



Headquarters - Info - Line

... a service from ...

The New Zealand Association of
Radio Transmitters Incorporated



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Issue # 136

Greetings Everyone

Welcome to Headquarters-Info-Line a fortnightly bulletin of news from NZART Headquarters E-mailed directly to Branches and to others that subscribe through the NZART Web Site.

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The NZART Business Manager Debby ZL2TDM:



100 BASIC ELECTRONIC PROJECTS

“Every kid in the country should have one!”

Send a donation of \$5 or more to:

“The NZART RadioScience Education Trust”

at NZART HQ and receive a copy of this CD.

Copy it - and don't stop copying until every kid in the country has one!

The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters Incorporated
P. O. Box 40 525 UPPER HUTT NZ

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/NZART/trustweb.html>

100 Basic Electronic Projects - on CD-ROM

The booklet *100 Basic Electronic Projects* was produced by the New South Wales Division of the Wireless Institute of Australia in 1982. It has been copied to CD-ROM on behalf of the NZART Radioscience Education Trust with the kind permission of Wireless Institute of Australia New South Wales.

Surprisingly, it is still very current with lots of simple projects and clear explanations about how they work. It should be a source of inspiration for budding scientists and engineers.

It should energise youngsters towards thinking about radio and radio topics. Even if they never build anything, just looking at the circuits and their applications could bring on ideas!

The projects can be examined on-screen and those selected for closer interest can be printed off by a right click of the mouse then another click to *Print picture*. Simple!

The book, all 114 pages, appears on-screen exactly as it does on paper. It is purposeful without needing any fancy updating or modernising. The circuits are very simple, the diagrams clear, the *go-first-time* factor will be high, costs low, all components are substitute-able.

A four-page booklet can be printed from the CD describing how to make your own *Electronic Test Bench*. Any youngster can build one and then fabricate selections from these 100 circuits. Standard components are used and these are many-times re-usable.

The price of the CD is a donation of \$5 or more to the NZART Radioscience Education Trust and posted from NZART Headquarters.

This CD can be freely copied. Branches could donate umpteen copies of the CD to local schools as an Amateur Radio promotion to encourage youngsters towards an interest in radio and electronics. Bags of common-value components could be assembled as give-away *starter packs* for the *electronics test bench* to encourage those who show interest.

Every kid in the country needs one!

Encourage youngsters and support the *NZART Radioscience Education Trust*.

Talk to you all again soon... Debby ZL2TDM

RADIO LICENCES: SECURITY OF TENURE

Thirteen submissions were provided to the MED on the radio Licences - security of Tenure Discussion Paper.

Copies of these including the NZART submission (No.7) can be accessed at:

<http://www.rsm.govt.nz/spp/security-of-tenure/submissions/index.html>

Bruce Douglas ZL2WP

The Submission From NZART

A Submission to the Ministry of Economic Development, Radio Spectrum Management Group, in response to the Ministry's: "Radio Licences: Security of Tenure" discussion paper

Introduction

This Submission is made on behalf of NZART Council and is in response to the Radio Licences: Security of Tenure discussion paper that appeared on the Ministry's web page during December 2006 at <http://www.rsm.govt.nz/spp/security-of-tenure/index.html> and which invited a response.

Name of organisation:

The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters Incorporated.

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This submission may be freely copied, or summarized, or distributed to third parties, as the Ministry wishes.

Introduction

Currently there are approximately 4,900 callsigns issued to New Zealand Amateurs. Although it can not be accurately determined, it is estimated that around 75% of licensed Amateurs are active in some form.

By nature, people involved in the Amateur Service conform to the purpose of the Amateur Service which is defined by the International Radio Regulations as being:

“1.56 amateur service: A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations ...”

While some Radio Amateurs are only involved in one of the purposes stated above, some are involved in more than one – some are involved in all three.

Radio Amateurs realise that some of the bands that they use are in areas of the radio spectrum that are in demand by other spectrum users. It is also realised that the different parts of the radio spectrum are “technology specific” and in being so, provide for the diverse range of interests that are available to be explored and utilised within the Amateur Service.

This paper will look at the questions raised in the discussion paper with regard to the Amateur Service and band usage that is available to the Amateur Service as a whole.

Questions and Answers

1. Should radio licenses have greater security of tenure? Why?

The simple answer to this question is yes.

The Amateur Radio service has by tradition been at the leading edge of radio for some 90 plus years. In fact many advances can be traced to an Amateur Radio pioneer who by working away in his or her back yard has produced a technological result based on their experiments with the use of radio. If these early pioneers had not the access to various frequencies as part of their licenses, and thereby security that this implied, these advances may not have occurred as easily, or at all.

The band plan for the Amateur Service is defined in part by the IARU Region 3 band plan and locally by the MED. The Amateur Service is a service that exists to meet the need of members of the community whose interests lie within the purpose of Amateur Radio. To fulfil this requirement, New Zealand Amateurs need assurance that the existing and future frequency allocations are secure.

With the increasing demands now being placed on band plans as new technologies (both known and unknown) come to the fore, new pressures are put on users, such as amateurs. The ability of this service to remain viable is at risk and the "security of tenure" has never been as important as it is today.

2. What is more important to your business: rapid access to radio spectrum to implement new services, or security of tenure for investment?

The Amateur Service is not a business; and by definition is not allowed to be one.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) by definition states in its Schedule 3, Paragraph 4, (which is attached to the New Zealand Amateur Radio Licence):

“1.56 amateur service: A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self- training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.”

All amateurs have invested their money in radio equipment which comes from “disposable income.” In a time of an aging population, the ability of people to have disposable income to replace or dispose of radio equipment can be difficult. This investment is not only monetarily based, as amateurs also invest time and self training in many areas. To also retain the amateur service as an attractive option for new people to join, the ability to be dynamic, with new services but to retain a security of what we already have is very important.

The amateur service is not one where business practices of obsolesce readily apply or that of being "first to market." As new technologies come to be, amateurs are very much early adopters or market leaders, which industry then pick up on and turn into commercial reality. The amateur service requires both outcomes (as stated in the question) that is rapid access to spectrum to implement new services, as well as security of tenure to retain and advance technologies for the investment they have already made.

As an example Radio clubs (Branches of NZART) have made a significant investment in equipment (such as Amateur Television Transmitters - ATV). For this facet of Amateur Radio to grow, licensees need to be assured that their investment is on going. They need assurance that the frequencies utilised today, are still available into the future.

3. Could changes to security of tenure be made in isolation from other reforms of radio Licences? Might there be unintended consequences?

All change has consequence which can have a down flow effect.

An example of this was the introduction of SRD's (Short Range Devices) between 433.05 - 434.79 MHz (Radiocommunications Regulations (General User Radio Licence for Short Range Devices) Notice 2004 Schedule 1). This created an interference difficulty for the Amateur Service resulting in a complete re-design of the frequency allocation of the UHF National System. Volunteer's and radio clubs had to donate significant amounts of time and money to restructure the system, both by way of planning, engineering, re-licensing and physically re-tuning the equipment to move away from the interference caused by SRD's.

In ideal circumstances for example, it is possible for an SRD to transmit its signal many kilometres. In recent interference cases, this has proved difficult to track down and remedy. Many man-hours are expended to track down, and turn off this type interference. Radio users must suffer an unacceptable period of interference to their bands while this takes place.

4. Should all (or most) radio spectrum be moved to the management rights regime? Why?

In New Zealand, and internationally the Amateur Service needs to remain in step with the rest of world. This does not mean that locally agreed allocations both new and existing ones or ways to manage spectrum cannot be explored, but as the Amateur Service is one where international agreements and regulations apply, one needs to carefully think through any new possible outcomes when moving to new structures such as spectrum management rights.

While the New Zealand approach of spectrum management rights is one that should not be put to one side as unworkable, or unsuitable for the amateur service, it must be handled with care to ensure that by its very being, the existing rights are not extinguished. It would be a great pity for the radio bands or rights of usage to be lost merely to invoke a spectrum management right regime.

NZART is of the opinion that this type of regime needs to be handled on a case by case basis, and not a blanket one situation fits all.

5. Would a defined methodology for determining when spectrum is to be reallocated improve the security of tenure for radio licenses? How and why?

A defined methodology would certainly help as a discussion point when spectrum is reallocated. A starting point is always required, and analysis of any issue is much easier when this is the case. It is unclear at this time if security of tenure is an expected or required outcome if this approach is taken.

6. What steps and considerations would a defined methodology incorporate?

The Amateur Service works within defined bands allocated through the ITU and generally conforming to Region 3 allocations. The Amateur Service is not generally moved from one allocation to another within an ITU administration area. Example is the world is divided in three regions, of which New Zealand is in Region 3 - what works or is available here may not work in say Region 1 or 2.

A case in point is that of 614 - 622 MHz allocation where the amateur service has a presence on Channel 39 (615.250 MHz), a spectrum management right now exists. This right is under commercial pressure to remove the Amateur Service from the allocation. Any loss of this allocation would involve a considerable loss of asset to the Amateur Service. The loss of this type of allocation to the hobby of amateur radio could not be measured as a mere loss of a frequency allocation, it must be measured in the loss of a mode of operation. For those using or having an interest in this mode and allocation there is no suitable replacement, or offer of a replacement.

Any loss of an allocation is viewed seriously by amateurs, as many of these allocations have been hard fought for, and if lost no suitable replacement or alternative is found or offered. This loss of allocation further penalises the Amateur Service and thereby making it less attractive as a hobby.

7. Should Radio Licenses be allocated with more certainty over their term? How and Why?

Currently Radio Licenses in the Amateur Service are covered under the GURL (General Radio User Licence) if issued to a person or covered separately if issued to a Repeater, Beacon or Fixed Link. As such, once issued, they are designed to last until, in the case of a person their death; or if a Repeater, Beacon or Fixed Link until the equipment is removed or not longer required. Therefore under current allocations it would appear to very attractive for the Amateur Service to retain the status quo.

However, as the Amateur Service has allocations in many bands, the certainty of retaining these allocations is not defended by having a license to operate and any length of usage or term is no guarantee of tenure.

A case in point is the 614 - 622 MHz, which until recently was an allocation in the Amateur Service. In order to retain its presence in this band, with licenses issued up and down the country, the MED has moved the allocation to one of a Spectrum Management Right. As pressure has come on the allocation inside this band, especially from commercial and non-commercial interests, the mere existence of a license is no guarantee of continued usage. At this time, there is no suggestion that the Amateur Service is to lose this allocation, but the point has to be made.

When considering this approach the above example needs to be borne in mind and a balance found whereby Radio Licenses and Spectrum Management Rights can co-exist.

8. If security of tenure should be provided, should different services be treated differently? What criteria might be considered in determining a suitable period for security of tenure?

The Amateur Service by its very nature outside the normal radio services, and is one that cannot be readily compared to other services. To compare the Amateur Service to that of CB (Citizens Band) as an example is not realistic as the Amateur Service is one that is specifically mentioned in the international radio regulations, with multiple bands, operating modes, power outputs and the like.

Each service needs to be treated as a service in its own right, then as a service among all services.

The Amateur Service needs to be treated separately, so that its interests and future are protected, and secured for the future.

By conforming to both international and local regulations and procedures, this should be a determining factor to ensure, a security of tenure is the desired outcome.

With a mix of personal radio licenses (Amateur GURL) and Spectrum Management Rights (the 614 MHz Band) the suitable period for security of tenure previously mentioned in answer to question seven should also apply here.

9. In what circumstances would immediate revocation be appropriate?

In answering this question, and without a specific example to rely on, it is hard to develop a positional statement whether immediate revocation of a band is acceptable.

10. Would a change to the license or regulation be effective to give security of tenure? Is either option preferable?

Merely changing a licence condition or a regulation may not be an effective way to give a security of tenure. Within reason both can, at the "stroke of pen" be changed, in some cases, by a government overnight. A full consultative approach with all interested parties and an agreement perhaps is the best outcome that could be expected. Some change in the licence and regulation would follow to ensure the change is made and is enforceable, but it is currently unclear if such a change to ensure security of tenure could be enshrined into either a licence or regulation. Further consultation on this point would need to be undertaken once all parties have responded to this discussion paper.

11. Which of the options of a set term or minimum notice for revocation is preferable? Why?

Immediate revocation is always, and should always be a last resort. A term of time, or minimum period should be used.

12. Should holders of Radio Licenses have defined transitional rights in the event of conversion to the management rights regime? Why?

Owing to the international facets of the Amateur Service, and the international band use, transition to other frequencies would not be a workable option. A spectrum management right to Amateurs for Region 3 band plans protecting these allocations would be beneficial to the Amateur Service.

13. Should such rights be to a guaranteed replacement spectrum licence for a set period, or to be provided a suitable transition path? Are there other options?

In an ideal world, lost of a spectrum management right should be replaced with another, and a suitable transition period made. It is accepted that with pressure on the bands today, simply giving up one band to be accommodated "somewhere else" is not always a good outcome. Various costs are associated with such a

move and these need to be factored in. The examples given in the discussion paper namely Creation of management rights in the 100-108 MHz band and Changes to the 400- 420 MHz TETRA band show possible outcomes, over periods of time as to how to manage change.

14. Which option out of changes to licence conditions or regulations, a statement of government policy or legislative change is preferable to provide security of tenure on conversion of spectrum to the management rights regime? Why?

Owing to the international facets of the Amateur Service, and the international band use, transition to other frequencies would not be a workable option. A management right to Amateurs for Region 3 bandplans protecting these allocations would be beneficial to the Amateur Service.

15. Should financial incentives be payable for changes to radio licences imposed on licensees? Why?

The Amateur Service is by its nature, a non-commercial radio service. The line between cost recovery and a "commercial" solution at best is sometimes a blurred one. The Amateur Service is one undertaken by individuals with some radio club involvement. From the examples given in the discussion paper (Changes to the 400- 420 MHz TETRA band) it would be difficult to determine who would receive such a financial consideration. Would an individual, a club or the national body such as NZART be the recipient of such a financial consideration?

16. How would you see such funds being supplied and allocated?

Owing to the international facets of the Amateur Service, and the international band use, an allocation of funds may not be a workable option.

17. Are there any other issues in the context of this discussion paper that you wish to bring to the attention of the Ministry?

Not at this time.

Summary

The Amateur Service has been in existence for over 90 years. As such it also has the distinction of being the only non-commercial radio service with special mention in the international radio regulations. This "special place" in the world, and locally here in New Zealand is important and this "right" needs to be acknowledged. Whether the Amateur Service is one where both a licence and a spectrum management right exists is not important, as long as the interest is "registered" and a consultative process is followed then the security of tenure can be a natural output of this process.

Appreciation

The opportunity to make this submission on this very important topic is appreciated.

A meeting could be arranged for further discussions and before any decisions are made if considered to be necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Douglas ZL2WP (President NZART)
Mark Gooding ZL2UFI (Councillor NZART)
NZART Administration Liaison Officer[s] 13 March 2007

2007 JOCK WHITE MEMORIAL FIELD DAY CONTEST RESULTS

CALL	80 metres						40 metres						Pwr	BRANCH	
	QSOs		Brch		QSOs		Brch		Tot	Mut	Total	Score			Out
	Ph	CW	DX	Ph	CW	Ph	CW	DX							

Montgomery Cup - Northern Region

1	ZL1VK	531	270	2	36	19	384	189	18	29	13	97	508280	100	65	Papakura
2	ZL1AA	480	257	3	37	19	391	165	29	28	13	97	489171	100	02	Auckland
3	ZL1AM	465	245	1	37	19	295	145	12	27	13	96	418560	100	28	Whangarei
4	ZL1WK	394	219		36	14	242	104	5	30	13	93	332289	100	51	E BOP
5	ZL1UX	362	156	2	37	16	185	113	4	26	13	92	280232	100	12	Hamilton
6	ZL1SA	382	63	1	35	16	292		9	29		80	194960	100	10	Franklin
7	ZL1ROT	305	70	0	32	16	98	86	2	28	13	89	178801	100	33	Rotorua
8	ZL1AB	202	121	0	27	15						42	50862	100	29	N Shore

Patea Trophy - Central Region

1	ZL2GT	528	270	6	37	19	303	152	10	28	13	97	462011	150	25	Napier
2	ZL2QF	522	219	2	37	19	263	119	5	29	13	98	403270	150	87	S Taranaki
3	ZL2AB	394	187		37	19	245	82	12	29	13	98	331436	100	27	New Plymouth
4	ZL2AMS	567	90	2	37	16	257		5	28		81	242352	100	23	Marton
5	ZL2KB	187	69		36	11						47	42582	100	69	Kapiti
6	ZL2HV	67		2	24		130			28		52	31772	100	18	Hutt Valley

ZL3/4 Trophy - Midland Region

1	ZL2KS	382	199		37	19	267	140	4	28	13	97	357154	80	22	Marlborough
2	ZL3AKM	289	52	1	35	17	287	126	4	29	13	94	250792	100	01	Ashburton

"4" Trophy - Southern Region

1	ZL4AA	209	120		34	18	242	115	7	28	13	93	241614	100	30	Otago
2	ZL4OO	213	77		32	17	247	72	12	28	12	89	199805	100	61	Cent Otago
3	ZL4AL	178		1	31		335		16	29		60	102540	100	08	E Southland

W M Hall Memorial – QRP

1	ZL3UR	206		1	35		287			30		65	96785		5	34	S Canterbury
2	ZL4TCA	110			31		206			30		61	57828		5	34	S Canterbury

Single Operator

1	ZL2DTM	486			37		65			25		62	102486	50	40	TeAwamutu
2	ZL1TB	531		5	37							37	60791	100	79	Howick
3	ZL1AC	153		2	35		115			28		63	51912	100	03	W Suburbs
4	ZL1LC	367		1	33							33	36663	100	02	Auckland
5	ZL2JU	123	76		30	16						46	34454	25	16	Horowhenua

CW Only

1	ZL1WI		239			19		160	5		13	32	65440	100	03	W Suburbs
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80 Metres Only

1	ZL2AFV	446	234	2	37	19						56	141568	100	42	Titahi Bay
2	ZL2LE	590			37							37	65490	100	13	Hast/Have N
3	ZL1IB	553		4	37							37	62863	100	53	Te Puke
4	ZL2TO	529		2	36							36	57852	100	47	Waitara
5	ZL1ZLD	404		4	36							36	45072	100	86	Suburban

Hastings Trophy - Phone Only

1	ZL1IZ	615		2	37		322		17	27		64	192064	100	55	Waitomo
2	ZL2AS	510		3	37		333		6	30		67	175473	100	13	Hast/Have N
3	ZL2CC	467		4	36		357		13	28		64	169088	100	11	Gisborne
4	ZL1FF	420		2	37		351		21	28		65	165295	100	15	Cent HBay

5	ZL1REG	459	4	34	332	13	29	63	160209	70	83	Raglan
6	ZL2JA	459	4	37	251	16	29	66	153780	100	48	Wanganui
7	ZL1QB	405	1	34	264	19	29	63	139041	100	21	Manukau
8	ZL2KO	419	1	36	296	7	25	61	135725	100	20	Manawatu
9	ZL1QW	357		35	84		21	56	74088	100	43	Waihi
10	ZL2VH	153		33	53		23	56	34608	100	63	Upper Hutt

Overseas Section

1	VK2LCD	39		20	53		23	43	11868			
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Home Stations

1	ZL1AKY	323	37	1	36	15	159	28	1	29	7	87	155817	100	Overall Winner
2	ZL2AWH	163			32		71			25		57	40014	100	Phone Only
3	ZL2AVL		123			18		52			14	32	28000		5 CW Only
4	ZL3TPN	267			34							34	27234		50
5	ZL3CK	64			23		52		23		46		16008		5 QRP
6	ZL1TPH						61		22		22		4026		100
7	ZL2JSW	51			19						19		2907		100

2007 Jock White Field Day Report

Thank you to all branch team members along with home stations for making the effort to participate in this great NZART event. This year all valid field stations submitted logs, including one branch that has not done so for years. Hamilton even submitted their logs printed and spiral bound! A big thank you to everyone for making this effort.

47 logs in total were received along with some home station check logs. It is nice to read the comments submitted with the entries, it makes the task of log checking a lot more interesting! One single operator field station sent in photos of his set-up.

Propagation seemed similar to last year with the usual 40m poor performance first thing on the Sunday. The weather seemed to be pretty good over the whole country with the possible exception of Whangarei who seemed to have their own overnight private weather bomb.

Chris, VK2LCD, a regular participant in VK-ZL contests submitted a log in the overseas section. Despite heavy QRN Chris appreciated the efforts of ZLs to make contacts with him (and we appreciate the effort he made in return). This section has potential for more VKs to get involved and compete among themselves! Jakey, G3JKY (ZL2JKY) who is usually a member of the Motueka team was an SWL this year while in the UK. He logged the following branches on 40 CW: 01 02 03 22 28 51 61 65 between 1800 and 2200 NZT on Saturday. "The branches I did not hear can claim they were not wasting power on low angle radiation. Hi!" Unfortunately there were no valid field stations in Christchurch. There were two /05 stations that did not make enough contacts to gain branch point status. On that subject, when a station comes on for a short period and gives out a branch number but makes insufficient contacts (50 phone and/or 25 CW per band) I have to re-adjust all entries that claimed that station as a branch point. It gets worse for me if that station(s) does not submit a log (as occurred this year) I have to manually count contacts made with that station by checking other stations logs. This is a time consuming process.

There was plenty of antenna experimentation: full wave loops both vertical and horizontal, verticals (including one suspended from a weather balloon!) and a vertical ZL special.

Electronic logging

Some teams have enquired about the availability of contesting software for field day. Writelog is a commercial product and comes highly recommended; it included a modification for NZART Jock White field day rules. See: www.writelog.com

Due to some quite rude comments (no "hi Stuart" etc, just straight into a tirade) on the subject of electronic logging let me make my position re electronic logging quite clear:

For the foreseeable future the JWFD will remain a 'paper' contest i.e. entries submitted to me must be on paper and include the logs and summary sheets available off the contest page on the NZART web site. About 2/3 of submitted logs are hand written, for this reason there is no possibility of electronic cross-checking of entries, it has to be done manually. The standard summary sheets are necessary because most

entries claim several non valid branch points (multipliers), and given there are around 100 valid ones; the sheets allow me to quickly check them off.

I do not believe it is that too much of a hassle to print the logs off and write out or print the summary sheets if you use e-logging. I will not accept e-mailed logs, as I have said above; this is a paper exercise for the reasons given, for me to check partly on a PC and partly on paper is not an option.

I realize that we are in the 21st century and that this might seem old-fashioned but until the bulk of FD teams are ready to take on e-logging I have no choice. It must be realized that FD sees a mixture of teams competing from the experienced contesters through to the largely social/relaxed who would be reluctant to use lap-tops. An insistence on e-logging at this stage would probably spell the end of the Jock White field day.

Splatter

There were the usual complaints of one or two stations splattering on SSB. When operating in FD we are often using unfamiliar gear +/- headset microphones that often have higher audio outputs than the usual hand mic for the set in use.

It is essential that a person familiar with that set adjusts the microphone gain correctly before the event starts, then leaves a rottweiler near the set to bite anyone who thinks cranking up the microphone gain will improve things!

Statistics

The statistics are virtually identical to 2006:

- about 250 personnel in the field among the;
- 41 field stations, same as 2006;
- there was more CW activity on 80m at the expense of CW on 40m this year, and;
- activity levels similar overall.

Unsolicited Team Comments:

- propagation not too bad.
- 40 and 80 down.
- sight impaired op had a ball with another amateur doing the logging.
- Rotorua came have come out of hibernation after many years.
- helicopter QRM @ZL2CC, spraying paddocks adjacent to the FD site.
- our strongest CW team for many years.
- hard work being a single operator station.
- my Grandfather persuaded me to operate as a single op field station, instead of from home, it was much better operating from a caravan than indoors.
- behaviour of the operators was the best I have heard, and I've been in most since 1961.
- we had a large team and may be able to field two stations next year (Branch 20).
- two SAR callouts overnight removed two operators at ZL1AM then 35mm rain fell overnight.
- a case of Delhi belly meant I had to keep my single operator station near a toilet!
- at ZL2KS we not only had a BBQ but also had a gas operated fridge to keep the beer cold and the ice cream sort of frozen.

Valid Branch Points (Multipliers)

There were a total of 97 branch points available for field stations, 101 for home stations (field stations cannot work themselves, hence the difference).

80 Phone: (38) 01 02 03 08 10 11 12 13 15 16 18 20 21 22 23 25 27 28 29 30 33 34 40 42 43 47 48 51 53 55 61 63 65 69 79 83 86 87

80 CW: (20) 01 02 03 10 12 16 22 23 25 27 28 29 30 33 42 51 61 65 69 87

40 Phone: (30) 01 02 03 08 10 11 12 13 15 18 20 21 22 23 25 27 28 30 33 34 40 43 48 51 55 61 63 65 83 87

40 CW: (14) 01 02 03 12 22 25 27 28 30 33 51 61 65 87

Check log received from ZL2MS.

Stuart Watchman, ZL2TW

VHF Convention 2007

Wellington VHF Group hosted the bi-annual VHF Convention last weekend. Fifty Registrations were received and the event was a great success.

Opening

John Andrews ZL2HD (NZART Councillor Elect) gave the opening speech and Squadron Leader Brendon Pett followed him with a presentation on the upgrade to the surveillance, security, and data management systems on the six RNZAF P3K2 Orion aircraft.

Speakers

1. Exicom's C.E.O. Trevor Burgess outlined his firm's trials, tribulations, product range, and amazing future!
2. Doug Ingham ZL2TAR described the satellite and terrestrial transmission of Freeview, and the available trade-offs between the various parameters.
3. Peter Ford ZL2VK spoke on converting UHF Trunking Radios to Amateur use.
4. Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ gave an update on his "Radio Waves" educational project.
5. The KiwiSAT team demonstrated the prototype satellite and allowed us to play with the magnetic stabilisation mock-up. They were happy to accept a donation from the Wellington VHF Group of \$10,000.00 for their project.
6. Murray Greenman ZL1BPU with Con Wassilieff ZL2AFP demonstrated various non-voice digital modes.
7. Julian Creedy ZL2CV surprised us by having a QSO using a \$US 33.00 one watt Softrock transceiver, showing us that Software Defined Radio is not just for the wealthy!
8. Jeremy Verity showed us the perils and cures of EMC, its causes and means of travel!
9. Steve Fogerty ZL2ASF showed how to find and eliminate noise on hilltop repeater sites.
10. John Dunn ZL1JD & Grant Taylor ZL1WTT spoke on Digital Modulation including the D-Star format.
11. The traditional "Don Wallace" mobile rally was heaps of fun, with the Best Hat Prize won by Margaret Ashley's creation.
12. Terry Osborne ZL2BAC was the happy winner of the LCD TV raffle.

Conclusion

Monday saw five heavily loaded 4-wheel-drive vehicles wind their way up to the Belmont repeater site, completing a very enjoyable & educational weekend.

David Andrews ZL2SX

Break-In Closing Date Reminder

From the Editor Break-In, Official Journal of NZART Inc.

*Copy for the June/July issue of Break-In closes on **10th MAY 2007**.*

Early receipt of copy is much appreciated. Thanks. John ZL3IB, Editor



NZART Conference 2007 - Palmerston North

The 2007 NZART Conference & AGM will be held at the Palmerston North Convention Centre from the 1st to the 4th of June 2007. The convention centre is located at 400 Main Street Palmerston North and is only a stones throw away from the central business district and accommodation amenities.

As well as the usual Sunday forums for OTC, WARO, SPAM etc additional forums of interest include a talk by a representative from Taranaki Television which is a local TV station that operates out of Pahiata, Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ will hold a forum on The Electromagnetic Wave: Introductory Demonstrations in Radio Technology. If you have never seen a standing wave then this is a good opportunity to see one. Local Government Liaison Officer Mike Newman ZL1BNB will host a forum on Antennas and the Resource Management Act, an interesting forum this should prove to be especially with the way that local councils are currently going with trying to introduce height and antenna restrictions.

We are now able to receive registrations for the conference but please note we need "ONE Registration Form per Person". If you wish to pay your registration via Internet banking then please do so, the bank account details are to be found at the bottom of the registration form. When paying via Internet banking please include your callsign in the reference field and also return the completed registration form (s) to:

Radio Waves Symposium 2007
P O Box 1718
Palmerston North 4440

Accommodation information and conference registration form available at <http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/>. We look forward to seeing many of you at Conference 2007 and hope that you will have an enjoyable stay whilst you are here.

73 de Allan Chandler ZL2SKY & Ian Thompson ZL2IAN 2007 Conference Co-convenors

Contest News

FORTHCOMING NZART CONTESTS

May 19/20 (Sat/Sun) 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST - Sangster Shield QRP CW Contest
July 7/8 (Sat/Sun) 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST - NZART Memorial Contest - 80m All Modes.

WAITAKERE SPRINTS

No updated information has been advised and reference to the Western Suburbs Radio Club Website, <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrs.sprint.html> is recommended.

Sprint dates are understood to be :-

Phone:- Last Saturday in July (1000 UTC - 1100 UTC) and
CW:- 1st Saturday in August (1000 UTC - 1100 UTC)

2007 VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST

Contest dates have been obtained from the Contest Website, but no other pertinent information.

These being, operating times 0800 UTC - 1400 UTC

- 80M Phone	-	12 May 2007
- 80M CW	-	26 May 2007
- 160M Phone	-	7 July 2007

The Contest Organizer has been in touch and confirms the above dates. It is recommended that you refer to the Contest Website :- <http://home.primus.com.au/vktasman> for the updated rules and contest operating aids.

OTHER FORTHCOMING CONTESTS

Holyland DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 21
YU DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 21 to 0500Z, Apr 22 and 0900Z-1700Z, Apr 22
Helvetia Contest	1300Z, Apr 28 to 1259Z, Apr 29
ARI International DX Contest	2000Z, May 5 to 1959Z, May 6
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 12 to 1200Z, May 13
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 12 to 1200Z, May 13
EU PSK DX Contest	1200Z, May 19 to 1200Z, May 20
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 26 to 2359Z, May 27

That's about it for this week and good luck to those taking part in contests this weekend. I am still away from home and am compiling this with 3 young grandsons amusing themselves on a cold and wet day here in Blenheim - the QRM is a bit deafening at times!.

73, John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager

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Dates for Official Broadcast (OB) and Head Quarter's Info-Line (HQIL)

2007 OB Sunday 8 pm. Broadcasts dates are:

Mar 25, Apr 29, May 27, Jun 3 CONF OB, Jun 24, Jul 29, Aug 2

*** NZART Official Broadcast Sunday 29 APRIL 2007**

*** Next HQ-Info-Line E-mailed on Sunday 6 MAY 2007**

2007 HQIL Sunday publishing dates are:

May 6, May 20, Jun 10, Jul 8, Jul 22, Aug 5, Aug 19, Sep 2, Sep 16

Regards, Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor