

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 another “Members Morning Meetup”, on Sunday the 31st of July.

From about 9:30am, the site will open for a physically-distanced catchup. The VK2WI grounds provide plenty of green space in fine weather, with a large indoor area on the ground floor of the Centenary Building as well. Tea, Coffee, cold drinks, and refreshments will be available; and the trash and treasure room will be open, with some procedures in place to manage access to the relatively small room. As well-being of our members is paramount, the event will run in accordance with the ARNSW Covid Safety plan.

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.

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 8th to the 14th of July;
This report issued on the 15th of July.
First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th
10cm Flux	130	137	153	161	165	165	169
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	14	6	8	10	16	5	5 observed
Australian Index (Aaus)	10	2	3	6	14	3	1 estimated
T index	69	53	57	67	84	77	77

Solar flare activity reached R1 level on the 8th, with an M2.6 flare at 2050UTC; on the 10th, with an M1.3 at 2343UTC; the 11th, with an M1.1 at 0919UTC; and the 14th, with an M1.3 at 0431 and an M2.9 at 2148UTC.

Geomagnetic activity was mostly at quiet unsettled levels, only reaching G1 level for part of the 12th. Two weak geomagnetic impulses of 12 nanoTesla were observed; at 0745UTC on the 8th, and at 1737UTC on the 12th.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia, started out depressed 20% on the 8th and 15% on the 9th, recovering to near predicted monthly values, from the 10th to the 14th.

The forecast for the 15th to the 21st of July;

Solar activity is expected to be at R1 warning levels, possibly reaching R2. Geomagnetic conditions are expected to be quiet.

Maximum Usable Frequencies are likely to be 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 June, we had a;

Minimum of 92, Average of 116 and a Maximum of 149
With peak dates from the 13th to the 24th

So far for July, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 96, Average of 142 and a Maximum of 170
With peak dates from the 11th to the 23rd, and the 27th to the 31st

And looking ahead to August, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 125, Average of 148 and a Maximum of 160
With peak dates from the 1st to the 9th, and the 22nd to the 29th.

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 1m58s

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

ISRAEL; Look for special event stations 4Z21MG and 4X21MG to be active from Maccabiah Village and during the 21st Maccabiah Games, until July 26. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and various satellites.

ALGERIA; Members of the Amateurs Radio Algeriens (7X2ARA) are now active as 7T60I, 7U60I, 7V60I, 7V60ID, 7W60I to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Algerian Independence, until August 5.

NEPAL; Robert, S53R/9N7AA will be focusing on 6 metres during July. The majority of activity will be over the weekends.

PORTUGAL; Look for special event station CS2Q to be active from Faro, Portugal, until July 17, during the 40th International Motorcycle Rally. Activity will be on 80 to 6 metres using CW, SSB and digital modes.

AZORES; Jim, W6PQL will be active as CT8/W6PQL from Pico Island (HM58rn) until September 6. Activity will be on various HF bands and 2 metre EME.

SPRATLY ISLANDS; Gil, 4F2KWT has been issued the call sign DX0NE from the Republic of the Philippines National Telecommunications Commission. The special call sign will be used during an operation from Kalayaan Spratly Island sometime between August 1 and December 31, 2022. The four-man team includes Gil, Ed 4F1OZ, Jong DU3JA and Mike DU1XX/AE6DG. Activity will be on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, FT8.

SOUTH COOK; Pete, ZL4TE is expected to be active as E51RMP until July 21. Activity is holiday style QRP on various HF bands and some VHF Digimodes using CW and SSB.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC; Orazio, IK2KTE is active as HI9/IK2KTE until July 30. Activity has been on 20 metres SSB.

ANTARCTICA; Look for LU4ZS to be active from Marambio station, Seymour Island, during the month of July. QSL via LU4DXU. Also, LU1ZD is active from San Martin Base, on Barry Island, during July.

CANADA; Jon, VA7JC will be active as VX7ITE from Metro Vancouver, BC, to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

ARGENTINA; Members of the Radio Club Rosario (LU4FM) will be active with special event call sign L95F to commemorate the 95th anniversary of their club. Activity will be on various HF bands.

UNITED STATES; Operators around the state of Oregon will be signing N7DUX to commemorate the 2022 World Athletics Championships being held at the historical Hayward Field in Eugene, until July 24.

CURACAO; Look for the Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure to be active as PJ2Y from the PJ2T contest station until July 19. Operators will be three youths and team leaders. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and possibly on satellites.

CAYMAN ISLANDS; Frank, K3TRM will be active as ZF2RM until July 30. Activity will be focused on 6 metres and the satellites, plus the HF bands, including 40 to 10 metres, using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8.

MARKET REEF, OJ0. DG5CST, DL3DXX, DL6FBL and SM0W plan to operate OJ0DX from July 25 to August 1, concentrating on the IOTA Contest. Prior to the contest they will be operating on 3.5 through 50 MHz and DG5CST will be on VHF and UHF. Their arrival and departure will be dependent on weather as Market Reef has no harbour; so landing is always difficult and only possible with low wind and waves.

TURKEY; Berkin, TA3J will be active as TA3J/0 from Yassica Island, AS-099 every Saturday and Sunday until October 31, 2022. Activity will be on SSB, CW, RTTY and FT8 on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 Metres.

TAIWAN; During the 2022 RSGB IOTA Contest BM2AAV, BV5OO, BV5PD, BX2AGL, BX3ACH and BX3AC will be active as BP0A from Pong-Hu Island, AS-103.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO; The Russian Radio Team Championship, Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge, IARU Region 1 70 MHz Contest, North American QSO Party, CQ Worldwide VHF Contest, RSGB International Low Power Contest, Great Colorado Gold Rush and Run for the Bacon QRP Contest are all on this weekend. The OK1WC Memorial and RSGB FT4 contest are on July 18.

WICEN News

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

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, and their next meeting will be the Club's AGM. Its at 2pm on Saturday the 6th of August, at the SES Building in Port Macquarie. It will be held in accordance with the club's COVID-19 Safety Plan.

A short Monthly General Meeting will be held after the conclusion of the AGM, and members are reminded that subscriptions are now due.

An enjoyable Coffee Morning was held on Thursday the 14th of July; the next will be on Thursday the 11th of August.

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.

The next Foundation Licence training and assessment weekend is planned for the 30th and 31st of July. Assessments for Standard and Advanced licences are also available during the weekend, but bookings must be made this week with the club, via PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444, so examination materials can be ordered.

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 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues are on the website as well. The July 2022 issue of Oxtales will be published later in the week; it 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. Members are reminded that Annual Membership is now due. The Club's Annual General Meeting will be held at 1pm on Saturday the 13th of August. Details will be emailed to members.

The second of the club's "quick-fire" raffles will be drawn at noon on the 21st of July. For more information see the link on the club web page – at ccarc.org.au – or on social media.

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 on the sick list.

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, this Friday the 22nd 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.

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.*

Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club

The next examinations for Advanced Theory, Standard Theory and Amateur Radio Regulations will be at 9am on Sunday the 9th of October. Exams are at the clubhouse, 4 Moore St Glenbrook.

Bookings are essential, as exam papers must be ordered in advance.

For further details contact the club Secretary, Irene VK2VAN – her email address is secretary@bmarc.org – or by telephone to 0438 606 740.

More information about the club can be found on the website, at www.bmarc.org.

St George Amateur Radio Society

The society's annual 80 metre contest runs on the last Saturday of July.

This contest, open to all VK and ZL amateurs, using analogue and digital voice modes, CW morse code and other digital modes such as RTTY or SSTV.

The contest commences at 6pm local time, in one hour time slots until midnight. The purpose of the contest is to provide a practice run for the Remembrance Day Contest which is held in August.

Full details about the contest, along with information about other Society activities, can be found on the website, sgars.org.

*73 de Peter VK2EMU
Publicity Officer, St. George Amateur Radio Society.*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

The next meeting will be the monthly meeting at 8pm on July 26th, at the Mount Colah Community Centre. This is in Pierre Close, opposite Mt Colah Railway station.

HADARC is always interested in hearing from those with expertise on a technical or historical radio topic, willing to give a presentation, or to show off an interesting project.

HADARC's website, including contact information, is at: hadarc.org.au.
On Facebook or Twitter, look for VK2MA.

*Julian VK2YJS & AG6LE
HADARC Publicity Officer.*

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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 22nd 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.