



## 2KO Times - Season's Greetings!

December 2010

### 2KO Times from the Editor

First of all I would like to apologize to the members of Branch 20 for the lack of the 2KO Times over the last few months.

Due to work commitments and also the passing of my stepfather in the south island the 2KO Times has been left behind. Now that everything is back under control the 2KO Times will become the regular newsletter that you expect.

I have also off loaded some of the management of the 2KO Website to Stuart ZL2SGA. I would like to take this time to thank Stuart for his great efforts on running the website.

I have started on some other pages for the 2KO Website which include a on-line version of the 2KO Times and some other ideas.

Please remember that if you like a 2KO email address please email me and I will get this done.

Current email address of some committee members as follows.

**Richie** - president@zl2ko.org.nz,

**Cheryl** - secretary@zl2ko.org.nz

**Pete** - treasurer@zl2ko.org.nz

**Len** - arec@zl2ko.org.nz

Starting from January 2011 the 2KO Times will have a maximum of 3 pages in each edition these will include the President Blog, Updates on AREC, Website, Trade & Exchange, events and Sunday roster.

### 2KO Beano 2010 - 18th December 2010

This years Beano is being held at the Cloverlea Tavern on December 18th 2010. Starting from 6pm for some pre-dinner drinks. Dinner at 7pm. Cost of **\$30 per head** for a great evening with fellow Hams. Please contact **Pete Moore** to confirm numbers.

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#### Important Dates 2010 / 2011

18th Dec 2KO Beano

Drinks from 6pm

#### January 2011

15th Jan NZ Amateur Radio Day

## From the President Blog... Nov 2010

It has been a busy month with radio, the table sale at Longburn had a full car park during the morning. Pete has the final balance of how the trading went.

### JOTA

This month also saw 4 branch members busy with the Feilding district scouts out at Grassmere on the Oroua river close to Colyton. This was a weekend under canvas with the scouts, cubs and guides from around the Feilding, Marton and Milson areas. It is to the credit of Mike ZL2UKW that this JOTA camp eventuated as Mike had spoken with the Feilding Scout District Commissioner much earlier in the year so planning could be effected. In my mind a JOTA camp is wonderful idea as there is a captive audience and activity can continue into the evening as international propagation improves. Contacts were made on 80 40 and 20 meters, with JOTA stations worked nationally and into Australia. There were a couple of the young people that really took a shine to the technology, next time we need to be prepared with hand outs to give to those who are interested and we also need to have a method of follow up. When the camp broke on Sunday afternoon the organisers are hoping next years JOTA at Grassmere it will include Scouts from a much larger area.

On the Saturday morning of the JOTA weekend a number of the Feilding locals got together to bring [Feilding Branch 70](#) out of recess. This enabled ZL2AMR to be used again as in historical years for the 3 JOTA stations on the weekend. The idea of using the ZL2AMR callsign for the Feilding district was to leave ZL2KO free for JOTA in the Manawatu if required. I did not hear if the Manawatu Scouts made an approach to us for JOTA. Is JOTA something members want to do, and if it is would a weekend camp suit those wanting to work DX JOTA or is the club rooms better - I would love some feedback.

### Pirates and the like.

There has been some concern recently with unlicensed people playing DTMF tones or triggering the repeater. Some have even been able to connect to IRLP nodes with the DTMF sequences they have used. As a person who works from home I usually listen to 7125. Sometimes during the day when I hear unannounced DTMF on 7125 or the repeater being triggered I wonder if this could be another unlicensed person playing on the repeater or just a ham not using their callsign. I often listen reverse when this happens. Now, there is something we can all do to remove the guess work. While our callsigns should never be used on every over, they should be used when we transmit the first over and when we sign out. This includes identifying your station before keying DTMF tones - this is part of the discipline that is Amateur Radio which we are all proud of and set us apart from other radio services. Also remember to leave a 3 second pause on a repeater after the tail has dropped, this is especially important if it is the national system or an IRLP node where infrastructure delays can mean your first word or 4 is not heard at the other end if you don't wait long enough.

Don't forget NZ Amateur Radio Day 2011, Being held in the  
Palmerston North Square on 15th January 2011  
Come and support your club and hobby



## From the President Blog... Nov 2010 cont...

### Bob to the Committee

As president it is my pleasure to formally welcome Rob ZL2RMH to the committee. Rob had been nominated before the AGM recently but was overlooked on the night. Welcome Rob.

### Website

The new branch [website](#) has now become an informative Internet address. Hayden and Stu (ZL2SGA) are your web content people and are the ones you harass to get information included / corrected or removed on <http://zl2ko.org.nz>

In the process of developing the new website we have migrated to a new providers plan which includes many email address and the option of having email alias's. Already the Branch officers which include President, Secretary, Treasure etc have an email address at ZL2KO.org.nz which redirects the email to the usual email address provided by the individual user. Also configured is a 'Members' and 'newsletter' alias for group emails. The new hosting service plan has come at an additional cost of \$19.95 per year to the branch, however this has already been paid for by anonymous donation.

### VHF Contest

Planning is already underway for the first weekend of December with a number of members involved, information is on the home page of the branch's website.

All going well this years Beano will be my first, thanks to Pete for getting this organised.

Cheers

Richie ZL2KP / VK2IAX

### Key M.A.R.S Committee Members Contact Emails

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#### President

Richie Prior - ZL2KP  
president@zl2ko.org.nz

#### Secretary

Cheryl Wheatley - ZL2VCC  
secretary@zl2ko.org.nz

#### Treasurer

Pete Moore - ZL2AUB  
treasurer@zl2ko.org.nz

#### A.R.E.C Section Leader

Len Inkpen - ZL2LI  
arec@zl2ko.org.nz

### 2KO Email Address

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All members are welcome to have a zl2ko.org.nz email address for FREE.

Your 2KO email address works the same as NZART email address we bossily forward the email your own private home email address.

We do have spam filters running on it all the time.

To get your 2KO email address contact Hayden via email at zl2wd@zl2ko.org.nz today.



## Sunday Net Roster

Sunday Net is on 3.570mhz Lower Side Band - 9AM

Net Masters for the next 2 months below

12<sup>th</sup> Dec ZL2BEQ

19<sup>th</sup> Dec ZL2ADN

25<sup>th</sup> Dec ZL2AUB

2<sup>nd</sup> Jan ZL2FE

9<sup>th</sup> Jan ZL2JC

16<sup>th</sup> Jan ZL2LI

23<sup>rd</sup> Jan ZL2BJA

## 2KO Repeaters

### VHF 2M

147.125 Mhz

145.725 Mhz

### UHF 70cm

438.525 Mhz

### National System

439.975 Mhz

### Club HF

3.570 Mhz

### IRLP

6943

### M.A.R.S Contact Information

Physical Address:  
65 Totara Road,  
Palmerston North 4412

Postal Address:  
PO Box 1718  
Palmerston North 4412

Contact information:  
Stan Russell ZI2BRS  
(06) 358-6683

### M.A.R.S Meeting Times

Meeting Information: 2011

1st General Meeting  
2nd February

1st Committee Meeting  
16th February

Held at the M.A.R.S Clubrooms at  
65 Totara Road  
Palmerston North

