

In the news from Amateur Radio New South Wales for this week;

The ARNSW library will not be open tomorrow night, the 4th of June, but the Licence upgrade course will still be running, starting at the usual time.

Since Next Monday the 12th, is a public holiday for the Queen's Birthday long weekend, the library will be closed and the upgrade class will not be running. The classes will be back as usual on the 19th.

The next ARNSW Foundation and assessment weekend is in July on Saturday the 22nd and Sunday the 23rd. Bookings can be made by email, to education@arnsw.org.au. Places are limited, so register your interest as soon as possible.

If you are interested in obtaining a US amateur licence, there is a group of ARRL recognised Volunteer Examiners in Sydney. They are planning to hold an exam session in July, tentatively around the Bankstown area in Sydney. For more information, contact Julian VK2YJS, or look up the Facebook group "USA Amateur Radio Licence Exams in Australia"
[\[https://www.facebook.com/usahamsinoz/\]](https://www.facebook.com/usahamsinoz/)

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 26th of May to the 1st of June.
First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st
10cm flux	80	82	79	76	74	74	76
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	3	14	32	10	6	5	6 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	0	5	21	6	3	2	3 estimated
T index	4	7	38	11	7	3	7

Solar flare activity was very low on the 26th and 27th, then low for the rest of the week.

Geomagnetic activity in the Australian region, was quiet on the 26th and 27th, rising to minor storm levels on the 28th, then quiet to active on the 29th, quiet to unsettled on the 30th, before returning to quiet conditions on the 31st and the 1st of June.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, started out near predicted monthly values on the 26th and 27th. On the 28th, frequencies were generally near predicted; except for a localised degradation observed over Hobart between 08 and 21 hours UT, where no usable frequencies were available. This disturbance was also observed as far south as the Antarctic, and was probably related to the geomagnetic conditions at this time. F2 critical frequencies then returned to near predicted values, except for local nigh on the 30th, where some depressions of up to 20% were observed.

Now, the forecast for the 2nd to the 8th June;

Solar flare activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels.

Geomagnetic activity will be at quiet to active levels on the 2nd and 3rd, but Quiet to unsettled on other days.

Maximum Usable Frequencies should be near predicted monthly values.

Data courtesy of Space Weather Services.

Solar Flux Index update

Here are the updated Solar Flux Index (SFI) figures for this week.

Firstly, the figures for May were;

Minimum 69 Average 74 Maximum 82
With peak dates between the 1st and 4th, and the 25th to the 30th.

Now at the beginning of June, the figures so far;

Minimum 70 Average 77 Maximum 80
With peak dates between the 4th and the 8th, and the 12th to the 22nd.

And looking ahead to the prediction for July;

Minimum 70 Average 76 Maximum 80
With peak dates between the 9th and the 18th.

Update with thanks to Noel, VK2FUL.

[using daily data updates from :<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/usaf-45-day-ap-and-f107cm-flux-forecast>]

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ARRL DX news

UGANDA, 5X. Kazuo is active as 5X2B on the HF bands.

MALDIVES, 8Q. John, G4IRN is active as 8Q7RN during June on the HF bands.

MALTA, 9H. Haru, JA1XGI will be active as 9H3XG from Sliema, IOTA EU-023, from June 7 to 12. Activity will be on 40 to 15 metres using CW and RTTY.

FRANCE, F. Members of the Castres DX Gang and IDRE will be active as TM5FI from Ratonneau Island, Frioul Archipelago, IOTA EU-095, from June 5 to 12. Activity will be on 80 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes with four stations active.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Reiner, DL2AAZ is active as FG/DL2AAZ from Sainte Rose, IOTA NA-105, until June 7. Activity is holiday style on 30 to 10 metres using CW and SSB.

LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0. Members of the Stirling District ARS and the GMDX group are active as HB0/GM4UYE until June 6. Activity is on 80 to 6 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI. Didier, F5PLR will be active as HI9/F5PLR from Las Terrenas from June 6 to July 4. Activity will be on 30, 20 and 15 metres.

GREECE, SV. Members of the Radio Amateur Union of North Aegean are active as J48GEO from the Geo Park on Lesvos, IOTA EU-049, until June 23. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes. During the Geopark weekend they will be located at the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest.

CONGO, REPUBLIC OF, TN. Ken, LA7GIA is active as TN5E from Brazzaville until June 4. Activity is on 80 to 10 metres, and possibly 6 metres.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, VP2V. Kevin, K6TOP is active as VP2V/K6TOP until June 5. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Tom, KC0W is active as Z25DX until June 18. Activity is on 80 to 6 metres using CW.

ALBANIA, ZA. Operators IK7JWX, I0SNY, I8LWL and IK8GQY will be active as ZA/IK7JWX from June 10 to 20. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB and various digital modes.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The 10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest, Geopark Weekend, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, PVRC Reunion, DigiFest, Wake-Up! QRP CW Sprint, SEANET Contest, UKSMG Summer 6-Meter Contest, Dutch Kingdom Contest, IARU Region 1 CW Field Day, RSGB National CW Field Day and Alabama QSO Party are all on tap for this weekend.

Later in the week, the RSGB 80-Meter Club Data Championship is scheduled for June 5. The ARS Spartan CW Sprint is scheduled for June 6. The Phone Fray and CWops Mini-CWT CW Test are scheduled for June 7.

WICEN News

This month is True Grit, promoted as a "military inspired obstacle challenge", at Lower Portland north-west of Sydney, June 10th and 11th. As one of the competition classes in this event continues overnight, additional operators are needed in order to work in shifts.

Bush Search and Rescue New South Wales, BSAR, organises Navshield, a major bush navigation event, is on June 24th and 25th, with WICEN setup the afternoon before.

The weekend of 21st to 23rd July will be a recce for the VH-MDX Search and Rescue Exercise, which will be held on 15th to 17th September.

The tentative date for the WICEN AGM is Saturday the 26th of August.

The WICEN New South Wales website, at nsw.wicen.org.au - includes contact details, a web contact form, and membership information. WICEN members can log to see meeting Agendas and events throughout the year.

Facebook users will find the official WICEN NSW page, and an informal national WICEN group.

WICEN Northern Rivers has a weekly net on Tuesdays at 8:00pm local time, on the Lismore repeater VK2RSC on 146.8 MHz, requiring a 123 Hz tone. Listen for VK2WIR.

WICEN ACT is part of the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club, supporting events in the ACT and Capital Country. Coming events include the SCSCC Bega Rally on the weekend of June 10th and 11th, and the BMSC Rallye des Femmes on June 17th.

WICEN Victoria holds a net every Tuesday at 8:30pm, on or near 3.6 MHz. The Mallee Rally is on the weekend of the 10th and 11th June, at the spectacular Lake Tyrell, near Sealake. Sunday the 6th of August is the Rainbow Desert Rally, which is an off-road buggy event. Their website is: vic.wicen.org.au.

*Submitted by Julian VK2YJS
on behalf of the WICEN NSW State Management Committee.*

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Club News

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.

Next weekend, the 10th and 11th of June, is the club's annual Field Day at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club Hall, Matthew Flinders Drive, Port Macquarie.

Don't forget to get your projects ready for the home brew competition. There will be 2 metre and 80 metre foxhunts on both days. The 2 metre talk in foxhunt takes place on Saturday afternoon. There will be demonstrations of various types of HF digital data communications and various protocols for UHF digital voice communications. The disposals tables are always popular and no commission is charged.

Enjoy a bacon and egg breakfast and sausage and steak lunch from the barbeque both days. Finish Sunday lunch with fruit salad and ice cream dessert. Soft drinks will be available. Tea and coffee with biscuits are free to those who have registered.

The Field Day dinner will be at the Port Macquarie Golf Club at 6 pm on Saturday the 10th of June. The full Field Day programme is available on the club's website.

The club conducts two nets each week; the mid-week net starts at 7:30pm on Thursday nights, and the weekend net takes place from 9am on Sunday mornings. Both nets are on the VK2RPM 2 metre repeater, 146.7MHz. This repeater requires a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone for access.

Visitors are always made very welcome at monthly general meetings, at 2pm on the first Saturday of the month, as well as at Friday night gatherings, at 7pm on the third Friday of the month. The venue for all club meetings is the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

For more information about the Club, visit the website at orarc.org. The site contains a wealth of Amateur Radio items in addition to the club information. The May 2017 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues are available on the website as well.

*Submitted by Henry VK2ZHE
for the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.*

Hunter Radio Group

The next meeting of the group will be in July, on Friday the 14th. Location is as usual, the NBN TV Studios in Mosbri Crescent, Newcastle, and the meeting starts at 8pm.

Lecture for the evening will take the form of a technical discussion.
Tea, coffee, Ragchew after the meeting.

Also in July, there will be a Social Luncheon, on Saturday the 15th at Windale Bowling Club, starting at 11.30 a.m.

*Submitted by Rodney VK2CN
Secretary, Hunter Radio Group.*

Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

The Illawarra Amateur Radio Society meets on the second Tuesday of every month, with the next meeting on the 13th of June. The general meeting starts at 7.30pm, right after the Committee Meeting at 6:30pm.

Meetings are at the Coniston Community Hall in Bridge Street Coniston, which is just a little south of the CBD of Wollongong. The hall is located right next door to the Coniston Railway Station, so access to meetings by train is very easy.

The next meeting will have a presentation by Club Secretary, Keith VK2KQB, on transformers and power supplies. Keith is professionally involved in the design and building of power supplies, both linear and switch mode. He will explain the re-use of old transformers, volts per turn ratios, wire sizing and rewinding. Also, the repurposing of switch mode power supplies to suit usage in your shack. Keith's decades of knowledge on the subject should prove both interesting and valuable.

After Keith's presentation, everyone is invited to join-in with the usual ragchew over a hot cuppa' and chocolate biscuits.

The Club's VK2RUW Knights Hill repeater on 146.675MHz has returned to service after an extensive refit. Coverage appears to have improved greatly in all directions, with access from Narooma in the south, Goulburn to the south-west, Lithgow to the north-west and much of Sydney to the north. The entire installation took considerable time and co-ordination as it had to be done to the strict professional requirements of the tower's owner.

With the return to service of the VK2RUW repeater, ARNSW News Bulletins are now relayed on three of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society's repeaters; VK2RUW at Knights Hill on 2 metres, and VK2RMP at Maddens Plains on both 6 metres on 53.65MHz and 2 metres on 146.85MHz. These three repeaters provide Broadcast coverage over much of Sydney, Wollongong, the Southern Highlands and the Shoalhaven areas.

The Illawarra Amateur Radio Society is also presently trialling a Yaesu Fusion C4FM repeater on 438.725MHz at VK2RMP Maddens Plains. This 70 centimetre repeater operates with the usual 5MHz negative offset, with a 123Hz CTCSS access tone necessary for FM users. The repeater is operating in Auto Mode, so analogue FM transmissions are retransmitted in FM and digital C4FM signals retransmitted in C4FM. Any users of this new digital mode are invited to make use of this UHF repeater on 438.725.

Additionally, if you're interested in having a bit of a chinwag on Saturday mornings, Steve VK2BGL runs a very popular net on the VK2RMP and VK2RUW 2m repeaters, starting at 9.30am local. As these repeaters are also connected to Echolink, the Net receives call-ins from all over Australia, as well as many different other countries. So put the time of 9.30am in your diary & call-in next Saturday morning on either 2m repeater or on Echolink via VK2BGL-R or VK2MT-R.

To conclude, for a great evening of entertainment, fun and information, come along to the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society's next meeting - 7:30pm on June the 13th, at the Coniston Community Hall in Wollongong.

*Submitted by Rob VK2MT
Publicity Officer for the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society*

St George Amateur Radio Society

The next gathering of the Society is on Wednesday evening, the 7th of June.

There will be a presentation by Roland VK2YAD on RF Modelling.

This is an Introduction to RF modelling of the Environment, using various programs, along with data provided from the International space station, Topographical Radar Mission and LandSat. All programs and data are freely available to Amateur Radio Operators.

As well as the presentation, there will be the usual refreshments. All members, local amateurs and others interested are invited to attend.

The meeting rooms are at Donnelly Park, Kyle Parade, Connells Point – near South Hurstville. The gathering starts at 7.30pm.

The What Three Words address for the club is "torch bath frosted".
[<http://map.what3words.com/torch.bath.frosted>]

*Advised by Peter VK2EMU
For the St George Amateur Radio Society*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The next meeting of the club is the informal mid-monthly on Tuesday the 13th June, at the Mount Colah Community Centre from 8:00pm. The centre is near the northern end of Pierre Close, close to Mount Colah Railway Station.

The September mid-monthly, on the 12th, will be a dinner at the usual dinner venue in Waitara.

The club runs three nets each week; Monday nights at 8pm on the VK2RNS 2 metre repeater. Its on 147.25MHz, No tone is required, but a 91.5Hz tone is sent. The Wednesday evening net is on 3608.5 kHz, also from 8pm; And Morning Tea with HADARC – is on or near 7104kHz from 9:00 am on Fridays.

HADARC's website is at: www.hadarc.org.au. The club has a group on Facebook. which can be found by searching for VK2MA.

*Submitted by Julian VK2YJS
HADARC Publicity Officer.*

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Summary of coming events;

June

St George ARS meeting on the 7th – with a presentation on RF Modelling

Port Macquarie Field Day, on the weekend of the 10th and 11th

Illawarra ARS Meeting on the 13th

Blue Mountains ARC foundation weekend, also on the 10th and 11th

Waverley ARS Foundation weekend is the 17th and 18th

Homebrew Group monthly net on the 20th

Manly-Warringah lecture night - Foxhunting – on the 21st

The Winter VHF/UHF field day is on the 24th and 25th

BWRS Navshield, a WICEN event, also on the weekend of the 24th and 25th

July

St George ARS meeting on the 5th

Hunter Radio Group meeting on the 14th

Hunter Radio Group social lunch at Windale Bowling Club, on the 15th

ARNSW Foundation and assessment weekend on the 23rd and 24th

ARNSW Trash and Treasure, and Homebrew group on the 30th

August

St George ARS meeting on the 2nd

Blue Mountains ARC foundation weekend, on the 12th and 13th