

VK2 news

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Sydney has been nominated for the 2019 WIA AGM and conference venue. The date has yet to be announced but is likely to be round May. Next year, 2019, is also the Centenary of the formation of the Waverley A R S and they, in conjunction with other Sydney and surrounding region clubs are to undertake the AGM arrangements.

In the last issue of AR it was advised that the Hornsby & District A R C in conjunction with the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society will be celebrating the Centenary of the reception of the first direct wireless message received from Great Britain in Australia. The celebrations will be held outside the Fisk Wahroonga home on late Saturday morning of the 22 nd of September 2018. There will be a special event call sign VK100MARCONI during the period of the centenary. The original transmission was made at prearranged intervals on a frequency below 20 kHz. On the day that reception was achieved it has been determined that there was a burst of exceptional propagation. This was a one way transmission. Confirmation was cabled back to the UK. The Centenary is still some weeks away so details closer to the event will be given via the VK2WI News bulletins.

The Hunter Radio Group has a new meeting place following the sale of the previous NBN TV meeting location. The new location is at the Adamstown Bowling Club, in the Belmore Function Room. The club is located at 504 Glebe Road, Adamstown, Newcastle. In June both the Hunter Radio Group and ARNSW lost their long time member when Bill Hall VK2XT became a Silent Key. Bill reached the age of 105. He was a Life Member of ARNSW and the WIA. Bill was originally licensed as VK2BH but this was wanted by the commercial radio station in Broken Hill. He chose VK2XT in its place.

The Oxley Region A R C conducted their annual two day field day over the June long weekend in the hall of the Wauchope High School. An alternative venue this year as the usual Surf club at Lighthouse Beach was being renovated. There were 103 registrations recorded, including strong contingents from Newcastle, Sydney and the Far North Coast. The disposals were very popular with lots of bargains for all. The three separate HF, VHF and UHF digital data and voice on-air demonstrations created a lot of interest. Peter VK2EVB from Coffs Harbour set up his 3D printer as part of his display, which included his 3D printed case for his BITX40 QRP HF SSB transceiver. The fox hunting was keenly contested with Gerard VK2IO the Foxhunt Champion and Chris VK2YMW the runner up. The trade displays were popular. The kitchen volunteers were kept busy throughout the weekend. A new record was set for the consumption of bacon and egg sandwiches this year. The Field Day Dinner was particularly enjoyable. While many found the Wauchope venue was good, it is most likely the 2019 Field Day will be back at the surf club – further renovations permitting. The ORARC AGM is scheduled for the first Saturday in August.

Every few months US license exams are available in VK2. They are conducted by a Sydney based ARRL Volunteer Examiner team. The most recent exam was conducted in

early July. The team details can be found on their new web site, veexams.com or contact Julian VK2YJS.

ARNSW conducted a Talk Fest in June on the topic of antennas with six presenters giving their thoughts on the topic. There were some 55 in attendance from both Sydney and surrounding regions. No word yet on the next gathering but there is talk of one before the end of the year. As always, keep across the Sunday VK2WI News. There is the next ARNSW Trash & Treasure Sunday on the 29 th July. There is an ARNSW Foundation and assessment weekend scheduled for the 15 th and 16 th of September. The ARNSW committee for the current year has a couple of changes in the administration roles. Mathew VK2YAP remains President. The Vice Presidents are Tim VK2ZTM and Al VK2OK. Secretary is Eric VK2VE and Treasurer is Ray VK2ASE. Other committee positions are unchanged.

Waverley ARS has just had their annual auction. They have a Foundation and assessment weekend scheduled for September 15 th and 16 th. Manly-Warringah RS are trialing a DMR repeater on 438.4 MHz. with a -5.4 MHz offset and they seek coverage reports. The Illawarra ARS is celebrating their 70 th Anniversary this year and have a special event call sign VI2AMW70. They were formed on the 12 th June 1948. They have just held a field day weekend at Burrinjuck Dam which is near Yass. Part of the weekend was to launch a high altitude balloon with APRS transmissions on 10 metres. For Amateur Radio license training in the Illawarra contact Ted at yk2ara@wia.org.au

73 – Tim VK2ZTM.