

## VK2 Notes January / February 2015

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Hello 2015. This is the big month in Eastern Australia or perhaps the whole of Australia with the annual Central Coast Field day at the Wyong race course on Sunday the 22 nd February. On average, 10% of Australia's Amateurs attend. The CCARC will have a one day Foundation course on Saturday the 21 st and all grades assessments on the Sunday during the field day. For details go to [www.fieldday.org.au](http://www.fieldday.org.au) WICEN NSW will have a stand at the field day.

In March ARNSW will commence their upgrade course at the VK2WI site on Monday evening the 2nd. which, except for public holidays, continues until mid November. Late last year all financial members of ARNSW were sent a 2015 magnetic calendar. A few remain, available on application to the office. With the ARNSW AGM scheduled for the 2 nd May 2015, committee nominations will close on Saturday the 21 st March. The next Foundation and assessment weekend at ARNSW is on the 21 st and 22 nd March. The January weekend booked out early and it is likely that March will also have heavy bookings. Inquiries to [education@arnsw.org.au](mailto:education@arnsw.org.au) The March Trash & Treasure at VK2WI will be on Sunday the 29 th. Major items on offer are placed on the ARNSW web site with inquiries only available by email. The ARNSW library team last year catalogued the magazine collection. This month they start on the books with a working bee on Monday afternoon and evening. Anyone wishing to assist should contact the Team by email [office@arnsw.org.au](mailto:office@arnsw.org.au) The VK2BWI operator provided CW training on 3550 kHz resumes on Thursday the 5 th February advises co-ordinator Ross VK2ER. Ross has been finding a reduced interest in the session and thinks it might be its final year in the present format.

In 2014 ARNSW introduced a Development Fund to assist clubs and groups with small projects. Four clubs took up the offer. It will be on again this year for applications received during the months of February and March from VK2 clubs and groups who are either an incorporated body, registered company or association. An application form and guidelines will be downloadable from a link on the ARNSW home page at [www.arnsw.org.au](http://www.arnsw.org.au)

February is also the month when many clubs commence their meetings for the year like HADARC, Hunter Radio Group with VK2AWX News and St. George. Mid South Coast ARC have their first quarterly meeting on Saturday the 14 th. Waverley ARS has a Foundation and assessment weekend on the 14 th & 15 th. Inquiries to [education@vk2bv.org](mailto:education@vk2bv.org) .

Before we know it - the Oxley Region ARC 40 th field day will be on over the June long weekend. With renovations planned for the regular surf club venue, the event this year will be at the Hastings Public School Hall in Waniora Parkway, Port Macquarie. The two day event across the 6 th and 7 th June will follow the usual format with the Field Day Dinner at the Port Macquarie Golf Club on the Saturday evening. Port is a busy place and early accomodation bookings are highly recommended. Oxley Region ARC has put out an annual 2015 photographic calendar of all club members in addition to one of the years events which is to be found on their web site. There is a Fox Hunt / Antenna Shootout scheduled for Sunday the 15 th February.

Waverley ARS had a D-star repeater under test at the Rose Bay club rooms. Late last year it was relocated to a building in the Sydney CBD at 270 metres above sea level giving it a view of the entire Sydney basin and beyond. It is operating under the call of VK2RBV in the D-star mode on 438.775 MHz with a -5MHz offset. Waverley ARS has a events calendar for 2015 on its web site [www.vk2bv.org](http://www.vk2bv.org) Waverley ARS holds a "Shack Night" on the first Wednesday evening of each month for members to gain experience in using their own or the club's modern radio equipment on air as well as getting "hands on" experience in other fields such as repair or construction of equipment.

HADARC has a 70 cm repeater operating from an elevated location at Chatswood on the North Shore. VK2RHT - in either FM or APCO P25 with the transmitter on 438.350 MHz with a 5.4 MHz negative offset and a 91.5 Hz tone. For P25, the N A C is 2 9 3. There is also a 23 cm repeater at the same site -VK2RWC 1273.200 MHz.

In November 2014 Dick Smith VK2DIK was a guest at the Manly Warringah RS monthly meeting. Dick's talk was recorded and can be viewed at [www.eevblog.com/2014/11/21/dick-smith-amateur-radio-and-adventure/](http://www.eevblog.com/2014/11/21/dick-smith-amateur-radio-and-adventure/) Manly Warringah meet every Wednesday evening at the 1 st Terrey Hills Guides Hall, Beltana Avenue, Terrey Hills. Repeater on 146.875 MHz. [www.mwrs.org.au](http://www.mwrs.org.au)

Summerland ARC in the north east corner of VK2 has an Advanced course planned for early February with a WICEN NR meeting and training day on Sunday the 8th. SARC subscriptions became due on the 1 st January. SARC is on Facebook and Twitter. <http://sarc.org.au/> The re-established Armidale District ARC is now a little of a year old and has made big advances in that time. They have access to a well equipped club room and shack. Set up repeaters on 146.725 and 438.650 with echolink VK2RAD-R with node 872907 They have regular weekly get to gether including the sausage roll morning tea on Saturday. [www.adarc.keylink.com.au](http://www.adarc.keylink.com.au)

WICEN NSW was involved in a two week search in the western Blue Mountains in late 2014. They were able to demonstrate their flexibility in field operation. They were also placed on standby but not activated for the siege in Martin Place. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.