

THE WORLD BELOW

400 GHz

The Periodical Newsletter of the
WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc.,
ZL1IS,
PO BOX 606,
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3240.



NZART
BRANCH 81

www.zl1is.info

MARCH 2020 ISSUE

WAIKATO VHF GROUP EXECUTIVE

President	Phil King	ZL1PK	07 847 1320
Vice President	David King	ZL1DGK	07 884 9590
Secretary	Gavin Petrie	ZL1GWP	07 843 0326
Treasurer	Ian Brown	ZL1TAT	07 847 3709
Projects	Tom Bevan	ZL1THG	07 864 5425
Committee	Peter Reinhard	ZL1PR	021 841 274
Committee	Morris Beale	ZL1ANF	07 884 8416
Committee	Neill Ellis	ZL1TAJ	07 576 1999
Committee	Kevin Hampshire	ZL1KRH	07 544 5987
Editor	David King	ZL1DGK	07 884 9590

Annual General Meeting 2020

The Annual General Meeting of the Waikato VHF Group will be held on

Sunday, 22nd March 2020, 1:30pm

At the Silver Fern Farms Event Centre, (aka Te Aroha Events Centre), 44 Stanley Ave., Te Aroha

Following the AGM there will be a 24 minute video highlighting pioneering developments in electricity distribution and utilisation which have occurred within our area will be shown.

Some of the names may be well known, others not so much, however each of these kiwi pioneers demonstrated original thinking resulting in international impact.

The "WaiPlenty" 2m network on 146.950 will be monitored for anyone requiring directions.

Click [HERE](#) to go to a map of the location.

Please renew your sub or join the Group before the AGM.

A sub renewal/joining form can be found [HERE](#).

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[\[VK-VHF\] 1296 MHz: New VK7 and National Records](#)

Rex Moncur VK7MO and Nick Wallace ZL1IU have set a new VK7 record for the 1296 MHz band:

VK7MO - ZL1IU 30/01/20 2432.5 km

Hayden Honeywood VK7HH then worked Nick less than 15 minutes later, further extending the VK7 state record and creating a new Australian national 1296 MHz record:

VK7HH - ZL1IU 30/01/20 2458.7 km

The previous national 1296 MHz record, between Les Jenkins VK3ZBJ and Wally Green VK6WG, had stood for almost 32 years:

VK3ZBJ - VK6WG 18/03/88 2455.1 km

A full list of current and past records back to 1947 is on the VHF Records Update page on the WIA web site:

<http://www.wia.org.au/members/records/data/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enJqzjWOIXM&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1yo2t_On8cLIYnHn59q4I-dzfPiAZyKFN5WGGjU_avIJVr8-sVL0gXrIw

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCshXG-fswixX3weY6K2ujgQ>

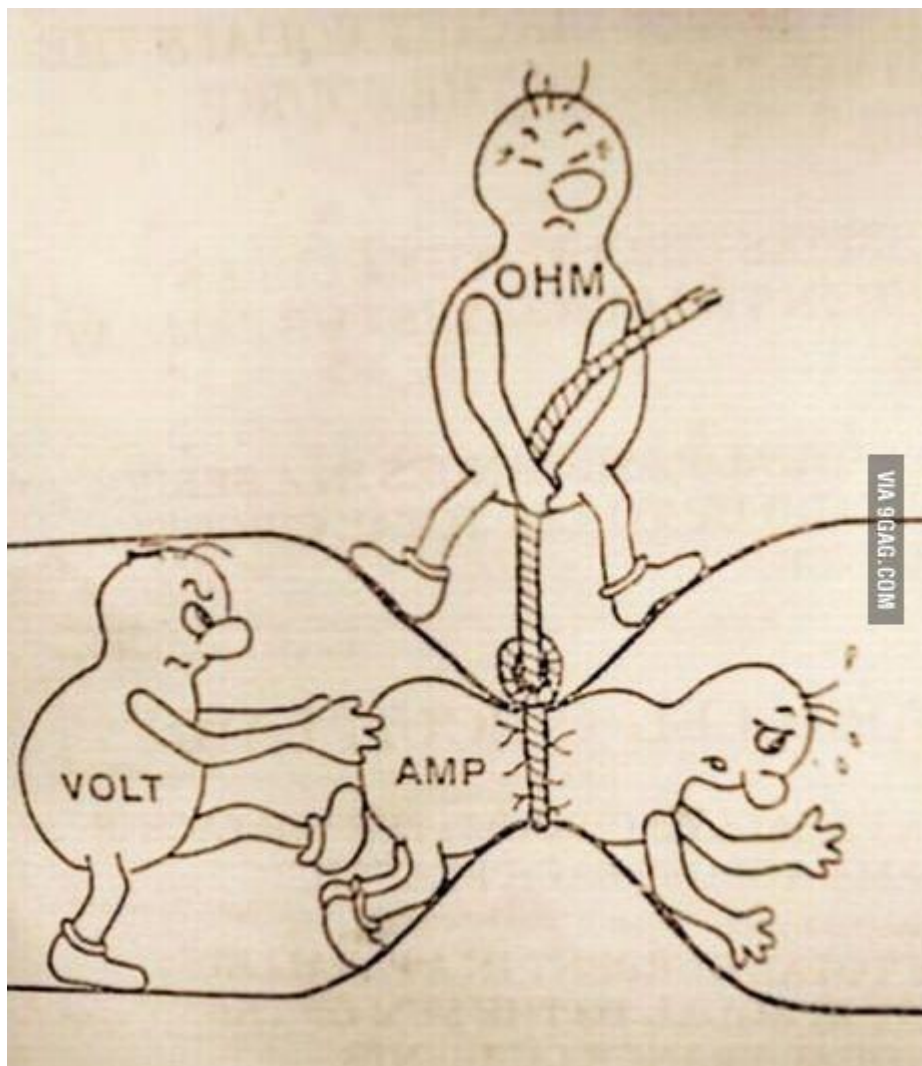
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrgxiKxs4ek>

* * * * *

[Repeaters/Beacons](#)

The Waikato VHF Group owns and maintains a number of repeaters and beacons in the greater Waikato and Bay of Plenty area. These are available for sponsorship for a period of 1

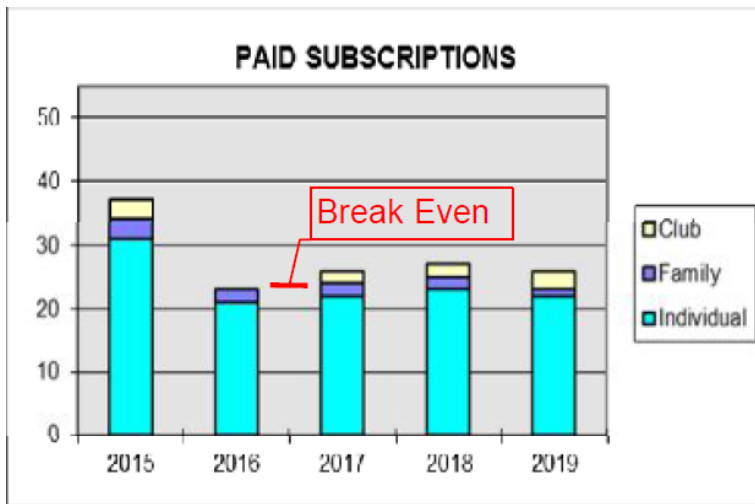
year. Please see <http://zl1is.info/sites.html> for a list of repeaters, beacons & links that are currently available for sponsorship. If you are interested in sponsoring one of them, please contact our Secretary (ZL1GWP) or Treasurer (ZL1TAT).



WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc.
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Our independently reviewed **Financial Statement** (next page, followed by our reviewer's report) summarises the Waikato VHF Group's financial position at the end of F.Y. 2019. 2018's revenue had been significantly boosted by two generous donations, as well as several commercial sales through our Trading Table arranged by Life Member Tom ZL1TOM / ZL1THG and Kevin ZL1UJG, so without those earlier contributions, 2019's income dropped \$3248. Participation in Branch 12 and 89's market days accounted all of our **Trading Table income** during 2019, and our thanks are extended to those who donated equipment for those two sales.

Paid membership **subscriptions** fell by one to 26, keeping us **just above 2016's break-even**. You're reminded **membership subscriptions fall due on 1 January each year**, and you need to be a financial member to participate in voting at our AGM. Renewal details can be advised via our membership application/update form (available on our web site at www.ZL1IS.info). A subscription to the Waikato VHF Group remains very reasonable, so consider adding a donation or sponsoring one of our radio licences when renewing your sub? Both are required to continue all our services.



Our subscription rates have remained the same since 2012, and are proposed to continue at **\$25.00** for a member/associate, and **\$30.00** for club or family membership (all residing at the same address). Your committee's preference is to raise subscription revenue through increased membership, in preference to raising subscription fees.

We gratefully acknowledge **donations received during 2019** from ZLs 1AOX,

1BPB, 1GWP, 1KL, 1KM, 1PO, 1RWR, 1UJG, 2AJ, 3DM, and Thames Branch 41 (ZL1DF). Thank you all, your support of the Waikato VHF Group Inc. is much appreciated.

Following restoration of the link between our Maungakawa '5575 repeater and Te Uku in January, our **WaiPlenty 2m repeater network** returned to a four-repeater network. Donated time and transport kept maintenance costs to a minimum last year. Access to various sites where we have equipment deployed is dependent upon generosity of individuals or commercial organisations. Increasing costs associated with commercial sites and their access requires constant vigilance to ensure it remains viable and affordable for our group.

Annual **radio licencing fees** were clawed back to \$700 last year after we cancelled licences for our 70cm (432.260MHz) and 23cm (1296.260MHz) beacons following removal of that equipment from the site in Hamilton they'd occupied for two days under forty years, plus cancelling our Kaimai '540 data repeater licence after its removal in September. Those attending our September general meeting were acquainted with ZL2AJ's proposal to replace '540 with a 144.575MHz APRS digipeater. Our 144.260MHz 2m beacon is being relocated to a new site in Hamilton, while our 2424.260MHz 12cm beacon remains on the air from our Kaimai site.

Arrangements were put in place during 2019 for Waikato VHF Group payments to be made online, with any two of our five signatories being able to authorise payments. This has proven more convenient for payees, and is now the preferred method of payment (no more cheques?).

Ian Brown ZL1TAT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

of the WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc. for F.Y. Ended 31 December 2019

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

2018		2019
	INCOME ...	
\$695	Subscriptions received	\$670
\$2,645	Donations received	\$545
\$1,707	Profit from Trading Table	\$657
\$4	Interest received	\$5
\$5,051		\$1,877
	EXPENSES ...	
\$2,169	Depreciation	\$1,844
\$1,535	Repairs & Maintenance	\$100
\$228	Electricity	\$126
\$650	Radio Licence fees	\$700
\$268	Other expenses	\$211
\$5,052		\$2,981
(\$1)	Excess Income / Expenditure	(\$1,104)

BALANCE SHEET

2018		2019
	CURRENT ASSETS ...	
\$5,855	Bank Current Account	\$6,440
\$0	Bank Term Deposits	\$0
(\$100)	Cash on hand	\$0
\$0	Stock on hand	\$0
\$6,755		\$6,440
	LIABILITIES ...	
\$0	Subscriptions received in advance	\$25
\$6,875	Working Capital	\$6,415
\$12,291	Fixed Assets	\$10,447
\$17,966	Member's Funds	\$16,862
\$17,967	EQUITY ...	\$17,966
(\$1)	Opening Balance	(\$1,104)
\$17,966	This Year	\$16,862
\$17,966		\$16,862

SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS & DEPRECIATION

ASSET	Original Cost <small>plus Addns / Disposals at Cost</small>	B/V at 31.12.18	+ Addns.	- Deprec. <small>15 %</small>	Book Value at 31.12.19
Tairua '6975 Repeater	2,731.66	0.00		Xfd to Branch 85 in 2011	
Waihi North '6476 Rpx & Link	11,220.66	3,417.60		512.64	2904.95
Maungakawa '5575 Rpx & Link	7,421.61	2,330.11		349.52	1980.59
Te Weraiti '090 Rpx & Links	7,999.68	1,898.67		264.80	1613.87
Kaimai Repeaters Site facilities	6,317.50	696.69		104.50	592.19
Kaimai '540 Data Repeater	2,488.45	28.39		4.26	24.13
Kaimai '485 N.S. ULS Repeater	2,829.20	246.74		37.01	209.73
Kaimai 12cm Beacon	449.00	6.57		0.99	5.58
Hamilton 2m/70/2.3cm Repeater	315.22	19.43		2.91	16.52
Hamilton '8975 Nat. Syst Rpx	4,382.73	204.62		30.69	173.93
Te Uku '6675 Rpx, Links + IRLP	16,029.46	3,422.40		513.36	2909.04
Ota '665 Dqipeater (Closed 2017)	296.66	0.00		0.00	0.00
TK705D 2m Transceiver	225.00	19.65		2.95	16.70
TOTALS:	62,255.71	\$12,290.96	\$0.00	\$1,843.63	\$10,447.23
Less Accumulated Depreciation	51,833.53				
Equals Book Value at 31.12.19	\$10,447.23				


I. W. Brown (Treasurer)


G. W. Patne (Secretary)


P. D. King (President)

**REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
WAIKATO VHF GROUP INCORPORATED**

I have reviewed the financial statements of the Waikato VHF Group Incorporated. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance and financial position of Waikato VHF Group Incorporated as at 31 December 2019. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out separately.

The Committee's Responsibilities

The Committee are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which fairly reflect the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2019, and the results of its operations for the year ended 31 December 2019.

My Responsibilities

It is my responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the group, and report my opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

A review includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- The significant estimates and judgements made by the Group in the preparation of the financial statements, and
- Whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I conducted my review in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards in New Zealand. I planned and performed my review so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Unqualified Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2019.

My review was completed on 13 January 2020 and my unqualified opinion is expressed at that date.

M Y JAENSCH

TAURANGA

2019 in REVIEW

A brief recap of Waikato VHF Group events last year:

MEETINGS Four quarterly general meetings were held, commencing with our AGM in March at the Te Aroha Events Centre. Our July meeting was held at the Tauranga Coast Guard where a video was shown about Gordon Welchman and Code Breaking activities at Bletchley Park (UK) during World War 2. Guest speaker at our September meeting in Te Aroha was Warren ZL2AJ who presented his proposal for an APRS digipeater to replace our '540 data repeater at Kaimai. Back in Te Aroha again for our December meeting, guest speaker was Chris Prouse who spoke about his time with Radio Hauraki during their pirate days and presented a video 'Rock The Boat" showing Radio Hauraki's story from 1965 through to 1970.

The VHF Group committee meetings continued to be held on Skype, as they have for the past six years. Committee meetings take care of the majority of operational matters for the group. Our secretary and treasurer have now clocked up 34 years of continuous service in those roles! The Waikato VHF Group has now operated continuously for 57 years.

BEACONS Our 2m, 70cm and 23cm beacon equipment was removed from its central Hamilton site on 16 January 2019, two days short of 40 years there. They'd operated on the original antennas throughout that whole time. Our 70cm beacon had been switched off some years ago after it was found some vehicle security systems in a nearby carpark were being blocked by its signal - Radio Inspectors found nothing wrong with our installation, the issue was lack of receiver selectivity in those vehicle security systems.

Our 2m beacon has since been re-licensed to operate from another site in Hamilton (back on air soon), while our 70cm and 23cm beacons will remain off the air and their licences have been cancelled. Our 12cm 2424.260MHz beacon at Kaimai continues to operate.

REPEATERS In January 2019, our WaiPlenty 2-metre repeater network was fully reinstated as a four-repeater network. After some of our equipment stolen from Te Uku at the end of 2016 was recovered by Police in mid 2018, '5675 Te Uku and its associated link to '695 Te Weraiti was reinstated, but we then discovered the link to Maungakawa '5575 was no longer operating. A visit to Maungakawa in January discovered its DC supply had been accidentally switched off during installation of additional commercial equipment in the same rack. IRLP on the WaiPlenty network (node 6549) is used most days for contacts around New Zealand and overseas. Twelve radio licence fees are paid annually to keep this network on the air, plus site access and electricity costs. Your membership subscription is depended on, along with some licence sponsorship, to keep these assets available - they don't run on fresh air.

The Kaimai '540 data repeater was decommissioned at the end of September 2019, and replaced with a new 144.575MHz digipeater in December. Equipment and the licence for this was arranged by Warren ZL2AJ per his proposal to our September meeting. Thank you Warren for this generous offer, and to Neill ZL1TAJ for arranging its installation.

Te Puke Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Branch 53 of NZART

“MARKET DAY”

Saturday March 23rd, 2019

Where

Paengaroa Community Hall.

4 Old Coach Road, Paengaroa.

(GPS Coordinates: 37.49S 176.24E)

Venue opens for Vendors from 06.30am.

Sale time 10.00am.

\$20.00 for a 1.8 Table, \$25.00 on the day.

\$12.00 for ½ a Table, \$15.00 on the day.

WARO meets at 10.30am

Overnight Parking for Motorhome's

(Please advise by Phone or Email)

Hot Breakfast from 07.30am (\$10.00).

1 Sausage, 2 Rashers Bacon, 2 Eggs, ½ Tomato, 2 Pieces Toast, Tea or Coffee.

Also available Sandwiches, Cakes, Tea / Coffee, all at reasonable prices.

For further information & Table Booking's, Contact Syd Rowe ZL1LWR
Phone (07) 533 1029, Mobile: 0272488664, Email sydrowe@xtra.co.nz

Postal Address: 223 State Highway 33, RD 9, Te Puke 3189.