

VK2 Notes April 2013

VK2 news

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ARNSW have their AGM on Saturday the 20 th April at the VK2WI Dural site. As these notes were being prepared sufficient candidates had nominated for an election to be held. The 2013 Monday evening upgrade class – for Standard and Advanced - commenced on the 4 th March with a large attendance.

The Oxley Region ARC commenced a Standard license class in early March with 8 candidates. Held on a Friday evening it is expected to run for 6 months. Plans are in hand to also conduct an Advanced class and if you know anyone interested in either course have them contact ORARC at P. O. Box 712 Port Macquarie NSW 2444. The ORARC annual field day in Port Macquarie is over the June long weekend.

Waverley ARS will have their annual auction on a Saturday during the July school holidays. The Fishers Ghost ARC held their AGM late in February. They are an active club, based in Campbelltown in the south west of Sydney, who have been noted using the announcement slots on their local community radio MCR 100.3 with club contact details. These community announcements are free and a good way to get the club noticed. With over 300 community radio stations around the country why not see if they have similar arrangements available in your region.

The St. George ARS held their AGM in February with Cameron VK2CKP elected President with Paul VK2GX as Vice President. Greg VK2GSB is Secretary, Phil VK2OX Treasurer and Peter VK2EMU is Publicity Officer. St. George is located in Southern Sydney and meet on the first Wednesday evening at the scout hall in Donnelly Park, Kyle Parade, Connells Point.

The annual Lighthouse and Lightship weekend in August has Australia as one the leading countries in the number of sites activated. In a recent item from Jim VK3PC he listed the VK registrations for this year by call areas. There was no mention of VK2 so lets hope you are just late in advising. With many locations popular you had better book yours now. For those who use IRC's in posting their DX cards should note that the current Nairobi model expires at the end of this year. It is being replaced from 1 July by the Doha model which will be valid until the end of 2017. While on the subject of QSL cards a reminder that the VK operations are provided as a member service by the WIA with some of the facilities by Westlakes ARC.

The annual Central Coast ARC Field Day was held at the end of February at the usual venue, the Wyong Racecourse. It was a fine Sunday after several days of wild weather along much of the VK2 coast. Rain had been expected and this had an effect on attendance with less than usual on the trader floor and exhibitors in the flea market. ARNSW conducted several assessments during the morning.

This year the CCARC held the Mini Contest University gathering on the Saturday with a couple of dozen in attendance.

The Illawarra ARS have settled in to their new meeting venue at the Coniston Community Hall in Bridge St. Coniston. It is next door to the Bridge Theatre and the Coniston Railway Station. They have also reverted back to meeting on the second Tuesday. An invitation to attend the monthly meeting is extended to all by President Rob VK2MT.

Last months story about a Japanese DX operation on Lord Howe Island has been reported in a 4 page spread in the March issue of the Japanese CQ ham radio magazine. They operated from 160 to 6 metres making 2,229 contacts on mainly CW [1,504]; and SSB [467] RTTY [230] PSK31 [28]; 70% [1,558] of the contacts were into JA.

The Home Brew Group of ARNSW conduct a monthly net on the third Tuesday evening, first on 2 metre repeater 7000 and then on HF. They have been trying 40 metres on a frequency of 7159 kHz which can be obtained from a standard crystal. Also available by doubling an American colour burst crystal of 3579.5 kHz or dividing 14.318 Mhz oscillator blocks that are often found on old computer boards. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.