

[ID 1 and BC Team Message]

[Play File: 14-E-ID1-BT11.wav]

Duration: 1m53s

In: [IDENT 1]

Out: "...office, 02 9444 0123."

[Transcript]

I'm Mathew VK2YAP, President of ARNSW and a member of the VK2WI Broadcast team.

For the past few weeks, I've been asking for volunteers, to help run VK2WI News broadcasts from Dural. Several of our current volunteers have also added their own personal requests and reflections.

Some members have expressed an interest in participating, but they're unable to make it to Dural – including those members with reduced mobility, and those outside of the greater Sydney region. I want to thank those members for their interest, and we will be turning our attention to new ways you can participate, later in the new year.

But right now, our priority is to maintain our regular roster, and so far, it's coming up short. We really need a few more members – particularly those we regularly see at events here at Dural - to join us on the team.

Our last bulletin for 2023 will be the Morning of the 24th of December. We will resume our bulletins, in the Morning only, from the 14th of January 2024.

I would like to personally thank those members that have responded so far, especially those that have told us how the news broadcasts are useful to them.

VK2WI Dural is unique facility, built and owned by members of Amateur Radio New South Wales. We think this helps us provide a high-quality service with content based on the needs of our members and listeners.

But that's a two-way deal – we need the participation of our members and listeners, as well. So, contact us by email; news@arnsw.org.au or leave a message with the office, 02 9444 0123.

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.

Last Sunday 26th November, the ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group met at Dural. After the initial "show and tell" segment about etching printed circuit boards, there was a presentation by Mark VK2XOF about VNAs - Vector Network Analyzers. Mark explained the difference between a VNA and a SWR meter, pointing out the advantages and limitations of both. With VNAs now costing only a few hundred dollars or less, many amateurs are finding that they are a useful addition to their toolbox.

The next get together of the ARNSW Radio Experimenters Group will be on Sunday 28th January 2024, where the topic be "Laser cutting and 3D printing for Radio Experimenters".

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 again welcome listeners via 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 24th to the 30th of November.

First, the summary of activity;

Dates across the columns are	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th
10cm Flux	178	179	180	187	182	171	167
Fredericksburg A-Index	5	18	0	2	6	5	4
Australian A-Index	6	28	7	4	6	3	24 estimated
T index	95	118	114	132	88	56	100

Solar activity reached R1 on the 24th with one M-class flare, and R2 on the 28th with an M3.4 at 1932UTC and an M9.8 at 1950UTC. Activity remained below warning threshold on other days.

Geomagnetic activity in the Australian region reached G1 on the 25th, otherwise remained below warning threshold. A weak geomagnetic impulse of 23nanoTesla was observed at 0835UTC on the 25th, and a shock in solar wind was observed at 2333UTC on the 30th.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia remained mostly near predicted monthly values. The 24th saw enhancement of 15% during local night, the 25th was enhanced 20% during day and 30% at night. The 26th was depressed 30% during local day. The 27th was enhanced 15% during local night, the 28th was enhanced 20% during local day, and the 29th and 30th were enhanced 20% during local night.

The forecast, issued on the 1st of December, through until the 7th;

Solar activity is expected to be R0 to R1, with a chance of R2.

Geomagnetic activity may reach G3 on the 1st or 2nd due to multiple CMEs. G1 is expected from the 4th to the 5th, and quiet conditions are expected afterwards.

Maximum usable frequencies may be depressed 15 to 20% on the 2nd, and 15% on the 6th. Near predicted monthly values on other days.

Data courtesy of the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre.

Solar Flux Index update

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

Looking back to November, we had a;

Minimum of 118, Average of 152, and a Maximum of 194
With peak dates from the 2nd to the 6th, and the 21st to the 30th.

As we start December, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 140, Average of 152, and a Maximum of 167
With peak dates from the 1st to the 5th, and the 19th to the 31st.

And looking ahead to January, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 140, Average of 144, and a Maximum of 160
With peak dates from the 1st to the 2nd, and the 14th to the 15th.

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-FOAR065.wav]

Duration: 2m52s

In: "One of the..."

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; 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-WNS1203.wav]

Duration: 2m26s

In: "VRA Rescue New South Wales..."

Out: "... at wicen.org.au."

[Transcript]

VRA Rescue NSW activated WICEN last week for NAVEX, an advanced navigation exercise held at Turon State Forest, northeast of Bathurst. The WICEN team, comprising Compton VK2HRX, Andrew VK2HCR, and Mark VK2MOH, operated off-grid for three days, providing communications support for half a dozen other VRA squads, including NSW Cave Rescue. The team also used Winlink to send email back to Sydney, demonstrating WICEN's ability to bypass damaged or missing communications infrastructure.

Dementia Australia's "Memory Walk and Jog" events will be back, starting in February 2024. WICEN will be providing communications for these events all over New South Wales, the ACT, and beyond, so there will be opportunities for members outside of Sydney to participate. These are great "starter" events for new or rusty WICEN members, as they take only a couple of hours. WICEN also provides the radios for these events, so you don't even need to bring your own gear. Why not give one a go? You'll find a link to the events list in the text edition of this news.

To participate in any WICEN event, or just find out more about how you can use your Amateur Radio skills to benefit the community, you can email wicen.ops@vrarescue.org.

WICEN nets take place every Sunday evening, using FM voice, DMR, P25, 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 DMR Talk Group 3810, with net controller VK2WID.

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

WICEN is also on Facebook, and on X @wicennsw; 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.

[Memory Walk and Jog Events: <https://www.memorywalk.com.au/find-an-event>]

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

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

["National" WICEN on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/124735400158>]

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

Club News

We start this week with news from the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club. Members and visitors enjoyed the Club's Christmas party yesterday, Saturday the 2nd of December, in the covered picnic area at the Long Point Vineyard and Art Gallery at Lake Cathie. The 2024 edition of the Club's popular calendar was printed in time for distribution at the party.

The December Coffee Morning is at 10am on Thursday the 14th of December at Brooklyn's Burger Bar, Thrumster; and the December Friday Night Get is at 7pm on Friday the 15th in the SES Building in Central Road, Port Macquarie.

As there is no General Meeting in December, the next will be at 2pm on Saturday the 6th of January 2024, in the SES Building in Port Macquarie.

Last weekend was a successful Foundation Licence training and assessment weekend, with four candidates taking part. The next Foundation and assessment weekend will be early next year, once the new ACMA arrangements are finalised. Those interested can contact the club via mail to PO Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444, or using the contact form on the website.

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.

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

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

Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The club rooms at Kariong are open on Saturdays from 10:30am, and as always, members and visitors are most welcome.

Next Saturday the 9th of December is the Club's annual December Lunch.

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

The 23cm repeater is now linked with the 6m repeater.

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

The Club's Morning Tea Net is on break until the new year. Thanks to Bob VK2AOR for his contribution to the net; the club wishes him well over the break.

The weekly Net continues at 8pm on Thursday night on the VK2RAG 2 metre 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, including information on upcoming social events and all the details we can't tell you about here; on the web 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.

St George Amateur Radio Society

The next gathering of the Society is on Wednesday the 6th of December, 2023.

This won't be just a normal gathering, but includes both a Christmas BBQ and an Annual general meeting, as well.

Starting from about 6pm, is the Christmas BBQ in Donnelly Park. If you are interested in attend the BBQ, please check out the society's website www.sgars.org for details and to register your attendance.

After that, from about 7:30pm will be the normal monthly gathering and then the AGM where the new committee for 2024 will be elected and winners of the society's various contests announced. After the AGM, members and visitors are welcome to have a chat and partake in the Tea, Coffee, biscuits and cake.

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

*73 de Peter VK2EMU
For the St George Amateur Radio Society.*

[Play File: 18-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.

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, now on 146.975MHz.

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: starts at 8pm 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 146.975MHz and EchoLink node 1474.

HADARC 8pm on 3608.5kHz

[...continues]

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

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

Armidale District ARC net 8:30pm on 3633kHz.

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 8:00am, usually on Talkgroup 3802.

Oxley Region ARC from 9am, VK2RPM.

WICEN NSW nets; 6pm on Chatswood 2m or Kurrajong 70cm repeater, 6:30pm on DMR or HF, and 6:45pm on P25. Check website for details.