



QST63

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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 everyone...

As the nights seem to be drawing in, winter is on its way so many of those out door jobs are closed off until later in the year when spring arrives. So its time for those indoor jobs. If you have the time please consider coming up on 80 metres for the weekly branch net (see details at the foot of this page).

Thanks to all those members who turned out for the AGM on last Friday night. It was very pleasing to see so many making the effort to come to the meeting, and all the discussion that was had. All the officer positions were filled, with a few changes, but basically the same as last year in most positions. Neil has indicated that this will be his last year being one of the repeater trustee's — can all members of the club consider whether or not they would be suitable as a replacement in this role. I know that some members of the club could fill this role, so perhaps we could split the role into two if you prefer. One role could be the maintenance role or upkeep role, the other the monitoring/ licensing role? Anyway have a think, and talk to Neil or myself if you are interested.

The subs for the club are now due, and are still \$25.00. Please remember that aside from our fund raising activities this is the only other revenue stream we have, so its most important to stay current.

Mark ZL2WOL is the new newsletter editor taking over from Sean.

So thanks to those officers standing down this year, and welcome to those in the new roles.

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Club HF Net 3.715 MHz every Tuesday at 0800 UTC Listen for ZL2VH and join

President's Report (cont'd)

The recent Radio EXPO was a great success, and was perhaps the best yet—all but one of the tables had a vendor, display or items of interest on it. The comments back from the those attending was the most positive yet, especially to the range of products on show or sale. A meeting by the EXPO committee has yet to decide on next years event.

Well that's the news... 73's and good DX....

Mark ZL2UFI
President

New stuff...

As the Project for the 23CM Repeater continues its development, many of you are perhaps thinking about how to get on this band, to listen or use the new repeater when it becomes available. In recent years, many of the big three equipment manufacturers (ICOM, Kenwood and Yaesu) have dropped from their inventory the wide range of transceivers or transvertors they once had.

Some like ICOM still produce radios for this band, as an extra to their 2M/70CM base station offerings, but at a huge cost, which most of us cannot afford. The alternative is to search the likes of Trademe or local junk sales looking for the 23CM transceivers made upwards of 15 years or so ago to get on this band.

Recently one Japanese manufacturer, Alinco has begun to sell a new hand held transceiver covering not only 2M and 70CM but also 23CM. This radio the DJ-G7D has been in production for a short period, initially for the domestic Japanese market, before making its way to the rest of us. This bold step by Alinco is away from the standard of recent years, and perhaps is signalling a new look to produce commercially available transceivers for the higher bands such as 23CM and beyond. The big three have yet to respond to this approach, as their offerings apart from the 2M/70CM bands have, the 6M band or the unavailable 1.25M band (220 MHz) for us here in New Zealand.

Alinco's new radio, for sale in the domestic market depending on options sells for between 49,000 - 56,000 yen or about \$900.00 - \$1000.00 New Zealand dollars. The transceiver has yet to get FCC (Federal Communications Commission) approval for sale in the USA, so I suppose we will have to wait for this to occur before we see the product available 'down under'. Various web sites around the place are offering advance pricing such as Andrews Communications in Australia, at \$699.00 Australian dollars; but pricing for New Zealand will probably be around this figure, after adjusting for the exchange rates.

So here are the specifications as I know at present and a picture (see next page):

Alinco DJ-G7T tri-band transceiver gives you operation on 2 metres (144-148 MHz), 70Cm (430-450 MHz) and 1.2 GHz (1240-1300 MHz). Full duplex operation is supported. Power output is up to: 5 watts on 144, 4.5 watts on 430 and 1 watt on 1200 MHz. Enjoy wideband receive from 531 kHz to 1299.995 MHz (less cellular) in AM/FM/WFM modes.

The DJ-G7T comes with the EDC-173 charger, EBP-73 7.4V 1200 mAh Lithium-Ion battery, flexible SMA rubber duck antenna and belt clip.

Dimensions are: 61 x 106 x 38mm Weight: 296g.

New stuff... Cont'd

Features:

- VHF/UHF/1.2GHz TX/RX
- 1000 Alphanumeric memory channels
- Twin dials
- Spectrum Display
- Backlit display with contrast/brightness adjust
- CTCSS/DCS encode/decode
- DTMF tones and autodial memories
- Auto Power Off
- Wideband Receive

And from the look of the picture dual band/dual receive.

Alinco have been around for some time in the amateur market, with their main interest in recent years on the VHF/UHF bands for both mobile and hand held.

Over recent years I have owned a couple of different Alinco radios and have never had a problem with them, and found them equal to the products from the big three. In fact my last Alinco hand held the DJ-5VT had the best sounding audio from any hand held I have owned since my time in amateur radio!

So if you are considering upgrading the old hand held to something new, then have a look in this direction at the new Alinco DJ-G7T.

Any comments welcomed.....

Mark ZL2UF1



Lighthouse Weekend 2009

Tom is looking to organise the annual Lighthouse Weekend for this year - some people showed interest in attending this year. This year's event is on 15-16 August 2009.

Can you all email Tom direct at: tom.dixon@paradise.net.nz if you are interested so he can gauge the replies, and work out if he has enough people to make it worth while.

Location will be Palliser Bay Lighthouse - same as in previous years.

Tom ZL2HGR

