



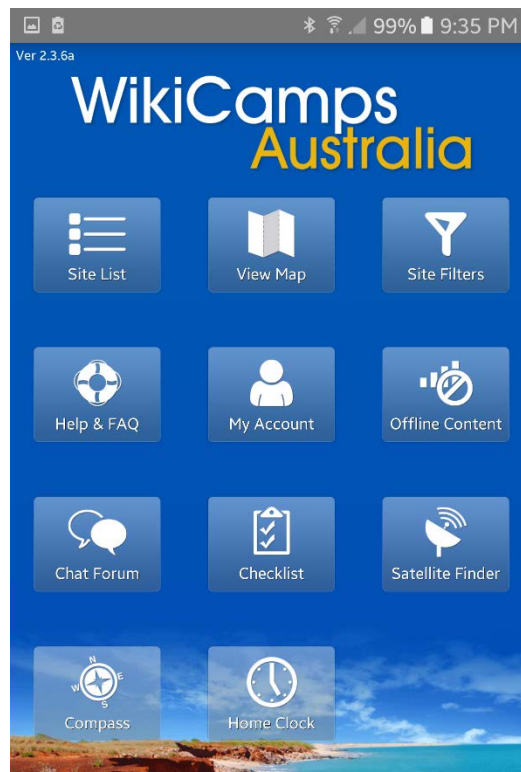
Locating TV Transmitters and Satellite Direction

A suggestion which came from a Directors meeting was to write to all caravan parks asking them to mark on their park maps the location of the nearest TV transmission tower and the direction of the Optus C1/D3 VAST satellite.

After further consideration, it was noted that the chances of getting this to happen across all parks was very small and it did not help those who choose to use other camping options such as showgrounds or free camps.

Given the proliferation of mobile phones and Apps for virtually everything, it was decided to put the responsibility for finding this information back to the traveller by suggesting suitable Apps.

Many travellers use WiKi Camps (Aus) to locate suitable places to stay. One feature of WiKi Camps (Aus) is the satellite finder. Once set to the correct satellite, the App will provide all the required settings for your dish and LNB and offers a compass view of the satellite direction or even better, a camera view of the sky so you can readily see if there are any obstructions such as tree branches in the line of sight.





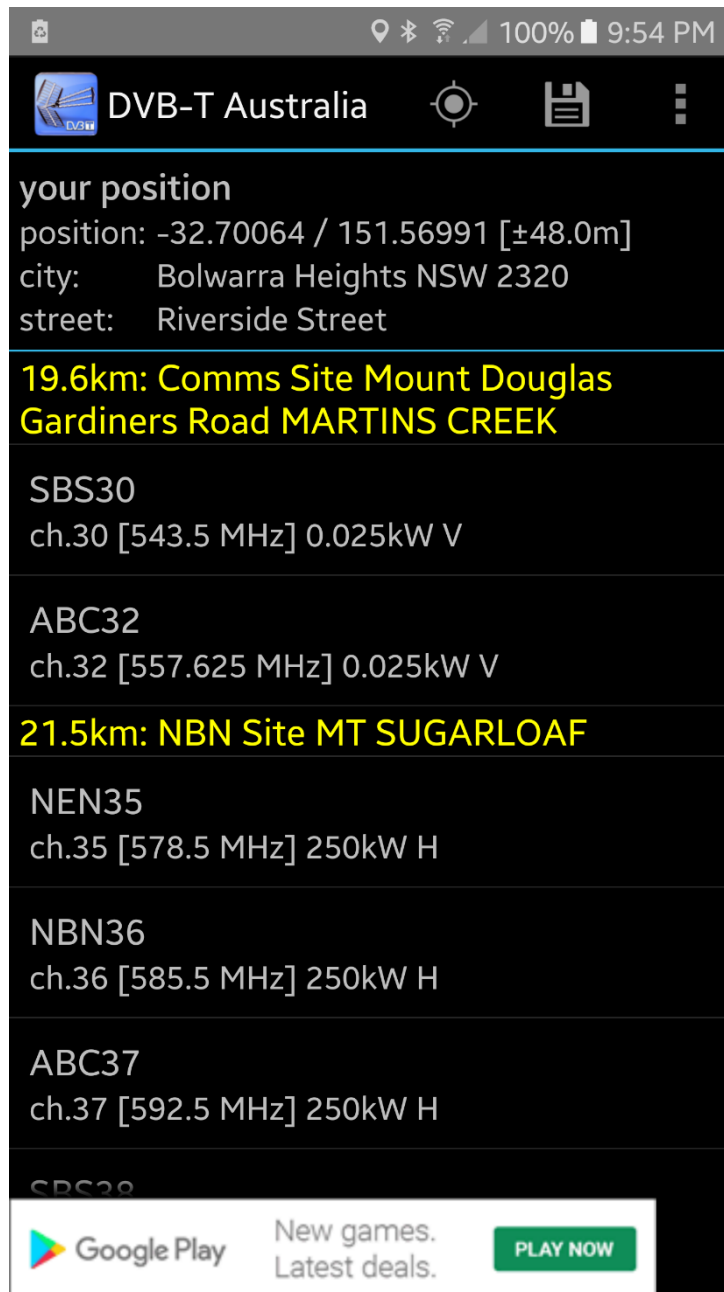
There are other Apps available on both Apple and Android which can help with satellite direction but WiKi Camps (Aus) works very well and does not require an internet connection for this feature. App costs \$7.99 and is good value for money given its many features. There are versions of WiKi Camps for other countries as well. Recently used the NZ version and found it equally as good as the Aus version.

You will still need your satellite finder to lock the dish to the satellite but knowing where to start looking is very helpful!

DVB-T Towers (Free to air digital TV)

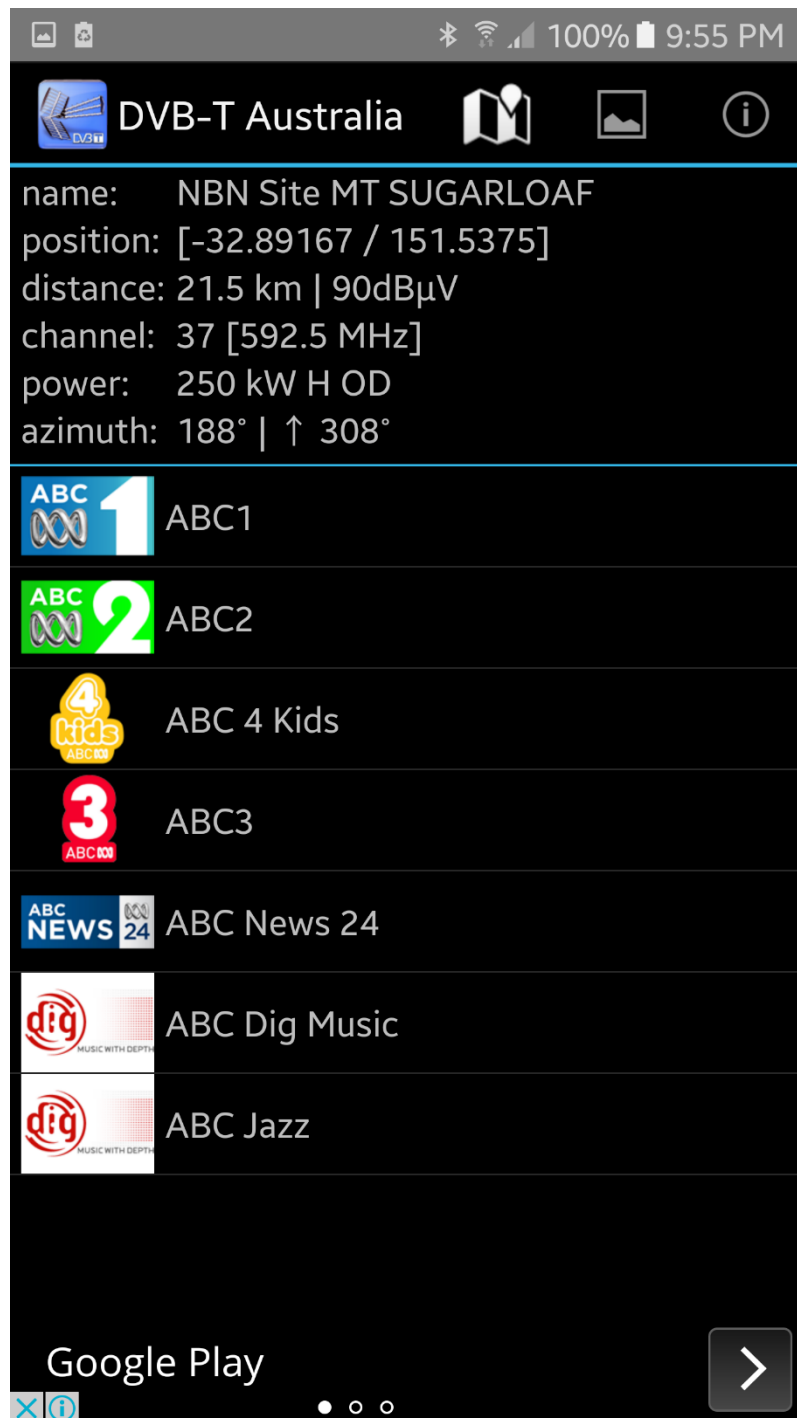
Now that the whole of Australia is on digital TV, finding the nearest broadcast tower can often be tricky. Again there are many Apps available to help you find the right direction. Remember that not all channels are broadcast from the same transmission tower so it may require some extra work especially in poor reception areas. Here you may have to decide what channel is most important and hope that you get a strong enough signal to lock on. In areas with good reception, there is no real need to locate the tower!!

DVB-T Australia (free with ads)



The opening screen will list your current location and then the towers in order of distance from your location. Note that some towers have very low power output so it is always better to look for high powered towers even if they are located further away from your location.

Tapping on any of the listed channel will open an additional screen – for example ABC37



From this screen you can then use the azimuth direction to point your phone until the two settings match (at 188° in this example)

Tower Finder (by Jim's Antennas) is another App for finding DVB-T towers.