



**QST63**  
**WWW.ZL2VH.ORG.NZ**

Branch 63 Clubrooms  
Park Street, Upper Hutt

204 Plateau Road  
Te Marua  
Upper Hutt 5018

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

## ZL2VH Newsletter - April 2014

### President's Report

Hi Everyone..

Firstly, thanks to the all members and friends of Branch 63 who made the effort to attend the recent Memorial Service for Jens ZL2TJT. I am sure we gave him a good send off at the BBQ and the event at Mt Climie later in the day.

Secondly, this will my last newsletter report as President as I step down from this role. I hope that the new President (whoever that may be) leads the club in new directions and offer my full support to that person.

As we move into autumn and winter the last maintenance jobs at Climie and the clubrooms need to be completed, so watch your inboxes and assist where you can. We'll try to complete all jobs by 1 May as the weather after this becomes a bit of challenge. We have planned a working bee at the clubrooms for Saturday 19 April 2014 to complete external maintenance on the clubrooms antennas. A Climie trip to paint the two huts is also required and no date is set yet.

The AGM is set for Friday 2 May 2014, starting at 8:00 pm and hope to see you all at the clubrooms. There will also be a review and discussion on the remits for Conference. Don't forget the NZART AGM/Conference is on Queens Birthday Weekend in Blenheim 30 May to 2 June 2014 (See the latest Break-In for registration information).

73s and good DX.

Mark ZL2UFI

## Repeater Report

Just one site visit this month but lots of activity elsewhere. Following installation of the iktelecom duplexer set, Jeff's Sayers loaned duplexers have been returned. Thanks to Jeff for the loan.

### 3 cm Beacon

A Form 10 Licence application was submitted. FMTAG objected to the original requested beacon frequency of 10368.800 MHz because it was outside the recommended band plan. Therefore the beacon TX frequency was changed to 10368.275 MHz. This new frequency was approved. The application has been published and is awaiting feedback. A new Crystal has been ordered.

The beacon call sign will be ZL2VHX with a transmit ERIP of 20 dBW and will ID in CW and JT4G digital mode.

### 1292 23 cm Repeater

1292 is on air but is being hammered by the Hawkins Hill beacon on 1296.275. Which is intermittently radiating noise across the entire 23 cm band including 1292's input frequency. The Hawkins hill beacon have been informed. We will see what happens.

### 860 D-Star Repeater

On Air

The ICOM G2 Software stack is has been installed on a replacement Gateway PC, having issues with regards to installing the database. Work progresses.

### 5425 D-Star Repeater

On Air

### 730 2 m FM Repeater

730 is back on the Main Repeater. But rx sensitivity and intermittent noise issues remain. John ZL2TWS and Phil ZL2HF are planning to swap out the dipole stack to see if this improves matters.

### 53.950 6m FM Repeater

On Air.

Simon ZL2BRG  
Repeater Trustee

HUTT VALLEY BRANCH 18  
*with*  
WELLINGTON VHF GROUP  
*jointly invite you to*

## VHF/UHF ANTENNA TEST RANGE DAY

- When: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April, commencing at 1:30 pm
- Where: Phillip Evans Reserve, behind 19 Birch Street, Lower Hutt, near Branch 18 Clubrooms
- What: A test range calibrated using the “antenna pair” method,  
A range of test instruments with qualified operators,  
Full testing of your VHF/UHF antennas, from whips to long-yagis, including measurements such as:
- Functionality (does it work)
  - Forward gain (even –dB “gain”)
  - Actual direction of maximum radiation
  - Azimuth gain plot (tabular data only, draw your own graph)
  - Front-to-Back ratio
  - Return loss (VSWR only for 2 m)
  - Feed impedance

### *How does your high-gain antenna perform ???*

Advice available and freely given by people with the knowledge and experience to sort out your antenna problems. VHF Group expert Doug ZL2TAR will demonstrate and explain how to set up a calibrated test range.

Members of Wellington, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt, Titahi Bay and Wellington VHF Group branches especially welcome, please bring your friends and interested people. Come along, bring your antenna, and do Amateur Radio!

## ALL WELCOME

Cancellation if wet : Listen on 700 and 710 repeaters Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 10:00 am, or, see <http://www.vhf.org.nz>

## NZART Branch 63 Incorporated

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