

THE WORLD BELOW

400 GHz

The Periodical Newsletter of the
WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc.,
ZL1IS,
C/- 35 Lancaster Street,
Dinsdale,
Hamilton 3204



NZART
BRANCH 81

Web: www.zl1is.info

Email: branch.81@nzart.org.nz

MARCH 2025 ISSUE

WAIKATO VHF GROUP EXECUTIVE

President	David King	ZL1DGK	07 884 9590
Vice President	Neill Ellis	ZL1TAJ	07 576 1999
Secretary	Vacant		
Treasurer	Ian Brown	ZL1TAT	0274 818 414
Committee	Morris Beale	ZL1ANF	07 884 8416
Committee	David McMillan	ZL1TLQ	027 477 0854
Trading Table	Tom Bevan	ZL1THG	0273 093 449
NL Editor	David King	ZL1DGK	07 884 9590

Annual General Meeting March 2025

The 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Waikato VHF Group will be held on

Sunday, 16th March 2025, 1:30pm

at the Silver Fern Farms Event Centre, (aka Te Aroha Events Centre),
44 Stanley Ave, Te Aroha (Ballance Room, our usual venue)

Following the Election of Officers, our General Business will include discussing our proposed new Constitution, which needs to be confirmed prior to being submitted to NZART Council, then to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies. Also to be discussed is RSM's proposal to increase licence fees in July 2026.

The "WaiPlenty" 2m network on 146.950 will be monitored prior to meeting for anyone requiring directions.

Is your subscription up to date?

To be entitled to vote at our AGM, members must have paid their 2025 subscription prior to attending. Unless you're one of our four Life Members, you'll have been issued with a 2025 membership receipt following your payment. **Please ensure your subscription is up to date prior to Sunday March 16.**

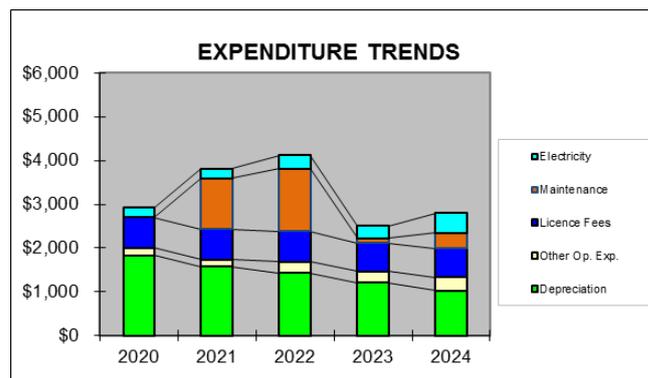
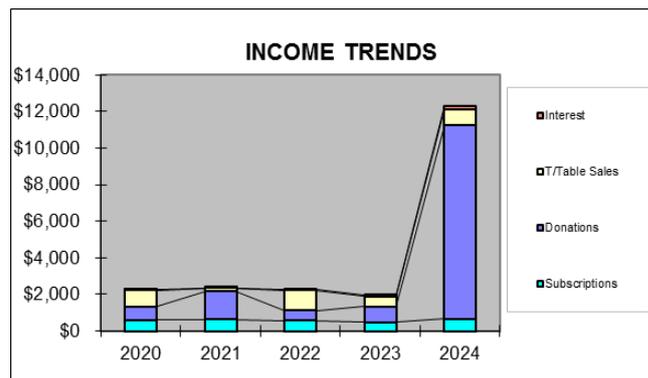
TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

It's my pleasure to summarise financial results from the Waikato VHF Group Inc's 2024 year. Our independently reviewed **Financial Statement** follows with the reviewer's report. Membership for 2024 held steady, although two members (ZL1AQC and ZL1GWP) became silent keys during the year. Four members paid their 2025 sub before the end of 2024. Life Member Tom ZL1THG again manned a table for us at both the Branch 12 and Branch 89 Market Days. Trading table income was boosted by addition of an "Equipment for Sale" page (found under "Resources") on our new web site which went live in November. Prior to going into recess, Waihi Branch 43 donated \$10,000 to our Group, \$8000 of which has been invested in a Term Deposit, and the other \$2000 set aside for repeater maintenance.

Eighteen individuals plus one family paid 2024 subscriptions. Members are reminded that our **subscriptions fall due on 1st January each year**, and you need to be a financial member to participate in voting at our March AGM. Our rates have increased by another \$5 for 2025 (our final increase anticipated for now), although remain less than one dollar per week to support our extensive facilities. Renewal details can be advised via our membership application/update form available on our web site at <https://www.zl1is.info/members.html> While paying your sub, how about considering adding sponsorship of one or more of our radio licence fees?

Waikato VHF Group **Subscriptions** for 2025 are **\$35.00** for a member/associate, **\$40.00** for club or family membership (all residing at the same address), and **\$20.00** for a student currently enrolled at NZ secondary school or tertiary educational institution. If you're one of our four members (ZL1BPB, ZL1FW, ZL1TKG and ZL1TLQ) who've pre-paid for 2025, thank you, you don't need to pay again this year!



Branch 81 gratefully acknowledges **donations and licence sponsorships received during 2024** from ZLs 1BPB, 1GWP, ZL1PO, 1RWR, and 1TLQ. Thank you all, your support is greatly appreciated.

Our **WaiPlenty 2m repeater network** operated as a four-repeater system throughout 2024. Waihi North '5475's RF power amplifier failed and was repaired in February. Performance of Te Weraiti '695 was restored to nearly its original levels after its antenna systems were repaired mid-year, plus a buzz which later developed on its tail was resolved by replacement of a faulty plug-pack supply in September. Te Uku '5675 has experienced issues with no Tx modulation, which we're unable to resolve while site access remains an issue with owners not wanting non-commercial operators on site.

Significantly **increased electricity costs** show up again in our annual accounts following phasing out of the *Low Fixed Charge Tariff* we'd previously enjoyed. The maximum low fixed charge mandated by regulations increased from 30 cents a day to 60 cents per day on 1 April 2022, then to 90 cents per day on 1 April 2023, followed by \$1.20 per day on 1 April 2024. It will increase to \$1.50 per day on 1 April 2025, and \$1.80 per day on 1 April 2026. That's a 600% increase phased in over five years!

We relinquished our **Post Office Box** in December because the very small amount of mail received no longer justified its annual rental. Mail will go to my home address until a new Secretary is appointed.

Ian Brown ZL1TAT
Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

for the WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc. for F.Y. Ended 31 December 2024

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

<u>2023</u>		<u>2024</u>
	INCOME ...	
\$485	Subscriptions received	\$645
\$855	Donations received	\$10,610
\$541	Profit from Trading Table	\$885
\$108	Interest received	\$172
\$1,989		\$12,312
	EXPENSES ...	
\$1,213	Depreciation	\$1,031
\$100	Repairs & Maintenance	\$366
\$282	Electricity	\$441
\$650	Radio Licence fees	\$650
\$256	Other expenses	\$305
\$2,501		\$2,793
(\$512)	Excess Income / Expenditure	\$9,519

BALANCE SHEET

<u>2023</u>		<u>2024</u>
	CURRENT ASSETS ...	
\$6,292	Bank Current Account	\$8,857
\$0	Bank Term Deposits	\$8,000
\$0	Cash on hand	\$0
\$0	Stock on hand	\$0
\$6,292		\$16,857
	LIABILITIES ...	
\$120	Subscriptions received in advance	\$135
\$6,172	Working Capital	\$16,722
\$6,873	Fixed Assets	\$5,842
\$13,045	Member's Funds	\$22,564
\$13,557	EQUITY ...	\$13,045
(\$512)	Opening Balance	\$9,519
\$13,045	This Year	\$22,564
\$13,045		\$22,564

SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS & DEPRECIATION

ASSET	Original Cost <small>plus Addns / Disposals at Cost</small>	B/V at 31.12.23	+ Addns.	- Deprec. 15 %	Book Value at 31.12.24
Tairua '6975 Repeater	2,731.66	0.00		Xfd to Branch 85 in 2011	
Waihi North '5475 Rpx & Link	11,220.65	1,516.41		227.46	1288.95
Maungakawa '5575 Rpx & Link	7,421.61	1,114.54		167.18	947.36
TeWeraiti '695 Rpx & Links	8,185.57	1,287.50		193.13	1094.37
Kaimai Repeaters Site facilities	6,317.50	309.13		48.37	262.76
Kaimai '540 Data Rpx (Closed 2019)	2,468.45	0.00		0.00	0.00
Kaimai '485 N.S. ULS Repeater	2,829.20	109.48		16.42	93.06
Kaimai 12cm Beacon	449.00	2.92		0.44	2.48
Hamilton 2m/70/23cm Beacon	315.22	8.62		1.29	7.33
Hamilton '9975 Nat. Syst Rpx.	4,382.73	90.79		13.62	77.17
Te Uku '5675 Rpx, Links + IRLP	17,765.16	2,424.59		363.69	2060.90
Oto '465 Digipeater (Closed 2017)	295.66	0.00		0.00	0.00
TK705D 2m Transceiver	225.00	8.71		1.31	7.40
TOTALS:	64,607.41	\$6,872.69	\$0.00	\$1,030.91	\$5,841.78
Less Accumulated Depreciation	62,481.84				
Equals Book Value at 31.12.24	\$5,841.78				


I. W. Brown (Treasurer)


D. G. King (President)

**REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
WAIKATO VHF GROUP INCORPORATED**

I have reviewed the financial statements of the Waikato VHF Group Incorporated. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance and financial position of Waikato VHF Group Incorporated as at 31 December 2024. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out separately.

The Committee's Responsibilities

The Committee are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which fairly reflect the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2024, and the results of its operations for the year ended 31 December 2024.

My Responsibilities

It is my responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the group, and report my opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

A review includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- The significant estimates and judgements made by the Group in the preparation of the financial statements, and
- Whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I conducted my review in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards in New Zealand. I planned and performed my review so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Unqualified Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2024.

My review was completed on 15 January 2025 and my unqualified opinion is expressed at that date.

M Y JAENSCH

TAURANGA

Constitution revision

Under the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 (link below), the Waikato VHF Group is required to reregister to maintain our incorporated status. Reregistration must be completed prior to 5 April 2026. First, we have to amend (re-write) our Constitution to comply with new requirements in the 2022 Act's 270 clauses which create a much more formal compliance environment than the 36 clauses in the 1908 Act under which we've been registered since 1978. Failing to re-register will lead to a society being involuntarily de-registered with its members losing protection of separate legal identity incorporation provides.

Our new Constitution must include additional procedures, such as dispute resolution processes. Also, in future, any person wishing to join our Group will have to formally consent to becoming a member (existing members whose subscriptions are up to date will be considered to have already consented). A register (similar to what we have at present) has to be kept of all members. There's also new rules around the qualification of club officers, with each candidate required to consent in writing and confirm their qualification to be appointed.

The draft of our new (2025) Constitution closely follows NZART's model Branch Constitution, tweaked where appropriate. This is to be discussed and voted upon at our upcoming AGM. It's important you read through this prior to our AGM, and that as many members as possible participate. Bring your comments and suggestions to contribute at our AGM later this month.

The **Incorporated Societies Act 2022** in its entirety may be viewed at

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0012/latest/whole.html#LMS100913>

Have you visited our new web site?

Our web site was updated with a new look in November 2024. Under the "Resources" tab, we've recently updated section listing items FOR SALE. Have a look from time to time, and encourage friends to do the same. This new site is at the same address www.zl1is.info



ZL1IS HOME ABOUT MEETINGS & NEWS MEMBERS SITES IRLP CONTACT **RESOURCES**

Welcome to the Waikato VHF Group ZL1IS

We hope you enjoy your visit to our site. The Waikato VHF Group has the callsign ZL1IS and is a member of NZART - Branch 81. You are welcome to contact us and to join us.

Election of Officers

As usual, our VHF Group Officers are elected at our AGM (2025 Agenda on page 7). That will include the position of Secretary which has remained vacant since August 2024. Duties of our Executive are outlined in 6.4.2 of our 2021 Constitution.

Bring along your offers / nominations to fill these important positions. Remember to check with your nominee first, or you're welcome to self-nominate.

PO Box 606 has been relinquished

We relinquished our Post Office Box at the Waikato Mail Centre in December. A temporary delivery address for physical mail is listed on the front page of this newsletter.

Kaimai National System

Work continues on preparing our new repeater equipment for installation at our Kaimai site, with purchase of items to upgrade that installation. We now have a Low Voltage Disconnect (LVD) to protect '850's battery against excessively deep discharge during an extended mains failure.

Waikato VHF Group SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions fall due on 1 January each year for the ensuing twelve months. Our subs for 2025 are:

Member or Associate Member - **\$35.00**

Family or Club Member - **\$40.00**

Family membership means two or more members residing permanently at the same physical address, please give all names and callsigns.

Student Member - **\$20.00**

RENEW YOUR EXISTING MEMBERSHIP:-

If you're renewing membership, your subscription can be made by payment to the Waikato VHF Group, Westpac account, No. **03 1555 0091289-00** via internet banking. When paying by this method, please include your name and callsign details where appropriate so our Treasurer can identify who the payment came from. Each sub is issued a receipt after its received.

CHANGE OF DETAILS:-

Any change in membership details can be notified by:

1. handing a completed form <https://www.zl1is.info/members.html> to our Treasurer at a general meeting, or
2. scanning the completed form and emailing it to; branch.81@nzart.org.nz or
3. placing those details in an email to our email address in 2 above.

If you've already paid for 2025, our Treasurer will have emailed you a receipt, and your up to date subscription status will be noted in the covering email with this newsletter.

Money saving tip; please confirm or inquire to avoid paying a second time.

Radio Licensing Fees — proposal to increase fees from July 2026

In February this year, Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) a division of the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) who manage our radio spectrum, released a consultation document in which they propose increases to radio licensing fees from 1 July 2026. There are two options, which for Amateur Radio licences both have a 37% increase proposed. You can read RSM's Fees Review consultation at

<https://www.rsm.govt.nz/projects-and-auctions/current-projects/fees-review-2025>

Whichever option is decided on and approved by Government, all operators of Amateur repeaters, links and beacons will face an annual fee increase from \$50.00 including GST at present to \$68.43 including GST from July 2026. This will be discussed in General Business at our upcoming AGM.

Minutes of our last Annual General Meeting

As suggested at our 2024 AGM, minutes from our previous Annual General meeting held at Te Aroha are included on the last two pages of this newsletter.

Waikato VHF Group Inc.
AGENDA for 2025 AGM

1. Roll Call
2. Apologies
3. Silent Keys: Vic Sinclair ZL1AQC (member since Apr 2012) passed away 9 May 2024
Gavin Petrie ZL1GWP (member since Jan 1984, and our Secretary for the last 38)
passed away 22 Aug 2024
4. Minutes of March 2024 AGM (published in this March 2025 newsletter)
5. Matters arising
6. President's Report
7. Treasurer's Report (published in this March 2025 newsletter)
8. Election of Officers: President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee (minimum 2, up to 4 members)
Bulletin Editor
Accounts Reviewer
Subscriptions (recommended to remain as for 2025)
9. General Business: Waikato VHF Group Draft 2025 Constitution
RSM proposal to raise radio Licensing Fees
Other items



WAIKATO VHF GROUP Inc. Branch 81

Annual General Meeting

Held at the Te Aroha Events Centre, 44 Stanley Ave., Te Aroha
on Sunday 24th March 2024, at 1:30pm.

Welcome:- David ZL1DGK welcomed members and visitors present.

Present - (11 members, and **two visitors**): David King ZL1DGK (Chair), Ian Brown ZL1TAT (Treasurer & minute taker), David McMillan ZL1TLQ, Ian Ashley ZL1AOX, Roy Smith ZL1BPB, Morris Beale ZL1ANF, Joline Beale ZL1UJB, Maxine Rowe ZL1FW, **Wally Edlin ZL1WE**, **David Grey ZL1BMA**, Neill Ellis ZL1TAJ, Dennis Seymour ZL1UET, Russell Richardson ZL1RWR.

Apologies:- were received from Gavin Petrie ZL1GWP, Tom Bevan ZL1THG, Warren Harris ZL2AJ, and Kevin Hampshire ZL1KRH.

Silent Keys:- ZL1KP Bruce Burgess (member 1996~2008), ZL1MGS Maxine Schaare (member 2011~2015), ZL1TPH Stephen Hayman (member 2006~2015). A one minute silence was observed in remembrance of these past members who became Silent Keys during the past year.

Minutes of Last Meeting:- The minutes of our 2023 60th AGM were read and confirmed.

Moved ZL1DGK 2nd ZL1ANF Adopted

Matters Arising:- add to last paragraph; "our 60th anniversary cake was iced by Christine Cecil". Also correct in apologies; Vern's call sign should read ZL1TKG.

Presidents Report:- was presented by President David King ZL1DGK.

Moved ZL1DGK 2nd ZL1AOX Adopted

Treasurers Report:- as published in March 2024 Newsletter was presented by Ian ZL1TAT.

Moved ZL1TAT 2nd ZL1BPB Adopted

Election of Officers:-

Vice-president Neil ZL1TAJ took the chair for the election of President.

President ZL1DGK was nominated by ZL1TLQ 2nd by ZL1AOX. With no further nominations the contender left the room, and after a show of hands, ZL1DGK was elected and carried with acclamation.

Ian ZL1AOX moved that all 2023 executive positions be reappointed for 2024, being **Vice President;-** ZL1TAJ, **Secretary;-** ZL1GWP, **Treasurer;-** ZL1TAT. This was seconded by David ZL1DGK, and supported by all members present. With no further nominations, these three positions were declared elected, and carried with acclamation.

Committee:- Nominations were called for up to 4 committee members;

Nominated: – ZL1ANF nominated by ZL1TAT 2nd by ZL1AOX
ZL1TLQ nominated by ZL1TAT 2nd by ZL1DGK

With no further nominations, these two were declared elected with acclamation.

Bulletin Editor:- ZL1DGK was nominated by ZL1TAJ, 2nd by ZL1TAT. As there were no further nominations, appointment of ZL1DGK was carried with acclamation. David was thanked for producing our newsletters over the past twelve months.

Accounts Reviewer:- Ian ZL1TAT proposed, 2nd by ZL1BPB that Yvonne Ellis (ex Jaensch) be re-appointed as reviewer for the 2024 year. Carried on voices.

Subscriptions:- Treasurer, Ian ZL1TAT outlined our recent subscription history, and costs of operating our repeaters and links. Changes to electricity billing implemented last year removed the 'RTU supply' we were previously billed, so we're now on a business plan comprised of a 'Daily Fixed Charge' plus an 'Unmetered Consumption Charge'. Consequently our electricity cost increased by 107% overall in 2023, with a further 38% in the daily fixed charge plus 15% for the unmetered rate coming into effect in April 2024. Previously we also benefited from a 10% prompt payment discount, however with that no longer existing, the total of our new discounts now reach only 5%.

Accordingly, our committee has proposed "subscriptions for 2025 increase to \$35.00 for an individual member or \$40.00 for a family or Club, and Student member to \$20.00. All family members must live at the same address". Prior to last year's increase, our subs had remained the same since 2012.

Moved by Ian ZL1TAT and 2nd by David ZL1DGK. Carried

General Business

Minutes to be published in Newsletter:- Members opinion was canvassed regarding publishing minutes of each AGM and GM in the newsletter following that meeting. It was suggested that seeing what they'd missed by missing a meeting could be an incentive to attend in future. It was agreed that Annual General and General meeting minutes should be published in newsletters delivered to financial members, but committee meetings would remain in committee. Secretary to supply minutes to Bulletin Editor in time for publication.

Guest speakers: A call for suggestions from the floor didn't bring any possibilities. We desire speakers for three to four presentations per year. Where a guest speaker can't be arranged, a video may be substituted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1421 hours, followed by afternoon tea kindly arranged by David ZL1TLQ.

ApprovedChairman

Date/...../.....