

GRAM TIMES

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GRAM QUEENSLAND
Remote
ABORIGINAL
MEDIA

Yarrabah Radio Dream to Reality

There were no bells, no fanfare, just a flick of the switch by Gerry Pyne, high fives, hand shakes all round and the Yarrabah radio site on Workshop Road Yarrabah came to life, broadcasting Black Star 1

The retransmission service is a first building block, to a full license radio station and multi media complex in Yarrabah.

For many years a dream, the Yarrabah service is now a reality. People in the surrounding communities now have a choice of music, information and can tune in or out as they please and listen to the programs that they like.

Yarrabah 92.9Fm has come about because the people themselves wanted a quality listenable service that suits the need of everyone. 92.9fm Yarrabah has a news and weather service on the hour 7 days a week, with the latest sporting updates. 92.9fm Yarrabah will also receive programs from the Black Star 2 satellite. The service that will offer a combination of programs from stations around the country.

Programs like the weekend football, sporting carnivals, cultural events will be broadcast from the region and go across the network of 13 other stations. These programs will also be available for national distribution. Yarrabah is keen to begin broadcasting local football as soon as possible, by broadcasting Tablelands and Yarrabah games.

The Yarrabah service runs on a 350 Watt transmitter, located in Workshop Road Yarrabah. The reach of the transmitter covers all of the Yarrabah Traditional owner areas of Fitzroy Island, Green Island and communities to the south of the town of Yarrabah.

The high performance and energy efficient transmitter can be monitored from QRAM via broad band.



Proud Yarrabah councillors hold 92.9 fm Yarrabah Radio

The concept of monitoring the transmitter and computers remotely, is a first for Aboriginal remote media and will in time save on the need for expensive maintenance visits, and lift the productivity output of the radio stations.

P2. Atherton Tablelands switches on to Black Star



Listeners on the Atherton Tablelands now have their own Black Star Radio. Atherton Tablelands on a frequency of 96.7FM has the largest transmitter coverage of the Black Star services with a output of 2Kw. The transmitter located on Ball Road Malanda as it reaches its full capacity will be heard across the Atherton tablelands in the towns of Atherton, Mareeba, Malanda, Tolga, Yungaburra, Ravenshoe and other small rural centres.

96.7 fm is well placed to service the prime audience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living across the Tablelands. The station is already having an impact across the Tablelands, with inquiries from departments and private sector about sponsorship. The Atherton Tablelands and the surrounding is one of the fastest growing areas in the region. There are a total of 18 rainforest Aboriginal tribal groups living in the region, including the mullunburra people a clan of the yidinji nation. The country

extended from the Mulgrave River where they lived during the winter months to the uplands of the Tablelands around Ravenshoe in the summer months. Other traditional owners are the Ngadjon.

QRAM Board Meet Yarrabah Council



Board members I,R Norlana Flinders, Gilmore Johnson QRAM, Neville Reys, Chairman Aaron Teddy, Bert Edwards, Bob Thompson, and Jim Remedio QRAM.

Yarrabah, situated south of Cairns, is known by locals as “paradise by the sea”, and it is.

The rainforest runs down to beautiful sandy beaches. Fitzroy Island is a stone’s throw from the main beach and Green Island is just beyond. Both islands belong to the traditional owners of the community and the nearest reef can be reached by dingy. Traditional owners fished on the reef for turtle, dugong and shellfish.

Like with all meetings, when mob get together, old acquaintances and memories are discussed before the real meeting gets under way. The meeting was to introduce members of the QRAM board to the Yarrabah Council Members. It soon became apparent that there

are many of cultural and family connections living in Yarrabah that are intertwined with people from all the Cape York, Gulf country and Torres Strait Islands. If you want to take the time to talk to anyone you will certainly find a family connection. I can remember going to Yarrabah by boat in late 50’s when I was an apprentice Fitter Turner with an old tradesman to do maintenance at the saw mill which is where we were having our meeting in the council offices. Of what I remember it was a busy place and hard working conditions. The men had to push the logs through the saw by hand, from memory there were up to 10 men pushing the big logs through the saw and for their effort they were covered in sweat and sawdust. We had a good day of reminiscing.

P3. Tune into Black Star via your smart phone – or online anywhere – just download the new Black Star App.

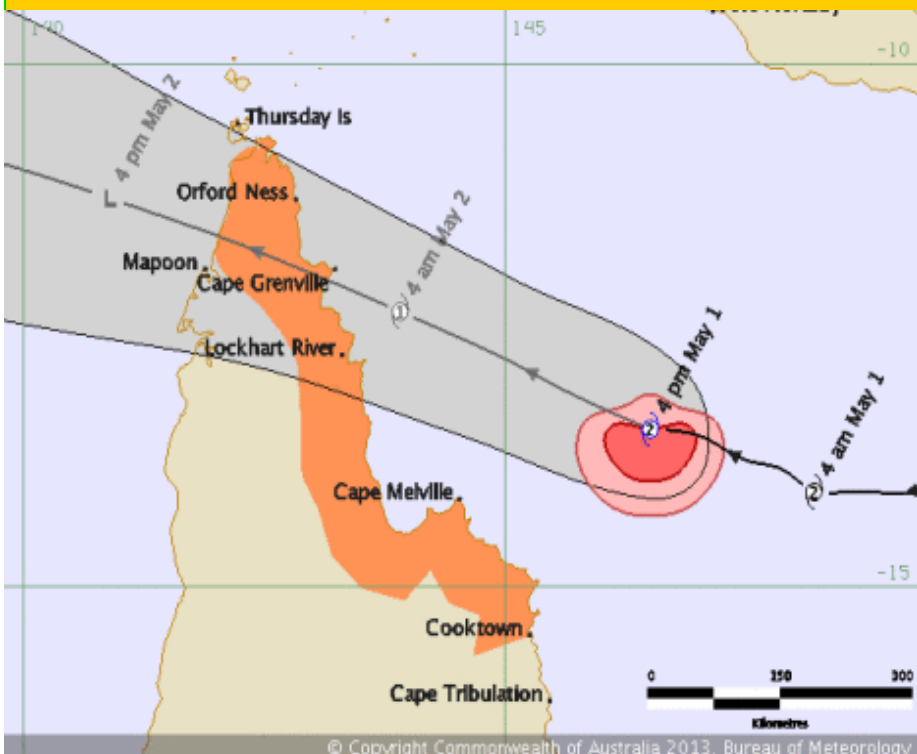
Its free!!

If you have an iPhone or use iTunes, get it from the iTunes store at this address: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/black-star-australia/id626327488?mt=8>

If you have an Android phone, or use the Google App store, go to this address: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.viastreaming.BlackStar>



Black Star followed ZANE across the cape as it headed for landfall at Lockhart river. As we did at Kowanyama early in the year QRAM gave hourly up dates through the night to the listeners at Lockhart River.



P4 Health Advocates Visit



Health advocates from Queensland Health and Queensland Aged & Disability Advocacy Inc visiting QRAM were keen and impressed to begin using the Black Star network to promote their services to remote communities of Cape York and Gulf of Carpentaria. Diana Jans, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Advocate for Queensland Aged & Disability Advocacy said it was good to see the RIBS services were up and running effectively and she will certainly urge her colleagues to use Black Star to promote the service they provide to the communities.

Contacts, Queensland Health Cairns
North 0742264491
Aged and Disability Advocacy

Robin Bowie and Priscilla McFadzean, Queensland Health Indigenous HACC Project Officers, were also impressed by the Black Star service and its potential to deliver targeted messaging to individual communities.

All 3 are frequent travellers to the Cape and Gulf and, having lived on community and with family there, they understand the vital importance of good communication services.

Spotlight Broadcaster. Sticks from Pormpuraaw is Dux of the Class.

The Black Star of the QRAM TAFE broadcasting training is Sticks from Pormpuraaw. I asked Sticks how he got his name sticks. In Aboriginal culture when a relative of the same name passes away, then his name is not allowed to be spoken. Sticks having the same name of a cousin brother was given the name Sticks.

Sticks was born in Cairns with Cerebral Palsy and grew up in Pormpuraaw he has been in Pormpuraaw all of his life and he is well know by everyone in the community. Cerebral palsy (CP) is a group of non-progressive, non-contagious motor conditions that cause physical disability in human development, chiefly in the various areas of body movement

‘Sticks is first in the training room and last to leave.’

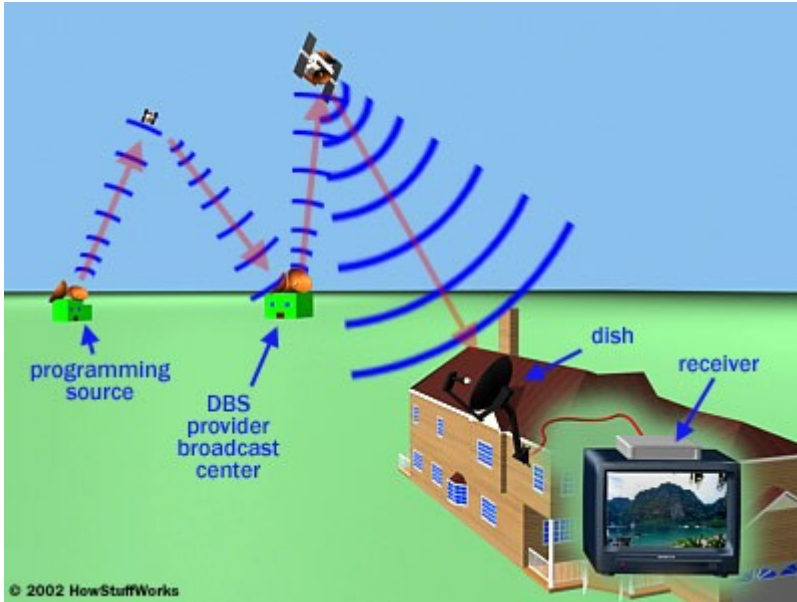
Sticks has finally found something he loves doing “radio broadcasting” The local job find put out a flyer asking for people interested in broadcasting. Sticks saw the flyer and thought “I can do that” and approached the CDO Nick Maxwell.



Nick then signed Sticks up and the rest is history. Sticks has taken to the job like a duck to water, he is a role model and loves his job he is enthusiastic and the community love his style and the music and information he provides. Sticks loves all genera of music, reggae, rock, pop, and the occasional country track. Sticks has taken to course very well, he never gave up when the course got tough and TAFE have worked closely with him and have provided assistance with a literacy numeracy trainer. Sticks is first in the training room and last to leave.

P5 Black Star Goes National on vast Satellite

The Black Star radio network of 13 Stations will soon be heard via the new digital VAST satellite platform. finally after 5 years of lobbying by the QRAM board management and IRCA the communities which make up QRAM RIMO will now also have an independent satellite service.



The satellite is a second highway which will complement the existing QRAM innovative wide area network and will carry a diverse range of content from our alliance partners to make the service a true indigenous service for Northern Australia. Imparja Television, located in Alice Springs will provide the bandwidth for the service.

QRAM manager Jim Remedio and Technical Support Gerry Pyne met with Imparja Chief Engineer John Wilkinson to finalise the engineering and technological pathways, that will eventually end up as radio broadcast in the house or in the car and if you have a Black Star App you can listen anywhere in

the country or world. The lines have been tested the equipment installed and tested now communities have a small wait until we can get to them to install the decoders.

The new Black Star satellite service is one of many Indigenous Remote Media Services which will connect to VAST before the end of 2013. The remote services form part of a uniquely Australian government commitment to provide indigenous radio services to remote Australia. Although the services are not a distinct Closing the Gap Campaign the roll out of VAST and NBN, closes the gap in media service in remote Australia, allowing for more regions to take the QRAM WAN blue prints and modernise their services.

We meet the Gman at CAAMA

We met up with an “old mate” from CAAMA, Gerry Lyons – aka G-Man, head of radio at CAAMA and also breakfast announcer. We were able to discuss program content and program sharing.

CAAMA will work closely with QRAM to provide content including news, current affairs music festivals, and music content of first release material from CAAMA Music.

For Black Star, VAST will provide a high quality 128k stereo service, adding to the existing Black Star Wide Area Broadband Network.

Broadcasters from any of the Black Star Stations have the ability and systems to send a program from their community to the whole of the Black Star network and have their content available to any station with a vast box. General community radio services searching for content for their digital services, will have the option to expand what they offer their audiences, broadcasting events and music from regional and remote Australia.



CAAMA Radio Manager and breakfast announcer Gerry Lyons AKA G Man .

Contact Gman

www.caama.com.au

P6 *Old Mates Meet in a Town Like Alice*

It's always great to get out of the house and go to the Alice there is always a familiar face. Warren H Williams was at CAAMA working on his new album and planning his up coming visit to the home of country in America, Nashville later in the year.



Warren won the prestigious Red Ochre music award in 2011, his albums are selling well and Warren has his new material ready for the laying down of the new album.

We met up with the team from the Jimmy Little

Foundation led by Graham ("Buzz" to his friends) Bidstrup. Fans of Australian rock band The Angels remember Buzz well. Buzz also brings enthusiasm to his work on the Jimmy Little Foundation, working with Alice Springs communities on a healthy living promotion and visiting communities around Central Australia.



The team promotes the Jimmy Little foundation thumbs up

campaign Good Tucker Long Life urging Aboriginal people to eat more fruit and veg, drink more water, plenty of exercise, eat more bush tucker, and don't smoke.

Visit the web site www.jlf.org.au



P7 Broadcast Australia executives visit

Broadcast Australia is the largest owner of broadcast transmission sites in the country, and were recently on a road show of their broadcast transmission sites and the services they provide. Transmission site costs are one of the biggest expense areas for most broadcasters, so we were there to get the best deal for QRAM sites.

The invited guests were from the commercial and Indigenous broadcasting sector. The forum started with a presentation by Stephen Minahan, who was at pains to tell everyone that they were not here for the hard sell, but as an information day and customer service support.

The group touched on the re-stack of digital channels, pushing everything down one end and opening up spectrum for sell off by government. The process is being fast-tracked and Broadcast Australia are involved. The Government to keen to sell off the spectrum to the data casters and make a buck – this is what they call the ‘digital dividend’. So let’s hope this sale of a public asset goes to fund something else that is of long-term benefit to the country.



At QRAM, we were happy to hear that there are well-placed sites across Queensland, as QRAM is interested in expanding the Black Star network to other large indigenous populated areas in the state that don't have an indigenous service. The day ended on a discussion of new and emerging technologies in broadcasting. The interesting things are the rapid take up of social media, data casting and digital radio take up in the Capital cities.

Everyone in the industry had some ideas about the impact on overall direction of digital media. The discussion came around to digital radio in the country and indications are that it is coming to the larger regional areas now that it has bedded down in the Capital cities, the next will be sub metro, then regional if your

in an indigenous remote community don't hold your breath although we will have good system in VAST satellite, the signal comes in digital and rebroadcasts to communities in FM, nothing wrong with that, listeners get a quality stereo sound.

The diagram above shows the path a radio program will take to get to several points. If you are in a car it would mean the signal would have to go up on a satellite, then down to a re transmission point and then to a car that has a special antenna.

The answer long term according to our hosts for remote indigenous radio is DRM and not satellite direct to car as some people have been talking about. That option is not feasible for Australia and is by subscription in America. (you pay for it) in America. DRM has the capacity to deliver radio over long distances which we are all to familiar with in remote communities.

Legend Aven Noah visits QRAM



Aven Noah and QRAM manager Jim Remedio

We'll know Torres Strait Island identity Bala Aven Noah dropped in to QRAM to look us over, pay his respects and learn about the Black Star Network, that he has heard so much about from following us on the Web.

Aven is no stranger to broadcasting having had

a 27 year career as the front man and manager of 4MW Radio Torres Strait. He is stationed on his homeland Murray Islands (Mer) which is situated on the continental shelf about 350 kilometres east of from Thursday Island.

Murray Islands are now a key place in Australian history, as the home of Eddie Mabo and his struggle for land rights. Mabo brought the passionate fight for recognition and land to the attention of the world.

'Radio has always been my passion "he said" emotionally'

Following a long struggle with the Australian Government, which eventually ended in the Australian High Court. The Mabo judgement brought dignity of land ownership to Murray Islanders and formed a pathway for claims on the Australian mainland

"Radio has always been my passion, he said" emotionally. Aven retired from Radio 4MW on Thursday Island and handed over the reigns to

Jaan Tove at the beginning of 2012. During his long involvement over 25 years as radio manager of 4MW, he brought a vision and passion to the importance of Torres Strait Island Voices and culture to all of the Torres Strait Islands and beyond the Torres Strait.

Aven has now taken up the role, as Deputy Chair of the Torres Strait regional Authority. He follows in the footsteps of committed Murray islanders before him he has inherited the vision and strength of Murray islanders to believe in their convictions, and to struggle and fight for the future of his beautiful people and islands.

Qram wishes Aven Noah all the very best in his new career as the Deputy Chair of the TSRA

9 QRAM Hosts IRCA and Radio Torres Strait

QRAM hosted a visit from IRCA CEO Daniel Featherstone and Radio Torres Strait Manager Jann Torv. Both were in Cairns for a meeting to discuss sector issues facing remote broadcasting. Torres Strait has a



number of RIBS Stations on some of the most isolated islands in The Torres Strait.

It was also an opportune time to also have a RIMO Managers teleconference to discuss their REMO plans with technicians and IRCA support staff, for the changeover of VAST satellite services due for completion by December 3013.

The primary focus was on the roll out of VAST digital decoders to the RIBS stations. VAST is the new platform which will replace the Optus satellite and will send content to the stations through digital receivers which will then be broadcast on analogue transmitters to the communities and towns in remote Australia.

Discussions have been ongoing for quite some and now there is light at the end of the tunnel as the funding issues are sorted out, the delivery date and installation dates are now being finalised. Both visitors were very interested in the Black Star network and impressed with the innovation and the feedback. Jann is interested in looking at all options in the roll out of new technology that will assist the RIBS growth in the Torres Strait. For updates on the VAST roll out contact Susan Lock at IRCA

It was all happening at QRAM this week. Alongside TNQ TAFE broadcasting training at the QRAM training centre, we also had a visit from KPMG who area interested in taking a look at the Black Star network and how we deliver campaign messages over the Black Star wide area network (WAN). Station broadcasters and students also took part in focus group sessions with KPMG to give them an idea on how the service is received and the participation of broadcasters giving the local voices in the campaigns.



Ian Watson, KPMG's rep, Karen Russell, trainer Gerry Pyne

I caught up with an old mate who I worked with years ago during the ATSIC days, we worked on the National Indigenous Broadcasting Service (NIBS), which ultimately led to the establishment of the NITV service, and other improvements in Indigenous broadcasting. The focus is now on innovation in the creative industries with the Prime Minister's release of new policy.

My old mate was keen to also have a look at Black Star and the quality service being delivered to the remote communities of Queensland and he sees an opportunity for remote media to benefit from the innovations policy.

Karen Russell from 4RR radio in Charleville and Cunnamulla also paid us a visit and took part in the one on one training sessions and spoke to the trainees. Gerry Pyne also took part in the training. Gerry is teaching 2 technical units and has been a part of the TAFE training team since QRAM began its raining program.

P10 Media Heads Chart New Development

Indigenous media heads met in Darwin recently, to discuss future developments and to find common ground to improve the service delivery in their respective areas of responsibility.

The theme of the meeting was the changing media landscape, new ways to make and deliver content, program sharing innovations, efficiencies of scale, modernisation of facilities and the use of technologies now available to deliver on the Government's investment in indigenous media services in northern Australia.

Technology is seen as a game-changer, particularly the NBN roll out to communities.

Those with direct NBN broadband will become like the railway stations of the industrial revolution; new lines of communication will open between the communities and the future world. It does not matter in what form the NBN comes, whether as fixed line or DTS – direct to station via wireless broadband NBN will be the major game-changer of our time in remote media and technology. Jim Remedio from Black Star told the meeting “There is a paradigm shift in the way remote media deliver and receive services”.

Black Star uses both fixed and wireless broadband and the results have been astounding, a huge lift in productivity and the sustainable delivery of services to radio stations in remote communities.

Black Star has created a two-way highway for the 13 communities it serves and with the roll out of the VAST satellite audio feed, will also have the ‘redundancy’ or back-up to guarantee service in times of emergency. In effect a super-highway into the radio stations of remote communities. Remedio says “The combination of satellite and broadband will change the way we do things, there will be noticeable changes in the quality of services, productivity increases, new employment and training opportunities and a happier workplace, with people in remote areas less isolated”.

The way we do training is also changing rapidly, taking on the opportunities with social media and trialling new training methods for students bought up in a digital world and used to digital devices. The traditional RIBS training approach often seems irrelevant”, he said.



Northern Central Media Alliance

A new direction in indigenous broadcasting has been launched. The corporate body known as Indigenous Broadcasting Australia is registered in the Northern Territory.

Indigenous media groups from Northern and Central Australia recently met in Darwin to discuss marketing and programme sharing opportunities.

It became evident through the course of the discussions, that there were missed opportunities in marketing and forming an alliance had benefits of agreed upon objectives while remaining independent organizations.

Alliance partners will provide content, distribution networks, production capability, capital loan equipment, training and technology transfer. The alliance is a cooperation or collaboration which aims for a synergy where each partner hopes that the benefits from the alliance will be greater than those from individual efforts.

Content is another factor in forming the alliance, the alliance will share time on a central platform run by the alliance partners, regular management and content meetings will ensure that the satellite delivery of content is a well balanced service.

P11 Broadcasters training

TNQ TAFE remote media training is again underway at QRAM training centre in Cairns. Students from over remote Queensland have completed their second one week block training session. The training in Cairns is well received by the remote students, it gives them a chance



to catch up with fellow broadcasters swap ideas, also down time for visiting relatives and of course there is the incentive of shopping in a regional city.

Juanita Soper has been putting the students through their paces. Juanita is also breakfast announcer on a local Cairns commercial station and her experience in broadcasting is real plus for the students.

During this block students have concentrated on developing critical thinking, developing tech-

niques for presenting information, presenting radio programs, audio sound, audio recording, sound audio and editing skills on Adobe, interviewing skills, script writing and programming for network.

Juanita's patience style and cultural awareness of the learning difficulties has bought a new approach to the TNQ TAFE media training and follows in the footsteps of legendary broadcaster and original lecturer "Locco" Mike O'lochlan.

Gerry Pyne from Broadsoft has been on hand putting students through the basics of Simian and Adobe, Shane Gibson was also on hand to assist with technical support, equipment maintenance and network assistance.



Juanita (Pink Hair) in the studio

The next block of training commences on the 13th of May, this will be followed up by a forum of all Black Star network broadcasters in Cairns in mid June. The June forum will focus on network programming, local news reporting, preparing programs for VAST satellite and the transitioning of programs on VAST across the network.

‘ Our thanks to the Indigenous Broadcasting Program for funding the forum.

The forum has attracted a lot of interest from all of the broadcasters and it will give an opportunity for all of the broadcasters to meet each other for the first time

There will be no shortage of skilled trainers AFTRS will be the leading RTO and will do a lot of the networking training.

Radio Adelaide and Ian Watson Griffith University will facilitate sessions on News and current affairs research and presentation.

Hope Vale's new CEO

Hope Vale is one of the 11 communities in QRAM's RIBS radio network and has just appointed a new CEO. Ross Higgins is the new man in the job and he met today with QRAM Manager Jim Remedio at the Hope Vale offices in Cairns to discuss remote broadcasting and new initiatives that QRAM have in mind for Hope Vale Radio 107.7FM.

Ross is no stranger to Aboriginal communities and remote radio stations. He was CEO at Cherbourg for 11 years and also temporary CEO at Woorabinda, another community in the QRAM network.



Jim with new CEO Ross Higgins

He loves radio and always has it on in the car when he is driving around the community. He hopes to work with QRAM in the upgrading of the FM service to give a greater coverage to Hope Vale and its surrounding areas.

As the community grows and businesses also grow in the Hope Vale region, so does the need to have good radio services. Jim brought Ross up to speed with plans to expand the services and also to relocate the radio antennas to the Telstra phone tower, located on a high hill adjacent to the

community. This new location is in line with the Cook Shire's plans to eventually cover all the radio black spots across the whole of the Shire.

A microwave link from the studio building to the new site on the Telstra tower would allow the existing tower to be dismantled. The current tower is using valuable land in the centre of town, adjacent to the present Hope Vale studio, and much better use could be made of that property. This became really clear in 2011, when the tower collapsed, causing the outage of services in the community while it was being rebuilt

Station Call Signs on Show



Stations on the Black Star network are about to receive custom-made signs to post around their communities and on each radio station building. Signs will also be posted at each Airport, so that when people arrive they can remember to tune their radio to the frequency of the local radio station.

As the stations in our network become more secure through the improved reliability of services with the introduction of the Black Star, the take-up of new listeners to the local stations has improved also

Feedback about the service to QRAM has been positive from community and from agencies who regularly visit the communities. Better local signage and identity is a further step in building strong radio services in the Cape, Gulf and Western Queensland.

For network services contact network coordinator Gilmore Johnson
0740325022 Email reception @qram.com.au

P13 *Aurukun Joins Black Star*

Aurukun is now the 11th Indigenous radio station to join the **Black Star network**. Black Star is the Indigenous owned and operated remote Queensland network of stations which can now be heard in 36 communities and towns. Shane Gibson, from QRAM's technical contractors Broadsoft Communications, made the long journey to Aurukun to install the service and train broadcasters on the new systems.



Shane Gibson Broadsoft Systems Installs the New Aurukun Studio

The system now gives the station broadcasters access to a music database of over 12,000

songs, which cater for all tastes. Music is categorised and automatically selected into a 24 hour program log seven days a week. This facility alone is a huge success for the station, they no longer have to purchase CD's or use personal libraries but instead can provide a greater variety for their listeners. They can also add or arrange music to meet local listeners needs.



CDO officer Monica was in Cairns recently and was happy to take the sign 107.7 sign back to Aurukun

News and weather feature on the hour, 7 days a week. The Black Star network plays a vital role in the region, reporting emergency services and disaster management messages as well as campaigns aimed at closing the gap in services to the community.

Black Star guarantees that programs run in their designated times and for the allocated time period. The system can send specific information to individual communities, allowing campaigns and messaging to be targeted to a whole new level.

QRAM technical work is carried out by Broadsoft Systems located at Malanda on the Atherton tablelands. Broadsoft Gerry Pyne and Shane Gibson up graded all of the remote studios and

configured the WAN Black Star Network. Broadsoft also do IT work in communities.

Contact Broadsoft 40171063 0429780699 email

Gerry@broadsoft.com.au
shane@broadsoft.com.au

Broadsoft Systems Pty Ltd

P14 Jimmy Cliff Loves Black Star.



Jimmy Cliff was Cairns on the 19th and 20th March, a big treat for his many fans in Far North Queensland. Gilmore Johnson from Black Star spoke to Jimmy at home in Jamaica as he prepared for the trip to Australia.

A Jimmy Cliff special was featured on Black Star stations in February, leading up to the concert .

Jimmy arrived in Australia in March and appeared at the big festival venues in Australia beginning at Womadelaide in Adelaide. Then it was up to Cairns in Northern Australia for 2 concerts on the 19th and 20 of March. Tickets sold out for the first concert in Cairns and Jimmy not wanting to disappoint his many fans scheduled another concert.

QRAM ran a competition across Black Star inviting people to visit the QRAM web site and enter to win 2 tickets airline tickets complements of our sponsor Skytrans and 2 nights accommodation at High Chaparral.

The competition was won by Eileen Baira from Bamaga her entry was one among 86 entries we received and the task of picking a winner was difficult. We were impressed at the level of participation and also the comments we received about the network.



Ellen's response to the question *What do you like about Black Star?* was ...she likes everything! The news every hour, the information, and the music. Ellen says "the music is entertaining and soothing. Because my workplace is small we can turn the volume up not only for our ears but as well as the customers.

When customer enter my work place they always say this place brighten up our self-esteem, because of Black Star Radio'.

Highlight of the tour was the release of his first album in seven years and of course the golden jimmy cliff oldies, Vietnam, You Can get it if You want It, Wonderful World beautiful People, wild world and the time honoured Many Rivers To Cross.

The music is soothing. We turn the volume up for the customers. Black Star brightens up our self esteem. "Ellen Baira Bamaga"

P15 Spotlight on Napsi

Napsi Obioha is one of the students completing her certificate 111 in broadcasting at the QRAM training centre.

Napsi has been involved in the indigenous and community radio for over a decade. Napsi previously worked at Radio BBM 98.7FM and volunteered her time at 4CCR Cairns FM 89.1FM, Napsi presented the BBM Drive-time show and National current affairs show Black is Black including the breakfast show.

Napsi has many highlights of working at BBM, especially interviewing big name artist from PNG and the Pacific such as O-shen and Basil Greg. Napsi was thrilled when she interviewed Raggae superstars Junior Marvin and Fully Fullwood original band member of the legendary Bob Marley and the wailers and Peter Tosh.



Why have you made the decision to study radio?

Napsi has been away from the radio studio's for a few year now but with her personality she always had it in her heart to get back on the radio and "says at my age it's never to late study" and there is a lot more to learn especially with new technologies and growing youth presence in our community.

We have to make good use of the media so we can proudly tell our peoples history and

ways forward.

What are you enjoying about the course?

Learning how to use computer software and recorders so I can edit and present radio packages more successfully, I also enjoy Meeting new people and having a laugh with other students especially those that travel in from remote areas.

Quick 5

What's your favourite bush tucker?

Wild Pig and Yams

My Favourite karaoke song? Slow

Hand by the pointer sisters

Which Famous Star would you go on

a date with: Wesley Snipes Napsi

laughs and say "Blacker Berry
Sweeter the Juice"

**What would you spend your last \$5
on?** Bread and Milk

If you was stranded on a deserted is-

land Name 3 people that you would want around you?

- Chris Rock
- Denzel Washington
- Wesley Snipes

**Napsi said "at
my age it's
never to late to
study"**

P16
Spotlight on
Lana



Lana is as a retired community police officer and now she is the operator at Kowanyama radio 107.7FM. she has started her cert 2 & 3 creative industry course this year and is excited at the opportunity to entertain and inform the listeners in Kowanyama.

Before starting work at the radio station, Lana's previous role was at the Kowanyama primary health centre as an administration officer. Her previous role as a health admin officer and former cop has given her a wealth of experience and knowledge in terms of how to engage with community members at all levels including public servants and visitors to the remote community.

Why have you made the decision to study radio?

In a remote community you don't have many options for employment and I didn't want to move, so when the position became available at the station, I thought to myself "I need a new start in life, it suits me. I like to travel and it's an opportunity for me to meet people and work at the same time. This is a whole new job for me and I will enjoy this job. It will open new doors for me in the future its a new start in life where I can be myself



What are you enjoying about the course?

Learning how to use computer software and recorders so I can edit and present radio packages more successfully, I also enjoy Meeting and having a laugh with other students especially those that travel in from remote areas.

Quick 5

What's your favourite bush tucker? Seafood especially fish grunter, Barra and Bream

Favourite karaoke song? Cant fight the moonlight – Leanne Rimes

Which Famous Star would you go on a date with and why: Andrew Daddo because he a city boy and needs me to show him the bush life.

What would you spend your last \$5 on? 2 Potato scallops and can diet coke

If you was stranded on a deserted island Name 3 people that you would want around you?

My Grandson Kurtis

My Love of life "which I'm still trying to find"

Gerard Butler from movie 300

'I thought to myself I need a new start in life'