

BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and
Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 8, Issue 9, September 2010



Hastings Br
13
Club Calls
ZL2AS
ZL2QS

Napier Br 25
Club Call
ZL2GT

IRLP
Node
6793
147.250

Branch
Nets
9.00 AM
Sunday
Morning
3615 Hz
147.250
MHz

Editor
John Newson
ZL2VAF



Castle Point Lighthouse



Castle Point Lighthouse
House, Operational base
For ZL2AS on Lighthouse
Weekend

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



Join the KIWI DX Group
Talk to ZL2AL for Details

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HASTINGS BRANCH 13

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Club Call:	ZL2AS and ZL2QS		

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

Hastings Branch 13 - PRESIDENTS PORTION

now there is a name in title that hasn't been used since my days in the chair for Br 13.

Warren has gone away for a couple of days but called me on the Nat Syst to ask if I could do a few words for him in his absence.

He would like it mentioned that the next "Boot Camp" is coming up on the 25 - 26/9 and at this time there are 6 participants, we wish them good luck. The issued new callsigns for the "passees" should be heard on the NZART Official Broadcast on Sunday night 26/9.

The 22/9, this week, will be the HBARC/Br 13 General meeting at 7-30pm at the Surf Club Rooms, Splash Planet car park, Grove Rd, Hastings. After the General Meeting Warren will give a demo of some new test equipment that he has obtained.....you wanted to know about duplexers and cavity filters etc, well this night will be your chance to see them and perhaps better understand what they do and how they work.....amongst other things being demonstrated. We are in the process of organising a get together with Taupo and Rotorua hams at the Rangitaiki area on the Napier - Taupo Rd with a view to having a look at the Radio NZ Short Wave transmitting Station and the Marine HF transmitting station.....then some lunch at either of the two pubs/taverns at Rangitaiki. I have details for you at our 22/9 meeting.

The Xmas tea is in hand also and Bill will tell us about that. That's all for now.

73 from David (ZL2DW) (for Pres. Warren ZL2AJ)



XMAS TEA

Napier RSA, Fri 26 Nov, drinks at 6-30pm, tea (smorgasbord) at 7pm, \$27 per head (discount for members or affiliated members).

Bookings to David Race ZL2BCE, ph 8435065 or racehouse@ihug.co.nz

NAPIER BRANCH 25

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Michael ZL2FAR 843 4210

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...

The next Napier meeting on Wednesday 6 October at the clubrooms at 7.30 pm will be a sticky bun quiz evening with prizes for the winner and place getters. Hastings members are invited to this social function. Come along and try your skills. The quiz will be aimed at a suitable level for everyone. There will also be some surplus equipment available for gold coin donations.

The November meeting will be the AGM and Pan Pac trophy for home constructed equipment.

The digital modes kitsets have been completed and tested. There are still a few of the kits available for \$35. If you are interested contact Lee ZL2AL on 844 1226. There should now be increased RTTY and PSK31 etc activity from Hawkes Bay.

Working bees have been held by the ZM2M/ZM4T group at the farm. A five element 15 metre monobander is replacing the triband beam and the 80m delta loop has been relocated on different trees following the removal of some trees that we were using. Lee's trusty spud gun put one line over a tree into a strong westerly winds which were continually blowing the line from the top of the trees. John ZL2QM managed a mighty heave to get a line over the top of the other tree.

October is contest month with the Oceania contests on the first two weekends of October. SSB is on October 2/3 and CW is on the 9/10th. Both events run from 9 pm Saturday until 9 pm Sunday (0800 UTC). Give it a go there should be stations looking for ZL particularly around late afternoon and in the evening. The CQ worldwide SSB contest is on the last weekend of October – 1 pm on Saturday 30th to 1 pm on Monday 1st November.

Stan ZL2ST

Government announces date for switchover to Digital TV

Government has announced that the switchover to digital television will be completed by 2013. The switchover will follow a phased four step process, beginning with Hawkes Bay and the West Coast, followed by the remainder of the South Island, the lower North Island, and finally the remainder of the North Island. The Government is also in discussion with the television broadcasting industry and transmission providers regarding an extension to the digital terrestrial television coverage area, to support the switchover process.

The switchover to digital TV will free up the radio spectrum in the 700 MHz band for new uses, most likely to be new mobile broadband services. MED is working on the planning and allocation issues for this band, and expects to release a consultation document in mid 2011.

For more information on digital switchover announcements, see the [Ministry of Culture and Heritage website](#).

For more information on the potential future use of the 700 MHz band as agreed by Cabinet in December 2009, see the [Radio Spectrum Management website](#).



RANGITAIKI TRANSMITTER VISIT

plans are under way for a visit with the Taupo and Rotorua guys and xyl's to look around the Radio NZ SW transmitting site and Marine HF transmitting site, both at Rangitaiki on the Napier - Taupo Rd. Then we will have lunch at one of the two pubs near by.

Expected date is 13 Nov, Sat morning about 9-30am. Booking numbers and questions to David ZL2DW. This is subject to confirmation in a week or two.



Internet Links

An article on the shrinking ham population from Microwave & RF Magazine

<http://mwrf.com/Articles/Index.cfm?Ad=1&ArticleID=23022>

Comcentres latest newsletter

<http://www.comcentre.co.nz/Newsletters/10-09BB.pdf>

Report from ZL2AS Lighthouse weekend

The team from Branch 13 consisted of ZL2OK Dave, ZL2GR Gerald, ZL2CS Wayne, ZL2US Rob, ZL2AGD Willie.

Set up at Castle Point Lighthouse, first class accommodation, up on the hill over looking the lighthouse and the sea, what else could you ask for.

Antennas 3 element tri bander at 30 feet swinging off the balcony, double sized ZS6BKW swinging out of the trees for the lower bands, a half sized ZS6BKW for the higher bands, and a 7 element Yagi for 2 meters.

Worked many international lighthouse stations around the world, some of the highlights lighthouse contacts were German Lighthouse on 40 meters, worked a couple of English lighthouses on 20 meters pointing the beam over the North Pole, Many North America lighthouse stations on 40 & 20. A few contacts on 17 & 21, worked lots of VK & ZL lighthouse stations and home stations on 160, 80 & 40 and nearly worked a total of 400 stations.

Another highlight was working Warren and a few of the boys back in the Bay on 10, 6 & 2 meters.

Had 2 stations set up in the lounge, running 500 watts, no problems with the equipment just the operators had sleepy sickness.

Had a guest visitor from Wellington (ZL2SP) and he was pretty impressed with the set up.

Beautiful weather, good company, good food, all had a good time and booked in for next year.

73's from Team ZL2AS



What You Can Do to Improve DXEtiquette

Operating standards have been declining, no news to any DXer. Even the IARU took notice and published a resolution encouraging operators to "operate to the highest levels of proficiency, with proper consideration for others using the amateur radio bands." Read the [Full Resolution](#) here.

The publication of [DXEtiquette](#) in the March 2010 issue of QST sparked a new world-wide effort to get all hams to operate in a manner consistent with that Resolution. To that end an international group of DXers have developed a DX Code of Conduct. Since introducing it, hams from all continents have joined in this effort. You can play an important role in spreading the word. This is one project of which it can truthfully be said, "We are all in this together." The DX Code of Conduct isn't particularly new. Many others, notably ON4WW and ON4UN in their publications, see links below, have discussed operator behavior in detail. G3SXW offered an interesting analysis of [pile-up behavior](#) in *The DX Magazine*. Another interesting commentary comes from YO4PX in his article [To Err is Human](#).

In addition, excellent tips for good conduct have been published by [ZL2IFB](#) and [N4AA](#) at their websites. Also be sure to check out AA0MZ's page [SO YOU WANT TO BE A DXer](#). Many have also said that the fight against impolite behavior is a lost cause, but we don't agree. If one person throws a stone in a pond, the ripples die out quickly. But if tens of thousands of us each throw a pebble in the pond, the waves will be huge. We'd like every active HF operator in the world to support higher standards of conduct knowing that tens of thousands of others support him too.

Inconsiderate operating standards are just not in keeping with the high moral standards of our hobby. More to the point, it is counter-productive and simply inconsistent with the aim of our hobby, to have FUN. But if you think it is bad at your end, consider the plight of the poor guy at the other end. For a great example of that, click here. [entry3.htm](#)

Be proud of your accomplishments but be respectful of newer hams who do not yet have your skills and equipment. They deserve the same consideration you once received when you were younger. Let's do everything we can to promote ethical operating practices and polite behavior amongst the DX fraternity so as to increase the enjoyment of all participants. Everyone who has the ability to generate a signal the DX stations can hear should have the opportunity for a contact without being squashed by impolite hams.

In an effort to restore more gentlemanly behavior to the process, the DX Code of Conduct asks you to aspire to a higher ethical standard. A large number of DX Clubs and national amateur societies have already endorsed the Code and have asked their members to adopt it as their personal Code as well.

[We ask you to endorse it too](#)

Click on the link above to sign up. Then spread the word to your friends and other club members.

Our goal is to have every licensed amateur in the world support the Code.

Flags courtesy of ITA's [Flags of all Countries](#), used with permission.

We strongly urge you to download and read the valuable book [Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur](#) by ON4UN and ON4WW, now available in 23 languages with more on the way. You can [Download the book](#) in your language. From the [HOME](#) page, click on [VERSIONS](#).

An excellent shorter version called [Operating Practice](#) by ON4WW is available in 19 languages [Download here](#) The first Code we know of was created in 1928 by W9EEA. Check out "The Amateur's Code (Creed)." [amateur.htm](#) [amateur.htm](#) For those with a sense of humor, to check a funny version of DX Rules, click here [funny.htm](#) [funny.htm](#) For another irreverent take on DX operating behavior, check out Dawg X-Ray Club <http://www.qsl.net/dl4tt/DawgX-rayClub.html> <http://www.qsl.net/dl4tt/DawgX-rayClub.html>

If you wish to display the DX Code of Conduct in your shack, you can copy the text from the home page into a word processor and print it on any paper you like.

Alternatively, for a .pdf version of the DX Code of Conduct in English, click here. [dxcode.pdf](#) [dxcode.pdf](#)

Christchurch New Zealand earthquake, a week on

The massive recovery operation continues after the 7.1 magnitude earthquake that hit Christchurch at 4.36am on Saturday 4 September, leaving a damage bill of NZ\$4billion and physically injuring a few people.

The **Amateur Radio Emergency Communications** (AREC) members quickly established an on air net and observed the operational status of the repeater systems, and apart from at least one switching to emergency power all was fine. AREC Assistant National Director, Geoff Chapman ZL3PX said designated emergency frequencies for on the 80m, 60m and 40m bands, plus 2m band simplex were activated.

The Christchurch AREC Communications Bus ZK9EAC, and Comms Vehicle ZK9EAD operated on all those frequencies. They were deployed for three days in the initial recovery phase of the disaster in conjunction with the military. AREC also provided communications for the volunteer clean-up teams. The Christchurch City Civil Defence permanent radio communication systems were unaffected.

AREC members have been required as radio operators.

A total of eight radio amateurs are known in various support activities in Christchurch.

The AREC North Canterbury Section provided operators from day one for the Civil Defence Emergency Management Communications at various locations including Waimak EOC (Rangiora), Kaiapoi Welfare Centre, and Pines-Kairaki Welfare Centre (Pines Beach Hall).

Geoff ZL3PX said this support provided by radio amateurs is continuing with over 235 duty hours so far involving about a dozen operators.

Aftershocks are still being felt on an hourly basis and it is wearying to say the least. In the past week there have been 388 seismic shocks recorded ranging from 3 to 5.4 magnitude, with seismologists indicating this activity is showing signs of easing. National Crisis Management Centre in a Situation Report today listed its priorities as restoration of sewerage services in the worst-affected areas, immediate and long term welfare and housing needs, a growing demand and ongoing need for psychosocial services, business impacts and personal finances, and the need for coordinated, regular communication with the affected communities.

Various specialist resources from throughout New Zealand have been assigned to the earthquake affected areas, such as building inspectors who are determining the safety of damaged homes and commercial buildings.

Authorities believe that most schools should be able to open after being closed for a week. Some road infrastructure remains yet to be repaired.

Most power and telephone services were quickly restored.

Shops, pubs and hotels began trading for the first time in a week and Christchurch moves further into recovery mode.

- IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chairman, **Jim Linton VK3PC** with support from AREC Assistant National Director **Geoff Chapman ZL3PX** and others.

NOTICES

Local Amateur Training Weekend

26th & 27th September



SAREX

2nd & 3rd October



CQWW - the worlds largest radio competition

30th & 31st October



New Zealand Amateur Radio Day

1000-1200 hours

Saturday 15th January 2011

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

Buy – Sell - Etc

Heath Kit SB200 Linear Amplifier

80,40,20,15,10 meters

Have service man inspection sheet when it was last checked out 3 months ago

Heath kit Manual & Assembly Operation

Tubes are Two 572-B in parallel

SSB 1200 watts P.E.P

CW 1000 watts

\$600.00

wane.wilson@gmail.com 022 612 8922

Between the hours of 1700 to 5am i am working due to ChCh Quake our branch is closed so Hast is filling the orders



WANTED

Can anyone help me out with a service manual for a Marconi Sig Gen type 995b/5. Borrow, copy or whatever, thanks.

Contact David (ZL2DW Hastings) david@apexradiocoms.co.nz