



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



Antennae Test

ZL3!O, ZL3!Q and ZL2GQ tested the efficiency of their new home site and new antennae by contesting – see story Page 4.

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



Join the KIWI DX Group
Talk to ZL2AL for Details

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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

Presidents Prattle

With the moving on of Warren Harris ZL2AJ down to Dannevegas I have moved up a slot to acting President. (Note: I am only acting). Thanks Warren from all of us for all your efforts.

The show must go on and on the next club night on Wednesday 22nd June our guest speaker will be another Warren from Civil Defence/ Rural Fire in Hastings. Warren will talk before the meeting starts so he can get away early.

The Conference has been and gone and the Wellington team put on a good show although the numbers were down. One Guest speaker was Ian Johnstone a well known media personality. Sunday nights entertainment was Singer Don Wilson whose song Big Norm was a hit in the seventies. He carried on well into the evening with a diminished group providing lots of hilarity. The AGMs and discussion groups of various factions of our hobby were very informative and worthwhile. I encourage anyone to attend a full conference if possible. You will always learn a lot and meet new friends. The NZART AGM was also held and remit results will be discussed at this month's club meeting. I attended the AREC meeting and was shown a lot of stuff from the Canterbury earthquake. I also attended the AMSAT AGM and we were shown the progress of AMSAT ZL. Now they need some good money to put it up there. Any donations anyone?

Coming up is a trip to Palmerston North for their meeting on Wednesday 6th July which is a talk on Military comms. Those wishing to attend please contact Dave Walker ZL2DW.

On August 20,21st is the Hawkes Bay Car Rally and we will need operators. This is an important earner for our clubs so please help out if possible.

Also on that weekend is lighthouse weekend so there will be people heading to their popular spots.

See you all at the Club meeting.

Rob Wallace

ZL2SG

Acting President

HBARC Branch13

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...

The July meeting on Wednesday 6th July will be REPLACED by a visit to the Manawatu Branch 20 on the same evening as mentioned in the email distributed recently to members by Laurie ZL2TC, The topic is a talk on military communications and it will be followed by refreshments.

For those interested, please contact Laurie by phone (06 834 8519) or email as soon as possible. Transport will be by car pooling, or if sufficient numbers, possibly a rental minibus.

The meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm at the clubrooms 65 Totara Road, Palmerston North.

For updates and other item's visit the ZL2KO website www.zl2ko.org.nz

It's the winter contest season with Trans Tasman events at various dates on 80 and 40 metres. The NZART Memorial Contest is coming up on Sat/Sun July 2/3 2000 NZST until 2300 NZST both evenings on 80m. Contest Information :- Pages 5.6 and 5.7 2010/2011 NZART Callbook and the NZART website. Give it a go.

Stan ZL2ST



Stolen Cable

Hi all. It is with regret that I have to report I have had some cable stolen from my garage at my house.

List as follows

- 30m LDF550 (7/8" hardline) Coax new unused
- 30m LDF450 (5/8" hardline) Coax new unused
- 20m 16mm 3core neutral screened mains power cable (used)
- various short lengths of LDF450 used

Please keep an eye out for this stuff if it should show up on Trademe or at a junk sale, or in professional circles.

Regards,

Warren Harris ZL2AJ 021-649284

The Big Test

We moved to Hawkes Bay in September 2009 and Birgit (ZL3IQ) & I (ZL3IO) joined branch 13. Currently we live in a rental place in Hastings which does not really allow for radio activity. Here we have a Butternut HF9V vertical in the garden which is more a deaf asparagus than a useful antenna.

During a weekend course hold in April 2010 by Lee (ZL2AL), Peter (ZL2LF) & Warren (ZL2AJ) our daughter Saskia Moana (14 at this time) passed her license and got ZL2GQ. Due to the bad antenna situation we are not very active from Hastings.

Last year we bought a section in the Waimarama Heights about 300m asl with a great take off towards USA and EU SP. During the summer holidays Saskia and I started building hf antennas. I'm extensively travelling around the world for my job and more outside of NZ than in the country, so it took us a couple of months to prepare at least a basic contest set-up. Until late February we built a 6 element yagi for 10m, a 5 element yagi for 15m, a multiband hexbeam from 17-40m and mechanically prepared a 4 square for 80m on the site.

But we needed a few more hands to install the big yagis on tube towers. This happened on the ARRL DX SSB weekend in early March. Lee ZL2AL, Gary ZL2IFB & a non radio friend of mine gave us a hand and within a few hours we had the 15m on a 7.5 m high tube tower and the 10m beam installed at about 5m height. It was a temporary installation for testing the potential of this site.

The big beams are not very high but installed directly on the cliff. The area slopes down about 200m towards USA so the effective height for this direction is much more than those 5m /7.5 m. The 40m hexbeam installed on the crank up tower and also located at the edge can be elevated up to 15m.

Power came from a Honda generator (thanks Gary) and the shack was installed in a tent. As usual for scheduled antenna work we had light rain, building wind and temperature of around 10°C. The hard antenna work was ready by about noon and the guys left for home while I continued with laying coax cables and getting at least one 80m vertical tuned to SSB (my main mode is CW).

When I was ready to go the weather changed from misty to bad with winds of 100km/h+ and lots of rain. It immediately showed the first weaknesses of the antennas. The feed point of the 10m beam got damaged before I ever made a QSO with it. But the other bands were going like hell so I focused on those.

On our local Sunday morning Saskia came for her first contest activity. USA is a great audience to start for a newcomer. They are polite and very adaptive to the situation and I was hoping that would allow her to enjoy some QSO's. My initial target were 100-200 QSO's to train her a bit and probably let her run her first pile up. She made a great job running 700 Q's in 6 hours on 15m. Conditions and location helped for sure.

I did not spend much time on 20m in the contest. I wanted to focus on 40/15/10m and check antennas. The second night brought more wind and rain and I had to lower the crank up tower with the 40m hexbeam due to the extreme winds. So the antenna was back to 5m height but standing on the cliff allowed anyhow for almost 600 Q's on 40m.

Monday morning brought the nicest weather and also 15m back to business.

The second day of the contest was planned for me to enjoy the huge pile ups. By checking 10m I spotted a busy band here as well. Against all reason I "alone" lowered the beam, repaired the feed system and got it back on the mast. This was bloody dangerous for the beam and me but I made it and the last 4 contest hours I spent on 10m with a huge run of 700 Q's.

So the resume:

The location is awesome for USA pile ups.

2400 Q's in 18 hour activity as ZL3IO, 700Q's done by Saskia in 6 hours in her first ever pile up/contest activity. She made me a proud father!

This was nice experience but did not tell much about the general contest potential. There are many more directions other than USA and with only a handful of active ZL contesters you have that rarity factor of being a multiplier for most of the others. One of the best contests to compare a station set-up is the WPX. No country multipliers, no special zones. ZL3 has the same value like a JA1, W2, DL1 or G4. If you can do it here, your location is good.

Same set up as for the ARRL except we bought an old caravan and installed it on site. So a bit more comfort. Not getting blown away, not as noisy, even a bed for some sleep.

Now we were sitting together at home and talking strategy. We were 3 potential operators but no chance for a full time effort (48h) due to school and work commitments.

The result was we would try 3 x single op. Saskia would be available from contest start till local Sunday morning. She had already schedules at the high school for Sunday and obviously school at Monday. Birgit wanted to get on the bands for a few hours only. So here was the plan. Saskia would do 15m single band from contest start until Sunday morning. Birgit would come Sunday morning to run a few hours 10m single band while I went back to town with Saskia for a shower and a fast breakfast before we headed to her appointments. From there I went up to the site and changed with Birgit to run single op all bands for day 2 of the contest.

Results:

ZL2GQ, 15m single band, ~900QSO, 432 prefixes, 1.1 Mill points, 60 DXCC's with nice runs into Europe (LP & SP) and Asia, Tim, MOURX wrote that he listened to her for 2 hours LP while she was running USA.

ZL3IQ, 10m single band, 321 QSO's, 164 prefixes, 158 k points

ZL3IO, SOAB, 1562 Q's, 630 prefixes, 3.29 Mpoints

For the WPX I was clearly focussing on Europe openings and not USA to see how we can perform into these directions. It was often hard to fight for a calling frequency especially on 15 & 40m. When we got spotted the rates went up immediately for 5-10min. I anyhow was positively surprised with this result. None of our antennas are installed very high. We again had high winds during this weekend and I had to lower the 40m beam down to about 5m.

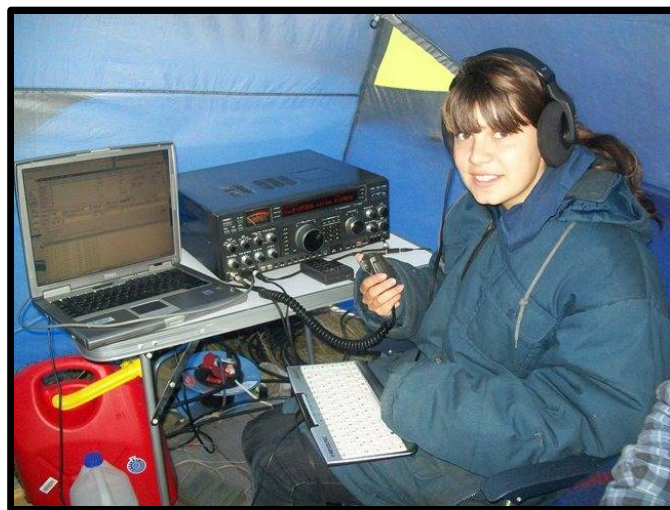
Also the 10/15m antennas are only 5/7.5m high for Europe/Asia.

This will change once we have installed the lattice towers...

73 Holger, ZL3IO



Birgit ZL3IQ and Holger ZL3IO on site



Saskia ZL2GQ Operating



Getting Into Position



Ready for the erection



Time for the boys to go home and let the real work start



80 metre Quad

NOTICES

Hamilton Junk Sale

13 August 2011



Rally of Hawkes Bay

20/21 August 2011



Palmerston North Junk Sale

1 October 2011

Buy – Sell - Etc

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