



All Access

A newsletter for members and friends of ARNSW, facilitating access to all areas of Amateur Radio.

Issue 25-04 - July 2025

Editor: Eric VK2VE

Editorial

Welcome to the fourth issue of All Access for 2025.

In this issue we have a copy of the new ARNSW Code of Conduct which was ratified at a recent board meeting.

We also have another article from Colin VK2JCC on the HMAS Vampire radio room and one from WICEN as well as several other items.

To correspond with us, you can just email editor@arnsw.org.au or write to The Editor, ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, NSW, 2158.

Eric - VK2VE – Editor

A note from the President – Code of Conduct

Purpose

This Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behaviour expected of all members and visitors participating in any ARNSW-sanctioned activities or events, including on-air activities communications.

By adhering to these guidelines, we collectively uphold the values and reputation of Amateur Radio New South Wales. Our goal is to foster a safe, and welcoming environment that benefits our members, the broader amateur radio community, and the public.

Principles

Standards of Integrity

Honesty and fairness: Conduct yourself ethically, avoiding deception or misrepresentation in communications, record-keeping, or use of ARNSW resources.

Accountability: Take responsibility for your actions and any consequences that may arise from breaches of this Code of Conduct.

Legal obligations: Abide by all relevant local, state, and federal laws, including those set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) for amateur radio operations.

Operational standards: Maintain good operating practice, adhering to permitted frequencies, power limits, and all other technical requirements.

Expectations of Behaviour

Respect and courtesy: Treat all members, visitors, and members of the public with respect, dignity, and courtesy. Harassment, discrimination, or bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.

Collaboration and support: Promote a supportive atmosphere by sharing knowledge, offering

assistance, and encouraging fellow amateurs to develop their skills.

Safety and consideration: Prioritise the well-being and safety of yourself, other members, and the public at all times. Comply with relevant laws, regulations, and safety protocols.

On-air conduct: Demonstrate courtesy, respect, and professionalism when communicating on the air, in keeping with the spirit of amateur radio and ARNSW values.

Recognition of Leadership

Follow instructions: When on site or participating in any ARNSW event, members and visitors are required to follow the directions given by the ARNSW Board or designated representatives

Awareness of Procedures: Comply with decisions, policies, and procedures established by ARNSW's leadership to ensure the safety and smooth running of all activities.

Protection of Property and Equipment

Responsible use: Ensure that ARNSW property, including equipment and facilities, is used responsibly and maintained in good condition.

Reporting incidents: Accidents, sickness, or damage to property must be reported immediately to a Board member or an authorised delegate.

Reporting damage or issues: Promptly inform the appropriate ARNSW official if you observe damage to facilities or malfunctioning equipment.

Representation of ARNSW

Permission required: The ARNSW name, logo, callsign(s), images, and any other identifying marks are the property of ARNSW. Members and visitors must obtain explicit permission from the ARNSW Board before using them in any context, including publicity, print materials, QSL cards, social media, or merchandise.

Proper representation: Always represent ARNSW and the amateur radio community accurately and responsibly. Refrain from making statements on behalf of ARNSW without prior authorisation.

Authority and compliance

This Code is enacted in accordance with Clauses 70-71 of the ARNSW Constitution. Where a conflict exists between the provisions of the ARNSW Constitution and this Code, the Constitution shall prevail.

Reporting breaches: Suspected violations of this Code of Conduct should be reported to a member of the ARNSW Board or a delegated representative. The ARNSW Board, under its authority provided in Clauses 30,70,71 of the Constitution, will investigate alleged breaches.

If a member is found to be in breach, the Board may apply disciplinary measures, including suspension or expulsion, in accordance with Clauses 30–33 of the Constitution. Members have the right to appeal certain decisions as outlined in Clauses 32, 38, and 39 of the Constitution.

Ongoing review: This Code of Conduct may be reviewed and updated as needed to reflect the evolving needs of ARNSW and changes in relevant regulations.

Member awareness: Any updates will be communicated to the membership, and continued participation in ARNSW activities implies acceptance of the revised Code of Conduct.

Mathew – VK2YAP – President

Member Meetup & Disposals

Next Sunday, July 27th, is the next Member Meetup and disposals day (Trash and Treasure) in the morning and the ARNSW Experimenters' Group meeting from midday. Members will also be able to sell their own items on the day so bring along any items you'd like to sell and browse the items available for sale.

It starts at 9:00 am for buyers, with sellers allowed access from 8:30 am to set up their stalls. Buyers will be allowed in, to park to the north of the VK2WI building but only sellers will be allowed into the sales

area to set up prior to 9am. When parking, please have consideration for other members and park in a way that others can get access and as many cars as possible can be accommodated. Also, please leave access to behind the Vertel compound so that vehicles can get around there if necessary.

The Experimenters' Group meeting will commence at midday.

Below are some items which will be for sale in the disposals room. Credit\Debit card facilities will be available.

All the following equipment has been tested and is in good working condition unless otherwise noted.

Transmitting and RF amplifiers sold to licenced amateurs only.

Transceivers.

Yaesu FTdx10 (HF/50Mhz all mode) in very good condition with power cable, microphone and user manual. Price \$1400.00

Yaseu FT-950 (HF/50Mhz all mode) in very good condition with power cable, microphone and user manual. Price \$1150.00 Collect only.

TYT UVF1 hand held 2m/70cm FM transceiver with drop in charger base and user manual. Price \$75.00

Yaseu VX-170 with new battery. \$150.00

FT7900 Dual band FM 2m/70cm Price \$175.00

FT1900R/E 2m FM Price \$100.00

Antennas

Diamond A430S15 70cm Yagi in original Diamond plastic sleeve seem to be unused. Price \$125.00

Nagoya NL-770S dual band whip Price \$30.00

Accessories.

LDG Z-11 Pro. Low power automatic antenna tuner. With cable for connection to a FT-817 Price \$250.00

Wawasee JB-2000SW Power and SWR Meter. 3 ranges 20/200/2000W SO239 connectors. Price \$75.00

Kenwood SM220 station monitor. No panoramic adapter module. Multifunction monitor oscilloscope and two-tone audio signal generator designed for use with the TS-520 and TS-820 transceivers. Nice bright trace and will work with other transceivers to monitor the transmitted RF waveform Price \$150.00

DMU 2000 data management unit for the FT-2000 Price \$250.00

MTU 80/40 automatic RF preselector for the 40m and 80m band Suits the FT-2000 with interconnect cables. Price \$200.00

MTU 30/20 automatic RF preselector for the 20m and 30m band Suits the FT-2000 with interconnect cables. Price \$200.00

MTU 30/20 automatic RF preselector for the 20m and 30m band Suits the FT-2000 with interconnect cables. Price \$200.00

FC-40 automatic antenna tuner for the FT-897 Price \$300.00

Power Supplies.

Codan 7113 13.5V 20A power supply. Price \$75.00 Collect only.

Dick Smith D3800 13.8V 25A Linear power supply in good condition Price \$95.00

Dick Smith Q1753 13.8V 23A switching supply Price \$75.00

Fold up solar panel with charge controller 20W. Price \$55.00

Fold up solar panel with charge controller 120W. Price \$145.00 Collect only.

0-30V 2.5A Dick Smith Electronics power supply Price \$50.00

CD24 and PA26 charger and AC power supply for the FT-897 FNB-78 battery pack. Supplied with 3 battery packs Charger is working but battery pack are unknown assumed to be in poor condition Replacement battery packs are around \$70 on Ebay. Price \$50.00

Manson SPA-8330 13.8V 33A switching power supply Price \$200.00

Manson SPA-8330 13.8V 33A switching power supply Price \$200.00

Manson SPA-8330 13.8V 33A switching power supply Price \$200.00

Power Amplifiers.

Dentron GLA1000 500W Tube amplifier. Sold as is for a project parts or repair to an experienced linear builder Price \$100.00 Collect only.

Test Equipment

VK5JST HF/VHF antenna analyser 1.8-170MHz Price \$75.00

Digitech QT-2202 2.7GHz frequency counter Price \$100.00

Rigol DG1022V digital function generator 0-25MHz at 100M samples per second. New in box.

Unopened when collected Over \$900 new. Price \$250.00

Atten ADS1202CAL 200MHz 2 channel digital oscilloscope with probes This is a rebadged Sigilent SDS-1202 CNL as the PCB is marked Siglent. Price \$250.00

ATTEN ADS1202CAL 200MHz 2 channel digital oscilloscope with probes. This is a rebadged Sigilent SDS-1202 CNL as the PCB is marked Siglent. Price \$250.00

Fluke 801-800. 0.1 to 800A AC clamp on current transformer. Intended for low frequency measurements. Price \$25.00

Logimetrics 921A 50KHz to 80MHz with step and fine output attenuator. Digital frequency readout Price \$50.00 Collect only.

Farnell synthesised signal generator DSG2. Price \$50.00

0.001Hz to 110KHz balanced and unbalanced outputs with output level meter. Price \$50.00.

XU1 heat gun suitable for heat shrink Price \$25.00

Mark—VK2XOF—Disposals

Experimenters' group meeting.

At the July get together, Peter VK2EMU will present on RECEIVERS. Everything from the antenna input to the speaker output.

This will be a good introduction for new amateurs and good refresher for the older amateurs. All receivers have many building blocks in common, from the simple homemade receivers that amateurs can build themselves to the military grade receivers costing about as much as a new car.

Peter will show examples of different receivers, both physically and with diagrams. He will even show some simple homebrew receivers capable of receiving the Sunday broadcast from Dural and will present a challenge to those present.

All amateurs are invited to attend and bring along a piece of show and tell. This can be something that they have made, modified, repaired or just find interesting.

Starting time is 12 noon after the trash and treasure and members meetup.

Peter - VK2EMU – Experimenters' Group

ALARA 50th Birthday Net

On Saturday 26th July 2025 ALARA (Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary. For those not able to attend the function, there will be an opportunity to celebrate the event by joining in the Birthday net at 0000 UTC (10am local time) on Saturday 26th July on the Echolink ALARA conference station. Please join in and say hello. 73

Norma - VK2YL – ALARA

WICEN New South Wales

WICEN NSW is a volunteer communications organisation providing high quality communication services to both emergency services and community organisations. It is made up of trained and licensed radio operators.

Originally organised by the Wireless Institute of Australia as independent, state based, civil defence organisations involving amateur radio operators. It then became the Civil Defence Emergency Network (CDEN) in 1950 and finally in 1955 as WICEN (Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network). In 1977 WICEN became affiliated with Volunteer Rescue Association NSW and incorporated in 1985 as WICEN (NSW).

WICEN NSW is now a communication support squad of VRA Rescue NSW which is a leading volunteer-based organisation dedicated to providing emergency rescue services throughout New South Wales.

WICEN NSW is able to;

- Provide temporary communications in times of emergency when the public communications infrastructure degrade or fail,
- Support emergency service organisation's training events with communications,
- Support community organisations who are operating fund-raising style events, particularly in remote and difficult terrain.
- Deploy a range of communications system to cover many eventualities. These include VHF and UHF repeaters (both amateur and commercial) and HF long distance communications all utilising voice and data.

WICEN has been involved in many emergency service activations over the years including;

- Barrington Tops VH-MDX LANDSAR, 1981 and through to 2019
- Newcastle earthquake, 1989
- Central Coast bushfires, 1994
- Sydney hailstorm, 1999
- Kanangra-Boyd National Park, LANDSAR, 2014
- Blue Mountains National Park, LANDSAR, 2016
- Narooma, LANDSAR, 2016
- Lower Portland, LANDSAR, 2016
- NSW state wide bushfires, 2019-20, providing temporary communications on the New South Wales south coast, operators for RFS Fire control Centres across the state and the Bushfire Information Line at RFS Headquarters.



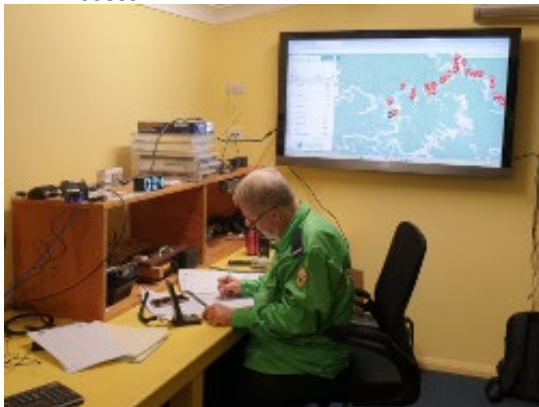
Cave Rescue

Bungonia in October 2023 saw a multi agency training exercise involving a cave rescue and land search. The agencies who participated were VRA WICEN, NSW Police Rescue Squad, NSW Ambulance, VRA Cave Rescue, VRA Ski Patrol and VRA Wollongong. WICEN provided the communications for the land search as well as the command centre vehicle.

WICEN NSW provides communication services for many community events, including the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic, Glow Worm Tunnel trail running marathon, Memory Walks, True Grit obstacle challenge.



WICEN Command Vehicle



Net Control Dural

The Hawkesbury Canoe Classic is an annual marathon canoe race taking place on the Hawkesbury River in northwest Sydney at the end of October. The Hawkesbury Canoe Classic is a 111 km paddle downstream starting in Windsor and finishing in Brooklyn.

WICEN NSW, along with Marine Rescue NSW and the NSW SES, provide an extensive communications network to ensure the safety of the paddlers at all times. The operation involves communicating key pieces of information on the status of canoes in the event between event controllers and checkpoints, and between one checkpoint and another.

WICEN NSW provides personnel to twelve check points along the river as well as the Closedown vessel that follows the last canoe down the river and a control location which maintains overall control of the network.

The communications network is made up of a combination of voice and data radio data systems to provide the vital safety network for the event.

WICEN provides support to Dementia Australia for the Memory Walk & Jogs which are held in several states. WICEN in states other than NSW either use their own equipment or WICEN NSW provides equipment. In New South Wales WICEN provided personnel to setup and distribute equipment for the event organisers.

WICEN NSW also has access to some of the new communications technology that is being used by the emergency service agencies. These include radios for the government Public Safety Network and Vehicle As A Node technology.

Neil – VK2XNF - WICEN



Checkpoint India

Board Member Bio – Mark Blackmore

Age 70.

Employment.

52 years in the electronics industry. Retired 2023.

Started at AWA North Ryde as a trainee in 1971 and resigned in 1982 as an engineering officer. This was a position one step up from senior technician.

Moved to the IT industry where I was able to work in the USA and UK in both product manufacture and customer support.

Moved to the gaming industry for a couple of years and worked in the USA for an Australian based company. It turned out it was being run more as a tax write-off than a serious “for profit” business. This did not look to be a very promising future so moved back to Australia to work in IT again for another 11 years with Scitec, designers and manufacturers of networking equipment.

When my employer was sold, I resigned after finding a new job in medical electronics. I spent 23 years with Cochlear in an engineering position and retired in 2023 due to medical reasons.

Amateur radio.

My interest in communications was sparked while at AWA working on 2 way and military radios. In 1989 I obtained a limited amateur radio license. As my interest is mainly technical being restricted to VHF and above was not a problem. Of course, in time even this restriction was lifted when all existing amateurs obtained access to the HF bands.



I joined the then WIA NSW division (now ARNSW) in the late 90s and took over the engineering at the Dural station shortly after. Over time I have upgraded all the beacons, broadcast console and some of the broadcast transmitters with some help from other members. In 2014 I was made a life member of ARNSW.

While ARNSW was still located at Wigram St Parramatta I was asked to organize and run the Trash and Treasure (T&T) sales. This I have been doing ever since. Street parking was becoming difficult at Wigram St and with limited onsite parking running the T&T was becoming impracticable. Despite the opinion at the time that using the Dural site would not work due to the lack of public transport the board of ARNSW were persuaded to run a T&T at Dural. This was partly due to having a 40-foot container of equipment for sale on site.

Even though the day was cold and wet there were more in attendance than had ever been at Wigram St! This persuaded the board to move the T&T to Dural as this obviously solved the parking and storage problems (we kept the 40-foot container for a while). Despite offering transport from Pennant Hills station to Dural and return there was never more than one or two using the service. Thus, the lack of transport issue was proven to be no issue in fact.

I joined the board of the WIA NSW division and supported the establishment of The WIA National and Amateur Radio NSW. This protected the assets of the NSW division from being absorbed by the new national organization. Despite their best efforts to do so ARNSW retained the cash and real estate that NSW members had built up over the 100+ years of the NSW organizations existence. I remain a board member today and have been involved in most of the improvements at Dural.

Mark VK2XOF.

Hamshack Hotline Closing Down.



Hamshack Hotline Public Announcement - A Fond Farewell

To our valued Hamshack Hotline community,

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the sunset of the Hamshack Hotline project, effective August 29th, 2025.

What began in 2018 as a simple idea in the humble closet of K1WIZ quickly grew into something none of us could have imagined - an expansive, global communications network built by and for amateur radio operators.

From those early beginnings, Hamshack Hotline evolved into a robust VoIP system supported by multiple servers around the world, with over 7,000 interconnections at its peak.

This incredible journey was made possible by the generosity of donors worldwide and the tireless commitment of the Hamshack Hotline Team, who volunteered their time and expertise to support and grow the network. Your trust and participation helped shape Hamshack Hotline into a valuable and widely respected resource for the ham radio community.

However, with success came scale - and with scale, came increasing demands. As the network grew, so did the workload on our small team. Balancing this effort with our responsibilities to family, careers, and life outside the shack has become increasingly challenging. We've always taken great pride in the reliability and service standards of Hamshack Hotline, and we recognize that we can no longer maintain those standards at the level our users deserve.

After much thoughtful discussion and reflection, the Board of Directors has unanimously voted to sunset the project, giving our community ample time to transition to other services by the end date.

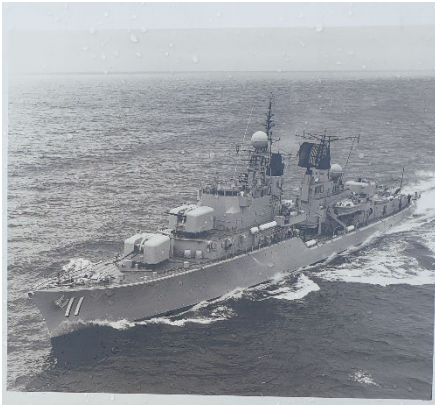
This was not an easy decision. We know how much this network means to many of you - and it means just as much to us. Hamshack Hotline was built with love, run with dedication, and supported by an incredible community that made it all worthwhile.

In the spirit of giving back, the remaining cash reserves of Hamshack Hotline, after settling final operating expenses, will be donated to a charity that supports veterans. We'll announce the recipient of this donation soon.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you for being a part of Hamshack Hotline. Whether you joined us on day one or just discovered the network, your involvement helped shape something truly special in the amateur radio world.

73, The Hamshack Hotline Team

Australian National Maritime Museum Open Day



The Australian National Maritime Museum's Open Day on 6 July 2025 was a tremendous success, attracting a crowd of over 4,000 visitors who enjoyed free admission to this iconic venue. With over 50 enthusiastic volunteers assisting throughout the day, the museum came alive with activity and educational opportunities for all ages. One of the standout features of the day was the HMAS Vampire Radio Room, which was buzzing with energy and curiosity. More than a hundred visitors made their way into this unique space, learning firsthand about the world of Amateur Radio and its rich history in maritime and emergency communications.

The solar weather conditions were favourable, delivering excellent propagation for long-distance communication. The radio room crew experienced multiple

pile-ups on the 40-metre band, much to the delight of both operators and visitors. Adding to the excitement was the successful operation of the newly installed Off-Centre Fed (OCF) dipole antenna, covering 80m, 40m, 20m, 10m, and—surprisingly—allowing for contacts on 6m as well. This upgrade significantly enhanced the station's capability and drew interest from seasoned operators and newcomers alike.

Throughout the day, visitors were treated to live demonstrations of various modes of communication, including voice, Morse code, and Slow Scan Television (SSTV). These demonstrations helped bridge the gap between historical naval operations and modern-day amateur radio practice. A highlight for many was the newly donated 2m/70cm VHF/UHF transceiver, generously provided by the Manly Warringah Radio Society. This addition allowed for short-range communication demonstrations, showcasing the practical side of local amateur radio in urban environments.

The museum's initiative to issue 4,000 free tickets was not only a generous gesture but a crucial one, especially amid rising living costs. By doing so, the event remained inclusive, offering an educational and memorable day out for families and individuals who may not otherwise be able to attend. The HMAS Vampire and its vibrant Radio Room continue to be a key attraction, reinforcing the importance of preserving naval heritage and sharing the wonders of radio communication with the wider public.



Colin - VK2JCC - Team Leader Vampire Project

A Reminder

Over time, people change addresses, emails, phone numbers, callsigns and so on. This often results in our correspondence being returned. **PLEASE**, if any of your details change, remember to let us know your new details otherwise you are likely to miss out. Now that the ACMA database no longer has your details for us to check against, this is going to be even more important into the future because if you don't tell us, no one else is going to.

All Access goes out to all members who have an email address, it is NOT sent by post. So, if you don't keep us up to date you won't receive it, nor other correspondence from us.

To notify any changes to your details, you can use the membership form on our website at https://www.arnsw.org.au/forms/ARNSW_Membership_23.pdf. The one form can be used for new applications, renewals, updates or badge requests—just tick the appropriate box(es) at the top of the form and mail it to PO Box 6044, Dural DC 2158, or email to membership@arnsw.org.au. If you are making a payment, our preferred method is direct deposit, remembering to send us the details of your payment so we know what to attribute the payment to. Preferably, do not send credit card details in emails.

Remember, if we don't have your correct details, you won't get important documents.

Eric – VK2VE - Secretary

Don't forget — Member Meetup, Trash and Treasure & Experimenters' Meeting

:- When: next Sunday, July 27th

:- Where: 63 Quarry Road Dural:-

:- Sellers admitted: from 8:30 am to set up

:- Other admitted for parking 8:30

:- If you are queueing to enter, please queue on the other side of Quarry road as queueing on the property side can be quite dangerous for vehicles approaching along Quarry Road.

:- Starting: at 9:00 am for buyers

:- Sausage sizzle will be running this month with the addition of a limited number of Bacon & Egg rolls in the morning.

:- Drinks will be available at the BBQ area

:- Experimenters' Group starting from Midday

We hope to see you there.