

# TREC—NEWS

Volume 4, Issue 5

May 2011

**President:** Stu Dunk VK4SDD  
**Secretary:** Dale McCarthy VK4DMC  
**Treasurer:** Ron Goodhew VK4EMF

The Leading Amateur  
Radio Club in  
Far North Queensland.

## Coming events

### May 2011

#### Weekend 7/8th.

FNERA communications support at Tepon Equestrian Centre Wondecla.  
John VK4TL coordinator.

#### Saturday 21st.

Club Social get-together 1000hrs — Show and Tell at clubrooms.

### June 2011

#### Weekend 4/5th.

FNERA communications support at Tolga Pony club. John VK4TL coordinator.

#### Weekend 11/13th.

FNNQARG Event and location to be confirmed.

#### Weekend 18/19th.

Winter VHF/UHF contest

#### Saturday 25th.

Club Social get-together 1000hrs — Show and Tell at clubrooms, followed by a management committee meeting.

#### 28 June—2 July (5 day event)

FNERA communications support at Tepon Equestrian Centre Wondecla.  
John VK4TL coordinator.



## The Editor's Desk

G'day all,

I have been away for a few weeks visiting family at Airlie Beach and Dysart. It was great operating portable from Central Queensland. I managed to pay a visit to Dave VK4VU in Rubyvale and spent many hours exploring both his shack and his underground sapphire mine. Reminded me why I retired from the mining game.

The TREC website has a new webmaster, Dave VK4DK. Check it out at [www.trecclub.org.au](http://www.trecclub.org.au) Well done Dave and thanks to Stu for all the original work in setting it up.

73 & Travel Well - Dale VK4DMC.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT.

G'day fellow TREC members.

I'm getting a bit sick of the so called spectrum police, there are times when some friendly advice is needed and welcome, but other times I wish they would go back to 11m ! The reason for this spleen vent came last weekend on 10m

I was calling CQ DX on 28.490Mhz 5 KHz below the UNOFFICIAL DX calling frequency. After many contacts with stations in the US east coast, west coast, and pacific islands and Japan a VK3H station returned my DX call. He then asked if we could QSY to a lower frequency where he proceeded to give me a lesson on vacating the call CHANNEL note the use of channel. I then asked this standard call how long he had been licensed, 5 years was the answer. Wow!! with that much experience he must have much more knowledge than I have accumulated in my 26 years of licensed operation. I'm not an elitist but I normally make sure I'm right before I open my mouth to give advise, I double checked my data 28.490Mhz is not the UNOFFICIAL DX calling frequency!

I thanked him for his advice then informed him of his error and went back to call on 28.490. His roger beep was also a nice touch, at least I knew when he had stopped dribbling. I'm off the soap box, back to business, thanks to all that helped out at the last horse ride, keep it up guys.

Keep the electrons flowing we don't want them to get bored do we???????????

Cheers Stu VK4SDD — President



Jeff VK4BOF's new 4 el Tet Emtron tribander TE43

## LIFE (and electrons) after TC YASI

Life is slowly getting back to normal for those who suffered damage from TC Yasi that crossed the coast between Mission Beach and Cardwell on the 3rd of February 2011. Jeff VK4BOF, along with Paul VK4ZJD and others suffered fairly substantial damage to their homes and antenna systems due to the severity of the cyclonic winds.

There are some images from Jeff's QTH in this edition of TREC-NEWS which illustrates how things are slowly getting back to normal after the insurance claims being accessed and the necessary work being done to re-establish towers, antennas and other things to allow them to get back on air.

## TABLELANDS RADIO AND ELECTRONICS CLUB INCORPORATED.

PO Box 682  
ATHERTON QLD 4883

Phone: Secretary 07 4091 3700  
Fax: 07 4091 3700  
E-mail: vk4wat@wia.org.au

NETS  
THURSDAY .  
1900 -1930 VK4RTA repeater 146.675 - offset

THURSDAY  
1930 - 2030 Henry Fulford—Tom Debel Memorial net  
3.588MHz



## SMILE AWHILE



### She who must be obeyed!

When everybody on earth was dead and waiting to enter Paradise, God appeared and said, "I want the men to make two lines.

One line for the men who were true heads of their household, and the other line for the men who were dominated by their women.

I want all the women to report to St. Peter."

Soon, the women were gone, and there were two lines of men.

The line of the men who were dominated by their wives was 100 kilometres long, and in the line of men who truly were heads of their household, there was only one man.

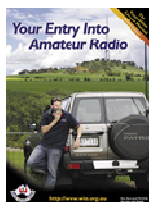
God said to the long line, "You men should be ashamed of yourselves, I created you to be the head of your household! You have been disobedient and have not fulfilled your purpose!

Of all of you, only one obeyed.

Learn from him."

God turned to the one man, "How did you manage to be the only one in this line?"

The man replied, "My wife told me to stand here."



**Foundation Manuals.**  
**TREC has copies of the WIA Foundation Manuals on hand.**  
**\$20.00 ea.**  
**Contact VK4DMC**

**WIA News.**

[www.wia.org.au](http://www.wia.org.au)



## TREC and VK1WIA Is Off To Mars !

TREC along with VK1WIA Is Off To Mars and you can come along for the ride!  
Yes now YOU can send your call sign to Mars

NASA are collecting names to be put on a microchip that'll be onboard the Mars Science Laboratory rover heading to Mars Later this year. Some Radio Amateurs have been adding their call sign to last name field. As well as having your call sign travelling around the Martian surface you also get a electronic commemorative certificate to print out on your home computer.

The rover has an unusual connection with radio - it has special Morse Code indentations on its wheels that will spell out the initials JPL in Morse as it travels around Mars. JPL stands for Jet Propulsion Laboratory, builders of the rover.

Put your name/call sign on Mars at <http://marsparticipate.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/participate/sendyourname/>

Thanks to GraHam Kemp for this item



## Amateur Radio Wiki - The Online Encyclopaedia for Hams

The free Amateur Radio content encyclopaedia that hams can edit.

[www.amateur-radio-wiki.net/index.php?title=Main\\_Page](http://www.amateur-radio-wiki.net/index.php?title=Main_Page)

## VHF—QUA

### 6 Metres.

The magic band has been very active again during April from the Asia/Oceania region with almost daily contacts being made by FNQ stations. TREC members VK4TL and VK4SIX have been working into Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Hawaii and the Philippines most days up until late in the evening.

### 2 Metres/70cms. and 23cms.

2 and 70 still very quiet during the month with mainly NQ stations being worked from the Atherton area.

The usual early morning get together on 144.125 with 4FNQ, 4AFC, 4FLJS, VK4ME, VK4FBLU, VK4FMAG, VK4FRJG, VK44BEG, VK4ARQ, VK4FP and VK4DMC continues, Drop in and say G'day around 2130 UTC

## LIFE (and electrons) AFTER TC YASI at BOF's



Jeff VK4BOF's replacement antennas. 4 el Tet-Emtron tribander TE43 with a dipole mounted below. Note the rotatable vertical on the top.

Omni/Omni directional???



The tower was designed and fabricated by Gary VK4FD.



The tower fully erected, before the yagi was mounted, showing guying Full extended height approximately 11M.

## TREC "Show & Tell"

One of the regular features of the TREC meetings is the "Show and Tell" segment, where club members show their recently acquired goodies or something that they have "home-brewed". All sorts of interesting and sometimes intriguing items are lovingly shown to other club members.



TREC President Stu VK4SDD proudly shows off his very first transceiver. A Shakespeare 23 ch AM rig given to him as a present by his Dad when Stu was only a5 years old.



John VK4TL explains the intricacies' of his "home brew" signal generator to Terry VK4ATY



Gary VK4FD talks about some of the many features of the new Elecraft KPA-500 linear amplifier. Gary is field testing this unit, the only one in VK. The KPA-500 is due for release in the US in the very near future.



Gary points out some of the wiring points of the KPA-500.