

VK2 Notes March 2014

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ARNSW will be holding their AGM at 10 am on Saturday the 3 rd May 2014 at the VK2WI Dural site. At each AGM an election for committee positions is conducted. Nominations are now being called, in writing, on a form available from the ARNSW web site www.arnsw.org.au or at the office. The proposer and seconder need to be personally known to the candidate. Nominations are to be mailed to or delivered to the VK2WI Dural office – 63 Quarry Road, Dural by 12 noon on the 22 nd March 2014. Advised by Tim Mills VK2ZTM Secretary ARNSW.

In this month of March the upgrade course is being conducted by ARNSW at the VK2WI Dural site, commencing on Monday the 3 rd March and will run until November each Monday evening, except public holidays. Times 7 to 9 pm.. On the weekend of 22 nd and 23 rd there will be a Foundation course with assessments for all license grades on Sunday the 23 rd. All candidates education need to book by an email to education@arnsw.org.au At the end of the month on Sunday the 30 th will be the bi-monthly Trash and Treasure event followed by the Experimenters and Home Brew Group.. Also this month there will be a field day at VK2WI on Sunday the 9 th as an antenna construction day for Foundation holders, details are being given via the VK2WI Sunday broadcasts ARNSW has a presence on Twitter. twitter.com/arnsw The ARNSW library will be open during the Monday evening upgrade class and details are given on the weekly Sunday VK2WI broadcasts.

ARNSW recently announced the introduction of a Development Fund to provide assistance to radio clubs currently established within the VK2 region. The scheme commenced last month [February 2014] and submissions close on Friday the 11 th April 2014. To apply for information, guidelines and application form either write to ARNSW, P. O. Box 6044, Dural Delivery Centre NSW 2158 or email office@arnsw.org.au

The balloon launched by the Tamworth Radio Club in late December which lost contact with control during its ascent was found and returned to the group. John VK2YGV said it had a rough ride as the camera pictures showed that the payload was above the balloon at times.

Next month over Easter will be the annual Urunga Convention held in the Seniors Citizens hall in Bowra St Urunga over the Saturday and Sunday. Ken VK2DGT is the usual contact point.

The Illawarra ARS is cutting back on some of their south coast repeater sites and making improvements at the remaining ones advised Rob VK2MT during a recent visit to the VK2WI site. Rob said the high charges for crown land site access were some of the decisions the club had to make in the changes.

Next month [April] Westlakes ARC will celebrate their 50 th birthday and will include special callsign V12ATZ50 for April. Westlakes has introduced a 40 metre net on Monday, Wednesday and Friday on 7.150 MHz at 0930. They will be displaying at the Newcastle Show on Feb 28 and March 1 and 2, stand 41; On Sunday the 6 th April a lunch at the Cardiff RSL Club, Macquarie Rd, Cardiff with a 12 noon start. Bookings to Greg VK2CW vk2cw@bigpond.com

With old newspapers available on line, seeking history is much easier these days. Richard VK2SKY keeps looking for a starting date of the Manly Warringah RS and he now found a reference to the Manly Radio Club in early May 1923. From the paper of the 12 th May 1923 there was a column about other Sydney based radio clubs which included the Metropolitan who met at the Laurel Cafe in the Royal Arcade in the city; Wentworth, Drummoyne and Manly, no other details; Leichhardt and District RS who met in Johnston St, Annadale. Bondi RC who had been in Birrell St, Bondi, were looking for a more convenient location. Western Suburbs met on Wednesdays in Auburn. Just to confuse the issue there was an Australian group – Australian Radio Relay League – with the initials ARRL. May 1923 was also when the first Amateur contacts were made across the Pacific with America. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.