

BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and
Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 8, Issue 1, January 2010



Hastings Br
13
Club Call
ZL2AS

Napier Br 25
Club Call
ZL2GT

IRLP
Node
6793
147.250

HB DX
Cluster
ZL2AL-1
144.650
Connect
and type
"DXC"

**Branch
Nets**
9.00 AM
Sunday
Morning
3615 Hz
147.250
MHz

Editor
John Newson
ZL2VAF



Antennae at Mt Threave – Home of the IRLP Node

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/zl2as/>



Join the KIWI DX Group
Talk to ZL2AL for Details

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Club Nights: Fourth Wednesday each month at 7.30 pm Surf Club Rooms, Windsor Park, Hastings

Hastings Branch 13 - President's Report

Hi all. Welcome to 2010.

The VHF field day was a lot of fun for all, at the beginning of December last year. Myself and Charlotte went microlite and walked 7.5hrs upto Panekiri Hutt with a few antennas, a battery, and a FT817. I made plenty of contacts and we had an enjoyable time. Unfortunately only running 5W limited what we could achieve, and the long walk in and out will probably mean we will not try this one again.

The summer has brought a few good openings on 50MHz and I have managed to work VK9NA and E51CG, along with a few VK's. I hear VK9NA was also heard on 144.100 as well.

This year's car rally will be on the 24th of April (Saturday). Please mark your calendar. Because it is not a NZ championship round, there will only be one car rally this year rather than the usual 2. The stages have been plotted and all are south of Waipukarau. Interesting new territory for comms. HQ will be at the car club. Please let me know if you are available. If you wish to operate mid stage you will need an 80m dipole. All mids will be on HF. Results will be on UHF.

The next club meeting is on Wednesday. We will reverse the usual procedure to have an 80m dipole experimentation session outside while we have daylight hours. Bring your 80m dipole along for testing, or bring along your notepad to learn how to make your own. At 2100 we will head indoors and have our normal meeting.

Kaweka Challenge is on, along with the Jock White Field Day 27th and 28th February. If you are not participating in the challenge, think about putting a field station together, or maybe come up as home station (branch 00).

I hope to have 870 along at the next club meeting, so bring a handheld along and if all goes well we will be able to give it a run.
See you Wednesday.

Regards,
Warren Harris
ZL2AJ

NAPIER BRANCH 25

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Committee Meetings: *Third Monday of the month 7pm at Club Rooms*

Club Call: **ZL2GT**

Club Nights: *First Wednesday each month (except January) 7.30pm at the Club Rooms: 123 Latham Street Napier*

NAPIER NEWS...

Best wishes for 2010 with good DXing/VHFing. Time flies - the year is already nearly a month old.

The next Napier meeting will be at the clubrooms on Wednesday 3 February at 7.30 pm.

Our last 2008 meeting was the AGM which had been held over from November. There were two changes to club officers – Tony ZL2RZ stood down as Section Leader after three years in the position. Thank you Tony for your work as Section Leader. Tony will continue on as our rep on Napier Civil Defence. Any volunteers for the Section Leader position should contact Laurie ZL2TC at 843 8519. The other change was the election of Lee ZL2AL to committee. Welcome Lee.

The Pan Pac trophy home constructors contest was won by Karl ZL1TJ. Subs for 2009/10 are now due and can be paid to Stan or if you wish the \$25 can be deposited to the club account 'Napier Amateur Radio Club Inc' at an ANZ bank. Our bank account is 116400 0014548 11 and the branch is Napier. A reference of your callsign is required on the deposit.

The Jock White Field Day contest is coming up on 27/28 February.

The ZM2M team took part in the CQ Worldwide CW contest in late November with the new callsign ZM4T and more than doubled the 2008 score. The new callsign is additional and was taken out to improve understanding on phone but it worked well for us on CW too. Band conditions were strange with 20 metres being best while 15 metres was very slow. Over 250 QSOs with 19 countries were made on 10 metres but QRN made 80 and 160M hard work especially on the second day. We had 3,200 QSOs for a score of about 3.5 million. Gary ZL2IFB travelled further afield to take part in the contest to Sierra Leone in west Africa to be part of the 9L5M contest team.

Sunspots from the new cycle No 24 have been occurring more frequently and some 10 metre openings have been reported but the bands are currently fairly flat.

Stan ZL2ST

Dominican Hams Attempt to Install Repeaters in Haiti

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2010/01/18/11293/>

Eight members of the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD) -- the Dominican Republic's IARU Member-Society -- and Union Dominicana de Radio Aficionados (UDRA) arrived in Haiti on Friday, January 15, to install an emergency radio communications station and a mobile station. Shortly after they arrived, the hams returned to the Dominican Republic for safety reasons.

The team -- using the call sign HI8RCD/HH -- had to shut down their operations after their convoy was fired on. Germinal Garcia, EB9GF, who is integrated in the Spanish Red Cross contingent, was able to contact colleagues at the RCD. According to IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB, the RCD initially reported that their team crossed the Haitian border at 1550 UTC, time arriving at the Dominican Embassy in Haiti at 1929 UTC when they started installing and testing their equipment.

"Within a few hours though, reports via the RCD Facebook page -- confirmed by a long telephone conversation between Hugo Ramón, HI8VRS, and Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK -- reported that the HI8RCD team of eight amateurs were back in the [Dominican Republic] border town of Jimani," Mossop said. "Their convoy, which included other non related Dominicans, was assaulted and one person is reported dead. The radio amateurs are uninjured, but they decided to leave the capital for safety [reasons] and return to the border unescorted. They report the situation as 'extremely unsafe.'"

On Saturday afternoon at 2104 UTC, Rafael Martinez, HI8ROX, posted this to the RCD's Facebook page: "I regret to inform you that the communications equipment is returning to Jimani due to the lack of security that there is in Haiti. The convoy was attacked as the team was leaving the embassy, with several wounded people confirmed. I do not know how many. For the moment, our equipment is safe, but I'm not sure." Martinez is the RCD's Web master.

On January 19, Martinez told the ARRL that two non-ham members of the team suffered "bad injuries," but no one had been killed, as had been reported earlier: "The gentleman who was behind the RCD convoy was very severely wounded (not deceased), although the first news was that he had passed away. The gentleman only is very severely wounded along with another person."

The team was able to install two VHF repeaters in the Dominican Republic linking that country's capital -- Santo Domingo -- and Port-au-Prince, but only one is in operation: 146.880 (-600), CTCSS 100 Hz. Mossop said that these repeaters are being used by the Red Cross and Civil Defense "since there is no other way to communicate. The station at the embassy in Haiti could not be activated. To confirm, all members of the RCD team are safe and have returned to Jimani in the Dominican Republic."

On the morning of Monday, January 18, Martinez wrote that "the equipment that was returned to Santo Domingo is all being sent to Jimani and then sporadically to Port-au-Prince."



Ham Internet Link

http://www.qsl.net/ka5oai/idx_ham.html

The ZL4T (EX ZM2M) team at Taits beach for the WPX CW contest. It was a wet and windy weekend. Our efforts were rewarded with a provisional score of 3,472,189 points. We were hoping for 3,500,000 or more.



Holger, ZL3IO brought his 80 mtr vertical along and we all watched it sway gently in the breeze! Morrie ZL2AAA and Lee ZL2LE are having a close look.



Holger ZL3IO checking the log.



Michael G3WOE and his XYL Christine visited us for the evening the other week. He is still fighting immigration's paperwork war and is progressing slowly. I can see why he REALLY wants to get out of G land and live here. His QTH is in Kings Road, right under the flight path at Heathrow.



Mt Threave new IRLP node (blue cabinet).



Group photo of br 13 after the AGM. They all look happy now that it is over.

NOTICES

Jock White Field Day
27th & 28th February 2010



Kaweka Challenge
27th & 28th February 2010



Hawkes Bay Car Rally
24th April 2010



*Please feel free to send notices to
john.newson@xtra.co.nz*

Buy – Sell - Etc

ICom 706MII G Deceased sale \$1000.00

ph 0226128922 Wayne

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