



ZL2VH Newsletter – September 2018

President's Report

The evenings are getting longer so make the effort to come down to the club on Friday nights at 7.30pm. Not very many members have been showing up recently resulting in the club closing up at around 8.15 - 8.30.

Upcoming Events:

8 September Radio and Telescopes at Kaitoke Gliding Club, (weather dependent) contact ZL2CHV

14 October Wainui Coast Road Car Rally - 7 marshals needed, caravan, STSP repeater.

73's and good DX

Mike ZL2NSA

Repeater Status

All working to a reasonable level.

730 earthing replacement is underway and when that is complete we will be looking to relocate the repeater and batteries to the North Hut.

From Steve ZL2YD

Recently a Wellington area 4WD club was running a trip in the Akatarawas when the trip leader suffered a medical event requiring urgent assistance. Ham operators on the trip were able to utilize our 730 repeater to put out a call for help. Phil ZL2HF was listening and was able to contact emergency services and organize assistance. See email below for info.

You may be aware that a helicopter rescue of a CCVC Trip Leader was carried out yesterday from the Orange Hut carpark. The news has just come to my attention this morning. A Trip Leader had a medical event at the Orange Hut and needed urgent paramedic care. There is no cell service so one of the members used his ham set to make a general medical broadcast on 147.300. Phil, ZL2HF (also a CCVC Member) responded in the Hutt Valley and arranged for an air ambulance which duly landed in the hut car park. The member is currently in Wellington hospital.

Without access to the 147.300 repeater, communications from the Akatarawas to the outside world is very limited and I'll be raising this situation at our next CCVC Committee meeting. Our ham members do appreciate the privilege of having this access and I will be recommending a donation to Branch 63 to go toward the onerous responsibility of maintaining the repeater.

As I indicated, the CCVC Committee discussed the rescue operation of our injured trip leader and subsequent helicopter evacuation. We really appreciate the value of your club's 147.300 vhf repeater and really appreciate our club member Hams being able to access it. It is invaluable for communicating emergency messages from many parts of the Akatarawa forest and other locations that we operate in. We are happy to conduct Tx/Rx trials throughout the forest and make those results available.

Cheers

Steve Mercer CCVC Club Captain
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Other News

My name is Phill Dodds ZL4XYZ I am the central districts NZART councillor and VP of branch 11 in Gisborne.

NZART in conjunction with the local Wellington branches are displaying our skills at the very first Wellington Maker Faire 4th November Shed 6 TSB Events Arena on the waterfront. On the hours of 10,00 to 16,00 on Sunday only.

The organisers are expecting 5,000 to 10,000 people in 6 hours on the day, so it's a great opportunity for the NZART community to engage with another group of likeminded people, meet a lot of public not only to show our skills but to assist both groups for the purposes of education and membership.

We have asked for a 10m by 10m site with power and internet access in an area that we can erect antennas, we think we are likely to be outside.

What are we proposing but don't want to be limited to:

AREC SaR command vehicle live walkthrough display
HF interactive CW/voice display.
HF digital display PSK RTTY (possibly low power?) (Big screen display)
VHF/UHF repeater operating radio display (possibly some VOIP).
APRS another big computer screen display with live tracts on the day.
Digital Dstar/DMR display.
PRS channel 8 display with free unsupervised visitor use.
History NZART/AM/Boat Anchor/Military.

Do you have anybody who can help with any of the above, we think we will need an operator and a talker/explainer for any one of these to run smoothly?

Do you have any local expertise in for example:

Satellites especially talking to the space station.

Lower power digital (Con is in Gisborne but I will ask him)

Moon Bounce.

Electronic construction (It is a Maker Faire)

I'm coming down this weekend (1st to 3rd Sept) to catch up with Scott, Casper the other 2 NZART organisers, meet the organisers from Capital E and most importantly meet with as many of the branches as I possibly can, I will be giving your branch contact a call shortly.

Where are we at the moment? We have access to a large military tent and enough netting to cover shade the site. Several HF V/UHF sets, several field station antennas. 1kw linear. NZ Army military radio truck. I have spoken to Mark Gooding about Dstar/DMR and about getting as many copies of Break In as handouts as possible. We have done a budget and applied for funding from Council. We are trying to get funding for uniforms and have got 2x large banners for the side of the display. We have spoken to Bruce Chanel 8 and asked for its use on the day. We have a few radio kits to build and a couple of our volunteers to make them. We have 3x large trestle tables and a few 8 fold up seats but will need more. We will have coffee tea and biscuits available in the back of the tent for our refreshment.

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.

Upcoming AREC Event

Once again, we have been asked to provide radios and operators for the Triumph Car Club's Coast Road event.

The date is Sunday 14 October from 8.00am onsite, till about 5.00pm after drinks.

We'll need the STSP repeater, the caravan and seven people please.

If you can assist, please do so. It's an interesting event, and is the club's only "outside" source of income. All you need is to be prepared for anything, and your 70cm handheld

Thanks

Gavin Smith
Deputy AREC Leader

Please deliver my pizza to *burying.poser.excavating*

(Which, incidentally, is the location of my front door – Ed.)

Apparently, many companies (including pizza delivery outlets) are using this system of locating places using three words with a resolution of a 3m square. You may already be aware of it but I have only just been told about it, so here are some links. – Eric ZL2SET.

Home site is at: <https://what3words.com/>

A short introductory video is at: <https://what3words.com/about/>

As an example, have a look at:

<https://map.what3words.com/gaskets.misuses.tonsils>

It shows that the door of the Br.63 clubroom location (or very close to it) has the locator *gaskets.misuses.tonsils*. Switching to satellite view makes things a bit clearer.

As the resolution is down to a 3m x 3m square, moving the map slightly will generate different locators. Find the locator for different parts of *your* property, you may be surprised.

Will this ever take over from the Maidenhead Locator System? – I think not!

From Malcolm ZL2UDF

Plane Breaks the Record for the Longest Flight Ever!

Most people have heard of Airbus planes as they are one of the most commonly used planes by commercial airlines, but most don't know they also just created the plane that has broken the record for the longest flight ever! The Zephyr is an unmanned plane that fly's in Earth's stratosphere and has just broken the record after flying for 25 days, 23 hours, and 57 minutes from when it took off from Arizona on July 11. The plane weighs in at only 75kg & harnesses the sun's rays to power motors that drive its two propellers, a system that allows it to operate entirely on solar power. At night, the vehicle relies on power stored by its onboard batteries during daylight hours. Read more on the years of work going towards this success story [here](#).

This may also be of interest:

Combating HF Noise: what works? See:

<https://mailchi.mp/sotabeams/september-2018?e=c02b06d12e>

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