

A visit to the shack of Glenn VK4TZL

The photos provide a glimpse of the shack, and antenna farm, of Glenn McNeil VK4TZL, who resides in the coastal town of Torquay, south of Bundaberg, in Queensland.

Glenn is a builder and assembler of equipment, and the photos give some support to the view that he is rather better than most at these endeavours.

First, the shack (see Photo 1).

On the top shelf, far left, is a 3.5 kV power supply that provides EHT to the 2 amplifier decks to its right. The first of the decks is a GS35B on 144 MHz, and the second the same tube on 432 MHz.

Below the amplifiers is an old 400 MHz Pentium computer that is used for the Internet, and also runs various other programs, all over serial connections, hence the age of the machine.

On the desk, partly hidden by the desk microphone, are 2 Elecraft K2's, one a 100 W unit for HF, and the other a 10 W unit that is used solely as an IF for the 50/144/432/1296 MHz bands.

Above the K2 transceivers are 3 Elecraft transverters, for 50/144/432 MHz, and a Kuhne TR1296 transverter, for 1296 MHz.

In the rack on the right, from the top, is a fixed channel FM 2 meter transceiver, the EHT

Ray Elliott VK4BLK



Photo 2. The antennas viewed from below.



Photo 1. Glenn in his well organised shack.

supply for the 1296 MHz amplifier, and HP 13.8 V power supply that powers all of the solid state gear, and under it is a GS15B water-cooled 1296 MHz amplifier, with its water cooling system sitting on the desktop.

Various other pieces of equipment complement this equipment, rounding off a very impressive, home built/assembled station.

Outside, the antenna set-up is also impressive.

There are 4 by 20 elements on 1296 MHz, 37 elements on 432 MHz, 17 elements on 144 MHz, and shortly 5 elements on 50 MHz. A small 4 element vertical Yagi is used on 144 MHz FM. And all of that sits somewhere on a 10 metre tilt-over mast. Finally, a 3 m dish awaits completion for 1296 MHz.

ar



Photo 3. A work in progress – the dish for 23 cm (keeping one of the locals happy).

Plan ahead

**Up-coming Hamfests – Cranbourne, 22 July;
Perth, 6th August; Shepparton, 10th September;
Ballarat, 4th November**