



# All Access

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

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Editor: Ray - VK2ASE

## ***Editorial***

Hi, and welcome to this, the first issue of *All Access*, a newsletter for members and friends of Amateur Radio New South Wales (ARNSW). This newsletter is not designed to supplant the several very good journals supporting our great hobby. Rather, it is intended to keep members and friends of our organisation abreast of what is happening within our organisation. If there is something you would like to see addressed in this newsletter we would love to hear from you. Just email [editor@arnsw.org.au](mailto:editor@arnsw.org.au) or write to The Editor, ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, NSW, 2158.

Ray – VK2ASE

## ***And From Our President***

Welcome to the first issue of *All Access*. We hope that you will find this newsletter an interesting and convenient way of finding out about activities at Amateur Radio New South Wales. The newsletter complements our weekly VK2WI News bulletins and online presence, allowing us to present a wider range of information to our members, and to reach out to others interested in the hobby of Amateur Radio.

The editorial team have already put together a good selection of articles to start this first edition, and would be pleased to receive your comments or suggestions about these and potential topics for future editions.

Mathew – VK2YAP

## ***We've Changed Our Name***

As many would already know, especially those who were able to attend the AGM last April, we have changed our name. If we go back many years to 1910 our original name was Wireless Institute of NSW. Then, with the establishment of the national body, in 1922 we became the Wireless Institute of Australia, NSW Division and were, indeed, a division of the national body. Subsequently, in 2004, we split (formally) from the national body and became an entirely separate, independent organisation. But, we never changed our name! This resulted in wholesale confusion with, some members at least, believing that by joining/renewing with ARNSW, they were members of the WIA. Although we registered the trading name of Amateur Radio New South Wales (ARNSW) this didn't do much to alleviate the confusion as our legal name, as displayed on financial reports, bank statements and reported by ASIC, continued to be Wireless Institute of Australia, NSW Division.

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*All Access* is a newsletter published by Amateur Radio New South Wales (ARNSW) for distribution to members and friends of ARNSW. If you wish to comment on any item published or, perhaps, suggest further matters for publication, please contact the editor, Ray – VK2ASE by email at [editor@arnsw.org.au](mailto:editor@arnsw.org.au) or post to Editor, ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, 2158.

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Your Board (yes, the Councillors of ARNSW are directors of the company) decided that the best way forward would be to change our formal name. And so, at the AGM of 13 Apr 2019, the motion was put and passed to change our name to Amateur Radio New South Wales. All of the procedure and process to complete this change with ASIC has now been done. We are now Amateur Radio New South Wales.

None of this was designed to disassociate us from the WIA. Rather it was done to distinguish us from the WIA. They are the national body representing amateurs within Australia and, whilst we fully support them, we don't wish to be confused with them.

Naturally this change required a change to our constitution and your Board decided that it would be opportune to tidy up some other anomalies within the constitution at the same time. All of the proposed changes were approved at the AGM and have all been registered with ASIC.

*Ray – VK2ASE*

## ***Major Project – New Tower***

Anyone who has visited our site at Dural in recent times could not miss the great new concrete monopole now standing there. This is the replacement for the aging and end-of-life steel tower nearby. It was hoped that all work would have been completed by now but, alas, we are learning how to deal with civic bodies. The delays have not been technical but it is unbelievable how much time can be spent obtaining the necessary approvals for work to proceed. This time can easily be much more than the actual time needed to perform the tasks.

But, we push on. We have now completed the selection of contractor process for installation of the various antennas and cabling required to bring the tower to completion. Even so, delays still occur. Many of the antennas we require are not "off-the-shelf" items and have upwards of 4-6 weeks delivery time from order. Nevertheless, we should see progress soon.

Installation of the antennas and coaxial cables requires a 40m high mobile work platform. These are not cheap to hire so we will not be installing antennas piece-meal fashion but will wait until all are ready and then proceed.

*John – VK2LJ*

## ***Major Project – DMR Network***

Your Board determined some months ago to support the rollout of an amateur DMR network covering the eastern side of NSW. The objective was to provide a "no gaps" network from the Queensland border to the Victorian border of a DMR network. Our intention is to enlist/support the efforts of the various amateur radio clubs within the state to accomplish this aim.

So, if your club is interested in being a part of this project please call us. In the first instance, write to The Secretary at ARNSW, PO Box 6044, Dural DC, NSW, 2158, or email [secretary@arnsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@arnsw.org.au). We have just completed provision of a repeater to Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club (HADARC) for deployment within the northern Sydney region. It is reported to be working well.

This project does not exclude participation of non eastern NSW clubs. If your club is interested but is located within inland NSW please don't be put off. If we can work together, please call.

*Ray – VK2ASE*

## ***Scout Radio Training Weekend***

Recently, over the weekend of June 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, Amateur Radio NSW hosted a camp at our property at Dural, in Sydney's north west for a group of 13 Scouts (9 boys & 4 girls) and their three leaders for a radio training weekend.

This was the first time such a weekend has been held with the Scouts and their leaders camping on the grounds over the weekend.

Their activities included some theory and practical training, heading towards attaining a Foundation licence, as well as some practical sessions, such as building a crystal kit set to learn about soldering.

On the Sunday morning, five of the Scouts each read a segment of the morning ARNSW news broadcast which elicited some very favourable comments in the call backs afterwards.

Subsequent to the camp, the Scouts held another camp during the school holidays at one of their Scout halls, in Greystanes, where, on the Monday, they attempted the Foundation theory and practical with Eric van de Weyer, VK2VE and James Goh, VK2GOH, both AMC assessors, running the assessments. All passed their practical assessments and are now waiting to hear how they went with their written ones.



Our team of news readers.

Making crystal sets.



Getting some theory instruction.

Cooking up lunch on Sunday.

Eric – VK2VE

## ***Do You Know Your Directors?!***

Amateur Radio New South Wales is registered with ASIC as a Company Limited by Guarantee. The officers of the company are variously described as “the committee”, Councillors, etc. but are in fact the Directors of the Company. There are nine in all, elected each year at the AGM. Do you know who they

all are? To help you out *All Access* intends to profile one or more in each issue. To kick it off here is a profile of myself.



I am Ray Morris and one of the Directors of ARNSW, occupying the role of Treasurer. I also assist in management of our excellent library and have now also taken on editor of this newsletter. I have been a continually licenced amateur since 1961 when, at age 17, I passed the requisite exams and took up callsign VK3ZMO. I lived in Victoria at the time, where I was born. Virtually all of the knowledge that I needed to gain my AOLCP was obtained from *Radio and Hobbies* magazine. Amateur Radio was much more prominent in those days with many issues containing theory articles or DIY designs.

Around 1983 I transferred to Sydney with my employer, AWA-Thorn Consumer Electronics, and changed callsign to VK2ZRY. Then, around 1984, I mastered morse sufficiently to qualify for the AOCPL and changed callsign again to VK2ASE, which I have held since.

I studied Communications Engineering at RMIT in Melbourne and gained employment in 1964 with Thorn Electrical Industries, working mainly on stereo and radio products but with some exposure to TV. With responsibilities for Bills of Materials, Change Management, etc. I established the company's IT department. I became less involved in electronic engineering and more involved in IT management which proved fortuitous as electronics manufacturing in Australia entered a decline from which it did not recover. Thorn entered into a partnership with AWA with the creation of a joint subsidiary in AWA-Thorn Consumer Electronics. This coincided with the introduction of colour TV in Australia. Eventually, with further changes in ownership, the company became Mitsubishi Electric Australia. I used to joke that although I sat at the same desk doing the same job the name on the front door kept changing as did the man in the top office. I am currently retired from full-time employment.

From a young age I was always interested in radio communications and was more interested in building and developing equipment than in on-line rag-chewing. That level of interest continues today. I currently spend time in the ARNSW Library where I have developed a database system to track the significant library content and manage the library together with the other library volunteers, primarily John VK2LJ and Greg VK2TEQ.

Look forward to further profiles in future issues of *All Access*.

Ray – VK2ASE

## ***What Is Amateur Radio?***

I have often been asked this question and it is difficult to answer. Amateur Radio means so many different things to so many different people. It is an educational pastime. It is a community service, especially in roles such as WICEN. It can be a tradition. Or, it is simply an interest which we enjoy. What do you think? It would be useful to compile a composite definition of what constitutes Amateur Radio. So, please put pen to paper (or, fingers to keyboard) and write to the editor and say what Amateur Radio means to you. See the editorial for contact details. I am really looking forward to reading your replies.

Ray – VK2ASE

Until next issue,  
73, Ray – VK2ASE