BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 15, Issue 5, May 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



A sample of the tracking devices that our Branch 13 guest speaker will talk about. The Tiger shark is the world's first shark to be tracked via finmounted Fastloc GPS. It was tagged in Maui, Hawaii December 2014

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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Club Call: ZL2AS and ZL2QS

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

From the CHIEF RADIO OFFICER

Well I haven't been very busy at all on HF, although conditions have been good (ask ZL2OK he's been doing well) however I have spoken to Wayne in Hawaii and Gene in Washington Island.

A couple of weekends ago I attended the Hamilton REG Group Table Sale. While there I bought a D-Star "ham shack on a belt" portable rig.......and of course it's an Icom. I'm sure we'll be very happy together. Socially it was a great day also, I'm glad I went.

Absence of time in the shack can in part be attributed to time in the distillery where the whiskey production is coming along nicely.....with thanks to chief supervisor and advisor, Bert ZL2OC. It's all brewing in the wee barrel (for 6 months) nicely.

Well done to Phil ZL2RO for his second place (in the home station section) in the recent Jock White Field Day event. This is Phil's first ever JWFD so he did especially well.....and Ric ZL2RIC in fifth place was a good effort too. Well done to the Napier ZL2G guys in winning the Patea Trophy again. Manawatu Branch 20 took away the "Hastings Branch Phone Only Trophy" this year so good on them.

Recently I was down at the Pakowhai Hall helping out Jan while he was doing a job for the Rifle Club guys, so I took the opportunity to have a "play" with my own .22 rifle and was "caught in the act" by Jan and his cellphone camera (see picture elsewhere). Our co tenants have a nice facility to do their hobby in.

A heap of QSL's have arrived so do come along to the next Branch 13 meeting and pick yours up...or call at the workshop of David Walker (ZL2DW 8765014) as he is holding them there.

The next Branch 13/HBARC meeting is on Wed. 27 May, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall. We will have two guest speakers, then a cuppa and food goodies.

The first speaker will be Kevin Lay telling us about his recent exploits in tracking sharks in Hawaii and other animal tracking (by radio) devices. XYL's may like to come along to this one.

The second speaker will be Richard Milne ZL2TCU, telling us about "Mesh Radio" and how it can be applied in the amateur world.

Looking forward to seeing you all. 73 Rob Leicester ZL2US (Branch 13 Pres.)

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

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, definitely a drop in the temperature, Winter can't be far away, plenty of long dark (and cold) nights for the 160 and 80 metre DXérs. Our club project for this year, which is the remote antenna switch kit, has been a success, thanks to Lee ZL2AL's efforts in organising the project and sourcing parts from all over the world at very favourable prices. All 20 kits have been sold, which will be a considerable boost to the club's finances. The Hawkes Bay Emergency net is going well with around a dozen or so regular checkins from as far afield as Palmerston North. Also we are continuing the monthly Sunday afternoon social sessions, but attendance has been a bit variable, so we might try and add some incentives such as construction and skill-building afternoons over the winter months.

If you are interested in what 80 or 40 metre operation from the UK sounds like, try one of the remote SDR receivers which can be accessed via the internet. One of the easiest to use is located at Hack Green in the UK, which is a disused RAF base. Just Google "Hack Green SDR". You will need a web browser that supports HTML5. You can select 160,80,40 or 20 metres USB or LSB and tune the receiver with your mouse, and the site supports multiple users

For the DXers, Peter ZL2HM will be active from Niue Island as E6AB, from 24th May to 2nd June, all bands from 40 to 10 and possibly 6 metres (mainly SSB).

That's about all for this month, just a reminder that subs are due, a modest \$25 will keep our Treasurer happy.

73 de ZL2TC

RFUANZ REPORT

At the end of April I attended the Radio Frequency Users Association of NZ (RFUANZ) AGM, Conference and Expo. for two days, at Wellington.

It is now a well established event on my calendar to call at each of the 40 + radio communications related industry stands to get an update of what exactly is happening "out there" in the commercial world and to also store info. about trade related suppliers of products and services. With 240 + delegates and stand attendees it's a busy time but also allows me to catch up with like minded people working in the industry some of whom I will have had an exchange with throughout the past year(s) or more......many being hams that I've been able to have "on air" contacts with on a variety of bands and subjects. I have belonged to the RFUANZ for 21 or more years now and have seen it grow from 15 ish people related to the Radio (repeater) Communications industry to what it has become today. It's great to see suppliers getting in behind the event and indeed giving very good sponsorship to events and Industry Awards (during the evening "Gala Dinner").

While the above talks about the commercial stand holders etc the event also accommodates the AGM of the RFUANZ which is pretty routine but of course also provides an opportunity for members to give association related presentations and to ask questions of the Executive Team regarding its activities, in particular it's associations and representations to and from the MBIE/RSM or the MED if you prefer. I must say that I have seen the co operation to and with the MED/RSM over the 20 + years grow enormously and I think I can say, almost without exception", "it's nice to do business" with them now. My connection with the RFUANZ has, I'm sure, helped with my own relationship with MBIE over the years as well. Our local (Palmerston North) MBIE Field Officer (Radio Inspector), Paul Paterson is good to deal with and we find ourselves exchanging info. quite frequently. Paul is also good for asking advice of, he represents MBIE very well.

A third avenue to the two day event are the various "workshops" and presentations that are given by gurus in their respective fields, a time also for asking questions about respective subjects.

Certainly I can say I come back home with a definite case of "information overload".

So why am I telling you about this commercial event in a ham publication......because I never cease to be amazed at the amount of hams that are associated with "the industry".....but I guess I shouldn't be surprised, the hobby and occupation are, after all, parallel and related....some people are even amateur repeater trustees at commercial/amateur radio sites etc......all very convenient.

This year one of the stand holders was the amateur radio AREC people, demonstrating VHF/UHF applications of digital modes interconnecting in the amateur world......amongst other things. Showing that we amateurs are still right up there as users of the latest technologies and possibly some of the instigators of applications of same. Keep an eye out for names like D-Star, P25, DMR etc.

Oh and the other thing is that Debby Morgan (ZL2DL), Business Manager for NZART, is also the Sec/Treas. for the RFUANZ, does that tell you something?

73, David Walker (ZL2DW, NZART and RFUANZ member)



AREC stand at the recent RFUANZ Expo. showing equipment used these days.

Young lady unknown, with John Andrews ZL2HD



2015 Rally Gisborne Operators Needed!

The Rally Gisborne is on Saturday 27 June. This year includes the mighty Motu international stage. We need seven operators just for this one stage! There are 6 stages in all.

As per usual we will cover mileage plus a donation to the club for your effort. Contact me as soon as possible as the clock is ticking John ZL2VAF



FOR SALE

at the 27 May Branch 13 meeting, a selection of electrical/electronic items (most still in their boxes). Offers required for all. Bring money. David (ZL2DW)



Advance Advice

The 24 JUNE Br 13 meeting will be the annual "Donated Junk Auction". Start gathering your goodies to donate and buy something on the night....a great fun night.

DW FLIGHT

As some of you know I also have another interest........flying (light aircraft). In April I was in a "North Flight" group (four aeroplanes) that flew from Hastings aerodrome to Thames, Dargaville, Kaitaia *, Kerikeri, Whangarei, Pauanui, Whakatane, Gisborne and back to Hastings. This was spread over three days and had a total flight time of 11.5hrs. Some years ago I was quite "aeronautical active" on 2m (probably something I should return to) however in recent times I have become more "cockpit involved" assisting with navigation and aerodrome information plates, another pair of eyes etc.......despite what you may think it can get very "busy" in a cockpit......just like driving a car there are a lot of procedures to comply with eg. tower instructions, altitude restrictions and so on. Having said this it's a great activity and I've been privileged to see much of our great country from low altitude.

Below are some pictures I took during the recent "North Flight".

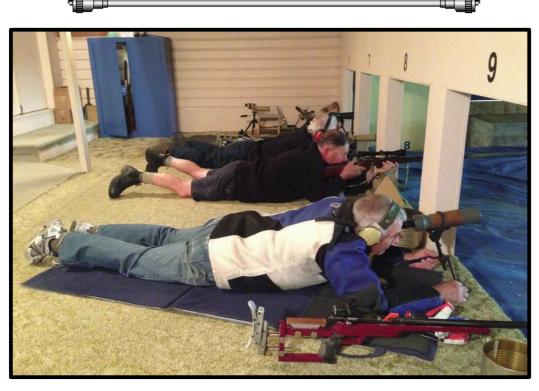
* While on holiday in Jan. this year at The Far North I was able to fly from Kaitaia up Ninety Mile Beach, up and around Cape Reinga and North Cape and back down the East side of the Northland Pen. to Cable Bay and then back to Kaitaia......absolutely stunning.

David Walker (ZL2DW)









Rob ZL2US (centre) "playing" at the rifle range at Pakowhai Hall.