

QNEWS - 23 SEP 2018 VK4 ON AIR

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DID YOU TELL ANYONE ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO THIS WEEK?

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THE FOLLOWING NEWS CAN BE HEARD FROM OUR AUDIO SERVICE  
Available in Audio RIGHT NOW  
[http://www.wiaq.org.au/ftp/vk4\\_qnews\\_64.mp3](http://www.wiaq.org.au/ftp/vk4_qnews_64.mp3)

VK4 SILENT KEYS @ 2018-2019 WIA YEAR

VK4FCMI (August 26)	Valentine Harbort	(vk4hit)
VK4AER (advised Aug 30)	Edwina Rooms	(theTARCinc)
VK4HPT (advised Sept 18)	Peter Amos	(theTARCinc)

News of a Silent Key

Sad news in from RADAR members that Peter Amos VK4HPT, formerly of Ogmore Central Queensland and most recently residing in Sarina Central Queensland, has gone Silent Key following a long battle with a number of illnesses.

Pete was very well known to those hams and support crews who travelled about and also to those who attended the regional Radio amateur gatherings.

Peter Amos VK4HPT, Silent Key.

The members and committee of Ipswich and District Radio Club are saddened by the loss of one of its honorary members Valentine Harbort VK4FCMI who went silent key on the 26th of August 2018 at the age of 75.

Val, as he was known by the members, was a bit of a character. He was into radio and electronics in the early stages of his life and loved the hobby of amateur radio.

There was a bit of a standing joke at the club. Val could tinker with radios but when he obtained his foundation licence he was not allowed to tinker any more. To date it is believed Val was the oldest member of the club to sit for his foundation licence.

Valentine Harbort VK4FCMI Another Silent Key.

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#### CLUBBING

(J)

BANANA SHIRE

<http://www.wia.org.au/clubs/vk4/BananaShireRepeaterAssociationInc/>

BANANA SHIRE REPEATER ASSOCIATION

Banana Shire Repeater Association owns and maintains 4 Repeaters on the top of Banana Range which is located between the towns of Banana and Biloela and sits at a height of just over 600 Metres above sea level.

Banana Range is also able to be activated as a SOTA site having SOTA ID VK4/CA-032

The President is Errol Johnson.

Fellow club members regularly meet at Kerinvale Comaudio 3a Murchison Street Biloela, all are welcome at Ian VK4FNAA's Communications shop during business hours.

Banana Shire Repeater Association at one stage broadcast the WIA National News as well as QNEWS every Sunday via 2 Metres as well as EchoLink.

(J)

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

<http://www.wia.org.au/clubs/vk4/CentralHighlandsAmateurRadioClub/>

Central Highlands Amateur Radio Club

A small club started back in 1988 with the Amateurs from across the Central Highlands now 20 Years young with a keen supporting membership from across Queensland. Proud to be the first club to link 3 voice repeaters in the early 90's and now with 7 voice repeaters linked across Central Queensland and also a fixed link to a SEQ repeater near Ipswich, all with IRLP access on Node # 6037.

Find out more by searching for Central Highlands Amateur Radio Club now on Facebook

President is Steve Wood VK4SMW

(J)

VK4 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- HISTORICAL RADIO  
HISTORICAL WIRELESS SOCIETY OF SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND  
[www.wia.org.au/clubs/vk4/HistoricalWirelessSocietyOfSouthEastQueensland/](http://www.wia.org.au/clubs/vk4/HistoricalWirelessSocietyOfSouthEastQueensland/)

Historical Wireless Society Of South East Queensland

This club/group was formed in 1997 as the South East Queensland Group of the Historical Radio Society of Australia to foster collecting, restoring and preserving the history of radios in SEQ.

On the Seventh of May 2004 they became incorporated as the Historical Wireless Society of South East Queensland Inc.

The HWS-SEQ is based in Brisbane, have regular meetings, Auctions, Bus trips and Training Sessions in various locations in South East Queensland.

They publish a newsletter/magazine Wireless Review 4 times a year which is posted to all members.

Meetings are held at various venues around the South East Qld. area, and usually consist of a meeting followed by either an auction of members surplus vintage radios, parts, magazines etc. or a boot sale.

President is Rob Zanchetta and Peter Gorfton is Secretary.

To bring these, and your club up to date, we'd love to hear from YOU (club or group,) just put pen to paper AND step up to the mike and send to [qnews@wia.org.au](mailto:qnews@wia.org.au)

With today's reading from the WIA affiliated clubs web page  
I'm John, VK4JJW

(June 2017)

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Hello, I'm Geoff Emery, VK4ZPP, and I've been thinking.

Have you noticed that the photos that people are sharing about amateur radio contain a lot of images of people like me? I mean so many are people who are what we would have called "mature".

Around the world, this hobby attracts people from all areas of humanity, quite literally from beggars to kings and if we include the wider interests of electronics including computing and radio control, radio astronomy and makers, well where do we stop? In our niche, we seem to have many "mature" people who enjoy "mature" activities and in some ways it is like the joke of yore when people read the morning newspaper to see if their name was in the obituaries.

Here is the rub - when we see our club remaining static or shrinking

in membership, that perhaps it is the "mature" attitude that dissuades other younger people from joining. If we do the same thing without variation, it might suit those comfortable with what has gone before but it might just deter others who want more from their social life.

Then there is the other issues such as attractiveness to women. At times it is easy to forget that our hobby is not really just for the hairy chested but includes women too. What is there for women to do in our club life? Do we even consider it or are we thankful when the ladies prepare supper and leave it at that?

What about people with disabilities? There are all sorts of limits to be thought of and worked around. Can people in wheel chairs make it into our functions and are there toilets that they can use? If we have activities away from the meeting room is there suitable transport for people with mobility issues or do we just leave them at home?

We have seen that the WIA Board have called for people with IT experience to assist with modernising the web presence for the Institute. This is something that we can all look forward to and especially having mobile device friendly information.

The magazine, "Amateur Radio", has had minor revamps from time to time but it too seems a bit "mature" in its style these days. I enjoy the history of our particular madness but I also wonder are we becoming too focussed on the military and the memorials. That is not to say we should ignore this part of amateur history but perhaps we can look for more balance. We should not ignore the contributions of those who have died but maybe we can promote stories of current contributions to the hobby.

What we should be doing is inviting others into our clubs and hobby with the look, the feel and the attitude of what we present to the world. Maybe the time has come to embrace younger attitudes and be a little less "mature".

I'm Geoff Emery and that's what I think....how about you?

(sept 2018)

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Send SCRIPT to [qnews@wia.org.au](mailto:qnews@wia.org.au)  
send audio to <http://www.wia.org.au/members/broadcast/upload/>

QNEWS Tips to get MORE out of your weekly newscast on VK4WIA

If you would like to submit club news items for inclusion in QNEWS broadcasts, please email your item in text to:-

[qnews@wia.org.au](mailto:qnews@wia.org.au)

THEN submit audio:- Read "how to submit items" in the weekly news

page on  
<http://www.wia.org.au/members/broadcast/contribute/>

Remember the sooner you submit audio material the more the likelihood of it being broadcast in the very next edition QNEWS. Each item will only be broadcast once, if you want a couple of mentions, please submit different slants to keep your event 'fresh .'

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