



MORSECODIANS MESSENGER



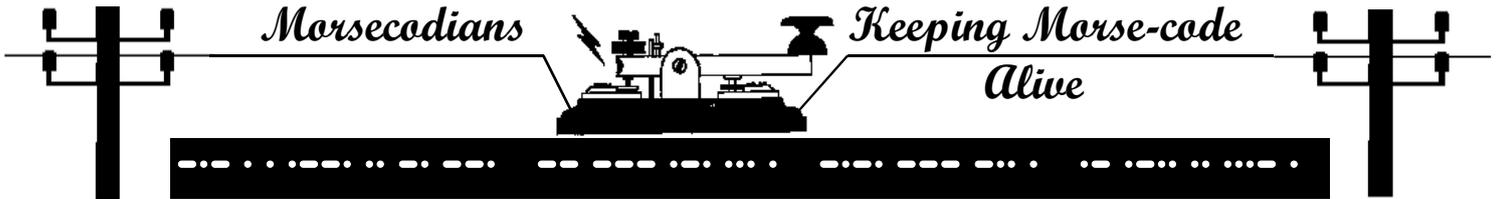
The official newsletter of the Morsecodians Fraternity of Western Australia (Inc.)

Editor: Larry Rice

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October 2007



IMPORTANT MESSAGE RE OUR NEXT MEETING

To meet requirements regarding the Fraternity's Incorporation and Income Tax Exemption status, it is proposed that our October meetings henceforth will be regarded as our Annual General Meeting (AGM).

To regularise the matter this proposal will be put to a vote at the meeting scheduled for 15/10/07.

Also on 15/10/07, the audited Balance Sheet for the year ended 30/6/07, showing a credit balance of \$1278.19, will be presented for adoption; as will a statement showing our Reserve Account, comprised of 237 Home Building Society shares, was valued at \$3365.40 on 30/6/07.

ROYAL SHOW ROSTER 2007

Sat	Sep 29 th	Greenslade, Keays, Macdonald, Spalding, Tyler.
Sun	Sep 30 th	Bright, Brinkworth, Fathers, Hopkins, Rice, Stephens.
Mon	Oct 1 st	Allender, Brinkworth, Edmunds, Field, Whitney.
Tues	Oct 2 nd	Fathers, Gregan, Knox, Pitts, Spear.
Wed	Oct 3 rd	Greenslade, Knox, Meadowcroft, Willis.
Thur	Oct 4 th	Bright, Hopkins, Keays, Field, Sinclair.
Fri	Oct 5 th	Greenslade, Gregan, Knox, McShane, Murray, Rice, Tyler.
Sat	Oct 6 th	Allender, Edmunds, Meadowcroft, Sinclair, Spalding, Whitney.

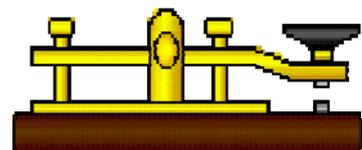
NEXT MEETING

Hyde Park Hotel
15th Oct 2007 10 am

Please note the time and date for our next get-together. Members and non-members welcome.

dp leisure lifestyle

Thanks to API, our sponsor.



TELEGRAPH STATION EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM Imlay St, Eden NSW 2552 02-64962094

The redevelopment project of Eden Killer Whale Museum started in 2005 when better accessibility for visitors and greater utilisation of the space available was undertaken.

Phil McGrath's morse code display was the big winner being moved to a much bigger area allowing more interpretation to be promoted in relation to the development and advancement of Morse code, as well as the history of the postal and telegraph office of Eden.

Andrew Daddo from the "Great Outdoors" programme called in for a chat with Phil and another TV programme "Australia Downunder" also filmed Phil in action.

Jody White, the museum's collection manager, has great praise for the museum volunteers Wally, Stephanie and Kevin who produced the fine furniture for the Morse display such as the postal/telegraph office counter and Phil's operating desk.

Several Morsecodians are in the process of loaning items for the postal counter for which the museum is grateful for their kind generosity.



TELEGRAPH STATION Beechworth-Victoria.

The Beechworth District Survey Office and Telegraph Station was built in 1858, and once linked Beechworth to the outside world through the medium of Morse code.

Morse code greatly improved communications throughout the colony of Victoria and revolutionised global communications by the sheer speed of sending messages and news.

Today, the building remains an active Morse code station, claimed to be the busiest telegraph office in the Southern Hemisphere, where visitors can send telegrams to anywhere in Australia.

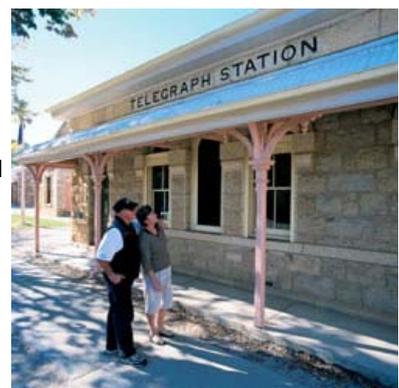
Morse code demonstrations are available to school and tour groups.

The building functioned as a Lands and Survey Office for most of the 20th Century.

Visitors can also view an audio-visual timetable that explains Beechworth's early development, and visit the Oral History room to hear recorded commentary from a group of Beechworth identities as they discuss their town.

The Telegraph Station is open every day except Christmas Day from 10 am to 4 pm.

Please note the telegraph station may close on occasion to cater for group activities.



The Automorse was a fully automatic key designed by Adelaide Telegraphist, Norman Percy Thomas, who applied for a patent for "An automatic dot and dash making telegraph transmitting instrument", on 11th April 1918. The patent number subsequently granted was 7023/18. The Automorse was manufactured by Hitchcock Bros. Flinders Street, Adelaide.

In his patent application Thomas stated "a succession of dashes may be made automatically with a single movement of the hand, also a succession of dots with a single movement of the hand. This will not only conduce to the clearness of the transmitted signals but by reducing the number of movements and the tension upon the operator's hand and nerve, will prove of very great benefit to the operator in the prevention of what is known as Telegraphist's cramp".

The Automorse is basically comprised of three weighted vibrating rods, one for dots, one for manual dashes and one for automatic dashes, mounted on the base, moving in a horizontal plane.

A distinguishing feature is the "T" frame fixed to the base and extending above the levers which, whilst providing a degree of protection for the parts, made carrying the instrument much easier. It was made in both right and left hand models, but I am only aware of one left hand model which I own. The round label is attached to the base near the front right hand corner.



The Automorse was not an easy instrument to adjust and to use. Along with the fully automatic Simplex Auto De Luxe model they were the only two fully automatic Australian made jiggers and neither were very widely used.

Ron McMullen

The Day I gave my **AUTOMORSE** away..... Chas Spalding

Place: Wyndham WA
Date: 3rd Qtr 1986
Venue: Old Wyndham Post Office
Occasion: Opening of "Post-Tel" and historic museum at old P.O.
Present: Chas Spalding, Divisional Manager, Northern Australia Post; Brian Burke, Premier of W.A; Peter Allen, Chairman of Historical Society; Susan Bradley, Shire President.



The Queen's Birthday Honours List 2007.

Name: MULLINS, Brian Audley.
Award: Medal of the Order of Australia.
Citation: For service to the community, particularly through the Telstra Communications Museum.

congratulations Brian!!

I tuned into SBS tv early one morning in August and heard the opening news segment of TVB Hong Kong with some nice morse as an intro mixed in with electronic pulses repeating "News Today" then fading away as the announcer came into camera.

Anyone know of any other TV / Radio stations that use morse as the intro to their news bulletins? ed

Morsecodian John Stephens recently penned a letter asking about heritage preservation of the refurbishment of Perth GPO.

Kevin Cunningham, Manager Corporate Real Estate (WA) replied assuring him that every effort has been made to preserve information and heritage value assets associated with the refurbishing of the GPO.

Kevin also stated that all changes and retention of sites was done under the auspices of the State and Federal Heritage bodies—part of correspondence is reproduced below:-

"Implementing an interpretation Plan to provide an understanding of the significance of the building to those using it. The significant items to be highlighted will include previous functions and operations linked with the building. This will be achieved by a variety of vehicles, including display, graphics and artwork.

The overall intent of the redevelopment is to restore and conserve the building for future generations, and to reinforce the significance of the building and its past functions within the general community."

WALTER LEWIS DUNHAM

Eucla telegraphist part 2

1910 Still at Eucla.

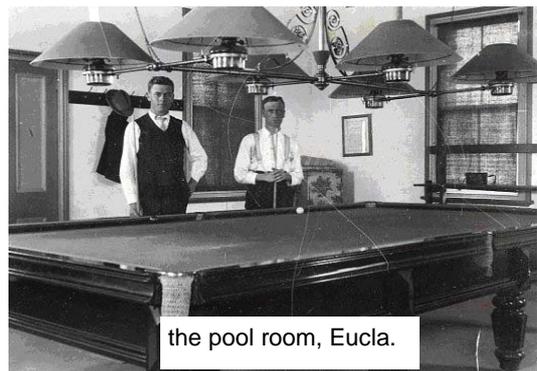
1914 Now living at York listed as a Clerical Assistant C5 on a salary of 190 pounds present salary from 1 July 1913. He is listed in the Wise's WA Post Office Directory as having the telephone on in York from 1912.

1917 Now in Perth as a C4 with the Inspection Branch on a salary of 220 pounds including rent.

1935-1937 Moved to Kalgoorlie District as an Inspection Clerk.

1948 He is now listed at Bunbury as District Inspector, Grade 2 with salary of 712 pounds.

1953 Walter died aged 69. He is buried in Bunbury Cemetery.



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Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday in February, June and October each year in the Hyde Park Hotel North Perth.

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