

**The Official Newsletter of the
Auckland VHF Group Inc.
Spectrum**



SOTA event Feb 2019

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Auckland VHF Group Inc.

Branch 66 NZART

PO Box 10138, Dominion Rd, Auckland 1446
Clubrooms: 30 Hazel Ave, Mt Roskill

Office	Name	Call sign	Work / Mobile	E-mail
President	Matthew King	ZL1YOT	022 649 3310	president@aucklandvhf.org
Vice President	Currently Vacant			vicepresident@aucklandvhf.org
Secretary	Alastair Anderson	ZL1NEO		secretary@aucklandvhf.org
Treasurer	George Raffles	ZL1TUX	021 735 361	treasurer@aucklandvhf.org
Committee	Darryl Grange	ZL1TCI	021 123 7733	darryl@aucklandvhf.org
	Jim Logan	ZL1DI	021 331 747	
	Brian Wilson	ZL1UXB	021 1639 532	
	Dave Dingley	ZL1TIA	021 782 159	
AREC Group Leader	Matthew King	ZL1YOT	022 649 3310	arec@aucklandvhf.org
Deputy Group Leader	Currently Vacant			
ZL1BQ Trustee	Vaughan Henderson	ZL1VH	021 844 804	zl1bqtrustee@aucklandvhf.org
Head Repeater Trustee	Vaughan Henderson	ZL1VH	021 844 804	headtrustee@aucklandvhf.org
Klondyke Manager	Vaughan Henderson	ZL1VH	021 844 804	zl1vh1@gmail.com
670 Manager	Vaughan Henderson	ZL1VH	021 844 804	zl1vh1@gmail.com
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850 Manager	Vaughan Henderson	ZL1VH	021 844 804	850@aucklandvhf.org
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Trading Table	Currently Vacant			tradingtable@aucklandvhf.org
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ZL1VHD Dstar gateway administrator:	Laurie	ZL1ICU	634 5130 0274 817463	perma@xtra.co.nz
ZL1VHD Dstar gateway registration URL :			http://zl1vhd.dstar.org.nz	
Webmaster	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA		webmaster@aucklandvhf.org

Club News and Net:

The combined Auckland VHF Group and Auckland Regional Branch News and Net are held on 146.625 MHz and 439.875 MHz at 8.15 pm each Sunday or after the ZL6A National Broadcast on the last Sunday of the month.

Club meetings are held at the Clubrooms at Hazel Avenue, on the second Monday of each month at 7.30 pm. For other details, listen to the News and Net each Sunday evening.

SPECTRUM is the official journal of the Auckland VHF Group Inc. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect club points of view. The closing date for SPECTRUM articles is by the Monday of the last week of the preceding month. Articles to be submitted to the editor Mark ZL1UMK spectrum@aucklandvhf.org

Auckland VHF Group (Inc) Branch 66

The next Auckland VHF Group General Meeting

will be held on

Monday 13 May 2024

At the Clubrooms, 30 Hazel Avenue at 7:30 pm.

Speaker: Simon Watt-Wyness , ZL1SWW

Simon, ZL1SWW, will be well known to club members due to his technical expertise and active involvement in the hobby including being a keen participant in the regular 'VHF and Above' Contests, as well as presenting the Break-In 'VHF Scene' Column. His presentation will include a practical demonstration of D-STAR and in-depth information with plenty of opportunity to ask questions.

Subject: DStar

D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) is a digital voice and data protocol specification for Amateur Radio. The system was developed in the late 1990s by the Japan Amateur Radio League

Several advantages of using digital voice modes are that it uses less bandwidth than older analog voice modes such as amplitude modulation and frequency modulation. The quality of the data received is also better than an analog signal at the same signal strength.

D-STAR compatible radios are available for HF, VHF, UHF, and microwave amateur radio bands. In addition to the over-the-air protocol, D-STAR also provides specifications for network connectivity, enabling D-STAR radios to be connected to the Internet or other networks, allowing streams of voice or packet data to be routed via amateur radio.

D-STAR compatible radios are manufactured by Icom, Kenwood, and FlexRadio Systems. For those who don't have a D-STAR enabled transceiver, DV dongles are available to enable hams to use this mode via the internet.

NZART Conference Remits

As a part of General Business, Remits for the NZART Conference
(As listed on page 42 of the March Break-In), will be discussed, and voted on.
Also appointing a Branch 66 delegate to Conference

Auckland VHF Group—President’s Column

Matthew King –ZL1YOT

April 2024

If we were running this club as a business, there are several things we would do.

Firstly, define what our business is. Then work out who our target market is, and how to connect with them. That’s Marketing. Then do what fell out of that analysis. Advertising.

Then measure the success of all that, to see if we need to fire everyone and get in new management!

So our business is running a radio club. Specifically to promote amateur radio.

How? By supporting and entertaining current members, and recruiting new ones.

Supporting our national body. Maintaining our repeaters and putting up new ones.

Looking after the clubrooms and developing our AREC section.

Providing training, and RF components that we can obtain in bulk.

And what else?

What’s our current score, out of 5 each?

Supporting and entertaining current members	4
Recruiting new members	1
Supporting our national body	3
Maintaining repeaters and putting up new ones	4
Looking after the clubrooms	4
Developing the AREC section	1
RF training at novice, intermediate and specialist levels	3
Supplying RF items that we can obtain in bulk, at discounted prices for construction	2

Eight items, score is 22/40. Half marks. Nearly a pass!

At next committee meeting I’d like to address each of these fields, and look at how to improve them. Ten minutes on each item. Brainstorming.

Another thing, our meetings seem to drag on for hours when other clubs get everything done in about 45 minutes. I’ve had several members tell me they can’t stay up that late. Now they have stopped coming. So let’s streamline the business side of things. Leave out the story telling until after the meeting has finished.

Shall we look at holding our general meetings in the weekends? Would that suit anyone better? Let us know. Tell us if you have any thoughts about any of these aspects. Any way of moving things up a notch. Get in another dozen members, have more extensive training, maybe a six week course in receivers and transmitters? I have forgotten how a double balanced modulator works. It was forty years ago! Get a marketing expert in to advise us? Another look at ATV?

The world is our oyster farm!



April 25, 2024

Dear Fellow Hams and Friends,

It is with a sad heart as I write this letter.

As many of you have heard by now, MFJ is ceasing its on-site production in Starkville, Mississippi on May 17, 2024. This is also the same for our sister companies' Ameritron, Hygain, Cushcraft, Mirage and Vecronics.

Times have changed since I started this business 52 years ago. Our product line grew and grew and prospered. Covid changed everything in businesses including ours. It was the hardest hit that we have ever had, and we never fully recovered.

I turned 80 this year. I had never really considered retirement, but life is so short and my time with my family is so precious.

I want to thank all of our employees who have helped build this company with me over the years. We have many employees who have made MFJ their career for 10, 20, 30, 40 and more years.

We are going to continue to sell MFJ products past May 17, 2024. We have a lot of stock on hand. We will continue to offer repair service work for out-of-warranty and in-warranty units for the foreseeable future.

Finally, a special thanks to all of our customers and our dealers who have made MFJ a worldwide name and a profitable business for so many years. You all are so much appreciated.

Sincerely Yours, 73s

Martin F. Jue, K5FLU

Some of you will remember the magazine "VHF Communications", published in the UK, it drew extensively on material from "Dubus", the German VHF/UHF and Microwaves publication.

The magazine commenced publication in 1969 and continued until 2013.

All issues of VHF Communications have been scanned in and are now available online at

https://www.worldradiohistory.com/VHF_Communications_DE.htm

Some of the earlier issues are a bit faint and hard to read but all the later ones are good quality. A wealth of technical articles on all aspects of amateur VHF/UHF and microwave.

de ZL1VH

Do you have a contribution for Spectrum?

Any and all contributions, would be welcome.

I don't promise to publish everything I receive, but would be glad to receive suggestions or contributions.

Mark Howie

ZL1UMK

Spectrum Editor

2024-04-17, Donations for Repeaters Licences							
2023-2024-2025 Repeater Licences							
	Operation	On Air	Location	Donor name	Call sign	Donation	Date
53.725	Repeater	✓	Klondyke Road	Gwynne Rowe	ZL1AAR	\$50.00	30 November 2025
144.253	Beacon	✓	Nihotupu (Testing Clubrooms)	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
145.625	Data Rptr	✗	Klondyke Road				30 November 2023
145.650	D-Star Rptr	✓	Klondyke Road	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
146.625	Repeater	✓	Klondyke Road	David Wilkins	ZL1MR	\$50.00	30 November 2024
146.700	Repeater	✓	Ruaotuwenua	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
146.900	Repeater	✓	Mt Puketutu Radio	David Wilkins	ZL1MR	\$50.00	30 November 2024
432.253	Beacon	✓	Nihotupu (Testing Clubrooms)	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
438.175	D-Star Repeater	✓	Klondyke Road	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
438.500	Repeater	✗	North Head				30 November 2023
439.850	Link TX to Kaimai	✓	Klondyke Road				30 November 2023
439.875	Ak Nat System Rptr	✓	Klondyke Road	Soren Low	ZL1SKL	\$50.00	30 November 2024
439.900	Link TX to Egmont	✓	Klondyke Road				30 November 2023
439.950	Link TX to Brenderwyn	✓	Klondyke Road	Terry Corin	ZL1BPA	\$50.00	30 November 2024
1291.900	Repeater	✓	217 Glenfield Rd				30 November 2023
439.700	DMR Repeater (Waitaker	✓	Quinns Rd				30 November 2023
			Number of Donors			\$500.00	
The Light Brown Repeater Licences are available for Sponsorship \$50.00 per licence							

Auckland VHF Group Subscriptions are due by 30 June 2024 for the 2024-2025 year.

Subscriptions are now being accepted for the 2024-2025 year, 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

This coincides with the financial year for the group, which ends 30 June 2024.

A Subscription notice will be sent out in June to club members who had not renewed their subscription at that time.

Note on Subscriptions:

- a. There is an increase in the Ordinary (Full) Members subscription for the 2024-2025 subscription year.
- b. All subscriptions terminate on 30 June.
- c. Your present subscription will run for two-months till 30 August, then your subscription drops to an in-active membership list. (As per the constitution)

Subscription Type	Subscription Price
Ordinary Members (Full)	\$70.00
Associate Members	\$55.00
Family Members	\$25.00

- For Family Members, one person needs to be an Ordinary Member, and then each additional person then becomes a family member.
- Subscription prices are determined at the AGM preceding the year being implemented (7 months ahead of the end of financial year)

73

George ZL1TUX

Treasurer,

Auckland VHF Group Inc.



AUCKLAND VHF GROUP INC.

P O Box 10138, Dominion Rd, Auckland 1446,
 30 Hazel Avenue, Mount Roskill, Auckland,
 Email: treasurer@aucklandvhf.org
 Web: <http://www.aucklandvhf.org>
 NEW ZEALAND



		Date Completed:	
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms	Forename	Surname	
	Address1	Phone: (home)	
	Address2	NZ Post Code	Phone: (work)
	Town/City	Phone (Mobile)	
	Email	Phone (Cell)	
Occupation:		Callsign:	
NZART Member	Yes / No	Branch assigned	
AREC Member	Yes / No	Branch assigned	
Family Member 1	(Name)	(Call)	(Email) (Mobile #)
Family Member 2	(Name)	(Call)	(Email) (Mobile #)
Family Member 3	(Name)	(Call)	(Email) (Mobile #)
New/Renewal/Change	Membership Category		To pay
	Ordinary (Full)		\$70.00 \$
	Associate		\$55.00 \$
	Family (per member after 1 full member registered at same address)		\$25.00 \$
Donations	Klondyke Refurbishment		\$
	Repeater Maintenance		\$
	Data/D-Star		\$
	Beacon/Repeater/Links Licences		\$
	General Club Donation / Other		\$
		Total	\$
If require Invoice / Receipt		Payment (Mark One →)	Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Internet deposit <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/>
Please Advise Treasurer			
Internet	Account ASB 12-3011-0830580-00. Account Name: Auckland VHF Group Inc. Include your Name/Callsign for track. Note: this form needs to be sent to us to update our records. Email to: treasurer@aucklandvhf.org . (Especially if Contact information has changed)		
Credit Card	Membership Link: https://aucklandvhf.org/product-category/membership-and-donations/membership/		
Post	The Treasurer, Auckland VHF Group Inc. PO Box 10138, Dominion Road, Auckland 1446.		
In Person	Bring this form and payment to the next club meeting, 2 nd Monday of the month or to the Committee meeting the 4 th Monday of the month.		
Privacy	Unsubscribe from Email Notifications <input type="checkbox"/>		Do Not disclose contact Information <input type="checkbox"/>
	Unsubscribe from Google Groups <input type="checkbox"/>		

Club use only: <input type="checkbox"/>	Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>
Sponsored by*		Sponsor's Callsign*
*New members only.		Date:

The information requested is for membership records required to be maintained under the Incorporated Societies Act and having due regard to the provisions of the Privacy Act

New Members and Membership Renewal Form 2024_v9_2024-03-03.pdf

**Klondyke Tower
Donations towards Maintenance
\ Refurbishment**

Donations 2018 - 2023 \$10,859.16

Donations 2023 –2024

Cary Rawson \$50.00

Rob Stokes \$40.00

2023 –24 Year to Date \$90.00

Total \$10,949.16

Percent of Goal 10.95 %

Other Donations 2023-2024

Harry, ZL1BK \$100.00

NZ Vintage Radio Society \$480.00

Estate of Kenneth Boyce, ZL1TD \$5000.00

NZ Vintage Radio Society \$550.00

NZ Electronics Institute \$50.00

Brian Wilson, ZL1UXB \$1.00

Total \$6,181.00

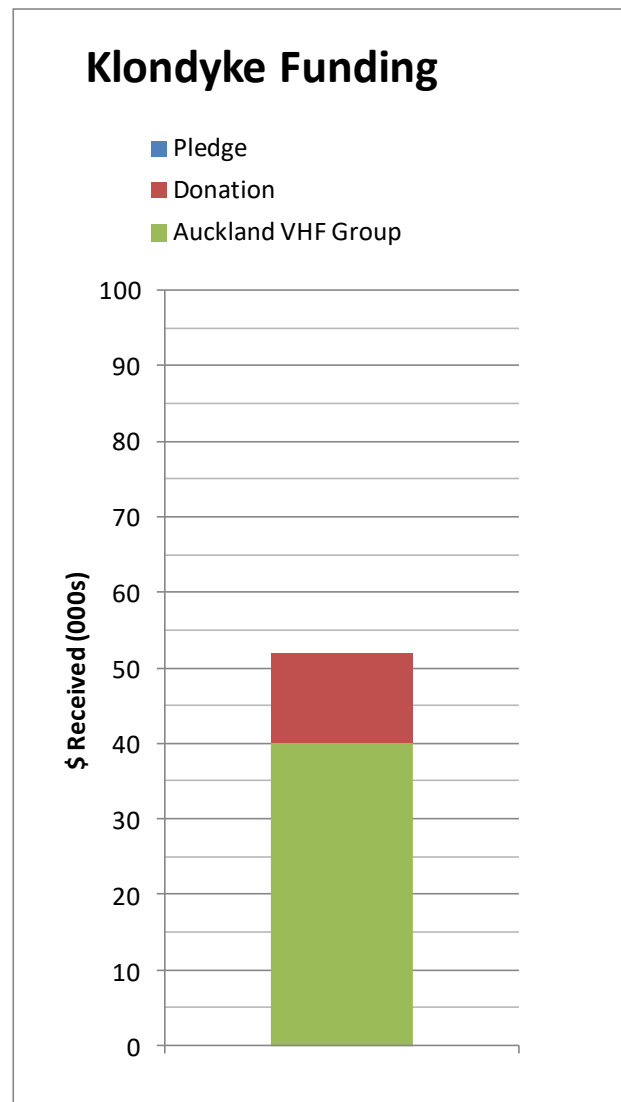
Target 100,000

Tower 63,245.00 Other 27,268.25

GST 9,486.75

Total 72,731.75 Total 27,268.25

Auckland VHF Group 40,000.00 40.00





**Amateur Radio Emergency
Communication.
Volunteers in radio communications.
Using our resources to help the
community.**



INFORMATION

The Auckland VHF Group has an AREC Group that works closely with Auckland Council Emergency Management. They provide advice, resources and manpower to assist in times of need.

The AREC section is headed by Group Leader Matthew King ZL1YOT.

From time to time the VHF Group has training sessions and exercises. Members also assist with sports events, parades and other community activities. For further information about AREC please see the NZART web site: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/arec/>

JOIN BRANCH 66 AREC

All members of the Auckland VHF Group are encouraged to join the AREC section. Your contribution, large or small is appreciated by all involved.

For further information about joining Branch 66 AREC contact the Group Leader:

Matthew King ZL1YOT

022-6493310

mattking@gmail.com

The Deputy Leader position is currently vacant

TRADING TABLE

Currently our Trading Table is only open on meeting nights.

NEW – Printed Circuit Board. Thanks to a generous donation from N.Z.'s last circuit board production company (now closed down), we have a large quantity of single sided fibreglass printed circuit board material in sizes ranging from 1200 x 600 down to smaller pieces. There's some double sided board as well. Come along to our monthly meeting if you want some – prices can be negotiated!

NEW – RG58C/U 50 Ohm Coaxial Cable. Thanks to a bulk purchase we are able to offer this good quality coax at a competitive price. The cable has tinned centre conductor and screen braid making it resistant to long term corrosion. The price is \$2.00 per metre with a discount for purchases of 20m or more. See Vaughan ZL1VH on meeting nights to get this quality coax cable.

The Trading Table is now on line. Navigate your way to our new look web site at <https://aucklandvhf.org/> and click on TRADING TABLE (the most right hand tab).

Wait a few seconds and the on-line version of the Trading Table will pop up. From here you can browse the various sections, dig deeper to look at what's available and even place your order online.

If you prefer to just look at the Trading Table List, just hover your mouse pointer over the TRADING TABLE and a pull down list will appear. From this you can access the full trading Table list and download it in .PDF form.

We also have heaps of parts from dismantled commercial analog TV gear – transmitters, filters, circulators, patch panels, power supplies. Too much to list individually, so come along to the clubrooms and have a look.

