

VK2 Notes December 2011

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The NSW Planning inquiry, which was an opportunity to submit requests for better antenna installation approval from your local Council, should be handing down an interim report this month. This was a wide ranging inquiry, antennas being just a part of it.

VK2WI news bulletins will take the usual summer break across the Christmas period. The last evening bulletin will be on the 18 th December and will resume on the 15 th January. There will be morning bulletins – at the usual 10 am slot - during the break. There was a lot of earthworks at the **ARNSW** VK2WI Dural site in late October when water was laid and conduct systems for lighting and coax feeds installed. Further work on installation of cables will occur during the holiday period. The committee of ARNSW, on advice received, has declared the Dural property a No Smoking area. It is in a bushfire environment. The committee of ARNSW has observed some altercations between visitor's dogs and other visitors – including young children. This could result in an injury and as required by law we need to maintain a safe environment for all persons attending the Dural site. In the interest of safety, ARNSW has decided to ban dogs at the Dural site. The above items have been broadcast via the Sunday bulletins.

Next year **ARNSW** will conduct a Foundation course on the Sunday before the Trash & Treasure at the Dural site. The assessments will be on the T&T morning. The first course for 2012 will be Sunday the 22 nd January with the exam and T&T event on Sunday the 29 th. This means there will be a Foundation training course available every two months. There is also likely to be a full course for Standard and Advanced licenses over several weeks during the year. While it is a few months away the AGM of ARNSW will be held in April 2012 and a call for nominations to the committee will be toward late February.

Jeff Pages VK2BYY has become quite an author over recent years. He has still had time to be on the VK2WI Broadcast team. He has just published his fourth novel, 'Cry of the Bunyips'. Jeff's email is jeff@barefoottimes.net

Its now three months until the next **CCARC** Field Day at the usual Wyong venue, the racecourse on Sunday the 26 th of February. When the Club is not planning the field day they have been expanding their repeater building to accomodate additional facilities. They are also active with two monthly meetings. Nets on Saturday at 8.30 am and the Foundation Class net on Wednesday at 8 pm on repeater VK2RAG 146.725. The club rooms are open

every Saturday from 10.30 am and Tuesday evening from 7.30 pm and every second Wednesday from 10 am. VK2WI is relayed through the VK2RAG repeater. Check their club web site www.ccarc.org.au for all details advises Rod VK2FVRJ.

The **VK2RSY** Sydney 10 metre Beacon at Dural developed an antenna fault late October. Previously on a vertical antenna it was restored using a multiband horizontal dipole. Major antenna works are planned early 2012 when a vertical will be installed.

Jeff's Walk concluded on Sunday the 2 nd October after he – VK4XJJ - covered 4971 kms to end at Steep Point in VK6. Jeff set out to raise \$80,000 for NETS. A little short of the mark they looked at other fund raising ideas and one was to shave off beards. Grahame VK2FA who had been arranging many radio interviews for Jeff during his walk, made the mistake of offering to have his 30 year old beard – get the chop - . Well, it happened and his XYL Judy VK2HZV had never seen Grahame without a covered face. So, on Friday the 28 th October both Graham and Jeff became 'clean shaven' There is a lot of material about NETS and Jeff's Walk to be found at www.nets.org.au

WICEN NSW has been busy since their AGM with mainly exercises.

The web site has been updated so check out

operations@nsw.wicen.org.au. Contact by email to www.nsw.wicen.org.au

The **Hunter Region Group** Monday event news bulletin will take the regular break from early December until early February. Many clubs and groups also take a break from meetings in January and they are asked to use the VK2WI News Bulletins to inform their members and visitors to their region of meeting arrangements during this period.

On behalf of **ARNSW** may I wish readers all the best for the forth coming festive season, may your Christmas stocking contain that new rig and may 2012 be a good year for you. See you in the January / February issue. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM.