

theTARCinc Events Calendar

Club Summer Recess happens until February Management Meeting - however some events might happen during the recess so ensure you listen in to the news nets each Sunday morn and eve !

December

- Club recess for meetings until February
- TARC Does the XMAS Lights Tour - in Radio Convoy Friday 19 Dec from 7pm
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net - Xmas Eve Edition Tuesday Dec 23 starts 7-30pm on VK4RAT UHF
- Tech On The Air Net – New Years Eve Edition Wednesday Dec 31st starts 7-30pm on VK4RAT VHF
- New Years Eve Countdown – VK4RAT VHF Repeater Wednesday Dec 31, 1255Z for AEDT, 1355Z for AEST



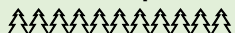
January

- Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp Thur Jan 22 to Mon Jan 26 - Bluewater Guides Camp
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net Tuesday Jan 27th starts 7-30pm on VK4RAT UHF
- TARC does Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo Saturday Jan 31st at Townsville Stadium Murray



February

- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday Feb 3rd starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night Tuesday Feb 10th starts 7-30pm
- TARC Social Meeting Tuesday Feb 17th starts 7-30pm



more details inside ! - also check out
<https://thetarcinc.weebly.com>
and listen into the news nets for updates

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

WIA Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest 1-31 Jan
WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day - 14 to 15 Mar
AM & CW on ANZAC Day – Sat 25 April
MARA-RADAR Clairview Gathering – 8 to 10 May
CHARC AGM Weekend - Emerald 25 to 27 Sept

place
170 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE
MAIL



The Townsville
Amateur Radio Club Inc.
P.O. Box 333,
Garbutt East, QLD 4814.

BACKSCATTER

December 2025



SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

WICEN
The Amateur Radio
Communications group for
EMERGENCIES



BACK - SCATTER

THE MAGAZINE OF RENOWN - SINCE JANUARY 1969

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



CHC No.6568



FOUNDED 1910
Affiliated Club of the Wireless
Institute of Australia

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF

THE TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

P.O. Box 333, Garbutt East, QLD. 4814.

VK4WIT VK4ATV VK4RAT VK4RTL TAC08

Merry Christmas & a great and safe 2026 to all our readers ! – December 2025

VMW Wiluna 2056, 4149, 6230, 8113kHz USB
NT, WA, SA areas
Stations transmit Marine Weather Warnings on the hour



ATTENDING: At the Club Rooms
VK4's. ZZ. PQV, ME, WSG, TEW, AAH,
YT, FUU, ZMB, HSV, Brad Payn

ATTENDING: via Zoom Session ID – 742 5517 7697
VK4's PQ, CD, XA, ZM.

VISITORS: Andrew Hawken

APOLOGIES: VK4's. UCM, JPA, ICA, KMA, EMF, DNF, JWC, LKG, FCRH, FIBW, FBNP, CK, BLE, EI, IGM, PAL, TJS, HCZ, RO, TTW, WDM, KGH, KN, MIK, PA, OT, ZON, ZT, KMD, YMD, FNQ, FRYL, OO, MSS, AE, BRM, LU, GWA, KDF, FVC, PJH, AFW, ZWC, DJC, OIL, FUDO, ALS, WJ, TSV, KEE, YWG, GUN, TUB, CMW, PE, JPA, JBY, GED, MRG, GFR, GDN, BDE, AEX, VK1ZZ, ZL1PLG, Joan McDonnell, Roslyn Bryant, Rhonda Wilks, Peter Renton, Wendy Schinkel, Derek Goodhew, Toni Goodhew, Susan Hinks, Jeanette Mann, Noelene Melrose, Nell Crabb, Kerry Wright, Cate Gooda, Bill Walker, Kev Chillout, Vallerie Payn.

Business commenced at 1932h with the meeting chaired by the President Snow/VK4ME. Snow welcomed all attending, greeting members and called for any apologies.

SILENT KEYS: Nil.

NEW MEMBERS: Nil

SHOW AND TELL:

Wayne/VK4WSG Showed the first electronic kit set he received from his Dad, the Philips Electronic Engineer set consisting of modular components you joined together to make working electronic circuits.

Roger/VK4CD showed his recently acquired RippleTech T2-230T-9M 9:1 200W PEP UNUN made in Victoria. Used to make a full band HF random length wire antenna.

Snow/VK4ME passed around his latest built high power variable inductor for multi-band field vertical antennas. Dubbed the SNOWDOG coil, wound with braided stainless steel wire and utilising a flexible braided stainless steel lanyard soldered to the movable stainless steel clamp. Made in the Ice Cube.

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Motion 202512001 Accept the minutes for the November 2025 Management Meeting as printed in Back-scatter.
Moved by Ben/VK4YT, Seconded by Wayne/VK4WSG
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Secretary, Gavin/VK4ZZ detailed the following correspondence...

Inwards. 25 articles, Outwards. 7 articles, as detailed in the Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:

- Australian Communications and Media Authority – Arrangements for Youth Member licencing
- DMFS Townsville – Feedback for Welcome to Townsville Expo Sat 31st January 2026
- RSGB, Radcom Magazine December 2025
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for December Management meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for December Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for December Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Motion for reimbursement of invoiced expenses Mt Stuart Refurbishment Project
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting, Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries – Back-scatter November 2025

The TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

Minutes of Management Meeting Held on the 2nd of December 2025 at the Club Rooms SES HQ, Green Street, West End

- TARC Financial Members – Mount Isa Amateur Radio Group December 2025 Newsletter
- TARC Financial Members – 2025 AGM Results
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- AGM 2025 Proxies/Apologies VK4JWC, VK4JBY, VK4FRYL, VK4FNQ, VK4YT, VK4RO,
- AGM 2025 Apologies Kerry Wright, VK4CMW, Peter Renton, VK4TSV, VK4LU, VK4TJS, VK4MIK, VK4EMF, VK4PAL,
- AGM 2025 Apologies Sammi Roden, VK4PJH, Bill Walker.

Motion 202512002 Accept the Secretary's Report.

Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Jeff/VK4XA

– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM SECRETARY REPORT:

- DMFS Townsville – Feedback for Welcome to Townsville Expo Sat 31st January 2026. The organisers have acknowledged that our stand needs 2 tables and be situated on the eastern wall of the stadium.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Peter/VK4PQ presented the Treasurers Report to the meeting and asked for questions before asking the meeting to accept the report.

Motion 202512003 Accept the Treasurer's Report.

Moved by Peter/VK4PQ, Seconded by Jeff/VK4XA

– CARRIED unanimously.

ELECTION OF EX-OFFICIO POSITIONS FOR THE 2026 CLUB YEAR

Training Co-ordinator

Nominee	Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
Proposed	Peter Harrex/VK4PQ
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Ashley Russell/VK4FUU

Communications Support Co-ordinator

Nominee	Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
Proposed	Snow Herodes/VK4ME
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA

Technician

Nominee	Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB
Proposed	Snow Herodes/VK4ME
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG

Station Manager.

Nominee	Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
Proposed	Snow Herodes/VK4ME
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA

Librarian

Nominee	Ashley Russell/VK4FUU
Proposed	Snow Herodes/VK4ME
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Bob Hinds/VK4AAH

Historian

Nominee	Peter Renton
Proposed	Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Ben Pearce/VK4YT

Ladies Group Co-ordinator

Nominee	Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM
Proposed	Snow Herodes/VK4ME
Accept	Yes
Seconded	Ashley Russell/VK4FUU

JOTA Co-ordinator

Nominee Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV
 Proposed Snow Herodes/VK4ME
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Hairy Richard Stone/VK4ZMB

QSL Co-ordinator

Nominee Ashley Russell/VK4FUU
 Proposed Peter Harrex/VK4PQ
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Snow Herodes/VK4ME

Facilities Co-ordinator

Nominee Phil Strom/VK4HSV
 Proposed Snow Herodes/VK4ME
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Bob Hinds/VK4AAH

Editor

Nominee Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
 Proposed Peter Harrex/VK4PQ
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Hairy Richard Stone/VK4ZM

Transmission Co-ordinator

Nominee Richard Goodhew/VK4FRJG
 Proposed Snow Herodes/VK4ME
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Ben Pearce/VK4YT

Transmission Officers

Nominee Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV
 Nominee Peter Harrex/VK4PQ
 Nominee Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM
 Nominee Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
 Nominee Denis Johnstone/VK4AE
 Nominee Ben Pearce/VK4YT
 Proposed Snow Herodes/VK4ME
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA

Publications Co-ordinator

Nominee Iain Morrison/VK4IGM
 Proposed Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Peter Harrex/VK4PQ

WIA Liaison

Nominee Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ
 Proposed Snow Herodes/VK4ME
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Ashley Russell/VK4FUU

Facebook Master

Nominee Paul Anderson/VK4ICA
 Proposed Hairy Richard Stone/VK4ZMB
 Accept Yes
 Seconded Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG

Motion 202512004 moved by Snow Herodes/VK4ME and seconded by Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV that further nominations for Ex-Officio Positions be closed.
 – **CARRIED** unanimously.

Motion 202512005 moved by Phil Strom/VK4HSV and seconded by Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM that those successful nominations for Ex-Officio Positions be accepted and the positions be filled for the 2026 club year – **CARRIED** unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

some reports received from those doing ex-officio jobs in caretaker mode following the 2025 AGM

- Reports from Richard/VK4PQV

JOTA Co-ordinator
 JOTA will held on Saturday 17th to Sunday 18th October 2026 – which is the third full weekend of 2026.
 JOTA will (should) be held at Camp Tamaroo as a Kennedy Region Scouts Camp. No news yet on Guide activities.

Retransmission Co-ordinator

For November 2025 the WIA and QNEWS transmission and call-backs and the NQ news retransmissions and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV, except for Sunday 23rd November when Peter VK4PQ did the delayed WIANews transmission and callbacks while Gavin VK4ZZ did the NQ news transmission and Lyndall VK4ZM did the 2metre callbacks. Richard VK4PQV had a wonderful time with relatives at the Atherton Tablelands during that weekend.

For the month of December 2025 the WIA and QNEWS transmissions and call-backs will be done by Peter VK4PQ and the NQ news retransmissions and call-backs will be by done by Richard VK4PQV.

On Behalf of the TARC Retransmit team I wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

- Report from Iain/VK4IGM – read by Gavin/VK4ZZPublications Co-ordinator

The limited print run of November Back-scatter magazine went well and the December issue will be last until February 2026, Thanks again to Hon Susan McDonald, Senator for Queensland and the team at the Townsville Office for providing the much needed support to produce the limited print runs.

- Report from Lyndall/VK4ZM - read by Gavin/VK4ZZ

The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 25th November at 0930UTC on the Townsville UHF repeater incorporating the VK4TUB AllStarLink 46740 and Echolink 837219 nodes.

The net consisted of 2 rounds followed by a Ta Ta round and was conducted by Gavin/.

Via VOIP modes

Robert/VK2DY, Kellyville Ridge, NSW, Australia via Echolink/VK2DY/VK4TUB

31C today. On Sunday attended the Hamfest at the Picton Showgrounds. First time this has been held and it happened in the same space as the regular Picton Showgrounds Markets. There was some cross attendance between events which gave Amateur Radio big exposure. Picked up some small treasures. Next weekend attending the ARNSW Trash & Treasure markets at Dural, another opportunity to pick up more treasure. Spending New Years Eve at a nephew's flat, the balcony has a great view of the fireworks on the harbour.

Bruce/VK2QRT, Sans Souci, Sydney NSW, Australia via Echolink/VK2QRT/VK4TUB

Checking in and listening in.

Ben/VK4YT, Kelso, North QLD, Australia on AllStarLink/VK4YT/VK4TUB

Setting up at the new QTH. Did lots of yard work in the sweaty weather to prepare the yard for the future antenna farm plus preparation for the wet season. Having fun with NBN getting the fibre to the premises data service done and dusted.

Peter/VK4PQ, Kelso, North QLD, Australia via VK4CK DMR Bridge/AllStarLink/VK4PQ/VK4TUB

Going via the AllStarLink to DMR Bridge run by Paul/VK4CK with the bridge located at Rowes Bay.

DMR hotspot wobbled due to network issues so reverted to direct radio via the UHF Repeater.

Received a message from the ALARA Contest Manager advising that Peter had attained the award of most active OM in Queensland during the 2025 ALARA Contest. 6m DX has been fantastic, then it's gone. Note: it is only 4 weeks to Christmas!

John/VK1JT, Ainslee, Canberra ACT, Australia on AllStarLink/VK1JT/VK4TUB

Been in the news, even in Canadian newspapers. GNU Radio Flow Graphs and more SDR software has been released onto GitHub, including some transmitting software modules to download. Search on GitHub for JT-1971 to find the site.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were

Lyndall/VK4ZM, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

Hoping for rain. Been in contact with Nr4 Daughter in Brisbane and found out she has survived the latest severe storms and hail there. Had a scheduled mains outage today while Ergon replaced a power pole down the street – 8-30am to 2-30pm however they finished early at 12pm. Generators got a good workout and are ready for the cyclone season.

Snow/VK4ME, Kirwan, North QLD, Australia

Another warm day in Paradise! Hard Pilates session today, the scan was good (Senior Citizens Afternoon Nap). Will be activating a park with Kerry/VK4TUB on Saturday 29th November – out at Pallarenda from around 3pm. Very familiar with Picton – went to school there.

The net concluded at 1021UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe Month and to return for the December Net.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 23rd December at 0930UTC on the Townsville UHF Voice Repeater incorporating the VK4TUB AllStarLink 46740 and Echolink 837219 nodes. Remember too that the Tech on the Air net will be happening on Wednesday 31st December from 0930UTC then on Tuesday 31st March 2026 on the Townsville VHF repeater incorporating the VK4PQ AllStarLink 49806 and Echolink 956580 nodes along with the VK4GDN AllStarLink 54043 145.145MHz Node.
73's Lyndall/VK4ZM

- Reports from Gavin/VK4ZZ

Station Manager Special Edition – Club Shack equipment working well. Mt Stuart equipment working well except the 6metre and 10metre beacons are off-air pending antenna installation, co-ax replacement and fitting of the VK4JBY built replacement beacons.

A massive thanks goes out to everyone who donated and purchased Treasure during the year – remember there are plenty of quality monsters to be had at the Christmas Party. The Christmas Party Monster Auction will also feature equipment from Ron Ostrenski VK4JBY following the big move to Brisbane.

Comms Support Special Edition –

2026 Comms Support Calendar – so far.

Thu 2 April to Mon 6 April - B2B Blue Hills Bash Easter Horse Endurance Rides 5/20/40/80km

with possible 120 and 160km rides - Fri 3 to Mon 6 April inclusive. Operators so far - VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, VK4ME, VK4CUZ, VK4HSV, VK4IGM, Doris & VK4WSG, more operators needed.

Sat 25 to Sun 26 April - Valley Riders Endurance Riding Assoc. 2x20/2x40/1x80k (Ops by MARA Inc.) Dee Jay Arabians Horse Endurance Rides - Denison Creek near Nebo. Note that this date might change. Operators so far VK4CUZ, VK4HAN, Bruce, VK4JLK, many more operators needed.

Sat 16 to Sun 17 May - Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Autumn Escalade Horse Endurance Rides 5/20/4/80 - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park. Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, many more operators needed.

Fri 29 May to Sun 31 May - Whitsunday Regional Endurance Riding Assoc. 5/10/20/30/40/80km/Harness Tropical Winter Horse Endurance Rides - Euri Gold Farms near Bowen Operators so far - VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, many more ops muchly needed.

Sat 13 to Sun 14 June - Valley Riders Endurance Riding Assoc. 2x20/2x40/100E (Ops by MARA Inc.) Greg Willoughby Memorial Horse Endurance Rides - Denison Creek near Nebo. Note that

this date might change. Operators so far VK4CUZ, VK4HAN, VK4ZZ & VK4ZM, Bruce, Doris & VK4WSG, more operators needed.

Sat 18 to Sun 19 July - Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Paluma Passion 5/10/20/40/80km Horse Endurance Rides 5/10/20/40/80 - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, many more operators needed.

Fri 14 to Sun 16 August - Whitsunday Regional Endurance Riding Assoc. 5/10/20/30/40/80km/Harness Winter Harvest Horse Endurance Rides - Euri Gold Farms near Bowen Operators so far - VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, many more operators needed.

Sat 15 August - Townsville Open Water Swimming Assoc. 2026 Magnetic Island to Townsville Open Water Swim - assemble from 5-30am Strand Park, Picnic Bay, Cleveland Bay Operators so far - VK4FUU, VK4AAH, VK4IGM, more operators needed.

Sat 5 to Sun 6 September - Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Spring Shore 5/10/20/40/80km Horse Endurance Rides 5/10/20/40/80 - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, many more operators needed.

Yet to receive the off-road racing event dates from NQORA.

Events Special Edition -

theTARCinc 2025 XMAS Party happens on Sunday December 14th from 10am at the VK4ME Icecube on the shores of Lake Herodes in Kirwan QLD. Your hosts Sharon and Snow/VK4ME hope that TARC Club Members and Families will come along and celebrate responsibly and with fun.

Bring your eskys full of drink (no glass please), your comfy chairs, your cozzies if you want to go for a swim in Lake Herodes, a shady hat and any special dietary requirements you might need, lots of small change for your Monster Auction and Mystery Pressie Auction purchases. Catering numbers being gathered – already Sharon & ME, ZZ & ZM, PQV, PAL & IGM, FIBW & FCRH, Doris & WSG, Marion & AM, Kaye & AAH, Nell & FVC, Brenda & FUU, Kerry & CMW, Jeanette & WJ, Teddy & TUB, Rae & KDF, TJS, FP, Cate & YWG.
Catering Numbers close Friday 12th December.

theTARCinc XMAS Lights Tour

Weather permitting on Friday 19th Dec 7pm rollup for 7-30pm start from the Bushland Beach Coles Car Park. Tour lead will be the VK4ZZ ElectroWagon, Tour tail ??????. Intervehicle comms 146.550MHz FM (CH51) with tour able to be tracked by APRS (look for VK4ZZ-5 on apris.fi). Handhelds lent to vehicles without radios so they can keep up to date with directions. Final route a secret ☺ but should end by 10pm at the very latest. Tour members able to join or leave the tour at any time. Dress up yourselves and a bit of your vehicles for XMAS Cheer !

- New Years Eve on-air Countdown

In conjunction with the December Tech On The Air Net happening on New Years Eve Wednesday 31st December theTARCinc will be counting down the minutes and seconds until 2026 utilising the original Talking Clock and beaming out on the Townsville VHF Repeater along the VK4PQ AllStarLink and Echolink Nodes at Kelso North Queensland and the VK4GDN AllStarLink Node at Charters Towers North Queensland. To cater with the multiple time zones on the Australian eastern seaboard there will be two countdowns – one starting at 2345 Australian Eastern Daylight Time (1245UTC) and the other starting at 2345 Australian Eastern Standard Time (1345UTC). See you on the air to help see 2025 out and bring 2026 in !

- theTARCinc Australia Day Holiday Long Week Family Radio Camp.

Happening from Thursday afternoon 23rd to Monday lunchtime 27th January 2025 at the Girl Guides Association of Queensland Campsite and Training Centre, 46-56 Toolakea Beach Road, Bluewater. The Leaders Room has been snaffled by The Master and Romana.

It's a BYO everything you need and supply your own condiments such as salt and pepper and also bring your own washing up detergent and tea towels. For those also using the Bluewater House accommodation you need to bring your own pillow and linen. Cost of a powered camp site or a bed in Bluewater House is \$15 per person per night. Day visitors using facilities pay \$10 per person. A golden opportunity to utilise wide open space and tall trees for antenna work, balun building, radio programming and engaging in a bit of much needed extreme loafing.

Glamping so far - VK4ZZ & VK4ZM, VK4PQV, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4PAL & VK4IGM,

- 2026 Defence Welcome and Information Expo theTARcinc will yet again be involved with the Defence Welcome and Information Expo run by the Townsville office of the Defence Member and Family Support Section. It will be happening on Saturday 31st January at Murray Stadium from 9-30am to 12pm.

The Club will be drawing on expertise gained from participation in previous Expos to show Defence members and their families currently residing or new to the region some of the aspects of the wonderful world of Amateur Radio.

It is hoped to demonstrate the hobby through a mixture of static, dynamic and interactive displays, with members experienced in many facets of the hobby able to provide meaningful answers and guidance for those attending the Expo. The display will be put in place from 7-15am to 8-45am and packed away from 12pm to 1pm. If you want to be part of the TARC team on display then please contact The Master - Iain/VK4IGM on telephone 07-47214083 or on the air.

- WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day 2026

Club Members and Support Crews will be heading to Mount Fox Camp Grounds QH21VE53JT for the 2026 event.

It is planned to run the full 24hours of the event with set-up not happening until 28hours before the start of the contest which happens at 0100UTC Saturday 21st March. Anyone wanting to come along either right across the weekend or do a visit to the portable operation is very welcome! Hinchinbrook Shire Council asks motorists to drive with caution and transmit their progress at the call-points on UHF-CB CH40. Attending so far - 4ZM, 4ZZ, 4ME, Sammi & PJH, Teddy & TUB, Jo & YT plus a special visit from the Mayor of Mount Fox.

Merry Christmas from the sweaty og

Mount Stuart Refurbishment Project updates - Gavin/VK4ZZ

News from Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB that the removal of rusted equipment racks, install of replacement equipment racks with floor stand-offs, refurbishment and rationalisation of DC wiring & feedlines, replacement of worn DC breaker systems, replacement of rusted antenna fittings and re-arrangement of equipment locations is currently underway.

Peter/VK4PQ advises that material costs for this work to date has been submitted by Kerry/VK4TUB to the value of \$483.85.

Peter also advised that Kerry estimates the rest of works may cost between \$150 to \$200. Kerry has submitted invoices for the costs incurred so far and will supply invoices for the rest of the expenditures for the project as they happen.

Motion 202512006 moved by Peter Harrex/VK4PQ and seconded by Bob Hinds/VK4AAH that Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB be reimbursed \$483.85 for invoices currently received and make an allowance for no more than \$200 to cover final costs and pay the total invoiced amount when invoices are received. - **CARRIED** unanimously.

Mount Stuart Refurbishment Project updates - Phil/VK4HSV

Been sourcing a replacement seal for the Repeater Hut Storm Door with some help from Kevvy Screen. He suggested commercial suppliers McCann's Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Services. They are able to supply a very similar profile neoprene door seal and can also supply the seal mitred and sealed at the corners. The seal is affixed to the storm door

the same way the old one is. Some discussion took place as to weather to get the seal with the corners unsealed or not then the following motion was raised.

Motion 202512007 moved by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG and seconded by Ben Pearce/VK4YT that the club obtain the door seal specified by McCann's including mitre and seal of the corners for \$165 plus GST and order the seal through McCann's. - **CARRIED** unanimously.

Public Facing Facebook Page - Motion 202509008 follow up -

Snow, Paul and Gavin are yet to get together to flesh out the setup and format of the public facing facebook page.

Update on Club Member Derek Goodhew

Richard/VK4PQV advised that Derek Goodhew has recently had his drivers licence re-issued, a big step.

Rejoice, a licence upgrade

Wayne/VK4WSG advised that he had recently was successful in upgrading from Foundation level to Advanced Level.

Utilising the local paper Community Notices

Phil/VK4HSV suggested the Club put in notices on events in the Townsville Bulletin Community Notices section which is published on Thursdays. Gavin/VK4ZZ noted that this was tried a few years back however the submissions were bumped on a regular basis, but will give it a go again and see what the response is like. Site for submissions edsec@townsvillebulletin.com.au

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.

There being no further business, the President Snow/VK4ME closed the meeting at 2046h local time and wished everyone goodnight and he hopes to see ye all at the Christmas Party on Sunday 14th December.

Minutes Transcribed 7th December 2025 by Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ - Secretary 2026, The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc).



JOIN THE WIA TODAY !

SUPPORT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LOBBYING FOR THE HOBBY.

SUPPORT ASSESSOR, QSL & EMCOM SERVICES.

RECEIVE AMATEUR RADIO MAGAZINE.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE HOBBY !

<http://www.wia.org.au> FOR MORE INFO



Rare 27MHz Transceivers for Sale

Very active 27MHz CB Operator Dave Jenkins recently went Silent Key in Ayr, North Queensland. His daughter Kylie would like to sell to good homes the following 27MHz CB Transceivers, with pick-up from Ayr.

- Pearce Simpson President tabletop base AM/SSB 27MHz Transceiver

- Wagner 510 tabletop base AM/SSB 27MHz Transceiver
For more information or to seal the deal, text - yes text Kylie on 0408 617223. Pick up only from Ayr by prior arrangement.



Solar Panels !

Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB has these gorgeous Solar Panels ready to fly into your shack power system.

Local pickup in Townsville only.

12 by 1650 x 994 x 36 Pmax 250W Trini

TSM-250PC05A bare aluminium

1.6401 m^2 = 15% Voc 38.0V Vmpp 30.3V

Isc 8.8 A Imp 8.3 A

All \$20 each. Contact Hairy on

[qrm] rnsstone [at] gmail [dot] com [qrm]

[making sure to decode the countermeasures first]



HF Station for Sale

Ken/VK4HAI is reluctantly selling his seldom used HF Station which consists of - ICOM IC-718 HF Transceiver with Microphone & DC Lead plus Regulated Linear 13.8V 30A Power Supply and Extension Speaker, Everything is in near new order - as stated seldom used and kept well packed. Ken is asking \$2000 with pick-up available at the home QTH in Atherton Far North Queensland. Ring Ken now on 0407 502838 to seal the deal.

**Make an offer for this Tower and Antenna combo**

The following is offered from a deceased estate and is being administered by John/VK4FNQ. Approx 40foot 4 post tower with rotator and the following antennas -
 - 5 element 6metre yagi
 - 10 element 2metre yagi
 - 17 element 70centimetre yagi
 - 5 element 2metre vertical yagi
 - 80metre inverted V dipole

The successful purchaser will remove the tower and

equipment which is located in the Charters Towers area.

The combination will not be split - it is a package deal.

A very good local Franna crane operator is available and is reasonably priced.

Contact John/VK4FNQ on 0409 631624 to make the deal or find out more.

**Packet Radio Lives!**

Longed for the AX25 modulation sounds in your radio shack? Need a fix of a bulletin list? Well you can still have a Packet fix either by radio or via telnet.

The VK4OT-3 FBBS Heatley NQLD is accessible 24 hours a day either via the radio port on 145.175MHz or via Telnet on vk4ot.ddns.net port 6300.

You can connect in the Townsville area via the radio port and set up access with password, or email the sysop Jason on [qrm] vk4ot [at] outlook [dot] com [dot] au [qrm] to set up Telnet access or find out more, [ensuring to disengage and translate the countermeasures first].

**Winlink Radio Message Servers Operational**

VK4DJC - Located in Mount Morgan in Central Queensland operating 24 hours per day 7 days a week using VARA mode and Public Access enabled on the following spot frequencies (subtract 1.5kHz for the dial frequency), using USB on HF, FM on VHF.

7052kHz, 10146.5kHz, 14112.5kHz 28101.5kHz 144675kHz

VK4GED - Located at Laguna Quays in Central Queensland operating 24 hours per day 7 days a week using VARA mode and Public Access enabled on 7052kHz (subtract 1.5kHz for the dial frequency) using USB.

VK4UI - Located at Rockhampton in Central Queensland operating 24 hours per day 7 days a week using VARA and VARA2750 Hybrid modes and Public Access enabled on 7058.5kHz, 10146.8kHz, 14111.0kHz (subtract 1.5kHz for the dial frequency) using USB.

VK2HL - Located at Yeppoon in Central Queensland operating 24 hours per day 7 days a week using VARA and VARA270 Hybrid modes and Public Access enabled on 3625.0kHz, 7040.0kHz, 10132.0kHz, 14090.0kHz, 18098.0kHz (subtract 1.5kHz for the dial frequency) using USB.

WinLink RMS also feature online login through the WinLink application

**PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS : BIRTHDAYS :**

- 15 Bill 4FW, XYM of Cheryl
- 20 Chris Drew
- 21 Sally Grattidge, renown watercolour artist and designer of the TARC logo
- 22 Dr Lloyd 4FP
- 25 John 4JPA, XYM of Rhonda
- 27 Vern 4FVC, XYM of Nell
- 28 Philippa, harmonic of Eleanor & Ian 4ZT
- 29 David 4KDH
- 31 Rob 4ARQ
- 31 Dec Iain 4IGM, XYM of Sheila 4PAL
- 1 Jan GraHam 4BB
- 5 Mick, 4ANZ
- 9 Robyn, board of control of Denis 4AE
- 9 Kristyl, board of control of Ken 4HAI
- 10 Katherine, harmonic of Denis 4AE and Robyn
- 13 Debbie, board of control of Lorne 4TLB
- 16 Jeanette, board of control of Bob 4WJ.
- 17 Colin 4UCM, XYM of Joan
- 17 Jeff 4XA, XYM of Sharon
- 18 Bill VKforexZ
- 20 Zoe, Harmonic of Lynda & Rob 4RB
- 21 Mike 4CMW, XYM of Kerry
- 23 Ian 'Chubb' 4FIBW
- 26 Jan Heather, XYL of Steve 4SGW
- 2 Feb Roy 4RM, YM of Natalie
- 4 Gregg 4ZON, YM of Laura
- 4 Gary 4KGK, YM of Tina
- 7 Sharon, Board of Control of Snow 4ME
- 10 Wallaby Bob 4WJ, YM of Jeanette
- 11 Alan Cassidy
- 12 Erica, Harmonic of Denis 4AE and Robyn
- 13 Tex, YM of Lyn 4EI
- 15 Gary 4CUZ
- 16 Sandra, Harmonic of Susan & Ray 4LU
- 18 Tom 4KS
- 22 Feb Rob 4TW, YM of Tracey
- 3 Mar Philip 4HSV, YM of Jan
- 4 Lawrie 4LE
- 5 Peter Renton
- 5 Clive 4ACC, YM of Kay
- 9 Peter 4PQ, YM of Ruth
- 9 Dave 4UN, YM of Sylvia
- 10 Philip 4API (Krystal Electronics)
- 15 Ray 4OIL, YM of Wendy
- 18 Ian 4ZT
- 19 John 4OB
- 20 Anthony, harmonic of Peter 4PVH
- 22 Pat 4MUY
- 23 Don 4MC, YM of Teri 4HYL
- 26 Roger 4CD
- 26 David 4DJC

**: WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES :**

- 19 Dec Leslie & Phil VK2JOK
- 21 Dec Janet & Cedric VK7CL
- 9 Jan Roslyn and Don VK4GUN (Matman and Roslyn)
- 12 Jan Robyn and Denis 4AE,
- 15 Jan Kaye and Bob 4AAH,
- 14 Mar Wendy and Ray 4OIL,
- 30 Mar Nell & Vernon 4FVC

**: CLUB ANNIVERSARIES :**

- 1 Jan 41st year of Mt Stuart Special Lease
- 15 Jan 57th year of Back-scatter
- 15 Jan 41st year of VK4RAT UHF Voice Repeater
- 18 Jan 37th year of Incorporation
- 27 Jan 37th year of Townsville Ladies Net (now the Ann Renton Memorial Net)



**Minutes of the Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc
Annual General Meeting held Sunday 23rd November 2025
at Area 2, Rossiter Park, Aitkenvale QLD 4814 QLD.**

Attending: [16] Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ, Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG, Hugh Barlow/VK4AM, Marion Barlow, Iain Morrison/VK4IGM, Stephen O'Halloran/VK4AEX, Phillip Strom/VK4HSV, Wallaby Bob Mann/VK4WJ, Rowan Tew/VK4TEW, Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB, Wayne Gooda/VK4YWG, Teddy Grace, Peter Harrex/VK4PQ, Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM, Guido Herodes/VK4ME, Bob Hinds/VK4AAH.

Attending By Proxy with Apology: [17]

Gareth Davey/VK4GED, Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA, Clyde Hebbard/VK4FCRH, Ian Hebbard/VK4FIBW, Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV, Eldon Bryant/VK4GUN, Wendy Schinkel, Ray Schinkel/VK4OIL, Valerie Payn, Brad Payn, Roger Cordukes/VK4CD, John Colee/VK4JWC, Ron Ostrenski/VK4JBY, Cheryl Goldfinch/VK4FRYL, John Goldfinch/VK4FNQ, Ben Pearce/VK4YT, Ross Ramm/VK4RO.

Apologies: [12] Kerry Wright, Mick Wright/VK4CMW, Peter Renton, Mark Louez/VK4TSV, Ray Hinks/VK4LU, Tony Sutton/VK4TJS, Mike Patterson/VK4MIK, Ron Goodhew/VK4EMF, Sheila Morrison/VK4PAL, Peter Herodes/VK4PJH, Sammi Roden, Bill Walker.

Visitors: Nil.

Meeting commenced: at 08:50hrs Townsville time
– Chaired by 2025 President Guido Herodes/VK4ME.

Proxy Votes: 2025 Secretary Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ advised that seventeen proxy votes had been received, two held by Meeting Chair, two held by Guido Herodes/VK4ME, three held by Peter Harrex/VK4PQ, ten held by Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ.

Quorum: 2025 Secretary Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ advised the meeting that the total attendance number of 33 exceeded the minimum attendance requirement of 23, and that a quorum existed for the meeting.

Silent Keys: The Chair advised that the following members and former members had passed away during the 2025 Club year.
Colin Christiansen VK4FVIK/VK4VIK – past member,
Judy Robertson – past honorary member. One Minutes Silence Held was held in Respect for those who had passed on.

New Members: Nil

Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion 2025AGM001 Moved by Hugh Barlow/VK4AM and Seconded by Phillip Strom/VK4HSV that Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting, as printed in December 2024 edition of Back-scatter and reprinted in November 2025 edition of Backscatter be accepted.

CARRIED unanimously.

Business arising from the previous AGM Minutes: Nil.

President's Report: 2025 President's Report was read to the meeting by Guido Herodes/VK4ME. Snow detailed the activities of the Club during the 2025 Club year and thanked members for their efforts and support during the year and wished the incoming committee all the best for the 2026 Club year.

Motion 2025AGM002 Moved by Guido Herodes/VK4ME and Seconded by Hugh Barlow/VK4AM that the 2025 President's Report be accepted. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: 2025 Treasurer Peter Harrex/VK4PQ presented the Treasurer's report, as checked by 2025 Finance Officer Phil Strom/VK4HSV and 2025 Finance Officer Bob Hinds/VK4AAH, to the meeting.

Motion 2025AGM003 Moved by Peter Harrex/VK4PQ and Seconded by Stephen O'Halloran/VK4AEX that the 2025 Treasurer's Report be accepted. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Statement of Remuneration and other Benefits to Members read by the Treasurer:

As required by the QLD Associations Incorporations Act 1986 with Amendment 2023, Members are informed that the Club has not provided paid remuneration or given other benefits to members, apart from receipted reimbursement of expenses on behalf of the Club which are specified in the Club's Financial Statements.

Statement of Public Risk Insurance Cover to Members read by the Secretary:

As required by the QLD Associations Incorporations Act 1986 with Amendment 2023, The Club informs Members that the Club has current Public Risk Insurance to the value of Ten Million Dollars with participation in the Wireless Institute of Australia Public Risk Insurance Scheme for affiliated Clubs.

Election of 2026 Management Committee:

The Chair declared all Management Committee and ex-officio positions vacant and recommended that Hugh Barlow/VK4AM be invited to conduct the election of Management Committee for 2026. Members agreed unanimously and Hugh accepted the task. There was one written nomination for Vice President – Richard Goodhew VK4PQV and nominations were sought from members attending the meeting for the rest of the Management Committee.

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED / DECLINED	Results of Ballot
President	Guido Herodes VK4ME	Stephen O'Halloran VK4AEX	Hugh Barlow VK4AM	Elected Unopposed
Vice President	Richard Goodhew VK4FRJG	Richard Goodhew VK4PQV	Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ	Elected Unopposed
Secretary	Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ	Guido Herodes VK4ME	Stephen O'Halloran VK4AEX	Elected Unopposed
Treasurer	Peter Harrex VK4PQ	Guido Herodes VK4ME	Phillip Strom VK4HSV	Elected unopposed
Committee 1	Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM	Phillip Strom VK4HSV	Iain Morrison VK4IGM	Elected unopposed
Committee 2	Hugh Barlow VK4AM	Guido Herodes VK4ME	Wayne Giebel VK4WSG	Elected unopposed
Committee 3	Ben Pearce VK4YT	Peter Harrex VK4PQ	Kerry McKenzie VK4TUB	Elected unopposed
Committee 4	Phillip Strom VK4HSV	Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ	Wayne Gooda VK4YWG	Elected unopposed
Committee 5	Wayne Giebel VK4WSG	Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM	Iain Morrison VK4IGM	Elected unopposed
Committee 6	Brett Eldridge VK4BDE	Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ	Bob Hinds VK4AAH	Elected unopposed
Committee 7	Hairy Richard Stone VK4ZMB	Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ	Peter Harrex VK4PQ	Elected unopposed

Motion 2025AGM004 Moved by Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ and Seconded by Peter Harrex VK4PQ that further nominations be closed and the nominees be declared as duly elected. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Motion 2025AGM005 Moved by Snow Herodes/VK4ME and Seconded by Wallaby Bob Mann/VK4WJ that a vote of thanks be extended to the outgoing committee for a job well done in 2025. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Continue AGM :

2026 President Guido Herodes/VK4ME assumed the role of Chair and thanked the previous years Management Committee and Ex-officio members and wished the incoming Management Committee well for the year to come.

The Chairman then thanked Hugh Barlow/VK4AM for conducting the election of the Management Committee and members accorded a round of acclamation for those duties.

Membership Fees:

After discussion amongst the meeting, taking into account the Treasurer's Report and recommendations that fees could remain the same as in 2025,

Motion 2025AGM006 Moved by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG and Seconded by Rowan Tew/VK4TEW that the 2025 Membership Fees be set as follows. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Ordinary Member -	\$45.00	Ordinary Family Member -	\$45.00
Ordinary Student Member -	\$25.00	Ordinary Pensioner Member -	\$25.00
Backscatter Subscription -	\$25.00	Country Member -	\$25.00

2026 Finance Officers: Finance Officers help provide the necessary review services for the Club to comply with the requirements of the QLD Associations Incorporation Act, Part 1 Details of Annual Return of Association as a Small Association where assets are less than \$300000 and total revenue is less than \$150000. These officers should have the necessary background to qualify them for this most important task. As these Officers provide part of the Governance function of the Club, they should be nominated and accepted at the AGM. Nominations for two Finance Officers were sought from members attending the meeting.

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED / DECLINED	Results of Ballot
Finance Officer	Philip Strom VK4HSV	Hugh Barlow VK4AM	Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM	Elected Unopposed
Finance Officer	Bob Hinds VK4AAH	Peter Harrex VK4PQ	Wallaby Bob Mann VK4WJ	Elected Unopposed

Group Affiliations:

Members duly authorised the Club to continue its affiliation with the following groups.

Motion 2025AGM007 Moved by Rowan Tew/VK4TEW and Seconded by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG that the Club maintain affiliation with the Wireless Institute of Australia.

CARRIED unanimously.

Motion 2025AGM008 Moved by Guido Herodes/VK4ME and Seconded by Bob Hinds/VK4AAH that the Club maintain affiliation with the Radio Society of Great Britain. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Motion 2025AGM009 Moved by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG and Seconded by Rowan Tew/VK4TEW that the Club maintain affiliation with the Queensland State Emergency Service, Townsville Division.

CARRIED unanimously.

Motion 2025AGM010 Moved Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ and Seconded by Wallaby Bob Mann/VK4WJ that the Club maintain affiliation with the CW Operators' QRP Club Inc. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Appreciation to SES Townsville Division for use of Club Room facilities: **Motion 2025AGM011** Moved by Wallaby Bob Mann/VK4WJ and Seconded by Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB that the club submit a donation of \$300 to the SES QLD Townsville Division in appreciation of the use of club room facilities at the SES Headquarters, Green Street, West End.

CARRIED unanimously.

Acknowledgment of Life Membership: The meeting acknowledged with applause, the status of Life Membership currently held by Ray Hinks/VK4LU and Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ.

Confirmation of Honorary Membership Status:

Motion 2025AGM012 Moved by Peter Harrex/VK4PQ and Seconded by Kerry McKenzie/VK4TUB that Honorary Membership Status be re-confirmed for Professor Mal Heron and Peter Lindsay/VK4TO CDEC PHF OAM. **CARRIED** Unanimously.

General Business: Nil

Further General Business: Nil

Meeting Concluded:

The Chair thanked members for attending the 2025 Annual General Meeting and proposed that the next year would be frightening and fantabulous. The Chair also reminded all club members to be involved in as many club activities that they possibly could during 2026. Meeting closed on 23rd November 2025 at 0942hrs.

Minutes transcribed 23rd November 2025 by Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ Secretary 2025/2026, The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc.



The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc Annual General Meeting President's Report 2025

Good morning. I am Guido (Snow) Herodes VK4ME, President of the TARCinc and another year has passed by again. I would like to welcome all of you for attending this morning's AGM and those that couldn't make it. Also acknowledging Gavin VK4ZZ the secretary and Peter VK4PQ the treasurer. What a pleasure to see so many people turn up to for this steamy Sunday morning's AGM.

Hope everyone has had belly full of those delicious pancakes, not mention tea and coffee to wash it all down.

I will keep the speech short this year and not long winded.

Throughout the year the TARC activities and the communications support programs have been well documented in the Back Scatter magazine and with lots of photos on Facebook.

There are still 2 events to be held before the end of the year.

Og's Xmas lights tourer 19 Dec 2025, and the Xmas party to be held on Sunday 14 Dec 2025. Christmas Party will be held at the VK4ME complex in Kirwan and don't forget to bring a chair.

For anyone that doesn't like being in the heat, I will have the aircon going on downstairs for you to cool off, and there is the pool also.

Well I've thinking.

A majority of the TARC members are aging rapidly including myself, I find that I am trying to work smarter and not being a bull at the gate anymore. Got to look after the body you know. For instance, picking up the generator out of the 4x4 ute and placing it on the ground and then lifting it up to put it back in the ute doesn't happen anymore. I now leave it sitting on the tailgate for now until I can work out a winch setup to raise and lower it out of the back of the ute. Work in progress. The same goes for putting up antennas, there are now so many new light weight antennas being produced in China at reasonable price. I now have adopted a "V" dipole for portable work and they seem to work fairly well for a compromised antenna and easy to put up.

Kerry VK4TUB has been experimenting with lots of those cheap Chinese antennas and has had really good results. Kerry VK4TUB has put on two demonstrations at Mill Park on how easy they are to set up and tune to get on air. Kerry VK4TUB also has activated some parks around town for POTA (Parks on the air) with good results getting the required 10 contacts for the activation of park with cheap Chinese antennas. During the year I purchase a new SDR radio to go portable, a Xiegu G90S. Yes it is a QRP radio, 20 watts output. I am hoping to match it up with the VK3AMPS that I built from a kit. Kerry VK4TUB is working frantically on the PTT keying for his amplifier and mine as well. I do intend using that combination for portable use along with my little Bambino Caravan next year.

I still enjoy getting out of the house and going along to the horse rides at Bowen and Bluewater Park. It's so peaceful and tranquil at the checkpoint making it worthwhile. Still remembering to counting horses and at night watching the stars go by and playing radio makes it all worthwhile.

Throughout the year we still had our normal club events like Australia Day Long weekend, John Moyle Field Day, Tony4's Fox Hunt, and the Cardwell Gathering. Numbers were down at Cardwell gathering this year. I do believe it's time to kick Cardwell by the sea into touch as the only club to attend is TARC; patrons from the North haven't turned up for a number of years. I think it's time to say goodbye to Cardwell by the sea. The club also provided communications support to the Magnetic Island to Strand swim, Horse rides at Bowen and Bluewater Park, Millchester off-road racing and the scouts Night Hawk activity. Unfortunately, the Mt Stuart Hill Climb event has folded, no one is willing taking it over. Hairy Richard VK4ZMB and I have had many memorable moments at the Flying Finish point. We have seen many prangs occur on the hair pin bend at Flying Finish and experienced many near misses where both of us have nearly had to run for cover. I would like to thank all the volunteers for all their efforts that they have put in throughout the year in providing necessary communications support to all the activities. Just bear in mind a lot planning and preparation goes into making these events come off. Not to mention all the radio equipment, antennas, batteries and generators that lugged out into the field. The Millchester off-road racing can provide spectacular frills and spill as the buggies and cars fly past the check points at an incredible speed. If you are bored at home come and support the events and enjoy the frills.

I would like to thank Phil VK4HSV for being the maintenance manager for the Mt Stuart repeater hut. Phil VK4HSV in his own time did an incredible job providing quotes for parts and paint and equipment to refurbish the Mt Stuart site. Numerous working bees were conducted up at the Mt Stuart repeater facility. Before any work could be undertaken the site was cleared of rock and grass, trees removed in preparation for the work to be undertaken.

Repairs undertaken at the site included a new door and frame, a new frame around the air conditioner to stop the ingress of water into building, holes drilled through the floor for better drainage if any water was to enter the building. The biggest job was to clean the outside of the building in preparation for painting. A trailer mounted high pressure cleaner with 1000 litres of water was hired to clean the building. Good old Phil VK4HSV had has the right gear for the painting of the hut, an industrial airless paint gun that made the job so much easier. The fence around the hut was in bad state of decay, rusted out fence posts had to be replaced along with one gate post. A lot work went into repairing the fence and gate to keep the varmints out.

I would like to thank all the club members that volunteered their time and effort to restore the Mt Stuart repeater site; this was not an easy job by any means. Well done to the club members that assisted in restoring the repeater site.

Throughout the year the club was short on members for some of activities undertaken. We do need more volunteers to help out. Come on and play radio in the field.

Next I would like to thank all the committee members for the great work they have done this year, Richard Kooka VK4PQV vice president, Gavin VK4ZZ as the Secretary and Peter VK4PQ the Treasurer and all the other Ex Officio positions, well done. I would like to thank Lyndall VK4ZM for conducting amateur radio examinations for the foundation licence and the upgrades during the year.

Special thanks go to Gavin VK4ZZ the secretary, for all the undercover work that he has done throughout the year and running the zoom part of meetings.

Thanks to all the wives for putting up with hams in the shack. I would like to thank Paul VK4ICA for managing the Facebook page; great place for checking up on club events and what members are up to.

So what's happening in 2026, anything is possible, if anybody has any ideas they would be welcome!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the TARC Christmas party.

73 Snow VK4ME in paradise.



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HEHN



VISUAL BACKSLATTER



Iain/VK4IGM has received another well deserved gong, 2025 Players Player for the Townsville Youth Band



VISUAL BACKSLATTER



Rare DX! Iain/VK4IGM with Gregg/VK4ZON at the recent IEEE North Aust Peter Arlett Lecture at JCU Douglas Campus



Clairview Gathering Friday 8th to Monday 10th May 2026



The Clairview Gathering is a yearly event where Radio Amateurs meet at a spot on the coast between Rockhampton and Mackay to relax, talk radio, re-establish acquaintances and participate in the world renown Saturday Night Mega-Auction. There will definitely be RAFFLES and the famous Lucky Numbers Board! There is a rumour going about that George VK4HAN might be getting a hair-cut yet again.

The Gathering is one of the main revenue raisers

for the Mackay Amateur Radio Association Inc. and the Rockhampton and District Amateur Radio Club Inc. It happens in 2026 on the weekend following the Long Weekend from Friday afternoon 8th to Monday morn 11th May, with most events happening on Saturday 9th May. Those who are keen to chill out completely in one of the most relaxing and laid back venues in the cosmos arrive earlier and stay later. The Clairview Gathering is so popular that on-site accommodation is close to being booked out already, so if you want to go you will have to very quick. Likewise the nice camp, caravan or motor-home sites will book out quickly. To book your camping spot contact the BarraCrab Caravan Park Clairview <http://www.barracrabcamp.com.au/> or on 07 49560190





NQ Communications Support
Co-ordinator : Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ

Cyclone Season Readiness

by Blue/VK4FBLU sk

(thanks Blue, still looking after us !)

- Give the generator some fresh fuel / oil and run it for a couple of hours this weekend. Have enough fuel to last at least 5 days.
- Keep your vehicle fuel tank topped up.
- Keep a ready supply of cash handy – small and big denominations (ATMs EFTPOS and BANKS stop working when there is no power)
- Check the state of your shack and portable batteries, charge them up or replace them if you have to. Your Amateur Radio might end up being the only way to keep in contact with people. When the power is out, your nearby mobile phone base or powered fibre splitter will last 4 to 6 hours at best before it stops operating with a flat backup battery.
- Ensure you have at least the essentials:
a couple of portable radios, torches, candles, spare batteries, water containers or bottled water, a BBQ or other self contained cooking facilities (check your gas or heat beads), can opener, waterproof matches.
- Enough medicines and first aid assets to last a while, hospitals and emergency services will be extremely busy before, during and after a disaster, and
- at least FIVE days worth of non-perishable food for your Family and your pets.

Remember too – pack only useful things into your kit. Some items might not be usable during or after a disaster if it is not useful !



remember to pack a Can Opener !



- TARC does the 2026 Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo

theTARCinc will yet again be involved with the Defence Welcome and Information Expo run by the Townsville office of the Defence Member and Family Support Section. It will be happening on Saturday 31st January at Murray Stadium from 9-30am to 12pm.

The Club will be drawing on expertise gained from participation in previous Expos to show Defence members and their families currently residing or new to the region some of the aspects of the wonderful world of Amateur Radio.

It is hoped to demonstrate the hobby through a mixture of static, dynamic and interactive displays, with members experienced in many facets of the hobby able to provide meaningful answers and guidance for those attending the Expo.

The display will be put in place from 7-30am to 8-45am and packed away from 12pm to 1pm.

If you want to be part of the TARC team on display then please contact The Master - Iain/VK4IGM on telephone 07-47214083 or on the air.



TARC Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp

Happening from Thursday afternoon 22nd to Monday lunch-time 26th January 2025 at : Girl Guides Association of Queensland Campsite and Training Centre, 46-56 Toolakea Beach Road, Bluewater. Camp Shack will be on-air to provide directions and will use AX4WIT on Australia Day.



Activities will include:

Cooking of the dampers and other bush recipes (bring your camp oven or use the comprehensive kitchen facilities plus bring your favourite recipes and ingredients),
Raising of the Flag (and try to remember all the words to the National Anthem),

Throwing of the Infernal Thong (release that pent up stress!),

Swimming (bring yer cozzies and inflatables for swimming in the Bluewater Creek – if it rains enough),

Portable demonstrations of various aspects of the wonderful world of Amateur Radio, Antenna building and tweaking, Balun designing and winding.

Don't get the wrong idea though, this long week will be a VERY relaxing one – we like to practice the lost art of Extreme Loafing too, and remember it's an all-weather event!

Cost of a camp site or a bed in Bluewater House is \$15 per person per night. Day visitors pay \$10 per person if they use the facilities. You need to supply your own condiments such as salt and pepper and also bring your own washing up detergent and tea towels. For those also using the Bluewater House accommodation you need to bring your own pillow and linen.

The campsite features : Operating in the "Big Hut", Sleeping in "Bluewater House", Swimming at "Pioneers Reach", Bluewater Creek. a short drive to the Bluewater Diner and the Community Centre for creature comforts, a giant open shed should antenna fabrication and testing take your fancy, plus it's only a half hour drive from the North Shore, Deeragun & Thuringowa Central CBDs



TARC does the John Moyle Field Day 2026

theTARCinc will be participating in the WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day weekend from Friday afternoon 20th to Sunday afternoon 22nd March at the Mount Fox Camp Ground, 2944 Mount Fox Rd, Mount Fox QLD 4850.
Location 18.817485°S 145.794824°E Maidenhead Grid QH21VE53JT Elevation 630metres
To Ingham CBD Direct 42.3km 064°T by road 63.1km approx. 1hour
To VK4RAT Mt Stuart Direct 119.3km 119°T
To Deeragun Lights by road 159km approx. 2hours 5minutes
Portable operation is the go so make sure you bring plenty of batteries and whisper quiet generators if you can.



The campsite features: Huge grassy open space next to a lagoon (part of Michael Creek) that has abundant bird life plus very tall trees, topography ideal for vertical radiators and tree supported wires. Basic toilets, upgraded shower block and a covered camp kitchen. Dog friendly area, no mains power, a view of the nearby extinct volcano called Mount Fox. Accessible to motorbikes, RVs, camper trailers and caravans. Mobile Phone coverage is by the Telstra 4G low capacity base in Oak Hills Road, approx 2km from the campsite. \$10 donation per night per vehicle to the local chapter of the Rural Fire Service whose members also maintain the facility in pristine condition.

Accessing the campsite via road: From the Deeragun traffic lights drive on the Bruce Highway for 95.6km to the Lannercost Street lights at Ingham. Do your final shopping and fuelling up in Ingham before travelling on.

Left turn onto Lannercost Street, proceed 8km along Abergowrie Road to Trebonne. Left turn onto Stone River Road proceed 18.9km and right turn near Upper Stone to stay on Stone River Road. Proceed 6.7km then Right turn onto Mount Fox Road (the turn comes up suddenly). Proceed up Seaview Range for 28.8km then turn right into the campgrounds. Ensure while you travel up and down the range to maintain a radio watch on UHF-CB CH40 and travel with caution as there are many bends, steep climbs and descents and narrow points on Mount Fox Road. There are call points along the road at the most hazardous locations and it is highly recommended that you call at the call-points to ensure other vehicles know you are on the road.

Equipping for success: Logging for the event will be done by a dude that can type using a 12V powered netbook running the latest version of N1MM, there will be lots of antennae lofting and tweaking, operating on HF, VHF & UHF in a location that can be used what ever weather is happening plus plenty of chances to kick back and socialise.

Some essentials to bring: Food, Drink, condiments, toilet paper (donate some extra rolls), washing up gear, portable shelters, comfy chairs and beds, portable lighting - plus your radios, batteries, generators & fuel, antennas and the height acquisition kit. Hope to see you there - come rain or shine !

The updated JMFD Rules and information available on the WIA National Website - look under the members section at Contests. Tagging along so far are - VK4s ME, PJH, ZM & ZZ, Doris & WSG, Teddy & TUB, Jo & YT & at least a visit from the Mayor of Mount Fox!



AM and CW on ANZAC Day - Radioamateurs Remember. 25th April 2026

The AM and CW on Anzac Day event come about after a conversation between Lionel Veale ex Sgt Coast-watcher during WW2 and Mike Patterson VK4MIK - Mike served in the RAN for 21years. Lionel used radios to transmit coded intelligence by CW mode.

Mike thought it would be a good way for Amateurs to salute those who served or are still serving by using the old radio modes of AM and CW on Anzac Day and if possible at ex Defence sites.

This event has operated for well over 18 years and has proved very successful as many discovered AM mode and used it for the first time and others used home brew CW rigs.

In Queensland the Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc. operates as Net Control using callsign AX4ATV from their Club Rooms, an ex WW2 Command Bunker (Project 81). The net operates on 7125 kHz AM all day with many using old radios. It also commences at 0500 on 3599kHz CW then to AM on 3600kHz AM.

Stations across Australia operate on this day and its not a contest but simply make contact using old modes. New Zealand AM radio group have also expressed interest after contacts last year so listen out for our ANZAC partners.

Thanks to the organising and planning by Ray/AX4OIL, some other TARCadians led by Snow/AX4ME will again activating the historic World War 2 Ooononba Bombing Site running portable stations on Amplitude Modulation and highlighting the need for the site to be preserved by the Queensland Government as an important commemoration site for community use.

Many Amateurs joined our Defence forces and took their skills into their service lives in a wide range of activities such as Coastwatchers, Air Force Radio operators, Radar operators and repair, navy radio operators and Army operations.

Over the weekend 25th & 26th April the 9th AMRO event will happen – Australian Military Radio Operators and their converted Military Radios will be on the air. More details will be released closer to the event, including this year's operational theme.

LEST WE FORGET
de VK4MIK Mike ex RAN - vk4mike@yahoo.com.au



VISUAL BACKSLATTER



Seen recently at the Ukes Christmas Party – Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ hopefully the music book is in the Key of Cee



REAST – The Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania.

REAST has a great repository of technical talk videos from their ATV experimenters nights and they are on YOUTUBE - (link - [Reast Hobart - YouTube](#)), free for all to watch. You will find topics such as Electromagnetic Radiation Safety and Assessments, Quiz Night, All Things AllStarLink, Softrock SDR, and lots, lots more.



Basslink HVDC is very interesting article, it explains the system very well.

Enjoy, de VK4PQ Peter @ Kelso



TARC Club Meeting Recess

theTARCinc has a meeting recess which starts at the end of the December Social Meeting until the February Management Meeting. Do not despair – there will be some activities happening during the recess, including

- the December Ann Renton Memorial Net,
- the New Years Eve Tech on the Air Net
- the New Years Eve Countdown to 2026 on the VK4RAT VHF Repeater and the VK4PQ Echolink and AllStarLink nodes, from 1250UTC for ADST and from 1350UTC for proper time,
- the Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp from Thur 22 to Mon 26 January at Bluewater,
- the January Ann Renton Memorial Net,
- the Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo Sat 31 Jan amongst other things. Keep an ear out on the news nets for updates.



The fantastic Scratchie Christmas Tree made by Kerry Wright which was the prize in the 2025 BRAG Raffle, seen at theTARCinc Christmas Party and won by Dennis/VK4VTK from Mackay



Radio happenings ... so far**December**

- TARC Xmas Party - Sun 14th December at the VK4ME Ice Cube
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 16th December from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Does the Xmas Lights Tour - Fri 19th December around Townsville Northern Suburbs
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 23rd December - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Wed 31st Dec from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- New Years Day Countdown - Wed 31st December - from 1245UTC for Daylight Saving, from 1345UTC for proper time

January 2026

- Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp - Thur 22nd to Mon arvo 26th Jan - Girl Guides Training Centre Bluewater
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 27th January - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo - Sat 31st January bump in 7-30am expo 9am to 12pm - Townsville Stadium

February

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 3rd February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 10th February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 17th February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 24th January - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

March

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 3rd March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 10th March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC does the John Moyle Memorial Field Day March 20 21 22 - Mount Fox Camp Ground
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 17th March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 24th March from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 31st March from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

April

- B2B Blue Hills Bash Easter Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park Thur 2 April to Mon 6 April
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 7th April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 14th April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- NQORA Gold City 450 QLD Championship round Off Road Racing - Sat 18 April to Sun 19 April - Millchester MSRC
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 21st April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- AM & CW on ANZAC Day - Sat 25th April
- MARA Valley Riders Dee Jay Arabians Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 25th to Sun 26th April
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 28th April from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

May

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 5th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA/RADAR Clairview Gathering - Fri 8 May to Mon 11 May - BarraCrab Clairview
- TARC Project Night - Tue 12th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Autumn Escalade Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 16 to Sun 17 May - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 19th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 26th May from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- WRERA Euri Gold Tropical Winter Horsie Rides Comms Support - Fri arvo 29th to Sun 31st May - Euri Gold Farms near Bowen

June

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 2nd June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Snow 4's Famous Foxhunt - Sat 6th June somewhere in the Townsville area

- Queensland Day - Sat 6th June - QUEENSLANDER!
- TARC Project Night - Tue 9th June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 13 to Sun 14 June
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 16th June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 23rd June from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 30th June from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

July

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 7th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 14th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Paluma Push Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 18 to Sun 19 July - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 21st July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 28th July from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

August

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 4th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 11th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- WRERA Euri Gold Winter Harvest Horsie Rides Comms Support - Fri arvo 14th to Sun 16th August - Euri Gold Farms near Bowen
- TOWSA Maggie Island Swim Comms Support - Sat 15th August from 5-30am Strand Park
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 18th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 25th August from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

September

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 1st September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 5 to Sun 6 September at Bluewater Park
- TARC Project Night - Tue 8th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 22nd September from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- CHARC AGM Weekend - Fri arvo 25 to Sun morn 27 Sept - Venue TBA
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 29th September - from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

October

- Cardwell Gathering - Fri 2nd Oct to Mon 5th Oct at Meunga Creek Caravan Park
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 6th Oct from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 13th October from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Jamboree On The Air/Jamboree On The Internet - Fri 16 to Sun 18 Oct
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 20th Oct from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 27th Oct from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

November

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 3rd Nov from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 10th Nov from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 17th Nov from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- theTARCinc Annual General Meeting - Sun 22nd Nov Rossiter Park Aitkenvale - 7am Brekkie - 8-30am AGM
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 24th Nov - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

December

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 1st Dec from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End



TEN COMMANDMENTS OF ELECTRICAL SAFETY

~~~~~

- 1) Beware of the lightning that lurketh in seemingly uncharged capacitors, lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in an unseamanlike manner and cause thy hair to stand on end, thereby exceeding regulation length.
- 2) Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged, that thy days may be long in this earthly vale.
- 3) Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged, lest they lift thee to radio frequency potential and cause thee to radiate with the angels.
- 4) Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engage in intentional shocks, for they are not long of this world and are surely unbelievers.
- 5) Take care thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of high voltage so that thou dost not incinerate both thee and thy test meter. For verily, thou art not on charge and can be easily replaced, but the test meter is, and as a consequence, bringeth much woe unto thy supply officer.
- 6) Take care thou tamperest not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of thy department head and bringeth the fury of thy commanding officer on thy head.
- 7) Work thou not on energised equipment without proper procedures, for if thou dost so, thy colleagues will surely be buying beers for thy widow and consoling her in certain ways not generally acceptable to thee.
- 8) Verily, verily I say unto thee, never service equipment alone, for electrical cooking is a slow process, and thou might sizzle in thy own fat upon a hot circuit for hours on end before thy maker sees fit to end thy misery and drag thee into his fold.
- 9) Trifle thee not with radioactive tubes and substances lest thou commence to glow in the dark like a lightning bug and thy wife be frustrated and have no further use for thee except for thy wages.
- 10) Commit thou to memory all the words of the prophets which are written down in the first chapter of thy bible which is the weapon and electrical engineering practice (br 2553) and giveth out with the straight dope and consoleth thee when thou hast suffered a ream job by thy division CPO.

COURTESY OF A NAVAL SAFETY MANUAL.

Acknowledgements to the unknown Sailor!

73 Mike G8AMG @ GB7LWB 1995/05/30

(Downloaded from GB7BBS & VK4ZZ Amateur Radio FBBS)

## Some Regional Nets as of 9th November 2025

note that all nets are +/- noted frequency to avoid QRM or emergency activations

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday Afternoon  | YL 222 DX Net - 14222kHz from 0530Z                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Monday Evening    | Mackay ARA Net - VK4WIM Net Control - 3597kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                            |
| Monday Evening    | 160Metre Net - Gary/VK4BE Net Control from Beachmere QLD - 1848kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                       |
| Monday Evening    | Brisbane ARC 80m Net - VK4BA Net Control - 3630kHz from 1000Z                                                                                                                                                       |
| Monday Evening    | Gympie CEG 80m Net - VK4GYM Net Control - 3647kHz from 1000Z                                                                                                                                                        |
| Tuesday Evening   | Rockhampton and District ARC Net - VK4WIR Net Control - 3613kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday Evening   | Bayside ARC Fusion Digital UHF Net – 438.450 MHz<br>(VK4RDB Repeater Mt Cotton Room 59002) from 0930Z                                                                                                               |
| Wednesday Evening | Gold Coast ARS Net - VK4WIG Net Control - 3605kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                        |
| Wednesday Evening | Cairns ARC Net - VK4RCA Cairns City UHF Repeater output 439.850 input 434.850<br>with 91.5Hz input tone from 0930Z also on AllStarLink CairnsHub node 533335                                                        |
| Wednesday Evening | Central Queensland ARA Net - VK4CQR Net Control - 3612kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                |
| Wednesday Evening | Bayside ARC 80m Net - VK4BAR Net Control - 3570kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wednesday Evening | Sunshine Coast ARC 80m Net - VK4WIS Net Control - 3665kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                |
| Wednesday Evening | Sunshine Coast ARC 10m Net - VK4WIS Net Control - 28475kHz after 80m Net                                                                                                                                            |
| Wednesday Evening | Hervey Bay ARC 160m Net - VK4CHB Net Control - 1848kHz from 1000Z                                                                                                                                                   |
| Thursday Evening  | The Tablelands REC Memorial Net - VK4WAT Net Control - 3605kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                           |
| Thursday Evening  | Australian Fusion C4FM Net<br>438.750MHz VK4OO Repeater & Room 24160 AUS-REPEATER-NET from 0930Z                                                                                                                    |
| Thursday Evening  | Redcliffe ARC Net - VK4RC or VK4IZ Net Control - 3636kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                 |
| Thursday Evening  | Hervey Bay ARC 80m Net - VK4CHB Net Control - 3615kHz from 1000Z                                                                                                                                                    |
| Thursday Evening  | Bayside ARC FreeDMR Net – 438.825 MHz - Timeslot 2 Talk Group 50500<br>(VK4RDB Repeater Mt Cotton) from 1000Z<br>also accessible via DROID-Star app FreeDMR_Australia-3 TGID 50500                                  |
| Friday Afternoon  | Border Ranges ARC 6m Net - 52.100MHz USB 0500Z                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Friday Evening    | Sunshine Coast ARC 6m Net - VK4WIS Net Control - 53700kHz FM from 0930Z                                                                                                                                             |
| Friday Evening    | Caboolture ARC Net - VK4QD Net Control - 3610kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                         |
| Friday Evening    | Central Highlands ARC Net - VK4WCH Net Control - 3618kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                 |
| Saturday Evening  | Darling Downs ARC Net - VK4WID Net Control - 3650kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                     |
| Sunday Morning    | WICEN VK4 Net 20metres - 14125kHz from 2200Z                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Sunday Morning    | WICEN VK4 Net 30metres - 10122kHz from 2200Z                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Sunday Morning    | WICEN VK4 Net 40metres - 7105kHz from 2230Z                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Sunday Morning    | Border Ranges ARC Net - local VHF repeaters, IRLP9558, echolink VK3JED, from 2230Z                                                                                                                                  |
| Sunday Morning    | Townsville ARC WIANews Net - VK4WIT Net Control - VK4RAT 146.700MHz Repeater<br>and connected AllStarLink and Echolink Nodes - 2300Z followed by callbacks                                                          |
| Sunday Morning    | Central Queensland ARA Net - VK4RLM VHF repeater & echolink VK4RLM-R, from 0001Z                                                                                                                                    |
| Sunday Evening    | North Queensland Net - VK4WIT Net Control - 3605.4kHz from 0930Z                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sunday Evening    | Brisbane ARC 6m Net - VK4BA Net Control - VK4RBX 6m Repeater from 1000Z<br>RX 53.925MHz TX 52.925MHz no tone required to access VK4RBX                                                                              |
| Every Morning     | The Gnarly Net - All the Morse and Voice you can have for breakfast<br>3599kHz CW 6am or earlier for the Morse (2000Z),<br>3600kHz LSB Voice happens after the Morse (approx. 2030Z)                                |
| Every Morning     | Coral Coast Early Birds Net - 7093kHz starting 6am (2000Z)                                                                                                                                                          |
| Every Morning     | Coral Coast Net - 7093kHz starting 7am (2100Z), right after the Early Birds Net                                                                                                                                     |
| Every Afternoon   | WIA Travellers Net - 14116kHz Check Ins from 0200Z - Callbacks from 0300Z<br>National Co-ordinator 0421043009 - more information on WIA Website.                                                                    |
| Every Afternoon   | Ron's Net - in memory of Ron/VK4BRG SK - 7100kHz from 0700Z Mike/VK4MIK net control                                                                                                                                 |
| Every Afternoon   | The Kandos Net - check your gear and let everyone know you are still active !<br>On 7093kHz from 1630local (0630Z normal, 0530Z DST) - Tom/VK2KF net control<br>alternate net controllers Peter/VK2QF or Tom/VK4ATH |

**NEWS OF A SILENT KEY IAN BROWNE VK4DB**

**Ian/VK4DB operating CW during the 2005 WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day Contest as part of the TARCinc VK4WIT Club Station at Club Mozzie near Mount View Lake**

Sad news received from Denise/VK4FCDB, board of control of Ian/VK4DB that Ian went Silent Key on Wednesday 26th November 2025 at Townsville University Hospital following complications caused by lung cancer. Ian was farewelled at a private funeral on Tuesday 2nd December 2026 in Townsville attended by close family members.

Ian was a morseaholic and a very keen DXer on 10metres and above, improving his operating skills on Amateur Radio using training he had been given as a serving member of the Queensland Police Service. Knowing Morse Code was a vital skill for those serving in QPS and involved with communications in years gone by and Ian used those skills well while on transfer to various postings across the state and was one of the last Morse Operators with QPS when the morse code service ended.

Ian held an Amateur Radio qualification for 50 years and operated on 10, 6 and 2 metres mainly on CW but also on SSB over the years. He was also keen to try new modes, dabbling in Packet Radio, APRS, SSTV, While stationed in Cairns in the late 1960s Ian ran instruction classes in Amateur Radio and had many candidates successfully attain their licences. For a while Ian was also President of the Cairns Club. Having postings on the coast enabled Ian to also indulge in his other favourite activity, sports-fishing.

Ian was a long time member of the Wireless Institute of Australia and while stationed and eventually retiring in Townsville was a long time member of The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Ian's enthusiasm for DX and furthering the knowledge of those in the wonderful world of Amateur Radio will be sorely missed.

Vale Ian Browne VK4DB, Silent Key.



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