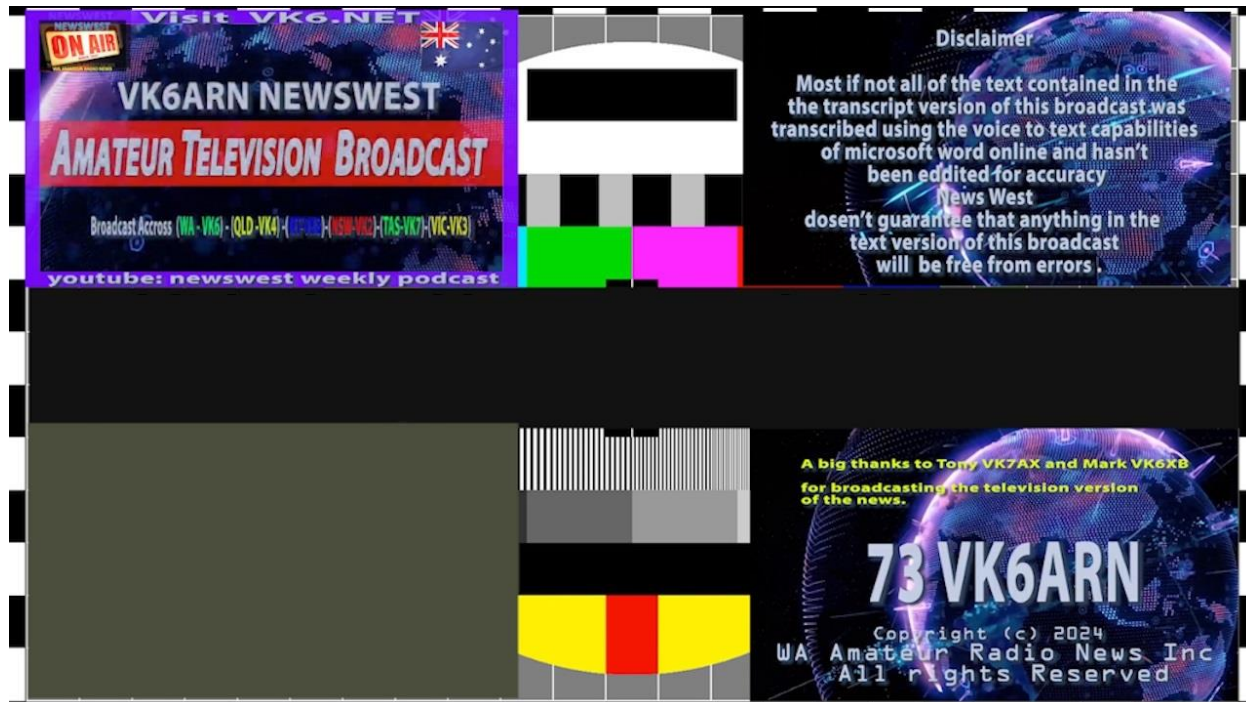


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This is BK6 ARN news West we are a community organisation and we've been serving up the best amateur radio news in Australia since 1931

hi there this is Clinton VK 6 FCC and welcome to news W for the 21st of July 2024 now with the show

coming up soon in September his Perth tech Perth tech is on Saturday the 21st of December and details as they develop a posted on the vk6.net website right now we're open to offers from people wishing to make a presentation at Perth tech so if you have something to offer or an idea you'd like to kick around give us a shout send an e-mail to Perth tech at vk6.net and we can start talking the salient points for Perth tech the date 21st of September that's a Saturday starts early at 0830 with a day of presentations and perhaps demonstrations followed by a sundowner for those who wish to stay a bit later as in other years Perth tech also offers camping spots for caravans or campers on Friday and Saturday nights so I keep the date open Saturday the 21st of September and it's at gigen up

again it's a great venue it's a great event mark your Diaries and stick up your hand to do something at Perth tech it's easy Perth tech 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 power for the course it's all about having a go starting with the basic call sign and RST exchange then overtime 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 have 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 ragu 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 metres 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 K2K I and VK 6 Qi

hi just a little note about VK 6 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 three 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

so what's rasa the radio amateur Society of Australia been up to this week well it's one of those quiet weeks after publishing QTC light the rest of what we're up to is sort of behind the scenes stuff So what does that mean QTC magazine is published quarterly and the next issue will be published in September so work is in progress now on research and preparation of articles and news do you have anything to contribute to QTC magazine send an e-mail to info@bkradioamateurs.org QTC light is the newsletter or bulletin that's

published and distributed monthly the most recent issue was July the 12th did you miss seeing QTC light you can download it from the rassa website vkradioamateurs.org there are several issues that rassa is discussing with the regulator the ACMA and will publish outcomes as these come to hand downloads and views of the foundation level study guide are climbing steadily with the number of downloads approaching 600 if you or someone you're aware of is considering sitting for a foundation level exam this study guide contains everything they need to know it's an electronic magazine either in true on-screen magazine style or if you prefer a PDF download the study guide which is built on the acmas syllabus for foundation level contains live links to useful information and instructional videos the foundation level study guide is free to view free to download and free to share within the bounds of copyright of course the companion publication to the study guide is the welcome to amateur radio guide which contains a whole lot of information that newcomers or maybe those returning to the hobby need to know it's available from the website again and it's free as with all of our online resources so no membership is required and there's no charge free gratis and for nothing and the website again VK radio amateurs there's an S on the end of that VK radio amateurs.org and finally thanks to those who in response to QTC and QDC light have joined rassa or made a donation I'm Bob because six pip and I'm the vice president of Raza

there's not too many weeks to go until the enziang 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 friend use 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 end CGM 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 what are you 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 NC RG 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

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

foundations of amateur Radio One of my recurring you might call it regrets but probably not

quite that strong is that I often find myself discovering that an amateur radio contest came and went or worse I found out on the day preferably at midnight UTC when many contests start which happens to be 8:00 AM Saturday morning where I live right when my weekly radio net for new and returning amateurs F troop begins often by that time I already have plans for the weekend and now I know I'm missing out on some or other activity that might encourage me to go outside and get fresh air whilst playing radio don't get me wrong it's my own responsibility to manage my time but that doesn't explain what's going on so I started exploring what might be causing this I mean it shouldn't be that hard there's pretty much a contest on every weekend so I could sort out my radio and get on air to make noise at any point of any day that this doesn't happen can only partially be explained by the state of my shack which I have yet to get working the way I want but it doesn't explain everything I'm subscribed to several contest calendars the most prominent of these is 1 maintained by Bruce WA7BNM thecontestcalendar.com website is a great place to start another is the personal site of prolific tester and contest manager Alan victor K4SN both sites offer a calendar feed file that you can subscribe to sorry subscribe to the calendar job done right unfortunately not as it happens for several years I have in fact subscribed to both those calendars I even shared these with my partner which results in a fun exchange at the breakfast table that goes something like this hey do you need the car on Saturday why well there's an amateur contest on so my partner is often more aware of contests than I am and supposedly I'm the amateur in this household it occurs to me that I need an alert to point at an upcoming contest preferably one that I can configure that's specific to me I don't tend to look that far into the future I have plenty of stuff that needs to happen to day without worrying about next month I started exploring what I might do about this be the change you want to see so I contacted Bruce and asked what views he might hold on the addition of an alarm in the calendar file he publishes I also asked if there was a way to configure what contests are visible in that file whilst hunting through his sight I discovered that there's plenty of Australian contests not on the site so I created a list of contests I know about that I thought should be on the calendar I might point out that Bruce's job isn't easy trying to get information out of context managers can sometimes be like powering a spark gap transmitter using a push bike here's an example of 1 contest that has an algorithm to determine when the next contest is I kid you not there's a winter spring and summer version of this contest for winter when the June solstice is on a weekday Monday through Friday the weekend following shall be the weekend of the event if not that weekend shall be the weekend of the event the spring and summer versions are even more involved counting forwards or backwards four weeks from the December solstice it helpfully includes a link to the solstice dates for this century because really that's how the dates are determined if I'm feeling particularly sparky I might even make a calculator since the contest manager for that contest hasn't announced the dates for the next contest though my previous

experiences whilst attempting to calculate moon bounce windows using the Python astropy package was challenging I did find P ifm which has several solstice and equinox functions sorry now all I need to do is make my shack work as I want it bolt a radio back in my car win Lotto when something else I forget what I'm honor victor K6FLAB

the Remembrance Day contest is on the weekend of the 17th and 18th of August that's creeping up isn't it it's one of the most popular Australian contests and anyone can join in although it's a 24 hour contest you can operate for any amount of time and any number of times during the contest. And just put it all in your log the contest commences at 0300 UTC on Saturday and ends at 0300 Sunday at 11:00 AM in western Standard Time and it runs for 24 hours let's deal with some questions that are commonly asked about the contest first one do I need a specially set up radio station to enter a contest well the answer is no you can make valid contacts on any band from 160 metres through to VHF UHF and beyond except for the walk bands in fact a healthy part of WA's score in these contests is often comprised of two metres and 70 centimetre contacts of course if you have good antennas for HF you'll do better but hey having a go is what it's all about another question do I have to keep a log and how do I do that well yes you have to keep a log and there are some specially built software applications available for logging Aussie contests the most popular of these is VK contest logger or V KCL for short it's got the rules built in and makes logging a breeze VK seal can also be used on a network for multi rig stations visit the VK contest club site to download VCL the site is vcc.com with these contests everyone seems to have a go on Saturday afternoon and Saturday night but on Sunday morning it goes quiet so many people aren't there on Sunday morning so something you can do to boost our score is to make sure you're on air on Sunday morning to keep local contacts running it's a bit hard to find local stations on here so here's a trick introduced several years ago in the form of a list of local coordinating frequencies the idea is that every now and then we listen out or give a call on those frequencies to pick up locals it's a great idea however do remember that it's not a list of calling frequencies go elsewhere to call general CQ contest this list can be downloaded from the vk6.net website finally the Rd. contest apart from all of us competing for our own score also has state pitched against state and the more logs we submit from WA the better chance we have of accumulating a decent score for our state it would pay you to have a rate of the rules of the contest it's not a big read go to the Waa website Waa.org.au and let's get a few more people on here for the Remembrance Day contest in August

good morning this is Roy VK 6X victor this week's helpline nothing much to report this week for the 21st of July 2024 no items this week so like to include your items for sale disposal

next week please contact me it's VK 6X victor at bigpond.com and until we meet again next week hopefully I've got something for you this is V 6X victor Roy 73

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/ 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