

## VK2 Notes – March 2009

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The Central Coast ARC conducted their annual field day at the Wyong Race Course in early February – the 51 st event – on one of our warmer weekends. Attendances were good with bargains everywhere. The club and its team of workers have to be thanked for their time and effort in making it an enjoyable time for the attendees at what is Australia's biggest annual Amateur Radio event.

Just before Wyong – late January – the Mid North Coast ARG conducted their now annual Expo in Coffs Harbour. Also a well attended event, it will be moving next year [January 2010] to a larger venue advises Gary VK2ZKT. The MNCARG have been testing their new 2 metre repeater in a temporary location servicing the Coffs Harbour city area. When relocated to its final location, coverage is expected to extend from Yamba to the north, down the coast to Port Macquarie. It is on ch 6750 with 3 minute timeout and morse ID at 10 minute intervals. It requires at 123 Hz CTCSS tone. It also supports IRLP node 6625 and Echo Link node 359211. Website [www.mncarg.org](http://www.mncarg.org)

The Oxley Region ARC got early access to their new meeting location at the recently constructed SES Headquarters in Central Road, Port Macquarie. It had been expected that February would have been the first access but the building was completed early, so they have been meeting there since early January. They have their formal monthly business meeting on the first Saturday afternoon and the informal gatherings on the second and fourth Friday evenings. Website [www.orarc.org](http://www.orarc.org)

Waverley ARS had a nine day activation of special event callsign VI2BV90 for their 90 th anniversary. [ The club was founded on the 26 th January 1919 ]. 631 contact were made in the 9 days of operation on HF, VHF and UHF, including 17 satellite and 2 with the ISS. There were 110 DX contacts while band conditions were not at their best. QSL cards are being sent by either the return envelopes supplied or the bureau. Waverley lay claim to being the oldest Australia radio club. Waverley have a project afternoon on the first Saturday and a meeting on the third Wednesday evening of the month. Website [vk2bv.org](http://vk2bv.org) or Simon VK2UA on 02 9328 7141.

Liverpool and District ARC are planning an antenna building workshop to make a 2 metre Flower Pot antenna on the weekend of the 28 / 29 th March at West Hoxton. Contact Gary VK2BR by email [vk2tsr@bigpond.com](mailto:vk2tsr@bigpond.com) or in the evening phone 02 9896 5763. The Flower Pot is a design by John VK2ZOI from HADARC.

Hornsby and District ARC have Standard and Advanced exams on 7 th March. Contact Tony VK2BTL on 02 9487 3383. Website [www.hadarc.org.au](http://www.hadarc.org.au) They meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays at Mount Colah.

Hunter Radio Group meet on the second Friday evening at NBN TV studios Newcastle. Early last month they resumed the Monday evening – VK2AWX - news bulletin at 7.30 PM on 3593 kHz and local area repeaters.

Mid South Coast ARC had their first quarterley meeting for 2009 at Milton on the second Saturday in February. The next meeting in May. Their 2 metre repeater on 6700 has resumed operation from a new location.

Some of the regions of NSW WICEN have AGM's coming up. Northern Rivers on April 5 th and Central Coast on 11 th April. Telephone contact with NSW WICEN 0408 397 217 or the website [www.nsw.wicen.org.au](http://www.nsw.wicen.org.au)

The annual Urunga Easter Convention in April at Urunga on the Mid North Coast of VK2 over Saturday and Sunday, the 11 th and 12 th. Check out their web site.

The Kurrajong Radio Museum was featured in VK2WI news during the summer sessions which tempted a group from HADARC to visit at the end of January. Other Amateurs have also made individual visits. Late last year the ABC TV Collectors program had a camera crew pay the Museum a visit. The segment that was recorded has been scheduled for a showing on Easter Friday – the 10 th April. The Museum on the Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong Hills, is open most weekends from 10 am to 5 pm and group visits can also be by appointment at other times. Telephone 02 4573 0601, email [vk2zio@yahoo.com.au](mailto:vk2zio@yahoo.com.au) or the web page – do a google search on 'Kurrajong Radio Museum'.

This month is the 99 th anniversary since the WIA came into existence as the result of a meeting called and held in Sydney NSW to form an "Institute". A group of Experiments came together at the Hotel Australia, Sydney in March 1910 to discuss the high cost of the annual license [ then One Pound ] and the delays in granting "experimental" licenses. From that meeting came an "Institute" which is today, the world's oldest national Amateur Radio Society. We are 2 years ahead of the RSGB [1912] and the ARRL [1914].

This month the NSW Division is calling for nominations for the Council for the 2009/2010 year, which, along with agenda items / notices of motion for the Annual General Meeting, close at noon on the 7 th March 2009 at the Dural office, 63 Quarry Road, Dural. The AGM will be held on Saturday the 18 th April 2009. The venue is yet to be confirmed. Members are reminded to make sure they are financial for the meeting, nominating or submitting notices. Renewal notices, up to and including April, have been sent out. You can

check by a phone call to the [office] message bank 02 9651 1490 or an email to [vk2wi@ozemail.com.au](mailto:vk2wi@ozemail.com.au) . Members will receive the various notices and paperwork for the AGM by either post or email as previously arranged. The postal address is P. O. Box 6044, Dural Delivery Centre, NSW 2158. It should be noted that Amateur Radio New South Wales is only a trading name adopted by the WIA NSW Division and does not formally meet or conduct business under that name.

The 'shed' for the Dural site was under way as these notes were being prepared. There will have been work during February in completing the project up to formal approval stage when we will be able to move in and start some of the fit out.

Work continues at the VK2WI station to install a refurbished transmitter to the HF AM service. The transmitter being readied was designed for broadcast band duty so it will be placed in service on 160 metres. The former 80 metre AWA J54/800, which developed shorts in the rubber sheilded wiring has been removed and has found a new home as a [future] museum exhibit – no, not at Kurrajong – and the existing 160 metre AWA Tx will move up to 80 metres which is more suited to its design range. It had to be modified to get down to 1845 kHz. Our AWA J54/800's were first commissioned in 1951 and saw service in aviation at Coffs Harbour before being decommissioned and finding their way to VK2WI round about 1980.

Sunday the 25 th of this month will be the next Trash and Treasure and Home Brew gathering at VK2WI. By then, there may be access to the new shed for shelter and a get together. The weekly VK2WI News bulletins will advise. Remember, if you have news for inclusion in the bulletins, email it to [arnews@tpg.com.au](mailto:arnews@tpg.com.au) by Friday afternoon. Thats it for the month –

73 – Tim VK2ZTM.