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NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF RADIO
TRANSMITTERS - BRANCH 63 UPPER HUTT

Branch 63 Clubrooms
Park Street, Upper Hutt



ZL2VH Newsletter – June 2024

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President's Report

As you read this, I'm in Christchurch at the annual NZART Conference over Kings Birthday Weekend. Unless there is something very important, I'll give an update in the next newsletter.

Due to a rain event on Tuesday/Wednesday 1 May 2024, the gutter at the clubrooms overflowed into the clubrooms. This was caused by a blockage on the eastern end of the building near the Urban Search and Rescue Building. The water has flowed into the clubrooms damaging the ceiling further, damaging the carpet, and more importantly damaging the ICOM IC-7100 transceiver. The damage to the transceiver appears to be water ingress to the head unit and some exterior moisture on the base unit which was protected somewhat by the ATU sitting on it. The transceiver has been removed and dried out over a few weeks before power will be supplied to see if it is recoverable or not. In the future placing the transceiver further along the bench will stop this happening in the future should water re-enter in this way. There was no water ingress into the garage. (see the details of a silent auction to sell the ICOM IC-7100 transceiver)

I have spoken to Peter McKenzie - Upper Hutt City Councils Parks Officer - Community Assets, who was on site on Tuesday 7 May at the clubrooms. He has cleared out the guttering and thinks he has resolved the issue of the water ingress. The downpipes were blocked. He has said that he'll get onto the ceiling and repair the damage. So hopefully this will occur with no cost to us, but maybe some painting later.

Repeater Report

Repeater: Status

Climie KiwiSDR	On Air
10 m Beacon (28.229 MHz)	On Air - From clubrooms using repaired AWA PSU. PSU repaired with new 18 Amp Ripple rated Vishay capacitors. Climie SDR reading of -76 dbm. (S - 8.5)
3 cm Beacon (10368.275 MHz) Off Air - pending reinstallation on GNS pole.	
1292 (23 cm)	On Air. SWR check pending next visit.
D-Star 5425, 860	5425 On Air. ZL2VH C, ID-RP2C Controller requires a new config to be loaded at next visit. 860 connected to use as ZL2VH B via G3. SWR and output power re-check next visit.
730	On Air. SR-250C PSU mains filter to be fitted at next visit to further reduce SDR noise. SWR and output power re-check next visit.
395 (6 m)	On Air. SWR check pending next visit.

On Wednesday 8 May 2024, John ZL2TWS, Allan ZL3LAB and Mark ZL2UFI completed a Climie trip. Basis of the trip was to remove a jumper coax cable on 860, get 860 working on the D-Star ID-RP2C controller, base line SWR measurements on all antennas, remove the GNS batteries for recycling and review the general status inside and outside the buildings before winter. After

this work a spreadsheet has been started to record all the measurements as a base line moving forward. A test of the GNS batteries has proved that they are suitable to remain on site and will be usable. A float charger will need to be connected to keep these in as good a condition as possible. As above the base line SWR checks were started but not completed due to time constraints. New rodent bait boxes and baits purchased along with hazardous material management kit. On site bait boxes were empty and two new boxes were accessed to be added to both outside battery boxes.

Auction: ICOM IC-7100 transceiver

The transceiver has been dried out and connected to DC power and is operating. A meeting on Friday 18 May 2024, decided that the transceiver should be sold and replaced. Therefore, it was agreed to run a silent auction for financial members only of the club to make a bid. The transceiver is complete, with the original box, connectors and cables; but minus the operating manual as this was damaged beyond repair in the water ingress. Manuals are available online in PDF format and the new owner can sort this out themselves.

The transceiver was purchased new by the club on 26 September 2014 and is therefore almost 10 years old.

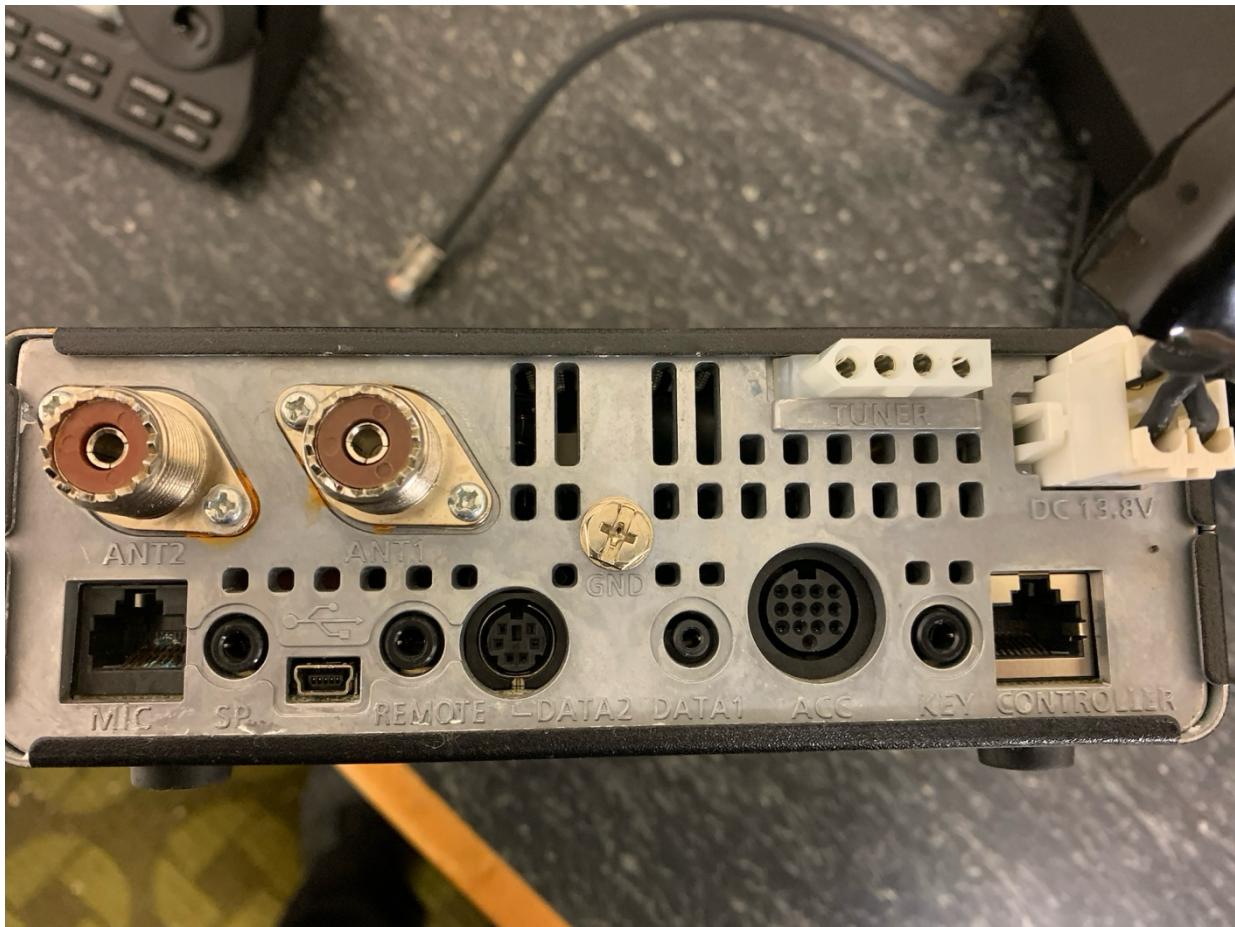
The auction will run from 1 June – 30 June 2024. This will give ample time for those interested to view and operate the transceiver at Friday night meetings before making a bid.

The transceiver is sold as is where is, with no warranty, it may not be sold to the highest bidder, and you must be a licensed amateur to purchase this transceiver.

All bids need to be sent to the President via email to mark@foxtrot.co.nz to arrive not later than 11:59 pm on 30 June 2024. The winner will be notified via email after this date. Payment to the clubs account will be required before the transceiver can be taken away.



Pictures are provided as a guide only and bidders must make their own judgements about both the general condition and operating condition of the transceiver.



Working Bee: Saturday 27 July 2024 - 9:00 am

It's that time again to have a working bee at the Clubrooms to sort out all the equipment left, donated, not used, dumped, or estate stuff at the clubrooms. So if you are available on the Saturday morning then come down and help out. I would expect that this will all be completed by mid-day – except a run to the recyclers, scrap metal or landfill.

This includes going into the loft and reviewing antennas and the like and evaluating them. We need to either have a plan for their use or get rid of them – recyclers, scrap metal or landfill.

As we go into spring and summer it would be good to have this sorted out. This will include removal and checking of the caravan's equipment, running up of the generator, and preparation for Jock White for February 2025. A date will be set to get a WOF the caravan in late October/early November to ensure we are ready Jock White in February; or if we get an event requiring the caravan.

EME Newsletters

Some links to those interested in Earth-Moon-Earth or EME. Some very impressive antennas on display or used in these newsletters. There is always something going on in the world of radio sometimes you just need to look to find. Links supplied by John ZL2TWS.

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<http://www.df2zc.de/downloads/emenl202404.pdf>

And for May 2024 - http://www.df2zc.de/downloads/emenl202405_final.pdf

432 and Above EME Newsletters -

<https://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/em70cm.html>

