



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  
439.175m  
hz

**ECI**  
Emergency  
Call In Net  
19.30 Third  
Wednesday  
of the  
Month

**Editor**  
John  
Newson  
ZL2VAF



*Taraponui site (Napier in the back ground. David  
and Laurie up the tower)*

**Emergency Call In Net at 19.30  
146.70 and 3615 KHz LSB  
on the third Wednesday of the month**

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

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



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## HASTINGS BRANCH 13

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<b>Club Call:</b>	<b>ZL2AS and ZL2QS</b>		

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

## FROM THE CHIEF ENGINEER (Branch 13/HBARC)

Our recent Amateur Operators Certificate "Boot Camp" weekend has been and gone with five new hams resulting, congratulations to our newbie's, don't forget to keep asking questions, your learning process has just begun. And thanks to all the instructors and helpers.

Recently a working group relocated our IRLP node (# 6793) (thank you 2RB, 2CZE, 2PW, 2OC and others) and made it operative again by adding the radio link for the internet connection (as approved at our Aug. Br meeting) .....keeping several people happy....enjoy.

A result has come from the recent Hastings District Council, District Plan process and will be discussed at our next Branch 13/HBARC meeting (on Wednesday 23 Sept, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall).

Have a look at pages 44 - 50 in the following link

[https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/files/all/Proposed%20DP/Decision%20Reports/DR\\_Section\\_22.1\\_Network\\_Uti](https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/files/all/Proposed%20DP/Decision%20Reports/DR_Section_22.1_Network_Uti)

People don't look up I've discovered. Many come into my yard and never "see" my aerial farm.....until it's pointed out to them. I've often been bewildered by this, it makes me curious as to why aerials need to feature in a district plan.....are masts etc really any different to a power pole or light pole or flag pole which many folk are quite oblivious to.....why to they pick on ham radio aerials.

Recently Sue and I spent a weekend in Taupo.....and tested out the new "Corporate Car" (very nice it was too thank you). While there we met several of the local hams and had a great chat.

I've had an email from John KA4RXP (who visited our area last year). He tells me that he will be on another Cruise Ship visiting Napier Port on 10 November, coming from Auckland direction. This means we're likely to hear him on 725 and 670 repeaters.....do give him a call if you hear him about. The ship docks at 12 noon and departs the same day at 6pm, I look forward to meeting up with him again. Our "QSY to 670" advisory signs are mostly deployed now, out on appropriate roadsides. See if you can spot them.....though they are really for visitors coming into our area.

73, Rob Leicester ZL2US (President Branch 13/HBARC, Hastings)

## **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 A. R. C. News.....**

Hi all, as you will see from photos elsewhere in this issue, a brief spell of fine weather enabled repairs to be made to the VHF and UHF repeater antennas at Taraponui. The antenna mountings have been modified to make them a bit more robust, so should last for many more years. What looks like a fine sunny day in the photos is a bit misleading, there was a very cold stiff south-westerly blowing at the top of the tower, taking gloves off to do up nuts and bolts resulted in frozen fingers after a minute or so. The intrepid repairers were ZL2VM, ZL2TC and ZL2DW, with 4WD transport provided by ZL2DW.

The Napier AGM is only a couple of months away, and as I have decided to step down as President after 12 years in the chair, nominations will be sought for a new President. It's not an onerous job, so if you think you would like to have a go, put your hand up by all means.

The Sunday afternoon social meetings which were initiated a few months back started off being well patronised but interest seems to have waned. The purpose was to give club members a couple of hours to use the radio shack or just a social chit-chat over a coffee, or whatever. It's up to club members whether they continue. If there is little or no interest, I guess they will be discontinued. Possibly we could move the day to the last Sunday of the month, so that a reminder can be published each month in Break-Out.

In the meantime, happy hamming.

ZL2TC

## I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

Today while working in my workshop (and monitoring 670 and 725 repeaters) I have heard continual triggering attempts of both repeaters.....fortunately (mostly) the offender has had no split in their transceiver so the offence has not been heard beyond their simplex range.....and I can assure them that it is extremely annoying. In weeks gone by I used to come up on air and tell them that they have not got their split in but due to their continued ignorance I have stopped doing that. What I can't believe is that this kind of "test" is necessary. If they have a problem ask for help, if they do need to test (for good reason) then at least have the courtesy of announcing a call sign. No one minds a real or acknowledged reason to transmit.....but on a simplex frequency would be a more suitable place to do it. You are hardly going to wear out the repeater(s).....but if you are so pessimistic about whether the repeater is still going that you need to continue to trigger it so often then I despair for you.....get a life.

And.....so much for listening before you transmit.....how can you possibly know that a repeater may be in use when you trigger one and within 2 sec's you have changed to the other and given that a trigger, one day you will disrupt legitimate users ?

As a trustee of both repeaters can I please ask you to give up this unnecessary activity, it's pointless.

David (ZL2DW)



## COMMERCIAL RADIOTELEPHONES and INSTALLATIONS

(talk and demo.)

At the next Branch 13 meeting (23 September, Pakowhai Hall) David ZL2DW will give a talk on the commercial VHF/UHF R/T world and mobile installations and will also show a selection of commercial R/T mobile aerials.

A demonstration of analogue and DMR (digital mobile radio) will be presented also.....using a VHF band at 153mhz (ie EN Band), just above the amateur 2m VHF band.

*Commercial Mobile  
R/T installed in a  
Ford Ranger*



# THE FIRST HALF-MILLION VOLT D.C. TRANSMISSION LINE

(1965) (AAPG W3606/1161)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9zdz780l-U>

Uploaded on Nov 23, 2011

How electricity is fed to the Cook Strait submarine cable. Surveying for the line; building the bridges, roads, and camps needed; erecting a tower above Benmore dam; taking tow-ropes across country by hand and by tractor; and stringing and jointing conductors. 2K scan from 16mm print.



## FOR SALE

(Offers)

Hitec (NZ) 10/15/20m HF beam Antenna

Offers to Craig ZL2ACJ 021 2341143 (or visit him at Firman's Marine, Napier)



## WANTED: VK200 (pair) of Inductor coils (3 turns)

Second hand fine, for project i'm working on. Don't mind old circuit boards I can strip, inductors or trimmer caps from. I also have drawers of transistors, ic's, caps and resistors, if you are after an item for a project.

Ric. ZL2RIC.

zl2ric@gmx.com.

021 2140624



## SWAP: I have two very nice analogue multi-meters:

Digitech QM-1020, and Hioki L-55FET multimeter. I'm after a capacitance meter. Dedicated will do, as I have my DS digi-meter, which does everything but, capacitance!!

Ric. ZL2RIC.

zl2ric@gmx.com

021 2140624



## Rally of Hawke's Bay operators required

Operators required for the Rally of Hawke's Bay which is to be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, 2015. Those interested please contact ZL2VAF c/o [zl2vaf@gmail.com](mailto:zl2vaf@gmail.com) or 027 230 3642



Get ready for the big Shake Out

New Zealand

9.15am  
15 October 2015  
Sign up

GET READY  
GET THRU

shakeout.govt.nz

# REPAIRS TO 725/405 AERIALS

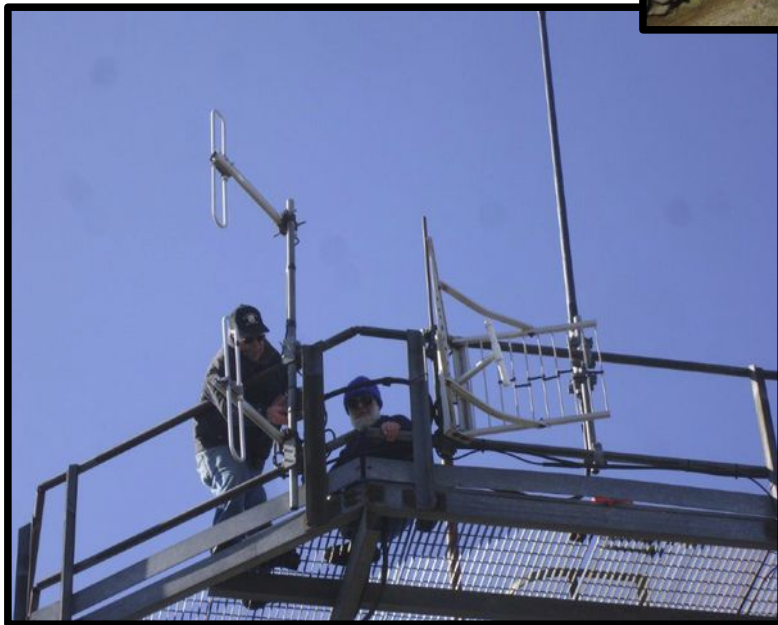
Last month's Break Out showed the damaged 725/405 aerals.....this month we have pix of the repairs under way and completed on 8/8/15  
Laurie ZL2TC, Mike ZL2VM, David ZL2DW



*Taraponui site (4300 ft asl)*



*Taraponui site (Napier in the back ground. David and Laurie up the tower)*



*Laurie ZL2TC and David ZL2DW repairing the aerals*

*Aerial repairs under way*





## IRLP Etiquette

Great! The IRLP link is up and running again. Thanks to the team who put the work into it at Pakowhai Hall and 'tweaked' it up over a couple of days. And good to hear it being used again..... but alas, abused again. Maybe not abused, but misunderstood as to it's workings, and operating procedures. I think most of us at (Br13 and 25) are ok with it. Maybe we should educate other users of OUR node. Nay! All nodes. We have new Hams coming through who may not even know how to use IRLP.

I set up and ran the Gisborne Node 6105, back in early 2000, with the help of some Hamilton experts and some Wellington experts. Everyone was a computer expert then, counting on 2000 to wipe out computers. Anyway, we were the fifth node to be set up in New Zealand, and it ran in my shack on an old Windows 95 computer. (Or was it a 386?) It was then linked through to the Gisborne .680 repeater. It worked very well, and was upgraded as time went on, to it's own computer at Kaiti Hill, tnx to my son-in law, Robert, ZL1UE.

Then, as now, it was actuated and turned on and off by dtmf codes, via your rigs or microphones. (People also used cell-phone keypads to get their dtmf codes!) You actuated other nodes by dialling in (dtmf'ing) the code you wanted, in Hamilton, Auckland, Wellington etc. Wicked days, as Gisborne did not even have the National System then!

RULES. Yes, in those days, there were rules. (most of which still apply). Gisborne IRLP was/is .680 repeater, node 6105. Hawkes Bay is 7.250, node 6793. Each area to their own. In the old days on HF, the rule was always ask if the frequency was in use, before you call. Now on repeaters, that seems to have gone, bye the bye. However. Always IDENTIFY your station before attempting to use IRLP. (this lets everyone know you are legit to use it, who is using it, and if any problems arise, someone maybe able to help you out. And know where to send the bill at the end of the month! Hi, hi! (joking).

It also means you can talk openly around the world, and no-one will listen to your conversation. (Tui).

Accessing the node requires a four digit number/letter code, (node number you are calling) and a two digit/letter code to clear it (73). Also, in the OLDER days, you'd hear: duh,... duh, (er) duh..... (er) duh, as the IRLP node input DTMF code was entered. Now, you'll hear, blurp, and they're in. Modern technology, but still a four digit code, and a beep, for 73 (close). You can still use your cellphone to access the nodes, held against your microphone and pressing the ptt, but a bit awkward these days. Take your time with your DTMF hand held mike. 1 breath, two breath, three breath, four is fine.

You need to have the PPT switch pressed when putting in DTMF codes. Same with 73 (closing nodes).

Since our node came back on, I've heard random sets of dtmf codes splattered across the 7.250 repeater, during the day and night, with no station ID or even a voice. This has to change. We are SELF Governing. A point to ponder for next meeting, maybe?

Operating. Announce your callsign on air. announce you are using IRLP. Dial in node number (pressing mike key). WAIT. LISTEN.

You should hear a station welcome, where you then wait 10 seconds and call the station you are after). Have your chat, but remember, a lot of nodes have 'time outs' so keep things short. Do your hi's and bye's and ask them to close the link, or tell them you will close the link. Make sure one of you closes the link! (very

Important). Done by keying in 73 at either end. Usually a good-bye from the node. Also..... ZL2??? clear IRLP. Listening 725 or qsy 670. Lets people know you're done and dusted, and they can use the link, or call you, whatever. And like we all do on any repeater... (Tui again) leave a break between overs!!

If you get a (node) 'link you have called is unavailable', don't keep dialing in the link. Go 73 and back to you local repeater. Try again later. Also, you might get 'the link you have called is busy at the moment'. (local traffic) 73 and back home. Again, try later.

Big NO NO. If you cannot get a link to respond, dont just dial in another, or another. Have a look in the latest callbook and the number of worldwide IRLP links there are now!! Not sure of a link? Google it. It will give you the node status and a link to the node custodian. I tried to catch up with a mate, ZS6SID in Johannasburg, Node 8661. Was told node was down! Got into node 8719 and worked a ZS6MI, Roy, who knew Sid, but ZS6MI was in Pretoria!!!

I'm going through my log book now and trying to catch up with some 'old friends' i've made in the past. Illinois, Japan, Lincoln, Belgium, Canada, Ontario, England. Colorado, etc.

And did I mention, I have accredited; Worked All VK (WAVK) on HF and WAVK on IRLP. Might try working all English Counties now.

Give it a try. A handheld, a dual band mobile antenna and a laptop. There will be no shortage of help from the locals. Thanks again guys and girls.

REMEMBER OUR NODE: 6793

Ric Coleman ZL2RIC

zl2ric@gmx.com

Notes: Check callbook for IRLP nodes near friends you may have made on HF. Google IRLP nodes for their status. On/Off air. Email and ask questions of the Node caretakers. Also; Be cheeky: Find a node in the callbook list, give it a call, listen and call CQ for a while. Works wonders. Amazing some of the countries you can work. But please don't just log in to a node and say nothing. Give your callsign at least. Listen, then 73.



## AOC Boot Camp weekend



*Students under instruction*

*instructors and helpers having a break*

