

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!*



Branch Voting All Branches should have received their NZART membership voting stats.

If your branch cannot send a representative to place your vote on remits, please forward your vote counts to me and I will arrange a proxy to represent your branch.

I MUST receive your request for a proxy by Monday the 25th May please.

A quick note from the President.

Resignation of ZL3PWM Peter Mott.

Many of you will be wondering what will happen with the eNewsletter, prepared by ZL3PWM, Infoline and Break In.

While the Newsletter has been paused pending an investigation following a formal complaint, Infoline and Break In remain unchanged. We are working with the membership to determine the best ways to communicate with the membership, to ensure it meets the needs in terms of content, format and timeliness. We have significant feedback from the survey completed in the newsletter and will be assessing that along with other direct feedback we have received. Peter's resignation does not alter the fact that NZART needs to communicate in a modern and timely manner with its members.

I wish to thank Peter for his short time on council. Peter brought a significant number of ideas and energy to council and it is on the rest of Council now to pick up those ideas and grow them into value for the members.

While Peter's operating style was not always compatible with Council, I have respect for him and what he did during his term.

We will be looking for a replacement Councillor after conference.

If you wish join us on Council please let myself or Debby know with a summary of what you think makes you a good candidate, and we will consider you for the casual vacancy.

We are looking for someone who can work as part of a team, and contribute to the ideas we have for the association.

Council will, as part of our Friday meeting, be doing a deep dive into our strategy. This has been lacking for some time and it has become apparent we need to set a direction so that our decisions form part of an overall purpose for the association. I plan to report on decisions made at the workshop during the AGM.

Thanks all. I look forward to catching up with many of you at the conference.

Warren Harris ZL2AJ
NZART President.

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION
OF RADIO TRANSMITTERS Inc



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Centennial Conference 2026

The centennial conference is now only two weeks away, with final numbers to be confirmed to the venue by Friday the 22nd May.

If you are considering attending the whole event, or even parts of it, [please register ASAP by clicking here:](#)

Mondays Activities

As has become customary, host branches of conference offer some interesting sites to visit on the Monday after conference weekend, that are ham radio related. This year we have had to do some reshuffling as places that were available to us, are no longer so.

With this in mind, please be advised that the Buckley Systems visit, previously

advertised, is not open on public holidays, so not available now.

There is also some doubt as to the availability of visiting Klondyke, however conference goers will be notified of this throughout the conference weekend....

HOWEVER for those who have advised they wish to visit Musick Point, there are more details below for you.

Musick Memorial Radio Station visit after NZART 100 Conference on Monday June 1 2026.

Conference attendees who are registered and have indicated they want to visit the station will be welcomed to the Musick Memorial Radio Station on Monday 1 June (King's Birthday). So that you can get a good look around, due to the constraints of the building, visits will be timed in half hour groups.

The station is 12 Km (15 mins) from the Conference venue at Waipuna Lodge. You will need to make your own arrangements for transport, but there will be a board displayed at reception where you can write your name and contact details at a time that suits. Ridesharing is encouraged. There is no public transport.

Directions and a map has been emailed to all those already indicating they wish to visit the station. Permission for this visit has been generously granted by Spark (NZ) Ltd. The public are not usually permitted in the building.

You can do some 'homework' by looking over the website <https://musickpointradio.org> If you would like to take advantage of this unique opportunity and you have not yet registered your interest, or have not received the map and directions, please do so as soon as possible by contacting the writer, or Debby at HQ.

Martyn Seay ZL3CK, on behalf of the Musick Point Radio Group.

martyn.seay@gmail.com Ph. 0274803171

I am writing on behalf of Prof. Samuel Drake (VK5PHY) and the organising committee of the Software Defined Radio Conference 2026, hosted by Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, running 28 September – 2 October 2026.

First — congratulations on NZART's centenary.

One hundred years of organised amateur radio in New Zealand is a remarkable

achievement, and we would like to be part of the celebration.

We would be honoured to invite NZART to deliver a presentation at our conference — by video link — on the contribution of New Zealand amateur radio to science, engineering, and citizen science over the past century, and where the next century is heading.

Why we're reaching out!

Our conference is hosted by the College of Science and Engineering at Flinders University, and our organising team is drawn from the PEWTER Centre (Professional Electronic Warfare Training, Education and Research).

Every member of our academic staff holds an amateur radio licence — including our conference lead, Prof. Samuel Drake (VK5PHY), Professor of Electromagnetic Systems & Spectrum Security and co-director of the Centre for Defence Electromagnetic Research and Training.

We are not observers of amateur radio from the sidelines — we are active operators who are building the case within the engineering and defence communities that hands-on RF experience through amateur radio is foundational to understanding electromagnetic systems.

A central theme of our 2026 conference is bridging the gap between amateur radio communities, academic researchers, and professional engineers.

New Zealand has produced extraordinary contributions to this space — from the KiwiSDR (designed and built in NZ by John Seamons, ZL4VO, now a global network of 800+ receivers used in peer-reviewed ionospheric research), to the University of Otago's distributed VLF sensor networks, to the worldwide adoption of digital weak-signal modes like FT8 championed by NZ operators.

NZART sits at the centre of that story, and your centennial year makes this the perfect moment to tell it.

We see two opportunities:

1. A presentation at our conference

We would welcome a talk on any aspect of NZART's work — past, present, or future. Topics that would resonate strongly with our audience include, but are not limited to:

- 100 years of NZ amateur radio and its contribution to radio science and engineering

- How amateur radio operators in New Zealand are contributing to citizen science today — propagation studies, WSPR/FT8 data, distributed sensing
- The role of amateur radio in developing the next generation of RF engineers and scientists
- The future of amateur radio in an increasingly software-defined world
- NZ amateur radio's unique position in the Pacific — propagation, remote sensing, and emergency communications

2. Cross-promotion between our conferences

With your centennial conference in Auckland (30 May – 1 June) and our SDR conference in Adelaide (28 Sep – 2 Oct), there is an excellent opportunity for mutual promotion.

Our audiences overlap significantly — academic researchers, RF engineers, and radio amateurs and we would be happy to promote your centennial events to our attendees and networks if you would consider doing the same.

Conference context:

This is the second time we have run this conference, with the inaugural event held in conjunction with GNU Radio — <https://events.gnuradio.org/event/27/>.

The 2026 program covers FPGA/DSP for SDR, antenna systems, direction finding, TDOA geolocation, AI/ML in signal processing, and spectrum operations. Our audience includes academic researchers, defence engineers, and a strong contingent of radio amateurs and citizen scientists from across Australia and internationally.

- Format: Video presentation (live or pre-recorded, your preference)
- Duration: Minimum 25 minutes, happy to extend to 50 minutes
- Dates: Any day during 28 September – 2 October 2026 (we will schedule around your availability)

More about Prof. Drake: <https://www.flinders.edu.au/people/samuel.drake>

We would be delighted to discuss this further at your convenience.
Please don't hesitate to reach out.

IARU Matters

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

The following press release has been issued regarding AST Space Mobile

FCC Approves AST Space Mobile's License for Emergency TT&C Operations in the 430-440 MHz Amateur Radio Band Outside the US

On April 21st, 2026, the FCC granted AST Space Mobile permission to conduct emergency Telemetry, Tracking & Control (TT&C) operations outside the United States in the 430-440 MHz amateur radio band for all their planned 248 satellites. More than 2,500 comments were submitted by ARRL, AMSAT, other IARU societies and individual radio operators during the FCC review period. The license allows emergency operations when no other bands are available for up to 24 hours on the centre frequencies of 430.5 MHz, 432.3 MHz, 434.1 MHz, 435.9 MHz, and 439.5 MHz (each with 50 kHz bandwidth), and was granted by the FCC pursuant to Article 4.4 of the ITU Radio Regulations.

The IARU is of the view Article 4.4 was not appropriate to use in this case in order to assign frequencies in derogation of the ITU Table of Frequency Allocations. We

note UHF allocations exist specifically for satellite TT&C purposes and should have been selected instead of frequencies allocated to the amateur services.

The 430-440 MHz band is primarily reserved for the amateur and amateur satellite services in ITU Region 1 and several Region 2 countries. The IARU and its member societies will keep working towards a clearer understanding of how Article 4.4 should be applied to space operations. We also encourage members to report any interference caused by AST Space Mobile satellites to their national regulators.

73 Joel W5ZN
Secretary
International Amateur Radio Union

A useful IARU publication source document that many members may be interested in.

The latest Handbook on Amateur and amateur-satellite Services can be found on our website [here](#):

Or can be downloaded directly from the ITU website [here](#):

Straight Key Night



New Zealand Straight Key Night (Winter Edition) will be held on Sunday 7 June from 8pm to 9pm NZT (0800 to 0900 UTC) on 80 metres.

SKN honours the original amateur radio mode in an easy-going style.

Operators send signal report, name, location, type of key, type of transmitter and power output. Stations are limited to 100W output power.

SKN is not a contest - but the operator who gets the most votes for the quality of their sending will win the Bruce Scahill Best Fist Award.

Please email your award nomination to ZL1NZ within one week following the event. SKN uses the QSY Rule. Any station that calls CQ must QSY after making

a contact. Full details about SKN are available at <https://z11.nz/skn> or you can email neil@z11.nz

SKN welcomes all straight key operators, regardless of skill level or speed.

73, Neil ZL1NZ, SKN Manager

Contests

We hope everyone enjoyed last night's Sangster Shield and are now looking forward to the Memorial Contest on 4th July.

This is my last Infoline post as NZART Contest Manager. Thanks to all who have supported me in the role since 2021. I look forward to seeing you in the contests.

73

Geoff ZL3GA

Jock White Field Day results

[Here](#) are the results from the Jock White Field Day.

[For a full report on the Jock White Field Day, please click here](#)

Branch Newsletters

[North Shore Branch May Newsletter](#)

[Napier Hastings Branch April Newsletter](#)

[Marlborough Branch May Newsletter](#)

[Hibiscus Coast Branch May Newsletter](#)

[Wellington Branch May Newsletter](#)



The next HQ InfoLine is due on 14th June 2026

If you would like to share any events or report on any upcoming 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 24th May 2026

Ngā mihi nui (Kind regards)

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