



QST 63

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

Branch 63 Clubrooms
Park Street, Upper Hutt

204 Plateau Road
Te Mana
Upper Hutt 5018

ZL2VH Newsletter – August 2018

President's Report

Rather quiet on the Radio front this month, The Highlight for those that attended was Brian's (ZL2CHV) Radio and Planets night at the Kaitoke Glider Club site. A cold but clear night enabled viewing of Jupiter and its moons, Mars, and Saturn with the rings clearly visible.

RWB Communications are pleased to announce the....

WINTER WARMER AMATEUR RADIO SALE!

ALL* AMATEUR RADIOS & ACCESSORIES ARE GST FREE*

When you order between 01/08/18 10.00am and 31/08/18 3.00pm
(Terms & Conditions Apply)

Ensure you get your new IC-7610 before Christmas & at a cheaper cost
by purchasing it through this sale!

Please forward this onto your club members, fellow hams, friends &
family!

From the latest email from RSM...

“Prohibiting illegal use of two way radios

The RSM Compliance team are working on a Prohibition Notice to limit the import and illegal use of a range of low end two way radios.

There are a variety of these radios on the market, like Baofeng, Pofung and Woxun for example. They allow users to programme their own frequency from the front panel or via a USB cable. Although designed for the Amateur Radio Operator, these radios in the wrong hands have been attributed to malicious calls on police, forestry and rail frequencies.

The import of Amateur two way radios locked to the Amateur bands won't be affected by this new Notice."

**73's and good DX
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.

Branch 63 Repeater Update

Nothing to report this month.

From Malcolm ZL2UDF:

Following last month's entry from Branch 50's newsletter, any Branch 63 is welcome to attend Sunday's Shed Workshop as follows:

Next Shed Workshop

Bernard ZL2BD will be hosting the next shed workshop on Sunday 5 August 2018 from 1pm -3pm. Venue is 1 Winsley Tce, Churton Park.

Due to interest in Small Magnetic Loop antennas, this month will be a follow-on session for those who are planning to construct a loop antenna. Several people have purchased Capacitor Kits to make an air

spaced butterfly capacitor. Progress is being made on sourcing LDF4-50 1/2" coax and possibly LDF 5-50 1" coax for the loop material. This will be made available to those who want this material. It's not too late to order a kit if you haven't done so.

Bernard will talk about practical matters, such as how to construct the capacitor enclosure and plastic waterpipe housing for the antenna, practical details on putting together the capacitor kit, selection of motor drivers and gearbox, etc.

Mike ZL1AXG will talk to a design that provides for real-time tracking and tuning of a magnetic loop. A circuit board is available to purchase from North America. Mike will be taking orders for the circuit board and for the harder to source components, plus where to source the more commonly available components should you be interested in a processor-controlled loop antenna.

Harder to source components include the processor (Teensy 3.2), a 100 step per rotation encoder, 51uH twin coil chokes, the stepper motor driver chips, the stepper motor and gearbox. If you want a simpler control system, Bernard can you steer you in the right direction.

Bernard and Mike can also assist you in choosing parameters for your chosen band (or bands) by plugging details into calculators to determine capacitance values, number of fixed plates vs butterfly plates, loop lengths, etc.

All are welcome, whether or not you are building the capacitor or magnetic loop antenna, and whether or not you have been to a shed workshop before.

The next branch meeting is on 15 August at 7.30pm at the regular venue. A practical measurement exercise will keep you busy at the club meeting! It will be in the form of a competition like the last August meeting. You don't need to bring anything special for this event.

Our regular newsletter will be out next week.

(The agenda for this event is attached to the end of this newsletter – Ed.)

Also from Malcolm:

Interesting, but not for the Harley purists. Have a look at the following:

<https://www.engadget.com/2018/07/30/harley-davidson-livewire-electric-motorcycle-2019/>

NZART Branch 63 Incorporated
Council Depot
Park Street
Upper Hutt

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

Plan and Agenda for Shed Meeting

Date: Sunday 5 August 2018 Time: 1300 to 1500hrs

Place: 1 Winsley Tce, Churton Park.

Topic: Building Small Magnetic Loop Antennas

Agenda:

1. Brief review of the paper: Design Principles Mag Loops (Table 1 Ver. 2 in particular. Proposal for publication (10 pages to replace 16 pages previously published.) - Bernard
2. How to build the main loop with 13mm Heliax (LDF4-50) and 25mm Heliax (LDF5-50) - Bernard
3. Constructing the capacitor kitset and other modification to your particular installation. Simple remote control motor systems - Bernard
4. Capacitor Housing with 150mm ID plastic waste pipe and support frame with plastic electrical conduit.- Bernard
5. Development of an automatic tuning system. Orders for parts kits can be made at this meeting. - Mike
6. Any other business of interest to members – Mike
7. Club Business and close Meeting - Mike

Seating will be available. Tea and coffee will be served at 3.00pm at meeting conclusion.