

VK2 Notes Jan/Feb 2010

Tim Mills VK2ZTM

vk2notes@arnsw.org.au

New Year Greetings. Welcome to the year of celebrations.

At the end of February the famous **Central Coast ARC Field Day** will be held at the regular venue of the Wyong Race Course. Sunday the 28 th. During the day exams will be conducted by the education team from **ARNSW**. Booking are required and should be directed to Brian VK2WBK on 0400 445 829. On Saturday night – the 27 th – there will be a centenary dinner jointly hosted by the **CCARC** and **ARNSW**. Bookings are required, call Brian VK2WBK on 0400 445 829. Some of the displays to be mounted at the field day include ARNSW, the Home Brew group, some items from the T&T department and NSW WICEN. More details will be included in the VK2WI news sessions. As has been the practise there will be no morning VK2WI broadcast on the 28 th. Instead a Saturday evening transmission at 7.30 pm. The **VK2BWI** morse practise sessions on Thursday. 2000 hours on 3550 kHz conducted by Ross VK2ER at Orange resume early in February.

NSW WICEN will be holding their AGM at the VK2WI site on Sunday afternoon the 7 th February at 1400 hours. Contact WICEN on 0408 397 217; operations@nsw.wicen.org.au ; or www.nsw.wicen.org.au They need starters for the committee. Many clubs, including **HADARC** resume meetings in February. Their first informal meeting is on Tuesday the 9 th and the monthly meeting on the 23 rd - both are at the Mt. Colah Community Centre. **Waverley ARS** will be conducting training and exams on the weekend of 13 and 14 th February. **Mid South Coast ARC** will likely have their first quarterly meeting on Saturday the 13 th. The **Hunter Radio Group** will resume the Monday news news on the 8th at 7.30 pm and have the first meeting for the year on Friday the 12 th. **Summerland ARC** have an AGM scheduled for Sunday the 14 th. Then a car boot sale on March 28 th. They have been looking for a suitable site for the Evans Head repeater VK2REH. Not finding anything suitable at Evans Head they are looking towards the north west at Mt. Moonimba. Their subs for this year have been raised to \$10. An early note for the diary – the **Oxley Region ARC** mid winter field over the June long weekend. Down in the snow country the **Jindabyne ARG** have established VK's highest system at over 2000 metres. This repeater in on 438.450 Mhz with 20 watts into a 5/8 wave antenna. It is expected to be followed about now with 2 metres on 146.875 Mhz. The systems are at a ski patrol hut, reports Geoff VK2QM. Thanks have to go to the Perisher Organisation, the Ski patrol and the Jindabyne group for their establishment. **Fishers Ghost ARC** – as reported in the December issue provided the Amateur Radio facilities to the Australian Jamboree. By this month most clubs will have resumed their meetings and a request to their publicity officers to make use of **VK2WI News** to inform your members and potential visitors of when and where. Send off an email to news@arnsw.org.au with those details. The information also helps with these notes.

Amateur Radio News South Wales is moving into a celebration period as part of the 100 years of organised Amateur Radio in this country. According to the records a meeting of experimenters in the smoking room of the Hotel Australia in Sydney on the afternoon of the 11 th March 1910 got the ball rolling. They formed an 'Institute' which by 1912 was known as 'The Wireless Institute of New South Wales' according to a listing of Wireless Calls, 1 st October 1912. At that time experimenters had three letter calls as did ships and land stations. The experimenters began with 'X'. There were 33 members of the 'WI of NSW'. In 1922 they had become registered as a NSW company on the 26 th of May in the name of Wireless Institute of Australia New South Wales Division. There were periods when that Company appeared to be known by other names like round the late 20's when there was some friction between the professional and Amateur members resulting for a

while with separate groups. In the last decade with the changes to the WIA structure there was the need to reduce confusion between the two bodies. Both NSW and Victoria, being Companies, opted to retain their Company structure. Each adopted an alternate trading name of 'Amateur Radio' and their State. So after 100 years there is a line that can be traced back to March 1910 – like the axe with four new handles and three new heads – its still the same axe. Now operating as a State wide radio club, the former Division, affiliated with the National body – Amateur Radio New South Wales – looks forward to a year of celebration with all parties involved in the Worlds oldest national Amateur Radio Society.

But business must go on and in April **ARNSW** will be conducting its AGM – Saturday the 17 th. This means agenda items and nominations will close 42 days before on Saturday the 6 th of March. Most members have opted to receive much of the paperwork by email and some by mail. So everybody needs to ensure details are up to date. Are there any changes? Send off an email to office@arnsw.org.au , a telephone call to the message bank on the office phone 02 9651 1490 or the old way of a letter to ARNSW P. O. Box 6044, Dural Delivery Centre, NSW 2158. More details in the news bulletins and next month.

The 'Barn' at the VK2WI site is nearing the end of the construction process. There may soon be a formal opening. That's a problem with lead times with these notes. Much is in the planning stages but not confirmed for publication. Some things that we do know is that Station Engineer Mark VK2XOF constructed and installed a new beacon on 10 metres for VK2RSY. 20 watts CW on 28.262 Mhz, a slight adjustment up from the old frequency to the correct assignment. Also at the end of last year a new antenna was constructed for the VK2WI News transmissions on 40 metres. This one is more remote to the station building and has enabled the AM transmissions to be resumed on 7146 kHz. The former antenna which is adjacent to the station building is now for the SSB call back transceiver. **VK2WI** conducted morning only news transmissions over the recent holiday period. Reports from SWL's and those unable to call in can be left out of hours on the station phone's answering machine 02 9651 1489. The historic tapes during the break were again provided by audio material from the **Kurrajong Radio Museum**. Ian VK2ZIO will have these and other historic items on his display at the Wyong field day. Check out his stand. You can also bring him military radio equipment to increase his museum. Even if some of it has been ratted there may be parts left for the restoration of other items. The next Trash & Treasure event at the Dural site will be on Sunday the 28 th March. At this time it is expected that the T&T portion within the 'Barn' will be in operation. No more lugging the goodies out of the old shed for display and purchase. **ARNSW** undertakes the collection Deceased Estates and surplus electronics, Amateur Radio equipment and similar. It all helps provide a service to those who still collect. In a few years time some of it will be back for further recycling. What we dont need is domestic electronics, computers, monitors etc. You have to leave those out for the local kerb side clean ups. Contact via the telephone numbers given earlier or an email to office@arnsw.org.au .

Dont for get Australia's biggest Amateur Radio field at Wyong, Sunday the 28 th February.

73 – Tim VK2ZTM.