



## ZL2VH Newsletter – November 2016

### President's Report

#### Tempus fugit

Time is moving on, its nearly the end of the year and the VHF band will soon be opening up to Australia and beyond.

Those of you that have been to the club on a Friday night recently will have seen the caravan sitting outside. In the past month it has been de-junked, cleaned inside and out, WOF and Electrical WOF have been carried out, and a power distribution project has been started.

The 12 volt battery has reached the end of its useful life and requires replacement – this will be completed by late December so we can test everything prior to the

Wallaceville Hill Climb event in late January (if we are asked to provide comms. and marshals). Jock White Field day in February will also involve the caravan.

Our portable generator has also been sent for a service after use up at Mt Climie providing power to all the South Hut users during the power outage caused by the recent heavy snowfall.

A follow-on project to the caravan power will be a review and rationalisation / upgrade of the clubrooms power distribution layout.

There has been no notification about the proposed Repeater Licence fee increase so we will have some extra funds available for maintenance etc.

The Rural Fire team next door have advised that the NZ Fire Service has taken over the provision of admin. services to them and have asked about the telephone that we have and they pay for.

After discussion with members present we have advised them that we have no need for it and that it can be removed, however internet access will remain in place.

The club had the caravan on display in the main street of Upper Hutt for the Upper Hutt Little City Big Bash with a variety of equipment on display.

Myself, Mark ZL2UFI, Justin ZL2UGL, and Simon ZL2BRG were manning the display and we may have a prospective Ham join us at the clubrooms.



(Pictures by Mark G. ZL2UFI)



Every Friday: Regular Club meeting 7.30 pm, come along and find out Who's doing What and What is doing Who.

Soon: VHF Field Day – Mt Climie. Simon ZL2BRG is regularly involved with this.

Early next year: Wallaceville Hill climb – normally last weekend in Jan, caravan, STSP repeater and marshals (hopefully 10) will be needed. **This is our main fundraising effort for the year so the more members that can assist the more funds in the bank.**

February: Jock White Field Day, at Kaitoke Regional Park – caravan, operators, overnight stay if desired, BYO equipment if you want to play outdoors.

73's and good DX

Mike ZL2NSA

## Branch 63 Repeater Update

There have been reports of 'crackle' issues on 730. To diagnose the issue, 730 & 5425 antennas were swapped, i.e. 730 is now running on the south 4 dipole stack and 5425 is running on the north 4 dipole stack. Additionally if the crackling continues the spare duplexers are being returned to 730 and will be swapped with the current 730 cavities.

The Climie 10Ghz Beacon ZL2VHX transmission has recently been received in Christchurch by Simon Lewis ZL4PLM, a distance of 350km. The beacon is receivable under flat band conditions along with some interesting effects when rain and aircraft are on the path. This is pretty remarkable given that the beacon is running 8 watts to a 16 slot omnidirectional antenna. ZL4PLM is using a 90cm dish with a Kuhne transverter and an SDR.

Subsequently I worked Simon on 1GHz ssb from Climie with a 5x7 signal. This success has led to some other stations in Christchurch getting some gear together to get onto 3cm, which is great news.

Simon ZL4PLM posted some videos on YouTube of ZL2VHX reception :-

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuTdJqv2uOePnvg6syqlsAg>

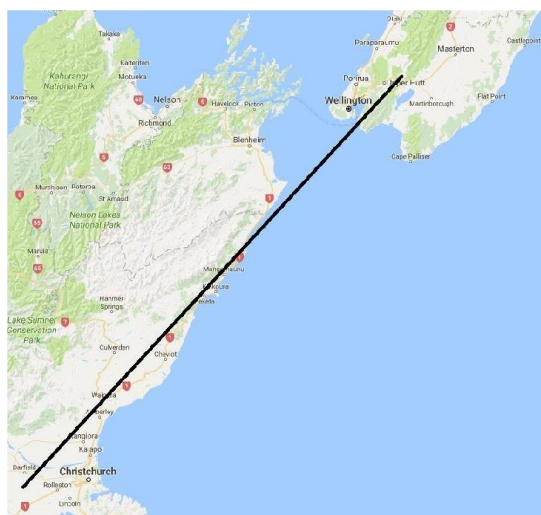


Illustration 1: ZL2VHX to ZL4PLM Path

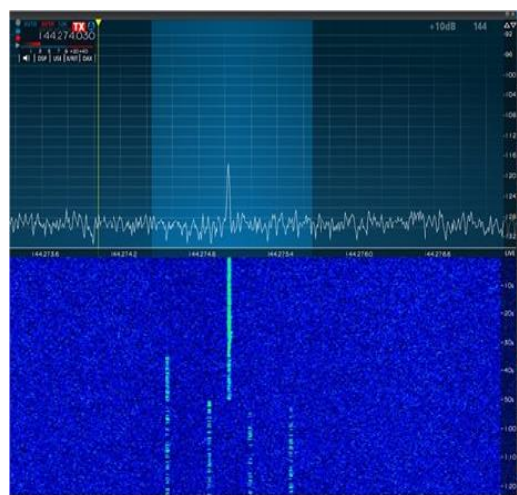


Illustration 2: ZL2VHX on ZL4PLM sdr waterfall

In other Climie DX News, Dave ZL2TLF in Hawera worked Chris ZL2DX and John ZL2TWS through the Climie 23cm repeater, which is probably the best dx ever worked through 1292. This, and the Climie 3cm exploits, go to show what a prime location we have at Climie.

## **STSP**

I've taken on the task of packaging one of our spare 70cm Tait repeaters as a STSP transportable repeater. An ABS rack case and new xtals have been ordered, a duplexer has been sourced courtesy and completion is expected within the next few weeks.

### **Branch 82 147.150 MHz Repeater**

It was decided to donate Branch 63's spare Tait 2m repeater to South Wairapa Branch 82. Once the xtals have arrived tuning will commence. Expected ETA 4 weeks.

### **53.950 Antenna Refurbishment**

John ZL2TWS and Phil ZL2HF are working on repairing the 6m repeater antenna. At this stage there is no eta the repair.

## **Status Updates**

### **WebSDR**

No progress.

### **3cm Beacon**

**On Air**

### **1292 23cm**

On Air with ID disabled. Waiting on proposals for future use ( if any )

### **860 DStar**

On Air.

### **5425 DStar**

On Air

### **730 2m FM Repeater**

On Air

### **53.950 6m FM Repeater**

## **From: Doug McNeill ZL2AOV**

Greetings,

The meeting to establish RemoteDX -- including signing the incorporation papers -- is confirmed for Thursday 17 November 2016, at the Tawa Community Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

Incorporation will be sought on the basis of the Constitution as published on the group website ([www.remotedx.nz](http://www.remotedx.nz)).

(If anyone has questions, these need to be dealt with ahead of that date, by email to me: [dmcneill@xnet.co.nz](mailto:dmcneill@xnet.co.nz))

Incorporation requires 15 signatories plus a witness.

Please plan to be there --- proxies are not possible in the incorporation process.

Everyone who attends and signs up gets automatic membership for the first year.

Hoping to see everyone on that date ....

Doug ZL2AOV

secretary-treasurer QHUG and WARC Inc

[dmcneill@xnet.co.nz](mailto:dmcneill@xnet.co.nz)

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## **Peter Norden ZL2SJ**

I've just heard that Peter Norden ZL2SJ has been admitted to St. Joseph's Home of Compassion, Perry St. Silverstream for care.

Peter is an ex-President, and life member of Branch 63. He has also been an NZART Councillor and President.

I visited Peter at the Home today. He is in good spirits and would love to hear from his Amateur colleagues.

Regards

Gavin Smith ZL2ACT

r pending antenna work