



# Headquarters - Info - Line

... a service from ...

The New Zealand Association of  
Radio Transmitters Incorporated



24 June 2007

Issue # 140

## Greetings Everyone

Welcome to Headquarters-Info-Line a twice-monthly 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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### CALL BOOK REPEATER, BEACON AND LINK LISTS

FMTAG will soon be contacting Branches, seeking their assistance in the preparation of up-to-date repeater, beacon and link listings for the next Call Book.

The details being sent to Branches contain the latest information on FMTAG's files of their repeater, beacon and link stations, and of the Repeater Trustees contact details (required by the MED).

Branches are asked to update the details, to ensure that the next Call Book is the most accurate ever.

The **cut-off date** for returning the details is Sunday the **12th of August 2007**.

Many thanks.

Doug Ingham, ZL2TAR, Secretary FMTAG

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The NZART Business Manager Debby ZL2TDM says:

### EXAMINATIONS AND FEES

There appears to be considerable confusion over what must be forwarded to me.

On completion of a successful examination, please complete a Candidates record form, a Blue ERN form

and have the candidate complete a Radio 4A application form with a choice of 3 possible call signs. The cost of an examination is \$15, \$5 of that can be kept by the Branch to cover costs.

A further \$50 is required for all new Call sign application's this will entitle the new amateur to a call sign of their choice, if available, and a Certificate of Competency. There are no further fees payable, unless the candidate wishes to join NZART. If this is the case contact me and I will give you details.

I must sight the Blue Examination Result Notification, before I can process an application for a call sign. This is the candidates Official record of having passed, therefore must be completed correctly and clearly.

If you are in doubt, please call me prior to completing an exam.

Furthermore, while it is slightly off the subject, many of you will be aware of the new Amateur Radio Brochure that has been produced.

This brochure states there are no fees payable, which is or isn't correct, depending on your interpretation.

By fees payable, historically this meant an annual license fee - there is a misconception that this is still required. The answer is NO it isn't

If the person is an existing member of NZART, then the fee is \$30 for the application of a call sign and certificate. The examination fee of \$15 still applies.

The application fee to pass an exam and apply for a call sign and certificate is a one off only fee. I would hope that should a person query you regarding getting their "license", that you can explain the difference - the amount payable is for processing purposes only - unfortunately my time and costs involved must be charged, otherwise members would have to cover costs of this service also.

We have waited a long time to get some form of advertising material, and we finally have one, that is not too wordy and in modern format. Please use it and advise people accordingly. If you want copies of this brochure for your Branch please let me know.

**Examination and Fees in Table Form:**

	NZART Member (NOTE 1)	All Other Candidates
Examination Fees (NOTE 2)	\$15.00	\$15.00
Successful Candidates Fees for Call Sign and Certificate of Competency NOTE 3	\$30.00	\$50.00
	-----	-----
	\$45.00	\$65.00
	=====	=====
LESS BRANCH COMMISSION	-\$5.00	-\$5.00
	-----	-----
TOTAL FEES TO NZART HQ	\$40.00	\$60.00

NOTES:

1. NZART member at time of sitting and successfully passing the Exam
2. Five dollars of the fifteen dollars can be kept by branch holding the examination, therefore, ten dollars needs to be forwarded to NZART HQ for the examination fee
3. Applications MUST have a BLUE ERN form correctly completed, a RADIO 4A form correctly completed and enclosed with the appropriate fees, when sent to NZART HQ AT: PO BOX 40 525, UPPER HUTT 5140  
Talk to you all again soon... Debby ZL2TDM

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**From the Editor of Break-In Wanted; Copy for Break-In**

As readers will see from the May/June issue of Break-In that my stock of articles etc for future issues is dangerously low so I appeal to members to assist with material for publication. This could be short or long articles on any topic related to amateur radio and electronics, constructional articles, book reviews,

equipment reviews, software reviews, branch activity reports, etc. In fact anything that hams might find of interest.

Thanks and 73, John R L Walker ZL3IB (Editor), Email <[zl3ib@nzart.org.nz](mailto:zl3ib@nzart.org.nz)>

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### **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 JULY 2007**.

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

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### **Callbook 2007/2008**

Hi everyone

**"Midi" Callbook For 2007/2008:** This year NZART will be publishing a "Midi" Callbook, similar to the 2005/2006 issue. So the content is mostly supplied by FMTAG, NZART HQ, MED and myself. The deadline for submissions to Callbook is August 15th and Callbook will be published for delivery with the September/October issue of Break-in. I will be sending out specific requests for copy via email.

**Branch Information Updates:** Thanks to the many Branch reps who have completed and returned their Branch information update sheets. I do not have Branch information yet from, Auckland VHF, Bay of Islands, Cambridge, Christchurch, Fielding, Howick, Huntly, Hutt Valley, Kapiti, Manawatu, Marlborough, Matamata, Mercury Bay, Nelson, Reefton - Buller, South Otago, Invercargill, Tararua, Taupo, Te Awamutu, Thames, Tokoroa, Waihi, Waikato VHF, Waitara, Wanganui, Western Suburbs, Westland, or CARDS. Please update your branch information and send it by post or email to Debby at NZART HQ or myself ([callbook@nzart.org.nz](mailto:callbook@nzart.org.nz)). ***If you have already sent in your branch information, don't panic it may still be in transit from HQ to me.***

**Advertising in Callbook:** Would anyone interested in advertising in the Callbook please contact either Lorne Douglas at [zl2ahb@nzart.org.nz](mailto:zl2ahb@nzart.org.nz) or me at [callbook@nzart.org.nz](mailto:callbook@nzart.org.nz). We have 1/2 and full page ad space, including the back page, available at very favourable rates. These ads reach all NZART members and remember the callbook lasts all year. We would prefer the advertising to be for Amateur radio related products or services, however other advertising will be considered as well.

73 Andrew ZL3DW, Callbook Editor

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### **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.

A CD will be posted to you on application to NZART HQ, a donation of \$5 or more to the NZART

Radioscience Education Trust is appreciated. The Trustees are grateful for the donations already received. 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.

73, Peter Norden ZL2SJ, For NZART Radioscience Education Trust

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### **Update from the Webmaster**

During the update to the NZART web site, many users of the site have noted that the navigation on the various pages have changed, or appear to have been missed. As the site here under goes the "new look and feel" all of the old pages are still on the site until they are updated, one at a time.

If you cannot locate the page you require, or cannot recall the page, then use the search option provided to search this site. The whole site is indexed by Google and is often a good way to find what you are looking for.

Note: the NZART web site is very content heavy and the search option is sometimes the best way to find what you need.

Finally thank you to all for the kind comments and suggestions on the new look, as it is nice to know that all the hard work is appreciated.

Mark ZL2UFI, Webmaster NZART

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### **NZART Stolen Equipment Register**

(Established November 1993)

Make: Icom

Model: 2A

Serial Number: 12209179 The S/N is behind the belt clip and reads 09179

Type: Hand-held

Marks: The thumb wheels have been clipped on the Zero digits (for use in the dark). It has a nylon string for a carry handle and a soldered brass ring to attach the strap to the set. The charger circuit has been removed and the pack is rechargeable.

Stolen From: It was in a van which was stolen

Date: 26 May 2007

Owner: David ZL1TJD

Roy Symon, ZL2KH, NZART Stolen Equipment Register,  
25 Annandale St, New Plymouth, Phone: 06-758-2156

Email: [stolen@nzart.org.nz](mailto:stolen@nzart.org.nz)

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### **Out and About**

#### **Blue Moon in July**

When you hear someone say "Once in a Blue Moon..." you know what they mean: Rare. Seldom. Maybe even absurd. After all, when was the last time you saw the moon turn blue?

According to modern folklore, a Blue Moon is the second full moon in a calendar month. Usually months have only one full moon, but occasionally a second one sneaks in. Full moons are separated by 29 days, while most months are 30 or 31 days long; so it is possible to fit two full moons in a single month. This happens every two and a half years, on average.

July has the first full moon on July 2nd and a second on July 31st, which is, by definition, a Blue Moon.

## **TV Shows the Early Days of UK EMCOMMS (Emergency Communications)**

A television show about the early days of Amateur Radio emergency communications in England was recently broadcast on the U-K TV station Channel 4. This, as a part of the stations ongoing '3 Minute Wonder' series.

The program was called "Preparing for the Worst" was hosted by Pat Gowen G3IOR. It discussed one of the first ever mobile emergency communications operations ever in the U-K. Also in the show is Terry Owen, G4PSH and references are made to Rafars & Raynet of the city of Norfolk.

Preparing for the Worst can be seen on the YouTube video service. [Vk1wia-news]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLfsr-Q3m0o>

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## **Ten Metre Beacons**

Do you want to know about 10 m beacons? You can find it in *Monitoring Times* magazine at:

<http://www.monitoringtimes.com/MT-10meters.pdf>

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## **Pictures of the Newcastle NSW Australia Floods**

Please see: <http://www.pyenet.co.nz/ZLW/newcastle/>

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## **ARRL Membership Numbers on the Rise**

With now close to 152,000 members, the ARRL is going, and growing, strong. ARRL Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the "ARRL is a viable, up-to-date organisation that every ham should be a part of."

[ARRL Newsletter]

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## **BPL Interference - The Battle Continues**

A simple test conducted by a ham radio operator in Manassas, Virginia, USA has provided proof positive that even flea-power Q-R-P ham radio operations can shut down Broadband Over Powerline Internet access operation.

Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, reports:

The revelation comes on the website of George Tarnovsky, K4GVT. On it, Tarnovsky shows the results of tests made using only 40 watts and QRP at 2 watts on the 80 through 10 meter bands...  
...More on the BPL ingress experiment by K4GVT including a band by band results chart is on his website.

It's in cyberspace at [www.k4gvt.com/bpl/bplweakness.html](http://www.k4gvt.com/bpl/bplweakness.html)

[ARNewsline, QRZ.com, [vk1wia-news@lists.wia.org.au](mailto:vk1wia-news@lists.wia.org.au)]

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## Contest News

### VHF Contests

The next contest is the Brass Monkey Contest, on Saturday the 4th and Sunday the 5th of August 2007. The operating times are: Saturday 1700 to 2300 NZT and Sunday 0700 to 1300 NZT.

The contest after that is the Microwave Contest, all bands 614 MHz and up, on Saturday the 6th and Sunday the 7th of October 2007. The operating times are: Saturday 1700 to 2300 NZT and Sunday 0700 to 1300 NZT.

The rules are available at: <[www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/update/contests/vhfcontestrules0606.html](http://www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/update/contests/vhfcontestrules0606.html)>

All VHF contest logs should be sent, to arrive within two weeks, to:

Contest Manager, Wellington VHF Group, P.O. Box 12-259, Thorndon, Wellington

### HF Contests

There is not much in the way of contesting this weekend, perhaps not a bad thing considering the state of the HF band conditions and, of course, the weather. Apart from the Memorial Contest, the first weekend in July, there is not too much to get animated about until the IARU World Championship Contest on the second weekend of July. Time to check out the gear, etc. before things start getting interesting from early August onwards.

Band conditions have been poor, the lowest SFI readings, supposedly on record, being noted in the past week - one wonders when the "bottom" of this solar cycle will occur; it appears to have gone past most predictions.

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest: 1200Z, Jun 23 to 1200Z, Jun 24

Mode: RTTY, PSK31

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m

Find rules at: [http://www.arifano.it/Contest\\_Marconi.htm](http://www.arifano.it/Contest_Marconi.htm)

### Forthcoming International Contests

Digital Pentathlon	1800Z-2200Z, Jun 29
WLOTA Contest	0600Z, Jun 30 to 1200Z, Jul 1
RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest	0000Z, Jul 7 to 2359Z, Jul 8
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jul 7
DL-DX RTTY Contest	1100Z, Jul 7 to 1059Z, Jul 8
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 14 to 1200Z, Jul 15
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, CW	0800Z-1300Z, Jul 21 .

### Forthcoming NZART Contests

#### Waitakere Sprints

No updated information has been advised and reference to the Western Suburbs Radio Club Website, <http://www.wqsl.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-Trans-Tasman Contest

Contest dates have been obtained from the Contest Website, but no other pertinent information. These being, operating times 0800 UTC – 1400 UTC

- 160M Phone - 7 July 2007

- 160M CW - 21 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.

### **2007 NZART Memorial Contest – 80M – SSB and CW**

When: - 7 & 8 July 2007.

Times: - 2000 NZST – 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band: - 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules – refer 2006 NZART Callbook, Pages 5-4 and 5-5, also NZART Website.

<http://www.nzart.org.nz> for updated Contest information.

Logs to be forwarded to:

Memorial Contest Manager, ZL2GI, 146 Liverton Road, Belmont, Lower Hutt

by 5 August 2007

### **2007 Oceania Contests**

Phone – 6 & 7 October 2007, 1000Z, 6 Oct. until 1000Z 7 Oct. – All Bands

CW - 13 & 14 October 2007, 1000Z 13 Oct. until 1000Z 14 Oct. – All Bands

Updated Contest(s) information will be available on the NZART Website well in advance of the Phone

Contest – <http://www.nzart.org.nz/contests>

That's about all for this week.

73, John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager

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### **Auto-Subscription and Un-Subscribe**

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, call sign 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 (see instructions at bottom of Web page) at any time.

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

2007 OB at 8pm Sunday: Jun 24, Jul 29, Aug 26, Sep 30, Oct 28, Nov 25, Dec 23

**\* NZART Official Broadcast Sunday 24 JUNE 2007 and**

**\* Next HQ-Info-Line E-mailed on Sunday 8 JULY 2007**

2007 HQIL on Sunday: Jul 8- 22, Aug 5-19, Sep 9- 23, Oct 7-21, Nov 4-18, Dec 9-23

Regards, Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor