

# Napier Amateur Radio Clubs

Hastings Branch 13 NZART - Napier Branch 25 NZART

Volume 24, Issue 2, February 2024



Hastings Br 13 **Club Calls ZL2AS ZL2QS** 

Napier Br 25 Club Calls **ZL2GT** ZL2G

> **IRLP** Node 6793 147.250



Branch 13'a Jock White Field Day Team more inside

http://www.zl2gt.nz/ http://www.zl2as.org.nz/ **Emergency Call-in Frequencies: 3615khz and 670 repeater** 

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

Editor John Newson **ZL2VAF** 





https://arec.nz/join-arec/

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#### **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**

The anniversary of the Gabrielle Storm and floods reminds me that people are still struggling to get their lives back to where they were, and in fact many affected by those events have opted for a change in lifestyle. Last meeting Simon Osbourne (AREC rep for central) joined our meeting and we discussed AREC and the readiness of the Amateur fraternity to jump into action when modern communications systems fail due to overload or minimal back up considerations. As we all know, MF and HF communications are basically always there and useable.

I note that the repaired and renovated antenna of 6 metre WSPR transmitter at the clubrooms have again won the VK-ZL one way record for December-January as reported on the facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/144mhzwspr/

The "Makers Group" had a good turn out last session, and Errol (ZL2IT) was able to confirm my GPSDO was relatively clean of harmonic and other lurgies, all part of my continuing quest to achieve 3cm EME status. Progress was also made on the 'Beach40' project. This group meets 2nd and 4th Mondays at the clubrooms, all welcome.

Next Meeting Rob (ZL2AN) will tell us all about HF operations, if we don't have enough time this month to cover all the facets of this essential subject, Rob may continue in April. In his words he will do the following this month:

*I will cover HF phone dxing / operating and a couple of audio tricks, call sign prefixing and tail ending Will see what sort of radios the members are using , ie Tube,/ Hybrid,/ or full solid state. Then maybe a second session on split freq - dual watch - dual band - twin vfo's etc . S meter readings (and fallacys) How not to murder your Tube PA - linear duty cycle, cooling etc* 

One not to be missed!

The next meeting is at Latham Street 7:30pm 6nd March 2024.

Hope to see you all there

73 Dave ZL2MQ

#### HASTINGS BRANCH 13

President:	Blue Smith ZL3TT	Ph 027 220 3724	email: kgsmithblue@nowmail.co.nz
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Club Call: ZL2AS and ZL2QS

Net Controllers (Sunday '670 repeater, 9am) ZL3TT/ZL2DW

Club Nights: Fourth Wednesday each month (except December) at 7.30 pm Pakowhai Hall, Pakowhai Road Club Fees \$20 per year payable to Branch 13 a/c # 03 0642 0733310 00 (use your call sign as a reference).

#### From the top table

Well, here we are at the end of February. It is still very hot here in Hawkes Bay on some days and then cool on other days. Just got to love it except at night when the temp does not go below 20oc but it is what it is.

This weekend is the Jock White Field Day and from what I hear there are quite a few stations out there, and they are doing well, along with the guys from Branch 13 up on Te Mata Peak. Good luck to you all, I would have liked to have been able to come and help out but the timing was all wrong on my part as getting around has become a nightmare at the moment having to use 2 sticks to aid walking. In 4 more weeks look out, I should be up and running yea right maybe walking but no running plus getting to old to run.

Moan time, we have had our AGM and Subs were due then but we do allow you time to pay and it is only \$20.00 or \$30.00 for a family. These are some of the lowest fees for any Club so really there shouldn't be any reason you can't pay them. Of cause if you don't pay your subs then don't complain to us when you need the Clubs help or you stop getting Break Out. There are the repeaters that you use, they cost the club to keep them running on top of the normal expenses involved in running a Club. You can find the account number in Break Out or pay them to Peter ZL2HM on a meeting night. We have not raised the subs for God knows how many years now, longer than I care to remember, you get very good service for what you do pay, so jump to it those of you that have not paid and get it done, thank you.

Well as some of you may know I have been and had my knee replacement done and that has slowed me up some what but alls well. I'm coming good and have one more scar to add to the body which is starting to look more like a road map, but things are on the improvement just missing not being able to drive and it is not till some thing like this happens that you miss what you take for granted. I will be looking forward to getting back into my car and going for a drive.

We have had an update on the hall and by the sound of it things are ticking along very nicely so stay turned and we will let you all know when we will be going back to the hall but you maybe asked to take your shores off at the door and if this is the case please make sure you have clean socks on NO smelly feet allowed.

Well that's it for this month and I hope to see at the meeting. If you come and haven't paid your subs, please bring it with you.

Blue ZL3TT President Branch 13 HBARC



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

# **How To Use A Fist Microphone**

(Doug)

Prompted by two articles in the last Break In (Jan/Feb 2024)

- P12, "Five Common Mistakes New Hams Make" (Bob)

- P23, "Radio Operating Practices"

I replied to both authors with the following letter/email.

Hello Doug

prompted by your Break In column "Radio Operating Practices" I offer the following.....

FIST MICROPHONE USE.

To use a fist mic, or a Hand Held R/T with built in mic., rest it on your cheek and talk across the face of the mic.....(not directly into it unless in a very noisy or windy environment).

Use a bold voice but not a loud voice. Using the mic this way contributes to a consistent level and quality of modulation, ie the best it can be. By not talking directly into the mic. recipients of the modulation are relieved of not hearing "mouth sounds" like puh or blowing on the mic.

This recommendation comes from 50 years of Ham Radio experience and 57 years of service work in the commercial Land Mobile Radio industry.

Sorry Bob Witte (P12, Break In article, Jan/Feb 2024 issue, item 2), I don't agree with you, based on the above experience.

Keep up your respective good work guys.

73, David Walker (ZL2DW Hastings, NZ)



## TVNZ Hamradio

Barrie ZL2BJA featured after TV1 News/Weather in "Good Sorts" on 18 Feb 2024

https://www.1news.co.nz/2024/02/18/good-sorts-the-amateur-radio-operator-who-r econnected-communities/



## There is a Amateur radio station transmitting form the moon!

437.41 mHz circular polarisation..

The First Amateur Radio Station on the Moon, JS1YMG, is Now Transmitting (arrl.org) 73, ZL2TAB



#### **HF TO THE RESCUE**

From the "Air Force News" (#265, P19, last para, LHS column) publication I note the use of HF radio....... "With all usual communications systems down"... ......during/after Cyclone Gabrielle in HB.

https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/AirForceNews\_Issue265.pdf

David (ZL2DW Hastings)

# Jock White Field Day 2024

Ham Radio operators from the NZART Branch 13 Amateur Radio Club and the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) Hawkes Bay participated in the Jock White Memorial Field Day, between Saturday, 1200 hours on Saturday 24th through to 1600 hours on Sunday, 25th February.

The Jock White Memorial Field Day is a nationwide NZART and amateur radio event showcasing the science, skill and emergency preparedness of emergency radio operators using High-Frequency equipment from the Summit of Te Mata Peak, Havelock North.

As you may appreciate the event was enjoyed by those who braved the elements, including the 60 + 10 and overseas visitors who took the opportunity to ask questions and listen to the team make radio 420 + 100 contacts on the air.

Station Operators – Phil ZL2RO, Robert ZL2SG, Simon ZL2TSO and Bryce ZL1BCD who were asissted by Deanne ZL2MCH and Luke ZL2KOM for part of the time.



*Rob ZL2SG invoking the HF Gods to help with the Field Day* 

*Rob ZL2SG and Luke ZL2KOM Getting the poles ready* 



All hands on deck to manhandle the pole

*And up she goes. Phil ZL2RO with his back to us, Simon ZL2TSO partially concealed, Rob ZL2SG and Luke ZL2KOM* 





A couple of pics of the setup – another horrible HB day ...



*The set getting turned on and the boys getting tuned up ready to go* 

Phil ZL2RO going hard while Rob ZL2SG waits his turn



# **HBARC/Branch 13 Feb Meeting**

The next General Meeting will be on Wed 28 Feb., 7-30pm at the Orphans Club Hall, on the corner of Miller St and Albert St (entrance on Miller St), followed by a mini auction, proceeds towards Branch 13 funds.



#### **Branch 13's subs are now overdue.**

They (\$20) can be paid in cash to Peter ZL2HM or David ZL2DW or banked into the Branch 13 account 03 0642 0733310 00 (use your call sign or name as the reference).



## **First New Zealand to Argentina Contact**

It is noted that in May 2024 it will be 100 years since ZL2AC at Gisborne made a contact to Argentina, (I think..... the first out of NZ, I'm subject to correction here. Sorry I've misplaced the original article), ZL2DW.



## How did the term "Ducky aerial" come about

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubber\_ducky\_antenna#:~:text=Kennedy%2C %20named%20the%20flexible%20device,comedies%20about%20the%20Kennedy %20family.



# FOR OFFERS

6m triangular lattice, tilt over tower with a 6m internal pipe. For redirection re this contact Rob ZL2US ph 022 6903867