

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

Next Sunday will be the last ARNSW Trash & Treasure event for this year. The usual range of equipment and the BBQ will be available, followed by the Radio Experimenters Group gathering from noon.

ARNSW Foundation courses will resume in 2019, but there is still a chance left for this year; a limited number of places are still available at the Waverley Amateur Radio Society, next weekend the 24th and 25th.

For more information on education activities at ARNSW, enquiries are best made by email, to education@arnsw.org.au.

If you are looking to learn Morse or to practice; A reminder that ARNSW provides an automated service from VK2WI on 80 metres - 3699 kHz - except during the Sunday news bulletins. The text in memory is over 8000 words, and text is sent in 5 minutes blocks at speeds from 5 to 25 wpm, repeating at the end of the cycle in different blocks to increase the effective range of the text. The transmitter runs 25 watts into a half wave dipole, so the transmission also acts as a grey line indicator for propagation.

The ARRL annual handbook has always been a single volume publication in various sizes. The latest edition has now come out as a set of six volumes, about A4 size.

Invitation to an ARNSW special event

As mentined in last week's bulletin, ARNSW is presenting a special guest speaker on Sunday the 2nd of December, 2018, here at VK2WI, 63 Quarry Road Dural.

Dick Smith, VK2DIK will be talking on the topic, "radio and me".

The talk will start at 1pm local time. The site will be open from 9:30am with the BBQ running from 11am.

As we are expecting a good turn up, we need numbers for catering purposes. Please register your attendance by email, to events@arnsw.org.au.

The address again, is events@arnsw.org.au.

For those who can't make it to Dural on the day, we are working on making the talk available online – we will have more details in next week's news.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear this great Australian and radio amateur, talking about his long and varied involvement in radio over the years.

*Advised by AI VK2OK
Event Co-ordinator, ARNSW*

ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group

This Tuesday evening, the 20th of November, the Group will be holding their monthly net. It starts at 8pm on the Dural 2 metre repeater, 147.0MHz and then at about 8:30pm will transfer over to HF on 80 metres, the frequency will be 3686.4 kHz.

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.

Next Sunday, the 25th of December, is the bi-monthly meeting of the group.

Being the last meeting of the year, there will not be a normal presentation, but a monster "Show & Tell". Everyone is invited to bring along a project or a piece of equipment that they are working on or have worked on. It doesn't have to be a current or recent project; it can be many years old.

Good or bad, why you did something and how you could have done it better, projects that were started and never finished, or even just experiments. After all, if you have never made a mistake, then you have never tried!

The more the merrier; come along at noon, to VK2WI at 63 Quarry Road, Dural, next Sunday the 25th and bring your show and tell.

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

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 9th to the 15th of November.
First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
10cm flux	69	69	69	68	67	68	68
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	6	10	5	6	3	2	2 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	10	9	6	8	1	4	1 estimated
T index	-40	-36	-31	-22	-41	-43	-50(!)

Solar flare activity was very low all week.

Geomagnetic activity was quiet to active on the 9th and 10th, quiet to unsettled on the 11th and 12th, then quiet from the 13th to the 15th.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, were depressed 15% during the day on the 9th, and depressed 20% at night. The 10th recovered to near predicted during the day, but became depressed 25% during the night. The 11th saw significant variations throughout, ranging from near predicted to 25% depressed, but the 12th recovered to near predicted. The recovery was however short-lived, with the 13th being 25% depressed, the 14th depressed 20% during the day and 25% at night, and the 15th being depressed 20% during the day, falling to 35% depressed during local night, compared with predicted monthly values.

Now, the forecast for the 16th to the 22nd of November;

Solar activity is expected to be very low.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels, with no significant recurrent coronal hole activity.

Maximum Usable Frequencies are again, expected to be depressed between 10% to 30%, due to the continuing low levels of ionising radiation from the Sun.

Data courtesy of Space Weather Services.

Solar Flux Index update

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

Having finished October, the figures for the month were;

Minimum of 67, Average of 70, and a Maximum of 72
With peak dates between the 12th and 15th, and the 22nd to the 24th.

For November, the prediction so far is a;

Minimum of 67, Average of 68, and a Maximum of 70
With peak dates between the 7th and the 12th

And looking ahead to the prediction for December, we are now expecting a;

Minimum of 68, Average of 69, and a Maximum of 70
With peak dates between the 9th and the 16th.

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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What use is an F-call?

Tonight, we continue with the series, written and produced by Onno VK6FLAB. Each episode looks at different aspects of the diverse hobby of Amateur Radio.

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Duration: 1m27s

In: "What use is an F-call?"

Out: "I'm Onno vk6flab"

For more information about this series, including transcripts and useful resources for F-calls, Onno's website is; vk6flab.com, or follow him on Twitter, @VK6FLAB.

ARRL DX news

MADAGASCAR; Alex, K2BB and Pavel, UU0JR will be active as 5R8UM from Nosy Be Island, IOTA AF-057, from November 19 to 29. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and various digital modes, including an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

NIGER; Pierre, HB9AMO will be active as 5U9AMO from Niamey from November 20 to December 3. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, including an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

UGANDA; Alan, G3XAQ plans to be active as 5X1XA until November 25. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest as a Single Op/Single Band on 20 metre entry.

TONGA; Ronald, PA3EWP, Martin, PA4WM, Pat, EI5IX and Tom, GM4FDM are active as A35EU from Tongatapu, IOTA OC-049, until November 27. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and some FT8, with three stations active.

BAHAMAS; Mike, KN4EEI and George, AA7JV are active as C6AGU from Water Cay, IOTA NA-001, until December 3. Activity is mainly on 160, 80 and 40 metres using CW and FT8. This includes entries in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW and ARRL 160 Metre contests.

PHILIPPINES; Audie, DU1ZDR and Gazelle, DU1ZDQ plan to be active as DZ1A/DU2 from Basco Batanes, Batanes Islands, IOTA OC-093, on November 19 and 20. Activity will be on 40 and 20 metres using SSB and some CW.

IRAN; A group of operators will be active as EP6RRC from Shif Island, IOTA AS-189P, until November 23. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and FT8 with three stations active.

GUADELOUPE; Members of the Radio Club Guadeloupe are active as TO40R until November 25, celebrating the Route du Rhum single-handed yacht race from Saint-Malo, France to Pointe-a-Pitre.

HONDURAS; Operators LZ5VV, SP4Z and N2WQ will be active as HR9/home calls from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, until November 25. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. This includes being active as HQ9X as a Multi/2 entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

MINAMI TORISHIMA; Take, JG8NQJ is active as JG8NQJ/JD1 while working for three months at the weather station here. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 metres using CW and some RTTY.

BELGIUM; Special event station OP7VA is active until November 30 to commemorate the end of World War I. Activity is on 80 to 10 metres.

BONAIRE ; Operators Ward, N0AX, Robert, S53R and Scott, W4PA will be active on the HF bands as PJ4/home calls until November 25. They plan to be active as PJ4Q in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

SINT MAARTEN; Oleh, UR5BCP will be active as PJ7/UR5BCP until November 21. Activity will be on 20 and 15 metres focusing on CW and FT8.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA; Bud, AA3B will be active as V26K from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, from November 19 to 26. Activity will be on the HF bands using primarily CW, including an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

MICRONESIA; Shu, JA1FMN will be active as V63PSK from Weno Island, IOTA OC-011, from November 19 to 25. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 15 metres using JT65 and FT8. In addition, Sho, JA7HMZ will be active as V63DX from Pohnpei Island, IOTA OC-010, from November 19 to 26. Activity will be on 160 to 6 metres with a focus on FT8. He will be active as V6A in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

VIETNAM; Mats, RM2D will be active as XV9D from November 18 to December 2. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 metres, and possibly 80 metres, depending on conditions, using mostly CW, including an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL SSB Sweepstakes Contest, LZ DX Contest, All Austrian 160-Metre CW Contest, REF 160-Metre CW Contest, Feld Hell Sprint, RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz CW Contest and Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment CW Party will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is scheduled for November 19.

The RSGB 80-Metre Autumn SSB Series, CWops Mini-CWT Test and Phone Fray are scheduled for November 21.

The ARRL International Grid Chase continues throughout 2018.

WICEN News

Today saw a WICEN training day at ARNSW Dural, covering network design, message passing, and repeater trailer setup and operation. The next training activity is being planned for the 2nd and 3rd of March, as a field weekend at Newnes.

WICEN will be attending the CCARC Wyong Field Day, on Sunday the 24th of February, 2019.

The WICEN website is at nsw.wicen.org.au and includes a web contact form. Facebook users will find an official WICEN NSW page, and an informal national WICEN group.

WICEN Northern Rivers holds a weekly net on Tuesdays at 8pm, 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, 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, and on the South Coast of NSW. See the WICEN and Events pages on www.crarc.ampr.org.

WICEN Victoria's AGM is on next Sunday, the 25th of November, at 34 Alexander St, Box Hill. A 4WD event is tentatively scheduled for the 9th and 10th February, at Big River. Their Net is on 3.6 MHz each Tuesday from 8:30pm local time. More information can be found on the website, at vic.wicen.org.au.

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

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Club News

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

The club's Christmas Party is on Saturday the 1st of December, in the picnic area at the Long Point Vineyard and Art Gallery. Members, their families and visitors are all cordially invited. Starting time is 10am. As usual, there will be a sausage sizzle lunch, followed by a delicious home-made dessert. There will not be a December monthly general meeting; the next general meeting will be on Saturday the 5th of January 2019 in the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

On the morning of Sunday the 25th of November, club members will be providing safety communications for the Port Macquarie 2018 White Ribbon Coastal Walk, which starts at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club and finishes this year, in West Port Park. Radio communications between the checkpoints is challenging due to the steep coastal topography along the route.

The club's 2019 Calendar is now available, and as in past years, the calendar has a photo of each club member, showing their callsign. The calendar is always popular, and copies will be available at the Christmas Party.

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

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 the club's monthly general meetings at 2pm on the first Saturday of each month, and at the Friday night gathering at 7pm on the evening of the third Friday of each month. The venue for all these meetings is the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

For more information about the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, visit the website at orarc.org. The site contains a wealth of Amateur Radio items in addition to club information. The September 2018 edition of the Club's bimonthly newsletter, Oxtales, along with past issues, are available on the website. The November issue is currently in preparation and will be published early in the coming week.

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

Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The transfer of the Club's online presence to a new ISP has been completed, with only a few hitches; thanks to our IT Manager, Brad VK2NMZ, for his tireless work.

There may be a local voice on the ARNSW News soon; Vice-President Jaye VK2FOMG was reported to be accompanying the morning announcer last Sunday, and no doubt was duly impressed by the workings of VK2WI Dural.

The next business meeting of the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club will be on Saturday 1st December, and all are invited, with visitors made especially welcome.

There will be a combined CCARC/WICEN Christmas luncheon on 8th December, at 11am for 12 noon, and is free to members (BYOG and soft drinks); this will be followed by the regular WICEN meeting at 2pm, so it's best to stay clear-headed. RSVP to Karen VK2AKB by email to vk2akb@wia.org.au by the 5th of December.

Don't forget the next Wyong Field Day, organised by the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club, is on Sunday the 24th of February, 2019. It's held at Wyong Racecourse, and it's the biggest hamfest in the Southern Hemisphere.

All meetings of the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club are held at the Club rooms in Dandaloo St, Kariong, just past the fire station at 1pm, preceded by the famous sausage sizzle run by master chef Steve VK2SKC, starting at noon. The Club rooms are accessible by bus, with a stop just opposite Dandaloo St, serviced by the route 34 bus from Gosford railway station every hour. The Club rooms are usually open from 10.30 every Saturday, for general chit-chat and access to the Club workshop and library.

The Club relays VK2WI News broadcasts every Sunday morning and evening. Callbacks are taken after the morning news only, on the Somersby 6m and 2m repeaters VK2RAG on 53.725 and 146.725 MHz respectively; please note that both repeaters require the standard sub-audible tone of 91.5 Hz.

The Club also runs a mixed-mode repeater VK2RAG on 439.950 MHz, which is connected to the P25 network; the 91.5 Hz tone is required for analogue access, and is highly recommended for receiving.

There is a net every Thursday evening on the 2m repeater VK2RAG on 146.725, starting at 8pm; all members are encouraged to join (especially if Club news for the ARNSW broadcast is involved). Club news is happily accepted at publicity@ccarc.org.au, preferably by 12 noon on Friday. Listeners may “join” the net by email to netmaster@ccarc.org.au and their comments will be read out.

The Club also has a Facebook page: just look for “centralcoastarc”, so be sure to “like” it to receive further updates.. There is also a Twitter account, @ccarclub [*pronounced “At CC AR Club”*].

More information about the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club, including coming events, can be found on the web site, www.ccarc.org.au.

Dave VK2KFU

Publicity Officer, Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

Hunter Radio Group

The Group's Christmas Luncheon will be held at noon on Saturday the 8th of December, at Windale Bowling Club, Lake Street, Windale.

Bookings are required, so please advise club President, Len VK2ZFD, of your attendance as soon as possible.

*Rodney, VK2CN
Secretary, Hunter Radio Group*

Manly-Warringah Radio Society

This Wednesday the 21st, is the club's monthly lecture night; Guest speaker is Andrew Tink, who will preview his upcoming book "Honeysuckle Creek: the story of Tom Reid, a little dish and Neil Armstrong's first step".

Andrew is an author and former politician; he served as a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly from 1988 to 2007. He has written a number of books, on diverse topics ranging from Australian history, culture and society in the 20th century, to biographies, and even on the events and political consequences of a fatal plane crash.

As usual, doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

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

*73 Richard VK2SKY
MWRS Publicity Officer*

Waverley Amateur Radio Society

This Wednesday the 21st, will be the monthly general meeting of the society, starting at 7:30pm. At the meeting, John VK2LWB will give a presentation on 'Large Scale RF Management at Sporting Events'. This promises to be a very interesting talk as John is heavily involved in motorsport.

The club's Christmas party is on Saturday December 15th at the QTH of Eric VK2VE so please keep this date free. Details will be circulated by email to members.

If you are interested in finding out more about Morse code, the Society has regular get-togethers on the first Sunday of each month, at Rose Bay. The group welcomes everyone keen to find out more about Morse or CW, whether you're a beginner, want to brush up or re-learn Morse code. CW enthusiasts of all skill levels meet to swap ideas and experiences and learn about operating and contesting. The group meets 11am on the first Sunday of every month at the Rose Bay club rooms and everyone is invited, even if you aren't yet licensed. Contact us at morsecode@vk2bv.org, or just drop in when we meet on a Sunday morning from 11:00am.

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

As usual, the club rooms are open most Tuesdays for all the retirees, idle rich, those just skipping work for the day, or any others who can make it along; from about 10:00am to about 4:00pm.

The Society's final Foundation course and Assessment weekend for the year is next weekend, November 24th & 25th; Details and how to book, can be found on the 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 tone, from 8pm every Monday.

Full information about the Waverley Amateur Radio Society is on the regularly updated website, at <https://vk2bv.org>. The site 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 webpage which is normally actioned within a day or two.

May we take this opportunity to wish all listeners a very happy festive season and all the best for 2019, during which the Society will be celebrating the centenary of its original formation.

*73 from Eric VK2VE
Broadcast Publicity Officer*

St George Amateur Radio Society

The final gathering of the Society for 2018, will be gathering for the final time in 2018 on Wednesday the 5th of December at Donnelly Park, on the picturesque shores of Kyle Bay, near South Hurstville.

Commencing at 6pm, members, family, friends and visitors are invited to share in a sausage sandwich and soft drink, in the great outdoors of the Georges River.

For catering purposes, food and drink orders should be placed using the "on line" form, which can be found on the Society's [website](#). A hidden transmitter fox hunt will also be held for those wishing to test the radio direction finding skills.

The What Three Words address for the club is "torch bath frosted".

[\[http://map.what3words.com/torch.bath.frosted \]](http://map.what3words.com/torch.bath.frosted)

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

At the November meeting, Colin VK2JCC will show-case his new toy; a Clansman PRC320 military HF radio from the United Kingdom. He will not only discuss his portable antennas used for DX with this radio, but will also demonstrate the many features of the rig and ancillaries purchased for this radio. His presentation will include how to use it and its role during the Falklands and Gulf wars.

Don't miss this last meeting for the year – from 8pm on Tuesday 27 November, at the Mt Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Mt Colah. The centre is opposite Mt Colah Railway Station, and close to the 595 and 598 bus routes.

The Club's Christmas lunch is on December the 8th at Magpies; RSVP to Colin VK2JCC.

A correction from last week; the BBQ at Hornsby Rifle Range will be on Tuesday, January 15th.

The Club runs three nets each week, which continue over the holiday period. Monday's net starts at 8pm on the VK2RNS 2 metre repeater, 147.250MHz. No tone is required, but a 91.5 Hz tone is sent. The 80 metre net is on Wednesday evenings on 3608.5 kHz, also from 8pm, and Morning Tea with HADARC is on or near 7106 kHz from 9am 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;

November

Manly-Warringah lecture night; on Honeysuckle creek, on the 21st
Spring VHF & UHF contest, on the weekend of the 24th and 25th
Waverley ARS Foundation and Assessment Weekend on the 24th and 25th
ARNSW Trash & Treasure, and Radio Experimenters Group Meeting 25th
HADARC general meeting on the 27th

December

CCARC meeting on the 1st
Oxley Region ARC Christmas party on the 1st
ARNSW Special Presentation with Dick VK2DIK on the 2nd
St George ARS Christmas BBQ and AGM on the 5th
CCARC/WICEN Christmas luncheon on the 8th
Hunter Radio Group Christmas Lunch on the 8th
Waverley ARS Christmas Party on the 15th
Christmas Day is the 25th

Events for 2019

Oxley Region ARC meeting on the 5th of January
HADARC BBQ evening in Hornsby, on the 15th of January

Then in February;

St George ARS Foundation and Assessment Weekend, 9th and 10th
And CCARC's Wyong Field Day, Sunday the 24th.