

NZART Infoline # 509 12 April 2026



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 have. *The association is what you and I make it!*

From HQ...

Branch Voting figures will be emailed out to all secretaries within the next week.

Annual Financial Accounts & Treasurer's Report - not included in Break In

The annual reviewed financial accounts has unfortunately missed publication in the Mar/April Break In, please click the links below to read the Treasurer's report and 2025 Annual Financial Accounts:

[Treasurer report](#)

[Annual Financial Accounts - Reviewed](#)

Amendment to Remit 4

There has also been a very slight amendment to remit 4, although it does not change the intent of the remit.

The lines to be changed include:

In the paragraph commencing ***Replace existing clause 2a*** The Returning Officer
....

Change the word TO, with FOR

The returning officer is to arrange **TO** the preparation of....." Published in Break In

With

The returning officer is to arrange **FOR** the preparation

Centennial Conference Alternate Programme

[Click Here:](#)

This information was recently missed out of Break In which has caused some concerns, but I promise, the alternative programme for all the lovely ladies attending our centennial conference in Auckland at Kings Birthday weekend.

Saturday will see the alternate programme enjoy a Premium Visit the Auckland Viaduct, after morning tea at the Waipuna Hotel.

Then some leisure time to explore the Commercial Bay & the Waterfront Promenade.

Following waterfront dining for lunch you will visit the Parnell shopping village and try your hand at making candles. taking away a memento of your time at the centennial conference.

Sunday's programme following morning tea at Waipuna includes a lovely trip to the Devonport Village, exploring boutiques, galleries and the Devonport Chocolate Factory.

Lunch will be spent enjoying the stunning views of the Waitemata Harbour, then on to the much awaited Ikea Factory, where you can spend hours wandering around the many departments in the Scandinavian Inspiration.

Ladies I can assure you, there will be something for everyone and well worth coming to conference, don't let your OM's have all the fun.

More information can be found on the NZART web site, by clicking the 'register now' button.

We are now only 6 weeks away from NZART's biggest event in history, marking 100 years of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters Inc.

Register now to secure your place at this important & exciting milestone.

[Register Here](#)



Celebrating 100 Years of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters

The NZART Centennial Conference will be held over King's Birthday Weekend, 30–31 May 2026, at the Waipuna Hotel & Conference Centre, Auckland. This landmark event celebrates one hundred years of NZART and its vital role in the growth of amateur radio in New Zealand.

This is more than a conference—it is a celebration of a century of innovation, communication, and community. From early wireless experimentation to today's advanced digital technologies, NZART has been at the heart of it all.

The programme will feature a range of forums and presentations covering technical topics, operating practices, emergency communications, and emerging technologies, alongside reflections on our history and achievements.

A strong social programme complements the weekend, with the Gala Dinner a highlight—bringing delegates together to celebrate this significant milestone. A dedicated alternative programme ensures partners and guests can also enjoy a memorable Auckland experience.

Trade displays will showcase the latest equipment and services, making this a valuable event for all levels of interest.

Whether you are experienced, newly licensed, or simply curious, this is a conference not to be missed.

Join us in Auckland as we celebrate 100 years of NZART—and look ahead to the future.

Registrations are filling fast—secure your place today.



Australian military radio enthusiasts will be looking for QSOs with ZLs over the ANZAC weekend, but particularly on ANZAC day (Saturday, April 25th).

Mike VK4MIK has advised us that they use AM (amplitude modulation) and will be calling on 7.125 MHz. from mid morning on, and will be staying on late.

They are very keen for ZL contacts and will be active for the whole weekend, as will we be at the Musick Memorial Radio Station.

Hope to hear you on!

Martyn ZL3CK, Society for the preservation of AM (SPAM) and Branch 86, Musick Point Radio Group.

Contests

The Autumn Sprints are up and running! Every Tuesday night in April 8pm NZST on 80m. 30 min of CW, 30 min of SSB and 30 min FT4, Take part in any or all sessions. The exchange is your outside temperature. Good fun for newbies or experienced ops alike. See the rules and tips

at nzart.org.nz/activities/contests/sprints/

Celebrate World Amateur Radio Day 18 April 2026

Every year on April 18, amateurs around the globe celebrate World Amateur Radio Day by getting active on the bands. This year, NZART is running the GET20 event. For this event, you can use the ZM prefix instead of ZL.

When: 00:00 – 23:59 UTC, April 18.

The Challenge: Work 20 different New Zealand operators (not stations) throughout the day.

To complete GET20, your QSOs need to include:

- * 3 operators with callsigns starting with ZL1 or ZM1
- * 3 operators with ZL2 or ZM2
- * 2 operators with ZL3 or ZM3
- * 1 operator with ZL4 or ZM4

There are no restrictions on band, mode, or power (just stay within your licence conditions). You can even make contacts via repeaters and NZ-based WebSDRs.

A summary of the results and soapbox comments will be published in Break-In. So get on air and be part of the action.

International News

Dear IARU R3 Colleagues,

IARU R3 HF Band Plan Committee chaired by Grant Willis, VK5GR, has compiled the proposal to revise the IARU R3 40m Band Plan.

It was discussed at the IARU R3 Executive Committee (EC) and the R3 EC endorsed the proposal.

Now, I would like to ask R3 Member Societies to review the proposal carefully and provide feedback to the Secretary of IARU R3. Your feedback can be a simple support or further comment/revision.

IARU R3 EC will meet on April 19th and I would appreciate if you can provide the feedback by **April 18th 2026**, although late feedback will also be considered.

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation to improve 40m Band Plan in IARU R3.

--

73, Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP

Secretary, IARU Region 3

secretary@iaru-r3.org

Amateur Radio CW Event

An extract from 'Fists Down Under' April Newsletter by Chris VK3QB.

A different kind of activity: RandomGrams. Last month I was finally convinced to try out the monthly RandomGram event.



RandomGram is a unique Morse code event that prioritises accuracy over speed. Unlike standard contests where operators exchange predictable information like serial numbers, RandomGram requires participants to accurately exchange groups of random alphanumeric characters.

Key Features

- Accuracy-Focused: Scores are determined entirely by how accurately random character groups are transmitted and received.
- Even Playing Field: Because the character groups are random, operators cannot 'guess' or use software to auto-fill information, making it accessible to operators of all skill levels.
- SWL Participation: Shortwave Listeners (SWL) can participate by monitoring and logging exchanges they hear between other stations.

How to Participate

1. Get Your Unique Code Groups List: Before an event, you must email your

call sign to RG+owner@groups.io to receive a list of registered random code groups.

2. Call CQ RG During the designated event duration, call CQ RG or answer others on non-WARC HF bands.
3. The Exchange: Send a real signal report (RST) and one random code group from your TX List. RSN is the better reporting protocol in these circumstances; with this protocol you provide the other operator with an insight into the challenges you are facing, thus he can tailor his sending to optimise your readability.
4. Logging: Log the code group you receive from the other station. You can contact the same station multiple times on the same band (no dupe restrictions). Just make sure you either call CQ or work another station before logging a dupe.
5. Submit your log: Email your log listing of only received groups, no callsigns, signal reports or times, to the organiser (RG+owner@groups.io to have your accuracy verified and results published)

So give it a go; the RG event usually runs for 24 hours, but you need to put in only as much time as you want. Sked arrangement and to keep up to date with who is operating, the SKCC sked page is widely used.

For current event schedules and detailed rules, you can visit the RandomGram Groups.io page or follow updates from Drew AF2Z on the QRZ Forums.

The Oceania Team

To bring our region into the RandomGram picture, an Oceania Team has been created.

This means that although all participants operate independently, their points can be aggregated for a team total. Oceania could become a force to be reckoned with. Please let the organiser know in your code-group request email that you'd like to join the 'Oceania' team, do this for each event, team membership doesn't roll-over.

Other International News:**Dear fellow amateur radio operators in Region 3 and Member Societies,**

Referring to the explanation from Grant VK5GR, HF Bandplan Committee Chair of IARU Region 3, the observed signal has been identified as a wideband FSK transmission with an approximate ± 8 kHz frequency shift, operating at a relatively slow symbol rate.

For more accurate observation, operators are advised to use an SDR with a minimum bandwidth of 10 kHz or wider, allowing the full spectrum of the signal—including both upper and lower components—to be clearly visible.

In this regard, we kindly invite all amateur radio operators, particularly members of Member Societies in Region 3 who have received this signal, to contribute by submitting their reception reports through the Region 3 HF Monitoring System at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/iRAw8n1paRz2E8vP9>

Your participation is highly valuable in supporting further identification, technical analysis, and coordination related to this signal.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

73,

Wisnu YBØAZ

President, IARU Region 3

2026 Auckland QRP weekend

Each year, IARU's Region 3 holds a QRP day on June 17 UTC. This day is an NZART initiative. To celebrate the day in 2026 and to promote QRP operations, there will be a Auckland QRP weekend on June 20 and 21.

The event is open to all radio amateurs and is not a contest. It is an opportunity to have fun with QRP operations. The two days of the event have markedly different formats. The aim for Saturday is to score points. The aim for Sunday is to achieve goals such as having QSOs on three bands, activating outdoor features, or having SSB QSOs with stations in four different Maidenhead fields.

The event runs 9am to 7pm NZST both days. (Sunset in New Zealand on June 20 and 21 is around 5pm NZST.) All bands from 630m to 3cm including the WARC bands can be used. The permitted modes are CW, digital, EME, satellite and voice.

A more detailed article on the weekend has been submitted to the editor of Break-In.

Philip Sharp, ZL1PSH

WWBOTA is going from strength to strength

The Worldwide Bunkers on the Air (WWBOTA) award program [1] has gone from strength to strength since it fledged in 2023. As of February 14, 2026, over 20 countries had national Bunkers on the Air award program under the auspices of WWBOTA. The total number of bunkers worldwide was just under 26,000.

As you might expect, WWBOTA is an activator - chaser (hunter) award program. The WWBOTA website [1] has the following introduction to the program

"WWBOTA is an exciting mix of amateur radio and history enabling radio amateurs to 'activate' with portable and mobile operations from historic bunker locations and for hunters and chasers to have QSOs with those activating stations (and should they wish to, to 'collect' the special 'bunker reference' numbers). Free awards for activating and hunting bunkers are available but it's also okay if you're not interested in awards but just want to get involved by having a QSO or shortwave listening. Whatever your approach – have fun!"

New Zealand does not have a national BOTA scheme. This means the bunkers in New Zealand can not be activated as part of the WWBOTA. However, radio amateurs in New Zealand can chase bunkers, either for fun or to collect awards.

If you are interested in chasing, I recommend spending a few minutes browsing the WWBOTA website [1].

[1] <https://wwbota.net/>

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Branch Newsletters & Events

Radio Electronics Group - Annual Equipment Sale

Where: Glenview Club, 211 Peacocks Road Hamilton

When: Saturday 16th May 2026

Cost: Entry Fee Public \$2 for lucky ticket/Table Fee, prebooked \$20, or on the day \$25

[For more information click here](#)

or

For a Vendor registration form contact:

Chris Herd ZL2tch@gmail.com

[New Zealand & Australian Amateur Radio Newsletter](#)

[North Shore Branch April Newsletter](#)

[Napier Branch March Newsletter](#)

[Marlborough Branch April Newsletter](#)

[Hibiscus Coast Branch April Newsletter](#)

[Wellington Branch April Newsletter](#)

[Christchurch Branch April Newsletter](#)



The next HQ InfoLine is due on 17th May 2026

If you would like to share any events or report on any up coming activities, please send these through to me at infoline@nzart.org.nz or admin@nzart.org.nz.

The Next Official Broadcast will be made on 26th April 2026

Ngā mihi nui (Kind regards)

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