



QST63

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NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF RADIO
TRANSMITTERS - BRANCH 63 UPPER HUTT

Branch 63 Clubrooms
Park Street, Upper Hutt



ZL2VH Newsletter – December 2025

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President's Report

Number of trips this month to Mt Climie as the weather has improved (less windy) and the temperatures have increased (finally!). Official start to summer is today – 1 December 2025.

The SDR Receiver antenna has been installed by Simon ZL2BRG and thanks to Ben ZL2BDG for the re-made antenna, working well, the link is on the web site.

On Monday 17 November 2025, three members ZL2UP, ZL2TWS and ZL2UFI replaced the single dipole with a refurbished two dipole stack. There is an article on the club's web site for this: <https://zl2vh.nz/assets/pdf/other/vhf-twin-dipole-antenna-combiner-installed%20at%20mcl-nov-2025.pdf> .

On Tuesday 25 November 2025, our six cavity 2 metre (144-148 MHz) duplexer was placed back into service after a tune. Also re-wired the battery feed and power supply leads with 50 Amp Anderson plugs to make repeater change out's faster and easier to do. Thanks to ZL2TWS and ZL2UFI. The new Tait TB7300 VHF Repeater has been delivered and will soon be on Mt Climie as the new 730. More news on this when it happens.

WVHG Group Proposal 33 cm Repeater at Mt Climie

In early November a letter was received from Wellington VHF Group's (WVHFG) President outlining the proposal to site a 33 cm (900 MHz) repeater

at Mt Climie on the DMR ZL-TRBO Network. A meeting was held at the clubrooms on Friday 21 November 2025. It was decided after a lengthy discussion that this proposal was not in keeping with the club's general direction for Mt Climie. A vote was held and it was voted down unanimously that this proposal is not accepted by Upper Hutt Barch 63 NZART. The WVHFG have been advised of the vote.

Jock White Field 2026 is on Saturday 28 February 2026 and Sunday 1 March 2026. We can activate the clubs callsign again for this event using the caravan. So, mark this weekend down in your calendars as its any easy event to take part in, and if new to ham radio, then a good way to get into operating and log keeping.

Branch 63 NZART - 730 Repeater history: 1973 to 2025 By John M. Wysocki
ZL2TWS - November 2025 <https://zl2vh.nz/assets/pdf/other/branch-63-nzart-730-repeater-november-2025.pdf>

Please ensure loan equipment is returned in good condition. If parts are missing, damaged or otherwise please report this. Don't just hide it and leave it for the next person to find out that the equipment is unusable when next needed.

Repeater Report

Repeater: Status

Climie KiwiSDR

10 m Beacon (28.229 MHz) On Air

3 cm Beacon (10368.275 MHz) Off Air – antenna/beacon removed for maintenance.

1292 (23 cm) On Air.

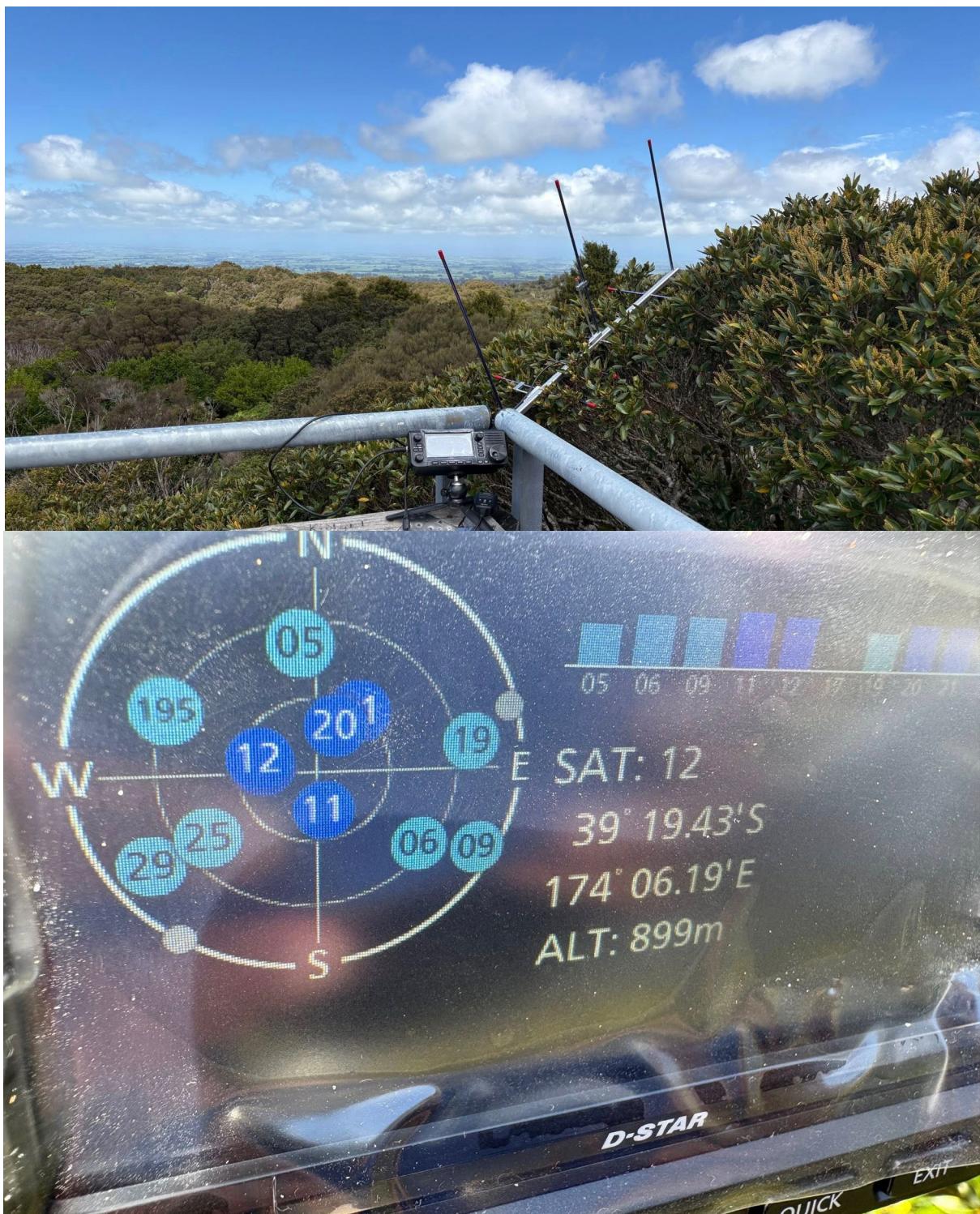
D-Star 5425, 860 On Air

730 On Air

395 (6 m) On Air

New ZL DX Record: 2 m/70 cm DV

John ZL2TWS and Mark ZL2UFI on Friday 14 November 2025 operating from Dawson Falls, Mount Taranaki, New Plymouth (ZL2UFI) and from Westwind Makara, Wellington (ZL2TWS); created a new distance record on DV (DSTAR) - 218 kilometres on 2 metres and the same on 70 centimetres.



Pictures above of Dawson Falls viewing stand looking to the south with the ICOM IC-705 and Arrow Antenna resting on the bushes. Second picture of the GPS fix on the 705.

Also contact was made into 730*, 5425 DV & FM and 860 DV & FM. ZL2UFI used Arrow Antenna (146/437-10 LEO Satellite) 3 Elements for 2 metres crossed with 7 (only 6 used) Elements for 70 centimetres. ZL2TWS used a mobile whip and a 3 element Yagi plus Mike ZL2BPL as a witness in Wellington.

Details will be published in *Break-In* and on the NZART web site in due course, plus it will be detailed on the club's web site on the ZL DX Records page:
<https://zl2vh.nz/dx-records.html>

*On 730 this was before the two dipole antennas were put up.

Update 23 cm Band

The following information has just been published by the Norwegian and Danish radio regulatory authority.

The WRC-23 restrictions for 23cms operation have been included in their amateur licence and are valid from 1/1/2028.

This was reported on groups.io EME news by Jonathan Naylor G4KLX.

1240 MHz to 1258 MHz Maximum TX Power 300 Watts using 20 kHz bandwidth.

1258 MHz to 1296 MHz Maximum TX Power 0.2 Watts using 150 kHz bandwidth.

1296 MHz to 1298 MHz Maximum TX Power 50 Watts using 150 kHz bandwidth.

1298 MHz to 1300 MHz Maximum TX Power 158 Watts using 150 kHz bandwidth.

We wait for a similar RFS change to the NZ amateur radio frequency schedule. It is possible that nothing will change until at least 2028 based on what Europe is doing.

73, John ZL2TWS

Project 5: PRS Repeater at Mt Climie

After the discussion on the 33 cm Repeater the proposal to site an UHF PRS (Personal Radio Service) Repeater in the 477 MHz at Mt Climie was discussed. The general agreement and motion voted on was to proceed down the planning phase of this to see how far the proposal can go.

As this is not an amateur repeater, and more a community assert it was decided that community based funding would be required. This would mean applying for grants to finance the installation so that very little or no money is put in by the club.

Actions points taken from the meeting were to get engineering done to see if a repeater can be installed at Mt Climie, with the strict RSM conditions place on PRS Repeaters.

Rules are:

Cannot re-use co-channel <100km

Cannot re-use co-rea <20km for 25kHz BW and < 5km for 12.5kHz BW

Max 13.2dBW EIRP (~20watts) this includes aerial gain.

We are looking at narrow band with of 12.5 kHz, Channel 41-48 but these have proved to be unavailable or not suitable. We are going with Channel 5 instead.

Input: 477.2750 MHz

Output: 476.5250. MHz

Pricing to date for a Tait TB7300 UHF Repeater (470-520 MHz) and suitable duplexers from Duplexers.eu (able to do the 750 kHz offset) excluding a two or four dipole set is well over \$8000.00. So, like an amateur repeater in costs. As you will not doubt be aware we do things correctly at Mt Climie and don't so unprofessional installations.

As the proforma invoices come in then applications for grants will go out prior to Christmas to get the process underway. As stated at the beginning this will be solely funded from the community for the community, all we are doing to is to host the repeater and support its ongoing maintenance. The ongoing repeater yearly fee of \$300.00 will also need to be worked through.

So put the word out there that the Branch 63 is looking at this proposal and we are seeking support funding to get this project off the ground. We will accept any donations for this project – if the project does not go ahead any donations will be returned.

EME Newsletter

<https://eme.radio/images/newsletter/pdf/2025-11-vol-54-11.pdf>