

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

At VK2WI Dural, the weekly licence upgrade classes and library are back to normal tomorrow, Monday the 18th.

The next Foundation course and assessment weekend at VK2WI is next month, on the 14th and 15th of July. Enquires are best made by email, to education@arnsw.org.au.

This morning saw the ARNSW Antenna Day here at Dural, with a number of talks and practical demonstrations.

[antenna day report if provided]

The next event at VK2WI Dural will be the Trash and Treasure, and Radio Experimenter's Group meeting, on Sunday the 29th of July.

ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group

This Tuesday evening the 19th, the ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group will be holding their monthly net.

The net 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 is 3686.4kHz and the 40m frequency is 7159kHz.

As well as store bought equipment, participants are encouraged to use homebrewed equipment on AM, DSB or SSB.

So for those interested in building their own equipment, experimenting with radios or just looking for a new aspect of amateur radio, then join the net.

73 from Peter VK2EMU

Coordinator, ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group

US Licence exams in Sydney

If you are interested in obtaining a US amateur licence, the Sydney-based ARRL Volunteer Examiner team are conducting an assessment session on Sunday the 1st July, at 16 Miles Street in Bankstown Airport, starting at 8am.

The examinations will use the new Technician question pool. Candidates for higher level licences need to do all papers up to the level they desire, but all papers are included in the single affordable session fee.

Information, and forms for questions and bookings can be found on the new website: veexams.com.

Submitted by Julian VK2YJS

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 8th to the 14th of June.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th
10cm flux	68	67	70	70	70	71	72
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	5	5	4	4	5	7	6 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	3	2	1	1	1	0	3 estimated
T index	6	-1	-6	3	4	4	6

Solar flare activity was very low all week. Geomagnetic activity in the Australian region was at quiet to unsettled levels on the 8th, then quiet for the rest of the week.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, remained near predicted monthly values during local daylight times all week. However, later in the week some enhancements were observed at local night; night-time frequencies were enhanced by 25% on the 11th, 15% on the 13th and 40% on the 14th.

Now, the forecast for the 15th to the 21st of June;

Solar activity is expected to be very low.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to mostly be at quiet levels.

Maximum Usable Frequencies should remain near predicted monthly values, with some mild enhancements possible, especially during local night-time.

Data courtesy of Space Weather Services.

Solar Flux Index update

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

Having finished May, the figures were...

Minimum 67 Average 71 Maximum 77
With peak dates between the 24th and the 31st.

Midway through June, the prediction so far is a;

Minimum 69 Average 72 Maximum 77
With peak dates between the 1st to the 4th; and the 23rd to the 27th

And looking ahead to the prediction for July;

Minimum 69 Average 72 Maximum 75
With peak dates between the 16th and the 21st.

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

VIETNAM, 3W. Nobu, JA0JHQ is active as 3W9NH from Hoi An until June 18. Activity is on the HF bands, and possibly 6 metres, using CW and FT8. This includes an entry in the All Asian DX CW contest.

ALGERIA, 7X. Special event station 7X2FIFA is active until July 15 during the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

SIERRA LEONE, 9L. Mark, KW4XJ is now active as 9L1YXJ from Freetown. He is generally active on 40 to 10 metres using FT8 and some CW.

TAIWAN, BV. Members of the Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League are active with special call BV18FIFA until July 15 during the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

IRELAND; Members of the EIDX Group are active as EJ0DXG from Little Saltee Island, IOTA EU-103, until June 18 as part of their All Irish IOTA Groups effort. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes.

FRANCE; Special event station TM62GG is active from Meurchin on June 17 and 18 to commemorate the end of World War I.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4. Haru, JA1XGI will be active as H44XG from Honiara from June 21 to 27. Activity will be on 40, 30, 20, 17, 15 and 12 metres using CW, and FT8 in DXpedition mode.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA; A large group of operators will be active as 6M6M from Yonghung Island, IOTA AS-105, grid square PM37fg, on June 16 and 17. Activity will be on 6 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes.

THAILAND, HS. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of IARU Region 3, members of the Radio Society of Thailand are active as HS50IARU until October 31.

GUAM; Masayuki, JR3RIU will be active as WH2JA in the All Asian DX CW contest.

MEXICO; Look for special event station 4A18FWC to be active until July 15 during the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

LUXEMBOURG, LX. A group of operators are active with special event call LX8SAR during the 2018 SAARLORLUX Friendship meeting being held in Weicherdange.

EGYPT, SU. Special event station SU18FWC is active until July 15 during the 2018 FIFA World Cup. Activity is on all HF bands using CW and SSB.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA; Special event station R400N is active until July 15 to celebrate 400 years since Novokuznetsk City was founded.

BRUNEI, V8. Members of the Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Association are active with special event station V850IARU until October 31 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of IARU Region 3.

CANADA, VE. Members of the Rotarians Of Amateur Radio and Friends will be active with special event station VE3R from June 20 to 30 for the Rotary International Convention in Toronto.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Station VP8HDM will be active on June 16 and 17 from the Historic Dockyard Museum in Stanley, IOTA SA-002. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB and FT8.

INDIA, VU. Members of the Bangalore Amateur Radio Club are active with special call VU18FIFA until July 16 during the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF. Lawrence, K8HTC will be active as ZF2LT from Grand Cayman Island, IOTA NA-016, from June 18 to 24.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. ARRL SSB Kids Day, All Asian DX CW Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, SMIRK Contest, Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest, International Museums Weekend, ARR BPSK63 Contest, IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest, AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, Stew Perry Topband CW Challenge, West Virginia QSO Party, Feld Hell Sprint and the WAB 50 MHz Phone are all on this weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for June 18.

The CWops Mini-CWT CW Test and Phone Fray are scheduled for June 20.

The ARRL International Grid Chase continues throughout 2018.

WICEN News

A new event to the WICEN calendar was the GWT, or Glow Worm Tunnel Trail Running Weekend at Newnes, north of Lithgow, this weekend.

The 30th annual Navshield bush navigation contest, is on June 23 and 24. The course is set in a secret location, approximately 2 hours from Sydney.

The VH-MDX "Barrington SAREX", or Search And Rescue EXercise is on September 14th to 16th.

The WICEN website at nsw.wicen.org.au includes membership information, a web contact form, as well as other contact details and useful links. Logging in gives members access to further coming events, and various manuals.

Facebook users will find a new 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.

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, now on the band-plan's 80 metre WICEN frequency of 3.6MHz.

WICEN ACT is part of the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club, supporting events in the ACT and Capital Country. This weekend was the SCSCC Bega Rally. Saturday, July 21 is the BMSC Narooma Rally, and the Batemans Bay Rally is on August 11. See the WICEN and Events pages on www.crarc.ampr.org.

WICEN Victoria has a net on 3.6 MHz each Wednesday at 8:30pm local time. For details on future events, visit the website at 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.

Last weekend was the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club's very successful annual Field Day weekend. There were 103 registrations, including strong contingents from Newcastle, Sydney and the Far North Coast. The disposals were very popular with lots of bargains for everyone. The three separate HF, VHF and UHF digital data and voice on-air demonstrations created a lot of interest. Peter VK2EVB from Coffs Harbour set up his 3D printer as part of his display, which included his 3D printed case for his BITX40 QRP HF SSB transceiver. The foxhunting was keenly contested with Gerard VK2IO the Foxhunt Champion and Chris VK2YMW the runner up. The trade displays were popular. The kitchen volunteers were kept busy throughout the weekend. A new record was set for the consumption of bacon and egg sandwiches this year. The Field Day Dinner was particularly enjoyable.

A full report in words and pictures will appear in the July issue of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales".

The next meeting of the club will be the July monthly general meeting, at 2pm on Saturday the 7th of July, in the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

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 be run when 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.

For more information about the Club, visit the website at orarc.org. The site contains a wealth of Amateur Radio items in addition to club information. The May 2018 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales", along with past issues, can be viewed on the website.

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

Waverley Amateur Radio Society

As you may have already heard, the Society, along with other Sydney and surrounding clubs and ARNSW, will be hosting the WIA AGM and Conference at a location in Sydney around the end of May next year. Final dates are yet to be set by the WIA board.

The Society will be seeking assistance from all the Sydney and surrounding clubs in this endeavour in order to make it a success. Letters will soon be sent to all clubs seeking their input and calling for papers for presentation at the technical sessions. 2019 also corresponds with Waverley's centenary year.

The June monthly meeting is this Wednesday the 20th, commencing at 7:30pm. At the meeting, Tony VK2KZ will be giving a talk on the planning for the ISS contact with a local school next year.

The annual auction is on next month, July 14th at the club premises. Its a chance to part with some no longer needed equipment or maybe find that elusive bit of gear you really need. The auction is always a fun day and all are welcome. A small cover fee is charged, which buys you as many cups of tea or coffee during the day as you like. Sausages and drinks are also available during the day from our BBQ, to keep your strength up to carry away all that new gear. Gates normally open at around 8:30am with the auction commencing at 10am. Cars may be driven in to unload prior to the auction and then parked outside in the public carpark adjacent.

The next space special interest group meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, June 19th starting at 7pm.

The next shack night will be on Wednesday, July 4th starting at 7:30pm. The next project day will be on Saturday July 7th commencing at around 1:30pm and going through to about 4:00 or 5:00pm.

As usual, the club is open most Tuesdays for all the retirees, idle rich or those just skipping work for the day or any others who can make it along from about 10am to about 4pm.

The Morse sessions are continuing on Thursday evenings and Sundays.

The next Foundation course and Assessment weekend being run by the Society is over the weekend of September 15th and 16th. Details and booking information, can be found on website, in the Education and Training section.

Don't forget the club's weekly net on the VK2RBV repeater on 438.1125MHz with -5.4MHz offset and 91.5Hz CTCSS from 8:00pm every Monday.

There is full information about the society on its regularly updated website at vk2bv.org. It includes the capability to renew membership, purchase items or book and pay for courses or assessments online. There is also an enquiry form on the site, which is normally actioned within a couple of days.

*73 from Eric VK2VE
Broadcast Publicity Officer*

Manly-Warringah Radio Society

This coming Wednesday the 18th, is lecture night at the club. Details are scarce at the time of writing, but apparently, it has to do with transmitting power without wires. Perhaps the ghost of Nikola Tesla will be there. Come along on Wednesday evening to find out!

For listeners who would like to earn their Amateur Radio ticket, or upgrade their existing licence, the Society runs regular One-Day Training and Assessment Events. The next one is on Saturday 7 July. For more information, or to register, please email education@mwrso.org.au.

The club is currently testing a new 70cm DMR repeater on 438.4 MHz, with a -5.4 MHz offset. This is a three-month trial, during which the 70cm D-STAR repeater will be offline. VK2RMB is network node 505235, with a Colour Code of 1. Coverage reports are welcome; so far the repeater has been heard in the Blue Mountains to the west, and as far south as Liverpool. Huge thanks for Peter VK3TE who made several trips up from Melbourne to help the club get the repeater up and running!

Visit the club web site at www.mwrso.org.au for more information about these and other club projects such as the WebSDR (sponsored by ARNSW), the club YouTube channel VK2MB-TV, the club's Scouting program and much more.

The Manly-Warringah Radio Society meets every Wednesday evening at the 1st Terrey Hills Guides Hall, Beltana Avenue, Terrey Hills. Doors open at 7:30pm for an 8pm start, and visitors are always welcome. If you need directions, call in on the club's two metre repeater on 146.875 MHz, or visit the club's web site at www.mwrso.org.au for more information.

*73 Richard VK2SKY
MWRS Publicity Officer*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The next HADARC meeting is on Tuesday the 26th of June. This will be the monthly general meeting, and its at the Mt Colah Community Centre in Pierre Close, Mt Colah, on the eastern side of the railway station.

Celebrations of the first direct radio message from UK to Australia, more specifically from North-west Wales to Wahroonga, are being planned for September, including a special callsign, VK100MARCONI.

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 3608.5kHz, also from 8pm. Morning Tea with HADARC is on or near 7106 kHz, 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, and on twitter, @VK2MA.

*Submitted by Julian VK2YJS
HADARC Publicity Officer.*

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Summary of coming events;

June

Navshield, a WICEN event, on the 23rd and 24th
HADARC Monthly general meeting on the 26th

July

US Amateur Licence exams at Bankstown Airport, on the 1st
St George ARS gathering on the 4th
MWRS Training and Licensing Day on the 7th
ORARC Monthly general meeting on the 7th
Waverley ARS Auction on the 14th
ARNSW Foundation course and assessment weekend, 14th and 15th
Trans-Tasman Low-Band Contest on the 21st
Canberra Region ARC Foundation course and exams at Red Hill, 21st and
22nd
ARNSW Trash & Treasure and Experimenters Group meeting on the 29th

August

St George ARS gathering on the 1st
Remembrance Day Contest on the 11th and 12th
International Lighthouse & lightship weekend, 18th and 19th
Fishers Ghost ARC meeting on the 29th