theTARCinc Events Calendar

October

- 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 – New Years Eve Special Edition
  Tuesday Dec 29 starts 7-30pm VK4RAT VHF
- New Years Day Countdown - Thur 31st December - from 1245UTC for Daylight Saving, from 1345UTC for proper time – VK4RAT VHF Repeater and Nodes
- TARC Meeting Recess until February 2025.

January

- Tech On The Air Net – Bonus January Edition
  Tuesday Jan 19 starts 7-30pm VK4RAT VHF
- theTARCinc Australia Day Long Week Family Radio Camp at Bluewater Girl Guides Training Centre from pm Sat 23 to pm Mon 27 January.
- Ann Renton Memorial Ladies Net VK4RAT UHF & Nodes
  Tuesday Jan 26 starts 7-30pm
- TARC does Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo
  Saturday Jan 30 at Ryan Catholic College Kirwan

February

- TARC Management Meeting
  Tuesday Feb 2 starts 7-30pm

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

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

WIA Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest 1-31 Jan
WIA Summer VHF-UHF Field Dasy Contest 9-10 Jan
WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day – 20 to 21 Mar
AM & CW on ANZAC Day – Sun 25 April
MARA-RADAR Clairview Gathering – 7 to 9 May

place
185 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE MAIL

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

BACKSCATTER

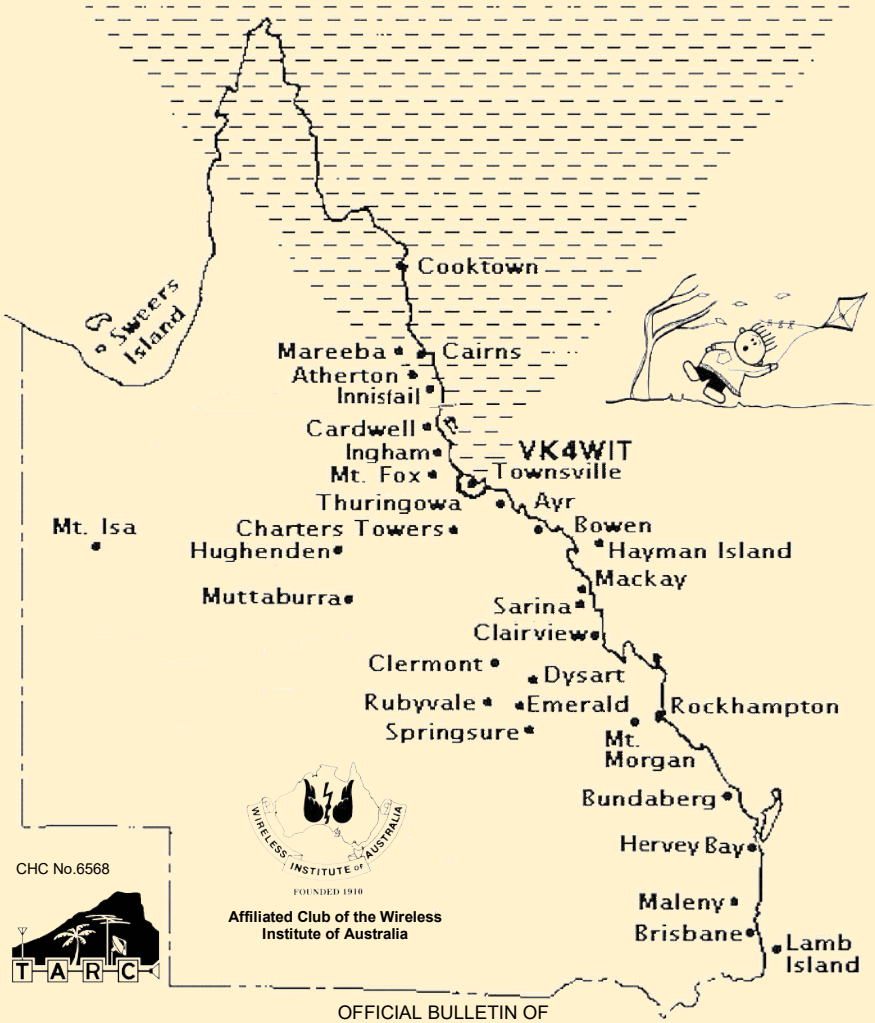
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SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

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 – Prepares for the Curly Wind Season - Are You Ready ? – October 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 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 !

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

homepage = https://thetownsvilleamateurradioclubinc.org.au
e-mail = thetarcinc@gmail.com
Facebook Search = tarc townsville amateur radio club

President **Snow Herodes VK4ME**
phone - 0439 159403 pk4me@bigpond.com
Vice President **Richard Goodhew VK4PQV**
phone - 0400 339543 richardgoodhew@bigpond.com
Treasurer **Peter Harrex VK4PQ**
phone - 0407 177841 peter.harrex@bigpond.com
Secretary & Editor **Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ**
phone - 0427 182469 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 DOPPLER
This month's secret word is ■■ ■■■ ■•• •■■ •■•• •■ ■ •• ■■■ ■•
Electronic Back-scatter is best read in your favourite web browser that supports Adobe PDF reading and printing.

This months' fortune cookie:-
" I have a rock garden. Last week three of them died. "

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

The TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

Minutes of Management Meeting Held on the 6th of October 2026 at the Club Rooms SES HQ, Green Street, West End

ATTENDING: At the Club Rooms VK4's. WSG, YT, ME, HLS, PQV, ZZ, IGM, WJ, AEX, FUDO, FUU, ZMB

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

VISITORS: Robert/VK4JRH, Daniel Harley, Joel Heyboer.

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, TEW, CHG, XA, ZM, VK1ZZ, Joan McDonell, Roslyn Bryant, Rhonda Wilks, Peter Renton, Wendy Schinkel, Jeanette Mann, Noelene Melrose.

Business commenced at 1940h 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: Mike Paulsen VK4MSA
Mike was a TARCadian a long time ago, life and work curtailed his Amateur Radio activities for a while but now he is back on-air and active on HF and the repeaters. Mike does DX Voice on 20, 15 and 10meters and is also gearing up to do some DX on 6 and 10metres. Mike also has interests in Astro-Photography and has been involved in the local Radio Controlled Aero Modelling scene for years. Mike is also involved in fund-raising for Cancer Research – you will see pikkies of him occasionally on social and mainstream media in his cycling gear. You are best to see him when he is involved in spare time activities – he works as a Flight Paramedic (with occasional road duty) with the Queensland Ambulance Service.
Mike would like to rejoin theTARCinc, he has fond memories of the camaraderie that has spanned the decades and needs to occasionally pick brains regarding tech issues or enhancements.
Motion 202610001 moved by Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ and and seconded by Snow Herodes/VK4ME that Mike Paulsen/VK4MSA be accepted as an ordinary member of the Club. CARRIED unanimously with applause.

SHOW AND TELL:
Wayne/VK4WSG – demonstrated what was supposed to be a remote PTT button app for use in the home which grew like topsy into a custom IOS app which interfaces via the internet to a custom Windows based remote control bridge program at home to totally remote control his ICOM IC7300 using the CI-V command set. Please contact Wayne if you are interested in helping with development of the system.

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING:
Accept the minutes for the September 2026 Management Meeting as printed in Back-scatter.
Motion 202610002 moved to be accepted by Ben/VK4YT and seconded by Iain/VK4IGM
– CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:
- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:
Inwards. 12 articles, Outwards. 6 articles, as detailed in the Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:
- Ergon Energy – Mt Stuart Electricity September 2026
- RSGB – Radcom Magazine September 2026
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for October Management Meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for October Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for October Management Meeting
- Wayne Giebel VK4WSG – Reports for October Management Meeting
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting, Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries – Back-scatter September 2026
- TARC Financial Members – Cancellation of Cardwell Gathering
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- Mick Wright VK4CMW – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Gary Gregory VK1ZZ – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Mal Seal VK4MSS – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Ken Holdsworth VK4HAI – 2026-2027 Membership Subs

Motion 202610003 Accept the Secretary's Report.
Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Darrin/VK4XC
– 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 202610004 Accept the Treasurer's Report.
Moved by Peter/VK4PQ, Seconded by Wayne/VK4WSG
– CARRIED unanimously.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS;

ASSESSMENTS CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
ACMA runs the Amateur Radio Assessors Service.
Volunteers in the Assessor Service consist of 2 types,
- Specialist Assessors available for remote, online or face to face assessments,
- General Assessors available for face to face assessments in towns or in the regions.

The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc. has a Townsville based General Assessor, Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM on 0427688014.
If you don't get an immediate answer, please leave a message.
Lyndall is equipped to hold assessments at the Club Rooms or out in the field.
There are other assessors located in areas such as Atherton Tablelands, Cairns, Mackay, Sarina, Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Rockhampton, Gladstone,Bundaberg and Maryborough – for the full list surf to the ACMA Amateur Radio Accredited Assessors webpage at https://www.acma.gov.au/amateur-radio-accredited-assessors
During the last month Lyndall held 2 Foundation assessments, with successful outcomes.

COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Gavin VK4ZZ reported :
Callouts – Nil

2027 Comms Support - Notes on events –
Offroad Racing – NQORA are planning to run 4 events at Millchester in 2027, including another 450 event. Dates to be advised.
Rally – TCAC have enrolled us to help with the 2027 Ingham Forest Rally happening on Saturday 28th August. Their main problem is comms between the Start and Stop points plus comms back to Rally HQ at the QCWA Hall. Operators will need to be able to quickly set up directional comms on VHF and also liaise with officials on UHF-CB. Traffic handling will include messages generated by the Double Zero and Zero Cars along with the Sweep and Recovery vehicles, plus priority incident traffic between the checkpoints and Rally HQ.
Horse Endurance Rides – The AERA Calendar 2027 has provided updated info on the dates for horse endurance rides.
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
Sat 1 to Mon 3 May - Woodleigh 20/40/60eliv/80km Endurance Rides Tepon

Sat 5 to Sun 6 May - Shiralee 20/40/60eliv/80km Endurance Rides Tepon
Mon 28 June to Sun 4 July - Pioneer Trek
3x20/3x40/3x60elev/3x80/100/200/400 Endurance Rides Tepon
Sat 14 to Sun 15 Aug - Brooklyn 20/40/60eliv/80km Endurance Rides Tepon
Fri 24 to Mon 27 Sept - Cordillera Trail
3x20/3x40/3x60eliv/3x80/60/120 Endurance Rides Tepon

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 Paluma Passion Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park
Sat 31 July to Sun 1 Aug - B2B Blue Hills Bash Horse Endurance Rides - Bluewater Park
Sat 28 August - TCAC Ingham Forest Rally - Rally HQ at Abergowrie-Longpocket QCWA Hall and at Start and Stop points on rally special stages
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 29 to Sun 30 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

Communications Support Events during the last month –
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 attending VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4ME, VK4CHG.
The last B2B horsie ride of the year was held in fairly dry conditions but with a comfortable temperature range for the horsies, riders and volunteers. The event saw some riders doing the 80 and 40km courses plus a bumper field of 20km riders finishing off the year for their horsies. Doris and Wayne were kept busy at the Grid checkpoint as was Andrew at Rons Gate checkpoint. Snow had it a bit more cruisy at the Waynes World checkpoint which was on the 80/40 tracks only. Lyndall and Gavin were kept busy at Ride Base however there were very few incidents on track, the most memorable being when a horsie got away from the rider when fording a creek crossing on the Forestry Road which required Doris and Wayne to close their access gate at the Grid, Snow to observe and report the progress of the free horsie and the successful rounding up by other riders on course and Andrew advising the 20km riders heading back from Rons Loop about the free horsie. Rider and Horsie were successfully reunited. Volunteers appreciated the coffees supplied by the Coffee Lady on Saturday and the Coffee Couple on Sunday, plus the room service delivery of Saturday Night Dinner and Sunday Morning Breakfast to the checkpoints by the B2B Cooks and Transport Team. Main communications happened on 146.550MHz with a couple of stations cross-band repeating onto UHF handhelds for the duration and liaison and Strapper Alert happening on UHF-CB CH26. Andrew experimented with some different types of field antennas, found some faulty connections and came away with some working systems. The operators were thanked by the organisers, riders and helpers at the Presentations on Sunday late morning with the invitation to team up again for the B2B Rides based out of Bluewater Park in 2027 (dates already in the calendar).

Sat 19 to Sun 20 September
- NQORA QLD Off-Road Racing Round 1 Gold City 450, Millchester MSRC near Charters Towers
Operators – VK1ZZ, VK4ZMB, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4CHG.
The 450 was held in dry and occasionally dusty conditions (depending on how the breeze blew) around an extended 30km track that incorporated parts of the old 25km track plus some new bits. Lyndall and Gavin were able to set up at camp on Thursday afternoon, rigging things to cope with the strong breezes blowing. Charters Towers Regional Council had done well upkeeping Mafeking Road so it was a pleasure to drive on and NQMS had engaged contractors to reshape the roadway into the complex which took out all the ravines and shaped to survive the next wet season. A late afternoon chinwag with Jen and Gary up at the Radio Facility followed by dinner in the field topped off a great day which included a round up of the shops and the opshops along with an unusual event – a brief shower of rain in the evening. During Friday we met up with Mal/VK4MSS at camp, he was getting things together to do logistical transport during the event with the trusty quad. In the afternoon Doris and Wayne arrived and set up a sumptuous camp, Andrew arrived after a hard days work and set up a lean and mean camp complete with new gazebo. Late afternoon Gavin had a chance to travel with Kev in the recovery chief's buggy to check out the track and spot some checkpoint spots while Lyndall headed into town to the fish and chippery to grab dinner. Fine dining at camp, yarns with Gary, Doris, Wayne and Andrew plus a briefing session with the group along with Clerk of Course Ken and checkpoint assignments ended a great Friday.
Saturday – 6am Hairy Richard arrived and consumed the regular strong coffee made at camp to get things started. 7-15am the volunteers were signing on, getting final instructions from the Clerk of Course, checking comms on UHF CB-15 Race Comms Channel and the 146.550MHz ham liaison frequency and then heading out to checkpoints. Andrew followed out with Recovery Chief Ken to man the Prologue turn around point, Hairy Richard proceeded to Check 1 to set up, Lyndall & Gavin, followed by Doris and Wayne continued onto track around to Check 3 with Doris and Wayne deciding on where to set up to minimise dusting, then continued to Check 5 on the side track to monitor progress through the dried out creek. Meantime Gary navigated through parts of the new section to find a nice spot for Check 4, having to shift a bit during the day to keep the sun and dust at bay. 5 Entrants, 4 Starters, 1 Completed. No accidents, just Mechanical Attrition on a course classified as Extreme Off-roading (with a big mix of straight bits, twisty bits and some suspension stressing topography). Once Prologue was completed Andrew helped Kev reset the bollards and then proceeded to operate from Check 2 (Check 3 on the previous 2 events) for the rest of the day. During the day the organisers decided to shorten the event to 1 day and the completing competitor managed to do the full 450km. Comms went well right through the day and the break between each 2 laps enabled volunteers to have elevenses and lunch out on the checkpoints.
Presentations took place on Sunday morning, with the organisers and drivers and pit crews thanking the radio volunteers for their duty and skilful operation on the checkpoints. NQORA are planning 4 off-road racing events in 2027 and want the radio volunteers again to keep things running smoothly and safely.

2026 Comms Support Events so far – No more planned events for 2026.
If you can help out with any of the future events please contact Gavin/VK4ZZ on 0427182469 or on the wireless.

TECHNICIAN REPORT:
- Kerry/VK4TUB via Snow/VK4ME
The first club MeshCore repeater was installed at the Mount Stuart Repeater Site during September and is working well. Another MeshCore repeater owned by Tubby has been installed at the Regis Senior Care facility at Kirwan but is suffering desensing from a nearby mobile phone base. Some more work to be done at Mount Stuart doing outdoor cabling and indoor wiring tidy-up.

STATION MANAGERS REPORT:
- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
- Club Station gear - functioning well.
- Club Mt Stuart gear - functioning well. 2m voice repeater good, 70cm voice repeater online, UHF CB repeater online,
APRS digipeater good. 23cm Beacon offline – moves afoot to make and install a new beacon.
- Training for Assessments - Some training sessions for assessments took place during the month
- 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. Some thunderbumpers increasing, some solar activity causing short period fading.
- Much more treasure has been donated, many thanks
- A Club owned MeshCore LoRa repeater has been installed at the Repeater Site, with the node name publicising the Club. The initial installation included a dud antenna, this dummy load was replaced recently by Tubby/VK4TUB and performance has vastly improved.

LIBRARIAN REPORT:
- Ashley/VK4FUU - all going well with many magazines available for members to peruse or lend. The culled items put out in the main meeting room is available for keen operators to snaffle.

FACILITIES CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Phil/VK4HSV via Snow/VK4ME – Plans to complete the water proofing work at Mount Stuart when Kerry/VK4TUB is available, hopefully before the wet season starts. The site grounds will also be checked out to see if some trimming is required.

LADIES GROUP CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Lyndall/VK4ZM, reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ :
The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 22nd September 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
A bit coolish tonight. It's a week and a half until Daylight Savings cuts in here. More modifications made to the simulated Mac case to make the SD Card on the Pi to be easily replaced. Also fitted a Radioberry module which is working good. Playing with QSO-1, the multiple VOIP mode app which does everything except AUS-DMR. Gardening work underway for Spring.

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.

Bob/VK4BOB, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB
Operating horizontal under doctor's orders and recuperating after an operation a couple of weeks ago. Recovery going well. A change of neighbours includes removal of a baby monitor that created hash across a lot of the HF bands – looking forward to doing DX again. Doing JOTA with a bit of help this year for around 200 youth members at the District Guide Camp at Garradunga. Doing an outback trip after that out to Birdsville then to Brisbane.

Lyn/VK4SWE, Redlynch, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB
Retirement is busy! Just finished a game of Pickleball and now cooking dinner to the Net. Training up with paddling and kayaking to prepare for participation in the Hawksbury Classic later this year. Had some fun a couple of weeks ago with the Smithfield Scouts open day.

Doug/VK4FCR, Redlynch, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB
Rain has stopped for a bit breaking into sunshine – allowing completion of some of the garden work and setting up of some antennas to allow HF working

Michelle/VK4SHE, Redlynch, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB
Supervising Doug with the gardening and helping with setting up of those additional antennas. Some pool work at a noice 32C prior to the net starting.

Steve/VK2EEL, Sutherland Shire, Sydney NSW, Australia via Echolink/VK2EEL/VK4TUB
Housekeeping to the net again, just back from a trip. Some rain happening on and off. Thanks for the chat.

Lisa/VK4NAN & Tony/VK4XL, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB/CairnsHUB/VK4TUB
Tony called in at the start of the net while Lisa was completing the washing and hanging out. Tony was also in the bad books with Lisa as he had handed an unfamiliar radio to Lisa to be part of the net and a wrong button was pressed, however Lisa was eventually able to come onto the net and say hi to all,

Tim/BI4PPJ, Zhuhai Residential District, Huangdao, Qingdao, Shandong, China via AllStarLink BI4PPJ/VK4TUB
Back in Zhuhai after a 300km trip from Linyi – just arrived as the net was happening. Studies going well for the radio licence upgrade, expanding more technical knowledge. Packing away the grocery shopping then having a rest.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were:

Ben/VK4YT & Jo, Kelso, North QLD, Australia
Did things around the house during the RDO. Quiet on the radio front, just doing the nets.

Stephen/VK4AEX, Douglas, North QLD, Australia
Been away from Townsville for a couple of weeks, doing the Larapinta Trail out of Alice Springs. Completed the hike with very little injury, much better than some who had falls and more serious injuries. Some rain in the area of the Trail caused the wildflowers to start blooming. Tried to chase some satellites while out on the trip but had a malfunction with the portable antenna.

Peter/VK4PQ & Ruth, Kelso, North QLD, Australia
Did some afternoon FT8 on 20m and 15m. Slowly getting the trees trimmed the right way in time for the wet season.

Lyndall/VK4ZM, Vincent, North QLD, Australia
Running the net and thanked Gavin for getting the net together.

Gavin/VK4ZZ, Vincent, North QLD, Australia
Successfully transplanted a new starter motor into the ElectroWagon. Did Checkpoint and Comms Support duties with some other hams at the Offroad Racing Championship at Millchester on the weekend, just completed getting the dust out of things. Heading off to Emerald for the CHARC AGM Weekend, then the following weekend practicing Extreme Loafing and doing some portable antenna work at the Cardwell Gathering and preparing then for JOTA happening next month.

The net concluded at 1102UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe return for the net in September.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 27th October and then on Tuesday 24th November 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 and VK4WJ Wallaby Bob 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. I will supply radio and Gavin Off-Centre fed Dipole for HF operations be provided. All meal etc will be provided by groups that will look after operators.
Flinders Region Guides will be at Guides Qld Camp and Training site Toolakea Beach Rd Bluewater they have Wayne VK4WSG and Hairy Richard VK4ZMB operators.

QSL CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Ashley/VK4FUU -
- No new dispatches received.

WEBMASTER REPORT:
* Wayne/VK4WSG reported :
Site is doing well. Started getting spam coming via form submission pages. Spambots are a little bit clever at getting past filters. Spent some time hardening the submission forms with a few different challenge methods and Akismet. Happy to say that the effort has stopped spam.
All updates have been applied.
Newsletters and Backscatter uploaded.
New Meshcore information links have been added, with more to come.

EDITOR BACKSCATTER REPORT:
- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
The October issue will close for articles on Friday afternoon 16th, then with the security clamp down currently in place be sent to the Senator's Office electronically on Monday 19th 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 September 2026 the WIA n Q-news transmission and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV NQ news retransmissions and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV
For Month of October 2026 the WIA n Q-news transmission and call-backs will be done by VK4PQ Peter. 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.

WIA CONTACT REPORT
Gavin/VK4ZZ reported:
- WIA is highlighting a new development from the FreeDV group which will vastly improve Digital Voice communications on HF using an open source codec system. RADE (Radio Automatic Digital Encoding) spearheaded by David/VK5DGR has improved the rate of recovered decoded audio over noisy HF circuits. Version 2 is due out shortly and hams are encouraged to give the latest version of FreeDV a try and contribute to development. Full article available on the WIA Website.
- WIA is also highlighting the RSGB online radio propagation tools which help the operator predict the best bands to use to corner that elusive DX. Full article available on the WIA Website.
- WIA has just completed the latest Club Presidents Webinar, along with online governance training for radio club officers.
(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 202610005 moved by Les/VK4ALS to accept tabled Ex-Officio Reports and Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG.
- CARRIED unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Event Planning Update
Wayne/VK4WSG - Conversations have been ongoing with TCC, and temporary booking made for November at Strand Park.
Initial event proposal was accepted. However Public Liability Insurance level of $20m was a hurdle.
It was my understanding that TARC held two $10m policies, one with Genesis and the other with WIA. TCC agreed to consider (at least this time) using both policies.
Unfortunately, I was unable to locate the WIA policy documentation regarding the policy they have covering affiliated clubs.
I contacted the WIA, and spoke with Bruce, who pointed out that the WIA stopped this overarching policy in 2023. They now use a Broker to help set up policies for clubs, and keep track of these.
According to the WIA, who have details of these policies, the Genesis policy TARC holds is likely the one from this Broker. There does not appear to be another one.
As I was unable to locate a second policy, I withdrew the application to use Strand Park until TARC upgrades Public Liability.
At this stage, no further action will occur in this space.

Australia Day Week Radio Camp Out Update
Gavin/VK4ZZ – Richard/VK4PQV has booked the Girl Guides Training Centre Bluewater for Sat morn 23rd to Wed arvo 27th January – intended to have the usual Australia Day activities, antenna making and tuning, fun with baluns, assessment and training services plus lots more.

Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo Update
Gavin/VK4ZZ – The Expo is happening at a different venue this time.
Defence Welcome and Information Expo is run by the Townsville office of the Defence Member and Family Support Section.
It will be happening on Saturday 30th January at the Emmaus Hall at Ryan Catholic College, 59 Canterbury Road, Kirwan from 9-30am to 12-00pm. The Club will be drawing on expertise gained from participation in previous Expos to show Defence members and their families currently residing or new to the region some of the aspects of the wonderful world of Amateur Radio.
It is hoped to demonstrate the hobby through a mixture of static, dynamic and interactive displays, with members experienced in many facets of the hobby able to provide meaningful answers and guidance for those attending the Expo.
The display will be put in place from 7-30am to 8-45am and packed away from 12pm to 1pm. If you want to be part of the TARC team on display then please contact The Master - Iain/VK4IGM on telephone 07-47214083 or on the air.

Notification of cancellation of the Cardwell Gathering
Gavin/VK4ZZ – Members were notified by email of the cancellation of the Cardwell Gathering when it was found that Meunga Creek Caravan Park was fully booked out for people involved with the Cardwell Seafest. It looks like a lot of people discovered how nice the place is, along with being half the cost of the caravan parks in town.
With falling attendance by hams and family to the Gathering event, I would like to permanently remove the Cardwell Gathering from the Club Event Calendar.
(Consensus from the meeting agreed with the removal).

Notification of proposed changes to the Constitution
Gavin/VK4ZZ - Here listed are the items in the Constitution where change is proposed due to:
- the eventual removal of cheques as a method of payment of club purchases and expenses,
- omitting the clause regarding the establishment of a club debit card, which is not allowed due to the current banking rules.
45 Funds and accounts
(1) The funds of the association must be kept in an account in the name of the association in a financial institution decided by the management committee.

(2) Records and accounts must be kept in the English language showing full and accurate particulars of the financial affairs of the association.
(3) All amounts must be deposited in the financial institution account as soon as practicable after receipt.
(4) A payment by the association *of $100 or more must be made by cheque or* electronic funds transfer.
(deleting the words *of $100 or more must be made by cheque or* – to make the section read *A payment by the association must be made by electronic funds transfer*).
(5) If a payment *of $100 or more* is made by *cheque or* electronic funds transfer, the payment must be *signed or* authorised by any 2 of the following -
(a) the president;
(b) the secretary;
(c) the treasurer;
(d) any 1 of 3 other members of the association who have been authorised by the management committee to sign cheques issued by the association.
(changing section 5 by deleting *of $100 or more*, *cheque or* and *signed or* to make section 5 read *If a payment is made by electronic funds transfer, the payment must be authorised by any 2 of the following* -)
(replacing the words in section 5d *sign cheques issued* with *authorise payments made and removing the $100 minimum limit*).
(6) However, 1 of the persons who *signs the cheque* must be the president, the secretary or the treasurer.
(replacing the words in section 6 *signs the cheque* with *authorises the payment*
(7) *Cheques, other than cheques for wages, allowances or petty cash recoupment, must be crossed 'not negotiable'.*
(omitting all of section 7 – replacing the wording with (7) omitted)
(8) *A petty cash account must be kept on the imprest system, and the management committee must decide the amount of petty cash to be kept in the account.*
(omitting all of section 8 – replacing the wording with (8) omitted. The Treasurer advises that
the Club does not keep a petty cash system and the modified section 5d precludes payments made with cash.)
(9) All expenditure must be approved or ratified at a management committee meeting.
(10) *The association may hold a debit card for the purposes of paying for sundry items for activities of the association. The card will be retained in the possession of the treasurer. Maximum expenditure on any one item must be less than $100 and approved by the treasurer and one other member who is an approved signatory on the association's account. A tax invoice must be provided for each purchase.*
(omitting all of section 10 – replacing the wording with (10) omitted. The current banking rules for association accounts do not allow for issue of a debit card in the association's name.)

So, if the amendment is approved at the Annual General Meeting clause 45 will look like this –
45 Funds and accounts
(1) The funds of the association must be kept in an account in the name of the association in a financial institution decided by the management committee.
(2) Records and accounts must be kept in the English language showing full and accurate particulars of the financial affairs of the association.
(3) All amounts must be deposited in the financial institution account as soon as practicable after receipt.
(4) A payment by the association must be made by electronic funds transfer.
(5) If a payment is made by electronic funds transfer, the payment must be authorised by any 2 of the following -
(a) the president;
(b) the secretary;
(c) the treasurer;
(d) any 1 of 3 other members of the association who have been authorised by the management committee to authorise payments made by the association.
(6) However, 1 of the persons who authorises the payment must be the president, the secretary or the treasurer.
(7) Omitted.
(8) Omitted.
(9) All expenditure must be approved or ratified at a management committee meeting.
(10) Omitted.

- Please consider the proposed changes, further input will be considered and tabulated at the 3rd November Management Meeting then final voting held at the 22nd November Annual General Meeting.

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.
There being no further business, President Snow/VK4ME closed the meeting at 2054h local time and wished everyone goodnight and a safe return to the next Monthly Management Meeting on the 3rd November 2026.
Minutes Transcribed 15th October 2026 by Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ - Secretary 2026, The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc).

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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

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5055kHz is ALIVE!

Al/VK4ALT reports that the newly revamped Radio 4DX 5055kHz Amplitude Modulation service is back on-air in test mode at the moment from the transmission site at South Johnston west of Innisfail Far North Queensland.
Al advises that guaranteed hours are daily 4-7pm and overnight on Fri/Sat till about 10am. Transmissions usually start on before 4pm and often on after 7pm.
Transmission hours will be revised once the 1kW transmitter is back in service, hopefully soon.
Presently on about 85 watts AM.
Programme is mostly music aimed at the over (harking back to the 2CH Good Music format), with strictly no politics and no smut.
For the SWLs the station now issues QSL cards.
(Return postage requested, if possible.)
Please send reception reports to
Radio 4DX email - hello@radio4dx.com.au or
PO Box 1488 Innisfail QLD 4860. Phone 0427614007

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Solar Panels !

Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB has these gorgeous Solar Panels ready to fly into your shack power system.
Local pickup in Townsville only.
12 by 1650 x 994 x 36 Pmax 250W Trini
TSM-250PC05A bare aluminium
1.6401 m^2 = 15% Voc 38.0V Vmpp 30.3V
Isc 8.8 A Impp 8.3 A
All $20 each. Contact Hairy on rnsstone@gmail.com

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- Big Grounding Rods just for you

Bill Walker is currently doing a clean up around the radio shack and has come across some jumbo sized Grounding Rods that are ideal for making sure HF installations have a good RF earth reference. Way longer than the ones you can get in the Big Green Shed so you could probably make a few out of the one for your needs.
$50 per rod - ring Bill on 0409 191250 to find out more.

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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.

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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.

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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

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The Tech on The Air net September 2026 Report.

Hi everyone, here is a quick rundown of the latest Tech on The Air net September 2026, by Peter VK4PQ in Kelso.
The night started out at 7:30pm local Townsville time with the running of the latest NZART news from New Zealand it was quite an informative news cast, with a great roundup of Amateur Radio news.
After the news I called for stations wishing to check in and these stations called in, VK2QRT(E), VK2DY(A), VK4XC(A), VK2EEL(E), VK4ME, VK4TSV, VK4YT, VK4FUU, VK4JBY, VK4KWS, VK4ZZ, KD9WJY(A) Tim, VK4NJP and VK4AEX.
Great rollup and thanks to all that came along on the night. – *(E) Echolink, (A) Allstar*
We had two questions with notice, and one tech net fill in on how to use the solar data available on the QRZ home web page.

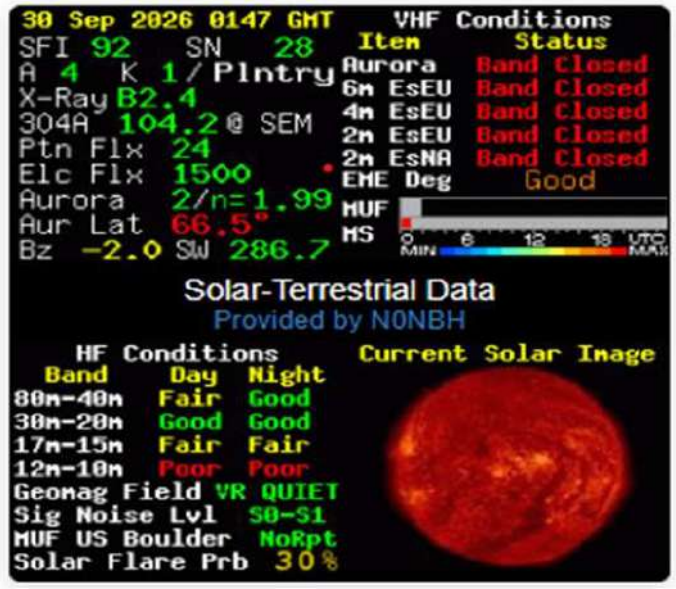
Q1. Mark VK4TSV - 80 and 40m dipole design and configuration ideas to enable Mark to contact fellow hams in VK2, VK3 and VK0..

On the night there was quite a discussion from calculating the lengths of both dipoles, configuration on Mark's available masts, how to feed the antenna including Balun and feedline.
For contacts to VK0 20m was mentioned and maybe that will be the third dipole on the masts, very quickly becoming a fan dipole configuration. Discussion was also on how to test and trim the dipoles.
Thanks to Snow VK4ME, Ben VK4YT and Ron VK4JBY for comments and information.

Q2. Ben VK4YT – What is the realistic coverage of the MeshCore devices, repeater and companion nodes given the low power of the devices.

Thanks for the question, Ben, a separate A4 sheet has been typed up for this answer and will be attached as a separate PDF.
Thanks to Kent VK4KWS for the comments and information, Kent described the Rockhampton district configuration, and he also gave real world distances that their repeaters and companion nodes were achieving. Maximums were repeater 70km and companion node 15km.

We wrapped up the night with an explanation on how to use the solar data information on the home web page of QRZ for predicting HF propagation, this information I found in the EastCoastReflector library, they have lots of very useful documentation available for hams. The **Predicting HF Propagation** document will be attached as a PDF. I gained approval from the EastCoastReflector magazine editor Vicky KE8VKY to reproduce this document for our backscatter readers. (*30-09-2026 via zoom*).



Snippet from QRZ homepage.

Another useful page is: SWS - Global HF - Hourly HAP Charts this is an Australian HF predictor by the BOM.

Well that brought the net to a near conclusion but before closing we threw it around the stations still connected and asked for any closing comments, it was a great night and thanks to all for coming along, next Tech Net will be the 29-December-2026 , if you can make it bring a friend along too it's a great night.
73 Everyone. DE VK4PQ Peter @ Kelso
(Editor Note: The article on MeshCore will be published in the November edition of Back-scatter while the Prediction HF Propagation article will be published in the December edition of Back-scatter. Both PDF files are available now on theTARCinc website).

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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.

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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

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- 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.

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VISUAL BACKSPLATTER



at the recent Rotary Club of Port of Townsville Pride of Workmanship Awards Evening, Councillor Nick Dametto, Mayor of the City of Townsville with Rotarian and TARC Honorary Member Hon. Peter Lindsay VK4TO CDEC PHF OAM

PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS : BIRTHDAYS



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 favourite 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 Ian4ZT
29	David 4KDH
31	Rob 4ARQ
31 Dec	Iain 4IGM, XYM of Sheila 4Pal
1 Jan	GraHam 4BB
5	Mick, 4ANZ
9	Robyn, board of control of Denis 4AE
9	Kristyl, board of control of Ken 4HAI
10	Katherine, harmonic of Denis 4AE and Robyn
13	Debbie, board of control of Lorne 4TLB
16	Jeanette, board of control of Bob 4WJ.
17	Colin 4UCM, XYM of Joan
17	Jeff 4XA, XYM of Sharon
18	Bill VKforexZ
20	Zoe, Harmonic of Lynda & Rob 4RB
21	Mike 4CMW, XYM of Kerry
23	Ian 'Chubb' 4FIBW
26	Heather, XYL of Steve 4SGW

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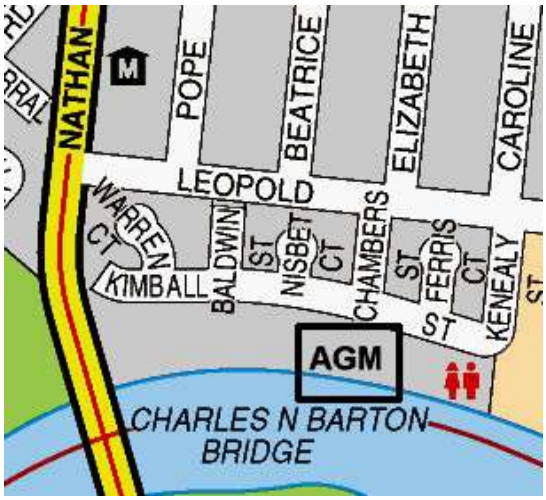
WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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)

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TARC AGM

The 2026 Annual General Meeting of theTARCinc happens on Sunday November 22nd from 7am at Area 2 - Rossiter Park Aitkenvale. (Plan B if weather very inclement – Club Rooms Green Street West End – listen to the 2m repeater for update.)
The AGM will start off with a scrumptious Pancake Breakfast from 7am followed by the Annual General Meeting starting 8-30am.
Thanks to those who have already tendered their apologies and proxies – if you cannot attend, please send apologies and proxies soonest.
Collection of catering numbers are currently underway – Catering numbers finalised by Tuesday Night Social Meeting November 17th. Eating so far – VK4ZZ & VK4ZM, VK4ME, VK4PQ, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4PQV,



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theTARCinc XMAS Party

theTARCinc 2025 Christmas Party and Monster Auction happens on Sunday December 14th from 10am at the VK4ME Ice Cube & Antenna Farm, 14 Alpha Street Kirwan. Ensure when you are parking in Alpha Street you keep the driveways clear.

Your hosts Sharon and Snow/VK4ME hope that TARC Club Members and Families will come along and celebrate responsibly and with fun.

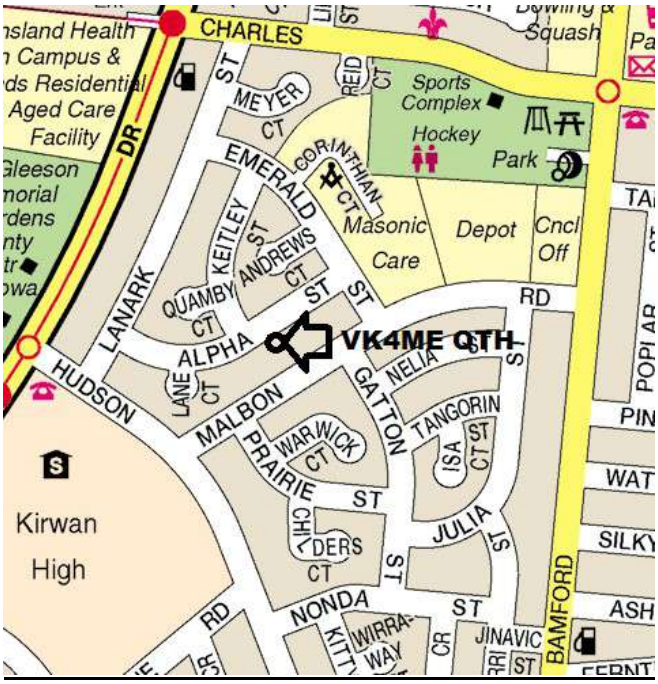
Timetable of events
From 10am assemble the Monster Auction, Mystery Pressie Auction, ready the Lunch thingies, find a comfy spot.
From 11am the Monster Auction will get underway.
From 12-30pm the BBQ Lunch (funded by TARC) will light up.
From 1pm the Mystery Pressie Auction will get underway, then the drawing of the BRAG Raffle will take place.

Here is a how get there –
- put your GPS-navigator in the stuff for the Monster Auction – it will only lead you astray anyway - and trundle to the intersection of Alpha Street and Emerald Street Kirwan.
- Turn into Alpha Street and proceed for a few revolutions and find somewhere to park near Number 14 – making sure not to block driveways or dig up the footpath.

What do you need to bring ?
- At least one mysteriously wrapped present for the Mystery Pressie Auction. Make sure it is not too expensive or not too volatile ! Consider doing a couple of pressies – one for the little kids and one for the big kids.
- A box or ten of treasure for the Monster Auction – you have to make room for the stuff you are going to take home ! There is not just techie stuff, homewares and produce are popular too.

> A comfy chair for each person in your party <
- You don't want to have to sit on the concrete ground all day -
- Your favorite drinkies in an esky – **but don't bring glass.**
- Lots of spare change – those who want to change a 20 or 50 will end up taking much more treasure home than they bargained for!
- Your swimmers and towel if ye are taking a dip in. Lake Herodes.
- Your appetite and propensity to have fun.

It's a catered event so Gavin/VK4ZZ needs your attendance numbers no later than the December Management Meeting Tuesday 2nd!
Eating so far: Sharon & ME, ZZ & ZM, PQV, PAL & IGM, FIBW & FCRH, Doris & WSG, Kerry & CMW,



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TARC does the 2027 Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo
theTARCinc will yet again be involved with the Defence Welcome and Information Expo run by the Townsville office of the Defence Member and Family Support Section.
It will be happening on Saturday 30th January at the Emmaus Hall at Ryan Catholic College, 59 Canterbury Road, Kirwan from 9-30am to 12-00pm (note the different venue to previous years). The Club will be drawing on expertise gained from participation in previous Expos to show Defence members and their families currently residing or new to the region some of the aspects of the wonderful world of Amateur Radio.
It is hoped to demonstrate the hobby through a mixture of static, dynamic and interactive displays, with members experienced in many facets of the hobby able to provide meaningful answers and guidance for those attending the Expo.
The display will be put in place from 7-30am to 8-45am and packed away from 12pm to 1pm.
If you want to be part of the TARC team on display then please contact The Master - Iain/VK4IGM on telephone 07-47214083 or on the air.



https://maps.app.goo.gl/FRrJKCFh6BkE1uKZ6

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Hi to all once again. As mentioned in the previous Backscatter Mag. (September 2026) Thanks to Wayne, VK4WSG, for obtaining photographic copies of three pics from the Townsville Museum, then enlarging and laminating them to a size of approx. 30 cm x 22 cm each.
Thanks again Wayne for the shots of the Oonoonba Bomb Site and a plaque (removed) - also for the time taken and supportive interest to produce same.
Cheers, Ray. VK4OIL

Hi to all once again f.rom Ray/VK4OIL
During a series of recent conversations with Townsville City Council regarding the preservation of the Historic World War 2 Oonoonba Bomb Crater I received this message from our Mayor.

From: Mayor of Townsville
<Mayor.ofTownsville@townsville.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2026 10:28 AM
To: 'ray_wendy7@bigpond.com' <ray_wendy7@bigpond.com>
Subject: The Oonoonba Bomb Crater

Hi Ray

Thank you for keeping me updated on your efforts to preserve this important piece of Townsville's history. I apologise for the delay in getting back to you, and I appreciate the time, care and persistence you have put into advocating for the Oonoonba Bomb Crater site.

As you are aware, the Oonoonba Bomb Crater site is currently located within Economic Development Queensland's (EDQ) The Village Priority Development Area (PDA). The site is presently in Queensland State Government ownership, with EDQ acting as the assessment manager. EDQ is currently working through the final land release. Updated flooding information has reduced the developable area, and this is being considered as part of the reconfiguring of lot application and operational works packages.

At this stage, it is proposed that the bomb crater site will sit within the larger open space area. Townsville City Council is a referral agency and will provide advice where required.
EDQ has advised that a heritage consultant has been commissioned to assess the site and determine whether a recommendation should be made to Townsville City Council to include the bomb crater site on the Local Heritage Register, which is Schedule 7 of the Planning Scheme. If this recommendation proceeds, the matter will require a decision of Full Council.

The current advice to EDQ is that sympathetic embellishment should be included at the bomb crater site to reflect and represent its significance. An interpretive history sign has also been recommended to help identify the importance of the site for the community. This embellishment is recommended regardless of whether the site officially meets the requirements for inclusion on the Local Heritage Register.

It is likely that the open space where the bomb crater site is located will be subject to a Council donated asset process once completed, similar to other developments across Townsville. At this stage, EDQ is proposing that the final land release will occur around June 2027, with work on the required infrastructure to follow once all approvals have been received.

I understand how important places like this are to residents who care deeply about Townsville's military history.

Thank you again for raising this with me.

Kind Regards,

Cr Nick Dametto
Mayor of Townsville

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

October
- 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
- 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
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 25th May from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- MARA Valley Riders Dee Jay Arabians Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 29 to Sun 30 May

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
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th 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
- 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 Paluma Passion 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
- 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
- B2B Blue Hills Bash Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 31 July to Sun 1 Aug - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre

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
- TCAC Ingham Forest Rally - Sat 28 August, Rally HQ at Abergowrie-Longpocket QCWA Hall and at Start and Stop points
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 31st August from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

September
- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 4 to Sun 5 Sept - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 7th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 14th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 21st September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- CHARC AGM Weekend - Fri arvo 24 to Sun morn 26 Sept - Emerald Pistol Club
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 28th September from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

October
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 5th Oct from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 12th October from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End

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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
thetarcinc@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).

**ohhh! the page is intentionally blank,
so you can use the AGM Proxy Form
without destroying your copy of the
magazine of renown – Back-scatter!**