

theTARcinc Events Calendar

September

- 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 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
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net VK4RAT UHF & Nodes
Tuesday Oct 27 starts 7-30pm

November

- TARC Management Meeting
Tuesday Nov 4 starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night
Tuesday Nov 11 starts 7-30pm
- TARC Social Meeting
Tuesday Nov 17 starts 7-30pm
- theTARcinc Annual General Meeting – Sunday 22 Nov
Rossiter Park Aitkenvale 7am brekkie 8-30am AGM
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net VK4RAT UHF & Nodes
Tuesday Nov 24 starts 7-30pm

December

- TARC Management Meeting
Tuesday Dec 1 starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night
Tuesday Dec 8 starts 7-30pm
- theTARcinc Xmas Party – at the VK4ME Ice Cube
Sunday Dec 13 from 10-30am
- TARC Social Meeting
Tuesday Dec 15 starts 7-30pm
- theTARcinc Monster Xmas Lights Tour
Friday Dec 18 gathering from 7pm
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net VK4RAT UHF & Nodes
Tuesday Dec 22 starts 7-30pm
- Tech On The Air Net
Tuesday Dec 29 starts 7-30pm VK4RAT VHF & Nodes

more details inside ! - also check out

<https://thetarcinc.org.au>

and listen into the news nets for updates

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

CHARC AGM Weekend Emerald – 26 to 28 Sept
Cardwell Gathering – 3 to 6 Oct
Jamboree On The Air – 17 to 19 October
WIA Spring VHF/UHF Field Day - 22 to 23 Nov

place
185 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE
MAIL



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

BACKSCATTER

September 2026



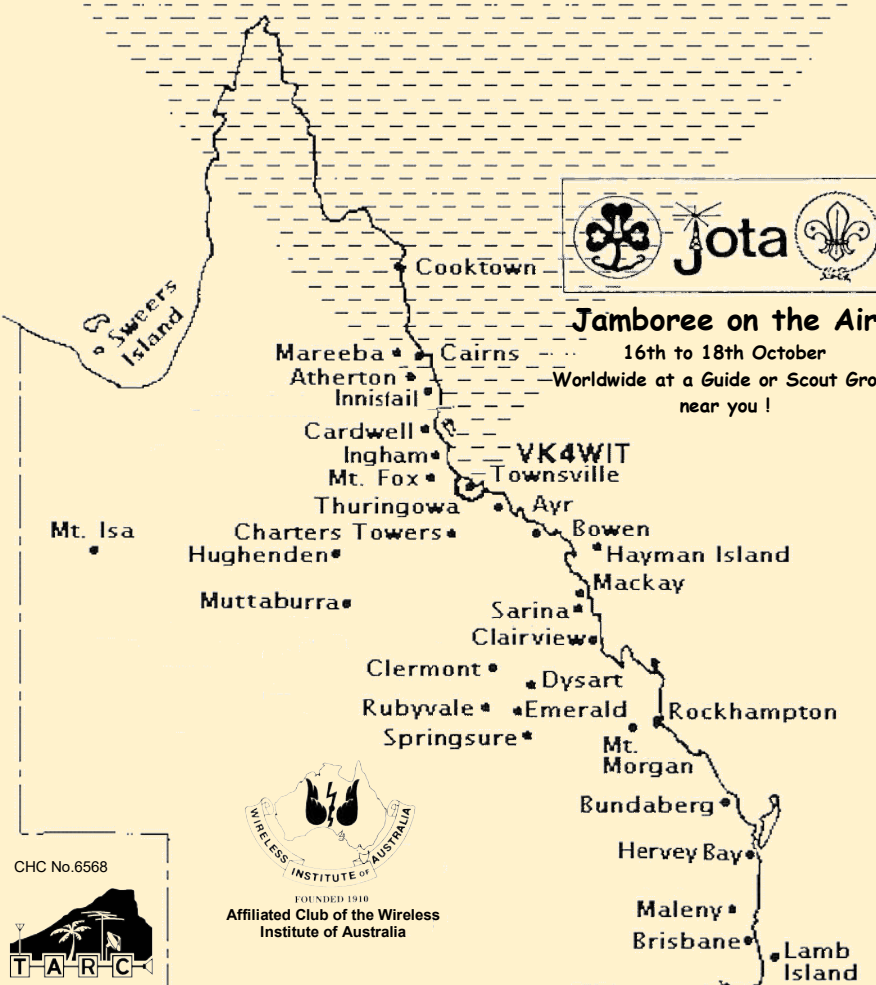
SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

WICEN
The Amateur Radio
Communications group for
EMERGENCIES



BACK – SCATTER

THE MAGAZINE OF RENOWN – SINCE JANUARY 1969





Jamboree on the Air
16th to 18th October
Worldwide at a Guide or Scout Group
near you !



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.

V K 4 W I T - V K 4 A T V - V K 4 R A T - V K 4 R T L

Cardwell Gathering - Meunga Creek Caravan Park this Oct Long Weekend – September 2026



BACK-SCATTER is the official bulletin of The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc. with QTH upstairs at S.E.S. Headquarters, Green St., West End, Townsville.

POSTAL address is: **P.O. Box 333 Garbutt East, QLD 4814.**

Voice Contact Phone: **0427 182469** if not answered, leave a message or be marked as SPAM.

Full membership \$45 p.a., Seniors, Student, Pension & Remote Member (more than 200km from Townsville) \$25 p.a.

Subs were due by 30th June and can be paid in person or via Internet Direct Transfer. Details for direct transfer -

Account Name - The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc Bank - Bendigo

BSB 633000 Account Number 230033540 Reference (your surname or callsign)

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

Note that except where stated, the opinions expressed herein may not be the official opinion of the TARCinc.

homepage = <https://thetownsvilleamateurradioclubinc.org.au>

e-mail = thetarcinc@gmail.com

Facebook Search = [tarc townsville amateur radio club](#)

President

phone - 0439 159403

Vice President

phone - 0400 339543

Treasurer

phone - 0407 177841

Secretary & Editor

phone - 0427 182469

Snow Herodes VK4ME

pk4me@bigpond.com

Richard Goodhew VK4PQV

richardgoodhew@bigpond.com

Peter Harrex VK4PQ

peter.harrex@bigpond.com

Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ

vk4zz@outlook.com.au

Local Nets - some TARCadians participate in these nets

WIA News Net - each Sunday morning on VK4RAT 2m repeater at 9am

to transmit WIA National and QNEWS followed by a callback session.

North Queensland Net - Sunday evenings at 7-30pm on 3605.4 kHz and relayed on the VK4RAT 2m repeater from 8pm. VK4WIT net control.

Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net - Fourth Tuesday of the Month from 7-30pm VK4RAT UHF repeater. XYL's and YL's especially welcome.

Tech On The Air Net - Fifth Tuesday of the Month from 7-30pm VK4RAT VHF repeater. NZART-News TX plus Techtalk.

GNARLY Net - All the Morse and Talk you can eat before breakfast -

on 3600kHz, Morse starts 5-30am-ish, Voice starts about 6-30am

Australian YSF Net - Get your Fusion on - every Thursday from 7-30pm on the VK4OO YSF West End Repeater - listen 438.75, send 431.75MHz.



WICEN North Queensland Group

- Co-ordinator 2026 Gavin "og" Reibelt VK4ZZ

0427 182469 or email vk4zz@outlook.com.au

Emergency listening frequencies during activation
7110 kHz and 3600 kHz

VK4RWI Portable Repeater (when active)

70cm 438.625 MHz OUT, 433.625 MHz IN

Frequencies to use when Repeaters are down - 146.5 and 439MHz

WICEN QLD State-wide nets Sunday morning

at 0800K on 14125 or 10122kHz & 0830K on 7105 kHz.



AMCA Amateur Radio Assessment Service

At least 3 weeks notice required to stage an assessment, longer notice preferred.

Specialist Level in - Brisbane - Laurie/VK4BLE 0411 413588

General Level in - Townsville - Lyndall/VK4ZM 0427 688014

Malanda - Stu/VK4SDD 0407 700096 Sarina - Roy/VK4RM 0409 597410

Rockhampton - Clive/VK4ACC 0429 632815

Mt Isa - Darrin/VK4XC 0418 981353



TARC News Transmission Operators

AM - Denis VK4AE, Lyndall VK4ZM, Richard VK4PQV, Peter VK4PQ, Ben VK4YT, Gavin VK4ZZ.

PM - Richard VK4PQV, Peter VK4PQ, Lyndall VK4ZM, Gavin VK4ZZ, Ben VK4YT.



TARC Ladies Group

an informal gathering of YLs and XYLs interested in Amateur Radio and allied activities. Established January 1989 by Ann Renton VK4MUM (sk). The group have a natter during the Ann Renton Memorial Net on the Townsville UHF Voice Repeater and VK4TUB 46740 AllStarLink or VK4TUB 837230 Echolink Nodes 4th Tuesday of the month. **Co-ordinator Lyndall/VK4ZM 0427 688014**



TARC Meetings :

Management Meeting - First Tuesday of the month,

Project Nights - Second Tuesday of the month,

Social / Backscatter Meeting - Third Tuesday of the month,

all start from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms, 27 Green Street West End.

For meeting dates please consult the events calendar on the cover of this magazine .

Last month's secret word was **elevation**

This month's secret word is **■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■**

Electronic Back-scatter is best read in Adobe Acrobat Reader available for your opsys at <https://get.adobe.com/reader/> remember to untick the optional offers before downloading.

This months' fortune cookie:-

" If it ain't broken, play with it until it is. "

Regional Voice Repeaters and Gateways (all frequencies in MHz)

Locale	Callsign	Input	Output
Hann Tableland	VK4RHT	146.075	146.675 123Hz Tone
Cairns (Mt Haren)	VK4RCA	145.4125	147.0125 123Hz Tone
Cairns (Yorkey's Knob)	VK4RNB	431.850	438.850 123Hz Tone
Cairns Rydge's City Centre	VK4RCA	434.850	439.850
Tolga (Bones Knob)	VK4RBK	434.900	439.900
Mudlanda FM/C4FM/WIRES-X	VK4RSD	146.250	146.850
Mudlanda FM/C4FM/WIRES-X	VK4RSD	434.950	439.950
Millaa Millaa (McHugh Lookout)	VK4RPH	145.4625	147.0625 123Hz Tone
Townsville Region	VK4RAT	146.100	146.700 91.5Hz Tone
(Mt Stuart)	VK4RAT	433.225	438.225 91.5Hz Tone
West End FM/C4FM/WIRES-X	VK4OO	431.750	438.750
Bowen Region	VK4RAB	431.375	438.375 91.5Hz Tone
(Reservoir Hill)	VK4RAB	146.125	146.725 91.5Hz Tone
Collinsville (Town Site)	VK4RAC	147.125	147.725 91.5Hz Tone
Mt Isa	VK4RMI	146.100	146.700 91.5Hz Tone
(Four Mile Hill)	VK4RIC	434.950	439.950 91.5Hz Tone
Mackay 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RBY	146.050	146.650 Multimode
(Black Mountain) 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RBY	433.600	438.600 Multimode
Sarina 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RSA	146.075	146.675 12.5kHz BW
(Jordan Creek)	VK4RSA	434.625	439.625 IRLP 6037
	VK4RSA	52.800	53.800
St Lawrence (Mt Edward)	VK4RDL	147.775	147.175 91.5Hz Tone
Nebo 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RBM	146.175	146.775 IRLP 6741
(Blue Mountain) 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RBM	434.300	439.300 Multimode
(Mount Seaview)	VK4RRR	146.375	146.975 91.5Hz Tone
Moranbah	VK4RAS	146.275	146.875 91.5Hz Tone
(Carborough Range)	VK4RAS	434.950	439.950 91.5Hz Tone
Clermont	VK4RHR	146.325	146.925 IRLP 6037
(Hodgson Range)	VK4RHR	433.500	438.500
Emerald Wormhole	VK4CWL	146.550	146.550 91.5Hz Tone
Rockhampton Region	VK4RAR	146.100	146.700 IRLP 6973
(Mt Archer) 91.5Hz Tone	VK4RAR	433.225	438.225 IRLP 6037
Blackdown Tableland	VK4RBD	146.350	146.950 IRLP 6037
Springsure (Roddas Lookout)	VK4RSP	146.225	146.825 IRLP 6037

Regional APRS Digipeaters and Gateways on 145.175MHz

located near Atherton, Cairns, Mount Isa, Townsville, Midge Point, Sarina, St Lawrence, Nebo, Moranbah, Clermont, Emerald, Middlemount, Blackwater, Springsure, Rockhampton.

Regional and Portable All Access Analogue Gateways

Kirwan AllStarLink/Echolink	VK4TUB	VK4RAT UHF Repeater
Kelso AllStarLink/Echolink	VK4PQ	VK4RAT VHF Repeater
Condon AllStarLink	VK4BDE	145.145MHz 91.5Hz Tone
Heatley AllStarLink	VK4TAZ	439.325MHz 91.5Hz Tone
Charters Towers AllStarLink VHF	VK4GDN	145.145MHz 91.5Hz Tone
Charters Towers AllStarLink UHF	VK4GDN	439.150MHz 91.5Hz Tone
Portable AllStarLink ShariPi	VK4HSV	439.125MHz 91.5Hz Tone
Mount Isa AllStarLink/Echolink	VK4WII	VK4RMI VHF Repeater
Mackay AllStarLink/Echolink	VK4DW	145.350MHz 91.5Hz Tone

Regional and Portable Digital Gateways

Rangewood WIRES-X Fusion	VK4JPA	145.350MHz
Rasmussen MultiMode	VK4BDE	145.145MHz

Regional Packet FBBS

	Callsign	
Townsville Region	VK4OT-3	145.175MHz 1200bd
(Telnet with p/w access also available vk4ot.ddns.net port 8010)		
(Web with p/w access also available http://vk4ot.ddns.net:8008/)		

Regional Beacons

		Output
10m Mt Stuart (Townsville)	VK4RTL	28.270 CW id
6m Hann Tableland (Atherton Tlands)	VK4RHT	50.281 CW id
Mt Stuart (Townsville)	VK4RTL	50.282 CW id
2m Hann Tableland (Atherton Tlands)	VK4RHT	144.446 CW id
Mt Stuart (Townsville)	VK4RTL	144.445
70cm Mt Stuart (Townsville)	VK4RTL	432.445 CW id
23cm Mt Stuart (Townsville)	VK4RTL	1296.444 CW id

Weather Information on HF

VMC Charleville 2201, 4426, 6507, 8176kHz USB

NT, QLD, NSW, VIC, TAS, SA areas

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, WSG, YT, IGM, ME,
ALS, FUDO, ZMB

ATTENDING: via Zoom Session ID – 746 12447580
VK4's PQ, ZM, XC, CHG, XA

VISITORS: Renato/VK4TNT, Charlie Jones, Harrison Russell,
Koupur Russell.

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, KDF, AFW, ZWC, DJC, WJ, FP, KEE, GUN, TUB, CMW,
GED, GDN, BDE, GWA, HSV, GFR, OIL, BRM, TSV, DLX, AAH,
AEX, TEW, FUU, HLS, VK1ZZ, Joan McDonell, Roslyn Bryant,
Rhonda Wilks, Peter Renton, Wendy Schinkel, Jeanette Mann,
Noelene Melrose.

Business commenced at 1933h 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:

Renato/VK4TNT – Special Presentation: Space Communications
from Radio to Laser. Renato commentated on a visual
presentation regarding the history of communicating between
the Earth and space vehicles, from the beginnings of orbital
missions on the 10metre and 2metre band up to current
developments using laser digital communications capable of
exchanging a number of high definition video channels and
enhanced command channels and telemetry. Renato also
recounted his numerous contacts with astronauts on the Space
Shuttle via the SAREX programme and recent contacts with the
International Space Station via the ARISS programme.
Les/VK4ALS – showed the latest in satellite tracking controllers
which have a web interface and automatic Keplerian element
updates.

Wayne/VK4WSG – recounted a recent visit to the Townsville
Museum where Museum President Trish Cronin kindly allowed
the reproduction of some photos of the Historic Oonoonba
Bomb Crater site to hand onto Ray Schinkel/VK4OIL.

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING:

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

Motion 202609001 moved to be accepted by
Richard/VK4PQV and seconded by Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Inwards. 14 articles, Outwards. 19 articles, as detailed in the
Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:

- Ergon Energy – Mt Stuart Electricity August 2026
- Ergon Energy – Confirmation of Planned Mains Outage at Mt Stuart,
Thursday 20th August
- QLD Govt Dept Natural Resources & Mines, Manufacturing & Regional
& Rural Development – Mount Stuart Special Lease Yearly Rent
SL44/46967/11
- WIA National Office – Communications for Membership Hardship
Application for Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA

The TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

**Minutes of
Management
Meeting
Held on
the 1st of
September 2026
at the Club
Rooms SES HQ,
Green Street,
West End**

- Townsville City Council – Mount Stuart Repeater Site 6 Monthly
Rates Notice.
- Townsville City Council – Get Ready Townsville Expo application
and unsuccessful notification
- RSGB – Radcom Magazine August 2026
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for September Management
meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for September Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for September Management Meeting
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting,
Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries –
Back-scatter August 2026
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- John Barrett, TOWSA – Donation and thankyou message for 2026
Magnetic Island Swim Comms Support
- Peter Herodes VK4PJH & Sami Coden – Resignation of Membership
effective 1st September 2026
- Brad Payn & Valerie Payn – Resignation of Membership effective
1st September 2026

Motion 202609002 Accept the Secretary's Report.
Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Darrin/VK4XC
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM SECRETARY REPORT:

- John Barrett, TOWSA – Donation and thankyou message for
2026 Magnetic Island Swim Comms Support. The Club received
a thankyou message along with a donation from the committee
of the Townsville Open Water Swimming Association Inc. via
their President John Barrett for the communications support
provided for the 2026 Magnetic Island to Townsville Swim (held
on Saturday 15th August). John and committee hopes that
theTARCinc members will be there again in 2027 to support the
swim.
- Townsville City Council – Get Ready Townsville Expo
application and unsuccessful notification, discussed in General
Business.

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 202609003 Accept the Treasurer's Report.
Moved by Peter/VK4PQ, Seconded by Ben/VK4YT
– 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.

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 –

Sat 15 August - Townsville Open Water Swimming Assoc. 2026

Magnetic Island to Townsville Open Water Swim

Operators were – Ashley/VK4FUU – Gregory Street Headland Public Address & Officials Liaison, Iain/VK4IGM – Safety Barge Comms and Magnetic Island Start Officials Liaison, Lyndall/VK4ZM – Strand Beach Finish Line Officials and Timing Liaison, Gavin/VK4ZZ – Officials Boat Comms and Event Director Liaison.

The annual premier open water swim event happened in variable tide and weather conditions in Cleveland Bay on Saturday August 15th with a 5-30am early start for Lyndall, Iain and Gavin and a 6-30am start for Ashley. The event had a good turnout with 73 Solo swimmers, 15 Duo Teams and 4 Relay Teams (a total of 119) plus a huge fleet of sea kayaks, team support boats, a swarm of SLSC IRBs from the Arcadian and Picnic Bay Clubs plus two of the large Police IRBs (inflatable rubber boats). Liam Drake provided his mighty vessel for the Officials Boat, Sealink provided sponsored ferrying of swimmers, paddlers and officials to and from Magnetic Island and Rhino Dive provided two of their work dive barges to ferry the sea skiffs across to the island and the swimmers baggage back to Australia, under the watchful eye of Iain/VK4IGM. The event started close to planned time with the Solo Swimmers away just after 8-30am and the Duo & Relay Swimmers away from Picnic Bay 5 minutes later. The water was smooth out to the 1km buoy then it chopped up a fair bit for the rest of the course. All swimmers completed the 8km journey across the bay with only a couple coming in after the cut-off time. It was a different story for the paddlers though, with several ferried back to Strand Beach by the Police IRBs when the sea conditions got the better of them. There were spare paddlers on course to take up positions left by those who had departed so the shield of safety for the swimmers did not waiver. Race Director John Barrett was plugged in well to SurfComm with a loaned handheld enabling him to help direct SLSC IRBs to where they were needed and kept up to date with any safety issues. Meantime the difficult task of spotting the lead swimmers numbers to relay to Ashley at the PA Base was taking place, thankfully both Liam and John were able to correctly identify the swimmers and let Gavin relay the information on 146.550MHz back to Ashley, who's hearing was progressively deteriorating due to the loud sounds driving out of the PA speakers on the headland. Some relief came when the speakers were moved to the beach, then Lyndall had the trying time to hear incoming calls intended for the finish line. All went well though with Iain getting an early mark when the barges were complete (he had a community musical event to attend that afternoon), Ashley completed duty around 11-30am while Gavin and Lyndall wrapped things up around 11-40am. Race Director John showed TOWSA's appreciation by presenting 4 monogrammed swim event towels to the comms team (very well received by Iain, Ashley, Lyndall and Gavin) and recently TOWSA thanked the volunteers efforts with the presentation of a donation to the TARCinc. The Committee hopes that TARCadians will be onboard for the 2027 event which is already looking to be bigger than 2026 with the date for the event yet to be decided.

2026 Comms Support - Notes on events –

Offroad Racing – NQORA are holding a round of the Queensland Off Road Racing Championships at Millchester on the weekend of 19th and 20th September. They will be running a competition course of up to 30km long and the event will run for 450km. The event will need at least 6 checkpoints activated so there is a need for lots of volunteers to be available for comms support and checkpoint duties. Please consider helping out with this event, and thanks to those listed below who have already put up their hands.

2027 Comms Support - Notes on events –

Horse Endurance Rides – Both B2B and Valley Riders have pinned their event dates onto the draft QERA Event Calendar. B2B have the following dates declared – 15-16 May Autumn Escalade, 17-18 July Blue Hills Bash, 31st July – 1st August Paluma Passion, 4-5 September Spring Shore.

Valley Riders have the following dates declared – 22-23 May Dee Jay Arabians, 19-29 June Greg Willoughby Memorial, plus the following options for an extra ride weekend either on 17-18 April, 29-30 May or 10-11 July.

Here is the 2027 Regional Comms Support Events Calendar so far....

Atherton Tablelands Region - Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club Inc. - Co-ordinator David Falls VK4DNF 0419206498
TBA

Townsville Region - The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc.

- Co-ordinator Gavin "Og" Reibelt VK4ZZ 0427182469

Sat 15 to Sun 16 May - B2B Autumn Escalade Horse Endurance Ride Comms Support - Bluewater Park

Sat 17 to Sun 18 July - B2B Blue Hills Bash Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park

Sat 31 July to Sun 1 Aug - B2B Paluma Passion Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park

Sat 4 to Sun 5 September - B2B Spring Shore Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park

Mackay Region - Mackay Amateur Radio Association Inc

- Co-ordinator Gary Crothers VK4CUZ 0410462892

Sat 22 to Sun 23 May - Dee Jay Arabians 2x20/2x40/1x80 Endurance Rides Denison Creek

Sat 19 to Sun 20 June - Greg Willoughby Memorial 2x20/2x40/1x100eliv Endurance Rides Denison Creek

Also extra possible ride dates - 17-18 April, 29-30 May, 10-11 July?

2026 Comms Support Events so far -

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, VK4CHG, more operators needed.

Sat 19 to Sun 20 September

- NQORA QLD Off-Road Racing Round 1 Gold City 450, Millchester MSRC near Charters Towers

Operators so far – VK1ZZ, VK4ZMB, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4CHG, many 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 via Snow/VK4ME

More onsite work took place on Tuesday 18th August with antenna bracketing and fixtures that were badly rusted replaced and some coaxial cabling shortened and re-routed. Another days worth of work should complete what needs to be renewed on the exterior of the repeater hut.

STATION MANAGERS REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :

- Club Station gear - functioning well. New Yaesu Fusion transceiver installed by Peter/VK4PQ and Ashley/VK4FUU and has been operational on Project Night and Social Meeting.

- Club Mt Stuart gear - functioning well. 2m voice repeater good, 70cm voice repeater online, UHF CB repeater online, APRS digipeater good. 23cm Beacon offline – more to follow.

- Training for Assessments - Some training sessions for assessments took place during August.

- 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. Summer conditions starting to creep in with some thunderbusters along with solar storm induced fading.

- Much more treasure has been donated, with much thanks to Ben/VK4YT assisting with the transport and some sorting of equipment from the estate of Wayne Gooda/VK4YWG (sk) on Wednesday 12th August.

- 23cm Beacon, judged by Club Technician Kerry/VK4TUB and Dr Lloyd/VK4FP as at end of life. The beacon consisted of a VHF Philips FM828 transceiver, frequency Tripler and interdigital filter along with a Clipsal C-BUS key input unit utilising the morse code generating patch programming engineered by Don/VK4MC 25 years ago. The search is now on for suitable kits or transmitter combinations to update and return the beacon back into service with Dr Lloyd the project leader.

LIBRARIAN REPORT:

- Ashley/VK4FUU via Gavin/VK4ZZ - 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 via Snow/VK4ME – Snow and Peter/VK4PJH were onsite with Kerry/VK4TUB on Tuesday 18th August and started the work on the repeater hut waterproofing. Gouged out the old mastic compound between the top slab and the besser block walls on two sides, replaced with exterior grade Sikaflex and installed the flashing. Another session is required to replace the old mastic on the other two sides. Note that it very dry at the Mount Stuart summit – care to be taken not to start bushfires.

LADIES GROUP CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Lyndall/VK4ZM, reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ :
The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 25th August 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 AllStarLink/VK2DY/VK4GDN/VK4TUB

16C and light rain this evening, been around 25C during the day, unusual this time of year for Sydney weather. Daylight Savings happening soon, will have to do the time shift for the net. Finished the latest project, 80% Mac on a RPi. Next will be trying the Amiga inspired AROS system on a RPi to live the good old Commodore Amiga days. Have to get planting the herbs in the garden as it looks like we are getting an early spring here. Thinking about building an improved high mounted magnetic loop antenna for home HF operations, just have to work out the remote tuning setup.

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

Rainy Day in the Isa today! Been playing with a MeshCORE repeater, had it up at the Four Mile Repeater Site for a bit however the integral solar battery charging circuit failed, the unit worked fine with a fully charged battery otherwise. Have a new unit configured here at home and will put it up on the repeater site shortly and see how long it lasts. Done some more training with the printer doing 3D designs – taken a while and wasted a bit of plastic stock but was well worth it.

Steve/VK4SJB, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4SJB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB

Checking in and out and note that the CairnsHUB connected into the net.

Tim/B14PPJ, 临沂市 Linyi, Shandong, China via Echolink/B14PPJ/HamAustConf/VK4TUB

Been a while since I was on the net last. Connected via Ham Australia Conference as direct connect to Kerry's node isn't working for me. 34C today, still warm and starting to head into autumn as advised by the lunar calendar. Talking from the Charging Station near the Stadium, watching the energetic joggers running by – I'm way past that now 😊 About to do a radio licence upgrade – there are 3 classes of amateur radio licence in China, grade A, B and C. Going to tackle the step up from B up to C, studying hard at the moment.

Steve/VK2EEL, Sutherland Shire, Sydney NSW, Australia via Echolink/VK2EEL/VK4TUB

First call into the net, doing the washing up duties while participating in the net.

Ben/VK3BJF, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo, VIC, Australia via AllStarLink/VK3BJF/VK4TUB

Checked in and out, but listening in

Harold/M7IPK, Chichester, West Sussex, United Kingdom via AllStarLink/M7IPK/VK4TUB

First time check in to the net. Reasonable weather today, been having too many heatwave days previously.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were:

Peter/VK4PQ & Ruth, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Hi to Tim! There were some good DX openings today on FT8 to Japan and United States. A M2 Solar Storm then came along and wiped out all the DX.

Richard/VK4PQV, Cranbrook, North QLD, Australia

Been a bit busy with remote Doggy Day Care to the daughter's place. Got the CTCSS Tone for the 2metre Repeater programmed into 2 of the IC706MK2G transceivers today, will try a couple more tomorrow. Doggie Day Care at home tomorrow. Attended the funeral of a former scout leader today.

Ben/VK4YT & Jo, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Working through the repeater, then via AllStarLink on the home node, then out in the yard on a handheld through the repeater. Home duties plus little bits of extreme loafing. The weather is changing, lots of bugs on the motorcycle and helmet while commuting too and from work.

Lyndall/VK4ZM, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

Running the net and thanked Gavin for getting the net together.

Gavin/VK4ZZ, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

Enjoyed the council run Seniors Expo and Seniors Luncheon last week at Townsville Stadium – did the luncheon with Lyndall/VK4ZM, Sheila/VK4PAL, Iain/VK4IGM and former club secretary Peter (ex VK4PV) and his carer Kylie. Doing the lawn watering now, no rain here and don't want the ground to crack up too much. Reminisced about Amiga days gone by (prompted by Robert/VK2DY about to try AROS) when did internet with Wayne/VK4KT (before the World Wide Web was introduced) doing FTP, TELNET, ARCHIE, VERONICA etc on Wayne's Amiga 2000.

The net concluded at 1042UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe return for the net in August.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 22nd September and then on Tuesday 27th October 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 29th September from 0930UTC then on Tuesday 29th December 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. Kennedy Region Scouts this year will be a Regional JOTA/JOTI camp and held at Camp Tamaroo Bluewater. So far we have VK4ZZ Gavin & VK4ZM Lyndall who will be operating various fun bases. VK4PQV Richard will be operating HF base under veranda beside the parade ground where a clear area for the dipole will need & more operators to assist Richard. Radios will be provided. Flinders Region Guides will be at Guides Qld Camp and Training site Toolakea Beach Rd Bluewater they will need operators. Can provide phone number for those leaders. (Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB and Wayne/VK4WSG likely operators).

QSL CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Ashley/VK4FUU via Gavin/VK4ZZ -
- No new dispatches received.

WEBMASTER REPORT:

- * Wayne/VK4WSG reported :

New website has been up for a month and is stable. Accessible either on <https://thetownsvilleamateurradioclubinc.org.au> or on <https://thetarcinc.org.au> and has a 25gigabytes of storage available hosted on an Australian datacentre. Looking for comments and articles for the site.

EDITOR BACKSCATTER REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :

The September issue will close for articles on Friday afternoon 11th, then with the security clamp down currently in place be sent to the Senator's Office electronically on Monday 14th 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 Month of August 2026 the WIA n Q-news transmission and call-backs was by Peter VK4PQ. NQ news retransmissions and call-backs was done by Richard VK4PQV

For Month September 2026 the WIA n Q-news transmission and call-backs 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 the Club 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 have increased the standard post rate from \$1.70 to \$1.85 per article at the start of September.

WIA CONTACT REPORT

Gavin/VK4ZZ reported:

- Wireless Institute of Australia Vice-President Peter Schrader VK4EA has met with the Minister for Communications and Minister for Sport, the Hon Anika Wells MP, for a discussion about the WIA, its role representing Australian radio amateurs and the importance of maintaining strong relationships with government, regulators and international amateur radio organisations. Minister Wells has held the Communications portfolio since May 2025 and is also the Federal Member for Lilley in Queensland.
- One of the most exciting amateur radio projects of 2026 is heading for Christmas Island this November, and Australian young operators still have an opportunity to become part of it. The VK9XY DXpedition, running from 16 November to 4 December 2026, will activate Christmas Island, IOTA OC-002, with a youth-led international team supported by experienced DXpedition mentors.
- A reminder for radioamateurs to keep an ear, and perhaps more importantly these days an eye on the waterfall, pointed south. Two Australian radio amateurs are currently based at two different Australian Antarctic research stations and operating as time, work and Antarctic conditions permit. At Davis Station, David Short VK2JDS is operating as VK0DS, while at Casey Station, Tom Blunt VK2TBC is operating as VK0TBC.

(with thanks to the WIA National News Service for leads on the above subjects)

FACEBOOK MASTER REPORT:

- Paul/VK4ICA had no report for this month.

FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT:

- Bob/VK4AAH and Phil/VK4HSV will report at the 2026 AGM.

Motion 202609004 moved by Les/VK4ALS to accept tabled Ex-Officio Reports and Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG.

- CARRIED unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:**Thanks from visiting POTA Operator**

Renato/VK4TNT thanked everyone for the support that they have given him during his visits to Townsville and noted that his last POTA operation on this visit would happen on Thursday 3rd September from 4pm to 6pm with planned activations on 40, 30, 20 and 2metres

2026 Get Ready Townsville Expo Update

Wayne/VK4WSG updated the meeting advising that the Townsville City Council had replied back to the Club on 14th August with a application not successful message due to the high level of applications and limited venue space. Wayne asked the Events Team to keep our Club in mind for future events. Meantime if you want to see what the Get Ready Expo looks like, head to Riverway on Saturday 10th October between 3pm and 6pm.

Advanced planning date claimers

Gavin/VK4ZZ lead a brainstorming session to set some dates and venues for events happening during the next few months.

- Annual General Meeting - Sun 22nd Nov Rossiter Park Aitkenvale - 7am Brekkie - 8-30am AGM, Yes.
- Xmas Party - Sun 13th December – Yes. Asked for venue options, dead silence until Snow/VK4ME offered to host the event at the Ice Cube. Yes.
- Xmas Lights Tour - Fri 18th December from 7pm, Yes.
- New Years Day Countdown Thur 31st from 1245UTC for Daylight Saving, from 1345UTC for proper time, Yes.
- Australia Day Week Radio Camp Out – Sat morn 23rd to Wed arvo 27th January – Girl Guides Training Centre Bluewater, Yes. (Kooka will book via the usual channels).
- Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo - Townsville Stadium Murray - Sat 6th Feb (provisional) from 7-30am, Yes.

Establishment of Club MeshCORE facilities at the Mount Stuart Repeater Site

Snow/VK4ME asked the meeting to consider supporting the establishment of a MeshCORE repeater at the Mount Stuart Repeater Site and a MeshCORE repeater at the Clubrooms. The systems operate on low power on both the ISM 900MHz band and on the LIPD 433MHz segment. The systems form part of a mesh network which relays data between repeaters and nodes. With the repeaters in service advertising the Club to the STEM community hopefully there would be further enquiries regarding Amateur Radio in general.

Motion 202609005 moved by Snow/VK4ME and Seconded by Wayne/VK4WSG that the Club purchase equipment with cost not exceeding \$400 to establish two MeshCORE repeaters in Townsville, one located at the Repeater Site at Mount Stuart and one located at the Clubrooms at West End.

- CARRIED unanimously.

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.

There being no further business, President Snow/VK4ME closed the meeting at 2133h local time and wished everyone goodnight and a safe return to the next Monthly Management Meeting on the 6th October 2026.

Minutes Transcribed 11th September 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.
SUPPORT EMCOM SERVICES. RECEIVE**

**AMATEUR RADIO MAGAZINE. UTILISE THE QSL BUREAU.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE HOBBY !**

<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 rsstone@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 is Alive in Townsville

Relive the experience of the original Amateur Radio Bulletin
Board System by interacting either via radio or online. You can
either utilise Telnet on vk4ot.ddns.net port 8010 or utilise the
BPQ Web portal on <http://vk4ot.ddns.net:8008/> clicking on the
terminal button and entering your callsign and password.
The radio port is working on 145.175MHz and SSID - VK4OT-7.
When you connect you will see the familiar BBS response.
There are other functions available on the BPQ Web portal 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.

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

- 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

18 Sep	MATMAN himself 4GUN
24	Denis 4AE, YM of Robyn
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
1 Oct	Markus 4TMZ XYM of Rosemary
3	Lynda, board of control of Rob 4RB
3	Jenny 2JMP, board of control of Bob 2ADF
6	Lorne 4TLB XYM of Debbie
7	Mark 4FMAR
10	Bev, board of control of Rossco 4AQ
18	Rob 4CRM/1RM the master of Extreme Loafing
21	Lincoln, Harmonic of Wendy & Leigh 4HLW
21	Shorty 4FABT XYM of Mary
23	Katrina 4KMA, board of control of Paul 4ICA
26	Amelia, board of control of John 4DFZ
27	Lyndall 4ZM, board of control of Gavin 4ZZ
27	Carole, board of control of Trevor 4WTC
28	Steve 4SJB, Digital Maestro
29	Gary 4OO XYM of Beth
4 Nov	Snow 4ME, XYM of Sharon
9	David 4FDDT
10	Fiona, granddaughter of Peter Renton
13	Robert, Harmonic of Steve 4SGW and Heather.
13	Bazz 4XPR, from NAVCOM
14	David 4FDJG
14	Dave 4ZDP
18	Wayne 4FEET
19	Trisha, 2 I/C of the flight crew of 4ZM & 4ZZ
26	Steve 4SGW, XYM of Heather
28 Nov	Paul and Mark, twin grandsons of Peter Renton
1 Dec	Bronwyn, harmonic of Peter 4PVH
2	Leigh 4HLW, XYM of Wendy
4	Joan, board of control of Colin 4UCM
9	Mike 4MSA, your friendly aero-paramedic
11	John the 5th -1st Harmonic of Amelia & John 4DFZ
11	Kristina, youngest of the flight Crew of Lyndall 4ZM & Og 4ZZ
14	Tubby 4TUB
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
28	Philippa, harmonic of Ian 4ZT
29	David 4KDH
31	Rob 4ARQ
31 Dec	Iain 4IGM, XYM of Sheila 4PAI

..*.*.*.*.*

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

22 Oct	Luz & Geoff 4JDW
26 Oct	Amelia & John VK4DFZ
8 Nov	Sharon & Jeff VK4XA
28 Nov	Veen & Clyde VK4FCRH
1 Dec	Marion & Joe VK4AM
19 Dec	Leslie & Phil VK2JOK
21 Dec	Janet & Cedric VK7CL
9 Jan	Roslyn and Don VK4GUN (that's Matman and Roslyn)

..*.*.*.*.*



Jamboree On The Air
October 16 to 18 - 2026
Groups & Operators listing plus
Operators Needed to Help with
Guide and Scout Groups



Scout and Guide Groups in our region are now contacting their regular Radio Amateur Operator to line up sites and personnel to participate in this year's world-wide event, the largest event on the Scout, Guide and Amateur Radio Calendar. If you can help out with a group that needs operators in Townsville then please contact our JOTA Co-ordinator Richard VK4PQV on 0400339543 and he will match you up to a group.

Known JOTA Activations in FNQ, NQ, CQ

Cairns Amateur Radio Club members
with Scout groups at the Smithfield Scout Den - and
with Guide groups at Garradunga Guides Camp
Townsville Amateur Radio Club members -
with Scout Groups at Kennedy Region Scouts
at Camp Tamaroo near Bluewater - and
with Guide Groups at Flinders Region Guides
at the Girl Guides Training Centre Bluewater
Mackay Amateur Radio Association at Rowellan Park near
Mackay with Scout Groups from the Mackay region
RADAR Club VK4WIR at Seeonee Park near Rockhampton
with Capricorn Region Scouts and at Kooyalee with Girl
Guides
Gladstone Amateur Radio Club at Awoonga Dam
with Scout Groups from the Gladstone region
Bundaberg Amateur Radio Club at Wyper Park
with Scout Groups from the Bundaberg region

Australian voice calling frequencies:

3.650, 7.090, 14.190, 21.190, 28.590, 52.160MHz

World CW calling frequencies:

3.570, 7.030, 14.060, 18.080, 21.140, 24.910, 28.180,
50.160MHz

World voice calling frequencies:

3.690 & 3.940, 7.090 & 7.190, 14.290, 18.140,
21.360, 24.960, 28.390, 50.160MHz

Calling frequencies for Slow Scan TV (SSTV):

3.630, 7.033, 14.227MHz

Calling Frequencies for PSK31

14.070MHz



Save the Date ! Get Ready Townsville is back for 2026. Head to this Free Event and learn how to plan, prepare and act to keep your families and homes safer in our tropical environment and during high-risk weather events. Check out the latest beaut gear the SES get to play with. Track down Wally's Weather to get the latest on the wet season. Grab a Mozzie Repellent Tree from the Townsville City Council Stand - plus lots more! Riverway Oval, Saturday 10th October, 3p to 6p

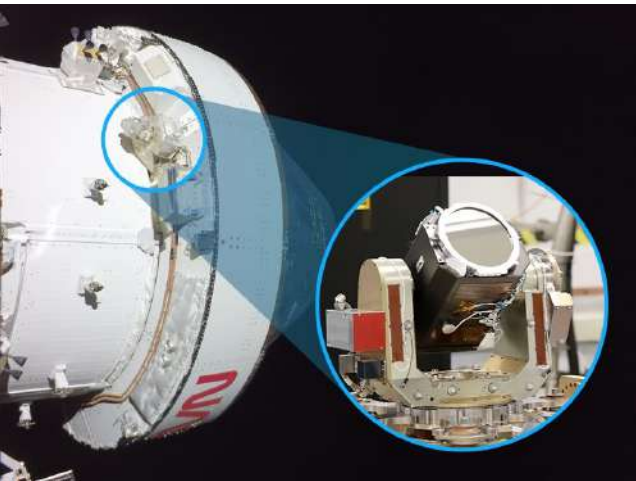
..*.*.*.*.*

VISUAL BACKSLATTER

Snow/VK4ME, Les/VK4ALS, Renato/VK4TNT, Wayne/VK4WSG at the August Social Meeting



Renato/VK4TNT, Ashley/VK4FUU, Les/VK4ALS in the TARC Radio Shack at the August Social Meeting



Artemis II Orion (O2O) Laser Comms System (graphic by NASA)



A younger Renato talking to Andy Thomas on the Space Shuttle



He hasn't been seen in Back-scatter for a long time, however former Secretary, Editor and current Historian for our club – Peter Renton (formerly VK4PV) was out and about with assistant Kylie at the recent TCC Seniors Luncheon.



O'Dark Hundred at Strand Park for the Maggie Island Swim – Lyndall/VK4ZM and Iain/VK4IGM



On Gregory Headland during the Maggie Island Swim – the Public Address Crew with Ashley/VK4FUU

.*.*.*.*.*.

Cardwell Gathering

October Long Weekend



See if you can spot the 6pm croc or the 5-30pm goanna!

The Cardwell Gathering will be taking place from Friday afternoon October 2nd to Monday morning October 5th at the Meunga Creek Caravan Park near Cardwell FNQ.

This is a call to all Hams and support crews and anyone interested in taking up the hobby of Amateur Radio to spend a long weekend (or longer) in paradise.

Meunga Creek Caravan Park is located 4km north of Cardwell along the Bruce Highway at 12 Ellerbeck Road, Ellerbeck, Far North Queensland. The Park is nestled between the banks of Meunga Creek, the Great Northern Railway Line and luscious rainforest, offers a laid back retreat for bush camping with spacious sites that are great for self sufficient campers, or with power and water if you want to seriously glamp. The park is pet friendly and has a modern ablutions block with 4 hot showers complete with laundry with 2 washing machines and a dryer.

Campfires are welcome (with fire pots supplied – BYO wood) and each site features nice tall trees with varying degrees of sun and shade. It is only a 10 minute drive back into the Cardwell CBD, 5 minutes drive to the famous Cardwell Spa Pools and Forest Drive Creek Circuit. You get a choice of camp spot and required facilities upon arrival. Since the Rainforest is very close it is recommended that you bring a good supply of insect repellent, however that close proximity means there are great opportunities for bird & possum watching, native reptile spotting and if you are lucky you might get to spot the local croc in the creek.

Mobile phone service is excellent from both Telstra and Optus Sites on nearly Mulley's Hill and TV services also transmit out of Mulley's Hill.

Look for more on the wikicamps app or on these sites -

Meunga Creek Caravan Park Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/people/Meunga-Creek-Caravan-Park/100057476648585/>

Meunga Creek Caravan Park CamperMate Page:

<https://campermate.com/en/location/australia/qld/tropical-north-queensland/paid-campsites/meunga-creek-caravan-park/0096a5c1-0c81-40ac-bbfb-3b14fa762da3>



in the electronic version, click here for Google directions from Cardwell CBD to Meunga Creek Caravan Park

Make sure you bring your own Comfy Chairs, standing whilst watching others engage in the lost art of Extreme Loafing could be very uncomfortable for you.

The proprietors of the Caravan Park value that same laid back lifestyle they offer during your stay, so for direct contact on the phone please call at the optimal time between 4pm and 5pm daily. Otherwise text the contact number with a message with these details – Your Name, Your best Contact Number, Number of People you are booking in with, Date and Time you are arriving, Date and Time you are leaving, Site Requirements (unpowered, powered, powered and water).

The contact number is – **0429 728913**

If you require more sumptuous accommodation there is plenty available nearby –



in the electronic edition – [click here](#) to see an expanded view.

Cardwell Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park –

43A Marine Parade Cardwell. Bookings phone – 07 40668550

Website – <https://www.cardwellbeachcomber.com.au/>

Cardwell @ The Beach (Lyndoch Motel and Bottle Shop) –

215 Victoria Street (Bruce Highway) Cardwell. Bookings

phone – 07 40668500 Website – <https://cardwellatthebeach.com.au/>

Kookaburra Holiday Park –

175 Victoria Street (Bruce Highway) Cardwell, Bookings phone –

07 40668648 Website – <https://kookaburraholidaypark.com.au/>

Cardwell Beachfront Motel –

1 Scott Street Cardwell. Bookings phone – 07 40668776

Website – <https://cardwellbeachfrontmotel.com.au/>



onboard Cardwell Jetty heading into the Seafest

Things to do – Lots of nice tall trees at the park to put your antennas into, a chance to make more. Some HF nets participated in over the weekend plus the North Queensland Net live from Meunga Creek, plus heaps of techie stuff happening, some cookups and of course some extreme loafing.

Around the area though are some great attractions, such as the Cardwell Seafest happening over the weekend, with Saturday morning Hot Rod Classic Car and Bike Show with live music and food displays on the Foreshore, plus tropical plant and flower Expo at the Coastguard, Saturday Night Country Club rock and roll with live entertainment, The Saturday Night Foreshore Fireworks Display, Sunday Markets and Fishing & Boating Expo with food stalls and kiddies activities plus the acclaimed RSL BBQ Lunch.

There is also the famous Cardwell Op-Shop in Richards Street open 9am to 12pm Fri and Sat. Og regularly tidies the cable bin for those who need to grab a superseded cable or two.

The Cardwell Spa Pools is a short drive from the Park and a trip up the Kirrama Range Road to Blencoe Falls is in easy striking distance. Keen to get a sea monster or three? Fishing in Rockingham Bay or off Cardwell Jetty is prolific. Got a yearning for culture – check out the Girringun Art Centre or the crafts stores in town. You can also take in some telecommunications history at the Visitor and Heritage Centre with a tour through the Bush Telegraph Museum.



Goanna Time at Meunga Creek.

..*.*.*.*.*.*

Radio happenings September 2026 to September 2027 ... so far

September

- 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
- 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 at the VK4ME Ice Cube
- 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
- Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo - Emmaus Hall at Ryan Catholic College, 59 Canterbury Road, Kirwan
- Saturday 30th January 2027 from 9:30am to 12:00pm, bump in from 7:30am

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 in Townsville area
- 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
- B2B Blue Hills Bash Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 17 to Sun 18 July - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 20th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Paluma Passion Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 31 July to Sun 1 Aug - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 27th July from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Bombing of Townsville 85th Anniversary HF Activation - Thur July 29th - Historic WW2 Wulguru Bombing Site

August

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

September

- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 4 to Sun 5 Sept - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre

Notification of 2026 Annual General Meeting.

Pursuant to clauses in the Club Constitution and sections of the Queensland Associations Incorporations Act, Notice is hereby given that The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc) will be holding the Club's Annual General Meeting on Sunday Morning, November 22nd 2026

**VENUE : Area 2 - Rossiter Park, from 7 am till 11am – (Plan B if weather inclement .. Club Rooms West End.)
(The AGM area can be accessed from the carpark near the corner of Kimball and Chambers streets in Aitkenvale.)**

Breakfast to be held from 7am. AGM will start from around 8-30 am. BYO if you have any special dietary requirements. Bring a comfy chair and a comfy hat !

At the AGM, all club executive, committee and ex-officio positions will be declared vacant and nominations of financial members tendered prior to the meeting will be considered for the following positions...

Executive:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer
Committee:

Seven other members.

Executive and Committee making up the Management Committee of the Club.

Financial Members interested in serving in the Management Committee are required to lodge their interest in writing to the 2026 Secretary, either in person, in writing to the Clubs post office box at PO BOX 333, Garbutt East, QLD 4814

or via e-mail to the Clubs email address at thearcinc@gmail.com with nominations to reach the Secretary no later than 4 pm, Thursday October 22nd 2026. If necessary, nominations will also be taken at the meeting.

Proxy forms covering business to be transacted at the 2026 AGM are required to be lodged with the Secretary by 8am Sunday November 22nd (see below for sample of proxy form).

Deadline for catering numbers for the AGM Pancake Breakfast is the Friday November 20th 2026.

The agenda for the 2026 AGM consists of:

Gather Proxy Forms

Open Meeting

Apologies

List of Silent Keys

Minutes of 2025 AGM presented to the meeting
(as reprinted in November 2026 Back-scatter)

Presidents Report

Treasurers Report

2026 Management Committee stand down

Chair for Election appointed

Election of 2027 Management Committee

2027 President assumes chair

Statement of Annual Return Small Association
and elect Finance Officers.

Review and set Membership Fees.

Review and set Insurance Cover.

Confirm continued affiliations

WIA, SES,

Confirm continued memberships

QRP CW OPS Assoc, RSGB

Acknowledge Life Members

VK4ZZ

Recommend continuance of Honorary Members

Prof. Mal Heron, Peter Lindsay VK4TO CDEC PHF OAM
General Business.

Further General Business.

Close Meeting.

Signed, Gavin Reibelt, VK4ZZ, Secretary 2026
The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc.)

PROXY FORM : The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc

I, _____

of _____

being a member of the above named association hereby appoint _____

of _____

or failing him _____ of _____
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the general meeting of

The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc to be held on the _____ day of _____ 20____, and at
any adjournment thereof

Signed this _____ day of _____ 20____. (Signature) _____.

This form to be used * in favour of

* against the resolution

* strike out whichever is not desired (unless otherwise instructed the proxy may vote as they think fit).



QLD
CHAMPIONSHIP
ROUND

GOLD CITY
450

★ **19TH & 20TH** ★
SEPTEMBER

 **FREE**
CAMPING &
FACILITIES

 **FAMILY**
FRIENDLY

 **NO**
CATERING

 **245 MAFEKING RD**
MILLCHESTER MOTORSPORTS FACILITY

DIRT. DUST. ADRENALINE. THAT'S GOLD CITY.

 FOLLOW NQORA FOR MORE INFO



CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. AGM WEEKEND 2026



**FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER (FROM 2PM)
TO SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER (10AM)**

regenerative AI was used to assist in creating
this graphic



EMERALD PISTOL CLUB
SELMA ROAD, EMERALD

Join us for a fantastic weekend of
friendship, great food, plenty of laughs
and all things amateur radio!
Along with our Annual General Meeting,
enjoy:



**MEGA AUCTION
OF TREASURE**



**MULTI-DRAW
RAFFLE**



**MONEY
BOARD**



**DELICIOUS
MEAL PACKAGE**



**CATCH UP WITH
FELLOW HAMS**

The cost will be **\$20**
for the weekend for those
wanting to camp.
From Friday night
until Sunday.



There are some camping spots
and also a room to put some
swags in.

**CATERING NUMBERS
REQUIRED!**
**NO LATER THAN
TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER**

PLEASE ADVISE HELEN (VK4FHEL) BY:



Comment on the
CHARC Facebook
page on this post



**SMS
0412 038 033**

Great company, good times and one of the best spots in Central Queensland!



MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!

Fees must be paid prior to the General Meeting/AGM

**SINGLE
\$20 PA**

**FAMILY
\$25 PA**



**ANY MEMBERS ARE REMINDED
THAT ANYONE WHO IS ON THE
BANNED GUN LIST IS NOT
PERMITTED TO ATTEND.**

MEAL PACKAGE: \$25 PER HEAD

(FOR ATTENDEES OVER 16 YEARS OF AGE)
INCLUDES LUNCH, DINNER, DESSERT,
SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND A FREE SOFT DRINK –
WHAT A MENU!



SATURDAY SIZZLING LUNCH

A snag and onion with sauce
cooked to perfection by the
Iron Faraday Cage Chefs
served on fresh bread.



SATURDAY NIGHT FEAST

- Rib Fillet Steak
- Gluten Free Sausages
- Onion • Lettuce • Beetroot
- Tomato • Pineapple • Cheese
- Coleslaw • Pasta Salad
- Potato Bake



DESSERT (CHOOSE FROM)

- Homemade Cheesecake
- Homemade Caramel Tart
- Pavlova
- Apple Pie with Custard



SUNDAY RECOVERY BREAKFAST

Bacon and/or Egg cooked to perfection
by the Iron Faraday Cage Chefs on
bread, toast or plate.



**IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS
PLEASE LET HELEN KNOW.**

MONEY BOARD

\$2 PER NUMBER



**WINNING NUMBER
GETS \$100 PRIZE!**

RAFFLE MULTI-DRAW \$2 PER TICKET



**IT WOULD BE VERY
APPRECIATED IF YOU
SUPPORT THE RAFFLE.
PLEASE DONATE A
PRIZE OR TWO!**

MEGA AUCTION



**CLEAR YOUR RADIO
SHACK OR HOMEWARES
TREASURE TROVE AND
BRING ALONG YOUR ITEMS!**

**\$5 PRIZES WRAPPED
WOULD ALSO BE
APPRECIATED.**

WEEKEND PROGRAMME

FRIDAY

From 2pm

- Arrivals and set up – walkies
- Meet and Greet



SATURDAY

9am – 12pm

- More Arrivals and Meet and Greet
- Start putting your treasure and mystery items into the Mega Auction.
- Start putting in any Raffle Prizes you are donating.

12pm – Sizzling Sausage Lunch in the Camp Kitchen
2.30 – 3.50pm

- If you haven't already paid by internet transfer see the Treasurer to pay your membership fees and catering costs. (This will be the last time you will be able to pay and this will allow the Treasurer to finalise the moneys before AGM & Meeting)

2.30 – 4pm – Raffle Tickets & Money Board

4 – 5pm – General Meeting & Annual General Meeting

6pm – Saturday Night Feast

6.30 – 7pm – Last chance to purchase
Raffle Tickets & Money Board Numbers

****** MEGA AUCTION WILL NOT START
UNTIL DINNER IS FINISHED ******

SUNDAY

7 – 9am

- Recovery Breakfast then Farewells



DIRECT DEPOSIT DETAILS

BSB: 064 704
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 00904743
REFERENCE: Callsign or Surname



Send notification via email

events@charc.org.au

(BEING SURE TO RELEASE THE COUNTER-MEASURES FIRST!)

