

MY RADIO HISTORY

While serving in the RAAF

By Adam VK5GA/VK2YK

EARLY DAYS

- Grew up in Victoria
 - Kinglake – 55km NNE Melb
 - Mt Evelyn – 35 km NE Melb
- Father introduced me to Radio via CB then Amateur Radio
 - 3-4 yo – Father licenced (VK3VAV - 1978 to 1991)
 - 12 yo interest in electronics via school (Secondary Tech). Got my own CB
 - 13 yo father got motivated to upgrade licence and both attended classes
 - 14 yo sat Novice theory exam (Passed) but didn't continue.
 - 16 yo sat Regs & Full theory exams (Passed – VK3YAG)



RAAF & AMATEUR RADIO

- Joined RAAF (1991)
 - Radio Technician Apprentice - School of Radio – RAAF Williams (Laverton - VIC)
 - Member of RAAF Williams Radio Club
 - Invited to attend 16th Australian Scout Jamboree @ Ballarat (Vic)
 - Graduated end of 1992 as RADTECH (Air)
 - Attended conversion training to become Avionics Technician (AVTECH)
- Posted RAAF Richmond - NSW
 - 503WG (Ex No 2 Aircraft Depot)
 - Deeper level maintenance – Aircraft Flight instruments, Radios, Radar and Support Equipment
 - Member of Blue Mountains ARC – Callsign changed to VK2YAG
 - Main radio interest was packet radio via MIR.



RAAF & AMATEUR RADIO

- Posted RAAF Wagga Wagga - NSW
 - Trained as instructor for new technicians – RAAF STT
 - Had a break from Amateur Radio during this posting.



RAAF & AMATEUR RADIO

- Posted to RAAF Williamtown – NSW
 - 76SQN – Macchi & Hawk
 - Townsville – meet up with VK4ABW Gary – (EME)
 - Darwin – meet up with VK8NSB Stuie – (IOTA & DXCC)
 - 278SQN Technical Training
- Member of Westlakes ARC
 - Introduced to IRLP via local 2m FM repeater
 - Started using 10m FM simplex & repeaters
 - Started playing with the FM satellites
 - Building antennas for portable satellite work
 - Started using digital modes on HF – (PSK31 & WSPR)



RAAF & AMATEUR RADIO

- Posted to RAAF Pearce – WA
 - 278SQN Technical Training
- No club affiliation while in Perth
 - Visited Northern Corridor Radio Group
 - Voice contact with Mike Fincke on ISS Expedition 18 (08/09)
 - Achieved good DX via PSK31 – (Low sunspots)
 - Worked first DX via FM satellite – AO-51 (Indonesia)



RAAF & AMATEUR RADIO

- Posted to RAAF Williamstown – NSW
 - System Program Office – supporting Classic & Super Hornet
 - 2SQN – AEW&C Wedgetail
 - Townsville – High Sierra
 - Alaska – Red Flag
 - Las Vegas – Red Flag
 - Deployed to Middle East – ANZAC Day
- Posted RAAF Edinburgh
 - Electronic Warfare Unit



ANZAC DAY – MIDDLE EAST REGION 2017

