the club table are 100% for our Group. Secondly for items sold on behalf of our members the Group takes 10% as commission. Finally for non-club members, and the sale of goods from non-members, the commission is 20%.

There would have been a large reduction in income were it not for \$2,000 received from Tony Bell just before the end of June as a contribution from the first stage of his recent sale.

With expenditure, there were no big surprises, although I keep feeling a little in two minds about the small group of about 15% of our members who do not have email. I insist on printing and posting meeting announcements and newsletters at a cost for this past year of \$905. As treasurer I feel this is a lot of money, but the feedback I get from the recipients makes it well justified, especially when I consider the unsolicited donations a couple of members give us to show how grateful they are for keeping them in contact. This is especially so for our country members who cannot come to our meetings, and for whom efficient internet is not always easy.

This has enabled us to hold steady despite Covid. Looking at income going back to our last non-Covid year of 2018-2019 we see:

For	2018-2019 income totalled	\$6,848	with expenditure of	\$7,420
	2019-2020	\$8,564		\$7,808
	2020-2021	\$8,216		\$6,193.

There are a couple of other points worthy of mention: first is that on 1 July, and therefore missing the 2020-2021 accounting period, we received an amount of \$2,613.60 from Aztronics for Valve Bank sales over the last 12 months. So we have certainly started the new financial year on the right foot.

To simplify the accounts, and save time and paperwork, in early July the Committee had agreed we cancel our term deposit, bringing its \$5,000 back into our day to day bank account. The trivial interest rate is simply not worth the effort.

May I conclude by mentioning the cash box at the door. In this past year only once did it manage to exceed our \$50 rent. With a suggested donation at the meeting of \$2.00 each as a voluntary contribution, and one easily overlooked, we only average \$35 (on one occasion receiving less than \$20), I would like to remind members that the cost of the hall is not insignificant, especially so when with Covid constraints we cannot bring any food ourselves and have John and Elizabeth Cox so generously help with afternoon tea. The Covid compliant afternoon tea is covered by the club.

HISTORICAL WIRELESS SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

P&L and Balance Sheet.

July 1 2020 to June 30, 2021

INCOME	2020-2021	2019-2020
Interest	39.00	67.98
Auction & Sale Income	3,593.00	5,928.50
Shop Sales	598.40	590.00
Valve Bank sales	965.14	682.95
Functions/Meetings	840.20	818.4
Other Income	2,180.50	476.00
Transfer in	-	-
Total Income	8,216.24	8,563.83
EXPENDITURE		
Bank Service Fee	-	-
Postage & Newsletters	905.25	323.83
Shop Stock	492.60	554.36
Meeting Costs Rent etc.	198.00	551.22
Functions/Meetings	1,090.00	980.00
Valve Bank	7.50	17.99
Web Name/Hosting	260.00	120.00
Auction Vendor Payment	2,942.00	5,117.50
Sundry	298.09	143.00
Transfer out	-	-
Total Expenditure	6,193.44	7,807.90
Carried forward from 30 June 2020	6,972.18	6,216.25
Plus Income	8,216.24	8,497.33
Less Expenditure	6,193.44	7,807.90
Balance 30 June 2021	8,994.98	6,905.68
BALANCE SHEET	2020-2021	2019-2020
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	3,487.46	1,503.27
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	5,307.52	5,268.91
Cash on hand (Float)	200.00	200.00
BALANCE 30 June 2021	8,994.98	6,972.18

Signed: John Crawford
Honorary Treasurer

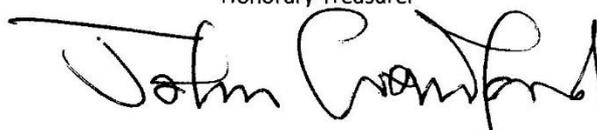

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Photo Gallery



Above: The Retirees Luncheon group at the July luncheon, looking south

Above: The Retirees Luncheon group at the July luncheon. looking north

