

A Happy New Year to all.

CLUBS.

Most clubs took a break during January and now will be having their first meeting of the year in February. Please inform VK2 News of your schedule for the year. arnews@tpg.com.au

In a few days time the major VK2 annual event run by the Central Coast ARC will be held at the Wyong Racecourse – the Wyong Field Day. On site parking – if it is dry – and the main northern train line passes the venue with Wyong railway station a couple of hundred metres walk away.

Waverley ARS is just completing the operation of special event callsign VI2BV90 in commemoration of the 90 th anniversary of its first meeting on the 27 th January 1919. A QSL card is available for those making contact during the operation of VI2BV90. Waverley has maintained the call 2BV since its beginning. The club has had many addresses over the years in various parts of Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, the area which it serves. Today, the Club is well established in the scout hall in Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay, near the former flying boat base. They have a project afternoon on the first Saturday of the month and a meeting on the third Wednesday evening. An annual auction in June. They operate 2 and 70 repeaters at Paddington, with weekly nets. Contact with Waverley via their web site vk2bv.org or Simon VK2AU 02 9328 7141.

Oxley Region ARC resume meetings in February at the new SES Headquarters in Central Road, Port Macquarie. They hope to meet there for the monthly meeting on Saturday the 7 th February. Taree and District ARC have their first meeting on the 3 rd February. The Mid South Coast ARC have their first 2009 meeting on Saturday the 14 th February.

The Blue Mountains ARC has a node change on their repeater VK2RBM on ch 7050. The old node 6000 is heading for central Australia [Alice Springs] for a while. The new node number is 6366 and the new Echolink number is 63666 advises Erik VK2MAN. The first meeting of BMARC is set down for Friday evening, the 6 th February, with a possible talk on APRS. Their web site is www.bmarc.org

Well, the Coffs Harbour Expo put on by the Mid North Coast ARG is over for the year with planning no doubt under way for the next one. They have recently established a new 2 metre repeater in the Coffs area. VK2RCB on 146.750 with an access CTCSS tone of 123 Hz encode only. It serves the Coffs Harbour CBD and surrounding area. The web site www.mncarg.org

NSW WICEN will be at the Central Coast Field Day. Northern Rivers has the Eden Creek Horse Enduro over the weekend 21 – 22 February. Also the Paddle for Life Canoe Marathon over the Anzac weekend in April. Contact with WICEN via the Duty Operator 0408 397 217.

A 70 cm repeater commenced testing in Sydneys west at the start on the year. VK2RGW on 439.475 MHz advised Beth VK2AO. Email reports welcomed - beth.langley@bigpond.com

ARNSW.

The AGM of the WIA NSW Division, is scheduled to be held on Saturday the 18 th April 2009. The venue is yet to be confirmed, but if the fitout is finished, it will be in the new shed. A Council of nine is to be elected at the AGM and Candidates are to be nominated and seconded by members and all must be financial at the time of nomination. The close of Nominations and agenda items will be at 12 noon on Saturday the 7 th March at 63 Quarry Road, Dural with the Returning Officer, Peter VK2EMU. Nomination forms will be available on the ARNSW web site, by writing to P. O. Box 6044, Dural Delivery Centre NSW 2158, by telephone to the office phone 02 9651 1490, FAX 02 9651 1661 or by collection at the VK2WI site. VK2WI News will keep members informed.

By the end of 2008, work had started on the long awaited shed – barn – depot – really, its just a storage facility. The earth works were carried out by Peter VK2JBP. Then the concrete slab was laid in two parts. The main shed slab is 24 x 9 metres. On the front eastern side is a 24 x 3 metre veranda slab. In mid January the erection of the shed kit was to commence. Some internal fitout will be taking place about now.

ARNSW has launched a new award advises Peter VK2EMU. It will known as the VK2 Local Government

Award. It will be for licensed amateurs and short wave listeners anywhere to contact or log amateurs in VK2. There are currently 152 local government areas in New South Wales extending from the Tweed Shire Council in the north to Bega Valley Shire Council in the south and Wentworth Shire Council in the west, as well as the large "unincorporated area" north of Broken Hill. Details were still be worked out as these notes were prepared. Peter advises the award will operate from the first of January 2009.

The operators of the VK2BWI slow morse evening sessions took a well earned break from Christmas Day until the end of January. They always welcome assistance and if there are CW operators [anywhere] who would like to join the team, contact Ross VK2ER who has the Thursday session.

VK2WI.

Some of the planned upgrades of the VK2WI facilities commenced late last year when a new circuit breaker switchboard was installed to replace the 35 year old wire fuse version. One of the members had spotted an almost new switchboard being aimed at a dump bin. He caught it on the way past and donated it to the Division. When the price list was checked. it had a trade value over \$2.5k. What some people like to junk. Work is proceeding with refurbishing an AM transmitter to replace one of the old AWA's transmitters for one of the HF broadcast frequencies. Work is also underway, advises Mark VK2XOF with new [VK2RSY] beacon transmitters for 2 and 70. Also one for 6, to free up the present transceiver unit being used, for other duties.

VK2WI will conduct a Saturday evening news session on Saturday the 7 th February at 7.30 pm. This is for those attending the following day's Wyong field day. On the [Sunday] morning of the field day, the VK2WI 10 am transmission will depend on any broadcast team member/s not heading for Wyong, being available. Sunday evening as normal.

During 2008 VK2WI News logged 6008 callbacks direct and via some relay stations. The breakup is 4362 in the morning and 1646 in the evening. The highest total for a day was 167 and the lowest 88. Highest morning was 120, lowest 60. The evening had a high of 40 and low of 22. VK2WI operates 12 frequencies in either session. The morning has 12 repeaters in the remote relay coverage and 7 in the evening.

73– Tim VK2ZTM.