

TREC—NEWS

Volume 4, Issue 10

October 2011

The Leading Amateur
Radio Club in
Far North Queensland.

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

Coming events

October 2011

Weekend 15th/16th.

FNERA communications support at Tepon Equestrian Centre, night ride.
John VK4TL coordinator.

Saturday 22nd.

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

Weekend 29th/30th.

CQWW SSB contest Tepon Equestrian Centre Wondecla

November 2011

Weekend 26th/27th.

Spring VHF/UHF Field Day

Field day activity-portable operation 24 hour station. Members on roster at Hallorans Hill

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for TREC Members**

Terry : VK4ATY

The Editor's Desk

I had a great time at the NQ convention and it was nice to eyeball some of the hams that I have worked many times.

The article on antenna heights in VK2 poses the question—will it flow on to VK4 and other states? Time will tell I guess.

Time to start thinking about our end of year function, will it be at the Tolga pub again, or does someone have another suggestion? Let one of the committee members know if you do.

73 & Travel Well - Dale VK4DMC.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

G'day TREC members.

Well another year starts and we are busy with club activities already.

The 6m beacon should be installed on site early October.

VK4XQA should be active on 160m some time in the next two months, John VK4TL has details for that one.

Spring VHF / UHF field day contest 26th and 27th November, we will be operating from Hallorans Hill, we need operators and contacts!

Thanks to the guys that manned the checkpoints and the base at Tepon for the FNERA ride last weekend. John VK4TL Chris VK4YCG Jeff VK4BOF Gary VK4FD and Dave VK4DK did all three days!

I also attended but could only do one day, Dale VK4DMC who also regularly attends these events was absent this weekend attending to holiday matters.

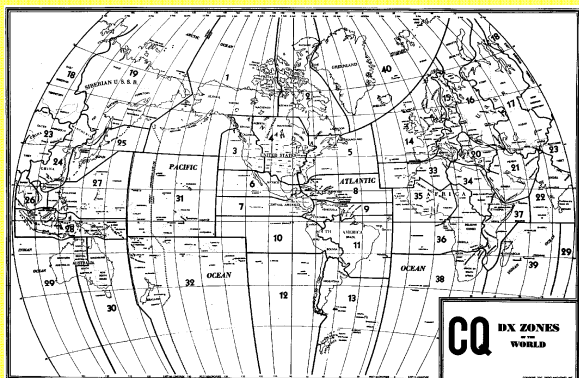
As you know these rides are our main source of donation funding BUT IT SEEMS THE SAME SMALL GROUP OF CLUB MEMBERS back up time after time for these events, come on people one or two days a year would really help!!!!

We have one more FNERA event this year if any one can help out get in touch with John VK4TL for details!

That's all for this month.

Cheers

Stu VK4SDD



ADDENDUM TO WAZ MAP
All Sakhalin Island and the Russian Kurile Islands are now in Zone 19. Zone 19: Eastern Siberian
Zone—UAB (C, D, F, I, J, K, L, Q, X, Z), Zone 25: Japanese Zone—HL, PS, and JA—April 1995

CQ Worldwide SSB Contest 29/30th October.

TREC will be setting up at Wondecla for the contest All club members are invited to attend. As a club effort, there are many things each of us can do to contribute. Such as offering to relieve operators for logging contacts on the computers, operate for as long as they feel confident, assist with setup and teardown, or maybe just offer support and encouragement to those trying to make contacts. This can be a real fun event for all by coming along and participating in any small way each of us feel comfortable with. A special invitation to those new to Ham Radio is extended. Those of us who have experience will be delighted to answer questions and offer help in getting started on radio sport.

Check out: <http://www.cqww.com/>

For further information please contact Gary VK4FD at: garyvk4fd@gmail.com

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

We're on the web.

www.treclub.org.au

SMILE AWHILE



An Arizona Highway Patrolman pulled over a pick-up truck owner for a faulty taillight. When the officer approached the driver, the man behind the wheel handed the officer his driver's license, insurance card and a concealed weapon carry permit.

The officer took all the documents, looked them over and said. "Mr. Smith, I see you have a CCP.. Do you have any weapons with you?"

The driver replied, " Yes sir, I have a 357 handgun in a hip holster, a .45 in the glove box and a .22 derringer in my boot."

The officer looked at the driver and asked, "Anything else?"

"Yes sir, I have a Mossberg 500 12 gauge and an AR-15 behind the seat."

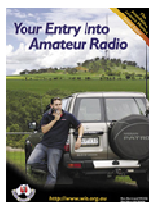
The officer asked if the man was driving to or from a shooting range and the man said he wasn't, so the officer bent over and looked into the driver's face and said

"Mr... Smith, you're carrying quite a few guns.

May I ask what you are afraid of?"

Mr. Smith locked eyes with the officer and calmly answered,

"Not a bloody thing!"



Foundation Manuals.

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

Contact VK4DMC

WIA News.

www.wia.org.au



Antenna Height Regulations - NSW Planning Review

Date : 29 / 09 / 2011

Author : Phil Wait - VK2ASD

Radio amateurs view their antenna structures as things of beauty, but not everyone shares those sentiments. Everyone would agree large antennas should be subject to the development approval process, but what about antennas lower than say 10 metres? Some councils say that no permit is required for a free-standing mast of 6m, or if attached to a building no higher than 3m above the peak roof height. This height is really too low for an effective HF antenna. The difficulty here is that there are no uniform rules across the Nation, let alone the State, or even across a city. So, an antenna that does not require development approval in one local government area may be out of the question all together in another. Some councils simply don't know, or put radio amateur antennas in the same category as commercial communications facilities, with the same restrictions.



Amateur radio towers and antenna heights are regulated through local environment plans (LEPs). In NSW, the Department of Planning is looking to change to the way LEPs are made and to make them more flexible. To this end a planning review team is holding a series of public meetings around NSW and is accepting written submissions. There MAY be an opportunity here to improve the situation for radio amateurs in NSW - the most populous state for hams - if as many NSW radio amateurs as possible make written submissions to the review. We believe written submission would be more effective than attending the public meetings - but time is short.

The WIA is urging as many amateurs as possible to make written submissions. WIA Manager Mal Brooks has contacted the WIA NSW Advisory Committee and asked them to draw the attention of as many clubs and individuals in New South Wales to this matter as soon as possible. The WIA has asked Amateur Radio New South Wales to publicise this request on their broadcast this weekend.

Background information and directions on how to make an effective written submission will be placed on the WIA website at www.wia.org.au

Phil Wait
VK2ASD

Surfin the web

Australian Geographical radio frequency map.

Have you wondered where that station you working in VK is? Click on link below and when the site opens click on the VK map, then click on "Amateur radio operators and type in the callsign you wish to locate.

<http://spench.net/drupal/software/rfmap>

VHF—QUA

6 Metres. (The Magic Band)

The band opened up on many days during September with contacts being heard and worked from China, Japan, Hawaii and southern VK areas. At last some activity.

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. Activity can also be found on 144.115 some mornings around 2000 UTC

TREC—Annual General Meeting.

Presidents address AGM 2011

Greetings all.

Let me start by saying we have had a busy year.

Contests

TREC participated in the spring and summer VHF /UHF and John Moyle field day as well as the shires contest. Thank you to all TREC members that made these events a success, and even though we didn't win, I think you will agree we have a good time participating!

I mentioned the shires contest, and I would like to give a special thanks to Gary VK4FD and Jeff VK4BOF for their efforts getting the club call VK4WAT on air for this contest. Thank you Charlie and Snoopy!!!!

Far North Equestrian endurance rides,

TREC has provided sterling service to FNERA providing checkpoint communications, their thank you letters and donations to the club are an indication that the job TREC does is appreciated.

I would like to thank all the TREC members who regularly give their valuable time to volunteer to man the checkpoints, and a huge thank you to John VK4TL for his efforts in coordinating these events. Thank you gentlemen.

VK4RHT 6m Beacon

The beacon is up and running at VK4SDD QTH at the moment.

The mounting hardware for the antenna is just about complete, I hope we can have it installed on the Hann tableland site before Christmas 2011.

John VK4TL has 2m 70cm and I think 23cm beacons planned or under construction I look forward to those projects!

TREC web site

Earlier this year Dave VK4DK generously offered to relieve me of the TREC web site duties, an offer that I gladly accepted, Dave has done a fantastic job with the web site, thank you Dave.

XQA

As I'm sure most of you would know Ron V4EMF has for some years been working on a plan to return the station equipment from Queensland's first amateur radio station XQA to its home in north Queensland, that's the reason we are having the meeting here today!

The Mareeba Heritage Centre is the equipment from XQA'S new home!

Gary VK4FD suggested at one of the TREC meetings that the club should endeavor to acquire the callsign VK4XQA to use as a special event call.

I am pleased to say TREC now possesses VK4XQA and I am sure it will get plenty of use.

General club activities

Earlier this year we cleaned out the club storage shed, a job all who saw it would agree had to be done, TREC now has a central location to store the

To sum up.

A club like TREC is only as strong as its members are willing to make it.

I think we have a strong club! TREC would not be able to function and I would not be able to fulfill the duties of President without the support and dedication of the office bearers and committee. Thank you gentlemen!

This last year has been a huge learning experience for me I hope I have gone some way to live up to the expectations of the TREC membership.

Thank you!

Stuart Dunk VK4SDD



Outgoing President Stu Dunk VK4SDD delivering his Annual report at the TREC AGM.

TREC members — out and about.



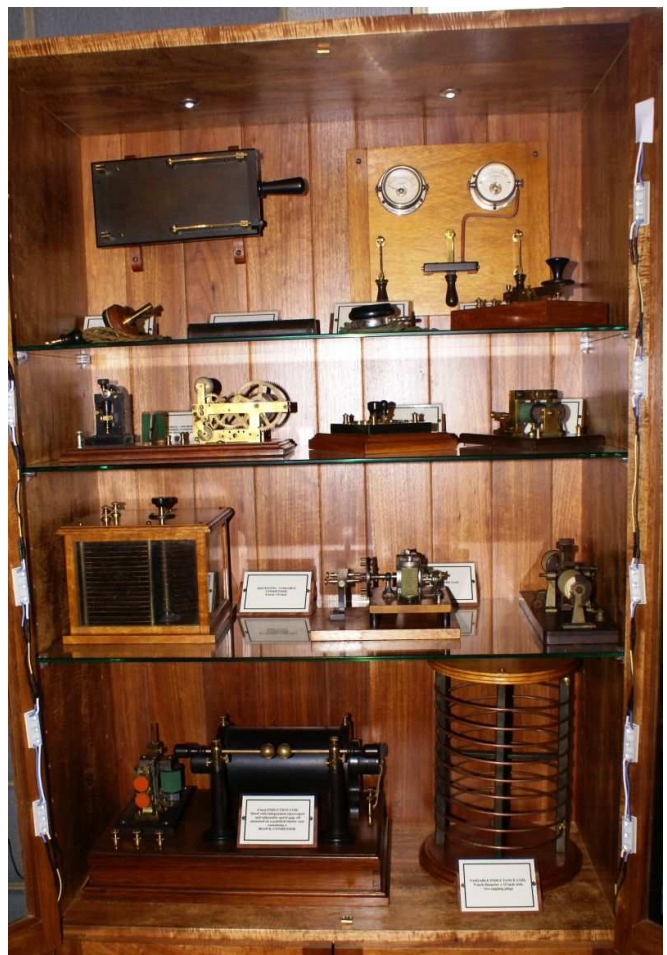
Jeff Brown VK4FBBB proudly displaying part of his impressive collection of military gear at the recent military show at Ravenshoe.



Martin Ryan VK4FMJR with part of his equally impressive display of historical military transceivers.



Ron Goodhew VK4EMF standing in front of the display of the first Queensland amateur radio station **XQA** which has finally returned to its original hometown, Mareeba, thanks to Ron's efforts and the generosity of the Brims family in Brisbane.



The spark gap station **XQA** was first licensed in 1914 by Marcus Brims. It is truly an impressive display.

The 20th NQ Amateur Radio Convention.



Navcom Townsville display.



TET-EMTRON display. All the way from WA



Mal VK4MSS



Dave VK4DAV Bill Sebbens VK4XZ and JeckLe VK4JKL



Opening commentators address the gathering at Charters Towers RSL.

The 20th NQ Amateur Radio Convention.



Steve VK4SMC places a bid at the auction



Auctioneer with pizzazz—Gavin (OG) VK4ZZ struts his stuff



Dale VK4DMC receives his prize for second place in the technical home brew section at the NQ convention.



Majestic flags at Majestic towers—JohnVK4FNQ