

theTARCinc Events Calendar

July

- NQORA Charters Towers Short Circuit Off Road Racing – Sat 25th to Sun 26th July - Millchester MSRC
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tsvl UHF Repeater & TubbyNet Tuesday 28th July starts 7-30pm
- TARC Anniversary Activation of Ooononba WW2 Bomb Crater – Wed 29th July from 2pm 7100kHz

August

- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 1 to Sun 2 August
- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday 4th August starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night Tuesday 11th August from 7-30pm
- TOWSA Magnetic Island to Townsville Swim Comms Support – Sat 15th August from 5-30am Strand Beach
- TARC Social Evening Tuesday 18th August starts 7-30pm
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tsvl UHF Repeater & TubbyNet Tuesday 25th August starts 7-30pm

September

- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday 1st Sept starts 7-30pm
- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support Sat 5 to Sun 6 Sept - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Project Night Tuesday 8th September from 7-30pm
- TARC Social Meeting Tuesday Sept 15 starts 7-30pm
- NQORA Offroad Racing Comms Support Millchester Sat Sept 19 to Sun Sept 20
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net VK4RAT UHF & Nodes Tuesday Sept 22 starts 7-30pm
- Tech On The Air Net Tuesday Sept 29 starts 7-30pm VK4RAT VHF & Nodes

October

- Cardwell Gathering – Meunga Creek Caravan Park Friday Oct 2nd to Monday Oct 5th
- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday Oct 6 starts 7-30pm
- TARC does Get Ready Townsville (Cyclone Saturday) Saturday Oct 10 3pm to 6pm at Riverway
- TARC Project Night Tuesday Oct 13 starts 7-30pm
- Jamboree On The Air/Jamboree On The internet Guides & Scouts - Fri Oct 16 to Sun Oct 18
- TARC Social Meeting Tuesday Oct 20 starts 7-30pm

more details inside ! - also check out

<https://thetarcinc.weebly.com/>

and listen into the news nets for updates

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

- Remembrance Day Contest – 15 to 16 August
- Lighthouse Weekend – 15 to 16 August
- 45th ALARA Contest - 23 Aug 0600Z to 24 Aug 0559Z
- CHARC AGM Weekend Emerald – 25 to 27 Sept
- Cardwell Gathering – 2 Oct to 5 Oct
- Jamboree On The Air – 16 to 18 October

place
170 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE
MAIL



Member Subs
to be paid by 30 June 2026.
If you have paid yours, thanks!

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

BACKSCATTER

July 2026



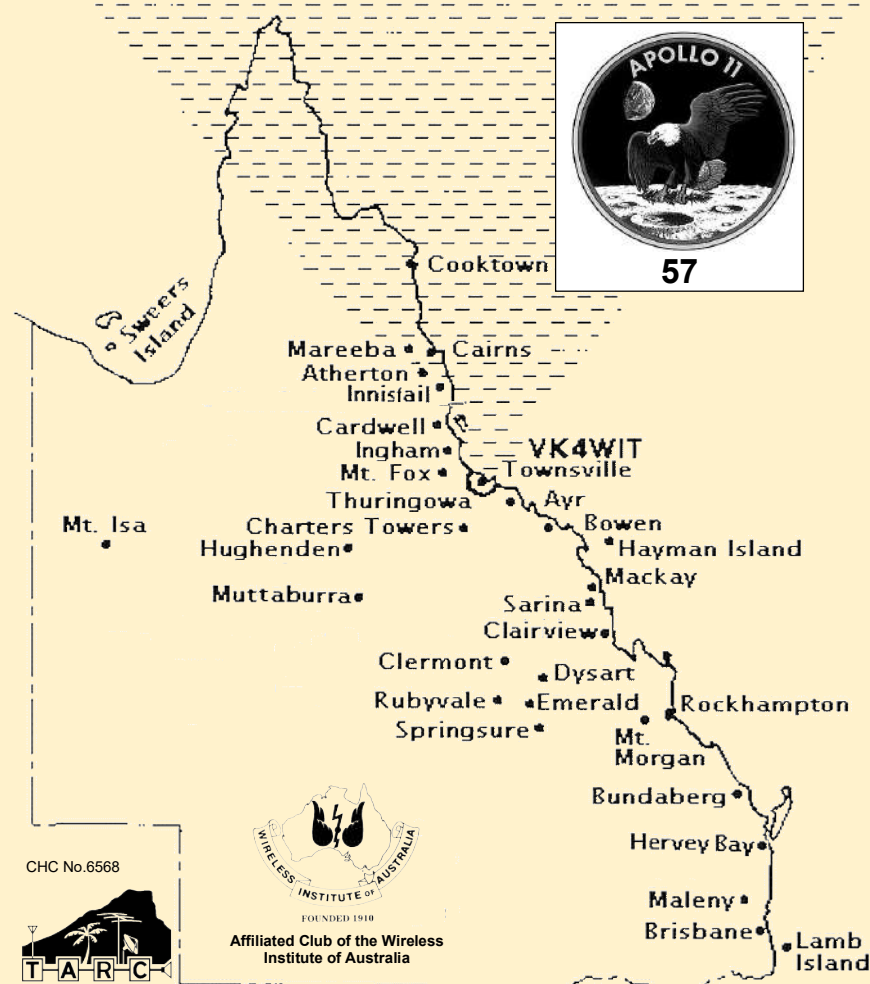
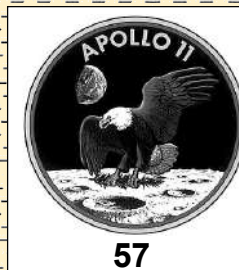
SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

WICEN
The Amateur Radio
Communications group for
EMERGENCIES



BACK – SCATTER

THE MAGAZINE OF RENOWN – SINCE JANUARY 1969



CHC No. 6568



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

AMATEUR RADIO – Versatile, Innovative, Educational, Helpful, FUN ! – July 2026





ATTENDING: At the Club Rooms
VK4's. ZZ, ME, PQV, WSG, HLS, IGM,
PQ, FUU, AEX, CHG

ATTENDING: via Zoom Session ID – 721 2788 1756
VK4's XC.

VISITORS: Charlie Jones, Harrison Russell, Rick Avery K0MMJ,
Juarna Avery.

APOLOGIES: VK4's. UCM, JPA, ICA, KMA, EMF, DNF, JWC,
LKG, FCRH, FIBW, FBNP, CK, CD, PAL, TJS, HCZ, RO, WDM,
KGH, KN, MIK, PA, OT, ZON, ZT, KMD, YMD, FNQ, FRYL, OO,
MSS, AE, GWA, KDF, PJH, AFW, ZWC, DJC, WJ, KEE, GUN, TUB,
CMW, GED, GDN, JBY, AAH, BDE, HSV, GFR, WSG, OIL, ALS,
BRM, TSV, DLX, ZM, TEW, FUDO, ZMB, YT, XA, VK1ZZ, Joan
McDonnell, Roslyn Bryant, Rhonda Wilks, Peter Renton, Wendy
Schinkel, Derek Goodhew, Toni Goodhew, Jeanette Mann,
Noelene Melrose, Kerry Wright, Bill Walker, Kev Chillout, Brad
Payn, Vallerie Payn.

Business commenced at 1931h with the meeting chaired by the
President Snow/VK4ME. Snow welcomed all attending, greeting
members and called for any apologies.

SILENT KEYS: Wayne Gooda VK4YWG

Wayne went Silent Key in Townsville University Hospital on
Friday 19th June following a protracted battle with spinal
cancer. The expert and considerate care he received in the
Palliative Care Ward, along with being with family members
ensured his peaceful passing.

Wayne was a committee member and past Club Technician with
The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc. and was also a
member of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

Amongst many activities on Amateur Radio, Wayne was a long
time Packet Sysop maintaining a 2400baud FBBS on the 6metre
band and also established the first high power DMR Node in
Townsville. He also used his extensive experience in earthing
systems to plan and successfully install the Mount Stuart
Repeater Site RF Earthing upgrade in the early 2000s and
helped with the procurement and installation of upgraded
racking systems at the repeater site.

Along with wife Cate he was also very active in supporting the
Flinders Region Guides with the Jamboree On The Air activities,
regular club support activities and social events.

In his working life Wayne hit big goals when as a Telecom
Australia (and eventually Telstra) technician maintained
telecommunications infrastructure across Central, North and Far
North Queensland, before moving into project management
with jobs such as the Townsville to Tennant Creek Optical Fibre
Project in the 1990s and the Mumbai Optical Fibre Network
Upgrade Project in the early 2000s. With Telstra shedding jobs
Wayne then worked in many places such as Placer Pacific's
Misima Gold Mine, was part of the first in technical team
establishing Simberi Gold Mine, BHP Cannington Mine, Cape
Flattery Silica Mine with telecommunications and telemonitoring
systems maintenance and upgrades followed by a period
working in the Townsville Radio Section of Queensland Railways
before retiring.

Wayne's gregarious outlook, expert help and extensive
technical knowledge will be sorely missed by Radio Amateurs
and the community he was involved with.

Vale Wayne Gooda VK4YWG, Silent Key.

The TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

**Minutes of
Management
Meeting
Held on
the 7th of July
2026 at the Club
Rooms SES HQ,
Green Street,
West End**

Published in the Townsville Bulletin on Saturday 27th June 2026
Wayne John Gooda

Late of Carlyle Gardens. Wayne passed away peacefully on
Friday 19th June, 2026.

Beloved Wife of Cate. Loved Father and Father-in-Law of Kevin
and Natasha, Robert and Kelly, Steven and Stephanie, Veronica
and Darren. Grumps to 13 Grandchildren and one Great
Grandchild.

A private family service has been held as per Wayne's wishes.

NEW MEMBERS: Nil

SHOW AND TELL:

Wayne/VK4WSG – showed 2 recently acquired FNRSI test
devices, a LCR meter equipped with Kelvin clips and a dual
channel hand held oscilloscope – very noise!

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Accept the minutes for the June 2026 Management Meeting as
printed in Back-scatter.

Motion 202607001 moved to be accepted by
Richard/VK4PQV and seconded by Wayne/VK4WSG
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Inwards. 13 articles, Outwards. 7 articles, as detailed in the
Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:

- Ergon Energy – Mt Stuart Electricity June 2026
- WIA Club Liaison Officer – Notification of WIA Webinar
Sunday 14th June
- WIA Club Liaison Officer – Postponement of WIA Webinar
Sunday 14th June
- WIA Club Liaison Officer – Rescheduled WIA Webinar
Sunday 14th July at 4pm
- WIA – Amateur Radio Magazine Vol94 Number3 2026
- WIA – Supply of updated Amateur Radio Brochures.
- RSGB – Radcom Magazine June 2026
- Mt Isa and District Amateur Radio Group Inc. – July Newsletter
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for July Management meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for July Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for July Management Meeting
- Ray Schinkel VK4OIL – Report for July Management Meeting
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting,
Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries – Back-
scatter June 2026
- TARC Financial Members – Mount Isa Amateur Radio Group Inc
July Newsletter
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- TARC Financial Members – Comms Info NQORA Pato's 7 Hour
Enduro Off-Road Racing Event
- TARC Financial Members – Comms Info B2B Paluma Passion
Horse Endurance Rides Event
- TARC Financial Members – Silent Key notice, Wayne Gooda VK4YWG
- Derek & Toni Goodhew – Resignation of Membership effective
1st July 2026

Motion 202607002 Accept the Secretary's Report.

Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Iain/VK4IGM
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM SECRETARY REPORT:

- Nil

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 202607003 Accept the Treasurer's Report.
Moved by Peter/VK4PQ, Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG
– CARRIED unanimously.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS;

ASSESSMENTS CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :

ACMA runs the Amateur Radio Assessors Service.

- Specialist Assessors available for remote or online assessments are

Laurie Pritchard/VK4BLE in Brisbane on 0411413588,

Ron Bertrand/VK2DQ on Gold Coast on 0426771808,

Gail Lidden/VK4ION in Bundaberg on 0410121345,

- General Assessors available for face to face assessments in the regions

Stuart Dunk/VK4SDD in Malanda on 0407700096,

Bob Ronai/VK4BOB in Cairns on 0438323737,

Howard Small/VK4BS in Cairns on 0425825799,

Darrin Archer/VK4GEO in Mount Isa on 0418981353,

Eric Baker/VK2TRD in Cloncurry on 0427703693,

Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM in Townsville on 0427688014,

Roy Moore/VK4RM in Sarina on 0409597410,

Clive Sait/VK4ACC in Rockhampton on 0429632815,

Ray Dobinson/VK4XXX in Rockhampton on 07 49281219

Lawrie Ellis/VK4LE in Gladstone on 0477166712

If you do not get an answer on these numbers, be sure to leave a message otherwise, you will be treated as a bogus caller and possibly blocked.

During the month Lyndall/VK4ZM conducted a Foundation Assessment at the Amateur Radio Complex, Millchester Motorsports

Facility. The candidate had wanted to get into Amateur Radio for years but life kept him busy until now.

For a full list of assessors, information on the Exam Service and the Amateur Radio service in Australia, surf to the ACMA website and search for Amateur Radio Accredited Assessors.

COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Gavin VK4ZZ reported :

Callouts – Nil

Communications Support –

- NQORA Pato's 7 Hour Enduro Off Road Racing - Millchester Motorsports Complex near Charters Towers – Saturday 27th June

Operators so far –VK4ZMB, Charlie & VK4BOB at Check1, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4WSG at Check2, VK4YT, VK1ZZ, VK4CHG, VK4XC at Check 3.

Thanks to everyone who helped out with the event. Lyndall and Gavin set up at the campsite on Thursday afternoon and prepared to provide some training to a prospective candidate on Thursday evening at the Amateur Radio Complex. The radio trailer was setup and it was found that reliable comms back to Townsville via the VK4RAT VHF repeater was achievable. A few light showers ensued during the evening however there was not enough rain to turn things squidgy or dampen the dust. During Friday Bob and Dulcie arrived from Cairns and set up the van and POTA HF equipment in the camping area, followed by the Townsville contingent of Doris and Wayne hoisting their tent, then Ben, Charlie and Andrew arriving and setting up, making up one of the larger contingents to provide Comms Support at Millchester. Darrin arrived had from Mount Isa to take his Mum into Townsville the day before but dropped in for a visit before heading back to Mum's place in Charters Towers and the five star accommodation. Gavin helped recovery chief Kev (who is also a TARCadian) do the adjustments to the recovery buggy suspension then helped Kev for a run out on the proposed competition track. On arrival back at the campgrounds there were more portable HF setups in operation. Assessment session at the Amateur Radio Complex on Friday Evening was memorable as a new ham was minted for Charters Towers. Early Saturday morning Darrin and Hairly Richard arrived on scene, the operators met Ken the Clerk of Course at Event HQ to sign in and sort out checkpoint manning, with Hairly, Bob and Charlie heading out on the access track to Check1 at the Crossroads, setting up in the old location as the new location was now part of the competition track. The Check2 crew consisting of Doris, Wayne, Lyndall and Gavin along with the Check3 crew of Gary, Ben, Darrin and Andrew headed out along Mafeking Road to the Powerline Track, then into the Check3N location which turned out to be a nice spot with some elevation in a clearing. The Check2 crew then continued back to the competition track and along to the Check2 location out at the Turnaround point. Meantime Dulcie stayed back at the campsite and spent a day in nice weather kicking back.

Checkpoints completed comms checks with Race Control on UHF CB CH15 and between checkpoints on 146.550MHz in time for the running of the Prologue Lap across the 10km course, with 8 cars participating. Then the Enduro action got underway with only 5 cars starting (the mechanical attrition was already taking its toll) for 7 hours running. There were no accidents during the event however there was plenty of mechanical attrition, at one stage Check3 had quite a number of cars off to one side having field repairs done to them and Check3 had a car beach itself on the outside edge of the turnaround after, what the driver claimed, a temporary loss of talent 😊 Kev the recovery chief came along and towed the car off the edge and the car continued in the enduro, managing 2nd place at the end. Racing completed around 1645hours and the operators all made it back in time for the presentations, where Car 1063 Sollitt Racing was proclaimed overall winner.

With the event complete Hairly headed back to Townsville, Darrin headed back into town for a five star meal at Mums and Charlie was picked up by his Mum for dinner at the family property (not far way from Millchester) and returned back to camp later. The rest settled in for a night of dinner, radio and yarns. The weather remained kind overnight with just a bit of dew to contend with before packing up was completed.

Doris had a bonus trip around the competition circuit with Kev in the Recovery Buggy at the end of packing up – a highlight of the weekend. Bob and Dulcie headed back on the road to go and camp near Bowen, Darrin visited again then hit the trail back to Mount Isa, Lyndall and Gavin went up to the Centenary Charity Markets plus a visit to Vern Kerr VK4LK (sk) Drive and the rest made their way safely back home. After the presentations Clerk of Course Ken thanked us all for a great job done and hoped that we all would be available for the next off road racing event at Millchester, the NQORA Short Circuit happening on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th July.

2026 Comms Support - Notes on events –

Horsie Rides – WRERA are changing their venue for the horse endurance rides scheduled for 15th to 16th August from Euri Gold to be based at the Bowen River Hotel, with a 40km leg out to Terrible Creek and back and a 20km leg out to Hells Gate and back. No volunteers have come forward so the event has been taken off the Comms Support calendar.

Clashes - The 2026 Nighthawk, based around Reid Park and Railway Estate is happening from Saturday afternoon 18th to Sunday morning 19th July, clashing with the already programmed B2B Paluma Passion Bluewater Park Horsie Rides. Kennedy Region Scouts cannot change the date so the Nighthawk event has been taken off the Comms Support calendar.

2026 Comms Support Events so far -

Sat 18 to Sun 19 July

- Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Paluma Passion

5/10/20/40/80km Rides- NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park

Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4ME, VK4ALS, more operators needed.

Sat 25 to Sun 26 July

- NQORA Charters Towers Short Course Off Road Racing - Millchester MSRC near Charters Towers

Operators so far – VK1ZZ, VK4ZMB, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4WSG, more operators needed.

Sat 1 to Sun 2 August

- Valley Riders Endurance Riding Assoc. 2x20/2x40/100E (Ops by MARA Inc.) Greg Willoughby Memorial Horse Endurance Rides - Denison Creek near Nebo

Operators so far VK4CUZ, VK4HAN, VK4ZZ & VK4ZM, Bruce, Doris & VK4WSG, 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, VK4ZM, VK4ZZ, 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 - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park

Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4ME, many more operators needed.

Sat 19 to Sun 20 September

- NQORA QLD Off-Road Racing Round 1 (from April) Millchester MSRC near Charters Towers

Operators so far – VK1ZZ, VK4ZMB, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4WSG, more operators needed.

If you can help out with any of the events please contact Gavin/VK4ZZ on 0427182469 or on the wireless.

TECHNICIAN REPORT:

- Kerry/VK4TUB reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ

The VK4RTL 23cm Beacon is currently off-air, due to damage to the RF output connector. It will be repaired and put back into service during the next part of the refurbishment project.

The second stage of the Mount Stuart Rack and Cabling refurbishment project will be happening in a couple of months time, where there will be short outages while feedlines are customised or replaced, rusted stainless steel brackets are replaced, beacon transmitters and antennas are configured and installed plus some tidying of external fittings completed. At the same time Snow/VK4ME will be working on the external remediation of the waterproofing of the repeater hut.

STATION MANAGERS REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :

- Club Station gear - functioning well – except for the tri-band dipole. During the scheduled burn-off of Castle Hill, the support tree for one of the ends of the dipole was burnt out at the bottom of the trunk and the tree collapsed, taking the antenna with it and breaking the stainless steel support wire on the collapsed end. A check of proceedings on Tuesday 30th July at the Clubrooms showed everything was still up, however the collapse occurred between then and Sunday evening July 5th when the North Queensland Net was run using vastly reduced power on half a dipole. A visual inspection on Monday morning July 6th confirmed that the antenna was damaged, consultation with designer of the antenna Snow/VK4ME has a plan of restoring the antenna to a substitute end support on Saturday 12th July, along with amazement that the net was able to have been conducted on half an antenna with only 40W transmitter output and still be heard across the state.
- Club Mt Stuart gear - functioning well. New 2m voice repeater good, 70cm voice repeater online, UHF CB repeater online, APRS digipeater good. 23cm Beacon offline being repaired.
- Training for Assessments - Some training sessions for assessments took place during June, including one at the Millchester Motorsports Facility, Amateur Radio Complex.
- VK4WIT Operations - Nil portable operations took place during the last month.
- VK4ATV Operations – Nil portable operations took place during the last month.
- VK4ATV WSPR Beacons – Still going well, but have to install the 10m/6m dipole when spare time permits.
- North Queensland Net - All nets going good, participation is great with operators amongst some fading due to solar storms.
- Much more treasure has been donated, much thanks to all.
- Remember to complete your installation of a 91.5Hz transmit tone into your rig to work into the VK4RAT VHF Repeater. Need help? contact one of the techie dudes in the club for assistance.

LIBRARIAN REPORT:

- Ashley/VK4FUU reported all going well with many magazines available for members to peruse or lend. A cull of the magazines has happened, with the culled items put out in the main meeting room for keen operators to snaffle.

FACILITIES CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Phil/VK4HSV was an apology for the meeting.

LADIES GROUP CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Lyndall/VK4ZM, reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ :

The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 23rd June at 0930UTC. The net was held 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 with Gavin/VK4ZZ being the warm-up operator and gathering the net list then handing over to Lyndall/VK4ZM as net control.

Via VOIP modes

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

8C tonight and we are past the Winter Solstice! Survived a shop at CostCo. Saw the new Sydney Fish Markets and had a nice fish dish for dinner, then followed it with a visit to Vivid, which was crowded but quite nice. The QSL-Labs QRP rig running FT8 is going well. Latest project is building up a RPi5 based replica of a Mac SE Luggage.

Steve/VK4SJB, Trinity Beach, Far North QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4SJB/VK4TUB

Checked in and put the Cairns Hub linked into the Tubby Net.

Lisa/VK4NAN, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB Yorkeys Knob Repeater/AllStarLink/CAIRNS-HUB/VK4TUB

21C, a bit cool! Doing more listening and learning. The Cairns Club is considering getting a club shirt together, wonder what other clubs have done with their shirts?

Bob/VK4BOB, Kewarra Beach, Far North QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/CAIRNS HUB/VK4TUB

Having dinner while doing the net – have to watch out that the doggie doesn't snaffle it! Busy being Dad's Taxi. Looking forward to Millchester, hope to play with a bit of portable radio while there, then doing the Sunday Market in Charters Towers and heading down to Bowen for a few days of relaxing.

Darrin/VK4XC, Mount Isa, North QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4XC/VK4TUB

Checked in and said Hi and listened into the net.

Tony/VK4XL, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4XL/VK4TUB

Thanks for the net. Been in contact with Stephen/VK4AEX quite a lot on the satellites so it is a bit different hearing him here tonight. Been doing a bit of SSTV via RS40S, there is another pass tonight.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were:

Stephen/VK4AEX, Douglas, North QLD, Australia

Greetings to Tony/VK4XL for our first ever terrestrial contact on radio! Highly focused on radio at the moment with study through RadioElectronicSchool for the upgrade to Advanced Licence. Posted some of my received SSTV piks from RS40S onto the YouTube page.

Ben/VK4YT, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Time is flying too quickly. Been modifying the house for the continuing saga of the NBN Fibre install. Looking forward to the Millchester Off-Road Racing Comms Support this weekend, should be there late Friday afternoon. Going to drop into the newly opened Mingela Hotel while out there. Will have the usual barrage of radio gear while out at Millchester.

Lyndall/VK4ZM, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

Operating as net control. Commented that anything below 25C is too cold.

Gavin/VK4ZZ, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

Preparing for the weekend out at Millchester for the Off-Road Racing Comms Support. Reprogrammed the FT817 so might take it out to do a bit of QRP operating while in camp. Answered Nan's question about Club Shirts with examples from TARC, CHARC and MARA.

Snow/VK4ME, Kirwan, North QLD, Australia

The weather is still this evening. All the home QTH antennas and supports have been refurbished and are back in the air and working well, except for one which needs a little bit of shortening. Using the E-Bike a fair bit around the suburbs. Done the recycling and disposed of some excess Heliak. Thinking about obtaining an ICOM IC-7300MK2. Been capturing some early morning grey line 80m DX.

Peter/VK4PQ, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Playing with the Club's newly acquired Yaesu FTM-10M Fusion Transceiver, programming up channels and configuring the Fusion settings so it works properly in digital mode. Had some help from Ron/VK4JBY in nutting it out – works good through the Fusion hotspot.

The net concluded at 1037UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe return for the net in July. Thanks were given to CAIRNS-HUB controller Steve/VK4SJB for linking the CAIRNS-HUB into

the TUBBY-NET which allowed operators in the Far North to participate in the net.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 28th July and then on Tuesday 25th August 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 Tuesday 30th June from 0930UTC then on Tuesday 29th September 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

JOTA CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Richard/VK4PQV reported:
JOTA JOTI this year will be 3rd full weekend on October 17/18 October 2026. As yet they haven't made contact yet though they will advise in the coming months.
Kennedy Region Scouts this year should be Regional JOTA/JOTI camp should be held at Camp Tamaroo Bluewater operators will be needed.
Flinders Region Guides will be held at Guides Qld Camp and Training site Toolakea Bch Rd Bluewater they will need operators.

QSL CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Ashley/VK4FUU reported :
- No new dispatches received.

EDITOR BACKSCATTER REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
The July issue will close for articles on Wednesday afternoon 15th, then with the security clamp down currently in place be sent to the Senator's Office electronically on Monday 20th for the limited print run publishing. Thanks for those who have submitted items – please keep them rolling in!

TRANSMISSION OFFICER & CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

(our transmission officers are Richard/VK4FRJG, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Denis/VK4AE, Peter/VK4PQ, Gavin/VK4ZZ)

- Richard/VK4PQV reported:
For the month of June the WIA and Q-news transmissions and call-backs were by Peter VK4PQ. NQ news retransmissions and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV
For the month of July 2026 the WIA and Q-news transmissions and call-backs plus the NQ news retransmissions and call-backs will be done by Richard VK4PQV.

PUBLICATIONS CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Iain/VK4IGM reported:
The limited print run of Back-scatter magazine continues. Many thanks to Hon Susan McDonald, Senator for Queensland and the team at the Townsville Office for helping us to continue the limited print run of the magazine for our members who lack the means to receive the publication electronically. Noting that Australia Post will be increasing the standard post rate from \$1.70 to \$1.85 per article during the second half of this year.

WIA CONTACT REPORT

Gavin/VK4ZZ reported:
- The WIA has sent out sample packs of the newly produced promotional brochures for Amateur Radio and the WIA along with a link to brochure templates and a way for affiliated clubs to order more printed brochures.
- The aborted WIA Affiliated Clubs Webinar has been rescheduled to Sunday the 14th of July, with the agenda topics already announced. A link to the TEAMS meeting will be issued a week prior to the webinar.
- The WIA News Service has carried an article by the ACMA encouraging those interested in Amateur Radio to subscribe to the email ACMA Amateur Radio Newsletter to keep up with hints and regulatory changes in the service. Head to the ACMA website, locate the Subscription section and select Amateur Radio (and any other topic you are interested in), enter your email address and then prepare to be ACMA informed.

FACEBOOK MASTER REPORT:

- Paul/VK4ICA had no report for this month.

FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT:

- Bob/VK4AHH and Phil/VK4HSV will report at the 2026 AGM.

Motion 202607004 moved by Richard/VK4PQV to accept tabled Ex-Officio Reports and Seconded by Darrin/VK4XC.
- CARRIED unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Ray/VK4OIL – 84th. Anniversary Activation – Historic WW2 Oonoonba Bomb Site

Hi all once again to our Members and friends of the 'Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc'.

My request for permission to activate the WW2 Bomb Site at Oonoonba, being the 84th Anniversary of the bombing, has been approved for set up and transmission on Wednesday the 29th. July 2026.

As previously reported, the Department for Environmental Development Queensland (EDQ), the current landholders, have given approx. 15 hectares of the originally proposed development land to the Townsville City Council (TCC). The WW2 Bomb Crater sits within the gifted land.

The game changer now will be that future negotiations will be with the TCC (being the new land owners, rather than the EDQ).

We are now in the position of being relatively sure that the WW2 Historic Bomb Site will be preserved - however, we have no idea to the level / style / or form the preservation will be presented. I am not looking for a \$1 million memorial, however I will not accept a 'stick in the ground' type of construction.

Again I welcome our members to set up portable stations, also invite friends to join us to celebrate the Anniversary of the Bombing of Townsville and have some Radio fun, testing of antennas etc. We must show the Townsville City Council that we, the public hold this Historic Site in high esteem.

Activation Details::

Where - Oonoonba Bomb Site, Darter Street Oonoonba.
When - Wednesday the 29th. July, 2026.
Timing - Set up around 1.00pm - 1.30pm to commence transmitting at approx. 2.00pm
- Finish up around 5.00pm - flexible depending on traffic
Freq. / - 40 mtrs. - 7.100 MHz using LSB (Lower Side Band)
Will probably hand over to Mike, VK4MIK - Net Control, Travellers Net.

Let's aim for a good rollup of portable stations and many visitors. Thanks,
Ray. VK4OIL. Coordinator – Save the Oonoonba Bomb Site.
(more information and a map will be published in July 2026 Backscatter).

Amateur Radio Display opportunity at 2026 Get Ready Townsville

An opportunity to provide a club display at the 2026 Get Ready Townsville on Saturday 10th October from 3pm to 6pm (similar to displaying at the Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo) at Riverway has presented itself. The event is held each year by Townsville City Council to educate the community to be ready for natural and man-made disasters such as flooding, bushfire and cyclones. Discussion took place with the main points raised that it was an opportunity to raise the public perception of the Club and Amateur Radio in general, and that members involvement with community organisations with communications support blends in well with the aims of the event. The following motion was raised –

Motion 202607005 moved by Wayne/VK4WSG that the Club apply to the Townsville City Council to be a participant in the 2026 Get Ready Townsville public event at Riverway on Saturday October 10th from 3pm to 6pm. Seconded by Robert/VK4HLS. - CARRIED unanimously.

Foundation Training Initiative in conjunction with the Radioelectronicschool

Wayne/VK4WSG has been in touch with Ron Bertrand/VK2DQ regarding training resources for Foundation candidates as there to be an increase in demand for this level of training. In reply Wayne has purchased the RES Foundation Course (and donated the purchase cost) and received permission from Ron for the training link to be issued 10 times, provided our club does not give the link away for free, instead charge something for the issue of each link as a source of revenue for the Club. Gavin/VK4ZZ has asked Wayne (and he has accepted) to be the liaison point for the issue of the links and collection of the revenue for the Club, and to decide a suitable charge before issuing each link. Here is some of the words from Ron/VK2DQ during communications with Wayne.

Make sure your charge the student something that goes to the club. RES hereby gives Wayne Giebel permission to make up to 10 copies of the Foundation course. Regards & 73 Ron VK2DQ

Discussion took place with information that the course is a large download which is mainly video based and has practice exams. The suggested charge for each course issued would be \$10 to assist newcomers into the Amateur Radio Service.

Motion 202607006 moved by Wayne/VK4WSG that the Club proceed with the Foundation Training Initiative with the cost of \$10 per course issued. Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG.
- CARRIED unanimously.

Snow's Famous Foxhunt Report

The Amateur Radio Direction Finding event happened on Saturday June 6th at Ross Park, Kelso (right near Ross Dam) with Snow/VK4ME being in fine and devious form hiding the radio-active bananas under tree roots, car guards, up trees and various other tricky places. One hiding place nearly backfired, with Snow assuming that there would be no wheely bin empties done on a Saturday – lo and behold the garbologists did come along and only some quick rescue action by VK4IGM and VK4ZM prevented the plastic banana encased Byonics Micro Fox being lost forever. The weather was that perfect dry season day that is always encountered at this particular time of year and it was great to see a great roll-up for the afternoon.

Foxmaster was Snow/VK4ME and the hares were Iain/VK4IGM, Charlie, Robert/VK4HLS, Andrew/VK4CHG, Robert/VK4KEE, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Kerry/VK4TUB, Steve/VK4AEX plus even Caterer Gavin/VK4ZZ had a go. Supervising the event were Richard/VK4PQV, Tony/VK4TJS, Teddy with Mate, Ben/VK4YT, Jeanette and Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ.

A number of the hares availed themselves of the VK4ZZ ARDF Beam/Receiver combos while Stephen/VK4AEX used his new improved directional Quad, Rob/VK4KEE used his tried and tested tape measure yagi while Iain/VK4IGM and Lyndall/VK4ZM used their VK3YNG ARDF Sniffers. Snow is now considering a number of suitable venues for next years event, possibly with a larger area which will make it an even bigger challenge and make the hares more physically fit.

TARC Display at the Dam Fine Rally Open Day

A well attended display of Amateur Radio was held by Club Members at the Tropic Wanderers Dam Fine Rally Open Day on Saturday 4th July 2026 at Ross Park in Townsville. Providing the display was Wayne/VK4WSG, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Gavin/VK4ZZ, Ben/VK4YT, Iain/VK4IGM and Les/VK4ALS. Bump in started at 6-30am where we met up with Bob/VK4AAH and later with Kaye (some of the Open Day Volunteers) who directed us to the Open Day Market co-ordinator. She pointed us to a very nice and handy spot next to the Bric-a-brac pergolas with easy access to where we were already parked so setting up our two pergolas, tables, seating and equipment was a breeze. It was eerie though with waves of fog floating in from the dam until the sun was up enough to burn it off. Ben/VK4YT set up his portable AllStarLink hotspot and a few hand helds plus the On Air light up display while Gavin deployed the Tubby-Loop hooked up to an ICOM HF receiver tuned into VMC 8176kHz

and powered off a 12V gelcell battery.

The VK4FANG (sk) non working HF transceiver was also on display with lots of knobs ready to turn, and a morse key with built in side-tone which got a bit of use from the passers by. There was also a heap of give away AR, QST and Radcom magazines to give out but no one grabbed any. We also met Ian/VK4ZT and Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ during the morning and we had a late visit from Mike/VK4MSA who popped in for a visit. Touring the market area also was Robert/VK4HLS who was amazed at the variety of vendors there. Quite a few of the attendees at the Rally popped over and said G'day. Wayne and Ben were kept busy with a few CMCA couples enquiring about how to operate their hand-held transceivers on the right channels, the equipment was put right to monitor CH40 and CH18 with a bit of operational education thrown in as well. We were serenaded by the Ukes group and also the portable Marching Pipe Band plus earlier on there was a Boot Scooting group warming up before breakfast. The Open Day also included the Mayor of Townsville officially opening the Dam Fine Rally plus some speeches from the National President of CMCA plus the head of organisers for the Tropic Wanderers. The market finished up early so from 1pm we packed up and were heading home by 1-30pm.

Thanks to the Tropic Wanderers for giving our Club the opportunity to show off Amateur Radio to the public.
(Gavin/VK4ZZ)

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.

There being no further business, President Snow/VK4ME closed the meeting at 2129h local time and wished everyone goodnight and a safe return to the next Monthly Management Meeting on the 4th August 2026.
Minutes Transcribed 15th July 2026 by Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ - Secretary 2026, The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc).



JOIN THE WIA TODAY !

**SUPPORT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LOBBYING FOR THE HOBBY.
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**AMATEUR RADIO MAGAZINE. UTILISE THE QSL BUREAU.
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<http://www.wia.org.au> **FOR MORE INFO**

5055kHz is ALIVE!

AI/VK4ALT reports that the 4KZ Broadcast on 5055kHz Amplitude Modulation is back on-air. Tune in and send reports to vk4alt@wia.org.au



**Remember !
Membership Subs
Needed to be Paid
By 30th June 2026.**

**Not sure if you paid ahead when you were going away ?
Think you missed a year or three ? Want to just say hi to one of the original good guys ? Check your membership status with Treasurer Peter/VK4PQ soonest !**

phone - 0407 177841 email - peter.harrex@bigpond.com
Subs can be paid in person or via Internet Direct Transfer.

Details for direct transfer -

Account Name – The Townsville Amateur Radio Club In Bank - Bendigo BSB 633000 Account Number 230033540 Reference (your surname or callsign).

- email Treasurer with details as well, otherwise your payment might be missed !

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 m² = 15% Voc 38.0V Vmpp 30.3V

Isc 8.8 A Imp 8.3 A

All \$20 each. Contact Hairy on rnsstone@gmail.com

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.

Another tower and bits need a good home

...and all you need to do is dismantle the tower and take it away. Yes, Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ is no longer using his self supporting windmill tower so it is up for grabs, along with some rotators and antennas. The tower tilts over and can be broken down into a number of sections for easy cartage. Keen to get your antennas up and working properly? Contact Wallaby Bob now by phone on 0447 797 869

Packet Radio Update

VK4OT FBBS now VK4OT BPQ-BBS

Jason has recently upgraded (with some help from Tony/VK7AX) the VK4OT Heatley FBBS onto the BPQ Platform (which is currently supported while the FBB system support ended in 2015). If you have a login with Jason's system it will still work on the new system, however the Telnet port has a changed port number. You can either utilise Telnet on vk4ot.ddns.net port 8010 or utilise the BBQ Web portal on <http://vk4ot.ddns.net:8008/> clicking on the terminal button and entering your callsign and password.

You can also view other functions such as routing information, a node list, active ports, list of links, a users list, a chat window and the APRS maps pages. Need a password to get in? Drop Jason a line on [qrm] vk4ot [at] outlook [dot] com [dot] au [qrm] making sure to release the countermeasures first.

Another Packet Radio Update

VK4ZMB UHF 9600baud APRS Station on the air. Hairy Richard has a IC-208H hooked up to a Linux PC using DireWolf which is blurring...er beaconing 9600baud packets every 30 Seconds as part of a high speed APRS experiment on 439.075MHz in Townsville.

The experiment is currently located in the industrial area at Mount Louisa and is being heard well closer to the centre of Townsville, with plans to eventually move the experiment to Mysterton and eventual change to the 23cm band. Hairy is currently getting the signal chain working and once all is going good will digipeater services. He is after signal reports and if you have the facility also decode reports.

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

VISUAL BACKSLATTER



your Editor accompanying TARCadian Kevvy Screen in the Recovery Buggy at the NQORA Patto's 7 Hour Enduro event



at the Dam Fine Rally - Wayne/VK4WSG and Ben/VK4YT helping out a CMCA member with the handheld, with Iain/VK4IGM supervising

- Some hi-spec equipment and accessories for sale

Glen Watkins, son of Wally/VK4DO (SK) is offering the following items for sale, including some things owned in the past by Wally.

- Icom IC-R7100 Receiver, Icom TV-7100, Accessories to suit,
- JIM M-75 Low noise wide band gas fet pre amp,
- AOR AR 8200 Scanner,
- Alinco DJ-X2000E scanner and accessories,
- Mobile One SCBASE Antenna,
- Revex FC2000 RF Freq Counter,
- 1977 Radio Amateurs handbook,
- 19th edition ARRL Antenna handbook,
- 2001 ARRL Handbook.

Glenn is open to reasonable offers,
Phone him now on 0427786622 to stich up a deal.

PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS BIRTHDAYS

- 22 July Cheryl 4FRYL, board of control of John 4FNQ
25 Don 4BY, OM of Rosemary
30 Marion, board of control of Joe 4AM
31 Sheila 4PAL board of control of Iain 4IGM
1st Aug Kimberley, harmonic of Peter 4PVH
1 Wendy, board of control of Leigh 4HLW
6 Paul 4ICA, OM of Katrina 4KMA
7 Aleisha, harmonic of Phil 4HSV & Jan
8 Russell 4BEG, OM of Deidre
8 David 4OF, OM of Vicki
10 Gina, board of control of Udo 4FUDD
10 Carolyn, board of control of Dave 4FD
10 Cedric 7CL, OM of Janet
12 John 4DFZ, the Distinguished Flying Zebra
20 Lyn 4SWE/4EI, board of control of Tex
23 Noel 4AF – the Sinker Man of El-Arish
28 Catherine, harmonic of Lucia and Barry 4XPR
31 Shinako 4YMD, board of control of Ian 4KMD
31 Janie, board of control of Trent 4LKG
31 Alex, harmonic of Lucia and Barry 4XPR
1 Sept Ron 4JBY
5 Daryl 4MIC
5 Mark 4TSV, OM of Mary
6 John 4KN
9 Joel, Harmonic of Lynda & Rob 4RB
9 Laura, board of control of Gregg 4ZON
18 MATMAN himself 4GUN
24 Denis 4AE
24 Ron 2DQ radioelectronicschool master
25 Paul 'Jimmy' 4CK
27 Teri 4HYL, board of control of Don 4MC
27 Rob 4RB, OM of Lynda
28 Bob 4CWL, OM of Cherie
30 Sept Charlotte & Gillian,
Twin Harmonics of Steve 4SGW & Heather



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Aug Katrina 4KMA and Paul 4ICA
6 Aug Joan and Colin 4UCM
9 Aug Leslie and Les 4ALS
15 Aug Deidre and Russell 4BEG
28 Aug Mandy and Ron 4JBY
30 Aug Shinako 4YMD and Ian 4KMD
30 Aug Lyndall 4ZM and Gavin 4ZZ
2 Sept Bob 4WJ & Jeanette
22 Oct Luz & Jeff 4JDW

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

- 24 July 2002 – UHF CB Repeater TAC08 licenced.
2 Aug 1989 – VK4RTL 10m Beacon licenced.
August 1972 - Mackay Amateur Radio Club formed as
announced by then Mackay Club Secretary
Bernard Johnston VK4ZJH

VISUAL BACKSLATTER

More Dam Fine Rally



Mop/VK4ZM checks the weather outlook for the day



Sound tech for the Mighty Ukes – Ian/VK4ZT



Bob/VK4AAH checks out Ben/VK4YT, Og/VK4ZZ & Wayne/VK4WSG



Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ with the Flying Paramedic himself, Mike/VK4MSA



spot the TARCadians amongst the uke players – Kaye, Bob/VK4AAH and Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ

Radio happenings July 2026 to July 2027 ... so far**July**

- NQORA Charters Towers Short Circuit Off Road Racing - Sat 25th to Sun 26th July - Millchester MSRC
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 28th July from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Bombing of Townsville 84th Anniversary HF Activation - Wed July 29th
- Historic WW2 Wulguru Bombing Site

August

- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 1 to Sun 2 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
- 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
- NQORA QLD Off-Road Racing Round 1 (from April) - Sat 19th to Sun 20th September - Millchester MSRC
- 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 - Emerald Pistol Club
- 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
- TCC Get Ready Townsville (Cyclone Saturday) - Sat 10th Oct 3p-6p Riverway
- 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
- TARC Project Night - Tue 8th Dec from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Xmas Party - Sun 13th December
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th December from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC MXLT - Friday 18th December somewhere in Townsville
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 22nd December - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 29th Dec from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- New Years Day Countdown - Thur 31st December - from 1245UTC for Daylight Saving, from 1345UTC for proper time

January

- Tech On The Air Net Bonus Tue 19th January from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp - Sat morn 23rd to Wed lunch 27th Jan - Girl Guides Training Centre Bluewater
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 26th January - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

February

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 2nd February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 9th February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 16th February from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 23rd February - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

March

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 2nd March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 9th March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 16th March from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC does the John Moyle Memorial Field Day March 19 20 21 - Mount Fox Camp Ground
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 23rd March from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 30th March from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

April

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 6th April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 13th April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 20th April from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- AM & CW on ANZAC Day - Sun 25th April
- Australian Military Radio Operators Weekend - Day 1 - Sat 24th April
- Australian Military Radio Operators Weekend - Day 2 - Mon 26th April
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 27th April from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

May

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 4th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA Clairview Gathering - Fri 7 May to Mon 10 May - BarraCrab Clairview
- TARC Project Night - Tue 11th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Autumn Escalade Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 15 to Sun 16 May - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 18th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA Valley Riders Dee Jay Arabians Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 22 to Sun 23 May
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 25th May from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

June

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 1st June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Snow 4's Famous Foxhunt - Sat 5th June from 1pm at Ross Park Kelso
- Queensland Day - Sun 6th June - QUEENSLANDER!
- TARC Project Night - Tue 8th June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 19 to Sun 20 June
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th June from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 22nd June from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 29th June from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

July

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 6th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 13th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End

WAR ON TOWNSVILLE 29TH JULY 1942



Views from the Oonoonba Bomb Crater activation on AM & CW on ANZAC Day 2025 – pix by Mark/VK4TVL

Hi all TARCadians and others. I feel sure that most of you by now, have heard about our collective efforts to save one of Townsville's Heritage listed WW2 Bomb Site at Oonoonba.

This is the Site where a Japanese aircraft dropped a 250lb. bomb on our City. Seven other bombs were dropped however they all fell in the water between the Southern end of Magnetic Island and the Strand.

This Historic Site was doomed for destruction - to be covered over by housing and commercial developments - until the actions by various developers and Government Departments were exposed and brought to the attention of several Politicians, State and Local Governments, TV and other news media. Currently I am in receipt of documentation from several previously mentioned Departments that the Bomb Site will be preserved. It has not been detailed as to the level or style of preservation this Site will receive.

So, the pressure must continue to ensure that it is very clear in the minds of all concerned, "that we will not go away".

With the support of theTARCinc. Members we have, over the past few years, maintained consistent visits to the Site, transmitting AM on ANZAC DAY and last year transmitting on the Anniversary date, 29th July.

This year, the 84th Anniversary will be no different.

On the 29th July 2026 we will, once again be setting up portable stations at the Site.

I would welcome as many Members as possible to attend this year - either by setting up a portable Station or visiting the Site and possibly enjoying an afternoon tea in the fresh air of Oonoonba. Dress to impress as photos will be taken to record this historic event.

Details of this year's event as follows :-

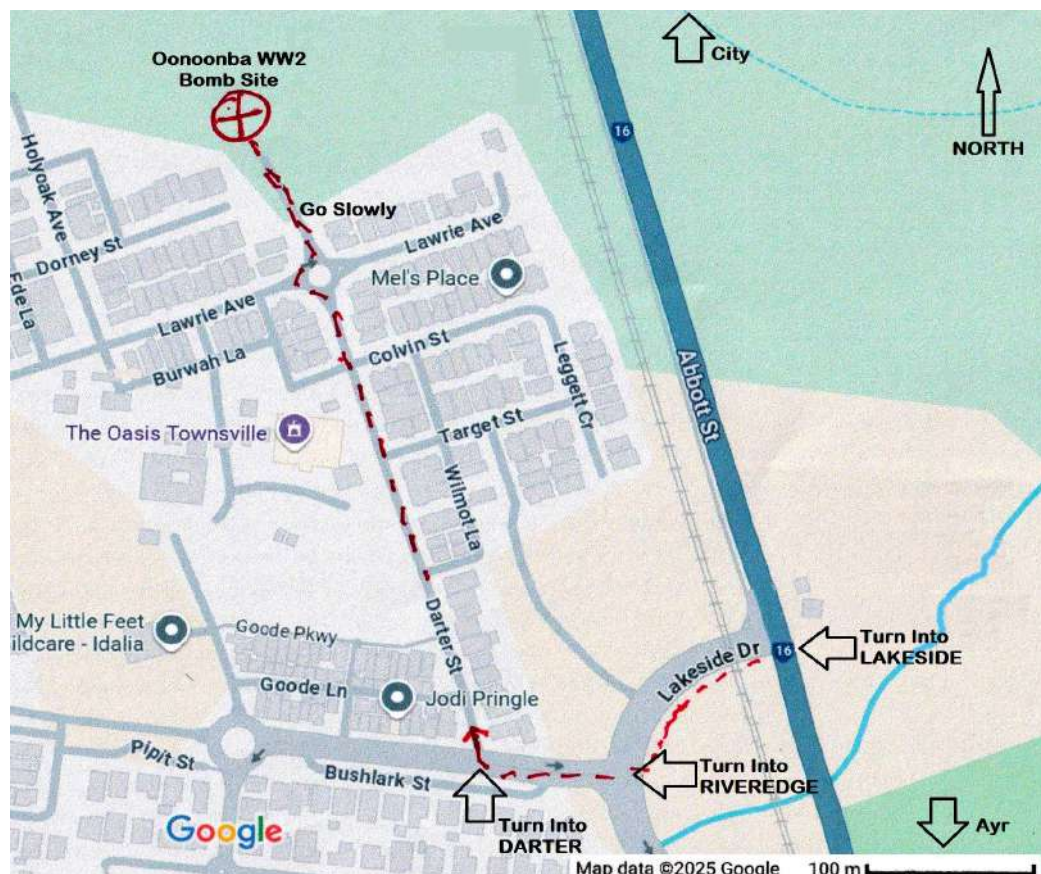
Where The WW2 Bomb Site at Oonoonba. End of Darter Street Oonoonba. Follow the road map for directions.

When & Timing Wednesday 29th July 2026. Setup 1.00pm to 1.30pm. Commence at 2.00pm.
Finish time around 5.00pm or later, depending on conditions and demand.

Freq. 7.100MHz LSB. +/-

LEST WE FORGET.

Ray/VK4OIL - Co-Ordinator, WW2 Oonoonba Bomb Site - Preservation.



MATMAN VISITS THE HISTORIC WW2 BOMB CRATER SITE

Monday 6th June 2026. Wendy and Ray/VK4OIL had the pleasure of escorting Roslyn and Matman/VK4GUN for a tour and inspection of the Historic World War 2 Oonoonba Bomb Site. Joining us at the Site were Mrs and Mr Split. Great to have more Club members visit the memorial. Cheers from Wendy and Ray/VK4OIL.



Matman/VK4GUN with Ray/VK4OIL



Grouped right next to the Bomb Crater



Wendy with Roslyn, Mrs Split and Mr Split



Mr Split, Wendy, Matman, Roslyn and Mrs Split



MORE MATMAN – RECEIVES A GONG
Talk about a worthy surprise! Recently Matman/VK4GUN received a call from a representative of the Townsville RSL, none other than Treasurer Gary/VK4OO requesting a visit to the Matcave for a secret reason. Gary kept Matman in suspense for a while, upon arriving at the Matcave he proceeded to present Matman with a big surprise – a comprehensive Christmas Hamper awarded to Matman from RSL Queensland for his years of service in the fields of advocacy and counselling of veterans. A veteran 'Nasho' himself, Matman knows first hand the importance of supporting veterans whether in service or demobbed. Gary felt that, instead of just dispatching the award via post, a personal touch was more warranted and witnessing Matman's surprise was well worth the effort.

Matman/VK4GUN with Gary/VK4OO and the monster RSL Queensland Christmas Hamper