

YLs in the 1938 callbook

VK2GA Mrs F.V. McKenzie

VK2YG Miss L.N. Litchfield

VK3HM Mrs E.L.Hutchings

VK3HQ Miss M.L.Hutchings

VK3YL Miss M.A.Marshall

VK4JH Mrs I.J.L.Humphry

VK4LO Mrs V.E.Nolan

VK4YL Miss F.M.MacKenzie

VK5YL Miss B.A.Geisel

VK6JC Miss J.C.Chinery

VK5MH Mrs M.L.Hill

VK6YL Miss R.V.Longley

VK7YL Miss J.T.Crowder

YLs licensed before the War



- **Florence Mckenzie VK2GA/VK2FV** was a qualified electrician. She and her OM had a store selling electrical and later electronic items.
- She got her licence in 1921 and passed her exam in 1925. That was how it was done then
- During the War she set up a school to teach women CW so they could release men to fight, and later she taught men as well, from many services and countries,
- She was awarded an OBE for her services.
- She is very highly thought of within ALARA.

YLs licensed before the War

- Two YLs **Elizabeth VK3HM** and her daughter **Marjorie VK3HQ** Hutchings were part of a whole family of radio amateurs.



- The family home “Bryn Avon” was the site of many ham gatherings before the War.



Elizabeth worked all continents (WAC) on Christmas Eve in 1929, all in CW.

Neither YL took up their licences after the War but the son, Alan did.

YLs licensed before the War



- **Austine Henry VK3YL** obtained her licence in 1930.
- She built her own equipment which was part of the Melbourne Exhibition in 1935,
- She gained a DXCC, was the first WAC YL and the third WAZ YL.
- She was a member of RSGB, YLRL and ALARA

YLs licensed before the War

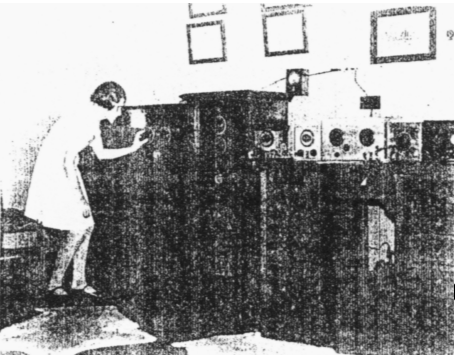


- **Mavis Stafford VK3KS** was a foundation member of ALARA.
- She sat for her amateur exam in 1939 and was active for the next 70 years.
- Joined YLRL in 1950 and won many of their awards
- She was DXCC WAC and WASDXCC. Her trophy case shows some of the awards she won over the years.



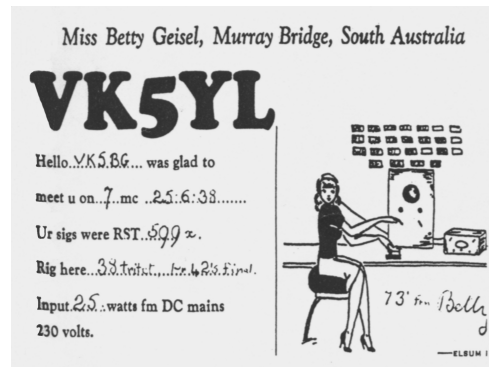
YLs licensed before the War

- **Dorothy VK4GH** was the first YL licensed in Queensland. Licensed in 1930
- **Ida VK4JH** was licensed in 1933.
- **Madeline McKenzie VK4YL** also passed her exams in 1933 when she was only 12.
- She won four British Empire awards in their Contests as a Junior, and more as a Senior.



Madeline had to close her station in 1939 and did not open it after the War. The photo shows her with her “rig”

YLs licensed before the War



- **Betty Geisel VK5YL** passed her exams 1936. She built her own equipment and exhibited it in one of the Exhibitions.
- She also gained her commercial operators licence
- Betty did not take up her licence after the War but was employed, well into the 1970s as a radio technician in Gerard and Goodmans – THE radio store in Adelaide

YLs licensed before the War



- Mary, known as **Bobby VK6MH** was licensed in August 1936 with certificate no 1976.

- She did continue to operate after the War

- **Vicki VK5YL** was first licensed in 1936.

- During the War she was one of the first WAAFS

- She was in Melbourne in 1942, she received the first message that Darwin was being bombed.



YLs licensed before the War



- Joy VK7YL was first licensed in 1936 encouraged by her father.
- She remained active for over 40 years
- She recorded a message for ALARA that was heard in Ulverstone in 2008, just as she was preparing to move into a retirement village.
- It was her 93rd birthday

In the 40's and 50's

- These YLs also became licensed in the 40's and 50's
- Miss J.R. Hamilton VL2HJ
- Miss J.L.Jira VK2AMJ
- Marjorie VK3HQ was daughter of Elizabeth VK3HM
- Mrs D.L.Emmell VK5CV and her OM John VK5AJE were licensed in VK5 but lived in VK8 for many years
- Inge Gregory VK6OV appeared in callbooks till 1977 and was a member of ALARA for a year.

In the 40's and 50's



Joyce Millen (Milan) VK2MI
was first licensed in 1951 and
appeared in subsequent
callbooks till 1977. She did join
ALARA in 1976 but no more is
known about her.

In the 40's and 50's

- **Gwen Churchward VK3US**
 - Became an amateur in 1947, her OM was Rex VK3VL
 - She built her own AM transmitter and used it to work on 80 and 40 and 6 metres.





In the 40's and 50's

- Clarice Adams VK3VB
- Wanted to be “part of the gang instead of just a listener in”
- Was “YL of the month” in CQ magazine for July 1951

In the 40's and 50's

- Denise Robertson VK1YL and VK5YL
- Worked with Sir Mark Oliphant in Canberra
- Was always a CW operator by preference.
- Was given the VK5YL callsign as soon as she returned to South Australia



YLs in the 60's and 70's

- Hebe VK2AOK passed her exam in April 1964, encouraged by her Om.



Hebe with Mona VK2AXS, Verle VK2MR and Murial VK2AIA were contemporaries and were featured on the cover of AR for August 1964.

- Hebe's daughter, Jane VK2FUI obtained her licence in 1975, and another daughter, Dia VK2YTH also became an amateur. With a son also licensed, it was a very active family

YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Heather VK2HD** was a wireless telegraphist during the War and later took it up as a hobby

She was very active chasing DX contacts. She has well over 300 countries.

Heather lives in North West NSW and is no longer active, but is always happy to meet other amateurs, especially YLs.

- She was a foundation member of ALARA
- She had her 100th birthday this year.



YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Margaret VK2MV** got her licence on her 70th birthday
- **Elwyn VK2DLT** decided to get her licence when her husband was building an ocean-going yacht.
- She passed her Novice Exam and became VK2VPT, then did her AOCP
- Elwyn joined ALARA and often participated in the Monday night nets
-

YLs in the 60's and 70's

- Joy VK2EBX got into amateur radio through CB.
- Living in the country she heard the truckies on CB and then followed her son into amateur radio
- Joy was Publicity Officer for AR for many years. She also won awards for her poetry
- She had friends all round the world and was honoured on a visit to the UK by the town of Yeovil. She lived in Yeoval NSW.



YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Daphne VK2KDX** decided to “give it a go” at 62.
- Once she passed , first her Novice and then her AOCPP she became very active on the air.
- She talked regularly to Joy VK2EBX, Margaret P29NUN, now VK2PNG, to Betty VK2AMU and to Dot VK2DDB, now VK2DB along with other VKs and some ZIs.
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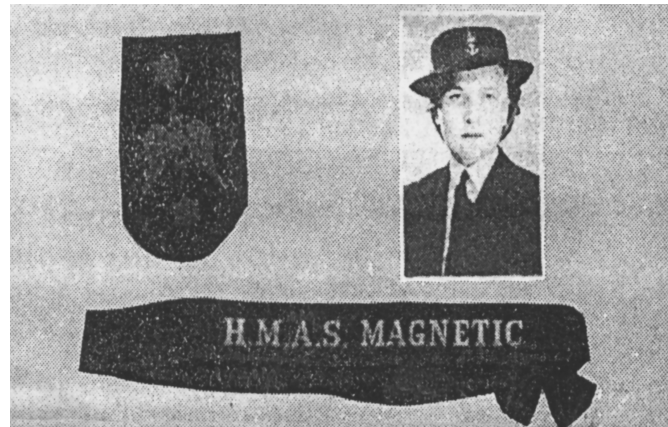
YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Moira VK8NW** was one of Mrs McKenzie's girls

As a YL she had to reach a speed of 22 wpm. The men only had to reach 10 wpm.

She did not take up amateur radio until some amateurs, visiting Alice Springs discovered her and persuaded her to sit for the AOCP.

- With her VK8 callsign she was always welcome on the HF bands



YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Kirsty VK9NL** was in the Norwegian Navy as a telegraphist before she went to live on Norfolk Island and became an amateur.
- She is well-known to amateurs who visit the island and always makes them very welcome
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- **Christine VK2VIT** became interested when planning a 4WD trip with her OM. They both got their licences and enjoyed using them but are not active now. Maybe later.

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- **Freda VK2SU** was part of the Army's Special Receiving section during the War but didn't take up the hobby till she was given some disposals equipment.
- She always preferred CW and had regular contacts with Mavis VK2KS and Denise VK5YL, and followed them through the years as their families grew up.

YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Lorrie VK3AGO** was an American war Bride.
- Her father had an American licence so she got one in Australia in 1960.
- Later her mother, **Vi** also got a licence **VK3BAK**.
- Lorrie and her mother both attended some of the early ALARA meetings together

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- Brenda VK3ZKN/VK3KT
- Brenda was one of the first YLs to opt to do the theory and the CW exam separately.
- The whole family eventually became amateurs, a son and at least two daughters all passed.
- The radio shack must have been very busy.
- Brenda was very active in the WIA. She was Education Officer for many years and later became a Director.

YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Janet VK3BTU** remembers playing “radio” as a child with headphones, a box with some dials and a tuning knob, but she didn't take it up till quite a bit later.



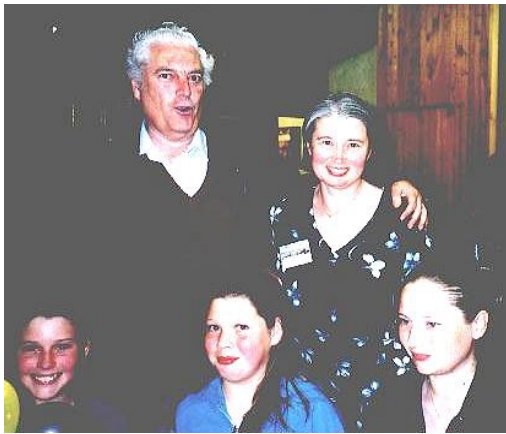
She was one of the early members of ALARA and hosted some of the Christmas parties.

- The sketch is one of hers

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- **Norma VK3AYL/VK2YL** was the first President of ALARA. She was a university student at the time but held a licence.
- Her OM Frank was an amateur when they met and now all three of their daughters have Foundation licences.
- The whole family is also very involved in the Girl Guides.



YLs in the 60's and 70's



- **Gwen VK3DYL**, her OM and her son all became amateurs because of the experience of a JOTA weekend.
- Gwen earned a DXCC with her intermediate callsign **VK3KYL** as well as with her full call.
- She was a member of almost all the DX YL groups and has organised a number of Dxpeditions to interesting places.

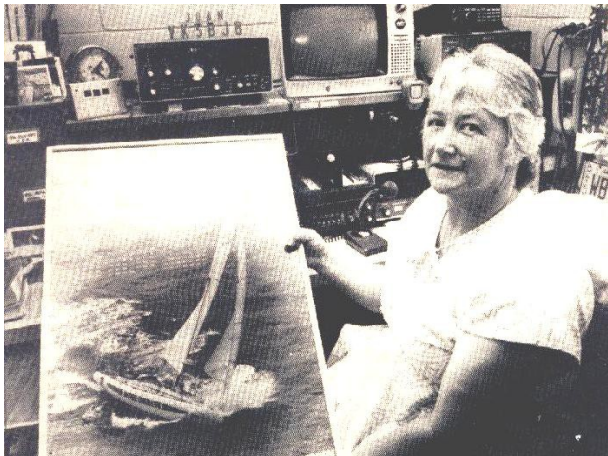
YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Rhonda** became interested in radio at about 12 while she was at school. She joined the radio club there and sat for her exam when she was old enough.
- In 1970 she became **VK3ZYL** and enjoyed chasing the DX stations on VHF whenever possible
- It was at a meeting between Rhonda and Norma that the idea of ALARA was formed.
- She participated in the early Contests but later moved on to other interests

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- Joan VK3BJB took up radio after she listened to her husband as he travelled around in his semi-trailer. She also heard many other stations. She decided to get her licence so she could join in and talk as well as listen.
- In time she began, especially, to talk to the Japanese mariners. Some were commercial fishermen but others were lone sailors.
- She learned to speak Japanese so she could help them with their English.
- She has run a regular Net for Japanese deep sea sailors for years and is known everywhere as “Mrs Joan”



YLs in the 60's and 70's



- Another early YL was **Linda VK3VV** and a number of other callsigns, including VK5LL, as she moved around Australia with her OM as they developed their electronic business.
- She has been a member, on and off, of ALARA since the late 70's
- The currently live in Tasmania where she holds the callsign **VK7QP**

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- **Jenny VK5ANW/VK3WQ** followed her first OM into amateur radio but became part of the administration as well as an operator.
- She passed her first licence in 1977 and upgraded in 1980.
- She was introduced to ALARA by Myrna before she even had her licence.
- She has been President of the WIA(SA Div) and Federal Councillor for VK5 as well as President of ALARA.
- She regularly commutes between VK3 and VK5 and uses the appropriate callsign on air.

YLs in the 60's and 70's



- Myrna VK5YW had hoped to be able to ask for the callsign VK5YL but that was given to Denise when she moved from VK1 to VK5.
- She was one of the first YLs outside VK3 to join ALARA.
- She was controller for the first ALARA Net on 80 metres. In the first few months there were usually about half and half YL and OM contacts
- She has not been on air for many years but joins in all the other ALARA activities.

YLs in the 60's and 70's

- **Lorraine VK5LM** sat her her exam in about 1977, also but become interested because her son was in the CFS and the station needed a radio operator.
- She was well known at meetings in Vk5 and made many friends through her DX contacts.
- She is now part of the 'grey nomads' but doesn't use her amateur skills now.
- **Su VK8SU** sat with Jenny and joined ALARA with her but moved away from VK5 and has not been active for a while.