



BRANCH 27 NEWSLETTER September 2024

Hi Everyone,

This next month is a busy one for our Branches with the Taranaki award coming up and also the Junk sale. Please have a little clean out in your shed and see what treasure you can bring along to the JUNK SALE. Always a great time to catch up with old friends and find "treasures" to replace the ones you found to bring along, that's how it goes, isn't it?

One of our members said on the net the other night one of the problems with "cleaning out shack" is when you find something that you had forgotten existed you get distracted and can't possibly pass it on as it might come in useful in the future.

*New Plymouth and South Taranaki Amateur Radio Clubs,
(Branches 27 and 87),*

present

Junk Sale 2024



*Mangorei Memorial Hall,
Cnr Kent Rd and SH3,
New Plymouth.*

*Food and refreshments will be
available.*

*To reserve a table, or for
more information:
<secretary@z12ab.com>*

*Saturday 28th September
8:00am - vendor set-up
10:00am - buyers entry*

\$20 per table

Hi All.

Spring is now upon us so we will be back to warmer weather and for me spring cleaning. The garden is a mess with the wet weather and the weeds have got away on us.

Graeme's talk on the TinySA via Zoom was well done and I certainly got a few pointers out of it.

This month Daniel has a presentation for us at Temo 7.30pm 17th September

Our Junk sale is on the 28th Sept so grab a table and sell off some junk so to speak. It is during the 5 days of the Taranaki Award, if you can do a period or two during the award then contact Doug and he will put you on the roster.

Unfortunately during the Junk Sale there will be major roadworks that will affect travel from New Plymouth to the hall at the Kent Road Intersection.

During this time, SH3 between Mangorei and Kent Roads will be closed as follows

- 1. To southbound traffic between midnight and midday every day.**
- 2. To northbound traffic between midday and midnight every day.**

Traffic will still flow from the South to the hall so the hall will be accessible at all times from Egmont Village.

This means that in the afternoon and evening traffic from Kent Rd can't use the highway from Kent Rd to Mangorei Rd and need to travel to New Plymouth via Egmont Rd or Mountain Rd

Traffic from South can drive to Kent Rd but no further in the afternoon.

Traffic from New Plymouth to Kent Rd can't use the road in the morning.

Please check the NZTA website

<https://createsend.com/t/t-15E741CD04E1BEE12540EF23F30FEDED>

Or <https://www.southtaranaki.com/our-council/news?item=id:2ra6gerog1cxby9xoe3>

In the afternoon all traffic from Kent Rd is advised to use Egmont Village Egmont Rd or Mountain Rd to get back North.

720 Repeater will be on and you can call ZL2AB for current situation

73 de Terry ZL2TNB.

Next Branch meeting 17th September TEMO 45 Robe St New Plymouth
7.30pm Daniel ZL2DRV

NZART President is our speaker for the night

Lighthouse weekend 17th & 18th August Cape Egmont Lighthouse

Weather wasn't the greatest again this year but we managed to get equipment sorted and on air.

87 contacts made during the weekend, the Log 4om software worked perfectly interfacing with the Club 7300 and auto logging to the ZL2AB page

Jonny ZL2JBK



Graeme ZL2TE

On HF net 1st September we had a small group present ZL4AV, ZL2UJT, ZL2TE, & ZL2KJT who was somewhere between Canada & New Zealand at around 30,000 ft. Where he was **USING a Kiwi SDR** - Now that's technology working for us

Taranaki Award 2024 Official Rules.

For any further information or clarification, email Doug on zl3dug@gmail.com

1. The Award will run from **Wednesday 25th September to Sunday 29 September 2024** inclusive.
2. It is available to all amateur operators and to listeners of amateur bands. Listeners must complete all details of a conversation including both call signs used.
3. Contacts may be made on any band using voice modes only.
4. ZL6RFA is a compulsory contact worth 5 points. You must log this station.
5. Taranaki club stations are each worth 3 points. (see below)
6. All other stations within Taranaki are worth 1 point each.

NOTE: A Taranaki station is one that is physically present inside the Taranaki boundaries as shown, and whose official address is also within the Taranaki boundaries. For the Award Taranaki extends to the north to include Awakino, and the south to Waitotara.



7. To apply for the Award certificate, 25 points must be attained, including the contact with ZL6RFA.

8. Each contact can be worked ONCE ONLY for each application for the award.

Contact with Taranaki Club Stations:

Club Name	Branch	Callsign	Points
NEW PLYMOUTH	Branch 27	ZL2AB	3 POINTS
WAITARA	Branch 47	ZL2TO	3 POINTS
INGLEWOOD	Branch 19	ZL2PT	3 POINTS
SOUTH TARANAKI	Branch 87	ZL2QF	3 POINTS
HAWERA	Branch 14	ZL2HWA	3 POINTS
OPUNAKE	Branch 32	ZL2ANN	3 POINTS

Please note the following changes about receiving your certificate:

1. **(Preferred option)** Submit your log by email within 2 weeks of end of award (i.e. Sunday 13th October 2024) Your certificate will be send as a PDF file for printing if required. There is no cost but a donation is gratefully accepted to the account shown below.

Electronic logs are preferred and can be emailed to: zl3dug@gmail.com in most formats – e.g. cabrillo, spreadsheet (.xls, numeric .ods), document (.odt .doc .docx) , ADIF, or scan of paper log.

2. **(If necessary)** Send a copy of log, and deposit fee of \$10.00 per certificate no later than two weeks following the end of the award period. Log and payment must be received before Wednesday 16th October 2024).

Payments can be made to TSB account: **153942 0001086 00** using internet banking or at a branch. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH IN POST. Please add your Call sign & T Award as a reference. Logs may be emailed, or posted to:

The Award Custodian,
New Plymouth Amateur Radio Club,
6a Awanui Street,
New Plymouth 4312

Logs must be clear and legible. Any missing or unreadable entry may result in the cancellation of the applicable points.

- No logs will be returned.
- The final decision rests with the Award organisers, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Please include the following information in logs.

**DATE—TIME,--CALLSIGN--NAME--QTH--BAND--MODE--SIGNAL(HF)--
POINTS**

A summary page of applicants information should also be prepared showing:

- Name
- Callsign
- Address
- Points claimed for each certificate (if multi-band or multi-mode)
- Logs must be signed. The senders email address in the message header will count as a signature.

The Award Certificate this year will be in A4 landscape format. It features a view of an aurora over Taranaki Mouna taken by local photographer, Brendan Larsen.



When to make contacts:

Taranaki stations will be available each day on National System and local repeaters, and will try and come up when possible. A good time is around 7pm. Also try the nets below. Contacts are not limited to these specific times.

Nets:

Net name	Time	Frequency
Taranaki Award HF Net	8pm during award	3.660 MHz +/- 5 kHz
ZL Awards Net	9pm daily	3.677 MHz
Branch 27 Net	8pm Wednesday	147.200 MHz repeater (+600 shift)

In Conjunction with the Taranaki Award,

we will also be running the **Dan Wilkinson Memorial Contest**

DAN WILKINSON MEMORIAL CONTEST

1. Certificates will be awarded in two categories for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

The categories are:

a. Taranaki stations

b. Those outside the region.

2. The Wooden Shield will be awarded to the station outside the Taranaki region who has the most contacts with Taranaki stations and engraved with their name.

The Taranaki station contacted can only be used for scoring once, regardless of what bands they are contacted on. The Shield is to be held by the winner from the end of October to the beginning of the following September.

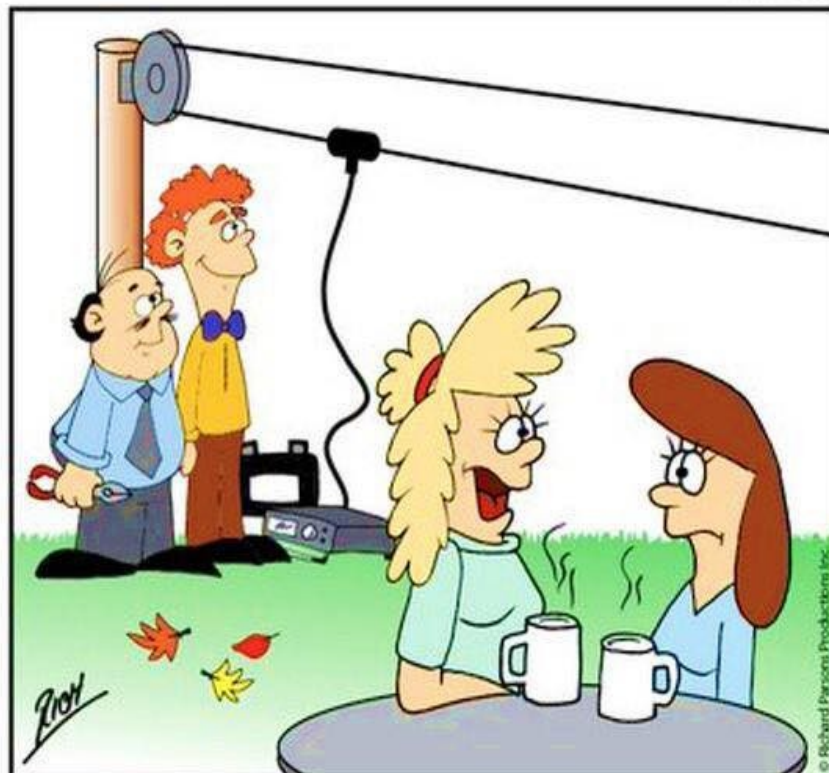
3. The Dan Wilkinson Memorial Stone Trophy will be engraved with the Taranaki station with the most points. However because of the size and weight of the trophy, it will remain in the possession of the Award Organisers.

[Dan Wilkinson was the original holder of the call ZL2AB which was first issued in 1923.](#)



SUCH A HAM

SH-005



Stan & Cliff have been working all day
on installing my clothesline, Mary.



Bill Campbell ZL2AIB
(Life Member Branch 27)

Bill left school in late 1952 and began working for A & T Burt Ltd, as an electrical apprentice at their premises in Courtenay Place Wellington. In those days an Electrical apprenticeship took five years or 10,000 hours to qualify and was qualified in 1956. A & T Burt specialized in heavy industrial wiring of large buildings, factories etc.

He then spent two years in the A & T Burt warehouse, working on the electrical counter, and recalls that one day a well dressed gentleman came in to buy electrical goods which appeared to be for wiring up a house. Bill enquired if the gentleman was an electrician and he replied "Are you a registered electrician?" "Yes" Bill replied, "Well" said the gentleman, "If you would kindly like to look at your registration certificate you will see that I signed it!". The gentleman was Mr C C Kenard Chief Electrical Inspector of the Electricians Registration Board.

In 1958 he joined the Wellington Branch 50 of NZART, and at the same time he was employed by H. Moulton Ltd, for three years where he was a lift electrician. "A job with its ups and downs!"

Around 1961/1962, just after the introduction of Television to New Zealand, Bill joined Tele Hire as a television technician/installer, but not long after Tele Hire was sold to Group Rentals and he then went to work for Fred Green of Green and Hall Ltd, who manufactured television sets, radios and records, in Kilbirnie. Bill soon moved from wiring the TV sets to aligning them and recalls using a huge 50 valve (E81CC's high quality) television pattern generator which the company had.

It did not take long for Bill to be in charge of the service department and one Christmas Fred Green sent him into Dominion Motors to pick up a Mini Traveler which he drove back to work and when he went to give the keys back to Fred, he told Bill that was his work car and he could use it for his Christmas Holidays! Bill received a new car each year from then on – what a wonderful employer.

The company of Green and Hall Ltd was amalgamated with H M V NZ Ltd, and we became H M V Electronics. A short time later relocating its operation out to Porirua, where he ran the assembly line and was factory manager.

Bills next move was to Masterton as in 1971, HMV NZ took control of the N R Cunningham factory. The radio factory in the process became part of Consolidated Electronic Industries Ltd (incorporating Bell Radio & TV, Dreco etc) .

The manufacture of freezers and refrigerators washing machines etc carried on.

During this time he was President of Branch 46 of NZART in Masterton. Bill then took on the job of service manager for Tait Electronics in New Plymouth from where he retired in 1987. He and Pat moved to Pukeiti taking on the job of licensee and catering for the gatehouse restaurant.

In 1990 he came back to NP and worked for Electrix Ltd then Wells I & E. finally retiring in 2001.



Bill's shack set up

Bill's Radio History as told by Bill

I sat my licence in 1963 in Wellington, and was given the call ZL2TAD. Wonderful I was On the Air.

Then the hunt for suitable transmitter / receiving gear started, our son at that time was a year old so funds were minimal..... I've heard the same story many times since. I was able to locate an ARC5 transmitter VHF naturally, 2 metres was AM in those days, I then built a super-regen receiver and the system worked well. Most of Wellington knew when the receiver was on, that's when I built an RF amplifier to put in front of it, that stopped the radiation from the receiver.

The ARC 5 was AM though I cannot recall the modulator I made though I think it was a 6V6.

The setup worked well enough for a while, though I was hankering for the HF Bands. First thing I had to do was pass the Morse test at 12 wpm, that done I was issued a new call ZL2AIB.

More gear needed and the family was getting bigger and the fund department was just as tight. After more saving I was able to purchase a second hand Atlas 75 built in Auckland, from memory.

It was a Geloso VFO to a 6146 in the final and needing 500 volts for the final and 200volts for the Osc section. CW only. The P/S was straight forward to build, no problem there.

Though I did use it CW for a while the need for a modulator became necessary.

My next move was to see if the one I was using for the VHF would do the job. Remember the Atlas produced 75 watts RF so really needed about 40 watts of audio & I had about 8. After some research I decided to try Cathode modulation, no mod transformer to speak of so the next best thing was a power transformer. As I recall the secondary was in the plate cct of the 6v6 and I connected the filament winding to a 6.3mm phone plug and just plugged it into the key jack and it worked.

Though the RF was under modulated I could now talk on 80 metres. This system lasted for a while then the need to have better audio arose. More research & an article in Break-In on a Reference Shift modulator. That was it, I Had to make one. I am unable to recall the audio though I think it was twin triode to an 807.

I had all the bits necessary, except the Choke (its Heizing Modulation). A friend of a friend had one he didn't need, it was mine for a song.
This system worked well and lasted for quite a while, and then someone invented SSB and the Black box syndrome that we all know.
I am now on the AM net enjoying the Old Days.

Bill ZL2AIB

Take care everyone
Ngair ZL2UJT