



Hello and Welcome to the 6th Edition of the newsletter.

The News from around New Zealand

Note: Only new updates are added each month

Tauranga

ZL1TPD gateway is not available. RF link to server is faulty. Repeaters are working as normal.

Manawatu

In Palmerston North the ZL2JML 144.550 MHz Hotspot is on air. 25W Tait radio DVRPTR and VK4TUX F21 image on an RPi2. Dashboard is hosted as zl2jml.ddns.net:82. Thanks to Brian ZL1HN, John ZL2TWS and Warren ZL2JML for hosting the new simplex hotspot.

Napier / Hastings

Jan ZL2CZE reports that Mt Threave 434.000 MHz +Dup Repeater is on air. The internet router and dashboard are still being setup so we hope to report on how to connect in next month's newsletter. Pictured here is Jan ZL2CZE standing next to the new repeater. We hope to have a report from Jan next month on the project. Congratulations to the Hawkes' bay team for setting up this new installation. Ham radio at its best all "home brew"



Wellington

Recently the auto update site for Host Files has restricted access.

Auto update would replace any custom files with generic hosts and ZL hotspots were lost.

Host files could not be updated when people wanted them.

We have started to build our own with world wide reflectors, ZL gateways and hotspots. On our Branch 63 site you can retrieve the host files at any time. They are small text files.

<http://zl2vh.org.nz/d-star/links/>

Title is "ZL Gateways and Hotspot Host files"

Alternatively here. <http://zl2vh.org.nz/assets/d-star-hosts/>

Please choose from these ZL exclusive DExtra or DPlus files to copy and paste the gateways and hotspots to your own host files. You can also download the text file and rename it. Then copy complete with the international reflectors included in each file. The date of each will change as additions are made and uploaded. Please advise the editors about any host IP's that are not included or new hotspots that need to be added. Note that only IP addresses that are fixed or updated using the DNS server system can be added.

HOTSPOTS

ZL2JML zl2jml.ddns.net:82 on air as reported above.

ZL2UGD is getting a SanDisk extreme make over with a new 90Mb/s uSD card.

ZL2SFM is down at the moment but during this month is experimenting with a Hummingboard and extreme uSD. This is to trial using a separated USB and Ethernet communications device that the Hummingboard and Odroid C1+ use. This is also an attempt to get to the bottom of the RPi2 lockups. Hotspots are being moved towards the Odroid C1+ devices to also trial this theory.

CCS7 (Call Connection System 7)

The following list of stations that are working. Please try them. You can check each hotspot dashboard to verify your connection.

ZL2ARN (530)1082

ZL1SB (530)1091

ZL2JML (530)2009

DV Dongle and DVAP devices

John ZL2TWS has been busy this month with the new DV4Mini on an Odroid C1+ and XU4.

Unfortunately there are now two versions of DMR for DVmini and three Linux software versions.

The DV4mini DMR people cannot agree with each other and have gone to their respective corners of the world. A bit like G2 Dplus and ircDDB. I have gone to a windows install version that allows both systems to be used. Using Linux requires knowledge to setup the software. There are ready made Linux images for the Odroid C1+ that work really well. I run both windows and C1+ versions.

XU4 versions have been a flop so far except the DMR+ system that runs well.

Windows DV4mini software allows D-Star, P25, C4FM, DMR+ and DMR-BrandMeister reflectors to be used.

For those of you experimenting with the XU4 and using eMMC instead of the uSD card you will be interested in the following.

XU4 uses Boot Partition U-boot to "Fast Boot" the OS. The C1+ does not use the special hidden boot partition so this is only applicable to the XU4.

When Win32DiskImager is used to make the eMMC drive the hidden partition is not created on a blank eMMC. If the XU4 eMMC card is purchased direct from Hardkernel the partition exists and Win32DiskImage simply puts the FAT and Ext4 partitions above the U-Boot.

If the eMMC is wiped clean or formatted by another partitioning program the U-Boot is lost and you will not be able to start your XU4. The XU4 will however always start from a uSD card as a default to get you going.

To fix this problem a 200MByte zip file is downloaded and follow instructions here:

http://odroid.com/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=en:emmc_recovery_xu3

Make your own data cable

For those of you wanting to “ham” and not purchase the expensive Icom data cables you might want to check out this web site given to us by Mark ZL2UFI.

http://www.mds975.co.uk/Content/amateur_radio_projects_11.html

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 and 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.

facebook page called ZL DSTAR <https://www.facebook.com/groups/184445028555391/>

Gateways with dashboards:

Auckland. <https://zl1vhd.dstar.org.nz/> (Dplus)

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

Hamilton. <http://zl1cct.d-star.nz> (ircDDB) CCS7 8530100

Tauranga. <http://johnkc.dyndns.tv:81> (ircDDB) CCS7 8530001

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

Wellington. <http://123.255.47.67> (dual dashboard with Dplus below the ircDDB) CCS7 8530304

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

Other sites for reference information:

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

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

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

ZL2DRN (<http://zl2arn.dyndns.org:82>)

ZL2UDG (<http://202.154.159.177:82>)

ZL1SB (<http://zl1sb.ddns.net:82>)

ZL2JML (<http://zl2jml.ddns.net:82>)

ircDDB Visibility

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.

Previous issues of this newsletter are available from <http://zl2vh.org.nz/d-star/newsletter/> or the KiwiD-Star Yahoo group.

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

D-Star Net to join

<http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx>

Friday afternoon at 16:00 REF012A PAPA D-Star round table net is a technical net and well worth joining. The net runs for 3 hours or more and has a “shout box” type web forum you can also contribute to. <http://d-star-roundtable.boards.net/>

73 and good DV.

Chief editor John ZL2TWS. Proof reader Brian ZL1HN