

Welcome to the morse training facility provided by transmissions from VK2WI on behalf of Amateur Radio - New South Wales. This is an almost continuous transmission, interrupted only when the VK2WI station is required for news bulletins or other periods of operation. This transmission is a block of plain language text stored in a solid state memory which is used to key a transmitter. The control program commences sending at a slow rate, which, at 5 minute intervals is increased to a higher speed. Upon reaching the highest speed the sending reverts back to the slowest speed and the cycle is repeated. At the end of the stored text it reverts to the beginning and repeats its cycle. At each five minute interval the transmission pauses while an identification is sent, you will find included in the identification a number slash number. The first number indicates the sending speed for the next 5 minute period. The second number group is the rate in words per minute eg 5/12 is 5 words per minute being sent at a 12 words per minute rate. At 12 wpm the speeds are 5, 8, 10 and 12. The highest speed is 15/15 which is 15 wpm at the 15 wpm rate. As the combination of the various transmitted speeds and the length of the stored text is not the same, the point at which the text is repeated will differ. This enables the listener to copy portions of text at a speed commensurate with their current ability. Using this method it is some time until similar blocks of text will occur. This is economic in the amount of text required to be stored. The solid state keyer being used to generate this text was installed in August 2005 and replaced a computer with a 3.5 inch floppy disc which had seen many years of service. The new system is easier to load new text into and it will be replaced at intervals to prevent it becoming stale and to prevent the listener from journalizing. The transmission is usually made on two frequencies, one is on 80 metres on 3.699 megahertz providing extensive coverage in south east Australia and the other is on 2 metres on 145.650 megahertz for coverage in the Sydney region. As at June 2006 this frequency was waiting on a new antenna system with some separation from our other continuous transmissions to prevent what is called an intermod. Currently only the 80 metre transmission is being made. This frequency provides two main roles - the first is for the teaching of morse code and the second as a band condition or propagation indicator. This is also known as the grey line where a distant station to Sydney can observe the conditions between the two points such as when the band opens and closes, such as when there is a change from light to dark at sunrise or sunset. In effect it is a beacon. The transmission on 80 metres uses the CW mode in a solid state transmitter providing about 25 watts to a half wave length dipole antenna mounted about 13 metres above the ground. Reports on this service may be made by e-mail to vk2wiatozemail.com.au or by postal mail to p. o. box 9432 harris park nsw 2150. The site where this transmission is located is in the Sydney suburb of Dural approximately 30 kilometres to the north west of the Sydney CBD. It is the transmission site for Amateur Radio - New South Wales where news bulletins are conducted twice on Sundays, the first in the morning at 1000 hours local time and again at 1930 hours in the evening. It is also the location for an extensive beacon and repeater network. VK2WI has been at this location since 1955 when the site was chosen. Building of the facilities was carried out in 1956 and the formal dedication was in 1957. Amateur Radio - New South Wales is the trading arm of the company Wireless Institute of Australia, New South Wales Division, which was first formed in March 1910 following a meeting held in Sydney and is the worlds oldest amateur radio society. Over time it developed into divisions in each

state of Australia with amateur radio operators being members of the divisions and the divisions being members of a national or federal body. In 2004 the structure changed where a single national body was created with the operators being members. Also in 2004 licensing requirements changed where knowledge of morse code was no longer required to gain operating access to the high frequency bands. While morse knowledge is no longer required for examination it will remain one of the many transmission modes used by amateur radio operators and has in fact increased in use since the requirement was removed. There will continue to be people who wish to learn the art of morse code and this facility is being maintained to assist those wishing to learn and to polish their skills. One thing is for sure you will not be able to communicate in this mode if you can not send or receive morse code. There are of course other methods of learning code. In classes conducted by clubs and groups, from tape, or via a computer to name a few. Morse code is used to identify beacon and repeater transmissions. From this site VK2RSY is for beacons and VK2RWI for repeaters. While voice identification is used on some other repeaters it is a licensing requirement that all unattended transmitters must provide a means of identifying the transmitter in use - both for knowing what system you are working as well as being able to locate the transmission source should interference occur. All the dural systems identify in morse code. Now to expand the range of this text and this will be done by listing the operations frequencies of the various Dural transmissions. First the news channels. VK2WI may operate on one or more of the following frequencies. 160 metres, 1845 kilohertz. 80 metres, 3595 kilohertz. 40 metres, 7146 kilohertz. 30 metres 10.125 megahertz. 20 metres 14.170 megahertz. 17 metres, 18.120 megahertz. 12 metres 24.950 megahertz. 10 metres 28.320 megahertz. 6 metres 52.525 megahertz. 2 metres on 145.600 and 147.000 megahertz. 70 centimetres on 438.525 megahertz and 23 centimetres on 1273.500 megahertz. The VK2RWI repeaters assigned to the site are 29.640 megahertz on 10 metres. 53.850 megahertz on 6 metres. 147 megahertz on 2 metres. 438.525 and 438.600 megahertz on 70 centimetres and 1273.500 megahertz on 23 centimetres. Repeaters identify when first keyed up and then at intervals while in use. The VK2RSY beacons also at the site, identify in morse code giving callsign and grid square location. On 28.2615 megahertz, 10 metres using vertical polarization. Other beacons use horizontal polarization and are 50.289 megahertz on 6 metres. 144.420 on 2 metres and 432.420 megahertz on 70 centimetres. These two units are currently off air pending development of new equipment. On 23 centimetres on 1296.420 megahertz. Beacons transmit a continuous carrier and identification occurs about twice a minute in cw by interrupting the carrier. Reports may be made to the technical committee of the dural installation by an e-mail to vk2wiatozemail.com.au [use the correct 'at' sign on the computer] or by mail to p.o. box 9432 harris park nsw 2150. Address it to dural technical committee in the title space. This is where the original text finished. Some new material has now been added. First some information to users of this service. On the 80 metre band there is a live operator provided morse training service. It is on most nights, conditions and operator availability permitting. You will find it at 2000 hours local VK2 time on a frequency of 3550 kilohertz plus or minus the QRM, under the callsign VK2BWI. Here blocks of text are sent. At the end of each block a voice read back is given. There are also hints given on morse procedure. It has been found by those who have just learnt the morse code and venture into their first on air contact that what they learnt during the study of the code

bears little resemblance to what the on air operators are sending. It appears like a series of misspelt words. What it is, is short hand to cut down on the number of characters that need to be sent. It derived from the early days of communication over distance on land and sea where the operators developed these short cuts to save time and effort. You may have already come across the q code where a block of 3 letters is a sentence either as a question, if it is followed by a question mark, or an answer if it is just the 3 letters. There are also other combinations of 1 or more letters which may phonetically give the sound of the word. For example if you wanted to say thank you - you can send t u . You can send a report to the other station in a short hand. In fact, we use many of these short cuts in voice transmissions and one example is the r s t block of numbers. r, the first is readability, then s is for signal strength and finally when using morse code t is sent to indicate the tone quality of the transmission. If you are given a report of 5 5 9 it means that your readability was perfect, your signal is not that strong but your tone is perfect. You will find the r s t code in handbooks and other information sources about the hobby. The short wave listener also uses a reporting code which is s i n p o which has additional information for the broadcasting service when you are trying to extract a qsl card from them. All these letter combinations, the q code and the like are universal in that you can have a contact with a station where neither speaks the same language. We will now give some more examples and later some samples of what form an on air contact may take. g b is goodbye, f b is fine business. good morning or good evening is g m and g e and g d is good day. again is a g n. an invitation to reply is the single letter k. acknowledging is to q s l. your becomes u r. if you are talking about people for a male you send o m - old man - or o t for old timer. for the females you refer to a young lady as a y l and the wife or spouse as the x y l. Moving on now to having an on air contact. Suppose you are a british station in contact with a russian. The russian with a callsign ub5ref is sending to the brit 2m0rzo. If it was a voice contact what might be said is ... received most of that transmission all right but the signal has now become very weak so would you please send again your name. the report to you is 3 4 9 [hard to read, weak but the tone is good.] my name is boris and I live in oster. I think we had a contact last year on 7 megahertz. How is the copy now at your end ? ... That was nearly 60 words, about 300 letters, which at 5 words per minute would take 12 minutes to send. In about 100 letters we could send ... r most ok om but sig nw vy weak pse agn rst es name = ur rst 349 = hr name is boris qth oster - think we qso last year on 7 = hw cpy nw om? ar ... at 5 w p m it would have taken about 4 minutes. In the next example the other end of the contact is in scotland r ok colin es mni tnk fer rprt from edinburgh = name hr es les qth brigeton = ur rst 479 wid some qrn = rig is ic735 ant dipole pwr abt 5w ar ... here is an example of calling for a contact ... vvv vvv cq cq de g0ajr g0ajr g0ajr k g0ajr g0ajr de g0wme/qrp g0wme/qrp k g0wme/qrp de g0ajr ur rst 579 w qsb g0wme/qrp de g0ajr k g0ajr de g0wme/qrp ur rst hr 599 w qsb g0ajr de g0wme/qrp k 73 g0wme/qrp de g0ajr this time an example of first cw contact ... cq cq cq de m8sap m8sap m8sap k m8sap m8sap de m2oxz m2oxz k m2oxz de m8sap ga = name hr is doug doug qth is coventry coventry = ur rst hr 599 w qsb = hr vy nervous cuz my 1 st qso on cw hi hi = m2oxz de m8sap k m8sap de m2oxz rr name hr is manny manny - ur 5nn in newcastle = fb on first cw qso - gud fist = rig hr is homebrew 6v6 into an inverted l - hw? m8sap de m2cxz k m2oxz de m8sap ok manny - cpied all ok = rig hr is knight t50 into a moxon = cul tnx fer nice qso gud dx es 73 - m8sap de m2oxz - cl The internet has sites where there are

these examples - some slanted toward the European style and others towards the united states where their examples similar to that used in the arrl vec 5 wpm tests. You will notice many short cuts. In the previous example the rst is given as 5nn. it means 599 but it is shorter in the number of elements making up the block. The text has been checked but it may contain typos or errors. Now that the requirements of morse code has been dropped from the examinations for an amateur licence in almost every country of the world there has been an increase in the use of code in on air contacts. many amateurs have ventured on air to try their ability. it is a self regulating exercise, for if you can not read the other station or they can not read you the contact will not proceed very long. We will now devote some space to five letter and number groups. abcde fghij klmno pqrst uvwxy z 12345 67890 aeiou afkpu bglqv chmrw dinsx ejoty 13579 24680 edcba jihgf onmlk tsrqp yxwvu the quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog is the old typing exercise to check out all the keys on a typewriter. there is another keyboard layout which was used on the linotype type setting systems earlier in the printing industry. now days type setting comes from the computer keyboard. the present keyboard layout came from a redesign of the layout which separated, as far as possible, keys used in sequence which may jam against each other when typing at speed. how many letters in the greek alphabet ? answer 24. what is the year 2005 in roman letters? answer mmv. In older films the year of production / release was shown in the title or credits in roman numerals. for those with an interest in radio equipment might like to note that the kurrajong radio museum opened to the public early june 2006. it is a collection assembled by ian vk2zio and was formally the castle hill military radio collection. available for inspections most weekends or at other times by arrangement. go to the web site and search for the kurrajong radio museum. the location is just west of richmond on the bells line of road in the lower blue mountains. there is now about twice the number of words in this transmission to what has been running since August 2005. the additional text was added in june 2006. we would like to hear from users of this service as to the type of material that is included. you can send a email to vk2wiatozemail.com.au or write to po box 9432 harris park 2150 new text will be added from time to time. this block of text has taken over five hours to send, it contains over 2700 words. now having reached the end of the text in the memory the transmission will revert to the start. updated 1/06/06