

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. We also welcome reports on the outcome of recent activities.

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.

RadNet Update

With an update on ARNSW RadNet, here's Matt VK2FLY;

[Play File: 15-B-RNT-4.wav]

Duration: 1m05 s

In: Network growth has been...

Out:....the team at ARNSW RadNet.

Transcript;

Network growth has been stalled this year due to global supply chain problems the chip shortage and a slight repeater re-design by the vendor. But at long last we have stock of brand new DMR repeaters.

They have a Maximum output power of 50 Watts are totally computer controlled and will operate on AC or DC but best of all they are looking for new homes.

So if your club or Amateur radio organisation is in New South Wales and you have a repeater site that can host a node of the Amateur Radio NSW's radio network. Please get in touch via email on DMR@arnsw.org.au

The new stock also allows us to do some housekeeping and swap out the repeater at Maddens plans which has a problem with its data controller giving spotty receive. We hope to have the unit swapped out over the coming week and restore normal operation.

As always you can see the status of all the repeaters on the microsite at arnsw.net

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 28th of October to the 3rd of November;
This report issued on the 4th of November.

First, the summary;

Dates across the columns are	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
10cm Flux	129	134	131	128	128	130	125
Planetary A-Index (Ap)	16	24	9	9	6	0	16
Australian Index (Aaus)	12	16	7	7	6	7	24 estimated
T index	74	68	60	64	59	74	87

Solar flare activity remained at low to moderate levels, with no warnings issued. Geomagnetic activity reached G1 warning level on the 28th and 29th of October, and again on the 3rd on November, with quiet to unsettled conditions on other days. Magnetometer data showed a weak impulse of 13 nanoTesla, at 1345UTC on the 3rd.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia were mostly near predicted, with depressions of 20% during local day on the 30th of October; and 15% during local day on the 1st of November.

The forecast for the 4th to the 10th of November;

Solar activity should be generally low. Geomagnetic activity may reach G1 levels on the 4th and 5th due to coronal hole effects.

MUFs are expected to be near predicted monthly values. There is a chance of degraded conditions if geomagnetic activity is increased by coronal hole effects.

Data courtesy of the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre.

Solar Flux Index update

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

Having finished October, we had a;

Minimum of 105, Average of 134 and a Maximum of 163
With peak dates from the 1st to the 13th

So far for November, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 98, Average of 115 and a Maximum of 135
With peak dates from the 1st to the 11th

And looking ahead to December, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 98, Average of 109 and a Maximum of 118
With peak dates from the 1st to the 13th, and the 27th to the 31st.

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: 16-FOAR005.wav]

Duration 3m00s

In: "Foundations of Amateur Radio ..."

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

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; and the new state-wide 40m net, starting at 6:30pm on 7110kHz. Net control is VK2WIZ.

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

GHANA; Dave, AB0GC is active as 9G1SD from the Wenchi, Brong Region. Activity is on 17 to 6 metres using FT8 and FT4 at various times during the day.

KUWAIT; Members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society are active as 9K2F from Failaka Island, IOTA AS-118, until November 9. Activity is on 80 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, and FT8.

TONGA; Stan, LZ1GC and Ivan, LZ1PM are active as A35GC from Tongatapu, IOTA OC-049, until November 20. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8.

MOROCCO; Special event station CN47MS is active until November 10 to commemorate the 47th anniversary of the Green March. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB, and various digital modes, and includes activity on Satellite QO-100.

URUGUAY; Special event station CX100B is active until November 30 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Radio Paradizabal, which first began broadcasting on November 2, 1922.

THAILAND; Lars, SM6NT is active as HS0ZME from Hua Hin and is there until April 2, 2023. Activity is on 40 to 10 metres using mainly CW.

DJIBOUTI; Members of the Mediterraneo DX Club are active as J28MD until November 7. Activity is on the HF bands, with a focus on the low and WARC bands, using CW, SSB, and various digital modes.

ARGENTINA; members of the Radio Club ARM Belgrano will be active with special event stations LU4AAO, LU4AAO/A and LU4AAO/D until November 13 for Tradition Day, which celebrates the birthday of Jose Hernandez. Activity will be on the HF and V/UHF bands using CW, SSB, SSTV, and FT8. Activity will include being on the FM Satellites.

BRAZIL; Special event station ZW200ESQ is active until November 30 to celebrate the bicentennial of the Brazilian Navy. Activity is on 80 metres to 70 centimetres using CW, SSB, various digital modes, and on the FM Satellites.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA; A large group of operators are active as P29RO from Loloata Island, IOTA OC-240, until November 10. Activity is on all bands and modes.

GREECE; A group of operators are active as SX22HAF until November 30 to celebrate Hellenic Air Force Day. Activity is on all bands using CW, SSB, and various digital modes.

BANABA ISLAND; Members of the Rebel DX Group are active as T33T until November 15. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using FT8 in DXpedition mode.

PALAU; A group of operators are active as T88WA from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, until November 14. Activity is on 160 to 6 metres using CW, SSB, and FT8.

MALI; Jeff, TZ4AM is active from Bamako and is active on 40 to 6 metres using CW and SSB.

INDONESIA; Amir, YB9IPY/p is active from the Rajaampat Islands, IOTA OC-239, until November 8. Activity is on the HF bands using only FT8.

ST. HELENA; Christopher, HB9FIY will be active as ZD7CA until November 26. Activity will be in his spare time on 40 to 10 metres using SSB, PSK31, and RTTY.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL CW Sweepstakes Contest, QRP 80-Metre CW Fox Hunt, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, Gunung Jati DX SSB Contest, EANET Sprint and High Speed Club CW Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend.

The ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC CW Memorial, RSGB 80-Metre Autumn Data Series, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, ARS Spartan CW Sprint, ICWC Medium Speed Test, RTTYOPS Weeksprint, QRP 40-Metre CW Fox Hunt, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40 and Mini-Test 80 are on from November 7 to 9.

Club News

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

The Club's informal Coffee mornings are on the second Thursday of the month; the next is at 10am on the 10th of November, at Brooklyn's Burger bar at Thrumster.

The next Friday night get-together is coming up at 7pm on the 18th of November, in the SES building at Port Macquarie.

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

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Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The Club has been advised of the sad news that David, VK2NU has become Silent Key.

David was a member of the Central Coast and Westlakes clubs and was a great operator, avid Contester and SOTA advocate. David could often be found playing with DMR, D-Star or trekking through a WWFF Park activating mostly on CW.

Our thoughts are with Davids family and those close during this difficult time. Vale David, VK2NU.

All the tables in the clubhouse were covered with interesting gear brought in by members, ranging from homebrew power supplies, commercial PSUs, Bench Power supplies, and converted server power supplies up to 160 Amps. Col VK2ZCO gave a mini-lecture about converting an ATX computer PSU into a high current power supply.

The event was well-catered by a feast of chips and scallops provided by Glen VK2GEM and delicious custard tarts for everybody home-made by Karen VK2AKB. Yum and thanks.

The club's first "Christmas Ham" event is on the 10th of November; to find out more, visit the Club's website or social media.

At VK2RAG Somersby, the D-Star, RadNet DMR and 2m EchoLink services are fully functional; 23cm is temporarily down; and 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.

Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

The next meeting of the Society is coming up this Tuesday the 8th of November. The general meeting starts at 7:30pm, directly following the Society's Committee Meeting 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.

Tuesday night's meeting will include the Society's Annual Auction; its always a great night, with sellers having the opportunity to pass on a piece of unused equipment to a fellow Member, buyers have the chance to pick up a bargain, or if you're neither, it's just a fun night of entertainment with our own auctioneer, Simon VK2XQX. Sellers are advised that they can book their excess gear in from 6.30pm with the Auction starting at 7.30.

The Society has two weekly Nets. The Saturday morning net starts at 9:30am, run by Steve VK2BGL; join in via the 2 metre repeaters, VK2RMP on 6850 or VK2RUW on 6675, or from out of town via EchoLink, VK2BGL-R. 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, and the society is also on Facebook. The website again; iars.org.au.

To conclude, all listeners are invited to attend the next meeting of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, including the annual Auction, at 7.30pm this Tuesday the 8th of November, at the BlueScope Steel Visitor Centre in Wollongong.

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

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.*

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

This week saw HADARC Members participate in the CQ Worldwide DX contest.

Peter VK2PX, using his event callsign VL2W, took on the contest with enthusiasm. He worked Morocco, Alaska and Point Verde to name a few. Conditions on 20 metres, 15 metres and 10 metres were outstanding, and for those who listened or exchanged country numbers, it was a great way to engage in amateur radio.

Have you noticed conditions are improving? Perhaps it's time to get your antenna just a bit higher, or replace that somewhat patchy patch lead.

The mid-monthly meeting is coming up on Tuesday the 8th of November; it is the "Great November Recalibrate". There will be top of the line test gear to accurately check Voltage, Current and Resistance; so, bring your multimeters, wire or other leads and alligator clips and compare your gear to precision test gear, or perhaps find out how patchy, that patch lead really is...

HADARC welcomes Members and guests to attend all its meetings.

As we mentioned last week, there have been some updates to the Club website, thanks to the efforts of Stephen VK2KHA and Andrew VK2TAN. There are many new links to helpful resources including Antennas, Electronics and a "Just Interesting" section.

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