theTARCinc Events Calendar

November

- theTARCinc Annual General Meeting – Sunday 22 Nov
  Rossiter Park Aitkenvale 7am brekkie 8-30am AGM
  WIA News Transmission delayed until 1pm
- 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 10-00am
- 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
- TARC Project Night
  Tuesday Feb 9 starts 7-30pm

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

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

WIA Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest 1-31 Jan
WIA John Moyle Memorial Field Day - 20 to 21 Mar
AM & CW on ANZAC Day – Sun 25 April
RADAR-MARA Clairview Gathering – 7 to 9 May
Remembrance Day Contest - 14 to 15 Aug
Int. Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – 21 to 22 Aug
CHARC AGM Weekend - Emerald 24 to 26 Sept
Jamboree On The Air – 15 to 17 Oct

place
185 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE
MAIL

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

BACKSCATTER

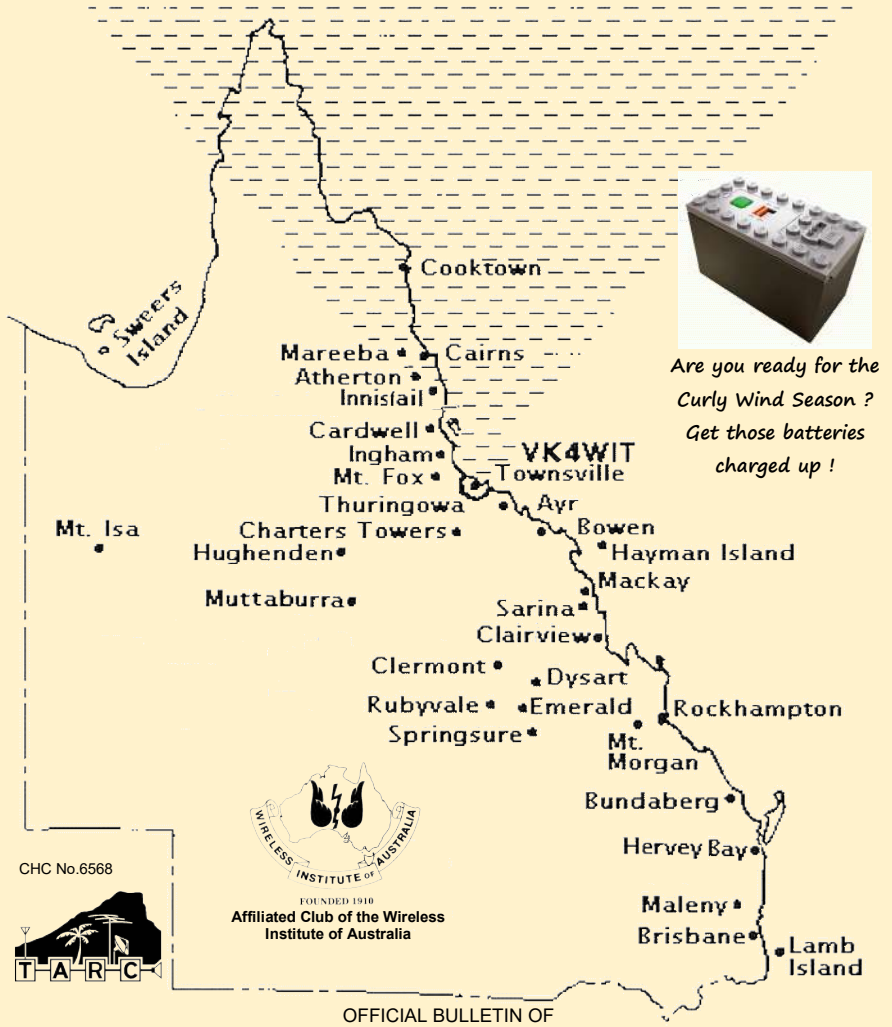
November 2026

SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

WICEN
The Amateur Radio
Communications group for
EMERGENCIES

BACK – SCATTER

THE MAGAZINE OF RENOWN – SINCE JANUARY 1969



Are you ready for the Curly Wind Season ? Get those batteries charged up !

CHC No.6568

FOUNDED 1910
Affiliated Club of the Wireless Institute of Australia

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF

THE TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

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

VK4WIT-VK4ATV-VK4RAT-VK4RTL

AMATEUR RADIO – The original School Of The Air - November 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 modulation
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:- " Oh you never would believe where these little cookies come from... "

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 3rd of November 2026 at the Club Rooms SES HQ, Green Street, West End

ATTENDING: At the Club Rooms VK4's. ZZ, HLS, PQV, AEX, IGM, FUU, CHG, FUDO, ZMB, BRM

ATTENDING: via Zoom Session ID – 787 7726 0760 VK4's XC, PQ, YT

VISITORS: Nil.

APOLOGIES: VK4's. UCM, JPA, ICA, KMA, EMF, DNF, SDD, 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, FP, KEE, TUB, CMW, GED, GDN, BDE, GWA, HSV, GFR, OIL, WJ, TSV, DLX, AAH, TEW, MSA, HSV, ME, XA, ZM, WSG, VK1ZZ, Joan McDonell, Roslyn Bryant, Rhonda Wilks, Peter Renton, Wendy Schinkel, Jeanette Mann, Noelene Melrose, Bill Walker.

Business commenced at 1943h with the meeting chaired by the Vice President Richard/VK4PQV. Richard welcomed all attending, greeting members and called for any apologies.

SILENT KEYS: Eldon Bryant VK4GUN
News received from son Michael that long time radio operator Eldon Bryant VK4GUN has gone Silent Key
Eldon passed away during the morning of Thursday 29th October following complications which added to ongoing health issues that finally vanquished Matman.
Eldon was a long-time member and past Secretary of The Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc., was a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia for many years, originally as a Short Wave Listener long before attaining callsign VK4FNQA (which he converted to VK4GUN), was a very prolific DXer on the 11metre CB Band, renown in Japan and the United States (a visit to Japan in the 1970s saw him treated like royalty).
Eldon was also active for a long time on the online system CQ100 which he used to maintain contact with radio friends when the HF band conditions were poor.

How did he get the handle Matman?
Once demobbed from the Nasho's as an Artillery Gunner Eldon commenced a career in textiles, based in Brisbane but travelling all around Queensland as a sales rep. 1959-1960 was a busy time - he married Roslyn then they transferred to Rockhampton to start a branch of the parent company. 1962 saw a return to Brisbane and a transfer to Felton Textiles. They asked him to transfer to Townsville in 1963 to set up a Felton office there. In 1971 having successfully weathered TC Althea the family moved back to Brisbane with Eldon becoming a floor coverings consultant for large commercial projects. 1974 and the Brisbane Floods saw the Bryant Family house become a co-ordination point for flood relief, complete with an ARMY APC parked in the driveway of the Jindalee property which was situated on a high ridge. 1976 saw the family move back to Townsville where Eldon and Roslyn started an independent carpet agency covering Cairns, Mackay and Mount Isa. Health reasons curtailed the long distance travelling in 1995 and - here is where the Matman tag comes in - Eldon and Roslyn set up a carpet trimming business in Aitkenvale called 'Matman and Roslyn'. The Matman moniker stuck from then on. VK4GUN was a remembrance for the time he served in National Service in artillery, for that service he contracted industrial deafness which he coped with for the rest of his days.

Supporting fellow servicemen
Eldon paid back serving in counselling with the RSL, working in various positions with the Artillery Association including their long-time Secretary, contributed to military history research (including publication of a number of articles) and promoted veteran welfare whenever he could. He also served the community at large being a JP, member of Lions International and serving on school P&C committees.

Thumping the drum on Amateur Radio
Eldon was active as long as health would allow with communication support events, JOTA, was a founding supporter of the AM and CW on ANZAC Day operation, tried many new things on-air (remember the Isotron antennas at Cranbrook), supported the on-air nets locally and regionally plus had a go in the occasional contest. Eldon and Roslyn were regulars at the club Christmas Parties and AGMs.

Duty to Mariners
Eldon was a member of the Coast Guard Townsville Flotilla with main duties in the Radio Room. He was also one of the stalwart volunteers for the overnight maritime radio watch with a remote radio facility installed at the home in Cranbrook. Eldon also instigated theTARCinc in the project to install a VHF Marine Receiver in the recently retired Warship Townsville back when the plan was to have a floating museum (plans have now changed with the vessel to become a land-based museum piece).

We have lost a radioamateur who personified the have a go outlook on life and we will miss his friendship and support in the years to come. We pass our heartfelt condolences to XYL Roslyn and family during this time of need.
Funeral arrangements as published –
All Family and Friends are warmly invited to attend ELDON'S FUNERAL SERVICE which will commence at 2.00 p.m. WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 11th NOVEMBER, 2026
at the Lakes Chapel, Morleys Funeral Home, Cnr. Hugh Street and Martinez Avenue, Townsville. NO CORTEGE.
Livestreaming available via https://www.morleys.net.au
Vale Eldon Bryant VK4FNQA/VK4GUN, Silent Key.

NEW MEMBERS: Hunter Hoodcamp VK4HPH
Hunter recently successfully attained his Amateur Radio licence with guidance and encouragement given by TARCadians Wayne/VK4WSG and Tubby/VK4TUB. They met up through involvement in the local MeshCore activities with Hunter voicing a desire to expand beyond the MeshCore and SDR scene. With help from Wayne with loan equipment Hunter has been on-air on the HF bands and the Ham Radio bug has bitten hard. To support his young family Hunter toils away day (and some nights) in the aviation wing of the Australian Army as a pilot and during his spare time and when family commitments allow he is one of the leaders of the MeshCore movement in the Townsville Region (helping some of our members a fair bit with their increasing involvement in the movement). Hunter would like to join theTARCinc to expand his technical knowledge and plug into the help that many HF tinkerers in the club can provide.
Motion 202611001 moved by Snow Herodes/VK4ME and and seconded Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ by that Hunter Hoodcamp/VK4HPH be accepted as an ordinary member of the Club. CARRIED unanimously with applause.

SHOW AND TELL:
Peter/VK4PQ - advised that he had recently installed a SenseCap Solar Powered Mesh-Core Node at his home QTH in Kelso - being seen by other nodes in the region.
Ben/VK4YT - told about recent buy of some mini tripods for field antenna deployment from ebay - $30 each.

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING:
Accept the minutes for the October 2026 Management Meeting as printed in Back-scatter.
Motion 202611002 moved to be accepted by Andrew/VK4CHG and seconded by Stephen/VK4AEX – CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:
- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:
Inwards. 14 articles, Outwards. 5 articles, as detailed in the Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:
- Ergon Energy – Mt Stuart Electricity October 2026
- QLD Govt Office of Fair Trading – Annual Return Forms 2026
- RSGB – Radcom Magazine October 2026
- WIA – Amateur Radio Magazine Vol.94 Nr 5 2026
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for November Management meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for November Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for November Management Meeting
- Wayne Giebel VK4WSG – Report for November Management Meeting
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting, Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries – Back-scatter October 2026
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- Ross Ramm VK4RO – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Ashley Russell VK4FUU – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Philip Strom VK4HSV – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Roger Cordukes VK4CD – Proxy for 2026 Annual General Meeting
- Silent Key Notice Eldon Bryant VK4GUN
- Hunter Hoodcamp VK4HPH - Membership Application
- Gary Gregory VK1ZZ – Notification of the formation of the Charters Towers Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Motion 202611003 Accept the Secretary's Report.
Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB – CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM SECRETARY REPORT:
- Gary Gregory VK1ZZ – Notification of the formation of the Charters Towers Amateur Radio Club Inc.
  Included 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 202611004 Accept the Treasurer's Report.
Moved by Peter/VK4PQ, Seconded by Iain/VK4IGM – 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 – full 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 holding their Christmas Party at the Millchester Motor Sports Facility on Saturday 7th November starting around 2-30pm, with some meat and drinks and nibblies being arranged, however if you have special dietary requirements then BYO.
2027 Regional Comms Support Ents 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 – Nil

2026 Comms Support Events so far – With the Comms Support Events Calendar for 2026 completed, I would like to thanks the following people for help during the year: Ian Morrison/VK4IGM, Doris and Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG, Andrew Hawken VK4CHG, Snow Herodes/VK4ME, Ashley Russell/VK4FUU, Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM, Darrin Archer/VK4XC/VK4 , Gary Crothers/VK4CUZ, Les Steel/VK4ALS, Hairy Richard Stone/VK4ZMB, Gary Gregory/VK1ZZ, Ben Pearce/VK4YT, Bob Ronai/VK4BOB, Charlie Jones. Without your help the events we support would lose their safety and logistic operability.
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 – apology for the meeting

STATION MANAGERS REPORT:
- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
- Club Station gear - functioning well.
- Club Mt Stuart gear - functioning well. 2m voice repeater good, 70cm voice repeater good, UHF CB repeater online, APRS digipeater good. MeshCore LoRa repeater operating well. 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 except the 6metre one which is slightly off frequency (thanks Dr Lloyd/VK4FP for spotting this) and also have to install the 10m/6m dipole when spare time permits.

- North Queensland Net - All nets going good, participation is great. More thunderbumpers and static heralding the return to summer operating conditions, more solar storms causing period fading.
- Much more treasure has been donated, many thanks

LIBRARIAN REPORT:
- Ashley/VK4FUU - all going well with many magazines available for members to peruse or lend.

FACILITIES CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Phil/VK4HSV – apologies for the meeting.

LADIES GROUP CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
- Lyndall/VK4ZM, reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ :
The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 27th October 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/VK4TUB
Coping with Daylight Saving. 18C currently. Was able to go out to sea on a catamaran during the week to do some whale watching (had to put it off before due to rough weather). This time the weather was excellent.
Thinking about some more projects to tackle, including either fixing or replacing the 11 year old weather station which is starting to break down. Also pondering an outdoor antenna for 80/40/20metres, might make a magnetic loop with a motorised capacitor that can be tuned remotely. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Bruce/VK2QRT, Sans Scouci, Sydney NSW, Australia via Echolink/VK2QRT/VK4TUB
Recovering from JOTA which happened a couple of weekends ago. Doing some woodwork things around the home. Great to chat to some Townsville Stations again. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Darrin/VK4XC, Mount Isa, Western QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4XC/VK4TUB
Have successfully tuned the mobile whip to 3605kHz with a very high Q. Went to try it out last Sunday on the NQ Net but band conditions were very noisy, so went AllStarLink instead. The MeshCore repeater on Telecom Hill is offline again, suspect a faulty solar panel. Have to wait for a break in the weather before replacing the repeater at the site with a working one. Ryan/VK4DAT has put up a few MeshCore nodes about town. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Ryan/VK4DAT, Mount Isa, Western QLD, Australia via AllStarLink/VK4DAT/VK4TUB
Checking in and out but listening into the net.

Bob/VK4BOB, Longreach, Central West QLD, Australia via Echolink/VK4BOB/VK4TUB
Fairly wet weather to the east. In the caravan park for a few days – the park has closed off and taking no further bookings for now. Been doing POTA activations all around the place and hope to activate the local park near the Thompson River tomorrow. Hoping to make it to Brisbane to rendezvous with a ham from overseas. Will wait here a few days and decide which way is safest to go. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Tim/BI4PPJ, Zhuhai Residential District, Huangdao, Qingdao, Shandong, China via Echolink/BI4PPJ/VK4TUB
Mobile about Qingdao with a passenger onboard doing a long taxi transfer. Nice weather here, currently 20C and no accidents! (we heard Tim's passenger in the background and we sent a cheerio!) Happy Birthday to Lyndall.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were:

Snow/VK4ME & Sharon, Kirwan, North QLD, Australia
Toiling away with the yard work and heavy sessions with the Pilates. Doing a bit of HF DX here and there (worked Brazil on HF during this net). Desert Roses are seeding out well. Wanted – a 10 element VHF Yagi to assist with the VHF DXing. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Andrew/VK4CHG & Cassie, Mount Louisa, North QLD, Australia
Trying out some new things with the rigs and antennas. Studies continue for the licence upgrade, doing the courses run by RES. Updating the frequency database used to program the handhelds. Gave some exercise advise to Ben. Gave some AI handling advice to Peter. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Ben/VK4YT & Jo, Kelso, North QLD, Australia
Did some contacts during the weekend on the CQ WorldWide SSB Contest, congratulations to the big numbers stations. Getting big static crashes on 80 and 40metres. Started doing some exercising, ramping it up slowly. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

Peter/VK4PQ & Ruth, Kelso, North QLD, Australia
The Desert Roses are sending out heaps of seeds here too! Attended a Zoom teleconference last night as part of the Redcliffe ARC TechNight with the subject being The Dangers of Electricity from a Medical Perspective. The session was recorded so it should be available online on youtube soon. Been concentrating on a big programming project and also learning how to handle AI at the same time – found that the AI engine tends to forget what transpired in the previous session and has to be reminded. Happy Birthday Lyndall!

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

Gavin/VK4ZZ, Vincent, North QLD, Australia
Recovering from JOTA at the District Camp a couple of weeks back. Youth Members were extremely enthusiastic and had boundless energy! Did some behind the scenes jobs for the 60th Anniversary Dinner for the Rotary Club of Port of Townsville which was held at the Drill Hall last Saturday Night. Cross-banding locally on 146.550Mhz onto the UHF Repeater (got reports from Ben and Peter that they were receiving the VHF side of things).
Said hi to Tim's passenger – advised that his voice was heard in Australia. Happy Birthday Lyndall! (what did I give her for the birthday pressie? a fully programmed up Radtel RT920 transceiver. Every YL should have one!)

The net concluded at 1040UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe return for the net in November.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 24th November and then on Tuesday 22nd December at 0930UTC on the Townsville UHF Voice Repeater incorporating the VK4TUB AllStarLink 46740 and Echolink 837219 nodes. Remember too that the Tech on the Air net will be happening on Tuesday 29th December from 0930UTC then with a bonus edition on Tuesday 19th January 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 was held on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th October with weather conditions varying from sunny to rainy.
Some of our members were involved with activities both at the District Scout complex at Camp Tarmaroo and the District Guides Training Centre both near Bluewater northwest of Townsville.

Helping over 140 youth members comprising of Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers Rovers plus a team of Leaders and Parent Helpers were the Amateur Radio Specialists – Richard VK4PQV and Wallaby Bob VK4WJ running a multi-band HF transmitting station located under the verandah of the dormitory block and consisting of Richard's ICOM IC706MK2G transceiver hooked to the VK4ZZ multi-band off-centre fed dipole antenna strung across the Parade Ground, and Lyndall VK4ZM and Gavin VK4ZZ running a fully portable operation at the Kirwan Scouts Linger Longer camp area consisting of a Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) guided activity, a phonetics guided operation, a self-driven Morse sending and receiving activity and a self-driven HF listening post using 3 receivers hooked to long wire antennas. HF conditions at the transmitting station were variable to not the best at times however there were a few good contacts between the scouts and venturers with stations far afield. The morse keys and receivers took a hammering but survived the weekend and the radio-active pineapple was found several times. Scout Leader Bilby ran the JOTI side of things with 10 laptops hooked up to Starlink. He had also made up a number of morse keys made with paddle pop sticks hooked up to batteries and LEDs.

Meantime at the Guides operation around 30 youth members comprising of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers along with Leaders and Parent Helpers were aided by Amateur Radio specialists Wayne VK4WSG and Hairy Richard VK4ZMB with guided activities on HF Radio and STEM Discoveries throughout the weekend. Wayne had an end-fed multi-band HF Antenna strung up between two tall tripods that worked really well, with 7 countries worked including a Chinese station and an Italian station (there were youth members on camp that could speak Chinese and Italian). Hairy Richard tried to make contact with the International Space Station but had no success.

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

WEBMASTER REPORT:
* Wayne/VK4WSG reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ:
All patches have been maintained. All weekly news and Backscatter uploaded. Details for AGM are on the news page. Site functioning with no issues.

EDITOR BACKSCATTER REPORT:
- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported:
The November issue will close for articles on Thursday afternoon 12th, then with the security clamp down currently in place be sent to the Senator's Office electronically on Monday 16th for the limited print run publishing. Thanks for those who have submitted items (definitely watch out for the MeshCore article this issue) – please keep them rolling in!

TRANSMISSION OFFICER & CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:
(our transmission officers are Richard/VK4FRJG, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Denis/VK4AE, Peter/VK4PQ, Ben/VK4YT, Gavin/VK4ZZ)
- Richard/VK4PQV reported:
For the month of October, the WIA National News and Q-news transmission and call-backs were done by Peter VK4PQ. The news section of the North Queensland Net retransmission and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV.

For the month of November, the WIA National News and Q-news transmission and call-backs will be done from 9am by Richard VK4PQV with the only exception that, due to theTARCinc AGM been held on Sunday 22 November 2026 at 8-30am, the WIA National News and Qnews transmission and callbacks will be commencing at 1.00pm.
The news section of the North Queensland Net retransmission 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 continuing with their help to produce 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:
- Two big ham events in Australia clash – the Tassie Ham-E-Con happens on 7-8 November and the Gold Coast ARS Hamfest happens on Sunday 8th November.
- WIA has issued its Strategic Priorities 2026-2027 which details what the organisation with support from the affiliated clubs will concentrate on for the next year.
- WIA is calling for nominations for Directors of the organisation, with any voting if required during early 2027.
- WIA is recommending to all Australian RadioAmateurs to subscribe to the online ACMA Amateur Radio newsletter to keep abreast of happenings that can affect the Australian Amateur Radio Service, with the link available on the WIA Website.
- Modulating the Noise – WIA highlights developments by researchers at Stanford University to communicate utilising already present noise, article available on the WIA website.

FACEBOOK MASTER REPORT:
- Paul/VK4ICA had no report for this month.

FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT:
- will report at the 2026 AGM.

Motion 202611005 moved by Les/VK4ALS to accept tabled Ex-Officio Reports and Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG.
- CARRIED unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Announcement of the Formation of the Charters Towers Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Gavin/VK4ZZ read the following announcing the formation of a new Amateur Radio Club in North Queensland.
Townsville Amateur Radio Club Inc. Attn: Mr Gavin Reibelt
TARC Secretary

Dear Sir,

I am writing to advise theTARCinc that we (founding members) have formed the Charters Towers Amateur Radio Club Inc. to comply with the NQMS constitution with regard to an area allocation for Not For Profit Clubs to enable permanent status for the Amateur Radio Communications Base on top of the hill at Millchester Motor Sports Complex.

The minutes of our first meeting will reflect the aims of the new Club as well as address the original grant generously provided to NQMS by theTARCinc in the amount of $2,500.00 to get needed infrastructure installed as well as a full list of club assets which will added to as more infrastructure is carried out.

As per our Club Constitution, all these assets will go to theTARCinc should the Club be wound up in the future. Personally, I would like to acknowledge all who have contributed to the site here.

VK4FIBW Ian (Chubby) for his provision of transport to bring a donated tower from Cairns plus one other 15m tower transported all the way out here plus extensive labour to get it up. Ian also invested considerable funds to acquire HF antennas for the site as well as provided a tower from his collection for 2m and 70cm antennas. Please forgive me Ian if I missed anything else, without your help, this site would not as good as it is today.

VK4ME Guido (Snow) without your advice from day one this site would have not become a reality. Thankyou Guido.

VK4PQ Peter, thank you for the vote of confidence that the idea that Guido and Glen Nielsen (VK4GDN) put forward had your support and I sincerely hope you are happy with the accounting of theTARCinc Grant and complies with your expectations with regard to fiscal responsibility as theTARCinc Treasurer.

VK4ZZ Gavin, your advice along the journey here demands a huge thank you also. Your vision and sage advice is always appreciated. Thank you Gavin.

VK4GDN Glen, whether it was Glen or Snow who first suggested the setup of this site is not as important as the fact they spoke out about doing this and today the journey continues. Glen has been a mainstay of this new Club well before its inception. His many skills have been provided voluntarily many many times, way more times than I could list here, thank you Glen.

VK4MSS Mal who provided us with a 10m free standing tower that now has a Hazer built by Glen (VK4GDN) as it provides a tower that can be used to test many HF, VHF and UHF antennas easily because of the tower construction and the fitting of the hazer. Thankyou Mal.

VK4XA Jeff for his donation of a 2kw Dummy Load from Palstar. It gets used a lot (albeit not at its rated maximum) plus Jeff's knowledge with antenna design and tuning has also been of great assistance to all of us involved out here.

With notification from Office of Fair Trading today, I will keep on with the formal application to the WIA for Registered Club Status as well as formal application to NQMS as I understand the job is never complete without the paperwork in order, so more work to be done.

To theTARCinc membership as a whole, there is a basic camping area at the Club site where they are welcome to stop by, camp if they are self-sufficient and are welcome to plug into any of the antennas here.
Currently, 80M Dipole, 40M Dipole, 10 thru 80M vertical, 10,15,20M 5 element Yagi, 12,17M 5 element Yagi are operating now. Re-installation of the full size 80M DX Engineering 68ft vertical and 40M 4 square will be on air in time for Xmas holidays. These are not antennas I can do alone but I have a "volunteer" coming to provide support. VK4VHY will be here in time to get this work complete, no pressure John.

Finally, to theTARCinc members who selflessly provide their time to come and support the NQORA off road racing events, it is always a pleasure to see you out here providing a service to the community and hopefully our new club will be able to add some new blood to the events throughout the year.

I will provide a ground map of the facility here as soon as can but I am reliant on others to help out to create an accurate map layout and I am sure we can get this done in a reasonable time frame.

Sincerely, Gary Gregory VK1ZZ
Media Contact Pro Tem

Upcoming Event Updates
Gavin/VK4ZZ detailed the following and gathered more numbers:
AGM – 22nd November. Thanks to everyone who have either advised their attendance or provided proxy forms with apologies for the meeting. Attending so far – VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, VK4ME, VK4PQ, VK4WSG, VK4PQV, VK4IGM, VK4PAL, VK4CHG, VK4YT, VK4OO, VK4AEX, VK4ZMB, VK4BRM
Apology with Proxy – VK1ZZ, VK4MSS, VK4CMW, VK4RO, VK4FUU, VK4HSV, VK4CD,
XMAS Party – 13th December
Attending so far - Sharon & ME, ZZ & ZM, PQV, PAL & IGM, FIBW & FCRH, Doris & WSG, Kerry & CMW, Jo & YT, Cassie & CHG, Nell Crabb, ZMB, BRMx2, Brenda & FUU
Australia Day Long Week Radio Camp – 23rd to 27th January - the Leaders Room has been booked. Kooka has made a cake to sample onsite. Attending so far - VK4ZM, VK4ZZ, VK4PQV, VK4PAL, VK4IGM,
Defence Welcome to Townsville Expo – 30th January
Attending so far – VK4IGM, VK4ZM, VK4ZZ, VK4PQV, VK4CHG,

Notification of proposed changes to the Constitution
Gavin/VK4ZZ – Changes to allow the Club to pay accounts by Electronic Transfer only have been detailed in the minutes of the October 2026 Management Meeting. A month has passed to allow consideration and to provide any further input to the changes. There was no further input at the meeting so the final modified Constitution to be put up for approval at the 2026 AGM. Finance Officer Phil Strom VK4HSV not able to be part of this years checking of the financial statements due to ongoing medical treatment it is necessary to elect an additional ex-officio Finance Officer to help with the checking. A check with Iain Morrison VK4IGM, who has auditing and treasury experience and skills indicates that he would be available to carry out the tasks for the position.
Motion 202611006 moved by Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV and seconded by Peter Harrex/VK4PQV to nominate Iain Morrison/VK4IGM to be elected as an additional Finance Officer to the Club. Iain Morrison accepted the nomination and the motion was - CARRIED unanimously.

A disturbance of the ether at Gallifrey
Iain/VK4IGM reported that recently there was a great disturbance in the radiofrequency spectrum centred around 7101.6kHz, wiping out the 40metre band for a little while. The event has not reoccurred since.

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.
There being no further business, Vice President Richard/VK4PQV closed the meeting at 2045h local time and wished everyone goodnight and a safe return to the next Monthly Management Meeting on the 1st December 2026.
Minutes Transcribed 13th November 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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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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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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- 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 Article.

During the Q&A session one of the questions with notice was from Ben/VK4YT who asked - 'what are the optimal distances between MeshCore repeaters and companion nodes.' Peter/VK4PQ has provided some information regarding this with the caveat that the information provided is of a general nature and not meant to be a regulatory requirement statement.

MeshCore LoRa Repeater System Brief:

Overview: This brief assesses the expected operational range and technical specifications for a MeshCore repeater deployed at 5m above ground level using an omnidirectional 3 dBi gain antenna in LoRa mode.

Core Technical Specifications Matrix:

Parameter	Typical Specification
RF Transceiver	Semtech SX1262 / LR1110 Architecture
Processing Core	Dual-core ESP32-S3 or ultra-low power nRF52840 MCU
Frequency Bands	Sub-GHz ISM (Industrial, Scientific & Medical Class Licence, 433MHz / 868MHz / 915MHz)
Output Power	Standard: 0.16W (22dBm) High-Power: 1.0W (30dBm) to 2.0W+
RX Sensitivity	Down to -137dBm (dependent on SF and bandwidth)
Power Profile	0.5W to 1.0W active draw; ideal for 5W off-grid solar deployment
Link Security	Protocol-level AES-256 end-to-end encryption

Environment Range Expectations (5m Base Repeater):

Dense Urban Zone (0.5 to 1.5km):
Heavily restricted by structural concrete and building canyons.
Suburban Neighbourhoods (1.5 – 5.0km):
Clears standard ground clutter like fences and single-storey structures.
Rural / Open Terrain (5.0 to 10.0km):
Flat landscapes maximize the broad 3dBi antenna radiation lobe.
Optimal Line-of-Sight (10.0 to 40.0+km): Realised exclusively between highly elevated nodes with clear airspace.

Asymmetrical Path to a 2m Companion Node:

When communicating with a handheld or low-post companion node at 2m above ground, proximity to terrain creates path asymmetry and ground-reflection losses. Expected link limits include:
Urban Grid: 300 to 800m
(signals struggle to penetrate street levels from above).
Suburban Coverage: 1.0 – 3.0km
(angles down effectively across residential blocks).
Open Rural Fields: 3.0 – 7.0km
(capped by the earth's curvature and low-level ground swells).
Elevated Vista Link: 10.0 – 15.0+km
(requires direct, unobstructed geometric line-of-sight).

ACMA Regulatory requirements:

(*This is a very brief summary. For full ACMA rules, please check their webpage*).
Limited to Maximum: 0.5 – 1.0W ERP
Frequency: 915 – 928Mhz

Companion Node settings:

Frequency	923.125MHz
Bandwidth	62.5kHz
Spreading Factor	8
Coding Rate	5
Transmit Power	22dBm

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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



Some Amateur Radio types at the Choral Aires Concert Sunday 25th October - Kaye, Jill, Ian/VK4ZT, Sheila/VK4PAL, Nell Crabb, Bob/VK4AAH, Iain/VK4IGM - and another friend.

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PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS : BIRTHDAYS



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

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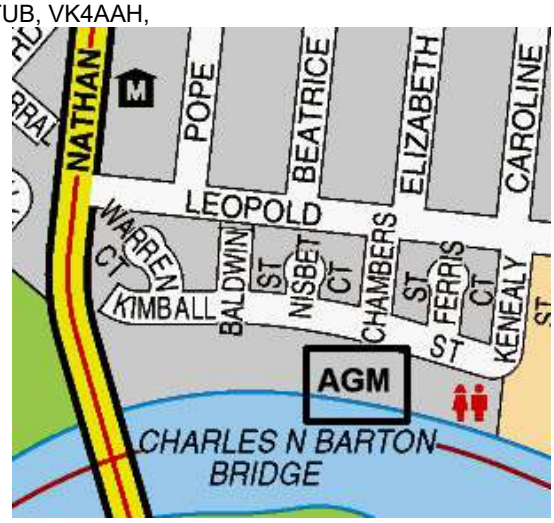
WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

28 Nov	Veen & Clyde VK4FCRH
1 Dec	Marion & Joe VK4AM
19 Dec	Leslie & Phil VK2JOK
21 Dec	Janet & Cedric VK7CL
12 Jan	Robyn and Denis 4AE,
15 Jan	Kaye and Bob 4AAH,
14 Mar	Wendy and Ray 4OIL,

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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. Bring a comfy chair, the bench seats aren't comfy.
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, VK4WSG, VK4PQV, VK4IGM, VK4PAL, VK4CHG, VK4YT, VK4OO, VK4AEX, VK4ZMB, VK4BRM, VK4WJ, VK4TUB, VK4AAH,



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theTARCinc XMAS Party

theTARCinc 2026 Christmas Party and Monster Auction happens on Sunday December 13th 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.

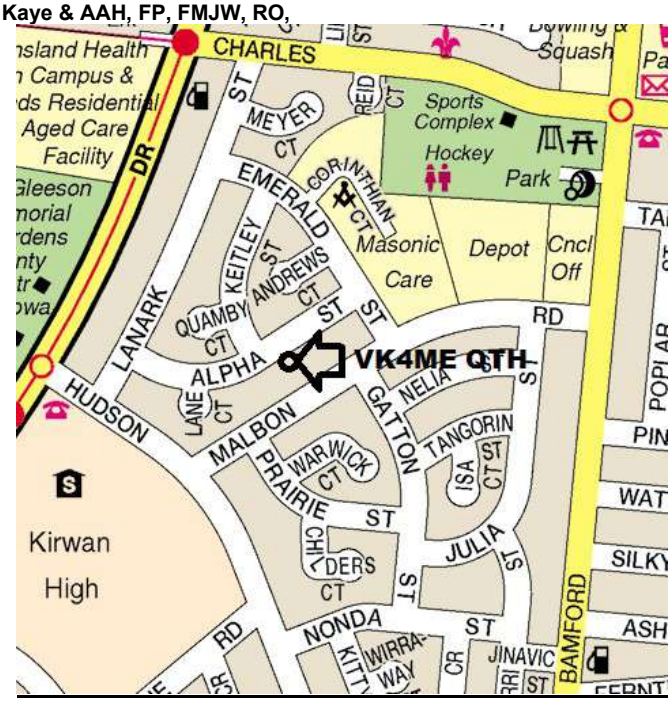
Here is a how get there –
- put your GPS-navigator in the stuff for the Monster Auction – it will only lead you astray anyway - and trundle to the intersection of Alpha Street and Emerald Street Kirwan.
- Turn into Alpha Street and proceed for a few revolutions and find somewhere to park near Number 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, Jo & YT, Cassie & CHG, Nell Crabb, Brenda & FUU, ZMB, BRM x 2, Jeanette & WJ, TUB, Kaye & AAH, FP, FMJW, RO,



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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

Historic Oonoonba WW2 Bomb Crater update
Hi to all once again from Ray/VK4OIL
I have just received the following message along with the 40page Heritage Proposal document which is available to be sent by email on request from here.

From: Kathrin Breitenstein
Tuesday, 3 November 2026 11:29 AM
Subject: The Village, Oonoonba - Historic Heritage Assessment

Good morning Ray

I understand you have been liaising with my Development Manager Josh who I work with on The Oonoonba project.

We recently engaged the services of a Heritage Advisor who prepared the attached report relating to the Bomb Crater and Silo which we thought might be of interest to you. Please find attached a copy for your information.

I will now be working with Townsville City Council to ensure that this site is included on the Local Heritage Register for future preservation and am happy to keep you informed of progress.

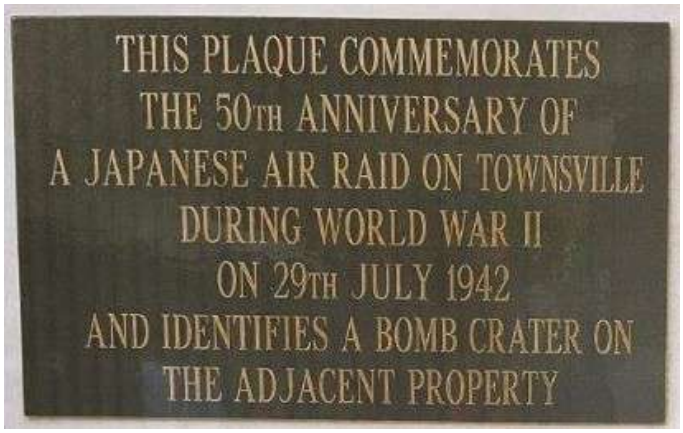
Kind regards

Kathrin Breitenstein
Assistant Development Manager
Housing Supply and Delivery
Economic Development Queensland

This is great news - according to the report the preservation of the bombing site has high merit and things are moving on to have the site recommended for the Local Heritage Register.

Please note that there are plans in 2027 to do portable activations of the bombing site on Sunday 25th April for ANZAC Day and also on Thursday 29th July for the Anniversary of the Bombing of Townsville.
Please note these dates and be prepared to support the activations, either by operating portable from the bombing site or being on air to contact the portable stations.

Kind regards, Ray VK4OIL.



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

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

Attending By Proxy with Apology: [17]
Gareth Davey/VK4GED, Jeff Cochrane/VK4XA, Clyde Hebbard/VK4FCRH, Ian Hebbard/VK4FIBW, Richard Goodhew/VK4PQV, Eldon Bryant/VK4GUN, Wendy Schinkel, Ray Schinkel/VK4OIL, Valerie Payn, Brad Payn, Roger Cordukes/VK4CD, John Colee/VK4JWC, Ron Ostrenski/VK4JBY, Cheryl Goldfinch/VK4FRYL, John Goldfinch/VK4FNQ, Ben Pearce/VK4YT, Ross Ramm/VK4RO.

Apologies: [12] Kerry Wright, Mick Wright/VK4CMW, Peter Renton, Mark Louez/VK4TSV, Ray HinksVK4LU, Tony Sutton/VK4TJS, Mike Patterson/VK4MIK, Ron Goodhew/VK4EMF, Sheila Morrison/VK4PAL, Peter Herodes/VK4PJH, Sammi Roden, Bill Walker.

Visitors: Nil.

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

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

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

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

New Members: Nil

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

Business arising from the previous AGM Minutes: Nil.

President's Report: 2025 President's Report was read to the meeting by Guido Herodes/VK4ME. Snow detailed the activities of the Club during the 2025 Club year and thanked members for their efforts and support during the year and wished the incoming committee all the best for the 2026 Club year.
Motion 2025AGM002 Moved by Guido Herodes/VK4ME and Seconded by Hugh Barlow/VK4AM that the 2025 President's Report be accepted. **CARRIED** unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: 2025 Treasurer Peter Harrex/VK4PQ presented the Treasurer's report, as checked by 2025 Finance Officer Phil Strom/VK4HSV and 2025 Finance Officer Bob Hinds/VK4AAH, to the meeting.
Motion 2025AGM003 Moved by Peter Harrex/VK4PQ and Seconded by Stephen O'Halloran/VK4AEX that the 2025 Treasurer's Report be accepted. **CARRIED** unanimously.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Continue AGM :
2026 President Guido Herodes/VK4ME assumed the role of Chair and thanked the previous years Management Committee and Ex-officio members and wished the incoming Management Committee well for the year to come.
The Chairman then thanked Hugh Barlow/VK4AM for conducting the election of the Management Committee and members accorded a round of acclamation for those duties.

Membership Fees:
After discussion amongst the meeting, taking into account the Treasurer's Report and recommendations that fees could remain the same as in 2025,
Motion 2025AGM006 Moved by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG and Seconded by Rowan Tew/VK4TEW that the 2025 Membership Fees be set as follows. **CARRIED** unanimously.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion 2025AGM009 Moved by Wayne Giebel/VK4WSG and Seconded by Rowan Tew/VK4TEW that the Club maintain affiliation with the Queensland State Emergency Service, Townsville Division. **CARRIED** unanimously.
Motion 2025AGM010 Moved Gavin Reibelt/VK4ZZ and Seconded by Wallaby Bob Mann/VK4WJ that the Club maintain affiliation with the CW Operators' QRP Club Inc. **CARRIED** unanimously.

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

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

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

General Business: Nil
Further General Business: Nil

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

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

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Remember to support the Bowen Radio Amateur Group raffle at the 2026 TARC Xmas Party for the chance to win this fantastic Scratchie XMAS Tree!

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

November
- 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
- NQORA QLD Championship Short Course Comms Support Millchester - Sat 17 and Sun 18 April
- 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
- NQORA Patto's 7 Hour Enduro Off Road Racing Millchester - Sat 26th June
- 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
- NQORA King of the North Long Circuit Off Road Racing Millchester - Sat 24 and Sun 25 July
- 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

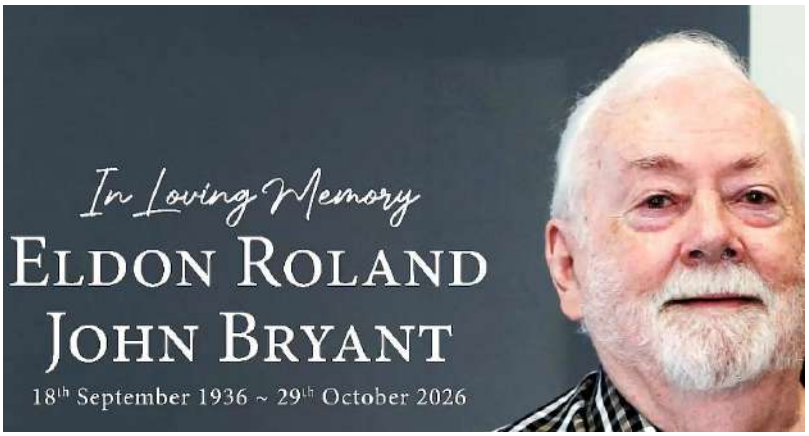
August
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 3rd August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 10th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 17th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- NQORA Gold City Challenge Short Course Off Road Racing Millchester - Sat 21 and Sun 22 August
- 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 on rally special stages
- 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
- NQORA Lucky Dip Long Course Off Road Racing Millchester - Sat 9th and Sun 10th October
- TARC Project Night - Tue 12th October from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End

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MATMAN VK4GUN Silent Key





Attending Matman's funeral on Wednesday 11th November 2026 were Bob/VK4AAH, John/VK4JWC, Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB, Ian/VK4ZT, Sheila/VK4PAL, Ian/VK4IGM. Les/VK4ALS, Denise/VK4FCDB, Jeanette & Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Louise & Roger/VK4CD, Wendy & Ray/VK4OIL, Gavin/VK4ZZ, Richard/VK4PQV and with the RSL Townsville contingent Gary/VK4OO.



1971 - Eldon & Roslyn in Brisbane - Eldon sporting the WIA Blazer



2007 - Eldon getting ready for some Coast Guard Radio Duty



2007 - at the Cardwell Gathering, with Lorne/VK4TLB, Mike/VK4MIK, Matman & Jessica as his runner





1976 - Don's Business Card



1995 - The Sign at the Matcave



2024 - in the Radio Shack at McLeod Avenue



2007 - Nick/VK4ZXX & Phil/VK4HSV installing Matman's Isotrons.

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!