



Darling Downs Radio Club Inc.

Newsletter

Toowoomba December 2024



CLUB INFORMATION

Postal address: PO Box 3257

Toowoomba QLD 4350

Email address

secretary@ddrci.org.au

Web Site: www.ddrci.org.au

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President:

Vice President:

Secretary: John Maizels VK4JPM

Treasurer: Cameron Scarvell
VK4CSS

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Sam Pascoe VK4SAM;

Rod Webb VK4ZJ

Robert Hosking VK4FRH;

Bruce Boardman VK4MQ.

REPEATER COMMITTEE:

Chairman: Bruce Boardman VK4MQ

Members:

Paul Stevens VK4CPS;

Cameron Scarvell VK4CSS;

Rod Webb VK4ZJ

STATION MANAGER:

Theo Moller VK4ESK

2 Metre Net Convenor

Kevin Crandell VK4VKX

80 Metre Net Convenor

Theo Moller VK4ESK

CLUB MEETINGS:

2nd Monday of the month.

Start 7pm.

First half hour business matters, then
social meeting incl a lecture.

MEETING PLACE:

Community Venues, Level 3 City
Library

Victoria St. Toowoomba

CLUB NETS: using VK4WID

80m on 3.650MHz, Saturday 7.30pm

2m on 146.750MHz on VK4RDD

Toowoomba Repeater

Sunday 10am

OTHER REGULAR NETS:

Monday: UHF Net on 438.025MHz
7.30pm

Tuesday: The new Horizons Net
on 147.050 MHz 7.30pm

Thursday: Scrub Turkey Net on
147.050MHz 7.30pm.

Friday: VK4 Friendship Net on
3.587MHz at 7.00pm

19th International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 Conference 2024

Date : 01 / 11 / 2024

Author: Peter Clee VK8ZZ

19th International Amateur
Radio Union
Region 3 Conference 2024

The IARU Region 3

Conference is held every 3
years. This year is the 19th
International Amateur
Radio Union Conference

and is being held from 4 November 2024 to 8 November 2024 in Bangkok Thailand.

The host society is the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under The Royal Patronage of His Majesty The King of Thailand.

The Wireless Institute of Australia as the peak body representing Amateur Radio in Australia is a member society of the **International Amateur Radio Union**. There are 39 member societies of the IARU Region 3. Each member society is entitled to send one delegate to the triennial conference along with observers.

This year we are very grateful that Mr Peter Young VK3MV has agreed to be the nominated delegate to the conference.

It was back on the 12th April 1968, representatives from a number of countries within this part of the world, met in Sydney to establish a regional arm for the International Amateur Radio Union - IARU Region 3. This was forty-three years after the establishment of the IARU itself.

The purpose of the IARU Region 3 is:

- 'to promote, represent and advance in whatsoever manner IARU Region 3 thinks fit, the interests of Radio Amateurs in all countries of Region 3 of the International Telecommunications Union (and without limiting the generality of the foregoing);
 - by the furtherance of the objects of the International Amateur Radio Union and having regard to the special interest of radio amateurs in Asia and Oceania which interests are to protect and enhance radio amateur privileges in all of the countries in the Region;
 - to encourage an awareness of the value of radio amateurs by the administrations of all the countries in the Region;
 - to educate and encourage potential radio amateurs in all of the countries of the Region;
 - to represent radio amateurs both nationally and internationally;
 - to protect and retain amateur radio frequency allocation as frequencies allocated for the sole use of radio amateurs;
 - provided always shall exercise its powers in support of IARU and not in substitution for the exercise of power by IARU.'
- Every radio amateur needs the IARU!

A more complete article will be included in the 2025 Edition 1 (January / February 2025 edition) of Amateur Radio Magazine

Peter Clee VK8ZZ WIA secretary

Both VHF and UHF repeaters are co-sited and have the same call identifier: **VK4RDD** 146.750 MHz, negative offset, no access tone required; **VK4RDD** 439.275 MHz, negative offset, 91.5 Hz, access tone required. **VK4WID** is the club's call sign for all nets on HF, VHF and UHF, as well as all contests. Please note that during contests which conflict with our regular net times, the contest has priority over the net in so far as the club call sign is concerned. The nets will then be conducted under the convener's call sign instead of **VK4WID**.



Education

If you are interested in Getting a new Licence (Foundation), or Upgrading you existing Licence to a Standard or Advanced you now have access to our very own Club Assessor VK4JPS.

Did you know you can go straight to a Standard or Advanced licence?

What are some of the Reason you might look to upgrade?

More Power?

More Bands?

Personal Challenge?

General Increased Radio Knowledge?

Contact Dave on 0431335184

or via email: vk4jps@gmail.com

Assistance

Assistance to those in need of physical work involved in the maintenance of their antennas etc. If you require assistance, please contact the club secretary via email on secretary@drcl.org.au and we will organise your assistance.

Garden City Award.

The DDRC i also has an award worthy of adorning the walls of your shack. This is the Garden City Award. Please check the web page for details.

ITEMS FOR SALE

1) 25-1300 MHz discone antenna, "Sirio Antenne" model SD-1300. Brand new, never installed. New price = \$200, yours for \$100.

2) End Fed Half Wave multiband antenna, BA5IK model "DIY". Covers 40-10 mtrs. Includes 49:1 un-un, wire and rope. Brand new, never installed. New price = \$80, yours for \$40.

3) 5-50 MHz portable dipole, Windcamp model "Gipsy". Brand new, never installed. Includes 1:1 balun, marked cables, winders (no ropes). New price = \$130 delivered, yours for \$60.

Enquiries to John, VK4TJ, email vk4tj@hotmail.com

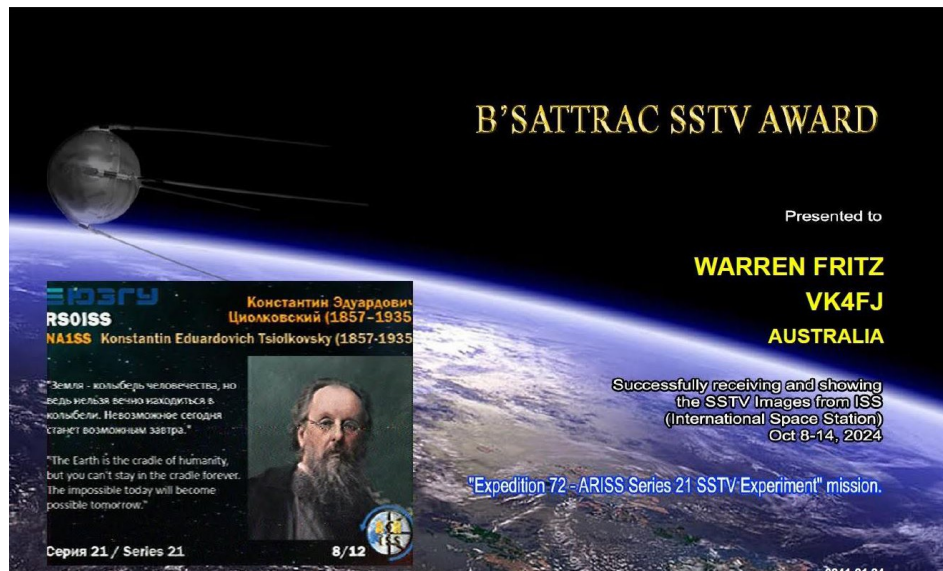


Figure 1 From VK4FJ Warren with his Diploma for SSTV from ISS !

"Dealing with Intentional Interference"

Intentional interference is increasingly reported in our section and elsewhere around the nation. At the 2023 ARRL Pacificon Convention forum entitled "Dealing with Intentional Interference" ARRL and other amateur radio leadership presented and discussed resources and strategies to assist radio amateurs, clubs, groups and repeater owners in controlling this problem.

Local direction finding (DF) teams have been organizing to collect evidence of these incidents.

If you experience intentional interference, here below are several ways that you can immediately assist:

- Dealing with a deliberate jammer is emotionally difficult. But if we're to successfully get rid of them, everyone involved (and I do mean every single ham) must remain calm. We must also be patient, as it can take a while.
- This may be the most important of all; do not attempt to engage with the jammer, or even acknowledge their presence. Although some of them may do what they do because they have a beef with the repeater owner, club, or another ham; most jammers do it for the same reason others engage in destructive behavior; to get attention. We must deny them that attention. So, control your anger and don't tell them to stop, threaten them or even acknowledge that the interference is occurring.
- If the level of interference allows it, continue with your QSO or net as if the interference was not there. If conversation is not possible, you may be able to QSY to an alternate frequency. Otherwise, just sign off as if you've naturally finished and go radio silent until the jammer leaves. They may return when you do, so you'll have to do this several times, until they get the message that they won't get the satisfaction they're looking for.
- Do not discuss the jammer on the air, even when jamming is not present. Understand that just one ham losing control and engaging with the jammer or acknowledging the interference, even in passing, is enough to undo the efforts of everyone else.

How does a club work?

Any club is its members. The members are there for a common purpose, although some will have different views of how to achieve that objective.

Always the members are the ones to decide how to pursue those objectives, they do this by motions at General Meetings.

Obviously the club “Constitution” or if Incorporated the “Rules of Association” provide guidelines and regulate how this happens. Under this the General Meeting motions then determine how the management carries out the day to day activities.

When management loses touch with the members there are often problems, so when incorporating the Darling Downs Radio Club had a couple of meetings to let members decide what was the best way to proceed.

With a smaller Management Committee than the previous (unincorporated) Executive, a Steering Committee was added to meet with the Management Committee Meetings to give more connection to members. This was set up in the permanent By Laws adopted at incorporation, and members have since been invited to come to those management meetings and input as well.

After difficulties in 2017-8 and the new President and Secretary in 2018-9 did not last the year I took on the President role.

Immediately after starting I presented the talk “The DDRCi, what we do and how we do it” to help members understand the rules, by laws and that members input and contribution to activities is paramount. While I could ask the members if they wanted to do some activity it is up to the members to pitch in and do. My management was there to look after the correspondence and pay the bills and support the members in their activities (and keep minutes of that).

Dougal

Did you know this?

At the heart of a three-phase motor lies the intricate interplay between the stator and rotor components.

The stator, composed of three windings, creates a rotating magnetic field when supplied with three-phase alternating current.

This rotating field induces a current in the rotor, which in turn generates its own magnetic field. The interaction between these magnetic fields produces the torque that drives the motor’s rotation.

The speed of a three-phase motor is determined by the frequency of the supply voltage and the number of poles in the motor’s design. By adjusting the frequency, operators can precisely control the motor’s speed, enabling fine-tuned control over industrial processes.

Three-phase motors offer several advantages over their single-phase counterparts, including higher efficiency, greater starting torque, and more balanced power distribution. These characteristics make them the preferred choice for a vast array of industrial applications, from pumps and compressors to conveyor belts and cranes.

Member update

We have two important requests about which we will remind you through to the end of the year

- 1st. Please renew your membership. If you haven't got around to renewing this year, or if you're thinking of joining and haven't yet sent in the form, PLEASE DO! The club is only as solid as our membership, and every bit counts
- 2nd. We are updating all member info. In the next month we will ask you to fill out the member form even if you did that in the past. It's a requirement of our rules that we have accurate information on members, so we're working to do the updates in the speediest way possible: by starting again.

If you are thinking about restoring some old gear like “boat anchors” or something else these web sites may be a help:

Many good references from here..

<https://bama.edebris.com/manuals/ebooks/>

And many more..

<https://bama.edebris.com/manuals/>

Education for Radio Amateurs

One crucial element that needs significant promotion is education.

Specifically, educating radio amateurs to better master our hobby. It turns out that with the current offerings, we lose far too many newly certified individuals.

Many never become active, and the dropout rate among those who do is also too high.

It's so bad that out of many new certificates, only about 10% remain active after a few years. When asked why, it's often because many find it too difficult and expensive to erect effective antennas and some may have problems learning how to use their equipment.

The training should consist of short, interesting courses that can engage modern people.

This should include both courses in local clubs and web-based training with video clips as a significant component.

We might even need to go as far as making practical radio operation a part of the curriculum for an operator certificate.

IARU will likely work on this as an 'Entry Level License' applicable across all IARU member countries.

WIA needs to be way more visible on social media. Experiences from the Netherlands show that they've turned around declining membership into clear growth by being active on social platforms.

WIA could do the same. Many of our local branches have already done this successfully. The effort has started, but it needs to be significantly strengthened with an independent editorial team reporting to WIA's leadership.

Dates for the future

Tech meetings take place on the second Monday of every month except January. You get an update from the Committee, a chance to ask questions and provide guidance, and a cuppa/natter/discussion.

Social lunches - a great excuse to rag-chew face-to-face - are on second Saturday of even months

Coming up, we're planning:

- December 9: [Software Defined Radio](#)
 - December 14: special social lunch - watch this space, details TBD
 - January: as scheduled, no meeting
 - February 8: social lunch
 - February 10: Intro and update on Fox Hunting
 - March 10: Over Voltage Device Protection
 - April 12: social lunch
 - April 14 : Getting the best out of inexpensive Chinese two-way radios
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Got questions or feedback?

If you have stuff to discuss, please drop us a line so that we can help you:

Secretary@ddrci.org.au For anything admin or general questions

President@ddrci.org.au For matters related to club activity

Treasurer@ddrci.org.au For anything related to memberships, renewals, or finance

Get scam savvy this holiday season

If you're shopping online or expecting a delivery in the holiday season, stay vigilant. Scams are rampant around retail events like Black Friday, Cyber Monday and Boxing Day. Scammers impersonate brands, businesses and services to steal your personal or financial information. Be wary of texts and emails promoting fake online stores and fake parcel deliveries.

**Merry Christmas and a happy New Year To all members
and their families**

**Final meeting for the year 2024 is on the 9. December at 7.00 pm in the community
rooms Toowoomba Library**