

Presidents report for 2012.

Thank you for the opportunity to map the direction of the Club. Reformed in 1983 after some 50 years lapsed. This year has been a great one for all. Perhaps the highlight has been the Shack. Early last year as you all know we signed a lease arrangement with the guides. Over the next 3 months a willing band of helpers turned a dirty unused but sound double garage in to a comfortable room. So far we have had several courses and examinations there, A couple of projects, breakfasts and the shack has become a meeting place on Saturday mornings. Of course it culminated with the official opening on September 3rd. Attended by Guide officials, Mayor of Mitcham and life member Gordon Welsh, now a silent key, many members from our club and other clubs. Really big thanks to all who helped.

The Club participated in the John Moyle Field Day, JOTA and a couple of members , Doc vk5bug and Shaun vk5SC threw themselves into the titanic centenary events. Many contacts have been made using VK5MGY and QSL cards have now been printed. The Centenary of the sinking is April this year and we have been invited back to participate in the activities at the Convention Centre

Regular excellent speakers, mid year and end of year lunches and the January picnic have all added to the sense of comradeship in the Club. The Monday night net, run by a dedicated bunch keeps members and listeners informed of happenings. And of course our premier event of the year the November Buy and Sell.

There have been some changes over the year and in 2012 we need to consolidate our position. We updated the Club Logo, Built the Shack, moved to this new venue as most of us have problems with the heat and cold at the BCC and moving the chairs and tables is getting beyond most.

To the Committee, thanks, Vice President Leigh who retires this year, Leigh is a guiding hand with many wise words. Leigh also wrote up the 2 submissions that got us a \$1200 and \$600 grants from the

Mitcham council and WIA respectively. Sue and Richard who retire as Secretary and Treasurer, thank you for all your work. Richard will keep on as webmaster. Graham, also retiring. Graham runs the construction nights and funds it all from his own pocket. Graham will still remain active by presenting the PIC class from March. Rob, who despite sickness and losing Carlein had kept up the publicity, kept the DVD library and is still really keen to get a loop antenna at the shack with open wire feeders. Barry, looks after vk5rad repeater, runs exams, oversaw the shack renovations, and just always gets there first no matter how hard I try to beat him. Tina came on board as ALARA rep and now plays a large role in the Kit project. Denis who manages the speakers and had a wonderful time mowing the grass round the shack after I pointed out all the native trees he should miss.

The kit project was taken over from SCARC in December. So far we have sold over 50. Wolf purchases and assembles all the parts, then gives them to Kim to post out. Eric buys in the PIC chips and Jim Tregellas who keeps a steady hand on the rudder. In the background he says. Anyone ever noticed Jim in the background, I don't think so. Elsewhere I have produced a document which I would like you to take away, it is a report from people who willingly give their time to help with club activities. I asked each of them to send me a few paragraphs on what they do. They are the silent, sometimes unseen workers who contribute to the club. If I have overlooked anyone then I apologise now for that.

During the last year several members became Silent Key's, including Gordon Welsh, Gordon was one of two remaining life members. The other remaining is Marshall Emm, now residing in the US.

We finished the year with 160 members. The greatest amount ever. I forshadow a revision of the Constitution this year. It only allows 3 committee members but with a membership of 160, The committee should be increased a little. We can of course co opt to the committee but it is better to elect. There are some other changes by OCBA that we need to tidy up. Shack activities such as breakfasts, training and courses. A welcome pack for new members,

A wise person who shall remain nameless, but he will know who I mean told me that all I need to do is steer the willing band of helpers. And what a great band of helpers we have.

Thank you.