



Hastings Br
13
Club Calls
ZL2AS
ZL2QS

Napier Br 25
Club Calls
ZL2GT
ZL2G

IRLP
Node
6793
147.250

**Branch
Nets**
9.00 AM
Sunday
Morning
3615 Hz
439.175
mhz

Editor
John Newson
ZL2VAF



*Got your ears on? This and other zany pre radar aircraft tracking devices will
be in next months mag*

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



Join the KIWI DX Group
Talk to ZL2AL for Details

Inside This Issue

Hastings Branch 13 Report	Page 2
Napier Branch 25 Report	Page 3
UK Govt Cover Up?	Page 4
Is the writing on the wall?	Page 5
Notices	Page 6
Buy, Sell or Exchange	Page 6

HASTINGS BRANCH 13

President: Warren Harris ZL2AJ 027 564 9284 or 929 9088 email warren@technaserve.com
Vice President: Robert Wallace ZL2SG Ph. 878 4993 email ffonzrjw@xnet.co.nz
Secretary: David Walker ZL2DW Ph 8760518, email david@apexradiocoms.co.nz
Treasurer: Bill Lowes ZL2UBG Ph. 877 5078 email bill.lowes@xnet.co.nz
AREC/CD: Robert Wallace ZL2SG Ph. 878 4993 email ffonzrjw@xnet.co.nz
AREC Deputy: Warren Harris ZL2AJ 027 564 9284 or 929 9088 email warren@technaserve.com

Committee: - Lee Jennings ZL2AL Ph. 844 1226 email leejen@paradise.net.nz
- Peter Dingley ZL2LF Ph. 843 2664 email peter.dingley@paradise.net.nz
- Rob Leicester ZL2 RFL ph 8786381 wk 8782828 email zl2rfl@yahoo.co.nz

Hastings QSL Distribution: Chris Johnson ZL2VC Ph.879 5219 email zl2vc@slingshot.co.nz
Magazine Editor: John Newson ZL2VAF Ph. 027 230 3642 email john@thecomputerman.co.nz
NZART License Examiners: Lee - ZL2AL and Peter - ZL2LF
Club Call: ZL2AS and ZL2QS

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

Presidents Portion

Hi all.

Meeting this Wednesday evening. We will be discussing 13 remits for NZART's AGM. Please bring your latest copy of Breakin to assist with enabling discussion. If you can not make it and you wish to vote by proxy please let me know before the meeting.

I also hope to demonstrate (after the meeting) a return loss bridge with my spectrum analyser, and testing (analysing) our club antennas. During the meeting we will be discussing the upgrade of 8425 repeater. The committee has approved money to be spent on new repeater modules. This subject will be covered in full at the meeting.

The ham training weekend unfortunately did not proceed due to lack of numbers. We hope to get another one scheduled soon.

Please feel free to join us on our email reflector
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/zl2as/> or on facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Hawkes-Bay-Amateur-Radio-Club-Inc/1690>

See you on Wednesday.

Regards,
Warren Harris ZL2AJ



Membership Subscriptions are due

Please pay \$20 to
Hawkes Bay Amateur Radio Club,
Westpac 030642 0733310 00
or Dave Walker at Apex coms.
or Bill Lowes, 27 St.Hill Lane, Havelock North, 4130.

NAPIER BRANCH 25

President: Laurie Winton ZL2TC 843 8519 email laurie@wilcom.co.nz
Secretary: Stan White ZL2ST 845 2422 email stan.white@clear.net.nz
Treasurer: Stan White ZL2ST 845 2422 email stan.white@clear.net.nz
AREC:

Committee:

Lee Jennings ZL2AL 8441226 email leejen@paradise.net.nz
Gary James ZL2GAZ 843 9596 email gazzaj@paradise.net.nz
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 will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 4 May at the clubrooms. Bring your Break In along for the discussion on the 13 remits to conference, many of which are from Hawkes Bay Branch. There will also be a short technical presentation.

At the last meeting Laurie ZL2TC demonstrated the fitting of coaxial cable connectors. Thanks Laurie.

There is still a bit of gear and some components for sale at the clubrooms. Make an offer of a gold coin. It won't be around for much longer.

Subs of \$25 are now overdue. Please make payment to Treasurer Stan ZL2ST.

We hope to be running a kitset construction night again this year starting in the next few months and running through winter.

The solar flux really is currently around 110 which is much better than it was for several years. There are good signals at times on 10 and 12 metres along with the other bands.

Stan ZL2ST

Government cover up of non-compliant powerline networking equipment in the UK?

from http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/31/ofcom_plt/print.html

- Ofcom forced to publish tests on dodgy radio kit

FOI request prompts action

By [Bill Ray](#)

Posted in [Wireless](#), 31st March 2011 12:07 GMT

Ofcom has been forced to disclose its own tests showing that powerline networking kit does breach the European EMC Directive, but still won't do anything to enforce compliance.

Despite claiming there was no evidence that PLT kit built by Comtrend and supplied by BT was breaching EU rules on electromagnetic emissions, the regulator has now been forced by a Freedom of Information request to publish independent research, commissioned by them, which shows exactly that.

The request was pursued by Peter Walker, a radio amateur who eventually [had to take Ofcom to an ICO Tribunal](#) [1] to get the regulator to hand over the study - which appears to contradict Ofcom's line in stating that the equipment tested, which was supplied by Ofcom, does not comply with the standards required by EU legislation.

Ofcom justifies its decision not to publish that research, completed in 2008, on the basis that as it had decided not to prosecute there was no public interest in reporting the results. The regulator also claims to have more research which shows exactly the opposite, but won't provide any more details unless we submit another Freedom of Information request (which we will, of course, do).

Powerline networking sends radio signals over the mains electrical wiring of a house for home networking, but as the mains wiring isn't shielded those signals leak out and can knock out sensitive radio users such as HAM operators. The high-capacity kit now being sold uses a broader range of frequencies, increasing the problem and allowing it to take out FM radio too.

Ofcom has always maintained that there was no evidence to suggest the EU regulations were being breached. The [regulator's own site](#) [2] still states "Ofcom has not so far found that there is a breach of the EMC essential requirements" despite the study which states, unequivocally, that the kit tested failed to meet those requirements.

When challenged on this apparent disparity Ofcom told us it wouldn't be updating the site, and relied on the "Tony Blair defence": claiming it has evidence to the contrary, but that it can't share that evidence for reasons that it won't explain; we just have to trust the regulator on this one.

Ofcom also explained that it didn't publish these reports in 2008 as "millions of people have these devices in their homes, and it wouldn't be in the public interest to remove them", pointing out that all the complaints came from a single lobby group so could safely be disregarded - best not band together in future, guys. So if you don't fancy obeying the regulations then the route is obvious - hand out your kit for free (as BT does with Comtrend devices), get your opponents to organise so it looks like there's only one of them, then rely on the regulator to keep confidential any evidence that makes you look bad (in the public interest, of course).

- [Links](#)

<http://www.ban-plt.co.uk/truth-lies.php>

<http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/enforcement/spectrum-enforcement/plt/>

IS THE WRITING ON THE WALL?

[Death of Short Wave imminent \(Click Link\)](#)

March 31st, 2011 | Author: Julian G4ILO

Amateur radio as we know it could be extinct by the year 2020. That is the only possible conclusion to draw from an unpublished EU policy document that has been leaked to several ham radio bloggers including myself. The document proposes that existing RFI standards protecting the short wave frequencies be torn up as "preventing the use or increasing the cost of essential technology in order to protect the activities of a small number of hobbyists makes no political sense." This policy has [already been unofficially in place at the UK's Ofcom](#), which was one of the major contributors to the report.

The report suggests that withdrawing the standards relating to short wave RFI would save significant costs by removing the need to deal with complaints about interference. It also suggests that the UK Telecommunications Act (and similar laws in other EU countries) be amended to remove any right to protection from interference of the broadcast, amateur or CB services.

To support its recommendations the report claims that "short wave broadcasting is in rapid decline, with most broadcasters moving to the internet" and that "the intended use of Citizens Band as a personal communications service has largely been replaced by cellphone usage." Amateur radio, it says, carries "little communication of any importance that could not be made using the telephone, cellular network or the internet." The main use of ham radio, it suggests, is "largely recreational" and could be replaced by "online simulations and VOIP chat services." Hams could also make more use of the largely interference-free bands above 400MHz which otherwise could be sold to commercial users. Radio amateurs "could still experiment with radio in the time-honoured manner, they just should not expect to be able to enjoy interference-free reception on the short waves."

The reason for the desire to remove the protection of our frequencies becomes clear when you read the part of the report that describes forthcoming technologies that are expected to cause problems with RFI compliance. In order to meet carbon emissions targets and deal with expected power shortages caused by the early closure of nuclear power plants in countries such as Germany, the EU plans to introduce [smart grids](#) in all European nations by 2020. These smart grids use BPL technology to communicate with [smart meters](#) in each individual home. The smart meters, in turn, use PLT technology to communicate with smart devices in order to regulate their use. When demand for electricity is high, power cuts or the switching on of expensive standby power stations can be avoided by shutting off inessential devices instead. Examples of inessential devices given in the report include amateur radio linear amplifiers - assuming it's still possible to hear anything on short wave over the BPL and PLT QRM in the first place.

The EU is also proposing that 80% of properties in member states should be equipped with solar panels by 2020. To achieve this target, installation costs will be heavily subsidized by governments, which clearly want to cut costs as far as possible. Estimates produced by a Chinese manufacturer of solar power systems

IS THE WRITING ON THE WALL? *Cont'd*

suggest the cost saving that would result from eliminating the need for RFI suppression circuits in the power converters would amount to 4 billion Euro for the whole of Europe.

The report concludes that "the cost of protecting the short wave spectrum from interference from technologies that are essential to be installed throughout Europe in the next decade to meet emissions targets and maintain the well-being of all European citizens is quite simply prohibitive" and urges that EU Commissioners pass the necessary laws by 1st April 2012.

This article appeared in the March 2011 issue of the free, "**AmateurRadio.com**" electronic newsletter, "**News and Resources**" column. See also latest news on the UK Ofcom's intransigence at:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/04/05/ofcom_plt_response

NOTICES

Rally of Hawkes Bay

20/21 August 2011

Buy – Sell - Etc

Wanted

Kenwood TR 9500 UHF all mode rig, any info where I can lasso one of these would be appreciated

ZL2CDK Colin
TXT 0211399519



Wanted

Need to replace the rig stolen from my 4 wheel drive, so am looking for a dual band mobile.

Duncan ZL1UIO
Phone / txt 027 390 9148

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