

VK2 Notes – July 2009

The **Manly Warringah Radio Society** has had to move club room and meeting location. From June and for the next two months they will meet at the Terrey Hills Community Centre, Yulong Road, Terrey Hills, advises Richard VK2SKY, the Publicity Officer for the MWRS. This new location is about one kilometre to the north of the old club rooms. Head north along Mona Vale Road, take the McCarrs Creek Road exit, turn left at the roundabout, then right at the shops into Yulong Road. A map of the new location is to be found on their web site. The MWRS was one of the original community groups who met at the old radar site at Beacon Hill. When the local Council was selling off the site and developing the Terrey Hills facility, the Society was invited to join them. Now, due to increasing demands for space by the other emergency services on site, the Society has to leave the Warringah Volunteer Services Centre.

This move is a temporary arrangement while the Society arranges a permanent home for its radio room and workshop. The existing repeater services on two metres and 70 centimetres and the club's D-STAR repeater, will continue to operate normally, though there may be temporary disruptions during the transition. The meeting times remain the same, every Wednesday at 2000 hours. The doors open at 1930 hours. Contact can be made on the club's two metre repeater 146.875 MHz, the club telephone 02 9450 1746 on the night or the web site www.mwrs.org.au . The Society provides Amateur Radio in the northern beaches region of Sydney.

The **Oxley Region ARC** conducted their 34 th annual field day over the June long weekend. Numbers were down this year with 74 registrations recorded. The two day event started on a sunny Saturday afternoon with several fox hunts and a gathering in the evening at a local club for dinner. Sunday morning started cold and wet but became a fine and warm day. Activities were at the Sea Scout hall – Port Macquarie - where several traders were present along with the usual array of 'disposals'. The club had on display its recent acquired communications caravan - now in its final stage of fitout. The club has a recently renovated car trailer surplus to their requirements. If you have an interest - contact the club at vk2bor@orarc.org

Its now six months until the annual Radio Expo at Coffs Harbour scheduled for Sunday the 24 th January 2010. This is an operation provided by the **Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group**. Some of their members attended the Oxley Region field day with a range of the kits they have developed. Details of the Expo and the many group activities is to be found on their web site. www.mncarg.org

This month the **Waverley Amateur Radio Society** will be holding their annual auction on Saturday the 18 th July. The gates open at 0830 and the sale starts at 1030 hours. The venue is in the clubrooms in Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay in Sydney's eastern suburbs. No catalogue is produced, but details of some of the items to be sold may be posted on the web site before the sale. The Society meets on the third Wednesday evening and has a project afternoon on the first Saturday each month. In early April an article promoting the Club and Amateur Radio was published in the local paper - the Wentworth Courier – a copy can be found on the club's website www.vk2bv.org

Next month will be the annual Winterfest of the **Blue Mountains ARC** on Sunday the 23 rd August at Glenbrook in the lower Blue Mountains. Details will be available via VK2WI News and these notes.

Next month also has both the Lighthouse and Lightships operation and RD Contest on the same weekend. An opportunity to increase activity in both events. Register interest in the Lighthouse operation.

Amateur Radio in Sydney's north is provided by the **Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club Inc.** They meet on the second and fourth Tuesday evening at the Mt. Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Mt. Colah. HADARC runs exams for all license levels – there is a form on the club's website www.hadarc.org.au or telephone Tony VK2BTL 02 9487 3383. HADARC also has a page on facebook. Users can search for “VK2MA”. HADARC conducted their 32 nd AGM in May.

The **Hunter Radio Group** is a long established Newcastle club and was originally the Hunter Branch of the NSW Division. They meet on the second Friday evening of most months at the NBN television studios, Mosbri Crescent, Newcastle. Starting time is 2000 hours. They have a news net on Monday evening at 1930 on 80 metres plus some Newcastle and Central Coast repeaters.

Planning is underway for the 2010 **Central Coast** field day - tentatively on Sunday the 28 th February. In their recent newsletter “Smoke Signals” Ray VK2HAY was urgently seeking assistance to conduct the event. It requires a lot of planning and getting enough personal puts a strain on club resources. Maybe Amateurs from outside the CCARC could offer assistance to lighten the load. The newsletter Editor of “Smoke Signals” is also urgently seeking technical articles. The club held its AGM last month.

The **St. George ARS** in southern Sydney has had a long running weekly net on their repeater VK2RLE 6800 Thursday at 2000 hours. With a growing interest in SSTV this mode has been added at the end of the voice net.

The next T&T event at the VK2WI site will be on the last Sunday of this month – July 26 th - in the morning. As usual in the afternoon the Home Brew and Experimenters Group hold their meeting. **ARNSW** provides a service for Deceased Estates and equipment donations to be processed and made available to members. For the recent May event, major equipment offers were listed on the web site - www.arnsw.org.au – at fixed prices. This worked well advised T&T Officer Mark VK2XOF and will be used in future offers. Nearer this months event - check out what is on offer on the web site.

At the first Council meeting for the incoming ARNSW committee - Beth VK2AO was elected President; Terry VK2UX as Secretary and Brian VK2WBK Treasurer. Other portfolios were Senior Vice President Mark VK2XOF and Junior Vice President Michael VK2YC. Publicity to Tim VK2ZTM. Dural and Broadcast Officer Mathew VK2YAP. Web Master Brian VK2TOX. State TAC Liaison Brian VK2WBK. Education Terry VK2UX. Membership Norm VK2TOP. Trash & Treasurer Mark VK2XOF. Shed Project Michael VK2YC and Tim VK2ZTM. Deceased Estates Michael VK2YC and Mark VK2XOF. Centenary liaison Michael VK2YC. The incoming committee is investigating conducting most of its monthly meetings by electronic means to save the travelling that some personal have had to undertake in the past. It should also make times for meetings more flexible. Also under consideration is the future of the 1 800 number that has been available for country members. Billing records show it is now rarely used. Membership Secretary Norm VK2TOP is writing to members who have become unfinancial to clarify their status.

Mentioned in the last notes was that Bob VK0BP had been making it into the VK2WI callbacks. While conditions held up Bob was getting into the evening 40 metre callbacks. It is interesting that the 7146 kHz channel is now mainly clear of shortwave broadcasters and there are many overseas stations – particularly stateside with their many weekend contests. Good to see the increased activity. Some members of the VK2WI News Team compiled and presented the VK1WIA news for the 31 st May, an interesting operation. Recently stump grinding was carried out at the Dural site to increase parking capacity. Over the years many trees had died and been subsequently cut down for firewood, leaving an array of hazards to both parking and grass mowing. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.