

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

This weekend was the last scheduled ARNSW Foundation course for this year. Foundation courses are planned for five weekends in 2018, and the Monday night upgrade course will resume as well. For any enquiry about ARNSW courses - please email education@arnsw.org.au.

ARNSW Radio Homebrew and Experimenters Group

Coming up this Tuesday evening the 21st, the Radio Homebrew and Experimenters Group will be holding their monthly net. It starts at 8:00pm on the Dural 2 metre repeater, 147.0MHz and then at about 8:30pm will transfer over to HF. Depending upon conditions; the net may be on either 80m or 40m.

The 80m frequency will be 3686.4 kHz and the 40m frequency will be 7159kHz. As well as store bought equipment, participants are encouraged to use homebrewed equipment on AM, DSB or SSB.

The next bi-monthly meeting of the group is next Sunday the 26th. At this meeting, Bob VK2ZRM will be giving a presentation on how to; "Jazz up your next project with a colour, TFT touch screen".

The talk covers what a TFT touch screen is, how it works, and how to use them. It includes a brief introduction to programming a TFT screen, as well as a show and tell of a couple of TFT screen projects.

The meeting will start with the usual "Show and Tell" segment where members of the audience get up to show some project that they have been working on.

So come along at noon, to VK2WI at 63 Quarry Road, Dural, on Sunday the 26th.

*Advised by Peter VK2EMU
Coordinator, ARNSW Radio Homebrew and Experimenters Group*

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 10th to the 16th of November.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th
10cm flux	69	67	69	72	74	74	73
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	13	7	4	6	8	11	10 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	12	8	3	4	7	13	9 estimated
T index	-22	-35	-26	-14	+1	-12	-26

Solar flare activity, was very low all week.

Geomagnetic activity in the Australian region, started out quiet to active on the 10th, then was quiet to unsettled on the 11th, quiet on the 12th, quiet to unsettled again on the 13th, quiet on the 14th, then quiet to unsettled again on the 15th and 16th.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, started out depressed 20% during local day and 25% during local night on the 10th. The 11th saw depressions of 30% during the day and 15% during night; the 12th was depressed 20% during the day and 15% during the night. The 13th and 14th recovered to near predicted monthly values, the 15th was depressed 20% immediately after local dawn and during the day, though recovered to near predicted during local night; then, the 16th was depressed 25% during local day, improving to 15% during local night.

Now, the forecast for the 17th to the 23rd of November;

Solar activity is expected to be very low to low. Geomagnetic activity is expected to reach active levels on the 20th and 22nd, with quiet to unsettled conditions expected otherwise.

Maximum Usable Frequencies are likely to be depressed after local dawn between the 20th and 22nd, but should otherwise remain 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.

The figures for October were;

Minimum 69 Average 77 Maximum 89
Peak dates between the 1st and the 8th, and the 24th to the 26th

In November, the prediction so far;

Minimum 66 Average 72 Maximum 75
Peak dates between the 15th and the 29th

And looking ahead to the prediction for December;

Minimum 68 Average 72 Maximum 75
With peak dates between the 12th and the 26th

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>]

[Play Evening ID2]

ARRL DX news

VIETNAM, 3W. Tom, KC0W is active as 3W9CW from Con Son Island, IOTA AS-130, until November 28.

MAURITANIA, 5T. Operators A92AA and A61M will be active as 5T1A and 5T1R, respectively, from Nouakchott from November 20 to December 20. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using SSB and FT8.

GHANA, 9G. A group of operators will be active as 9G5W from Kokrobite from November 20 to 29. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

SIERRA LEONE, 9L. Mark, KW4XJ is active as 9L/KW4XJ in Freetown while on work assignment. Activity is on the HF bands in his spare time using CW and various digital modes.

RWANDA, 9X. Harald, DF2WO is active as 9X2AW from Kigali until November 30. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Serge, RZ3FW and Sergei, R4WAA will be active as DU9/home calls from Sarangani Island, IOTA OC-175, from November 21 to 29. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and digital modes.

SAINT BARTHELEMY, FJ. A group of operators are active as TO2SP until November 30. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

SAN ANDRES AND PROVIDENCIA, HK0. Members of the Yaguarete DXers Group are active as 5K0T from San Andres Island, IOTA NA-033, until November 25. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes.

GUINEA-BISSAU, J5. A group of operators are active as J5T from Bubaque Island, IOTA AF-020, until November 26. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY with three stations active.

SURINAME, PZ. Members of the Voodoo Contest Group will be active as PZ5V until November 28. This includes a Multi/2 entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

CURACAO, PJ2. Alex, KU1CW is active as PJ2/KU1CW until November 20. Activity is on the HF bands.

SUDAN, ST. Sergey, R4PBW is active as ST/R4PBW from Khartoum. Activity is on HF bands. His length of stay is unknown.

ANTIGUA, V2. Bud, AA3B will be active as V26K from November 22 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands using primarily CW and possibly RTTY on November 27. This includes a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Eberhard, DL7JLL is active as VP8JLL until November 25.

CHAGOS, VQ9. Yasu, JO1GWT is active as VQ9KA. Activity is on 40 to 10 metres using CW and SSB. His length of stay is unknown.

INDIA, VU. Special event station AU2JCB will be active from November 23 to December 11 to celebrate the 159th anniversary of the birth of India's great scientist and inventor, Sir Jagadeesh Chandra Bose. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using SSB, and FM on 10 and 6 metres as well.

VANUATU, YJ. Tom, JA1VND is active as YJ0JA from Efate Island, IOTA OC-035, until November 20. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY.

NICARAGUA, YN. Mike, AJ9C will be active as YN2CC from November 21 to 29. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL SSB Sweepstakes Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, YO International 80-Meter PSK31 Contest, LZ DX Contest, All Austrian 160-Meter CW Contest, REF 160-Meter CW Contest, Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment CW Party, Feld Hell Sprint and the RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz CW Contest are all on this weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for November 20. The CWops Mini-CWT CW Test, RSGB 80-Meter Autumn SSB Series, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt, Phone Fray and SKCC CW Sprint are scheduled for November 22.

WICEN News

Planning is underway for a training and equipment maintenance day at Dural, on Sunday December 17.

WICEN will be at the CCARC Field Day on Sunday, 25 February 2018.

Saturday, May 5 is the proposed date for Trek for Timor, in Kangaroo Valley.

The WICEN New South Wales website, at nsw.wicen.org.au - includes a printable membership form, a web contact form, which is the best way to contact WICEN, as well as other contact details and some useful links.

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

WICEN Northern Rivers holds a weekly net on Tuesdays at 8pm local time, on the Lismore repeater VK2RSC on 146.8 MHz, requiring a 123 Hz tone. Listen for VK2WIR. Their next meeting is Sunday, 10th of December, starting at 10am.

The WICEN Mid North Coast Region meets at 3:30pm on the first Saturday of the month, at SES HQ, Central Road, Port Macquarie. The region is also running an HF net on Thursday evenings from 7pm, using the 10 metre WICEN frequency of 28.45MHz. The Region is supporting the White Ribbon Walk on 26th November.

WICEN ACT is part of the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club, supporting events in the ACT and Capital Country; for more information visit: www.crarc.ampr.org.

WICEN Victoria holds a net every Tuesday at 8:30pm, on or near 3.6 MHz. Their AGM is on at 2pm next Sunday the 26th, at 34 Alexander Street, Box Hill. December 1st to 3rd is the Alpine Rally covering 700 km in East Gippsland. 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 Central Coast Amateur Radio Club.

The next CCARC Lecture and Workshop, on "Building simple antennas for satellite use" will be held next Saturday the 25th of November. The club welcomes both members and visitors for this event.

In some news about the Wyong Field Day 2018, to be held on Sunday the 25th of February; the CCARC has confirmed that Phill Maher, will be in attendance representing BOM Space Weather Services. Both Dr Vickal Kumar and Dr Murray Parkinson have indicated a desire to be in attendance. This years Space Weather Workshop will be presented later this month in Sydney, and is a 2 day event.

The Wyong Field Day 2018 committee are looking forward to this presentation and further details will follow. Stay Tuned for more details in coming broadcasts.

*Bob VK2AOR
President CCARC*

Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club

The club's Christmas Party is Saturday the 2nd of December 2017 in the picnic area at the Long Point Vineyard and Art Gallery. Members and their families and visitors are all cordially invited. Starting time is 10am. As usual, there will be a sausage sizzle lunch, followed by fruit salad and ice cream. There will not be a December general meeting, so the next monthly general meeting will be on Saturday the 6th of January 2018, in the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

On the morning of Sunday the 26th of November, club members will be providing safety communications for the White Ribbon Coastal Walk, which starts at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club and finishes on the Port Macquarie Town Green. Radio communications between the checkpoints is challenging due to the high steep coastal topography along the route.

Candidates for the Foundation, Standard and Advanced Licences should contact the club via PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444 as soon as possible. The next training courses and assessments for the Advanced, Standard and Foundation licences will run, once sufficient candidates have registered.

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 November 2017 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, along with past issues as well. The November issue has a wealth of reading including reports on JOTA, the AMSAG Car Rally and the Beechwood Billycart Classic, and of course lots of photographs.

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

Hunter Radio Group

The group's last event for the year will be The Christmas Social Dinner.

Its on Thursday evening the 14th of December, at the Windale Bowling Club.

It starts at 6pm local time and bookings are essential; please contact the Social Secretary, Ardel, or President, Len, VK2ZFC.

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

St George Amateur Radio Society

The next gathering of the Society is on Wednesday evening, the 6th of December. This is the Annual General meeting as well as the annual Christmas BBQ.

The event will start at 6pm for the BBQ for members and their family.

There will also be a 2m fox-hunt with equipment supplied by various members. This will be a good opportunity for anyone who would like to give it a try.

Following this will be the AGM which will include the presentation of the trophies for the societies' annual 80m and 2m contests.

After the meeting, 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

Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club

The Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club will be running a licence course and assessment weekend in the Macarthur area, over the 25th and 26th of November.

The Foundation licence course and practical exam is on Saturday, with Foundation regulations and theory exams on Sunday. Exams for Standard and Advanced theory and regulations, are also on Sunday.

A minimum of 5 Foundation candidates are needed for the Saturday course to cover costs, but Sunday exams can be run with 1 candidate. For more information, including costs or to book your place, contact the Club's Learning Organiser, Frank VK2FRW, on 02 4681 8334, or email vk2frw@wia.org.au.

The final Monthly General Meeting of the Club for 2017 will be held on Wednesday 29th November, in Block M at the Campbelltown School of Performing Arts, Beverley Rd. Campbelltown, commencing at 7:30pm. Visitors wishing to learn more about the hobby of Amateur Radio are most welcome to attend.

The Club's weekly net, on Thursday evenings, starts at 7:30pm on the Club repeater, VK2RFG. Anyone is welcome to check-in. The repeater has a negative 7MHz input and a 91.5Hz CTCSS tone is required for access. A 91.5Hz tone is also sent.

To find out more about the Club's activities, visit their website at fgarc.org.au.

*Submitted by Peter VK2PR
on behalf of the Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club.*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The final meeting at Mount Colah for the year will be the monthly meeting on Tuesday 28th at Mt Colah Community Centre, starting at 8:00 pm. The venue is near the northern end of Pierre Close, and opposite the eastern entrance to Mount Colah Railway Station. Additionally, two buses from Hornsby can be used: the 595 straight up the original Pacific Highway, or the 598 via Hornsby North and across to Cowan Road.

The Club's Christmas party will be in Waitara on Sunday 3rd December, starting at noon. It is essential to book with Colin VK2JCC, as there will be no seats available for "walk-ins".

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. Due to noise issues, Morning Tea with HADARC has moved up the band slightly, to be on or near 7106 kHz, but same time, from 9:00 am on Fridays.

VK2RHT at Chatswood is now a DMR-only repeater, operating with 438.350MHz transmit frequency and -5.4 MHz split.

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

*Submitted by Julian VK2YJS
HADARC Publicity Officer.*

[Play Evening ID 4]

Summary of coming events;

November

ARNSW Homebrew group net on the 21st

CCARC Lecture and Workshop; new date, the 25th

Fishers Ghost ARC Foundation and exam weekend, the 25th and 26th

Waverley ARS Foundation weekend on the 25th and 26th

ARNSW Trash and Treasure and Homebrew group, on the 26th

HADARC Monthly meeting on the 28th

Manly-Warringah theme night, on Portable lights, on the 29th

Fishers Ghost ARC Meeting on the 29th

December

Oxley Region ARC Christmas party on the 2nd

HADARC Christmas party at Waitara on the 3rd

St George ARS Christmas BBQ & Annual General Meeting on the 6th

Blue Mountains ARC Foundation weekend the 9th and 10th

Hunter Radio Group Christmas Dinner, at Windale on the 14th

Waverley ARS Christmas lunch on the 16th

And don't forget... Christmas Day on the 25th

January 2018

The Ross Hull contest – all month, from the 1st to the 31st

Oxley Region ARC Monthly general meeting on the 6th

Australia Day – you can use the AX prefix – on the 26th