

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

The next scheduled licence training and assessment weekend at ARNSW, is currently planned for July 10th and 11th. Due to current protracted lead times from the examination provider, bookings must in no later than this coming Friday, the 18th of June. Enquires about training and assessments can be sent to our education team by email, to education@arnsw.org.au.

We wish to remind our listeners of some telephone services that are available, if you currently have any health concerns – the National COVID hotline is 1800 020 080, providing general advice; if you are feeling unwell, Healthdirect is on 1800 022 222. Both services are available 24 hours a day; and are a free call from most telephone services.

Later in this bulletin, we have a summary of on-air activities from Sydney and across the state. You can let us know what is happening in your area by email; to news@arnsw.org.au – we don't need full items, just the details of the activity and contacts. We would also welcome reports on the outcome of recent group activities, which we can report to our listeners.

Once again this week, we welcome listeners on the EchoLink "HAM" conference, and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network. Callbacks will also be taken tonight on the network after the bulletin. Our thanks to John VK3HJQ and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network team, for making this relay available to VK2WI News.

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Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 4th to the 10th of June.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
10cm Flux	77	74	77	81	80	79	73
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	4	4	6	15	5	4	5 estimated
Australian Index (Aaus)	1	1	1	10	2	1	1 estimated
T index	14	12	14	10	19	10	8

Solar activity was low from the 4th to the 7th, and low from the 8th to the 10th.

Geomagnetic activity was at quiet levels all week, except for some unsettled periods on the 7th.

F2 critical frequencies in the southern Australian region, remained mostly near predicted monthly values during local daylight hours, except for some depression of up to 15% on the 7th. During local night hours, conditions were enhanced compare to predicted; 15% on the 4th and 5th, 25% on the 6th and 7th, 20% on the 8th, 15% on the 9th, and 20% on the 10th.

Now, the forecast for the 11th to the 17th of June;

Solar activity is expected to be very low to low.

Geomagnetic activity may reach unsettled to active levels from the 15th to the 17th, due to a Southern Polar coronal hole with extensions down to low latitudes. Activity should mostly be at quiet levels otherwise.

Maximum Usable Frequencies should remain near predicted monthly values, with mild to moderate depressions possible on the 16th to the 17th, due to the expected increase in geomagnetic activity.

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, we expect a;

Minimum of 70, Average of 75 and a Maximum of 88
With peak dates from the 9th to the 12th and the 23rd to the 30th.

So far for June, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 72, Average of 77 and a Maximum of 82
With peak dates from the 8th to the 10th and the 22nd to the 24th

And looking ahead to July, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 72, Average of 76 and a Maximum of 82
With peak dates from the 19th to 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>]

What use is an F-call?

Tonight, we continue with this 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 2m32s

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

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES; Adrian, 2E0MMU is active as A65IX from Dubai. Activity is on 40 and 20 metres using CW and SSB.

BAHRAIN; Members of the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society are active with special call sign A91BFA until June 15, supporting the Bahrain Football Association and their national football team at the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifications.

BALEARIC ISLANDS; Andreas, DK5ON will be active as EA6/DK5ON from Cala Ratjada on Mallorca, IOTA EU-004, until June 20. Activity will be on 40 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4.

GUADELOUPE; Michel, F6GWV and Gildas, F6HMQ will be active as TO11A until July 5. Activity will be holiday style with a focus on 6 metres. They will also be active in the IARU Region 1, 50 MHz Contest.

DOMINICA; Special event station HI95RCD will be active until June 23 to celebrate the Radio Club Dominicano's 95th anniversary.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA; Special event station D721LP is active until June 30 to celebrate IARU HF QRP Day.

ITALY; Operators IK5RUN and IK5MES will be active as IG9/home calls from Lampedusa Island, IOTA AF-019, until June 25. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mainly SSB.

PERU; Members of the Asociacion de Radioaficionados del Peru are active with special calls OC4B, OC6B, and OC7B until December 31 to celebrate the bicentennial of Peruvian independence. Activity is on 40, 20, 17 and 15 metres using SSB and FT8.

MARKET REEF; A group of operators will be active as OJ0C until June 21. Activity will focus on 6 metres using FT8, but may include activity on 10 metres and higher bands.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA; Special event station R21EURO is active for the 2021 European Football Championship.

BURKINA FASO; Harald, DF2WO will be active as XT2AW from Ouagadougou for the next three weeks. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly CW, FT8 and on Satellite, and with SSB as conditions permit.

INDONESIA; Look for Ram, YD9KNX to be active as YD9KNX/p from Bendungan Meninting on Lombok Island, IOTA OC-150.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL June VHF Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, Annual USI Special Event Week, NCCC CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, VK Shires Contest, DRCG World Wide RTTY Contest, Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, Portugal Day Contest, AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, GACW WWSA CW DX Contest and REF DDFM 6-Metre Contest will keep contesters busy this weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint and K1USN Slow Speed CW Test are scheduled for June 14.

The Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest and RTTYOPS Weeksprint are scheduled for June 15.

The RSGB 80-Metre Club CW Championship, CWops Mini-CWT Test, SARL Youth 40-Metre SSB Sprint, Phone Fray and NAQCC CW Sprint are all scheduled for June 16.

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WICEN News

The Glow Worm Tunnel Marathon is held in and around Newnes and the Wolgon Valley area in the Blue Mountains, on the weekend of the 18th to the 20th of June; its a great opportunity for new members to get out in the field and work with experienced operators. If you are interested in participating, please contact wicen.ops@vrarescue.org.

WICEN weekly voice nets are on Sunday evenings, starting at 6pm, on either the Chatswood 2 metre repeater, or the Kurrajong 70cm repeater. Please check the WICEN website for details.

Please note, the Berowra 70cm repeater is currently off air.

WICEN NSW, is a communications support squad of the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association. The website is at nsw.wicen.org.au.

WICEN ACT is part of the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club. Their website includes WICEN and general Club information; its at www.crarc.org.au.

WICEN Victoria has a weekly net is on each Tuesday at 8:30pm, on 3.6MHz. More details on the website at vic.wicen.org.au.

Club News

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

This weekend has been the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club's annual field day at the Wauchope Showground Hall. The Field Day followed the COVID safety plan created for the event with QR Code check in.

A full report on the Field Day will appear in next week's VK2WI bulletin.

The next meeting of the club will be the Friday night gathering, 7pm on Friday the 18th of June, at the SES Building in Central Road, Port Macquarie. The gathering will be run in accordance with the club's COVID safety plan and will include an opportunity to review this year's Field Day and to start planning for the 2022 Field Day.

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

There are two club nets each week; the mid-week net starts at 7:30pm on Thursday nights, and the weekend net starts at 9am Sunday mornings. Both nets are on the VK2RPM 2 metre repeater on 146.7MHz, which requires a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone for access. VK2RPM is also available via EchoLink, for those outside the coverage area of the repeater.

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 the club information. The May 2021 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues can be viewed on the website as well. The May issue has details of the Field Day, as well as articles on DMR digital radio and how to use the recently commissioned VK2RCN DMR repeater.

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

Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The Club's general business meeting last week saw discussions including external events, digital repeater capability improvement within the central coast region, and welcomed 11 new members to the club.

The Club welcomes Hank VK2BHL, Wayne M, Jeremy G, Ryan F, Tristan C, Wayne T, Mark M, Alastair B, Garay M, Stephen B and Michael D who all recently sat their foundation course with the club's education facilitator and are currently awaiting their call sign allocation.

The committee continues to review responses to the recent Mayham event survey and has received over 50 responses so far. The club thanks those who have provided their feedback. If you wishing to your thoughts regarding the event, an online survey can be found at www.tiny.cc/ccarc

The club will be holding its Annual General Meeting in August with the date to be confirmed over the coming weeks.

The Next SSTV net will be at 7:30pm this Friday the 18th of June, on the 2m WICEN repeater 147.125MHz. If you have any feedback regarding this net, contact the club directly at ccarc@ccarc.org.au.

The next Central Coast WICEN meeting, will be held at noon, on Saturday the 19th of June.

Bob VK2AOR and Dave VK2KFU continue the clubs daily Morning Tea net. A huge thanks to Bob and Dave for running these nets, they sure brighten up everyone's day. The net has been running continuously for over 14 months now – that's just over 8 dog years!

Club nets are on the VK2RAG 2 Metre repeater, 146.725MHz with a 91.5Hz sub audible tone. EchoLink is currently having some on-way audio problems, but the repeater team is working on it and hope to have it back on line soon.

The club is looking for more operators to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the RAAF. This is a great opportunity to get out on the bands and share in celebrating this momentous occasion, operating portable or otherwise. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Club directly.

You can find out more about the CCARC on the web at ccarc.org.au; or on social media by searching for Central Coast Amateur Radio Club. Remember to give the club a “like” to follow for updates.

Brad VK2NMZ

Vice-President and Publicity, Central Coast Amateur Radio Club.

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Sydney ATV Group

The Blue Mountains ATV repeater at Lawson transmits high definition TV on 445.50MHz, with analogue and digital inputs on 23cm. Reception is possible over the Sydney Metro area, or via the British Amateur TV Club streaming web site; select the VK2 callsign and the HTML5 option. You can also text to say that you're watching.

There are two nets; Thursday afternoon starting at 2:30pm, and Monday nights from 7pm.

We regularly have technical talks, show our latest projects, general interest videos and much more.

Give us a call on the Lawson repeater, 147.325 MHz with positive offset, with reports, questions or help with receiving Amateur Television. Why not join in and find out more about this fascinating and fast-growing aspect of digital amateur radio.

*Advised by John VK2ATU
on behalf of the Sydney ATV Group.*

Waverley Amateur Radio Society

The Society had a table at the MayHam field day at Wyong two weeks ago, with some surplus gear for sale along with a number of the popular Powerpole distribution kits. Thanks to Raffy and the guys who manned the table for the day.

The situation at the hall remains unchanged, with no definite date when it will be available again. So, the next meeting, which is also the Society's AGM, will be held this coming Wednesday, June 16th as a hybrid meeting. In person attendance will be at the ANZAC room of the RSL club next door and on-line attendance is via Zoom. An email was sent out to members with the Zoom invitation for those who don't already have it in their calendar. The room is rated for up to 25 people currently so there should be plenty of room for all the normal attendees. The meeting will commence at 7:30pm with dinner available in the bistro from about 6:30pm onwards. The society hopes to see as many members as possible there.

Working bee Tuesdays are still being held on Wednesdays as several members meet at the Club Rose Bay (RSL) bistro for lunch. The bistro isn't open on Tuesdays, hence the Wednesday meetings at present. They are generally there from about midday to 2:30 or 3 pm.

The next virtual project day will be on Saturday July 3rd on Zoom, commencing at 1:30 pm through to 4 or 5 pm. The next digital special interest group meeting is scheduled for July 13th from 7:30 pm on Zoom.

The Morse code group meets on the first Sunday of each month, with the next meeting scheduled for July 4th. Shack nights continue on Zoom on the 1st Wednesday; so the next one is July the 7th.

With the clubhouse still out of service, foundation classes are currently suspended; however, the Society's education team is assisting ARNSW by running the class and assessment weekends at Dural temporarily. The next one is on over the weekend of 10th and 11th of July, with places filling fast. If you want to join the class or sit other assessments, get in this week, with an email to education@arnsw.org.au.

The Society's weekly net is from 8pm on Monday night, on the VK2RBV repeater. It is usually run by Richard VK2XRC or Bob VK2NRC. Some interesting discussions take place on these nets.

There is full information about the Waverley Amateur Radio Society on the website, vk2bv.org. You can purchase kits, renew membership, or get in touch using the contact form on the website.

*73 from Eric VK2VE
Broadcast Publicity Officer.*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The next meeting is the June monthly general meeting, on Tuesday the 22nd of June, at Mt Colah Community Centre. The meeting starts at 8pm and will include a presentation.

The Club's three regular nets continue each week. Monday's net starts at 8pm on the VK2RNS 2 metre repeater. 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.

The Club's website has up to date details on club activities, plus contact information and the Covid Safety plan; it's 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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Activities on the air

Oxley Region ARC nets 7:30pm Thursday, 9am Sunday. VK2RPM repeater, 146.7Mhz with 91.5Hz tone.

Great Lakes Radio Club weekly net 7pm Monday on VK2RGL, 147.1MHz.

Westlakes nets Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9:30am on 3565kHz.

Hunter Radio Group VK2AWX News 7:30pm Monday, on 146.9Mhz and 438.025MHz. Meeting net Wednesday 7:30pm on 146.9MHz.

Central Coast ARC net Thursday night on VK2RAG 146.725Mhz, 91.5Hz; Echolink *CCARCNSW*. SSTV net every second Friday on 147.125MHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group afternoon tea net 4pm daily; Monday and Friday night net at 8pm, on VK2RCW. HF net 8pm Wednesday 3653kHz.

Illawarra ARS Nets - Tuesday at 8:30pm on 80m, 3666kHz. Saturday 9:30am on VK2RMP 146.850 and VK2RUW on 146.675.

Blue Mountains ARC nets 8pm Tuesday on 3543kHz, 8pm Wednesday on VK2RBM, 147.050MHz with 123Hz tone and 53.875MHz.

WICEN nets on Sunday evenings from 6pm.

Waverley ARS net 8pm Monday on VK2RBV, 438.1125MHz. Activities online and in person, see website for details.

Fishers Ghost ARC net 7:30pm Thursdays on VK2RFG, 438.65MHz with - 7MHz offset and 91.5Hz tone required, also on Echolink.

St George ARS net 8pm Thursday, on VK2RLE 146.8MHz.

HADARC Monday night 8pm on VK2RNS, 147.25MHz, Wednesday from 8pm on 3608.5kHz, Friday 9am on 7106kHz.