



*New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters*

# **ZL1AA - AUCKLAND BRANCH 02**

**APRIL**

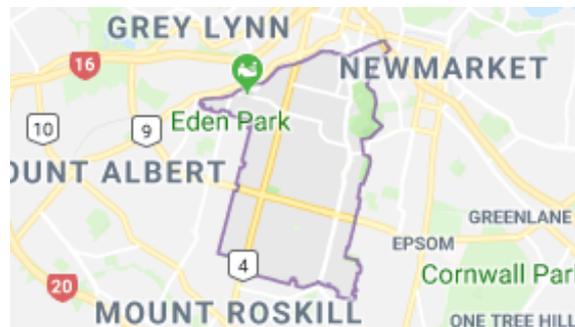
**2018**

**SATURDAY 21st April**

## **SOTA - Summits on the air**

**Come early, to arrange car pooling, then depart from the clubroom at 11 am to set up a station on Mt Eden.**

Mount Eden – Maungawhau. At **196 metres** high, it is the highest of our Auckland City volcanoes; though Rangitoto (also SOTA) is higher at 260 metres.



**Home stations or late arrivals to the clubroom are asked to QSO with us on**

**146.500 MHz FM simplex**

**7.090 MHz**

**14.310 MHz**

**QRV at 12:30.**

**Subs are now overdue — please pay \$45.00 direct to ASB Bank account 123047-0076823-00**

**ZL1AA**  
**Auckland Branch 02**  
**PO Box 18003**  
**Glen Innes**  
**Auckland 1743**

[www.qsl.net/zl1aa](http://www.qsl.net/zl1aa)  
[ZL1AA@nzart.org.nz](mailto:ZL1AA@nzart.org.nz)  
Skype: ZL1AA\_NZ

## Club Officers

### President:

Wes Printz, ZL3TE  
[ZL3TE@dxer.com](mailto:ZL3TE@dxer.com)  
027 227-7779

### Vice President:

Steve Miller, ZL1FS  
[HeathkitDX60@yahoo.com](mailto:HeathkitDX60@yahoo.com)  
021 0226-4981

### Secretary:

Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL  
[auckland.nzart@gmail.com](mailto:auckland.nzart@gmail.com)  
(09) 575-6383

### Treasurer:

Jeff Lowe ZL1TOU  
[jeffjanet51@gmail.com](mailto:jeffjanet51@gmail.com)  
(09) 630-0213

### Elected Members:

Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR  
[rgwynne.rowe@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rgwynne.rowe@xtra.co.nz)  
(09) 528-1177

Olivier Wardecki, ZL1XS  
[zl1xsnz@gmail.com](mailto:zl1xsnz@gmail.com)

Japie Nel, ZL1JJN  
[jjnel@orcon.net.nz](mailto:jjnel@orcon.net.nz)

Jimmy Smith, ZL1TGS  
[jimmys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jimmys@xtra.co.nz)  
027 492-5152

## ZL1AA Information:

Branch 02 Clubroom is located at  
400 St Johns Road  
St Heliers, Auckland  
(Off the main road)

Google Earth:  
36.869730s, 174.843860e

Clubroom is open every Saturday from  
1030 hrs. for members and guests to drop  
by for coffee and a chat!

General meetings are held on the third  
Saturday of each month at 1330 hrs.  
(except Dec / Jan).

Committee meetings are held on the first  
Tuesday of each month at 1930 hrs. ALL  
paid members are welcome to attend.

### Affiliations:

10-10 International  
NZART  
AMSAT-ZL

### Club nets:

Thursday:  
145.775 MHz @ 1930 Steve, ZL1FS NCO  
HF Net on Hiatus

10-10 Down Under Chapter Net:  
28.530 MHz 2230Z Fridays  
(1030 NZST Saturdays)

## Branch Contacts:

Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR  
(09)-528-1177

## Branch Examiners:

Steve Miller, ZL1FS  
021 0226-4981  
Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL  
(09) 575-6383

Wes Printz, ZL3TE  
027 227-7779

## Web Master:

Andrei Chatalov, ZL1TM  
[achatnz@gmail.com](mailto:achatnz@gmail.com)

## Librarian:

Olivier Wardecki, ZL1XS  
[zl1xsnz@gmail.com](mailto:zl1xsnz@gmail.com)

## Station Trustees:

George Marr, ZL1TUJ  
Wes Printz, ZL3TE

## Branch Technical Advisers:

Simon Watt-Wyness, ZL1SWW  
[sww@eagle.co.nz](mailto:sww@eagle.co.nz)



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

### ❖ Subscription Rates:

Regular ..... \$45 (discounted with a \$5.00 raffle ticket if paid by 31 Mar 2018)  
Youth Rate ..... \$20

❖ Post to PO Box 18003, Glen Innes, Auckland 1743, direct credit may be made into our bank account **12-3047-0076823-00** or pay the Treasurer or Secretary at the clubrooms.

❖ A pro rata rate is offered to a new member joining part way through the year. The financial year runs from 1 November 31 October

❖ Receipts will be distributed either in person at meetings or via mail/E-mail.

❖ Branch financial year currently runs from 1 November to 31 October.

❖ A current Membership Application / Renewal Form is required with all payments to assist with accurate record keeping. Available from the Secretary, or by download [http://www.qsl.net/zl1aa/br02\\_mem\\_form.pdf](http://www.qsl.net/zl1aa/br02_mem_form.pdf)

❖ All members' information is kept confidential unless approval is given for it to be released.

Newsletter material submissions are welcomed and appreciated by your editor. You may submit material in a variety of file formats: .TXT .DOC, or just plain old E-mail. Photos are accepted also. Please submit material via E-Mail to: ZL3TE @ dxer.com I will use what I can with the space available at the time of newsletter editing.



## From the Secretary ... (Wes is away on his latest OE)

Yesterday at the clubroom, I heard the remark: "I'm missing Ray. Things are quiet without him." As a working bee project last month, six of us went to Ray's home (with the permission of his niece) to demount his antennas. While there, we could see his latest radio acquisition, an ICom 7610, sitting on the back seat of his car. We had already been told that this, and his other radios, were to be donated to the Branch. Last week I called at his house, ostensibly to clear his letter box, which if overflowing, is a sure sign of absenteeism. His car was not in the driveway as before. Fearful that it may have been sold and the ICom 7610 had gone with it, I walked up the drive, and peered into the side window of the garage. There, along the wall, were 12 boxes of his radios. The door handle turned to my touch! I decided that our clubroom offered a more secure place to store them, and told the Public Trustee as much. A list of these radios appears elsewhere in this newsletter, so that Members may have early notice of what will eventually be for sale.

**Power cuts.** At the risk of swimming against current opinion, let me explain why I enjoyed last week's power cut. The noise level at my QTH is usually S5 and therefore only strong signals are intelligible. Imagine my delight to hear European stations at S3. This reminded me of those days before a new multi-million dollar house was built on my north boundary, when I could make CW contacts with UK easily. I wonder what goes into new houses these days?

**Membership register.** The Committee has decided to purge the **Branch** Register next month of 34 names who are non-financial, albeit many are NZART Members who have been "*attached*" to Auckland Branch (and probably do not remember). They can apply through HQ-NZART for another branch attachment. Being a Member of a Branch **offers privileges**. These are: QSL card distribution; the monthly newsletter; Use of repeaters; Use of the remote station; Borrowing rigs, test gear, magazines and books; Access to technical advice and help from Elmers; Participation in events and contests; and most of all, Fellowship.

**SOTA.** On this 3rd Saturday of the month, with a good weather forecast, we intend to mount an expedition to "**Activate**" Mt Eden as a Summit of the Air. Soren ZL1SKL is our leader. He suggests that we car-pool, and leave the clubroom at 11am to set up a station at Mangawhau, better known as Mt Eden. To get past the barrier at its base, the access code is 2564 #. Otherwise we would have to carry rigs, batteries and antennas to the top.

Home stations or stragglers (who arrive at the clubroom later) are urged to participate as "**Chasers**", Our SOTA station will be QRV by 12:30 on HF 7.090 MHz and 14.310 MHz and also on VHF 146.500 MHz FM simplex. A list of all of the Auckland Province summits may be seen at [www.sota.org.uk/Association/ZL1/AK](http://www.sota.org.uk/Association/ZL1/AK) At this web site you can read its general rules and find out more about this activity.

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## SOTA SPOTTING — What is it?

Maybe you've heard of DX spotting. There are web sites that list frequencies and times when a ham from a rare country has been spotted on the air. If you chase DX, you might watch one of these sites so you can pounce on a DX operator when he shows up.

SOTA has something like this too. There's a web site where chasers will post your frequency and your summit when they hear you. This helps other chasers to find you when you're on the air. Posting an entry to this site is known as "spotting" you. The entry itself is called a "spot." (You have been spotted/observed/seen/heard.)

In fact, some activators even spot themselves. In some ham activities, spotting yourself is considered poor form. In SOTA, it is allowed and common. Don't spot yourself in advance. Spotting means you are on the air **right now**. If you are planning to be on the air later, you can post that as an alert. An alert says, "I'll be on the air at *this* time, on *this* frequency, from *this* summit." A spot says, "The ham has been observed to be on *this* frequency from *this* summit **right now**."

To spot yourself (or to spot another ham), go to <http://sotawatch.org/spots.php>.

When you are spotted (whether you do it, or a chaser spots you), you can expect an immediate pile-up.

**Hey coach... How can I spot myself if I don't have Internet access on top of the mountain?**

Here are some of the ways to get spotted:

Visit <http://sotawatch.org/spots.php>.

Make a QSO with a chaser, and ask him to spot you.

[Spot yourself via SMS message](#)

[Get auto spotted via RBNGate](#)

# Auckland Branch 02, NZART (Inc.)

## Minutes of Committee Meeting

**Place / Date / Time:** Clubroom, Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 at 1935 hours  
**Present:** Wes ZL3TE presiding; Wallace ZL1WAL; Jeff ZL1TOU; Gwynne ZL1AAR; Japie ZL1JJN; Olivier ZL1XS; Jim ZL1TGS.  
**Apologies:** Steve ZL1FS; Soren ZL1SKL. Sustained ZL1WAL / ZL1JJN  
**Minutes:** of the previous Committee meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1TGS

### Correspondence:

- Newsletters: Franklin, North Shore; Papakura, Musick Point (by post); Hibiscus Coast; Western Suburbs; Auck VHF Group; Westlakes (by e-mail)
- Branch reflector of Newsletters from North Canterbury, Hasting / Napier, Rotorua, Hamilton, Gisborne, Musick Point
- Follow up NZART asking for a copy of the Certificate of Public Liability Insurance.
- Various Members whose subs are in arrears – Invoices sent with total indebtedness of \$1,800.00.
- Collen Dubbs (Ray's niece) thanking Members attending Ray's funeral. Permission given to demount antennas.
- NZART Break-In Silent Key column – Ray Chapman ZL1AJR – SK.
- Alan Wooller alanw@kci.net.nz - announcing Jumbo Challenge Bowls at Albany Indoor Club 18<sup>th</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
- City Rail Link; Auckland Transport re ATEED's padlock (combo 2014) paralleled with ours.
- Iain ZL1UMC offering Vector's 10 year old UHF gear (Tait, antennas, coax) for inspection and pick up. Photos taken.
- Greg ZL1GUD seeking support for his faulty TS50; intemperate reply by him for my suggesting he join Br 86 or us.
- RWB (ICom) announcing repair policy effective 1/4/18. Request for list of products that they will support.
- Howard Buxton ZL1BXA Northern Councillor seeking info wrt Public Liability Insurance required by Auckland Council

### Arising:

- Public Liability insurance is being reviewed by Stuart Watchman ZL2TD. It presently covers only Members of NZART wherever their location, irrespective of whether their Branch clubroom is owned or rented.
- There are insufficient numbers to enter a team for the Jumbo Indoor bowls competition at Albany.
- Ross Scarborough fixed the gate problem by inserting new chain links to isolate the combination padlock.
- Concern was expressed about the ICom 7610 xcvr in Ray's Car. Wallace will enquire about access.

Received and approved ZL1WAL / ZL1XS

### Finance:

- **Finance Report:** 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2017 – 1st April 2018.
- **Invoiced:** 19 outstanding subs were invoiced (\$800) and 15 Members in arrears (\$1,000). Received ZL1TOU / ZL1WAL
- **Expenses for approval:**

|                        |                       |  |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| • Gwynne               | ARRL Handbook         | \$103.68                                     |
| • Meadowbank Pony club | Lawns                 | \$25.00                                      |
| • Robert Dean          | Refund of key deposit | \$10.00 (subject to all keys being returned) |
| • Ross Higgins         | Lawns 2016-17         | \$150.00 (being balance of Creditor Account) |

Approved ZL1TOU / ZL1WAL

**Raffle** of hardback 2017 ARRL Handbook. **Colin Robinson ZL1TKJ** was drawn as winner (from 29 tickets) .

### Reports:

- **Maintenance outstanding:** Internal electric wiring; Front step replacement; Painting exterior west walls;
- **Lawn mowing:** Steve has negotiated with Pony Club grounds-man. One cut was done, costing \$25.00.
- **AREC:**
  - 6 metre check-in on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March. ZK1EA was activated by ZL1COP at North Shore. Soren and Jim set up on the lawn outside our clubroom and successfully contacted all 15 other stations using both FM and SSB.
  - Japie has finalized his arrangements to support comms for the Whangarei Car Rally on 5-6<sup>th</sup> May.
- **Generator:** Keys were not available to gain access to the shed; so he could not service it.
- **QSL; Exams; Visitors; Web page; Nets** Nothing to report
- **Newsletter:** Publish Remote Station Policy document. (See Newsletter July 2012 when this was first published).
- **Remotely controlled station:** The Log-on screen has been amended to invite overseas listeners to join Branch.
- **Phone line:** Auto payment authority with Vodafone has been withdrawn and payments made for previous two months will be refunded (\$129.98).
- **Meter reading:** 51169.0

(April Committee Meeting Minutes Continued on page 5)

## Reports: (Continued)

### • Membership:

- New member: Andrew Nelson.
- Resignations received by Robert Dean ZL2RED (also non-financial with NZART) and Ian Falgar. Accepted ZL3TE / ZL1WAL
- Purge Branch Register of those who are non-financial, albeit they are "attached" as financial NZART Members.
- **Branch membership privileges** are: Newsletter; Use of remote; Borrow rigs /test gear /books; Elmer and Technical advice; QSL card distribution; Participation in events /contests.
- Recruit overseas listeners of the Remote station, to join the Branch which will entitle them to tune it (and hear how their signals are getting out).

## Antennas / Project plans:

- **Reaffix base of tri-band tower.** Budget cost estimate is \$500 (includes steel plate \$250, Galvanizing \$60, 8 bolts and nuts \$60, Nozzle \$6, Chem-set 101 \$100).  
The plan is to borrow block and tackle using tripod to lift plinth. The weather is ideal now.
- Antenna(s) for Yaesu FT736R at HF3.
- There is enough cable for another run though the conduit for a 6m Yagi.
- Tower at Murrays Bay is ready to be taken down; then transported later. Project outstanding for nearly a year.
- George Irving's ZL1IV vertical has been taken away (by Housing Corp?).
- Concrete base for Satellite antenna to stabilize it – not urgent unless new Members want to use it.
- Proposal by George Marr to site a storage shed next to club room, was not agreed to.

## Future Events / entertainment / speakers

- 21<sup>st</sup> April SOTA to be led by Soren ZL1SKL.
- Suggestions for entertainers / speakers for general meetings 2018
  - Digital modes demo
  - Invite Richard Gamble, Dave Wilkins to make an AREC presentation
  - Invite Howard Buxton ZL1BXA, NZART Northern Region Councillor, to speak
  - ARDF talk and event by ZL1WAL at Musick Point Radio Society Branch – not yet scheduled.

## Component sales:

- Photographs of surplus gear at Vector were viewed. The type A Tait radios have no value. Equipment racks are not wanted. Any repeaters would be worth collecting. UHF antennas are new and could be used.
- Committee will take inventory of one shelf each; take photos of rigs; lookup and write selling blurb, and set prices.
- The next sale is at 118 Peacock Road, Hamilton on 19<sup>th</sup> May (conflicts with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday General Meeting).
- Decide what to sell / dump / keep for lending to (new) Members.

## Review:

- The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 states, "*Volunteer associations do not have health and safety duties under HSWA, as they are not PCBUs.* (Last updated 21 Sept 2017).
- Our own Health & Safety Policy document was circulated which lists Members responsibility to work safely and to report accidents and hazards. No updates are necessary.
- First aid kit; Fire extinguisher, Alarm surveillance.
- The value of equipment within the clubrooms is increasing.
- A duplicate set of keys is needed for the padlocks to the under-floor hatch, generator shed and safe at HF1.
- By-laws need to be reviewed for adoption at the next meeting

Celebration of successful meeting, courtesy of Wallace ZL1WAL, that closed at 2200 hours.

**P43E–SK , Emily Thiel**, from Oranjestad, Aruba, became a Silent Key 12 April 2018. She was 49. Emily had been hiking in the Aruba National Park and suffered a stroke. She was taken to the hospital where she was put on life support. Yesterday she was removed from life support and passed away.

Many DXers and Contesters will surely have the "well-known and respected" P43E in their logs.

P43E was a board member of the Aruba Amateur Radio Club. For many years Emily ran the P4 QSL Bureau. Her passing is a huge loss for the P4 ham community.



# VK9LI Lord Howe Island

VK Team will be active as VK9LI, from Lord Howe Island, IOTA OC - 004, 11 - 18 May 2018.

Team - Chris VK3QB, Brenton VK3YB, Luke VK3HJ.

Recent DX Spots [VK9LI](#)

They will operate on 160 - 17m CW, SSB, FT8.

QSL via VK2CA. LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

Ads for direct QSL:

ALLAN MEREDITH, P.O. Box 890, Mudgee, New South Wales, 2850, Australia.



Sunset, Lovers Bay, Lord Howe Island. Author - Krissy.



Lord Howe Island. Author - Rob Allard

## List of radio equipment

Ex Raymond Chapman, ZL1AJR - SK  
39 A West Tamaki Street  
Auckland, 1072

10th April 2018

| Description                              | Brand            | Model     | Serial No.  | In box | With manual | Defects    |
|--|------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|-------------|------------|
| Transceiver, HF                          | Icom             | IC-7610   | 18001003    | ✓      | ✓           |            |
| Transceiver, HF                          | Icom             | IC7600    | 201504      |        | ✓           | No mic.    |
| Transceiver, HF                          | Icom             | IC-7300   | 2002699     |        | ✓           | No mic.    |
| Power supply, 13.8v, 25A                 | Icom             | PS126     | 1301695     | ✓      |             |            |
| Power supply, 3v - 15v, 25A switch mode  | Dick Smith Elec. | D3800     |             | ✓      |             |            |
| Power supply, 3v - 15v, 40A, switch mode | Powertech        | MP3090    | MG331340749 |        |             |            |
| Tuner - cross needle                     | Diawa            | CNW218    | D10361      | ✓      | ✓           |            |
| Auto tuner                               | LDG              | AT-Pro II | TWN852560   | ✓      |             |            |
| Speaker                                  | Icom             | SP20      | 004250      | ✓      |             |            |
| Speaker                                  | Peerless         | SV        |             | ✓      |             | Ancient    |
| Transceiver, VHF                         | Uniden           | President |             |        |             | No antenna |

### RF Direct Sampling System

The IC-7610 employs an RF direct sampling system, where RF signals directly convert to digital data and then processed by the FPGA (Field-Programmable Gate Array). This process reduces distortion that naturally occurs in the various mixer stages found in traditional superhetrodyne receivers.

The RF Direct Sampling System in the IC-7610 is capable of 110 dB\* RMDR. This performance gives you the ability to pull weak signals out of the noise of strong adjacent signals. There is a difference you can actually hear as the desired signal comes out of the pileup!



<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/hf/7610/default.aspx>

