



HQ Infoline
A Service From
New Zealand Association of
Radio Transmitters



Issue 407– Sunday 15th March 2020

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ABOUT INFOLINE

Conference Update

Shantytown Conference 2020

As we are now in the grips of the global pandemic for Coronavirus (COVID-19) the organising committee of the Shantytown Conference 2020 has recently met to discuss a contingency should the event not be able to be held this year on the West Coast.

The event is still on and at present there is no reason to cancel or re-schedule this event.

There is no need at this time to cancel your attendance at the Conference.

However, it would be amiss of the Committee not to think ahead and plan for all possible outcomes. As a result, the Committee has agreed that if the event must be postponed or cancelled then a decision to this effect will be made on Sunday 10 May 2020.

Using the various means of communications open to us, should a postponement or cancellation occur the Conference Website will be updated (www.nzart-conference.nz) on the Sunday 10 May 2020 after 1:00 pm.

Those who have signed up to the Conference Newsletter will be advised via that medium as well.

A Special InfoLine will be published on Sunday 10 May 2020.

The NZART Website will also be updated.

2020 Conference committee

Westfest 2020

Nelson Branch 26 is hosting the "WESTFEST 2020" in Murchison over the weekend of April 18-19th.

It will be held at the Murchison Bowling Club Rooms, meeting and registering from 9.30am on the Saturday and get underway at 10.30am.

Saturday Morning sessions from 10.30 - 12.30.

Lunch 12.30 - 1.30pm

Afternoon sessions from 1.30 - 5.00 and an afternoon tea break in there somewhere.

Sunday commence at 9.00am and finish up by 12.30pm.

We are looking for presentations from anyone, with a theme of interest to our Hobby.

Anything will be considered and from filling a time slot from 15min increments to 45 mins.

White Board, OHP and a PowerPoint projector will be available to presenters.

Sales table for any preloved equipment will operate

\$10 per head registration

A Raffle to help defray expenses will be held.

Participants to organise own accommodation and meals.

Please help by conjuring up people to present a paper

Hope to see you all in Murchison.

Contact for info and registering your presentation is as follows.

Stewart Robinson ZL2STR on one of the following strobnz@gmail.com

03 5475036

022 4590415

6 Willow Ave, Stoke, Nelson 7011.

Unrestricted Two Way Radios – Frequently Asked Questions

By Don Wallace, NZART ALO <alo@nart.org.nz>

We get a number of questions from members about the status of what RSM (Radio Spectrum Management) calls “Unrestricted Two Way Radios” – such as those made by Baofeng, Pofung, Wouxun etc. This article is aimed at answering the most common of these questions.

What is the problem?

In 2018 RSM found that a number of people were illegally using these radios and which were causing interference to frequencies used by emergency services and commercial users such as the Police, Forestry and Railways.

What was RSM’s proposed solution?

In their August 2018 Business Update, RSM stated that their Compliance team were working on a Prohibition Notice to limit the import and illegal use of a range of low-end two-way radios. This would have meant that no one (including Amateurs) would be allowed to own or use these devices.

Did NZART Support This Prohibition?

No - in fact the opposite was true. NZART recognises that these radios offer a cost-effective way for new amateurs to get on the air and worked with RSM to come up with a compromise solution that would allow Amateurs to continue to use these devices – provided they followed a set of rules.

What Are These Rules?

The rules are set out in the Prohibition notice (see <https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2018-go4836> or <https://tinyurl.com/y7hahuse>) but can be summarised as follows:

- The radios are only allowed to be owned and used by licensed amateurs
- The radios may not be used outside the Amateur bands; and
- If you want to buy or sell a radio, you have to fill out some paperwork.

Are These Rules Over-Restrictive?

Not really – amateurs are fortunate in New Zealand as we have very few restrictions on what we can build and use. In some other countries in our region, radios have to be type approved and special permission is required if you want to build your own equipment.

What About Non-Amateurs?

Non-Amateurs are not allowed to own or use these radios - only those who hold an amateur licence

What About Other Frequencies I Am Allowed To Use (e.g. Coastguard channels, or AREC frequencies outside the Amateur bands)?

You are not allowed to use these radios on frequencies outside the Amateur allocations. All radios used outside the Amateur bands have to be type approved and these radios are not approved and most would not meet the technical specifications for type approval.

Further, if RSM discovers that a radio has been programmed for frequencies outside the Amateur bands, even if owned by an Amateur, the radio could be seized and/or the user prosecuted.

What about if I want to buy or sell one of these radios?

No matter how you intend to buy or sell your radio (e.g. on TradeMe, at a junk sale, privately etc.) you need to have a Licence to Supply.

How hard is the paperwork?

Not hard at all – all you need to do is follow the instructions on the RSM website

<<https://www.rsm.govt.nz/business-individuals/supplier-compliance/get-a-licence-to-supply-radio-equipment/> or <https://tinyurl.com/wbrx3x5> >.

Do these rules affect Amateur Transceivers from Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, etc?

These manufacturers amateur transceivers are designed to be used only on the Amateur bands and are not affected by the prohibition notice.

However, if you use them on frequencies outside the Amateur bands, you could have your radio seized and/or be prosecuted by RSM.

As amateurs we must comply with the rules of the Prohibition Notice or RSM have indicated that this exemption will be removed for amateurs, and opportunity to own and operate these transceivers will be lost.

Manawatu Ham Cram

HamCram – Your Doorway to Becoming an Amateur Radio Operator

Exploring radio, electronics and digital technologies

What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur radio is a hobby of exploring the limits of radio, electronics and digital technologies. Once you've passed the licence exam, you'll allocated a worldwide-unique call sign and can operate (and build) radio equipment capable of international and space-based communication, from wherever and whenever you like.

What can you explore?

- developing your own digital radio projects using Arduino and raspberry Pi micro-computers.
- bouncing radio signals off asteroids and talking to the International space station.
- you can communicate with other electronics and radio hobbyists around the world – without a cell phone or skype.
- designing and building radio transceivers and antennas.
- sending signals 2000km using just a Raspberry Pi and an antenna.
- exploring what can be done linking the Internet, radio and computers.
- providing communications support for search-and-rescue and emergencies.

HamCram - obtaining an Amateur Radio Licence

Like driving, becoming licenced requires passing a technical competence exam. To help with this, the Manawatu and Wanganui Amateur Radio Clubs have organised *HamCram* - a self-study workbook-based course. The course will conclude with a weekend spent with experienced tutors revising the workbook modules in preparation for the multi-choice Amateur Radio Operator's Certificate exam on Sunday afternoon.

What do I need to know?

The course will take you through all you need to know to pass the exam and become licenced. Some prior understanding of science or electronics would be helpful but not essential...

What does it cost and what's included?

The cost of the HamCram is \$150 for the weekend. It includes the complete program, exam and a downloadable PDF version of the manual for you to download and print – this is the essential study guide.

The HamCram weekend runs from 8.30am to 5pm on both days.

- teaching sessions by experienced tutors
- exam fee for the official amateur radio licence exam
- a light lunch and morning & afternoon tea on both days

On passing, you'll also receive

- free membership of NZART (National Association) for 12 months (\$99 value)
- free membership of selected local NZART branches

When can I enrol?

Enrolments are open from 1 March – and close on 30th June 2019.

we recommend enrolling early so you have the maximum study time.

The HamCram weekend will be run on 18th & 19th July 2020.

How do I enrol in the HamCram program?

It is simple, just email the organiser at newham@zl2ko.org.nz and we will send you an enrolment form and documents or **fill out the attached enrolment form.**

What happens once I pass the exam?

Once you've passed the exam, you will be eligible for issue of a call sign. This entitles you to operate on a restricted number of amateur bands until you have accumulated 50 logged contacts.

To help you obtain those contacts quickly, the Manawatu Amateur Radio Society's annual activity contest will be run one week after the exam to help you obtain those contacts and introduce you to your first contest.

Further Information

For further information contact:

- Warren Crawley ZL2FE(027) 249 8252 – HamCram Co-ordinator
- Peter Moore ZL2AUB (06) 354 7861

or email newham@zl2ko.org.nz

NZART Study Guide Review.

A team in Christchurch is working on this, but we still need some help as you can imagine this is a large task.

If you have the knowledge and would like to be part of the team writing a section or two we would like to hear from you.

For further information contact Don MacDonald, ZL3DMC. <mailto:scanner379@gmail.com>

Official Broadcast

The Official Broadcast is made on the last Sunday of each month except:

- December when the Broadcast is made on the Sunday before Christmas.
- January when there is no broadcast

The broadcast is made on 3900 kHz, and on the National System and local VHF repeaters.

The broadcast is made at 2000 hours (8:00 pm), with a repeat at 2100 hours (9:00 pm).

Members and Branches are welcome to submit material for inclusion in the Broadcast to the e-mail or postal address shown below.

ZL2BHF

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P O Box 40-525

UPPER HUTT 5140

E-mail:

zl6a@nzart.org.nz

Website:

<http://www.nzart.org.nz/h-quarter/broadcast/>

73, Jim ZL2BHF

Off Shore News Links

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About Infoline

Next HQ-Infoline: - Sunday 5th April. Closing date is Friday 3rd April.

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