
WARO BULLETIN

The Official Publication of New Zealand Women Amateur Radio Operators



March 2006

ZL6YL

NEW ZEALAND WOMEN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

OBJECT: To promote and encourage interest in amateur radio amongst women

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Jeanne Gilchrist ZL4JG and Cathy Purdie ZL2ADK

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3rd Monday Jacqueline Goodenough ZL1JAQ
4th Monday Celia Reed ZL1ALK
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Transmitting, Associate and "Friends of WARO" \$15 payable 1st June, deduct a \$5 rebate if paid before 31st August. For each sponsored DX member an additional \$5

Cheques payable to Treasurer at above address.

President's Message.



Rosemary ZL1RO

Greetings everyone,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable time over the holiday season. We were fortunate to have one of our sons who lives overseas and his family to stay with us on two occasions during January. They started off at Christchurch with a tent and sleeping bags and camped their way right around the South Island then crossed Cook Strait and camped their way right to the top of the North Island.

We had not had grandchildren to stay in our house for some time and I was soon reminded of how loud and constantly hungry teenage boys can be! It was a shock to find that I am shorter in height than my 11 year old grandson but it gave him great delight. Looking at the photos taken during their travels I was reminded of

what a beautiful country we live in and wondered if we appreciate it as much as we should.

At the end of January the OM and I were privileged to attend the annual YL\OM get together and potluck luncheon at the home of Joline ZL1UJB and OM Morris ZL1ANF at Te Aroha. The newest entrant to the octogenarian group, Alola ZL1ALE brought along some of her birthday cake to share with us. There were others present, also octogenarians who are regularly active on the air and gain great pleasure from their activities. There are not many hobbies that allow us almost a lifetime of participation and enjoyment, often with people who we never get to meet face to face.

The next informal get together in the greater Auckland/Waikato area will be during the Cambridge Market Day on May 20th. These market day get togethers are not just for WARO members; you are welcome to bring a friend along.

Don't forget that nominations are open for WARO executive and all positions are available. A nomination form is enclosed in this magazine and I hope that you will take time to think about nominating someone or offering your own services to WARO. Return your completed nomination form to the address on the form before March 31st.

The WARO Achievement Award is usually made at the WARO AGM at NZART conference and nominations are open for that award. The criteria are published in the March issue of the Bulletin and nominations are to be sent to Lynnette ZL1LL

The Thelma Souper Memorial Contest on April 1st and 2nd 2006 is our own WARO contest and the organizer Bev ZL1OS is hoping for a good turnout of WARO members on both nights. Even spending an hour in the contest will add to its success. This is the last Bulletin before NZART Conference and our WARO AGM at Christchurch and I am looking forward to being there and meeting up with many of you. Until then,

33 Rosemary ZL1RO

NEW ZEALAND WOMEN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The NZ WARO Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 4 June 2006 at
Riccarton Park Racecourse Christchurch at 8.30am.

AGENDA

WELCOME: To Members and Visitors

APOLOGIES:

SILENT KEYS:

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Previous AGM 6th June 2005

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

TREASURES REPORT:

ALL OTHER REPORTS:

AWARDS CUSTODIAN: Presentations

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2006/2007

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

APPOINTMENT OF:

Awards Manager

Contest Manager

Sponsorship Secretary

Librarian

Break-In Columnist

Bulletin Editor

Official Broadcast Co-Coordinator

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2006/2007

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A Gourmet Walking Tour in Italy by Biny Owen ZL2AZY

This was to be a tour par excellence, to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We had both been to night classes to learn some Italian which we intended to put to good use. A walking tour suggests you get to know the countryside a little more, no longer in a bus just looking out at passing scenery, but out there among the vegetation, the farming communities, the hilltop towns and the ancient pathways. This would suit us fine.

Auckland-Sydney-Seoul-London-Rome

We were to overnight in Seoul, so I was hoping for a meeting with Chae do Sook HL2KDW but trying to link up with Chae was fraught with more difficulties than we anticipated. The airline would not let us know which hotel we were to be placed in until we arrived at the airport! This was a disappointment as we had missed going to YL2004.

In Bristol, our previous home town, we were more fortunate. We were able to once again stay with Ted G3JMY and Marjorie. Ted had been the bestman at our wedding in 1955.

Rome and the Eye Hospital!

A few days in Rome prior to joining the tour group of 28 like-minded walkers from New Zealand, saw me having to first visit an optician, a pharmacist, then an emergency hospital and finally an Ospedale Regionale Oftalmico (eye hospital), where a "Corpo Estraneo" (foreign body) was removed. Walking through the Roman Forum the previous day had resulted in a piece of grit flying into my eye which irritated beyond belief. As you can imagine this taxed our Italian to the limit! Believe it or not, no cost was involved apart from having to pay for a prescription - a fee of 5 Euro. (Euro is pronounced Airo in Italy) One of the Specialists did speak English and he was proud to recall several places in New Zealand - one being a town called Christchurch!

Monte-Cassino and the Amalfi Coast.

Everyone has heard of Monte Cassino and especially the role that the New Zealand Forces played in the 2nd World War. Monte Cassino as the name implies is located on a high mountain overlooking the plains below, on which a famous monastery stands, now completely rebuilt back to its previous glory. Touching for us was to hear a service in the monastery itself, and to visit the New Zealand section of the War Graves which is at the foot of the mountain, beautifully laid out, with roses planted by each white tombstone.

Amalfi Coast - also heard of and not seen before. We conjured up pictures of exotica and high living. And were pleasantly surprised to find everything as it should be - normal Italian life, gardens, houses, shops, cafes. Not spoilt with high rise buildings or unsympathetic modernisation.

We first stayed for several nights at Ravello. The hub of which was the local square. This was where our first walks were to start. Given a set of notes and told to 'go to it', we found ourselves struggling with the directions - even in English! How far down the road do we have to walk? Is this the right set of steps we need to go up or perhaps down? Where is the blue letterbox - and so on. A slight drizzle, turning to rain, although not cold, added to the confusion at times. We chose to go back to Ravello by bus. But being given free bruchetta before our meal and limonella after it, at a local restaurant that night, certainly left us in a pleasant frame of mind.

Amalfi itself - yes there is a town called Amalfi and it spreads itself out to sea level with houses hugging the cliffs. We were to walk from Ravello to Amalfi on several different paths taking something like 3 hours. It seems in Italy that you either start your walks from an elevated location, or start them from sea level. Ravello is already elevated, so in theory this walk was to be downhill with panoramic views. Downhill also meant hundreds of stone steps not all at a convenient depth. Hard on the knees! But we all made it at various times to the



Amalfi from up high

Amalfi Hotel, purported to be an old pasta factory. Up the valley a little, there was an historic working paper mill, funded by the EEC. Unbeknown to me, paper used to be made out of cloth, beaten down until it became pulp. Not only was the Hotel Menu printed on this paper, but it was available for purchase too. So guess who came home with a sample?

The next day we were able to visit the local markets already set up, with locals converging on stalls some selling

bins of sweets, small seedlings, flowers, fish, olives, shirts, shoes, jewelry, blouses, underwear, etc. All at very reasonable, even ridiculous prices. Everything was packed up and gone by 2pm. This seemed to be the pattern for most of these markets which provided the opportunity for small communities to purchase items not available to them locally.

Pathway to the Gods.

We should have guessed this would be a challenge. The Amalfi Coast is rock and in most places, very steep. But there are pathways which have been used in ancient times up to monasteries and small settlements and these are now offered to 'walkers' for a unique experience. Once again, a set of notes was all that we had, plus 1 leader who had not been on this walk before and who was taxed beyond belief trying to steer us in the right direction. The challenge for our leader was how to keep 28 New Zealanders happy, with some wanting to get to the end of the track as fast as their legs would carry them, and others who went at a steady pace admiring the scenery as they went and occasionally taking photos. We all seemed to have our own 'agendas'!

We had hoped for some very nice little cafes to present themselves en route but it took us 4 hours to get to one where we had a pleasant hour sipping wine and waiting for the local bus to take us further downhill to where our tour bus was waiting.



Amalfi Coast Pathways to the Gods

That night we were treated to a 'Light and Laser Show' at Pompeii, followed by an excellent meal on site but not before we were required to walk in the dark over ancient rubble to get to

the restaurant - it being quicker to do that than to summons up the bus for the short drive. You may be wondering by now how we felt about all of this? Pleased that we had survived without any real problems. No broken bones, sore feet or aching legs. We chose to wear old footwear, well broken in, so no blisters. Thick socks with special padding helped and were washed constantly!

Umbria and Tuscany

To get to Umbria took 6hrs of bus travel before we arrived at the hilltop town of Spoleto. A wonderful location, with its own castle and impressive aqueduct set amongst the woodlands. The castle had been used at some stage in its past by convicts who unfortunately had destroyed many of the frescoes. Today it is a place where conferences are held and events take place. Fortunately for us, tour guides started to join our group and to deal with any problems in the Italian way.

Assisi

As with all the hilltop towns, buses are required to park 'down below'. So that means a climb up to the centre of the town itself. Lots of tourists visit Assisi as to be expected. This was the first time that we saw both robed monks and nuns. It was also the first time that we had seen monks dressed differently, some in black and some in brown - there being a reason for the distinction we were told. Whilst monks are free to 'roam', nuns we were told are apparently bonded for life and strictly controlled. A visit to the crypt to walk around the tomb of St. Francis is something that everyone does.

Back at Spoleto we chose to visit a Roman Archaeological Museum and thence to Roman remains where a Church beneath the present Church can be seen. In Italy there are many stories and discoveries on what 'lies beneath'. It was a welcome change to actually site this.

The next day, we were taken on a walk besides the Nera River. Whilst the promised cafes did not materialise until we reached our destination, we found the farm track interesting. Our guide had her parents, along with their dog accompany us. An opportunity of course to meet the real Italians. Another opportunity came when we sited an elderly farmer with this livestock, a few cattle and sheep, along with his grandchildren. One of them named of course Lorenzo.

The day chosen to do this walk co-incided with a bicycle rally. The poor competitors were faced with having to negotiate 28 walkers straddled across the road ad infinitum. Lots of Italian versions of 'please get out the way as I am in a hurry' were heard - *attenzione* being the main expletive. I managed to get spattered with mud when one competitive cyclist going flat out ran through a puddle which I thought I was safely away from. After 3 hours of this, refreshments at a local bar had us feeling much happier with ourselves and with being driven back to Spoleto.

Montepulciano - Pienza

Having virtually shown how accommodating we were, another walk was in the offing. This time we had two guides to control us but even so that did not work perfectly. It was a hot day. Lots of suntan lotion went on and hats were brought out. Stops were made. But once out in the open on stark metalled roads, admittedly with panoramic views, the heat took its toll. Gazing up at the hilltop town of Montepulciano took all our resolve 'to make it'. One member of our party just sat down and refused to go any further and had to be assisted with a

car coming to fetch her

Montalcino

6 of our party, which included the OM and I, decided we had had enough challenges for a while, so stayed on the bus to journey to Montalcino. The hotel had been forewarned of our arrival and rooms were ready - fabulous views over the countryside and innovative decorations made a very pleasant stay. We found an alimentari (delicatessen), ordered scrumptious pork sandwiches and il vino and sat on steps in the square enjoying ourselves.



Benedictine Monastery

The next day consisted of a walk from the hotel to the Benedictine Monastery of Saint Antimo, followed by a lunch of bread soup.

San Gimignano - Tuscany country

I guess everyone has heard of Tuscany. San Gimignano appears in a lot of travel brochures for good reason. Another walled hilltop town but this time with a series of high turrets and a small square boasting world class gelatos (ice-creams). The hotel we stayed at was a converted old palace of the XIIIth century. Again we were privileged to have a room with a view. We even took ourselves off for a walk down into the Val d'Elsa, this time going at our own pace and enjoying the sights, the vineyards, olive harvesting, tractors, and the peace.

Santa Margherita di Ligure - on the Ligerian Coast.

An overnight in Florence had us travelling the next day for 6 hours in the coach up to Liguria - just south of Genoa and on the Italian Riviera. It was quite good to now be back to seascapes. And for the OM the opportunity to travel by train. This coast as with the Amalfi Coast is extremely steep and with typical Italian ingenuity, tracks go through an endless series of tunnels or over ravines.

Cinque Terre - the Five Lands

This is classed as a World Heritage. The National Park Service control its use.

A walk to the 5 villages all cascading down to the ocean from up high makes up the sought-after experience. If you do not feel like walking, then there is a train to catch from one small village to the other.

The day chosen for our walk was calm and sunny with some overcast conditions. First of all the train ride took us to the furthestmost village called Riomaggiore and from there the idea was to walk back to Monterosso passing Manarola, Corniglia and Vernazza. One part of the track meant a compulsory train ride as the track was closed owing to previous rain. The rest was left to choice. We did a bit of both.

One of our guides had a small retreat at Corniglia and she invited us all to her home to enjoy a bite of lunch. The foccacia bread with wine was very much appreciated. 356 steps later we were back to the railway station!



Vernazza Liguria

Overall -One thing for sure, the walks, routes, tracks or whatever you like to call them bore no resemblance to what is offered in New Zealand. We found the terrain hard (rock mostly), the gravel roads, endless and walking on the tarmac roads a pain. But an effort has been made to provide walking opportunities

for those who like to do these things. For us, we returned home none the worse for wear. We thoroughly enjoyed going to the hilltop towns and saw many more places not previously visited.

I took a video with me this time to record our experiences. The OM had his digital camera, so we frequently re-visit these places and take pleasure in doing so. You may still wonder about the 'Gourmet bit'. We were required to buy our own lunches and dinners on a number of days, but when the meal was provided for us, it was a gourmet one!

Official Broadcast Annual Report – Rosemary ZL1RO

It has been an interesting year of new experiences as I have grappled with compiling and recording the monthly WARO segment of the Official Broadcast.

Pleas for information to include in the broadcast seem to fall on deaf ears but I must thank Biny ZL2AZY and Bev ZL1OS for sharing the copy they have for their publications with me.

Overseas YL magazines are also a source of broadcast material but it would still be better to have more local input from our members. Thanks to Jim ZL2BHF for making the time slot available to WARO for the broadcast. I believe that it is a useful way to keep in contact with our members and interested listeners.

I am willing to continue in the position for another year, if it is the wish of the meeting.

Mumbai - International YL Meet 2006 – 26th - 29th October 2006

For those still thinking about this opportunity to meet with YLs from other countries, registration is still open until end of April.

Gwen VK3DYL and Unni LA6RHA in their usual exploratory frame of mind are planning on doing independent tours after the YL Meet. Gwen will fly to Varanassi to see people bathing in the Gangis, then on to Agra for the Taj Mahal both by sunset and sunrise. Unni is thinking of sitting on the beach at Goa - a luxury no doubt for those who live in Norway over the long winter months.

Check out the website <http://www.geocities.com/mumbaiylmeet/>

Mile-a-Minute Quilt by Alison ZL1TXQ.

AT the Blenheim NZART Conference in 2003, the alternative programme on Sunday morning was for instruction on using a new technique for putting a patchwork quilt together. This was held in the sewing room of the Girl's College and a Blenheim lady was the tutor.



Alison ZL1TXQ and Alma ZL1WA holding quilt

Jill ZL2BHJ and I paid a brief visit to the WARO meeting, then rushed off to attend the class. If I remember correctly, there were over 30 of us in the class. There was some sort of power glitch in the room which none of our male experts were able to fix, so we ended up with only one electric iron and about 5 or 6 operational sewing machines. On a table in the centre of the room was the biggest pile of fabric scraps you ever saw.

The class was soon under way, and the tutor manned the iron as there was a lot of pressing to be done. The machines were in constant use. As fast as one bottom got off a seat it was replaced with another.. I'm sure I speak for us all when I say that we had a ball!. There was so much hilarity, but everyone made at least one block each.

At home, I found that I had missed a class in our own Patchwork Group on 'Quilt-as-you-go'. A friend showed me how to do it and I used this principle for my 'Mile-a-Minute' quilt. I made lots of blocks when I got home plus some simple patchwork for the back to make this a truly scrappy quilt.

I have worked on it off and on between other projects and it was finally finished in time for the January YL meet at the QTH of Joline ZL1UJB. It took me 18months off and on to complete.

ALARA – History

Our cousins over the Tasman have now collated and printed the first 30 years of ALARA - available in black and white, along with a CD which allows the pictures to be viewed in colour and also printed as required. Total cost \$15. ALARA Items are available from the Treasurer, Christine Taylor VK5CTY, 16 Fairmont St. Black Forest SA 5035.

Condolences

Our thoughts are with Maxine ZL1FW on the suddend passing of her Mother.

Thelma Souper Memorial Contest 2006

The Thelma Souper Memorial Contest will be held on the 1st and 2nd April 2006 from 0800z - 1000z on Saturday and Sunday evenings. All Contacts to be held on 80 meters phone or CW may be used. YLs contact YLs and OMs. **OMs contact YLs and OMs**. One contact with each station permitted in each half hour period. Call "CQ WARO CONTEST" exchange report, serial number (commencing 001) and name. To qualify as a multiplier **WARO MEMBER** stations must have contacts with at least **10** different stations.

A Bonus Station using the WARO callsign ZL6YL will be in operation for random periods and will count as a multiplier one on each night of the contest if worked. Club stations may be operated by multiples of YLs providing that they are WARO members and have licenses applicable to the band being operated. These stations count as one multiplier. All radio regulations must be observed.

SCORING:

To Qualify: Enter date at beginning of each evening. Each log must contain: Time of Contact, callsign of station worked, cipher sent, cypher received and the name of the operator contacted and points claimed for contact.

Score 5 points for each WARO contact including ZL6YL .

Score 3 points for OM contacts, Score 2 points for club stations. Multiply by the number of WARO members including bonus station if worked.

Logs to have each contact claimed as a multiplier underlined. Include a separate summary sheet showing: Your callsign, name and address. The number of contacts. The number of WARO members worked. Your score. Declaration that all radio regulations, have been observed. Logs that do not comply with all the above requirements will be disqualified.

LOGS:

To reach the Contest Manager no later than May 1st 2006

Send to: -

Bev Osborne ZL1OS

34 Cobham Drive

Kawerau 3075

New Zealand

No logs will be returned and No Correspondence will be entered into.

AWARDS:

The highest scoring WARO member will be awarded the Thelma Souper Memorial Cup to be held for one year. The highest scoring OM operator will be awarded a trophy to be held for one year. Certificates will be awarded to: The first three WARO members, the first three OM operators, the highest scoring VK/YL operator.

Please Note:

Contacts made during the contest will count towards the NZ WARO Awards.

NZ WARO Achievement Award

This Award takes the form of the Myrtle Earland Memorial Rosebowl which shall be retained by the winner for the succeeding year, together with a suitably engraved Shield to be kept by the winner. The winner, if any, to be announced by the NZ WARO president at the NZ WARO Annual General Meeting. Unsuccessful nominees may receive a Certificate of Achievement if appropriate.



Criteria:

The nominee is to be a member of NZ WARO who has made a significant contribution in any aspect of Amateur Radio, e.g. Personal Achievement as a NZ WARO member, Services to NZ WARO, Services to NZART at either Branch or National level, Community Service including Civil Defence and Search & Rescue, DX participation, Contests, etc. The Trophy may not necessarily be awarded every year, and when not awarded shall be kept either in the NZ WARO cabinet at NZART Headquarters or at the home of the Award Custodian.

Nomination Format:

Nominations to include a summary of the nominee's activities, which need not be restricted to the immediate preceding year, and are to be received by the Award Custodian on or before 31st March each year for consideration by the Executive. Unsuccessful nominations may be re-submitted in the following years, however, previous winners are not eligible for further nomination for the same or similar achievements.

Nominations for the NZ WARO Achievement Award may be sent by a member at any time if she considers a particular YL meets the criteria as set out above. All nominations to be forwarded to:

The Awards Manager Lynnette McDonald ZLL 25 John Street Pukekohe 1800 before 31st March.

The following members have been awarded the Myrtle Earland Rosebowl:-

1987 Vicki Shaw ZL1OC (SK), 1989 Gael Pye ZL2SZ (SK), 1990 Pearl Neilson ZL2QY (SK), 1991 Cathy Purdie ZL2ADK, 1996 Dawn Young ZL2AGX (SK), 1997 Celia Reed ZL1ALK, 2000 Carol Gaudin ZL2VQ, 2001 Biny Owen ZL2AZY, 2002 Jeanne Gilchrist ZL4JG, 2004 Bev Osborne ZL1OS, 2005 Jill O'Donnell ZL2DBO.

Sponsorship Secretary Report 2006- Celia ZL1ALK

Our DX membership is 90, down a few in the last year as our membership ages, but still a good number. WARO is unique in that each member sends Bulletins personally to DX members. They are not bulk sent by the Editor. This of course puts a duty on our members to send Bulletins off promptly, but is also a great chance to keep in touch with a short note. I do know that some of our members write great letters every three months, but the majority of us are content with a short newsy note, and I am sure the recipients appreciate whatever they receive.

Please let your DX sponsors know that they can now receive their WARO Bulletin by email, if they wish. Many DX YLs are sponsored into several organizations and are already receiving magazines this way. As a Sponsor, you will need to have the DX member's email address and inform Bev, ZL1OS, the Bulletin Editor that the member wants to have her

Bulletin sent that way. Then you will have one less magazine to post.

I have been able to arrange three new or changed sponsorships this year. If anyone wants to begin a sponsorship, let me know and I will do my best to find someone suitable. If you can not continue with sponsorship, also let me know and there will be someone able to take over. Good contacts and friendships can be made, but sometimes there is a disappointing lack of interest and the sponsorship lapses.

Thank you to all those who keep good contacts going by sending Bulletins off so regularly. I am able to continue as Sponsorship Secretary but would be happy if someone out there is longing to take over. Just let me know.

The 75th Anniversary Of The Napier Earthquake

February 3 2006. Joline ZL1UJB writes-

The families of my OM, Morris ZL1ANF, had left England for Napier during the 1860s, the time of that great exodus from the old world to the antipodes. Morris' parents grew up in Napier and many of the family still live there. I soon discovered after getting to know my parents-in-law that in a number of important ways their lives were defined by their traumatic experiences during the Napier earthquake, or should I rather say, the Hawkes Bay earthquake, New Zealand's biggest ever earthquake and greatest natural disaster. Rolla, my father-in-law, turned 95 in December 2005. Joyce, my mother-in-law, died in April 2005 shortly before her 93rd birthday. 75 years ago when the earthquake struck, he was a young man of 20 and she was 19. Over the years, in little snippets, I heard a great deal from my parents-in-law about life in Napier during the immediate aftermath of the quake. These experiences seemed to be ever present in their minds right throughout their lives. 161 of the 257 deaths during the quake were in Napier. Several thousand were injured.

It was on the first day of the 1931 school year at 10.47 am when the earthquake shattered Napier's CBD and changed the town and its inhabitants' lives forever. There were actually two earthquakes, just 30 seconds apart. The first was a swaying movement, the second a huge earth thrust upwards. A large number of the people who died had run out into the street after the first quake and had been killed by the fall of the overhanging parapets and other embellishments on the buildings in the second quake.

The earliest photographs of the business area of Napier taken immediately after the two quakes show people running to the beach through a CBD that looked much like the photographs of bombed out cities in World War 2. Almost immediately after the two major shocks of that violent 2 ½ minutes when the earth shook and the buildings tumbled, fires broke out, mainly started, it is said, by the flames from Bunsen burners in toppled chemist shops. The fires raged for well over 24 hours. Because of the damaged water supply the fires had to be left to burn themselves out. Most homes were damaged, some severely. Almost all the house chimneys collapsed in the wild shaking and often tore the timber walls of the houses apart as they fell. People were left with no water, no sewerage, no electricity and no cooking facilities. They camped either outside their houses or in 'Tent Town' in Nelson Park or else fled Napier altogether. Palmerston North became the emergency refugee centre for all the refugees from the Hawkes Bay.

My parents-in-law stayed on in Napier camping with their families outside their homes. Over the years my mother-in-law Joyce spoke many times of the terror of the 525 or so aftershocks

that occurred during the next fortnight or so. Some of them were frighteningly strong, particularly the big one 10 days later. For the rest of her life Joyce was super-sensitive to the slightest movement of the earth and was often instantly aware of the many small quakes that are part of normal life in many parts of New Zealand. I didn't feel what she felt, but would look up at the kitchen light which hung from the ceiling by a short cord in her Hamilton house, whenever she mentioned that there had just been a quake, and sure enough the light would be swinging from its cord. There had indeed been a shake. So it was that over the years we heard many a story of 'Tin Town' – a collection of little tin sheds in Clive Square build by the Fletcher Construction Company and paid for by the government where the shop keepers set up shop until the CBD was rebuilt.

Towards the end of 2005 when we realized that February 3 2006 would be the 75th anniversary of the earthquake and that there would be special commemorative events in Napier to mark the occasion, we offered to take 95 year old Rolla to Napier for the event. It turned out that he really did want to be there on that special day. But it wasn't until we arrived there, that we discovered that he did not want to go to any of the official ceremonies, what he really wanted to do was just to be on the spot where he was when the earthquake struck. This was at the north end of Marine Parade, which is the magnificent Norfolk Pine lined street that runs along the seafront of Napier. Rolla told me that those Norfolk Pines were there long before the earthquake. Seeing we were right there, I was more than a bit disappointed not to be at the commemorative celebrations – for they were being held at the Sound Shell on Marine Parade only about 300 metres or so from where we were. We had arrived at Marine Parade early in the morning about an hour and a half before the commemoration began, before they closed Marine Parade to traffic on either side of the Sound Shell. However it turned out to be a most interesting, very moving, real privilege to be with a 95 year old celebrating his own private commemoration at the very spot where he was as a 20 year old, 75 years ago when the earthquake struck and the seabed and the bluff, both very near him, were instantly raised by two and a half metres.

At the moment the earthquake hit, Rolla had been working in the Post Office Workshop just up from the end of Marine Parade, a short distance up Coote Road, near a bluff with a cliff face which was then immediately above the sea. Some prisoners were working in a quarry below the bluff quite close to the Post Office Workshop where Rolla was in the battery room furthest from the workshop's outer door. The prison was at the top of the bluff. When the earthquake began, Rolla said that he just ran. Somehow he managed to keep on his feet. He ran right through the building and as he ran past the office area, the glass in the internal office windows which looked onto the workshop shattered all over him. Out the door he sprinted and as he did so a water pipe just outside burst in front of him. He must have been quite dazed and terrified. He kept on running for the beach, which was what hundreds of others not very far away were also doing. He raced past the quarry on the seaward side of the Drill Hall and kept on running towards a grove of trees in front of the beach where he met up with a couple of the prisoners who had run in the same



Bluff Hill

direction from the quarry.

We walked the short route of his run, it couldn't have been more than about 200 metres from the Post Office workshop to the grove. Amazingly that grove of trees is still there, or at least some of them are. They are quite large trees now, and the old sea wall is still there across the road from the grove which is beside the road where Marine Parade ends just at the point where it becomes Breakwater Road, the road to Port Napier, a short distance north. The old sea wall which was once at the water's edge now abutts the seaward side of the road and is at road surface level. The earthquake had raised it along with all the surrounding land and there is a parking area where there was once seabed, and a 100 to 200 metres or so walk across a black shingle beach to the water's edge.



Grove of Trees Rolla Beale now 95 standing in front of them

Rolla described how he then looked south along Marine Parade just in time to see the top half of Dr Moore's Hospital on the town side of Marine Parade, topple sideways. That building



The Shingle Beach raised by the earthquake

was repaired and remains there to this day. He pointed it out to us. Later in the day I saw a photograph of that damaged building at his sister-in-law, our Auntie Phyl's place. It was at that moment that a man came running up to Rolla calling out for help for his wife. She had been buried by a fall of stones and rubble from the bluff face as it had been lifted upwards by the tremendous force of the quake. Fortunately he had had the presence of mind to put a marker where she had disappeared and Rolla and one of the prisoners rushed back with him to help. With shovels quickly fetched

from the quarry by the prisoners they managed to successfully rescue the woman, a Mrs Peabody, who apparently survived her ordeal of being buried alive relatively unscathed.

Rolla's next thought was for his family, his mother, his younger sister and his three year old half-brother. He had what must have been a nightmare journey finding his way home to check on his family, through and around all the rubble and damage and fires, and no doubt knowing him, lending a hand with various incidents and situations along the way. As soon as he found that they were safe he reported back to work. The Post Office was very important because it was the land based communications centre, as a result its temporary repair was one of the more immediate tasks. It so happened that a naval ship HMS Veronica was most

fortunately in port at the time and the navy was able to sent an immediate communique to the rest of New Zealand about the disaster. Two more naval vessels were instantly dispatched from Auckland and arrived at Napier the next day. Hence the navy was able to take charge of the immediate rescue efforts. Rolla was seconded as driver for a naval officer. Their job was to locate bodies in the rubble and mark the spot for their subsequent removal. Not surprisingly he has never spoken of the details of that frightful task.

When the Veronica was finally decommissioned, its ship's bell was gifted to the rebuilt City of Napier and is still rung on important occasions. I was a little sad to have missed it ringing at the moment the earthquake struck 75 years ago. As almost everyone knows the town was almost immediately rebuilt in low reinforced concrete buildings in the popular American Art Deco style. The earthquake had lifted an earth block about sixty miles long, up to ten miles wide, by a height of eight feet in some places. In all some 8000 acres of swampy land were raised. The raising of the seabed by two and a half metres or so provided a considerable area of extra land for Napier where once there had been just swamp, lagoon and shingle spits so the amazingly quickly rebuilt town was now able to grow and expand.

Rolla didn't want to stay more than one more night, so we took him back to Hamilton the next day and returned to Napier ourselves a few days later for the Art Deco celebrations. I am so very glad that we did.

Aola ZL1ALE Celebrates Her 80th Birthday



Aola ZL1ALE Cutting cake

Aola ZL1ALE celebrated her 80th Birthday with family and friends on 22nd January 2006. A young piper after practising for several weeks on the bagpipes played “Happy Birthday” and Aola's favourite song “Highland Cathedral”. A grand time was had by all. The YLs that attended the get together at Te Aroha were able to help Aola finish off her delicious birthday cake. “Congratulations Aola on attaining a great milestone”.



The cake

Reminder!

Thelma Souper Memorial Contest 8pm to 10pm 1st and 2nd April 2006 it would be just great to have an increased number of participants this year. Looking forward to catching up with many old friends. 33 Bev Contest Manager

YL Get Together at Te Aroha - Bev ZL1OS.

The annual WARO get together was held at the QTH of Joline ZL1UJB and Morris ZL1ANF in Te Aroha on Saturday 28th January 2006. The day was an extremely hot one, Joline and Morris had lots of chairs and tables laid out on their deck and lawn in the shade. The lounge table was adorned by many WARO photo albums and books with archived newspaper clippings and photos of events from back to the formation of WARO.

These books were in great demand, so interesting to see and read about the past activities of so many really active YLs and to have a foundation WARO member present as well as many WARO members that have been members for a great number of years .

This get together is really well supported with the OM's enjoying the day just as much as the YLs. There was certainly lots of chatting going on, OM's catching up with the latest technology i.e digital cameras, video cameras etc.

WARO members and their OM's came from as far away as Putaruru and the Bay of Plenty, Pirongia, Thames and Auckland. A scrumptious pot luck lunch supplied by the YLs was enjoyed by all, we were all able to enjoy some of Aola ZL1ALE's 80th Birthday cake .



*L-R Back Row -Aola ZL1ALE, Raewyn ZL1DBI, Bev ZL1OS, Maxine ZL1FW Biny ZL2AZY, Durleen ZL1ULK.
Middle Row – Margaret ZL1MB, Jenny ZL2RT, Laureen ZL1BTP, Alma ZL1WA.
Front Row – Carol ZL1AJL, Jacky ZL1TZW, Celia ZL1ALK, Alison ZL1TXQ and Rosemary ZL1RO.*

A special “Thank you must got to Joline and Morris for making this a very enjoyable day out”.

Photo of the OM's in attendance on next page:



*Back Row L - R Tom Spackman ZL1WW, Bruce Sheldon ZL1BWH, Dave Johnson ZL1AMN, Graeme Osborne ZL1ALG, Geoff Reed ZL1AKY, Lew Tubby, Murray Griffin ZL1UHT.
Front Row – Jim Rowe ZL1AVR, Mervyn Owen ZL2AVY, Morris Beale ZL1ANF, Ralph Boshier ZL4AG, Noel Rowe ZL3GR and Ted Bretherton ZL1MG*

Bulletin Editors Report 2006

I have been pleased with the support that has been given during 2006 with many interesting articles and photographs being supplied by a number of our members. The WARO Bulletins are our way of keeping members informed of what is happening around the different areas of our membership. Our DX members receive the WARO Bulletin in many countries around the world and are always enthusiastic about it's content.

The Bulletin is now available on Internet at the WARO Website <http://www.qsl.net/zl6yl> also it can be e-mailed in full colour. If you would like it e-mailed please let me know at zl1os@slingshot.co.nz I am really excited about this availabililty. Maybe some of our DX members would like it e-mailed to them just let me know.

Once again thank you all for the great articles and photos, also the support that I receive from our treasurer and sponsorship secretary who keep me well informed of changes to the membership lists. Their help and advice is very necessary to ensure that everyone gets the correct number of Bulletins at the correct address.

I am quite enjoying laying out and posting the Bulletin for WARO and unless someone else would like a turn I am willing to carry on as your Bulletin Editor for the coming year

33 to you all Bev ZL1OS.

NZ WARO Supplies

WARO BADGE “A” pin clasp	\$6.00
WARO Badge “B” with bar for callsign	\$6.00
WARO Badge “C” with ring for neck chain	\$6.00
WARO Charm	\$2.50
WARO Lapel Pin	\$2.50
WARO Cream silk Scarf with logo	\$17.00
WARO History Booklet or CD	\$20.00

These items can be obtained from our Treasurer:

Margaret Bretherton ZL1MB

24 Iles Road

Rotorua 3201

NZWARO CENTURY AWARD

1. Applications to contain full log details of contacts with 100 NZWARO members (DX members included) dating from June 1st 1987.

DX stations may apply for a special DX Award listing 50 contacts only, with endorsements for further 10s until 100 contacts are achieved.

2. Contacts may be any mode, any band, and each member claimed must be a financial member of NZWARO at the time of the contact and may be counted once only.

3. Contacts made on repeaters and in nets will qualify, and WARO Contest contacts after June 1st 1990 will be accepted.

4. No QSLs required. Send list of log details to Award Custodian, Lynnette McDonald ZL1LL, 25 John Street, Pukekohe 1800, New Zealand with sufficient postage for return of award.

February 2004



NZWARO MOUNTAIN BUTTERCUP AWARD

1. For contacts with licensed NZWARO members, resident, visitors, mobile, etc in the 60 towns named in the official list. WARO members working mobile, portable, etc may claim the relevant town for her own credit. The same WARO member may be contacted in any number of towns.
2. Basic Award is available for a list of 15 contacts, with endorsement seals for each further 10 contacts up to the full 60 required. Applicants submitting a list of the full 60 valid contacts will receive a special award distinctive from that gained for the lesser number of contacts.
3. Contacts may be any mode or any band, but each YL worked must be a financial member of NZWARO at the time of the contact and must be within 25km radius of the town claimed.
4. Endorsement seals can be claimed for each further 10 contacts (after the basic 60) using the same list of towns. The same WARO members can be worked but each must be in a different town to where previously claimed. Please send SAE with applications.
5. Award dates from January 1st 1989. An official list of towns require to be worked is listed below or is available from the custodian on receipt of a SAE. No QSLs required.
Send applications containing full log details including the name of the YL and town where worked, together with \$2.00, to Award Custodian, Lynnette McDonald ZL1LL, 25 John Street, Pukekohe 1800, New Zealand.

North Island

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Auckland | 2. Dannevirke | 3. Dargaville |
| 4. Eketahuna | 5. Featherston | 6. Gisborne |
| 7. Hamilton | 8. Hawera | 9. Helensville |
| 10. Kaikohe | 11. Kaitia | 12. Masterton |
| 13. Matamata | 14. Morrinsville | 15. Napier |
| 16. New Plymouth | 17. Opotiki | 18. Orewa |
| 19. Otaki | 20. Paihia | 21. Palmerston North |
| 22. Papakura | 23. Putaruru | 24. Rotorua |
| 25. Taihape | 26. Taumaranui | 27. Taupo |
| 28. Tauranga | 29. Thames | 30. Te Awamutu |
| 31. Te Kuiti | 32. Turangi | 33. Upper Hutt |
| 34. Waihi | 35. Wairoa | 36. Wanganui |
| 37. Wellington | 38. Wellsford | 39. Whakatane |
| 40. Whangarei | | |

South Island

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| 41. Alexandra | 42. Ashburton | 43. Balclutha |
| 44. Blenheim | 45. Christchurch | 46. Cromwell |
| 47. Dunedin | 48. Gore | 49. Greymouth |
| 50. Hokitika | 51. Invercargill | 52. Kaikoura |
| 53. Motueka | 54. Nelson | 55. Oamaru |
| 56. Queenstown | 57. Reefton | 58. Timaru |
| 59. Wanaka | 60. Westport | |

February. 2004

Lynnette would really love to have more applicants for these lovely Awards. Full list of WARO Awards can be found on the WARO Website.....Ed