

Nomination for Life Membership of The Wireless Institute of Australia



ROBERT BROOMHEAD VK3DN



Robert Broomhead has served two terms amounting to some 10 years as a Director of the Wireless Institute of Australia,

- Nov 2004 to Dec 2009
- Dec 2013 to Dec 2018.

Significant Projects that he has been involve in have included:-

- Arranged for the design (personally funding design costs) for the National WIA Membership Certificate. Robert went on to arrange for the initial printing mailing of certificates to all members, this he carried out at Syndal Baptist Church with a small army of volunteers putting certificates into envelopes and affixing address labels.
- Robert personally designed the WIA corporate banner artwork which is used today on the WIA website, WIA Letterhead and business cards and arranged for the printing of letterhead stationery and business cards for directors.
- Robert managed the design and production of the calling CQ brochure, looking after the layout and taking all the photographs. The brochure text was written by Phil Wait VK2ASD and Michael Owen VK3KI (SK) with final brochure artwork produced by Ivan Smith. Robert arranged for bulk printing of 10,000 of these brochures which were stored at the WIA office and distributed to radio clubs for promotion and special events.
- In 2005 Robert designed a corporate WIA display stand with backdrop and posters which was transported to Wyong and other major hamfests around Australia where bookshop books were sold and new members signed up.
- During a WIA board meeting in 2006 there was much discussion regarding the attendance (or lack there of) members attending the annual WIA AGM. Robert came up the idea that we should have a weekend of special activities that 'would be of particular interest to radio amateurs' and attract participation. The board liked the idea and his enthusiasm and asked Robert to develop the concept further. From this he personally ran the very first (and highly successful) WIA AGM weekend of activities in Parkes. Based on the weekends success the board elected it become an annual event. The following year Robert put together an equally successful AGM weekend held in Broken Hill themed around the history of RFDS with visits to School Of The Air. Today the tradition of the annual AGM weekend continues with local radio clubs invited to share the responsibility and groundwork for holding a AGM weekend in their own home town. Probably the most significant (and greatest effort) that Robert put into an AGM weekend was the WIA Centenary weekend held in Canberra with Dick Smith VK3DIK as the Patron and live ARISS contact during the AGM dinner with media present.

- In February 2008 Robert with the help of his son Tim VK3KTB launched a new highly customised website for the WIA. At time of launch the new site included a public information section "Discover Amateur Radio", an online event calendar, an online bookshop and full page for every WIA affiliated radio club to populate and manage. Over the last 17 years the website with the assistance of Tim and Marc Hillman VK3OHM the site has continued to be developed and expanded with highly customised special features.
- Robert was a familiar voice on the weekly WIA News Broadcast, for over 10 years Robert recorded the weekly Special Interest Group News segment, and when Graham Kemp VK4BB needed to take leave, Robert along with co-host Bryan Pliatsios VK3GR would produce the full news broadcast.
- Robert managed the design, layout and printing of the WIA Foundation Manual, which was authored by Phil Wait VK2ASD and Ron Bertrand, Robert worked alongside graphic designer Ivan Smith and personally took the majority of photographs used throughout the manual as well his photographs and photoshop work that is the manuals cover and arranged for printing of the manual.
- Robert with the assistance of Jim Linton VK3PC (SK) managed the design, layout and printing of the 'Join the WIA Brochure'
- Robert was a key member of the WIA Centenary Committee looking after many of the special events that were run to mark the occasion. With the help of his son Tim VK3KTB they developed a real time special event log database which via the WIA website enabled everyone to see calls to VK100WIA being logged which racked up no fewer than 24460 contacts.
- Back in the day Robert was often seen alongside Michael Owen as his right hand man or perhaps his right hand cameraman taking photos of special key events or working alongside Michael at hamfests and spent many hours driving interstate on road trips to hamfests or radio club presentations.
- One of Robert's lesser known efforts is that he personally developed the WIA's exam and callsign database systems. These were reasonably sophisticated systems producing, printing and tracking all assessments conducted by the WIA assessors. It was in use up until 2019
- Robert has assisted with the video streaming and publication of the WIA AGM event over several years.

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