Queensland A.M. Radio Stations.

Part of the most comprehensive list ever compiled of Australian A.M. broadcasting stations.

4CM Brisbane 02-1920. Experimental station owned by Dr Val McDowall on longwave using 20 watts. Built by Thomas Elliott (**Australia's television pioneer** and first Chief Engineer of **4BC**). Operated by Charles Stevens from experimental station **4RG** (later an original staff member of **4QG**). Broadcast regular Sunday night concerts 1921-1922, and live broadcasts from His Majesty's Theatre. Moved into the Old Windmill Tower in 1926, and conducted the **first Australian television experiments** from 1929 with a 30 line Baird system. Moved to medium wave (1250 KHz.) using 10 watts in August 1933. **Granted Australia's first television licence on 1-7-1934** (also the first television licence in the Southern Hemisphere). Television transmissions (earlier called 'radiovision') were daily from 1935 for one hour at 7-30 PM with an increase to 180 lines on 136 metres, and often received in Melbourne. The first faces on Australian television were Mickey Mouse playing the piano in an M.G.M. cartoon on 10-4-1934, followed by film star Janet Gaynor in 1935 (see separate "Australia's First Licensed Television Station" article). His television equipment used to be displayed at the Brisbane Royal Historical Society. Val McDowell also experimented with X-rays and was a radiology consultant for the Queensland Government.



4AE Brisbane 1920. Experimental station owned by the **W**ireless **I**nstitute of Australia using a 10 watt transmitter at Dutton Park. Their callsign was later changed to **4WI**. On air 2000-2200 every Tuesday.

4CH Brisbane 1921. Experimental station owned by Arthur Dillon using a 10 watt transmitter at the Old Windmill Tower on long and medium wave. Arthur once heard a U.S.A. medium wave station on a crystal set, and was the first technical editor for the *Queensland Radio News* periodical. Closed in 1926. This callsign was reissued on 28-8-1930 as a commercial licence at Charleville, which never went to air, and then allocated to the A.B.C. at Charleville in 1982.

4EZ Brisbane 29-11-1922. Experimental station owned by the Queensland Institute of Radio Engineers with a transmitter at the Old Windmill Tower. Broadcast the first speech by a politician. Renowned for many outside broadcasts in 1923 (rare in those days). Closed in 1926.

4AK Brisbane 1922. Experimental station owned by J. Milner. Transmitter at Kelvin Grove. Closed in 1935, with the callsign being reissued to a commercial station at Oakey on 31-8-1935.

4CC Brisbane 1922. Experimental station owned by Clifford Isles. On air Sunday evenings from Ascot. (When commercial station **4CD** in Gladstone opened a relay transmitter at Rockhampton, they used the **4CC** callsign).

4CW Brisbane 1922. Experimental station owned by Albert Buck. Transmitter at Geebung.

4CN Brisbane. Experimental station owned by Ces Morris using a 20 watt transmitter at Rosalie. On air week-nights and weekends. Renowned for his high quality transmissions. Licensing authorities changed the callsign to **4LW** in 1929 with 50 watts.

4PW Ipswich. Experimental station owned by **P**ercy **W**oods. First Queensland country broadcasting station. Renowned for regular outside broadcasts.

4VT Townsville. Experimental station owned by Sid Dahl. Also see **4KA** Ayr 1933.

4QL Brisbane. Experimental station owned by the **Q**ueensland **L**isteners League. Transmitter at Paddington. This callsign was reissued to the A.B.C. at Longreach on 19-3-1947.

4RQ Brisbane. Experimental station owned by the Radio Society of Queensland. Transmitter at the Trades Hall.

4BW Mareeba. Experimental station owned by Andy Couper, who also experimented with X-rays.

4CB Murgon 1922. Experimental station owned by Arch Caswell in the basement of the Town Hall. He built a receiver into a book whilst a Japanese P.O.W. in WWII.

<u>4CG Toowoomba.</u> Experimental station owned by Cliff Gold (nephew of Ted Gold - see **4EG** Toowoomba, **4GR** Toowoomba 16-8-1925 and **4CG** Brisbane).

4EG Toowoomba. Experimental station owned by **E**dward **G**old. Once broadcast a complete Eisteddfod. On air each evening for 30 minutes. Became commercial station **4GR** on 16-8-1925. (Also see **4CG** Brisbane).

4AP Brisbane 1923. Broadcast station owned by T. Bridger. Transmitter at Hamilton.

<u>4EM Charleville</u> 1923. Broadcast station owned by Ernest Marrs, with a homemade transmitter in his house. On air each Sunday morning on 1250 KHz. Ernest moved to Dubbo in 1933 and started **2EM** which closed in 1935. **4EM** was later licensed as commercial station **4VL** on 12-2-1936.

4RJ Brisbane. Broadcast station owned by Rev. **R.J.** Delbridge with religious music. Winner of "Best Broadcast Station 1931". Transmitter at Paddington.

4FM Cairns. Broadcast station owned by **F**. Moody.

4KL Cairns. Broadcast station owned by I. Johnson.

4KO Ipswich. Broadcast station owned by Norm Hart.

4WS Ipswich. Broadcast station owned by **W**. **S**ebley.

4RP Toowoomba. Broadcast station owned by **Robertson & Provan** Ltd.

4BI Brisbane. Broadcast station owned by the Junction Park Radio Club at Yeronga.

4AF Clifton. Experimental station owned by **A.F.** Marshall.

4BO Charters Towers. Broadcast station owned by Norm Odgers. Closed in 1925.

- 4BM Mackay. Broadcast station owned by the A.B. Milne Radio Shop.
- **4XK Ipswich.** Broadcast station owned by George Richards using a two watt transmitter.
- **4PG** Brisbane. Broadcast station owned by Pat Golden transmitting from Wynnum on weekends.
- **4GW Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by George Hams. Transmitter at Northgate. Closed in 1933.
- **4RB Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by **R**obert **B**rown transmitting from Toowong every night.
- **4GO** Brisbane. Broadcast station owned by **G**. Oxlade transmitting from Newmarket every night.
- **4AL Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by Bruce Munro transmitting from Hawthorne every night.
- **4JU Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by Frank Nolan transmitting from Spring Hill on weekends.
- <u>4CG Brisbane.</u> Broadcast station owned by Cliff Gold (nephew of Edward Gold) transmitting from Hill End on weekends. (Also see **4CG**, **4EG** and **4GR** in Toowoomba).
- **4RM Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by **R**ay **M**cIntosh. Transmitter at Hawthorne. Ray had listeners all over Australia and New Zealand. His application for a commercial licence was rejected, so he went to work with **4QG**.
- **4WA Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by Bill Young. Transmitter at West End. On air each night.
- **4SM Townsville.** Broadcast station owned by W. Ikin on behalf of the **Strand Motors** Radio Shop.
- **4FE Brisbane.** Broadcast station operated by Arthur Burton on behalf of the Fortitude Valley Y.M.C.A.
- **4LC Bundaberg.** Broadcast station owned by **L**en **C**urrie. On air Sunday mornings.
- **4PC Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by **Percy Chapman**. Transmitter at Sandgate.
- **4WG** Innisfail. Broadcast station owned by **W.G**. Clayton. On air every Sunday.
- **4PK Ipswich.** Broadcast station owned by Stan McIntosh. Stan played records borrowed from music shops. Often heard in Victoria. Renowned for his excellent quality broadcasts.
- **4UZ** Toowoomba. Broadcast station owned by A. Hardy Buzacott (later Chief Engineer at **4GR**).
- **4AW Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by **A. W**alz. Transmitter at Nundah.
- **4RV Cunnamulla.** Broadcast station owned by **R**eg **V**ickary, using a battery powered 12 watt transmitter. Renowned for broadcasts of local football matches. Reg moved his station to Warwick in 1936.
- **4WH Longreach.** Broadcast station owned by **W**illiam **H**eggarty.
- 4MM Brisbane. Broadcast station owned by Matt O'Brien. Transmitter at Toowong.
- **4KH Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by W. Argeat. Transmitter at Wynnum. Often heard in New Zealand.
- **4FK Brisbane 1923.** Broadcast station owned by F. Matthews. Transmitter at New Farm. This callsign was reissued to another broadcast licensee (Vern Kenna) in 1931 at Hamilton.
- **4AC** Innisfail 1923. Broadcast station owned by Leslie Waters.
- **4XN Dalby.** Broadcast station owned by Eric Nissen, who worked for the P.M.G. all his life. Eric was honoured by Queen Elizabeth II with an Imperial Service Medal.
- **4HW Brisbane.** Broadcast station owned by the **H**arold **W**alsh **R**adio Shop using a five watt transmitter at Hamilton. Also used the callsign **4WR**.
- **4BK Innisfail 1924.** Broadcast station owned by C. Randall. Closed in 1930, with the callsign being reissued to a commercial station in Brisbane on 29-9-1930.
- **4CS Townsville 1924.** Broadcast station owned by J. Geraghty. He later moved to Gympie and installed his station in the Town Hall. Closed in 1928.
- **4CU Clifton 1924.** Broadcast station owned by Charles Walker.
- 4RC Brisbane 1924. Broadcast station owned by R. Campbell. Transmitter at Kelvin Grove.
- **4DO Rockhampton 04-1924.** Broadcast station owned by C. Hobler.
- **4WN Brisbane 04-08-1924.** Broadcast station owned by F. Thomas on behalf of the **W**ooloowin Radio Club, using a 10 watt transmitter. On air Thursdays and Sundays. Congratulated by **4QG** Director, J. Robinson, on their excellent service to listeners on 1-8-1927. Probably the most active radio club in Queensland.
- **4GC** Maryborough 1925. Broadcast station owned by the Maryborough Radio Club. Their callsign was later changed to **4MO**. The **4GC** callsign was reissued to a commercial station at Charters Towers, owned by **4AY**, in 1976.
- **4AZ Brisbane 26-04-1925.** Broadcast station operated by Frank Sharpe (later VK4ZFS) on behalf of Radio Manufacturers Ltd using a 20 watt transmitter at Ashgrove.
- **4SS Brisbane 13-05-1925.** Broadcast station owned by the South Brisbane Radio Club. Transmitter at Stones Corner. They designed equipment to experiment with television, but closed in 1937 before transmissions commenced. (Commercial licence **4NA** Nambour [9-10-1964] changed their callsign to **4SS** in 1983).
- <u>4ME Brisbane 07-1925.</u> This callsign was used by A.W.A. to test the original **4QG** transmitter. QSL cards are rare and highly prized. (A.W.A. also used the callsigns **2ME** [short wave] in Sydney and **3ME** in Melbourne).
- 4HB Charleville 1925. Broadcast station owned by H. Baker with a two watt transmitter.
- **4QG Brisbane 27-07-1925.** All available receivers were tested in Toowoomba for reception capabilities. Opened by the Premier W. Gillies, however, a broadcast from the Tivoli Theatre Orchestra was abandoned. Their opening broadcast was described by the *Queenslander* newspaper as "generally disappointing". On air 1300-1330, 1500-1600, 1830-1900 and 2000-2205 (0630-0700)

and 1300-2300 in 1927). Aired 71 outside broadcasts in September 1927. Praised for broadcasting the sound of three roaches walking across a microphone. Once objected to Government censorship despite Queensland Government ownership.



Call Sign, 4QG Power, 5,000 Watts Wave Length, 385 Metres

The Director of the

Queensland Radio Service

State Insurance Building. George St., Brisbane, Q, Australia

Desires to thank you for your communication re-porting reception from Station 4QG. Your report was highly appreciated and further comments are





Unsuccessfully applied for a relay license near Toowoomba in 1928. Made a profit from advertising of £5,211 in 1928. Often heard throughout Alaska, Hawaii, and Japan. Broadcast the arrival of record breaking aviatrix Amy Johnson at Eagle Farm airport on 30-5-1930 (shortest ever outside broadcast in the world). All the announcer said was "Christ, she's crashed" and the broadcast was immediately cut. Installed a 5,000 watt transmitter in 1930. Their first A.W.A. 1,000 watt transmitter (serial number one) installed by Joe Reed (see 2JR 1922) was used to start 4BK on 29-9-1930 and 4AK on 31-8-1935 (the only Australian transmitter used to start three stations). Often heard in Victoria on crystal sets. Programs were provided by the privately owned Australian Broadcasting Co. from 30-1-1930 with 60 minutes of advertising daily, until taken over by the Australian Broadcasting Commission (A.B.C.) on 1-7-1932. On air 0730-0830, 1100-1400, 1500-1630, and 1800-2300. Installed a disc recorder in 1935. A cricket commentator died on air during a cricket broadcast on 2-11-1936. Popular announcer Russ Tyson took over the high rating "Hospital Half Hour" and the breakfast program. Became **4RN** in October 1990.



Toowoomba





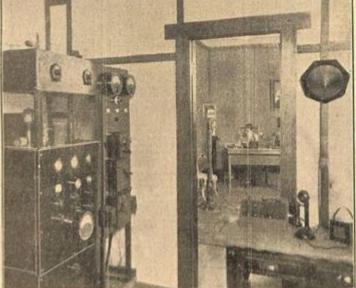




Service above Perrins Cafe. Started with the **4EG** 50 watt equipment. Opening night featured local artists. Installed landlines to the Town Hall, Strand Theatre, and the Presbyterian Church. Known as "The Voice of the Downs". Installed a 500 watt transmitter built by Edward at Drayton in November 1935 which was heard in Hobart and Adelaide. Off the air when their tower fell down in 1938. Increased hours to 0630-0930, 1200-1400, and 1730-2230 after WWII. Off the air in 1966 when a plane hit their tower. A listener phoned to ask why they hadn't broadcast such important news. Hardy Buzacott (**4UZ**) became their Chief Engineer. Moved into new premises in June 1968, with a free celebration dance for listeners at the Julius Caesar Lounge. Briefly owned by **2GB** in an aborted attempt to own an Australia-wide network. Has now launched a relay transmitter at Stanthorpe. Currently owned by Southern Cross Austereo. Also see

4CG Toowoomba and Brisbane, 4MB Maryborough 16-8-1932, and 4VL Charleville 12-2-1936. The photo is Frank Warwick.





4GR STUDIO 1924

4GR TRANSMITTER 1930

THE PROGRESS OF 4GR

THE three photographs which you notice inset go to prove the extraordinary advance in radio. This is exceptionally marked in the case of Station 4GR Toowoomba, the Gold Radio Service. The first photograph marked "A" takes us back (how time flies?) 12 years. Just fancy that! This is what 4GR looked like in 1924. You notice the weird and wonderful inthrough which 4GR struments made its initial transmission. The gentleman with the head phones and the ordinary telephone transmitter is the present director of 4GR Toowoomba (Mr. Edward You will notice the look Gold). of extreme concentration on his face. Radio was a serious business

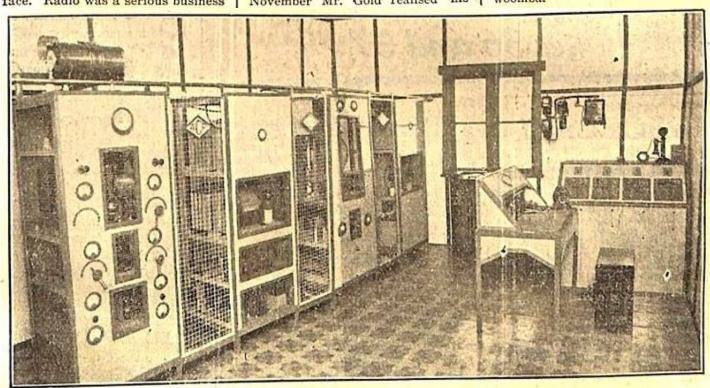
in those days—one had to take it seriously or one's programme was left "in the air."

The listening public, after vainly twiddling with their cat's whiskers, going round, not the dial, but the crystal, would give it up as a bad job and go to bed; but Mr. Gold didn't go to bed. Oh, no; he stayed "put," steadily working, steadily improving, until we look at photograph "B" and we see a vast improvement in 1930. There we have a spacious studio, a modern amplifier (for those days), and a new announcer, seated coyly at the microphone.

And still the years go on. 1930 gives place to 1935, and on 24th November Mr. Gold realised his

crowning achievement-the building of a new transmitting station on St. Matthew's Hill, Drayton, Take a look at photograph "C," which is the last word in radio transmission, and then have a quick glance at photograph "A," and you will admit 4GR has reason to say: "Every day in every way we transmit better and better." It is interesting to remember that 4GR Toowoomba was the first commercial station to commence operations in Queensland, and today the new 4GR holds pride of placs as "The Voice of the Darling Downs." And so we progress.

What will the next step be?—a hard question to answer; but you may be sure that when photograph "D" comes along it will mark another step forward by 4GR Too-woomba.



NEWSPAPER ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPH FROM 1936

4BD Brisbane 1926. Broadcast station owned by Benjamin Grimes. Transmitter at Tarragindi.

4MB Brisbane 1926. Owned by Radio Manufacturers **B**risbane. Projected commercial station which never went to air. This callsign was reissued to a commercial station in Maryborough on 16-8-1932.

4AT Brisbane 1927. Broadcast station owned by **A**lfred **T**. Bauer, an employee of G.J. Grice Music Store, where the station was situated. All records played on air were borrowed from the store. This callsign was later reissued to a commercial station at Atherton in 1939.

4TC Brisbane 1928. Broadcast station owned by the **T**oombul Radio **C**lub. Transmitter at Nundah.

4RM Brisbane 1928. Broadcast station owned by Ray McIntosh. Transmitter at Hawthorne. Also see separate article on 4RM.

4GG Chinchilla 1929. Broadcast station owned by George Heilbronn. Often heard in N.S.W. with half a watt on Sunday mornings, using batteries, as no mains power was available. Broadcast local cricket matches in 1933. George established a "Chinchilla Listeners League" which provided a radio connected to headphones beside each bed in the local hospital in 1937. This callsign was reissued to a commercial station at the Gold Coast on 30-9-1967.

4JO Gympie 1929. Broadcast station owned by Steve Fittell from the Fittell Radio and Electric Service. Powered by batteries, as no electric power was available at his home. Operated using two watts and a homemade microphone, five hours a week. Steve moved his studio to his shop in 1931 with a power increase to 30 watts. He had many listeners throughout Australia and New Zealand. Forced to close in 1939 due to WWII radio restrictions. He then established **4GY** on 3-11-1941. Steve later established the Australian branch of the Far East Broadcasting Company.

4JH Mackay 1929. Broadcast station owned by **John H.** Williams. Became commercial licence **4MK** in 1931.

4KR Barcaldine 1929. Broadcast station owned by J.K. Richardson.

4VH Townsville 1930. Broadcast station owned by H. Wooster. Heard regularly in Port Moresby on 25 watts. On air Sunday mornings. The licence was cancelled when commercial station **4TO** commenced on 5-10-1931.

4CH Charleville 08-08-1930. Commercial licence issued to R. Gaskin, then later cancelled due to not opening. This callsign was reissued to the A.B.C. at Charleville in 1982. Also see **4CH** Brisbane 1921.

4MF Brisbane 1930. Broadcast station owned by D. Winterford. Transmitter at Annerley.











4BC 1116 Brisbane

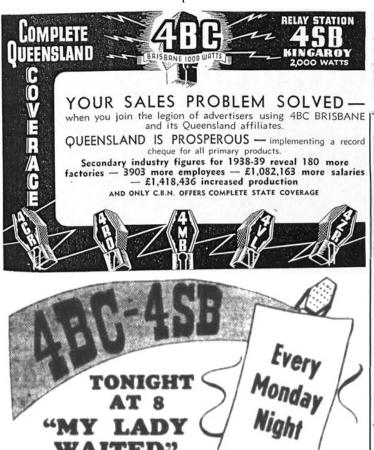
4BC Brisbane 16-08-1930. Owned by John **B**eale **C**handler (Mayor of Brisbane in 1940, a Member of Parliament, and later Knighted). On air 0630-1300 using 200 watts from a 200 feet high tower. Started with five staff (manager, announcer, salesman, engineer, [Thomas Elliott from **4CM**], and secretary). Their first broadcast was the first Test match of an Australian cricket tour of England. Loudspeakers around Brisbane were crowded with listeners. First Australian station to use a crystal controlled transmitter (1,000 watts in 1932). Member of the Federal Radio Network (**2UW**, **3DB**, **5AD**, and **6ML**). Manufactured and sold their "Gloriola" radios. Relayed Charles Kingsford Smith's arrival from London live to **2UW**, plus **3DB** and **5AD**, via landline, plus **6ML** via A.W.A. shortwave station, VK2ME. Known as "The Radio Voice of Queensland". First station to broadcast a live Aboriginal corroboree, which was relayed by VK2ME (the Aborigines sent a special greeting to King George <u>V</u>). By 1937, they had 50 staff with a move to the Wintergarden Theatre. In 1938, 60,000 people attended their charity concert at Southport, using 10 trains from Brisbane and one from Ipswich. Live boxing broadcasts were very popular. In 1940, listeners raised enough money to buy 26 training aircraft for the war effort. Increased power to 1,000 watts in 1943 using an A.W.A. transmitter at Fig Tree Pocket (2,000 watts in 1953, and 5,000 in 1976). After WWII, all the original amateur licensees were denied access to the A.M. band. All the Brisbane broadcast amateurs were granted time on **4BC** to relive their experiences and say goodbye to their listeners. This was

arranged by Thomas Elliott from **4CM** who was still their Chief Engineer. Sacked all their female announcers in 1950. (This was also done by **4BK** and **4KQ**). Introduced 24 hour broadcasting on 15-10-1951. Instigated a children's "Pals" club in the 1950s. Experimented with stereo in 1958 (see **4BK** for details). Known as "Funtastic 4BC", with the slogan "Most People Listen to 4BC" in 1964. Changed to a "Sport-Talk-News" format on 1-10-1981. The photo is Sir John Beals Chandler.









Patricia Kennedy as Anne Boleyn









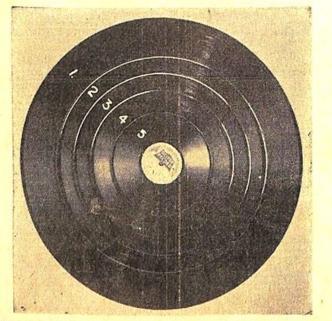


519E

THE DONALD PEERS SHOW England's No. 1 vocalist, with planist Jimmy Bailey. and Frank Marcey's Orchestra, and compere-producer Gerry Connelly.

FEDERAL ELECTIONS TONIGHT! MR. W. R. Complete Coverage MCDONALD P.M. TO FINAL COUNT Duce 4BC IS NEVER OFF THE AIR

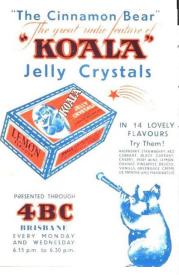
4BC RECORDS

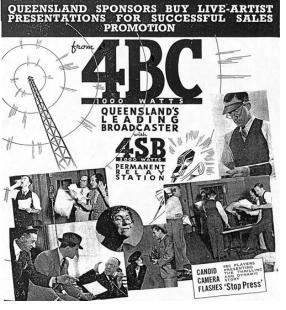


THIS photo, showing the various sized

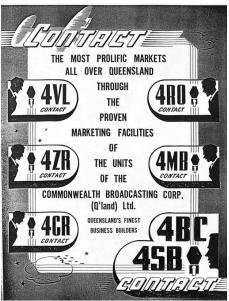
records, which have been heard on records, which have been heard on a 4BC programme, ranging in size from the midget record (No. 5). used for children session entertainment, measur-ing 5) inches in diameter—to the new electrically recorded quarter-hour feature session records, measuring 151 inches across (No. 1). When an overseas presentation is programmed many listeners have wondered how it was that there was no apparent break in the quarter-hourly broadcast, as is the case when 3in, or 4in, records are being used. The reason for this is the fact that the entire overseas programme is placed on the one disc. So that a complete, perfectly presented entertainment results,

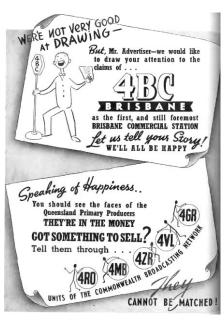
















Pertection of Tonal Qualities! Amazing Expansion in Coverage! Through

Latest Peak Limiting Amplifier!

Officially Opened on Friday, August 25th, by His Excellency Colonel The Rt. Hon. Sir Leslie Orme Wilson, Governor of Queensland, assisted by the Premier, Hon. William Forgan Smith, LL.D.



With 4SB Kingaroy as Permanent

Relay Station and With Associate Stations

4 GR

4 MB

4 RO

4 ZR

Completely servicing for Advertisers the whole of Queensland's rich marketing areas in a manner that leaves no room for doubt as to results



COVERING THE DARLING DOWNS-QUEENSLAND'S MOST FERTILE AREA COVERING A 100% AUDIENCE IN THE VASTLY WEALTHY MARANDA DISTRICT

from 4VL
 CHARLEVILLE
THE SOLO VOICE OF THE COLORN WEST
-WHERE WOOL MEANS WEALTH

• from 4RO ROCKHAMPTON

• from 4MB MARYBOROUGH WHERE MONEY TALKS! RECENT CREAM CHEQUE OVER ONE MILLION POUNDS!





















4BK Brisbane 29-09-1930. Originally planned to operate as 4FO. Situated in the Brisbane King House building. Used the original 1,000 watt transmitter from 4QG, (set at 500 watts), which was later used to start 4AK. Formed a 1930s '4BK Radio Club' with community singing, dancing to jazz bands, and picnics for listeners. Bought by the Courier Mail newspaper on 15-11-1941, calling themselves "The Newspaper of the Air". Their new studios were opened by Ernest Fisk. Relayed to 4AK, and later, some programs to 4IP. First Australian station to establish its own orchestra.









Known as "4BK-Our Best Always". All the female announcers were sacked in 1950 (4BC and 4KQ did the same). They started a children's "Stamp" club in the 1950s. Experimented with stereo in 1958 with 4BC; one station broadcast the right channel and the other broadcast the left; listeners needed two radios to hear stereo. Had five

owners in 18 months before being sold to Austereo in 1988. Known as "Classic Hits 4BK" from 1988. Became B105FM in March 1990. Their 1296 KHz. A.M. frequency was then given to **4RPH**.













TO-DAY The Old Refrains (7.30 and 9.40 a.m.) Your Cavalier

The Old Refrains
(7.30 and 9.40 a.m.)
Your Cavalier
(10.15 a.m.)
Community Concert
(12 till 2 p.m.)
Dad and Dave
(7.15 p.m.).
Marie Antoinette
(9.30)
Cricket Commentary
(10.40)

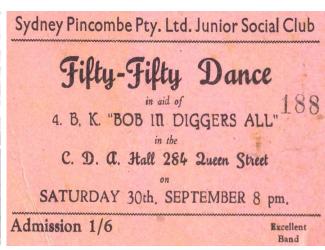
ALL THE BEST FEATURES

COME FROM 4BK-4AK

4BK-AK
3 p.m.
Mondoys to Frideys
"KNOCK-ATTHE-DOOR"

JACKPOT QUIZ
The Dover Starch
Man May Call on
You!
To-day's Jackpot
£29
To-night at 8
STRIKE IT RICH

4BK-AK
TO-NIGHT AT 8
VINCENTS
Present
'The Mysterious Stranger'
in the new series of drames
'The Western Trail'
heard Every Friday night at 8 from The Courier-Mail Stations.



4NW Brisbane 1931. Broadcast station owned by Tom Starkie on behalf of the Queensland Radio Transmitters League, using a 35 watt transmitter at Toombul. Tom was the first person to broadcast his own heartbeat. Known as "Your **N**ight and **W**eekend Station". Closed in 1933.

4FK Brisbane 1931. Broadcast station owned by Vern Kenna. Transmitter at Hamilton. This callsign was previously issued to F. Matthews as another broadcast station in 1923.

4EF Brisbane 1931. Broadcast station owned by **E**van **F**ell. Transmitter at Ashgrove.

4BB Maryborough 1931. Broadcast station owned by **B**ob Beatson. Bob was later appointed the first Chief Engineer for commercial station **4MB** (he worked for the owner in his music store). See **4MB** 16-8-1932.

4MK
252 Metres — Mackay.

An Entertainment Unit of the Australian Federation of Broadcasting Stations.

Our Motto—"We Strive to Excel."





4MK Mackay 12-01-1931. Owned by John H. Williams (VK4JH) with the studio, record library, and a 50 watt transmitter in his house. On air two hours each night. First licensed as **4JH** in 1929. Operated at a loss for the first four years. Records played were borrowed from listeners. Appointed local agents for Qantas, meeting four planes each week. The *Daily Mercury* newspaper bought a half share in 1937, increasing hours to three each night. Acted as the emergency communications centre in 1938 during an air and sea search for a missing launch. Plans to establish a studio in Brisbane were cancelled due to WWII. Increased on-air hours to 0630-0830, 0930-1100, 1330-1730, and 1830-2300 after WWII. Their 1940s motto was "We Strive to Excel" (also see **2XL** Cooma, 30-8-1937). Moved into the local museum in the 1940s (also operated by John), and increased power to 100 watts (2,000 watts in 1950). John was still doing the breakfast show well into his 70s. Due to his poor eyesight, John spent one hour exercising his eyes to focus properly before going on air. Moved into the School of Arts building in 1950. Often heard in the U.K. and Canada. Known as "The Voice of the Barrier Reef". Thieves stole £11 during a break-in on 11-8-1952. On 21-12-1952 they were put off the air by a lightning strike. Renowned for outside broadcasts. Moved to new studios in Sydney Street in 1971. Bought by TVQ-0 TV in the 1980s. Commenced 24 hour broadcasting on 1-11-1981. Changed from a Top 40 format to Adult Contemporary in 1995. Moved to F.M. on 1-7-1999, and launched **4AA** on their A.M. frequency.

4RK Rockhampton **29-07-1931.** Originally licensed in 1924 to the Queensland Government as a relay of **4QG** but never went to air. Programs came from the privately owned Australian Broadcasting Company with 60 minutes of advertisements per day, using a 2,000 watt STC transmitter at Gracemere. First planned to use callsign **4RN**. Their opening broadcast was from the School of Arts hall with local artists. Their first studio was in the Post Office (later in the City Hall). Many listeners in New Zealand, and the only station heard clearly on Mornington Island. Ceased airing advertisements when taken over by the A.B.C. on 1-7-1932, relaying **4QG**, and later, **4QR**, with some local programs. Moved into new studios in 1963. A plane crash near Clermont killed four of their staff in the 1980s. Again moved in 1998, into what had been the gold store for the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company. The control room was in their gold ore vault. Now uses relay transmitters at Emerald (often heard overses). Gladatone Bilogla and Alpha. The photo is their first studio in 1931 or



overseas), Gladstone, Biloela, and Alpha. The photo is their first studio in 1931, on air with Mr. Gardiner.





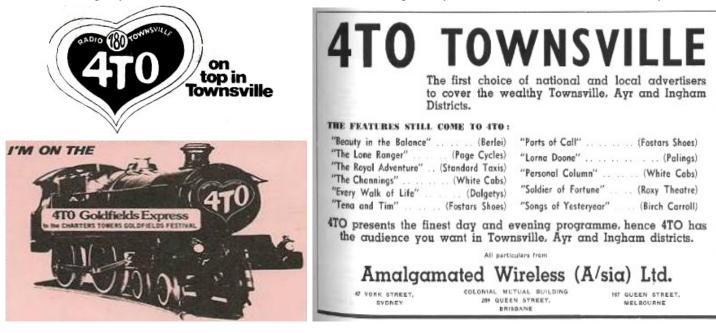






4TO Townsville 05-10-1931. Owned by A.W.A. Ernest **Fisk** was a director. Opened by the Mayor, W. Heatley, during a broadcast of 200 local artists from the Theatre Royal. Started on 200 watts (500 watts in 1948, 2,000 in 1951, and 5,000 in 1981). On air six hours daily over four time slots. First station to have a two-way live broadcast from an aeroplane. Produced a weekly *Radio Times* newsletter in 1936. Often relayed A.W.A. station **9MI**, the world's only floating broadcaster, on the *M.V. Kanimbla* from 1936 to 1939. Scientists on Willis Island in the Coral Sea had good reception. Started their "Kiwi" and "Smile" children's clubs in the

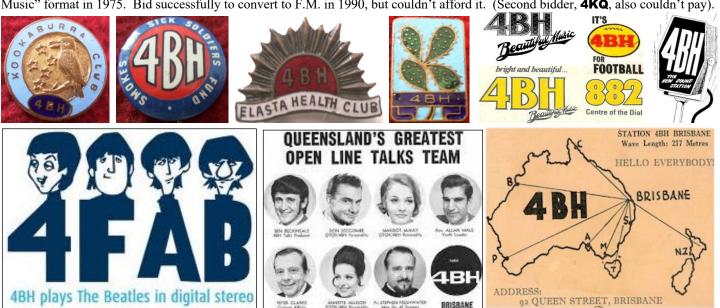
1950s, plus a women's "Singing" club. Cyclone Althea wiped out their studio in 1971. Went back on air with a makeshift studio hurriedly installed at their transmitter. The cyclone also destroyed their manager's house (Joe Oost from Radio Holland). They handled all emergency services communications while the Townsville telephone system was down. Now has an F.M. relay at Bowen.



4RE Brisbane 1932. Broadcast station owned by the **Re**gent Radio Club, and operated by Sound Engineers from the Western Electric Company. Closed in 1935.



4BH Brisbane 02-01-1932. Owned by Grice's Music Store with a 200 watt transmitter at Bald Hills. Sold in 1933 to 4BC as a "Chandler Station", with a 1,000 watt transmitter built by Len Schultz (see **2LO** and **2GB**). Announcer Bob Rogers banned the Elvis Presley hit "Heartbreak Hotel" in 1956. First Australian station to use a directional antenna (installed by A.W.A. in 1957). Their slogan was "4BH for Brighter Hours". Broadcast "Rumpus Room" live from various cinemas after school, with up to 1,000 children attending. Described by school Headmasters as "an unwelcome influence upon youngsters". Started a "Lone Ranger" boys club and a "Kookaburra" girls club in the 1950s, plus a "Bridge" club. Known as "The Top Dog Station" in the 1960s. Launched a "Beautiful Music" format in 1975. Bid successfully to convert to F.M. in 1990, but couldn't afford it. (Second bidder, **4KQ**, also couldn't pay).



Started an unsuccessful "Talkback" format in 1994, going into receivership in 1995. Sold for \$2,000,000, then bought by 4KQ in 1998 for \$12,000,000 after gaining top ratings. Their towers collapsed in 2002 due to teenagers cutting their guy wires. They stated in court that they didn't like the music. They were sentenced to 200 hours community service.

BRISBANE







B.B.WHITEHOUSE & CO PTYLT



ALL DAY - EVERY DAY - FROM 9 TO 11 P.M.







4BH KOOKABURRA CLUB

UNDER ONE SPONSORSHIP SINCE JULY 1936

Peters Arctic Delicacy Company have so long sponsored the activities of this Children's organisation, that it is known today as the 4BH PETERS Kookaburra Club. Contract has just been renewed for another 12 months through Noble Bartlett, Brisbane. One hour's studio entertainment, 6 days a week

One hour's studio entertainment, 6 days a week . . . A theatre party on Saturday morning and picnics, fancy dress balls, etc., cover its

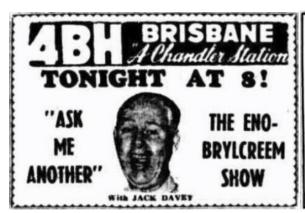
CHANDLER

Sydney: CHANDLER'S BROADCASTING SERVICE, Australia House, Carrington Street, Sydney

STATION

Melbourne: MACQUARIE BROADCASTING SERVICES PTV. LTD., 37 Queen Street, Melb

QUEENSLANDERS FAVOUR THEIR OWN QUEENSLAND OWNED STATION























4RO Rockhampton 02-07-1932. Owned by **4BC** with four staff. Opened by the Mayor, J. Lee. On air 1800-2215. Relayed several **4BC** programs using 50 watts (200 watts in 1933). Their Radio Players drama group produced numerous plays in the 1930s. In 1939 a radio appeal for Easter eggs raised 2,500 eggs for local orphanages. Increased hours 0600-2200 daily after WWII. Known as "The Voice of Central Queensland". Local artists were popular in the 1940s during evening programs. Increased power to 2,000 watts in 1953 with a new transmitter at Pink Lily. Opened a relay transmitter at Gladstone. Lost out to **4CD/4CC** for a relay licence at Biloela. Bought by Prime TV in 2005.





4MB Maryborough 16-08-1932. See **4BB** Maryborough 1931. This callsign was first

issued in Brisbane in 1926 as a commercial licence, which didn't go to air. Owned by Alf Wynne (a piano tuner), and installed in his house using a 100 watt transmitter built by **4BC**. Known on air as "Wynnes Station" (later "The Voice of the Wide"). His two towers were trees 122 feet high, cut from a Fraser Island forest, which also provided tall trees for support during the building of the Suez Canal in Egypt. Test programs were heard in New Zealand. First official broadcast was a concert from the Town Hall with local artists. On air 1830-2200 except Sundays. Moved to Alf's Music and Radio Shop in Kent Street in 1937. Member of the Queensland Network with **4BC**, **4SB**, **4GR**, and **4RO**. Their "Women's" club closed due to war-time restrictions mandating an airraid shelter for any meeting over 30 people, but they still managed to knit thousands of garments for WWII soldiers. After WWII, on air hours were 0830-1000, 1200-1400, and 1830-2200. Geoff Gold, son of Ted Gold (see **4GR**, **4CG**, **4EG**) died aged 28 after accepting the manager's position. Popular QTQ-9 TV newsreader, Bruce Paige, started his career here. Moved to new studios in 1973. Warren Mitchell (aka "Alf Garnett" of the B.B.C. TV comedy: "Till Death Do Us Part") presented a breakfast show in 1974.

During a 1974 flood, the police moved into their office as the police station was flooded. They brought a Prisoner and handcuffed him to a desk, and he took all the emergency phone calls. Their original wooden towers were sliced up with engravings as souvenirs for their 50th anniversary. An April Fools' joke had the studio clock put forward 30 minutes. Many people turned up early for work. Now known as 4MMB on air as 103.5 MIXFM, with their 1161 KHz. A.M. frequency used by the T.A.B. for a racing service.

At 8.45 TO-NIGHT
And Every MONDAY and WEDNESDAY NIGHT
4 M B
The Thrilling Adventures of
"GUS GRAY"
(Special Correspondent)

4LD Laidley 1932. Broadcast station owned by Kenneth Gunn, located at his 'Inverness' property. Most programs were live and featured local artists.

4NS Townsville 1933. Broadcast station owned by the Townsville Radio Club. Later changed to **4NQ**.

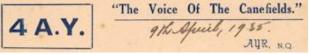
4EL Brisbane 1933. Broadcast station owned by **E**ric **L**ake. Transmitter at Kangaroo Point. Short-lived, as his tower fell across his neighbour's yards. This callsign was reissued as a Cairns commercial licence on 26-2-1999.

4RY Toowoomba 1933. Broadcast station owned by W. Harson.

4HR Brisbane 1933. Broadcast station owned by Tibby Scholtz. Transmitter at Coorparoo.

4TS Brisbane 1933. Broadcast station owned by **Ted S**horten. Transmitter at Paddington.

4KA Ayr 1933. Broadcast station owned by Sid Dahl (brother of Norman Dahl who opened **4AY** Ayr on 1-10-1934). Sid later worked as an announcer at **4TO**. Also see **4VT** Townsville, and **4AY** Ayr 1-10-1934.



farm near Airdmillan with 50 watts (see **4VT** Townsville, and **4KA** Ayr 1933), on air 1800-2230. Known as "The Voice of the Cane Fields", then "The Voice of the North". Often heard in New Guinea, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Fiji, and Canada. Moved to Ayr in 1936 with a Phillips 200 watt transmitter, (500 watts in 1940, 1,000 in 1951 and 5,000 in 1976). Banned by the Navy from night broadcasts from 3-3-1942 to 12-4-1943as their signals could be used as a homing device for WWII bombers. Charged 2/6 for requests on weekends, being their main revenue source. On 8-3-1946, they relayed all emergency communications during severe flooding as other communications had been destroyed. Sold to their engineer, Jack Gleeson (from **4CA**) in 1950. Installed a wire recorder in 1950. On 6-6-1952 they broadcast from the Charters Towers Mount Carmel College to celebrate their fiftieth year. Opened a Townsville office and studio in 1952, and a studio in Ingham. Their tower was destroyed by a cyclone in 1956. Closed

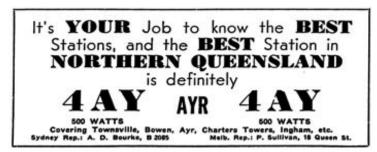
their Ayr operations in 1957. (See **4AY** Townsville 1957, and Innisfail 1991).

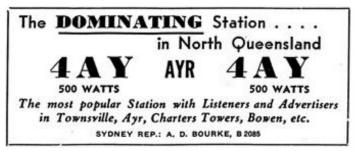




Announcer Frank Bellet

The First 4AY Studio





4EA Toowoomba 1934. Broadcast station owned by **E**ric **A**shlin. Situated in the Rosenstengels Store, using records from their electrical department.

4UK Toowoomba 1934. Broadcast station owned by H. Herschel.

4JN Brisbane 1934. Broadcast station owned by G. Augustesen. Transmitter at Mitchelton.

4JM Nambour 1934. Broadcast station owned by **J. McDermott.** Very popular station broadcasting from his radio store. He also operated the Maroochydore cinema, and used the station to advertise his movies.







4WK Warwick 06-05-1935. Owned by the local A.W.A. retailer. On air 0700-1400 and 1730-2230. A grand piano playing live to air fell through the studio floor, thanks to termites. Often heard in New Zealand using 50 watts. Their slogan was "The Listener's Companion". The only Australian station to feature their own Mouth Organ Band. Often relayed programs from the A.W.A. installed **9MI**, the world's only floating radio station, on the *M.V. Kanimbla*, from 1936 to 1939. Started their popular children's "Smile" club in the 1950s. Bought by A.W.A. on 11-12-1967. Joined the Colour Radio Network from 28-2-1973 (**4IP**, **4LG**, and **4LM**), then was

part of the New England Network (**2TM**, **2AD**, **2RE** and **2MO**) from November 1978. In January 1995 they purchased **4AK**, and moved into their Toowoomba premises in June. Now

uses relay transmitters at Toowoomba, Dalby, and Stanthorpe, being part of the Super Radio Network, relaying most programs from **2SM**.

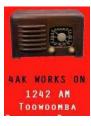




Notification of Test Broadcast Mount Kynoch, Toowoomba.

Please be advised that at 0500 on August 10th 2017 Amalgamated Marketing Pty Ltd, Radio 4WK will commence Test Broadcast of its FM Service on 95.5 MHz from Mt Kynock, Toowoomba.

If you suspect interference to your services please notify the General Manager Paul Batchelor on 07 4632 9999, by email manager@4wk.com.au or post to P0 Box 403, Toowoomba. Qld. 4350.









4AK Oakey 31-08-1935. Used the original 1,000 watt transmitter from **4QG** and **4BK**, (now in the Oakey museum - the only Australian transmitter used to launch three radio stations). Their 210 feet high tower was railed to Oakey in four sections, and was the highest Australian tower as it was 600 feet above sea level. Owned by **4BK** and relayed their programs, except for a two hour session every night. Organised live Community Singing broadcasts from the Theatre Royal every Tuesday afternoon. Their popular Amateur Trials program was broadcast live every Friday night featuring local amateur performers. On 27-9-1935 they were put off the air due to a lightning strike on their tower, and again on 19-1-1947 when several next door buildings were destroyed by fire, cutting off their power. One year after opening, they arranged for a program survey for listeners to fill out being published in the local newspaper. Bought by the *Courier Mail* newspaper on 15-11-1941. On 19-1-1947 they installed an STC 2,000 watt transmitter. In 1953 they sold their second transmitter (2,000 watts) to **2RE** for their start. Moved to Toowoomba in 1972 with their own studio and programs. Then bought **4WK** in January 1995, and moved them to their Toowoomba studios. Opened a relay transmitter at Stanthorpe on 31-8-2005. This callsign was first issued as an experimental station at Brisbane in 1922.

4AK OAKEY ON THE AIR

Official Opening of Highest Powered Queensland Commercial Station

AN event of major importance in Queensland radio took place at Oakey on Saturday 31st August, when the new high powered "Courier-Mail" unit was declared officially on the air. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. A. B. Corbett, Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs in Queensland. All Queensland broadcasting stations are operated under Mr. Corbett's jurisdiction, and it was fitting that he should introduce the new station to the public. The service that will be rendered to listeners in the outlying districts of the Darling Downs and Western Queensland by 4AK cannot be overestimated, and appropriate comments on this were made. Mr. Corbett's speech from the General Post Office, Brisbane, was relayed through 4BK and 4AK, this being the first broadcast from the Oakey station. Following this, the first relay from 4BK, in the form of a special musical programme, was taken by 4AK.

The station being officially declared open, the function at Oakey commenced. Here a large formal gathering of leading sitizens of Toowoomba and all parts of the Darling Downs, and representatives of the "Courier-Mail" and Brisbane Broadcasting Pty. Ltd., basides many interested visitors from the metropolis, were present, and appropriate speeches were made by prominent townspeople of Toowoomba and other Downs centres, Mr. Norman White (managing director of the "Courier-Mail"). Mr. Robertson (manager of Brisbane Broadcasting Pty., Ltd.), and other executives of the company. The proceedings at Oakey were relayed from 4AK, through 4BK, and, at the conclusion

of the function, 4AK commenced its career as a very important adjunct of the powerful "Courier-Mail" chain.

the powerful "Courier-Mail" chain.

4AK is operating at present on 1000 watts, although the high powered transmission plant, the manufacture and erection of which was supervised by Mr. A. L. Dixon (4BK's Chief Engineer), is capable of carrying a capacity of 5000 watts, should permission be granted to use this enormous power. However, its present power and uniform radiation—due to the new type aerial being used—gives the station an immense coverage. The transmission from 4AK it is claimed, is entirely free from fading, distortion, or atmospherics.

In order that 4AK listeners may enjoy the bulk of 4BK feature programmes, and also to cater for local interests, the main evening programmes from 4BK are relayed to 4AK. The early morning and early evening programmes from 4AK are exclusive to that station, consisting of entertainment provided by local advertisers and sessions with a special appeal to the men on the land.

advertisers and sessions with a special appeal to the men on the land.

Very shortly, the news of the completion of two other country stations of the Courier-Mail network will be announced. These are 4GY Gympie and 4BU Bundaberg, both of which will be operating within the next few weeks. With the completion of this chain, 4BK programmes will be available to listeners throughout Southern Queensland and a large portion of the New England districts, as well as in sections of Northern Queensland. This powerful combination of commercial stations will challenge comparison with any other network established in the Commonwealth.







4AK Newsreader Mark Plummer





4FM Cairns 1935. Broadcast station owned by F. Moody.

4CB Murgon 1935. Broadcast station owned by Arch Caswell.

4PW Ipswich 1935. Broadcast station owned by **P. W**ood.

4GS Brisbane 1935. Broadcast station owned by **G**. **Strohfeldt**. Transmitter at Paddington.









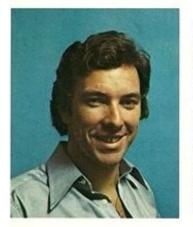


All initially relayed some programs from **4BK**. Their first studio had glass walls to allow visitors to watch. Used a locally built three channel mixer (microphone, turntable, and a radio tuned to **4BK**). All initial announcers were auditioned locally with no previous experience. Their manager was Terence Lampart, who was also Chief Announcer, producer, and radio play writer. Known as "Station 4IP in the Heart of Ipswich". Railway station announcements and train whistles were often heard when the microphone was on. Relayed several broadcasts from A.W.A. installed **9MI**, the world's only floating radio station, on board the M.V. Kanimbla from 1936 to 1939. Started a children's "Smile" club in the 1950s. Known as "Colour Radio, The Sound You Can See" in the 1960s, using 1,000 watts. Their "Kellogg's Breakfast" club outside broadcasts attracted up to 40,000 people. Announcers once raced elephants up the main street for a circus promotion. Installed a television studio to produce news for TVQ-0 TV in the 1970s. The news stories were driven to TVQ-0 with a second car following in case of an accident. Introduced the "More Music" format to Australia. Used an old **4BK** standby transmitter and aerial when their own transmitter was flooded in 1974; they then drove around Ipswich with a loud hailer advising that they were back on the air. Installed a 2,000 watt transmitter on Helena Island, covering Brisbane, the Sunshine



Coast, and the Gold Coast. Announcer John Knox once broadcast from a circus lions' cage. Moved to Brisbane in 1977 when bought by **2SM**. Brisbane's top rating pop music station until the introduction of F.M. Changed their callsign to **410**, known as "Four-Ten" in 1978. Later introduced a slogan of "Light and Easy 1008", before going back to **41P** in 1989. Eventually became 4TAB as a national horse and greyhound racing service (closed 0000-0600)

Radio 4IP have increased their 9a.m.-1p.m. under 40 housewife audience, and all females 25-39 by 50%*



Alan McGirvan has confirmed what we at radio 4IP have thought for some time; that the women of Brisbane are becoming much more aware of themselves and today's lifestyles. Their morning does not revolve around ten cups of tea and whether or not it will rain the next day.

McGirvan's programme offers involvement, entertainment, and above all an opportunity for today's Brisbane lady to express herself.

The format is right and McGirvan is providing the stimulus to maintain a rapport with today's thinking female — the results speak for themselves.

Alan McGirvan, 9am - 12 noon.



The Brothers of Rock' increased their audience by 23%*

From 3pm through to midnight, Radio 4IP presents the Brothers of Rock. The combined talents of Kevin Hillier, Paul J. Turner and Ray McGregor have resulted in a very solid contempory music format for nine hours every week day. The dominance of this format with Brisbane's lifestyle orientated audience is confirmed with a 23% increase from an already strong number one position.

The Brothers of Rock, 3pm - midnight.



Robbo increased his breakfast audience by 5%*

Brisbane householders are finding the easiest way to wake up in the morning is with Robbo on Radio 4IP. His relaxed breakfast session is providing the tonic to thousands of Brisbane listeners, helping them off to a head start every morning. So much so that his breakfast audience on 4IP increased by a further 5%.

Graham Roberts, 5am - 9am.

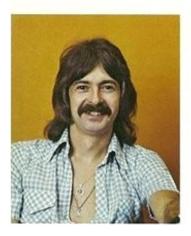


The League Men on Radio 4IP.

The league men, Ross Lawson, Rod Tiley and Bernie Pramberg proved once again that Radio 4IP is unsurpassed in bringing professionalism to Rugby League Football Broadcasting in Brisbane. In a market of heated competition it outrated its commercial opposition by more than three to

The League Men. 3pm weekends.





Lee Cornell increased his afternoon audience by 5%*

Lee Cornell, Brisbane's number one afternoon personality, once again showed substantial increases in his listening audience. The format of involvement, high music content and an increasing penetration into the female audience has resulted in a 5% audience uplift.

Lee Cornell, 12 noon - 3pm.



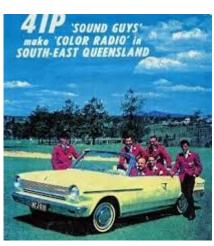
If it fits, wear it.

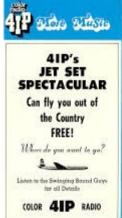
Radio 4IP, with its contempory format and highly successful combination of personalities has again secured a top rating in the under 40 audience, an audience with which the station has gained a unique understanding.





Share Queensland with a friend...4119







4PM Port Moresby 25-10-1935. Opened at 4PM. Owned by A.W.A. Known as "The Voice of Papua". On air 1300-1400 and 1800-1900, except Sundays, mainly with weather, shipping, and aircraft movement news, plus personal messages, due to poor mail and telephone services. Their program policy stated that "they would restrict jazz artists, syncopaters, and crooners". Heard throughout Australia and New Zealand with 100 watts. Closed on 16-12-1941 (see **9PA** 26-2-1944 in the Military Radio listing). The A.W.A. staff then worked for the Australian military, establishing military communications throughout Papua/New Guinea during WWII. (Also see **9PA** 1-7-1946 in this listing).







4BU Bundaberg 16-12-1935. Their first Chief Engineer and manager was Jim Jordan from 4JJ (see 4IP 2-9-1935). He built the original 200 watt transmitter and studio equipment. Their 150' tower collapsed before opening. Known as "The Voice of the Burnett". Started with seven advertisers. Broadcast many live stage plays, revues, and concerts in the 1930s. Increased power to 500 watts in 1938 (2,500 in 1972). Recorded many programs for relay during WWII to troops in New Guinea. Joined the Macquarie Radio Network in 1944. An announcer was bailed out of gaol for his breakfast shift in 1949. Their "Peters Pals" children's club was broadcast live from the local picture theatre in the 1950s, attracting large audiences. Off the air on 1-1-1956 due to a lightning strike. 24 hour broadcasts started in 1957 with a move into a purpose built building. Their "4BU Friends" club raised enough money to pay for a radio beside each bed in local hospitals. Broadcast live from every annual agricultural show in the area, with a microphone attached to a P.M.G. landline. Their popular sports announcer, George Lovejoy, accepted a position at 4BH as manager. Their tower collapsed due to a cyclone in 1972. It was replaced with a directional antenna. Opened a separate F.M. service in 1993.

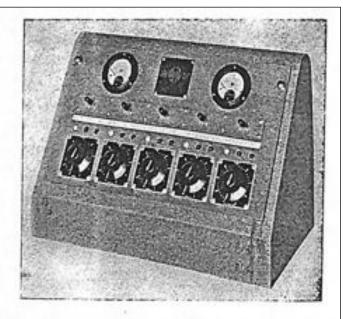
New Bundaberg Studio Equipment is Flexible and Efficient

At right is shown the A.W.A. type "P\$350" Speech Control Unit which has been installed, in conjunction with a type "IR\$295" Speech Equipment Rack, at 4BU Bundaberg.

As reported briefly in our last issue, 4BU's studios have been brought into line with modern practice by the installation of an A.W.A. type "2R5297" two-studio speech equipment system. In addition to offering considerably improved fidelity, this new A.W.A. Installation is flexible and, by virtue of the incorporation of "peak-limiting," improves the overall efficiency and coverage of the station. A general outline of the equipment is given below.

The complete two-studio equipment installed at Bundaberg comprises two major units-a type "1R5296" rack and a type "P5350" speech control unitand several items of accessory equipment such as monitoring speaker transformers, a 'phone monitoring unit, cord attendates and a relay unit. Although the complete equipment is basically of "single-channel" type, the nature and arrangement of the component units are such that a separate program can be auditioned at the same time as the main program is going to the transmitter. For this reason, the equipment has been rightly designated a "two-studio" installation.

The equipment mounted on the "1R5296" rack consists of a type "IG5250" two-channel pre-amplifier; a



type "1G5251" limiting amplifier with twin output channels; a type "1G5251" monitoring amplifier; a voltage-regulated power supply unit, type "1H5259"; and jack strips, switching panels, etc.

The "P5350" speech control unit is a particularly neat and flexible mixer/fader system housed in a lacquer-finished sloping-front console. Five 33-step (1.5 dB.) faders are mounted on the panel, together with five three-position key switches, an array of pilot lamps and two meters—these last are a decibel-calibrated (against 6 mW.) program level indicator and a "compression" indicator which operates in conjunction with the "IG5251" limiting amplifier.

Four of the faders form a balanced four-channel mixer, operating with input and output impedances of 200 ohms, while the fifth fader operates in conjunction with the mounting amplifier. By means of the associated three-position key switches, each mixer fader may be switched to either microphone, pick-up or incoming line, while the fifth key switch connects the monitor fader to either microphone, pick-up or program.

The above arrangement places all program functions in the hands of the studio operator, and gives him complete control of all monitoring and auditioning facilities. The centralised control flexibility thus made possible is of material benefit to stations who cannot run to a regular "control room" and the availability of such equipment should be welcomed.

The careful attention to detail which is evidenced by the "control" features of the "P5350" is also evident in the mechanical make-up of this unit. All of the controls are mounted on the front panel, which is hinged from the base of the unit, and the arrangement is such that the panel may be swung forward without disturbing any external connections-thus giving access to all controls during operation if necessary, Another "accessibility" feature is provided by the fact that the back and sides of the case can be removed as one unit, by the simple expedient of taking out six screws. This feature should be of material assistance during installation or maintenance operations.



60 Years On

Following a meeting in April 1935 at the offices of Wyper Bros. Ltd., the company of Bundaberg Broadcasters Pty Ltd became a reality and was incorporated on 24th July of that year.

Broadcasting commenced and was presented to a potential audience of 46,500 on December 16th, 1935, with a compliment of seven advertisers and a PMG licence at a cost of twenty-five pounds. The chairman of directors, Mr W Harvey, along with Co-directors Colonel Christensen and Mr R Curtis adhered strictly to a policy catering for all tastes in entertainment.

The transmitter and studio equipment were purchased for one thousand five hundred and thirteen pounds eight shillings. Jim Jordan was the initial engineer earning a very modest five pounds ten per week. The studios of 4BU were located in a building leased from Wyper Bros Ltd the building was previously occupied by the Times Newspaper, the site being on the western side of the present Gooburrum Shire offices, The first mast installed was a galvanised pipe.

During World War 2 regular programmes for Bundaberg and district troops in New Guinea and adjacent islands were provided.

In 1938, two acres of land was purchased at Kalkie for a fee of fifty pounds. Later that year a further area was purchased so that Bundaberg Broadcasters Pty Ltd could install an antenna, having received consent to increase power from 200 to 500 watts. This consent was given in 1937, a small fibro cottage was supplied for the engineer so that he could live on site and be on call should problems occur.

The new transmitter station opened at Kalkie in June 1938. It was fascinating to say the least when a horse drawn dray and jinker carried the first omni transmission mast along Sandhills Road (now known as Bargara Road) to the required Kalkie site.

This was such a big event for Bundaberg that the pupils at Kalkie State School were allowed out of class to witness the spectacle.

During one memorable cyclone blow, the single mast toppled to the ground almost reaching Sandhills (Bargara) Road. The authorities then demanded that two masts for directional transmission be installed.

In 1941, the lease for the studios was extended for a further 3 years and in May of that year the old piping was dismantled.

It is interesting to note that until 1939 power for transmitting was supplied by a generator owned by Bundaberg Broadcasters Pty Ltd. As many of the senior citizens will recall this was an era of oil lamps and candles. It wasn't until the 25th May, 1939 that power was connected to the Kalkie site from the city electricity supply.

In December 1943, a further lease and an offer to purchase was placed on the studios. This building was now known as "The Radio Building".

It was at this time that 4BU became part of the Maquarie Network. This particular community minded broadcasting station became, and still remains, one of the most respected in the industry.

Between 1953 and 1955 the deaths occurred of three directors. A comment recorded in the minutes by Colonel

Christensen at a special directors meeting on May 31st, 1955 summed up the effect the deaths had on the station: "I am now left as the only original director and I feel the position very keenly. The three directors who passed on worked indefatigably in the interests of the company. Their loss is greatly felt." Colonel Christensen 31-05-55

The local community embraced their local commercial station and even to this day local loyalty is outstanding.

As the industry of wireless grew so 4BU followed suit. From the small studios in Bourbong Street to the modern complex on Woongarra Street in 1957 to the ultra modern present day building in Crofton Street in 1992. However even with the inevitable growth 4BU never lost touch with the community continuing to raise many thousands of pounds, and now dollars, for charitable organisations. 4BU was also responsible for the installation of earphones at the Bundaberg Hospital.

During the 30's and for many years broadcasting consisted of live stage plays, revues and concerts. During those early days announcers were not afforded the luxuries of delays etc, whatever one said went directly to air. It was definitely a time when on-air personalities had to watch their P's and Q's very carefully.

As can be seen from photographs included in this booklet, equipment used for broadcasting was at that time the most up to date, modern and expensive that was available. Today any museum would be proud to have it in their collection.

Even as late as 1947, 4BU's broadcasting hours were from 6a.m. to 10.30p.m. Mondays to Fridays and 6a.m. to 3p.m. then 5.30p.m. to 10.30p.m. Saturdays. Sundays saw a much later start 7.45a.m. to 2p.m. then 5p.m. to 10p.m. unlike the 24 hour transmission now being experienced.

One must remember that during these early years, television as it is today was practically unheard of. Entertainment was by the family wireless. There were programmes dedicated to children, patients in hospitals and for loved ones serving overseas with the armed services. Piano players, vocalists and comedians all helped to make up the full entertainment programme. All of these workings created a medium that even today is considered the most personal. A radio can be with a listener in just about all activities.

There have been some major transformations over the past 60 years. Records used went from 78 rpm to 45 rpm, then to 33-1/3, tapes and now the ultimate, CD's. Many of these were not predicted to eventuate other than by the academics. It was the same old story and I liken it to man stepping on the moon – "It will never happen" and as we all know, it did eventuate.

What next? Interactive radio, digital radio and even pay radio. All of these are on the agenda to be introduced within the next few years.

There was also the condensing of machinery used for transmitting. What used to require a room of it's own can now, due to technical development, be placed on a small shelf. From mono to stereo, am to fm, the sound qualities have been so finely tuned that when digital is introduced the quality will be likened to hearing a direct play from a compact disc player.



4BU 1939 Studio









4VL Charleville 12-02-1936. Started by

Ernest Marrs with 50 watts (see **4EM** 1923). Their manager was Walter Exton (**2XN**, **4AY**, and **4MB**). Put off the air by a flood, and also when the electricity bill wasn't paid. Also closed when a King Brown snake invaded the studio. Known as "The Voice of Western Queensland". A storm destroyed one of their towers on 7-2-1936. Bought by Edward Gold from (**4EG** and **4GR**) on 1-12-1937. He then built and installed a 200 watt transmitter. Sold the station to local shareholders on 10-3-1944. Closed 1400-1700 until 1945. On 1-10-1949 their Radio Women's Club held a fund- raising appeal for a radio distribution system in the local hospital. Increased power to 1,000 watts on 6-10-1952. On 16-4-1954 they broadcast a ball raising £13,000 for Legacy. Moved into a new building named "Radio House" in 1956. Held an annual Legacy appeal 1954-1964, with local dignitaries helping. Later known as "The Voice of the Far West". Installed a three hop link from Birdsville for the Birdsville races which failed. They then used a public phone at the hotel to pass on race results. Installed a relay transmitter at Cunnamulla in 1983, followed by Augathella, Wyandra, Mungallala, Tambo, Scotburn, Quilpie, and Morven. Purchased by **8HA** in 1984, and then sold to **2WEB** in 1986. Also see **4CH** 28-1930.





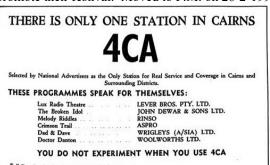






4CA Cairns 02-05-1936.

A.W.A. station opened by Chairman, Ernest **Fisk**. On air 1200-1400, and 1800-2230 using 50 watts. Known on air as "Top of Australia Radio". Relayed some programs from A.W.A. station **9MI**, the worlds' only floating station from 1936-1939, on the *M.V. Kanimbla*. Broadcast a Grand Debutante Ball on 16-5-1937 with music by the "Swing Stars". Banned from mentioning "4CA" or "Cairns" during WWII. The manager's safe was blown up on 28-6-1941 with £23 stolen. Popular live shows each Thursday with local artists and a studio audience from 1946-1949. On 14-3-1950 their transmitter was moved to higher ground to avoid flooding. An Easter appeal for Legacy raised £6,046 in 1955. Staff helped **4TO** stay on air during a 1971 cyclone. On air 24/7 from in 1975. Opened relay transmitters at Gordonvale and Cooktown. Also opened a local Cooktown station June/July each year in the 1980s to promote their festival. Moved to F.M. on 26-2-1999, launching **4EL** on their A.M. frequency. Sold to Prime TV in 2005.



AMALGAMATED WIRELESS (A/SIA) LIMITED

167/9 Queen Stre MELBOURNE









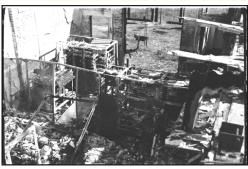
Owned by Mr Nicholson who was first manager, salesman, announcer, and technician. Opened using a diesel generator to power their 300 watt transmitter. On air 0720 0000 1575 4LG Longreach 05-05-1936. Owned by Mr Nicholson who was first

2100. Renowned for hillbilly and country music. Started a weekly live program featuring the Longreach town band on 17-2-1937. Enjoyed excellent reception on Thursday Island. Off the air on 24-11-1937 when their 220 foot tower was destroyed by a tornado. Bought by the "Longreach Leader" in October 1939. Their transmitter and technician's house were destroyed by fire on 10-5-1946.

They then installed a 500 watt transmitter. Then off the air again in June when a fire destroyed their power generator. They relayed all emergency communications during regular floods. Known as "The Voice Of The Central West". Installed a 1,000 watt Phillips transmitter on 30-12-1948, which was put off the air by a goanna's antics. Their 180 feet high tower fell over during a 1972 storm, and the Army was persuaded to erect a temporary tower. First Queensland station to install automatic programming equipment. Installed relay transmitters at Tambo, Blackwall, and Winton. 2UE sold them a transmitter in 2000 when **2UE** installed a new one for the Sydney Olympics.

THE MIDST OF THE GOLDEN PLEECE

4QN Townsville 26-11-1936. A.B.C., relaying 4QG with several local programs, in the A.M.P. building, using a 7,000 watt transmitter. Closed at 1800 during WWII as their signal made Townsville a night-time bombing target. Warned by the P.M.G. that their licence would be cancelled if they continued to broadcast adult material during children's times. Their later 10,000 watt transmitter at Clevedon (then the most powerful in Queensland) was destroyed by fire on 26-5-1951. A new 50,000 watt transmitter was installed at Brandon (near Ayr). Their tower fell down on 19-2-1963. Their offices and studios moved into a defence building in 1963 which had housed the marine section of the R.A.A.F during WWII., then into their TV building in 1964. Started broadcasting from the annual Townsville Show in 1982.



MARANOA BROADCASTING COMPANY LIMITED









4ZR Roma 23-07-1937. Designed and built by Edward (Ted) Gold (see 4GR 16-8-1925). He also built their 100 watt transmitter. Originally planned to open as **4RM** with 500 watts. Officially opened by the Federal Attorney General, the Hon. Robert Menzies (later Sir Robert and our Prime Minister). Heard in Hawaii, New Zealand, New Guinea, Thursday Island, Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne. Almost closed during WWII due to financial problems. Increased on-air hours to 0700-0900, 1200-1400, and 1800-2200 daily after WWII using 200 watts from new studios in the Town Hall. Known as "The Voice of the West". Increased power to 2,000 watts in 1955. Now has relay transmitters at Mitchell and Spring Gully.

4QR Brisbane 07-01-1938. A.B.C. Queensland Radio. Originally planned to operate as 4BR (Brisbane Radio). Their first announcer was Ian Skippen. During WWII, the American Forces Radio Service used the 4QR studios to produce programs for their stations which were also broadcast on **4QR**. Their very popular "Hospital Hour" (later a national program), received 30,000 letters during its first 5 years. Installed a 650 feet high tower in 1948 with a 60 feet wide umbrella top (shared with 4QG). Sadly, numerous historical recordings were destroyed during floods in 1974.









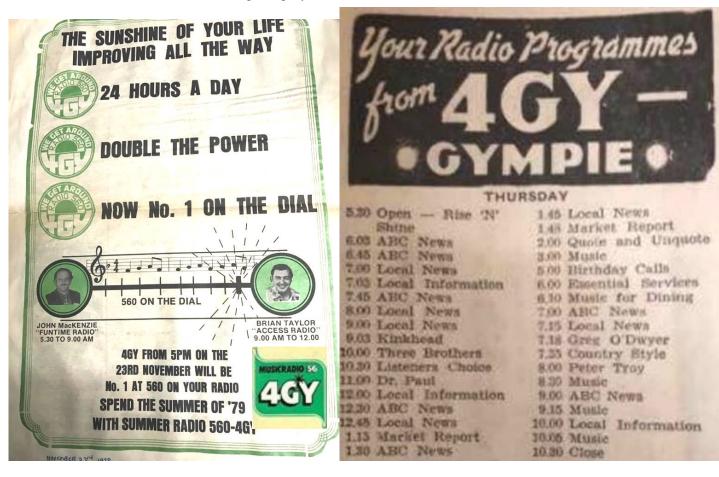
4SB Kingaroy 11-03-1938. South Burnett Broadcasting. Most programs were on relay from 4BC. Contact with their control room was via Morse code. Their 2,000 watt transmitter (3,000 watts in 1945) was at Wooroolin. Known as "The Voice of the South Burnett". In 1944, 33 year old future Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen started his brief media career here. Now known as "Heart 10-71", with studios in Toowoomba, and a relay transmitter at Tarong.

4AT Atherton 15-02-1939. Atherton Tablelands. First planned to operate as 4AF (Atherton Farmers). Their slogans were "Towering over North Queensland" and "The Voice of the Tablelands". Closed by the military during WWII on 8-1-1941 for broadcasting a security breach when owned by the Jehovah's Witnesses. Reopened as an A.B.C. station on 27-1-1941. This callsign was previously issued as an experimental station at Brisbane in 1927.

4QS Toowoomba 17-10-1939. A.B.C., relaying **4QG** with some local programs. Their equipment was supplied and installed by S.T.C. First planned to operate as **4QP**. Their opening was from the Town Hall, with local artists and the A.B.C. orchestra, and was heard in Perth, New Guinea, and New Zealand. Officially opened by Governor Sir Leslie Wilson and the A.B.C. General Manager Charles Moses (later Sir Charles). Their studio was in the Eagers Building. A celebration dance was held at Dalby (near the transmitter). Their transmitter technician wore a revolver during WWII in case of enemy attack. Often relayed shortwave stations VLM and VLQ during landline failures. Now has a relay transmitter at Stanthorpe.

4AT Atherton 27-01-1941. A.B.C. (see 4AT 15-2-1939). Relay of 4QN. Opened with the same tower, 500 watt transmitter (4,000 watts in 1973), and same callsign as the original commercial licensee. Their towers' earth mat radiated out for 796 feet. A cyclone cut their program line for 6 days from 5-3-1956. Programs were supplied from VLM and VLQ using a shortwave receiver.

4GY Gympie 03-11-1941. A **4BK** bid to obtain this licence failed. Started by Steve Fittell (**4JO** 1929), from Fittells Radio Service. Their opening broadcast was from the Olympia Theatre, with entertainment by local groups. Money raised went to "Liberty", aiding women whose husbands were at WWII. On air 0700-0900, 1200-1400, and 1800-2200 with three staff. Used 500 watts and a directional antenna (5,000 watts in 1973, with the transmitter being moved to Wolvi). During flooding in March 1955, they were the only method of local communication as all phone lines were cut. Opened new studios above the Bank of New South Wales, and a relay transmitter at Noosa in January 2005. Now known as "Classic Hits Radio". Steve Fittell also established the Australian branch of the Far East Broadcasting Company, with 33 stations worldwide.





<u>9PA Port Moresby 01-07-1946.</u> A.B.C. with a Philips 500 watt transmitter (see **4PM** 25-10-1935, and **9PA** 26-2-1944) installed by Vern Kenna (**4QG/4QR**). First manager was Basil Kirke from **6WF** (also see **2BL** Sydney 1-3-1924). Used a wire recorder in remote villages to record village choirs for later broadcast. Their record library held 5,000 records. Started a popular expat women's session in 1954. Installed new studios in 1956 and again in 1963. Increased power to 2,000 watts in 1962. In 1973 the station was handed over to the Papua New Guinea Broadcasting Commission.

4QL Longreach 19-03-1947. A.B.C. Relay of **4QG** using a 200 watt transmitter at the Post Office. They had some local programs, including news, from 1952 with a studio in the Town Hall. Increased power to 10,000 watts with a new transmitter at Cramsie in December 1954, incorrectly believing that all Western Queensland would be covered. Moved into a new building in 1964. In the 1980's, a satellite service was added to cover remote locations. This callsign was previously issued as an experimental broadcasting station at Brisbane in the 1920s.











4KQ Brisbane 07-05-1947. Owned by the Labor party. Opened at "Radio House" with A.W.A. equipment. News was first taken from the A.B.C., then from **4BK**. Moved in 1961, then again in 1972, to "Radio City" at Breakfast Creek. Often broadcast concerts from the Botanical Gardens. Used a TV circuit to telecast their studio to some shop fronts. Used a barge to carry an outside



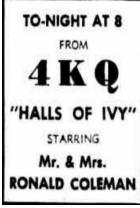






broadcast van to Bribie Island. First to broadcast the Brisbane to Gladstone yacht race. Announcer Enid Elliott was blind. Had many night-time listeners on Bass Strait oil rigs. Sacked all their female announcers in 1950 (as did **4BC** and **4BK**). Started 24 hour broadcasts in 1959. Old-time dance broadcasts were still popular in the 1960s. Their Piper traffic aircraft once landed at Eagle Farm airport with no fuel, and blew a tyre. Promoted as "Always On the Air for Music" in the 1960s. Floods in 1974 isolated the station.







Staff lived in for three days, with food delivered by listeners using a dinghy. Their transmitter was moved from Tingalpa to St.

Helena Island in 1975 sharing a tower with **4IP**. Changed to country music in 1979 with the slogan "Best Country in the World". The A.L.P. tried unsuccessfully to sell the station in March 1983 for \$6 million to raise some election funding. Bought by Wesgo for \$16 million in 1986, and launched a "Greatest Memories-Latest Hits" format. Won a second round bid to convert to F.M. in 1990, but then they couldn't afford it (first won by **4BH**, who also couldn't afford it). Their news slogan was "When you hear it, it's news - when you read it, it's history". Bought **4BH** for \$12,000,000 in 1998.

4KQ 693am classic hits

Later sold to the Australian Provincial Newspapers which was the start of the Australian Radio Network. Then became part of the Pure Gold Network with WSFM in Sydney, Gold 104.3 in Melbourne, and Cruise 1323 in Adelaide.









4QB Maryborough 14-01-1948. A.B.C. Relay of **4QG**. Transmitter at Pialba. Started limited local programs on 20-11-1950 from a studio in the School of Arts building. Opened a local A.B.C. newsroom in 1952. Opened relay transmitters at Gympie in 1954 and Eidsvold in 1965. On 8-11-1965 a new transmitter was installed, with their old one being refurbished and eventually sent to Christmas Island. Their studios were moved to Bundaberg in 1990.

4QY Cairns 20-01-1950. A.B.C., relaying **4QG** with some local programs from 4-10-1952 with two staff. The official opening function from the Council Chambers featured recorded messages from the Post Master General, the Hon. Hubert Anthony, and A.B.C. Chairman, Richard Boyer. Local artists then performed live. Their establishment cost was £28,000. Their 2,000 watt transmitter was near Gordonvale. Reporter David Houson and sports editor Dick Chant both worked at the station from 1973 to 2000, with Dick being awarded an Order of Australia medal for broadcasting. Changed their format from classical to modern music as a local A.B.C. station in the early 1980s. Moved into new studios in 1995. Now has 13 A.M. and F.M. relay transmitters, including Thursday Island.

4QA Mackay 18-01-1951. A.B.C. Relay of **4QG** with some local programs from 1955, using a studio above the Chandlers electrical store. Their official opening was a concert featuring local artists broadcast from the Masonic Hall. Organised four concerts per year with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra until the 1980s.

One announcer kept broadcasting when the studio was full of smoke from a fire downstairs. Commenced 24 hour broadcasting in 1987. Moved into new studios in 1995. Now has relay transmitters at Moranbah, Airlie Beach, and Dysart.

4GM Gympie 17-08-1951. A.B.C. Relay of 4QB with 200 watts. The official opening was from the Gympie Town Hall with a recorded message from the Post Master General. Entertainment was provided by local artists. Whenever program lines failed, a standby receiver tuned to **4QS** was used as a program source.

4SO Southport 11-10-1952. A.B.C. Relay of 4QG.

4AY Townsville 1957. See **4AY** Ayr 1-10-1934. Opened **4GC** Charter.

12-1976. Sold to TNQ-7 TV in 1977, with the Chairman, Jack Gleeson, appointed as Chairman of Chairman, Jack Gleeson, appointed as Chairman of Chairman of TV Also see **4AY** Innisfail 1991. Changed Radio in 1981. Opened 4GC Charters Towers as a relay outlet on 13-









4MI Mount Isa 11-07-1960. A.B.C. Relay of 4QN. Their official opening was broadcast from Henderson Hall. Occasional program landline failures between Townsville and Mt. Isa required the use of a shortwave receiver tuned to VLQ and VLM in order to stay on air. Opened a relay transmitter at Julia Creek in 1973. Commenced limited local programs in 1986. Their local manager and breakfast announcer, Chris Welch, then contacted Head Office in Sydney to arrange some publicity. He was politely informed that the A.B.C. wasn't even in Mount Isa.









4LM Mount Isa 15-05-1961. Their preferred callsign, **4MI**, had been given to the A.B.C. Nine miles of copper wire were buried around their tower as a ground plane. First broadcast was an official dinner from the Hilton Hall using 200 watts. On air 0630-1400 and 1800-2200 daily. (Commercial production was conducted in the studio while off air each afternoon). On 6-2-1965 their manager, Ian Elstob, was attacked by three intruders. Installed new studios and offices in 1973. Opened a Cloncurry relay transmitter in 1984.

9RB Rabaul (T.P.N.G.) **15-12-1962.** A.B.C. Relay of **9PA**, with some local programs in the Kuanua dialect.







4NA Nambour 09-10-1964. 4BH failed to win the licence. Their licence was granted in February. Their first two managers were Ralph Taylor and Pat Maher from 4AY. Their opening broadcast from the Nambour Civic Hall, was officially opened by the Postmaster General, Alan Hulme. Paid a first year dividend. Installed new studios on 11-2-1973.

On 8-7-1973 Pat Maher used a boat to take a microphone and record player to the transmitter, as floods had cut the cable from their studio. Power increased to 5,000 watts in 1976. Bought by **7LA** in 1983. Changed their callsign to **4SS** (Sunshine Coast) in 1984. Became Mix FM in

1994. Their 828 KHz. A.M. frequency later became an A.B.C. "News Radio" outlet.

4QO Eidsvold 29-11-1965. A.B.C. Later became a synchronous transmission on the same frequency as **4QD**.

4QD Emerald 04-02-1966. A.B.C. Originally a synchronous transmission on the same frequency as **4QO**.

4QW St. George 07-04-1966. A.B.C. Relay of **4QS**. Their opening only consisted of pre-recorded messages.











4AM Mareeba 15-09-1967. Atherton-Mareeba district. Started by manager Frank Bellet from **4KQ**. The original studios were in Yungaburra, with a relay studio in Atherton. Made a 6% profit in their first year. Moved to Mareeba in 1972. Opened a 2,000 watt relay transmitter at Port Douglas in 1991 and later a relay transmitter at Weipa (now closed) and Ravenshoe. Their original equipment was kept on display in 2007 for their 40th anniversary. Their slogan was "You have to get up early to beat 4AM".

Often received in Japan and the USA West coast. A QSL (reception confirmation) card was sent by breakfast announcer Andrew Talbot to a Netherlands listener reading in part "The transmitter you were listening to is located between Mossman and Port Douglas. Program is fed via a landline which runs through a mangrove swamp. Occasionally the program is cut when a crab severs the line. The mangrove swamp is also home to a saltwater crocodile so our engineer cringes whenever we go off the air".



4KZ Innisfail **30-09-1967.** Their callsign is a corruption of

the name of the nearby town Cairns (Kairnz). One of only three Australian stations to use three towers for their directional antenna. Opened a relay transmitter in Tully in 1985. Purchased by **8HA** in 1987. Their "Sunday Gold" 1940s-1970s program started by manager Al Kirkton has been very popular since 1987. Now locally owned, using 10,000 watts with nine A.M. and F.M. relay transmitters at Cardwell, Murray Falls, Mission Beach, Hinchbrook, Babinda, Innisfail, Karumba, Taylors Beach, and also Tully The Army helped re-erect their towers which were demolished by a cyclone on 20-3-2006.











4GG Gold Coast 30-09-1967. First planned to operate as **4GC** (**G**old **C**oast Radio). A power failure was fixed 30 seconds before their opening. A group which missed out on the licence established a pirate radio station to protest the decision, but never went to air. Investments were fully paid within three years as dividends. Early guests included Tom Jones, Liberace, Bob Hope, Phyllis Diller, and Robert Goulet. In 1969/1970 their female employees had a uniform which included red pantsuits. In 1981 a television production studio in their building was planned for a QTQ-9 TV cooking program which never eventuated. Became 4GGGFM in 1989. Their callsign was first issued as an experimental broadcast station at Chinchilla in 1929.









Daryl Eastlake 3-7-1974

Rod Price

4GG Radio Car

Bill Haley/Tony Schmidt

4CD Gladstone 17-08-1970. Started and managed by Frank Bellet (see **4AM** 15-9-1967). Made a profit in their first year, and paid a dividend of 6%. After six years, the dividend was 33%. Later they opened a relay transmitter at Rockhampton with a change of callsign to **4CC** (**C**entral **C**oast of Queensland). Bought by Prime TV in 2005.

9GR Goroka (T.P.N.G.) **14-08-1971.** A.B.C. Relay of **9PA** using a 2,000 watt transmitter.

9LA Lae (T.P.N.G.) **14-08-1971.** A.B.C. Relay of **9PA** using a 2,000 watt transmitter.

9MD Madang (T.P.N.G.) **14-08-1971.** A.B.C. Relay of **9PA** using a 2,000 watt transmitter.

4HU Hughenden 01-10-1971. A.B.C. Relay of 4QN. Their transmitter was turned on and off by an alarm clock.

4MS Port Douglas 26-02-1973. A.B.C. Relay of 4QY. Transmitter at Mossman.

4JK Julia Creek 07-1973. A.B.C. Relay of **4MI**. Used two towers 640 feet high and 432 feet apart.

9WK Wewak (T.P.N.G.) **30-11-1973.** A.B.C. Relay of **9PA** using a 2,000 watt transmitter.

4ZZ Brisbane 02-1974. Community station specialising in alternative music. Became 4ZZZFM in 1975.

4WP Weipa 01-07-1975. A.B.C. Relay of **4QY**.





4GC Charters Towers 13-12-1976. Opened as a relay station being owned by **4AY**.

See **4AY** Ayr 1-10-1934. Sold to TNQ-7 TV in 1977. Now has a relay transmitter at Hughenden. This callsign was previously issued as an experimental station at Maryborough in 1925.

4TI Thursday Island 18-06-1979. A.B.C. Originally, programs came from the A.B.C. in Cairns to Bamaga via an open landline, then a U.H.F. radio link to the Thursday Island telephone exchange, then a coaxial cable to the transmitter at Rocky Point. A TEAC 10 inch tape recorder with pre-recorded programs was provided with a turntable and microphone for program line failures during the wet season. In 1985 a studio was installed for some local programs by the Torres Strait Islanders Media Association. The station now receives their main signal via satellite.

4EB Brisbane 01-12-1979. Ethnic Broadcaster. Community station specialising in ethnic programs. Started with 20 languages from a studio above a West End Greek bakery. Moved into their own building at Kangaroo Point in 1988. Became 4EB FM on 1-12-2001 with programs in 50 languages.







4HI Emerald 30-11-1981. Heart of the Inland. Started by Sir William Allen and Sir Frank Moore. Their first announcer was Michael J. Bailey. Sold to Ray Rumble (4LG) in June 1988. Now has relay transmitters at Dysart,

Moranbah, Blair Athol, Blackwater, Eaglefield, Burton Gorge, Goonyella, Saraji, Clermont, Curragh, and Peak Downs.









4CC Rockhampton. See 4CD Gladstone.

Central **C**oast, relaying to Gladstone, Biloela, Agnes Waters, and Mt. Murchison. This callsign was previously issued to a Brisbane experimental station in 1922.

4CH Charleville 5-06-1982. A.B.C. Relay of **4QL** using a 10,000 watt transmitter. There was no official launch or opening of this service. This callsign was originally issued on 28-8-1930 as a commercial licence in Charleville, which never went to air. Now has a relay transmitter at Cunnamulla. Also see **4CH** Brisbane 13-4-1925.

4SJ Ipswich 29-12-1982. Temporary station established for the **S**cout **J**amboree. Operated by scouts from 0600-2200 until 7-1-1983. All the studio equipment was loaned and installed by **4KQ**. Their tower and 50 watt 1610 KHz. transmitter were installed by Telecom. They also operated an amateur station (VK4ASJ) and a television station (SJQ-4 TV), and produced a daily newsletter.



4SS Nambour 1984. Sunshine Coast. Owned by 7LA. (See 4NA Nambour 9-10-1964.)
Became MIX FM in 1994. This callsign was earlier issued in Brisbane on 13-4-1925.

4CA Cooktown 1987. Temporary station on air for the Cooktown annual Festival during the 1980s with a 10 watt transmitter on loan from **4CA**. All programming, music, and Festival information were presented by local school children.

ABC
NewsRadio 4PB Brisbane 1990. A.B.C. Parliamentary Broadcasting network, using the old 4NA 828 KHz. A.M. frequency. Broadcast Muzak style music between daily Parliamentary sittings. Closed on non-sitting days, until starting a news service called "A.B.C. News Radio" in August 1994. Now has 11 relay outlets around Queensland.

4RPH Brisbane 24-09-1990. Radio for the Print Handicapped. They opened on 1296 KHz. A.M. with the old 4BK 5,000 watt transmitter after they had moved to F.M. Previously, they were using a temporary licence for a few hours weekly outside the then broadcast band on 1620 KHz. with 500 watts.











4RR Townsville 1991. Reef Radio. See **4AY** Townsville 1957. Later moved to F.M. with a relay transmitter at Charleville. Their A.M. frequency went to the T.A.B. as a relay of 4TAB.



4AY Innisfail 1991. When 4AY Townsville (which was originally at Ayr), decided to change their callsign to 4RR in 1991, 4KZ Innisfail took over the well-known 4AY callsign for their second A.M. service.

4MW Thursday Island 29-07-1998. Community station using mainly Torres Straight Island languages/dialects.

<u>4EL Cairns</u> <u>26-02-1999.</u> Easy Listening. Opened on the former **4CA** 846 KHz. A.M. frequency when **4CA** moved to F.M. Now has a relay transmitter at Gordonvale. Also see **4EL** Brisbane 1933.

4AA Mackay 1999. See 4MK 12-1-1931. Opened on the former 4MK A.M. frequency after 4MK moved to F.M. Known as "Easy Mix Radio". Now has a relay transmitter at Airlie Beach.

4BI Brisbane 2003. Community station known as Brisbane Youth Radio. Operated under several temporary licenses from 1998.

Letters to the Editor:

"4BK is our best station now, so please don't spoil it by making every second record a jazz number". Letter to the Editor, 12-9-1934.

"Not only is it to be found in the living room, it invades the bedroom. Not content with having it in the house, some people have it in the garden, disturbing their neighbour's peace. Where do we now find a family spending a quiet evening reading together? That sort of thing belongs in the past".

Courier Mail Letter to the Editor from Rev. J.A. Patton 8-1-1938 complaining about the opening of 4QR.

"When I hear some of these broadcasting women gurgling out advertisements or talks to housewives, I say 'yes, there is no doubt about it -a woman's place is in the Home".

Letter to the Editor 1-2-1947.

"There is no doubt that wireless will be, if it isn't now, the greatest attraction ever known. Recently we were listening-in and had been treated to a flute solo, and were listening most intently for the next item. It was to be an orchestral performance. We all held our breaths. We could almost imagine them stringing up. Then what did we hear? "Hot Pies, Hot Pies!". Groans. What's the use of a Government if it cannot prevent hot pies being sold while we are listening-in"?

Courier Mail Letter to the Editor from H.S. in 1926 complaining about advertising on 4QG, owned by the Government.

"I am sure if a referendum were taken, 99 percent of the listeners would object to the bombardment of advertisements on B class stations. I would suggest that the B class stations provide more music and less advertisements".

Letter to the Editor, 9-5-1933.

"Is it necessary that I should be bombarded in my home by radio statements, interviews, playbacks, actuality recordings, and all the rest of square dancing paraphernalia? 'Turn off my radio' say my friends, but as radio is something for which I pay a licence fee, should I be denied its service? It is time that this imported craze should be controlled – at least so far as it affects the ear and the mind of the listener who does not live in square dancing circles".

Letter to the Editor, 28-5-1953.

"I am a constant listener to 4QG and I write to say that with one exception, your programmes are really excellent, and the standard of music etc. could not be improved upon. The exception I refer to is the news items; murder, suicides, accidental deaths etc., with all the harrowing details. These make up the major portion of news on 4QG and are surely not necessary".

Letter to the Editor, QRN, from Napier, New Zealand.

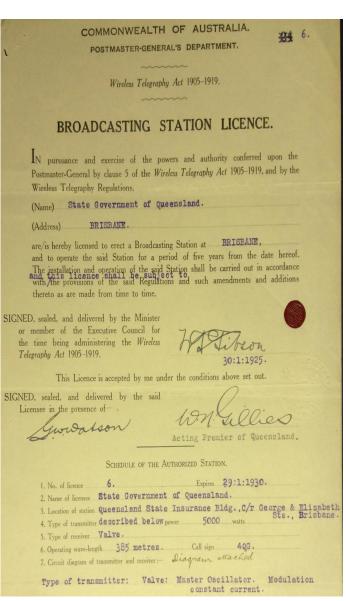
"Crooning items are inane and most distasteful to my family. We switch over to another station whenever a crooning item is given". Letter to the Editor, 12-9-1934.

"Since 4RO increased its transmitter power, it has been impossible to tune to 4RK without hearing 4RO clearly in the background". Letter to the Editor, 2-5-1954.

"I work among the rattle of drive shafting and scores of machines, mingled with hammering of all sorts, 'toned down' with the 'soothing' notes of several pneumatic riveters. When I go out to lunch, what do I get on the radio at the restaurant? One day it was the laying of a foundation stone I will never see, for a library whose books I will never read, and I hope the books will be more interesting than the speeches. Next day a gentleman was speaking who said 'I am no public speaker', a quite unnecessary piece of information. Some sufferer gets up from his meal, twists the dial a bit, and we get 'Good morning Mrs. Jones, thanks so much for your letter, but I am afraid that either your roasting tin is too small or the joint too large: In any case a shoehorn is very handy. I am glad your operation was successful. I will send you the pattern of that hemstitching that I promised'. Then a female voice tells me all the news I have read while she was finishing her beauty sleep. Most women sound nice singing, but they're awful talking. May I point out that noon is lunchtime and the best relaxation hot and hungry workers can have at this limited time is bright music, which is good for the nerves and makes a nice lunch nicer. In conclusion, may I say that I have listened-in regularly to a variety of programmes. However, I will not purchase a radio until we are given brighter and better entertainment".

Letter to the Editor, 6-12-1934.







Display of 1920s receivers in Brisbane



The Official Organ of the Queensland Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia and Radio Societies of Queensland

The Listener, the Law, and the License

The law has at last been brought to bear upon the radio pirate. After many appeals and warnings given by the P.M.G. Department through Station 4QG, it had been found necessary to resort to the unpleasant procedure of prosecuting persons who have been caught operating wireless receivers without a license.

Apart from the moral viewpoint, it will be seen from the figures and facts set out below that there is a very real financial need for every listener to pay his license fee.

From a conservative estimate we should imagine that a service such as Station 4QG is at present giving costs from £15,000 to £16,000 per annum. This figure would comprise artists' fees, administration, and staff expenses, depreciation on plant, etc., etc. The total licenses issued in Queensland ending May 31, numbered 7,200. Taking into account the variance of the license fees in Zones 1, 2 and 3, and allowing for the Commonwealth Government's deduction of 2/6 per license, the total revenue at present received by Station 4QG would total approximately £8,250 per annum—just half of what it costs to run the station on its present basis.

Now the question arises as to whether the taxpayers of Queensland are going to foot the difference or whether the programmes and service are to be curtailed in accordance with the revenue received, increasing and improving the service as the license revenue swells.

The former plan would be an unfair one to the taxpayers as a whole. Disagreeable as it seems, the latter course is, we understand, now being considered by the station.

Of course, the licenses are increasing daily, and it is quite likely that the prosecutions now going through the court will stimulate the figures considerably. If the increase is sufficient the contemplated policy of curtailment may not be necessary. The radio inspector told us recently that the department fully hoped to reach 10,000 mark before the end of July.

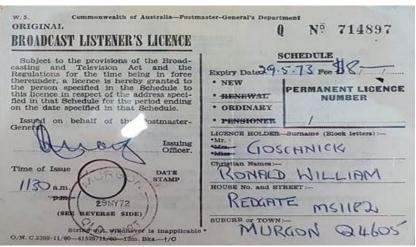
The crowded radio stores, the scarcity of components in Brisbane, the network of aerials now to be seen in every suburb all indicate big business—business out of all proportion to the licenses being received. This, of course, points strongly to piracy.

Why a man should evade this little obligation puzzled us. He pays 1/6 to go to a picture show—perhaps 7/6 to a play—yet he begrudges the insignificant five-sixths of a penny it costs him and his household for the nightly radio concert.

In Station 4QG, Queenslanders should have the best radio service in Australia, for it is the only broadcasting station in Australia which is controlled by a Government. Station 4QG is not run for profit. It has no directors' fees or shareholders' dividends to find at the end of the financial year. It is run for the people, and every penny of revenue goes back into the programmes provided by that station.

In consideration of these facts is it necessary for us to urge every non-license holder to take out his license? Need we stress the ultimate advantages which will be reaped by all if license holders will induce their friends to follow their own example? We think not.





Beware of the Radio Fakir!

A Cimely Warning to the Unwary Against Misrepresentation

"My set bring in KGO (California) day or night with loud speaker strength," was the remarkable boast of a radio "expert" who has launched out in the radio manufacturing business at Albion, Brisbane.

Knowing this claim to be an absolutely impossible and misleading one, our technical adviser (Mr. A. E. Dillon) recently paid a visit to the lair of this expert to test the truth of his wild assertions.

The visit revealed the most barefaced and deliberate piece of misrepresentation ever attempted in the annals of Queensland radio history, and we think it only wise to warn our readers (especially those inexperienced in the realms of radio) to be on their guard against such unscrupulous persons.

Our representative paid the visit "in cog," and assumed the role of a "country cousin," who had just come down to buy a radio receiver. The factory consisted of a delapidated bench under a house. The bench was adorned with the stumps of many burnt-out candles, and reeking with the odour of oil lamps, etc., which at once suggested the inefficiency of his methods of working. The "expert" at once proceeded to create an impression by chatting off an effusion of incoherent technical expressions, detailing in glowing terms the capabilities of his set.

At our representative's request he tuned in "America." In a remarkably short space of time music was pouring out of the loud speaker, which, had it actually been from America (on a midsummer night, especially) would have stamped the set as the world's most wonderful receiver. But alas! the coils and the settings of the condenser revealed the station to be not KGO, but 2BL (Sydney).

This man was actually attempting to sell his set by scandalous and defiberate trickery! It was interesting indeed to see how nimble he was to plug in his headphones upon the termination of an item in order to obliterate the announcements and so hide the real identity of the station—on the pretense of readjustment.

Queensland to date has been practically free from this type of parasite who plays upon the credulity of the non-technical public, in order to palm off on to its worthless radio instruments at exhorbitant prices. Sydney and Melbourne had their quota during the radio "boom," and it took quite a while to rid these cities of their activities.

We realise that it is practically unnecessary for us to warn the majority of our readers against such persons—for a man with any knowledge of radio at all—however slight it may be—could see through the flimsy claims.

But probably there may be those who are uninitiated to the principles of radio who might be attracted by such a claim, and it is for their special benefit that this warning is issued.

A simple calculation on the part of an average schoolboy would also prove the impossibility of this reception for, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Brisbane time corresponds with about 2 a.m. to 5 a.m. San Francisco time, when it is hardly likely that the broadcasting studio would be transmitting. In the winter time it is possible to receive KGO in the early evening until about 5.30 p.m. (which would correspond with midnight in California), but seldom with loud speaker volume equivalent to Sydney.



11 RADIO STATIONS SWITCHED

Eleven Queensland radio stations will occupy new positions on your radio dial from September 1 this year.

September 1 this year.
Changes in the frequency channels on which 24 Australian radio stations now operate were announced yesterday by the Postmaster-General (Senator Cameran).

The alterations followed dis-cussions between New Zealand authoritles. Australian and frequencies changes in and Zealand stations 20 would be made. Senator Cameron said. The discussions were held in Melbourne recently to formulate plans to allow development of the existing amplitude - modulation broadcasting system, and to ensure that the least possible interference would be caused to stations operating on the same wavelengths.



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To reach, influence and sell the families which control the purchasing power of Queensland and the Papuan District you must get your message into their homes. Therefore these stations should be first in your advertising plans, because they are welcome guests in every home.

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2CH, 2KO NEW SOUTH WALES, 3DB-3LK VICTORIA, 4BK-4AK QUEENSLAND, 5AD-PI-MU-SE SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 6IX-6WB, WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 7HT, 7EX TASMANIA

HEN, last June, the Postmaster-General's Department declared war on unlicensed wireless set owners in Queensland by placing on the road a speedy radio patrol car, many cocksure "pirates" just smiled and said—"Boo, to the wireless patrol! What can they do?"

Before the car had been operating two weeks, these people began to sit up and take notice. So, for that matter, did the whole of Australia, when the news was flashed abroad that in pursuance of their instructions officers of the patrol were confiscating the sets of owners who were not in possession of a license. Few departmental enterprises in Australia have received the publicity that followed the initial trail of the Queensland patrol car. Within a month it was widely known as "The Red Raider," and thereafter for many weeks there was a State-wide rush to the nearest post office to take out licenses.

Just to what extent the advent of the patrol car has stimulated the wireless license records for Queensland, can be gathered from the fact that in 1934 the number of licenses increased from 40,918 to 62,722, while, during its first six months' operations, it was responsible for 124 prosecutions.