

In the news from Amateur Radio New South Wales for this week;

VK2WI News would like to hear from clubs and groups planning Amateur Radio activities; just email the details and contact information, to news@arnsw.org.au. We also welcome reports on recent activities.

General enquires can be directed to the ARNSW office via email, to office@arnsw.org.au, or by leaving a phone message on 02 9444 0123.

Tonight, we also welcome listeners on the EchoLink "HAM" conference, and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network. Callbacks will also be taken after tonight's bulletin; our thanks to John VK3HJQ, and the Australian & New Zealand EchoLink Network team, for making this relay available.

Foundation Courses at ARNSW

The next foundation course and assessment weekend is scheduled to be held over the weekend of September 9th & 10th.

Closing date for bookings is next weekend, as the assessment provider, AMC, requires 3 weeks' notice to get the assessment material out.

If you are planning to attend the course or to upgrade, please get your application in *poste haste*, as currently it is looking like there will be insufficient numbers to run the course.

Please send your application via email to education@arnsw.org.au.

The following assessment weekend is scheduled for November, over the weekend of 11th and 12th and is last one planned for 2023.

73 from the ARNSW Education team.

Weekly Solar and Geophysical Report

For the period of the 4th to the 10th of August.

First, the summary of activity;

Dates across the columns are	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
10cm Flux	171	176	174	170	159	153	156
Fredericksburg A-Index	0	24	4	11	7	8	8
Australian A-Index	8	17	1	8	3	5	5 estimated
T index	107	133	105	110	133	106	105

Solar activity reached R1 levels on the 4th with an M-class flare; R3 on the 5th with two M-class and an X1.6 flare at 2222UTC; R2 on the 6th with an M5.5 flare; R3 on the 7th with three M-class and an X1.5 flare at 2046UTC; and, R1 on the 8th with one M class flare.

Geomagnetic activity in the Australian region reached G3 levels on the 5th, but remained below warning threshold on other days. Magnetometer data from the 5th also showed a weak geomagnetic impulse of 15 nanoTesla, at 0254UTC.

F2 critical frequencies in Southern Australia remained mostly near predicted monthly values, with periods of enhancement; 15% during local night on the 4th; 35% during local day on the 5th; 15% during local day on the 7th and 8th; and 20% enhancement during local night on the 10th.

The forecast, issued on the 11th of August, through until the 17th;

Solar activity is expected to be at R0 to R1 levels, with a possibility of R2 flares throughout the week.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to mostly be below warning level, though G1 levels are possible on the 14th due to coronal hole wind stream effects.

Maximum usable frequencies should be near predicted, up to 15% enhanced.

Data courtesy of the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre.

Solar Flux Index update

Here are the updated Solar Flux Index (SFI) figures for this week.

Having finished July, we had a;

Minimum of 154, Average of 177, and a Maximum of 219
With peak dates from the 10th to the 21st

So far for August, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 130, Average of 162, and a Maximum of 176
With peak dates from the 1st to the 8th, and the 20th to the 31st

And looking ahead to September, we are expecting a;

Minimum of 160, Average of 166, and a Maximum of 172
With peak dates from the 1st to the 4th, and the 18th to the 24th.

Update with thanks to Noel, VK2FUL.

[using daily data updates from :
<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/usaf-45-day-ap-and-f107cm-flux-forecast>]

Foundations of Amateur Radio

This series, written and produced by Onno VK6FLAB, continues a weekly examination, of the building blocks of Amateur Radio.

[Play File: 15-FOAR054.wav]

Duration: 3m20s

In: "Today I'm going to talk ..."

Out: "...I'm Onno VK6FLAB"

For more information about this series, including audio, transcripts and other useful amateur radio resources, Onno's website is; vk6flab.com; you can follow him on Twitter, @VK6FLAB; and you can contact Onno by email, to cq@vk6flab.com.

[Play File: 16-E-ID2.wav]

[WICEN News]

And now with this week's WICEN News, here's Richard VK2SKY;

[Play File: 17-E-WNS0813.wav]

Duration: 2m18s

In: "The next big event ..."

Out: "... at wicen.org.au."

[Transcript]

The next big event on the WICEN calendar is the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic, finally back after the COVID pandemic! The canoe marathon, which helps raise money to fund bone marrow transfer research, takes place on the Hawkesbury River north of Sydney at the end of October.

WICEN provides safety communications for the event, and many operators are required to staff about 25 checkpoints along the 111km course from Windsor to Mooney Mooney. This is a great event to get out and operate portable for the weekend. If you're new to this kind of thing, you can be paired up with a more experienced WICEN operator. Why not give it a go?

To participate in any WICEN event, or just find out more about how to use your Amateur Radio skills in times of need, you can email wicen.ops@vrarescue.org.

The theme for the September/October edition of Amateur Radio magazine will be "When All Else Fails". If you have a story to tell about using your radio skills in a time of emergency, why not get it in print?

WICEN nets take place every Sunday evening, using FM voice, DMR, or HF voice, depending on the week. All WICEN members and other Amateurs are welcome to join in.

Next Sunday, the HF net will be at the earlier time of 5.30pm, on or near 7110kHz LSB. Net controller VK2WIZ will announce the call-in sequence and other information. The 6pm net will be on the Kurrajong 70cm FM repeater, 439.825MHz and a 91.5Hz tone, with net controller VK2WIB.

WICEN NSW is a support squad of VRA Rescue NSW, specialising in tactical radio communications. In between activations, WICEN supports local community events: these provide practical training for members, and help raise the public profile of Amateur Radio.

To find out more, check out the WICEN NSW web site, at nsw.wicen.org.au, that's

N - S - W DOT W - I - C - E - N DOT O - R - G DOT A - U

WICEN is also on Facebook, and on Twitter @wicennsw [at WICEN N S W]; there, you can find photos and information about recent and upcoming WICEN activities.

For information about other WICEN groups around Australia, visit the web at wicen.org.au.

[WICEN NSW web site: <https://nsw.wicen.org.au/>]

[WICEN NSW facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WICENNSW>]

[WICEN NSW twitter at <https://twitter.com/wicennsw>]

Club News

The Club's AGM was held last Saturday the 5th of August 2023 in the SES Building in Port Macquarie. All the retiring office bearers were re-elected with the exception of the QSL Manager and Social Director positions which were not filled at the AGM. Henry VK2ZHE is President, Secretary and Public Officer. Paul VK2ICQ is Vice President. Dennis VK2DAM is Treasurer. The other Committee members are Larry VK2CLL, Rob VK2CRF and Lyle VK2SMI.

After the AGM was the August Monthly General Meeting, where Paul VK2ICQ gave a short presentation explaining the Club's new web-based membership management system which will go on-line this month. Members will be able to log in securely to update their own details or check their membership status. The system will automatically send out individual membership renewals and reminders by email.

On the 10th of August, many members enjoyed the regular monthly social coffee morning at Brooklyn's Burger Bar, Thrumster. Coming up next on the Club calendar is the August Friday Night Get Together, 7pm this Friday the 18th of August.

Installation of the VK2RPM RadNet DMR repeater at Middle Brother has been delayed, but has now been rescheduled for later this month.

There are two club nets each week; the mid-week net from 7:30pm on Thursday nights, and the weekend net at 9am Sunday mornings. Both are on the VK2RPM 2 metre repeater, 146.7MHz with a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone for access, and on EchoLink as VK2RPM-R. Members and visitors are encouraged to participate in the club on air nets as often as possible.

For more information about the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, visit the website at orarc.org. The July 2023 issue of the club's bimonthly newsletter "Oxtales" is now online, and past issues are on the website as well. The July issue features a detailed report on the Annual Field Day. You can also find the club on Facebook; just search for Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.

*From Henry VK2ZHE
For the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club.*

Central Coast Amateur Radio Club

The club rooms at Kariong are open on Saturdays from 10:30am; and, as always, members and visitors are most welcome.

At the next general business meeting, in September, the club will be appointing sub-committees. Please consider volunteering and help with the running of your club.

At the VK2RAG Somersby repeater site, the D-Star, Rad-Net DMR and 2m Echolink services are fully functional. The 23cm repeater is currently off-air, being replaced.

The Somersby WebSDR is online at websdr.ccarc.org.au; its configured to listen on 6 metres, 2 metres, 70 centimetres and 23cm.

The Club's Morning Tea Net is on each weekday from 10am, and the weekly Net is at 8pm on Thursday night. Both nets are on the VK2RAG 2 metre repeater - 146.725MHz with a 91.5Hz sub-audible tone, and on the CCARCNSW and HAM EchoLink conferences.

The Thursday evening net is also live video-streamed on the club's Facebook page.

You can find out more about the CCARC, including information on upcoming social events and all the details we can't tell you about here; on the web at ccarc.org.au – by phone, 02 43402500 – or social media, search Central Coast Amateur Radio Club; remember to “like” to follow for updates.

73 Alan VK2MG

Publicity Officer, Central Coast Amateur Radio Club.

[Play File: 18-E-ID3.wav]

Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club

The next Amateur Radio Repeater Group fox hunt will be on the 20th of August, in the Macarthur area. The format will be the same as usual with 4, or maybe even 5 foxes to find, after check-ins are taken on the VK2RFG repeater at 9:00am.

The location of the foxes will be somewhere between Casula and Narellan Rd in the vicinity of the Hume Hwy corridor. A more precise location hint will be given after check-ins are taken. There will be a BBQ lunch provided at the location and anyone is welcome to attend. More updates will be provided closer to the date, or keep an eye on the website, <https://arrg.club>.

The next Meeting of the Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club is on Wednesday the 30th of August, in Block M, Campbelltown School of Performing Arts, Beverley Road Campbelltown. The meeting starts at 7:30pm, and visitors wishing to learn more about the hobby of Amateur Radio are most welcome to attend.

Weekly nets are on Thursday evenings from 7:30pm on the Club repeater, VK2RFG. Anyone is welcome to check-in. The repeater has a negative 7MHz input and a 91.5Hz CTCSS tone is required for access.

To find out more about the Club's activities, visit the website at fgarc.org.au, and Facebook, by searching for VK2FG.

*Advised by Peter VK2PR
For the Fishers Ghost Amateur Radio Club.*

Waverley Amateur Radio Society

The next meeting of the Society is at 7:30pm this coming Wednesday the 16th of August, in the ANZAC room of Rose Bay RSL Club, Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay. At this meeting, Doug, VK2DCR, will give a talk on HF, digital and FT8.

Many members enjoy dinner in the club's bistro prior to the meeting from about 6pm and all are welcome; especially any visitors from other clubs or out of town.

Regular Monday evening nets are at 8pm on VK2RBV, 438.1125 MHz with a -5.4 MHz offset and 91.5Hz tone for access.

Wednesday lunchtime get togethers, continue in the RSL bistro; these now adjourn after lunch to the ANZAC room for some practical activities.

The first Saturday of the month is "project day", also in the ANZAC room at the RSL. The next one is coming up on the 2nd of September, where Skip, VK2ALR, will be running an Inductance Measurement Challenge.

Other activities are continuing either in person and on Zoom. See the society's website for details.

You can keep up to date with the Waverley Amateur Radio Society on the web, at vk2bv.org. On the site you can also find out more about kits available, update your membership details, and use the contact form to get in touch for more information.

*73 from Eric VK2VE
Broadcast Publicity Officer*

[Manly-Warringah Radio Society]

And now with the latest from the Manly-Warringah Radio Society, here's Richard VK2SKY;

[Play File: 19-E-MRS0813-ID4.wav]

Duration: 1m56s

In: "This coming Wednesday..."

[Out:....IDENT 4]

[Transcript]

This coming Wednesday is lecture night, when Gary VK2CRJ will be giving a talk on amateur television.

Gary has been active on ATV for nearly 50 years and has seen many technological developments over that time. His talk will cover everything from the early analogue days, right through to the latest digital technology, including ATV repeaters and satellites. The lecture will be a mixture of theory and practical information to help you get involved in this fascinating aspect of Amateur Radio.

You can also see previous lectures on the Society's YouTube channel, VK2MB-TV, as well as many other videos related to this great hobby of ours.

The 30th of the month is the Fifth Wednesday, which means the Society will host another Show and Tell night! This time, the theme will be Radio Scanners. If you have any noteworthy specimens to show off, bring them along and perhaps win a prize for the Best Gear and/or Best Story.

The Manly-Warringah Radio Society meets every Wednesday evening at the First Terrey Hills Guides Hall, Beltana Avenue, Terrey Hills. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start, and visitors are always welcome. If you need directions, call in on the club's 2 metre repeater on 146.875, or check the club web site for details. The web site address is [mwrs.org.au](https://www.mwrs.org.au), that's M-W-R-S dot O-R-G dot A-U.

73 Richard VK2SKY, MWRS Publicity Officer

[MWRS on the web: <https://www.mwrs.org.au/>]

[MWRS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ManlyWarringahRadioSociety>]

[MWRS on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/VK2MB>]

[MWRS on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@VK2MB>]

Activities on the air

Daily;

Manly-Warringah “early bird” net, 6:30am on or near 3690kHz LSB; if that’s too early, the “morning” net is from 8am on or near 7189kHz.

The **CCARC Morning Tea net** *weekdays* from 10am; VK2RAG, 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone, also on EchoLink.

Amateur Radio Central West Group lunchtime net; 1pm on VK2RCW.

Mondays;

Westlakes ARC net 9:30am on 40 metres, 7115kHz, VK2ATZ Portable.

Great Lakes Radio Club net 7pm on VK2RGL; 147.1MHz with 91.5Hz tone, EchoLink VK2RGL-R.

Hunter Radio Group VK2AWX News 7:30pm, 146.9Mhz and 438.025MHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group net at 8pm on VK2RCW.

Lightning Net 8pm on 1860kHz, net control Steve VK2STG.

HADARC net 8pm on VK2RNS, 147.25MHz

Waverley ARS net 8pm on VK2RBV, 438.1125MHz with 91.5Hz tone.
Activities online and on air; see website.

Tuesdays;

National VKDMR Net: from 7:30pm on Talkgroup 505.

Blue Mountains ARC net from 8pm, 3543kHz.

Illawarra ARS 80m net at 8:30pm, 3666kHz.

Wednesdays;

Westlakes ARC net 9:30am on 7115kHz. 2 Metre nets throughout the week, see website for details.

Hunter Radio Group net 7:30pm on 146.9MHz.

HADARC 8pm on 3608.5kHz

Blue Mountains ARC 8pm on VK2RBM, 147.05MHz, 123Hz tone.

Amateur Radio Central West Group from 8pm on 3653kHz.

Thursdays;

Illawarra ARS net 12pm; VK2RMP 146.850 and VK2RUW on 146.675.

Fishers Ghost ARC net 7:30pm on VK2RFG, 438.65MHz with -7MHz offset and 91.5Hz tone; also, on EchoLink.

Oxley Region ARC 7:30pm on VK2RPM 146.7Mhz with 91.5Hz tone.

St George ARS 8pm, VK2RLE 146.8MHz.

The **CCARC weekly net** from 8pm on VK2RAG, 146.725MHz with 91.5Hz tone, and EchoLink.

Fridays;

Morning tea with HADARC 9am on 7106kHz.

Westlakes 9:30am on 7115kHz.

Amateur Radio Central West Group at 8pm, VK2RCW.

Saturdays;

Westlakes Stone the Crows net; 6am on 3588kHz.

Illawarra ARS net 9:30am on VK2RMP and VK2RUW.

Snowy Mountains ARC net 7:30pm on Southeast network; VK2RFS 146.75MHz, VK2RSE 147.375, VK3RDH 146.625, and EchoLink.

Sundays;

Westlakes DMR Net, now from 8:00am, usually on Talkgroup 3802.

Oxley Region ARC from 9am, VK2RPM.

WICEN NSW nets; 6pm on Chatswood 2m or Kurrajong 70cm repeater; and 6:30pm on DMR or HF. Check website for details.