

Ham Hum

August 2011



The official newsletter of
The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (Inc.)
Branch 12 of NZART - ZL1UX
Active in Hamilton since 1923



Next General Meeting
17 August - 7:30pm at the clubrooms.

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2m net—Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz

Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Silent Key

Saturday 2nd July 2011

First licensed as ZL2TGP in 1966, became ZL2NN in 1970. Jamie had many achievements throughout his life in amateur radio, to name a few:

Locally:

- Member of the original design team for the first Mt Cimie VHF Repeater
- Upper Hutt Branch Secretary in 1974
- Awarded the first "Branch 63 Merit Award" for the design, construction and commission of the Mt Cimie 10 Metre Beacon
- Proposed and Constructed a 6 Metre Beacon
- Elected Branch President in 1980
- Throughout the 80's tutored many radio classes and held a 100% pass rate.
- Made Life member of Upper Hutt Branch

Nationally

- Elected to NZART Council 1983 – 1993
- Secretary to first Frequency Management Working Group (FMWG) forerunner of FMTAG
- Continued to produce many repeater and beacon maps and band plans for Call Book
- Responsible for several major revisions of the Basic Radio Training Manual
- In 2001 after a severe accident, becoming wheelchair bound he continued in administrative duties for NZART
- Awarded Life membership of NZART in 2005

**Next Committee Meetings -
3rd August & 7th September**

- Appointed as Editor of HQ Info-line in 2006
- Appointed as Webmaster in 2008, a position he held until his passing
- Moderator of NZART Reflector
- Produced all certificates awarded to amateurs in New Zealand
- Maintained the Who's Who Directory of NZART Council & Officers

Internationally

- Appointed IARU Overseas Liaison Officer in 1981
- Member of the IARU Region 3 committee
- Attended many IARU conferences
- IARU Region 3 Beacon Coordinator
- Editor & contributor of many IARU papers
- Developed monitoring software for the IARU Beacon programme

To quote Terry Carrell ZL3QL another of the IARU committee...Jamie in his usual way and on so many occasions pulled the team together with his firm stance for the Association and his humoured approach to tasks.

Jamie not only greatly contributed to amateur radio, but passionately enjoyed his hobby. He and his XYL the late Gael ZL2SZ attended many NZART and VHF conferences. He was active with mobile operations both HF and VHF. Jamie was a keen enthusiast for the original Galbraith Frequency Counter, and modified it very early to use TV subcarrier for frequency locking accuracy.

On a number of occasions Jamie won the Frequency Measuring Contest and was involved with organising this event.

Jamie is survived by his son Jim ZL2PU, and daughters Elsa and Jan, who also held listener calls in their earlier years.

Jamie a great colleague, friend and amateur, you gave so much to this hobby and will be sadly missed. I thank you for your commitment and dedication and join with many others in celebrating the many wonderful memories you leave us.

73's & 88's

Debby ZL2DL

SB PROP ARL ARLP028

ARLP028 Propagation de K7RA

Average daily sunspot numbers this week were up 57 percent over the previous seven days, rising from 41.6 to 65.6. Average daily solar flux rose just 3 points to 89.1.

There seem to be plenty of sunspots of late, but none have been large, and so the sunspot number and solar flux are not as high as in some previous months.

A new sunspot appeared on July 7, then three the next day on July 8, then a new one each day on July 9, 10 and 11, and two more on July 13 and another two on July 14. A coronal mass ejection on July 9 gave us some geomagnetic activity a couple of days later.

The current forecast shows the planetary A index on July 15-24 at 5, 5, 5, 8, 8, 12, 12, 8, 8 and 5. Solar flux is predicted at 94 on July 15-17, 92 on July 18-19, 90 on July 20-21, then 94, 90, 89, 87, 87, 89 and 88 on July 22-28.

Jeff Hartley, N8II of Shepherdstown, West Virginia sent in a report on recent 6 meter activity. He wrote, "The recent somewhat lower solar flux is noticeable on the bands, late night openings to EU on 15 are curtailed and 17 meters is slow to open to anywhere in our morning".

"I got up late today, July 8 to find a very good 6 meter opening to Europe. The first station heard was DK1DAX who rapidly faded down followed by EA7KW (who is always there when the band is open), then G8BCG who I managed to work. Then the Mediterranean area really started to come thru well around 1435z. IS0GQX, F5PAU, CT1DVV, CT1EWX, EA7RM, another F5, and ZB2FK (Gibraltar) was worked for a new country."

"On Sunday July 3 I finally logged PJ6D around 2300z after hearing them on FD for quite a stretch, but my weak signal could not be heard there".

Thanks, Jeff!

Robert Elek, W3HKK of Johnstown, Ohio writes "Thursday July 7 around 2300z saw a nice 6 meter opening to Portugal with three strong (57 to 59) signals arriving in central Ohio from CT1's HZE/HZJ/FFU. Signals were in and out for several hours centered on 2300z. Nice going guys! Have a glass of Porto on me!"

"Then on Friday morning, July 8, it hit the fan in central Ohio! I worked CT1FFU and HZE again, stronger than the night before, and then witnessed nearly all of western Europe coming thru, one by one, building up out of the noise to around 55/559 and sometimes as in the case of IS0GQX up to 59. It seemed GQX was in there from around 1300z until the band quieted down around 1800z. Kudos for an amazing signal! Meanwhile, I had fun working F8DBF, ON5HJS, 9H1BT, EA7KW, all new countries for me, and a couple of Canadian Maritimers. But alas, the hoped for evening opening didn't materialize in central Ohio, although I saw the Euro's were still on but working 6's and 7's and 5's".

"Imagine all this DX with 100 watts to a 5 element Yagi towering TEN FEET above the rear patio, 'equipped' with an Armstrong rotator! Six is indeed The Magic Band. This was the most widespread DX opening I have seen in my two years on the band. I heard stations from England, Italy, and Russia as well. Very cool opening!"

Thanks, Robert. As the kids say, "Awesome!"

We get a lot of email about solar activity, including some from non-hams curious about something they read in the news. Some people mention that in the same week they see articles claiming we're in for some sort of dangerous solar maximum, but then they read about a dearth of sunspots. I ran across this at a NASA site, which reminds me of some of the questions I get: <http://astrobiology.nasa.gov/ask-an-astrobiologist/question/?id=16490>.

Another interesting piece is this one about a big solar event 11 years ago: <http://www.space.com/12278-bastille-day-solar-storm-anatomy.html>.

Dick Bingham, W7WKR, who used to live in my Seattle neighborhood now lives

way off the grid at Stehekin, Washington, reachable only by boat or a very rugged mountain trail. Check out his interesting address in the lookup feature at <http://www.arrl.org/> or at QRZ.com. Dick sent an article and video from NASA about a dark solar explosion that continues to baffle and fascinate over a month after the event. See and read about it at http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2011/11jul_darkfireworks/.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.



Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

MARKET DAY

Saturday August 13th ,2011

Hamilton Table Tennis Club Rooms
Edgecumbe Street, Hamilton

Vendors from 8.00 am

Buyers from 10.00 am

Table space at \$20 per metre pre-paid

\$25 per metre on the day

All enquiries to: Market Day, Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,
PO Box 606, Hamilton

E-mail: harcmday@nzart.org.nz

Web: http://z11ux.tripod.com/market_day.html

Location: http://z11ux.tripod.com/market_day.html

Space Weather Prediction Center to continue WWV and WWVH broadcasts

In April 2011, the [Space Weather Prediction Center](#) (SWPC) informed the public that as of September 6, 2011, it would no longer broadcast its geophysical alert [message](#) on [WWV](#) and [WWVH](#).

The ARRL has now learned that the SWPC has changed its mind and will keep broadcasting these messages that inform listeners of the solar flux, the mid-latitude A and K indices and space weather storms, both current and predicted.

Due to listener feedback, the SWPC is considering updating the broadcast; in addition to providing the current daily solar flux at 2800 MHz, the SWPC is evaluating adding more frequent observations at 2695 MHz.

According to the [SWPC website](#), other improvements to the message content will also be evaluated.

ARRL



Kordia Agreement Signed

NZART Headquarters Infoline Issue 232

19-JUNE-2011

On behalf of NZART Council I am very pleased to be able to report that a new lease agreement has been signed between your Association and Kordia Ltd. The agreement is for a five year term and covers all the existing Kordia sites which have amateur equipment installed.

The agreement signals a return to the terms and conditions which existed prior to Kordia's decision to charge site rentals – i.e. there is no charge for the equipment rack space or antenna space and the only cost is a contribution towards the power used. This is less than \$1000 per year and will continue to be paid for by your Association, as it has been since the original agreement was reached with Kordia's predecessors, BCNZ and BCL.

Particular thanks must go to Otago Branch for their excellent submission to the Minister for State Owned Enterprises, the Hon. Tony Ryall. This submission titled "Save Our System" clearly struck a note with the Minister and resulted in a political directive to Kordia resulting in their return to an arrangement which is financially

sustainable for the amateur community.

I would also like to acknowledge with thanks the contributions made by Christchurch Branch, Whangarei, Kawerau and Gisborne for their work in raising the political noise level with their local MP's which I am sure made the Minister and his predecessor aware of the situation.

I have received some comment regarding the apparent lack of action by NZART at a national level in lobbying the Minister for SOE's over the Kordia's situation. I did make two attempts to get an appointment in Wellington. The first was deferred by the then Minister (Simon Power) and the second opportunity late in November 2010 I had to cancel due to work overseas. A reply received from the Hon. Simon Power in October 2010 read as follows: "You will appreciate that my responsibility as Minister for State Owned Enterprises does not extend to the operation of a SOE. In accordance with section 5(2) of the State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986, matters of an operational nature, including charges, are legally the responsibility of SOE boards." This did not give me any great expectation that the then SOE Minister would be responsive to representations from NZART at a national level.

What I did do through this time was to encourage the various people who had contacted me to try lobbying their own local MP to try and raise the political "noise" level. In early March this year came the announcement that the Hon Simon Power was retiring from politics at the end of 2011 and early April, the announcement that the Hon. Tony Ryall was appointed as the new Minister for State Owned Enterprises. Otago Branch's very timely letter to the new minister was sent on 13 April and as you now know, resulted in prompt action by the new minister.

The new agreement recognises Kordia Ltd as a platinum sponsor of NZART and we will be working with Kordia to both recognise and promote them via the NZART web site and also in Break-In. The value of the new sponsorship agreement with Kordia is \$92,300 – this is the figure we would have to pay if we were paying commercial rates for the eleven Kordia owned sites where amateur radio equipment is located. Other NZART branches that have their own web sites are encouraged to also place appropriate acknowledgement of

this generous sponsorship on their own web sites. More information on this will be available in the near future.

Many of you will be aware that ARTANZ made a submission to Kordia. This proposed a five year term and to provide publicity for Kordia in exchange for a return to the "status quo" – i.e. no charge for the sites. While the ARTANZ submission may have assisted Kordia in drafting up the new terms of the agreement, I am in no doubt that it was not their submission that brought about the change of heart on Kordia's part. In my recent discussions with Kordia, it was clear that it was political pressure which resulted in their change of position regarding charging for our use of their sites.

While the new agreement only covers existing sites, I would be happy to approach Kordia in the future to seek approval for additional sites for amateur repeater equipment. To this end ARTANZ have completed and submitted to Kordia the required engineering evaluation for Hedgehope with a view to the possible use of this site as an extension to the National System on to Invercargill and this site will be included in the new co-location schedule. Both Dunedin and Eastern Southland Branches have been actively investigating alternative sites for a National System extension which does not require the use of Hedgehope. I expect a final decision on the most appropriate site for an extension of the National System into the “deep south” will be made by the Branches concerned.

Vaughan Henderson ZL1TGC
NZART Vice-President



German amateur radio and ski enthusiast in 1924. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_amateur_radio



There is only one
NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION
of
RADIO TRANSMITTERS.

It serves you at
local, national and international
levels.

*It deserves our full support
if we are to continue to have
the frequencies and operating privileges
we currently enjoy.*

**The Association
is what you and I make it.**



Upcoming Happenings & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Happenings & Events</i>
1st August	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
2nd August	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
6-7 August	NZART Brass Monkey Contest
7th August	NZART HQ Infoline
8th August	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
9th August	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
13th August	Hamilton Market Day
13th August	NZART Boat Anchor Sprint
15th August	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
16th August	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
17th August	Hamilton General Meeting
21st August	NZART HQ Infoline
22nd August	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
23rd August	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
28th August	NZART Official Broadcast
31st August	Branch AREC Meeting (AREC)

4th September—NZART HQ Infoline
5th September—NZART Doug Gorman Freq Measuring Contest
10th September—Break-In copy due
18th September—NZART HQ Infoline
21st September—Hamilton General Meeting
25th September—NZART Official Broadcast
October—Western Suburbs Junk Sale
1-2 October—NZART Microwave Contest
1st October—Oceania All Bands SSB Contest
5th October—NZART HQ Infoline
8th October—Oceania All Bands CW Contest
19th October—NZART HQ Infoline
26th October—NZART Official Broadcast
5th November—Papakura Sprints (Phone)
6th November—NZART Straight Key Night
12th November—Papakura Sprints (CW)
3-4 December—Bridge to Bridge Ski Race (AREC)
3-4 December—NZART VHF Field Day Contest
4-5 February 2012—NZART DX Weekend Contest
25-26 February 2012—Jock White Memorial Field Days
10th March 2012—WARO 50th Anniversary Celebration
April 2012—WARO TheIma Souper Memorial
7-8 April 2012—NZART Low Band Contest
19-20 May 2012—NZART Sangster Shield
Easter 2013—NZART Technology Conference - Auckland

AREC Event Operators Page

WRC Rally NZ/ Possum Bourne Rally	June 2012	Organiser : ZL1DK
Please contact the Section Leader with your team information and he will pass it on to Auckland.		

Rollo's Marine Bridge to Bridge Water-Ski Race	3-4 December 2011	Organiser : ZL1UPJ
<u>Position</u>	<u>Saturday Operator</u>	<u>Sunday Operator</u>
Base		
Start Boat		
Rescue Boat		
X-Band		
A.	Ngaruawahia/Taupiri	
	Start/Finish at Point	
B.	Ngaruawahia Ramp	
C.	Ngaruawahia W/S	
D.	Horotiu	
E.	Pukete Ramp	
F.	Days Park	
G.	Fairfield Bridge	
H.	Malcolm St	
I.	Narows	
J.	Field Days	
K.	Between Pipe and F/Days	
L.	High Level Bridge	

Kairangi Hill Climb	Sunday September 2011		Organiser : ZL1IC	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>			
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
School C ycling	July 2012		Organiser : ZL1IC	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>	
1.		5.		
2.		6.		
3.		7.		
4.		8.		
Colville Connection	10th March 2012		Organiser : ZL1PK	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Primary Operator</u>	<u>Secondary Operator</u>	<u>Other Operator</u>	
Base				
Stony Bay				
Fletcher Bay				
Hill 1				
Hill 2				
Fantail Bay				
Stand B y				

For Details about and to help w ith these events, contact the person indicated as the organiser for the event. See Page 1 for their contact information.

Club Information



Contacts :-

Business Meeting: 1930 First Wednesday of each month
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

General Meeting: 1930 Third Wednesday of each month (except Jan)
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

Homepage: <http://z1ux.tripod.com>
eMail: branch.12@nzart.org.nz

HF Net: 3.575MHz LSB 1930 Mondays
VHF Net: 146.525MHz simplex 2000 Tuesdays

2m Repeater: 145.325MHz -600kHz split
STSP 146.675MHz -600kHz split
Repeaters: 438.725MHz -5 MHz split
ATV Repeater: 615.250 Ch39 (off air)

Cover Photo: Sign available from amazon.com <http://www.amazon.com/OPERATOR-PARKING-sign-street-radio/dp/B00095W02M>

And others in a similar line http://www.amazon.com/s/qid=1311149447/ref=sr_qnr_aps?ie=UTF8&search-alias=aps&field-keywords=Texsign

Sender	Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (Inc) PO Box 606 Hamilton 3240
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