



QST63

WWW.ZL2VH.ORG.NZ

Branch 63 Clubrooms
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Upper Hutt 5018

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

December 2012

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Presidents Report

Hi Everyone....

Well here we are at the end of yet another year and looking towards Christmas/New Year holidays, plus time with family and friends. As you are all aware we have had a full year of activities from Jock White Field Days, AREC Events, Lighthouse Weekend, and the like. Over the next few months there will be various working bees at Mt Climie dependant on weather so please assist as you can.

This month we celebrate the first year anniversary of the D-STAR Gateway's year of operation. I believe that this has been a most successful installation and project; so thanks to all of those involved. There was one outage from a hardware failure during the first year but apart from that it has operated very well. I even managed a contact or two from the USA using it! Just on anniversaries, this time next year will be the ten year anniversary of the Climie 730 IRLP Node (Node 6931) installation – perhaps we should consider running an event or award to promote this and the club? Anyway plenty of time to consider this. NZART elections are being held in the New Year, with all nominations due in to NZART Head Office by year's end. Anyone interested in standing for council or president of NZART?

Don't forget that NZART Conference next year, will be in Masterton – please support Branch 46 as they did for us when we held the conference here in 2011 (1-3 June 2013).

Well that's the news from me... 73's and good DV....

Mark ZL2UFI, President

EINSTEIN ON RADIO

I am often asked how radio works. Well, you see, wire telegraphy is like a very long cat. You yank his tail in New York and he meows in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? Now, radio is exactly the same, except that there is no cat.

Attributed to Albert Einstein

Branch 63 Repeater Update

Beacons

3cm

Given that the donated beacon hardware has failed to arrive, I've decided to construct the beacon myself to the original specifications. I've commenced sourcing components.

6m

The 6m Beacon is now permanently QRT – and its licence has been deleted pending installation of the 6m Repeater.

10m

Mark ZL2UFI and Gavin ZL2ACT paid a site visit to Climie to turn off the 6M beacon but had an issue with the beacon rack – also containing the 10m unit. The rack was removed for repair.

This was repaired 30th November and reinstated on site during the Friday night club meeting .

Repeaters

1292 23cm

Nothing to report.

860, 5425 D-Star

Nothing to report

730 2m FM

The Main Repeater has been reinstalled.

6m FM

The Repeater has arrived and is being refurbished prior to Installation.

Installation is scheduled for late December or January.

Chris ZL2DX and John ZL2TWS have kindly volunteered to do the refurbishment work.

Simon ZL2BRG.

Repeater Trustee.

Interesting Web Links

Some history on the Titahi Bay transmitting site.

<http://www.pcc.govt.nz/About-Porirua/Porirua-s-heritage/Porirua-s-suburbs/Titahi-Bay/Historic-site--Radio-New-Zealand-Transmission-Station>

Malcolm ZL2UDF

Build an All Band HF Air Core

1:1 Choke Balun

THE "UGLY BALUN"

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/balun.html>

AREC event 7th October 2012

