

# THE WORLD BELOW

## 400 GHz

The Periodical Newsletter of the  
WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc.,  
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NZART  
BRANCH 81

[www.zl1is.info](http://www.zl1is.info)

### NOVEMBER 2017 ISSUE

#### WAIKATO VHF GROUP EXECUTIVE

|                |                 |        |             |
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## November General Meeting 2017

A General Meeting of the Waikato VHF Group will be held on  
Sunday, 19th November, 2017 at 1:30pm  
at the upstairs Coastguard meeting room, 72 Keith Allen Dr, Tauranga.

See website - [www.zl1is.info/meetings.html](http://www.zl1is.info/meetings.html) - for location map.

The speaker for this meeting will be Neill, ZL1TAJ, who will give us a talk on his storm chasing activities.

**Non Members and visitors most welcome.**

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### Next Meeting

You will notice in the meeting announcement that the November meeting will be in the Upstairs Meeting Room at the Tauranga Coastguard. The room we normally use is already booked.

The upstairs room is accessed via the coastguard garage at the back of the building. I attended some training there about 4 years ago, and my memory is a bit vague. Access is by walking down the right hand side of the main building and down an access-way in between the two buildings to a door on the right of said access-way. Once in the garage, head to your right and you will find the stairs leading to the upstairs room (no lift I'm afraid). There will probably be some Coastguard gear in the garage, you are welcome to look, but please don't touch

If you get lost, just ask the Coastguard radio volunteer on duty at the front of the building for directions.

As we aren't the only ones there, nearby parking spaces may all be full. There is some parking space around the sides of the Coastguard building, but please be careful that you don't block entrance/exit from the garage by the Coastguard.

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### 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).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Te Uku Site - stolen equipment update

The latest information we have had from the Police, is that the prospect of getting our equipment back is virtually nil. From forensic tests carried out on a computer, it would appear that our equipment, along with other commercial equipment, is most likely residing in the USA.

We are now in the process of obtaining the necessary equipment to re-establish the site. So far we have been donated an Icom FR5000 repeater, and have been offered an excellent price on the UHF module. Replacing the coaxial feed to the IRLP/Te Weraiti yagi will be part

of the reinstall, as this coax has become full of water.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Imminent shutdown of seven repeaters

The South Yorkshire Repeater Group in the UK have taken the unprecedented decision in ham radio circles to close down their entire repeater network.

Due to a number of factors, they say they cannot continue to provide the service but that the move was not taken lightly and appreciate this loss will impact on one hell of a lot of amateurs.

\* \* \* \* \*

### FCC affirms huge fine in New York interference case

The FCC has confirmed a huge fine of more than \$400,000 on a Queens, New York, man who has admitted to making unauthorized transmissions on New York City Police Department radio frequencies, maliciously interfering with officers' communications.

The FCC had sent a Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) last April 14 to the perpetrator, aged 20, who is alleged to have transmitted false bomb threats, false claims of criminal activity involving firearms, false distress calls from purported NYPD officers, and threats against individual NYPD officers.

The unauthorized transmissions began in 2016, according to the FCC.

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### 174-184 MHz - Land Mobile Radio technical consultation

The Minister for Communications decided new uses for the former analogue television Band III (174-230 MHz) in April 2017, following a review of options for allocating the frequencies in this band. One of these new uses is land mobile radio services, which is allocated 10 MHz between 174-184 MHz.

Radio Spectrum Management has prepared a consultation document concerning the technical specifications for land mobile radio services operating in these frequencies. The document covers:

- the licensing regime to be used
- the allocation mechanism

- allocation terms and conditions, and
- the approach to and details of any technical specifications.

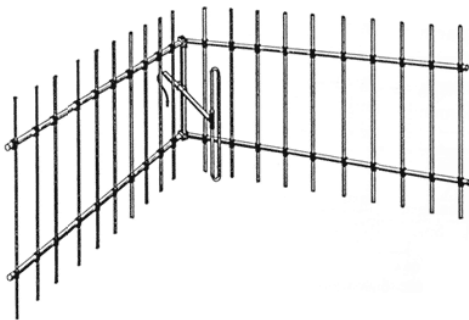
Interested parties are invited to comment on the questions raised by the consultation document and other matters related to land mobile radio services operating in 174-184 MHz.

For further information or to download the consultation document visit [174 MHz-184 MHz: Land Mobile Radio technical consultation](#).

Submissions are due by Wednesday 13 December 2017

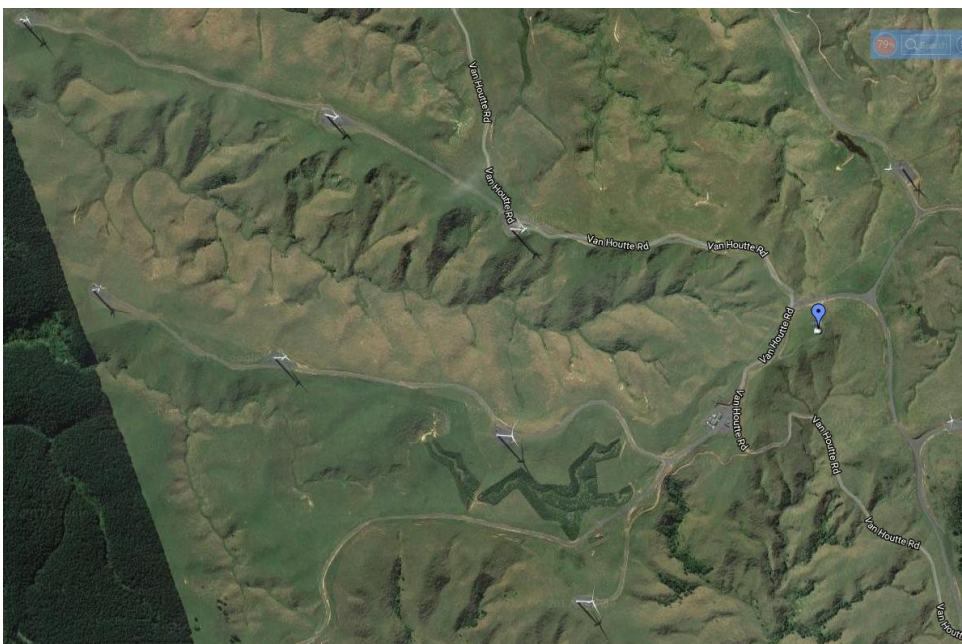
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### Major Antenna Manufacturer Ends Its Production:



Nov 01, 2017 05:37 am - eHam.net News -- Known worldwide Polar Electronic Industries of Australia, the designers and manufacturer of quality communication antennas for 41 years, has closed leaving a gap for the radio amateur community. It serviced 51 countries with quality product. Polar especially supported the Amateur Radio need for special none standard antennas outside the usual commercial frequency range. Among the Polar products covering 2 MHz to 2.9 GHz were communications

antennas, multicouplers, duplexers and accessories. Retirement of its two engineers and owners is given for the closure. Based at Moorabbin in Melbourne's south, it had extensive engineering and test facilities, including computer-aided radiation measuring equipment. Through research and development it remained an industry leader.



Te Uku site (blue marker) and nearby wind turbines.