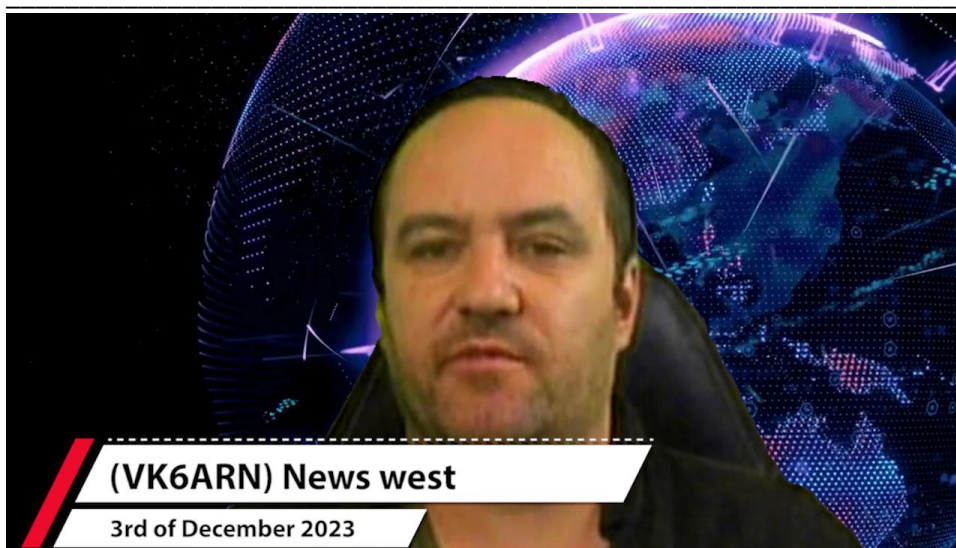


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This is VK6 ARN News West. We are a community organization and we've been serving up the best amateur radio news in Australia since 1931.



Hi there, I'm Clinton VK6FCRC and welcome to News West for the 3rd of December 2023. Now on with the show



Good day from WAG this is. Radio repeater group This is World News. I'm Mark VK 6 FI VE telling you that our final meeting for 2023 is Monday, December the 4th. Hope to see you there if you can make it where #12 Australia two drive all the way down the end past the Yacht Club on the left. Doors open at 7:00 PM for a 7:30 PM start. We've got tea, we've got coffee, we've got bikkies. I'm reliably informed that there's gonna be some home baked munchies, so, well, you know, come along for those. If nothing else, plenty of time to catch up. Have a bit of a chitchat before and after the meeting. Now WAG News, our ATMA validation notice has arrived, giving us a chance to review our licensing prior to the five year renewal. The upcoming change to class licensing does not apply to repeaters and beacons. They remain as apparatus licences. And still need paying, still have a degree of interference protection. Our active sites will naturally be renewed, but we need to consider what we do with the previous category. We K6 RCT licences, we no longer have the site. Do we retain the call sign in case we find a few? This side or relinquishing reset up later on. Also we still have 3 advanced licenses. We are paying for the K6 RG our club calls 9 VK 6 BBS Packet Service Wireless Hill and VK 6 BR the old call sign from the packet station at Roleystone. We have only been offered one year renewal for these as they should transition to the class licence and be free from then on. Otherwise, news Matt VK 6ML volunteered in October to step up as secretary as the position is currently vacant. This should be a decision made on Monday. We still need to set a date for regarding Work Busy Bee at six RLM. This of course depends on the availability of travel the K6 Mike Sugar. Also we need to move our old equipment storage container from the Hillview Scout site. However, the old box is very rusty and likely not in a fit state to transfer. Accordingly, the November meeting passed a motion to investigate purchase of a replacement container and also investigate other storage options. Following the meeting, we were offered another container for free. If we cover the costs and effort of moving it, this may be a suitable way forward. If we are going to do this, there's a bit of work that's needed to prepare this container for the move and actually shifting it. So there's a lot of things going on at WAG at the moment and you can come along. Tomorrow night to the meeting, be part of the discussion. Be part of making a difference in amateur radio in WA. Remember, it's a central location. If you live up north, head South. If you live down South, head north. If you live in

the east, head West. If you live in the West like you, head east. Hope to see you at the meeting tomorrow night. This has been marked BK6, FIBA 4 BK 6 RG.



Hi, I'm Steve K6SJ with this week's episode of Did You Know. In the past, how about a radio has played a more significant role in emergency communications and seems to be the case now. 30 to 40 years ago, hams were the experts in radio and could weave their magic to assist the community in times of need. These days the tables mostly turned and emergency services have their own highly skilled teams with vast networks covering a large chunk of the state, 000 call centres, tactical comms plans etc, to the point where now we are only involved in emergency communications at a volunteer level and then only in small pockets. Peelamedu radiograph for one such group and Weissen another. Although I can't say that much about Wissens activities, sounds like a good article for Weissen to produce. Page worked closely with their local SCS team and I believe provide a lot of value to the equation with data, comms, comms, trailers and trained operators, etc. Talking to a lot of public safety agency personnel, particularly ones who aren't hams, you get a faint smile and rolling of the eyes if you talk about the amateur sector, giving me the impression that we that we've lost a lot of ground in respect from that sector. I'm not going to delve into the wires of that, but because it's a non productive. Having said that, there are a lot of hams who are also members of various volunteer and professional emergency service organisations. So there's a latent opportunity, I believe, in starting that conversation with the emergency services sector and really rebuilding that relationship, albeit in a different way to the past. Like it's also incumbent on the various clubs to also engage at a more local level, and perhaps organisations like the WIA to engage with public safety agencies on a national scale to see what assistance from the amateur sector would be of value. On that note, I think the conversation needs to revolve around what the emergency services sector would value, not just what we would enjoy delivering. In addition, providing the use of our stations including repeaters during an emergency on their terms, not ours. This could be as simple as having a couple of extra antennas on a mast with the means of easily connecting it to a portable repeater means that comms team could turn up at your site, plug a repeater into the spare antennas and fed as you have so they can easily set up a site. If there were a network of these sites made available with no preconditions, IE they just turn up and use them. This would be something of value and at no cost or additional effort to our emergency service teams or ourselves. This would be a similar

setup to the network of water tanks, pools and dams that are made available to fire services to save time in refilling tankers. As a group we could agree on what we are providing. HF site I use has a V for NEHF omnidirectional pair of antennas with feeders being terminated in an enclosure at the base of the mast within type bulkhead sockets to make it easy to connect a portable repeater. This could be added to a database and provided to relative, agency says. If they ever needed the facility, they know where it is and what is there. Same can be done for HF communications. This is one area I think the amateur sector is fast becoming the last bastion of expertise in. PUG are using this to good effect with their data comms capability, but on a different note, maybe there's there could be a way that ham HF sites could be seconded and accessed remotely to provide a more robust network for any agency working outside the Perth metro area. As a group we have a decent repeated network that may augment emergency service networks outside the Perth Metro. The size of us that own repeated sites allowed emergency services to have access to our networks, with the occasional training day to test the viability of the networks. This could be seen to be of value as well. Setting upper mains for agencies having priority access, perhaps using CTCSS. Then it's just becomes another redundancy option that comes at no additional cost to the taxpayer or us as the owners of the sites. These are things that help us to justify the continued access to spectrum that we currently enjoy. This and activities like Jota also ensure we retain relevance to the community, further justifying our existence. Along these lines, the conflict playing out in Ukraine makes me think of what the amateur community could be doing to be prepared someday for a similar event in Australia. I'm not advocating we run out the backyard and start building a bomb shelter and collecting cans of baked beans. But if something like this happened to the Ukrainians, happened here. I'm going to radio could easily end up being the only form of publicly available communications. What can we do to ensure that we can provide some value to the community and that kind of event? Food for thought 0. Well, thanks for listening again. This is Steve K6J with another episode of Did You Know?



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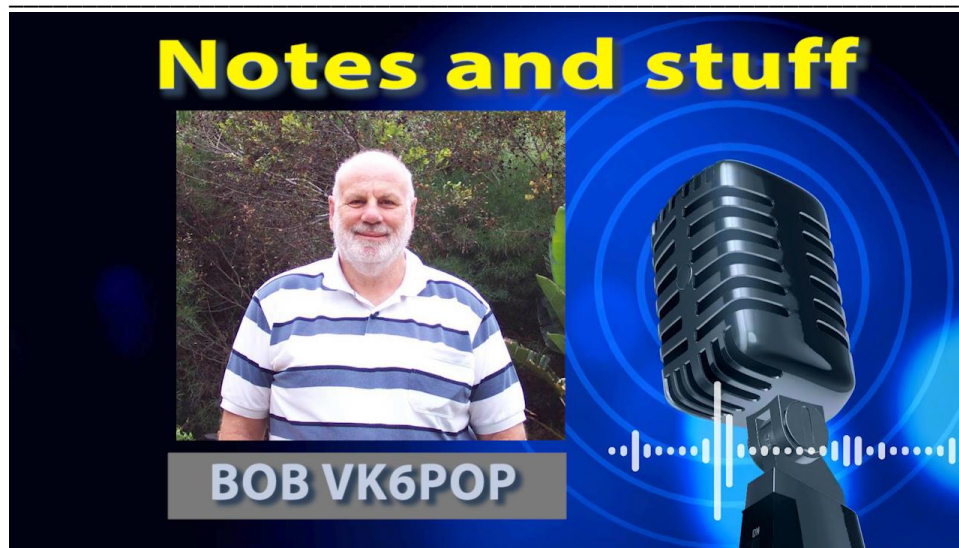
Covering WA and beyond, This is News Waste brought to you by WA Amateur Radio News on air, online and on demand. This is VK 6 ARN and I'm Mark VK 4 MHQ.



Hello everyone, this is Clive VK 6CSW reminding you that the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club of Australia's December Bulletin goes to air to Morrow. This month, as well as the latest club news, I'll be relating a recent story regarding some pitfalls when hiring a Tesla EV. This will be followed by an AI generated discussion on the history of the transistor and its early development. Every one of ROTC members and non members alike is most welcome to listen to the program and to join in the callbacks afterwards. Some broadcast details At 8:00 AM local time tomorrow there's a transmission via the digital mobile radio. On the VK DMR network Torque Group 5 at 9:00 AM, Chris Week 6 Ji will transmit the bulletin on 80 meters on 3620 kHz. At 10:00 AM there's a transmission via the newest linked repeater system with a simultaneous transmission on 40 metres on 7088 kHz, again by Chris Speak Six Ji. On Wednesday, December the 6th, we have Ad Star broadcast at 4:30 PM local time. This will be transmitted via Dstar Reflector 91C and will follow the AR news line. On Sunday, December the 10th repeats of the ROTC Bulletin follow the 160 metre and 40 metre broadcasts of the WIA news. Full details of all transmission times and frequencies are published on the ROTC website raotc.org dot AU or just Google ROTC broadcasts. If none of these times suit you, you can download the audio file at any time from today. If you do download the file, some brief feedback comments would be appreciated. The next lunchtime meeting for members and Friends of the ROTC is on Tuesday the 12th of December at the Woodbridge Hotel, 50 E St. Guildford. We meet at 11:30 for midday lunch. An attractive, well priced seniors menu is available which can be viewed online. Everyone's welcome to join in and have an eyeball QSO. There's adequate car parking, but if coming by train, be sure to alight at Guildford E repeat Guilford East Station. Full details are on the club website. Under the heading Luncheons. As per usual there is no REOC bulletin in January, but we'll be back on Monday, February the 5th. Best wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year. Once again, TuneIn tomorrow for the December broadcast. So we look forward to hearing your call sign in the callbacks SIM 3 from Clive VK 6 CSW.



Hi, just a little note about VK Six RG and the WAG technical and general net having it run every Sunday morning on VK 6 RLM that's 146 decimal 750 or channel 3 in the old money and it starts at 10:30 AM this morning of course if. You're listening in the evening. It's next week.



Apologies for my absence and patchy contributions. Over the last few weeks I've been messing with medical stuff, making doctors more wealthy and pharmacists my favorite drug dealers. Perhaps I'll start an 80 metre net so I can give you the gory details, but nevertheless, amateur radio keeps rolling along as it does. You would have seen the recent announcements by the ACMA that all's well with the planning for the handing over of exam and licensing processes and the implementation in February of the class licence. The ICMA also said that they will have information on the surrender of amateur licences and eligibility for a pro rata refund of the tax paid. This will affect people who have recently renewed their licence or are just about to. What is still of concern is how the ACM plans to address the high power issue, as they were proposing to make some confusing adaptation of the scientific licence. This looks like it will become unnecessarily complex considering that many other countries working under the Harrick

qualifications for amateur radio are allowing high power operation. And apparently nobody's dying. Russ's submission to the ACMA dealt with a high power issue in detail, giving evidence based suggestions to the regulator to support the introduction of one kilowatt for advanced operators in Australia. Ross's submission also included the research paper by doctor Andrew Smith, which concluded that there was no evidence anywhere that neither amateur radio operators, their families, nor innocent bystanders, nobody has been harmed by an amateur radio station operating at one kilowatt. There are also issues about club call signs and special event call signs. They seem to have come up with some rather silly ideas about how they can be issued and used, so hopefully there's been enough feedback from Russia and other people to make them put together some sensible arrangements. All we can do is wait and see if common sense will prevail. I'm Bob Vicki, 6 POP.



If you happen to listen to the right part of the 80m band on a Tuesday evening, you might hear something that sounds like this. The CQRS net has been running every single Tuesday for the last two years and has been unbelievably popular. There are usually half a dozen, a dozen and a couple of times up to 18 stations popping in and out when they can over the four or five hours. The aim is to encourage new CW operators to have a go at slow CW in a safe and really friendly environment where slow speed and lots of mistakes. A power for the course. It's all about having a go, starting with the basic call sign and RST exchange, then over time getting better and better. The net also attracts its fair share of old timers who enjoy helping others to have a go or just to enjoy the banter. So this might be just the opportunity you've been waiting for to have a go at transmitting on CW, or perhaps just to stop the contacts rusting up on your key. Whether you're brand new to the code, or if you're an old timer who would like to have a bit of fun and help encourage new operators by having simple, safe Qsos at their speed, we'd love to have you join in. The net starts at 0900 Zulu every Tuesday on 80 metres between 3540 and 3570 kHz and their stations in the West East and in between listening out for your CQRS call. For more information and to receive our weekly CQRS Ragu newsletter, contact me mark VK 6 Qi via my e-mail address on qrz.com. Or you can e-mail me direct.markbosma@icloud.com that is MAR.k.bosicloud.com Too much switch mode power supply hash on 80 meters. This might be the incentive to do something about it with the cheap noise canceller costing less than 100. 80 metres could be easier

than you think. So once again, Tuesdays from 0900 Zulu until late between 3540 kHz and 3570 kHz. Cheers from mark VK two Ki and VK 6 Qi.



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This is VK SIX ARN and you're listening to News West.

Foundations of Amateur Radio. Amateur radio is an activity enjoyed by many people around the world. How many exactly is cause for debate. The most recent official figure we have is from the IAU, the International Amateur Radio Union. In 2020 it counted over 3 million people, but an article written a year later. Puts that figure at 1.75 million. In Australia, there is a common narrative that the total amateur population is in undeniable decline. Some think that it's on a stark decline. Interested in hard data. For years I've been collecting information around the amateur population in Australia and I can report that across the nine years that I have data for the total. Variation is within 2% and it's not a straight line down either. There was a dip in 2020 potentially associated with training and callsign allocation being moved from the Wireless Institute of Australia to the Australian Maritime College, something which is going to change again shortly when amateur licensing in Australia will revert to the regulator. The Australian Communications and Media Authority. If you're familiar with amateur licensing in Australia, that's not the only change. But that's not what I'm looking at today, mainly because the available information associated with the upcoming changes are limited at best, seemingly buried in invective at worst. Back to the topic at hand, one of the often heard responses in relation to the decline of our hobby is recruitment of new amateurs. It's a topic that I've spent plenty of time over the past decade contemplating. How do you share the joy of amateur radio with a general public who is apathetic to the preconceived ideas associated with this hobby? You know old white men sitting in the dark with Moe's keys. For the record, I prefer a shack with light. And I still don't know how to use a Morse key other than to make my radio beep. The rest is genetic. In the quest for spreading the word, there's a repeated emphasis on the young, often coalescing around the annual Jamboree on the air or jota, as organised between scouting groups and radiometers. I have previously said that Jotaro was how I first came across amateur radio, but at the time, aged 15 or so, I had no money for such endeavours. And the experience didn't resonate with me until decades later. So you could argue that this is what

changed me into an amateur, but the reality is that I had to come across the hobby a few more times before I got interested enough to investigate something which I have spoken about before. In short, Meg, then Victor K6LUX introduced me to the concept of controlling a 2.4 gigahertz. Phone using higher power than was permitted with standard Wi-Fi equipment. I was hawked and got my license list than a month later. I then discovered that I needed more permissions and set about studying, only to get distracted with everything I could already do. I'm still being distracted today, so Jota is a potential touchpoint. But I see little evidence that the initial spark goes anywhere in a hurry. I'm not dismissing it as a way to have amateur radio gain relevance outside our own community, but perhaps there are other ways to make this happen. In the early days of my journey, I attended country fairs with my club and we set up a radio, all six to show and tell. There was talk of doing this in a shopping centre at the local hardware store and even brief discussions about doing this at the local electronic store. As enjoyable as this was, none of it ever appeared to generate any permanent interest. And I don't recall seeing new amateurs suddenly appear at the club after any outings. Last week, Glynn Victor K6PAW and I set up at the local airport, YPPH. That's Perth International Airport. If you're not familiar with the designation allocated by the United Nations arm ICAO or the International Civil Aviation Organisation, Perth has a public viewing area. It's situated at the southwestern end of runway 0321. It's an elevated position with minimal shade, some seating, and your 320 meters from the runway center line. It's a place where plane spotters congregate and now a few radio amateurs. One thing we have in common is an interest in radio. We were told that the plane spotters often listen to one or two frequencies. And if they're into video, they might record one radio channel to include on their YouTube videos. When Glenn and I visited, we had a few radios with us. When I say few, in amateur terms, we only had about 5:00 or so, but I suppose that comes with the territory as it happens, admittedly not by accident. Our radios could receive air band frequencies, so we could tune to Perth Tower, Perth arrival, Perth Ground, Perth departure and Melbourne Central all at the same time. Next time we'll likely bring some HF gears so we can also listen to HF aviation frequencies as well. While I was hosting F troop there weekly net for new and returning amateurs, midnight UTC every Saturday morning for an hour, Glenn was busy talking and sharing with the plane spotting community. There were conversations around what radios and antennas to use. How you could tune to more than one frequency at the same time. How you could use software defined radios. How to set U radios so you could have different channels appear at the left or the right, in the middle or somewhere in between which will allow you to focus on a particular radio call as it happens. Also I should mention a piece of software called RTL Air Band. Which allows you to use an RTL SDR dongle to do this at home. But I digress. There was a steady stream of people looking at planes and their age was surprising. Age 3 to 93 or so. Of course not all were into the radio, but plenty word afterwards. It occurred to us that there might be other venues like this attracting people who are interested in radio for their own purposes. I have no doubt that we'll be back to Perth Airport, but I suspect we'll also see if we can find other spotters. Train, ship and other airports come to mind immediately. I can't wait to learn about other people's uses and interests in radio, even if radio isn't the main attraction in their hobby. Perhaps you can think of some that you'd like to share. Getting on air and making noise is one way to get outside, but publicly listening to frequencies that others are interested in is a perfect excuse to play with radios. I'm mono, a Victor K6FLAB.

This is News W your amateur radio news on VK 6 ARN originating on the News W linked repeater network and HF relays.

Good morning.

This is Roy VK 6X Victor with the helpline for today, a brand new month. Happy December everyone, the 3rd of December 2023. What do I have for you today all? I've got a Uniden 40 channel UHF CBI presume mobile unit for \$100. I have a Kenwood TS711A2 meter transceiver \$350 as a Kenwood TS811A70 centimetre 432 megahertz. If you prefer transceiver \$350.00, a Kenwood R5000 communication receiver. \$200 is an ICOM 3200A2 meter 70 centimetre transceiver with Kenwood Puppet 10, power supply \$400.00, a pair, a Daiwa controller and rotator \$300.00. All units in very good working order. Comes with driveway warranty. You know that means contact Barry VK 6L for DI on email.brivo.juliet.burns@bigpond.com. That's bravo dot Juliet dot burns by. A URNS at bigpond.com or mobile 0428959771 again 0428959771. I also have a Flex transceiver A-6700 transceiver, 3 years old but in pristine condition. Premium software defined transceiver comes with expert advice on how to use it and version 3 firmware asking 8K dollars. Also an icon. A 2000 amplifier capable of two kilowatts. Senator dummy load with about 85 Watt drive and has brand new tubes. And while it is the earlier version comes with earlier and latest version controller asking 6K for that or 12K for both as a package called Steve on his mobile 0447767518044776. 27518 or e-mail to Ste. VICTOR ECHO at kennedy-sarahjuliet.com dot AU at steve@kennedy-sarahjuliet.com dot AU AU Did I give you his phone number? Yes. Did. That'll do for now, because my tongue gets like my tongue gets caught between my teeth and I can't do much about it. Must be getting old. This is Roy VK 6X Victor. My e-mail address is VK 6X. victor@bigpond.com or roy.watkins@bigpond.com will also get me. And until next week, I Wish you Well 73

Hi there. It's Clinton VK Six FCC back with you. And did you know that News W is now on YouTube? Type in.youtube.com/ at newest weekly podcast. Dash KZ7YC Oh, and before I go, I'd like to thank those watching on YouTube or ATV the readers and you for listening. I'd also like to thank our team, the broadcasters, and those submitting content each week. Please stand by now for callbacks after the broadcast or head over to the VCA 6.net website and fill out the forms so we know how many people are listing each week.