



Headquarters - Info - Line

... a service from ...

The New Zealand Association of
Radio Transmitters Incorporated



19th March 2006

Issue # 112

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/nzart/> 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:

Promotional Material - I am very disappointed to say the least that I have received not one response from Branches to the banner/Flag opportunity to purchase for Branch activities promoting amateur radio. Could you ALL please take the time to view the NZART web page:

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/update/infoline/amateur-banner.pdf>

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/Update/infoline/amateur-vertflag.pdf>

Download the PDF files and view them – I am sure there is many occasions you would use one of these banners.

Ideas for other promotional material is also required – so many times I am asked what HQ has available – I regret to there is nothing. Please, please send me your ideas or better still send me what your Branch uses to attract people to the hobby – maybe others can use your ideas too.

I picked up a brochure from Dick Smith's today titled "How to...get into Shortwave". I know this isn't exactly amateur radio, but in it it makes reference to amateur radio being the wider and more interesting aspect that Shortwave can lead to.

That's all from me – just wanted to make sure I get the message out that we need to be more active in promoting amateur radio to the wider community.

Talk soon....**Debby ZL2TDM**

Australian Special Event Stations - Commonwealth Games:

The 18th Commonwealth Games in Melbourne Australia, contested by 4,500 athletes from 70 countries, will be celebrated by two special event callsigns, **AX3MCG** and **AX3GAMES**.

AX3MCG (Melbourne Commonwealth Games) will be QRV daily 1-31 March, with operators David VK3EW and Peter VK3QI aiming to achieve at least DXCC. A multi-operator roster will also activate AX3GAMES generally QRV daily on all bands.

Special Commemorative QSLs for both callsigns will be available via the VK3 Buro.

AX3MCG and AX3GAMES are the only special event callsigns issued by Australian Communications and Media Authority to celebrate the Commonwealth Games. Individual VK's may also substitute the AX prefix during the games period.

Amateur Radio Victoria www.amateurradio.com.au

FMTAG Notes:

NZART Council, at its March 2006 meeting, approved publication of the following FMTAG notes.

Interim Recommendations To Council

Marlborough Branch 22 has applied to re-locate its 52.490 MHz beacon to Wither Hills, Map reference NZ260 P28 921616. An engineering evaluation, in accordance with MED document PIB38, shows that the beacon can remain on its present frequency.

Branch 68 North Canterbury has applied to increase the power of its 6975 repeater at Mount Noble, Map Reference NZ260 M33 602152, being a repeater transmit frequency of 146.975 MHz and repeater receive frequency of 146.375 MHz. An engineering evaluation, in accordance with MED publication PIB38, shows that interference to other stations is unlikely, and that the repeater can remain on the present frequencies.

Branch 74 The Wellington VHF Group, in association with Branch 60 Taupo, has applied for a National System repeater at Maroanui, near Taupo, Map Reference NZ260 U17 736942. We have selected 9825, being a repeater transmit frequency of 439.825 MHz and repeater receive frequency of 434.825 MHz. This station will be connected to the Kaimai National System repeater by means of a UHF Link Station (ULS) at Maroanui on 985, being a transmit frequency of 439.850 MHz and a receive frequency of 434.850 MHz.

Final Recommendations To Council

Published as Interim Recommendations in January/February 2006 Break-In, for the information of, and inviting comments from, members.

Branch 30 Otago has applied to establish a simplex 70 cm repeater at Saddle Hill, Mosgiel, Map Reference NZ260 I44 055746. We have selected 820, being a repeater transmit and receive frequency of

438.200 MHz, as being the most suitable. We have also reserved the repeater receive frequency of 433.200 MHz for future conversion to a standard duplex repeater.

Branch 30 Otago has applied to establish a simplex 70 cm repeater at Highcliff, Map Reference NZ260 I44 231779. We have selected 830, being a repeater transmit and receive frequency of 438.300 MHz, as being the most suitable. We have also reserved the repeater receive frequency of 433.300 MHz for future conversion to a standard duplex repeater.

Branch 46 Wairarapa has applied for a power increase for its Castlepoint 5675 repeater, map reference U26 820346. An engineering evaluation confirms that the repeater will not interfere with the other 5675 repeaters, and can remain on its existing frequency (repeater transmit frequency 145.675 MHz, repeater receive frequency 145.075 MHz).

Branch 71 Rodney has applied to relocate its 730 repeater to Moir Hill, Map Reference NZ260 R09 539245. An engineering evaluation confirms that, although the repeater's coverage will increase, it is unlikely to interfere with the other 730 repeaters, and can remain on its existing frequency (repeater transmit frequency 147.300 MHz, repeater receive frequency 147.900 MHz).

Comments

Please send your comments and suggestions on the above matters and recommendations, and on any other FMTAG matters, by e-mail to fmtag@nzart.org.nz or by mail to FMTAG, c/- NZART, PO Box 40-525, Upper Hutt.

Applications

Applications for repeaters, beacons, digipeaters, point-to-point links, and so on, should be made on the latest version of FMTAG Form 10. The latest versions of FMTAG Form 10, and the explanatory Form 10A, are available from the above address, in paper or electronic versions, or in Word or pdf versions on the NZART web site at: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/nzart/fmtag.html> Completed forms should be sent by e-mail to fmtag@nzart.org.nz or by mail to FMTAG, c/- NZART, PO Box 40-525, Upper Hutt.

NZART Conference in Christchurch Queens Birthday Weekend 2006:

Conference this year is to be held at the Riccarton Racecourse in Christchurch. Arrangements to date can be viewed at <http://www.hamradio.co.nz/convention>

Additional FMTAG Notes:

FMTAG will shortly be writing to Branches, with the annual request for repeater/beacon/link up-date information for Call Book.

This year, the format has changed. The repeater, beacon and link listings will be based on the MED's licence data base, as have the General Licence callsign listings for the last few years.

While preparing the up-date letters for the mail-out, FMTAG became aware that 148 of these licences are still in the name of Branches.

Members will be aware that NZART is in the middle of intensive negotiations with the MED, concerning the annual fees for repeater, beacon and link licences.

If, for any reason, the outcome of these negotiations is unfavourable to us, the MED could start sending out annual fee invoices, to the address on the repeater, beacon and link licences, starting in about mid May, with a due date of 1st July. Please see the list below.

The MED's web site currently states that the annual fee is \$50. Therefore, if this amount isn't reduced or eliminated, as a result of the negotiations, the financial impact on some Branches could be considerable.

Branches can initiate the licence transfer process to NZART, by logging on to the MED's SMART web site, and using the client codes and passwords received from the MED in November 2005.

Alternatively, FMTAG can facilitate the process. Please contact FMTAG for details at:

fntag@nzart.org.nz

Some Branches have already transferred all of their repeater, beacon and link licences to NZART. Following licence transfer, the ownership, operational, maintenance and legal responsibility for the repeater, beacon or link remains with the Branch.

List Of Branch Licences

Up to 10 years ago, all repeater, beacon and link licences were granted in the name of Branches, and Branches were charged a substantial annual fee for each licence.

In the last 10 years, all repeater, beacon and link licences have been granted in the name of NZART, to comply with the MED's condition for a zero annual fee.

As at today, according to MED licensing records, there are 221 repeater, beacon and link licences in the name of NZART, and 148 licences in the name of 47 branches.

Information on how to find the up-to-date repeater, beacon and link licence status, from the MED web site, is given in the attached sheet, following this note.

Branch Number, Branch Name and the number of the 148 licences **not** under NZART Name.

05 Christchurch (6), 06 Tararua (2), 08 Eastern Southland (2), 11 Gisborne (4), 13 Hastings (3), 18 Hutt Valley (1), 20 Manawatu (3), 22 Marlborough (1), 23 Marton (3), 24 Motueka (1), 25 Napier (6), 26 Nelson (7), 27 New Plymouth (7), 28 Whangarei (4), 29 North Shore (1), 30 Otago (2), 33 Rotorua (2), 34 South Canterbury (4), 37 Southland (3), 38 Taumarunui (3), 39 Tauranga (3), 42 Titahi Bay (1), 45 Waimarino (1), 46 Wairarapa (5), 48 Wanganui (1), 49 Westland (2), 50 Wellington (2), 51 Eastern BOP (2), 53 Te Puke (3), 55 Waitomo (3), 60 Taupo (1), 61 Central Otago (3), 62 Reefton-Buller (6), 63 Upper Hutt (5), 64 North Otago (2), 65 Papakura (3), 66 Auckland VHF (13), 68 North Canterbury (1), 69 Kapiti (3), 71 Rodney (2), 75 Queenstown (2), 76 Kaikoura (2), 78 Far North (2), 81 Waikato VHF (10), 82 Southern Wairarapa (1), 86 Suburban (2), 87 South Taranaki (3).

As is fairly well known, an MED-approved radio engineer processes our repeater, beacon and link licence applications, at no charge to NZART, as a form of charity. Naturally, the Engineer's paying customers have top priority, while charity customers have a lower priority.

Question: Why are you telling us this?

Answer: It is likely that, if many Branches apply for repeater, beacon and link licence transfers, at the last moment, there could be significant processing delays. An early application for a licence transfer minimises the chance of your application being delayed, and is in the Branch's best interest.



Information for Radio Amateurs and for Candidates studying for the Amateur Radio Examination:

NZART provides the following resources **free**:

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/Exam/files/NewRules.pdf> This booklet explains New Zealand's radio regulatory environment (300kB). This is a "*must-have*" for every radio amateur. Download it and print it double-sided (24 pages).

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/Exam/files/questions.pdf> The examination syllabus and all 600-questions in the Amateur Radio Examination Question-bank (420kB). Download it and print it double-sided (44 pages).

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/Exam/guide.html> The New Zealand *Amateur Radio Study Guide*. View on-line, or download it (2.6MB). It covers all exam topics and all 600 questions in the question-bank.

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/Exam/> Tutorial Notes (250kB) and other information.

The '*CallBook-On-Line*' and '*Repeaters and Beacons On-line*':

The Ministry of Economic Development, Radio Spectrum Management's 'SpectrumOnLine', provides two spreadsheet reports: an amateur '*CallBook-On-Line*' and a listing of repeaters and beacons. These are updated every night. The ZL callsigns in current use with the name and location of the holders and the repeater and beacon locations and other details are available. After downloading and sorting into callsign sequence, the callsigns that are not yet allocated can be identified.

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 the '*repeaters and beacons*' link. You may have to temporarily turn off any 'advert pop-up suppressing' security software that you have installed.

Ignore what appears on the next page you see, but look for small 'XLS' and 'PDF' icons that will appear in the grey bar and near the top right of that page. Click on one of these icons and download the complete file. (The '*operator*' xls file with the full detailed ZL callsign listing is about 700 kB.)

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

Open the downloaded spreadsheet and use your spreadsheet skills to sort and to electronically search this information (Ctrl+F). The search/find feature makes it more useful than the printed CallBook. Surnames and street and town names can be readily searched and it is up-to-date.

The NZART Membership Form: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/NZART/join/membershipform.pdf>

Join NZART! New members are welcome! Non-Transmitting members are welcome!

Purchase a **Basic Radio Training Manual** and more:

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/promo/promoting/orderform.html>

NZART, the New Zealand Radio Amateur's organisation!

The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters Incorporated: www.nzart.org.nz/nzart

(March 06)

Contests and Activities with NZART Contest Manager John Powell ZL1BHQ:

RSGB Commonwealth Contest Last Weekend

Good support from ZL operators in last weekend's contest, although numbers were a little down on previous years - a trend noticed from other Commonwealth countries also. Band conditions were poor, which probably accounted for this. Raw results published to date confirm the unfavourable band conditions. At ZL6A the contest contacts increased by about 40%, although the final score has yet to be determined. Another operator added to our number assisted with improved rest and social activities. In fact Sunday afternoon we all gave it away for a couple of hours, because of the lack of activity and adjourned to the sunshine and a lager, or two.

Upcoming Contests:

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 25 to 2359Z, Mar 26
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Mar 26
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 27
Thelma Souper WARO	
Memorial Contest	0700Z 1 & 2 April to 1000Z
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 1 to 1500Z, Apr 2
EA RTTY Contest	1600Z, Apr 1 to 1600Z, Apr 2
Sangster Shield QRP CW Contest	2000NZT 20 & 21 May to 2300NZT
NZART Memorial Contest All Modes	0700Z to 1400Z 1 July

VK/Trans Tasman Contests

Thanks to David, ZL1DK for his response to my request of last week re the dates of this Contest.

These are as follows :-

80m Phone - 13 May 2006. 80m CW - 8 July 2006.

Please refer to the Contest Website for update rules and scoring details -

<http://home.iprimus.com.au/vktasman>

NZART Examination Training DVD Update with Stuart Watchman ZL2TW:

I have recorded all but the last few sections of the subject elements for the NZ examination. I now intend to tidy up and edit the first half of the classes and get that released before going back and finishing the last sections.

The project has taken a month or two longer than I originally intended, I apologise for this and hope this has not caused inconvenience. I will announce when the DVDs are ready in Infoline, which should be around mid April.

Dates To Remember:

- **NZART Official Broadcast Sunday 26th March**
- **Next HQ-Info-Line E-mailed on 2nd April**

73

Jim Meachen ZL2BHF
Editor