

BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and
Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 11, Issue 5, May 2013



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



*Mr Icom has changed sides – Robbie has finally got it right
We will all raise a glass to that!*

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

www.zl2gt.com/blog



*Join the KIWI DX Group
Talk to ZL2AL for Details*

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Club Nights: Fourth Wednesday each month at 7.30 pm Pakowhai Hall, Pakowhai Road, Pakowhai

THE WORD from the COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Well Winter is upon us so that can mean more time in the shack.....that's got to be good. About this time of the year and Spring are fascinating propagation times, especially if you are into com's via the lower frequencies, nothing like a bit of "grey line" propagation. Having said that, 20m continues to be pretty good.

Last weekend Nathan ZL2ND and myself drove the upcoming Car Rally circuit to test our Com's plan for the event.....talking of the event please contact Warren 2AJ or myself if you can help out as an operator.

Our "Donated Junk Auction" is planned for our July meeting so start sorting out your shack so you can make a donation and start saving your money so you can buy it back again.....uuuum.....and we'll have a few more "auctioneers rules" this year so be warned.....and some "give aways" as usual.

At our next meeting (on 22 May, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall) we may have a surprise guest speaker or alternatively we will have a "Talk and Tell" meeting where we ask you to share some special amateur radio event, or contact, or similar that you have had.....like at our last meeting where Jan ZL2CZE revealed that he had just received his first QSL Card.....I'm sure we all have a "special something" that we could share.....or bring something along to show us. Winter perhaps brings us more construction time too, this means get cracking on your "Home Brew" entries for our Nov. AGM meeting.

It was nice to learn about the return of the Wanganui Junk Auction (held on 4 May last). While not so many there this year as in years gone by it's still a great event and nice to see it back.....well done Wanganui-ites.

73 Rob Leicester ZL2US
(HBARC/Br 13 Pres.)

NAPIER BRANCH 25

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

Club Calls: **ZL2GT, ZL2G**

Club Web Site: www.zl2gt.com/blog

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

NAPIER NEWS.....

Hi all, a few chilly mornings mean old man Winter is not far away, the up side means more time in the shack. Recently a couple of brave lads spent the night at the Napier clubrooms manning the club station for the annual VK/ZL 80m SSB contest, well done Dave ZL2DW and Mike ZL2VM.

NZART annual conference and AGM coming up 1st and 2nd of June in Masterton. NZART members are entitled to attend the AGM at no charge, but no coffee or lunch if you have not paid a registration fee for the conference. If you want to go to the AGM only, (without lunch), and not attend any other conference sessions, you still need to register, (via email) but there is no charge. Details and a registration form on the NZART web site.

The Napier City Council is currently reviewing it's District Plan, so we are going to have to make sure the existing provisions for erecting amateur antennas are maintained. Mike Newman ZL1BNB who is the NZART local council liaison officer has given us some guidance on how to make the necessary submission to council, so we will be pursuing that a.s.a.p.

A Japanese supply rocket is delivering an amateur ATV transmitter to the International space station on 4th July, so if you have a 'C' band satellite receiver or a DVB-S dongle for your PC, stand by for pictures on 2.422 or 2.437 GHz. More info at <<http://amsat-uk.org/2013/05/12/hamtv-from-the-iss>>.

Thats about it for this month,
ZL2TC

TransTasman Contest May, 2013

It has been many years since the Napier Amateur Radio Club has operated a contest from its Latham Street clubhouse. A year ago, the club committee decided to clean out the junk in the old radio room and rebuild the radio shack with an operational station which could be used by the members. The FT-840 and Emtron Antenna tuner with the newly erected 80/40M trap dipole does a credible job on the HF bands. VHF and UHF radios in the shack are also available for use. A few months ago, Mike ZL2VM asked to have the use of the shack for this year's Trans Tasman Contest with help from Dave ZL2DW and Michael ZL2MY. The result was the team was up and running and the new shack was finally in use.

Dave ZL2DW Continues the story

FUN IN THE ZL – VK COMPETITION

Having had a taste of a few other similar events over recent years Mike (ZL2VM) raised the idea of doing the 80m Phone section from the Napier Br 25 Club Rooms, so the appointment was made and set for participation on 11 May 2013. Armed with tea, biscuits and sleeping bag etc Mike and I met at the Club Rooms about an hour before start time, (8pm NZT) and soon after were joined by Mike (ZL2MY). We had a "tactics talk" and pre brief of the event and off we went. The first hour was quiet with only 15 contacts, however the VK's were there and workable. Mike and Mike and myself rostered our way through the night (the event finishing at 2am NZT).

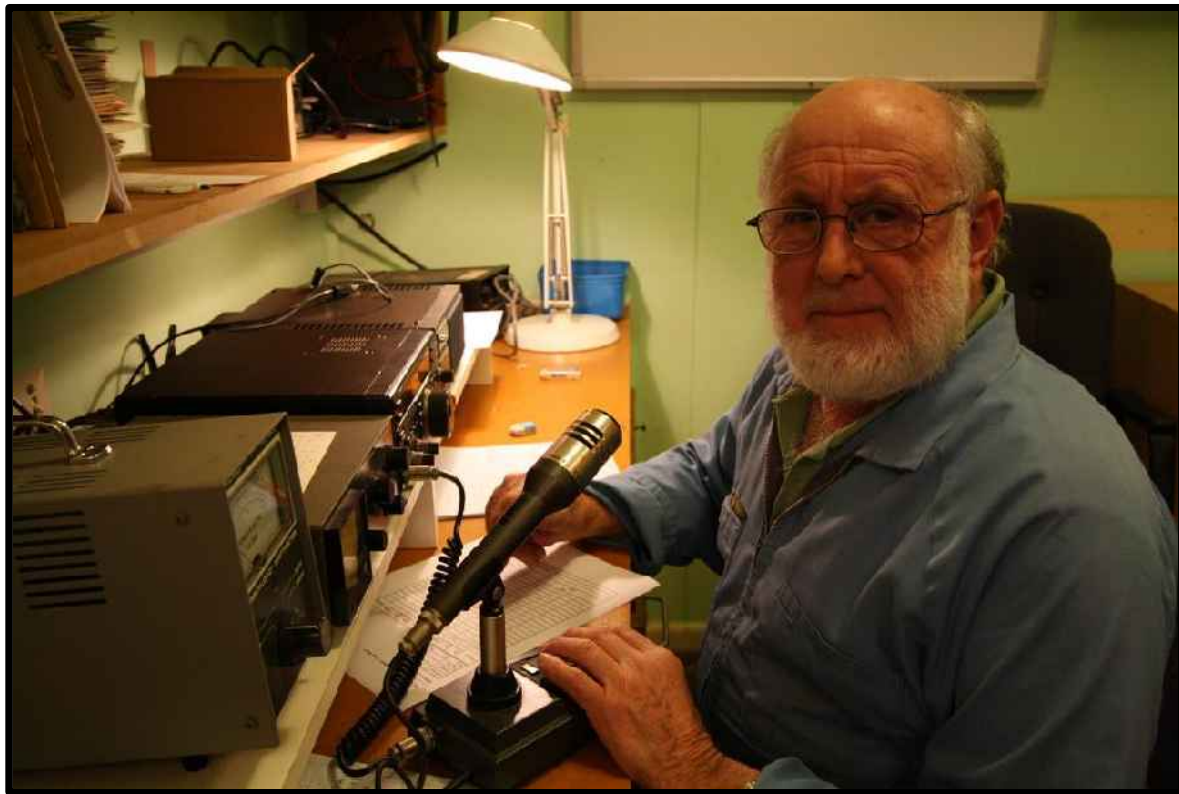


The New ZL2GT Radio Shack

While not the highest contact numbering station in ZL we believe we had a good selection of ZL 1 – 4 and VK1 – 9 stations to give a good score of multipliers. The Branch station (using a 40/80m trapped dipole) had a standing S6 noise level coming from suburbia but we could always achieve a contact with anyone we targeted. I believe this is the first time the Branch Club Rooms located station has been used in a competition, and the Br 25 ZL2GT call sign was put to good use.



Mike ZL2VM in the middle of a "Run"



Dave ZL2DW takes a minute off to look relaxed

Later in the evening Lee ZL2AL called in for a while with his camera and took pictures of proceedings. While leaving the operator uninterrupted in the "shack" the others quietly talked amongst themselves in the main hall, about all and sundry. 2am (NZT) came and the log stopped, with about 150 ish contacts, so it was "crash on the floor" time for Mike ZL2VM and myself, Mike 2MY having gone home an hour earlier at the end of his hour on.



Michael ZL2MY having a go



A very happy team after a very successful contest

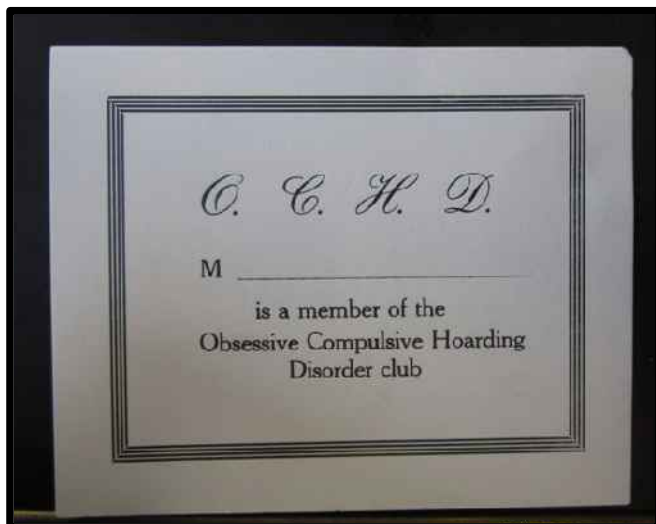
So that puts aside this years 80m Phone section of the ZL- VK Competition, roll on the 160m Phone and 80m CW/Digital section in July at rural Moore Rd, Haumoana. There is also a suggestion that a second station will be active then too, again from the Branch 25 Club Rooms.

A great time was had by all.

David Walker (ZL2DW) (for the ZL2GT Team)



Views from Wanganui Junk Auction (4 May 2013)



A Certificate found amongst a junk box for sale



*What are these guys talking about
(David ZL2DW and Laurie ZL2TC)*



A guest appearance by an old time Auctioneer, Ian Stephens



What has this man bought ?



What bargains have these gents found (Laurie ZL2TC and Maurie ZL2AAA)



The Auction under way.

PEOPLE SEEN ABOUT

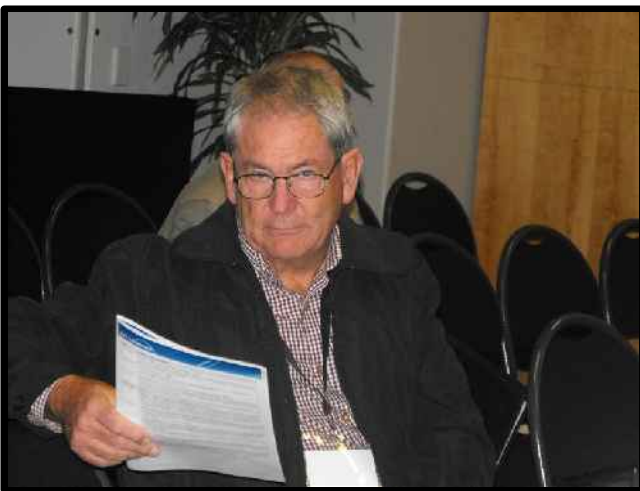
Last week I attended the "Radio Frequency Users Assn of NZ" AGM, Conference and Expo., at Wellington. This is the largest gathering of Radio Communications Industry people and Trade Booths in NZ and is an annual event. There were approx. 250 registered attendees and almost 40 Trade Booths. Spread over the two days are many lectures and presentations by various Trade and Professional people relating to the radio industry and products in NZ. The MED (old name) presents a booth and is a prime presenter at the lectures. Other attendees come from private Industry, Govt. Dept's, manufacturers, product suppliers and Telco's etc.

Amongst many "professional hams" that attended this years event was NZART President Vaughan Henderson ZL1TGC, I had some good catch up time with Vaughan discussing some NZART events, industry training and electronics in general. I must say that at one point Vaughan was handed the roving cordless mic so he could make a comment.....but the mic wouldn't go.....between us we concluded that it was due to a couple of reasons, one being that it had no curly cord and the other that it wasn't connected to a "black box", hi hi

Earlier this year some of us Napier and Hastings amateurs attended the Waikanae Museum, our host welcomer was John Yaldwin ZL2TRV (you may remember the pictures published in Break Out).. During the above RFUANZ event John gave a very informative lecture.....and perhaps can I say, on the "other end" of the technology range and a very good lecture it was too. During proceedings he asked for a show of hands from those in the room who were hams.....there were many of us.

So, here was an industry leader still being involved with ham radio and vintage radio, well done and thanks John.

David Walker (ZL2DW)



Vaughan Henderson ZL1TGC



John Yaldwin ZL2TRV

NOTICES

20 July TransTasman 160m Contest

– the Tukituki Camp site is booked already. Dairy this event too. Note that there is a DIGITAL Mode section in this event. So for all those who built the PC/Rig interface units, hook 'em up at home and get some practice using FLDIGI Software.