



**Troubridge Island  
South Australia**

**VK5TIL**

**7th-9th February 2023**

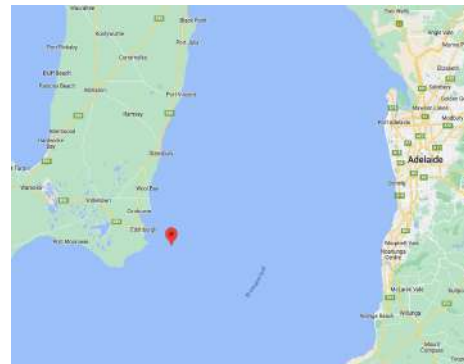
OC-139  
VKFF-1108  
5CP-243  
AU-0131

by Marija VK5MAZ  
2023 VKFF National Get Together,  
Renmark, South Australia


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## Where is Troubridge Island, South Australia?

- south-west corner of Gulf St Vincent
- 8km offshore from Edithburgh
- 80km across the water from Adelaide
- part of Troubridge Shoals
- once connected to the mainland – about 17,000 years ago



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The image shows a map of the coastal region of Western Australia, highlighting Troubridge Island. The map includes labels for 'Edithburgh', 'Edithburgh Generating Station', 'Edithburgh Park', 'Edithburgh Bay', 'Captain's Point', 'Walter Point', and 'Troubridge Island'. A green circle on the map indicates the location of Troubridge Island. An inset photograph in the top right corner shows a wooden sign that reads 'Troubridge Island Conservation Park' and 'Access by permit only'. The sign also features logos for the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Troubridge Island is 800 metres long and 440 metres wide

Troubridge Island Conservation Park proclaimed in 1982

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### **Troubridge Island, South Australia**



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### Birdlife and wildlife on the island

- 60 native bird species
  - 21 conservation significance
  - 22 migratory
- 31 plant species – most introduced
- Sea Lions



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### History of Troubridge Island

- Traditional owners - Narungga aboriginal people
- Island discovered on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1802 by Captain Matthew Flinders
- Named after Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge
- Nearby you can also find Troubridge Hill, Troubridge Point



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## History of Troubridge Island

- 1855 commenced building lighthouse
- 2<sup>nd</sup> lighthouse to be built in South Australia
- One of only 2 of its type in Australia
- Built from ten cylindrical cast iron segments
- First lit 1<sup>st</sup> January 1856
- £9,396 cost



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## History of Troubridge Island

- 1980 – light was automated
- 1908 - Dept Transport sold to Environment Dept for \$40K
- Decommissioned 2001
- Light extinguished 2002
- Troubridge Hill lighthouse took over



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## Planning for the trip

- what callsign will we use?
- applying for callsign
- equipment to take
  - antennas, tx, band pass filters, connectors
- where do we operate from?
  - floorplans of the cottages, aerial view of the island
- what bands and modes will we operate on?
  - requests for CW
  - requests by USA amateurs re bandplan
- weight limit
  - 700 kg
- what is provided on the island e.g. linen, pillows

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## Planning for the trip

- what power do we use
- QSL Manager
- eQSL & LOTW accounts
- food/alcohol & shopping
- logging
- QRZ.com page
- website
- Facebook page
- Skype meetings
  - Sept 2022 & Jan 2023
- phone calls
- emails

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## Why did we go to Troubridge Island?



- ❖ World Wide Flora Fauna (WWFF)
- ❖ VK5 Parks Award
- ❖ Islands On The Air
- ❖ have some fun

**FUN**



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- our first trip away together
- not serious DXpeditioners
- each had our own expertise
- attracted a lot of attention – big expectations

### THE TEAM

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| ❖ Marija VK5MAZ | ❖ Chris VK5FR |
| ❖ Adam VK2YK    | ❖ Ivan VK5HS  |
| ❖ Andy VK5LA    | ❖ Paul VK5PAS |

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## How did we get there?



- Troubridge Island Escape
- drove to Wool Bay
- loaded the boat
- drove to Edithburgh
- 15m boat trip



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## Our accomodation



- 3 nights
- old lighthouse keeper's cottage
  - 3 bedrooms
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - bathroom



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## One of the first jobs

- Cleaning the solar panels



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## Our operating stations

4 separate operating stations

- in the rear room of main cottage
- on the verandah of main cottage
- in the lounge room of main cottage
- in a room in 2<sup>nd</sup> cottage



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## Our equipment

- Codan model 3020 power supplies
- Yaesu FT-857
- Elecraft KX3
- Icom IC7000
- Icom IC7300
- End fed antenna
- 30m vertical
- Linked dipole
- 2 element beam
- Beams – 2m/70cm & 6m



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## Bands/Modes we operated on

- 160m
- 10m - 80m
- 6m
- 2m/70cm SSB & FM
- SSB
- CW
- FT8



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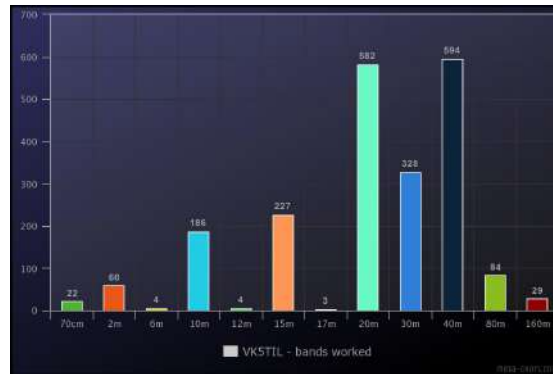
## Our results

- first QSO – Peter VK3PF
- last QSO – Ted VK6NTE
- 2,123 QSOs
- 65 different DXCC entities



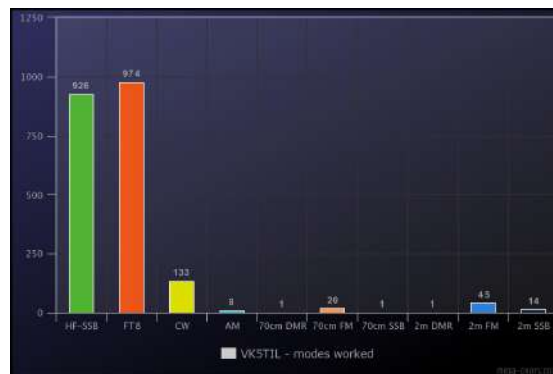
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## Bands we operated on



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## Modes we operated on



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**VK5TIL**  
 Troubridge Island  
 South Australia  
 08-1481  
 9091-1228  
 929-948

**Troubridge Island**  
 The island is named in the 18th century, in honour of the British naval explorer, James Cook. The island was first discovered by the Dutch, Frederick de Witt, in 1696. The island is about 100 years long and about 100 metres wide and is a 1000m high.

The lighthouse was built in 1881 by the Australian government and is a 100m high. The lighthouse was built in 1881 by the Australian government and is a 100m high.

The island of Australia. This island is the 10th largest island in the world. It is located in the southern part of the island of Australia. It is located in the southern part of the island of Australia.

The lighthouse was built in 1881 by the Australian government and is a 100m high. The lighthouse was built in 1881 by the Australian government and is a 100m high.

**Troubridge Island, South Australia**

Paul VESPER, Paula WARR, Debra VESPER, Anna VESPER, Andy VESPA, Gill VESPA

Confirming QSOs with					
DATE	UTC	MHZ	MODE	RTT	

<https://www.troubridgeisland.com>

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<https://www.troubridgeisland.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/vk5til>

<https://www.qrz.com/db/VK5TIL>

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