

THE S WATTER

THE NEWSLETTER FOR QRP NZ.

P. 02
**GETTING OUT OF THE
SHACK IN WINTER**



A cold gloomy day operating on the Gordon Range ZL3 / TM -067.
Authors Image

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



IMAGE COURTESY - ERIC ZL2BMI

RED DATE - QRP SECTION,
BROWN DATE - QRP MULTIPLIER,
GREEN DATE - HIGHER POINTS FOR QRP
QSOs.

JULY 29 2023. 7.30PM GO QRP NIGHT

AUGUST 12 & 13 2023. WIA REMEM-
BERANCE DAY CONTEST

TUESDAYS IN AUGUST. NZART WINTER
SPRINTS

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GETTING OUT OF THE SHACK IN
WINTER

GO QRP NIGHT LEADERBOARD

P.03
THE EDITORS DESK

UBITX PROJECT AND MORE POWER SOURCE
IDEAS.

AUTHOR, CONTACTING

Unless stated otherwise, all articles were written by the editor Rob ZL2 RMC.
You can contact Rob at qrpnz12021@gmail.com.

GETTING OUT OF THE SHACK IN WINTER

SHELTERS AND WARM HUTS

As most of you know I certainly have a bias for portable operations and getting outdoors. To help out in the winter months I quite often pack a Lifesystems 2 person shelter. These pull out of stuff bag and offer very quick protection from wind and rain. They are very basic, no pegging down, you merely sit inside it on a waterproof fabric seat that is part of the shelter. There is a second seat at the opposite end you can put your feet on if you dont have a second keen person to share the shelter with. They have one side window and the bag forms a vent with a mesh end to it. These are great to be a bit more comfortable on a portable op and also keep your precious transceiver away from the elements. These are designed for an emergency or temporary shelter, or as I call it my portable smoko hut. When I am mountaineering often we do need to stop for a bite, but in an exposed uncomfortable environment it isnt very inviting. For those interested there are numerous different brands and sizes available online

and through most outdoor shops. This particular one packs down to a similar size to my kx2 and case, and weighs 215g. Alternatively find yourself a cosy hut and get the fire going for a night of radio! A lot of smaller huts dont see a lot of use this time of year, myself and charlie dog recently had a hut to ourselves and didnt see anyone else for an entire weekend!



Packed size of lifesystems shelter Authors Image.



Charlie asleep at Lees Creek hut. Authors Image.



Deployed lifesystems shelter: Packgearco.co.nz

Go QRP Night Points						
CALLSIGN	NAME	ROUND 1 APRIL 29	ROUND 2 MAY 27	ROUND 3 JUNE 24	TOTAL	Position:
ZL3TK	Stan	50	32	50	132	1
ZL2RMC	Rob	34	29	44	107	2
ZL2STR	Stewart	43	27	14	84	3
ZL2SAR	Dylan	37	36		73	4
ZL1SHP	Craig	47			47	5
ZL1RCA	Ian	20	19		39	6
ZL2GVA	Gerard	23	5	5	33	7
ZL2WE	Sam			23	23	8
ZL1KB	Scott		17		17	9
ZL3PIE	Tim	11			11	10

GO QRP NIGHT

Still a few missing logs, please send these through to mcdonald.t.robert@gmail.com.

A few of recommendations for CW operators to make it a bit easier to attain CW contacts.

1. Specific rendezvous time of 8pm, and on the quarter hour thereafter e.g 8.15, 8.30pm.. once phone contacts become thin.
2. Specified CW calling frequency of 3.550MHz
3. A protocol based on the logsheet to ensure speed and predictability of contacts made:

Suggested protocol for CW to ensure all data is passed:

For home stations: DE ZL2AUA CT LOG 10 / N / N / N / Y / MIKE / KERIKERI / RSN 565 / DOB AR BK

For portable stations: DE ZL2STR CT LOG 7 / P / N / N / Y / STUART / RICHMOND / RSN 541 / 012 AR BK

For back country stations: DE ZL2RMC CT LOG 5 / Y / Y / N / Y / ROB / NELSON / 541R345 / E173R397 / RSN 421 / 024 AR BK

NEXT ROUND: Saturday July 29 7.30pm NZT.



THE EDITORS DESK

Welcome back to the 5 Watter for June, apologies again for the late running of this service. I have been playing about with a uBITx qrp transceiver and also more power supplies! The uBITX can be bought as a basic kit from <https://www.hfsignals.com/index.php/ubitx-v6/> or google search HF signals, these cost around \$160USD. No soldering of circuit components is required, Solder on an antenna connection and choose a power supply and mic connection. I have chosen to mount mine in a pelican case using a copper backed pcb board as the top panel and copper tape is inside the case for extra RF shielding. These are a great low cost all mode and all HF band transceiver for those wishing to get into QRP. I have also been playing around with yet more power supply options, this time using a portable usb power pack and usb trigger cable.

For those wishing to use a trigger cable, the power pack must have a usb c port capable of the required voltage and amps. The particular cable and power pack option I am using offers an output of 15v and 3a. with a capacity of 6.4ah at 11.1 volts. The specs of the particular model I use are available at: <https://www.goalzero.com/products/venture-75-power-bank> It also allows me to charge a tablet for logging, headlamp or cellphone etc when in the field. 73's Rob ZL2RMC

For those that wish to contact me or submit content I'll be keen to hear from you. mcdonald.t.robert@gmail.com or qrpnz12021@gmail.com or cellphone 0275235253.



uBITX v6 in pelican case. Authors Image.



Goal Zero power pack, USB PD Cable, KX2 and VK portalog running on Samsung Tablet. Authors Image