

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

ARNSW is reintroducing in-person activities at VK2WI Dural, in line with current public health guidance. The next event planned is a Foundation course and licence examination weekend, on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of July. For more information, or to make a booking for a course, contact our education team via email to; [education@arnsw.org.au](mailto:education@arnsw.org.au).

As always, you can direct any general enquires to the ARNSW office via email, to [office@arnsw.org.au](mailto:office@arnsw.org.au), or by leaving a phone message on 02 9651 1490.

The VK2WI Morse Automated Morse practice transmitter on 3699kHz, has been restored to service. Outside of VK2WI News and callback times, this service continuously transmits morse practice text and information, at a variety of sending speeds. Reception reports are welcome, by email to [callbacks@arnsw.org.au](mailto:callbacks@arnsw.org.au).

Later in this bulletin, we have a summary of on-air activities from both Sydney, and across New South Wales. We would welcome any updates from club and groups; simply email [news@arnsw.org.au](mailto:news@arnsw.org.au) – we don't need full items, just the details of the activity and contacts. Don't forget, we always welcome reports on the outcome of recent activities, as well.

Tonight, we again welcome listeners on the EchoLink "HAM" conference, and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network. Callbacks will also be taken after tonight's bulletin; our thanks to John VK3HJQ, and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network team, for making this relay available.

VK2WI news bulletins are streamed live from our website, [arnsw.org.au/audio](http://arnsw.org.au/audio), and recordings of previous bulletins are also available.

# Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of June;

This report issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>
10cm Flux	101	101	99	96	101	100	106
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	4	4	5	10	11	5	6 observed
Australian Index (Aaus)	1	0	1	8	4	3	3 estimated
T index	54	48	58	53	61	49	50

Solar flare activity was low all week, and geomagnetic activity remained at quiet levels.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia, were generally near predicted monthly values, except for some depressions of up to 15%, during local daylight hours on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

The forecast for the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of June;

Solar activity is expected to be low to moderate. Geomagnetic conditions are expected to remain quiet.

Maximum Usable Frequencies are likely to 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.

Having finished May, we had a;

Minimum of 98, Average of 135 and a Maximum of 180  
With peak dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>.

So far for June, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 96, Average of 107 and a Maximum of 150  
With peak dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>

And looking ahead to July, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 100, Average of 108 and a Maximum of 125  
With peak dates from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>.

*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 1m47s*

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

*Out: "I'm Onno VK6FLAB"*

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

## **ARRL DX news**

AZERBAIJAN; Alex, 4J3DJ is active as 4JF1EU from Baku until June 15, during the sixth Formula One Grand Prix.

EAST MALAYSIA; Dennis, 9M8DEN is active from Kuching City and is usually operating on 80 to 10 metres, and sometimes 160 and 6 metres, using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8.

BAHRAIN; Special event station A91BFA is active until June 15 to draw attention to Bahrain's national football team.

BALEARIC ISLANDS; Andreas, DK5ON is active as EA6/DK5ON from Mallorca until June 17. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA; Operators DS2GOO and 6K2CEW will be active as home calls/4 from Sangchuja Island, IOTA AS-084, from June 17 to 19. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, and various digital modes.

ST. LUCIA; Operators K9HZ and WA2LLN are active as J68HZ and J68AG, respectively, until June 24. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4.

OGASAWARA ISLANDS; Operator JI5RPT will be active as JD1BLY on Chichijima, IOTA AS-031, until June 14. Activity will be on 40 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, FT8, and on Satellite.

DENMARK; Stefan, DL7AOS is active as 5P5K from Romo Island, IOTA EU-125, until June 18. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 6 metres using SSB and various digital modes.

NETHERLANDS; Special event station PA900UTR is active until November 11, celebrating the 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary since Utrecht was granted city rights. Activity is on various bands and modes.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE; Ryan, K0EFW will be active as S9EFW from Sao Tome, IOTA AF-023, from June 14 to 19. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using SSB.

POLAND; Adam, SQ9S is active with special call sign SN35FISTS until June 30 to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the FISTS CW Club.

GREECE; Special call sign J43POTA is active until August 31 to promote Parks On The Air, POTA, activity from the Peloponnese region.

ANTARCTICA; Warren, VK7WN is active as VK0WN from the Australian Casey Station, possibly until October. Lately he has been active on 20 metres using SSB around 0430 to 0800UTC.

CYPRUS; Dave, G4WXJ is active as ZC4RH until June 15. Activity is on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, possibly FT8, and on Satellite QO-100 as well.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO; The ARRL June VHF Contest, NCCC Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, VK Shires Contest, Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, Portugal Day Contest, AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, GACW WWSA CW DX Contest, REF DDFM 6-Metre Contest and Cookie Crumble QRP Contest are on this weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC Memorial, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, NAQCC CW Sprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40, Mini-Test 80 and the RSGB 80-Metre Club CW Championship are on tap for June 13 to 15.

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## WICEN News

WICEN NSW is providing communications support for several events this month, starting with the Glow Worm Tunnel Marathon, from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, in the Wolgan Valley around Newnes. We are seeking volunteers to help out; please email Neil, VK2XNF, at [neil.fallshaw@vrarescue.org](mailto:neil.fallshaw@vrarescue.org).

Later in the month is True Grit, a military-inspired obstacle course race, on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> at Dargle Farm, Lower Portland. A small number of volunteers are still required; contact Nic VK2KXN at [nicholas.mclean@vrarescue.org](mailto:nicholas.mclean@vrarescue.org).

This year's Navshield is on the weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of July. Organised by the Bush Search and Rescue Unit of the SES, its a remote bushland navigational exercise involving many of the emergency services. WICEN NSW will be assisting with communications and if you would like to volunteer, email [wicen.ops@vrarescue.org](mailto:wicen.ops@vrarescue.org).

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

WICEN NSW, is a communications support squad of VRA Rescue NSW. For more information on upcoming events, or how to join, visit the website at [nsw.wicen.org.au](http://nsw.wicen.org.au).

For information about other WICEN groups; WICEN ACT is part of the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club. Their website includes WICEN and general Club information and can be found at [www.crarc.org.au](http://www.crarc.org.au). WICEN Victoria has a weekly net on Tuesday at 8:30pm, on 3.6MHz. More details on the web at [vic.wicen.org.au](http://vic.wicen.org.au).

## Club News

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club; Today was the second day of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club's annual Field Day which takes place on the Saturday and Sunday of the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend. The spacious Wauchope Showground Hall provided the perfect venue, with activities on both days including foxhunts, disposals, traders, and a Homebrew competition. Breakfast and lunch from the barbeque proved to be particularly popular on both days, and last night saw the Field Day Dinner at the Port Macquarie Golf Club. We'll have a full report in next week's VK2WI News.

Many club members enjoyed a social morning coffee at café in the Sovereign Hills shopping centre, last Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June. By popular demand, a social morning coffee is now planned on the second Thursday of each month.

The next Friday night get-together will be at 7pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, at the SES Building in Port Macquarie. It will be held in accordance with the club's COVID-19 Safety Plan.

The VK2RCN repeaters are currently off air, after the lightning strike in March; repairs to the power line to site have need delayed by recent wet weather.

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, 146.7MHz with a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone for access. VK2RPM is also available via EchoLink.

For more information about the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, visit the website at [orarc.org](http://orarc.org). The site contains a wealth of Amateur Radio items in addition to the club information. The May 2022 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online; it's a 40-page issue with all the Field Day information, as well as a comprehensive introduction to the Nano VNA by Bob VK2ZRE. Past issues can be viewed on the website as well. You can also find the Club on Facebook; just search for Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.

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



## Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The Clubrooms at Kariong are open every Saturday.

Given the popularity of the raffle at Mayham, the club is looking to run another raffle. Details will be made available on the club's website and social media pages in the coming days.

At VK2RAG Somersby, the D-Star, RadNet DMR and 2m EchoLink services are fully functional. Brand Meister DMR and 70cm EchoLink and IRLP are still having problems, and an issue with the 6 metre repeater is currently being investigated.

Also at Somersby is a WebSDR, [websdr.ccarc.org.au](https://websdr.ccarc.org.au) is currently configured to listen on 6 metres, 2 metres, 70 centimetres and 23 centimetres.

The Club's daily Morning Tea continues at 10am and after VK2WI News on Sunday mornings. The Thursday night net starts at 8pm. Both nets are on the VK2RAG 2m repeater – 146.725 MHz with 91.5Hz tone, and on EchoLink HAM and CCARC conferences.

The fortnightly SSTV net is hosted by Adrian VK2ABS. It's usually 2-3 rounds on the Club's 2 Metre WICEN repeater; 147.125 MHz with 91.5Hz tone. Adrian has had a large amount of support from other members and would love to see you drop in on the next net, Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of June at 7:30pm.

SSTV and Weekly nets are also video streamed live to the club's Facebook page, and recordings of past nets can be found, in the "Videos" section.

You can find out more about the CCARC on the web at [ccarc.org.au](https://ccarc.org.au); by phone on 02 43402500 or on social media by searching for Central Coast Amateur Radio Club; remember to "like" to follow for updates.

*73 Alan VK2MG*

*Publicity Officer, Central Coast Amateur Radio Club.*

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## Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

The next meeting of the Society is coming up this Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. The general meeting starts at 7:30pm, directly following the Society's Committee Meeting which starts at 6:30pm. Attendees are most welcome to arrive from 6.30 onwards to enjoy a pre-meeting chat and cuppa in the foyer. Meetings are at the BlueScope Steel Visitors Centre, on the southern side of the Wollongong CBD. After turning off Springhill Road into the BlueScope main entrance road, attendees then turn immediately right before the security gates, following the large signs towards the Visitors Centre.

The next meeting features a presentation by Society member Ned VK2AGV. Ned has many fascinating interests and backgrounds like satellite up-linking and broadcasting, aircraft piloting and training, and the merchant marine; but on Tuesday night he will talk about one of his other interests – astronomy and home-built telescopes. Ned is a most interesting speaker with an in-depth understanding of the subject, so his presentation will be most entertaining and enlightening. Following will be the usual tea, coffee, biscuits, and cake while having a yarn or two about the latest rigs, the size of each other's antennas and the elusive contact that got away! As a bonus, resident Barista Vinnie VK2VIN will prepare your preferred cuppa from the coffee machine.

The Society has two weekly Nets. The Saturday morning net starts at 9:30am, run by Steve VK2BGL. You can join on the 2 metre repeaters, VK2RMP on 6850 or VK2RUW on 6675, or from out of town via EchoLink, VK2BGL-R. Note that at the time of writing, the VK2RUW repeater is off the air for urgent maintenance. The second weekly Net is on 80 metres on Tuesday evenings, except for meeting nights, at 8:30pm; the usual frequency is 3666kHz, plus or minus for other usage.

You can find out more about the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, including details on Amateur Radio training and examination activities, on the web at [iars.org.au](http://iars.org.au), and the society is also on Facebook. The website again; [iars.org.au](http://iars.org.au).

To conclude, all listeners are invited to attend the next meeting of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, at 7.30pm this coming Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, at the BlueScope Steel Visitor Centre in Wollongong.

*Advised by Rob VK2MT  
President of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society.*

## Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club

The Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of July starting from 7:30pm at the clubhouse in Glenbrook.

Nominations for the following positions are open; president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and ordinary committee members. The sub-committee positions of repeater manager, publicity officer, education officer and Projects manager are also open as well.

This weekend was a Foundation Course was held at the clubhouse, and Applications for the next Foundation Course, on the second weekend in August, are now open.

For those wish to upgrade their licence, courses continue to be run every Wednesday night via zoom.

For more information or to register for any courses or examinations at the Club, you can contact the club Secretary, Irene VK2VAN – her email address is [secretary@bmarc.org](mailto:secretary@bmarc.org).

On the first and third Saturday of the month, the clubhouse is open for any members wishing to work on a technical project, seek advice from an expert or drop in for a cup of coffee and a chat. The next open days are Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of June.

More information about the club can be found on the website, at [www.bmarc.org](http://www.bmarc.org).

*73 from James VK2GOH  
Publicity Officer, Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club.*

## Sydney ATV Group

The Group's ATV repeater at Lawson in the Blue Mountains, 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; on the site, select the VK2 callsign and if requested, the HTML5 option. You can also text to say that you're watching – just enter /nick, a space then your name, your following text will appear in the column above.

Regular nets are on Monday evenings starting at 7:30pm. We regularly have technical talks, show our latest projects, general interest videos and much more.

You can call in during the net 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's Annual General meeting is on this coming Wednesday, June the 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be a hybrid meeting, with personal attendance in the Anzac Room at the Rose Bay RSL club and online via Zoom. The Zoom meeting will be using the same link as previously sent out to the member email list.

Prior to the meeting, some members will be having dinner in the RSL Club Bistro from about 6pm. The meeting will commence at 7:30pm. There may be a presentation after the AGM.

The Society's usual meeting venue of the Rose Bay Scout Hall, is still unavailable. This will unfortunately affect the usual July auction, which will not be able to proceed as normal. The Society continues trying to resolve this, so that they can get back to normal operations.

Along with the weekly net Monday evenings, the society has a "project day" get together on the first Saturday of the month. Other activities are continuing either in person or on Zoom; see the society's website for details.

The Wednesday lunchtime get togethers, from midday are back on in the RSL bistro. There have been good rollups to them, and consensus is that the food is good.

There is full information about the Waverley Amateur Radio Society, and its history, on the website, [vk2bv.org](http://vk2bv.org). You can purchase kits, pay 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 informal mid-monthly meeting, is at 8pm on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. Its at the Mt Colah Community Centre, in Pierre Close, opposite Mt Colah Railway station.

A reminder about the special guest speaker at the Monthly General meeting coming up on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. Brett Savill, who has broad experience in telecommunications in Australia, will be talking about the changes in the communications industry and the latest developments in 5G networks.

The club's three weekly nets are;

Monday evenings at 8pm on the VK2RNS 2m repeater, 147.25MHz. No tone is needed for access, but 91.5 Hz is sent; Wednesday's 80 metres net is also at 8:00 pm, on 3608.5kHz; and "Morning Tea with HADARC", is on Fridays from 9am on 7106kHz.

Both HF nets are plus or minus QRM; Listen for VK2MA.

The Club's website has up to date details on club activities; it's at [www.hadarc.org.au](http://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

**Lightning Net** 8pm Mondays on 1860kHz, Net control Steve VK2STG.

**Snowy Mountains ARC** net 7:30pm Saturday on Southeast network; VK2RFS 146.75MHz, VK2RSE 147.375, VK3RDH 146.625, and EchoLink.

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

**Great Lakes Radio Club** weekly net 7pm Monday, on VK2RGL; 147.1MHz with 91.5Hz tone, EchoLink VK2RGL-R.

**Westlakes** 80 metre nets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:30am on 3565kHz. 2m nets on 146.775MHz, see website for details.

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

**Central Coast ARC** Morning tea at 10am daily – after news on Sundays; Thursday nights 8pm; VK2RAG 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone and EchoLink. Next SSTV net 24<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Amateur Radio Central West Group** lunchtime net 1pm daily; evening net Monday and Friday at 8pm, VK2RCW. HF net 8pm Wednesday 3653kHz.

**Illawarra ARS** Nets Saturday 9:30am on VK2RMP 146.850 and VK2RUW on 146.675; Tuesday 8:30pm, 3666kHz.

**Blue Mountains ARC** Nets on VK2RBM, 147.050MHz with 123Hz tone; Wednesdays from 8pm; Tuesdays from 8pm on 3543kHz.

**Waverley ARS** net 8pm Monday VK2RBV, 438.1125MHz. Activities online and on air; see website.

**Sydney ATV Group** net 7:30pm Monday; call in on repeater 147.325MHz.

**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.