



QST 63

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Newsletter of The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, Upper Hutt Branch 63, Inc.

Branch 63 Clubrooms
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ZL2VH Newsletter – February 2017

President's Report

February already, time is flying by.

Recently the club had a meeting to discuss changes to the 1292 MHz repeater, John ZL2TWS presented several options that were discussed and it was agreed that we would seek approval from ELG (formally FMTAG) for a frequency change, and changes so that we can operate as a beacon.

Justin ZL2UGL has been busy upgrading the caravan's power supply and we will be looking to do a test with generator, solar power etc and an equipment check prior to Jock White Field day and the Wallaceville Hill Climb over the last weekend in Feb.

Unfortunately the Hill Climb is being held on the Sunday that JWFD is on, so we will only be doing the first day of JWFD.

The Wallaceville Hill Climb event is our major fundraising effort for the year so the more support we can get the better our funds will be. I don't really want to have to go down the road of sausage sizzles outside of Mitre 10 Mega or Pak 'n Save to top up the coffers. Maintenance of gear at Mt Climie and in the caravan has used a fair amount of our "Ready Use" funds but we will reap the benefits of doing the work now.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Friday: Regular Club meeting 7.30 pm, come along and find out Who's doing What and What is doing Who.

Soon: Jock White Field Day at Kaitoke Regional Park – caravan, operators, BBQ BYO equipment if you want to play outdoors.

Late Feb: Wallaceville Hill Climb – last weekend in Feb, caravan, STSP repeater and marshals (hopefully 10) will be needed. This is our main fundraising effort for the year so the more members that can assist the more funds in the bank.

73's and good DX

Mike ZL2NSA

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

Branch 63 Repeater Update

Nothing to report this month.

From Malcolm ZL2UDF:

This may be of interest.....

<https://www.beca.com/ignite-your-thinking/december-2016/what-s-your-reality>

From John ZL2TWS:

On 11th January peter VK2HC from Sydney called in on 395 but did not work anyone. The call was heard by Mike ZL2MM on a scanner he uses to monitor traffic.

By the time Mike got his rig transmitting on 395 VK2HC had QSYed back to 50.110 MHz SSB. VK2HC placed a spot on VKlogger to say 53.950 MHz FM repeater had been heard 5x9 into Sydney.

For those of you interesting in registering for VKlogger go here:

<http://www.vklogger.com>

On the 12th January I switched off the Anti-Kerchunker mute circuit on 395. Anyone can do this by keying up and entering DTMF *31.

If an ascending two tone signal is heard on the repeater tail this is ENABLE. If a descending two tone signal is heard then this is DISABLE.

The *31 is an Enable/Disable toggle.

Soon after disabling the Anti-Kurchunker mute Alan VK2ZIW was heard calling CQ. Three stations worked Alan:

Mike ZL2MM, John ZL2TWS and Mike ZL2NSA.

The trans-Tasman opening appeared to be a Sporadic-E type as it went on for two days during the day and early evening. The Hepburn index for tropo propagation did not show any normal enhancement of DX conditions.

The 2m and 70cm bands were closed during the opening.

http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo_aus.html

I was heard in Victoria on 50.110 MHz SSB by VK3BY who placed a spot on VKlogger and reported a 5x2 signal. Not bad since I was only running 10 watts and a vertical dipole antenna.

395 repeater auto beacon time has been reduced from 30 minutes to 15 minutes at the request of Mike ZL2BPL who says VK4BIT is looking for the repeater in Brisbane.

Again on Sunday 29th Alan VK2ZIW was heard working Bruce ZL2ABC during a Sporadic-E opening.

Keep an ear on 53.950 MHz (-1 MHz offset), you might make a contact.

73 and good DX, John ZL2TWS

Also from John ZL2TWS:

The flyer for the British Car Day follows. Several members and hams from other clubs are normally interested in attending.

British Car Day

12th February 2017



Trentham Memorial Park

10am to 4pm

Entry still only \$5 per display vehicle

Use Barton Road, off Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.

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NZART Branch 63 Incorporated
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