

VK2 Notes January/February 2013

Tim Mills VK2ZTM

vk2ztm@wia.org.au

From VK2 may we wish readers all the best for 2013. ARNSW wishes to advise that their AGM will be held at the VK2WI site on Saturday the 20 th April 2013. There is a call for nominations for the committee with the close at noon on Saturday the 9 th March 2013 at the ARNSW office in Dural.

There are some changes with ARNSW this year. The bi-monthly Foundation course has been changed to a weekend with the assessments on the Sunday afternoon. Also, assessments for all license grades will be held on the Sunday morning of the course weekend. Assessments will no longer be held during the bi-monthly Trash & Treasure. ARNSW will be conducting assessments at the Wyong field day on Sunday the 24 th February. The next Foundation weekend is 23 rd and 24 th March. In future pre registration for all courses and assessments is required and this may be done by an email to education@arnsw.org.au or a telephone call to 02 9651 1490 and leave a message with contact details. The annual upgrade course on a Monday evening will commence in March. We ask readers to pass these details on to anyone within range of VK2WI who would like to undertake courses or assessments. The bi-monthly Trash & Treasure is held on the last Sunday of the odd numbered month. The March event will be on the 31 st.

This month several clubs have their first meetings for the year. This includes the Hunter Radio Group on Friday the 8 th. HADARC on the 12 th and 26 th. Waverley ARS have a Foundation weekend scheduled on the 9 th and 10 th. St. George ARS on Wednesday the 6 th. The Central Coast annual field day at the Wyong Racecourse on Sunday the 24 th February.

The Illawarra ARS late last year moved meeting venue from the Figtree Bowling club as the Wednesday night cheap meal there attracted so many Bowling members that they lost their meeting space. The new venue is the Coniston Community Hall in Bridge Street, Coniston. The meeting also reverted to the former meeting date of the second Tuesday evening. The Oxley Region ARC produces an annual calendar with passport sized photos of members. With a growing membership the 2013 issue has 68 head and shoulders portraits. The Oxley Region club meets on the first Saturday afternoon and third Friday evening at the SES in Central Road Port Macquarie. Their annual field day is on the long weekend in June.

A new group has been formed in the Central West of VK2 and is based round Orange. It is the Amateur Radio Central West Group. P. O. Box 8542 Orange

2800. Email arcwg@hotmail.com.au Active in contests and training they have the callsigns VK2ACW and VK2RCW with WIA Affiliation. A net on Wednesday at 2000 hours on 3650 kHz. President Les VK2SON, Secretary John VK2EJM and Treasurer Ross VK2ER.

WICEN NSW in December commissioned a new repeater at Chatswood, replacing the former system that has been out of service for a few years. On the original channel of 147.150 Mhz with a +600 Khz offset. Requires a 91.5 Hz tone for access, also has a 91.5 Hz tone on the output. Power 40 watts. New callsign VK2RWC. There is a new 23 cm repeater now operational at the same site 1273.200 Mhz with 30 watts output. No tone on input but 91.5 Hz on the output. The site is shared with HADARC and they will commission a 70 cm system on 438.350 Mhz VK2RHT with a non standard offset of -5.4 Mhz. Stephen VK2BOS has been conducting tests with fldigi software on Monday evenings, 3550 kHz at 2000 hours. Consideration is being given to also using 40 metres.

The close of analog television along the VK2 east coast from Newcastle to the Qld border took off the beacon like service from Channel 5A in Newcastle. The only operational 2 metre beacon currently in VK2 is VK2RSY 144.420 Mhz at Dural. Perhaps a few new beacons developed round VK2 would help, Could be a good club project. How up to date are your club and repeater details in the annual WIA Callbook ? Have a look at the 2013 edition and advise any corrections to the WIA departments who look after the entries.

Ross VK2ER who conducts for ARNSW the VK2BWI morse session on 80 metres 3550 kHz on Thursdays at 2000 hours reports an up surge in interest and callbacks, many of which are in CW. For those unable to call in you can email vk2bwi@arnsw.org.au and these will reach Ross. Ross would like some help with the session and you can contact him in the callbacks or at the above email.

The Sydney based Hellenic Amateur Radio Association of Australia conducted a successful Dxpedition as ZL9HR to Campbell Island late last year advises Ed VK2JI their Publicity Officer. If you want to find more check the web site www.zl9hr.com

There were several inquiries for the AWA HF transmitter from VK2WI late last year. After a ballot it has found a new home in the country outside Queanbeyan. Tests were conducted early January with Digital Voice on 40 metres by Ed VK2JI using the VK2WI broadcast as a signal source. More details at freedv.org

ARNSW last year made available a name badge to the members and by years end about 50% had taken up the offer. The offer continues to be available and applications should be made to the Secretary at P. O. Box 6044, Dural Delivery Centre NSW 2158. Membership of ARNSW is available at \$10 per annum for either 2 or 5 years. You can download an application form from the ARNSW web site at www.arnsw.org.au 73 - Tim VK2ZTM.