

**Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.**  
**News in Brief.**  
**Summer 2017**

**From the Editor.**  
**Hi again folks,**

**Shivers we are into 2017, don't put your Christmas decorations away, they will be needed again shortly. Now to see what we have got this round.**

**Club meetings.**

**The next general meeting will be held on Saturday the 4th of February 2017. This meeting will be held in Dalby, at the usual venue, the MYCNC centre, Cnr of Drayton & Nicholson Streets.**

**The usual format will apply, 0900hrs for smoko and a chat. 1000hrs sharp for the meeting, then we will enjoy the famous BBQ lunch and further chat. the 1st Saturday was decided for this round, and remember that Visitors are always welcome.**

**Club Web Site.**

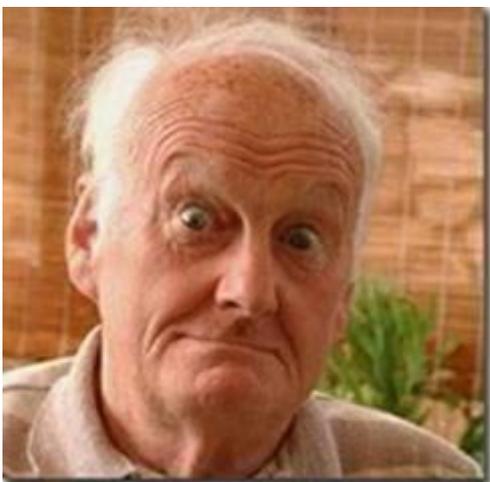
*Our Web Address is [bunyaamcom.org.au](http://bunyaamcom.org.au) lots of interesting info on there, Jump on there and check it out, if you find something that needs changing, or you have some interesting info that should be up there, please let us know so we can organize that.*

**Foundation licence course and Exams.**

The last event happened on the 26th 27th of November, at the MYCNC centre in Dalby. we unfortunately only had three of the proposed 6 candidates do the course, and only one candidate sat the exam. the other two decided that they will need to do more study before they will be competent to sit the exam. Best thing guys if you are not confident.

However Our other candidate sat the exam and passed with flying colours, Congratulations Skye from Nanango, Licence processing has been slow due to the silly season shut down,. Well Done. Skye, be patient it will happen.

Also on the previous weekend the 19th 20th of Nov 2016, a course and exams were held in Toowoomba, and 3 candidates out of a prospective 5 fronted up, and all three were successful and obtained their foundation licences. Sarah VK4FURY Tess VK4FDCC and George VK4FGRC. congratulations to you all.



**SOMETIMES  
I PRETEND TO BE  
NORMAL.  
BUT IT GETS BORING...  
SO I GO BACK TO BEING ME.**

myholocomments.com

**Don't mess with us old fellas You'll lose every time.**

Now I remember when I was first licensed, I was keen to get operational, and so to our new Licence holder Tess VK4FDDC, she has been out camping and operating portable. over to you Tess.

I had purchase a CD28-37-50 Series Mopole™ Antenna the week before Christmas and fabricated a bracket out of some scrap aluminium, attached the PL259 into the bracket and using a pole clamp bracket attached this assembly on to a concreters 5 Meter long telescoping pole. The Antenna needed some fine tuning as it is a broad band antenna suitable for frequencies between 138 and 163 MHz the supplied instructions make trimming this antenna down to the correct length for your desired frequency a breeze. For my own piece of mind and to ensure I didn't cut too much off I left it about 20mm too long according to their instructions and then slowly removed 5mm pieces checking the SWR using an antenna analyser that I had borrowed from Allan (VK4MBE). I ended up cutting the antenna to exactly the length that they recommend and my SWR ended up at 1.1 at 146 Mhz. Couldn't hope for better than that. In fact pretty much the whole band was around that 1.1 and only went up it 1.2 right at the upper end of the band.

So Wednesday after Christmas I headed off into the wild west. I have some friends who have a 30 Acre property about 20 Minutes North East of Tara and with my portable antenna in tow I was keen to find out if I would be able to reach anybody on the 2 Meter band. Due to unexpected delays in my departure I didn't get out there until about 10 past 7 at night. But not deterred by this and keen to check out the radio (Never mind the tent). With light fading very fast I quickly unpacked the radio, battery and antenna pole propped up with the corner of the trailer and tuned to the Bunya Mountains repeater. To my delight I could hear the Wednesday night 2 Meter Net, but the real test was am I able to get two way communications. Well most of you will already know that answer is yes, loud and clear.

I did try and push my luck by trying to reach Mount Perseverance repeater the next evening but I wasn't even able to hear that one at all, but really wasn't surprised that I couldn't. Since returning I have now added a tripod type base to my telescoping 5 Meter pole so should I go camping again without the trailer I will have a way to get the pole to stand up on its own. I had purchase a CD28-37-50 Series Mopole™ Antenna the week before Christmas and fabricated a bracket out of some scrap aluminium, attached the PL259 into the bracket and using a pole clamp bracket attached this assembly on to a concreters 5 Meter long telescoping pole. The Antenna needed some fine tuning as it is a broad band antenna suitable for frequencies between 138 and 163 MHz the supplied instructions make trimming this antenna down to the correct length for your desired frequency a breeze. For my own piece of mind and to ensure I didn't cut too much off I left it about 20mm too long according to their instructions and then slowly removed 5mm pieces checking the SWR using an antenna analyser that I had borrowed from Allan (VK4MBE). I ended up cutting the antenna to exactly the length that they recommend and my SWR ended up at 1.1 at 146 Mhz. Couldn't hope for better than that. In fact pretty much the whole band was around that 1.1 and only went up it 1.2 right at the upper end of the band.



Photo Taken Thursday Morning.

If anyone is interested in more details about the CD28-37-50 Series Antenna. It is a ground independent,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Wave VHF Vertical Antenna. The literature claims that it ...  
"Exhibits 3 dB improvement in performance over a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave whip" and  
" The transformer circuit is housed within a high impact thermoplastic moulding which is virtually indestructible".  
If anyone wanted more info there is a PDF document that I could email to you or if you just type the antenna details into Google there is plenty of information on them.  
Contributed by Tess Luckman VK4FDDC  
Should have had your pic in there Tess ed

**Remember, when playing with high transmit power.  
when you double your power, (100watts to 200watts,) that is only 3DB of gain.  
and the extra 100watts, would be about 140watts from the power supply.**

The TW-2 Talking Wattmeter from LDG was the companion unit to the earlier TW-1. It provided an aural spoken Synthesized voice in the VHF & UHF ham bands.

Ideal for the vision-impaired, for those in the “bi-focal set”, or just for those times when you need to be looking somewhere else. It was perfect for mobile operation; you could check your power and SWR and still keep your eyes on the road. Three languages were available: English, Spanish and German and it had its own internal speaker. The TW-2 handled up to 250 watts with a resolution of 0.1 watt and was accurate to plus or minus 5% of the reading across the entire power range. The unit was microprocessor controlled and required 7 – 15 volts DC at 200 mA maximum, but consumed no current when not speaking. Well fancy that! A talking wattmeter that could speak Spanish. They don't make good things like that anymore.



Contributed by Westlakes ARC magazine. with thanks.

**Noel's Nutty Campers**  
**VK4NL**  
**Ph. 0413 958 216**

**Email: [vk4nlnoel@gmail.com](mailto:vk4nlnoel@gmail.com)**  
**<http://vk4nl3.wix.com/noelsnuttycampers>**

## CALENDAR FOR NOEL'S NUTTY

Well folks, the calendar for the year is a work in progress, but this year is the 10 anniversary of the nutty camps, so, to celebrate this milestone there will be a camp at Bargara beach caravan park on March the 9th to 12th inclusive lets know who would like to attend before sending out the official invitations. Bargara Beach of course is up near Bundaberg.

We will be having breakfast somewhere along the beachfront on Friday morning probably at the local hotel, then a lunch time meal on the Saturday at the golf club.

There will also be a walk through the Mon Repos walking trails which comes off the end of the park grounds.

more details as the date gets closer, so mark your diaries now.

### **A couple of questions for the exam Candidates.**

**here is a Different question.**

**do you find these questions beneficial, ?? or should I not be wearing out my little bit of gray matter that I have to make up these questions. ???**

**No I don't look them up in the question bank, I dream them up. ED.**

**The answers this time will be found in the reply emails/feedback that I receive**

### **Some good memories.**

You got your windscreen cleaned, oil checked and petrol served without asking, all for free, every time..



Those days, we used to fill em up with oil and check the petrol. ED.

### **Repeater update.**

*As was reported in the last issue or the rag, we had no joy in sorting the interference problems on Mt K, so since then, we have tried another repeater, an RF Technologies (Tait) VHF repeater (Kindly donated by Andrew VK4JV. At first, we thought that we may have stumbled on a solution to our problem, but unfortunately, though the symptoms are different, we are still experiencing intermittent desense during the day, but no problem during the night time.*

#### *Just a bit of history,*

*the site on Mt Kiangarow had a major refurbishment in 2008, with a new Tower and antenna systems etc erected, since then we have had various 2mt repeaters in use on the site, namely Western, Transworld, Phillips, Tait, Yaesu and others, and we have had desense problems with all of the above, so there is something being generated on site that is obviously producing a mixing effect that is generating a very low RF signal on 146.075mhz, thus getting up the nose of our VHF repeater, so we are unsure where we should go next.*

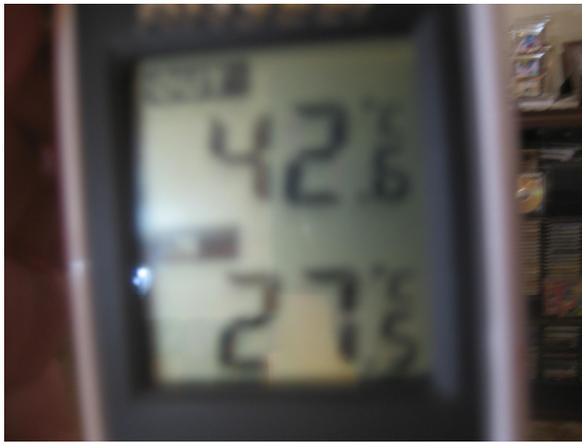
*the UHF repeater is working OK, so don't forget about this one, the only handicap with this repeater is the single UHF dipole that it is operating on, If we had the original antennas that we had up there, 2 x folded collinear phased together, this repeater would fly. we are considering what we can do about this.*

*Don't forget the local 2mt repeater is on air in Dalby, so if you are travelling through any time, give it a try, 147.250 with a + offset.*

### **Fundraising.**

Our usual Sausage sizzles on Saturday mornings were a bit light on during the latter part of 2016 due to various circumstances, but we did hold a couple in December 2016, one of these was on the 31st of Dec, New years eve. we thought, Gee this will be a waste of time. but as it turned out, this was one of our best results, many thanks to all those who willingly give of their time to make these events a success. the next event will be on Saturday the 14th January 2017, as we continue to cover the ongoing costs of setting up and maintaining the club's equipment and other costs, like insurance, licences, freight etc.

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1.30pm Saturday the 14th of January 2017 in Dalby.

Well folks, after our sausage sizzle Saturday morning and managing to record 41.5degs on the table under the gazebo. I brought the trusty thermometer home and at around 1.30pm the above pic shows the temp here at home, the pic is out of focus but readable. the top reading is the outdoor probe mounted under the eaves on the eastern side of the house, the bottom reading is taken in the lounge room with the Air conditioner roaring.

Bring on Winter !!!!

oooOOOooo  
Club Netts.

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.

*Each Sunday evening at 1930hrs we run an 80mt nett on 3.650 MHz.*

*If you have some time to spare on a Sunday evening, please call in and say hi, and join in the different topics of discussion that arise from time to time. It is great to have our regulars on this nett, but there are quite a few missing, So, the question. Where are you all.???*

*The 2mt nett is on each Wednesday evenings at 1930 hrs on the Bunya Mts 2mt repeater. 146.675 megs please call in if you can, and join the conversation.*

*There is another nett that is happening on a Thursday evening at 1930hrs on the new Wicen repeater set up on Mt Perseverance near Toowoomba, at the moment it is on 147.700mhz with a negative offset and a 91.5hz tone to gain access. this repeater will be changing around some time down the track reversing the up and down links.*

### Interesting History

This should make us appreciate all that we DO have,  
and not complain so much about what we WANT but don't have.



“They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot. Once a day it was taken and sold to the tannery.

If you had to do this to survive, you were ‘piss poor.’

But worse than that were the really poor folks who couldn't even afford to buy a pot.

They ‘didn't have a pot to piss in’ and were considered the lowest of the low.”... **More next issue. Ed. Page 5 of 7.**

oooOOOooo

### ***Darling Downs Radio Club netts.***

The club conducts two nets on a committed and regular basis.

1. A 2m net is conducted each Sunday morning at 10am after the news broadcast . At 9:00am the WIA News re-broadcast following which a call-back which the node automatically records and sends to the WIA. Then, at 10:00am, Please note: The IRLP and Echolink facilities will be shut down from 9:00am to the end of the WIA news and call-back, after which the IRLP and Echolink will be enabled. However, if you wish to join the 10:00am net, you can call in on IRLP or EchoLink approximately 8 minutes before 10:00am, and join us on the net.

2. Each Saturday evening there is an 80m net on 3.587 MHz (+ or – QRM) commencing at 7:30pm and is hosted by Theo Moller (VK4ESK). This net is also well attended by both local and interstate amateurs. The Club has two repeaters, VHF and UHF, co-sited, and both employing the call sign vk4rdd. The 2m repeater transmits on 146.750 MHz with standard 600 kHz offset. IRLP is available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 6958. Connect: Use DTMF for the node number you require. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” EchoLink is also available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 69580 Connect: Use DTMF “star” and then the node number required. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” only. [NB: No “star” required

To contact the DDRC.

The secretary, PO Box 3257 Village Fair Toowoomba 4350

Web page: <http://www.ddrci.webs.com> has all the details.

The club meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month

The Club meets at the Drayton Bowling Club, 44 Gipps street, Drayton.

All meetings start at 7:00pm sharp.

The second Monday is always a Management committee meeting, and is held each month.

The fourth Monday is usually a social and technical evening, with 2 exceptions:

1. In July this Monday is the Annual General Meeting of the club
2. In December there is no meeting on the fourth Monday.

*A good way to support any of your radio clubs and its assets activities and projects is to become a financial member. To find out how to do this, and obtain an application form. Please make contact with your club via any of the avenues below.*

*Some folks do not wish to be members of a club, and that is quite understandable. Given this, the best way to support you club is to make a financial donation. many thanks..*

### **Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.**

Meets on the first Saturday in February, May, August & November. These dates may vary slightly due to circumstances, but watch these newsletters, and check the website for details.

Meetings held at the MYCNC complex in Dalby, or at other venues decided @ previous meetings.

Postal Address	President:-----	Reg Kerslake	VK4AQU	Ph 07 4662 4950
15 Bunya Street	Vice President:-----	Peter Griffiths	VK4POP	Ph 07 4662 1509
Dalby 4405	Secretary: -----	Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950 )
Email.	Treasurer: -----	Neil Holmes	VK4NF	Ph 07 4662 4950 ) Mob 0488 687 649.
vk4bad@wia.org.au	Repeaters; -	VHF 146.675. UHF 438.7	Co sited on the Bunya Mts.	
Website. bunyaamcom.org.au		VHF repeater located in Dalby	147/250mhz. positive offset.	

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### **Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club.**

Contact: Secretary Warwick Marshallsea VK4NW SCARC, PO Box 7551, Sippy Downs, Qld. 4556. Email [warwickmar@hotmail.com](mailto:warwickmar@hotmail.com)

You may also contact Noel, VK4NL, who is the voice of SCARC to us on the Darling Downs, on [vk4nlnoel@gmail.com](mailto:vk4nlnoel@gmail.com)

80m net: Each Thursday evening, 7:30pm 3.660 MHz call-sign VK4WIS.

2m net: Each Sunday evening, 7:30pm via VK4WIS on 144.300 MHz, USB.

6m net: Each Friday evening, 7:30pm at VK4RSN on 53.700 MHz.

10m net: Each Wednesday evening, 7:30pm 28.70 MHz.

EchoLink Internet station is VK4WIS-R, and Node number is 306184. Available on 146.850 MHz and 146.825 MHz (linked

) IRLP Available o 438.075 MHz, with Node number 6564.

**For sale, give away or wanted**

**WANTED, DETAILS OF PRELOVED GEAR THAT NEEDS A NEW HOME  
no I am not going to put the contact details here, U know where to find them. ED.**

FOR SALE

Icom IC 718 transceiver good condition, and in good working order Mic and manual. \$500

Ameritron AL811-H, HF linear amp, good condition and in good working order. with 4 spare sets tubes. Manual. \$900. contact Adrian VK4KL. vk4kl@icloud.com

**Wanted, large Variable Capacitors suitable for constructing a HF tuning unit that will handle about a Kilowatt. please contact Adrian VK4KL Email vk4kl@icloud.com**

**Pre order your Dual band J pole antenna, Just \$50 + freight if applicable.  
Phone Neil VK4NF 0488 687 649, or email holmzie@bigpond.com.  
please note about \$45 for materials, the labour is a love job. ED.**

*If you would like to add some copy for publication in the next issue of News In Brief,  
please Email same to – [holmzie@bigpond.com](mailto:holmzie@bigpond.com)*

*Many thanks to all those who have contributed*



**Until Next time, enjoy your hobby. Neil Holmes VK4NF.--- Editor.**