

VK2 Notes October 2012

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These notes have to be compiled one or more months before you get to read them and the most regular material source is from the VK2WI broadcast notes. With these long lead times there can be changes of dates or activities. Sometimes the projected events will differ from what finally happened. What I consider important in these notes is that a lot of history can be recorded in the printed word in a magazine like *Amateur Radio*, rather than the seemingly more ephemeral web page. The article on Wally Hannam would not have been as easy if those stories / reports had not been preserved originally in the printed newspaper format.

The Fishers Ghost ARC have been recently celebrating their 30 th Birthday. They were honoured by the Mayor of Campbelltown who had a civic reception for members of the Club in recognition of the Club's achievements. FGARC will be operating in this months JOTA from two locations being the Cataract Scout Park for the Scouts and Kentlyn for the Girl Guides. FGARC will be holding a 30 th Birthday Dinner next month advises Lynn VK2FLMK.

To provide suitable publicity for JOTA operations would clubs and groups setting field stations please advise VK2WI News locations and times.

Blue Mountains ARC were forced to cancel Winterfest they had scheduled for the end of August. They will use the time till next August to plan an even bigger event advises publicity officer Erik VK2EJH. Their new club location in Moore Street, Glenbrook is still being established and fitted out.

VK2WI received a CD recording of their 40 metre AM transmission that Spanish SWL Luis EA3-5154 copied last February. Not a bad signal. It was nice to hear the signal from the other side of the world. A new transceiver has been placed in service on the 20 metre 14.170 Mhz broadcast channel and has made callbacks practical again. ARNSW will have the final T&T for the year on 25 th November. Some planning into 2013 has a Members Anniversary BBQ on Sunday the 10 th March. The AGM is set down for Saturday the 20 th April. ARNSW has added a disabled toilet unit to the site, adjacent the Centenary Building. This supplements the existing on site septic facility. Also recently commissioned has been a set of three fire hose reels with a pump connected to the rain water tank. The VK2WI is a bushland site with a good cover of trees.

VK2RWI has upgraded the 6 metre repeater on 53.850 Mhz. This should provide much improved coverage of Sydney, extending into the Central and South Coast.

WICEN NSW have a lot of activity this month including the ongoing search for missing aircraft VH-MDX on the weekend 20 th and 21 st. The following weekend the 27 th and 28 th is the annual Hawkesbury Canoe Classic. Last month they held their AGM. VK1 WICEN also has several events before the end of the year.

Strong winds across Sydney in August were a problem for the Waverley ARS and their club rooms in the Eastern suburb's location of Rose Bay. Two trees within the property came down, one of which made a mess of the roof top antenna system.

The Oxley Region ARC held their AGM in early August. Henry VK2ZHE continued as President and also found he had the position of Secretary. Bruce VK2HOT is Vice President and Keith VK2FKJA is Treasurer. Committee members Bill VK2ZCV, Arthur VK2ATM and Larry VK2CLL make up the team. Stuart VK2KSM has recently offered to assist with some of the secretarial duties. The Club station VK2BOR operated in both the RD Contest and the Lighthouse weekend.. The APRS unit installed at the VK2RCN site to the north west of Port Macquarie has been very successful in filling areas not covered by the APRS system at VK2RPM in the south.

The Hunter Radio Group contest members took part in the RD from the Luskintyre Airport which is also the Tiger Moth Museum. This is a regular contest site for the HRG with its on site accommodation and good antennas between tall pine trees.

The Illawarra ARS held their AGM in August. They are settling in well at the new meeting location at the Figtree RSL Bowling Club. A current project has been to install a repeater at Jervis Bay down the south coast. During the testing stage advises Ross VK2VVV it will be a stand alone repeater, but will eventually be conferenced into the Coast Link network.

The Snowy Mountains ARC while being a small group has developed an extensive repeater network in the south east corner of VK2 advised President Bill VK2ZZF. Their several 2 metre repeaters are also linked to a far south coast system. 73 - Tim VK2ZTM.