

## Notice of Special General Meeting

19th February 2011 at 1330 hours (following rehearsal for JWFD at 10:00 and BBQ at Noon)

Agenda: To confirm election of three vacancies in the Committee
Graham O'Neil, ZL1ONL
Brian Wilson, ZL1UBX
Ian Robinson, ZL2TD

## Your Subscription for 2011, \$33.00 is due

Attend to this immediately please, and make my life easer [Treasurer]

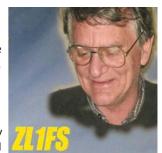
Either (old method)

- 1. Scroll to the back page of this newsletter, print it and fill in your renewal details
- 2. Give to **The Treasurer** or post to "**Box 18-1003**, **Glen Innes**, **Auckland 1743**" or (improved method)
- 1. Go to our branch web page http://www.qsl.net/zl1aa/index.html
- 2. Scroll down to Subscriptions
- 3. Click on Membership Application / Renewal form
- 4. Fill in the form on-line and then hit Submit An email will be sent to me
- Make a direct deposit at any ASB Branch to Account 12-3047-0076823-00
   In the name of "Auckland Branch of NZ Amateur Radio Transmitters"
   Write your Call-sign into the reference field please.

#### **From President Steve**

Greetings to all Auckland Branch Members and to others who read this newsletter. So, I am back in the Chair again, having had my fill of shipboard life. I can say that I am glad to have Vice President George, ZL1TUJ and a Committee just as dedicated to support me in our various activities that make this hobby so interesting. We look forward to a year of productive endeavour and to keeping ZL1AA on the air.

The first fixture on the Calendar last month was NZ Amateur Radio day when Wallace set up a station outside the St Heliers Library. That earned us some publicity in the Courier. This will be followed up by an active station and display at the St Heliers Fair on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March. These showings are intended to attract, introduce and examine more potential Hams. Congratulations to Andrew Scott-Mackie and Scott Thode, our most recent graduates.



Presently we are focused on the Jock White National Field Day to be held in the last week-end of this month. This Branch has a fine record of awards, framed and hung on the clubroom wall. Let me know by next week that you can put in two or three hours as an operator, so that I can enter you on the schedule. On the Saturday beforehand (19<sup>th</sup> February) we shall rehearse the erection of antennas and tents, then test our equipment. After all, one objective of this contest is to review our readiness for field-day operation in the event of an emergency. We shall provide a BBQ lunch and hold a brief Special General Meeting to fill the three vacancies on our Committee

Next month, further Foxhunts will be organized with invitations sent out to neighbouring Branches. Thus, some inter-branch socializing will widen our fellowship and spawn a spirit of friendly competition. Some of us have assembled kitsets and made improvements to them so as to get that edge over other competitors. In Europe, UK and other regions, people can go to an ARDF event every week-end. It would be good to have foxhunts monthly, in any of the 30 reserves that have been mapped in greater Auckland, just as they do in Melbourne. Reports from ARRL state that ARDF events have proved to be fertile ground for recruiting younger members.

Today we erected the 80 metre central pole, a job that has been long outstanding. And by the end of this month the telephone line will be repaired. Our next job is to paint the roof and walls. Meanwhile, inside the clubroom, the shelves are being stocked and much of the clutter will be tided up; not before time.

73 Steve, ZL1FS 021- 0226 - 4981

## In Loving Memory of



Arthur Thomas Duxbury
19 November 1919 - 3 January 2011

#### TOM DUXBURY ZL1CZ - Silent Key

Tom passed away in hospital on 3 January 2011 after some years of ill health in the form of a series of strokes. In his latter years he impressed all who knew him by his cheerful disposition and by his determined efforts to regain something approaching normal speech, carefully framing each word as he conveyed his undoubted knowledge and experience of life and of matters electrical and amateur related.

Tom had served with the RNZAF in the Pacific Islands in World War II as a crew member mainly in the Vickers Wildebeeste, a 3 seater, single engine torpedo bomber with a top speed of 156 miles per hour – a sitting duck even in those days. At his funeral two narrow escapes were mentioned. After the plane returned safely from one mission another crew took over and failed to return from the next mission. At war's end a plane returning him and other service personnel to New Zealand almost ditched in the sea, and in those days the risks of ditching were far greater than now.

Back in civilian life Tom entered business in Wellington as a selfemployed transformer winder. Jeff Lowe ZL1TOU well remembers being employed by Tom in assembly tasks as a means of funding his own University education and Tom giving him his introduction to amateur radio. Tom probably had a ZL2 call at that stage but callsigns were not readily portable between licensing districts in those days.

About 1972 Tom with wife and family set up house on St Heliers Bay Road near the top of Apirana Ave, very handy to Auckland Branch, undertook employment in an electronics factory in Glen Innes and took up the relinquished callsign ZL1CZ. In typical Tom Duxbury fashion he would share transformer design knowledge with Branch members and make surplus materials available to the club. He became a committee member in years 1975-1976 and again in 1981.

With advancing years he and his wife moved to a home unit in New Lynn to be closer to family members. He was a very familiar figure at Western Suburbs equipment sales.

A thorough gentleman of the old school, Tom will be sadly missed.

de ZL1BRC

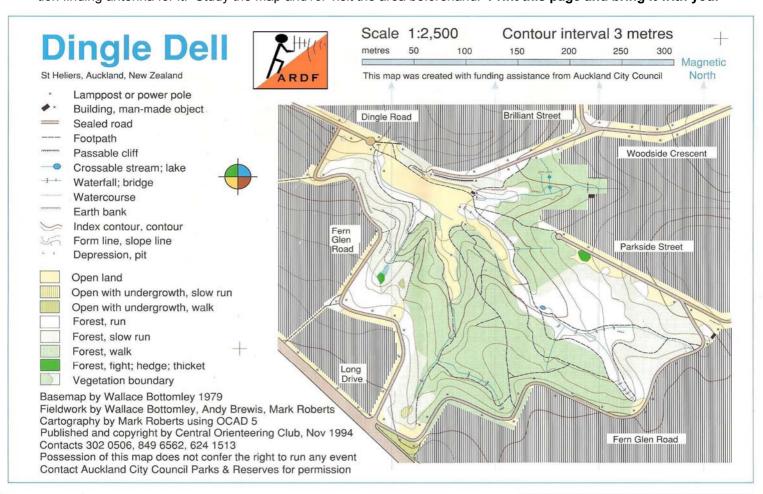


## **The Fox Hunting Page**

**Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF)** 



The next Foxhunt will start from the QTH of ZL1WAL at 24 Dingle Road (see photo below) on Sat. 19<sup>th</sup> March (usual 3rd Saturday) after a BBQ on his terrace at noon. All welcome. It will be confined to Dingle Dell - 16 acres of native bush with three streams, many bridges and graveled pathways — so it is not muddy underfoot (Auckland City Parks and Reserves discourage bush bashing). The foxes will use 2m, so bring your hand-held. Adapt a direction finding antenna for it. Study the map and /or visit the area beforehand. Print this page and bring it with you.





To find out more about ARDF and equipment needed copy and paste.or Ctrl Click on these links:

For an introduction and explanation: http://www.dl3bc.de/ardf-en

Six minute video: http://www.solen.info/solar/

How to build a Yagi for 2M: http:// www.theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/ rdf/tape bm.htm

Other equipment: http://ardf-r2.org/equipment/

For a kitset (similar to our 80m sniffers) <a href="http://www.rsgb.org/radiosport/ardf/">http://www.rsgb.org/radiosport/ardf/</a> includes/80mrx.html

Try ARDF on 80m: http://www.homingin.com/joemoell/80intro

## AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

#### Minutes of Committee Meeting

Date / Time / Place: Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011; 1940 hours; Clubroom.

Attendees: Steve Miller, ZL1FS (Chairman); Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR; Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL

(Secretary / Treasurer); Japie Nel, ZL1JJN, (AREC); Ray Chapman, ZL1AJR:

and member: Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC.

Apologies: Brian Wilson, ZL1UXB

Sustained ZL1WAL/ ZL1FS

*Minutes* of the previous Committee meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010:

Read out then accepted ZL1FS/ ZL1AAR

#### Correspondence In:

- Newsletters from neighbouring branches: Papakura, Suburban.
- Amateur Repeater Trustees Association (ARTA) announcing its formation.
- Committee responses about parking ZL4KK's caravan
- Selwyn a paper about planning for Jock White National Field Day 24-25 February 2011.
- Selwyn advising that Garth Allen has donated his Kenwood TR 9130 2m transceiver. Te Puke Junk Sale notice 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011.
- St Heliers Village Fair Response form for 26th March 2011
- Order of Service for funeral on 8th January 2011 of Life Member, Tom Duxbury ZL1CZ

#### Matters arising:

- The Committee stood in silence in memory of Tom Duxbury, ZL1CZ SK
- It was decided to wait for developments, if any, of ARTA.
- See General Business for JWFD planning.

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1JJN

#### Correspondence Out:

- Suburban ARC enclosing donation of \$150.00 towards the cost of replacing their 5775 antenna.
- Andrei ZL1TM asking for changes to be made to our webpage for change of Officers.
- Committee polling about ZL4KK's request to park his caravan. A draft letter to him was not sent.
- NZART- advising our Officers for Call-book and Web page
- Warren Harris, ZL2AJ—report of Auckland Branch activity on NZ Amateur Radio Day.

Approved ZL1JJN / ZL1WAL

Finance: The Treasurer presented a report

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1FS

#### Expenses requiring approval for payment

R Higgins - Lawns in January \$34.50 Selwyn – reimbursement for repair of FT1000 \$59.80

Entry fee for St Heliers Fair on 26 March \$50.00 (This will be donated to East Bays Hospice) Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1AAR

#### Investment

- The Term Investment of \$7,000 in Kiwi Bank matures next week.
- Reinvest \$6,000 of it with Kiwi Bank for 12 months @ 5.3%.
- Put \$1,000 into the ASB Fast Saver account earning 3.1%

Approved ZL1FS / ZL1WAL

#### Budget:

- The Treasurer tabled the budget that was presented to the AGM showing a \$500 loss. He pointed out that the Branch accounts are buoyed by the generosity of Members.
- It was felt that the Branch will continue to obtain equipment for sale to supplement its income.

#### General business:

The clubroom should be opened punctually at 10 am on Saturdays.

Improved attendance at nets is encouraged (VHF 145.775 Mondays at 20:00; VHF 3.645 Mondays at 21:00).

#### **PROGRAM**

- Jock White National Field Day 26th 27th February
  - Selwyn presented a paper for discussion based on lessons learned from last year:
  - Antennas; for example, a 284' wire may be erected for 80m operation and a loop used for 40m.
  - The feed line has to be extended to 124'.
  - Antennas should be tested the previous Saturday—19th February at 1000 hours...
  - The earth in front of the clubroom may be used.
  - The generator's fuel line needs to be checked by Japie.
  - 2 tents for a hot summer's day and /or 2 vans in case it is wet, are available.
  - More operators are needed to spread the workload. (Last year Selwyn did 12 hours).
  - A Field day Manager is required. Gwynne is hopeful that he will be sufficiently fit by then.

#### Minutes of Committee Meeting (Continued)

- Foxhunt in Dingle Dell Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday). Meet at 24 Dingle Road (at sea level).
  - This is Wallace's QTH in St Heliers. There is plenty of parking in this cul-de-sac.
  - Other Clubs will be invited to participate.
  - A BBQ will be running from noon.
  - Five foxes will emit signals on 2m from 1300 to 1600 hours in a cycle of 1 minute each.
  - Participants should bring their own 2m hand-held. They should adapt a directional antenna for it.
  - Some (6) sniffers with Yagi arrays will be available for hire. (These belong to NZART.)
  - Dingle Dell is16 acres of native bush with three streams running through it. Bridges and gravel tracks ensure that it is dry underfoot.
  - Results and a brief summation by the winners will follow at 1600 hours (latest).
- St Heliers Fair: Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 1000 to 1500 hours.
  - Secretary is to book an open space (away from trees) that allows an antenna to be erected.
  - Use promotion material and collage that was used at library on NZ Amateur Day.
  - Selwyn has built a shade so as to show images on his laptop computer.
  - Wallace suggested a plan to attracted kids /people by having their names sent /received in CW via a remote operator. George's K3 decodes and displays the CW as it is received.

#### AREC:

- Japie reported that he has requested ID badges (Photographs of members have been taken).
- The date for the next quarterly meeting has not yet been advised.

#### • Antennas:

- Four people are needed to help Steve erect the 80m antenna's centre pole.
- Realignment of the beam next job for Steve's truck.
- An antenna for the recently acquired collinear needs to be erected.
- Coax cable has been tidied up but each needs to be tested, measured and labeled. A volunteer please.

#### Equipment:

- Selwyn reported that the FT1000 has been re-soldered and is working better.
- Selwyn is authorized to get the Kenwood 450 (ex ZL1BNL) realigned.

#### Maintenance of Roof, gable, loose iron and painting:

- Steve will ask Graham ZL1ONL to assist (in lieu of using student job search that has legal ramifications).
- Other Members will be asked to paint the walls and base. The building is in clear view of St John Road and needs to be presented better.
- The entry porch is in need of a scrub / water-blast to remove cobwebs and grime.

#### Library

- Steve and Wallace have made a start on selecting which books and magazines are to be shelved.
- There is an almost complete set of Break-in magazines stored on the lowest east side shelves.
- Duplicates will be boxed by decade and held for six months before being dumped.
- Copies are for sale @ \$2.00 each.

Meeting Closed 21:25. Supper followed courtesy of Ray, ZL1AJR

- Other magazines (QST, etc.) and books are next to be selectively stored.
- Components will be stored on the wider shelves near the VHF station, thus clearing the room of junk.

#### New Zealand Amateur Radio Day

- On Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, Wallace ZL1WAL set up an HF station and a collage in front of the St Heliers Library. Graham ZL1ONL, Ray ZL1AJR and James ZL1KNI (official Branch photographer) were in attendance. QSOs were made with Gwynne ZL1AAR.
- There was little direct interest shown, though one YL may seek her licence (since her father is a ham).
- A report has been sent to Warren Harris ZL2AJ for analysis of the success of this NZART exercise.
- A publicity photograph will appear in the next issue of the East and Bays Courier.

Signed		Date	
	(Chairman)		

#### AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

#### Annual General Meeting Minutes

On: Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010 at 1938 hours

At: Branch Clubrooms

Present: ZL1LS (Chairman), ZL1WAL (Secretary /Treasurer), ZL1BRC, ZL1TUJ, ZL1JJN, ZL1KNI, ZL1FS,

ZL1TOU, ZL1AFU and guest, Vaughan Henderson, ZL1TGC.

Apologies: ZL1AAR, ZL1AJR, ZL1AMZ, ZL3CX, ZL1BJN, ZL1UMC, ZL1TEZ, ZL1GWE, ZL1UXB, ZL1UWL,

ZL1BJZ, ZL1BBQ, ZL3TE and non-transmitting members: Gordon Sutton, Garth Allen, Soren Low,

and Ian Falgar.

Sustained ZL1TUJ / ZL1KNI

#### Silent Keys:

ZL1LS led the meeting to stand in silence for a minute in memory of two Honourary Life Members who became silent keys this year:

- Gerard Kilpatrick, ZL1BBS SK
- Donald Webster, ZL1CY SK

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the AGM on 2<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 were taken as read. ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

- ZL1AFU requested that the minutes should include an opinion that he expressed at that meeting as:
  - "7. That swap meetings with neighbouring branches should continue." ZL1WAL begged the question of recording every remark made. ZL1AFU said that he was disappointed in their discontinuance. ZL1TUJ said a 'phone call could be made to other clubs to ascertain their interest in such swap meetings.
- Under General Business 3. "AMSAT-NZ" and "Ian Ashley" should be correctly spelled.

Accepted as amended ZL1TUJ / ZL1JJN

#### Reports:

• Presidents: Having been published, it was taken as read.

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

AREC: Having been published it was taken as read.

Received ZL1JJN / ZL1LS

Financial: The Treasurer stated that the Accounts have now been audited.

Having been published, they were taken as read and received ZL1WAL / ZL1FS

Matters arising:

ZLIAFU asked the Treasurer to comment about the accounts. The Treasurer said that he would defer his comments until the Budget came up for discussion under General Business.

#### Subscription for 2011:

The Committee recommended that next year's Membership Subscription be \$33.00, i.e. no discounts.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1LS

#### Auditor:

The Treasurer recommended that Mrs Christine Watson continue as Auditor.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

#### Elections:

1. President
Steve Miller, ZL1FS
Elected after Nominations declared closed ZL1TUJ / ZL1WAL
ZL1FS assumed the Chair for the rest of the Meeting.

2. Vice President George Marr, ZL1TUJ Elected ZL1KNI / ZL1FS

3. Secretary Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL Elected ZL1FS / ZL1TUJ

4. Treasurer Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL Elected ZL1FS / ZL1TUJ

5. Committee (maximum of six):

Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR
 Ray Chapman, ZL1AJR

Nominated by ZL1FS / ZL1TUJ
Nominated by ZL1FS / ZL1TUJ

Nominated by ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Japie Nel, ZL1JJN

Nominated by ZL1TUJ / ZL1FS
These three committee members were declared elected

#### Vacancies:

3.

- 4. Graham O'Neil, ZL1ONL subject to his agreement
- 5. Brian Wilson, ZL1UBX subject to his agreement
- 6. Ian Robinson, ZL2TD subject to his agreement

Nominated by ZL1FS / ZL1WAL

#### Minutes of AGM of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010 (continued)

6. Non-Committee responsibilities

•AREC Section Leader
•Deputy AREC

Japie Nel , ZL1JJN
Steve Miller, ZL1FS

•Call sign Trustees Steve Miller, ZL1FS and George Mar, ZL1TUJ

Repairs and Maintenance
 Remotely controlled station
 Webmaster
 Computers
 Photographer
 Steve Miller, ZL1FS
 George Marr, ZL1TUJ
 Andrei Chatalov, ZL1TM
 James Knightly, ZL1KNI
 James Knightly, ZL1NI

•Technical Advisor Simon Watt-Wyness, ZL1SWW

•Tutor Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC

• Examination Supervisors Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC, Steve Miller, ZL1FS, Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL

Newsletter Editor Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL

Librarian VacancyMembership Vacancy

Confirmed ZL1FS/ ZL1TUJ

#### General Business:

- Auditor: President Steve, ZL1FS suggested that a different Auditor should be elected because he was the
  partner of the Auditor. It was noted that she had been appointed before he was elected, so this was
  not deemed improper. The matter was resolved by noting that Steve had declared a conflict of Interest.
- 2. Budget: The Treasurer said that whereas the Accounts presented for 2010 are nearly break-even, a loss of \$3,000.00 would have occurred had it not been for the largesse of the Committee and Members, Donations of equipment, Component Sales and Commission earned. The expectation of more such windfalls occurring in 2011 could not responsibly be included in the Budget for 2011 that was published in the Newsletter. He asked for the Budget to be discussed before being recommended to the Incoming Committee. He pointed out that this Budget had been trimmed by the Committee from a loss of \$2,000 to one showing a loss of \$500.00. He explained that he had analysed the accounts for the previous 10 years and noted three years when the Branch did not make a donation. ZL1FS suggested selling transceiver assets that were not being used regularly.
- 3. Donation: That a donation be made to Branch 86 for the purposes of repairing their 5775 repeater antenna for their mutual use in 2011.

Approved ZL1FS / ZL1KNI

The amount of the donation shall be \$150.00

Approved ZL1FS / ZL1BRC

4. Amateur Repeater Trustees Association:

All branches have been sent notice of the formation of the above. It was noted that seems to be duplicating representation that NZART have with the hosts of repeaters. Vaughan Henderson, ZL1TGC, an NZART Councillor and our guest, was asked to explain how NZART interpret this. Vaughan traced the history of this Wellington based group. He said that while NZART preferred that this group work with NZART's Administration Liaison Officer, he recommended waiting until next year to see ifs achievements are better than their previous failed attempts. The Treasurer said he had been forwarded a copy of a memo suggesting a donation of \$150 be sought from every Branch.

- 5. FT1000: ZL1BRC reiterated that he had reports of its instability. He said that it is now intermittent and that the radio should be sent to Colin Maddock for repair (suspecting a loose antenna socket that is constantly being taxed every time that the rig is locked away). There may be other problems.
- 6. Social Gatherings in lieu of Monthly Meetings:

ZL1AFU recounted how monthly General Meetings were held hitherto. He suggested getting guest speakers – on any topic, rather than holding formal meetings that he opined were boring. ZL1FS stated that it was embarrassing to have so few Members attend a presentation by an invited guest speaker and then find one or two Members fall asleep. BBQs are popular. ZL1WAL suggested foxhunting and inter-branch competition. It may attract youngsters and promote home-built projects.

7. Get Well: A card was signed to be sent to Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR.

Meeting closed at 2145 hours followed by supper.						
Signed_		Date				
	(Chairman)					

#### NZ AMATEUR RADIO DAY—15th January 2011

## Report from Wallace Bottomley ZL1WAL, operating as ZL1AA at the St Heliers Library

With the cooperation of:

- Ray, ZL1AJR, who lent his Kenwood TS 570 D
- Steve, ZL1FS, his gel cell battery
- Japie, ZL1JJN, his 80m whip antenna
- Three authorities (Auckland City, St Heliers Library, St Heliers Business Association),

an HF station was set up in the forecourt of the St Heliers Library under its magnificent Himalayan cedar tree that provided shade from a hot summer's day (36°C at my QTH).

Calls were put out on the Branch frequency of 3.645 MHz. My first QSO was at 1040 with Gwynne ZL1AAR who give me a 47 and I gave him a 59 signal report. Relocating the whip and its radials improved the audio out. My calls on SSB and CW were subsequently reported as having been heard, but I failed to hear any answers (perhaps while I was distracted talking to the public). So, sadly, no other QSO's were logged.

A collage of QSL cards and publicity material gleaned (at the last minute) from the NZART web site, attracted minor attention by passersby, one of whom stopped to relate her memories of family members who were once Hams. One YL recruit may eventuate as a result of the effort. Branch members who came by included: Graham ZL1ONL, James ZL1KNI (with his camera), Ray ZL1AJY and Scott ZL1CST (pending licence confirmation). Those who had VHF sets with them were actively communicating.

My thanks go to Gwynne who monitored all the bands, directed traffic and kept me in the loop.



## How to get Started in

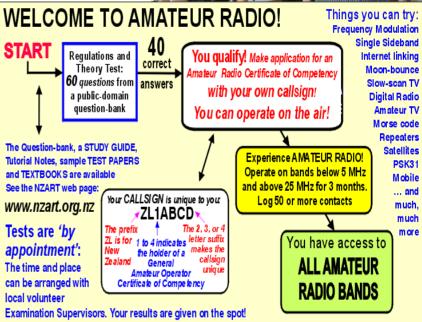
# AMATEUR RADIO!

Accept the Challenge ...

Enjoy the Rewards ...







#### **ZL50VK**

For use during Papakura Branch's 50th Anniversary celebrations, they have applied for and received the special callsign ZL50VK. The intention is for club members to be active on air from 1st January 2010 to 31st March 2010 from their home station or from the clubrooms.



ZL50VK will be reserved for club use on Wednesday nights and during Jock White National Field Day. There are also several DX contests, which we could participate in.

After the 31st March the log will be uploaded to LOTW. Club Log, call sign and QSL details have been posted on QRZ.

de John ZL1ALZ

#### **Propagation Studies**

A fascinating web page under the title DX Sherlock 2.0 or accessible at address:- http://www.vhfdx.info/spots/map.php?

It gives real time insight, snapshot style, into propagation actually occurring a continent at a time, or worldwide, or one band at a time, including VHF or all HF bands at once, based on reported QSOs.

The bands are not dead in the Northern Hemisphere. We, who live in the Southern Hemisphere, often separated by long distances, just have to work smarter to overcome propagation difficulties.

The toolbars on this site make it possible to refine enquiries to your specific needs, and there are other links of amateur radio interest on the site. This is well worth including in your Favourite internet searches.

Other very useful web pages can be found at: http://www.dx-central.com/ssarchive.cfm and http://www.solen.info/solar/

#### Jock White Field Day 26/27 February 2011

Modified rules and recommended forms for this year were posted in December on NZART web page at: http://www.nzart.org.nz/activities/contest-rules/rules-jw-field-day/, or you can navigate your own way there..

Home station participation and home station logs are welcomed by the contest manager, so why not take part this year? Better still join the ZL1AA team as an operator or become a team supporter under field conditions and gain valuable operating experience.

There is plenty of time to be briefed on operating styles recommended for best results and to enhance personal skills, which is one aim of this contest.

#### **NZART Web Page**

This site has been extensively modified in recent times and is still evolving. Please look at <a href="http://www.nzart.org.nz">http://www.nzart.org.nz</a> and prepare to be impressed at the wide very range of activities for which your Association is responsible.

You can do your part to promote amateur radio by bringing this information source to the attention of all the receptive minds of people, whether young or old, male or female, whom you know.

The licensing examination process is not difficult and free guidance is available from the club, or any other Branch of the Association.

#### 145.775 Repeater (Musick Point)

Thanks to the service provided by Branch 86, Auckland Branch has been able to use this for its Monday night VHF nets, overcoming poor signal paths to members' respective QTHs. We also list it as a call-in frequency for use by members and others at times when the clubrooms are occupied. A system failure late last year was attributed to antenna problems, probably due to corrosion in a virtual marine environment.

Some intrepid climbers from Branch 86 and repair funds provided by Branches saw this repeater back on air from 29 December, in good health.

Thanks, Branch 86.

#### Sunday night with Auckland VHF Group Net

On 146.6625 and the National System 439.875 this normally starts at 2015 hours local time, but a little later when it follows NZART Official Broadcast. Worth a listen to keep in touch with what is happening around the Branches. Volunteers to take a turn to report into the net for Branch 02 would be very welcome.

de ZL1BRC

#### Handy grid locator

http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator/fullScreen.php

Free Download "Understanding LF and HF propagation" See also "Detailed Construction for EFHW 10m and 20m" http://www.g0kya.blogspot.com/

ZL HAM Band Scope Jan 2011 Magazine de Southgate Radio Amateur News

http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator/fullScreen.php

de ZL1JJN

#### Break though on 10 metres to North America

"On the transition between 4-5 February UTC time ZL!AA generated real activity on 28 MHz (28.470) between ZL and North America in the form of 27 SSB QSOs to USA, 2 to Canada and 2 to Mexico. Very satisfying but ZL1BRC suspects this was anomalous propagation associated with a solar storm (flux 80, A index 15, K index 3 sunspot areas (3) totaling only 90) and with a very strong patch of Total Electron Content in the ionosphere, in the right place at the right time of day on the signal path between here and North America.

Sadly this does not appear to be a sign of Solar Cycle 24 becoming more reliable. However it is worth listening to the Ten-Ten net on 28.530 at 1030 local time Saturdays because there was an opening to ZL4IG Invercargill during that net and ten metres can often spring surprises. Smart listening, or better still calling CQ on 28.480 or 28.490 even on a quiet band can be productive at times. Ask ZL1BRC for more information."

# Auckland Branch, NZART (Inc) PO Box 18-003, Glen Innes, Auckland, 1743

email: zl1aa@orcon.co.nz or zl1wal@nzart.org.nz

FIRST NAME	CALLSIGN (if applicable)					
SURNAME	EMAIL					
STREET		P O BOX				
SUBURB		POST CODE				
PHONE HOME	MOD!! 5					
TYPE OF APPLICATION O New Member Renewal	THIS YEAR <u>2011</u>	YEAR JOINED				
SUBSCRIPTION \$35.00   Attached   Deposited	Receipt required	(See Notes 1 thru 4)				
OPTIONAL RESPONSES						
Is your Transmitting Membership subscription to NZART paid? (See note 5)						
To what extent can you participate in AREC activities ? (Search and rescue; Exercises; Home station)						
How are you able to assist during any events, contests or proceed to the second						
Explanatory Notes						
<ol> <li>All annual subscriptions run from 1 December to 30 November each year and are payable in advance.</li> <li>A pro-rata rate is offered to a new member joining part way through the year</li> <li>Direct deposits may be made at any ASB Bank branch into account number 12-3047-0076823-00.</li> <li>Year joined this Branch is required by Incorporated Societies for our Register of Members.</li> <li>As a Branch of NZART, our constitution requires us to prompt transmitting members to pay their NZART subscription.</li> <li>AREC is Amateur Radio Emergency Corps.</li> <li>For the purpose of membership renewal this form is effectively your membership invoice and reminder notice.</li> <li>Email, post or hand this form to a Committee member at the Clubroom.</li> </ol>						
Signature	Date					
OFFICE USE:						

File \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_