

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 9th and 10th of July. For more information, or to make a booking for a course, contact our education team via email to; education@arnsw.org.au.

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

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 – 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.

Our VK2WI News transmission on 160 metres, on 1845kHz has been restored this week after repairs to the antenna. Our thanks to Mark VK2XOF along with Eric VK2VE, Nic VK2KXN and Lindsay VK2JLB for their assistance in both wrangling down the old, and hoisting up the new, antenna.

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, and recordings of previous bulletins are also available.

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 17th to the 23rd of June;

This report issued on the 24th of June.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd
10cm Flux	149	140	144	137	139	129	121
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	14	15	10	10	10	10	12 observed
Australian Index (Aaus)	8	6	6	7	6	6	5 estimated
T index	68	72	74	71	63	67	62

Solar flare activity was low to moderate all week, with just a few small C-class flares.

Geomagnetic activity remained mostly at quiet levels in the Australian region, though some isolated disturbances were observed in the Antarctic region.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia, were generally near predicted monthly values, with some minor enhancements during local night, reaching 15% enhancement on the 19th.

The forecast for the 24th to the 30th of June;

Solar activity is expected to be low to moderate, possibly reaching R1 warning levels. Geomagnetic conditions are expected to remain quiet, with a chance of isolated G1 level activity between the 25th and 26th.

Maximum Usable Frequencies are likely to remain near predicted monthly values, with a slight chance of shortwave fadeouts.

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 14th to the 26th.

Nearing the end of June, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 96, Average of 118 and a Maximum of 149
With peak dates from the 13th to the 26th

And looking ahead to July, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 100, Average of 118 and a Maximum of 140
With peak dates from the 7th 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 2m14s

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.

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ARRL DX news

YEMEN; David, DL7ZM is active as 7O/DL7ZM from Socotra Island, IOTA AF-028, until July 3. Activity is on 10 metres using CW and FT8, and on 6 metres as well.

ALGERIA; Special event stations 7R19MG and 7Y19MG are active until July 5 for the 19th edition of the Mediterranean Games to be held in Oran.

MADEIRA ISLANDS; Joe, HA2EAV and Csaba, HA2KMR are active as CT9/HA2EAV and CT9/HA2KMR, respectively, until June 28. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. This includes being active as CR3DX in the His Majesty King of Spain SSB contest.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON; Eric, KV1J will be active as FP/KV1J from Miquelon Island, IOTA NA-032, from June 28 to July 12. Activity will be on the HF bands with a focus on 60 and 6 metres. This includes entry in the upcoming IARU HF Championship contest.

HONDURAS; Alex, K6VHF will be active as HR9/K6VHF from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, from June 27 to 31. Activity will be on 80 to 10 metres, and possibly 6 metres, using CW, SSB, and FT8.

THAILAND; Jerry, HS0ZOY is active from Buri Ram. He is active on 160 to 10 metres.

OGASAWARA; Koh, JD1AJD is active until July 2. Activity is on 20 to 6 metres using CW, FT8, and FT4, with a focus on 6 metres.

BULGARIA; Special event station LZ18NATO is active until June 30 to commemorate the 18th anniversary of Bulgaria's NATO membership.

PERU, OA. Daniel, IK2SGL is active as OA9DVK until the end of August. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB.

MARKET REEF; Henri, OH3JR and Pertti, OG2M will be active as OJ0JR and OJ0MR, respectively, until July 6, while there on work assignment. Activity will be in their spare time on the HF bands using CW, some SSB, and FT8.

GREENLAND; Bo, OZ1DJJ will be active as OX3LX from Upernarvik Island, IOTA NA-134, from June 27 to July 11. Activity will be on the HF bands with a focus on 6 metres and 4 metres.

GREECE; Rolf, HB9TUP is currently active as SV8/HB9TUP from Naxos Island, IOTA EU-067. Activity is on the HF bands.

MACQUARIE ISLAND; Matt, VK5HZ is active as VK0MQ and will be stationed there for a few months. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using SSB and FT8.

ZIMBABWE; Members of the Russian DX Team are active as Z21RU from Harare until June 29. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres, and Satellite QO-100, using CW, SSB, and various digital modes with several stations active.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO; ARRL Field Day, QRP 20-Metre CW Fox Hunt, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, Pajajaran Bogor SSB DX Contest, UFT QRP CW Contest and His Majesty King of Spain SSB Contest will certainly keep contesters busy over this weekend.

The QCX CW Challenge, OK1WC Memorial, RSGB FT4 Contest, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, Phone Weekly SSB Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, Mini-Test 40, and the Mini-Test 80 run from June 27 to 29.

WICEN News

WICEN NSW is providing communications support for several events, including this year's Navshield, on the weekend of the 16th and 17th 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.

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.

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

Club News

The next monthly meeting will be at 7pm on the 2nd of July, at the SES Building in Port Macquarie. It will be held in accordance with the club's COVID-19 Safety Plan.

The VK2RCN repeaters at Telegraph Point are currently off air following a lightning strike in March. The underground mains power cable to site was extensively damaged, and work to restore mains supply to site is still ongoing.

Candidates for Foundation, Standard and Advanced Licences should contact the club via PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 244, to register their interest. A Foundation training and assessment weekend is planned for the near future, and Assessments for all licences grades run as soon as sufficient candidates have registered.

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. Members and visitors are encouraged to participate in the club on air nets as often as possible. VK2RPM is also available via EchoLink.

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 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. The July 2022 issue of Oxtales is in preparation and will include a comprehensive report on the Club's Annual Field Day which was held on the June Long Weekend. 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.*

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Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The Clubrooms at Kariong are open every Saturday, with the next monthly general meeting at 1pm next Saturday – visitors are welcome. Members are reminded that Annual Membership is now due, and the Annual General Meeting will be held in August.

The Club currently has a raffle running until June 30; for information on prizes, terms, and conditions; see the link on the club web page, ccarc.org.au.

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

The Somersby WebSDR, 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 8th of July 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; 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.

Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club

The Club's Annual General Meeting will be on Friday the 1st of July at the clubhouse in Glenbrook, starting at 7:30pm. The evening also includes a "Christmas in July" dinner.

At the AGM, nominations are open for; 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.

The next Foundation Course will run on the weekend of August 13th and 14th. For those who already have a Foundation licence and wish to upgrade; the club's Wednesday night upgrade course, continues 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.

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 2nd and 16th of July.

More information about the club can be found on the website, at 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.*

Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club

The next meeting of the Club is on this Wednesday the 29th of June at McDonald's Woodbine, commencing at 7:30pm. Visitors wishing to learn more about the hobby of Amateur Radio are most welcome to attend.

The Club's weekly net, on Thursday evenings, starts at 7:30pm on the Club repeater, VK2RFG. The repeater frequency is 438.650MHz. It has a negative 7MHz input and a 91.5Hz tone is required for FM access, and is also accessible via EchoLink.

To find out more about the Club's activities, visit the website at fgarc.org.au; and you can find the Club's Facebook page by searching for VK2FG.

Submitted by Peter VK2PR

On behalf of the Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club.

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

A reminder about the special guest speaker at the Monthly General meeting coming up this Tuesday the 28th 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 would like to welcome visitors to join us for this unique evening, in the club rooms at Mount Colah Community Centre, starting at 8pm.

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. The club has a group on Facebook, which can be found by searching for VK2MA, and on twitter, @VK2MA.

St George Amateur Radio Society

How can physics, photography, cross country skiing and amateur radio, help one man survive?

Owen VK2AEJ tells what kept him going during a 16-month deployment in Antarctica.

Come along to the next gathering of the St George Amateur Radio Society on Wednesday the 6th of July; where you can hear Owen's story, catch up with fellow amateur radio operators, check out our disposal items for a bargain and enjoy tea, coffee, and a biscuit.

The gathering will be "in person" at the Society's meeting rooms, Donnelly Park, Kyle Parade Connells Point – near South Hurstville. Doors open at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start. All members and visitors will need to sign-in. Full details available on the website, sgars.org.

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Activities on the air

Daily;

The **CCARC Morning Tea net** is on at 10am, and after VK2WI News on Sundays. VK2RAG, 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone, also on EchoLink.

Amateur Radio Central West Group lunchtime net 1pm daily on VK2RCW.

Monday;

Westlakes ARC nets 9:30am, now on 40 metres, 7115kHz, VK2ATZ Portable.

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

Hunter Radio Group VK2AWX News 7:30pm, 146.9Mhz and 438.025MHz.

Sydney ATV Group net 7:30pm; call in on 2m repeater 147.325MHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group net at 8pm on VK2RCW.

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

HADARC net 8pm on VK2RNS, 147.25MHz

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

Tuesday;

Blue Mountains ARC net from 8pm on 3543kHz.

Illawarra ARS 80m net at 8:30pm, 3666kHz.

Wednesday;

Westlakes ARC net 9:30am on 7115kHz. 2 Metre nets, see website for details.

HADARC 8pm on 3608.5kHz

Blue Mountains ARC 8pm on VK2RBM, 147.05MHz with 123Hz tone.

Amateur Radio Central West Group from 8pm on 3653kHz.

Thursday;

Fishers Ghost ARC net from 7:30pm on VK2RFG, 438.65MHz with -7MHz offset and 91.5Hz tone; also, on EchoLink.

Oxley Region ARC from 7:30pm on VK2RPM 146.7Mhz with 91.5Hz tone.

St George ARS 8pm on VK2RLE 146.8MHz.

Central Coast ARC net 8pm on VK2RAG.

Friday;

Morning tea with HADARC at 9am on 7106kHz.

Westlakes at 9:30am on 7115kHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group at 8pm on VK2RCW.

The next **CCARC SSTV Net** is at 7:30pm on the 8th of July; 147.125MHz with 91.5Hz tone.

Saturday;

Illawarra ARS net 9:30am on VK2RMP 146.850 and VK2RUW on 146.675.

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

Sunday;

Oxley Region ARC from 9am, VK2RPM 146.7Mhz with 91.5Hz tone.