



## ZL2VH Newsletter – April 2018

### President's Report

Daylight Savings has finished so it's a good time to replace the batteries in your Smoke Detectors.

Earlier in March we had a power outage to the repeater site, this was caused by a contractor clearing access tracks to the wooden power poles that supply our power. It appears that when the power cable was laid many moons ago, it was not laid deep enough, did not have the proper indicators buried with it and there were no warnings displayed in the vicinity. The cable has been repaired but we will have to ensure cable runs are done properly in the future,

Apart from that there is little to report that cannot wait until the AGM on Friday 27 April 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](mailto:ericwilby@gmail.com).*

## Repeater Trustees' 2018 Annual Report

Over the past year we have focused on maintaining Branch 63's infrastructure at Climie.

The wifi link and cabling connecting 5425 and 860 repeaters to the ZL2VH DStar gateway was replaced.

The 3cm beacon g.p.s. antenna was replaced.

The 23cm Repeater 1292 controller developed a fault and was repaired.

The 6M repeater died and was subsequently repaired .

730 has suffered from interference / noise issues that has over the past few years was found by John ZL2TWS to be lightening / static discharge to the 4 dipole stack, which resulted in failed (sealed) connections in the 4 dipole antenna's phasing harness. Close inspection of the aluminium elements revealed tell tale pit and scorch marks.

730's antenna was subsequently replaced with a single dipole, and since then has been performing without a problem.

Club members now have a decision to make on what the expected performance of 730 and thus its antennas should be.

Branch 63's current mission statement is that 730 is classed as a 'dx' repeater thus requiring a high gain antenna.. There is a proposal to be put to members to remove the 'dx' tag from 730, allowing the use of lower gain and a simpler antenna system..

Upcoming tasks include :-

1. Permanent replacement of 730's antennas
2. Replacement of the 7 year old Standby batteries (730)
3. Inspection of 5425 dipole stack
4. Painting / Weatherproofing of the south hut

Longer term jobs: David ZL2DBP and Oilly ZL2OIY have picked up the Climie weather station / Control job.

In March mains power was lost to Climie. Investigation showed that the power cable feeding the south hut had been severed by a digger clearing access to the power poles. Fortunately for the club the cost of reburying the cable will be covered by our flatmates.

Simon ZL2BRG, John ZL2TWS  
Repeater Trustees Branch 63

## REMEMBER

*Branch 63 A.G.M. is on FRIDAY 27  
APRIL  
at the clubroom.*

---

NZART Branch 63 Incorporated

Council Depot  
Park Street  
Upper Hutt

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