BREAKOUT The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 11, Issue 11, November 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



Rob ZL2US lunching with visitor John KA4RXP while he was in Napier Port

http://www.zl2gt.com/blog/

Join the KIWI DX Group Talk to ZL2AL for Details

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

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HASTINGS BRANCH 13

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

From The "Chief Cook and Bottle Washer" *

We have the Br 13/HBARC AGM coming up, after our GM, on 27 Nov. at 7-30pm. It's time for you to step up and accept a position nomination or even volunteer yourself...the club doesn't run by itself, it needs steerage and this is your chance.

After the meetings the "Homebrew Competition" (for home constructed gear) will take place. If you can't get your entry through the door then photographs are acceptable. Lets see what you've been up to this last year.

On Friday 29 Nov. we have the combined (Br13 and 25) Xmas Tea (at the Maraenui Golf Club). If you and partner would like to come along then please give your numbers to Laurie ZL2TC or David ZL2DW Our last meeting (in Oct.) was a "Meal and Meeting" at Waipukurau. This is a way we can support our CHB members who would normally travel to Hastings to attend the Br 13 meetings. And as usual it was a great time for all (see picture elsewhere).

Recently the Pakowhai Hall Committee had it's AGM. Three Br 13 members attended (ZL2US, ZL2PW and ZL2DW) and remain on the 'Hall Committee as Br 13 representatives. Collectively the 'Hall Committee is happy with our support contribution so thank you to all those contributors that keep the place ship shape.

HF is not humming but the upper frequencies seem to be doing really well. David ZL2OK offers the following. 15, 10 and 6m have been going well for him. Recently he worked his 3000th station on 10m and also worked 96 JA's on 6m during one recent opening. At day break recently he worked "The Propagation Group" (USA) on 17, 12 and 10m.

With all of this amateur activity I understand that he doesn't want to talk about his lawns as a consequence hi hi.

VHF/UHF Field Day is coming up soon (see notice elsewhere), I urge you to support the ZL2AS team who will be at Whakapunake (inland from Wairoa), every point helps the team.

Mike (N7TLL/ZL1TV) will be back in NZ soon for the warmer weather. He has agreed to give Br 13 a talk at our Jan. meeting so that will be something to look forward to.

Talking of things slightly "International" I take this opportunity to remind you to use your full call sign irrespective of the band you're on. You wouldn't drop the ZL if you were making an International call/contact so don't drop in within NZ either. After all, ZL is part of your complete call sign not just the remaining 2xxx.

To confuse our American readers (who had difficulty with the word Chook) may I just say "cackleberries" and see how you get on with that one hi hi.

* I've been batching recently, while Sue has been away, so that means I've been doing the cooking and doing the dishes in her absence so my title (above) this month has now been explained......another one to confuse our American readers perhaps.

As this will be the last Break Out for 2013 (thank you John ZL2VAF, our Editor) and the last Br 13 meeting (on 27 Nov.) for the year (our next one will be on 22 Jan. 2014) it means that it is time to thank you all for your help throughout the year, Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to you all. 73 for now, looking forward to seeing many of you on the 27 Nov.

Rob ZL2US (Br13/HBARC Pres/Chairman).

NAPIER BRANCH 25

President:	Laurie Winton	ZL2TC	843 8519	email laurie@wilcom.co.nz
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Committee:

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Gary James	ZL2GAZ	843 9596	email	karen.gary@vodafone.co.nz
Michael Mullins	ZL2FAR	843 4210	email	michaelmullins@xtra.co.nz

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

News from Napier Amateur Radio Club....

Hi all,

at our last club meeting we decided to press ahead with plans to run a one-day "hamfest" in April next year. The format isn't finalised yet, but probably starting with an informal social gathering on the Friday night, car boot sale and flea market Saturday morning, and guest speakers and presentations on amateur radio topics, with a break for lunch. There will be a small entry charge to cover food etc. We hope the program will attract out of town amateurs from around the North Island.

The committee have appointed a building custodian, Wally ZL2DY, basically to keep the clubrooms tidy inside and out and attend to any minor maintenance.

NZART HQ are preparing a powerpoint presentation to enable clubs and individual hams to promote amateur radio. If you have any good hiresolution photos of portable/hill-top operations, mobile operating, AREC operations, field days, home construction, please contact Stuart Watchman ZL2TW at clareandstuart@xtra.co.nz.

Our meetings program for next year is up on the club website, http://www.zl2gt.com/blog/2014-programme, in the meantime, happy hamming.

71.2TC

WARNING

From Radio Spectrum Management a communication printed in Break-In about the sale of amateur radio transmitters.

Main point

The obligation is on anyone selling such equipment to ensure it is only sold to an Amateur Radio Operator. Any listing must include wording that the equipment can only be sold to and used by an Amateur Radio Operator and proof of such a qualification will be required. Also - Requirements for non amateur transmitters are more stringent, RSM actively monitors online trading and will take action when required.



Operating IRLP

Brief suggestions

- Always listen before use to make sure the repeater is not already in use.
- Identify yourself before transmitting the DTMF tones.
- Most up to date DTMF tones for the different nodes (radio systems which may be connected to via IRLP) may be found on the internet 'IRLP Status Page'. Call Book has NZ nodes.
- Pause before transmitting for up to fifteen seconds after you are told you are connected.
- From the guidelines it is acceptable to call CQ for the area you are connected to.
- When in contact pause up to a second before speaking at the start of each transmission.
- Remember you are being heard over both your local and remote systems. If connected to a reflector hundreds of people could be listening.



The Combined Branches Annual End of Year Dinner

The event is to be held on 29 November and will be held at the Maraenui Golf Club Awatoto.

It will be a buffet dinner, format and cost similar to previous occasions.

Please indicate interest and likely number attending to the undersigned at kmatthys@callsouth.net.nz

Regards & 73, Karl



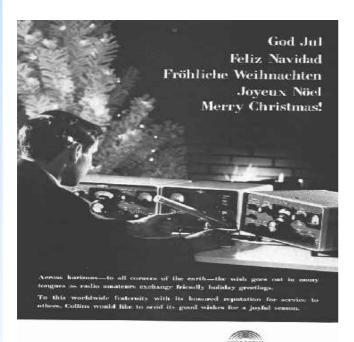
Internet Article on Printing Working Circuits

http://www.gizmag.com/georgia-tech-inkjet-printable-circuits/29731/

Holiday Nostaligia - the Making of a Ham W6PUG

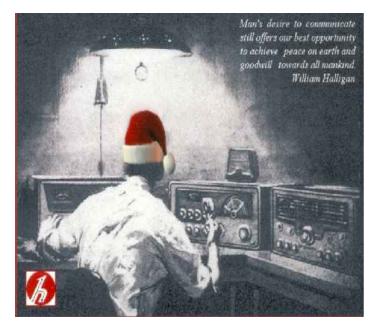
The Holidays are coming, and in North America, we have these images from the Currier & Ives holiday cards, snow scenes in the northern part of the country, and all kinds of variations for the rest of the country, but regardless from where you call home, the holiday season brings nostalgic moments - snapshots from your life that you hold near and dear. Let me share a couple of mine with you.

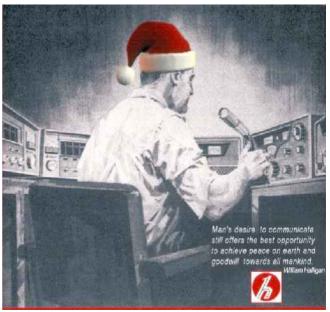
Amateur radio has been part of my life off and on since I was about ten years old, and I used to pour over every amateur radio and electronics magazine I could get my hands on ... read all the articles, and even occasionally understood some of it, and read every single advertisement, dreaming of the fantasy ham shack in which I would one day be sitting, listening to the world. 50 years later, I hold an Amateur Extra license, have an elmer I consider to be one of my best friends, and I have logged contacts with many new friends worldwide. Amateur radio held a magic romanticism of new horizons and discoveries then and even still today. My favorite ads from those magazines, which have stuck with me to this day, were the holiday greetings from Collins Radio and Hallicrafters, and some of the other iconic pioneers in amateur radio. Two of my favorites showed a young man sitting at his operating station with his new Collins rig, with the fireplace and Christmas tree alongside, and another with the old Collins rig on the desk, where the operator could extend greetings all over the world while serenely looking out the window at the new falling snow (probably an odd mental 'visual' for Down Under operators, but you have to remember our culture here, illustrated in many of our TV movies such as **The** Christmas Story with the BB gun, snow, White Christmas, Miracle on 34th Street, It's A Good Life, and good ol' Hometown USA).





These images have stuck in my mind for 50 years, and best illustrates what I learned to believe amateur radio is all about ... extending good will and joy to every corner of the world. Hallicrafters also had some wonderful ads portraying the Spirit, and making more of those first impressions on hams young and old ... that is when I fell in love with Hallicrafters radios, and today my proudest possession is my 1967 Hallicrafters Hurricane (which you can see in my bio on QRZ.com).





These are my favorites from Hallicrafters, and no doubt someone has taken a little artistic license to bring a bit more holiday cheer! One of the most profound statements of the purpose of amateur radio was offered by the late, great Bill Halligan, "Man's desire to communicate still offers our best opportunity to achieve peace on earth and goodwill towards all mankind."

It seems today that all of the radio manufacturers use the holiday season to get their new products out on the market and the ads are all "tech-centric", urging you to purchase the latest and greatest. I am illustrating here only a very few representative holiday greetings which were in the QST and ham radio magazines of the era - not to sell the products, *per se*, but were actually extending holiday greetings from the amateur radio pioneer companies and their families, to us, the operators who are privileged to have families who support us in our hobby. When you start digging around in the nostalgia files and see some of the holiday greetings from not only Collins and Hallicrafters, but the Swans and Drakes and the whole host of radio icons, you must truly appreciate the camaraderie and goodwill of amateur radio of old. We could learn a lot from them, to follow their example today.

Ardent search on the internet yield few holiday greeting cards from our aged and honored hobby. **QST** has had one for a few years (who want to send the same card year after year?), and *occasionally* you see someone put a new one out there, but this niche is pretty barren of new greetings. I had some custom cards done by Anne at http://www.etgiftstore.com/items/ALL-PRODUCTS/Gifts-for-Ham-Radio-Operators/list.htm a few years ago, and I was hoping she could sustain a following and keep bringing new cards to the market, but it has been difficult to get the word out to other hams. (*This is not just a "plug" for her, but also a plug for amateurs to communicate their holiday cheer with other hams around the world!*). Check out her website; give her some new ideas if you have some. I found her service to be excellent, and the cards have been received by my friends who have admired their quality.

So, get out there ... string a G5RV between the antlers of your favorite reindeer ... send a few holiday greetings over your radio ... but most of all, take some moments and remember your ham radio dreams of yesteryear... the kids of today are going to look back at these times and our memories will be their nostalgia.

To all my fellow amateur radio operators worldwide, may we one day bring peace to our earth, and embrace all mankind. What better way to start than down memory lane with amateur radio? Nessie and Richard, I'll be thinking of you guys!

73, and we wish you the happiest of holidays, W6PUG Doug, Vivian, and our Pug Grumble (and yes, a "pack of pugs" is called a 'grumble'!)

Ed. note: the Elmer referred to is Mike, N7TLL/ZL1TV.

FOR SALE

Ameritron AL-811 HF linear amp (600w), with spare valves and suitable SWR meter etc, \$650. Contact David ZL2DW hm 8760518



VHF/UHF FIELD DAY

ZL2AS will be operational from Whakapunake (948mASL, north of Wairoa) for VHF Field Day (APRS users it is where ZL2AA-1 is)

The team for ZL2AS will consist of

Warren Harris ZL2AJ Steve Jepson ZL2KG Dave Sullivan ZL2OK

We would like to work you every contest hour on each band you are able. Please contact us on the following frequencies

6m Band

50.2MHz (local USB)

50.110MHz (International DX only)

52.525MHz FM

2m band

144.100MHz (International DX Only)

144.200MHz (Local USB)

144.500MHz (FM)

70cm Band

432,200MHz USB

432.800MHz (FM) (New bandplan frequency)

23cm

1296.500MHz FM Only

Local contacts and home station contacts are encouraged. If you cant find us on one band we may be busy doing something - try another mode / band and we will find you and work you there.

The plan is (roughly) beaming North west for the first 15 minutes and beaming South for the second 15 minutes. The next 30 minutes we could be anywhere (or if VK opens up we could divert from this plan on occasion)

Contest hours are

7th December 1700 - 2300 each hour

8th December 0700 - 1300 each hour

Please turn the split off your radio, and come work us on simplex. We like to be kept busy, and we want to win!

I have a few spare radios if anyone needs assistance.

ZL2AJ

Mentioned in Dispatches

Locals (ZL2AS) get a mention in "The Canadian Amateur" publication".

... A TALE OF TWO LIGHTHOUSES: OTTAWA AND TORONTO ...

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Once again, and for the 15th year, the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club (OVMRC) participated in the International Lighthouses and Lightships Weekend (ILLW), which was held on August 17 and 18. We also helped to set a record for this international event.

We have been participating in the ILLW since its inception in 1998, when we set up our station inside the Canada Science and Technology Museum artifact lighthouse in Ottawa known as Cape North Old (Museum) and registered on the Canada list of lighthouses as CA569. For the ILLW we use the ILLW list number CA0016.

Last year the event gathered 473 Lighthouses (LH) / Lightships (LS) in 47 countries, which was a record for the event. This year's objective was to set a new record of 500 LH/LS

around the world. The final tally totalled 526 LH/LS from 54 countries, indeed a new record.

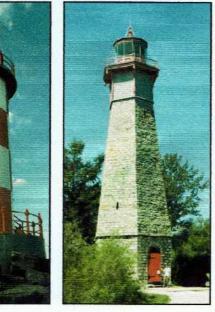
We operated from a trailer which was modified to be used as an emergency operating station. In the trailer, we used the Club Kenwood TS-850Sat with the Cushcraft R7 antenna mounted at the front corner with an extension pole. Michel and his son Charles set up on the dining table, with his SDR Flex-1500 feeding a G5RV mounted in the adjacent trees with the help of Sandy and his fishing rod. I was a third station using my new mobile setup with an ICOM IC-7000 and LDG autotuner. My antennas were Hustler verticals with the 52-inch extension and resonators for 80, 40 and 20 metres, and powered by two 32 amp/hour batteries in the trunk. Michel, having limited success with his QRP Flex radio, brought in his Flex-5000 the next day and easily reached Brazil, Argentina and Europe. However, the highlight of the event was David's, VE3ZZU, backpack QRP setup. He complemented his excellent Elecraft KX3 radio with a very expensive power arrangement.

Sandy did a great job in organizing the event, treating us with food and coffee, and welcoming the visitors who were curious about our operation. It was a fine opportunity to present Amateur Radio to the public. We had the pleasure of a visit from Bob, VA3QV, Jose, VA3PCJ and James, VE3MYZ, who came to encourage us and stayed to help with the take down.

On behalf of the OVMRC, we direct our thanks to the Canada Science and Technology Museum which allows us this annual fun outing, and to the Amateur Radio crew who has been consistent year after year. Congratulations go out to every one for making a new record possible. This goes for Canada as well with a record of 21 Lighthouses participating. We are looking forward to more fun next year.

The photo shows the OVMRC crew taking a well-deserved break. From left are: Sandy, VE3HAZ, Guy, VE3VCF, Michel, VE3EMB, Paul, VE3NJS (standing), David, VE3ZZU and Maurice-André, VE3VIG. Charles is behind the camera taking the picture. Tx Charles!





Malcolm Kendall, VE3BGD

This is the first year that the Toronto Amateur Radio Club has taken part in the International Lighthouses and Lightships Weekend. We are now bitten by the bug and will be on the island for next year's event.

Toronto Island is a quick 10-minute ferry ride from downtown Toronto, but on the day we went to go to the island the local ferry was broken down. The only way on to the island was by using the Island Airport ferry, then clearing security, lining up behind a security escort vehicle and then following a float plane about to depart crossing the main runways, and then finally arriving on the park area of the island. It was an interesting experience crossing the tarmac passing a taxiing Bombardier aircraft to say the least!

We ran CW, PSK and Voice connected to a Dipole, Vertical and

Magnetic Loop respectively and a Beam for the voice station. A total of 173 contacts were made, the most exciting was by voice with NZ0018 Castle Rock ZL2AS and NZ006 Piha Lighthouse ZL6LH. We looked after some 200 hundred visitors to the site and the stations – and the weather could not have been better.

Gibraltar Point Lighthouse marks the southwestern tip of the Toronto Islands. Originally constructed in 1808, the stone tower is Toronto's first lighthouse. The tower was originally 52 feet tall and housed a fixed white lamp. The tower was raised to 82 feet in 1832. A revolving white light was installed in 1878. An electric flashing light was installed in 1916-1917, when the station first received electricity The current light (a fixed green light to identify it among the city lights) was installed in 1945. The light was transferred to a nearby skeleton tower in 1958, and the stone tower transferred to the Metropolitan Parks Department. The tower was renovated in 1961-1962.

The lighthouse is the site of an unsolved mystery. The first keeper, J.P. Rademuller, disappeared on January 2, 1815. Years later, a skeleton believed to be his was found near the lighthouse. To this day, Gibraltar Point is believed to be haunted.

Many thanks to the City of Toronto and to Artscape Gibraltar Point.



The following members took part in the weekend (from left in photo): Julio, VA3JCI, Luz, VA3LUZ, Ralph, VE3RWO, Gabriel, VA3CWT, Malcolm, VE3BGD, Dwayne, VE3WSH, Tim, VA3TMA and Dave, VA3TRK.

Not in the photo: Tibi, VA3DHJ, Richard, VA3RFR, Victor, VE3HEU, Doug, VE3HOY and Robert, VE3ZQI.

Guest Operators: Ward, VA3WGK and Paul, VA3PAW.

Note: For more information on the International Lighthouses and Lightships Weekend visit http://iliw.net/

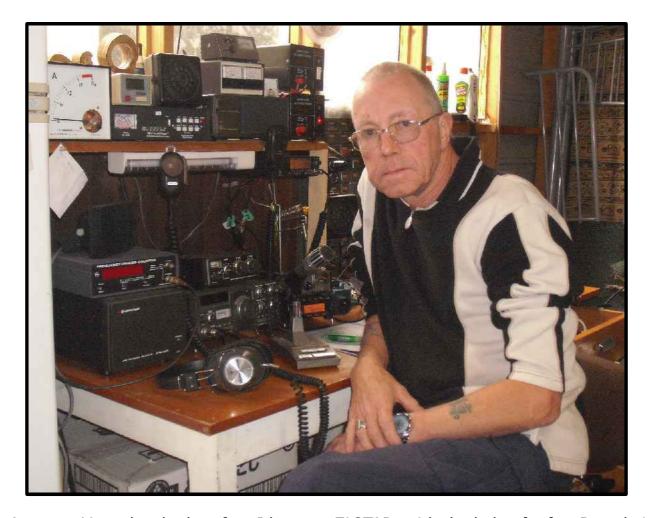
Br13/HBARC "Meal and Meeting" held recently at Waipukurau



Ric Coleman. ZL2RIC

It all started back in 1975. My Airlane Mk3, soon to be Mk4. North Shore, Auckland, and CB daze. The early morning NET driving down the northern motorway, into the city. Sometimes 10 to 12 CB`ers. Usually about half an hour, Monday to Friday. Callsign: AK3794. Five years of that, and we were off to Rotorua. Became: RO234. Into serious (naughty) CB now. SSB (not sure if it was legal then, but I had it). Regular skeds with Australia, and all points north. Local RI, gave me a warning, and made me take my "ship to shore" licence. (Not sure why)? But I had a ZM call!! For testing? We had CB licences in those days, and RO234, changed to RO13, and I eneded up callsign: RO1. There was a real CB community in Rotorua in those days. 1981 - 2 - 3. My qsl card collection from around the world was growing. USA contacts were two or three a day then. Still on 4 watts! And we had beams, all sorts of antennas.

The move to Gisborne in late 1983, saw me as: GS1. Ongoing DX for quite a while, and great times had by a few local CB'ers. My best contacts being Liverpool, England, and Ireland. Still on 4 watts. My late wife, Jean, on one of her trips back to the UK, bought me a linear amp! Oh boy..... It did not make much difference to my DX-ing, but it did find the attention of our local RI (at last). Mr Wynn Schollum, (ZL2HAM) was not impressed. Two options...... get licenced, or get fined? (He actually let me keep my gear).



Anyway: Very shortly therafter, I became ZL2TAD, with the help of a few Branch 11 members. And I went on to my 6wpm CW, passed first time, and then 12wpm CW. Passed 2nd time. Peter Kenny, ZL2QK and Rib Compier, ZL2AJQ, my tutors/mentors, actually got me up to 16wpm! Many drunken sessions over the air, with some really crazy sending and receiving. It certainly made you listen!! Mary had lots of things, and it was not always little lambs. Do not perceive... LISTEN. God. Mary had little trains, houses, horses, railways, etc. It changed every session. I think in all, it cost me two bottles of Famous Grouse. I became ZL2RIC, and have never touched a morse key since. I became Editor for Branch 11, then Secretary for Branch 11. (posts I held for over 15 years) I was President for two years. I also got IRLP up and running in Gisborne, at first running it from my QTH, then getting it connected direct to the Kaiti Hill 685 repeater. I think at that stage, there were only 5 IRLP stations in ZL. (That was early 2000).

And yes, I chased the awards in those days too. (Away {framed}in a box somewhere now). I think I can claim the honour (?) of being the only ZL station to have (WAVK) worked all VK on HF and worked all VK on IRLP. The latter taking nearly a year. (No award for that though). But it was harder than doing it on HF! Yes, a VK9 on IRLP! (Don't ask). But log book proves it. (Yes, I still keep a log-book). The move down here to Hastings has seen me slow down somewhat, being self employed, and lately with health issues. Nearly didn't have a leg to stand on! (Literally). But with summer coming on, and hopefully a couple of volunteers to get an antenna up in the air, I might put the FT-857 to good use again. It would be great to get back on 10 metres, and learn about the secrets of 6 metres too. DAVID!!!???

And then there is WAUK on IRLP??????? Nice to hear John, ZL2BMC hitting the USA. It's all amateur radio. It's what we do.

Might just give it a try.....

73. Ric. ZL2RIC