

EARLY AMATEUR CALL BOOK, CIRCA 1914.

This contribution comes from Deane Blackman, VK3TX, RAOTC member No 1378. We have préciséd 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.
 XAB A. S. Arnold, Ashfield.
 XAC V. Sullivan, Smithtown.
 XAD H. W. Draeger, Redfern.
 XAE S. G. Jeffes, Central Banks-town.
 XAF N. C. Foster, Rozelle.
 XAG Howe Choy, Sydney.
 XAH S. J. Sainty, Sydney.
 XAI L. C. Presdee, Wollongong.
 XAJ J. Place, Paddington.
 XAM J. A. Morris, Haberfield.
 XAQ C. F. Sykes, Redfern.
 XAR A. Miatt, North Botany.
 XAS H. A. Stowe, Drummoyne.
 XAV C. R. Pilgrim, Hurlstone Park.
 XAY A. Y. Cameron, Arncliffe.
 XAZ R. Evans, Paddington.
 XBB J. M. Sandy, Burwood.
 XBD P. Crook, Coff's Harbour Jetty.
 XBE T. S. Martin, Sydney.
 XBH H. O. McCormack, Neutral Bay.
 XBM C. P. Bartholomew, Mosman.

XBO W. Hudson, Dulwich Hill.
 XBP E. W. Bonwill, Sydney.
 XBR A. W. Rost, Waverley.
 XBV G. Field, Arncliffe.
 XBW G. S. Gow, Burwood.
 XBX R. Lewington, Chatswood.
 XBZ J. Cole, Wollstonecraft.
 XCA R. C. Allsop, Randwick.
 XCC C. S. Crouch, Randwick.
 XCE R. E. Shute, Strathfield.
 XCF G. R. Gannon, Artarmon.
 XCG C. A. Gorman, Oatley.
 XCI S. J. Bowicke, Paddington.
 XCJ Cox and Stanner, Lindfield.
 XCL T. R. Willmot, Toongabbie.
 XCN W. C. R. Snellgrove, Wil-loughby.
 XCO C. M. Coughlan, Concord.
 XCP M. C. Perry, Randwick.
 XCT C. S. Tiley, North Sydney.
 XCV Wm. Pollard, N. Sydney.
 XCX R. Akeroyd, Ashfield.
 XCY A. Binns, Mosman.
 XDA T. W. W. Burgess, Wagga Wagga.
 XDC L. M. J. Butler, Singleton.

XDD W. F. Butler, Dulwich Hill.
 XDG M. R. Shelley, Henley
XDM Maclurcan and Lane,
Sydney.
 XDN A. M. Phillips, Marrickville.
 XDQ J. McNamara, Sydney.
 XDR A. H. Elliott, Drummoyne.
 XDT F. Lawless, Enmore.
 XDW Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Milson's Pt.
 XDY J. H. A. Pike, Arncliffe.
 XEB W. E. Bidmead, Marrickville.
 XED Lieut. J. S. Nolan, Double Bay.
 XEH A. V. Cape, Grenfell.
 XEM E. Moore, Petersham.
 XEN F. Leverrier, Waverley.
 XEQ W. E. Hilton, St. Leonards.
 XER J. J. Stewart, Redfern.
 XEU N. A. Holmes, Manly.
 XEZ C. Tripp, Campbelltown.
 XFA R. E. McIntosh, Pymble.
 XFE J. Jeremy, Wagga Wagga.
 XFJ C. Jackson, Mosman.
 XFM F. J. Brooks, Arncliffe.
 XFN Gunner Clarke, Ashfield.
 XFP W. P. Renshaw, Roseville.
 XFQ N. H. Wright, Mosman.
 XFR V. J. Brain, Ashfield.
 XFT A. Borland, Burwood.
 XFU K. Stanton, Ashfield.

XFX Wm. Hughes, Jn., Rozelle.
 XFY G. Williams, Annandale.
 XGE L. Lane, North Sydney.
 XGG F. G. H. Wilkinson, Ash-field.
 XGH C. C. Hamilton, Wool-lahra.
 XGJ H. L. Peck, Nth. Sydney.
 XGP S. B. Godwin, N. Sydney.
 XGQ H. A. Warden, Narrabri.
 XGR H. Harris, North Sydney.
 XGV G. S. Thomas, Paddington.
 XGY F. Y. Tyrer, Toongabbie.
 XHB H. Brewer, Bondi.
 XHD H. W. Devlin, Manly.
 XHG L. Smith, Waverley.
 XHH H. Hawker, Grafton.
 XHJ D. H. McBurney, Mil-son's Point.
 XHL H. Leverrier, Sydney.
 XHO E. K. Burke, Lindfield.
 XHV A. F. Vipan, Petersham.
 XHW E. Stewart, Glebe Point.
 XHY H. V. Masters, Stanmore.
 XHZ A. L. Spring, Waverley.
 XIA H. Wilkinson, Drummoyne.
 XIB C. J. Frazer, Granville.
 XIC J. A. Hutchison, Granville.
 XIF J. A. Eagles, Jiggi.
 XIG W. Baird, Hurstville.
 XIH A. Blyard, Nowra.
 XII N. B. Charlton, Pymble.
 XIJ R. I. Fletcher, Woollahra.
 XIK G. A. Uther, Sydney.

XIL

C. Olsson, Balmain.
 W. C. Shellhear, Walla
 E. J. Lynch, Campbelltown.
 E. G. Lampard, Parramatta.
 W. McManamey, Milson's Point.
 J. G. Peake, Summer Hill.
 R. K. White, Bowral.
 P. L. Grimwood, German-ton.
 R. Vowles, Burwood.
 A. Clark, Rockdale.
 N. E. D'Arcy, Pymble.
 W. Hinton, Wagga Wagga.
 W. Blackwell, Camperdown.
 M. N. Chapman, Springwood.
 R. F. Hill, Waverley.
 J. C. A. Roberts, Parramatta.
 F. W. Kimpton, Grafton.
 A. V. Costelow, Dorrigo
 W. Thornecroft, Rookwood.
 E. McPherson, Grafton.
 W. Zech, Annandale.
 E. A. Bruce, Artarmon.
 C. McDonell, Ashfield.
 H. Knight, Newtown.
 N. E. Husband, N. Syd.

XACA G. U. H. Taylor, Glebe Point.
 XACC R. Monty, Surry Hills.
 XACF H. E. Simpson, Randwick.
 XACI Rev. Father O'Reilly, Bathurst.
 XACJ R. P. Whitburn, Leichhardt.
 XACK The Smith Premier Business 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, Marrickville.
 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, Coffs Harbour Jetty.
 XADK Wireless Institute of New South Wales, Sydney
 XADL A. R. Butler, Belmore.
 XADN J. C. Humphries, Muswellbrook.
 XADW F. B. Cooke, Sydney.
 XADX P. W. Darch, Croydon.
 XADY E. G. Crichton, Waverley.

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, Paddington.
 XAEF A. Volkerts, Leichhardt.

XAEF H. Tuson, North Coogee.
 XAEH Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd., Sydney.
 XAEI E. Gardiner, Haberfield.
 XAEJ B. Makin, West Kogarah.
 XAEK A. B. Cochrane, Longueville.
 XAEL P. G. Stephens, Balmain.

XJA

Victoria.

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.

XMJ

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, St. Yarra.
 XLA W. Aitken, Jun., Elsternwick.
 XLB R. M. Dalton, Auburn.
 XLC A. Horbury, Bendigo.
 XLD C. Hiam, Jnr., Balaclava.
 XLF R. B. Ashe, M. Brighton.
 XLG T. J. Entwistle, 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.

XML

XML E. B. Parker, E. St. Kilda.
 XMO C. Whitlaw, 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. Tregebar, 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.
 XOA 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.

XJAC

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.
 XOU 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.

XJAD

XJAD C. J. Brown, Melbourne.
 (Ch. of E. Grammar School)
 XJAF C. R. Smith, Caulfield.
 XJAH G. H. Stillman, Brighton.
 XAJA 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. MacKinolty, 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.

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.

XQK

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.

XVB

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.

XVY

South Australia.

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.

NYB

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

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

Tasmania.

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.