



**HQ Infoline**  
A Service From  
New Zealand Association of  
Radio Transmitters



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## Technical writers still wanted

The NZART exam rewrite committee needs writers from among the amateur community to help make our exam more relevant for current times.

Below is a list of the broad sections we need writers for.

- Receivers
- Transmitters

If you are interested please contact:

Don MacDonald ZL3DMC  
[infoline@nzart.org.nz](mailto:infoline@nzart.org.nz)

and I will send detailed requirements and a guide for writers.

## **NZART Memorial Contest**

The NZ Memorial Contest will again be held over the first weekend in July ( 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>)

The contest was first held in 1946 and its purpose was to commemorate those NZ radio hams who lost their lives during WW2.

So, this year being 2020 it is worth remembering that this will be the 75th anniversary of the end of WW2 in 1945. Plus, over recent weeks all of us have been involved with another very big world-wide problem which some may feel has been like being in a sort of war.

So why not commemorate and let us celebrate by spending some time on the air operating in an easy fun contest with each other.

The rules and the summary sheet files for the contest can be found at:

<https://www.nzart.org.nz/activities/contests/memorial-contest>

## **SKN winter edition on Sunday 14 June**

The winter edition of New Zealand Straight Key Night will take place 8-9pm on Sunday 14 June.

As usual, this casual contest will be held on 80 metres, and operators must use a straight key (no bugs, paddles or sideswipers). We will use the traditional SKN exchange, which includes type of key and type of transmitter.

But this time there will be an extra challenge: the QSY Rule [maritimeradio.org/resources/new-zealand-straight-key-night/the-qsy-rule/](http://maritimeradio.org/resources/new-zealand-straight-key-night/the-qsy-rule/), and I strongly urge you to get familiar with it. If you don't, well, I think it will be a bit like driving on the wrong side of the road and wondering why everyone's tooting their horn!

Find out more about SKN, including the QSY Rule, at [maritimeradio.org/skn](http://maritimeradio.org/skn)

I hope to work you on 14 June! Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Neil Sanderson ZL1NZ, SKN Manager <[neil@zl1.nz](mailto:neil@zl1.nz)>

## **Taranaki Junk Sale**

New Plymouth Branch 27 will be hosting their annual Junk Sale on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The venue once again is Mangorei Memorial Hall, cnr Kent Road and State Highway 3, New Plymouth.

Buyers will be admitted to the hall at 10:00am, sellers from 8:00am.

Tables are available for \$20 each. To book yours, contact [secretary@zl2ab.com](mailto:secretary@zl2ab.com)

We plan to provide light refreshments for sale before and during the event.

This year, it coincides with the start of the **Taranaki Award** which runs from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September. Club Station ZL2AB will monitor the local 720 repeater and National System from the event, with every QSO worth 3 points towards the required 25.

The hall is adjacent to Taranaki Aviation Transport and Technology Museum (TATATM). This is well worth a visit and has a good display for the radio enthusiast among many other items.

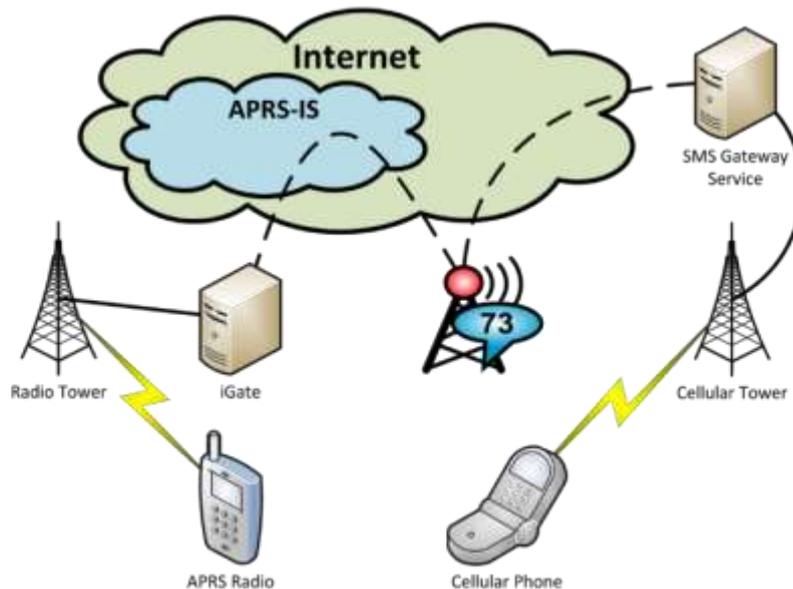
Further details of both the Junk Sale and the Taranaki Award can be found on the [zl2ab.com](http://zl2ab.com) website or by contacting Doug (ZL3DUG) on [secretary@zl2ab.com](mailto:secretary@zl2ab.com)

## **SMS Gateway (SMSGTE)**

SMSGTE is an application that allows amateur radio operators to exchange text message between their APRS\* radios or clients and SMS (cellular text messages). The gateway is in operation today.

Daniel ZL4DE has recently established a remote gateway in New Zealand. A remote gateway operates using a cellular modem (usually used for cellular internet access) attached to a Windows PC that communicates with the SMSGTE server. The remote gateway then handles the local SMS traffic, relaying it to the server. These gateways are established in partnership with local users or clubs allowing us to expand service into regions that are cost prohibitive using the SMS service provider.

The application removes the messaging barrier between APRS\* and the SMS world. The most compelling use of this gateway is for emergency communications. Even when outside of cellular coverage, a VHF radio can usually reach an APRS\* digipeater, allowing it to send and receive messages to cellular users. The SMSGTE service can also be accessed through the DMR Brandmeister network.



## Sending from APRS to SMS



Sample message generated using Kenwood TM-D710

To send a message from an APRS station, simply address your message to SMSGTE with the following format:

*@<number> <message>*

The @ symbol signifies that the following characters represent the destination for the message while <number> represents the sms number or associated alias the message should be sent to. All words following the destination will form the body of the message.

Example:

*To: SMSGTE*

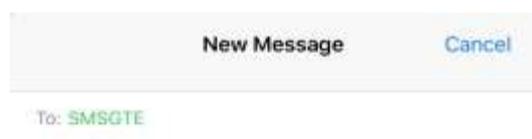
*@64278254989 No cell coverage here, ping me on radio*

When the message is delivered to the destination SMS number (usually a cell phone), the message will appear as follows:

*@ZL4DE-01 No cell coverage here, ping me on radio*

Of course, the callsign at the start of the message will be your callsign. The originating number will be the gateway's number for your region.

## Sending from SMS to APRS



To send a message from SMS to an APRS station, address your message to the gateway number with the following format:

@ <callsign> <message>

The @ symbol signifies that the following characters represent the destination for the message while <callsign> represents the callsign and SSID the message should be sent to. All words following the destination will form the body of the message.

Example:

To: SMSGTE

@ZL4DE-01 This is a test message

The message delivered to the APRS station will appear as follows:

+64278254989 This is a test message

Please note that the gateway telephone numbers have not been published here to prevent spam messages being sent into the APRS network. You will learn the gateway's number when you send your first message from APRS to SMS.

Conversations initiated by an SMS user will only be permitted to callsigns that have previously used SMSGTE. This has been implemented both to mitigate the potential for SPAM and to simplify the parsing of SMS messages received by SMSGTE. Messages are stored for 24 hours.

For further information please visit [smsgte.org](http://smsgte.org)

Daniel Erickson ZL4D

# 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

NZART Headquarters

P O Box 40-525

UPPER HUTT 5140

E-mail:

[zl6a@nzart.org.nz](mailto:zl6a@nzart.org.nz)

Website:

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

73, Jim ZL2BHF

## Off Shore News Links

[ARRL News & Features](#)

[RSGB News](#)

[IARU Region 3](#)

## About Infoline

Next HQ-Infoline: - Sunday 21 June. Closing date is Friday 19 June.

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