



Headquarters - Info - Line

... a service from ...

The New Zealand Association of
Radio Transmitters Incorporated



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Greetings Everyone!

Welcome to **Headquarters-Info-Line** a fortnightly bulletin of news from NZART Headquarters E-mailed directly to Branches.

It has never been easier to subscribe to the Info-Line distribution list and have Info-Line sent to you direct by E-mail. Just check into the NZART web page <http://www.nzart.org.nz>. Look for **Info-Line Subscribe**. Supply your name, callsign and e-mail address and that's all you need to do. You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your auto-subscription and you can un-subscribe at any time.

The NZART Business Manager Debby ZL2TDM Says:

Happy New Year to you all. After a wonderful holiday in Te Anau with my family I was invited to Eastern Southland Branch to take part in a special presentation to their 6 (+ 2) new amateurs who successfully passed their amateur radio exam late last year.

A great evening was enjoyed by some 30+ people and afterwards, Steve and I travelled further up the line to stay with John ZL4QS and Patricia Lochhead at their farm at Kaitangata. A must stay place for all who travel this way! Steve even got to assist John in removing a stupid cow from the head bail! Us townies aren't used to such excitement.

Venturing on towards the North and seeing a few relatives on the way, our last night was spent with Topsy and David Scott in Nelson.

Although as I write this I am still on holiday, however Headquarters will officially reopen on Tuesday 18th January.

The New Year brings much to do at NZART; first there will be preparation for the upcoming Council and Presidential elections. I am very pleased to advise that an election will definitely be held in the Northern, Central and Midlands districts, plus 3 nominations have been received for President. This is a first for me since commencing NZART in 1998. Please make sure you are a financial member to be eligible to vote for your Executive.

Finally, I have hinted in the last issue of HQ Info-line for 2004, that we had an opportunity to share the NZART HQ with another organization. This has now been confirmed, more details of the effects on the

Association will be advised, after the Council face to face meeting in February. I am able to advise at this time, that there are no foreseeable disadvantages to members, essentially it will mean longer opening hours and more financial input for the lease of our facilities.

Talk soon.....Debby ZL2TDM

Amateur Licence Statistics from the Ministry of Economic Development’s web site with Tony Case ZL1UD:

Statistics

Amateur Radio Licensing Statistics

Category	Date	Sept.22.0	Oct.21.04	Nov.24.04	Dec.20.04
	<u>4</u>				
Grade					
General Grade		4735	4725	4700	4696
Limited Grade					
Novice Grade		12	12	11	11
Total Amateur Licenses Issued		4747	4737	4711	4707
Beacons		42	42	42	42
Digi-peaters		29	29	29	29
Fixed		2	2	2	2
Repeaters		239	239	245	247
TV Repeaters		41	42	42	42
Total Licenses		5100	5091	5071	5069

Notes from the NZART Administration Liaison Officer Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ:

BPL:

The WIA recently released its review document on “Power Line Communication” (PLC), alternatively known as “Broadband over Power Lines” (BPL). You can find it at:
<http://www.wia.org.au/BPL/WiaBplReviewV1.1-20041214.pdf>

The ARRL has some new videos and other material about BPL at:
<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>

Please promptly report any NZ local BPL activity you may find to NZART Council so that the actions described on these various web pages can be commenced here.

The 'CallBook-On-Line':

The Ministry's *SpectrumOnLine* facility with its spreadsheet report is an effective amateur 'CallBook-On-Line'. It is updated each night so it is useful to find the ZL callsigns in current use and the location of the licensees.

From enquiries received it seems this facility may not be easy to find, so try this: Go to:
<http://spectrumonline.med.govt.nz/other-reports.html>

Scroll down to the bottom of that page. Click on the 'operator' or 'repeaters and beacons' link. Ignore what appears on the next page you see, but find the small 'XLS' and 'PDF' icons that appear in the grey bar near the top right of that page. Click on one of these icons and download the complete file.

Be sure to add today's current date and the word 'operator' (or 'repeaters') to the filename before downloading - otherwise earlier downloads will be overwritten.

Open the spreadsheet you have downloaded and use your spreadsheet skills to sort and to electronically search this information. The search feature makes it a more useful resource than the printed CallBook if you are trying to find a callsign when given an address, and it is up-to-date too. The 'operator' xls file with the full detailed ZL callsign listing is about 650 kB.

After nearly a decade of difficulties with the Privacy Act preventing the official release of the 'CallBook information', with this so-easy-to-use and always-up-to-date facility now so readily available to anyone and without any hassle, one can only wonder why all that bumbledom was necessary.

VHF Convention 2005:

The Members and Committee of the Wellington VHF Group Branch 74 invite you to attend the VHF Convention to be held in Wellington Easter Weekend 2005. That's 25th, 26th, 27th & 28th March. The Venue will be Raroa Intermediate School, Haumia Street, Johnsonville, Wellington.

The Convention will offer an exciting mix of speakers, technical presentations, VHF Forum, a mobile rally, special interest groups, and this year for the first time, a special forum for National System Trustees. The Saturday night dinner associated with the Convention will be a great social occasion too with an invitation extended to all Wellington area Amateurs and their spouses/partners and personal guests.

Registration forms will be appearing soon on the Wellington VHF Group website www.vhf.org.nz also in the Jan/Feb issue of Break-In, in January and February Q-Bits, and the Ak VHF Group publication Spectrum.

Doug Ingham ZL2TAR is organising the technical presentations part of the programme. Prospective contributors are invited to email Doug at zl2tar@nzart.org.nz, with a note of their proposed topic and/or outline of their talk.

An event not to be missed VHF Convention 2005, Easter weekend in Wellington.

VHF-UHF Field-Day Results with Leon Toorenburg ZL2AOC:

The results from the December Field day are attached to this issue of HQ- Info-Line. A total of 77 stations were active. Congratulations to Harry ZL1BK who won the contest from Mt Ruapehu. Thanks to all who participated.

Contests with Stan White ZL2ST:

The Jock White Memorial Field Day contest date is getting near. Time to organise your home field station teams, site and gear or home station gear. The event is on the last weekend of February - 26/27th. Summary sheets are being sent to Branch Secretaries and are available on the NZART website.

Dates to Remember:

- **Next HQ-Info-Line Sunday 6th February 2005.**
- **First NZART Official Broadcast for 2005 Sunday 27th February.**
- **Technology Convention 2005, Wellington 26th & 27th March.**

73

Jim Meachen ZL2BHF

Editor