

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

VK2WI News would like to hear from clubs and groups planning Amateur Radio activities; just email the details and contact information, to news@arnsw.org.au. We also welcome reports on recent activities.

General enquires can be directed to the ARNSW office via email, to office@arnsw.org.au, or by leaving a phone message on 02 9444 0123.

Tonight, we also 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.

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 2nd to the 8th of June.

First, the summary of activity;

Dates across the columns are	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
10cm Flux	162	165	168	169	172	167	169
Fredericksburg A-Index	8	5	11	6	10	6	6
Australian A-Index	2	1	5	3	2	1	2 estimated
T index	94	89	91	92	91	77	81

Solar activity reached R1 level on the 2nd, with one M-class flare; and again on the 7th, with an M4.7 flare at 1146UTC.

Geomagnetic activity was at low to moderate levels, remaining below warning threshold.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia remained near predicted monthly values, with depressions of 20% observed during local night on the 7th.

The forecast, issued on the 9th of June, through until the 15th;

Solar activity is expected to be at R0 to R1 levels. Geomagnetic conditions should be quiet, with a chance of G1 periods on the 10th and 11th.

Maximum usable frequencies in the Southern Australian are expected to be near predicted monthly values, with depressions of up to 20% possible during local night hours.

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 May, we had a;

Minimum of 134, Average of 156, and a Maximum of 180
With peak dates from the 3rd to the 12th, and the 20th to the 25th.

So far for June, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 150, Average of 162, and a Maximum of 172
With peak dates from the 2nd to the 10th, and the 23rd to the 28th.

And looking ahead to July, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 135, Average of 155, and a Maximum of 170
With peak dates from the 1st to the 5th; and the 19th to the 25th.

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-FOAR043.wav]

Duration: 3m43s

In: "Today we're going to look at ..."

Out: "I'm Onno VK6FLAB"

For more information about this series, including audio, transcripts and other useful amateur radio resources, Onno's website is; vk6flab.com; you can follow him on Twitter, @VK6FLAB; and you can contact Onno by email, to cq@vk6flab.com.

[Play File: 16-E-ID2.wav]

[WICEN News]

And now with this week's WICEN News, here's Richard VK2SKY;

[Play File: 17-E-WNS0611.wav]

Duration: 2m04s

In: "Last Sunday ..."

Out: "... click on the map."

[Transcript]

Last Sunday, Compton VK2HRX was up north again - or still - providing communications support for Dementia Australia's Memory Walk and Jog events, this time on the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.

This coming weekend, WICEN will be in the scenic Blue Mountains for the Glow Worm Tunnel Marathon.

On 15-16 July, NSW State Emergency Services have their Bush Search and Rescue "NavShield" event, at a location several hours drive from Sydney. Six WICEN operators will be there for this bush navigation event.

To participate in any WICEN event, or just find out more about WICEN, you can email wicen.ops@vrarescue.org.

WICEN nets take place every Sunday evening at 6pm and 6.30pm, using FM voice, DMR, or HF voice, depending on the week. All WICEN members and other Amateurs are welcome to join in.

Next Sunday, the 6pm net will be on the Kurrajong 70cm FM repeater, 439.825MHz and a 91.5Hz tone, with net controller VK2WIB; and the 6.30pm net will be on HF, on or near 7110kHz LSB. Net controller VK2WIZ will announce the call-in sequence and other information.

WICEN NSW is a support squad of VRA Rescue NSW, specialising in tactical radio communications. In between activations, WICEN supports local community events: these provide practical training for members, and help raise the public profile of Amateur Radio.

To find out more, check out the WICEN NSW web site, at nsw.wicen.org.au, that's

N - S - W DOT W - I - C - E - N DOT O - R - G DOT A - U

WICEN is also on Facebook, and on Twitter @wicennsw [at WICEN N S W]; there, you can find photos and information about recent and upcoming WICEN activities.

For information about other WICEN groups around Australia, visit the web at wicen.org.au – and click on the map.

[WICEN NSW web site: <https://nsw.wicen.org.au/>]

[WICEN NSW facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WICENNSW>]

[WICEN NSW twitter at <https://twitter.com/wicennsw>]

Club News

We start this week from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club; and their annual field day concluded today. At Wauchope Showground, field day provided all the usual attractions over the weekend, including the ever-popular Field Day dinner at the Port Macquarie Golf Club on Saturday night. A full report will appear in next week's broadcast.

Coming up later in the week; the Club's Friday Night Get Together is at 7pm on the 16th of June, in the SES Building, Port Macquarie.

In previous years, the Club's Balun and Antenna Buildathon has been run simultaneously with the Buildathon at VK2WI Dural. But this year, due to the Club's field day, it will be next Sunday the 18th of June, at the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

Those interested in Foundation training weekends, or assessments for the Standard or Advanced licence, can contact the club via the website contact form, or by mail to PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444. A date will be set when sufficient candidates have registered their interest.

There are two club nets each week; the mid-week net from 7:30pm on Thursday nights, and the weekend net at 9am Sunday mornings. Both 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.

To find out more about the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, visit the website at orarc.org. The May 2023 issue of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues are on the website as well; and on Facebook, just search for Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.

*From Henry VK2ZHE
For the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.*

Illawarra Amateur Radio Society

The next meeting of the Society is this coming Tuesday the 13th of June. 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.

At Tuesday night's meeting, IARS Member Keith VK2KQB will be presenting and demonstrating the use of spectrum analysers, low-cost signal generators and oscilloscopes for the testing of filters and other radio items. He plans to show how to tune cavities, filters and even simple coaxial stub filters to demonstrate the success that can be found in using everyday low-cost equipment.

After Keith's presentation, there will be the usual fantastic supper to conclude the night, along with the opportunity to have a great chin wag with your old and new mates. And not forgetting the disposals table where an excellent bargain can be had for that item you didn't know you even needed.

The Society has three weekly Nets. The Saturday morning net starts at 9:30am, run by Steve VK2BGL. This Net often has check-ins from all over Australia and the world and is usually an open topic forum. You can join via the 2 metre repeaters, VK2RMP on 6850 or VK2RUW on 6675, or from out of town via EchoLink, VK2BGL-R.

The Thursday afternoon net starts at noon, run by Chris VK2CY. This Net is made up of many retired Marine Radio Operators and Radio Inspectors, but everyone is welcome. As you can imagine their topics of discussion can be far reaching, informative and enlightening. The Net is also on the 2 metre repeaters 6850 and 6675, while out-of-towners can check-in on Echolink via VK2MT-R.

The third weekly Net is on 80 metres on Tuesday evenings, except for meeting nights, at 8:30pm; this Net is a get together of Society members having a casual chin-wag. 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, 7.30pm this coming Tuesday the 13th of June, at the BlueScope Steel Visitor Centre, just south of Wollongong city.

Rob VK2MT

President of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society.

Westlakes Amateur Radio Club

The next car boot sale is on Saturday the 15th of July. Its at the Club grounds, 6a York Street Teralba, starting at 8am.

You can set up a stall at no charge; but bring your own table. There will also be a BBQ and hot and cold drinks available.

All are welcome.

Westlakes has several on air nets each week, details are a little later on in this bulletin.

*Advised by Barrie VK2QG
For the Westlakes Amateur Radio Club*

[ID 3 and CCARC News]

[Play File: 18-E-ID3-CCN0611.wav]

Duration: 2m36s

In: [IDENT 3]

Out: "...Central Coast Amateur Radio Club."

[Transcript]

In news from the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club...

Next weekend, June 17 and 18, a Foundation and education training weekend is taking place at the club rooms with training on the Saturday and exams on the Sunday. As such, the club has planned an "HF in the park" day starting at 10:00am on Saturday inside Mount Penang Gardens, Parklands Rd, Kariang. Bring your portable gear and let's see how much DX you can work on the day. There are more details on the club's Facebook page.

On the following Saturday, June 24, we have a double banger. In addition to putting some more work in on the club's tri-band beam we will be holding the regular Show and Tell with the theme "I made this, could you?". The club rooms will be open at 10:30am.

There are rumours of something brewing in the Central Coast area. It's not clear exactly what it is but we've been told to write down the 5th of May, 2024 in our diaries and keep an ear out for updates.

At the VK2RAG Somersby repeater site, the D-Star, Rad-Net DMR and 2m Echolink services are fully functional.

The club Web SDR at Somersby. websdr.ccarc.org.au is configured to listen on 6 metres, 2 metres, 70 centimetres and 23 centimetres.

The Morning Tea Net is run on weekdays at 10:00am and the Weekly net on Thursday at 8:00pm. Both nets are run on on the VK2RAG repeater – 146.725MHz with a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone, and on the CCARCNSW and HAM Echolink conferences.

The Thursday evening net is also live video-streamed on the club's facebook page.

You can find out more about the CCARC, our upcoming social events and other details that we can't tell you about here on the web at ccarc.org.au, by phone on 02 4340 2500, or on social media by searching for "Central Coast Amateur Radio Club". Remember to give the club a "like" to follow for any updates.

73, Alan VK2MG

Publicity Officer, Central Coast Amateur Radio Club.

Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club

A reminder about the Club's monthly meetings on the first Friday of the month. Meetings are at the Club Rooms, 4 Moore Street Glenbrook, in the Blue Mountains – doors open from 7pm for a 7:30pm start.

Visitors and prospective new members are most welcome.

There are several weekly nets – we have details in “Activities on the air” later in this bulletin – and the Club is trialling a DMR Net on Monday nights on Brandmeister channel 50520.

The Club has Foundation Classes bi-monthly, and Upgrade classes on Wednesday evenings, both online and at the Glenbrook clubrooms. Exams for other licence grades are also available on Foundation weekends.

Courses and exam days do fill-up quickly, so please contact the Club Secretary, Irene VK2VAN, via email secretary@bmarc.org to register, or for more information.

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

*Advised by Steven VK2TSG
President, Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club.*

St George Amateur Radio Society

Obtaining an amateur radio licence is easy with the Foundation entry-level accreditation. You don't need any prior technical qualifications, there is no morse code to learn, and there are no age limits.

The St George Amateur Radio Society conducts radio licence training courses and assessments, within the St George and Sutherland Shire. The next training and assessment weekend is scheduled for the 15th and 16th of July, at the Society's training venue in Sutherland.

Courses and assessments run in compliance with current public health restrictions and COVIDsafe guidelines.

A Foundation licence course takes a single weekend; including a review of the Foundation Licence Manual, practical training, followed by assessment in theory, regulations and practical. Candidates will need to have read and be familiar with the contents of Foundation Licence Manual, prior to attending the weekend course.

Standard and Advanced licence assessments are held on Sunday. Candidates will need to have undertaken self-study in theory and regulations prior to attending the assessment session.

Advance booking is necessary to meet the current lead time requirements of the government selected outsourced examination provider, AMC. Bookings close at COB Friday 30th June 2023. Late bookings cannot be accepted, as examination materials are provided specifically for each candidate.

For any further information please contact the education team via email; education@sgars.org.

And finally, another reminder about the VK2RDX 2 metre repeater; from early July, a 91.5Hz tone will be required to access the repeater.

Details about all of the Society's repeaters, along with the Society's other activities, are on the website, www.sgars.org.

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

Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club

Club president Chris VK2YMW, has thrown out a challenge for the June mid-monthly meeting; its “Bring an Interesting Valve Night”. The challenge is to dig deep in the garden shed, under your bed, or in that hidden corner of the shack, and find 1 or 2 valves that bring back memories or are just interesting.

At the mid monthly we will look at how the valves are designed, how they operate, and the coding used. There will also be a few manuals to help decode that mystery value you’ve held for years but are unsure what it does.

Did you know that in 1904, British engineer John Ambrose Fleming invented and patented the thermionic valve, the first vacuum tube. With this advance, the age of modern wireless electronics was born.

Please join the Club at the next mid-monthly experimenters meeting this Tuesday evening the 13th June, at the Hornsby Rifle Club.

73 for now and let’s keep radio-active,

Matt VK2BAI

For the Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club.

[Play File: 19-E-ID4.wav]

Activities on the air

Daily;

Manly-Warringah “early bird” net, 6:30am on or near 3690kHz LSB; if that’s too early, the “morning” net is from 8am on or near 7189kHz.

The **CCARC Morning Tea net** *weekdays* from 10am; VK2RAG, 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone, also on EchoLink.

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

Mondays;

Westlakes ARC net 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.

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 with 91.5Hz tone.
Activities online and on air; see website.

Tuesdays;

National VKDMR Net: from 7:30pm on Talkgroup 505.

Blue Mountains ARC net from 8pm, 3543kHz.

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

Wednesdays;

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

Hunter Radio Group net 7:30pm on 146.9MHz.

HADARC 8pm on 3608.5kHz

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

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

Thursdays;

Illawarra ARS net 12pm; VK2RMP 146.850 and VK2RUW on 146.675.

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

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

St George ARS 8pm, VK2RLE 146.8MHz.

The **CCARC weekly net** from 8pm on VK2RAG, 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone, and EchoLink.

Fridays;

Morning tea with HADARC 9am on 7106kHz.

Westlakes 9:30am on 7115kHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group at 8pm, VK2RCW.

Saturdays;

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

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

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

Sundays;

Westlakes DMR Net from 8:30am, usually on Talkgroup 3802; listen to Talkgroup 505 at 8:28am.

Oxley Region ARC from 9am, VK2RPM.

WICEN NSW nets; 6pm on Chatswood 2m or Kurrajong 70cm repeater; and 6:30pm on DMR or HF. Check website for details.