# BREAKOUT The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 14, Issue 11, November 2014



**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** 



Some of the Team erecting a new HF aerial for the Clifton accessor

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 SITE MANAGER" \*

Our International traveler Mike N7TLL/ZL1TV and xyl are on their way back to NZ for our Summer, this means we'll be able to talk to him on VHF instead of the current HF.

Our Br 13 visit to Waipukurau for a "meal and meeting" in Oct. was the usual success that it has become, I think we can say it will continue..... maybe at Waipawa next year.....thanks for hosting us you CHB-ites.

Winter was a pretty quiet time, as you may remember me mentioning in my previous ramblings but with great Summer days turning up recently activity has taken a turn upwards and it's all busy, busy......and some great HF contacts to be had as well.

\* After a couple of aborted attempts a group of us replaced the HF aerial at the Clifton accessor site last weekend and boy does it "fly" now. Have a listen and a play some time and see what you think.

Our next meeting, on 26 Nov. will be our Annual General Meeting...after the normal General Meeting, and then we'll have the Homebrew Competition. Following all of this we'll have a mini-auction of stuff that has been given to our club......so bring some money and maybe go home with a bargain.

Please remember that Br 13 will not have a meeting in Dec., our next meeting will be on 28 Jan. 2015 and there will be NO Break Out in Dec., again our next one will be about 26 Jan. 2015.

By the time you read this the combined Br 13/25 Xmas Tea will have been and gone (on 21 Nov.) and as at this moment the attendance numbers are at 36.

I wish you all Merry Xmas and Happy New Year and especially a safe holiday time,

73, Rob Leicester, ZL2US, President, Br13/HBARC, Hastings.

#### **NAPIER BRANCH 25**

President: Laurie Winton ZL2TC 843 8519 email laurie@wilcom.co.nz Secretary: Karl Matthys ZL1TJ 8454372 email kmatthys@callsouth.net.nz Treasurer: Stan White ZL2ST 845 2422 email stan.white@clear.net.nz

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### Committee:

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Committee Meetings: Third Monday of the months Jan. Mar. May Jul. Sep. Nov. 7pm at the

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 Amateur Radio Club news....

Hi all,

Rain, gale force westerlies, winter and summer in the same day, must be Spring. The recently installed Hustler trap vertical antenna at the clubrooms has taken a bit of a battering, but is still more or less vertical. On-the-air tests after installation suggest it performs as well as or slightly better on the higher frequency bands than the trap dipole.

Next task is to install the mast for the tri-band yagi. Last Sunday, some energetic committee members dug the hole and poured the concrete base for the tilt-over mast. Another couple of Sunday working bees should have it all up in the air.

Also on the list of tasks is to paint the clubrooms exterior, thanks to the Keep Napier Beautiful Trust for funding the cost of the paint, plus a special anti-graffiti coating.

We have some interesting activities planned for next year, first up is a Grid Squares Contest sponsored by Napier Amateur Radio Club, with a trophy for the eventual winner. Contest organiser is Mike ZL2VM, see elswhere in this issue of Break-Out for details and rules.

Also planned is to have an open day at the clubrooms one Sunday afternoon each month, where local hams and visitors can drop in, use the radio shack, meet other hams, or just have a cup of coffee and a chinwag. On that note, we have decided not to have another Bay Hamfest this year, next Hamfest will be May 2016, so that we run a Hamfest in every second year when there is no Technology Convention, which is also held every two years..

On a personal note there are some good 10 metre contacts in the ZL2TC log, and signs that 6 metres is waking up, with JA's heard in the last couple of days. Final Club meeting for the year is on Wednesday 3rd December, Lee ZL2AL will be the speaker.

Till then keep the bands warm and the rig cool.

ZL2TC

# A Montage of pictures from the Branch 13 Waipukurau "Meal and Meeting" night









## **Branch 25 AGM and Homebrew night 5 November 2014**

Revell ZL2SS with his morse, tone generator





Laurie ZL2TC with his 1296mhz yagi



Br 25 Committee for the 2014/2015 year



### WANTED

Kenwood MC 50 microphone, four pin plug, and working. Contact: Ric Coleman, ZL2RIC, 06 878 3558, mowers@gmx.com



### **Letters to the Editor**

No starch or sarcasm this month. We have a new ham, who's made the grade! He's stayed with us, head down, butt up. He's had the help of both of our Branches. That's what hamming is about. I might be biased, as Phils' been my mate for quite a while, but thanks guys for all the help you've given ZL2RO. I might try and catch him up on HF if I can get the MC-50 mic. And heck! MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Ric and family. ZL2RIC

### **HB QTH Square Award**

A U/VHF Simplex Award to run from 1 Jan 2015 to 31 Dec 2015

1 point per QTH Square collected. The one with the most squares is the winner and will be awarded a Cup to dust for a year.

You can collect a point for the square you are in as well.

Example: If you have gone mobile and are in RF80KL and the station you are working is in RF81AB, you can record both locations

Use NZART Century Award Log to record activities.

<a href="http://www.nzart.org.nz/assets/awards/nzart-century-award-log.pdf">http://www.nzart.org.nz/assets/awards/nzart-century-award-log.pdf</a>

To find a QTH Location

<a href="http://no.nonsense.ee/qth/map.html">http://no.nonsense.ee/qth/map.html</a>

Note: Checkout the rules for the Century Award as these contacts should be valid for the NZART Award too.

This award is sponsored by BR 25 for Hawke's Bay Amateurs to encourage a bit of fun Repeater Free.

More next Break Out

Contact Mike ZL2VM <rlb.mmb@xtra.co.nz>



### **Working Bee 1 - November 3**

The mission was to erect the new Hustler All Band vertical antenna on a tilt-over mast that was donated to us by Hilton Myer ZL2MN (SK). ZL2TC, ZL1TJ, ZL2AL, ZL2MY, ZL2MO and ZL2SS assembled bright and early on Sunday morning ready to do great things. The weather was warm with sunshine and perfect antenna weather.



The front of the Club Rooms quickly became a hive of activity

We had two jobs to complete. The first was to repair the 80M/40M trap dipole which had one leg disconnected from the a supporting giant gum tree. The spud gun soon took care of getting a line over the top branches while Laurie installed a new halyard line on the top of the VHF dipole mast.

The second job was to assemble the Hustler vertical antenna and get it on the mast. The photos below tell the story.



The Hustler laid out and ready to assemble



Maybe we should read the instruction manual?



The radials are attached here says Karl

Lee, drilling holes in the cross brace





Wally and Revell working on the cross brace for the mast



Wally and Michael clamping the Hustler to the mast

And does it work? Yes, indeed it does. A quick run with the antenna analyzer showed resonant spots near where they were supposed to be on each band. The morning turned into afternoon and there was limited time to check how well it will actually work and we left around 3Pm. We were getting some good signals through on 15M and 40M Comparison with the trap dipole showed that the vertical was noisy. We expected that. In any case, the job is done and the antennas are back in operation.

Article from www.zl2gt.com



The Hustler raised to it's operating position.

# Clifton HF accessor working bee day/HF aerial replacement











### Radio Czech

It has now been 10 years since I went to the other side of the world for a short holiday. It was a coincidence that the date of departure was choosen for the 17th November, which is rather important date for Czechs. In 1939 they went into streets to manifest against Hiler's fascist regime, in 1989 they went into streets again to start a revolution against Communist leadership, known as the Velvet Revolution.

I went to New Zealand as a tourist and the plan was to stay for about three months. Long story short, I've decided that New Zealand is too nice of a place to go back to Europe after such short time! I worked on a plan to extend my Visas for as long as possible and ended up finding my first job in Hawkes Bay.

My interest in radio started sometimes when I was about 10, being absolutely addicted to shortwave listening every night. So many times I've been told off for taking my AC powered radio to bed with me, threatening that it could start a fire.

Although I knew about amateur radio, for me obtaining the license was something to do when I 'grow up'. Long time after, In New Zealand now, being gone through some rough survival choices at times, I found myself settling down slowly and so it was the right time to join the amateur radio community for me. In September 2009 I received my callsign ZL2CZE.

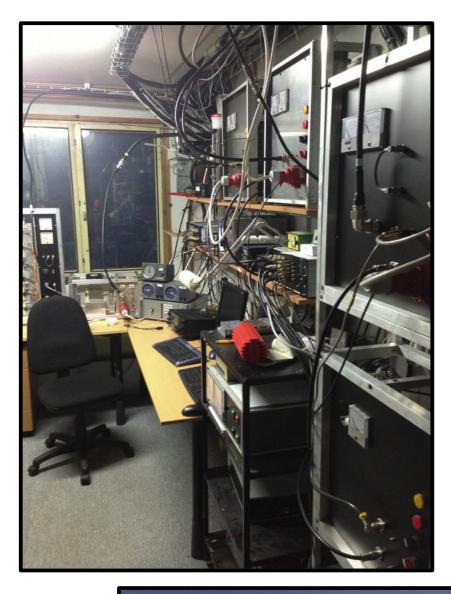
My number one goal was to make a radio contact with home country, finally being able to talk czech on a ham radio. I remember the night some year back now, when visiting Rob ZL2US, having first QSO on 20m during a morning net, causing a pile-up for some time. (Thanks Rob!) I've since been able to get on the morning net from my home QTH, only using 100Watts and trapped wire dipole.

One day there was a Dstar hotspot available and I was very excited to find that many Czech hams use Dstar and already have a network of repeaters that cover most of the country. I built a hotspot that I keep connected to the Czech system, so that I can keep in touch with Czech hams as if I was on a local repeater with them.

In November last year, me and my fiancée Rachel, went to see my parents and Rachel's sister who was visiting Prague at that time and I had a perfect opportunity to meet some of the people I've met on the radio.



Me, Michal OK1LOL & Milan OK1MX



Thanks to Michal OK1LOL for letting us visit fantastic contest station near Prague

High power homebrew VHF, UHF and SHF equipment and much much more. Some tower space is being leased to a cellphone

operator.





Tom OK1JRA with a digital/analog combined repeater he built



Us lot in a pub having a great time Me, Tom OK1JRA, Ota OK1PO and Petr OK1ET

I also want to thank to all who helped me with getting my hotspot running, especially to Milan OK1MX, Michal OK1LOL, Libor OK1ALX, Ludek OK7RB and others.

Jan ZL2CZE