

## VK2 news

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The recent Central Coast field day was the 59 th in the Clubs 60 th year. The forecast had not been promising but ended up with no rain on the day. The attendance was perhaps down a bit on the previous year. The lack of major equipment traders may have also kept the numbers down. There were more than a dozen well attended lectures during the day. To help with planning for 2018 the Central Coast ARC has a survey page to gather feedback, advises Bob VK2AOR. Go to the web site [fieldday.org.au](http://fieldday.org.au) and the link is on the home page, near the bottom of the text.

The call for nominations for the ARNSW committee for the next year saw the current committee members as the only candidates. By the time these notes appear the ARNSW AGM will have been held. This month will be the next ARNSW Foundation weekend on the 13 th and 14 th May. Inquiries and bookings by email to [education@arnsw.org.au](mailto:education@arnsw.org.au) . The next ARNSW Trash & Treasure is at the end of May on Sunday the 28 th. There is a Talk Fest scheduled for early July. ARNSW is now in its 107 th year resulting from that formation meeting in Sydney in March 1910. There was one taker for the ARNSW Development Fund Grant which was available to clubs and groups during March.

Other Sydney based Foundation weekend are St. George ARS on the 20 th and 21 st May with Waverley in June on the 17 th and 18 th. Exams for a US License were held at Wyong during the field day. The Blue Mountains ARC had a Foundation weekend in April at their Glenbrook club rooms. The next weekend will be on the 11 th and 12 th June.

The Hunter Radio Group – formally the Hunter Branch of the NSW Division – held their AGM and elections in March. Not much change in the line up with Trustee and President Len VK2ZFD; Vice President Greg VK2HT; Secretary / Treasurer Rodney VK2CN; Repeater / Beacon Officer Greg VK2HT; Echolink sysop Grahame VK2FA; Broadcast Officers Len VK2ZFD, Michael VK2CMM and Charlie VK2CLH; Social Secretary Ardel Prout; Education Officer Steve VK2LW.

Westlakes ARC will have their AGM at their club rooms in Teralba on Saturday the 13 th May 2017, starting at 1.30 pm. There is a new club on the North Coast of VK2 advises Brad VK2CEC. It is the Clarence River Valley in the Grafton District. It was formed last year and they hold a monthly social meeting and a weekly net on the local two metre repeater, VK2RCV on 146.675 Mhz on Monday evenings. They were active in last years Lighthouse and Lightship weekend at the Yamba Lighthouse and they had planned to take part in this year's John Moyle. Listen out for the group's call sign VK2CLR.

Last month mention was made that the Armidale and District ARC had won a grant from a local financial institution. Well - they have done it again with a grant from the local Shire Council. It pays to be persistence.

Elsewhere in this issue of AR you will find details of the annual Oxley Region field day at Port Macquarie over the June long weekend . A popular holiday spot, it pays to book accommodation early on these long weekends. Oxley Region has been doing well with courses and assessments for new local Amateurs. Their mid week working bees have been getting their regions six metre repeater closer to coming up on air.

WICEN NSW is providing comms to various Alzheimers Memory Walk and Jog events including Leichhardt Sydney on the 7 th May, Hunter on May 13 th and in Port Macquarie on the 4 th June. In Sydney there are plans for a First Aid course. In June there is True Grit at Lower Portland on the 10 th and 11 th and the annual Navshield over the weekend of the 24 th and 25 th June.

The Manly Warringah RS 5 band SDR web site proves to be very popular in having a look at what signals can be heard in Sydney. It also provides an alternate source of receiving VK2WI News when conditions are poor. Go to the MWRS web site [mwrs.org.au](http://mwrs.org.au) and click on the WEB SDR link in the top menu. They have a theme night planned for the 31 st May – Microphones. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.