

APRS meeting Hamilton 29 September 2002

- Present:** Alan ZL1AMW, Phil ZL1PK, Ray ZL1UKC, Gavin ZL1UAB, Murray ZL1SY, Dave ZL3DM, Noel ZL3GR, Kevin ZL1TEA, Bill ZL1BRI, Kiely ZL1WPK, Ian ZL2IH, Alan ZL2VAL, Andrew ZL1AHX, Ian ZL1AOX
- Apologies:** ZL1TDE, ZL1KRH, ZL1KL, ZL1MO, ZL1AKJ. It was noted that our meeting clashed the rally briefing in Auckland.
- Inet Gateways:** Comment was made that we did not always see all ZL activity. Filters are needed otherwise far too much traffic enters the ZL network. However it was felt that ZL gateways should permit at least all ZL traffic both send and receive.
Should we try to organise a ZL APRS server?
- Satellite Gateway** Noel explained his present receive only link from the ISS and PCSAT. Their frequencies are:
- ISS 145.990 uplink and 145.800 downlink. You need to have RS0ISS, SGATE in your path.
- PCSAT 145.825 up/downlink. Path needs W3ADO-1, SGATE. (This uses 144.39 when over Region 1)
- Information:** Try Alan Wallace 's home page at:
www.zl1amw.wallace.net.nz
This is a good starting point.
- Nodes:** Known node frequencies:
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| ZL1AMW-14 | 144.650 digi, 145.400 rptr, 145.625 rptr. He also digipeats on 144.650.
24 hour / 7 day |
| ZL3GR | 144.625 digi, 145.400 rptr,
438.400rptr (RX only),
ISS and PCSAT as available.
24 hour / 7 day |
| ZL2VAL | 144.650 digi, 144.700 |
- ZL1BQ Node under construction – 145.625 rptr, 144.575
- Nationwide:** Frequencies as Known:
- 144.575 is the national frequency
- Whangarei uses 6650 repeater

Auckland uses 4575 (north areas) and 5625 repeater (south areas)
East Waikato 5400 repeater
North of Hamilton to Ngaruawahia 5400 repeater
SH1 & SH5 towards Tokoroa & Rotorua 5400 repeater
Waihi Beach & Tauranga 4625 digipeater
Rest of Waikato 4650 digipeater
New Plymouth area 7000
Nelson city 7500
Nelson & Tasman area 4650
Wairarapa 5425 repeater
Wellington/Blenheim 6625 repeater
Christchurch & Canterbury 4575
- Alan will update the map on his web site to reflect this information. Anyone with further detail is invited to contact Alan.

Local Facilities

Currently there are OTO, TPO & BOP digipeaters along with the Kaimai & Klondyke data repeaters.
OTO may get an antenna upgrade.
BOP is going to be relocated to a hill between Tauranga & Te Puke soon.
OTO has had Level 2 enabled (permits via function)
TPO does not allow level 2- this to be investigated
Klondyke may either change to a 4575 digi or have a 4575 digi co-sited.

Hardware Software

Noel showed us a VHF marine set with tracker he has built up for the Rotorua Coastguard. It operates on the local Marine frequencies.

Alan had a KISS TNC obtained a kit from W2FS. It does both KISS TNC and Tracker functions.

Kiely talked of the process of building up trackers. Note that Auckland VHF Group has kits available.

Rotorua have tried GPS + Tracker on the SAR repeaters. It was not a complete success.

During discussion it was mentioned that the GPS units without self contained displays may work better for APRS.

The issue of audio quality was raised. It is important to not overdeviate. Watch out for DC signals etc superimposed on the audio output from the receiver. Remember that the audio tones in the tracker are generated from the CPU and are far from sine waves.

Maps

UI-View maps for NZ are available on Brenda ZL2UMF's web site at www.zl2umf.wallace.net.nz . A good selection of NZ maps now exist. Alan distributed a CD with NZ Topo maps, and aerial photos, for a donation to Waikato VHF Group.

What is still needed is maps of towns and cities to Street level, with main streets named.

Future Plans

It was agreed that future activity should favour 144.575 operation.

One way of encouraging this was seen to be putting in low level 144.575 linkers to whatever frequency was in local use at the moment.

Any new high level digipeaters or linkers for APRS should go on 144.575.

However it was felt that removing existing data repeaters or digipeaters to replcae them with 144.575 units was not a good idea.

In line with this Waikato VHF group will look into putting a free standing 144.575 digipeater at the Kaimai data repeater site.

Alan will be adding a 144.575 port to his Node to encourage activity in Hamilton and nearby.