

20240714



This is BK6 ARN News West. We are a community organisation and we've been serving up the best amateur radio news in Australia since 1931.

Hi there, it's Clinton VK 6 FCC and welcome to News W for the 14th of July 2024. Now I'm with the show.

Hello from Dennis Fico 6 AKR for the WA VHF Group Incorporated. Sincere thank you to those of you who are able to participate in last week's impromptu VHF and above session

on the Saturday afternoon. The response in favour of the event on air, through emails and in face to face conversations is gratifying. How can we build upon the success of this on air activity? Next Saturday the 20th is another scheduled club activity day, but once again the cottage is unavailable so we need to invent something in its place. Should we concentrate on HF the next time or continue with VHF and above? But this time everyone? Westgate Portable making it more field day like. Please exchange thoughts on WA hams and let's see what can be achieved. Would another club like to coordinate next week's adventure? During the week, a couple of SSTV sessions on the two metre band proved our ability to exchange images. During the week, a couple of SSTV sessions on the two metre band proved our ability to exchange images. Thanks to Alistair VK680X, Dave VK 6 KV and Randall VK 6 WR for giving this a try. Thanks to Bob VK 6 POP for giving a very useful heads up on the Easy Pal software and a good reminder of the STV activity taking place regularly on 40 metres here in Perth. One of the items discovered in Wally VK 6 KZ Silent Key Man Cave is an ATV transmitter for the 70 centimetre band. It has been built from an early Minikits project and when we have access again to the cottage for a genuine activity day, we'll see if its magic smoke has been released or not. Finally, Two Reminders and Craig is hosting their Ham Fest in late August and raffle tickets are on sale. Perth Tech comes up in late September so there is plenty on the amateur calendar in the next little while. Thanks for listening and really hope to hear you on air next Saturday. 73 Dennis V. They six AKR for the W VHF group.

There's not too many weeks to go until the Anzia G Ham Fest is on again. That means it's time to stock up on tickets in the NCR GM Fest raffle. This year the raffle have 4 prizes, a \$2000 voucher for Andrews Communications for you to buy whatever you want, a Yaesu FTM 350 Watt mobile. A Yaesu FT70DR handheld and if Yasu isn't your brand, there's \$100 voucher from Horizon Antennas. Tickets are on sale now ending at 12 noon on the 25th of August at the NCR GM Fest. Tickets are \$5 per entry and are available for sale across NSW, Queensland, SA, Tasmania, Victoria and of course WA. Full raffle and prize details are available via the raffle link URL on the website at [ncg.org dot AU](http://ncg.org.au). Don't forget to come and join the club and our guest sellers on August 25th. At the Cyril Jackson Rec Centre at the end of Fisher St. in Bassendean. A big shout out to the NCG Ham Fest committee who are working really hard to bring you a bumper event. I'm Glenn Victor, K6PAW for the Northern Corridor Radio Group 7/3.

There are some contests coming up soon that I'd encourage everyone to have a go at, whether you're a hardened contester or a rank amateur and there were no puns included there. Next weekend is the Trans Tasman Low Bands contest and as its name suggests, it's

an Aussie Kiwi contest and it's on the low bands 16080 and 40 metres. So there should be enough action to keep you interested. The next Aussie contest is the Remembrance Day contest on the weekend 17th and 18th of August. The Rd. contest was put into place to honour those amateurs who perished in wars and I'm certain we also honour those who were adversely affected at all. Back to the contest, it's known as the Friendly contest. Yes, we stop and say hi. Good to hear you on air again. Things like that. Thanks for the numbers, etcetera. It's only a month away, so it's time to make some decisions and preparation for this contest to help you decide whether or not you'll do the contest. Just remember that although it's a 24 hour contest, you don't have to operate for the full 24 hours unless you really want to. You can operate in bits or periods. During that 24 hour period, also on that weekend is the International Lighthouse and Light Ships Weekend, which isn't a contest. However, if you hear an Aussie or Kiwi station calling CQ for the Lighthouse and Light Ships Weekend, respond to them and they'll give you an exchange for the Rd. and put you in their log as a contact in fact. They may well be keeping an Rd. log at the same time. It would be good to hear from people or groups who would be doing Yardie contest or the International Lighthouse and Light Ships Weekend. How about it? Let us know. News W at vk6.net.

If you happen to listen to the right part of the 80 metre 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 par for the course. It's all about having a go, starting with the basic call sign and RT 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. Doesn't matter. 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 QSO's 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 three 570 kilohertz 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 Rag 2 newsletter, contact me, Mark VK 6 Qi via my e-mail address on qrz.com. Or you can e-mail me direct mark.bosma@icloud.com that is MAR k.b.osma@icloud.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 meters could be easier than you think. So once again, Tuesdays from

0900 Zulu until late between 3540 kilohertz and three 570 kilohertz cheers from Mark the K2 Ki and VK 6 Qi.

WAG news for the 14th of July. The technical and general net will be happening at 10:30 local this morning after the news on 146 Decimal 750VK6 RLM also known as Channel 3. Unless you're listening in the evening then you've missed it till next week. The next meeting of WAG will be on the 1st Monday of August. That's August 5th and will be held at the First Midland Scout hall #10 Helen St. in Bellevue. Come along, come one come all 7:00 PM for a 7:30 PM start. Tea, coffee and refreshments available for gold coin donation. There is always plenty of time for social catch up both before and after. After the meeting, the WAG website can be found at www.wrg.org.au, that's WAG org AU and we have a Facebook group search on Facebook for West Australian Repeater group. We hope to see you at the meeting in two weeks time. And hear you on the weekly technical and general net after this morning's news.

This is VK 6 RG and you are listening to the K6 ARM's News West.

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On Friday, Raza, the Radio Amateur Society of Australia, released an information bulletin, QTC Light. The main item which is of interest to all clubs, so club committee members listen up. The main item concerns the Australian Tax Officers recent announcement that all incorporated associations that have an ACT of ABN which stands for Australian Business Number. Must lodge a not-for-profit self review return to assess income tax exemption. Lodgements are required to be made from the two thousand 2324 income year onward. So for a lot of us that's sort of now. A RATHER team member contacted the Australian Tax Office to seek clarification and a summary of the advice given is in the bulletin, along with some relevant links to follow. And I must say, a taxation adviser that's all I'm going to say on this at this point, except to advise clubs to read the bulletin. Look the Tax Office Book club in line with taxation law and I'd like to hear from a club that has completed the process. Was it harsh? Was it easy, Was it a walk in the park? I'd like to know. Russ's Foundation Level Study Guide is aimed at those wishing to begin their amateur radio career at entry level. The study guide is based on all of the learning outcomes of the Australian Foundation licensed syllabus. Differently to printed books, the Foundation study Guide has live links. Whether you view it as a PDF file or in its online magazine format. The study

guide has live links to supporting information and purpose made instructional videos. The Foundation Level Study Guide is proving to be popular with downloads of the PDF version passing 500 last weekend and is still steadily climbing. Visit the RASA website to download this and other free resources from Raza. The website is vkradioamateurs.org. That's. Vkradioamateurs.org and while you're on the website. Please consider joining up or donating to Rasa. We're only asking 10 bucks or more. If you can spare it, your contribution will be well spent. Rasa operates efficiently and we pay for the services that we use. And we cost way less in a year than it costs to own and run the average family car when you think about how much rice offers. Free to all amateurs. We do pretty well. Your support would be appreciated so we can do more for amateur radio. Russ's website is vkradioamateurs.org. I'm Bob VK 6 PP and I'm the Vice President of Russia

for Sunday the 14th of July. This is Weisen news Monday evening this past week saw. Meeting for Weiss and WA Weisen, WA has seen returning members, new members and some latent new interest in the group. The meeting saw a quorum and a full committee, less one open general committee position was elected. So we have a chair and vice secretary. And Treasurer as well as one general committee member. This sets us up for remaining good with the department and keeps our incorporation intact. Some decisions were taken at the meeting and will begin to be implemented in the forthcoming month or so. There is, I am sure, now a little bit of a learning curve for each of the new committee members. Myself included. Also at the meeting Christine VK 6ZLZ offered the Post Office box PO Box number 425, Cannington, WA 6987 for use by Wise and WA. So if you wanna contact WISON in WA or WAG in WA. Clear Box 425, Cannington, WA 6987 The News W broadcast will continue to be one of our points of contact and more wiser news will be forthcoming as we rebuild in WA moving forward. Thank you to all who came to the Special General Meeting and to those who have stepped forward. To fulfill committee positions this year at the meeting it was decided that Wison WA will combine the 80 metre and two metre Nets that members with 80 metres will listen concurrently at 20 hours each Wednesday night at the same time as the two metronet will now be taking place. On the K6R LM 146, decimal 750 and linked repeaters. So from now, the Wednesday night Nets will both be at 8:00 PM. Local 3, decimal 599 plus or minus and the K6 RLM and links. Listen for more news from Weisen in coming weeks and months. Full VK 6WIE, this is Mark VK 6XLZ.

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Foundations of amateur radio Australia has a long relationship with call signs over time the regulator today the ACMA, the Australian communications and media authority has seen fit to introduce different types of call signs and restrictions associated with those call signs the change that. Did the most waves. Most recently was the introduction of the so-called F core. It's a call sign that looks like mine. Victor Kilo seeks FLAB. It has a VK prefix for Australia, the number six indicating my state WA. Then the letter F foxtrot followed by a suffix of 3 letters. This type of call sign was introduced in 2005. To this day, there are plenty of amateurs on air who don't believe that this is a real call sign, to the point where some refuse to make contact or ways make inflammatory statements about getting a real call sign. And that's just the letters, let alone those who think that the call sign denotes a lack of skill or. Knowledge demanding that the amateur upgrade their license to a real one. At the time of introduction, the apparent intent was to indicate that the holder was licensed as a foundation or beginner. In 2020 this was changed and existing F core holders were able to apply for a new call sign if they desired. Some did, many did not. Currently there are 13185. Of calls active and there are 37148 Foundation class call signs in the registry. After this change, you might think that all call signs in Australia are now either two or three letter suffixes, as in Victor K6AA or Victor K6AAA. Actually, the FCAL continues to exist and there are now also 2 by 1 calls Victor K6A intended for contesters. Of popular idea is that the F call is for Foundation Licence class amateurs only. There are currently 10 standard in 16 advanced license class holders with an FCO. There are also two special event call signs that sport an F call. With the addition of contest call signs, new prefixes Victor Juliet and Victor Lima were introduced, which brought with it the notion that you could use those new prefixes for your call sign. Currently, only contest call signs are allocated with Victor Juliet and Victor Lima prefixes. An often repeated idea is that we are running out of coal signs. Well, there are 1,434,160 possible call signs if we count each prefix. Each state single, double, triple and F calls across all prefixes. As it happens, there are present 15,859 assigned and 53 pending call signs. If not all, then surely we're running out of real call signs? Nope. If we look at the VK prefix alone, less than 10% of available call signs have been allocated. OK, we're running out of contest call signs. Nope. There are 1040 possible contest called signs and only 188 allocated. Another popular notion is that we've run out of two letter call signs. That is, the suffix is only two letters. Again, no. There are 3553 allocated out of 6760. Less than 53% has been assigned. Surely some states appear to have run out of two letter call signs. Well, maybe theoretically each state has 676 two letter call signs, but none have all of those allocated. For example, VK three with 675 allocated 2 letter suffixes. Is missing a victor K3NG for no discernable reason? More on missing one shortly. It's impossible to use the current register to determine how many amateurs hold more than one to let a call sign. Another notion is that you can have a

special event call sign as long as it starts with Victor India. As it happens, there are currently special event call signs registered with Victor India, Victor Kilo and AX prefixes. Just over half of them have any online activity to promote the call sign for their event. You might think that a call sign can only be assigned or available according to the register, a call sign can be pending, it can also be reserved, more on that in a moment. And it cannot be in the list at all, missing if you like. Take for example JNW, it's assigned in VK 2. It's available in all other states except VK 3, where it simply doesn't exist. This oddity doesn't restrict itself to VK Three. Take XCA, available in all states except VK 4TLC doesn't exist in VK two. Many more examples to go around. And that's not looking at exclusions due to swear words. Reserved words like pan, but SOS is an assigned call sign. Combinations that you think might be unavailable like QST are fine, except in VK 2 where it doesn't exist. It's thought that reservations are only for repeaters. Nope, suffixes with GG. Followed by a letter are reserved for the Girl Guides. Those that start with Shera followed by two letters are reserved for Scouts. Those are starting with WI are for the Wallace Institute of Australia and those with IY are for the International Year of Something. Interestingly, there is no reference to repeaters or beacons at all in the callsign register, since they fall under the old license regime rather than the new amateur class. And you thought the system was getting simpler and cheaper to run? You might think that every state has the same number of call signs. Ignoring if calls, VK Five has the most call signs available and Vigay 3 the least. No doubt this is due to the call signs that are missing from the register. This likely leaves you with plenty more questions, but next time someone asserts something about call signs, perhaps it's time to have a think before you spout. Note that this information is based on the ACMA call sign register as I found it on the 29th of June 2024. This started as an exploration of just how many different amateur calls were registered at the time. There were 3748 Foundation class, 2079 Standard class. And 9946 Advanced class call signs assigned or pending. Without knowing how many call signs each amateur has been assigned, it's impossible to know just how many amateurs those 15,773 call signs represent. Perhaps it's time for the regulator to start publishing some data on our community, rather than relying on the likes of me to download 17174 pages of data. And two days analysing it. I can tell you that I have been assigned two call signs, one for day-to-day use and one I use for digital modes in contests. Given that Whisper doesn't play nice with Vico 6 Flab and I really have no desire to give up my call. Before I go, every VK call sign also has an AX equivalent on three days every year, 26 January, 25 April end 17 May. And as I said, you can apply for a special event call sign with an AX prefix. I'm on a Victor K6FLAB.

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Good morning listeners. Roy VK 6X Victor with this week's helpline for the 14th of July 2024. Not much difference from last week, in fact an identical. We're looking for Wander Yasuo microphone YM40 or compatible or 600 ohm insert for repair of same contact Mac. 0417977765 as VK 6MM0417977765 for a microphone type YM40 or compatible Yankee M36 or 600. I'm insert to repair. Next, I haven't heard from Clinton VK 6 Fox CRC whether the shack cleaned out has completed. He did have a CB Jason Fosters radio 351 uh, helping her Ellie with that radio and she also has a Marla hit DSP service Dr. with waterfall display. For sale for \$180. There's also Alexan Victor 898 Amateur transceiver on the shore of the price on that one. Please contact Clinton if we gave 6 Fox Charlie Rodeo Charlie at his e-mail address, which is VK 6 Fox CR charlie@gmail.com. That's all. I have a third time lucky for those items. And if you have any items for next week, don't forget the Northern Corridor Ham Fest is coming up. You could get up there and sell some second hand pre loved equipment of your own. That's the Northern Colorado group in August coming up not far away now. Speaker 6X Victor 73. If you're wondering Ireland for next week, please contact me OK 6X victor@bigpond.com is the address VK 6X Victor bigpond.com

Hi folks, it's about time we reminded you about making contributions to News West. So here are some dot points to help you make a good contribution to News W. I'm not sure how you'll see the dot. Points in an audio broadcast, but here we go. Firstly, you're recording needs to be the best quality you can make. If you're using a configural app like Audacity, check that the sample rate is 44100 Hertz and the sample format is 32 bit float. It doesn't matter if you don't understand these, just make sure that that's what they are. They are usually the default settings. Your recording should also be in mono. We haven't mastered stereo broadcasts on amateur radio yet, so Glorious mono is the go. But if you send stereo, we'll just glue the tracks together to make glorious mono. The last setting to use is the audio file that you send us. We want your file to be MP3, mono, 256 KB quality, constant rate. A few other hints. Try to have no background noise. Choose a room that doesn't echo. Bedrooms are good. Often they've got carpet and beds and curtains and things to reduce reverberation. Use your dynamic range to create good audio, but don't OverDrive it. It's a bit like being on air, isn't it? I can see some brows wrinkling if you don't use a configurable application for recording sound. Just use the best quality available on the device. Even phones can do a decent job. We do, however, recommend Audacity because it's free and works on Apple, Windows and Linux devices. And lastly, your message needs to be succinct, concise, perhaps even tears. You'll lose your audience if you go on for too long. An item of good length is 200 to 300 words, 400 if you need more

time. Items that are too long may fall onto the cutting room floor or not be used at all. I'm Bob VCAA 6 POP.

Hi there, it's Clinton VK 6 FCC back with you. And did you know that news W is now on YouTube? Type in [youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/) at newest weekly podcast. Dash KZ7YC OHH. And before I go, I'd like to thank those watching on YouTube or a TV, 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. We'll head over to the VCA six.net website and fill out the form so we know how many people are listing each week.
