

The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART – Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 18, Issue 11, November 2018



Hastings Br 13 Club Calls ZL2AS ZL2QS

Napier Br 25 Club Calls ZL2GT ZL2G

> IRLP Node 6793 147.250



David ZL2DW and Mike ZL2VM on a shack visit -Allen ZL1AYH with his Radio Astronomy dish aerials

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

Editor John Newson ZL2VAF

http://www.zl2gt.nz/

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

Emergency Call-in Frequencies: 3615khz and 670 repeater

Inside This Issue



Hastings Branch 13 Report	Page 2
Napier Branch 25 Report	Page 3
Major DXpedition to VK9	Page 4
Trekking Mt Tarawera and a shack visit	Page 5
Travel Away Cancelled	Page 7
Diary Dates	Page 7
Remote HF SDR Receiver	Page 8

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

From Branch 13 CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM

Gidday all and welcome to the end of yet another year which has been interesting, from my point of view anyway.

I'm still very disappointed that members of the club do not support Break Out more offen by just putting a few words into an email and sending it off forpublication. It is your club and if you don't put some input into it then you really are not supporting it all that well even if you do turn up each month to the meetings. A little more input would help and Members should not just leave it up to one or two to keep things going as those one or two will not always be here to help keep things going.

My thanks also to those that risk there lives and give time to keep antennas up and going in all sorts of weather eg. on the NationalSystem and the local repeaters. Most take it for granted that when they press their PPT switch they will get a tail, if there is one to have and this goes for those that do live testing as well.

I have been listening with interest over the last few weeks to see how things were going with the National System and it was so nice to hear ZL1, 3 and 4's coming back into our area again, it's nice to have you back. (For those of you who didn't know, Eastern and Central areas have been isolated from the National System due to Egmont being off air due to a smashed aerial mount and the site being inaccessible due to snow and ice. This has also meant that Egmont south has been isolated from Egmont north). It's nice to hear us all back together again and with luck we won't have to much trouble from the folks that play silly sounds on the system.

At this time of the year I think we should all start thinking about who we would like have sitting at the top table and the jobs that these folks do along with other office bearers so maybe open up and let someone know if you want to have a go. We all have other interests outside of ham radio but if you are interested say so, but I'm more than willing to stay if you are happy with me sitting in the middle.

I have had a very interesting year right from the beginning. A trip to Wellington that resulted in having three months off work and some big changes in my life as well, but all ends well and with any luck I should be getting my Gold Card next year and maybe I can start taking some of the stick instead of dishing it out.

Well I look forward to seeing most of you on Wednesday night, 28 November at our meeting and AGM.

Cheers Blue ZL3TT (Branch 13/HBARC President)



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

HASTINGS BRANCH 13

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

Napier Amateur Radio Club

Seasons Greetings to all, I hope all the letters to Santa have been sent mentioning necessary additions to your Ham Shack.

Our AGM is past and a few changes have been made. Welcome to Stu McLeod ZL2XC to the committee, the other stalwarts on the committee remain to carry on their good work.

The committee has met and is working on a program of speakers / discussion leaders on as many and varied subjects as possible for our monthly meetings in the coming year, we also discussed a regeneration of The Sunday Get Together, possibly to carry out suggestions from the monthly talks, ie talk on digital modes, then a practical set up procedure on the next Sunday for those that need a little help.

If you have a special (Amateur Radio) skill or interest then perhaps you could come forward to give a talk to the club at one of the meetings. Decembers topic will be the postponed Quiz, and a general celebration of the year and festive season. Please also bring your unchanged subscription (\$25.00) for our Treasurer Peter. The Committee also discussed a possible Club project for the year, this will again be discussed at the December meeting, there is a few options, but if you have a need that you think others may also have , then bring your idea to your meeting 5th December 2018 7:30pm.

From my annual report:

"I suppose the highlight of the year was the bi annual Hamfest, this year held at the Clubrooms of the Napier Aero Club, The healthy turn out was treated to some expert speakers on a wide range of subjects, I would like to repeat my thanks to all those who helped in any way with this event, including speakers, Bar and kitchen helpers, teams that set up and broke down the hall and all the antennae, did raffles, collected entry fees, made up name swingers and set up the audio system, you can all be proud of this achievement. My hope is that the Napier Amateur Radio Club can repeat this event in due time.

Fundraising, apart from subscriptions, has been largely achieved by selling donated and excess equipment, as well as funds generated by the Branch Project for this year which was an ARDUINO based SWR bridge, we have made a modest profit from the sale of these instruments. A small profit was realised from the Hamfest. I am confident that the financial report from the treasurer will be positive."

That's about it for this month, I hope my tenure continues to be as inclusive as it can be, so any suggestions and thoughts about the future and growth of the NARC will always be welcome.

73 de ZL2MQ Dave

Major DXpediton to VK9

Well not so major but a good time was had by all. I was in the company of VK9BF (N7BF, Joe), VK9QR (N7QR, Russ) and VK9EV (W6ABM, Ev) who all live in Portland Oregon. We had all organised our licences a couple of months before we arrived. A reasonably easy process through the WIA but took a week or two and cost about \$30 AUD.

To fly to Norfolk Island now necessitates to transit via Brisbane or Sydney. I flew in via Brisbane, met the others there and flew to VK9 with Air NZ. Evidently they fly the route on behalf of Quantas but don't do the direct AK to Norfolk flights any more??

We were met on arrival by the motel folks, collected our rental car and found our way to the Anson Bay Motel at the northern end of the Island.

Antennas were erected and off we went. One G5RV a 6m beam and several end fed half waves for specific bands.

40m and 30m were the most used band though we did join in the ANZA net on 20m most nights. Mostly it was SSB, some CW and some FT8. Band conditions weren't all that good but we persevered. Also Ev worked the satellites most days to ZL and VK. The Noumea beacon was heard on 6m but no contacts were made.

I was keen to try 80 and 160m so had to make an antenna. The local builders supply store had some galvanised wire about 12 gauge and not hi tensile. (Sold by 10 kilo coils, could have run I halfway across the island) using one of the baluns from an end fed half wave we ran out 80m of wire had it up in a Norfolk Pine and off we went. Nothing on 160 but I did make a few contacts back here on 80. I am not sure if the Americans believed it would work but it tuned up well on most bands.

So after 9 days we packed up and I came home via Sydney.

Norfolk has lots of history, not all of it very pleasant. I would think that after 3 days one could see most of that so a good place to write a book or generally chill out. The island is infested with Norfolk Pines but is quite beautiful.

Copper cable is right around the island though all phones are via the mobile network Internet is via numerous hotspots connected via the copper cable. 4Gbs costing \$70 AUD I think it was.

I came home and caught a cold. Now I am planning a trip to Oregon for a Hamvention over Queens Birthday weekend next year.

Peter Moore ZL2HM

Trekking Mt. Tarawera and a shack visit

It was time to have a couple of days off work, so on Thurs 15 Nov. Mike, ZL2VM, and myself travelled to Rotorua.

The next day we were picked up by Kaitiaki Adventures and transported by a small 4WD bus to about the 600m asl point on the side of Mt Tarawera. From here we trekked our way up to the Trig Station (1111m asl) on Mt Tarawera. It was time to oooh and aaah at our surrounds and to make a 2m contact back home to Eddie ZL2TEW. Once you're at the top it's all down hill from there, well almost. We made our way down into the crater fissure by surfing down a scree slope but eventually had to climb up a low side to come up onto the crater lip......more ooohing and aaahing. A grand day (and perfect weather) and a grand place to have a contact from.

On the Saturday we joined the folks from Rotorua Branch to have a BBQ and shack visit at the home of Allen (and xyl Sharon) Wallace, ZL1AYH. Allen has a shack that would be the envy of most of us and is very busy within. Allen has an interest in Radio Astronomy (this was of particular interest to Mike ZL2VM).

This visit to Allen's shack was well worth it (thank you Allen and Sharon) we enjoyed being hosted by you both.

Sunday it was home time and back to reality.

David (ZL2DW)



One of the fissures of Mt Tarawera (about 150m deep)

David ZL2DW and Mike ZL2VM at the summit of Mt Tarawera





Mt Tarawera (top), scree slope (RHS) into the fissure

One of the operating desks in the shack of ZL1AYH





Allen ZL1AYH talking about his Radio Astronomy efforts

Radio Astronomy rack of ZL1AYH



Travel away cancelled

Due to rural/agricultural and H & S restrictions we have had to cancel our visit to the Marine HF receiving site at Reporoa.

I have here some pictures of what you are missing, though they don't do the site much justice.

We are however looking to have a "Taupo visit" somewhere on the edge of Taupo some time early in 2019, more info. to follow later. (David, ZL2DW for Br 13/HBARC)



DIARY DATES

- 28 November, Pakowhai Hall, 7-30pm Branch 13/HBARC General Meeting, Annual General Meeting, Homebrew Competition, Guest Speaker talk.
- 30 November Branches 13/25 Xmas Tea, 6pm, Napier RSA, smorgasbord, numbers attending to David ZL2DW (ph 0274 502501 or email address)
- 8 Dec. "Summer Wine Bus Trip" (Hastings Napier, return) and ZL2BCE memorial trip, lunch at Napier RSA. Bus # 12, departs Hastings Library at 10am. Get on board anywhere along the route. Bring your Gold Card for a free ride......or pay as per normal if you are a "youngster", all welcome.
- No Branch 13 meeting in December

Remote HF SDR receiver

Last month in Break Out you were directed to the link

http://kiwisdr.northlandradio.nz:8073/ (sound up) which would allow you to have a surf around the HF spectrum and choose mode etc at this remote site situated in a quiet location at Northland. This site can be accessed via your computer and will allow four or eight simultaneous users.

There is a proposal to have a similar site here in Hawke's Bay. We do require an internet sponsor though.

Further to this proposal Jan ZL2CZE will give a demonstration at our next Br 13/HBARC meeting (on 28 Nov.), using the Northland site to show how it can be done.

It's remarkably simple and very useful.

If the proposal is progressed it will allow you to have a great (remote) receiver complimented by your own (home located) transmitter. It is not a complete remote station.



Volunteers are needed for all sorts of tasks -- to help at the Knowledge Bank where we are digitising Hawke's Bay's history.

To see the results of our work visit: www.knowledgebank.org.nz

Come and join our friendly crew. Training given if required.

Ring 833 5333 between 10am and 3pm weekdays.

AY DIGITAL ARCH