



ZL2VH Newsletter – November 2024

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President's Report

In my last report I mentioned that the club had decided to purchase two new D-Star repeaters. This have now been completed and the repeaters delivered. An arrangement has been made that a member of the club has agreed to pay for the repeaters, so we don't have to break the Term Deposit until next year. Our Treasurer has reported this as a loan from a member for accounting purposes. Once the Term Deposit is up for renewal the loan will be repaid.

On Monday 28 October 2024 ZL2TWS and ZL2UFI visited Climie to investigate the 5425 Repeater which had stop functioning and install the new ID-RP2010V VHF Repeater. The old ID-RP2000V repeater showed no signs of damage apart from no transmit. A recycle of the power switch fixed the problem and repeater was returned to service. From memory, we believe this fault hasn't ever occurred before, so not sure what would have taken place for this issue to happen.

The new ID-RP2010V VHF Repeater has been placed into service and is now operating with the ID-RP2C Repeater Controller, so that the UHF 860 Repeater can continue to operate as well. Until such time as both new repeaters are operating together, and the ID-RP2C Repeater Controller is retired, then the mix mode of DV/FM will not operate. For mix mode to operate, the ID-RP2C Repeater Controller must not be in the mix so to speak. While on site the FM

mode was tested and works well. More information will be posted once the mode is enabled.

Some initial testing of the repeaters at the clubrooms has revealed that the ID-RP4010V UHF Repeater supplied to us is in fact a USA version and will not programme outside of the 440-450 MHz band. Contact has been made with RWB (ICOM agent) in Auckland and we are at the time of publication awaiting a resolution.

STOP PRESS: RWB has sourced a replacement ID-RP4010V we expect it to be here next week (commencing 4 November 2024) all going well. If time permits, then ZL2TWS and ZL2UFI will install this new repeater next week. They will also see if the Mix Mode DV/FM can also be enabled.

Repeater Report

Repeater: Status

Climie KiwiSDR	Off Air – pending mounting in a 1U rack, and re-install on a future visit.
10 m Beacon (28.229 MHz)	On Air
3 cm Beacon (10368.275 MHz)	Off Air - pending reinstallation on GNS pole.
1292 (23 cm)	On Air. SWR check pending next visit.
D-Star 5425, 860	5425/860 On Air.
730	On Air. SR-250C PSU mains filter to be fitted at next visit to further reduce SDR noise. SWR and output power re-check next visit.
395 (6 m)	On Air.

Microwave News

Second leg of ARRL Microwave Contest News:

After exchanging several emails with the ARRL EME Contest Manager, I decided to try to do my best. After the misery of the last round, I didn't have high hopes and relied mainly on the 10368 MHz band, where activity was great last round too, only WIFI interference didn't allow me to make more contacts.

Learning from last time, I turned the antennas on the WIFI site in the village and alternately transmitted with full power on 13, 6 and 3cm. I think especially 13cm didn't like the technology, but that's fate. When the contest started, the bands were silent. I think I'll apply for a beacon license and make a proper beacon to keep the band permanently occupied because it's probably the only way I'll be able to broadcast in the future. For the contest this time I finished separate control of the two antennas and built two separate sites as well. So I went out in parallel on 13cm and 6cm to start the contest.

The activity on 13cm was not worth anything, in total I made only 3 more QSOs for the whole weekend until the end of the contest. Also the start on 6cm was not great, only one QSO. So I changed the band to 3cm. There the traffic was very good. I was calling stations on the band and giving the occasional challenge. I made 10 contacts from the start of the contest until the moon set. I went to sleep for the whole orbit from Saturday to Sunday. The 9cm and 6cm band dead again, I changed to 3cm and occasionally checked 13cm where there was nothing to do. There was very decent activity on 3cm. Among other things, there were several new initials and two new DXCC countries to the collection.

Except for the 3cm band, activity was very low. The 13cm and 6cm bands are probably due to the monster interference from WIFI and 3400 MHz is a very little used and cleared band, so activity was very low there.

We'll see what the October and November rounds of the ARRL EME contest will bring in the 50 - 1296 MHz bands.

In all, I made over 100 QSOs on all bands, but many were dupe because both CW and Q65 QSOs are made and only one QSO is valid. So there were 77 valid contest QSOs.

So, all in all, after the contest:

2320 MHz = 25 QSOs

3400 MHz = 4 QSOs

5760 MHz = 6 QSOs

10368 MHz = 42 QSOs



Both dishes prepared for Moonrise.

REF091C: WIA Broadcast

REF091C has both the WIA Broadcast and International D-Star Net recurring weekly on the following days and times while we are on NZDT.

Sunday mornings at NZDT 11:00 WIA Broadcast followed by 91C Magazine and Net.

Monday afternoons at NZDT 13:00 International D-Star Net.

Wednesday night NZDT 21:30 REF091C Newslines & Magazine Net

UR Command via RF on either module UR: REF091CL to link.

Return your radio UR: to CQCQCQ to talk on the net.

UR Command via RF UR: seven spaces then U to unlink when finished.

ircDDB/Open Quad Nets available via Hotspots:

Sunday NZDT 11:00 Multimode Net on XRF757A (different if state summertime changes)

Wednesdays NZ 19:00 D-Star DV Technical Net XLX299 N

432 and Above EME NEWS

<https://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/NLD/eme2410.pdf>

MMDVM Update

Video begins with Jim KI6ZUM, followed by Jonathan G4KLX.

Jonathan Naylor, G4KLX/W4KLX - This is a presentation to continue the story of the MMDVM. It includes the addition of a powerful cross-mode system based on new hardware and new software which will transcode from any mode to any mode, including FM, and will map callsigns and IDs as needed. In addition, the new MMDVM-TNC is described. It is a high speed TNC based on standard MMDVM hardware and new firmware which will allow for 9600 bps in a 12.5 kHz bandwidth and higher speeds (up to 38400 bps) in wider bandwidths.

Jim McLaughlin, KI6ZUM Jim continues the MMDVM story and describes the new transcoding hardware being developed. Current plans are to produce a USB stick with all needed transcoding hardware.

Presentation was at Pacificon 2024 in San Ramon, California on 19 October 2024.

The following link will take you the presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=S9dH4FuGOdg>

D-STAR QSO Party 2024



Don't forget to add to your seasonal activity list.

Join D-STAR QSO Party 2024 for a relaxed holiday communication festivities.

Exchange pictures for quicker prize eligibility!

The following link will take you the detailed information page:

<https://www.icomjapan.com/event/dqp2024/>

NZART 2025 Subscriptions

Don't forget if paying your NZART Subscription to have this done by 30 November 2024 to claim the rebate on offer. After this date you will need to pay the full amount.