



ZL2VH Newsletter — October 2014

President's Report

First off, the club has been approached to supply marshals for the Hutt Valley Triathlon on November the 23rd. We have been asked to supply up to 25 course marshals for this event. At a recent Friday meeting it was decided that we will take part. Five members confirmed and with another five members as possible—so off to a good start of maybe five to ten people. We will have to seek assistance from Branch 18 and see if we can get to the 25.

This will be treated as an AREC exercise. As outlined in various meetings we need to be seen doing events like this not only to “be seen” but also to test out our communications skills, equipment and the like. We should be able to do all of this by VHF handhelds on a simplex frequency. Briefing will be at 7:30 am and we should be completed at about 12:00–12:30 pm—the event starts at 9:00 am. The following link has the details: www.huttcitytri.co.nz

So, if you can make yourself available please let us know.

At the meeting on the 5th of September, it was decided to sell the club's two FT897's to be replaced with a single Icom IC7100. Also, approval was given to go ahead with the repair to the North Hut door and frame.

The Purchase of a Antenna Analyser was postponed til next year. Subsequently the clubs 857's were sold in a sealed bid auction to members. The purchase of the IC7100 is in progress

And finally, the club would like to thank a member who wishes to remain anonymous that donated \$100 to the club. It's nice to be appreciated ☺

73's and good DX

Simon ZL2BRG

Branch 63 Repeater Update

3 cm Beacon

Construction of the RF Deck is complete. Work is ongoing on completing the GPS Controller 19" rack. It was decided to move the Beacon Transmitter ocoxo and rdds modules to the GPS rack, leaving just the transmit multiplier and PA up the mast. This simplifies cabling, control and monitoring of the Beacon.

1292 23 cm FM Repeater

On air

860 D-Star Repeater

On air

5425 D-Star Repeater

Running on 730's faulty 4-dipole stack on the north pole. Awaiting filter installation.

730 2 m FM Repeater

Running on new 4-dipole stack on the south pole. Replacement dipoles have arrived from SkyMast. Awaiting installation.

53.950 6 m FM Repeater

Back home from work, John ZL2TWS got stuck in to configuring the 'new' Repeater. And was installed and on Air in early September. The new repeater has had excellent reports with activity on a par with 730. A week later Brian ZL2CHV installed a set of fans to help cool the repeater. Many thanks to John for his work.

73's and good DX

Simon ZL2BRG

Repeater Maintenance

730 FM and 5425 D-Star are currently undergoing antenna and duplexer maintenance. 730 is running on the new SM-4 dipoles mounted on the south antenna mast. This is the antenna usually used by 5425 D-Star.

5425 is currently running on the north dipole stack which was previously causing crackle and noise on 730. D-Star is not affected like FM by a noisy antenna so the repair of this antenna can be done when weather and time permits. From time to time some R2D2 will be evident on weak or mobile stations using 5425 D-Star until this antenna is replaced.

The new cavity filters have arrived and will be tuned with the new refurbished WP-639 duplexer soon. Installation may not be completed until November due to maintenance being carried out inside the south hut by the site owner. The new north mast antenna for 730 will be shipped from Skymast UK soon and should be ready to install during a good weather period before the end of

November.

395 6 m Antenna

A new half wave antenna has been manufactured by Gerry ZL2TDN. LDF-450 coaxial cable feeder has been installed to the base of the 395 6 m mast ready for connection to the new antenna. The feeder cable currently connected to 395 is aged, brittle and due replacement. We expect the new antenna installation to be completed during a good weather period before the end of November.

73 John ZL2TWS

Mt Climie MK2 395 Repeater installed

Today, Tuesday 9th of September, the MK2 GE Mastrll 6m FM 53.950 MHz repeater was installed at Mt. Climie by John ZL2TWS and Phil ZL2HF.

The original repeater, also a GE Mastrll failed due a receiver/controller fault. The MK1 repeater is now designated as a service spare.

The new MK2 repeater was donated by David Hopper WD4JKH. David replied to a call for help when I was trying to repair the GE last time it failed. David told me he was in NZ for his daughters wedding and had appreciated the hospitality of Kiwis so much that he wanted to donate the GE to our club as a return gift to ZL hams. Thank you David WD4JKH for your help.

The GE Mastrll was an operational 100 Watt mobile/base RT radio tuned on 49 MHz. The GE Mastrll can be converted into a duplex radio suitable for use as a repeater. This took a week to convert and to interface the MC-100 repeater controller. The GE is on the shelf just below the 147.300 repeater with the controller and local operating shelf below that. At the bottom is the PSU donated by Mark ZL2UFI. Mark ZL2UFI imported the repeater and donated the cost of freight from USA. John ZL2TWS donated the crystals and the MC-100 repeater controller.

The 53.950 MHz (-1 MHz offset) repeater power output is set at 50 Watts and has a sensitivity of 0.3 μ V for a workable signal. Antikrchunker mute is set at 1 second. Key up for 1 second before talking. This prevents false noise triggering. TX lockup time out is set at 9 minutes. You can "rag-chew" for some time before the TX shuts down. Morse code ID ZL2VH/R is sent every 30 minutes or on demand by sending #9 from your radio keypad at any time. The TX sends CTCSS 151.4 Hz while the receiver mute gate is open and passing a signal. CTCSS stops when the gate closes. This allows those who do not want to monitor the beacon to only hear voice contacts. The $\frac{1}{2}$ wave antenna will need replacement eventually to improve the performance as the SWR is 3:1 but for now we can enjoy using the replacement MK2 repeater. When the new antenna is installed the power output can be increased.

Also the 1993 south hut opening plaque that was recently given to Mark ZL2UFI by the Wellington

regional council to install inside the hut. This was also completed today although 21 years late.

73 John ZL2TWS



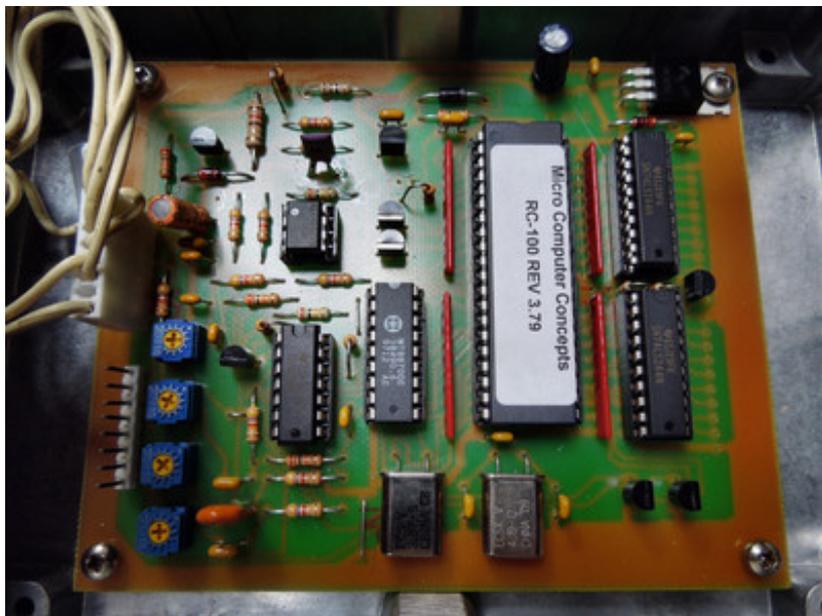
South Hut Plaque



395 2



395 MK2



395 GE MC-100



730 395 1

NZART AGM and Conference 2015

Hamilton Branch 12 is pleased to announce that the NZART AGM and Conference for 2015 will be held in Hamilton over Queen's Birthday weekend, from Friday 29th May to Sunday 31st May 2015.

The venue will be the Kentucky Lounge at the Te Rapa Racecourse, Ken Browne Drive, Te Rapa, Hamilton.

Further information will be available as planning proceeds in Infoline, Break-In, Official Broadcast and on the Branch 12 website at www.zl1ux.org.nz

Branch 20 Annual Table Sale

Date: Saturday 4th October 2014

Location: Longburn Hall, State Highway 56, Longburn

Time: 8am for Vendors ONLY. 9am for Public

Cost: Tables \$25 Full Size, \$15 Half Size (cost may change)

Register: Secretary, P.O. Box 1718, Palmerston North

Refreshments will be available. Prize draws and raffles throughout the day.

Kapiti Branch Annual Equipment Sale

The Kapiti Amateur Radio Society will be holding its annual junk sale on Saturday 18th October—the weekend before Labour weekend.

The location is the branch club rooms on Tutanekai St, Paraparaumu. Doors will be open from 9am and there will be table space available for private sellers. Talk-in for those that need directions on Kapiti 685.

Jeff Graham ZL2JG

President KARS Inc.

JOTA

Another year has rolled round to JOTA again. This is for your information if any of the local Scout or Guide groups ask for your help with a radio station. The groups should come to you but if you wish to contact a local group with information and help them, then wonderful.

I am running a camp at Brookfield this year again and Hutt Valley are very involved with this. Titahi Bay was also involved last year and I think they enjoyed themselves and I think they are keen again. You can reply to that one!!! If you do want to come to camp there is no fee and catering will be provided for all as well as accommodation.

This is the information that I have sent to all the Scouts and Guides.

JOTA & JOTI 18th and 19th October 2014.

The JOTA and JOTI is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of amateur radio contacts and use of the internet. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared.

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country they usually think of attending a

World Jamboree or another international gathering. But few people realize that each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides “get together” over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI). Modern communication technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without even leaving home...

Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, thousands of Scouts and Guides have “met” each other through this event. Not only is it fun to talk to Scouts from other parts of the world but it provides also a chance to find out about other countries and about Scouting elsewhere. Many contacts made during the JOTA have resulted in penpals and links between scout troops that have lasted for many years.

With no restrictions on age, on the number that can participate and at little or no expense, the JOTA provides an opportunity for Scouts and Guides to contact each other by amateur radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licences and have their own stations, but the majority participates in the JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Today some operators even use television or computer linked communications.

JOTI is the new age of technology in communication with Scouts and Guides talking to other Scouts and Guides using the internet. Groups need to register their groups on the JOTI internet site and also on Facebook (over 14 years).

You can get in touch with the local radio club to help run a JOTA station and leaders can help run a JOTI station. Radio operators are always keen to help Scout and Guide groups as they really enjoy all radio work. Also organising a camp is a great way to get lots of Scouts and Guides in one area to enjoy JOTA and JOTI.

For more info and register your station contact mah_re@xtra.co.nz

JOTA JOTI National organiser

Lower North Island JOTA JOTI Camp

There is a Lower North Island camp for JOTA and JOTI at Brookfield Scout Outdoor Centre, Wainuiomata on the 18th and 19th October where you can have a Group camp, Family camp or individual patrol camps both Scouts and Guides.

When: The camp is booked for the entire weekend. Radios and computers will run as bases from 8 am till 8 pm on Saturday, and 9 am till 3 pm on Sunday. Groups can come in on the Friday night to set up.

Day visitors are encouraged to come in on the Saturday and Sunday for the activities.

Activities: The radios will be running from the Camp kitchen (Skyline Garage) and Nelson, with

the computers in Maire Hall. Also if each group could bring with them an activity based on communication would be great. All the groups will go round other groups as an activity base.

Campfire on Saturday night after 8 pm. If there are many younger members we may look at a small earlier camp fire. This will depend on numbers.

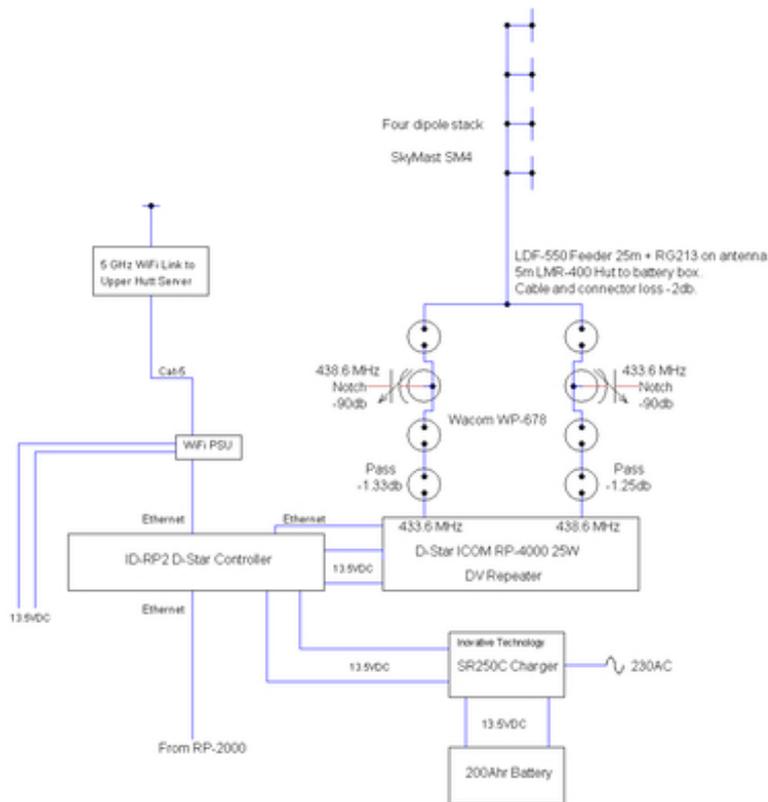
Registration: closes on the 10th of October 2014.

For more info contact Marie at mah_re@xtra.co.nz

Marie Smolnicki

National Coordinator JOTA/JOTI

Repeater Diagram



860 Block Diagram

Title Climie D-Star UHF Repeater Installation		
Author John Wysocki ZL2TWS Branch 63 NZART		
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[Larger resolution available](#)

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