

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

Later in this bulletin, we have a summary of on-air activities from both Sydney, and across New South Wales. We welcome any updates from clubs 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 welcome reports on the outcome of recent activities, as well; for example, with this weekend being JOTA and JOTI 2022, why not let us know about how your club took part in this important event, showcasing Amateur Radio to the next generation? Email you text or audio to news@arnsw.org.au.

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.

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.

Special Event at the Australian National Maritime Museum

Colin VK2JCC and Stuart VK2BMX, along with two other amateurs will be operating a Special Event station on board HMAS Vampire, which is permanently berthed at the Australian National Maritime Museum located at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

This event will take place on Saturday the 29th of October from 10am to 2pm.

The HMAS Vampire is a Daring-class destroyer, launched on the 27th of October 1956. It has an extensive service record including the Indonesia–Malaysia confrontation in 1966, and escorted the troop transport HMAS Sydney on six of the latter's 25 transport voyages to South Vietnam.

In 1977, the destroyer escorted the Royal Yacht Britannia during Queens Elizabeth's and Prince Phillips visit to Australia in 1980, finally being decommissioned on the 13 August 1986.

The special event station will operate on 40 metres; SSB on 7150kHz, and CW on 7050kHz, conditions permitting. The station will also be listening on VHF frequencies.

If you have never visited the Australian National Maritime Museum, you are in for a great treat; it boasts extensive displays of maritime artefacts as well as a number of extremely interesting experiences, such as going on board an Oberon-class submarine.

Why not come on down to the museum on Saturday the 29th to visit, and while you're there see the special event station on board the ship; the team look forward to both working you on the air and meeting you in person.

If you hear the callsigns on the air, be sure to give them a call.

73, Stuart VK2BMX and Colin VK2JCC.

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 7th to the 13th of October;

This report issued on the 14th of October.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th
10cm Flux	160	157	161	163	150	141	130
Fredericksburg Index (Afr)	12	10	18	8	7	4	4 observed
Australian Index (Aaus)	10	9	14	6	3	4	3 estimated
T index	90	108	101	88	104	112	113

Solar flare activity reached R1 level on the 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th. The largest flare during the week was M4.0, at 0842UTC on the 11th.

Geomagnetic activity was generally at quiet to unsettled levels; and remained below the warning level for the whole week.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia were mostly near predicted monthly values, with some enhanced conditions; 20% during night on the 8th; 15 to 20% enhanced all day on the 9th; 20% at night and after local dawn on the 11th; and enhancement from 15% to 25% throughout the 12th and 13th.

The forecast for the 14th to the 20th of October;

Solar activity should be generally low with the chance of some R1 activity from the 14th tot the 15th.

Geomagnetic activity may reach G1 levels on the 15th and 17th due to the arrival of two minor CMEs.

MUFs are expected to be enhanced up to 30% at the start of the week, declining towards predicted monthly values. There's a chance of mildly degraded HF conditions during local night hours in mid-high latitudes on the 15th and the 17th.

Data courtesy of Space Weather Services.

Solar Flux Index update

Here are the updated Solar Flux Index (SFI) figures for this week.

Having finished September, we had a;

Minimum of 113, Average of 134 and a Maximum of 154
With peak dates from the 11th to the 30th

So far for October, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 115, Average of 142 and a Maximum of 163
With peak dates from the 1st to the 13th, and the 27th to the 31st

And looking ahead to November, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 130, Average of 148 and a Maximum of 160
With peak dates from the 1st to the 10th, and the 25th to the 30th

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>]

Foundations of Amateur Radio

This series, written and produced by Onno VK6FLAB, continues a weekly examination, of the building blocks of Amateur Radio.

[Play File: 15-FOAR015.wav]

Duration 2m35s

In: "Recently I read a comment..."

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; and you can contact Onno by email, to cq@vk6flab.com.

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WICEN News

First off this week, an update about the Hawkesbury Classic Paddle. With recent adverse weather and flooding, the decision has been taken to cancel this year's Classic Paddle in the interests of safety for paddlers, land crews, and volunteers.

It is planned to return in 2023.

Tonight, WICEN NSW Net commenced a statewide on 40m. It starts at 6:30pm, with net control VK2WIZ, on 7110kHz +/- other traffic.

The other WICEN voice nets continue at 6pm on Sunday, 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, the web address is nsw.wicen.org.au, on twitter @wicennsw, and on Facebook.

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.

ARRL DX news

COMOROS; A large group of operators are active as D60AE until October 17. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres, and on Satellite QO-100, using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4 with four stations active.

GUADELOUPE; Manfred DK1BT, Tom DL7BO, Wolf DL4WK, Annette DL6SAK, and Frank DL7UFR are active as TO2DL until October 23. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres, including 60 metres, using CW, SSB, and various digital modes, with three stations active.

SAINT BARTHELEMY; Phil, K2LIO is active as FJ4WEB. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres using SSB. He is usually active during his mornings and late afternoons.

KOREA; Members of radio club HL0UHQ are active as HL22NSF until October 30, during the 103rd Korean National Sports Festival.

GUINEA BISSAU; Carlos, CT2GQA is active as J5JUA until the end of 2022. Activity is mostly mobile, using FT8; he may also use J5GQA.

JAPAN; Moto, JS6UKY will be active as JS6UKY/6 from Okinawa Island, IOTA AS-107, from October 18 to 25. Activity will be on 40 to 15 metres using CW.

SEYCHELLES; Wolfgang, OE1MWW is active as S79/OE1MWW until October 21. Activity is holiday style on 20 metres using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. He may be active on 17 and 15 metres as well.

BENIN; A group of operators are active as TY0RU until October 26. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres, including 60 metres, and Satellite QO-100, using CW, SSB, and FT8 with nine stations active.

MONTSERRAT; Operators K7NM, AC7ZN, WA5POK, KM4TYV, K5LDA, and KD6XH are active as VP2MLB, VP2MZN, VP2MOK, VP2MYV, VP2MDA, and VP2MXH, respectively, until October 20. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO; The 65th Scout JOTA/JOTI, ARRL EME Contest, JARTS World Wide RTTY Contest, 10-10 International Fall CW Contest, Worked All Germany Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint and CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, Feld Hell Sprint, Argentina National 7 MHz Contest, Asia-Pacific Fall CW Sprint, UBA ON 2-Metre Contest, RSGB RoLo CW and the Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest will keep contesters busy this weekend.

The K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, RSGB FT4 Contest, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club CW AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40, Mini-Test 80 and the AGCW Semi-Automatic Key CW Evening are all scheduled from October 17 to 19.

The ARRL School Club Roundup is scheduled for October 17 to 21.

Club News

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club. The October Friday night get-together is at 7pm this coming Friday the 21st of October, in the SES building at Port Macquarie.

Club members will be providing safety communications for the annual Beechwood Billycart Classic on the morning of Sunday the 23rd of October. This is the longest downhill billycart road course in Australia. Beechwood is a short distance west of Wauchope.

The VK2RCN Telegraph Point repeaters will soon return to air, operating from the new site. With work progressing well, commissioning is expected next month.

Candidates for the next Foundation training and assessment weekend, as well as those interested in assessments for Standard and Advanced licences, can contact the club at PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444 or via the contact form, on the website.

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, and on EchoLink as VK2RPM-R. Members and visitors are encouraged to participate in the club on air nets as often as possible.

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 September 2022 web edition of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues are on the website as well. September's "Oxtales" features a progress report on the new VK2RCN site. 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.*

Hunter Radio Group

The October Monthly meeting was held last Thursday the 13th of October... and on the same date, 100 years ago, a meeting of 70 radio people took place in Hamilton, a suburb of Newcastle. That meeting established the Newcastle and District Radio Society; the forerunner of today's Hunter Radio Group.

The next meeting of the Group will be at 6pm on the 10th of November. The meeting is in the Telecommunication Lecture Room, School of Electronics, at Hunter TAFE Campus, Tighes Hill Newcastle.

*Rodney VK2CN
For the Hunter Radio Group*

Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The Clubrooms at Kariong are open every Saturday. Yesterday was the Club's "Portable and Picnic" day at Terrigal Haven, which was well attended.

At VK2RAG Somersby, the D-Star, RadNet DMR and 2m EchoLink services are fully functional; BrandMeister DMR and 70cm EchoLink and IRLP are still on the sick list.

The Somersby WebSDR is online at websdr.ccarc.org.au; its configured to listen on 6 metres, 2 metres, 70 centimetres and 23cm.

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

The Thursday night net is also video streamed live on the club's Facebook page and recordings can be found in the "Videos" section.

You can find out more about the CCARC, including information on upcoming social events and all the details we can't tell you about here; on the web page – at ccarc.org.au – by phone, 02 43402500 – or social media, search 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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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; select VK2RTS Sydney. 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 Amateur Radio Repeater Group will be hosting a fox hunt in the Macarthur area next Sunday the 23rd of October. There will be 4 foxes running 25kHz apart between 145.300MHz and 145.375MHz. The suburb where the foxes are located will be announced at 8:30am on the VK2RFG repeater, 438.650MHz with a 7MHz offset and a 91.5Hz tone. Check-ins will also be taken at this time. Anyone is welcome to join in the fun; check-in to let them know you're participating.

The next Meeting of the Club will be on Wednesday the 26th of October, in Block M at the Campbelltown School of Performing Arts, Beverley Rd. Campbelltown, commencing at 7:30pm. Visitors wishing to learn more about Amateur Radio are most welcome to attend.

The Club's weekly net on Thursday evenings starts at 7:30pm on the Club's repeater, VK2RFG, on 438.65MHz. Anyone is welcome to check-in. The repeater has a negative 7MHz input and a 91.5Hz CTCSS tone is required for access – its also available via EchoLink.

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

*Advised by Peter VK2PR
For the Fishers Ghost Amateur Radio Club.*

Manly-Warringah Radio Society

Yesterday, the Society hosted 65 Scouts and Guides at the clubhouse, taking part in this year's International Jamboree on the Air. Activities included building and operating a portable VHF station, operating on HF, playing "Battleships" on the air, Morse code, and a simple Code Breaking game. The kids all enjoyed the day, and hopefully some of them will return and take up Amateur Radio in the future.

This Wednesday is lecture night at the Society, and Nick VK2FS will speak about the Icom IC-705 portable HF/VHF/UHF radio. This rig has become very popular with low power and portable operators for all the capabilities it puts into a compact package. If you've been thinking about procuring one of these, come along this Wednesday evening to find out more about it.

Last month's lecture by Chi Xu [CHEE SHOO] of AppVision Australia, on Test and Measurement, will hopefully be up on YouTube soon. You'll be able to watch this and videos about other Amateur Radio related topics, on the club channel, VK2MB-TV.

The Manly-Warringah Radio Society meets every Wednesday evening at the First Terrey Hills Guides Hall, Beltana Avenue, Terrey Hills. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. If you need directions, call in on the society's 2 metre repeater on 146.875, or check the web site for details; the address is mwrs.org.au.

*73 Richard VK2SKY
MWRS Publicity Officer*

Waverley Amateur Radio Society

The next meeting is coming up at 7:30pm this Wednesday the 19th of October, in the ANZAC room of Rose Bay RSL Club, Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay. Many members partake of dinner in the club's bistro prior to the meeting from about 6 pm and all are welcome. They especially welcome any visitors from other clubs or out of town.

The society is planning a practical Surface-Mount soldering instruction day for the next Project Saturday, December the 3rd. If you haven't already registered you, please do so ASAP on the website, vk2bv.org.

Regular Monday evening nets are at 8pm on VK2RBV, 438.1125 MHz with a -5.4 MHz offset and 91.5Hz tone for access.

Wednesday lunchtime get togethers, are back on in the RSL bistro; they start at midday and there have been good rollups to them. The ANZAC room will soon have facilities available to facilitate some practical activities as well.

Other activities are continuing either in person and on Zoom. See the society's website for details.

You can keep up to date with the Waverley Amateur Radio Society on the web, at vk2bv.org. On the site you can also find out more about kits available, update your membership details, and use the contact form to get in touch for more information.

*73 from Eric VK2VE
Broadcast Publicity Officer*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

Last week, HADARC members plugged in their soldering irons and made up some 1:1 Baluns. It was impressive to see Walter VK2XWB's efforts were rewarded after testing his balun to 30Mhz and having an SWR of 1.2:1.

For the October monthly meeting on the 25th HADARC will blast off into space... with a special guest presentation, that is.

Alexander Ryan is CEO of VXB Aerospace and an experienced Aerospace Engineer. He is in the final stages of his PhD in Aerospace Engineering and Physics at the University of Sydney. Alex has designed propulsion systems, including the development of a small RF plasma thruster. His UHF engineering and simulation of plasma skills are cutting edge. Alex will be presenting where Australia stands in the ever-growing Aerospace Industry.

Don't miss this unique event where HADARC Members are invited to bring a guest or friends who have an interest in Science, Rockets and Radio!

You can also keep Radio-active on HADARC's weekly nets; Monday nights on VK2RNS, Wednesday night on 80 metres 3608.5kHz, and Morning Tea with HADARC every Friday on 40 metres, 7106kHz.

73 Matt VK2BAI, HADARC President.

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Activities on the air

Daily;

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

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

Mondays;

Westlakes ARC nets 9:30am 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, also available via EchoLink.

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

Tuesdays;

Blue Mountains ARC net from 8pm on 3543kHz.

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

Wednesdays;

Westlakes ARC net 9:30am on 7115kHz.

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.

Thursdays;

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.

Fridays;

Morning tea with HADARC at 9am on 7106kHz.

Westlakes at 9:30am on 7115kHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group at 8pm on VK2RCW.

Saturdays;

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.

Westlakes Stone the Crows net; 6am on 3588kHz.

Sundays;

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

Westlakes DMR Net from 8:30am on Talkgroup 8. 2 Metre nets throughout the week, see website for details.

WICEN NSW new statewide HF net a 6:30pm on 7110kHz +/- other traffic. Net control VK2WIZ.