



Hastings Br  
13  
Club Calls  
**ZL2AS**  
**ZL2QS**

Napier Br 25  
Club Calls  
**ZL2GT**  
**ZL2G**

**IRLP**  
Node  
6793  
147.250



*A visit by Branch 13 to the Hastings District Council Civil Defence Rooms*

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

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

**Branch  
Nets**  
9.00 AM  
Sunday  
Morning  
3615 Hz  
439.175mhz



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

**Editor**  
John Newson  
**ZL2VAF**

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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 (HBARC/Br13)

I've learnt that David ZL2OK is putting in tremendous effort and working rapidly towards his second 100 in the DXCC award, well done OM.

After 27hrs Mike (N7TLL/ZL1TV) and Judy have arrived back home having spent many weeks in NZ as they do annually. It was nice to have you both here in NZ again.

A few weeks ago I had a team here on site at home assisting with my aerial rearrangements. We installed beams for 12 and 17m on my original mast and on my new second mast beams for 6m and 2m were installed. The 2m ones are for both horizontal and vertical polarization. They all seem to be working "sweetly" but with low loss coax coming up I'm looking forward to seeing what they can do for me.....watch this space.

Under consideration is a weekend under the Kawekas in the DOC facility.....ie a "Radio Weekend". This subject will come up at our next Branch 13 meeting (on 25 March). I'm sure we could muster a group.

After a recent weekend work conference at Auckland Sue and I managed to fly home OK in the early stages of Cyclone Pam, which I must say was a non event.....it could have been so much different.....ask those on the Chatham Islands.

I note that there were some local home stations active in the recent Jock White Field Day weekend.....I note particularly the first time effort by Phil ZL2RO, it seems that he gave a very creditable effort, well done.

73 for now,

Rob Leicester (ZL2US)

(President HBARC/Branch 13, Hastings)

*New VHF array and original HF array at the ZL2US station*



## **NAPIER BRANCH 25**

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**Committee Meetings:** 7:00 pm, 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, November

**Club Calls:** **ZL2GT, ZL2G**

**Club Web Site:** [www.zl2gt.com/blog](http://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. The initial launch of the Hawkes Bay Emergency Check-In Net drew a good response, both on 80 metres and VHF. Although the intention is for it to be a Hawkes Bay and East Coast net, we had check-ins from Palmerston North and Gisborne, which are potentially useful links if needed. We have one or two minor technical problems to sort out before the next net, mainly due to using H/F and VHF simultaneously, but should be fairly easily resolved.

Those of you who have attended recent club meetings or read the meeting minutes will be aware of the dramatic increase in the power price we are being charged by the electricity retailer we currently use. Their reasoning behind the increase seems to be that our electricity usage is so low that they were losing money supplying us. Not quite sure why they never worked that out when we went to them in the first place, but now we have to consider an alternative. The problem is that the clubrooms are supplied at the commercial rate for power, so we are not able to take advantage of residential "low user" pricing. The major cost issue for us is the so-called "availability charge" which is a fixed charge regardless of energy used. Alternatives such as an "off-grid" solar power system have been discussed at length, but we then would need to find another way of providing heating and hot water. In the meantime our treasurer is trying all the power retailers for the best deal available to us.

Finally, our Sunday afternoon open day was a great success, with a better turn-out than some club meetings. Next open day is on Sunday 19th April at 2:00 pm, so come on down, use the radio shack, or just enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat with your fellow amateurs.

Thats all for this month, de ZL2TC

## TRAMPING HAM TRIP January 12 – 22 2015

Location -- Hooker Landsborough Wilderness Area, Southern Alps, from the head of Lake Ohau, the next lake south of Lake Pukaki [Mount Cook road] up the Hopkins River, Elcho River, over a 2000m alpine pass into the Landsborough River, down this stunning and wild river, back over another alpine pass into the Huxley River and so a circuit back to the start point.

My tramping partner Anne and I had planned this adventurous trip for a year or two, other things got in the way, and finally January 2015 it was on. We took 8 days food for what could generally be a six day trip, but storm torn valleys and avalanche debris etc and very hard country contrived to stretch us, both getting on in age, with me starting off with a 26 kg pack – the usual personal gear, 8 days food, ice axe, crampons, most of the two man tent, laminated maps and route information, Yaesu FT 817, a rope and carabiner to belay with and a couple of climbing slings [which were all used twice] , and Anne with a 19kg pack including the tent inner and crampons and ice axe and her food. We took 4 main meals each meaning that we had the same evening meal cooked with minimum gas stove usage.

We drove to Wellington, flew to Christchurch, hired a cheap [\$26 a day] Hyundai Getz and straight down to the Lake Ohau roadend. This as day 1 got us at 9pm to the only hut for the next 5 days, Monument Hut in the Hopkins. On emptying my pack that night I looked at the food, weight and volume [ as volume to fit in the pack which is 80 litres ] is of importance too – and so decided to leave a packet of gingernut biscuits in a vermin safe place for some hungry person one day!

Day 2 was up the Hopkins past Elcho hut and on up the Elcho river to the last flat camp spot available. If we could have done the trip in 6 days we would have continued and done another three passes and come out further south, and with this in mind had taken 3 days food each in 4l paint tins[ vermin proofed!] to hide at the Huxley footbridge on the way which we did. So we looked like Queen street trampers carrying a Kathmandu bag with the tins inside, not the hardy types we were ! At the campsite views of hanging glaciers above us were spectacular.

The going had been good and fast [ fast as old legs] up a wide grassy river valley crossing the Hopkins a few times, but now on day 3 it was in to the hard graft of an untracked rocky narrow river [Elcho] which was slow travel, eventually at the main fork junction a snow field of 600m [ 2000 ft ] of vertical snow to Elcho Pass at 1941 metres. We used crampons anyway but only really needed them and an ice axe at the 60 deg slope to the pass. What a vista from here to the west, Mt Hooker at 2640m and a line of glaciated peaks running north as far as you could see, and the mighty Landsborough below, beech forest, grassy flats and a big river. As it was 4pm at the pass with 8km to the Landsborough in unknown territory and an ugly looking ridge down, we decided to camp on the pass- fortunately there was a rough campsite complete with rock walls [ for wind protection] and a sea of snow which was our source of water now when melted.

Next morning, day 4, across rotten 'weet bix' rock to the ridge to go down, the snow patches were easy but the rocky ridge was a bit of a nightmare, it took all day till



5pm to cover 4km of at times right dangerous travel to the bushline. We departed into the bush edge with no track/route using the seat of the pants navigation and later the compass but the wide ridge had numerous bluffs to get around and vertical guts that were impassable too, meaning we stopped exhausted in torchlight at 10.30pm [daylight till 10] and camped under the fly after a mouthful of water [run out] and a dried apricot. It rained during the night and dampened our sleeping bags too !

An hour later on day 5 we drank the first creek dry and headed down the Landsborough camping late pm, able to dry our gear in the sun.

Day 6 continued down river arriving at Fraser Hut at Creswick Flats where there is a still used airstrip. This hut is a added to hotch potch hut, leaking in many places and well infested with mice which scratched around the walls all night but fortunately did not get our food.



However it was to be a haven anyway as the next few days were rain [ day 7] Saturday. Sunday [day 8]more rain and the main river and side rivers really came up. This area has wide grass flats 400m wide and so we often wandered down to see the river levels, collecting firewood, observing the endangered Yellow



Head or Mohua birds which flipped about in great numbers and a resident Falcon. So far one would have thought we would have seen deer, but no, only Thar footmarks in the snow at Elcho pass, although numerous hares sighted. Monday [day 9] was clearing so hoped for a 'window' to get over Brodrick Pass next day - Tuesday.

I had taken my FT 817 with charged up NiMh battery and an out board set of Eveready Energiser 'Advanced' as backup, had not made sked arrangements, but used it on 3345 to get the Canterbury Mountain Radio weather forecasts at 7pm when needed. As the rain on Saturday concerned us, we conserved food [ had done for the last few days] as we were now at day 9 of 8 days food ! We got quite excited at seeing about 8 one dozen egg containers in the hut but alas they were empty- used as 'bait' in the stoat traps that line the valley!



There was an unmarked tin on the shelf which made one main meal, turned out to be an irish stew type brew, very yum!

Back a step- on the Saturday [day 6] I had tuned 80 to hear no one but Aussies, Yanks etc at the top end and became a bit despondent, until hearing a good signal with a Southern S.I. accent which is unmistakable[ rolling the r's] This was ZL4KS Lyndsay and ZL4RMF Ron on 3613. They gave me 5x6-7 on 1 watt with my ½ wave dipole about 5m at the centre and 3 at each end but out in the open grassy flat at the hut so no b.... trees to work around! Ron asked if I had been in the Whitcombe River a few years ago as my call seemed familiar, and blow me down he had helped then when we needed to talk to the outside world on a previous 9 day trip Jan 2010. Isn't it a small world ! Others came on the sked we had at 9pm each night, 4LV Peter, 4OL Mike, 4VM Vernon and 4LDS Lyndsay. I was concerned as on night 2 with little use really the internal NiMh pack died- it is 7 years old so must be getting tired. Fortunately I had taken an outboard 8xAA pack which plugs

into the dc socket and tossed up about taking standard alkalines, advanced alkalines or the expensive lithuims. I settled on the 'Advanced' type which have about 50% better rating than standards and was thankful I had, although wished I had gone for the lithium. However from there on dropped back to .5 watt and minimised transmit times. On the Saturday sked the concern was rain and rivers, and Sunday food rations of course and rain plus the fact that if we could not have got out on Tuesday, or Wednesday at an absolute stretch, then



we would probably need to be emergency evacuated. Lyndsay 4KS is the AREC section leader in Dunedin and just happened to see the local SAR Sargeant in the street and informed him that he was in contact with a party in the Landsborough who may need help. However the Tuesday [day 9] had the makings of a reasonable day and so we departed the hut for Brodrick Pass after a 7am sked to inform them of our plans. This was a 1340m or 4400 ft

climb to the pass which took 8 hours! A lot of snow there too and very cold. Then 2 hours down the other side into the North Huxley River to Brodrick Hut. Our route now was not subject to rain, not that it was now a probability. Next day [10] on down the valley complicated by massive erosion which too, taking twice as long as expected to Huxley Forks Hut, I did keep a sked here and the previous night too. out next day [11] down to the Hopkins valley, collected the food dump and determined not to touch it, got back to the car about 2pm, having a 'feed' of the cake and goodies at the car. The weather had been remarkable except for the two days rain in the Landsborough and today was no exception, brilliant hot clear days, so on the way back went to Mt Cook to the backpackers, had a decent meal at the Old Mountaineers restaurant and reflected on a challenging and rewarding trip in the Alps.

I lost 3kg or half a stone which did not surprise me. We were probably eating about 3000 kilojoules but expending 4000 or so.

John Montgomerie ZL2MB



## Branch 13's Guest Speaker

Lester Price, first licenced in Nelson as ZL2AMP in 1967, trained at Trentham Camp as a Post Office Radio and on completion was posted to Wellington Radio ZLW in the same year. He was there long enough to be involved in the Wahine grounding on Barretts Reef in July 1969, but shortly after transferred to Chatham Islands Radio ZLC where he was relicensed as ZL3PO/C. This was his first experience as a DX station and he had many thousands of QSO's using his new Trio TS-510 \*STORY\*. After Chathams he transferred to Awarua Radio ZLB near Invercargill, and was assigned ZL4PO, but he applied for the position of Radio Operator/Postmaster Scott Base ZLQ where he operated for the 1971/72 season. He had short operating stints at Williams Ice Runway KC4USX, McMurdo KC4USV and South Pole Station KC4AAA during the same season.

From there he returned to Awarua Radio for several years until being promoted to the position of Manager Chatham Islands Radio in 1981 where he spent a further 4 years or so initially signing as ZL4PO/C. He and Chris Hannigan (now ZL2DX, ex ZL7DX) wrote to POHQ Radio Division proposing that Chathams should be ZL7, Campbell should be ZL8, and Raoul should be ZL9. Additionally ZM7 Tokelau should be ZK3.

This suggestion was adopted about 1982 when he adopted ZL7PO. After nearly 5 years at Chathams he returned to Awarua Radio ZLB as Manager in 1985 until final closure of the station in 1991. He then worked as an engineering consultant for BCL, assisting with the design of New Zealand's Taupo Maritime Radio ZLM controlled from Avalon, Lower Hutt. After that project he reluctantly turned down an invitation to work at Tangimoana SIS station in favour of running his own business "Active Electronics" in Nelson, mainly specialising in TV antenna design and installation, microwave and satellite broadband installation for ThePacific.net, iPstar Thailand and Boeing USA for a further 13 years until retirement in 2007. Operated from Mellish Reef VK9ML in 2002 DXpedition, Pratas Island BQ9P in 2003, JARL Conference Japan 2005, Cambodia/Laos/Thailand 2006, Philippines 2007 to present as DU5/ZL4PO and currently DV5PO in Eastern Samar, Philippines where he has lived for the past 7 years. He is the only licenced ham on HF from the Island of Samar which has a populaton of just under 2 million.

Preferred modes are high speed CW and data modes such as BPSK63, RTTY and SSTV. Involved in the Philippine Amateur Radio Assn (PARA) emergency SSB traffic nets on 7095KHz whenever there are typhoons..... etc

# The Jock White Contest 2015

## The Players at ZL2G



*Lee ZL2AL*



*John ZL2QM*



*Stan ZL2ST*



*Wayne ZL2WG*

The Jock White Field Day contest rolls around every year near the end of February and we all hope for fine weather to put up antennas, tents and guy ropes. This year the weather in Hawkes Bay was a cracker and Stan ZL2ST, John ZL2QM, Wayne ZL2WG and Lee ZL2AL planned another assault on the Patea trophy operating from the ZM4T Contest site in the hills above Tongioio beach. We arrived Saturday morning and pulled up the horizontal full wave loops for 80M and 40M. Two FT1000MPs were used, one being the Napier Club's radio. IBM computers running N1MM software along with K1EL keyers and Bencher paddles. The club's Honda generator was fired up and working. This is probably it's 25th or more field day outing. Thanks to Karl, ZL1TJ who repaired some smashed AC power outlets from an accident last year.



Stan's tent somehow managed to stand up again in one piece and the stations were quickly set up.



*Stan and John ready the tent*

Antennas were measured and trimmed and strangely we were ready for the 3PM start.

*Stan unrolling the 80M Loop*



*John instructing Stan on how to pole vault over the tree and hang a halyard!!!  
Actually it was one of the 40M loop support poles*

The contest opened up and within the first hour 40M was well ahead of the pack and 80M was just in front. The rest of the day fist day was in a close race with ZL1XH, ZL2QF, ZL1VK and a couple of other stations for top honours nationally. The central region was a two way race with ZL2QF and we exchanging the lead a few times. ZL2QF sprinted ahead of us on 40M at one point and we were ahead of them on the other band. The end of the contest put us 30 or 40 QSOs over ZL2QF and at the time of writing this Stan is scoring the logs so the outcome is unknown.

*Sunset with the moon over the tent. It is about to get cold*



*It does get cold later at night. Wayne and John beavering away just before midnight*

As usual there were some very good and some very bad operating practices heard. Many stations are still using paper logs. At least 10% of the ops were using a hand key. In fact some of the CW was almost unreadable. Worse, the op had to repeat and repeat wasting his time. At least half the ops were using **"fifer niner"** on phone instead of clearly pronounced English speech. The NZ Jock White contest is the only contest on the planet where old WW2 British military and NATO pronunciation is used. I cannot understand why as it is quite unnecessary. At least 3/4 of the stations were answering with **"My number to you is"** A third of the ops would repeat back the number to me that I just gave them before giving me their number sequence!!!! One infuriating station consistently gave me his full report and numbers as soon as I finished the CQ without me acknowledging that I heard him. It is bizarre and it changes the pattern and sequence of operating.

These practices just continue on year after year and do nothing to improve contest operating standards. New operators in the Jock White contest simply ape the style of stations they hear and fall into the same poor practices. It is obvious that most have never participated in a modern international contest. I think that the Jock White contest deserves better and it can only get better if these practices outlined above were acknowledged as being silly and counter productive.

We all enjoyed ourselves immensely as we always do. There is nothing better than spending a weekend away playing radio! It is a great outing each year working on antennas and portable power. We knew what to expect and that's the game we are in. That's the Jock White Field Day contest for 2015  
Will we do it next year? Maybe. Maybe not!

### **73, Lee ZL2AL**



## **Gobwebs you say**

Just how I went about getting one

Ok guys and girls, yes guys there are some girls out there that take time out to read what us old buggers are up to, we can't deny that fact just yet anyway.

While off work at the end of last year I was talking to a guy down Christchurch way, forget his call now but his name is Steve and yes he's a pom but sounded ok to me anyway and he was making some noise up here at my QTH and so I wanted to know what he was using as an antenna and he told me it was a cobweb that he bought out from pommy land with him when he moved here.

Well after a bit of banter and the like I asked Steve how much power he was pushing and he told me, so then I asked what he could do about winding the power down to see if I could still hear him, so from 1 kilowatt he proceeded to wind down the power till he got down to 20 watts and lo and behold I could still hear him great stuff.

Well now I'm thinking how to build a cobweb antenna. First off you need a plan so on to the internet and look up cobweb antennas. Well after some time I found what I was looking for and bingo there it all was measurements and all, yippee now we can get this thing up and going over the holidays, yeah right not this time charley brown, what I need to make this thing was a bit of flat aluminium .

The radials were here in the shed, an old 4 element yagi beam so I had that part, and the wire well I needed 50 meters of twin core speaker wire I had 30 meters.... not enough to do the job, well lets get some things made and ready so that I could get something done. Shot off down to Senator Boats but oh no not open but hang on the boss man he is there so go and say hey are you Roger the dodger well yea Ok I didn't say that but you know how it is, any chance of a bit of alloy for a job I'm doing, yep what size do you want so told Roger the dodger and he and I went for a walk to find what I needed.

Got my 2 bits of plate 5mm thick and off home to work out how to put everything together.

Well bugger me this is not going to work as I had changed things around from what the plan said.

Well time for a rethink thinks me.

Lets set this thing out on the ground and work it out, no its not going to work this way, so back to the drawing board I goes to see what I can do to make this thing come together and work.

Bugger its Xmas and no one is open so things put on the back burner till the New Year. After new year and just before I go back to work for the New Year I shot off down to Senator Boats again, but oh bugger they're still not open.

Well back to work, so lets go around to Senator's and see if they are open yet, yippee they are so in I go to see Roger the Dodger again to explain that I stuffed up with my first 2 bits of alloy and would he have a bigger bit, gave him the size and we went looking, here's a bit but we can get your size out of it on one corner, that's ok it's close enough for me. Into the guillotine to cut the alloy into a square for me.

Well now I had what I needed and things started to come together for me..... nuts and bolts got and other bits that I didn't have, so far the cost 1 doz of Tui and \$4.00.

Things are looking up for me at this stage, all I need now is more wire so off to Stewarts Electrical for the wire, more money \$14.00 for the 12meters of wire and cable ties.

Ok now I have most things for the job lets get to work and make this thing and get it up and going to see if it works like they say it should.

Bloody hot day, sun beating down and flies bugging me so that's it lost my cool and walked off the job no good trying to compete with the flies.

This is definitely a morning job when it is cool.

So the next morning up early, partner off to work and I'm off into the shed to start the hard work of drilling and taping the holes for the radials to hold them onto the square flat plate.

All that done and together and the job put away till next weekend.

Well here we go outside to put the cobweb on my workmate and thread the wire around it and hook it up the way the plans say, so with soldering iron, screw drivers and bits and stuff I start the easy bit and work from the inside out, hang on partner comes out to ask what the hell is this, oh just another antenna, don't you have enough already, yep but this one is different so I say, she looks at me and goes away shaking her head and not saying another word,..... oops I might be in the dog box here, so off I trot to make sure she is ok with things, all good, so after a cuppa its back to the job to complete.

Job done, all that out of the way, time to find a bit of pipe to hang this thing on. Back at work ( paid job that is) I ask the engineer to look up price of a bit of 1.5inch die pipe for me and after a few days he gives me a price of \$60.00 odd so that's too much, plan B, what have I got that I can use that will work and how can I make things work.

On the back fence I had a bit of 3inch alloy pipe 5.5 meters long and in the shed I had some alloy pipe left over from my 3 element beam rebuild so put the 2 together and voila had 6.5 meter long pipe to fit cobweb on.

So here we go lets get this thing up and see if it works.... where am I going to put it, right there where the old clothes line was, deep hole with a bit of pipe already sticking up and another inside that, well that should work me thinks so here goes, lets get the boys here to help me stand this thing up.

Onto the shed roof I go and I explain to the boys what I need them to do, like walk it up and I will take the top bit and steady it as it comes up with the ropes.

Well I don't know why I even worried about that as one of the boys holds the pipe and just walks the damn thing up all by himself and here I am standing on a hot tin roof in bare feet, lost me Samoan "safety shoes" half way up the ladder, hot I say jumping around, got to get off here and get my feet cooled down and put safety shoes back on.

Well all's good, tie off to shed roof temporarily till I get some more bits to lock all the pipe to the bits of pipe at the bottom at ground level and new wire at the top to make this thing stand up on it own.

The last bit came the next weekend, tilt the pipe over onto the shed so I can drill a hole in 3 bits of pipe so they all line up and I can put a bolt though them to lock it together, it won't move then.

Big hole small drill, damn broke the drill bit, bugger, damn and more swear words and off over the road to see my mate and get a new drill bit, come home after a bit of yacka and some refreshments to start again but oh no its tea time, lets put it all away till tomorrow.

Next day bright and early, got the net at 9am so did a little so as not to wake anyone up that were still in bed and around here that's everyone except my partner and I, so after the Sunday net here I am back outside drilling the holes in the hope that they will all line up.

All that done and the sleepers here starting to get up, time to ask for help again to lift and stand the pipe back up so that the pipe can be bolted together, yeah here we go all standing and guess what, you got it, not one of the holes lined up damn what went wrong.?

Lift the pipes up again and realign all 3 pipes up put a screwdriver though the holes to make sure they stay lined up and lets lower the big pipe back down over it again to see if I got it this time, NO you haven't it was just half a hole out, well sit and think what to do to fix this and to get out of the sun, sweat running off me like I was in the shower.

Inside to cool down and to rethink things over, I got it, get the disk grinder out and cut the hole a little bit bigger, yep that did it, bolt goes through.

So now the next stage is to connect the antenna to the radio,

Now let's see, where are all my rolls of coax, that's right hanging up in the shed, found them, how long do I need it to reach inside some 15 to 20 meters from the coax on the pole to the shack (spare room).

So here we go unroll the coax only to find it is not long enough, more needed so back to shed find more and joiners PL259s that's cool, all good, so from pole to tower to the flat's roof (this is a self contained flat in the back yard) over the roof along the bean frame across to the window and inside 3 bits of coax and joiners and it comes up short, bugger, what now, I've got it, a long patch lead will do the job.

Put all this together and check that it's all good and working, connect to the antenna two way switch so that I can use both antennas..... my 80 meter long wire and the cobweb. Check the SWR on long wire and then check it on the cobweb and hang on its not making any sound what's going on, I think I know so back to the start and do a check on the plugs (pl259s) to see if we have a short in the system some where, yep there it is in the patch lead from the 2 way switch to the radio.

Out to the shed, plug soldering iron in, cut plug off coax and start again, this time taking time to make sure that I do it right and leave nothing to stuff up.

That done back inside, hook up and bingo sound, so onto the bands to check SWR and hopefully to see if we can make contact with somebody.

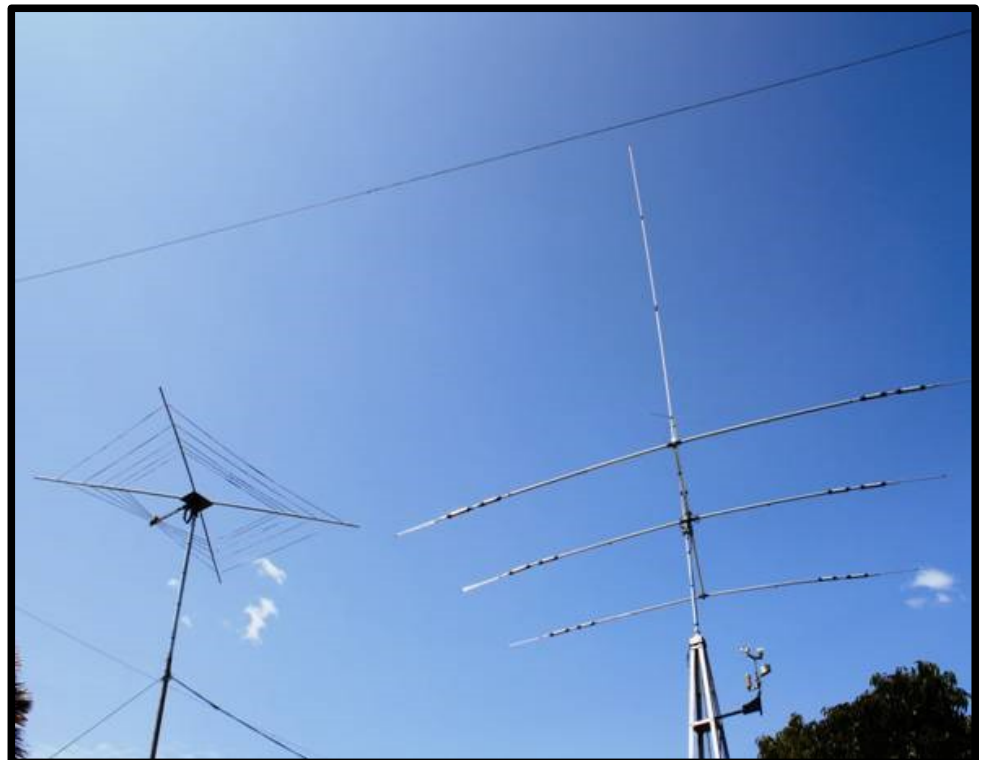
5 bands all check out, 20 though to 10 sounds good but no one is about and all I hear is Rob on the repeater talking to the other what's his name so give Rob a call and ask if he could help me with a test to see what happens, sweet as bro so off we go to 21megs yep he can hear me so that's all good and then a VK4 something comes up and tells me that I'm giving him 5/9s, bloody hell that's good.

So ends the saga of the COBWEB antenna.

So far so good, I have used it but still think my long wire is best for the lower bands from 160,80,40,20 but the cobweb seems to work on 17,15,12,21and 10 but on20, 21 and 10 the beam does the best job.

So that's it for now, stick it out, work the Dx and enjoy the hobby for when you stop enjoying it, its time to pack it up and find some thing else to do.

Cheers and beers  
Blue ZL3TT



## TAXIDERMY DAY

Several of us gathered at the home of "Mr Jack" on 7 March where we were impressed with his taxidermy efforts and the stories of collection were equally impressive. "Mr Jack" also had some great stories to convey regarding his experiences in the wilderness relating to radio and aircraft. Thanks for having us "Mr Jack".



*"Mr Jack"  
pointing some  
features to  
Jan ZL2CZE*

*Now you know why  
we call him "The  
Chief" (Rob ZL2US)*



*A group of hams  
gathered with  
"Mr Jack" in his  
display room.*



*listening to the stories from "Mr Jack"*



## THE LAST Br 13 MEETING

In February (in lieu of our normal meeting arrangement and venue) Branch 13 had a visit to the Hastings District Council Civil Defence Rooms to have a look around and to exchange much information regarding the CD and amateur radio services. Thank you to our host Trevor and his boss.



*Some of those gathered at the Hastings CD Rooms*

*Robert ZL2SG (and others) listening to information being given by our CD Officer host Trevor*



## Jock White Field Day.

Been and gone, yet again. Who knew Jock White? I had the fortune to know Jock. Overpowering schoolteacher, and NART Awards manager. He was a softy of course, once you got to know him. But he was a no-nonsense ham radio man. He and Peter Kenny ZL2QK , his off-sider, had the Awards all running sweetly for many years. Branch 11 saw Jock from time to time, but he had many irons in the fire.

Did any of you know that Tiny White, All Black was Jock's brother? I can only claim Tiny as a customer, who's mower I repaired, along with Jock's old Masport. There was another brother, but he escapes my memory.

Jock's funeral was a massive event in Gisborne, and was attended by Big Jim Meahen (ZL2BHF) and other NZART representatives. ZL2QK is still alive and kicking in Gisborne, and as cheeky as ever.

Branch 11 always put on a good Jock White Field Day weekend in my 29 years, plus, up there, and the breweries helped, and the, then 32 members of the branch, had rollicking weekends, usually out at Patutahi, and my last Jock White Field Day atop Kaiti Hill (courtesy Gisborne District Council) with just myself and Alistair, ZL2AIX camped next to the observatory.

Highlight of one Jock White Field Day year, was ZL2CC launching an antenna over a tree with a long string, and a 10" crescent. It landed square on a loaned Yamaha generator from a local Gisborne business. Needless to say, Branch 11 now owns that generator!!!!

This year..... in Hawkes Bay, as a home station, I set myself a target of 100 contacts. I ended up on Sunday, after a very friendly radio weekend, with 200 contacts. Nothing too serious, a lot of joking and ribbing. The typical KIWI weekend, *with so many frowns on operating procedures.....* Hey. SMILE. It was FUN. Thank-you NZ.

Ric Coleman. ZL2RIC. Hastings. Branch 13



### A link to relating to weather.

<https://www.windyty.com>

Courtesy of Jan Suldovsky (ZL2CZE)



### Wanted

Speaker/Mic for Yaesu FT60R [#MH-34b4b] single pin 4 pole.

John ZL2MB 06 877 7358 email  
[j.montgomerie@paradise.net.nz](mailto:j.montgomerie@paradise.net.nz)