BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 18, Issue 9, September 2018



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



How'd you like to wire up all those yagis?
Bunya Park mountain, an elevated area of sub tropical forest in the middle of a very dry area well inland north west of Toowoomba.

Elevation 1101m and the radio tower at Mt Mowbullan.

Courtesy of ZL2MB

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

BLUE FROM THE TOP TABLE SPEAKS (Branch 13)

Gidday guys and girls and what a month it has been just sitting around not doing a hell of a lot and why, well I won't say I can't, but, (and thats a big but), the doctors at the hospital and my own doctor say I'm not allowed to do to much till my chest heals up and gets better? Most of you local guys now know that it was only last month that I was in Wellington for a heart by-pass op. where I had three by-passes done and if you have not ever had a broken rib you wont know what the pain is like but for those of you who have had broken ribs you will know how sore it can be and even a simple sneeze can be painful.

Well it still amazes me how we all use our VHF/UHF radios. We turn them on in the morning and for some unknown reason some have a bad habit of pressing the ptt switch just to see if the radio is working. Well I am guilty of it along with lots of other hams but it is not something we need to do as your radio was working when you turned it off the last time you used it right, so nothing has changed has it and the repeater is still working so why do we press the ptt button, hell I don't know and I can't answer this either, but I guess what I am asking is please guys and girls, stop doing it as it is very bad habit to get into.

No one will object if you are testing and to do this it is simple, just key down and say ZL2XYZ testing testing hello 123 ZL2XYZ clear. So simple and by doing this you will not upset anyone at all. Or you could go to a simplex channel and do you button pushing there.

OK thats all I'm going to say on that matter but we have been working alot on the interference that goes on with the National System. We ask that if you hear anything record it on paper noting the time, date and what you heard then pass this info on to David ZL2DW or myself and I will pass the info. on.

Isn't it funny how things happen? You can be sitting in the shack doing things, as we do and you have the radios going and someone comes up on the radio and starts talking to someone else and you listen but take no real notice of what is being said but you pick up on bits of the contact and carry on doing what you are doing. Later in the day you hear that same person come up on the local repeater. So as I'm not sure who the call sign belongs to I give a shout out so we can have a QSO. After about 5 minutes it works out that the call belongs to a person who you have known for a long time. It works out that person did the exam way back when I did but they did not pass whereas I did (just), then you find out they sat the exam a

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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 Branch 25 Napier Amateur Radio Club

Last meeting, Revell treated us to an Audio visual ramble through the beginings of Radio, and other associated electrics and electronics, that kept all attendees fascinated, Thank you Revell.

The next regular meeting of Branch 25 NARC, will be the Quiz night with 10 general Knowledge questions and 10 technical questions straight from the Amateur Radio License exam, These will all be multichoice answerable, so don't be too frightened to have a go, there will be prizes. This Meeting is the first Wednesday in October at 7:30pm (3/10/2018).

The first signs of tropo occurred for me last week and I managed contacts on 2 metres with Chris ZL7DX, Alan ZL1RQ and Roger ZL3RC, all to good strength, I used SSB, FT8 and JT65B to complete them all. I note also that the new Solar Cycle has started, and reports that the polarity of the Suns spots has reversed indicate this to be true. Only five and a half years to the peak (Sigh!).

For the constructors amongst us I have discovered that a new style of soldering iron has been launched, labelled T12, these irons have multi tips of different sizes, however the big change is that the whole tip, including heater and sensor is changed at the same time, so the whole thing just plugs into the handle, a quick change from delicate soldering to heavy work is easy. This should also relieve that annoying battle with a stuck tip that plagues these style of iron. The controller I have purchased also notices a lack of movement and puts the iron in Low temperature mode, very handy.

I have been playing with a new acquisition, an RSPduo, a dual channel receiver that covers a huge bandwidth, in the hope of finding a way to accommodate an adaptive, noise cancelling receiver, largely for EME operations. This is a work in progress.

The strange looking cup that sits in the trophy shelf in the Club Rooms, and the roots of which have been discussed occasionally has finally given up its history, Dave ZL2DW has tracked its probable origins and now the Club needs to make a decision regarding what to do with it. See the article by Dave in this issue of 'Break Out', and have a think about what the club should do about it.

See you all on the 3rd of October next meeting. 73 Dave ZL2MQ

BLUE FROM THE TOP TABLE SPEAKS (Branch 13)

(Continued from page 2)

little over a year ago and got a pass. Good on you Scott. It's neat to have the eye ball and to catch up with you after all these years. It must be over 20 years since we last saw each other and I'm so pleased that you finally got there. It just goes to show folks that even if you fail never give up on your dream, keep at it as sooner or later you will get there and a whole new world opens up to you once you have got your 50 contacts. After a while the world becomes yours to work on what ever platform of the hobby you choose to use. Welcome aboard Scott, ZL2SNG, maybe one day we will see you at a Branch 13 meeting.

I also hear that there are going to be more changes coming up soon with a couple of members of Branch 13. There is still a lot of leg work to do and things to sort out so good luck to Sue and Rob for the future and hope it all goes well for you.

By the way guys there are some things that you might like to know and think about it when you walk into the hall at Pakowhai. We are lucky to have had the hall cleaned for us by the boys and girls that are doing Community Service, so before you walk in make sure that your foot wear is clean.

There are a lot of other things going on behind the scenes for you all by a small group of members of the club and it would be nice of you all to just have a wee think about what you as a ham could do to help out with some things, even if it is just to write a wee bit about yourself and how you got into ham radio or anything would help. Don't leave it up to a few to do all the work as you are members of the club and without your input there won't be a club, don't just leave it up to a few.

Next month we will be off down to Waipawa for our "Meal and Meeting" at the home patch of some of our CHB members. To save fuel we will be car pooling so if anyone would like a ride please say so as we can work out for you who you can go with.

The Branch 20 Table Sale is coming up on the 6 Oct. at Longburn. It's always a good event where you can catch up with old friends and spend some money.

Well in closing I have a question for some of you to ponder. If you have an HF rig and you leave it on though the day, say for 15 hours, how much power would it use if you talk on it for say 3 hours over that 15 hour period and/or if you had it on and did no talking on it? Some in my house say that my radio uses more power than a light bulb over the same time or is my TV using all the power even though my TV is only on from 4pm till around 9.30/10.30 pm each day, then again it might be my laptop that uses all the power as when I'm not using it I put it into sleep mode. It would be kind of cool to know what amount of power each one uses in a day then maybe I could work out if I could run them all on solar power with battery back up.

Well thats all guys and girls, looking forward to seeing you all at our meeting at Pakowhai Hall on Wednesday 26 September

Cheers all and 73,

Blue ZL3TT

Branch 13 President

HBARC/Branch 13 Speaker



HF AERIAL FARMS (TWO) THAT I HAVE KNOWN

At the next Branch 13 meeting David ZL2DW will give a talk on a couple of HF Aerial farms that he knows something about.

The next meeting of Branch 13 is on Wednesday 26 September 2018, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall, all welcome.



October 2018 Table Sale

Hi Everyone,

Its that time of year that you have all been waiting for. The ZL2KO Table Sale. Time to clean out the shack and make some cash.

Date:

Saturday 6th October 2018

Times:

Exhibitors: Doors Open at 8am General Public: Doors Open at 9am

Pricing:

Full Table: \$25 until 30th Sept 2018 \$30 After Half Table: \$15 until 30th Sept 2018 \$20 After

Location:

Longburn Hall, State Hwy 56, Longburn

To Register your Full or Half Table, Click HERE

THE MYSTERY (NZDXRA) CUP

For many, many years there has been a trophy cup residing in the Napier Branch 25 Club Rooms and on several occasions the question has been asked "what's it to do with"?

After a recent question again about the Cup I decided that curiosity was getting the better of me and I posted the question on the "NZART Members Only" reflector giving as much info. as I could. I had two replies (thanks Paul ZL4TT and Andy ZL3AG) giving a good explanation of the "NZ DX Radio Assn".

(You might say an Association of Short Wave Listeners, with connections further back than WW2).

Have a look at this link to get a better explanation than I can provide..... http://www.radiodx.com/history/nz-dx-radio-association/

Paul offered the suggestion that as various Branches of the NZDXRA disbanded around the country their documentation etc was given to the local Branch of NZART, hence the Cup being in the possession of NZART Napier Branch 25. The Cup refers to "Napier Branch" but it's not an NZART Branch but rather the Napier Branch of the NZDXRA. It was probably a cup acknowledging the reception of (say 50) world wide broadcast or SW stations, the word "Verification" appearing on the cup.

I had an informative phone call from Paul giving me recent history of the NZDXRA and an offer to put the Cup in public storage where it will rest amongst other NZDXRA documentation......this will be for Branch 25 to decide.

So for all of you who have been a bit curious about the Cup there is your answer.

(Associated here are two pictures of the Cup). David Walker (ZL2DW)





Norfolk Island DXpedition

VK9N - Norfolk Island

October 9-19 this expedition will be on the air with four operators, N7BF (VK9BF), ZL2HM (VK9PM), N7QR (VK9QR) and W6ABM (VK9EV.) The team will focus on 40-6M SSB and FT8 "with some CW." The radios will be 100 watts or less. They will try to get to three different grid squares to make satellite QSOs. Those will be Point Howe, RG31xa; Burnt Pine, RG30xx; and Kingston, RG30xw. Look up the individual callsign you work on QRZ.com for each one's specific QSL instructions. Do not send via the Australia bureau; they will not be forwarded, and the ops remind DXers to follow the "DXCode of Conduct." The DXpedition will mark the 244 years since Europeans discovered Norfolk Island, led by Captain James Cook on October 10, 1774. The HMS

Resolution is the first known European vessel to sight Norfolk and it was on the second of Cook's three legendary voyages of discovery.

Everett Curry W6ABM
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AREC update

Unfortunately I have had to put some activities on the back burner due to personal issues with ailing family members. This has been resolved to some extent and I have a bit of time to do a bit of a catch up.

There has been a major change in AREC with several changes in position at Head Office due to the natural course of events. There are some major changes on the way that will be implemented in the not too distant future.

CD has been going through a major evolution as well with the new Region wide format basically forced by the Rural Fire going to the NZ Fire Service which has changed its name to FENZ (Fire and Emergency New Zealand). CD is now a Regional organisation going from Wairoa to Central Hawkes Bay. Comms is now one of three Rapid Response Groups that can be deployed as needed supporting the Welfare and Rescue Groups as well as the ECC (Headquarters). As a consequence there is a requirement for more radio people so if you are interested contact one of the AREC Section Leaders listed on pages 2 and 3.

We are still doing our weekly radio checks for CD from a temporary building while the old building is being renovated to match the new structure.

- 29 20 October is JOTA. I would like the Section or anyone interested to be involved. Last time we had real interest and a future ham operator popped up. Be good to do it again with a bit more gear on display as we will most likely get the same Scout Troops turning up.
- 23 24 February is the Jock White Field day. I would like the section involved with that as an exercise and again anyone interested will be welcomed. We need to have operational time on the radios using strict procedure and this gives the opportunity to get rid of some of the rust from not setting up and operating for a while.

There will be planned training sessons next year – once I have some dates they will be published.

John ZL2VAF/ZK2EE