

Results of the 2016 VHF DX Weekend – 6/7 February

VHF-UHF-SHF-EHF Contests, as administered by the Auckland VHF Group Inc;



Wayne ZL2BKC - operating from Hawkins Hill, Wellington



ZL4AA Branch 30 Otago - operating from Mount Cargill, Dunedin

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Overall Winner	Station	Points
	ZL4AA	2881 *
	ZL3RC	2091
	ZL2BRG	1337
	ZL1GSG	896
	ZL3ADT	825
	ZL2BKC	698
	ZL3TKI	412
	ZL3DC	160

Check log: ZL1TBG ZL1TPH

Top Home Station winner	Station	Points
	ZL3RC	2091 *
	ZL3ADT	825
	ZL3TKI	412
	ZL3DC	160

Band winner	Station	Points
6 m (50 MHz)	ZL4AA	278 *
	ZL3RC	136
	ZL3ADT	86

Band winner	Station	Points
2 m (144 MHz)	ZL4AA	1129 *
	ZL2BRG	1001
	ZL3RC	605
	ZL2BKC	592
	ZL3ADT	375
	ZL1GSG	366
	ZL3TKI	311
	ZL3DC	160

Band winner	Station	Points
70 cm (432 MHz)	ZL4AA	506 *
	ZL3ADT	289
	ZL1GSG	233
	ZL2BRG	224
	ZL3TKI	90
	ZL2BKC	74

Band winner	Station	Points
23 cm (1296 MHz)	ZL3RC	1350 *
	ZL4AA	968
	ZL1GSG	297

ZL2BRG	112
ZL3ADT	73
ZL2BKC	32
ZL3TKI	11

Greatest DX	Station	Distance
6 m	ZL4AA-ZL1BRL	1059 km
2 m	ZL2BRG-ZL1IU	660 km
70 cm	ZL2BRG-ZL1GSG	469 km
23 cm	ZL2BRG-ZL3RC	346 km

Certificate *

Active Stations (31 in total)

- ZL1AKW ZL1AVO ZL1AVZ ZL1BHD ZL1BRL ZL1GSG ZL1IU ZL1KB ZL1PO ZL1RCC ZL1TBG ZL1TPH
- ZL2ALW ZL2BKC ZL2BRG ZL2FAE ZL2IT ZL2LTF
- ZL3ADT ZL3CU ZL3DC ZL3MH ZL3NW ZL3OZ ZL3PX ZL3RC ZL3TKI
- ZL4AA ZL4ACS ZL4DK ZL4LV ZL4OL

Operator comments

- ZL2WHO/b copied clearly on 1296 and 432 into CHCH at 505 km
- West/East moving rain showers in central north island completely destroyed propagation between Wellington and Auckland on Saturday
- At the same time lift was observed from Wellington on Christchurch. This changed overnight and conditions returned
- A lot of confusion leading up to the weekend
- No stations heard from Blenheim
- Great not having QRM from loud locals
- Simon ZL2BRG up the top of Mt Climie Wellington was a big signal all over the country
- Branch 30 ZL4AA Otago operated portable from Mount Cargill Dunedin
- Weather cool with light winds
- Mavis ZL1BHD with nice signal into north Auckland

Station equipment

- TS2000x 23 cm 10 watt 21 element yagi
- Kenwood 9130 + 80 watt amp
- 2 x 6 elements LFA vertically mounted for 2 m
- DB6NT 23 cm TRV 0.5 watt output into 1 metre dish with multiband feed
- Homebrew transceiver and 17 element yagi 23 cm
- ICOM 910 including 23 cm module
- ICOM 9100 on 2 m and 23 cm
- 2 m Yaesu FT991 to HB LDMOS 1 k/W amp 9 element DZ7ZB at 14 metre
- FT847 for 6 m with 5 element yagi
- TR851 + homebrew amp and 5 element yagi
- 6 m Yaesu FT991 to HB LDMOS power amp 6 element DK7ZB at 12 metres
- 23 cm Yaesu 847 DEMI transverter with 300 watt XRF286 amp to 48 element loop yagi

VHF DX weekend Contest report

I'm sure the mainland of New Zealand saw better weather and tropo conditions during the contest compared to the rest of the country. One noteworthy spot on the VK-Logger was with Mark ZL3TKI from CHCH hearing the ZL2WHO/b 1296.271 MHz beacon from Waipuna at 505 km. The path distance indicated enhanced tropospheric ducting.

Up in the far north the weather and light rain was blowing from the east and not pleasant. Despite that Nick ZL1IU worked Simon ZL2BRG at Mount Climie at 660 km. Wayne ZL2BKC operated portable from Grenada Rise and Hawkins Hill and Simon ZL2FAE ventured out in the field and tested the radio path into the south Island. Two contacts of note were with Simon ZL2BRG to Greg ZL1GSG on 70 cm at 469 km (Wellington to Auckland) and Simon ZL2BRG to Roger ZL3RC at 345 km on 23 cm (Wellington to Christchurch).

We thank those Wellington stations for activating high hills around the Wellington region. Wellington is mid path central New Zealand and this gives excellent coverage to both the north and south.

From the far south David ZL4DK and Adam ZL4ASC teamed together and operated Otago Branch 30 for NZART, ZL4AA, from Mount Cargill Dunedin. They easily worked into the flats of Christchurch on 70 and 23 cm and further north on lower bands.

On a final note Ken ZL3OZ operated portable from Mount Horrible and by looking at logs also operated mobile from different locations. No station needs to be fixed to one particular location and this is encouraged.

An added feature; A suggestion was received from a ZL2 operator from the Wellington region that it would be good to list the "Top Home Stations" in the results which will highlight that you can do well if operating all periods of the contest from home. From the hill topping perspective home stations play an integral part, without home stations we won't have much of a contest.

I would have to agree. This has been included and will be presented in future results.

Thanks to all those that participated and enjoyed the contest weekend!

Stephen Hayman - ZL1TPH

The rules for VHF-UHF-SHF-EHF Contests, as administered by the Auckland VHF Group; on behalf of all VHF groups are available on the NZART website: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/activities/contest-rules/rules-vhf-and-above/>

All contest logs should be sent, to arrive within two weeks, to: VHFcontest@nzart.org.nz

Or by mail to: Contest Manager, PO Box 10138, Dominion Road, Auckland 1446.

21 February 2016



Wayne ZL2BKC tested propagation on the Saturday evening from Grenada Rise, Wellington



Greg ZL1GSG with most microwave and VHF UHF bands from Scenic drive, Auckland

END