BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 15, Issue 10 October 2015



Hastings Br 13 Club Calls ZL2AS ZL2QS

Napier Br 25 Club Calls ZL2GT ZL2G

IRLP Node 6793 147.250



9.00 AM Sunday Morning 3615 kHz 439.175 MHz

Editor John Newson ZL2VAF



Tait Electronics Museum, Christchurch http://www.taitradio.com/about-us/our-history/sir-angustait

Emergency Call In Net at 19.30 146.70 MHz 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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Club Call: ZL2AS and ZL2QS

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT Branch 13/HBARC

Recently I spoke to Mike N7TLL (you may remember that Mike and his xyl decided not to come to NZ this year) and it seems that they regret that now, they're obviously getting quite "kiwi-ised" as a result of their annual ZL visits. If my business sells sometime soon I may make an overseas trip to visit them...... along with Sue of course.

We've had the IRLP node via '725 repeater up and going for some weeks now and Jan ZL2CZE has done some refinements and it's doing fine so feel free to use it yourself anytime.

Our node number is 6793 should you wish to pass it on to any overseas ham you're communicating with.

Six of us in a Hire Van made the trip on 10 Oct. to the annual Palmerston North Branch Table Sale and a fine day it was too though not so many tables this year I thought, still it was a great social occasion and thanks Ted ZL2TED for the Pie and Coffee.

Good progress is being made on the 70cm D-Star repeater coming up at South Hastings and the paper work is near completion so not far to go now.....and noises are being made about establishing a 70cm DMR repeater too......watch this space.

At least one that I know of (David ZL2OK) managed to work VK on 2m during a recent few days of opening across the Tasman Ocean... did anyone else get through?

November 25 will be our AGM and Home-brew Competition night so get those entries finished and bring them along.

Our next Branch 13/HBARC General Meeting WILL NOT BE ON 28 October instead we've had to bring it forward to 21 Oct. This meeting we are having at "Skinny Mulligans", Waipawa, CHB (behind the main shopping block, there's plenty of parking)...... it's our turn to have a "meal and meeting" at our CHB members patch.....we're looking forward to seeing many of the CHB members and even some from Dannevirke, we hope. Please give your numbers attending to David ZL2OK or David ZL2DW so we can keep our host informed. Partners welcome too of course. Do remember to car pool as well. Start time is 6pm so drift in any time after that.

Rob Leicester (ZL2US, President, Br 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

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, not much to report, I've been out of action with a minor health issue, and consequently missed the last Napier meeting. However I did manage to make the Manawatu junk sale, sold enough to pay for the trip, as a result of a shack clean-out, but came back with a bout of the flu. You just can't win sometimes.

We are all familiar by now with Icom's D-Star digital radio platform, but there is another horse in the race, which is growing rapidly, and that is DMR. DMR stands for Digital Mobile Radio, and is widely used for commercial mobile radio, both in Europe and the US. Initially popular in Europe because of the availability of used ex-commercial radios and repeaters, and because commercial DMR radios are made by several US, European and Chinese manufacturers. Now Chinese companies like Baofeng are making dual band, dual mode (FM and DMR) radios specifically aimed at the amateur market, and not expensive either. While DMR was not designed for amateur use, it has several useful features. One is that it is a TDMA mode. That means Time Division Multiplexing. In other words a DMR repeater can support **Two** simultaneous conversations on one radio frequency. Motorola's "MotoTrbo" repeater can also operate in analogue FM mode and DMR mode at the same time. i.e one analogue channel and one digital channel on the same frequency pair. (A more detailed explanation will be in the next issue of Break-Out) There are already several DMR repeaters operating on 70 cm in ZL, so watch this space, as they say

Next Napier meeting is the AGM, on Wednesday 4th November . We would like to have your support.

73's de ZL2TC

Why radio amateurs are called "HAMS"

(from Florida Skip Magazine - 1959)

Have you ever wondered why radio amateurs are called "HAMS?" Well, it goes like this: The word "HAM" as applied to 1908 was the station CALL of the first amateur wireless stations operated by some amateurs of the Harvard Radio Club. They were ALBERT S. HYMAN, BOB ALMY and POOGIE MURRAY.

At first they called their station "HYMAN-ALMY-MURRAY". Tapping out such a long name in code soon became tiresome and called for a revision. They changed it to "HY-AL-MU," using the first two letters of each of their names. Early in 1901 some confusion resulted between signals from amateur wireless station "HYALMU" and a Mexican ship named "HYALMO." They then decided to use only the first letter of each name, and the station CALL became "HAM."

In the early pioneer days of unregulated radio amateur operators picked their own frequency and call-letters. Then, as now, some amateurs had better signals than commercial stations. The resulting interference came to the attention of congressional committees in Washington and Congress gave much time to proposed legislation designed to critically limit amateur radio activity. In 1911 ALBERT HYMAN chose the controversial WIRELESS REGULATION BILL as the topic for his Thesis at Harvard. His instructor insisted that a copy be sent to Senator DAVID I. WALSH, a member of one of the committees hearing the Bill. The Senator was so impressed with the thesis is that he asked HYMAN to appear before the committee. ALBERT HYMAN took the stand and described how the little station was built and almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the BILL went through that they would have to close down the station because they could not afford the license fees and all the other requirements which the BILL imposed on amateur stations.

Congressional debate began on the WIRELESS REGULATION BILL and little station "HAM" became the symbol for all the little amateur stations in the country crying to be saved from the menace and greed of the big commercial stations who didn't want them around. The BILL finally got to the floor of Congress and every speaker talked about the "...poor little station HAM." That's how it all started. You will find the whole story in the Congressional Record.

Nation-wide publicity associated station ""HAM" with amateur radio operators. From that day to this, and probably until the end of time in radio an amateur is a "HAM."



A brief video clip about hams.....from 1939

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mK_fNmQxzs