



Auckland Branch
N Z Association of Radio Transmitters Inc.

NEWSLETTER

February 2012



First meeting—18th February 2012 at 1200 hours

Agenda:

- BBQ
- Report of First Committee Meeting
- General business
- Jock White National Field Day instruction

- During the morning, antennas will be erected as a dress rehearsal for the JWFD contest to be held on the following weekend, 25th and 26th.
- Please arrive punctually at 1000 hours to assist Wes ZL3TE.



From the Secretary, Wallace, ZL1WAL

This newsletter is no mere update of previous newsletters; rather, it is a reinvention. That is because my hard disk crashed on Christmas day. The first sign of its impending death was an audible speed up of the cooling fan which, on inspection later, was found to be clogged with dust. The HD was much too hot to touch. Let other PC users be aware.

Although I had copied Branch data to a memory stick on 30th November, it too proved to be unreliable. As well as doing a total rebuild of my PC system and programs, I had to reenter Membership details, Financial data, and all of those handy templates that have taken a lifetime to develop. I am thankful that our Webmaster Andrei ZL1TM, has kept our web page updated with our newsletters, thus saving me having to take another photo of the clubroom for the front page.

New President: I look forward to working with George Marr ZL1TUJ as President and Steve ZL1FS as Vice President.

Committee Members: We welcome new Committee Members: Wes Printz ZL3TE, Franc Dunalov ZL1SLO and Ole Runge ZL1OLE who passed his licence exam last year. Ray ZL1AJR, Japie ZL1JJN and Gwynne ZL1AAR continue.

Honorary Life Members: At last year's AGM, Selwyn Ross ZL1BRC and Bob Murphy ZL1AFU were elected as Honorary Life Members with acclamation. They have given long and valuable service; and join Bill Schlef ZL1BJN.

Jock White National Field Day: Sadly for Gwynne ZL1AAR, he broke his leg on New Year's Day and has had to relinquish his management of our contest team. We are grateful to Wes ZL3TE for stepping up. This Saturday (18th February) we shall have a dress rehearsal of erecting antennas and preparing ourselves for the following week-end. Those Members wishing to be operators should 'phone **Wes 027-227-7779** ASAP. Having won the Montgomery Cup last year, our pride is on the line.

Fox Hunt: This is my personal hobby interest. This newsletter contains advance notice of a repeat of the event that I convened from my QTH near Dingle Dell last year. My vision is that this activity provides an opportunity for fellowship in an atmosphere of friendly rivalry. In other counties one can compete every week-end, just as Orienteers do here.

Subscription: (Wearing my other hat as Treasurer):
The AGM set subscriptions for 2012 at \$30.00. At your pleasure, and at great convenience to me, a direct credit can be made to our ASB Bank Account Number: **12-3047-0076823-00.**

The Membership renewal form is on the home page of our web site **www.qsl.net/zl1aa/**. Fill it in, then hit Submit (top left corner). An email with this form attached, is sent to me. Simple, eh.

In March I shall post out invoices to those Members whose subs are in arrears.

NZART Members who are attached to our Branch (possibly an accident when first they obtained their licence) will be asked to record their votes on remits that come up at Conference and AGM. Naturally, we invite them to subscribe to our Branch.

2012 CONTEST CALENDAR de Selwyn ZL1BRC

For international contests there is a formidable list published by WA7BNM (<http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>). The following is an extract that lists a few those events which may be of practical interest to us. Each contest will have its own set of rules which you will need to follow.

SELECTED INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS 2012

4-5 FEBRUARY	10 - 10 SSB WINTER CONTEST
14 - 15 FEBRUARY	ARRL WINTER DX CW CONTESTES
24 - 26 FEBRUARY	160 METRES SSB CONTEST
3 - 4 MARCH	ARRL SSB CONTEST
17 MARCH	10 - 10 MOBILE CONTEST
24 - 25 MARCH	CQ WW WPX SSB CONTEST
5 - 6 MAY	10 - 10 CW SPRING CONTEST
26 - 27 MAY	CQ WW WPX CW CONTEST
23 - 24 JUNE	ARRL FIELD DAY
14 - 5 AUGUST	10 - 10 SUMMER SSB CONTEST
1 - 2 SEPTEMBER	ALL ASIA PHONE CONTEST
6 - 7 OCTOBER	OCEANIA DX SSB CONTEST
27 - 28 OCTOBER	CQ WW SSB CONTEST
24 - 25 NOVEMBER	CQ WW CW CONTEST

Please see also the Contest pages of Break-In, for links to VK-ZL contests.

WARTIME RADIO INTERCEPTION de Selwyn ZL1BRC

Even in the days of primitive detectors in 1917 during World War 1, British radio amateurs were eavesdropping on German naval communications. During World War II a larger body of radio amateurs was recruited in total secrecy to listen to all manner of German communications, sent in code which was believed to be unbreakable. The British knew otherwise – Bletchley Park, Enigma and all that.

The story of these activities is contained in a 29 minute movie by East Anglia Film Archive which is available at:-
<http://www.eafa.org.uk/catalogue/5108>

[The information on which this article is based was posted by ZL2DW on the NZART members mailing list]

AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Date / Time / Place: Tuesday, 7th February 2012; 1750 hours; Clubroom.

Attendees: George ZL1TUJ (Chairman), Steve ZL1FS, Wallace ZL1WAL, Ray ZL1AJR, Japie ZL1JJN, Wes ZL3TE, Ole ZL1OLE

Apologies: Gwynne ZL1AAR

Sustained ZL1TUJ / ZL1JJN

Minutes of the previous Committee meeting on Tues 8th December 2011

Taken as read and approved ZL3TE / ZL1WAL

Correspondence In:

Newsletters from: Franklin; North Shore, Suburban

Break in

Selwyn advising that ham gear was donated ex Donald Webster ZL1CY- SK

Selwyn re request by Southland Branch 37 for our QSL on NZ Amateur Day in March.

Selwyn providing a check list of examination supervision procedures

Selwyn providing list of contests for 2012

James' application as Examination Supervisor

Wes' application as Examination Supervisor

Junk sale at Te Puke 3rd March 2012

Dr Werlberger ZL2DAS requesting ROBOT SSTV unit (sold to him on TradeMe) to be posted to him

Auckland City Libraries asking for update of Club info

KiwiBank advising that Term Investment is to mature on 10th February 2012

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Correspondence Out:

Registrar of Incorporated Societies enclosing Financial Accounts for year ended 30 November 2011

NZART requesting Examination Supervisor application forms and Exam Result Notification forms

NZART Call Book editor advising Officers recently elected

Wes re Examination Supervisor application for James and Wes.

NZART Examination Coordinator enclosing applications by James and Wes.

Southland Branch re our use of 3.645 MHz on NZ Amateur Day

Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Finance:

The Treasurer presented the Year to date Finance report

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Payments requiring approval

Lawns \$17.25 to R Higgins

Keys \$24.00 to W Bottomley

Badges \$27.20 to W Bottomley

Donation \$150.00 to Suburban Amateur Radio Club (Branch 86)

Donation \$100.00 to VHF Group (Branch 66)

Subscription \$15.00 to AMSAT-ZL

Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

General business:

Reports:

AREC: Next Area Meeting on 16th February 2012; Venue to be advised (TBA)

Exams: Giovanni Viana passed the licence exam on 10th January. He has applied for call-sign ZL1BRA

Almoner: Nothing to report

Web page: Andrei has been given the password for our www.QRZ.com/db/ZL1AA page. Photos should **not** show the toilet; rather, show our QSL card and describe our activities and history.

Remotely operated station: It is working with either the 40m or the beam antennas. All Committee members are registered as users. George is considering Italian software.

Batteries: OK

Electric power meter reading: 40,024.4 @ 2200 (39,617.3 @ 2200 on 13/12/2011). Usage 407.1.

Phone line: George will follow up with Chorus about getting the trench dug as he ordered last year.

Smoke alarm: The wire has been laid but it is not connected at each end.

Surveillance: Camera required. The laptop PC has a program to record movement.

Equipment out on loan: Steve has inserted a new page in the loan book.

Nets: Steve will ask Branch 86 to book its repeater for Thursdays at 2000 hours. [Done].

Roster: Wallace stated that he often checks in to neighbouring Branches' nets each month

Maintenance: Painting roof: Japie has successfully engaged his son.

Weeds: Steve reports that the Lawnmower man has sprayed weed killer. More is needed.

Road sign: This was stolen in December. Wes will design and print an A0 sized sign in black and white.

Agenda (continued)

Program for General Meetings (on 3rd Saturday of each month)

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 18 th Feb | Erect antennas as a dress rehearsal for JWFD |
| 25 th Feb | Jock White National Field Day |
| 10 th March | NZ Amateur Radio Day at St Heliers Library entrance. Use 15M and 20M only. |
| 17 th March | Fox hunt in Dingle Dell. Start from 24 Dingle Road - Wallace's QTH. |

Jock White National Field Day 25 and 26 February

Wes ZL3TE is appointed Manager

Site: Clubhouse lawn

Entry class: Phone and CW, 80m and 40m

Antennas (type and placement as originally planned by Gwynne). Wes will contact him for details.

Japie is available to set up antennas on the day.

Tents: Wallace

*Operators need to be scheduled. **Volunteer to Wes 027-227-7779** to advise your availability.*

Some rules have changed. Home stations may use numbers of branches in Recess. Check first.

Dress rehearsal on the morning of Saturday 18th February. Operating tips and instructions given.

Antennas:

Alignment of beam is to be done with the help of Japie's van rather than hire a cherry picker.

Enhance 80m with a second shorter dipole so that both 3.600 MHz and 3.800 MHz are resonant.

Rejuvenation of present Members:

Survey our Members with a well designed questionnaire

Make regular phone calls to keep in touch. Invite them to join our nets

Contesting

Construction evenings (as do Papakura and some other Branches)

More Fox hunts (ARDF transmitter finding).

Membership drive:

- NZ Amateur Day (10th March). We have brochures. Use road sign.
- Set up CW operating desk and arrange reflector to echo each participants name, then print certificate: "...was on the air".
- Wallace to reapply to Suburban Newspapers (East and Bays Courier) for "What's on" column.
- Place flyers on notice boards at Educational Institutes. Provide tear off strips with "contact" info.
- Demonstrate our hobby to Scout and Guides at their meetings
- Other suggestions should be made to a Committee Member.

Club Call sign:

Rules about the use of Members' personal call sign at the Clubroom were debated.

- The Committee is of the view that it prefers the Branch call sign ZL1AA to be used
- RSM requirement of a station's address, applies only to fee-paying licencees
- RSM no longer requires the suffix "Portable" or "Mobile" when operating away from one's QTH
- Amateurs are encouraged to update the SMART database from which the Call book is printed.

QSL cards:

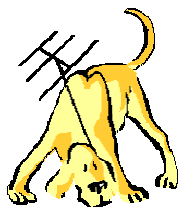
- Stamped addressed envelopes (SAE) have been provided to Suburban Branch 86.
- Japie offered to pick these up (because he lives nearby).
- There are many unclaimed QSL cards for Members in the racks at the clubroom.

Renewal of Term Investment: Institution = KiwiBank; Term = 1 year; Rate 4.4%, Amount = \$8,000

Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1FS

Budget – Deferred until next month's meeting.

Meeting closed 22:30 with supper provided by Ray ZL1AJR



The Fox hunting page

By Wallace ZL1WAL



Inter-branch ARDF 2m competition:

24 Dingle Road, St Heliers, at sea level; phone 575-6383 if you get lost.

Saturday, 17th March 2012

BBQ at noon followed by a briefing at 1 pm.

What to expect:

- In Dingle Dell Reserve there will be 5 foxes hiding (hi hi). However they will be easier to find than at last year's event. The paths are graveled and stepped, and the streams are bridged; so it is not muddy underfoot.
- Print the map of Dingle Dell's 16 acres of bush and streams. Get familiar with the map's orienteering legend, and/or visit the area beforehand.
- Some NZART sniffers are available for hire; or bring your own 2m hand-held rig and make a directional loop antenna for it; or look up construction details of a tape measure yagi previously published on our web page at: www.qsl.net/zl1aa > Newsletter > 2011 > March > page 6.
- Competitors start individually at 5 minute intervals with the start time written (in unique ink) onto their "clip card" (used to record foxes found).
- Each fox broadcasts its identity in slow Morse code on 147.000 Mhz: MOE, MOI, MOS, MOH, and MO5 for one minute each in rotation. That is, each fox is silent for four minutes until its turn to transmit again.
- Each fox is further identified at eye level, by an orange and white prism-shaped flag from which hangs a clipper with an unique pattern. As you find each fox, clip your card, thus scoring 20 points for each.
- Time allowed: 1¼ hours. One point will be deducted for each minute late.
- As you finish we shall record your elapsed time, check the clips and compute your score.

Progress on the 80 m sniffer design and build project at Franklin Branch [QUA March 2012]

Rod ZL1RD reports that the prototype sniffer that he has designed and built has 10uV actual sensitivity. The antenna is a ferrite rod (very directional), and a sense antenna made of a second ferrite rod which cancels one lobe of the emitted radiation. First stage does x10, mixer x6. Offset is set at the transmitter rather than in the receiver, by 600 Hz, so as to give a 600 Hz tone at the receiver. A dummy load removes any howl on test. A 30 pF padder capacitor in the receiver will trim the frequency of the crystal to the wanted value. Ian ZL1PZ has spare NE602. Mike suggested a varicap and pot to pull the frequency. It may be necessary to put a pot in the very first stage to attenuate the signal when close to the source. Current drain on the batteries is around 25mA, plus 5 mA for a LED indicator.

Rod is happy to help anyone who wants to work from the information to date. Receiver is mounted on veroboard. Rod has four alkaline AA cells as his power supply. A Hustler mobile whip has been used for work with a transmitter at 5 to 10 watt. Perhaps a few hundred milliwatts will be OK for a range of up to 5 miles suggested Mike ZL1UOM.

Rod now has the 80 m fox working. It uses a 12 volt gel cell. Pi coupler tunes it, and there is a second control for resonance. A small whip works fine. The receiver was very directional within the same room as the transmitter. Transmitter is drawing 70 mA from 12 volt, so is delivering a couple of hundred milliwatts.

Rod has a circuit diagram though it has not been published yet. I know Rod has circulated printed copies so he probably has an electronic copy too.



Dingle Dell

St Heliers, Auckland, New Zealand

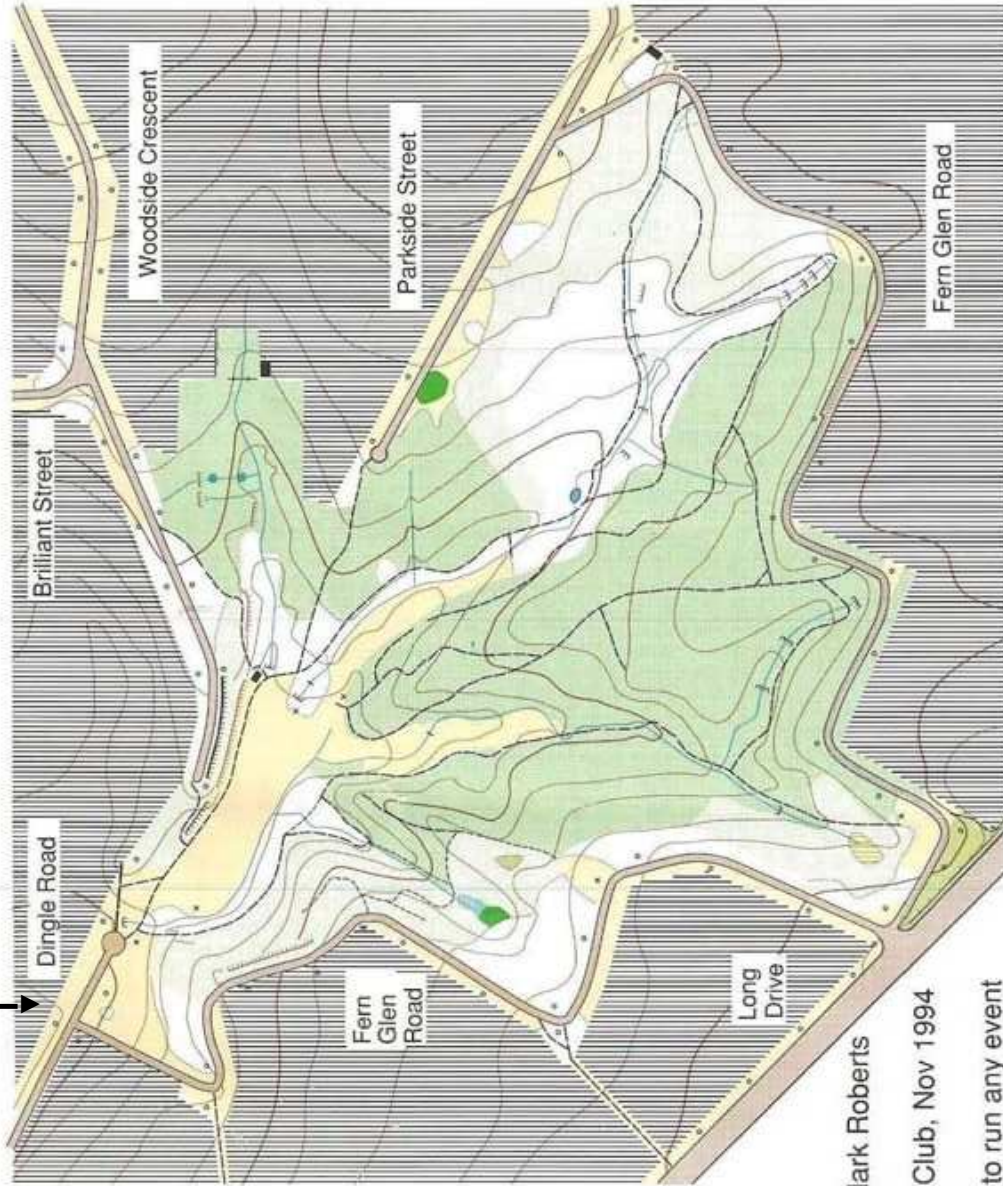


Scale 1:2,500
metres 50 100 150 200 250 300
Contour interval 3 metres

This map was created with funding assistance from Auckland City Council

Magnetic North

- Lamppost or power pole
- ◆ Building, man-made object
- Sealed road
- Footpath
- Passable cliff
- Crossable stream; lake
- Waterfall; bridge
- Watercourse
- Earth bank
- Index contour, contour
- Form line, slope line
- Depression, pit
- Open land
- Open with undergrowth, slow run
- Open with undergrowth, walk
- Forest, run
- Forest, slow run
- Forest, walk
- Forest, fight; hedge; thicket
- Vegetation boundary



Basemap by Wallace Bottomley 1979
Fieldwork by Wallace Bottomley, Andy Brewis, Mark Roberts
Cartography by Mark Roberts using OCAD 5
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