

EARLY AMATEUR CALL BOOK, CIRCA 1914.

This contribution comes from Deane Blackman, VK3TX, RAOTC member No 1378. We have précised and edited the contribution for the web site but the full text will be published in the September 2006 issue of OTN magazine

Deane writes "My uncle, H. H. Blackman, (Bert), was born in 1886, and was active as an amateur from the earliest days of wireless in Australia. I recall my father, 16 years his junior, describing how he watched his brother erect a large mast at the family house in Osborne Avenue, East Malvern, then on the outskirts of Melbourne, to be used with his spark transmitter.

During the Great War he served as a signaller, training with the Rolleston Company in Wiltshire, England, in the winter of 1916, and presumably saw service in France thereafter. After the war, he continued for a time with amateur activity using, I have been told, the call sign VK3PR.

When he died, around 1970, I had the opportunity to go over the residue of his workshop. It had a lathe and other machine tools, all sadly lacking use and rather dated. There remained only fragments of his radio equipment.

The shack was almost knee-deep in paper; for years he had just continued to throw magazines and other stuff in as he finished with it. For form's sake I decided to go through this. It was like an archaeological dig - the deeper I went the older the material. And then I struck gold in the form of a small book, published by the "Wireless Institute of Victoria" in 1914, entitled "Wireless in Victoria". It is a soft-covered book of about 30 pages and measures 120 mm x 160 mm; it is what we now know as a call book. Its preface claims it to be the first of its kind for Australia.

There are about 400 experimental stations listed. As a portent of the amateur future, the three-letter calls in New South Wales run from XAA to XIZ, with four-letter calls beginning XA, and in Victoria XJA to XPZ with four-letter XJ calls. Queenslanders were XQ, South Australians XV, Western Australians XY and Tasmanians XZ; there are only about 50 of these latter calls.

In Victoria, as well as XOE (H. H. Blackman) I noticed these: XPJ (Wireless Institute of Victoria); XJDY (L A Adamson) who was the formidable headmaster of Wesley College at this time; XJAD (C J Brown) who gives his address as

Melbourne Grammar School, and who I have been able to identify as a science teacher who taught there from 1904 until 1948(!). They were not all urbanites: XJED (H MacKinolty) was at Korumburra - before soldier settlement put at least a sprinkling of farmers on the Strezlecki hills it must have been pretty isolated down there; and XJDV (T A Crerar) at Hexham - there is not a lot there even now.

In NSW, XADK was the Wireless Institute of New South Wales, and enterprising was XACI, Rev Fr O'Reilly in Bathurst. One name I do know, XIQ (E G Lampard): his son D G Lampard was the foundation professor in Electrical Engineering at Monash University, and has named after him the capacitor which he discovered and which can be used as a calibration standard. “

At Deane's suggestion we are posting the amateur call signs here. If you know some of the stories of those listed please let us know.

EXPERIMENTERS CALLS

N. S. Wales.

XAA	J. Y. Nelson, McMahon's Point.	XBO	W. Hudson, Dulwich Hill.
XAB	A. S. Arnold, Ashfield.	XBP	E. W. Bonwill, Sydney.
XAC	V. Sullivan, Smithtown.	XBR	A. W. Rost, Waverley.
XAD	H. W. Draeger, Redfern.	XBV	G. Field, Arncliffe.
XAE	S. G. Jeffes, Central Bankstown.	XBW	G. S. Gow, Burwood.
XA F	N. C. Foster, Rozelle.	XBX	R. Lewington, Chatswood.
XAG	Howe Choy, Sydney.	XBZ	J. Cole, Wollstonecraft.
XAH	S. J. Sainty, Sydney.	XCA	R. C. Allsop, Randwick.
XAI	L. C. Presdee, Wollongong.	XCC	C. S. Crouch, Randwick.
XAJ	J. Place, Paddington.	XCE	R. E. Shute, Strathfield.
XAM	J. A. Morris, Haberfield.	XCF	G. R. Gannon, Artarmon.
XAQ	C. F. Sykes, Redfern.	XCG	C. A. Gorman, Oatley.
XAR	A. Miatt, North Botany.	XCI	S. J. Bowicke, Paddington.
XAS	H. A. Stowe, Drummoyne.	XCJ	Cox and Stanner, Lindfield.
XAV	C. R. Pilgrim, Hurlstone Park.	XCL	T. R. Willmot, Toongabbie.
XAY	A. Y. Cameron, Arncliffe.	XCN	W. C. R. Snellgrove, Wolloughby.
XAZ	R. Evans, Paddington.	XCO	C. M. Coughlan, Concord.
XBB	J. M. Sandy, Burwood.	XCP	M. C. Perry, Randwick.
XBD	P. Crook, Coff's Harbour Jetty.	XCT	C. S. Tiley, North Sydney.
XBE	T. S. Martin, Sydney.	XCV	Wm. Pollard, N. Sydney.
XBH	H. O. McCormack, Neutral Bay.	XCX	R. Akeroyd, Ashfield.
XBM	C. P. Bartholomew, Mosman.	XCY	A. Binns, Mosman.
		XDA	T. W. W. Burgess, Wagga Wagga.
		XDC	L. M. J. Butler, Singleton.

XDD	W. F. Butler, Dulwich Hill.	XFX	Wm. Hughes, Jr., Rozelle.
XDG	M. R. Shelley, Henley.	XFY	G. Williams, Annandale.
XDM	Maclurcan and Lane, Sydney.	XGE	L. Lane, North Sydney.
XDN	A. M. Phillips, Marrickville.	XGG	F. G. H. Wilkinson, Ashfield.
XDQ	J. McNamara, Sydney.	XGH	C. C. Hamilton, Wollahra.
XDR	A. H. Elliott, Drummoyne.	XGJ	H. L. Peck, Nth. Sydney.
XDT	F. Lawless, Enmore.	XGP	S. B. Godwin, N. Sydney.
XDW	Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Milson's Pt.	XGQ	H. A. Warden, Narrabri.
XDY	J. H. A. Pike, Arncliffe.	XGR	H. Harris, North Sydney.
XEB	W. E. Bidmead, Marrickville.	XGV	G. S. Thomas, Paddington.
XED	Lieut. J. S. Nolan, Double Bay.	XGY	F. Y. Tyrer, Toongabbie.
XEH	A. V. Cape, Grenfell.	XHB	H. Brewer, Bondi.
XEM	E. Moore, Petersham.	XHD	H. W. Devlin, Manly.
XEN	F. Leverrier, Waverley.	XHG	L. Smith, Waverley.
XEQ	W. E. Hilton, St. Leonards.	XHH	H. Hawker, Grafton.
XER	J. J. Stewart, Redfern.	XHJ	D. H. McBurney, Milson's Point.
XEU	N. A. Holmes, Manly.	XHL	H. Leverrier, Sydney.
XEZ	C. Tripp, Campbelltown.	XHO	E. K. Burke, Lindfield.
XFA	R. E. McIntosh, Pymble.	XHV	A. F. Vipan, Petersham.
XFE	J. Jeremy, Wagga Wagga.	XHW	E. Stewart, Glebe Point.
XFJ	C. Jackson, Mosman.	XHY	H. V. Masters, Stanmore.
XFM	F. J. Brooks, Arncliffe.	XHZ	A. L. Spring, Waverley.
XFN	Gunner Clarke, Ashfield.	XIA	H. Wilkinson, Drummoyne.
XFP	W. P. Renshaw, Roseville.	XIB	C. J. Frazer, Granville.
XFQ	N. H. Wright, Mosman.	XIC	J. A. Hutchison, Granville.
XFR	V. J. Brain, Ashfield.	XIF	J. A. Eagles, Jiggi.
XFT	A. Borland, Burwood.	XIG	W. Baird, Hurstville.
XFU	K. Stanton, Ashfield.	XIH	A. Blyard, Nowra.
		XII	N. B. Charlton, Pymble.
		XIJ	R. I. Fletcher, Wollahra.
		XIK	G. A. Uther, Sydney.

XII.

XIL C. Olsson, Balmain.
 XIN W. G. Shellhear, Walla
 XIP E. J. Lynch, Campbelltown.
 XIQ E. G. Lampard, Parramatta.
 XIR W. McManamey, Milson's Point.
 XIT J. G. Peake, Summer Hill.
 XIW R. K. White, Bowral.
 XIX P. L. Grimwood, German-
 ton.
 XIZ R. Vowles, Burwood.
 XAAD A. Clark, Rockdale.
 XAAF N. E. D'Arcy, Pymble.
 XAAL W. Hinton, Wagga
 Wagga.
 XAAN W. Blackwell, Camper-
 down.
 XAAR M. N. Chapman, Spring-
 wood.
 XAAU R. F. Hill, Waverley.
 XAAY J. C. A. Roberts, Parramatta.
 XAAZ F. W. Kimpton, Grafton.
 XABD A. V. Costelow, Dorrigo
 XABM W. Thorncroft, Rook-
 wood.
 XABO E. McPherson, Grafton.
 XABQ W. Zech, Annandale.
 XABR E. A. Bruce, Artarmon.
 XABS C. McDonell, Ashfield.
 XABU H. Knight, Newtown.
 XABY N. E. Husband, N. Syd.

XACA G. U. H. Taylor, Glebe
 Point.
 XACC R. Monty, Surry Hills.
 XACF H. E. Simpson, Rand-
 wick.
 XACI Rev. Father O'Reilly,
 Bathurst.
 XACJ R. P. Whitburn, Leich-
 hardt.
 XACK The Smith Premier Busi-
 ness College, Sydney.
 XACQ K. Fremlin, Newtown.
 XACU H. K. Bannister, Pymble
 XACW E. Turner, Jr., Mosman
 XACX G. P. Junk, Sans Souci.
 XACY E. Robinson, Marrick-
 ville.
 XACZ H. Curtis, Bondi.
 XADA W. L. Gall, Paddington
 XADC G. C. Hook, Kogarah.
 XADD H. Way, Sydney.
 XADE G. Pickering, Waverley.
 XADF C. S. Mackay, Coff's
 Harbour Jetty.
 XADK Wireless Institute of New
 South Wales, Sydney
 XADL A. R. Butler, Belmore.
 XADN J. C. Humphries, Mus-
 wellbrook.
 XADW F. B. Cooke, Sydney.
 XADX P. W. Darch, Croydon.
 XADY E. G. Crichton, Waver-
 ley.

XADY

XADZ

XADZ C. B. Burchell, Summer
 Hill.
 XAEA J. G. Watt, Croydon.
 XAEB A. Smith, Canterbury.
 XAEC C. Rowe, Burwood.
 XAED A. Gregory, Bellevue
 Hill.
 XAEE H. S. Maxwell, Pad-
 dington.
 XAEF A. Volkerts, Leichhardt.

XAEH

XAEG H. Tuson, North Coast
 XAEH Amalgamated Wireless
 (Australasia) Ltd., Syd-
 ney.
 XAEI E. Gardiner, Haberfield.
 XAEJ B. Makin, West Kogarah.
 XAEK A. B. Cochrane, Longue-
 ville.
 XAEL P. G. Stephens, Balmain.

XJA

Victoria.

XMJ

XJA C. Deutgen, Camberwell.
 XJB L. A. Fontaine, Prahran.
 XJC G. S. A. Gaylard, Canterbury.
 XJD J. L. Matthews, Richmond.
 XJE A. E. Pell, Malvern
 XJF H. V. Heinecke, Brighton.
 XJG A. G. Frazer, Camberwell.
 XJH V. Barnes, East Brunswick.
 XJI F. W. D. Gowers, Seymour.
 XJJ R. Bryson, Richmond.
 XJK W. Fisher, Middle Park.
 XJL E. H. Brasch, Hawksburn.
 XJM R. Payne, Armadale.
 XJN C. Ham, Melbourne.
 XJO W. R. Armstrong, St. Kilda.
 XJP H. D. Billings, Brighton Beach.
 XJQ W. T. Appleton, Jr., Malvern.
 XJR F. J. W. Derham, Malvern.
 XJS J. Stickland, Hawthorn.
 XJT T. Pickford, Malvern.
 XJU W. V. Nicholls, Korumburra.
 XJW C. W. Jamieson, St. Kilda.
 XJX B. J. Mullett, Upper Pakenham.
 XKA G. F. Lloyd, Brunswick.
 XKB E. L. Reynoldson, Strathmerton.

XKC R. S. Wilson, E. Malvern.
 XKD C. F. Cooper, E. Melb.
 XKG D. Hodges, Essendon.
 XKI W. J. Miller, Croxton.
 XKJ L. Osburne, Terang.
 XKK V. Nightingall, Elwood.
 XKN E. Hasselbach, Surrey Hills.
 XKW W. K. Witt, St. Kilda.
 XKZ C. E. Holland, Sth. Yarra.
 XLA W. Aitken, Jun., Elsternwick.
 XLB R. M. Dalton, Auburn.
 XLC A. Horbury, Bendigo.
 XLD C. Hiam, Jr., Balaclava.
 XLF R. B. Ashe, M. Brighton.
 XLG T. J. Entwisle, Camperdown.
 XLK A. R. Goode, Moonee P.
 XLL O. Rheuben, S. Melbourne.
 XLM R. Irwin, Canterbury.
 XLN R. Rees, Canterbury.
 XLO C. W. Donne, St. Kilda.
 XLP A. A. C. Miller, St. Kilda.
 XLX H. W. Maddick, Elsternwick.
 XMB R. H. Owen, W. Melb.
 XMC F. G. McClelland, East Melbourne.
 XMI J. Saban, Auburn.
 XMJ J. K. Twycross, Abbotsford.

18

XML

XJAC

XML E. B. Parker, E. St. Kilda.
 XMO C. Whitelaw, Rosedale.
 XMQ H. C. Trumble, M. Brighton.
 XMS W. Bishop, Queenscliff.
 XMT H. E. Dangerfield, Malvern.
 XMU M. Israel, St. Kilda.
 XMV C. C. H. Ellis, Auburn.
 XMW R. W. Allen, Beulah Rail
 XNE E. F. W. Goodwin, Essendon.
 XNF A. M. Wright, Brighton.
 XNH W. S. Tregear, Kensington.
 XNJ N. A. James, Homebush.
 XNM A. E. Pritchard, Moonee Ponds.
 XNO J. Boyd, Jun., Elsternwick
 XNQ A. Wellman, Kensington.
 XNT C. Hazard, Brighton.
 XNU J. R. McConnell, Canterbury.
 XNV M. L. Robertson, S. Yarra
 XNX R. Horne, Kensington.
 XNY T. Court, Jr., Malvern.
 XO A. H. J. Wales, Elsternwick.
 XOE H. H. Blackman, East Malvern.
 XOF W. H. Bruce, E. Malvern.
 XOG G. A. Soilleux, Camberwell.
 XOI C. S. Pugh, Preston.
 XOL V. Way, W. Brunswick.

XOO L. Birchall, Richmond.
 XOQ R. Chugg, South Yarra.
 XOR C. Reay, Mid. Brighton.
 XOS R. P. Bruce, Flemington.
 XOT J. M. L. Crombie, Malvern
 XOY C. Taylor, W. Melbourne.
 XOZ C. H. Swanton, Kew.
 XPA G. H. Myers, Elsternwick.
 XPB R. L. George, Mont Albert
 XPD C. C. Bailey, Malvern.
 XPF Jas. H. Wilken, Kilsyth
 XPG A. H. Wain, South Yarra.
 XPH A. Holst, Caulfield.
 XPI Jas. McNair, Brunswick West.
 XPJ Wireless Institute of Victoria, Melbourne.
 XPL O. E. Rawson, Richmond.
 XPO H. J. Taylor, Warracknabeal.
 XPP W. Ming, Melbourne.
 XPR G. Flanagan, Ascot Vale.
 XPS W. C. H. Hodges, Malvern
 XPU H. C. de Crespigny, Mid. Brighton.
 XPV L. L. Dredge, S. Preston.
 XPW H. S. Kennedy, Coburg.
 XPZ S. Newman, Canterbury.
 XJAA C. G. B. Colquhoun, South Yarra.
 XJAB C. M. Urquhart, Albert Park.
 XJAC B. C. L. Harvey, Port Melbourne.

19

XJAD

XJAD C. J. Brown, Melbourne.
(Ch. of E. Grammar School)
XJAF C. R. Smith, Caulfield.
XJAH G. H. Stillman, Brighton.
XJAJ A. Crook, Castlemaine N.
XJAK J. Rafferty, Hawthorn.
XJAL A. Mott, Moonee Ponds.
XJAM H. A. Stewart, Williamstown.
XJAQ R. M. Firminger, North Melbourne.
XJAS N. Harrison, Hawthorn.
XJAT R. W. McKellar, Toorak
XJAU F. Topping, Croxton.
XJAV T. F. Gibbon, Kew.
XJAX F. P. O'Dea, Ascot Vale
XJAZ C. McCracken, Armadale
XJBA W. Jameson, Albert Park
XJBD E. C. Nicoll, St. Kilda.
XJBF J. H. R. Butler, Brighton Beach.
XJBH W. D. Brookes, S. Yarra
XJBI A. Brown, Abbotsford.
XJBM L. Latham, East Camberwell.
XJBN E. Scott, Elsternwick.
XJBP C. A. Smith, M. Brighton.
XJBU H. Thompson, Albert Park.
XJBY J. Mathieson, St. Kilda.
XICA E. G. Holder, Hawthorn.
XJCB L. Smith, East Malvern.
XICC G. H. Henley, Clayton.
XJCD J. C. F. Burrows, Kew.

XJDL

XJCG L. Roche, Hawthorn.
XJCL J. B. Arnold, Moonee Ponds.
XJCM W. E. Sanson, Warrnambool.
XJCN W. K. Davenport, St. Kilda.
XJCO C. R. Dodson, Fairfield
XJCP R. Mitchell, Royal Park.
XJCS J. Matthews, Sunshine.
XJCT V. Meyers, Melbourne.
XJCU A. B. Corkill, Moonee Ponds.
XJCV R. Field, Kew.
XJCW J. Welch, Murrumbeena.
XJCX C. Bannister, Brighton.
XJCY C. Semmens, E. St. Kilda.
XJCZ H. E. Taylor, Camberwell South.
XJDA C. Forshaw, Elwood.
XJDB K. Francis, Coburg.
XJDC C. T. B. Knell, Windsor.
XJDD H. M. Shannon, Brunswick.
XJDE I. Hughes, Kew.
XJDF Captain William Clarkson, Toorak.
XJDG J. A. Campbell, Toorak.
XJDH E. G. Offen, Middle Pk.
XJDI A. Stocks, Surrey Hills.
XJDJ F. G. Cathcart, Canterbury.
XJDK T. Cummins, E. St. Kilda
XJDL A. McKay, Hawthorn.

XJDM

XJDM J. Fitchett, Balwyn.
XJDN F. S. Barnett, North Williamstown.
XJDO A. C. Smith, Matlock.
XJDP G. G. Robb, Croxton.
XJDQ C. Crowther, Canterbury.
XJDR W. L. Leunig, Jnr., Sale.
XJDS A. H. Morris, Sale.
XJDT G. K. Allen, Coburg.
XJDU C. S. C. Hughes, East Melbourne.
XJDV T. A. Crerar, Hexham.
XJDX G. Strutt, Elwood.
XJDY L. A. Adamson, Melbourne. Wesley College

XJEL

XJDZ S. G. Robinson, S. Yarra.
XJEA A. McGregor, Armadale.
XJEB J. Hesketh, Kew.
XJEC B. Coutts, Camberwell.
XJED H. MacKinoly, Korumburra.
XJEE A. P. Scott, E. Malvern.
XJEF D. Fitzgerald, Collingwood.
XJEG H. A. Gatfield, S. Yarra
XJEH E. Drake, Camberwell.
XJEI E. Robinson, Caulfield.
XJEJ E. Mustard, N. Fitzroy.
XJEK J. H. Beyer, Armadale.
XJEL T. G. Foord, Gardiner.

XQA

Queensland.

XQM

XQA M. J. G. Brims, Mareeba.
 XQB L. Freeman, Rockhampton.
 XQC R. H. Berry, Rockhampton.
 XQD H. A. Shepherd, Rockhampton.
 XQF S. V. Colville, S. Brisbane.

XQG G. H. Gibson, Brisbane.
 XQH H. B. Rockwell, Wynnum.
 XQI W. H. Hannam, Stamford.
 XQJ A. G. Bamfield, Corfield.
 XQK C. Wicks, South Brisbane.

22

XVB

South Australia.

XVY

XVB L. Jones, Hawthorn.
 XVC V. Alderman, Glenelg.
 XVD A. H. H. Evans, Mile End.
 XVE J. J. McLaughlan, Semaphore.
 XVF O. W. Judd, N. Norwood.
 XVG C. E. Ames, Torrensville.
 XVH S. F. Howe, Exeter.
 XVI L. P. Anderson, Largs Bay.
 XVJ C. M. Reid, Hyde Park.
 XVK P. Stapleton, Mt. Gambier.
 XVN E. R. Stanton, Enfield.

XVO N. C. McClelland, Franklin Harbor.
 XVP W. Magain, Edwardstown.
 XVQ I. Banyer, North Adelaide.
 XVR A. Longstaff, Alberton.
 XVS A. A. Cotton, Glanville.
 XVT C. J. Othen, Glanville.
 XVV A. G. Waterhouse, North Adelaide.
 XVX H. Clark, Kent Town.
 XVY A. H. Bailey, Unley.

23

XYB

Western Australia.

XYB J. S. Fitzmaurice, Perth.
 XYD P. Kennedy, Perth.
 XYE A. E. Dewar, Kalgoorlie.
 XYK W. E. Coxon, Maylands.
 XYN F. C. Read, Perth.
 XYR H. G. H. Irving, W. Perth
 XYV W. B. Garner, Perth.

XYAH

XYX A. Sibly, North Perth.
 XYAE S. C. Ambler, W. Perth.
 XYAF T. W. Sampson, Boulder
 XYAG W. E. Mill, Burbanks.
 XYAH W. E. Collins, Canning-
 ton.

XZA

Tasmania.

XZA A. G. Dixon, Wynyard.
 XZB E. Kirby, Hobart.
 XZC M. Harvey, Hobart.
 XZD F. N. Medhurst, Sandy
 Bay.
 XZE R. James, via Hobart.

XZO

XZH W. P. Hallam, Hobart.
 XZJ V. Batchler, Hobart.
 XZO W. O. Duffy, Hobart.
 XZP R. S. Dawson, Hobart.
 XZQ H. D. Mansfield, Burnie.