

theTARcinc Events Calendar

June

- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tsvl UHF Repeater & TubbyNet Tuesday 23rd June starts 7-30pm
- NQORA Pato's 7 Hour Enduro Off Road Racing – Sat 27 June to Sun 28 June - Millchester MSRC
- MARA Valley Riders Dee Jay Arabians Denison Creek Rides - Sat 27th to Sun 28th June
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 30th June from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

July

- TARC displays Amateur Radio at the Dam Fine Rally, Kelso - Sat 4th July
- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday 7th July starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night Tuesday 14th July starts 7-30pm
- B2B Paluma Push Horsie Rides Comms Support Sat 18 to Sun 19 July - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening Tuesday 21st July starts 7-30pm
- NQORA Charters Towers Short Circuit Off Road Racing – Sat 25th to Sun 26th July - Millchester MSRC
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tsvl UHF Repeater & TubbyNet Tuesday 28th July starts 7-30pm
- TARC Anniversary Activation of Oonoonba WW2 Bomb Crater – Wed 29th July from 2pm 7100kHz

August

- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 1 to Sun 2 August
- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday 4th August starts 7-30pm
- TARC Project Night Tuesday 11th August from 7-30pm
- WRERA Bowen River Horse Endurance Rides Fri arvo 14th to Sun 16th August – near Collinsville
- TOWSA Magnetic Island to Townsville Swim Comms Support – Sat 15th August from 5-30am Strand Beach
- TARC Social Evening Tuesday 18th August starts 7-30pm
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tsvl UHF Repeater & TubbyNet Tuesday 25th August starts 7-30pm

September

- TARC Management Meeting Tuesday 1st Sept starts 7-30pm
- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support Sat 5 to Sun 6 Sept - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Project Night Tuesday 8th September from 7-30pm

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

GLOBAL RADIO EVENTS

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

place
170 CENT stamp
here

SURFACE
MAIL



Member Subs
Payable by 30 June 2026
Details inside

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

BACKSCATTER

June 2026



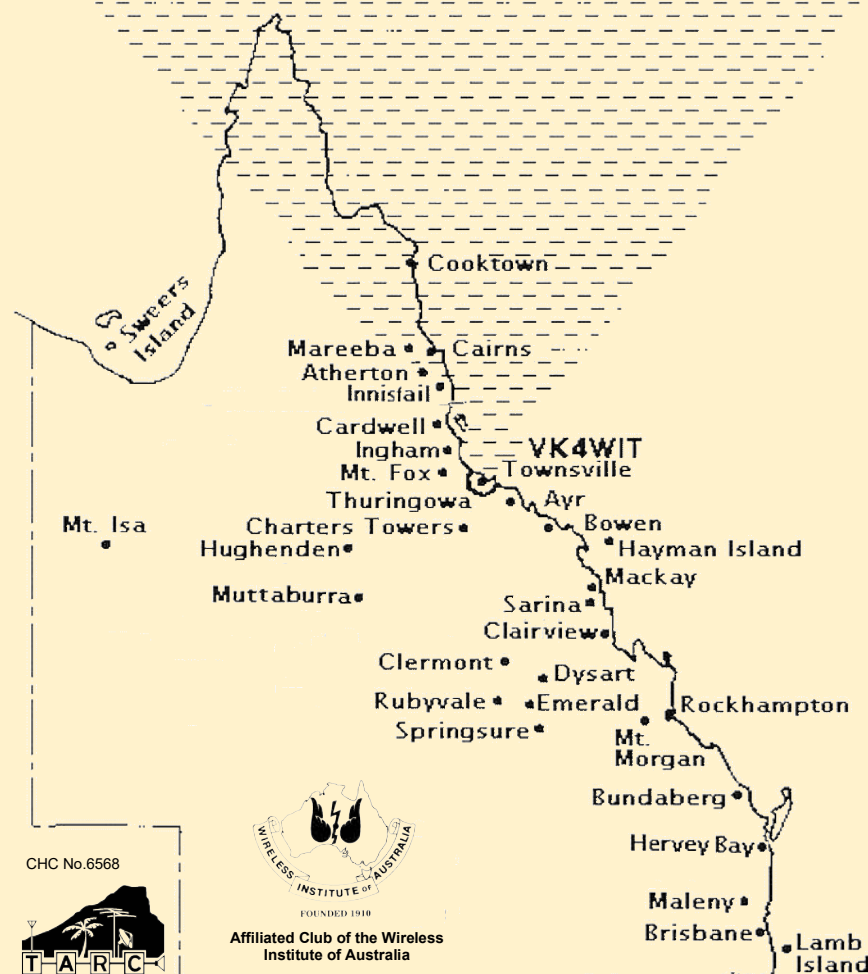
SISTER CLUB
BY4RSA NANJING

WICEN
The Amateur Radio
Communications group for
EMERGENCIES



BACK – SCATTER

THE MAGAZINE OF RENOWN – SINCE JANUARY 1969



CHC No.6568



Affiliated Club of the Wireless
Institute of Australia

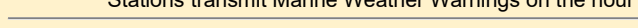
OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF

THE TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

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

VK4WIT-VK4ATV-VK4RAT-VK4RTL

AMATEUR RADIO – our towers may be your LIFELINE in emergencies – June 2026





ATTENDING: At the Club Rooms
VK4's. ZZ, PQV, IGM, TEW, FUDO, FUU,
ME, CHG, ZMB

ATTENDING: via Zoom Session ID – 796 5168 7343
VK4's XC, YT, OIL, XA

VISITORS: Charlie Jones, Tom Newton/VK4KS.

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

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

SILENT KEYS: Nil

NEW MEMBERS: Nil

SHOW AND TELL:

Udo/VK4FUDO – presented a Yaesu G450 medium duty rotator (minus controller and cables) to the meeting as a giveaway to a good home (rotator resides in strong room, must attend a meeting to claim).

Snow/VK4ME – demonstrated the new improved Snow-Dawg HF loading coil – now wound with enamel coated copper with enamel coating removed at the contact plane. Tested in the field on 40 and 80metres and works much better than the stainless steel wire wound version.

Ben/VK4YT – showed off the newly installed solar house system complete with big battery and custom data reporting system.

ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

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

Motion 202606001 moved to be accepted by Richard/VK4PQV and seconded by Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB – CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Nil

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Inwards. 10 articles, Outwards. 7 articles, as detailed in the Correspondence Log with the most noteworthy being:

- ACMA – Licence Renewals for VK4RAT, VK4RTL, TAC08
- Peter/VK4PQ – Treasurer Subs Renewal Notice sent to members
- Gavin/VK4ZZ – Update of Mount Stuart Repeaters details sent to WIA-TAC
- WIA Club Liaison Officer – Notification of WIA Webinar Sunday 14th June
- RSGB – Radcom Magazine May 2026
- Mt Isa and District Amateur Radio Group Inc. – June Newsletter
- Richard Goodhew VK4PQV – Reports for June Management meeting
- Lyndall Reibelt VK4ZM – Report for June Management Meeting
- Peter Harrex VK4PQ – Report for June Management Meeting
- Ray Schinkel VK4OIL – Report for June Management Meeting
- TARC Financial Members – Notifications for Management Meeting, Project Night and Social Evening
- TARC Financial & Honorary Members & Complementaries – Back-scatter May 2026

Minutes of Management Meeting Held on the 2nd of June 2026 at the Club Rooms SES HQ, Green Street, West End

The TOWNSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

- TARC Financial Members – Mount Isa Amateur Radio Group Inc June Newsletter
- TARC Financial Members – Management Meeting Agenda so far
- TARC Financial Members – Comms Plan B2B Autumn Escalade Horse Endurance Ride
- TARC Financial Members – Comms Plan WRERA Euri Gold Tropical Winter Horse Endurance Ride
- Phil Fraser VK4BVM – Resignation of Membership effective 1st July 2026
- Jens Grigul VK4PE – Resignation of Membership effective 1st July 2026

Motion 202606002 Accept the Secretary's Report. Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG – CARRIED unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM SECRETARY REPORT:

- Nil

TREASURER'S REPORT:

On behalf of Peter/VK4PQ, Gavin/VK4ZZ presented the Treasurers Report to the meeting and asked for questions before asking the meeting to accept the report.

Motion 202606003 Accept the Treasurer's Report. Moved by Gavin/VK4ZZ, Seconded by Jeff/VK4XA – CARRIED unanimously.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

ASSESSMENTS CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
 - ACMA runs the Amateur Radio Assessors Service.
 - Specialist Assessors available for remote or online assessments are
 - Laurie Pritchard/VK4BLE in Brisbane on 0411413588,
 - Ron Bertrand/VK2DQ on Gold Coast on 0426771808,
 - Gail Lidden/VK4ION in Bundaberg on 0410121345,
 - General Assessors available for face to face assessments in the regions
 - Stuart Dunk/VK4SDD in Malanda on 0407700096,
 - Bob Ronai/VK4BOB in Cairns on 0438323737,
 - Howard Small/VK4BS in Cairns on 0425825799,
 - Darrin Archer/VK4XC in Mount Isa on 0418981353,
 - Eric Baker/VK2TRD in Mount Isa on 0427703693,
 - Lyndall Reibelt/VK4ZM in Townsville on 0427688014,
 - Roy Moore/VK4RM in Sarina on 0409597410,
 - Clive Sait/VK4ACC in Rockhampton on 0429632815,
 - Ray Dobinson/VK4XXX in Rockhampton on 07 49281219
 - Lawrie Ellis/VK4LE in Gladstone on 0477166712
- If you do not get an answer on these numbers, be sure to leave a message otherwise, you will be treated as a bogus caller and possibly blocked.

Lyndall/VK4ZM conducted a Foundation Assessment while at the Clairview Gathering. The young and keen candidate was successful and has achieved callsign VK4AJY and is being heard very well on the Mackay repeater VK4RBY.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Gavin VK4ZZ reported :
- Callouts – Nil

Communications Support –

Sat 16 to Sun 17 May

- Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Autumn Escalade Horse Endurance Rides 5/20/40/80 - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park Operators were VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, VK4ME, VK4CHG. With Lyndall/VK4ZM at Ride Base liaising with Chief Steward Robyn and Ride Secretary and Chief Cook Karlee things went nice and smooth for the first ride of the year based out of the North Queensland Equestrian Centre at Bluewater Park. Snow/VK4ME set up at Waynes World checkpoint with

the Bambino van in comfy surrounds and apart from keeping track of the competitors on the 40km leg was able to do some more experimenting with the V-Dipoles, making some good HF contacts during the ride. Andrew/VK4CHG established his checkpoint at Ron's Gate and looked after the 20km leg of the ride while setting up and experimenting with a low power HF station with vertical antenna. It was Andrew's first comms support event and he went very well, eventually running out of riders and horsies to look after and was able to close down the checkpoint before sunset Saturday. He went back to Ride Base and helped Lyndall out and met lots of the B2B and horsie people. Gavin/VK4ZZ set up at the Grid checkpoint usually administered by Iain/VK4IGM and spent time catching up on correspondence (until Saturday evening when the insects took a liking to the lighting) looking after everyone who came through the access gate beside the Grid and doing the occasional relay from Andrew to Ride Base when VHF conditions changed.

Snow and Gavin thoroughly enjoyed the home delivered Saturday Night meals made by B2B Volunteers while Lyndall and Andrew enjoyed their meals at the salubrious surrounds of Ride Base. The Sunday ride was a 40km one however Andrew came back out to Ride Base to help a bit, then visited Snow and Gavin in the field picking up a few more checkpoint tips. Visitors to the ride on the weekend included Les/VK4ALS and newly minted ham Robert, checking out how the ride and comms were going. At the Sunday Presentation event the Radio Operators were well thanked for supporting the ride, with the request to return to help at the next B2B ride happening on the weekend of 18-19 July.

Fri 29 May to Sun 31 May

- Whitsunday Regional Endurance Riding Assoc. 5/20/40/80km/Harness Tropical Winter Horse Endurance Rides - Euri Gold Farms near Bowen Operators attending were VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, VK4ME, VK4CUZ, VK4CHG. The operators were ready for cool nights for the weekend, however the 5C sunrise temperature on Saturday Morning at Ride Base and the 4C sunrise temperature on Sunday morning at Checkpoint Charlie were well below the BOM forecasts for the Bogie Range. However it is a Tropical Winter ride with lovely sunny days with a not so fierce Blowin Bowen wind and no sign of precipitation made up for the chills. Perfect riding weather with all horsies achieving 100% completion and the riders looking good even at the end of the rides. Lyndall/VK4ZM ran comms at Ride Base and liaised with Chief Steward Melissa and Ride Secretary Rhonda to keep the event running smoothly and enjoyed the mod cons and roaring campfire that Ride Base provides, along with being well fed by the WRERA volunteers. Running Checkpoint Flossie was Snow/VK4ME who had placed the Bambino van in a nice spot near the Boulders and successfully experimented with the V-Dipole array both on 40 and 80metres. He had no campfire this time, instead using a newly acquired electric bar heater which ran off the generator with plenty of ergs to spare for the other portable mod cons. Gary/VK4CUZ travelled up from Mackay and took up at Checkpoint Daria and had a bonus – the wire gate was open for the event so he didn't have to struggle with it. Instead he set up the glamping trailer on a fairly flat spot along with ample lighting and the very well equipped wood fired camp oven. He proceeded to start making coals for the planned roast dinner that all the operators were to attend on Friday evening. Andrew/VK4CHG arrived around 7pm after sorting some things out in Townsville, parked the car at Ride Base then travelled in the ElectroWagon with Lyndall and Gavin out to Checkpoint Daria where Gary and Snow had already dined. More roast dinner was served up, followed by dessert and some drinkies ending around 10pm with the night getting cooler. Andrew and Gavin camped for the night at Ride Base Comms position with Lyndall asking that they do not snore too much.

On Saturday morning Andrew travelled to Checkpoint Holly and set up a shady operating/sleeping location between the two gum trees near the entry to the property. He set up a successful HF station with a portable vertical antenna and made some good contacts during the ride while maintaining the gate out onto East Euri Road and the gate leading into the cattle paddock. Gavin travelled out to Checkpoint Charlie (usually manned by Iain/VK4IGM) and set up under the powerlines on a moonscape made by the cattle during the wet season. A VHF/UHF yagi was deployed so that all station could be heard from the remote location and portable cooking facilities put together for hot meals. The pretty LED string lights were put up and made a distinctive view of the checkpoint during the night. We were under instruction from the organisers to take many horsie pictures as there was no official photographer on course for the ride, some of the operators posted lots onto social sites so the riders could see what they looked like in the saddle 😊

The Saturday rides included 80km, 40km, 20km and 5km competitors while the Sunday rides included 40km and 20km competitors. Snow was going to stay an extra day but remembered he had a medical appointment on Monday, hopefully he can stay longer next time. At the Sunday presentations the operators were thanked by the organisers and riders plus a special presentation of WRERA can coolers was made and accepted by Gavin (with Snow and Gary yet to receive theirs). We were also asked to field some operators to help with the next ride which is happening out of the new location of the Bowen River Hotel on the weekend of 15th and 16th August.

2026 Comms Support - Notes on events –

Horsie Rides – WRERA are changing their venue for the horse endurance rides scheduled for 15th to 16th August from Euri Gold to be based at the Bowen River Hotel, with a 40km leg out to Terrible Creek and back and a 20km leg out to Hells Gate and back. After volunteers willing to travel out to near Collinsville and are willing to forge new checkpoints in new areas. HF might have to be used
Clashes - There is a clash of events on Saturday 15th August with the WRERA Bowen River Horsie Ride and the Maggie Island Swim happening on the same day. Also been advised by Panda that the 2026 Nighthawk, based around Reid Park and Railway Estate is happening from Saturday afternoon 18th to Sunday morning 19th July, clashing with the already programmed B2B Paluma Passion Bluewater Park Horsie Rides. Panda will be advising if the Nighthawk date can be moved, if not and with the current uptake from radio volunteers our participation in the 2026 Nighthawk event will not be happening.

2026 Comms Support Events so far -

Sat 27 to Sun 28 June

- NQORA Pato's 7 Hour Enduro Off Road Racing - Millchester MSRC near Charters Towers.

Operators so far – VK1ZZ, VK4ZMB, VK4ZM & VK4ZZ, Doris & VK4YWG, VK4BOB, VK4CHG with possibles Charlie Jones, VK4YT.

Sat 27 to Sun 28 June

- Valley Riders Endurance Riding Assoc. 2x20/2x40/1x80k (Ops by MARA Inc.) Dee Jay Arabians Horse Endurance Rides - Denison Creek near Nebo. Operators so far VK4CUZ, VK4HAN, Bruce, VK4JLK, many more operators needed.

Sat 18 to Sun 19 July

- Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Paluma Passion

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

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

Sat 25 to Sun 26 July

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

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

Sat 1 to Sun 2 August

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

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

Fri 14 to Sun 16 August

- Whitsunday Regional Endurance Riding Assoc. 40/80km Horse Endurance Rides – Bowen River Hotel near Collinsville.

Many more operators needed.

Sat 15 August

- Townsville Open Water Swimming Assoc. 2026 Magnetic Island to Townsville Open Water Swim - assemble from 5-30am Strand Park, Picnic Bay, Cleveland Bay. Operators so far - VK4FUU, VK4AAH, VK4IGM, VK4ZM, VK4ZZ, more operators needed.

Sat 5 to Sun 6 September

- Bush to Beach Endurance Ride Assoc. Spring Shore 5/10/20/40/80km Horse Endurance Rides - NQ Equestrian Centre Bluewater Park Operators so far VK4ZZ, VK4ZM, Doris & VK4WSG, VK4ME, many more operators needed.

Sat 19 to Sun 20 September

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

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

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

TECHNICIAN REPORT:

- Kerry/VK4TUB reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ

Mount Stuart Rack and Cabling refurbishment project part 1 has been completed with all work inside the Repeater Hut completed. There was also a timely failure of the power output amplifier module of the VHF Repeater (the fourth one during service life) with a decision made to replace the 10 year old unit with a new one. Thanks to Lynette at Vastcom for providing the new repeater at the right price and very quickly, the new unit was put into service with the 91.5Hz access tone programmed in as the essential power systems rewiring was completed. The replacement VHF repeater is currently running with 20W output, when time allows Tubby will customise the power output onsite to wind the output back to around 15watts.

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

STATION MANAGERS REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :

- Club Station gear - functioning well.

- Club Mt Stuart gear - functioning well. New 2m voice repeater good, 70cm voice repeater online, UHF CB repeater online, APRS digipeater good. 23cm Beacon good.

- Training for Assessments - Some training sessions for assessments took place during May, including one at the Clairview Gathering.

- VK4WIT Operations - A portable operation of VK4WIT took place in conjunction with the Clairview Gathering on Sunday 10th May when running the North Queensland Net from Site 40 at the BarraCrab Caravan Park.

- VK4ATV Operations - Nil portable operations took place during the last month.

- VK4ATV WSPR Beacons - Will be tuning up the dipole for 10m and 6m soon - tried at Clairview but had cut the antennas too short - now hoping to tune and install during June.

- North Queensland Net - All nets going good, participation is great with operators enjoying the quieter conditions.

- Much more treasure has been donated, much thanks to all.

- Remember to complete your installation of a 91.5Hz transmit tone into your rig to work into the VK4RAT VHF Repeater. Need help? contact one of the techie dudes in the club for assistance.

LIBRARIAN REPORT:

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

FACILITIES CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Phil/VK4HSV was an apology for the meeting.

LADIES GROUP CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Lyndall/VK4ZM, reported via Gavin/VK4ZZ :

The Ann Renton Memorial Net happened on Tuesday 26th May 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 starting the net list then handing over to Lyndall/VK4ZM as net control.

Via VOIP modes

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

Birthday was yesterday. It is raining today, typical Sydney autumn weather. Operating with the M1KE device tonight which is still going well after having a firmware update. Thinking about going to see Vivid Sydney during the week, hopefully they have fixed the bugs in the drone displays.

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

Checked in and said Hi and listened into the net while maintaining the link between the Cairns Hub and Tubby Net.

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

Checked in and said Hi and listened into the net.

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

New to Amateur Radio - licenced for 3 months and being helped a bit by hubby Tony/VK4XL. First net via the repeater and link combination. Thinking about acquiring Tony's ICOM IC-705 for own use. A bit chilly here during the last few days.

Michelle/VK4SHE, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB Yorkeys Knob Repeater/AllStarLink/CAIRNS-HUB/VK4TUB

Very new to Amateur Radio - licenced for a couple of weeks. Being helped a bit by hubby Doug/VK4FCR.

3 ladies with Foundation licences recently on the air. (Gavin gave Michelle the history of her callsign).

Doug/VK4FCR, Cairns, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB Yorkeys Knob Repeater/AllStarLink/CAIRNS-HUB/VK4TUB

Fairly new to Amateur Radio. Got the Foundation level then swotted hard to upgrade to Standard one week later. Thanks to everyone who have set up things for tonight.

Lyn/VK4SWE, Caravonica, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RNB Yorkeys Knob Repeater/AllStarLink/CAIRNS-HUB/VK4TUB

Still getting used to using repeaters and doing group activities after operating out of Sweers Island for a long time. Many Thanks to the guys who have set up the Yorkeys Knob Repeater and providing the links.

Rojna/VK1MUM, Kuranda, Far North QLD, Australia via VK4RCA Kuranda Repeater/AllStarLink/CAIRNS-HUB/VK4TUB

Very new to Amateur Radio. Many Thanks for having me on the net

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

Thanks to Ben/VK4YT for mentioning about this net and to Steve/VK4SJB for arranging the link-up. The ladies are going great tonight! Looks like I have lost the ICOM IC-705 to Lisa.

Via the Townsville UHF repeater were:

Snow/VK4ME, Kirwan, North QLD, Australia

Refurbishing the HF Antenna Farm - new wire rope for guys has arrived, masts and cross-arms all repainted and ready for another 25years of operation. Replacing the co-ax feedlines then raising the antennas and back on HF again. Preparing the Bambino for the Euri Gold Horsie Ride happening this weekend. Shazza got me a single bar heater which can be used on the generator so will be nice and toasty. Don't forget the Foxhunt on Saturday 6th June from 1pm at Ross Park - bring your comfy chairs and let us know you are coming for catering purposes.

Ben/VK4YT, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Busy at work and at home. Solar panels and battery installed, working out how to do real time monitoring of the system. So far the solar system is silent HF-wise, been listening around the bands for any sign of interference.

Enjoying the quick commute on the motorbike, it's good riding weather. Going to the Rotary North Queensland Field Days on Saturday to have a look at the big machinery.

Peter/VK4PQ, Kelso, North QLD, Australia

Playing with D-Star learning the ins and outs through the hotspot. Participated in last night's Redcliffe Amateur Radio Club TechNet via Teams, was a good session. Hope those heading to comms support at Euri Gold have a good weekend.

Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ, Cranbrook, North QLD, Australia

Been a while since he has been on the net. Rare DX Call! Refining the setup in the shack after a few changes.

Gavin/VK4ZZ, Vincent, North QLD, Australia

He was mobile for a bit during the net. Gave a run down on what ARDF is all about and amplified Snow's call for numbers for Saturday 6th June for catering. Congratulated all the recent successful candidates for getting on-air and defeating the microphone shyness. Thanked Steve/VK4SJB for the work done to link the CAIRNS-HUB to the TubbyNet for the net. Noted the net had a presidential theme with Steve, president of the Cairns Club and Snow, president of the Townsville Club both on the net. Great to hear lots of YLs on the net and thanked Lyn/VK4SWE for the behind the scene efforts to get the ladies on-air.

The net concluded at 1105UTC after the ta ta round was completed and the Net Controller wished everyone a safe return for the net in June. CAIRNS-HUB controller Steve/VK4SJB noted that he should be able to link to the Tubby Net for the next Ann Renton Memorial Net.

The next ARMN will be happening on Tuesday 23rd June and then on Tuesday 28th July at 0930UTC on the Townsville UHF Voice Repeater incorporating the VK4TUB AllStarLink 46740 and Echolink 837219 nodes. Remember too that the Tech on the Air net will be happening on Tuesday 30th June from 0930UTC then on Tuesday 29th September on the Townsville VHF repeater incorporating the VK4PQ AllStarLink 49806 and Echolink 956580 nodes along with the VK4GDN AllStarLink 54043 145.145MHz Node.
73's Lyndall/VK4ZM

JOTA CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Richard/VK4PQV reported:
Jamboree On The Air and Jamboree On The Internet will be happening this year 17/18 October.
Kennedy Region Scouts this year should be having a Regional JOTA/JOTI camp at Camp Tamaroo Bluewater.
Operators will be needed.
Flinders Region Guides will be holding their event at the Guides QLD Camp and Training Site in Toolakea Beach Rd Bluewater and will need operators.

QSL CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

- Ashley/VK4FUU reported :
- No new dispatches received. The last batch for VK4XA will be delivered this month.

EDITOR BACKSCATTER REPORT:

- Gavin/VK4ZZ reported :
The June issue will close for articles on Friday afternoon 12th, then with the security clamp down currently in place be sent to the Senator's Office electronically on Monday 15th for the limited print run publishing. Thanks for those who have submitted items – please keep them rolling in!

TRANSMISSION OFFICER & CO-ORDINATOR REPORT:

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

- Richard/VK4PQV reported:
For the Month of May 2026 the WIA and Q-news transmission and call-backs along with the North Queensland Net news retransmissions and call-backs were done by Richard VK4PQV, except on Sunday 3rd May when the WIA and Q-news transmission and call-backs were done by Peter/VK4PQ while

the North Queensland Net news retransmission was done by Gavin VK4ZZ and call-backs were done by Lyndall VK4ZM. For the Month of June 2026 some of the WIA and Q-news transmission and call-backs will be done by Peter/VK4PQ with Richard/VK4PQV stepping in when Peter cannot do it, while the North Queensland Net 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 is going well, thanks to Hon Susan McDonald, Senator for North Queensland and the team at the Townsville Office for enabling the continuing of the limited print run of the magazine for our members who lack the means to receive the publication electronically. Noting that Australia Post is trying to increase standard post from \$1.70 to \$2.00 per article.

WIA CONTACT REPORT

Gavin/VK4ZZ reported:

- The WIA has announced the Executive for 2026 - President Scott VK3KJ, Vice-President Peter VK4EA and Company Secretary Peter VK8ZZ
- The next WIA Affiliated Clubs Webinar will be held on Sunday the 14th of June, with the agenda and timing to be announced a week out from the event. As usual, all WIA Affiliated club Presidents are invited to join in the presentation which will be hosted by WIA President, Scott Williams along with other Board Members and presenters to discuss just some of the many items that the WIA is working on for the benefit of all amateur radio operators in Australia. As in the past, all Clubs Presidents are encouraged to submit any topics they may wish to raise for discussion. Topic submissions should be sent to the Club Liaison Officer as soon as possible.
- The Centenary Conference of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters happened on the weekend of 28-29th May starts off the commemoration of 100 years of organised amateur radio in New Zealand. Founded in Auckland on 16 August 1926, NZART has spent a century supporting technical innovation, education, emergency communications, international goodwill and the growth of amateur radio across New Zealand. If you are making contact with ZLs over the next few months, congratulate them on this massive milestone!

FACEBOOK MASTER REPORT:

- Paul/VK4ICA had no report for this month.

FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT:

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

Motion 202606004 moved by Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB to accept tabled Ex-Officio Reports and Seconded by Andrew/VK4CHG. - CARRIED unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS:**Ray/VK4OIL – Update on Historic WW2 Oonoona Bomb Site Development**

The WW11 Bomb Site at Oonoona which we have been actively trying to protect and preserve by representation each Anzac Day and Anniversary date (29th July) has never been listed on the National Heritage List. For this reason the site has remained unprotected from any further development which would place it in a position of being developed over and lost forever. The support given by TARC inc. Management and Members has highlighted, to Local Government, State Government and Federal Government, along with the Community support, the importance to ensure our Site is promoted to a worthwhile Memorial which will stand in place as a National treasure when the 'War on Townsville - 1942'. Took place.

Since Anzac Day this year I have been actively searching and researching the challenge of submitting a Formal application for National Heritage Listing.

My first line of attack was to cover all bases surrounding the lodgement of the application. I.e; ' **Formal Notification of Intent** ' were forwarded to – Townsville Mayor, Mr. Nick Dametto ; Federal MP, Phil Thompson OAM; the team at Environmental Development Queensland (EDQ who are currently developing the area) and the Minister for Defence, Richard Marles (I also have written support from the Minister) and finally, the lodgement of the completed application for National Heritage along with supported emails including some of my supportive photos and documents.

I am pleased to report that on the 20th. May 2026 my Application had been received and confirmed by the Dept. of National Heritage Council. Now we wait for some form of contact from their office/committee to find out if there are any more 'hoops' I am required to jump through.

Thanks once again to the Management and Members of TARC Inc. for your continued support with this matter and hopefully a positive outcome.

Ray. VK4OIL. Coordinator – Save the Oonoonba Bomb Site.

Amateur Radio Display in the field with the 2026 Dam Fine Rally

Gavin/VK4ZZ : the Tropical Coast Wanderers chapter of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Dam Fine Rally is still on - with a TARCinc display of Amateur Radio happening with other exhibitors on the Saturday 4th July Public Open Day. Forecasting that the size of the site will allow 2 display tables, pergolas and a roped off area for the setup of portable antennas. Bump in and bump out details still yet to be advised. Participants in the event so far are – Richard/VK4PQV, Wayne/VK4WSG, Ben/VK4YT, Gavin/VK4ZZ, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Snow/VK4ME, Rob/VK4KEE, Iain/VK4IGM, Andrew/VK4CHG, Teddy & Tubby/VK4TUB, Charlie Jones, Stephen/VK4AEX

Snow's Famous Foxhunt

The Foxhunt is happening on Saturday June 6th from 1pm. Snow VK4ME wants to hear from you if you are attending as it is a catered event. Deadline Thursday 4th June so og can go shopping for the in-flight catering..

There will be activities for all family members to participate in during the Foxhunt, including a chance to socialise, try a bit of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (no equipment? you can get a lend of a yagi and receiver to hunt the elusive radio-active bananas that Snow will hide in a devious manner.) Call Snow VK4ME on 0439 159 403 before the deadline.

Attending so far - Snow/VK4ME, Tony/VK4TJS, Lyndall/VK4ZM, Gavin/VK4ZZ, Richard/VK4PQV, Jeanette & Wallaby Bob/VK4WJ, Ben/VK4YT,

FURTHER GENERAL BUSINESS: Nil.

There being no further business, President Snow/VK4ME closed the meeting at 2038h local time and wished everyone goodnight and a safe return to the next Monthly Management Meeting on the 7th July 2026.

Minutes Transcribed 13th June 2026 by Gavin Reibelt VK4ZZ - Secretary 2026, The Townsville Amateur Radio Club (Inc).



**JOIN THE WIA TODAY !
SUPPORT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
LOBBYING FOR THE HOBBY.
SUPPORT EMCOM SERVICES. RECEIVE**

**AMATEUR RADIO MAGAZINE. UTILISE THE QSL BUREAU.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THE HOBBY !
http://www.wia.org.au FOR MORE INFO**

5055kHz is ALIVE!

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



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

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

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

Details for direct transfer -

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

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

Solar Panels !

Hairy Richard/VK4ZMB has these gorgeous Solar Panels ready to fly into your shack power system. Local pickup in Townsville only.

12 by 1650 x 994 x 36 Pmax 250W Trini

TSM-250PC05A bare aluminium

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

Isc 8.8 A Impmp 8.3 A

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

HF Station for Sale

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

Ring Ken now on 0407 502838 to seal the deal.

Make an offer for this Tower and Antenna combo



The following is offered from a deceased estate and is being administered by John/VK4FNQ. Approx 40foot 4 post tower with rotator and the following antennas

- 5 element 6metre yagi
- 10 element 2metre yagi
- 17 element 70centimetre yagi
- 5 element 2metre vertical yagi
- 80metre inverted V dipole

The successful purchaser will remove the tower and equipment which is located in the Charters Towers area.

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

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

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

Another tower and bits need a good home

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

Packet Radio Lives!

Longed for the AX25 modulation sounds in your radio shack? Need a fix of a bulletin list? Well you can still have a Packet fix either by radio or via telnet. The VK4OT-3 FBBS Heatley NQLD is accessible 24 hours a day either via the radio port on 145.175MHz or via Telnet on vk4ot.ddns.net port 6300. You can connect in the Townsville area via the radio port and set up access with password, or email the sysop Jason on [qrm] vk4ot [at] outlook [dot] com [dot] au [qrm] to set up Telnet access or find out more, [ensuring to disengage and translate the countermeasures first].

Winlink Radio Message Servers Operational

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

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

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

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

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

WinLink RMS also feature online login through the WinLink application

VISUAL BACKSLATTER



at the May Social Meeting Iain/VK4IGM had a very interesting show and tell - here proving he is the Master... of the Theramin!

PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS

Wedding Anniversaries

29 June Jan and Phil 4HSV

6 Aug Katrina 4KMA and Paul 4ICA

9 Aug Leslie and Les 4ALS

30 Aug Lyndall 4ZM and Gavin 4ZZ

30 Aug Shinako 4YMD and Ian 4KMD

2 Sept Bob 4WJ & Jeanette

Birthdays

17 June Little John 4VT, OM of Ellen

30 Colin 4EX

30 June Dallas 4BWN

6 July Kerry, board of control of Mick 4CMW

7 Trent 4TS, OM of Lorraine

11 Peter 4PVH

11 Ian, VK4KMD, OM of Shinako 4YMD

14 Joe VK4AM, OM of Marion

18 John 4JKL & sir Richard Warren

18 Jan, board of control of Philip 4HSV

19 Bob 2ADF, OM of Jen

22 Cheryl 4FRYL, board of control of John 4FNQ

25 Don 4BY, OM of Rosemary

30 Marion, board of control of Joe 4AM

31 July Sheila 4PAL, board of control of Iain 4IGM

1 Aug Kimberley, harmonic of Peter 4PVH

1 Wendy, board of control of Leigh 4HLW

6 Paul 4ICA, OM of Katrina 4KMA

7 Aleisha, harmonic of Phil 4HSV & Jan

8 David 4OF, OM of Vicki

10 Gina, board of control of Udo 4FUDO

10 Cedric 7CL, OM of Janet

12 John 4DFZ, the Distinguished Flying Zebra

23 Noel 4AF - the Sinker Man from El Arish

28 Cath, harmonic of Lucia & Barry VK4XPR

31 Shinako 4YMD, board of control of Ian 4KMD

31 Alex, harmonic of Lucia & Barry VK4XPR

Club Anniversaries

July 1973 First North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention held at Civil Defence HQ Townsville



You
Know
You
Need
One !

Yes, the latest doodad that is energy conserving - the WIND POWERED DRILL.

VISUAL BACKSLATTER

Snow's Famous Foxhunt 2026 – Ross Park



Tony4/VK4TJS and Snow/VK4ME preparing to hide the foxes



Snow/VK4ME prepares to hide the homing beacon



Robert/VK4HLS, Charlie & Gavin/VK4ZZ with the in-flight catering

Fantastic tropical winter weather and a great location chosen by Snow/VK4ME for the yearly Amateur Radio Direction Finding event. Thanks to everyone who came along and made the event a success and a special thanks to those who participated in the ARDF. Snow is promising to find an even larger venue for 2027 and will be even more devious in hiding the elusive radio active bananas and coconut 😊



Stephen/VK4AEX with the homebrew yagi-quad



Charlie, Iain/VK4IGM, Robert/VK4HLS & Gavin/VK4ZZ with the tree that radiates RF



Andrew/VK4CHG using the proximity method



End of the hunt, with Snow/VK4ME are Andrew/VK4CHG 2nd place, Charlie with 1st place and Iain/VK4IGM with 3rd place

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

- NQORA Pato's 7 Hour Enduro Off Road Racing - Sat 27 June to Sun 28 June - Millchester MSRC
- MARA Valley Riders Dee Jay Arabians Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 27th to Sun 28th June
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 30th June from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

July

- TARC displays Amateur Radio at the Dam Fine Rally, Kelso - Sat 4th July
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 7th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 14th July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Paluma Push Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 18 to Sun 19 July - Bluewater Park Equestrian Centre
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 21st July from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- NQORA Charters Towers Short Circuit Off Road Racing - Sat 25th to Sun 26th July - Millchester MSRC
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 28th July from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

August

- MARA Valley Riders Greg Willoughby Memorial Denison Creek Horsie Rides - Sat 1 to Sun 2 August
- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 4th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 11th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- WRERA Bowen River Horsie Rides Comms Support - Fri arvo 14th to Sun 16th August - Bowen River Hotel near Collinsville
- TOWSA Maggie Island Swim Comms Support - Sat 15th August from 5-30am Strand Park
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 18th August from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 25th August from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

September

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 1st September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- B2B Spring Shore Horsie Rides Comms Support - Sat 5 to Sun 6 September at Bluewater Park
- TARC Project Night - Tue 8th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th September from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- NQORA QLD Off-Road Racing Round 1 (from April) - Sat 19th to Sun 20th September - Millchester MSRC
- Ann Renton Memorial Net Tue 22nd September from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- CHARC AGM Weekend - Fri arvo 25 to Sun morn 27 Sept - Emerald Pistol Club
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 29th September - from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes

October

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

November

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

December

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 1st Dec from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Project Night - Tue 8th Dec from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC Xmas Party - Sun 13th December
- TARC Social Evening - Tue 15th December from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- TARC MXLT - Friday 18th December somewhere in Townsville
- Ann Renton Memorial Net - Tue 22nd December - from 7-30pm on Tsvl UHF Repeater and VK4TUB AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- Tech On The Air Net Tue 29th Dec from 7-30pm on Tsvl VHF Repeater and VK4PQ AllStarLink & Echolink Nodes
- New Years Day Countdown - Thur 31st December - from 1245UTC for Daylight Saving, from 1345UTC for proper time

January

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

February

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

March

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

April

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

May

- TARC Management Meeting - Tue 4th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- MARA Clairview Gathering - Fri 7 May to Mon 10 May - BarraCrab Clairview
- TARC Project Night - Tue 11th May from 7-30pm at the Club Rooms Green Street West End
- 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

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 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

* * * * *

Update on the Historic WW2 Bomb Crater Development - Ray/VK4OIL

Greetings readers, I have received a reply to emails sent to notify interested parties regarding the start to have the historic site listed as National Heritage, with the best reply from Joshua Botten, the Development Manager of Housing Supply and Delivery for Economic Development Queensland.

I have let him know that his reply will be published for our club members to be informed regarding updates regarding the site. Joshua's email includes clickable links to further details, available to those who receive Back-scatter electronically.

His message received on the 10th of June 2026 is self-explanatory and clears up a number of doubts that I have always had in mind.

The attached local map is the plan of future development depicting the finished site and shows reference to the Bomb Site.

Puts a Smile on 'me Dial ! Kind regards,

Ray Schinkel VK4OIL M: 0409 888 875

Hi Ray and Wendy,

Thanks for your email below and for your ongoing involvement in supporting the preservation of the Bomb Crater Site (the Site) at The Village, Oonoonba.

Apologies for the delayed response regarding your query on how the Site will be protected when subdivision civil works commence, I had held off formally responding to you while our revised masterplan was being finalised. Following extensive consultation with Townsville City Council (TCC), EDQ has reduced the extent of the future development footprint by approximately 15 hectares as shown below. This area will instead be preserved by TCC as parklands and open space in perpetuity to improve flood resilience and environmental outcomes within the local area. As a result, the Site will no longer be hemmed in on all sides by future development, and will instead only be bounded by a new local street and bikeway to the south which will provide direct public access for residents and visitors.

EDQ is fully committed to preserving the integrity of the Site throughout the construction process and will implement stringent protection and monitoring measures as part of the Construction Management Plan. We have now lodged a Development Application for the first stage of these subdivision works, which can be viewed [here](#).

EDQ has also discussed the future of the Site with TCC, who will be the future landowner, to ensure their long-term plans for the Site align with its historical importance and community expectations. TCC supports the Site's ongoing preservation and suggested that inclusion on the local heritage register (Places of Cultural Heritage Value within the Townsville City Plan) would be an effective mechanism to ensure its ongoing protection. They noted this would likely be a simpler process than getting the Site added onto the Queensland Heritage Register. We can assist with getting the Site nominated for the local register, otherwise we'll be happy to support your nomination to the Queensland Heritage Register in any way we can if this is already underway.

Let me know if you have any questions and please be assured that we support the case for the Sites permanent conservation.

Regards,

Josh Botten
Development Manager
Housing Supply and Delivery
Economic Development Queensland



Off-road Racing 2026 Schedule at Millchester for Comms Support



OFFROAD RACING! 2026

27TH JUNE
PATTO'S 7 HOUR ENDURO

25TH & 26TH JULY
CHARTERS TOWERS SHORT COURSE

19TH & 20TH SEPTEMBER
POSTPONED - STATE ROUND 1

North Queensland
**OFFROAD
RACING**
Association Inc.

245 MAFEKING RD, MILLCHESTER