



QST63

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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

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Upper Hutt 5018

ZL2VH Newsletter – June 2020

Owing to recent events and the upcoming AGM, the format of this month's newsletter is a little different. (Ed.).

From the President:

AGM 2020

The Br63 AGM will be held at the clubrooms on Friday 12 June 2020.

I realise this is rather short notice but as advised in the May QST "JUNE TBC". We have to get our documents to the Incorporated Societies people as soon as we can.

You have all had an opportunity to review the financial report, so that should speed things up a bit.

We will be looking at spending some money on replacing the 860 array with a new twin stack array (probably from the same firm that provided the 730 stack)

See you there.

Mike ZL2NSA
President.

Also from Mike:

John and I went up Climie to remove the steel pole supporting the 860 and 5425 arrays. The pole has lot of corrosion. While it may be safe it

certainly gives the impression that its not. The coax connections appear to be in good condition.

We have installed a temporary pole attached to the wooden pole (photos attached). Mounted on this is the former dipole that was used for 730 and the dipole that was mounted just outside the door at the clubrooms for the YSF Fusion hotspot we had. These are facing a bit south of where 395 is pointed. The 860 and 5425 arrays have been brought down to the clubrooms.

Damage to the coax for 860 is evident, and 5425 looks to be in reasonable condition. These will need cleaning and testing at the clubrooms.

John has tested 5425 and 860 BERs from his QTH and has found no problems.

We need to have a good attempt at rodent proofing the South Hut (North Hut shows no evidence of visitors). The D-STAR rack seems to be their home and toilet of choice, with loads of poo and chewed paper. There was also what appears to be rat poo in the hut as well.

I am expecting to go back up Climie soon (wx permitting) with some rodent baits, and will try to plug any obvious entrances to the hut.

We are currently limited as to numbers we can have on site at one time. 5-6 would be the absolute max, due to the COVID restrictions the GWRC have at the moment.





John's actual report is

Very successful results today 23rd May 2020.

A long day at MCL - Arrived at 10:00 and departed at 15:00.

Old rusty pole dropped down.

Skymast antenna for both 5425 & 860 returned to club rooms.

Rusty pole still to be recovered back to club rooms. Mike to arrange.

Long ladder left at MCL for another visit to drop the 6m antenna for further diagnostic work.

TEMPORARY ANTENNA FITTED

Single dipole on 5425 and single dipole on 860. See attached.

Slight up tilt on VHF dipole to allow water to drain away.

UHF dipole is sealed at T piece.

VHF is also sealed but have a tendency to collect water where the coax is laying.

Zero BER and no R2D2 heard either mobile or from weak home station tests.

Both antennas can be removed when the main pole is re-engineered to use 2 x VHF HiTec antenna and 2 x UHF HiTec antenna

All comments, suggestions welcome (reply all),

While the weather is relatively good we need to get as much done as we can. If we can obtain the hardware over the winter months, we will be in a good place to get the pole and antenna arrays up during spring or summer. Hut internal work can take place during the winter subject to access, availability of people and equipment.

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.

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