



ZL2VH Newsletter – August 2026

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President's Report

As winter sets in and the colder nights take hold, attendance at our Friday evening meetings has understandably declined. It has been suggested that, during the winter months, we consider meeting every second week instead of weekly. This proposal will be discussed at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April 2027, where members can decide on the preferred arrangement and establish a suitable schedule.

Until then, Friday night meetings will continue as usual, and the clubrooms will remain open whenever someone is available to open them.

The **PRS Climie Project 5 fundraising campaign** is progressing extremely well. Full details of the project can be found on the website:

<https://prs4climie.nz/>

Project 5 PRS for Climie – Movie Night Fundraiser

We are pleased to announce a special movie night fundraiser on **Saturday, 15 August 2026**, at the **Upper Hutt Cossie Club**. The event will feature the much-

loved New Zealand comedy ***Carry Me Back***, generously donated by New Zealand producer **Graeme Cowley** (*Goodbye Pork Pie, Utu*) in support of the initiative.

The venue hire has also been generously donated free of charge by the Upper Hutt Cossie Club.

This promises to be a great family social evening. Guests are encouraged to arrive from **5:00 pm** to enjoy dinner and the club's full bar facilities before the movie begins at **7:00 pm** in **Function Room 1**.

Ticket Prices:

- Adults: **\$20**
- Children: **\$10**

Tickets are available through our booking site.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the club and the Project 5 fundraising effort. Your encouragement, participation, and generosity are greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing as many members, families, and friends as possible at the movie night fundraiser.

Link to book your movie tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/carry-me-back-movie-fundraiser-tickets-1994129506033?aff=oddtcreator>

For PRS outreach, upcoming PRS4Climie info-tour or to contact the PRS4Climie-Collective, email us: info@prs4climie.nz

Visit <https://www.prs4climie.nz>

www.prs4climie.nz

Channel 5 Repeater: 476.5250 - 477.2750 MHz.



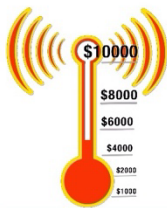
Hikers, trampers & hunters - do you use walkie-talkies?

Bikers, 4 x 4 Off-road - do you stay in range of cell coverage?

Commuters, Motor-homers & Trades - PRS for connectivity range

The Project: to install a 477mhz UHF Personal Radio Service (PRS) repeater at Mount Climie (860m) south-east of Upper Hutt in the Remutaka ranges.

The Stewards: Upper Hutt Ham Club & the PRS4Climie-Collective, a local resilience radio group, as a community-owned & operated asset.



We seek: community donations to fund the installation.
The total project cost is estimated at \$10,000. Can you support us?
Visit www.prs4climie.nz or www.zl2vh.nz/ to find out more.



Support our fundraising event:

7pm 15 August 2026

Upper Hutt Cossie Club



The Upper Hutt Ham Club & the PRS4Climie-Collective info@prs4climie.nz www.prs4climie.nz

Repeater Report

Repeater: Status

Climie KiwiSDR	On Air
10 m Beacon (28.229 MHz)	On Air
3 cm Beacon (10368.275 MHz)	On Air
D-Star 5425, 860, 1292	On Air
730	On Air
395 (6 m)	On Air

Mt Climie Trip – Wednesday 20 July 2026

As a result of testing and monitoring the on-air transmissions for Climie 730, it was noted that performance had declined over the previous two weeks. A trip to Mt Climie was undertaken on Wednesday 20 July 2026 by John ZL2TWS and Mark ZL2UFI.

Upon investigation, it was discovered that the connector on the tuning stub had suffered water ingress and had partially come apart. John was able to repair the antenna in situ. The new repeater had also reported a high SWR alarm, which was indicated both in the repeater software and on the repeater itself. Following the repairs, both alarms cleared.

We hope this has resolved the issue; however, it may reoccur until the weather improves over summer. If problems persist, we may need to consider alternative antenna options.

The surplus feeder cables left behind by GNS when they vacated the south hut has now been removed. Some of the cables had suffered water ingress and have been discarded. The remaining cables may be suitable for use on Channel 5 or could be offered to members in exchange for a donation to club funds.

D-STAR Repeater Changes

The D-STAR repeaters no longer require CTCSS tones to be transmitted from your transceiver. These tones were originally implemented because we anticipated that "button pushers" might interfere with digital users. However, after almost two years of operation, no such interference has been experienced.

As a result:

- If you are using an analogue transceiver, you may choose to enable CTCSS on the receive frequency only. This will prevent you from hearing DV signals.
- The repeaters continue to operate in mixed mode.
- We once again have an analogue UHF repeater available on 860 (438.600 MHz, -7 MHz offset).
- Repeater 5425 and 860 use a CTCSS tone of **173.8 Hz**.

The club's repeater page has been updated with the relevant operating instructions:

<https://zl2vh.nz/repeaters.html>

Please scroll down to just below the repeater table and read **Note 2**.

1292 Repeater

The same CTCSS changes have also been applied to the 1292 repeater. As many older transceivers may have tone boards fitted, we have selected a CTCSS tone of **88.5 Hz** for this repeater.

Using the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP)

For members who are new to using IRLP, a new guide has been created to help you get started with the Internet Radio Linking Project on **Climie 730**.

The document provides step-by-step instructions on how to access and use IRLP and is now available on the club's website.

We encourage all members interested in using IRLP to download and review the guide.

See the link: <https://zl2vh.nz/assets/pdf/other/using-the-internet-radio-linking-project-on-730.pdf>

EME Newsletter:

July 2026 Edition: <https://eme.radio/images/newsletter/pdf/2026-07-vol-55-07.pdf>

HamClock: Important Update

We need your immediate attention regarding an important backend transition for HamClock. The Clear Sky Institute server is failing, and all users must switch to the new OHB (Open HamClock Backend) to ensure continued updates and reliable operation.

Changing the backend server is simple. Versions 4.24 and later will remember when they are started from OHB and automatically set OHB as their permanent home server.

To switch, please start HamClock using this command:

hamclock -b ohb.hamclock.app:80

The “-b” option forces HamClock to use the new backend and will update you to V4.27. After this upgrade, your device will be configured for all future updates from OHB. **Please reboot your device**

Important note for Quadra4k and HK1RBOX users with 4K monitors: These devices contain two executables, one for standard resolution and one for 4K resolution. You must update the 4K executable as well by using this command for start-up:

hamclock-4k -b ohb.hamclock.app:80

After completing the upgrade, **please reboot your device**. To be safe, run both commands in case your monitor falls back to standard resolution.

This transition is essential. If you are currently on any version below 4.26 and do not get the upgrade offered to 4.27 then **you are on the wrong backend server**. OHB is now the **only** backend server providing innovative updates and ongoing support for HamClock. For step by step instructions click on the button below.

Thank you for your prompt action and continued support.

Best regards, Udo NOLSR Design.

ITU Corporation Acquires Ameritron and Mirage RF Amplifier Brands from MFJ Enterprises

LINTON, Indiana – 9 June 2026 – ITU Corporation today announced the acquisition of two additional premier amateur radio and communications brands from MFJ Enterprises: Ameritron and Mirage RF Amplifiers and Electronics.

These are FCC registered and approved high-quality RF Amplifiers up to legal limit. In addition to amplifiers, Ameritron's lineup also includes antenna tuners, switching units, and several other electronic communication devices. This move expands upon ITU's earlier 2026 acquisition of the iconic Hy-Gain and Cushcraft antenna brands.

The manufacturing operations for Hy-Gain, Cushcraft, Ameritron, and Mirage are being consolidated and relocated from Starkville, Mississippi, to ITU Corporation's 15-acre facility in Linton, Indiana. The complex transition is well underway, with full product production scheduled to begin by the end of 2026.

Customers and enthusiasts can follow ongoing updates, product information, and transition details at Hy-Gain.com.

Titahi Bay Amateur Radio Club – branch42

Table Sale and Social

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 2026

10am to 2pm

Tireti Hall (29A Tireti Road, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022) – next to the Fire Station
Cnr of Te Pene Ave and Tireti Road, Titahi Bay, Porirua

\$30 Full table / \$20 ½ table - payment to be made on the day

Doors open for sellers at 9.00am and to the buyers at 10.00am

Food and drink available for purchase, bring cash and change

Call-in is on 675 (146.750)

enquiries: zl2jtl@gmail.com