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

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President's Report

Hi all... with the warmer weather upon us, it was good to get out and do some radio at the other weekend at the Kapi-Mana Motorcycle club event (see Morrie's report). I was using some new equipment for the first time—a Yaesu VX-170 2M mono bander, with a cellphone styled ear piece (with a microphone built into the lead). After one or two minor errors in the programming on my part all went well! It was surprising at how well ear piece worked—both in reception and transmit. The weather on the day was all over the place from rain, cold biting wind to bright sunshine warm weather—so be prepared for all weather conditions when assisting with these events.

As noted in the newsletter we were unable to assist with JOTA this year—perhaps next year.

There will be a Climie working Bee in early November on Saturday 8th with a rain off day on the 9th—see information later in the newsletter.

The Wellington EXPO committee has met and the date has been moved to the Saturday 28 March 2009. The date was moved from April as the hall booking was declined for the date asked for. The new date has been confirmed. As this will be the fifth event of the EXPO, please support it by assisting, running a table, or just attending on the day. The usual raffles, spot prizes, vendors and the like will be there. (Note this new date is two weeks before Easter.) See the NZART website for further information under the Sales and Rallies link.

Good DX and 73's.....Mark, ZL2UFI

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Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

The Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) was held over the 18-19 October 2008—but as reported in last month's newsletter due to being approached late in the piece we were unable to mount a station this year.

When speaking to the organisers I stressed the importance of making the approach early to the club so we can get operators and the like ready, as sometimes events like this also clash with others such as the Kapi-Mana Motorcycle days.

So please remember this event for next year, as no doubt the Scouts will be asking again.

Mark ZL2UFI

51st jota

18 - 19 October 2008



Repeater Report

Hello to all you repeater users, it's that time again when with settled warm weather and daylight saving the yearly maintenance and site improvements can be recommenced at the repeater site.

Morrie ZL2ADP and myself (ZL2TNG) paid the Climie repeater site a quick visit to check out the repeaters as well as to bring us up to speed on what work is required to be done.

The main task will be to get the heliax cable connected to the north sited antennas, this will include pulling several cables through the already laid ducting and terminating them in the huts. Unfortunately this work was not completed before the winter weather set in. We hope to also include power and communication cables between the sites. Several of the repeater cabinets need to be secured in case of an earthquake. Some minor repairs to the old hut as well as rust prevention is required. All in all interesting rather than heavy work. We will let you know the day and date of the working bee very soon.

A small group interested in developing and setting up a 23cm repeater are busily putting together a proposal/system. If you want to be involved you can contact Jens ZL2TJT. One spin-off from having a repeater in this band is the opportunity for a club project constructing a converter for yourself so as your 2meter or 70 cm transceiver would be able to access the repeater. Building what are small antennas for this higher band is a lot of fun and is not costly.

Peter ZL2HM one of our repeater trustees is in Haiti working for the Red Cross installing emergency communications equipment. The country suffered severe cyclone and flood damage. A very good article appears in the latest Break-in outlining what Peter is to be doing and his training regime.

Apart from some minor interference on 730 and possibly a tone on 860 the repeaters have performed very well over the winter months. The 730 interference has been attended too, the possible tone on 860, not easily heard on most sets, will be investigated at some stage.

Repeater trustee Neil ZL2TNG

AREC Report



The weather was fine and the track was firm at the Kapi-Mana Motorcycle Club Day held at Moonshine on Sunday 19th October. About 70 riders enjoyed the good conditions with only a few spills and no injuries to report.

Our team consisting of Mark ZL2UFI, Malcolm ZL2UDF and Morrie ZL2ADP provided the communications for Traffic Management and Flag Marshalling which also included a bit of mustering by Mark when a few sheep wandered on to the track in the face of oncoming riders.

Forthcoming events will be trail rides in the Totara Park-Cannons point area on Sunday 2nd November and Bulls Run Road area on Sunday 30th November. Thanks to those operators who participated.

Morrie ZL2ADP/ZK2EL

Climie Working Bee

The next working bee at Mt Climie will be on Saturday 8 November 2008, with a rain off day being Sunday 9 November 2008.

Please listen to Climie 730 on Saturday at 7.00 am for the call from ZL2UFI to check the weather conditions, this will save you from turning up and then having to go home again.

We will meet at the clubrooms with the idea to be driving out the gates by 9.00 am. The clubrooms will be open from 7.00 am onwards.



**Club HF Net 3.715 MHz every Tuesday at 0800 UTC
listen for ZL2VH and join in.**
