



Papakura Radio Club

April 2026

Newsletter

Contents

Next Meeting 1 st April 2026 at 19:30	2
April presentation – Oscillators and Crystals.....	2
HF Net proposed changes:	3
Park Fest 7 th March 2026 Central Park Papakura –	4
♦ CONFERENCE OVERVIEW ARTICLE	6
Contest Corral.....	9
Contest Calendar	9
Musick Point Newsletter link	9
New Zealand & Australian Amateur Radio Magazine	9
ZL1RJS Website	10
ZL1VK Kitsets available now...for immediate delivery.	10
Operators wanted... ZL100C... NZART Centennial	10
Techoman Electronics Ltd Newsletter: 4 th March 2026.....	11
RWB Promotion	14
Papakura Radio Club Inc.	15

I intend to produce a newsletter each month and it is planned to be sent out prior to each monthly meeting. If you have any items you would like to see in the newsletter, please send to me at iana@kcbbs.gen.nz In the March issue I've increased the font to 14 pts.

Ian Ashley ZL1AOX, Secretary.

Next Meeting 1st April 2026 at 19:30

This Wednesday's evening meeting... the fourth for 2026...

At the Papakura Radio Club... Wellington Park, Papakura... Opposite the GULL S/S, Takanini

April presentation – Oscillators and Crystals

This presentation by ZL1MR will cover two topics. Part one will be a recap of radio transmission processes and an outline of why and how a radio signal is generated and propagated on a specific frequency. Part two will explain why crystal oscillators are

used with live demonstrations of basic L-C networks and how a crystal is so much more efficient and stable for the generation of frequencies.

Assuming the presentation systems work OK, test equipment screens will be live projected so the experimental data can be viewed on the big screen!

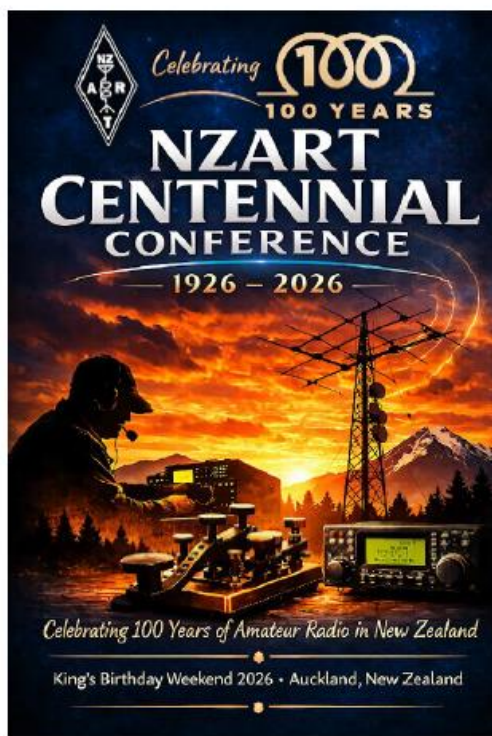
The talk will not involve the use of formulae or complex concepts but builds on the basics covered by study for the amateur radio examination. Hopefully the plain English explanations will assist everyone to better understand the what, why, and how of crystals in a practical RF environment.

Dave ZL1MR

Everyone is invited to participate, and visitors are welcome to join us also.

HF Net proposed changes:

Prior to the Sunday Net on 5th April from 0850 we will experiment with 7085 then switch to 3755 for the first part of the HF net and shift back to 7085 to finish off. That approach would allow us to test 40m and 80m conditions within the same time frame to see what works best.



Conference 2026

This year, the NZART annual conference celebrates 100 years of NZART. The conference is being held at the Waipuna Conference centre in Auckland; so Aucklanders - we want a big turnout!

Information regarding activities and registration for the conference is available on the [2026 conference website](#)



Park Fest 7th March 2026 Central Park Papakura –

by ZL1RJS

I arrived on site at 08:30 hours, with good timing as David ZL1DK was just driving his van onsite to unload all the gear off the van. Richard ZL1BNQ was arriving also and we began to set-up ready for the 10:00 start.

We had three tables set up, two side tables, one with the Tait repeater on display and the other with an HF radio on, displaying in the FT8 mode and a 2m and 70cm radio scanning the local repeaters. I turned on my handheld shortly after we arrived and the 690 net was running with Rob ZL4ROB as net control and still managed to join in while we were setting up the stand which did not take very long to set-up. A vertical dual band antenna attached to the back leg of the gazebo and a 40m dipole attached to the front leg, and each side of the dipole running between two trees.



Photo: Just set up and coffee time

The front table had the ZC1 on display and my laptop sending morse across the park.

I also had a morse key set up, so that visitors can have a go in sending your name in morse code which a lot of people had fun in doing so. I also had my useless box which attracted all sorts of all ages in joining in to turn it on. I had my Arduino 3-D printed morse key plus hand, programmed on sending my callsign into an oscillator with about a 10 second gap before it started again. A great way to learn your call in morse.



Photo: Picture of Useless Box and Arduino morse keyer + 3-D printed straight key.



Photo: Rob ZL1RJS (left) Richard ZL1BNQ (middle) David ZL1DK (right)

The Useless box was fun watching people turning it on while a finger came out and turned it off again and to see the look on people's faces. It's a useless box to keep you amused for hours or until the battery runs out. During the day it was a bit slow on turnout but it did pick up later and turned into a great fun day out in the park with lots to see. It was good to see a few members pop over and find us to say hello, and to show their support, so thanks to all that came along. Ricky ZL1RIC came over to say hi, but he was working that big Red Fire Engine on the other side of the park, demonstrating fat fires.

73 de Rob ZL1RJS

◆ CONFERENCE OVERVIEW ARTICLE

Celebrating 100 Years of Amateur Radio in New Zealand

In 2026, the amateur radio community of New Zealand will gather in Auckland to celebrate a truly historic milestone—**100 years of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters**.

This Centennial Conference is more than just an annual gathering. It is a once-in-a-generation event that honours a century of innovation, communication, public service, and community spirit.

Hosted by the collective Auckland Amateur Radio Clubs, this conference brings together operators, experimenters, emergency communicators, and enthusiasts from across the country and beyond.

Conference Dates and Venue

The conference will be held over **King's Birthday Weekend 2026**, at the prestigious:

Waipuna Hotel & Conference Centre, Auckland

This modern lakeside venue offers outstanding facilities, accommodation, and hospitality—providing the perfect setting for both formal sessions and relaxed networking.

Registrations and Bookings

Delegates are encouraged to register early to secure their place at this landmark event. Please go to <https://nzart100conference.nzart.org.nz/> to register. Bookings can be made by phoning the Waipuna conference Centre on **0800 924 786** and quoting **NZART2026** as a discount code. This won't work for online bookings.

Registration options will include:

- Full conference passes

- Day attendance options
- Partner programmes
- Social event tickets

Accommodation is available onsite at Waipuna Lodge Hotel, with additional nearby options for overflow attendees.

A Programme Designed for Everyone

The Centennial Conference programme has been carefully curated to offer something for all attendees—from seasoned operators to those new to the hobby.

Forums and Presentations

A wide range of technical and practical forums will be presented, including:

- Radio technology and innovation
- Digital modes and emerging trends
- Emergency communications (AREC)
- Equipment design and experimentation
- Beginner and advanced operator sessions

These sessions will be delivered by experienced operators and respected voices within the amateur radio community.

The NZART Annual General Meeting

A key component of the conference is the **NZART AGM**, where members come together to:

- Review the year past
- Discuss the future direction of amateur radio in New Zealand
- Vote on remits and governance matters

This is an important opportunity for members to have their voice heard and contribute to the future of the organisation.

Distinguished Guests and VIPs

The conference will be honoured by the presence of distinguished guests, including:

- Government representatives
- Leaders in emergency communications
- International amateur radio representatives

- Key figures from across the New Zealand amateur radio community

These guests reflect the significance of amateur radio not only as a hobby, but as a vital part of national resilience and communication infrastructure.

Themed Centennial Dinner

A highlight of the weekend will be the **Centennial Gala Dinner**—a themed evening celebrating the rich history of amateur radio.

This special event will feature:

- A formal dinner experience
- Guest speakers
- Historical reflections and storytelling
- Fantastic entertainment and celebrations

The evening will capture the spirit of the past, present, and future of amateur radio in New Zealand. Sort out your clothes from yesteryear and wear them to this event. You could win the prize for the best dressed man and the best dressed lady along the theme of “Roaring Forties”.

Honouring 100 Years

Throughout the conference, we will reflect on a century of achievement:

- From Morse code and early transmitters
- To satellite communications and digital modes
- From small local clubs
- To a nationwide community connected through NZART

This centennial is not just about looking back—it is about inspiring the next generation of amateur radio operators.

Join Us in Auckland

Whether you are a long-time operator, a new licensee, or simply curious about the world of amateur radio, the NZART Centennial Conference promises to be an unforgettable experience.

Come and be part of history.

Thanks Brenton

Chairman of the Centennial Conference Committee

Contest Corral

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at **www.arrrl.org/contest-calendar**. Check **<https://contests.arrrl.org>** for recent results. Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information

Contest Calendar

April, 2026

- Each Tuesday in April – [Autumn Sprints](#)
- 11th and 12th [Low Band \(VHF\) Contest](#)

May, 2026

- 2nd [WIA Harry Angel Memorial 80m Sprint](#)
- 16th and 17th [NZART Sangster Shield](#)

June, 2026

- 6th and 7th [WIA VK Shires Contest](#)
- 14th [Straight Key Night – Winter](#)

July, 2026

- 4th and 5th [NZART Memorial Contest](#)
- 18th [Trans Tasman Low Band Contest](#)

Musick Point Newsletter link

A Happy new year to all. Please find the latest MUSEletter at-

<https://museletters.zlham.net.nz/media/2026/Muse0426.pdf>

If you do not want to receive the newsletter please advise via this email.

Best 73, ZL3CK

New Zealand & Australian Amateur Radio Magazine

<https://thehamshack.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=fcf22f553297b6cd6262f884e&id=e0ec0ac30a&e=effe0514bb>

ZL1RJS Website

Rob ZL1RJS/ZL3RS has created a website at <https://zl1rjs.co.nz/> which has information on projects run and supported by the Papakura Radio Club Inc. He also has links to manuals for various radios and other interesting items. Thanks, Rob.

Just a reminder that our General Meeting supper is provided by Members bringing a plate, preferably with some goodies on it! We don't need a banquet just a snack after the meeting.



ZL1VK Kitsets available now...for immediate delivery.

- Anderson Power Pole Distribution, PC Board only... \$5.00
- 2 Radio into 1 Headphone set switching radios, incl. PTT, PC Board only... \$9.00
- Radio Interface for digital modes incl. Winlink, FT4, FT8 etc. Complete kit... \$69
- Tait Radio TM8100 Series VFO unit... 100 Memories, Complete kit... \$125
- Tait Radio VFO Escutcheon... clips over the VFO Unit... \$15

The kits above are all designed by Keith Dix, ZL1BQE for the Papakura Radio Club.

The Diplexer is a kit designed by Rob, ZL1RJS for the Papakura Radio Club.

- Diplexer... UHF/VHF unit and metal Die-cast box, supplied, complete kit... \$35

The following kit is still being finalised and will be available soon...

Voice Keyer... Record 4 messages, push button to play selection through TX radio, complete kit.
TBA

Collect from the Papakura Radio Club most Wednesdays 7.30pm to 8.30pm or email zl1dk@nzart.org.nz for postage costs etc...

Operators wanted... ZL100C... NZART Centennial

If you are an NZART Member and would like to use this special event callsign, ZL100C, contact David Karrasch, zl1dk@nzart.org.nz. David will need notification at least 24 hours prior to use, so details can be recorded in the register. You will receive a reply within 24 hours of confirmation, subject to other operator's commitments. CW operators desperately required. You will need to advise the date, times on and off, band and modes required. You will also need to supply regularly, a computer generated, adif file of your log so the details can be added to QRZ.com and later, LoTW, on a regular basis. Any queries contact David zl1dk@nzart.org.nz or phone him... 021 560 180.

Techoman Electronics Ltd Newsletter: 4th March 2026

Connecting with the local Amateur Radio community – Greetings from Techoman!

On behalf of the team at Techoman Electronics, I'm reaching out to introduce (or re-introduce) ourselves to you and members of your Amateur Radio Club.

As 100% New Zealand owned family business based in Christchurch, we've spent the last 12 years supporting the Kiwi radio community. We aren't just a warehouse, we are a team of licensed Amateur Radio Operators and qualified electronic engineers with over 46 years of industry experience. Like you members, we live and breathe radio, and we're driven by a desire to keep people communicating and learning.

Why Techoman is a great fit for your club members:

Warehouse pricing: We operate with low overheads to pass the savings directly, making the hobby more accessible for every budget.

Huge selection & Growth: We currently hold over 2000 product lines and are doubling our warehouse capacity to add nearly 500 new products from top global manufacturers.

No-Fuss Delivery: We offer fast, nationwide courier from our Christchurch base so your members can get back on the air sooner. For locals, we offer Click and Collect with pickup from our Christchurch warehouse.

Expertise You Can Trust: We are RSM-licensed to supply radio equipment and backed by tertiary electronics engineering qualifications.

Our Specialised Range Includes: Whether your members are setting up a new shack, getting on air with a new handheld, putting up an outdoor antenna, looking for pre-made coaxial cables or tweaking their installation with parts and accessories, we can supply.

- Amateur Radio Transceivers and specialised accessories.
- Antenna mounts, and brackets for every application.
- RF Plugs, Sockets and Adapters.
- Quality Custom Coaxial Cables (tailored to your specific needs).
- Test Equipment and UHF PRS (CB) gear.

Check out these exciting new additions to the Baofeng lineup! We've included flyers for two of our most popular recent releases that we think you'll love. First up is the **UV-5R MINI**, a compact dual band handheld that packs a punch for just \$89.95. If members are looking to level up their gear and dive into the world of digital, the **DM32UV DMR/Analog** handheld is a fantastic choice at \$169, and that even includes delivery! Whether they're sticking to with analog or going digital, these models are built to perform.

If there is ever anything we can do to support your club's events, new licensed HAMS or technical projects, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're here to help and share the fun of electronics and radio with our fellow enthusiasts.

73,

The Techoman Team

www.techoman.co.nz



CELEBRATING BAOFENG'S 25 YEAR MILESTONE AND
COMMITMENT TO COMMUNICATIONS WORLDWIDE WITH THE
SUPERB NEW UV-5R MINI MULTI-BAND HANDHELD.

BAOFENG

 **Bluetooth
Programming**



999CH



2200mAh
Battery



AM/FM

Multi-Band

FM 65-108MHz (RX)
AM 108-136MHz (RX)
(AIRBAND RECEIVE)
136-174MHz (RX/TX)
400-480MHz (RX/TX)
480-520MHz (RX)

5R MINI

Type-C Charging

Wireless Copy Frequency



MORE INFO

BAOFENG UV-5R MINI AVAILABLE NOW !
MARCH 2026 PRICE ONLY \$89.95

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR PROMOTION

SAVE 15% when you order any of the
following radios below

MARCH 1ST - 31ST

IC-7100

\$2,150.50
(INC. GST)

BEFORE: \$2,530.00
SAVE: \$380.00



ID-5100

\$976.52
(INC. GST)

BEFORE: \$1,148.85
SAVE: \$172.33



ID-52A PLUS

\$976.52
(INC. GST)

BEFORE: \$1,148.85
SAVE: \$172.33

RWB Promotion



CALL US ON 09 274 4062

Offer available 1st to 31st March.

Price does not include freight from our warehouse to your delivery address.

[PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW](#)

Papakura Radio Club Inc.

Branch 65 NZART Club Directory
Wellington Park, 1 Great South Road.
Westpac 03-0399-0019896-00

Club website: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1vk> Club email: zl1vk.club@gmail.com

Acting President	ZL1BNQ	Richard Gamble	021 729 270
Secretary	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	021 198 1810
Treasurer	ZL1MR	David Wilkins	021 185 7903
Committee	ZL1DK	David Karrasch	021 560 180
	ZL1IRC	Ian Clifford	021 082 48400
	ZL1RJS	Rob Stokes	021 307 005
	ZL1RIC	Ricky Hodge	027 533 8155
	ZL1KIM	Kimi Nooroa	021 024 66004
	ZL3TI	Tristan Ilich	027 889 3309

AREC Section Leader	ZL1BNQ	Richard Gamble	021 729 270
CD Liaison	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	021 198 1810
Newsletter Editor	ZL1AOX	021 198 1810	
Hall Custodian	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	021 198 1810
Newsletter.	Contact: Ian Ashley	iana@kcbbs.gen.nz	

Our newsletter is published monthly and normally distributed just before the club meeting.

Please forward articles etc to the editor Wednesday 1 week before the general meeting.

Please notify any change of address including E-Mail Address to the secretary.

Meetings

General Meetings are held at the Clubrooms on the 1st Wednesday of each month, starting at 7.30 pm. Look at your calendar and mark these nights. The speaker follows the General Meeting.

Activity Nights are held on the 2nd Wednesday starting at 7.30 pm.

Committee Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm unless advised.

Project Evenings are on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

AREC Meetings are on the 5th Wednesday night, also starting at 7.30 pm

AGM: Held in November

Subscription: Full membership and newsletter \$30.00 Family Membership and newsletter \$45.00

Bank Account number: 03-0399-0019896-00

Working Bees: As required.

Branch 65 21 Award: For contacts with ZL1VK (5 Points) and 8 Papakura Radio Club Members (2 Points each). Total 21 Points. Cost \$5-00. Certified list and \$5-00 to Secretary, Papakura Radio Club. Address above.

ZL1VK Club Nets

146.625 MHz Sunday at 8.00 am. Controller ZL1BNQ, Richard and any others available. If the repeater is not available, listen 146.475 MHz FM simplex.

3.755 MHz LSB, Sunday at 9.00 am. Controller Richard. ZL1BNQ

(Linked to 146.675 & 438.775 FM Tone 141.3Hz)