January/February 2014 VK2 Notes

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New Year greetings. Amateur Radio New South Wales has the sad duty to report the passing of their President Terry Ryeland VK2UX on the 11 th November 2013 after a short period in hospital. He was 74. His well attended service was conducted at the Leura Memorial Gardens Crematorium on Friday the 15 th November. Terry was a Life Member of both ARNSW and of the Blue Mountains ARC. He had been active in the NSW Rural Fire Services in his home region of the Blue Mountains. Terry was also active in lawn bowls as a leading umpire. Terry had for many years been the Nominated Assessor with ARNSW, as well as having been their class lecturer. Terry had over the years guided many a CBer towards our hobby. A keen CW operator, he also maintained one of his former calls VK2BRQ. He will be missed by all who knew him both within and beyond the hobby.

The passing of Terry VK2UX had ARNSW fill the vacancy on their committee with Paul Anslow VK2APA who is the current class instructor. Senior Vice President Mathew Magee VK2YAP moved into the President role with Peter Zielinski VK2VG moving from Junior to Senior Vice President and Al Hirschel VK2KAM taking on the role of Junior Vice President. ARNSW will have their AGM on Saturday the 3 rd May 2014 with committee nominations being called for in March.

ARNSW will commence the annual upgrade course on Monday evening the 3 rd March. Bookings required by an email to education@arnsw.org.au A Foundation course will be held at the VK2WI Dural site over the weekend of March 22 / 23 with all grades of assessments on Sunday the 23 rd. Bookings required. ARNSW held a successful "Radiofest" last November with a series of lectures. ARNSW has next in the series, a BBQ and field events scheduled for the 9 th March. Other events will be held in June and November. Details via the VK2WI news sessions.

VK2 Amateurs in February can look forward to the ability to erect an antenna support up to 10 metres with out the need to involve their local Council at their QTH. Details were given in a WIA news release last December. It is also pleasing to welcome a VK1 Two metre beacon [144.410 MHz] to keep VK2RSY on 144.420 MHz company. Since the close of Channel 5A's, in particular in the Hunter Region, there have been big gaps in east coast beacon coverage. With four beaacon slots available in VK2 it would be nice to see some of them filled by systems around the State.

The Summerland ARC suffered a lot of damage to their Richmond Hill club rooms by a breakin late last year. A considerable of equipment was stolen including a rare Yaesu HF transceiver Model FT-DX401 Serial number 1H301077 Any information to club president Chris VK2ACD.

This month will have the annual Central Coast field day at the Wyong Racecourse on Sunday the 23 rd February, held rain, hail or shine. Over the weekend the CCARC will conduct a Foundation course. The CCARC will not hold any lectures until March, all efforts have been put towards the field day.

The Tamworth ARC conducted the fourth in their balloon experiments in late December. After a good release advised John VK2YGV it stopped sending data on all systems and had not been seen or heard again. Hopefully the payload will be found somewhere to the west of Gunnedah.

The Waverley ARS have introduced a "Shack Night" on the first Wednesday evening of the month where members can gain experience in using modern radio equipment on air advises Simon VK2UA. They also have a working bee at the Rose Bay club rooms during the day on most Tuesdays. Check them out at vk2bv@org There will be a training weekend this month 8 th and 9 th February. Contact them via education@vk2bv.org HADARC, Hunter Radio Group and St.George resume monthly meetings this month [February] VK2AWX resumes the Monday night broadcast net this month. 73 – Tim VK2ZTM