

BREAKOUT

*The Newsletter of the Hastings and
Napier Amateur Radio Clubs*

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 7, Issue 10, October 2009



Hastings Br
13

Club Call

ZL2AS

Napier Br 25

Club Call

ZL2GT

IRLP

Node

6793

147.250

HB DX

Cluster

ZL2AL-1

144.650

Connect
and type

"DXC"

**Branch
Nets**

9.00 AM

Sunday

Morning

3615 Hz

147.250

MHz

Editor

John Newson

ZL2VAF



A young Scout trying out CW at the Jota Camp at Clifton



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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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

Hastings Branch 13 - President's Report

Hi all. This month we've had Jota. What a great success that was. About 40 scouts and their helpers attended Clifton Station for a range of amateur radio activities. We had several HF and a VHF / UHF operating stations, as well as a VHF morse station, a television station and a fox hunt with trackers from Sirtrack. The feed back was great with many kids now having an insight into our hobby. Maybe a few of them will become hams in the future. The goal was to display our hobby to some new minds and to maybe teach them something about radio. I would say we achieved that goal. Thanks to Wally ZL4DY, Willie ZL2AGD, Rob ZL2RFL, Trevor ZL1FF, Chris ZL2VC and Bert ZL2OC for coming out for all or part of the weekend. Thanks also to Nathan ZL2ND and John ZL2VAF for organising the scouts to camp out with us.

Attention. We are running another block course. November the 21st and 22nd. Anyone who knows anyone who wants to become a ham now is the time. Get them to get in touch with me and I will fill them in on the details. The last one was so successful we just had to run another one. But more importantly - we cant let Nelson beat us! They have set the challenge and we are keen to take it. Good on Nelson branch for getting a large number of hams through this year. If every branch in the country had the same attitude ham radio would be a very active and flourishing hobby.

Below have a read of the repeater article for this month. It talks about the new IRLP node on Threave that was established labour weekend. This is new for Hawkes Bay.

Congratulations to the ZM2M team. I believe they had a rewarding weekend on the CQWW making contacts around the world for the contest. I only wish I was there.

The search and rescue excersise is on November 7th and 8th at Whittals lodge, Puketitiri. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us for the weekend.

This month I had the pleasure of visiting Masterton Branch 46. After arriving I was taken out for dinner and then off to the meeting where I chatted about some of the things we have achieved in Branch 13, particularly the block course. They wer ereceptive and I believe they are going to run a course of their own. Good luck to you and to the candidates. We will be waiting patiently for the results.

Notice for AGM. Our AGM will be held on the 25th of November at 1930 hours at the Windsor Park Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms. It will also be the home brew award so bring along your projects for the year. I believe some antenna analysers may be present.

Thats all for this month. Enjoy the hobby.

Regards,
Warren Harris
ZL2AJ

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 next Napier meeting is the AGM and Pan Pac Trophy on Wednesday 6 November at 7.30 pm at the clubrooms. The agenda is monthly meeting followed by AGM annual reports and election of officers followed by a brief presentation of the items that you have built in the Pan Pac trophy contest. Bring along your home construction for this event whether it be new or an item that you built over the years but have not entered before.

At the last meeting Laurie ZL2TC showed equipment used for working with orbiting satellites. Thanks Laurie.

The Radio Club repeater and beacon licences have been returned to the club from NZART HQ and we will now manage them jointly with Hastings club (with the odd exception) and pay RFS annually at a slightly reduced rate for investigating any problems caused to other services if they occur. National system and ATV licences remain with NZART.

The antenna analyser kitsets are coming along nicely with some completed and others well on the way. Some construction has been done at home with others doing it at the Napier clubrooms along with setting up and testing by Peter ZL2LF. Wednesday evenings 7 pm between club meeting nights. It is still the contest season on the HF bands with the next event the CQ worldwide SSB contest from 1 pm this Saturday (Labour weekend – not a week later as posted in last issue) to 1 pm NZT Monday. The exchange is report and CQ zone (ours is 32) eg 5932 with everyone that you can work on all bands 160-10 metres except WARC bands. It is often a good opportunity to bag 'new' countries on bands needed. There could be signals on 10 metres as in the last week TX5SPM DXpedition on the Marquesas in French Polynesia have been worked on 10 and 12 metres from ZL and many overseas stations are heard calling. This group was recently on the Austral Islands group. Meanwhile a big DXpedition has started up on Midway Island as K4M. This island is rare as access has to be approved by fish and wildlife agency who take a lot of convincing of the value of ham operations. The next one to Midway will be quite a few years into the future. There have recently been operations from Conway reef near Fiji 3D20CR and at present there are operators on Fiji 3D2KJ and 3D2MJ. Some of these are operating on 160 metres.

The ZM2M team of Lee ZL2AL, Michael ZL2FAR, Gary ZL2IFB and Holger ZL3IO operated for the 24 hours of the Oceania CW contest recently, amassing just under 1000 QSOs with 2.5 Million points. A very good effort which should win them the Multi-one section. A permanent new delta loop was erected in the trees on Saturday morning by Lee Michael, Holger and Stan along with a 40M delta loop which is put up for contests. The deltas performed very well on 80 and 40 metres at the farm. An inverted L provided by Gary was used on 160M. Some tidy up was done after the contest ended at 9 pm on Sunday with the rest being tidied up by Lee and Stan on Monday morning. The Christmas dinner is being held soon. See elsewhere in this issue for details and contact Bill to let him know that you will be there.

Stan ZL2ST

Mt Threave

Location – 12km South / South West of Hastings behind Poukawa
Lat / Long 39d 44.99m South 176d 47.00m East
Grid Map V22, 2834111 / 6154666 (or 341547)
Height – 380m Above Sea Level

This is the third in our series of our repeater articles. Technically this one isn't actually a repeater. It's a simplex IRLP link. Last month we saw 725 had an IRLP node attached to it. Threave houses IRLP node 6501, the most recent addition to our arsenal. Its frequency is 432.700MHz, no split. You will need to generate a CTCSS tone of 123.0Hz to access this node, as simplex IRLP nodes are required to have CTCSS access to control what they hear.

So remember – it is simplex. This means you can't talk through it like you can with 725. You can talk to it on 432.700 and listen to it on the same frequency. You may or may not hear the other party talking up to the node – because you will be trying to listen to them direct – simplex remember. The node – because of its height – will hear more than you will. So don't be surprised if sometimes you only hear half a conversation.

In addition to the node commands this node has a few extra commands. Remember to always announce your callsign before dialing DTMF commands.

66 – The current time in UTC
67 – The current local time
77 – The current node status

This node will most likely be connected to reflector 9017 most of the time. This is the discovery reflector, carrying NASA mission audio. It should make interesting listening, especially around space shuttle missions. This node has also been setup to get around the "activity time out" message we experienced on the 725 node.

So if you wish to use the node – check its status first (77). If it is connected to 9017 (or wherever) check no one is actually using it. It will most likely be idling on 9017. So then disconnect it (73) and then connect to the node you wish to connect to (enter 4 digit node number). When you are finished please reconnect the node where you found it. For 9017 connect by dialing *9017. The * ensures the activity timeout does not activate. If you have any issues with the operation side of the node contact Warren ZL2AJ.

So the internet is airtel that is present up the hill. We have a computer connected to the internet and this is the node. The radio is a Tait T500 transmitting 9 Watts. It passes through a single pass cavity filter and about 6 Watts leave that and get split in half to go up to 2 antennas. One is a 6 element yagi pointing into Napier (through Hastings) and the other is a 6 element yagi pointing south to Central Hawkes Bay.

This node was built by Warren Harris ZL2AJ and Robert Lockyer ZL2TYB. Parts were supplied by Warren, Robert and Dave Crook ZL2MQ. It was established onsite on the 26th of October 2009 (Labour Day) by Warren, Dave Walker ZL2DW and Ted Cunningham ZL2WY.

The nodes coverage area is Hastings, Napier, Waipawa, Waipukurau and Takapau. Handheld coverage may be intermittent but mobile and base coverage should be ok.

A replacement node (Mark 2) is being built to upgrade this node in a few months. Little should change except maybe the node number. The planned upgrade will increase redundancy by being completely battery backed up. There is also a mains generator onsite for backup.

JOTA 2009



The Jota Station



The big mast with the arms strong rootator



Working IRLP with HF & national link in foreground and ATV on the bench at the back



The marquee with digital radio, hf, National Link, IRLP, Handhelds & ATV



That fine looking pole has 40 & 80 metre dipoles hanging off it.

JOTA 2009



ZL2AJ showing some keen Scouts how to foxhunt

It was a fantastic day with all parties keen to do it all again next year

Palmerston North Branch Junk Sale

A number of Hawke's Bay amateur radio operators made the trip to the Longburn hall for the annual Palmerston North pre-loved goods sale. Some of the group left HB on the Friday, while the rest of us left at different times on Saturday morning, mostly between 6 and 7am. I went with Barry and Mep, we had a good trip with fine weather. Barry had an encounter with Mr P O Lice, had a pleasant conversation with him and was let off with a warning. If it was me driving it would have cost me \$200.00 or more. Dave ZL2DW and Warren ZL2AJ had a table together and they looked to be doing well, Dave said that he sold items he didn't think would sell and didn't sell items that he thought for sure would sell, goes to prove you can't second guess the out-come of a junk sale. Bob ZL2AN had a table there as well, although he now lives in Wanganui (Notice I missed out the H, this was not a mistake on my part) we still claim him as from HB, after 20 years or so we may revise that, but unlikely. Wally ZL4DY was there as well with Rob ZL2RFL, Ted ZL2WY, Bert ZL2OC, Trevor ZL1FF, Barry ZL2BWL and Willy ZL2AGD Maurice and Lee ZL2AAA and ZL2LE were there as well. Barry's better half Mep is in the last photograph. It was a good time to catch up with old friends and put faces to call signs, great day had by all. I would like to thank Branch 20 for hosting such a successful day. Chris ZL2VC.



Palmerston North Branch Junk Sale



XMAS TEA

National Service Club, Market St, (Nth), Hastings (opp The Warehouse).
Drinks 6-30pm, meal at 7pm, \$22 per head, (pay Bill on the night) buffet type meal. Friday 27 Nov 09

Please give your bookings to Bill, ZL2UBG ph 8775078 or bill.lowes@clear.net.nz
This is our annual Br 25/13 Xmas get together so make sure you get booked in along with your XYL, OM, partner, toy boy or mistress.

NOTICES

CQWW contest

28th & 29th November 2009

SAREX

31st October - 1st November

AGM of HBARC/Br 13 at 7-30pm 25 Nov 2009, Surf Club Rooms, Grove Rd, Hastings, following the normal General Meeting.

Also this will be our Home Brew Competition judging night so bring along your construction entries and if they won't fit through the door, photographs are acceptable.

David Walker (ZL2DW) (Sec for HBARC/Br13)

VHF Field Day

5th December - 6th December

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

Buy – Sell - Etc

ICom 7000 as per ad on Trade me 250257109
Wayne ZL2WL

Radio Equipment For Sale (ex Estate, offers to David ZL2DW)

Kenwood SSB Transceiver TS-120S
Kenwood HF Transceiver TS-830S
Kenwood Antenna Tuner AT-230
Kenwood Speaker/Filter SP-230
Kenwood DC Power Supply PS-30
Kenwood RF Dummy Load RD-300
Kenwood Microphone MC-50
Kenwood Speaker Mike SMC-30
Kenwood Speaker Mike MC-35S
Kenwood low pass Filter LF-30A
Ameritron RF Amplifier AL-811
Yaesu All Mode Transceiver FT-847
Yaesu Dynamic Microphone MD-100
Yaesu Dynamic Microphone MH-31
Coaxial Switch D-5200
Bhi NES 10-2 noise eliminating Speaker
Kenwood 430Mhz FM Transceiver TR-3600A incl. nicad charger
Kenwood 144Mhz FM Transceiver TR-2600A incl. nicad charger
Kenwood Base Stand charger ST-2
Kenwood DC-DC Converter DC-26
Gap Antenna

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john.newson@xtra.co.nz*