

January 2010

Volume 38 - Number 01



Official Newsletter of the

**CENTRAL COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc...**

Postal address: PO Box 238 Gosford NSW 2250

Clubrooms & Station: Dandaloo Street, KARIONG NSW Phone: 02 43402500

Club Callsigns: VK2AFY, VK2EH

Repeaters: VHF-146.725 VK2RAG  
UHF- 438.075 CTCSS 123Hz (IRLP node: 6060) VK2RAG  
UHF - 439.300 Voice Multimode VK2RTG

Morse (CW): 439.725

APRS: 145.175 - VK2AFY, VK2RAG

D-Star: 146.63750 MHz -0.600 Offset (Usually "C" Node) VK2RAG  
438.32500 MHz -5.400 Offset (Usually "B" Node) VK2RAG  
Gateway Registration URL <https://122.252.16.155/Dstar.do>

Home Page: [www.ccarc.org.au](http://www.ccarc.org.au)



Combined  
CCARC  
And WICEN  
Christmas Party  
held at the Club  
on Saturday  
28 November  
2009  
Happy smiling  
faces waiting  
expectantly for  
the great  
Christmas Party  
dinner organised  
by June, XYL of  
Bob VK2ZAR.  
Thanks June it  
was great tucker.

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**Contributions**

Information to be included in "Smoke Signals" must be submitted to the Editor by the second week in the month preceding publication. Information must be in writing, and in MS-WORD or RTF format. You can hand the information to the Editor at the club meetings or via email (preferred method) to [smokesignalseditor@fsparker.com.au](mailto:smokesignalseditor@fsparker.com.au).

No information can be taken via telephone.

*Central Coast Amateur Radio Club is affiliated with the Wireless Institute of Australia and Amateur Radio NSW.*

**Management Committee 2009-2010**

**Executive**

President	Col	VK2ZCO	4324 5576
		<a href="mailto:colhodg@comcen.com.au">colhodg@comcen.com.au</a>	
Vice President	Geoff	VK2ZC	4362 9444
		<a href="mailto:geoff.parker@gsparker.com">geoff.parker@gsparker.com</a>	
Secretary	Greg	VK2GRJ	4329 0614
		<a href="mailto:greg.james@internode.on.net">greg.james@internode.on.net</a>	
Treasurer	Ray	VK2HAY	4325 2182
		<a href="mailto:rooby@bigpond.com">rooby@bigpond.com</a>	

**Committee**

Bruce	VK2ZAD	John	VK2DBC
Don	VK2ZCZ	Leon	VK2BLV
Fred	VK2FSP	Doug	VK2FDCC
Bob	VK2ZAR	Chris	VK2LOB
Greg	VK2NGE	Victor	VK2BTV

**Sub Committee Chairpersons**

Amateur Television	Victor	VK2BTV
Callbacks	Fred	VK2FSP
Constitution	John	VK2DBC
Deceased Estate	Bruce	VK2ZAD
D-Star Facilitator	Chris	VK2LOB
Education	Chris	VK2LOB
Field Day	Col	VK2ZCO
Lecture Co-ordinator	Fred	VK2FSP
Library	Victor	VK2BTV
Membership	Fred	VK2FSP
Project & Development	Bruce	VK2ZAD
Property	Ray	VK2HAY
Publicity	Doug	VK2FDCC
Repeater	Don	VK2ZCZ
Smoke Signals	Leonie	VK2LCP
Social Co-ordinator	Doug	VK2FDCC
Station Officer	Leon	VK2BLV
WICEN Liaison	Bob	VK2ZAR
Webmaster	Greg	VK2NGE

Repeaters **VK2RAG** (Site: Somersby. 300 Metres ASL)

VHF (time out 3 Min)	146.725 Mhz-123 & 91.5 Hz Tone
UHF (time out 3 Min)	438.075 Mhz-123 & 91.5 Hz Tone
	IRLP 6060
Morse Practice	439.725 Mhz-123 Hz Tone
Packet CCOAST	44.136.16.14
1200 bps	439.150/434.150 Mhz Duplex
APRS	145.175Mhz
Non Linked UHF voice	439.950 (under construction)
D-Star	146.6375 MHz (Usually "C" Node) 438.3250 MHz (Usually "B" Node)
Gateway Registration	<a href="https://122.252.16.155/Dstar.do">https://122.252.16.155/Dstar.do</a>

Repeaters **VK2RTG** (site: KARIONG, 150 Metres ASL)  
 ATV

Vision Carrier	In 1250 MHz Out 444.250 MHz
Sound Carrier	In 6.8 MHz +/- 75 KHz Out 449.75 MHz Polarity Horizontal
Multimode	439.300/434.300 MHz Duplex,

**VK2AFY** (site: KARIONG)

APRS	145.175 MHz
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**Senior Members**

Bill Aulsebrook	VK2SUB	Fred Parker	VK2FSP
Paul Clutter	VK2SPC	Leonie Parker	VK2LCP
Ursula Barker	XYL-VK2BTV	Ray Richards	VK2BRR
Ed Dyring	VK2ED	Gordon Saxby	
Dot Crutcher	XYL-VK2ZCZ	Dot Skinner	XYL-VK2ARI
Bruce Holland	V2ZAD	Ivan Skinner	VK2ARI
Dick Maitland	VK2BBK	Alan Swan	
Kevin Outlen	VK2ANT	Tom Walker	VK2NAU
		Evan Weaber	VK2AJV

**Honorary Members**

Tom Burt	VK2TB	Greg James	VK2GRJ
Ken Kirkby	VK2XAL	Peter Mudie	VK2XZP

**Life Members**

George Collie	VK2ZDC	Ray Tooby	VK2HAY
Ross Mudie	VK2ZRQ	Col Hodgson	VK2ZCO
Don Crutcher	VK2ZCZ	Bob Ridgley	VK2ZAR
Victor Barker	VK2BTV	Leon Brett	VK2BLV

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## President's Report

Looking back, 2009 has been a rather challenging and interesting year, several critical issues have been resolved, new ideas tested along with the purchase and installation of new equipment.

Several successful Foundation classes have been held, new members have joined CCARC, other club members have completed upgrading their licences while others are midway through the process.

Some outdoor field activities were tried with the intention being the enjoyment of the participants and the exposure of amateur radio to the general public.

The club excursion to Kurrajong Radio Museum proved a pleasant day though only a small number were able to attend. Attempted HF radio activation from Kurrajong Heights ( another attraction for the day ) was unsuccessful, too much radio noise.

D-Star installation is complete and operational, the new mast installation at Kariong is in its final stages and should be in use early in the new year.

Wyong Field Day 2009 was a rather busy event, new ideas were tried and will be continued while other ideas were not so successful.

Preparation for Field Day 2010 is progressing on schedule, trader/exhibitor lists are being finalised and club member responsibilities for the day have been published.

Remember, the Field Day is an important day in the CCARC's calendar requiring the full commitment and support of all members.

To conclude may I wish all club members and their families a restful and pleasant time over the festive season and extend best wishes for the new year.

Looking forward, 2010 will bring its own challenges, for example, new regulations from the Dept. of Lands and changing the club's year to align with the new requirements.

Cheers one and all,

Col

VK2ZCO

## Coming CCARC Events

**Friday 18 December** — 7.30pm at Club rooms  
Lecture Night: Discussion on Climate Change.  
Led by Col VK2ZCO. Interesting scientific information will be presented.

**Monday 11 January** — 7.30 at Club rooms  
Field Day meeting — All welcome. Come with your ideas

## Field Day News

At our Wyong Field Day in **28 February, 2010** we have for the ladies, gents and children a special group of people who are not Radio Enthusiasts.

These people have special craft skills ... and one group provides a very essential need for sick and injured native birds & animals.

On the top level of the Members Stand, we have our free tea and coffee area. Adjacent we have our own Amateur Television Experts display.

Near is the stand of The Embroiderer's Guild N.S.W. Inc. with a display of their skills and sales.

Adjacent is the display of the Central Coast Potters Society, they have a range of high class pottery, jewellery and sales.

Also on the same floor is a display by the Central Coast "Wires", this group will show case some of their very important work in saving the lives of sick and injured native animals. It is really a great display and well worth inspecting, it is unfortunate that the law prevents the showing of live animals.

All these groups of people need your interest to view the work and perhaps buy some of their creations.

Because of the proposed actions\*\* by the Dept. of Lands our Club really needs the full support from all Members before and on the day for the forthcoming Wyong Field Day. Please Members help our Club stage the Best Amateur Radio Field Day ever.

### **\*\*Did you know about this??**

This proposed action of the Dept. Of Lands was mentioned at the December Business meeting.

It could impact on the Club's finances and therefore it is imperative that the Field Day continues to be the success it has always been.

***This is why it is vital for ALL club members to participate as much as they are possibly able.***

Many thanks to Graham Vk2 GRA for mowing the grass at Kariong during the last week in November, it was very much appreciated. He saw the need and offered his assistance.



## WIA National News Again On Video

For the second week in a row, video footage of the weekly WIA National News presented by Bryan VK3HXR and Robert VK3DN is available for download.

<http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2009/20091205-1/index.php>



## CCARC Excursion to Kurrajong Radio Museum

Saturday 14 November 2009

As the departure time of 08:30hrs from the clubhouse rolled around we had five starters- Graham VK2GRA (leader), Col VK2ZCO and XYL Anne, Sam VK2ZZ and Pete VK2TPT. Waiting.....waiting..... and still waiting. So where are the rest of the starters who put their hand up at the meeting? Deciding "that was that" we hit the road and with good traffic flow we were at Richmond Air Base in no time at all where we had a wee (little) break at the pit-stop. This was actually

planned for as we were warned that only one toilet would be available for the anticipated larger group at the museum. *Well, that's not a worry now with 5 is it!?*

Anyway we were greeted by Ian's better half, Pat, who had a nice large spread of bikkies, tea and coffee waiting for us. After scoffing that down under the trees, in the company of some large garden skinks, we commenced what we really came for. Graham and Sam relived experiences with the military memorabilia, Col had a ball going through just about every nook and cranny, and Anne spent the time wondering how she



could best pay back Col for dragging her to this place. You held in well Anne! Yours truly was,

of course, up to it with anything and everything CW which was a real buzz until Ian presented a terrifying copy challenge of high speed numbers on the recording of a clandestine event, complete with the sound of a ships engine in the background. Daunting but coooool!

We even had the opportunity to listen to a crystal set! Wow, big deal eh? Well, this one, put through an amplifier, provided a rich listening pleasure, far exceeding what would be expected from such a simple device, all proudly and fondly displayed by Ian, who never shows a lack of enthusiasm for his collection.

It was now 13:00 and stomachs were grumbling- as well as Anne..., so 'twas time to bid farewell to Ian, Pat and "the gear". Our lunch destination was the Kurrajong Hotel further up the mountain where the views are stupendous, the meals excellent, well priced and served by very friendly staff. With a little time to spare Col erected his squid-pole which reeled in plenty of attention from pub patrons as well as comment from one passing motorist who was wondering what we were trying to catch. "Just radio waves mate...." HI HI.

And with that, we made it back to base by about 16:00.

A big thanks to you Graham for organising this day.

Ian and Pat- if you are reading this article I would like to thank you again, on behalf of our group, for all the courtesy and support you provided on this really great day.

73 de Pete

VK2TPT



## *Important Notices*

### MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

After a four month trial of the monthly business meetings being held on a Saturday afternoon and following much discussion at the December meeting it has been resolved that the Club Monthly Business Meetings will in future be held on the first Friday of the month at the Clubrooms commencing at 7.30 pm.

Greg James VK2GRJ  
Secretary

### ***If we are Amateur Radio Enthusiasts we should promote it to the public***

Is there any members or group of members who are prepared to staff a stand at the Gosford Water Front on Australia Day in January 2010.

If there is some response please phone Ray VK2HAY on (02) 4325 2182, We can purchase a Gazebo for protection from the sun, it may be away to show some interest in Radio to our citizens.



### JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING

At the December meeting it has been decided that the usual January 2010 Business Meeting will not be held due to it falling in the long weekend. The **next** Monthly Business Meeting will be held **on Friday 5 February 2010** in the Clubrooms commencing at 7.30 pm.

Greg James VK2GRJ  
Secretary



## **Have you signified your intention?**

You may have seen your name on page 6 of last months' "Smoke Signals". You were allocated a job at our Wyong Field Day. If you haven't yet let Col VK2ZCO, Ray VK2HAY or Greg VK2GRJ know that you are happy to help, please do so now so a full roster can be organised.

**Perhaps** your name was not on any of the lists and you would like to be included in that great band of members and their XYL's who do such sterling service for our club. If so would you please let Col, Ray or Greg know as soon as possible. (What would we do without the families of our members? We do very much appreciate their help).

### **Another thought ... !**

Could you perchance be mystified about what these tasks entail. Maybe you would like to help but don't know what might be involved.

Well, worry no more — on the back page there is a complete list detailing the task description.

Some start and finish early, some start later, meaning after you have finished helping you will have time to visit the stands, seminars and other goodies to your heart's content.

Unfortunately some members for various reasons are no longer able to fully participate in Field Day activities, we would like to thank those members for their support in earlier years.

However, the success of this club and its continuance depends greatly on the success of the Field Day. Please make every effort to be a part of that success.

# *Wyong Field Day* – 28 February 2010

## *Job Descriptions*

### **Traders / Exhibitors**

Main liaison between Traders / Exhibitors and the CCARC.

Assist Traders / Exhibitors locating their display areas etc.

Will need to be aware of and assist vehicular movements in the trading area prior to 0900 hrs

### **Treasury**

To keep control of and account for funds distributed and collected through the day.

Prepare collected funds for final counting.

### **Gate / Ticketing**

This is an early start function.

To permit entry to Traders / Exhibitors and Club members.

To collect entry fees from public and issue entry tickets.

Careful accounting of tickets issued will allow us to determine the number of visitors.

Mostly finished by 1100 hrs.

### **Tea / Coffee**

Start preparations in time for 0900 hrs opening time.

Maintain supply of biscuits tea and coffee etc to counter keep up adequate supplies of boiling water.

May be needed to wipe down tables etc at regular intervals.

### **Seminars**

Organise seminar equipment eg. Screen, Overhead Projector, Data Projector cables, Blackout curtains etc.

To assist in initial crowd control for entry and exit and to assist seminar presenters as much as possible.

### **Raffle Control**

Control the distribution of ticket booklets and initial float to sellers.

To collect and account for collected monies and place ticket stubs in barrel for final drawing.

Draw the raffle approx 1030 hrs., announce the winners and to present prizes

### **Amateur TV**

Mostly self sufficient, George and Victor have this stand well under control.

### **Information and Public Address**

Function: To serve as a coordinating and control centre for club members, the public and for traders / exhibitors.

To make announcements throughout the day advising the public of Traders present and any special offers they may have.

To announce and promote various activities eg. Seminars and Raffle.

### **Club Radio Station**

Function: Initial operation as "talk in" to provide communications and directional information for visitors.

Later to be an active "on air" station for interested persons, prospective Foundation licensees etc

### **Club Trading Table / Name Tags**

Operate near the Information Office to provide visitors with "stick on" labels for names.

Oversee the display and sale of any Club Member's equipment presented for sale

### **Crowd Control ( until 0900 hrs )**

Function: To keep unauthorised persons out of the trading / exhibitor area to allow unhindered preparation of Trader / Exhibitor stands.

Patrol barricades and only permit Traders / Exhibitors and other authorised persons into the trading area.

These people will be easily identified by wearing passes.

This function ends at 0900 hrs. when the public will be allowed access to the trading area

### **Raffle Ticket Sellers - NB Early start.**

Operate under direction of Bob VK2FULL.

Prior to 0900 hrs will be required to move through visitors in the Flea Market area and those awaiting entry to the trader / exhibitor area to sell as many tickets as possible.

Post 0900 hrs to move through all public areas selling tickets.

Ticket selling should be finished by 1000 hrs.