



THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

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THE NATIONAL WICEN REPORT 2005

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During the latter part of 2004 I had a request from Michael Owen to provide information regarding the activation of WICEN in various States to Alan Jordan of ACA. This was achieved after some problems as to contact points in the first instance. The information was eventually passed to Alan Jordan so as to enable him to formulate an LCD for WICEN in a case of National activation. As of this date I have not had any further correspondence on this matter.

A request was made to me to clarify the Insurance for WICEN from VK6 which was clarified by Michael who contacted VK6 and I am assured that this matter has now been resolved.

The final case for the year was in regard to a request from Michael to set up a National listening watch after the tsunami disaster on Boxing day. As I was about to go on holiday within an hour of receiving the request I enlisted the aid of Ken Fuller VK4KF (who had previously contacted me offering assistance should the need arise). Ken very quickly arranged with various VK4 and VK8 amateurs to set up a listening watch. I remained in contact with my son Andrew VK3HFT who very professionally passed information to me enabling me to proceed on holiday. Emergency Management Agencies were notified that WICEN had set up a listening watch and were given contact details should we be required to activate a support service.

I must make mention of the way in which Ken handled the task set and the precise arrangements and Sop's he produced and put in place for the activation and I commend him and his team for the professionalism in which he achieved the answer to the original request. After a period of some two weeks, and there being no requests from other agencies I notified Ken to close down the watch and revert to normal operations. It is of interest to note that from the time of request to the time the watch was set in place was approx. 4 hours and as such it goes to show just how quickly an emergency activation can be achieved on a National basis.

John Weir