

Hello and Welcome to the 2nd Edition of the newsletter.

Pervious issues of this newsletter are available from the KiwiD-Star Yahoo group.

[https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/KiwiD-STAR/files/D-Star Newsletters/2015](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/KiwiD-STAR/files/D-Star%20Newsletters/2015)

Please feel free to send this newsletter to anyone you think has an interest in joining the DV amateur standard.

The News from around New Zealand

Read below as we head down the country.

Let's hear what others are running or involved with this month.

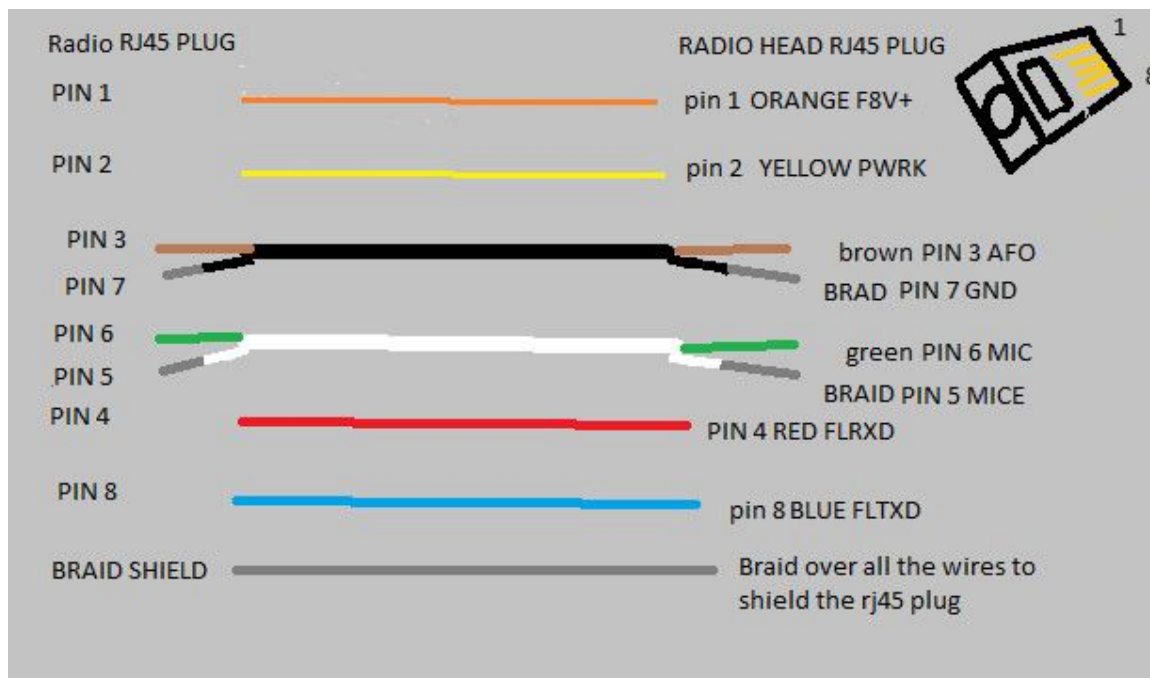
Auckland

Mark ZL2UFI and John ZL2TWS were mobile from the airport to the Coromandel and back using the Klondyke UHF repeater. We found the coverage excellent as far south as Bombay.

Mobile using a magnet mount whip and the 5 watt ID-51. Good signals using the ID-51 at the Auckland airport where we were able to connect back to ZL2VH C with ease.

Hamilton and Waikato Region

Brian provides wiring details of an Icom IC-7100 interface. Note that this is not a standard RJ-45 computer cable as many come to grief trying to use them. The drawing below gives the correct wiring information.

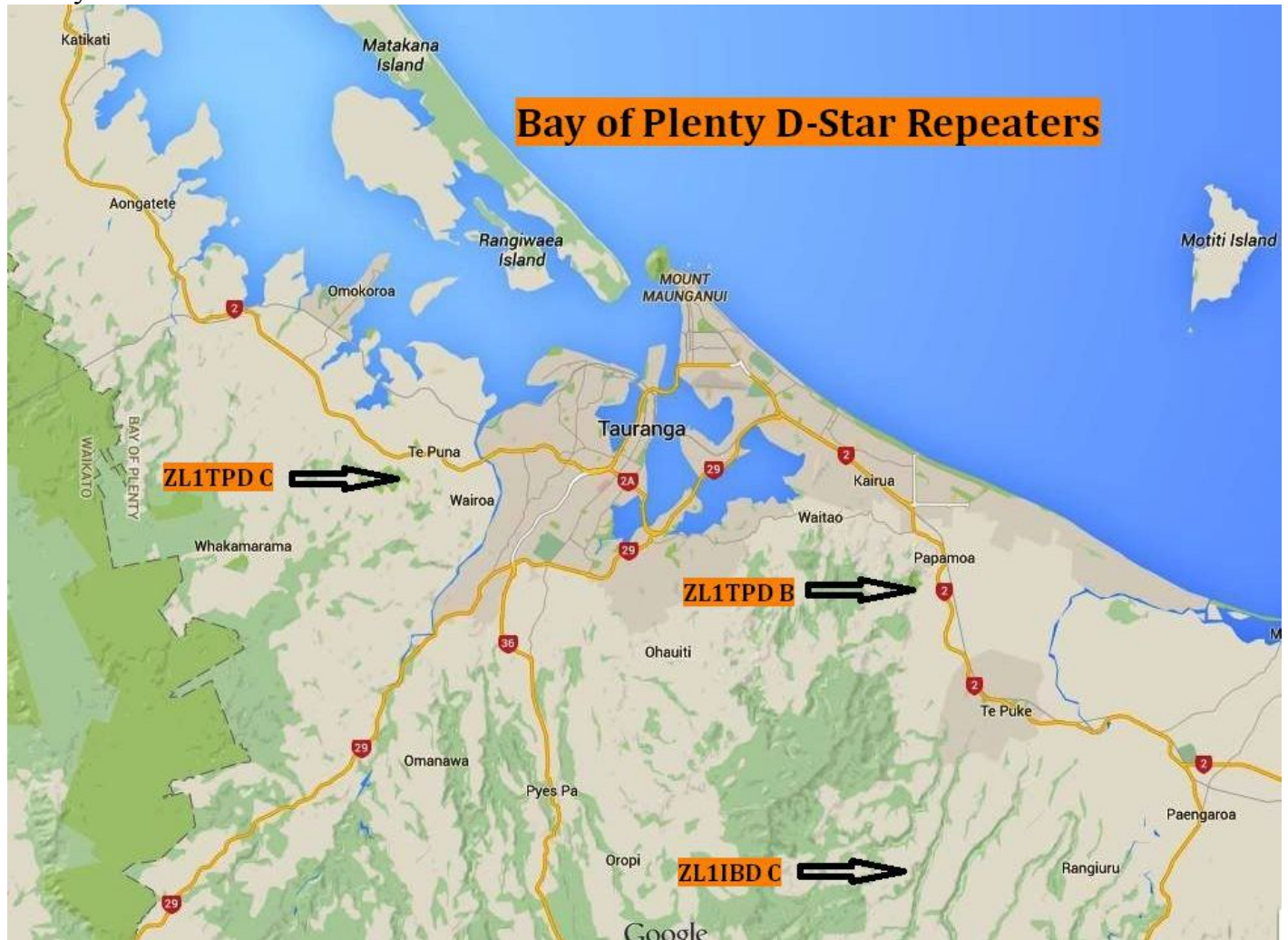


Regards Brian ZL1HN

Tauranga

Not a lot to report this month sorry. Another Ham in our area has purchase a D-Star radio and will join us on air soon. One Ham has the necessary parts to complete a Raspberry Pi/Dvap set-up to use while away in his caravan. Apart from that, just the usual D-Star activity's.

Below is a map of the three D-Star Repeaters showing there approximate location in the Bay of Plenty.



All repeaters are operating as they should.

For Branch 39 – Kevin ZL1KRH

Te Puke

Repeater operating as it should. Dashboard indicates some days are very busy.

<https://zl1ibd.dstar.org.nz/>

Napier and Hastings

Mark ZL2UFI and John ZL2TWS visited Hastings twice this month. While in the area we had lunch meetings with Jan ZL2CZE and Rob ZL2US. These proved to be helpful to share documentation and ideas on growing D-Star in Hawkes' Bay. Thank you to Jan and Rob taking the time to meet us.

Wellington Region

ZL2VH ircDDB / Dplus dashboard gets easy to find “Register” at the top left corner of the page. This helps the new users to quickly register. Thanks to Adrian VK4TUX for the new look dashboard. <http://123.255.47.67/> Also a panoramic view from the Mt. Climie site looking toward the south.

Note: Call sign is the login and is always in CAPITALS and the password is lower case with numbers/letters combination. Please take time to tattoo this somewhere you will not forget it. After you register the base call sign you can then add extra suffix letters to that call sign to assist in rig to rig data transfers (avoids call sign clashes) or to indicate to others if you are portable or mobile.

Examples: ZL2TWS D (DV dongle) ZL2TWS M (Mobile) ZL2TWS P (Portable hand held operation) ZL2TWS R (raspberry Pi operation) ZL2TWS L (Data link)

Wellington Hotspots

ZL2UDF Dashboard is running but the RF link is still being built. Hope for an RF update next month with coverage results.

ZL2SFM “Motuhara” has a new dashboard and running a Raspberry Pi B 512meg version. Issues with the RPi2 hotspot regarding lockups we believe to have been a combination of the known PRi2 SMPS corruptions, dirty PSU, loose radio DC connector and internet disturbance. To eliminate this an older PiB version running Adrian’s Xfce image will be tested over the next month for reliability.

Kapiti

ZL2KB 145.350 MHz gateway repeater is on air at Mt. Field. RF coverage is very good. There is no dashboard and when linking is made to ZL2KB you are connecting blind. Users should try the “I” or “U” command before linking via RF to ensure you get a clear module.

No further updates, however the gateway is being well supported.

ZL2ARN Hotspot was upgraded from a RPiB to a RPi2 and is on test for reliability. Gordon is working on a VHF high power transceiver and recently purchased a DVRPTR-V1 for this.

Nelson

No updates.

Blenheim

No updates

Christchurch

ZL3CHD C Hotspot with dashboard is being setup as this newsletter was completed. The VK4TUX Xfce image is on site and being setup soon. There will be a dashboard available and we will report the URL in the next newsletter. The Hotspot is operating from a high altitude Cashmere Hills site. Frequency is 144.550 MHz.

Invercargill

No updates this month.

HOTSPOTS

Many hotspots have been setup around the country and as this newsletter circulates we hope to receive feedback where they are. Many are using exclusively the VK4TUX image. We can all help operators to set these up with dashboards and port forwarding so that we can all enjoy connecting to them. Get your hotspot on Adrian's lookup table. <http://vk4tux.duckdns.org/lookup.html>
The ZL list is growing and shows how popular D-Star is for hams to experiment with.

Adrian VK4TUX has been offering a donation based service to setup his image and dashboard to allow connections to DVAP, DV Dongle, Dummy Repeater, DV Mega and DVRPTR-V1 modems to use with 9600bps ready FM rigs.

The software image uses the G4KLX repeater and ircDDB gateway packages from Jonathan G4KLX in the UK.

Note: If some are not working this will indicate that Hotspot is down or the IP address has changed. We encourage all Hotspot operators to check there Hotspot remotely or request others check them to ensure they are still visible. Those who do not use a fixed IP address from their Telco provider will from time to time experience a los of broadcast IP address.

ircDDB Visability

For those who want to be visible on the ircDDB "live" list.

<http://www.ircddb.net/live.htm>

Do the following from this URL:

<http://ircddb.net/live-vis.html>

UR:VIS ON and then transmit once.

Then revert the UR:CQCQCQ

Once you transmit via an ircDDB enabled gateway using RF your call sign will be seen to be live on the dashboard and also listed on the ircDDB "last heard" list on the local dashboard.

CCS7

This month the CCS system was shutdown by the Europeans and replaced by the CCS7 system. Due to the recent high growth of D-Star, CCS had run out of numbers only using 4 digit numbers for individuals and 5 digit numbers for repeaters.

The CCS7 system is a replacement using the DMR-MARC numbering system of 7 numbers. My DMR subscriber ID number is 5301011. The D-Star CCS7 equivalent is (530)1011. i.e. The same. The bracketed first three numbers indicate the regional zone. ZL DMR numbers start with 530.

Today I tried the new system which requires G4KLX ircDDB gateway upgrade to the latest version with CCS004 replaced with CCS704 from the CCS drop down menu, but nothing is working. I'm not sure how long we have to wait. For now ZL2VH can no longer connect to ZL2CZE.

Europeans are getting their network going first before allowing the rest of us to join in.

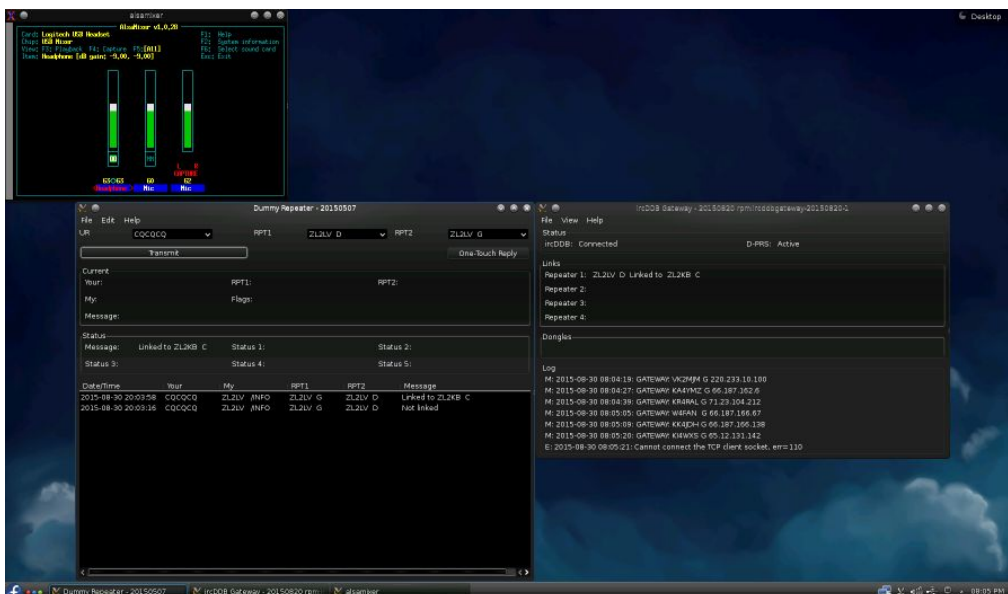
<http://xreflector.net/neu3/> and select user registration from the left menu. Put your call sign in and see if you already have a DMR number. If not you can apply for one. Then upgrade your ircDDB software and eventually it will work again. So they say!

DV Dongle and DVAP devices

Adrian VK4TUX and John ZL2TWS have been busy this month with various small PC's. The DummyRepeater by G4KLX on a raspberry RPi2 has been a satisfying project.

DummyRepeater uses a USB headset (Logitech H390 is recommended) and microphone plugged into the RPi2 along with a DV dongle device. These were tested and proved to work well. Blue InternetLabs DVdongle DVSi2020, DV3K and NW Digital DV3000 Thumb drive. Here is a picture from the desktop of the RPi2 DummyRepeater linked to ZL2KB using the Blue DV dongle. This shows that non Dplus Gateway repeaters can be connected to using this method.

To operate this you can do it remotely from Windows using VNC or a similar remote control program or connect a keyboard, mouse and HDMI monitor to the RPi2. This is a stand alone NON Icom D-Star transceiver. It also has a dashboard if your router is port forwarded and has Adrian's best image to date for RPi2 that has the "dlinkto" terminal feature for linking and unlinking from keyboard entries. Usual connect and disconnect is by the UR: fields traditional method. This DummyRepeater connects to all the gateways and ircDDB reflectors with ease.



**D-STAR
QSO PARTY
2015**

*Invitation to the Biggest
D-STAR QSO PARTY!*

The Party Runs From
SEPTEMBER 18 (Fri.) 00:00 UTC ▶ 20 (Sun.) 24:00 UTC

*Talk to the world by connecting through
D-STAR repeaters around the globe.*

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 [Log Reporting
Coming Soon...](#)
 [D-STAR Models
Coming Soon...](#)

This annual event is very popular with Kiwi's.
 Last year Tom ZL4HD from Bluff won an ID-51 hand held.
 Its lots of fun and good operating practice.
 Check this web site for details: <http://www.icom.co.jp/world/dqp/>

JOTA / JOTI 2015

ZL2JOTA and ZL3JOTA are expected to be on air this year **16th, 17th and 18th October**.
 ZL2VH C will have activity from ZL2JOTA and the new Christchurch hot spot we hope will support ZL3JOTA. REF033A is allocated for JOTA use but many of the usual reflectors including DCS005B will carry traffic.

XRF063: We are looking for a net controller so if you feel you can run a net and use it like an AREC exercise please contact me for more information. ZL2VH C could be the first place to start the NET being an easy to connect Dplus gateway.

Next edition content

This month has been so busy and no net controller came forward so we want to let another month pass by before getting into the "nuts and bolts" of ircDDB D-Star linking.
 Details about the New Zealand reflector XRF063, StarNet and how to use these features will be in the October issue, all going well.

How to contribute to this newsletter

The newsletter is published in the first week of each month.
 Send any articles and pictures sized no larger than 200kbs to one of the editors listed below.
 The editor will acknowledge that the information has been received and will be distributed to the chief editor for compilation. The close off date is the last day of each month.
 The following is a list of editors and the local contact people to send articles for the newsletter.

The newsletter is compiled from input given to these editors.

Auckland is Laurie ZL1ICU (zl1icu@dstar.org.nz)

Hamilton is Brian ZL1HN (zl1hn@xtra.co.nz)

Tauranga is Kevin ZL1KRH (zl1krh@ihug.co.nz)

Hawke's Bay region is Jan ZL2CZE (jan.s@eastek.co.nz)

Wellington region is John ZL2TWS (zl2tws@clear.net.nz)

Christchurch is Mike Barnes ZL3TMB (mike@barnes.net.nz)

Invercargill and ZL4 is Daniel ZL4DE (zl4de@icloud.com)

Each month useful links will be placed at the end of the newsletter so you always know where to go quickly to find them.

Gateways with dashboards:

Auckland. <http://dashboard.dstar.org.au/zl1vhd.html> (Dplus)

Auckland. <https://zl1hk.dyndns.org> (Dplus)

Hamilton. <http://zl1cct.d-star.nz> (ircDDB)

Tauranga. <http://johnkc.dyndns.tv:81> (ircDDB)

Te Puke. <https://zl1ibd.dstar.org.nz> (Dplus)

Wellington. <http://123.255.47.67> (dual system dashboard with Dplus below the ircDDB)

New Zealand Reflector XRF063. <http://162.248.141.148>

ZL2VH Web site. <http://zl2vh.org.nz/d-star/>

KiwiD-Star group. <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/KiwiD-STAR/info>

To connect to a gateway that is not G2 Dplus the WinDV node for windows software is required or a Hotspot running G4KLX gateway software. Download V1.5.8-3 that works for both DV Dongles and ThumbDV drives. Once installed additions to the dxhosts.txt are required. You need to have administrator privileges to edit this file in both WinDV and G4KLX.

DummyRepeater on a Raspberry Pi2 does all gateway systems available.

Examples of these hotspots that you can view and connect to this month:

ZL2SFM (<http://zl2sfm.ddns.net:82>)

ZL2ARN (<http://zl2arn.dyndns.org:82>)

ZL2UDF (<http://202.154.159.177:82>)

ZL2NSA (<http://zl2nsa.ddns.net:82>)

73 and good DV.

Chief editor John ZL2TWS. Proof reader Brian ZL1HN