

WOMEN IN RADIO

Christine Taylor VK5CTY

SHIRLEY VK5JSH

Shirley is a relative newcomer to amateur radio and to ALARA as she will tell you, but since she joined ALARA she has pulled her weight. She is currently our second Vice President, and our Historian. She prepares the roster for the Monday night Nets, juggling everyone's commitments. She is involved in various devious schemes to make the ALARAMEETS more fun.

She is on the Monday night nets almost every week and has been since she became an amateur. She is a keen Echolink operator including taking over as net-controller of at least one net she just joined for interest.

Shirley has had her licence since 1998 after joining a radio course run by Geoff VK5TY. Her OM Jim was a VK3 licensee before he moved to VK5, although he didn't operate very often till

Shirley passed her exams.

Shirley is an accomplished bobbin lace maker, always ready to learn a new technique. She has recently taken an interest in patchwork and cross-stitch because other VK5 YLs are involved in these craft activities.

Shirley is a keen gardener and regularly preserves all the fruit she grows or is given, with several special 'secret' orchards at her fingertips.

She is a keen amateur astronomer and loves the part of South Australia where she lives. She was born in Glasgow but came here as a young girl with her parents and siblings. She has twin children, a boy and a girl, and two grandchildren with whom she is



in regular contact via the internet.

We need enthusiastic people like Shirley in ALARA

DOT VK2DB

Dot has been a member of ALARA for many years. She has been our very efficient editor of the ALARA Newsletter since 1996, taking us from the days of the Gestetner into the most up-to-date computer technology.

Dot is ready to undertake any task offered to her. She is keenly involved in the Hornsby Radio Club and participates in any new project proposed. She is insistently feminist; as the mother of four sons she has always needed to uphold her rights! When Dot makes an electronic device, it will be housed in a pink rabbit, or a flowery cover to add her personal touch. The device also works properly!

Dot is a keen gardener who is very conscious of the rights of the animals who share her garden area. There are a number of lizards, birds and wallabies that share her garden. She draws the line at snakes unless they stay strictly outside the house.

For a number of years Dot converted the VK2 broadcast from packet to text and posted it on the Hornsby Club website for those without packet. To do this she had to use two or three different computers each time, contending with all the problems we encounter with computers, from time to time (hi, hi).

The many hours spent every three months to produce the ALARA Newsletter must be uncountable – when she has the news to fill the pages. Her problem is that too many people think that what they do is of no interest to



others, so they don't 'get around' to sending stories (and pictures) to her. On her behalf, this is a plea for all YLs to keep Dot informed.

Dot is also very interested in steam trains and for many years participated with her sons in a number of expeditions and working bees involving the old monsters.

With the assistance of her son Peter, Dot has given ALARA a voice on the Web. She keeps it up-to-date and has even redesigned it once or twice as technology has changed.

Dot and her OM John VK2ZOI (and sometimes her two younger sons) have been to most of the ALARAMEETS and represented ALARA at a number of Hamfests on the East Coast.

We appreciate all the works Dot does for ALARA even if we don't always remember to tell her so.

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CQ

*An age old process for meeting
a friend*

*A stream of rules and a certain
method*

All criteria must be met

Just to say hello

Waves full of fresh voices

Fill the ancient machines

Regulations are stretched

To meet the next generation

The cobwebs are swept away

The equipment takes on new life

Technology advances

The rise and fall of pitch

Reaching beyond the stars

Empty space is filled

*A sound seeps through the crackle
An answer in the darkness
A voice within the night*

*Metal splays the horizon
Black lines writhe on the ground
Keeping the silver monster
Strapped into the earth*

*A black box
A green screen
Numbers lead the way
Turn the knob
Push the button
Hope a friend is there*

An original poem by Christina Simon VK3FOX