

BREAKOUT

The Newsletter of the Hastings and Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 21, Issue 2, February 2021



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



some of the guys cleaning up and vacating the HF/UHF Clifton site after disestablishing it (radio-wise)

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

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

Emergency Call-in Frequencies: 3615khz and 670 repeater



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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

Another month rolls by! They seem to be getting shorter.

Last week saw a "reminder" scare when we were thrust back into level 2 Covid conditions, I for one will embrace the vaccine when it becomes available

The Conference Committee have been very busy organising this event for Queens Birthday this year (also fast approaching), We have had a large number of people offering, or being harangued , to do a turn in what has been dubbed "Deco Techo" for the Sunday session, This will be a super sized version of our Hamfests held over the last few years. If you can't make the Saturday part of the Conference (NZART AGM and AREC AGM), then you should attempt to make the Sunday technical and operating sessions. We have four rooms going with a wide variety of interest subjects. The March/April version of Break In will have the registration form and proposed program. I can tell you that subjects like .. WSJT the new modes,....Fun with VNAs....Restoring WW2 radio equipment...DMR and the evolving Digital national network....Low cost Mag Loops....Receiving weather satellites.. Solid State Power Amplifiers as well as Attempts to receive rf noise from Jupiter are amongst the subjects to be enjoyed. There is some cost to all this, and you can participate in lunch and Dinners on both days if you are registered. The WARO and OTC AGM's will also be hosted on the Sunday, I hope to see a large local contingent at Conference 2021.

6 metres is having little flashes of activity, however the Covid menace in Europe appears to be quashing activity on EME, and a new WSJT-x mode Q65 xx xx is being tested by a few intrepid souls. This mode has the potential to put JT65 into the history books, unfortunately, it may well obselete the MAP65 software as well.

I have been working on 2 projects lately, both involving Arduino microcomputers, the first is a device to convert gearbox tail shaft pulse outputs to a physical turning of a mechanical speedometer, and the second is a remote controller for a Mag loop antenna, which could become a Club Project, we will see where it all goes.

The Napier Amateur Radio Clubs March meeting will be held on 3rd March, at 7:30pm Latham Street. After the usual short business I will show progress on my Mag Loop antenna and controller.

73 Dave ZL2MQ

HASTINGS BRANCH 13

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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 top table

Hi all and welcome to COVID19 once again, does this just show how easy it is to transfer this virus around and we here in Hawkes Bay are so lucky that we are south of the Bombay Hills and that we can still move around with ease.

Talking of moving around I am off to the South Island next Sunday for two weeks and we will be moving around down there quite a lot. I am so looking forward to it and to catch up with my older brother and his partner who are both in their 70s. Both went through the earthquakes in Christchurch 10 years ago. When I go there I still have trouble finding my way around as all of those landmark buildings have gone.

It was very nice to see the write up in Break In about Stan ZL2ST and also to see the picture of us from back in '93 at the Chatham's pub on our last night there. I had more hair back then HI HI. That trip still holds a dear part in my travels and I would dearly like to go back and see what has changed since we were there. Thanks to Peter ZL2LF for doing that really well. It is also hard to remember that three of that team are now Silent Keys as well as Steve Lock (sorry I can't remember his call sign) who was one of our hosts from that trip.

Was so sad to hear that Cathy Purdie ZL2ADK became a SK a fortnight ago and I'm sure that she got a great send off to Ham land.

I see that we still have the idiot on the national system with his little toy Boefang playing childish games. I wonder why some one that knows who it is has'nt done anything to stop him/her. One of those things that gets put into the to hard basket. Wouldn't it be nice if there was some way of showing who comes on to the National System like we can with the DMR system on the dash board. That would go a long way to stopping the trouble that is happening. I am not up with all this techo stuff but I'm just saying it the way I see it. It does get to us all and yes we can just turn the rig off or the volume down but what if I don't want to or it's me or you that is trying to have a gas bag and you have some idiot button pushing or playing silly games all so they can make some ones life worse than it is. God help them if something bad happens and they or someone else needs help. Even though most of us now have cellphones but there are some that don't or are out of coverage. Just makes me wonder about the mentality of these guys and what it is they are trying to achieve.

Well that's it till next month and maybe I will have some pictures to show you of some of the places my travels will take me or some stories to tell about my trip South. Till then stay safe and be kind to your mates and friends.

Blue ZL3TT President Branch 13 HBARC



*Branch 13/HBARC, Hastings, office bearers,
David Walker ZL2DW (Secretary),
Blue Smith ZL3TT (President),
Peter ZL2HM (Treasurer).*



Branch 13 GUEST SPEAKER

Robert ZL2SG and Bob ZL2AN will both give a talk on suburban interference and their respective ways of dealing with a remedy.

The next Br 13/HBARC meeting is on Wed 24 Feb, 7-30pm, Pakowhai Hall, all welcome.



TO GIVE AWAY

a series of magazines dealing with various aerials and construction of same. I'll bring them to the next Br 13 meeting (24/Feb), David ZL2DW



MEAL WITH CHB VISITORS TO HASTINGS

It is the habit of CHB members to have a light meal at/near Stortford Lodge (eg MacDonalds) on their way to the monthly Br 13 meeting. For those locals that would like to join them and then carry on to the meeting please contact David ZL2DW ph 0274 502501, or email david@apexradiocoms.co.nz to get venue and time details.



Wanted

do you know of any Preloved Radio gear going at the moment? hf and or UHF VHF ..

Joseph G1xzl / ZI2sci
skiprokiwi@gmail.com

OSCILLOSCOPE RESTORATION PROJECT



I was at the club last year when a Hitachi oscilloscope model v_ 125B was offered for sale. The faults were

- 1: No time base
- 2: the focus pot was u/s as they say.

I offered \$20 for it and it was turned down as it was too high a price .

I offered two \$10 notes but he saw right through that trick, but never mind, we came to a price and I paid the money and took the prized possession home .

Now Billy T James taught me how to say Japanese words a few years ago,

- Rule 1 first is to clench the butt cheeks real tight.
- Rule 2 is to grunt the word out syllable by syllable. " HI TACH I " !
- Rule 3 refer back to rule 1

At home the first thing I did, was to see if I could find a circuit on the internet.

No luck at all : this is the sort of thing that keeps you awake at 3 in the morning.

I took the covers off to look inside and it was like looking into a bush, all I could see are twigs and leaves, no idea how they all join together or what was what, oh dear.

Plan B : Look for the where the magic smoke has come out from.

Now I have found in electronics that there's a flash, bang and a puff of magic smoke.

Then after that it doesn't work .

People think that Electronics runs on electrons flowing and things but it's actually magic smoke.

My next plan C : take a wild guess ! There's no good measuring voltage or anything because who knows what it should be.

So I took a wild guess, ie find something you don't like the look of.

So, two pigtailed electrolytic capacitors looked like my first victims.

Do you think you can buy pigtailed electrolytics today: no ! All they have is pc mount.

Never mind, change them and some others in the power supply . Powered up.

Good thing I'm sitting down because it sprang into life. Some days you just go with the flow.

A little cleaning (spray around) of all the adjustments because they are all noisy .

And put the covers back on quickly.

I now have this dual band oscilloscope with a big 15 MHz bandwidth sitting on the shelf where I can use it from day to day .

Back inside for a coffee to settle the nerves and a bicky.

Eric ZL2TSU