



Hastings Br 13
Club Calls
ZL2AS
ZL2QS

Napier Br 25
Club Calls
ZL2GT
ZL2G

IRLP
Node
6793
147.250

Branch's
13/25
Net
9.00 AM
Sunday
Morning
670
Repeater

Editor
John Newson
ZL2VAF



Taraponui Beckons - article inside

<http://www.zl2gt.nz/>

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

Emergency Call-in Frequencies: 3615khz and 670 repeater



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Club Call:	ZL2AS and ZL2QS		

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

Branch 13 President Speaks

Well I have been contemplating about what to write this month and to be quite frank not much comes to mind and not a lot has been going on in my home.

Good news for Peter ZL2HM who has now been appointed as an Exam Supervisor. We say thank you to Peter ZL2LF who is partially stepping down. I'm sure Peter 2HM will do a very good job when needed.

Today, Sunday 20/5, David ZL2DW, Warren ZL2AJ and Mike ZL2VM went up to the site of '725 to replace the antenna splitter and refit the APRS gear, I thank them all and we all need to remember that their time for doing this is for our benefit so we can use this repeater and the others that we have.

I have noticed that the repeaters have been very quiet and not a lot has been said on them so they will not get the spiders cooked on the antennas at the moment.

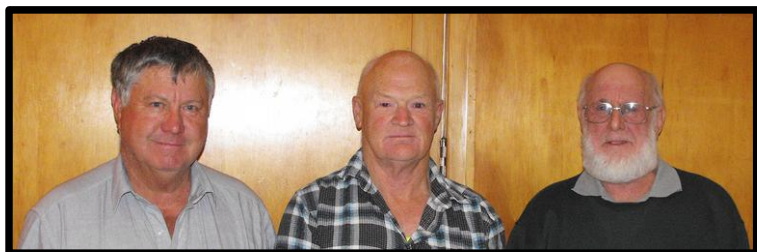
Has anyone thought about the antennas and what happens to them over the Winter ?. Well lots of ice gets on them and even though we use the repeater the RF coming off the antenna will not melt the ice off.

I wonder if any of you folk have ever thought about putting pen to paper and writing something up for the mag. ? I'm sure anything would be fine irrespective of how remote it may seem relating to ham radio. I'm sure we'll enjoy reading it. Maybe something about your work or what you did to come into contact with ham radio. Other hobbies I have are collecting stamps and books on old cars, bikes, trucks, planes and anything that moves. I have boxes of them because I dont have anywhere to put them at the moment and the books still keep rolling in.

OK, well with the Royal Wedding now over and the whole thing going off to a Tee we can now get back to normal for those that sat up 'till late to watch it, I for one didn't and yet somewhere on the TV we still have to see it. Despite all the hours it was on TV they still hit us with more on the news.

Well thats it for now so I look forward to seeing some of you on club night (Wed. 23 May) and others at some other time, cheers and 73s

Blue (ZL3TT, President of Branch 13/HBARC, Hastings)



*Branch 13/HBARC, Hastings, office bearers,
Peter Keong ZL2PW (Treasurer),
Blue Smith ZL3TT (President),
David Walker ZL2DW (Secretary).*

NAPIER BRANCH 25

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Committee Meetings: 7:30 pm, 3rd Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, November

Club Calls: ZL2GT, ZL2G

Club Web Site: <http://www.zl2gt.nz/>

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

From the Napier Branch 25

This month has been busy! My interest in bouncing signals off things has opened up a whole world of new ideas, technologies and interesting web sites. It all started with a conversation with Chris ZL7DX on Chatham Islands about Meteor scatter, which then turned to Aircraft Enhancement, and then software to look at Aircraft as possible reflective surfaces. The first of these tools is found at <http://www.nitehawk.com/w3sz/AircraftScatterSharp.pdf> which is a description of the AE principles and also leads to the software download, all this by Roger W3SZ. In the software one requires a source of aircraft data generally obtained through the ADS-B systems. The site I chose is

www.planefinders.net and this led to the sites offer of a free receiver, to add data to the system. I applied (and so did Chris) and a receiver turned up along with GPS connections and an antenna for the 1090Mhz frequencies in use. A couple of hours later the antenna was installed and data started to flow. As I write this the receiver is tracking 10 planes. Interestingly I can copy the sqawks from aircraft down to about Hamner in the south, anything on the main route from CHCH and Wellington to Auckland as they pass Mt. Taranaki. North to Hamilton / Rotorua, I also tracked flight NZ30 to South America to about half way to Chatham Island.

Another web site that came to my notice is www.Heywhatsthat.com, where you can set any address and plot an aerial coverage map. It is also useful to check azimuth pointing for your yagi antennae, as well as looking down on any point and getting the grid locators.

The other big event this month was the Napier Branch hosted Hamfest. Held at the Aero Club we had a number of speakers and a diverse number of topics. This was clearly enjoyed by all attendees judging from the positive feedback we have had.

Sadly, the local attendees only made up a one third of the total, which makes one wonder if the effort of all the organising committee was worth it.

On a happier note, the SWR kit is now being delivered as fast as I can complete them, generally in the order in which they were ordered. There is 3 left so be in quickly if you want one. Call me or Karl ZL1TJ.

That's all for now

73 Dave ZL2MQ

Taraponui Beckons

A bit impromptly but there we were heading for Taraponui (site of '725, '405 and APRS gear), (4300ft asl, North of Napier).

Traveling to and from the site was uneventful, though definitely 4WD stuff.

On site the APRS was restored to service and confirmed as operational (thanks Warren ZL2AJ).

Next (for Warren) was to make operational his SOTA station. With his HF dipole suspended between the Microwave Tower and a VHF pole he was up and operational in short order. Sheltering against a bank from the stiff Nor'Westerly wind and in semi sunshine he had a grand time achieving 15 HF contacts (on 40m and 20m) with some into VK. A further four 2m VHF simplex contacts were made also. A better day than normal for SOTA contacts.

I battled the very cold wind while up on the Tower and replaced the splitter (thanks Laurie ZL2TC) for the pair of Tx dipoles used on '725. Ah well it's all achieved and I guess I can rest easy for Winter now.....when the snow and ice will arrive.

David ZL2DW



David ZL2DW wrapped up against the elements dealing with the '725 Tx aerial

David ZL2DW working on the Tower platform with Warren ZL2AJ nestled in against the bank working SOTA stations



Warren ZL2AJ working SOTA from his "field" station