



HQ Infoline
A Service From
New Zealand Association of
Radio Transmitters



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From HQ

Debby says...Happy new year everyone, here's hoping 2020 brings us all good health, wealth and happiness!

Just a reminder to those who have not paid the 2020 subscriptions. The January/February issue of Break In will be in your mailboxes this coming week. Those who do not receive it, perhaps check to see if your subs are current. If you believe you have paid however have not received Break In, please send an email to HQ; nzart@nzart.org.nz, with the amount, date and method of payment, just in case I have not received it or missed your payment.

It's also time to put your thinking caps on to nominate persons you believe should be recognised for service to your branch or nationally.

Such awards include Life Membership to NZART, Amateur of the Year, Youth Amateur of the Year and the ZL1HV Jumbo Godfrey award for services within a branch.

All I need from you the nominator, is a small article on your nominee and what award you believe their achievements to be... all awards are then considered by Council, with the exclusion of Life Membership, which in this instance nominations are put to the AGM for final approval.

HOTA Huts on the air



HOTA: Huts on the Air

Introducing a new competition for hams interested in backcountry operations. A New Zealand take on the (Everything) On The Air competitions. New Zealand has over 950 DOC-managed backcountry huts, and uncounted private and club huts in the backcountry – ideal bases to try out backcountry QRP (or not so QRP) operation.

HOTA is a league that rewards both the backcountry user who makes the effort to get out there with their radio gear, and also the home-based users who take the time to make contact with them – both can participate and earn points. This is not a one-off event, or series of dates like SOTA, but an ongoing unlimited-time competition for you to participate in whenever you get the chance to get into the backcountry. Any contact, any date counts.

The rules are simple:

- Simply make a single contact to or from a backcountry hut to add that hut to you HOTA tally.
- Simply make a single contact to or from a conservation park to add that park to you HOTA tally.
- Both operators participating in the contact 'bag' the hut or park
- QRP is encouraged – but QRO is fine – it's your choice how much gear you lug into the backcountry
- Record at minimum: callsigns, signal reports, locations, date and time for a contact to qualify
- For a hut to count it must be either a DOC or club hut, or a private off-grid hut in a backcountry location

So what do I do?

The HOTA website provides a league table of back country contacts to or from NZ huts and parks for amateur operators. You might have earned points already if someone has logged a contact with you to or from a hut or park.

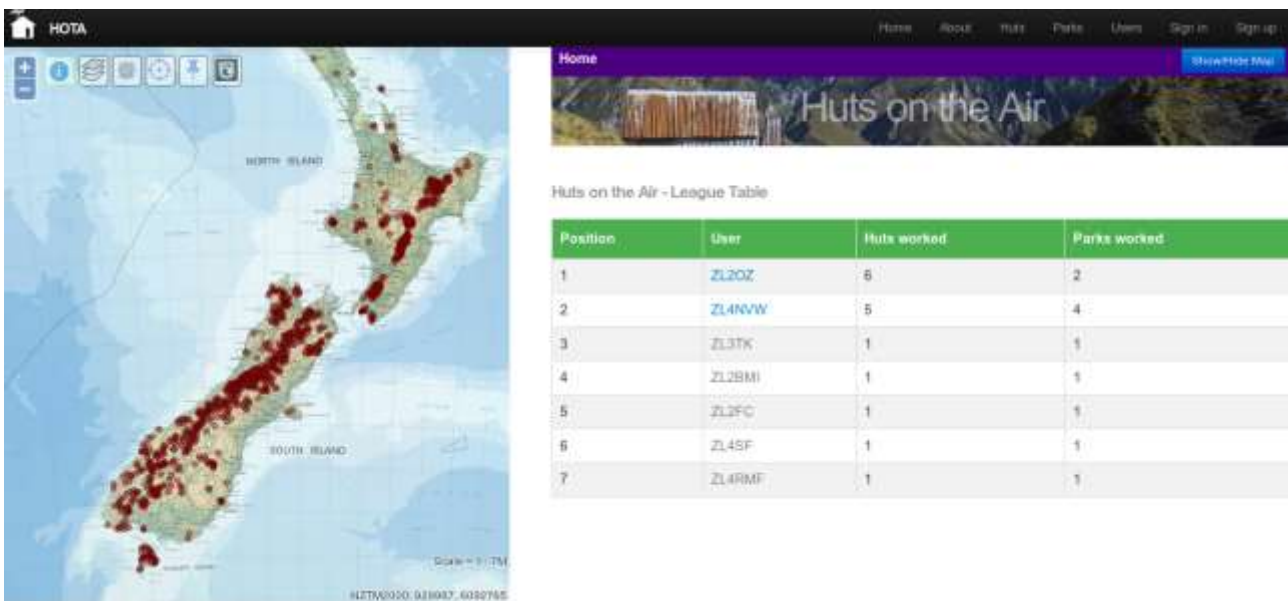
- Visit <http://hota.qrp.nz> to see who's leading the league right now

Registration for the competition is easy:

- Visit <http://hota.qrp.nz> and click on 'Sign Up' to register

Log every contact you make to- or from- the backcountry to start earning points:

- Click on 'Add Contact' under 'My Contacts'
- Enter your callsign, the other party's callsign and the date
- Click on **Next** to see if the contact has already been logged by the other party (if so, no need to add it again – it's already included in your score)
- If the contact has not already been logged by the other party, fill in the basic details on the form: date, time and the locations of the two parties are all that is mandatory
- If you want to put in more details that's fine too: there are more fields under 'more...' for more information
- Click on 'Create contact' to save the contact and add the hut and/or park to your tally



The screenshot shows the HOTA website interface. On the left is a map of New Zealand with red dots indicating huts and parks. On the right is a league table titled 'Huts on the Air - League Table'.

Position	User	Huts worked	Parks worked
1	ZL2OZ	6	2
2	ZL4NVW	5	4
3	ZL3TK	1	1
4	ZL2BM	1	1
5	ZL2FC	1	1
6	ZL4SF	1	1
7	ZL4RMF	1	1

And that's about it.

Contact me (mattbriggs@yahoo.com) if you have any ideas, suggestions, queries or questions.

Otherwise, catch you in the backcountry

73s de Matt Briggs - ZL4NVW

Go QRP Night

NZ QRPers Group

To All Hams,

The NZ QRPers GO QRP NIGHT is now open to all Hams, QRO as well as QRP, however, if you are QRO you may make contacts, SSB or CW, but only to give contact points to NZ QRPers Group members. If you wish to take part in the Points Competition, you will need to join the Group, no cost.

This is a monthly contest and would be a good platform for those CW operators, and a test of your antenna and rig capabilities. You can give contact points to any NZ QRPers Group members that you contact. They will be QRP. Home Station contacts will TX with 10w or less, whilst Portable members may be heard operating from various locations, beaches, DoC huts, Private Huts, National and Forest Parks, at 5w or less, using a variety of transceivers, some home brew.

We would welcome your participation as it adds both interest and increases both the numbers and range of those participating.

There are 2 by 1-hour slots, the first from 07.30 till 08.30 UTC, is CW only. The second hour from 08.30 to 09.30 UTC, is for SSB contacts.

CW operators will be operating in the sub-band 3.500 to 3.550 MHz, with a calling frequency of 3.535Mhz.

SSB operators will be operating in the sub-band 3.650 MHz, to 3.700 MHz, with a calling frequency of 3.690 MHz

The dates for this year's contests nights are:

CW first hour, SSB second hour. START 7.30 UTC FINISH 9.30 UTC Regardless of Daylight Saving. 2 x 1-hour slots.	
JANUARY Saturday 18 th	FEBRUARY Saturday 29 th
MARCH Saturday 28 th	APRIL Saturday 25 th
MAY Saturday 30 th	JUNE Saturday 27 th
JULY Saturday 25 th	AUGUST Saturday 29 th
SEPTEMBER Saturday 26 th	OCTOBER Saturday 24 th
NOVEMBER Saturday 28 th	DECEMBER Saturday 26 th

For further information contact ZL2OZ – waynezl2oz@gmail.com

QRM Guru



19 January 2020

QRM Guru was released in March 2019, and has evolved to become a useful resource to help radio amateurs better understand and eliminate RFI/QRM. We extend our thanks to members and many others who have contributed.

If you use Facebook, QRM Guru now has a Facebook page. Search for QRM Guru on Facebook or click the Facebook link on qrm.guru.

Since launching QRM Guru at PerthTech in March 2019, we have:

posted over 60 articles and videos from over 20 contributors on identifying and resolving QRM;
presented QRM Guru at 13 clubs and Hamfests across five Australian states;
donated ten QRM Kill Kits to radio clubs (estimated retail value of ~\$200 each);
developed nine videos explaining how to use the tools and techniques;
posted thirteen case studies from real world situations from your fellow hams; and
invested almost \$1,300 in QRM Guru (web site and QRM Kill Kits).

This year our goals for QRM Guru are to:

make the website easier to use for newcomers and non-technical users;
investigate how we attack new sources of QRM/RFI;
seek cooperation with more clubs;
donate another ten QRM Kill Kits to clubs;
visit at least six clubs; and
seek closer cooperation with the WIA in promoting QRM Guru.

Donating QRM Kill Kits and presenting to clubs are our largest expense. We welcome financial donations to help us deliver and improve this resource. Please contact us if you'd like to donate. Every little bit helps.

We're looking for Foundation Licencees or newcomers to help us make QRM Guru more user friendly, especially for those new to the hobby and who may not have a strong technical background. Please send us an email if you're willing to assist.

Next. Do you have a deep knowledge or professional experience with electrical engineering and/or RF technologies? If so, and you're willing help, please contact us. We're looking for people to assist us in investigating and developing strategies to address new and emerging RFI generating technologies.

Please email us if you have any suggestions or requests for QRM Guru in 2020. Also, if your club would like a presentation, please send us an email.

Our email address is info@vkradioamateurs.org

Official Broadcast

The Official Broadcast is made on the last Sunday of each month except:

- December when the Broadcast is made on the Sunday before Christmas.
- January when there is no broadcast

The broadcast is made on 3900 kHz, and on the National System and local VHF repeaters.

The broadcast is made at 2000 hours (8:00 pm), with a repeat at 2100 hours (9:00 pm).

Members and Branches are welcome to submit material for inclusion in the Broadcast to the e-mail or postal address shown below.

ZL2BHF

NZART Headquarters

P O Box 40-525

UPPER HUTT 5140

E-mail:

zl6a@nzart.org.nz

Website:

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/h-quarter/broadcast/>

73, Jim ZL2BHF

Off Shore News Links

[ARRL News & Features](#)

[RSGB News](#)

[IARU Region 3](#)

About Infoline

Next HQ-Infoline: - Sunday 16th Feb. Closing date is Friday 14th Feb.

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