



ZL2VH Newsletter – May 2016

President's Annual Report

Well another year has come and gone and it has once again been a busy year I would like to thank the officers of the club and all members who have assisted when required spreading the load and making for another successful year

In August Tom ZL2HGR ran the clubs station at the Karori Rock which as allays was a great success.

October saw Branch 63 and Branch 18 run a JOTA station from Brookfield Scout camp Thanks to everybody from Br63 and Br18 that helped with special thanks to Ollly ZL2OLY and Marie Smolnicki ZL2 JOTA, ZL2THE for organizing the event.

In December we ran the Club's Xmas BBQ in brilliant sunny weather with a good turnout.

At the end of January The clubs AREC exercise was to provide comms and flag marshals for the Wallaceville Hillclimb .Thanks to all the volunteers especially Gavin ZL2ACT for coordinating.

February saw the Club run Jock White field day station at Kaitoke and was a success with brilliant weather plus an excellent BBQ. As Always we could have done with more operators – special thanks to Mike ZL2NZA, Brian ZL2CHV and Mark ZL2UFI for organizing.

It was disappointing that there was insufficient for the mid-winter dinner last year, Hopefully there will be another in the coming year.

As outgoing President I'd like to see the club do more to attract new members and get our members more *active*. Some challenges the club faces include the proposed \$175 repeater/beacon licence which could have a major impact on the clubs repeaters. Membership numbers are healthy at 53 but the subscriptions do not cover branch 63's expenses, In the past we have relied on a greater number of AREC exercises and one off events like conferences/exhibitions.

Finally again I wish to thank all the hard working members who have helped with the clubs activities over the past year.

73's and good dx
Simon ZL2BRG

President's Report

My first report as President,

Thanks go to my predecessor Simon ZL2BRG for his time as President.

Shortly after the AGM we learned that Murray ZL2LH had become a Silent Key, several club members attended his send off in Upper Hutt, we hope Christine (XYL-ZL2UK) will still come up to the club for the Friday meetings.

Recently we had a painting blitz on the South repeater hut on Mount Climie hoping to further weather seal the hut before winter strikes (if it does), many thanks to Mark ZL2UFI, Simon ZL2BRG and Justin ZL2UGR for their efforts, we also managed to set a Buddipole and get a 20m contact into VK3 with Simons FT-817 using 5 watts.

For the past several months we have been hosting a HSMM-MESH trial at Mt Climie (at no expense to the club) if you are interested and would like to find out more, here are a couple of websites to visit.

<http://www.broadband-hamnet.co.nz/about/>

<http://www.broadband-hamnet.org/just-starting-read-this.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUeW2ju-RZk>

73, See you Friday evening at the clubrooms.

Mike ZL2NSA.

We are always looking for articles to fill the pages of newsletter. Please forward anything no matter how large or small to the editor - Eric ZL2SET – ericwilby@gmail.com.

Branch 63 Repeater Update – April 2016

In the last two weeks a weather station has been installed at Climie. It is linked via radio to Chris ZL2DX qth, and from there to Harvest Electronics. There is a link to the live data on the news page of the clubs website. Here is a direct link

<http://www.harvestalarms.com/w.cgi?hsn=11398&tabs=1>

Status Updates:

Climie Mesh Test

Waiting a proposal from James ZL2ET.

WebSDR

No progress this month.

3cm Beacon

On Air 1292 23cm

On Air with ID disabled. Waiting on proposals for future use.

860 DStar

On Air.

5425 DStar

On Air.

730 2m FM Repeater

On Air.

53.950 6m FM Repeater

On Air.

Treasurer's Report

Thank you for returning me to the position of Treasurer at the AGM. Those of you who were at the AGM will recall the discussion that took place after I placed my report. This discussion was around such matters as fund raising and subscriptions. Because last year, after ignoring depreciation, the Branch finances broke even.

Our repeater site on Mt. Climie must be one of the best sites in the region, and it is our responsibility to give the best service we can to our local Amateurs. Even while I am composing this report, there is a work party on site, painting the hut before winter sets in.

After the AGM, I invoiced all of our financial members for their subscriptions at the new rate of \$50. I am pleased to report that as of today (30th April) about half of those subscriptions have been paid. Included in those payments have been donations from members who have chosen to "overpay" their subscription, and from life members who have chosen to donate the equivalent of a subscription. Thank You

Gavin Smith ZL2ACT
Br63 Treasurer

Silent Keys

ZL2TTA Ian McNeil

Ian died on the 2nd of April. You may remember seeing about the Branch in the early 1980s. We extended our condolences to Jocelyn, Grant and Stephen, and their families.

ZL2LH (ZL2TJW) Murray Wakefield

Murray died on the 16th of April. Murray was a very active amateur and could often be seen around junk sales and often heard on local repeaters. We extended our sympathies to Christine ZL2UK, on her loss.

Gavin Smith ZL2ACT

The following sent by Bob G8CQR:

Sun Spot Observations

[View this email in your browser](#)

NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO)

Hi All,

If like me, as a Radio Amateur, you are fascinated by our Star, it's Spots and the effects it has on our ionosphere, then take a look at the following.

[SDO 4K Video](#)

The movie provides a 30-minute time lapse view the Sun, as seen by NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO), over the last 6 years.

Our sun is always changing and NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, which measures the irradiance of the Sun that produces our ionosphere, also measures the sources of that radiation and how they evolve. Launched on February 11, 2010, the SDO keeps a 24-hour watch on the sun.

SDO's Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA) captures a shot of the sun every 12 seconds in 10 different wavelengths. The images shown here are based on a wavelength of 171 angstroms, which is in the extreme ultraviolet range and shows solar material at around 600,000 Kelvin (about 1 million degrees F.) In this wavelength it is easy to see the sun's 25-day rotation.

The distance between the SDO spacecraft and the sun varies over time. The image is, however, remarkably consistent and stable despite the fact that SDO orbits Earth at 6,876 mph and the Earth orbits the sun at 67,062 miles per hour.

Credit: The SDO Team, Genna Duberstein and Scott Wiessinger, Producers

Enjoy the beauty

Further information can be found at: <http://sunspotwatch.com/>

Cheers & 73's.

Dave, G3ZXX

Editorial

Hi All. Apologies for the late issue of this newsletter. I'll hopefully get it out to you on time next month. It would be appreciated if all contributors could get their entries to me by the end of each month to allow time for editing.

As previously mentioned, I am always looking for articles for inclusion, no matter how small, large or stupid but they should have something to do with our hobby, even if the link is tenuous.

Finally, please remember that the **Club Net** still does exist, although not on 80 m owing to QRM issues. We would enjoy your company if you would like to chew the rag:

Wednesday evenings, 20.00 hrs local time on Climie 730.

Morrie, ZL2ADP is normally the net controller.

73.

Eric ZL2SET.

NZART Branch 63 Incorporated

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Park Street
Upper Hutt

President: Mike ZL2NSA
Secretary: Justin: ZL2UGL
Treasurer: Gavin: ZL2ACT