

BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and
Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 15, Issue 4, April 2015



Hastings
Br 13
Club Calls
ZL2AS
ZL2QS

Napier Br
25
Club Calls
ZL2GT
ZL2G

IRLP
Node
6793
147.2
50

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

Editor
John
Newson
ZL2VAF



*View towards
Napier from the
Clifton Accessor*



*View towards
Hastings from the
Clifton Accessor*

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

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



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

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

FROM THE AERIAL FARM MAN

It seems that I've had a busy/different time since our last brilliant Branch 13 meeting where Lester ZL4PO gave a great talk.....rather him than me in the midst of a Typhoon...many thanks Lester (see picture elsewhere of those gathered).

I've had some boat repairs to attend to (a leak) but all turned out OK and out to sea we went some days later to support the Large Power Boat Racers... they certainly whizz along... too fast for fish trawling though hi hi. And talking of boats I think my boat Marine VHF aerial (or R/T) may be crook, it doesn't work too good on simplex so that will be another job to attend to....."is there a radio man in the house" hi hi ?

I've been thrashing 2m lately with my new arrays and gaining access to distant repeaters, some reliably and others not so good.....

propagation issues I guess, but lots more experience to be gained yet.

HF has been both good and bad however contacts I've had to the USA recently have been fine.

It's that time of the year again (at our next meeting) when we deal with one of the democratic aspects of belonging to NZART..... remits. Aren't those of us that belong to NZART lucky to be involved in the processes of our association..... if you're not in you have no voice...you're also not supporting the one organisation that represents you in NZ.

Bring your copy of Break In along that has the three remits in it (though there will be some spare copies floating around at the meeting), we'll have a good discussion and then a vote, it shouldn't take long.

Next Hastings Branch 13/HBARC meeting Wednesday 22 April, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall, all welcome.....and a good cuppa to be had and swapping of lies hi hi.

73, Rob Leicester ZL2US,

Branch 13/HBARC Pres.

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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

Club Nights: First Wednesday each month (except January) 7.30pm at the Club Rooms: 123 Latham Street Napier

News from Napier Amateur Radio Club.....

Greetings all. Sometimes hard to know what to put in this column, one can only sit over the keyboard and hope for inspiration to strike. Not that there is nothing happening, sometimes with our club and committee its like a duck swimming, nothing much to be seen on the surface, but lots of paddling under the water.

And so it is with the repainting of the clubrooms, which is nearly completed thanks to recent efforts by Mike ZL2MY, Peter ZL2CD, Reville ZL2SS, Wally ZL2MO, and Karl ZL1TJ. We just need one more working bee to put on the final coat.

On the rare occasion when I have had a fish around on the HF bands, there has been some DX about. 40 metres full of Europeans in late afternoon, and from our club station on last Sundays open day, a couple of VK's on 10 metres. The trap vertical definitely has the edge over the dipole on the upper H/F bands, so it was a worthwhile effort installing it. Next clubrooms open day is Sunday, May 17th, 2:00 pm. Also don't forget the next ECI net on 3615 KHz and 146.700 repeater on 20th May, 07:30 pm.

Our May monthly meeting will be voting on Conference remits. It's a bit disappointing that there are only 5 members who have current NZART membership, and therefore have voting rights. I've probably said it a hundred times over the years, but NZART is not a "them guys in Wellington". NZART is every amateur who pays a sub. Without NZART you would not have amateur radio, not to mention the time and effort NZART have put into battling city councils and local authorities so that you have a right to erect antennas in your back yard. If you think our record of support for Civil Defence counts for anything in this regard, think again. If you think our bands are protected by international treaty, and the "powers that be " will look after us, and we really don't need NZART ? I wouldn't bet on it. So please have a think about it if you are not a member, and remember, you get a really good amateur radio magazine as well. Thats all for now, don't forget the great Whanganui Junk Sale on Saturday, 2nd May

73's de ZL2TC

Branch 13's last months guest speaker



Branch 13 gathered to listen to guest speaker Lester Price ZL4PO telling us about his ham radio experience during a Philippines Typhoon



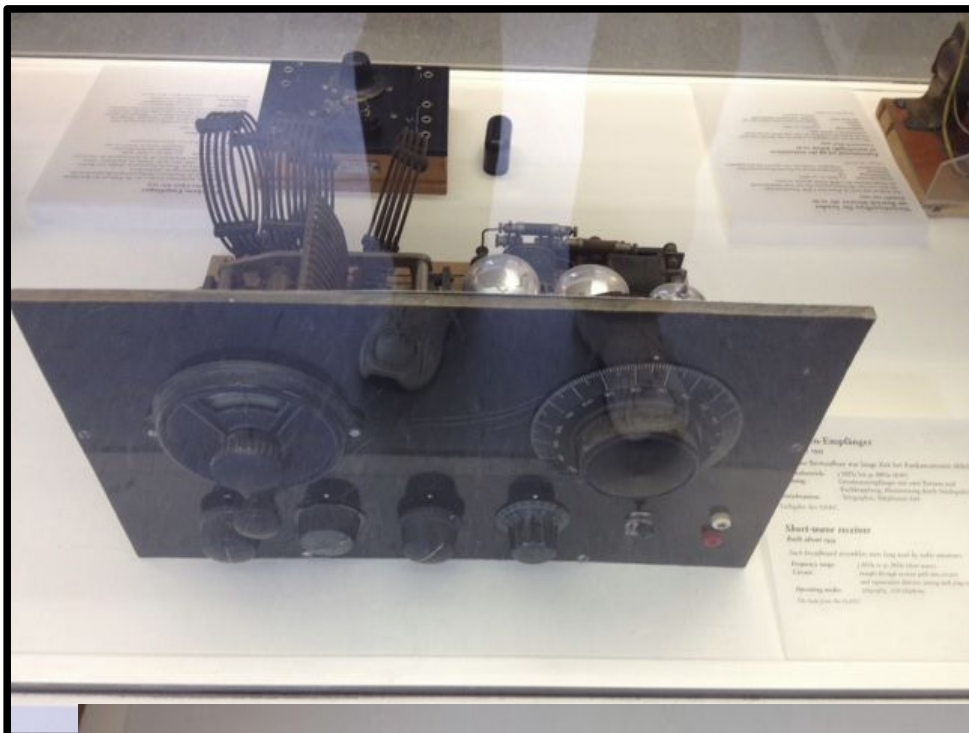
What is it?



See the last page for an explanation

German Electronics

A radio/electronics friend of mine sent me these pix that he took in the Amateur Radio Section of the Deutsches Museum, Munich.
David ZL2DW



Short-wave receiver

Built about 1935

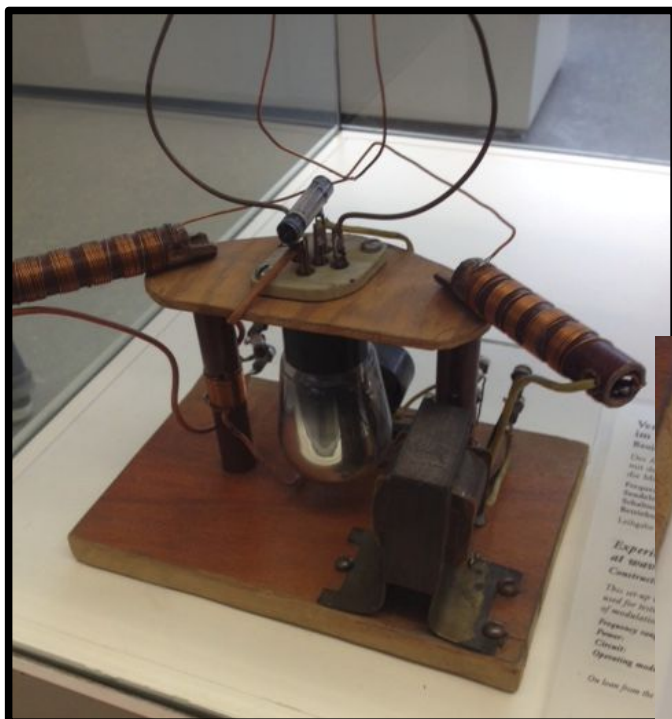
Such breadboard assemblies were long used by radio amateurs.

Frequency range: 3 MHz to 30 MHz (short wave)

Circuit: straight-through receiver with two circuits and regenerative detector; tuning with plug-in coils

Operating modes: telegraphy, AM telephony

On loan from the DARC



Leihgabe des DARC

Experimental set-up for transmitters at wavelengths below 10 m

Constructed about 1929

This set-up was soon regarded as a classical experimental transmitter used for testing the possibilities of VHF radio from various forms of modulation to mobile radio.

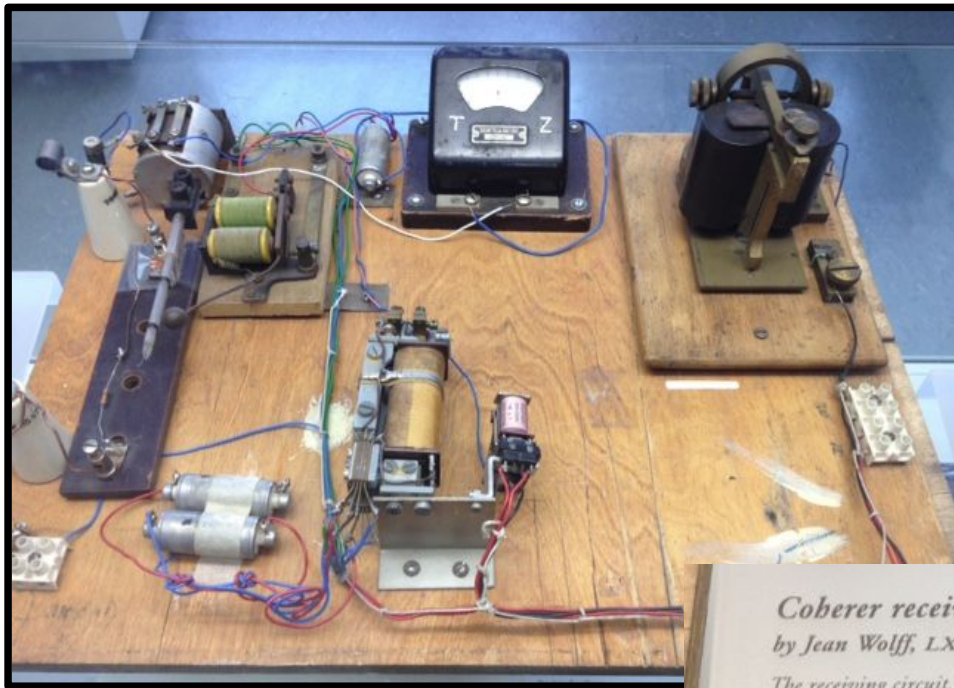
Frequency range: 37.5 MHz to 120 MHz

Power: 3 W

Circuit: Hartley circuit with broadcast-loudspeaker tube

Operating modes: telegraphy, AM and FM telephony with auxiliary equipment

On loan from the DARC



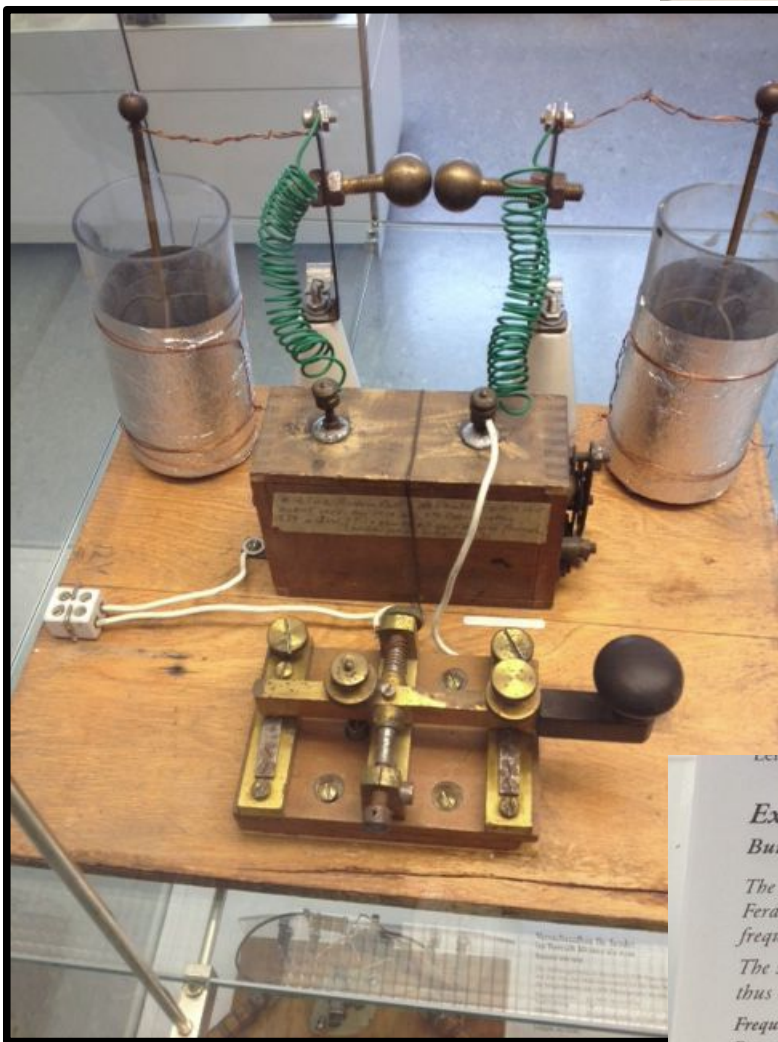
Coherer receiver

by Jean Wolff, LX 1JW (1919); reconstruction from about 1970

The receiving circuit, known since 1879, is not frequency selective and hence non-sensitive.

Frequency range: broad-band
 Circuit: coherer and relay
 Operating mode: telegraphy

On loan from the Patrons Society of the Amateur Radio Museum



Explosive spark transmitter

Built by Jean Wolff, LX 1JW; 1919

The transmitter follows the classic circuit design with which Ferdinand Braun applied for a patent in 1898: The tuning of the frequency was done with a separate aerial coil.

The signals could be converted into sound by means of a detector, thus making a sound telegraphy possible.

Frequency range: 300 kHz to 300 MHz
 Power: no longer known
 Circuit: induction coil, two Leyden jars (capacitors), aerial coil (missing)

Operating mode: sound telegraphy
 On loan from the Patrons Society of the Amateur Radio Museum

Blue's ZL3TT story ex ZL2TKS

OK well like most other guys I'm not sure just where to start on my profile but it will be way back.

Exams time 1959 was the year that my family moved over here from New Plymouth as my old man was a railway worker.

This was of course my second half of my first school year. We lived in a railway house in Taradale Road. There were lots of funny things that happened way back then as there were 4 boys still at home along with my dads dad.(Confined to a wheelchair)

Anyway I'm going to just go back a wee bit further, to pre WW2 with my mothers family who lived in Ormondville and one of my grandmothers brothers had a spark generator and was a very early ham and just for the record my real name is the same as his. He suffered from polio.

Well lets move on to my dad, he was a clever bugger as he bought a stereo gram way back before we came over here, in kitset form and he put it all together by himself and I can remember it well as the old boy played lots of records on it33-78's and that is rpm, (revolutions per minute) and unlike the stereos you get today it was only AM broadcast and for those that remember those days radio stations came on air at 6am and shut down at 12pm, but by tuning around you could pick up other stations further away.

Xmas 1961 or there abouts the new family home was started to be built for the sum of 4000.00 pounds, yes guys we were still in pounds shillings and pence. Now I know this as my brother and I found all the paper work that my mum kept over the years.

About half way though the year we moved into this house and that was the year I was one of the first new enrollments at the brand new school just down the road called Richmond School, one classroom block and a big open paddock for us to play in and not very many houses around so you could see for quite a distance from home, only 3 houses in our street at the time.

Well that was back then and it was around this time that I started to show an interest in radio so dad and mum brought me a crystal set from Auckland and helped me put it together and dad got a long wooden pole from Holts who were just across the road from the old railway station and he brought it home late one night tied to his push bike.

So radio made and the pole up down the back yard with a very long wire from the pole to the sunroom (or the fourth bedroom more commonly know as mums ironing room) of the house and we were away, oh boy what could we hear, it was fantastic.

This went on for some time then we put the wire onto the old radio gram and that was even better as it had a dial so we could see what the radio stations were as we dialed across the AM band.

Well as time went on and mates came and went the radio took back stage and after some time I lost interest and moved on to other things like high school, girls and generally having lots of fun, stuff that you wouldn't get away with today.

Then in 1979 I got married and CBs were right up there and I was working and one of the blokes that I worked with had one so I thought why not, talked the wife into it so \$400.00 later we had a Tait CB4 and a mobile whip on the side of the caravan that we were living in at the time while we saved up to buy a house.

Made lots of contacts on it as every man and his dog had a CB.

After about a year I really started to get the hang of this CB stuff and someone offered me an ssb set, yep that sounds like me so with that we were off on a new adventure, the wonderful world of sideband and some illegal band usage on 26/27megs, I made even more contacts.

Then after about 7 years we finally moved into a house that we brought in Bedford Rd here in Napier and up went a 4 element beam and a station master on top of that, now this was going to be fun as you could look out our kitchen window right into the RFS at the time.

Had many a visit from Peter Farrell (the Radio Inspector for Napier) and some other guy can't remember his name but he was a new boy out to make a name for himself and he had a hard nut towards CBers but I lived with that and curtailed my DXing till the weekend when they were not around.

I remember one day, I think it was a Friday, late afternoon and I was just home from work and the skip was running mad into south America so here I was listening to this and I just couldn't contain myself I had to have a crack at them, I swung the beam around and keyed down, called CQ and bingo, there they were so I was off and running with stations calling me hard out, 'till I looked out the window and saw the White station wagon parked out side. Well off went the radio and with some quick unplugging so I could hide the rig, time was not on my side as Peter came over knocked on the door and we had to let him in. Back in those days it was highly illegal what I was doing.

Well to cut a long story short Peter came in sat down at the kitchen table and said something like, "I know you were on 27megs and if you like dxing so much why don't you go for your ham ticket" ?

This blew me away cause I thought this is it I'm a goner but no, Peter asked me what I was using and I was not sure if I should tell him or not, so we talked a bit more then I went and got the rig to show him.

It was an old Yaesu FT301D one of the first rigs to come out with digital readout as well as analogue.

Well, after some more time I got rid of this rig and Mike ZL2WR had a Kenwood TS 430s so I bought this off him and boy this was a good rig to use, so simple and easy it was not funny and I made lots of contacts with this rig as well and have only just parted with it last year.

Well it was 1991 and I had been doing some more thinking about getting my ham ticket so on the search path I went to find out how to get my ticket and become a hamster.

Thanks to the late Gordon ZL2NF who put me in touch with John Lane ZL2ARF we got things going and after a couple of attempts I got a pass for my limited ticket. At the same time I was getting involved with the field day team as well and had been out with them once and then the next year I went out with them again and after the contest we were sitting around when Lee ZL2AL came up with, "why don't we do this from the Chatham's next year" ?

I sat back with my thoughts as that is somewhere I would love to go but hey I'm only the new boy with no ticket yet.

But I was asked if I would like to go so yep up went the hand as I said I could do the cooking for them all.

March 1992 and with all the fundraising done and the crew all set it was off to the Chatham's for 10 days and what a time we had over there, but that's another story as well.

Late 1992 I finally got my ticket and a new 2 meter rig from Auckland a TS732A the latest to come out of Kenwood and believe it or not I still have that rig today and it still works, good old Kenwood.

Well the years have come and gone and I'm still around and much wiser with things radio.

So that's my story and I hope that I will have lots more to tell over the years to come as I do enjoy hamming and it is only over the last few years that I have been active on HF, before that I was restricted to VHF/UHF but in New Zealand we are lucky that we have a forward thinking council and clubs that have moved on with the times to make the hobby easier for young and old to join in and have fun.

A special thanks to all the friends that I have made here in Napier and around this great country of ours and lets hope it stays that way for a long time.

73 Blue Smith ZL3TT



Answer to "What is it ?"

I will give you a short intro. This is from my work place where we make welding rods etc

This thing has a carbon rod through the middle and it is filled with a argon gas and then a very low voltage is applied and this then causes a spark and then we can tell how good the argon gas is and at the same time this causes a reaction in the test gear further on and we can tell what the wire and flux contents are right down to a gram.

All very hgh itech stuff and this is only one small part of the lab test gear.

If you need to know anymore I will see what I can tell you as I'm only one of the bum boys, our lab guy would be able to tell you more.

The machine that this bit comes out of is worth over 1 million dollars and it is the second one that we have had in the last 30 years.

The machine is the size of a small box about 500mm square. The first marhine was two metres long by two metres high and 1.5 metres deep.

73, Blue ZL3TT

