

## VK2 Notes April 2012

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Amateur Radio NSW will be holding its AGM on Saturday morning the 21 st April 2012 at the Centenary Building, 63 Quarry Road, Dural. Paperwork is being posted to members this year. There are no planned email postings. The guest speaker will be Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ who last year walked from east to west across Australia. Jeff did this as a fund raising operation for NETS. Previously, Jeff had walked from south to north across the centre of Australia.

Over Easter will be the annual Urunga Convention, which been continuous since 1949. Attendees will start gathering on Friday evening but the main days are Saturday the 7 th and Sunday the 8 th., The event is promoted as the longest running Fox Hunt field day in Australia. Indeed the weekend has continious Mobile and Pedestrain fox hunts. A dinner is scheduled for Saturday night at the Bowling Club, numbers are required. The base for activities is the regular venue of the Seniors Citizens Hall in Bowra St. Urunga. The old trophies from the early days are on display at the Ocean View Hotel. Ken VK2DGT is the contact at either [krgolden46@hotmail.com](mailto:krgolden46@hotmail.com) or telephone 02 6652 3177.

The Oxley Region ARC have their annual field day across two days of the June long weeknd. This year will again be at the Tacking Point Surf Lifesaving Club Hall on Saturday the 9 th and Sunday the 10 th June. This is a quiet location, ideal for fox hunting. The club had to move their planned assessments to this month. Too many activities on each weekend last month. Contact the Club via P. O. Box 712 Port Macquarie 2444 for inquiries and bookings for all license grades. There is a lot of interest in APRS within the Club, many members having acquired equipment. APRS equipment is to be installed at both their repeater sites, VK2RPM and VK2RCN.

NSW WICEN advise that their sister squad, the Bushwalkers Wilderness Rescue Squad will be offering their Comprehensive Remote Area First Aid Course on the first and third weekends in May. The web site for WICEN is [www.nsw.wicen.org.au](http://www.nsw.wicen.org.au) and has the calendar of upcoming events.

HADARC plan to be active in the International Marconi Day, 21 st April. The Central Coast ARC have test transmissions on their 70 cm ATV repeater VK2RTG Monday and Tuesday at 1930 hours. It is planned to convert the present analogue transmission to digital. Waverley ARS have a Foundation weekend planned for the 12 th and 13 th May. Inquire at [education@vk2bv.org](mailto:education@vk2bv.org) Fishers Ghost ARC held their AGM on the 29 th

February.

The upgrade class at ARNSW on Monday evening is underway, additional students welcome to join. The next Foundation Sunday will be the 20 th May. Assessments for all license grades will be held on Sunday the 27 th May during the morning of the bi-monthly Trash & Treasure.

### **2012 Central Coast Field Day.**

Fine weather hosted in the 2012 Central Coast ARC Field Day at the Wyong Racecourse on Sunday the 26 th February. Just after first light the flea market traders started setting up with the buyers hot on their heels. Perhaps in future years keeping the buyers out while the traders set up could be a benefit. This policy applies to the main traders floor while they set up and that area opens at 9 am. This year there were less traders, including some of the majors players in both locations. General attendance also appeared to be down a bit on recent years. Scanning the name tags did show a good collection of interstate visitors. A new paved car park this year was a welcome addition but the overflow cars still had to park in the grassed area. An attendance estimate was in excess of a thousand.

The WIA had a good display of books and services and was kept busy throughout the day. Exam assessors from ARNSW and Blue Mountains ARC conducted six exams with five successful candidates. Three technical lectures were conducted. The CCARC had arranged to have slots for clubs and groups to get together but no one took up the offer. Various groups set up and provided displays of their areas of interest.

Without a couple of major traders in attendance there were less real field day bargains. Jaycar was noted with a mountain of 'store returned goods' which was soon reduced to a pile of empty boxes = no doubt many attendees will have spent the past week assessing their purchases. By early afternoon the trading floor and most of the flea market was packed up and place almost deserted.

The Central Coast ARC, their members and helpers have to be thanked for putting on another successful annual event which is often billed as the largest Amateur field day in the Southern Hemisphere. It is now just under a year to the next Wyong field day.

Other smaller field activities in VK2 will be the Urunga Convention over Easter and the Oxley Region ARC at Port Macquarie over the June long weekend.

A view from Tim VK2ZTM. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM