



ZL2VH Newsletter – May 2020

President's Report

Ok, May is here and we still are under the COVID restrictions. That means I don't know when we will have our next club night, we will have to wait until "her with the teeth" spells out what we will be able to do under level 2.

We seem to have come through the pandemic with none of our members (that I know of) being affected, apart from John ZL2TWS who spent 14 day in a luxury all expenses paid vacation in the SEBEL hotel in Manakau paid for by the government.

Normally the first of May is our last day for the year for maintenance at the repeater site, but with the weather staying so mild, we will be making a couple of late trips up there to sort out a couple of issues and to winterize the huts.

Upcoming dates:

First Friday after going to level 2 – Club night,

TBC in June – AGM

October – Wainui Coast Road Race

Good DX & 73

Mike ZL2NSA / ZM2NSA

2020 AGM Annual Repeater Trustee's Report

First off, in January 2020 John ZL2TWS announced that he wished to step down as one of Branch 63 repeater trustees. I'd like to thank John for his considerable efforts over the years in maintaining the Club's assets at Climie. The countless trips up and down the hill. The efforts he went to to maintain the repeaters, construction of antenna's and associated infrastructure.

It's impossible to estimate the number of hours John spent working on the Br63's behalf. And his efforts will be sorely missed. It highlights how difficult it is to maintain the Club's repeaters at Climie.

With the decline of on-air activity and participation in club activities, and helpers for the Climie working bees, it's become clear that some compromises are likely required in what can be kept running at Climie in the future.

Over the last year 730's antennas have been replaced by a new 2 dipole stack and is performing excellently. The 860 Dstar repeater has been temporarily taken off air pending Antenna replacement and (possible) ircddb server installation. The 10Ghz beacon was recommissioned and is performing excellently. 1292 and 5425 are also on air.

Below is a list of jobs required at Clime (in no particular order):

1. Replacement of 860/5425 pole
2. Replacement of 5425 Antenna with 2 Dipole stack – like 730
3. Replacement of 860 4 dipole stack
4. Re-commissioning of 860 DStar repeater / IRCDDDB
5. Investigation into 395 – 6m repeater's relative lack of sensitivity
6. Replace old South hut 730 rack with the new cabinet (at the club)
7. Paint South Hut and reduce dampness / mice ingress.
8. Weather Station
9. Improve South Hut DC distribution
- 10 Remote Monitoring/Control at Climie

Over the last year there has been a number of what I would call 'snipers' taking aim at what the club is doing both on social media and on air. To those people I would say, if you're not happy with the direction the club is taking with its repeaters, step up and offer the club your support. If you are not willing to do that, then please just shut up.

73's

Simon ZL2BRG/Justin ZL2UGL - Br63 Repeater Trustees

From John ZLTWS

D-Star users.

Just listened to the April NZART broadcast.

Mentioned in the broadcast that Australian based reflector REF091 C is holding a net on Wednesday nights at Approx 09:50 UTC.

This is after the national NewsLine broadcast.

There will be activity before the net.

<http://ref091.dstargateway.org>

<http://www.dstarinfo.com/reflectors.aspx>

ZL2VH C - 5425 will connect to REF091 C

Connect by adding the following in your UR:REF091CL

You can see from the above dstargateway.org URL that there is a lot of activity. Trans-Tasman Bubble has already started.

73, John

Also from John:

I have recently returned from Singapore and have some surplus items for sale:

- 1) Diamond Antenna AML Gutter mount heavy duty \$30 [One only]
- 2) Diamond CR-77 144/430 MHz 100W antenna \$35 [One only]
- 3) Diamond RH3 Stubby BNC antenna 144/430/1200 MHz (120/150/300/450/800/900 MHz) \$15 ea [5 pieces]
- 4) Diamond EC-H 4m RG-58U cable with PL-259 plug to SO-239 socket to use with antenna mounts. \$15 ea [Four pieces]
- 5) Diamond MRK adjustable magnetic (strong magnet) \$45 [One only]
- 6) Diamond K-44 adjustable pipe mounted antenna mount \$35 ea [Two only]

First in first served!

Will be listed elsewhere mid May if not sold to club members.

73, John ZL2TWS

zl2tws@wysocki.nz

Photos of these items follow on the next couple of pages.

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.



Item 1.



Item 2.



Item 3



Item 4



Item 5



Item 6



NZART Branch 63 Incorporated
Council Depot
Park Street
Upper Hutt

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