



QST63

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Branch 63 Clubrooms
Park Street, Upper Hutt

204 Plateau Road
Te Marua
Upper Hutt 5018

Newsletter of The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, Upper Hutt Branch 63, Inc.

ZL2VH Newsletter — April 2015

President's Report

Climie Maintenance Working Bee — Part 3

Over the past month Phil ZL2HF has finished work on the North Hut's door. And on the 7th March The following members: ZL2CHV, ZL2NSA, ZL4WT, ZL2UX, ZL2TSK, ZL2TKY and ZL2OWL along with the Upper Hutt Voluntary Rural Fire Force (UHRFF) prepared the Hut's for painting by water blasting. Then over the following weekends Brain ZL2CHV went back and proceeded to paint both huts. A massive effort by all those involved. Special thanks go to Graeme ZL2TSK and his offsider for the UHRFF organization of the water for the job. Also Many thanks to Mark ZL2UFI for the organization and finally a special thanks to Brian ZL2CHV for the painting. Brian reports the north hut requires a second coat. This will be organized.





Branch 63 AGM April 17th

This Year's Annual General Meeting will be held on April 17th at the clubrooms at 8 pm. Attached are copies of the NZART Council remits for item 12 Please be there and support the club!

Meeting Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes.
3. Matters Arising from Minutes
4. Correspondence Inwards and Outwards
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Subscriptions
8. AREC Report
9. Repeater Trustees' Report
10. Other Written Reports (QSL Manager)
11. Notices of Motion
12. Remits of NZART AGM (select delegates)
13. General Business
14. Elections of Officers

Current Office and Committee Holders 2014–15

President	Simon Eatough	ZL2BRG
Immediate Past	Mark Gooding	ZL2UFI
Secretary	Justin Southam	ZL2UGL
Treasurer	Gavin Smith	ZL2ACT
AREC Leader	Gavin Smith	ZL2ACT
AREC Deputy	Brian Cathcart	ZL2CHV
Repeater Trustee 1	John Wysocki	ZL2TWS
Repeater Trustee 2	Simon Eatough	ZL2BRG
Repeater Admin.	Mark Gooding	ZL2UFI
Callsign Trustee	Tom Dixon	ZL2HGR
Exam Administrator	Gavin Smith	ZL2ACT

Exam Assistant	Eric Wilby	ZL2SET
Exam Assistant	Brian Cathcart	ZL2CHV
Equipment Manager	Eric Wilby	ZL2SET
Webmaster:	David Phillips	ZL2DBP
Editor of QST63	David Phillips	ZL2DBP
Editor Assistant	Mark Gooding	ZL2UFI
Committee	All members	

AGM (Item 12) NZART Council remits

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club Branch 05 NZART—Non-transmitting

Remit 1

Christchurch Branch 05 requests NZART Council to coordinate a working group with the task of investigating the inadequate uptake of amateur radio as a hobby in New Zealand, compared to other countries. The working group should report their findings and suggest resolutions within six months to the Membership.

Explanation

Through our extensive work with prospective amateurs and schools, we find many potential students discouraged by the entry level step of a full exam pass. And the work required to achieve this. We believe this entry step does not match the entry requirements as found with other modern day licences that require an exam, such as motor vehicle and pilots licenses, which all have a staged entry structure. A low level, low impact entry point would allow students to taste the benefits of our hobby. There must be a solution to this problem, and we should seek to find it.

Remit 2

That NZART should assemble a working group to investigate updating the New Zealand Amateur Radio Exam database. The aim will be to bring the exam into line with modern radio engineering techniques and test the capabilities of radio operators in the 21st century.

Explanation

The Christchurch Branch 05 amateur examination team considers the current database to be outdated in relation to the modern radio techniques. Whilst mindful of MBIE to ensure amateur license holders are technically competent, there are many areas of modern radio and computer operations that are not tested in the exam, and we would suggest some of the older subjects, no longer relevant, be replaced. Through this upgrade, we would expect the amateur radio license exam to be more appropriate to modern radio operations and hold more interest for younger

candidates. A dedicated working group should have twelve months to prepare a prototype exam database.

Manawatu Branch 20 NZART—Transmitting

Remit 3

Clause 6.1(a) of the NZART Constitution states:

The Association must convene an annual general meeting each year. The annual general meeting must be held on the Saturday prior to the official Sovereign's birthday observance in the month of June at a venue which may be chosen not more than two years in advance by a previous annual general meeting.

This amendment to the constitution recommends that Clause 6.1(a) be removed and replaced by:

The Association must convene an annual general meeting each year. The annual general meeting must be held during the months May, June or July at a date and time agreed jointly by the hosts and the Executive Council.

Explanation

The original clause stipulated that the AGM must be held on a Saturday and on the Saturday prior to the "official Sovereign's birthday observance." Furthermore prospective hosts cannot make any arrangements "more than two years in advance of a previous annual general meeting". This clause originates at a time when weekend trading hardly existed and as a consequence many sporting and similar functions held over the weekend were fewer than they are now. Today it is becoming more and more difficult for prospective hosts to secure venues in advance over the public holiday weekend. A number of sporting associations, including schools, hold National tournaments etc over the long weekend and those members participating in them or who have children/grandchildren in them find themselves torn between supporting activity or attending the NZART conference. Furthermore, accommodation and travel rates during winter other than public holiday weekend tend to be 'low season.' It is also restrictive on the hosts in timetabling speakers for the educational part of the conference in that the AGM, which is of unknown length, has to be held on the Saturday (i.e. it cannot be moved to Sunday). The AGM/Conference is critically dependent upon the willingness of Branches to act as hosts, yet they are being inhibited by other events held at the same time. This amendment is intended to give more flexibility in the timing of the annual conference and AGM and thus encourage more Branches to be hosts. It will not affect the financial year or any similar administrative procedure and come into effect for the next as yet unallocated AGM. This remit requires 60% majority.

73's and good DX

Simon ZL2BRG

Repeater Update – March 2015

Work is ongoing as mentioned elsewhere on Climie maintenance.

3 cm Beacon

Installation pending other more urgent Climie work completion

1292 23 cm Repeater

Awaiting mains restoration to the north hut. Then the 1292 rack will be reinstalled and be back on air end April.

860 D-Star Repeater

On Air.

5425 D-Star Repeater

On Air

730 2 m FM Repeater

On Air

53.950 6 m FM Repeater

As this is written John ZL2TWS is planning a trip to Climie to replace the recalcitrant 6m antenna.

NZART Branch 63 Incorporated
Council Depot
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Secretary: Justin ZL2UGL
Treasurer: Gavin ZL2ACT