NOVEMBER 2026 • HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND

THE REG RAG

Radio Electronics Group Inc. | NZART Branch 89 | ZL1REG



Seven new amateurs pass HamCram

Inside this issue: Club nets and repeaters • Sunday DMR net • Waikato VHF Group • Club news and events • Radio resources

NEXT CLUB MEETING Saturday 14 November • 1300 hrs • Glenview Club, 211 Peacockes Road, Hamilton

Next meeting: Saturday 14th November 1300 at the Glenview Club rooms.

Topics: ZL1PO talking on the Jock White memorial contest in February

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RADIO ELECTRONICS GROUP • NZART BRANCH 89

Club news • Technical updates • Training • On-air activities

On the air | ZL1REG radio nets

Here is a list of Radio nets that the Club runs weekly.

I have also added nets that are located near us for your information.

01	**VHF Net Sundays 7.30 pm on the ZL1REG Repeater 147.125Mhz No tone**
02	6 Mtr SSB Net Thursdays 1900hrs 51.500 Mhz We are using USB. NC ZL1SE
03	2 Mtr SSB net Thursdays 7.30pm 144.220 USB NC ZL2TKH
04	HF Net Thursdays 8 pm 3615 Khz LSB NC ZL1PO Summer 7133 Khz
05	Sunday Night 1900. 432.220 USB
06	Sunday night DMR Brandmeister TG 5301 NCS ZL2CJ
07	Every day except Sunday 9am on 147.125 Local 2 Mtr net. Net Controller ZL2BAT Brian (2) We call this the “Welfare” net
08	Every Sunday 9am Waitomo Net on 147.375 Net Controller ZL1HZ Mick - ZL1IZ NC
09	Sunday 0830 ZL1VK Papakura Radio Club net 146.625

NON-Branch related nearby nets:

Feel free to contact me if you think other nets of interest could be added here.

Editor's note

Well hamcram has been and gone again. See separate report and picture on that. It was certainly a very good result. !!

Ill be giving a talk at the next Waikato VHF meeting on my article in the latest break-in. Titled “Digital Voice Modes and my experience of them” This will be repeated at our December meeting as well.

Ill try to incorporate other clubs in the area to share information on their services.

Arec Waikato is having a training day on the 8th November. See separate report of the day in this issue.

Newsletter has had a bit of a cleanup

Useful radio links and resources

Club Website now Live Radio Electronics Group (REG) - ZL1REG | Amateur Radio Club Hamilton, New Zealand

Ham Radio Vlogs-Use full AmateurRadio.com • Ham Radio Blog

Ham Radio Resources: The Top Blogs and Websites (hamradioprepper.com)

My Amateur Radio Story & My Advice for New Hams (youtube.com)

KM1NDY – A Secret Little Adventure Ham Radio Blog

(2) Radio Electronic Group (Inc) | Facebook this is our own Club Facebook Page

The Best Ham Radio Cartoons PART TWO (youtube.com)

Ham Humour | NewHams.info

https://www.voacap.com/hf/ Propagation predictions and long/short path calculations

https://www.arnewsline.org/ Amateur Radio Newsline this is what is broadcast on the NZART national broadcast BTW.

Hamradio Blogs best: https://hamradioplanet.com/top-10-ham-radio-blogs-and-websites-to-follow/

https://hamweekly.com/

https://daily.hamweekly.com/ Amateur Radio Daily

SWS - Global HF - Ionospheric Map The Australian Bureau of meteorology. Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre

https://www.dx-world.net/category/dx-news/ DX World.net. Up and coming HF Dxpeditions

https://www.solarham.com/ Solar Ham

RSM Silent Key Call Sign List

If you are entering the hobby or want to change your existing call sign for a new one check the RSM listing of vacant call signs.

Silent keys | Radio Spectrum Management New Zealand

Sites WaiPlenty Network Pics and details of the Waikato VHS Group

AREC

Facilitator Debrief Session:

A few weeks ago, Trish (ZL1TTM) and myself (ZL4ST) were invited to attend a Multi-Agency training, put on in Hamilton by LandSAR, around Post Operation Debriefings. My understanding was this was a newish course that has been developed by LandSAR to help standardize the debrief process, and we were the first group to do it in a proper course structure. They had done internal testing and courses of this, but this was the first time they had opened it up to other agencies. The day started with the usual rounds of getting to know each other, which went fairly quickly as there was only 6 of us in the course. Following that we did a overview of what a debrief was, and the OILS method; Observation, Insight, Lesson Identified, Lesson Learned, and how this applies to gathering intel from a good hot debrief. We then went over the role of a Facilitator in a Cold de-brief, and how they help lead and keep the debrief on track. This includes also being aware of different personality types you come across, and how to manage each type suited to their ‘requirements’ Finally we got to put it all into practice with some scenarios that went ‘wrong’ during a SAROP. This meant gathering the intel from the people who attended, to understand, and put actions or a plan in place from the findings. The course, and the structure they have developed, is a good way that any agency can pick it up and start using it. This is something that I can see us in AREC Waikato,

but also hopefully other branches around the country start to implement. Overall it was a good day, with lots learnt.

Thomas, ZL4ST

Auckland Emergency Management Exercise -October

The YMCA Camp Adair venue, at the base of the Hunua Ranges provided an ideal bush setting to put AREC emergency communications into practice on an AEM Exercise weekend. Though initially I did find getting started quite confronting as this was one of my first times properly using the radios. Handling simultaneous calls from multiple teams under pressure, quickly made me realize the necessity for clean radio discipline. I started to get into a good pace and rhythm once the roles between operator and logger were clear.

Later in the day, pairing up with Ian Gifford really drove home best practices for me. With Ian handling comms directly to the teams and myself talking to the Incident Management Team, we maintained a dual-logging setup where we cross-checked information before passing it along. This part of the exercise taught me a crucial lesson around handling information and that comms operators aren't just human relay stations. It takes deliberate effort to filter and clarify messages at the source rather than double-handling noise. Much of the tactical back and forth from the bush wasn't relevant to the IMT, who are after actionable high-level situational awareness.

Beyond basic radio traffic, the exercise showcased exciting future potential for AREC's technical capabilities. Seeing IMT integrate ATAKciv to visualize and coordinate response teams highlighted where emergency response is heading. Crucially, when comms dropped and opportunities arose to deploy into the terrain to troubleshoot and restore links, it highlighted a niche where AREC can really shine; deploying skilled rapid response teams into the field to resolve complex RF challenges in real time. Overall, the weekend delivered fantastic hands-on learnings, reinforced crucial operational habits and showed me just how much tech and experienced operators can enhance emergency management.

Daniel ZL3DCB

Club notices & activities

Informal Meet up

Every 2 weeks there is an informal catch-up of Hams at the Workingmen's club on a Tuesday at 1730 hrs. Nov 3 and 17th meet-ups are good to catch up have a chat, drink and a feed. Add it to your calendar.

REG Equipment Library : For some time now REG have had an equipment library, made up of items generously donated by our members and others outside the club. This is made up of a handheld UHF/VHF FM dual-bander, dual band FM mobile, various power supplies and a range of test equipment. We have a book as the central equipment register, where members can book out equipment items for up to 3 months at a time.

Our club 'Equipment Librarian' is Kevin ZL2TKH (021-441999) who can answer any questions, and book out equipment.

Club UHF repeater

Club UHF Repeater: Is now operational. Rx 433.875, Tx 438.875 No tone.

Google Gmail HF Net Calendar

If you want a link to the Gmail HF net calendar then please get in touch with myself. It has all the known HF nets throughout ZL. This list is monitored to ensure accuracy. You have the ability to turn it off/on, which is a bonus. The link below should work as well

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=myzl1cjh%40gmail.com&ctz=Pacific%2FAuckland

New Zealand and Australia Amateur Radio Magazine

There are many issues to download now. They are a good read. I have a small article in issue 3 on the Google HF net Calendar. Have a look around the website as well where they sell antennas, radios, and accessories. New Zealand and Australian Amateur New Zealand Radio Magazine – The Ham Shack

DX calendar

https://hamradio.shaneburrell.com/dxpeditions DX expedition calendar

New club DMR net

These are happening every Sunday night at 2000 on BM TG 5301. We seem to be getting a consistent number of attendees which has been good. I try and advertise on facebook and on the QSO One net feature to attract more check ins.

Waikato VHF Group

Waikato VHF Group: https://www.zl1is.info/

Was founded on 16 June 1963 by 10 amateurs, to serve the VHF needs of amateur radio operators in the region. The Group has progressed from that time to the present with virtually the same objectives in mind. The Group has a very comprehensive network of both VHF and UHF repeaters located at several strategic sites that cover a major portion of the North Island of New Zealand.

The objectives of the Group are: Amongst others;

1. To support the aims and objectives of the NZART

2. To foster local interest in Amateur Radio, particularly at VHF and higher frequencies

3. To establish and operate amateur transmitting and repeater stations

The Waikato VHF Group maintains numerous repeaters around the Waikato and Bay of Plenty region. Our major repeater system is the WaiPlenty Network, with repeaters located on the Kaimai Range between Matamata and Tauranga, another at Te Uku between Hamilton and Raglan, another on Maungakawa northeast of Huntly, and the fourth is Waihi North 8km north-east of Waihi. IRLP is available on the Network - Node 6549. A diagram of the Network is on the Home page of this site.

We also have National System equipment located on Chinaman's Hill on Hamilton's southern boundary towards Te Awamutu, and two on the Kaimai range east of Matamata.

Id encourage our members to join up this club and help support the network

Chris Hattan ZL2CJ Executive member Br 81 and 89. NZART Publicity Officer

HF Propagation forecast for Hamilton over the next week

For Friday 6–Thursday 12 November (NZ time), HF should be generally good, with the best prospects on 20 m and 17 m, and useful openings on 15 m during daylight.

Dates	Solar flux	Expected geomagnetic activity	Practical HF outlook
6–8 Nov	110–115	Kp 2–3	Best part of the week; stable conditions.
9 Nov	120	Kp 4	Stronger high-band potential, but possible unsettled periods.
10–12 Nov	110–115	Kp 3	Fairly reliable, though not exceptional.

For Hamilton:

- 80 m / 40 m: Best after sunset and before sunrise for NZ and VK contacts; 40 m should also support longer paths through the evening.

- 30 m / 20 m: The dependable daytime DX bands—try late morning through afternoon for Asia, Europe and North America.

- 17 m / 15 m: Worth checking during daylight, particularly around midday to late afternoon.

- 12 m / 10 m: May open briefly around local midday, especially on 8–10 November, but do not rely on them for sustained DX.

- A chance of isolated M-class solar flares means brief radio blackouts are possible, but NOAA does not expect major sustained disruption in this period. forecast.weather.gov

My practical pick: keep an ear on 20 m and 17 m from about 10 am–5 pm NZ time, and use 40 m in the evening. The relatively low Kp forecast on 8 November looks particularly promising.

HamCram | 17–18 October

We had 7 candidates for Hamcram this time. After a very good weekend I can report that they all passed. Good age and gender mix too.

ZL4LVE Penelope

ZL1ASH Alistar

ZL1LGT Lauren

ZL1WJS Bill

ZL1IR Ivan

ZL1GDP Gary

ZL1JW John



LR Warren ZL2AJ, Garry ZL1GDP, John ZL1JW, Alistair ZL1ASH, Bill ZL1WJS, Pene ZL4LVE, Lauren ZL1LGT, Ivan ZL1IR, Chris ZL2CJ.

Warren was the Tutor and Chris the Organiser. We had for the Exam John ZL1PO and Mike ZL2MGS as Exam supervisors also in attendance. Of course we hope to see them all on the air soon. Some of them are out of towners.

Gareth ZL1WAI Club member is involved with University of Waikato Astronautics Club. A recent trip to aussie with other University Rocket clubs. Look at 3 Hrs and 27 seconds for their entry. Unfortunate results.

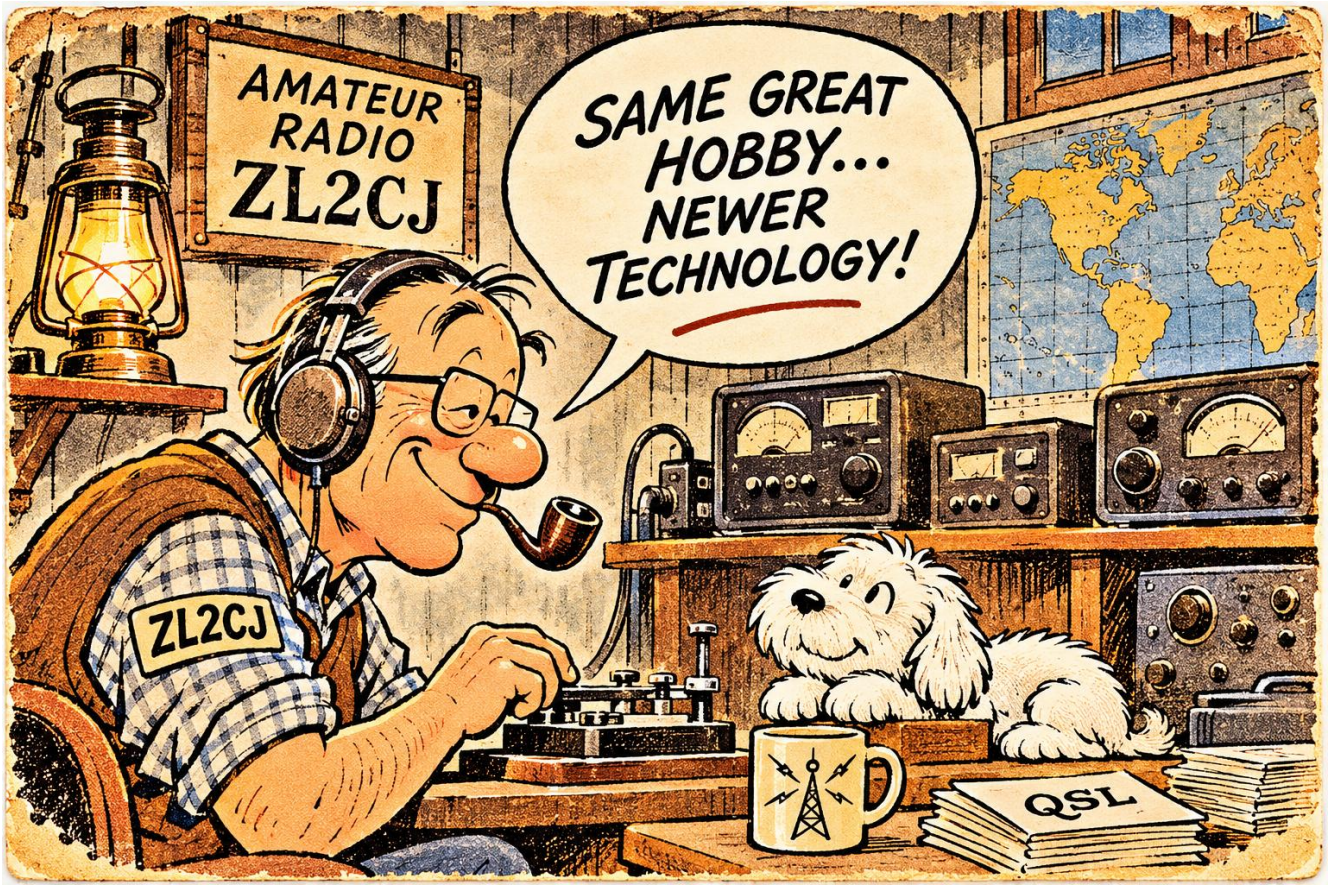
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lydsKa7ArI8&t=12472s

Other clubs in our area

Branch 12 NZART Hamilton Radio Club meet at the Club room on 88 Seddon Rd, Hamilton CBD. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1930 hrs. https://zl1ux.org.nz/index.html

Branch 81 Waikato VHF Group meet every 3 months at various locations which rotate through the Waikato regions. Check their website for the next one. https://www.zl1is.info/index.html 6th December Tauranga Coast Guard Centre. 72 Keith Allen Drive, Sulphur Point, Tauranga.

Branch 81 Run the WaiPlenty network which has 5 repeaters in our area. See the maps on the above website.



From the lighter side of amateur radio



Dates for the diary

Heads up-Freds ZL1FG Our Patron 100th birthday Branch get together. 5th December.

Will be held at Freds Residence at 25 Bay View Rd, Raglan. Starting at 1400 hrs. Please bring a plate.

REG club executive committee

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Glenview Club | Venue information

