

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

Today here at VK2WI Dural, was the final ARNSW Trash & Treasure for the year; the first one in 2020 will be at the end of January, on Australia Day.

All six T&T Sundays in 2020 are shown on the 2020 AR NSW magnetic calendar, now in its seventh year of production. The first mail out, to our regional members, was sent during the week. Some were collected in person at today's Trash & Treasure and Experimenters group meeting; the remainder will be posted in the coming week. If you have not got your calendar by the end of the second week of December, get in touch with our membership team to check we have your details right; you can email them directly, at membership@arnsw.org.au.

The address label contains both your membership number and expiry date. Some members will see their expiry date is now in 2019. Because some renewals were delayed during the changeover to our new membership database, we have extended the renewal date for affected members. You can use the enclosed form to update your details and then return it by any practical means. Renewal can be paid by any of the usual methods, including direct debit; you can enquire with the office for account details - or advise your details to membership@arnsw.org.au.

New to this year's calendar, is a space to write your license renewal date. You will find it in the top right corner under the ARNSW logo. Thanks again to Paul VK2APA - our calendar designer for this new feature. But keep your 2019 calendar in place for now – still a few weeks to go this year!

The third edition of the ARNSW Newsletter, *All Access*, was sent during the past week in either email or print form. If you did not receive it then check your membership status by an email to; membership@arnsw.org.au. Questions and comments about the newsletter can be sent to the Editor, Ray VK2ASE, at editor@arnsw.org.au.

We were saddened to learn during the week, that the recent bushfire on the north coast had damaged the repeater facilities of the Clarence Valley ARC. They are a small club based at Grafton and lost their two metre and a CB repeater, along with their equipment hut.

Also a reminder that this news bulleting is being relayed tonight on Echolink, and we once again thank John VK3HJQ and the ANZEL team, for making this service available to VK2WI News.

US Licence Exams at Wyong Field Day

As we have mentioned on VK2WI News, the data for the 2020 Wyong Field Day has been set, as Sunday the 20th of February. If you are interested in obtaining a US amateur licence, examination sessions will be running on the day.

If you need to sit an exam sooner, including for upcoming travel, this can be arranged; as can exams at home, or at a residential care facility, for those with disabilities.

The reciprocal arrangements have recently changed; the new determination is, that any person with any appropriate overseas licence or certificate can obtain an Australian licence for 1 year, upon payment of the callsign and licence fees. Beyond this period, Regulations and Practical must be passed, and RPL applied for.

For more information, you can contact the Australian VE team, through their website on: vea.org.au.

Submitted by Julian VK2YJS (also AG6LE).

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 15th to the 21st of November.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st
10cm flux	70	70	70	70	69	70	71
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	2	5	3	1	1	1	11 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	4	6	2	0	2	2	10 estimated
T index	-36	-30	-28	-37	-29	-32	-18

Solar activity was very low all week.

Geomagnetic activity was quiet on the 15th, then quiet to unsettled on the 16th, with SWS magnetometer data recording a weak 9 nanoTesla impulse, at 1256UT. After this, conditions remained quiet from the 17th to the 20th; but then the 21st was mostly quiet, with some unsettled conditions.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, started out 15% depressed during local daylight hours on the 15th, improving at night to near predicted monthly values; where they remained through the 16th, 17th and 18th. The 19th remained near predicted during daylight hours, but was depressed 15% during local night; then the 20th and 21st remained near predicted monthly values.

Now, the forecast for the 22nd to the 28th of November;

Solar activity is expected to be very low.

Geomagnetic activity will be at mostly unsettled to active levels on the 22nd, quiet to unsettled on the 23rd and 24th, then quiet from the 25th to the 28th.

Maximum Usable Frequencies may be moderately depressed throughout the period, with the 22nd and 23rd likely to have the greatest depressions, improving later.

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, we had a;

Minimum of 64, Average of 67, and a Maximum of 69
With peak dates from the 26th to the 31st.

So far for November, we expect a;

Minimum of 67, Average of 70, and a Maximum of 71
With peak dates from the 1st to the 3rd, and the 22nd to the 24th

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

Minimum of 69, Average of 69, and a Maximum of 70
With peak dates from the 10th to the 23rd.

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.

[Play File: E-FCAL072.wav]

Duration: 1m49s

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

Out: "I'm Onno vk6flab"

Just a footnote; since that item was recorded, the Bureau of Meteorology have changed the name of IPS to Space Weather Services, or SWS. While the old URL still redirects, you can find all the information and services on the current address, which is <http://www.sws.bom.gov.au>.

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

To start this week, a few stations are active especially for the CQ World Wide DX CW contest this weekend;

CYPRUS; Rumen LZ1MS will be active as 5B4AGU as a Single Op/Single Band/ 40 metre entry.

THAILAND; A large group of operators will be active as HS0ZAR.

SARDINIA; Tony LZ5EE, Ivailo LZ5VV, Chav LZ1ABC and Chavdar LZ1AQ will be active as IS0/LZ5F.

ARGENTINA; A group of operators will be active as LS2D as a Multi/1 entry.

SURINAME; Some members of the Minnesota Wireless Association will be active as PZ5W from Lelydorp.

NAMIBIA; Uli, DM5EE will be active as V55A from Windhoek, on 80 to 10 metres.

BRUNEI; Hajime, JO1RUR will be active as V85RH.

And in other DX activity around the world this week;

ARUBA; John, W2GD is active as P40W until November 25, on the HF bands with an emphasis on CW. He will also be active in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest, as a Single Op/All Band entry.

NIGERIA; Bodo, DF8DX and Rene, DL2JRM are active as 5N7Q from Abuja until November 25. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8, and includes an entry in the contest.

GHANA; Members of the Slovenia Contest Club are active as 9G5W until November 27. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and other digital modes, and also includes an entry in the contest.

CAPE VERDE; Eric, OE4AAC is active as D4CC from Sal Island, IOTA AF-086, until November 30. Activity is on 40 to 10 metres using CW and some FT8, and includes an entry in the contest.

TONGA; Masa, JA0RQV is active as A35JP from Tongatapu Island, IOTA OC-049, while involved in an international project. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB and FT8. He also plans to activate the IOTA references OC-191, OC-123, OC-064, and OC-169 during his stay.

WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS; Nobuaki, JA0JHQ will be active as FW/M0JHQ from Wallis Island, IOTA OC-054, until November 27. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW and FT8.

TEMOTU PROVINCE; Rob, N7QT and Grant, KZ1W are active as H40KT and H40TT, respectively, from Pigeon Island, IOTA OC-065, until November 28. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8, and includes an entry, as H40KT, in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA; Bud, AA3B is active as V26K from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, until November 26. Activity is on the HF bands with an emphasis on CW. This includes a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry in the contest.

MICRONESIA; Al, K7AR is active as V63AR from Pohnpei, IOTA OC-010, until November 26. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8, and includes an entry in the contest.

VIETNAM; Mats, SM6LRR is active as XV9D until November 30, on 40 to 20 metres, and also includes a Single Op/Single Band entry on 40 metres in the contest. In addition, look for Sven, HB9DXB to be active as XV9DXB in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

LORD HOWE ISLAND; Michael, DF8AN is active as VK9LQ until November 27. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using CW, RTTY and various digital modes, including FT8 in DX-pedition mode.

INDONESIA; Members of Grobex Team Contest Indonesia will be active as 7A2A in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest. In addition, special event station 8H11TS will be active from Java Island, IOTA OC-021, from November 24 to 27 to celebrate the 11th anniversary of South Tangerang as an autonomous city.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The CQ Worldwide DX CW Contest and QCX CW Challenge are on tap for this weekend. The CWops Mini-CWT CW Test, UKEICC 80-Metre CW Contest, SKCC CW Sprint and Phone Fray are scheduled for November 27.

The Canadian National Parks on the Air, CNPOTA, event continues throughout 2019, with special stations active from Canada's parks and historic sites.

WICEN News

With widespread bushfire activity across NSW, WICEN is currently assisting the Rural Fire Service in several locations. WICEN is providing radio communications operators for the Glen Innes, Kempsey, and Hawkesbury Fire Control Centres; the latter managing the nearly 2000 km² of the Gosper's Mountain fire north-west of Sydney. WICEN ACT is also providing resources to the RFS.

WICEN operators have also been tasked to the Bush Fire Information Line at RFS State Operations at Homebush, along with other VRA units, Marine Rescue, and SES.

WICEN will be present at the Wyong Field Day on Sunday, the 23rd of February. Also in February next year, WICEN groups across Australia will be supporting Dementia Australia's Memory Walk and Jog events. These short Sunday morning events start in February, and run for several months.

WICEN's website is at nsw.wicen.org.au. There is a web contact form on the site, which is usually the best way to get in contact with any enquiries. Facebook users will find an official WICEN NSW page, and an informal national WICEN group. On the Facebook page, there is more information and photos of the activities in Glen Innes and BFIL; and members who are active with the RFS.

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's HF net is 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. The BMSC Rallye de Femmes, which as Francophone listeners may have worked out, is a car racing event for female drivers, on December 7th. For more information, see the WICEN and Events pages on www.crarc.ampr.org.

WICEN Victoria will be supporting the Alpine Rally, a gravel road event for classic cars, from November 29 to December 1 around Lakes Entrance in East Gippsland. The weekly net is on each Tuesday at 8:30pm, on 3.6MHz. More information on WICEN Victoria, including reports on the recent Stockmans rally, can be found on their website, vic.wicen.org.au.

[URL for OEM: <https://www.emtraining.nsw.gov.au/>]

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Club News

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club. The next meeting will be the December Friday night gathering, starting at 7pm on the 20th of December, in the SES Building in Central Road, Port Macquarie.

On Sunday the 1st of December, club members will again provide safety communications, for the White Ribbon Liberty Coastal Walk Against Domestic and Family Violence. The walk along the beaches starts at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club and finishes at Westport Park in Port Macquarie.

The club's 2019 Christmas Party will be on Saturday the 7th of December, at the now traditional venue of the covered picnic area at the Long Point Vineyard and Gallery near Lake Cathie. Members and friends are invited to enjoy an informal morning followed by a barbeque lunch. There will not be a December Monthly General Meeting; the next general meeting will be on Saturday the 4th of January 2020.

The club conducts two nets each week; the mid-week net starts at 7:30pm on Thursday nights, and the weekend net starts at 9am on Sunday mornings. Both nets are on the VK2RPM 2 metre repeater on 146.7MHz, which 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 2019 issue of the club's bimonthly newsletter, Oxtales, is now online, and the November issue will be published soon. Past issues are available on the website as well. The club is also on Facebook; just search for ORARC.

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

Hunter Radio Group

The last event of the group for the year, is the Christmas Luncheon on Saturday the 7th of December. It's at the Windale Bowling Club, Lake road Windale, starting at noon.

Bookings are required, so please contact our President, Len, on 49 57 77 85 and advise him of your attendance.

The Group's Monday night broadcast starts at 7:30pm, on the 2 metre repeater 146.9MHz, and the 70cm repeater on 438.025MHz. Callbacks are taken after the broadcast.

*Regards from Rodney VK2CN
Secretary, Hunter Radio Group.*

Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

The Society meets on the second Tuesday evening of the month, with the next meeting on Tuesday the 10th of December. The general meeting starts at 7:30pm, directly following the Society's committee meeting, which starts at 6:30pm. Attendees are welcome to arrive early and enjoy a pre-meeting chat and cuppa in the foyer.

Meeting are now held at the BlueScope Steel Visitors Centre located on Springhill Road, on the southern side of the CBD of Wollongong. The new venue has fantastic facilities along with plenty of off-street parking. Attendees should turn off Springhill Road into the main entrance of BlueScope Steel, then immediately turn right, just before the security gates, following the large Visitors Centre direction signs.

The meeting on the 10th of December is the Society's very popular Christmas Dinner night, with the Club's resident chef Vinnie VK2VIN once again preparing a delicious menu of Entrée, Main and Desert items for Members. Visitors are most welcome to come along and enjoy Vinnie's gastronomic delights, but must let Club Secretary Keith VK2KQB know by emailing him on secretary@iars.org.au. Coffee and tea in the venue's foyer with your fellow diners will complete the night; remember to email secretary@iars.org.au if you plan to come along.

A reminder of the Club's two weekly Nets; one is the Saturday morning Chit-Chat Net run by Steve VK2BGL; Listeners can join-in from 9:30am on either one of the Club's 2 metre repeaters - VK2RMP on 6850 or VK2RUW on 6675, and out-of-towners can call-in on Echolink via VK2BGL-R. The Club's second weekly Net is on 80 metres on Tuesday evenings, except meeting nights, from 8:30pm. The usual frequency is 3.666MHz, plus or minus for other usage.

To find out more about the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, either check them out on Facebook or via the Society's web page: iars.org.au (*please repeat*)

To conclude, all listeners are invited to attend the next meeting of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, at 7.30pm on Tuesday the 10th of December, at the BlueScope Steel Visitors Centre, Springhill Road Wollongong.

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

St George Amateur Radio Society

The final gathering of the society for 2019, will be on Wednesday the 4th of December. Members, family, friends and visitors are welcome to attend the end of year festivities, commencing at 6pm with a family BBQ, on the picturesque shore of Kyle Bay, adjacent to the meeting rooms in Donnelly Park.

The chef will be cooking up sausage sandwiches and a selection of soft drinks will be available, at a small charge. For catering purposes, please pre-order by using the link on the society's website - www.sgars.org

Test your direction finding skills by participating in a friendly fox hunt. Sniffers will be available or bring your own.

If you would like any additional information please email info@sgars.org

Following the BBQ will be the annual general meeting and awards presentation. This will be followed by the usual friendly chat with tea, coffee, biscuits and Christmas cake.

The meeting rooms of the Society are at Donnelly Park, Kyle Parade, Connells Point – near South Hurstville. The BBQ starts at 6pm, followed by the AGM at about 7:30pm, on Wednesday 4th of December.

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)

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

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The final HADARC meeting for the year, is on this coming Tuesday the 26th of November. At this meeting, WIA President Greg VK2GPK, will give a talk about the WIA. Greg will explain what the WIA is doing in both national and international representation of Australian amateurs, why this work is important and why it is important to belong to the WIA to help support this work. Come along to the Mt Colah Community Centre, 6X Pierre Close; opposite the eastern entrance of Mt Colah railway station; the meeting starts at 8pm.

Mark Sunday the 15th of December in your diary, for the Club's end-of-year/Christmas function. This will a lunchtime event at Magpies from about noon onwards. Hopefully tables will be in the "Pavillion"; to ensure sufficient seating has been set aside, please contact to Chris VK2YMW to reserve a seat.

Depending on Fire Restrictions and the weather at the time, a BBQ will be arranged for mid January, venue and timings to be advised. The February Mid-Monthly meeting on Tuesday the 11th February won't be at Mount Colah; in its place will be a family dinner/evening at Magpies.

The Club runs three nets each week; 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

HADARC monthly meeting on the 26th

Fishers Ghost ARC meeting at Campbelltown on the 27th

December

SGARS gathering at Connells Point on the 4th

Oxley Region ARC Christmas party on the 7th

Hunter Radio Group Christmas lunch also on the 7th

Illawarra ARS Meeting on the 10th

HADARC End of year lunch on the 15th

Waverley ARS Christmas party on the 18th

Oxley Region ARC Friday Night gathering on the 20th

Christmas Day is on the 25th

January 2020

Oxley Region ARC monthly general meeting on the 4th

ARNSW Trash & Treasure and Radio Experimenters Group on the 26th ...

The 26th is also Australia Day – you can use the AX prefix.