

VK2 Notes – May 2016

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ARNSW had their AGM on Saturday the 30 th April. The existing committee re nominated, so a ballot was not required. In the month of May there are foundation courses at Waverley ARS on the weekend of the 14 th and 15 th. ARNSW is the following weekend the 21 st and 22 nd. For bookings email their education sections. The Trash & Treasure is on Sunday 29 th. Check on the home page of ARNSW for major items on offer.

On Easter Sunday the VK2WI Morse transmission on 3699 kHz got an injection of new text which doubled its memory to about 8000 words. Have a look at the item in the April AR CW column by VK5EEE which explains this facility. This facility had its origin in the early 1970's when Barry VK2AAB developed a 2 metre system with a disc fed computer working with a recently acquired 2650 IC. It was installed on a building at Turrumurra. Thoughts then turned to adding an HF transmission and 80 metres was chosen. It took years to obtain approval because it was a transmission which could go beyond Australia. The frequency of 3699 kHz was chosen as it is the upper limit of the VK band and no voice transmission should be that close to the band edge. Approval was final granted and it was added to the 2 metre unit. The large building had a tiled roof with the ridge caps having some holes in the vertical section. A half wave 80 metre dipole was woven along these holes.

After some years at Turrumurra the system was transferred to the HADARC repeater site at Asquith. In time the power costs became a burden on the club and the system was offered to the NSW Division for operation from the Dural site. In the beginning both 2 and 80 metres was used - still with the computer and floppy disk source. An intermod developed with an on site packet system and the 2 metre service was terminated. A new memory and code generator was developed by Les VK2KYJ which is currently in use.

It's a month to go until the annual Oxley Region ARC Field Day at Port Macquarie on the June long weekend the 11 th and 12 th of June. This year its back at the newly refurbished Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club Hall in Matthew Flinders Drive at the southern end of Port Macquarie. A dinner is held on Saturday night at the Port Macquarie Golf Club. Visitors requiring accommodation should book early, it's a popular town at anytime. If in town - check in to the weekly nets on 146.700 on Thursday evening at 7.30 pm and 147.000 on Sunday morning at 9.00 am. The Oxley Region ARC UHF repeaters are on 438.425 and 438.525 MHz.

It's the time for some clubs to have their AGM's. In late February Fisher's Ghost ARC based at Campbelltown in the south west of Sydney held theirs. President Ian VK2ND, Vice President Frank VK2FRW, Secretary Lyn VK2FLMK, Treasurer Derrick VK2DEK and committee members Craig VK2KDP, Bruce VK2HAP and Peter VK2PR. They meet at various locations on the last Wednesday of the month, so check details on www.fgars.net or check in to the weekly net Thursday evening at 7.30 pm on 147.500 MHz simplex.

In March the Hunter Radio Group, who meet at NBN TV studios on the second Friday evening except December and January have as Patrons - Peter VK2ZTV and Charlie VK2CLH. President is Len VK2ZFD, Vice President Bill VK2GWW, Secretary / Treasurer Rodney VK2CN, repeater officer Greg VK2HT, Broadcast officer Tony VK2ABM, webmaster Charlie VK2CLH, Social secretary Ardel Prout, program officer Len VK2ZFD with helpers and beacon officer Grahame VK2FA. Their weekly broadcast net is on Monday at 7.30 pm on 146.900 MHz. They operate three repeaters at Mount Sugarloaf to the west of Newcastle on 146.900, 146.975 with Echo Link and 438.025 MHz. Also 6 metre beacon VK2RHV on 50.288 MHz.

WICEN NSW is providing communications to Alzheimer's Australia Memory Walk & Jog events with the Bay run at Drummoyne [Sydney] on 1 st May, Albury-Wodonga on May 22 and Hunter on May 29. The WICEN website www.nsw.wicen.org.au

Westlakes ARC in the Hunter Region will have their AGM at the Club Rooms in York Street, Teralba on Saturday the 14 th May 2016 commencing at 1.30 pm. They are another club which commenced during the 1960's.

The ARNSW Radio Home and Experimenters Group for some year have had a evening get together. With recent falling attendances these gathering have been put on hold for the moment.

During the Depression in the 1930's many suburban radio clubs were formed to be within walking distance from ones QTH. This stopped largely with the war and after it the NSW Division appears to have been the main source of activity. The reach beyond Sydney was achieved by Branches. These were the Hunter Branch in Newcastle, along with the Central Coast, Blue Mountains and Illawarra. Beyond these area in the country there were Zones with Zone Officers. Then along came repeaters which needed to be established by local groups and this lead to a rise in clubs being formed to apply for and manage these new systems. About the same time the various Branches ceased, to be replaced by a local club.

There are many clubs who can trace their origin back a long way like Waverley ARS who will have their Centenary in 2019; Manly Warringah RS can find their origins in the Manly Radio Club about 1923. Oxley Region ARC at Port Macquarie is 45 years old, have been formed to set up a repeater. The Hornsby and District ARC is approaching 40, formed to cover the local population. Does your Club have a history which would make good reading within this magazine ? 73 – Tim VK2ZTM