



ZL2VH Newsletter – October 2018

President's Report

Monthly Greetings, October already and daylight savings has kicked in. Coming up this month we have the Wellington Triumph Car club (or whatever they call themselves this year) holding their annual Wainui Coast Rd races Sunday the 14th and they have asked for our assistance again. They would like 7 marshalls and the caravan for the day, starting at 0730 at the location. If you are interested let Brian ZL2CHV know.

Also this month, Brian will be up at the Kaitoke Gliding club with radios and telescopes, there will be an email letting you the dates and times.

We will be heading up Climie for our end of winter site checks and seeing how we can relocate 730 into the North Hut. Before the relocation can happen we have to sort out the earthing there. We have the stakes and cables etc.

We also need to inspect the 395 and D-Star poles for any winter damage. Over Summer I am expecting the power company to replace the power poles feeding Climie so we also need to get in and make sure our buried cables are clearly marked.

Next Saturday October 6th is the annual Branch 20 table sale at the Longburn Hall. Also it is the first night for the annual Oceania DX contest.

The rules for the Oceania DX Contest can be found at the listing below.

<http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/Rules/rules.html>

Mike ZL2NSA
Br 63



Branch 63 Repeater Update

Recently a power outage caused the ZL2VH DSTAR gateway and YSF server to go offline. Both services have been restored. Am looking at installing a test installation of a QnetGateway in the near future.

Status Updates

3cm Beacon	Aiming for re installation in Mid October
1292 23cm	On Air
DSTAR 860,5425	On Air
730	On Air
395 6M	On Air

From John ZL2TWS

I'm back in WA on a ship at the moment.

Check my whereabouts using www.marinetraffic.com and entering the vessel name "siem aquamarine"

Digital radio news:

Phil ZL2RO has set-up a new reflector using multi-mode protocol.

XLX299 (see www.xlx299.nz dashboard)

Module B is the one most of us connect to.

Please add the following to the ZL2VH ircddb host files.

DCS299 125.236.227.43

REF299 125.236.227.43

XRF299 125.236.227.43

XLX299 has DMR, YSF and D-Star users on it.

Doesn't matter what mode you are using everyone can hear each other.

I have been talking to DMR users and the quality is perfect as if you were talking to a D-Star station and the same is reported by the DMR people.

I understand that the transcoding is done using hardware.

73, John ZL2TWS MM VK6

From Malcolm ZL2UDF

View the Quarter 3, 2018 PDF Newsletter at:

<http://www.westmountainradio.com/pdf/Quarter-3-2018.pdf>

This issue includes:

- * Digital Mode Happenings
- * An Amazing Recovery: ARISS Packet System Revives
- * Off-Air Bulletin from K7IFG
- * Upcoming Events

From the ARRL via Malcolm

Scouting's 2018 Jamboree on the Air Set for October 19 - 21

Scouting organizations are still registering to participate in the 2018 Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) over the October 19 - 21 weekend. With about 1 month to go, JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, told ARRL that registration is "probably on target" at this point. US registrations stood at 235 as of the end of last week. Right after JOTA 2017, 489 US locations had signed up, although that included both Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) participants, which, Wilson said, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) have "remained steadfast" in considering JOTA and JOTI as separate events, although, he noted, this is not the case at the world level.

"Our goals are primarily to grow participation, " Wilson told ARRL. "The World JOTA-JOTI Team has set a goal of 3 million participants by 2021; 2017 saw 1.5 million worldwide. Sign-ups at the world level right now are at 1,428 locations. Wilson said that, in the US, many locations wait until the last minute to register their participation. In 2017, some 7,900 Scouts took part in JOTA, down by nearly 10,800 participants from 2016, but topping participation for 2014 and 2015.



Total radio contact numbers were down from 2016 and 2015.

"We've also put in place a number of aids to help people improve their on-the-air experience, which will be challenging without sunspots," Wilson pointed out. "We've provided a video of how to work HF for JOTA. We've also provided a quick reference card to help Scouts during the QSO." Recommended JOTA frequencies are listed on the K2BSA website. "Operators should note that these frequencies are starting points to find QSOs," Wilson added. "They can also turn the dial to find other stations on the air. It's not like a repeater." A list of Girl Scout activities supported by JOTA-JOTI has also been posted.

Held each year on the third full weekend in October, JOTA is the world's largest Scouting event. JOTA uses Amateur Radio to link Scouts and

hams around the world. Scouts of any age and gender can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers.

Radio amateurs at the local level are encouraged to work with a scout council or unit to set up a JOTA station or arrange to have Scouts visit their shacks. "You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air," Wilson said.

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