



Auckland Branch 02, N.Z.A.R.T NEWSLETTER February 2010



Notice of Special General Meeting

Of Auckland Branch of NZART Inc.
To be held at the Clubrooms, 400 St Johns Road
On Saturday, 20th February 2010 at 1330 hours.

Agenda:

Election of three Committee Members
(as required by the Constitution of the Branch).

Nominated by the Committee and agreed by them to stand:

Steve Miller, ZL1FS
Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC

Further nominations may be made from the floor.

AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

Annual General Meeting Minutes

On: Monday, 8th December 2009 at 1930 hours

At: Branch Clubrooms

Present: ZL1CY (Chairman), ZL1WAL (Secretary /Treasurer), ZL1SLO, ZL1AJR, ZL1BRC, ZL1AFU, ZL1LS, ZL1BBQ, ZL1NL, ZL1TUJ, ZL1JJN.

Apologies: ZL1FS, ZL1BCJ, ZL1BJN, ZL1AAR, ZL1UMC, ZL1TEZ

Sustained ZL1WAL / ZL1AJR

Agenda: ZL1AFU stated that in the notice of this AGM (and in the reminder about it), no agenda had been listed as required by the Constitution. (Clause 14 (c) states that no meeting shall be deemed improperly constituted and no decision reached at any meeting shall be invalid solely on the ground that due to ... or inadvertence the requisite notice has not been given ... unless the meeting itself determines otherwise".) ZL1AFU said he was merely pointing it out for the future.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the AGM on 3rd December 2008 were read out.

Accepted as a true and accurate record: ZL1AFU / ZL1SLO

Business arising: None.

President's Annual Report: Having been published, it was taken as read.

Received ZL1TUJ / ZL1BBQ

Financial Report: Having been published, it was taken as read. The Treasurer circulated the Accounts for the year and stated that they had been audited by Mrs Christine Watson.

Received ZL1WAL / ZLBBQ

Matters arising from the Finance report:

1. ZL1BRC pointed out that the Balance Sheet should include equipment that has been donated this year:

	<u>Value</u>
a. Kenwood TS430S & power supply	\$300
b. Icom 751	\$500
c. Atlas 210	\$50 (a second Atlas is faulty and is worthless)
d. KW linear	\$500
e. KW scope	\$100
f. KW antenna tuner	\$100
g. 2 x ZC1	\$50 (one is faulty and is worthless)

Recommended to include these in next year's Accounts ZL1BRC /ZL1WAL

2. Fees for Membership to remain the same as last year:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| a. Regular | \$29 discounted to \$25 if paid by 31 March 2010 |
| b. Non-waged | \$25 discounted to \$20 if paid by 31 March 2010 |
| c. Family | \$35 discounted to \$30 if paid by 31 March 2010 |

Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1AJR

AREC Report: This was read to the meeting.

Received ZL1TUJ / ZL1SLO

Elections: ZL1CY, acting as Chairman in the absence of President and Vice President, conducted the elections:

1. President Gwynne Rowe, ZL1AAR, subject to his approval

Elected ZL1CY / ZL1AJR

2. Vice President Peter Ellis, ZL1LS

Elected ZL1WAL / ZL1CY

ZL1CY continued to conduct the elections at the request of ZL1LS

3. Secretary Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL

Elected ZL1AJR / ZL1JJN

4. Treasurer Wallace Bottomley, ZL1WAL

Elected ZL1AJR / ZL1JJN

5. Committee (maximum of six):

a. Ray Chapman ZL1AJR

Nominated ZL1WAL / ZL1CY

b. Japie Nel, ZL1JJN

Nominated ZL1WAL / ZL1AJR

c. George Marr, ZL1TUJ

Nominated ZL1CY

/ ZL1WAL

These three committee members were declared elected.

Minutes of AGM of 8th December 2009 (continued)

6. Vacancies in the Committee are to be filled by the Incoming Committee with the following responsibilities:
- Membership - being considered by Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC
 - Maintenance - being considered by Steve Miller, ZL1FS.
 - Remote Station
7. Non Committee responsibilities
- Station Licensees Donald Webster, ZL1CY and Bill Schief, ZL1BJN.
 - Newsletter editor No appointment. Donald Webster, ZL1CY said that he would continue in an interim capacity until the Incoming Committee makes an appointment.
 - Examiners: Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC, Donald Webster, ZL1CY Steve Miller, ZL1FS
 - Library Resources No appointment
 - Branch Contact ZL1BRC and ZL1AFU agreed to continue
 - Web Master Andrei Dunalov, ZL1TEZ (Mark Twiname, ZL1BNO has access codes).
 - AREC Section leader Japie Nel, ZL1JJN
Nominated ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ
 - Technical Advisors Simon Watt-Wyness, ZL1SWW
Mark Twiname, ZL1BNO
Nominated ZL1AJR / ZL1CY
 - Auditor Mrs Christine Watson - subject to her consent.
Nominated ZLBBQ / ZL1AJR

General Business:

1. FT1000:

- Selwyn stated that he had QSO reports of instability that could possibly be ascribed to inadequate fuses. He has reset the software (to factory settings) and he has been advised to tighten some bolts.
- Ray suggested that in order to make the FT1000 more accessible, and to encourage more members to use it, and with video surveillance, the rig could be left on the bench, possibly with a lockable cover.
- Selwyn said that use of the ZL1AAXT call sign for novice training should be encouraged.

2. Internal Maintenance:

- The windows need to be barred after refitting.
- The replacement burglar alarm is installed but the key-pad is located by the front door now. The entry and exit code has not been changed.
- A smoke alarm attachment is yet to be procured and installed.

3. Expenditure:

- Donation to Branch 86 of \$250 (already approved at General Meeting) is to be paid next year.
- Donation of a gift valued at \$100 (already approved at General Meeting) is to be presented by ZL1AAR to Brian Scarborough.
- AMSTAT, to which we belong as a member, has not billed the Branch. Contact Ian Ashby.
Approved ZL1BBQ / ZL1TUJ

4. Telephone line:

- Leith had reported that Scarbros' foreman has agreed to dig a trench to lay the replacement cable one Saturday.
- Awaiting George's colleague, Brian Wilson, to find the break in the telephone line between the roadside and the clubrooms. George to follow up and liaise with Leith who has agreed to procure suitable cable and to do the joining and sealing.

5. **John Schrickel Estate:** Selwyn gave an account of his negotiation with Lottie who expects 50% of proceeds of sales. This is more commensurate with the labour involved. Manuals, cartons and equipment are being reunited. Useful gear has been moved into the clubroom. Other junk has been dumped. There is more to come. An auction is being held in Auckland on 20 March 2010.

6. **Life Member:** Donald Webster, ZL1CY expressed thanks to the Club for what he described as an unexpected honour. He was wearing his life member's badge.

Meeting closed at 2005 hours.

Signed _____ Date _____
Donald Webster, ZL1CY, (Chairman)

AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

Committee Meeting Minutes

On: Monday, 3rd December 2009 at 1935 hours
At: Branch Clubrooms

Present: ZL1BCJ (VP), ZL1WAL (Secretary /Treasurer), ZL1BNO, ZL1AJR.

Apologies: ZL1FS.

Sustained ZL1WAL / ZL1BCJ

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the Committee meeting on 5th November 2009 were taken as read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1BCJ

Business arising from the previous minutes: See Correspondence and General Business.

Correspondence In:

1. Letter from Selwyn, ZL1BRC, about Nomination of Examination Examiner.
2. Letter from Selwyn reporting progress he is making while disposing of John Schrickel's equipment..
3. Letter from Selwyn reporting change in media for ATV Channel 39. .jpg images are required now.
4. Email via Donald via David Black from Cumberland family who have a tower on their property for rent.
5. Email from Mark stating that this tower is not suitable.
6. Echolink from Steve expressing practical difficulty with sharing this tower with other transmitters.

Received ZL1BCJ / ZL1WAL

Correspondence Out:

1. Letter to Mrs Lottie Schrickel (copy to Selwyn), stating Club policy to assist with disposing of John's 'junk'.
2. Email to Clive Curtis, ZL1HZ, thanking him for showing us (ZL1WAL, ZL1BCJ and ZL1BNO) his remote base on 14th November 2009.
3. Letter to Cumberland family declining interest in their tower.

Business arising from Correspondence:

1. Gratitude was expressed for Selwyn helping Mrs Lottie Schrickel dispose of John's 'junk'.
2. Consideration from Leith was heard; it was decided that this branch has no interest in the tower at Whitford.

Resolved L1TCJ / ZL1WAL

Financial Report:

The Treasurer presented the final Accounts for the year. They have been audited.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1BCJ

Matters arising from the Finance report:

1. There is only one transaction this month (reimbursement for Burglar alarm).
2. Expenses requiring approval for payment:
 - a. Ray food \$15.00
 - b. Wallacekeys \$42.00

Approved ZL1BCJ / ZL1BNO

3. Donation to Branch 86 of \$250 for repeater use (already approved at General Meeting) to be paid next year.
4. Leith will procure grog that is to be donated to Scabnro (already approved at General Meeting).

Approved ZL1BCJ / ZL1WAL

General Business:

1. Antennae:

Leith undertook that he would fix the 80 m antenna this month.

2. Internal Maintenance:

- The window is repainted and is ready to be fitted.
- The replacement burglar alarm is installed but the key-pad is located by the front door now. The entry and exit code has not been changed.
- Mark will obtain a smoke detector suitable to activate the alarm.

3. Telephone line:

- Awaiting George's colleague to find the break in the telephone line between the roadside and the clubrooms. Leith is to follow up with George.
- Leith reported that Scarbros have agreed to dig a trench to lay the replacement cable one Saturday.
- Leith is to procure suitable cable and do the joining.
- Leith made his apologies for not being able to attend the AGM and chair the meeting.

Committee Minutes (3rd December 2009) continued

4. **Technical projects:**

- Mark ZL1BNO reported that the remotely controlled K3 is operating after adjusting audio levels.
- Wallace has used it also, albeit his slow dial-up line is impractical.
- Mark has set up a second audio port that can be accessed by anyone who simply wants to listen (not change frequencies) using Windows Media Player <http://zl1aa.dyndns.biz:1641/>.

5. **AREC:**

- Leith reported that the exercise in support of Oxfam's annual Nihotupu tramline charity walk on Sunday, 22nd November was an enjoyable success.
- Leith has written his Section leader's report for presentation at the AGM.

6. **Steve:**

- Steve is in Stockholm. Their voyage to Copenhagen will take 1½ days.
- He has submitted his President's report that has now been published in the newsletter.

7. **AGM:**

- Leith made his apologies for not being able to attend the AGM and chair the meeting.
- He said that he will ask Donald to chair it.
- Steve's nominations of Officers and Committee members are not known.

Meeting closed at 2005 hours.

Signed _____ Date _____

ZL1BMP Silent Key

Captain Lindsay Alexander MacMillan (2nd Jan. 1921 - 2nd Jan. 2010) preferred to be called "Mac". He went to school in Wellington and began his sea-going career as a cadet with Shaw Savill, ultimately gaining his Extra-Masters qualification in England. (He recalled hearing traffic in England from Musick Point when the station first opened in 1938.)

With a leaning towards teaching, he came ashore, his career changing to marine education, culminating in his becoming a well-known and greatly respected Director of Nautical Schools in Wellington and then Auckland.

His interest in radio communications continued on his retirement and he gained his Amateur Radio callsign, ZL1BMP, in 1979. He joined Auckland Branch (02) at that time, his membership continuing for the rest of his life. Familiar with the use of Morse code through his marine career, CW became his preferred operating medium. He had an excellent, readily distinguished "fist", heard in regular "skeds" for the next 25 years, concluding when his move to a retirement facility precluded the establishment of an Amateur Radio station. He continued, however, to enjoy listening to CW on the Amateur bands, although he could no longer transmit.

He is well remembered as an active and loyal member of the Auckland Branch of NZART.

AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

Committee Meeting Minutes

On: Tuesday, 2nd February 2010 at 1930 hours

At: Branch Clubrooms

Present: Gwynne Rowe, ZLAAR (President); Peter Ellis, ZL1LS (VP); Wallace Bottomley ZL1WAL (Secretary /Treasurer); Japie Nel, ZL1JJN (AREC Section leader); George Marr, ZL1TUJ. Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC (Non-voting).

Apologies: Ray Chapman, ZL1AJR.

Sustained ZL1WAL / ZL1AAR

Introduction: President Gwynne welcomed the new Committee. He outlined his movements in and out of NZ. He is away until April; then away again for a fortnight at the end of June and possibly for most of August. He said that he would rely on Peter for the running of the Branch in his absence.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the Committee meeting on 2nd December 2009 were accepted as a true and accurate record. See publication of these minutes in the February 2010 newsletter.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1JJN

Business arising from the previous minutes: See Correspondence and General Business.

Correspondence In:

1. Newsletters from neighbouring NZART branches: SPARC; Western, Hibiscus Coast; VHF Group; Suburban; Franklin.
2. State Insurance promotion circular letter suggesting a revision of cover.
3. Agreement with Lottie Schrickel (negotiated by Selwyn), to terms for disposing of John's Schrickel's equipment.
4. E-mail from Selwyn, ZL1BRC, on constitutional matters about filling vacancies on the Committee.
5. Memo from Selwyn, ZL1BRC on "Thoughts about Field Day".
6. Report from Selwyn on progress with disposing of John Schrickel's 'junk'.
7. E-mail from Gwynne to Branch Committee and Appointees - providing an action-list for 2010:
 - a. Matters arising from minutes of the 2009 AGM
 - b. Activities
 - c. General.

Received ZL1TUJ / ZL1WAL

Correspondence Out:

1. Letter to Courier asking for continuation of advertisement in "What's On" column.
2. Annual Financial Return to Registrar of Incorporated Societies.
3. Internal memos from Secretary: Minutes of 2009 AGM; Directory; Program dates.

Approved ZL1TUJ / ZL1WAL

Business arising from Correspondence:

1. Vacancies on Committee; See General Business.
2. Field day; See General Business.
3. Gwynne expressed gratitude to Selwyn for helping Lottie Schrickel dispose of John's 'junk'.
4. George suggested that an auction though e-bay would yield better returns than TradeMe.
5. Gwynne asked that his Action-list be not just filed, but kept to the fore.

Financial Report:

The Treasurer presented the Accounts for the year-to-date (Dec 2009 and Jan 2010).

Accepted ZL1AAR / ZL1WAL

Matters arising from the Finance report:

1. Expenses requiring approval for payment: Donation to AMSAT\$50.00.

Approved ZL1AAR / ZL1JJN
2. Term Investment of \$7,000 at 4.6% p.a. for 6 or more months in KiwiBank (because ASB term investment maturing 7 February 2010, would revert to 3% p.a. thereafter).

Approved ZL1AAR / ZL1JJN
3. Donation to Brian Scarborough (approved up to \$100) is pending the return of Gwynne from his holiday.
4. A list of John's junk and specifications is on a tressle in the Clubroom. The Treasurer asks that this list be notated to account for each disposition, and if funds are banked directly into ASB 12-3047-076823-00 that they be referenced with "ZL1BNL". He explained that revenue from Estate Sales will be taken into the Cashbook and analysed separately from Component Sales. This will facilitate accounting to Mrs Schrickel.
5. Subscriptions will be invoiced to Branch members and others attached to the branch by NZART HQ. George, ZL1TUJ, offered to provide postage-paid window envelopes (70) next Saturday.

Committee Minutes (2nd February 2010) continued

General Business

1. Committee Vacancies

There are three vacancies. Selwyn Ross, ZL1BRC, and Steve Miller, ZL1FS have agreed to stand. The Committee discussed the manner of filling these vacancies:

- 1. Making appointments (as suggested by members at the 2009 AGM – though not formally resolved).*
- 2. Calling a Special General Meeting and holding an election (as stipulated by the Constitution).*

Resolved to call SGM for 20 February 2010; ZL1AAR / ZL1WAL

2. Jock White Memorial Field Day:

- Branch participation will be held in the grounds of the Clubroom on 27th and 28th February 2010.*
- A new rule allows for 40m and 80m phone operation for clubs with limited manpower, wherein there are pitfalls of making two entries.*
- Gwynne urged that field preparation one week before the event is essential, else there is insufficient time to erect antennae on the Saturday morning.*
- Selwyn advocated that coverage of NZ was more important than DX. He offered the use of his 4:1 balun for a 142 feet length horizontal (elevated on the north side) square loop antenna for 40 metres.*
- Discussion about how best to manage this event was deferred until Members meet on Saturday 20th February 2010 when an appointment will be made and operators (particularly CW operators) recruited.*

3. Internal Maintenance:

- The window is repainted and is ready to be fitted. Steve (who returns on 8 February 2010) will be asked to employ his builder friend. A coordinated move of the computer equipment in its vicinity need to be made first. Mark to be advised.*
- George offered to provide Mark with a suitable smoke detector if given its specification by him.*
- Reblocking the entrance of the Clubroom is necessary. Wallace reported that his QTH was reblocked by a handyman using a car jack and some wedges. Gwynne expressed concern about the safety of people doing this.*
- When repainting, Gwynne requests that the base of the building should not be brown; rather, grey.*

3. Telephone line:

- George reported that he has spoken with Leith. He said that he will assume coordination with Chorus to find and fix the break in the telephone line between the roadside and the clubrooms; and with Scarbros' foreman (who has agreed to dig a trench).*

4. AREC:

- Japie was advised to liaise with Donald Webster for guidance about AREC matters.*
- It was suggested that they meet with Civil Defense Officers and Auckland City Transition Committee to remind them of our presence and readiness (even if we have to operate from our individual QTHs).*

5. Tenure:

- Wallace is to follow up with Gerard Kilpatrick about research on this matter before approaching Brain Scarborough again. There is an opinion that the lease should make mention of our presence on the and. Other correspondence with Civil Defence (a responsibility of ACC) is supportive. And a visit by ACC's Property Manager is indicative of their interest in the Clubroom.*
- George said that we should apply for a grant from ACC for discretionary spending on its maintenance.*

6. Antenna:

- The repair of the 80 metre antenna has been ongoing for some months now. Steve is to be asked to attend to this.*
- Selwyn reported that he has plans for a 10m antenna, that is also overdue some attention.*

Meeting closed at 2130 hours.

Signed _____ Date _____

The Wanderer's Return !

Yes it was Tuesday 2nd Feb. that I got back.
My position on board was Electrician/3rd Engineer.

Brief outline of the trip:

We went from Amsterdam to a large bay in southern UK “ Margate “ (for shelter).
Then we had a plan change and went to Le Havre France.
After a couple of weeks we went to Keil Germany , Via the Keil canal which we entered from the Elbe river. This was only a short stopover where we picked up Campaigners & Activists ! .
We went out into the Baltic Sea where we had to intercept a ship carrying nuclear parts for a “ EPR “ (European Pressurised Reactor) new build that was under action in Finland.
We slowed down about 5 miles from the outer ship and dispatched the activists by fast RIB boats to do a protest action on this ship which was the “ *Happy Ranger* “ . (54Deg. 23' N by 11Deg. 48' E.).

After this we carried on to Helsinki Finland. It was a relatively short stopover of about 24 Hours.
Out into the Baltic again, and made our way to Stockholm Sweden.
Thursday 26th Nov. I had had a guts full of things breaking down, and needing repair so I contacted the GPI office and RESIGNED !
However as they couldn't replace me at short notice, I got talked into staying on for a while... Back to Amsterdam !

About three days later we set off again, this time to Copenhagen. We were to be here for quite a long time , for the duration of the “ world climate conference “. During this time we were turned into a floating hotel for what seemed like 100's of different GP personal . (It was a trying time for the crew).
Just a few days before we left winter set in... Snowing and COLD ! We were due to depart on Sat. 19th Dec. but on the 18th most of our crew were missing, as they had gone to a protest action, and didn't come back.
The next morning we found out that GP had approx 49 people arrested, and 33 in jail !. Most of these people got released the next day. In due course we were off again. Oh rough sea again, rolling our way down the Baltic !

Monday 21st. I was supposed to be on E/R watch, but I spent most of the day in my bunk and the C/E did the day watch for me. (Spoilt again !) It was about 2000 hrs that we got to the first lock again. This is the canal between Denmark & Germany.
Then onto the Netherlands.
Xmas back in the ship yard was very quiet as most of the crew had gone home for a few days. Guess who was stuck on the ship and had to do several days of watches... Yes ! My replacement was due, but had some health issues with his ticker ! He arrived a few days later .

BUT after I had given him the handover notes and shown him around, this next morning he supposedly got an email from his doctor with a problem with his blood count so off he went back to Germany !
I got asked if I would stay on for the trip to the Canary Islands, where they were taking the ship for dry docking .SO I said Ok !
Sat 16th Jan. We departed for Las Palmas, Gran Canaria Is.. Oh a trip across the Bay of Biscay at this time of year was NOT a good idea ! Jan 26th we arrived!

MORE R & M !, Oh by the way , my replacement turned up. (Same man again !).
GPI arranged a flight home ! via everywhere they could I think of.
30th Jan 0430 Hrs. my departure, Taxi to the local airport.
Flight home was Las Palmas to Madrid; Madrid across the Atlantic to Chicago. I pulled a new trick here and did the “distressed passenger “ act, and got a 24 hour stopover. (I had to pay for the night in a Best Western, but that I didn't mind.) The next day to Los Angeles and on to Auckland .

I intend to write up the trip in detail from my notes and diary.

Cheer's,
Steve Miller.