



Auckland Branch
N Z Association of Radio Transmitters Inc.

NEWSLETTER

June 2012



GENERAL MEETING

Clubroom, 400 St. John's Road, Kohimarama
Saturday 16th June, 2012

BBQ at 1200 - 1300 hours

Meeting starts at 1330 hours

Agenda

- **Report from your Committee**
- **Report from our Delegate about the 2012 NZART AGM in Nelson**
- **Other business**
- **Afterwards, Gwynne will show a 40 minute video that documents his Son-in-law's trek from the Waioeka to Taupo that took nearly three weeks. He lived off the land, hunting and fishing; but where to forage for carbohydrates? [Last year we heard an enthralling account of his kayak trip around South Georgia Island, sharing the crowded beaches with thousands of seals. Ed.]**



From the Secretary, Wallace, ZL1WAL

Subscription: (Wearing my other hat as Treasurer):

32 Members of 40 have now paid their subscription (\$30). We are half way through the year and we urgently need the funds to finance our recent activities. Invoices have been posted out to those whose subscriptions are overdue.

I would appreciate your payments being made by direct credit 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 the "Submit" button (top left corner). This causes this form to be sent to ZL1AA@NZART.ORG.NZ automatically.

Telephone line:

The 'phone line has been buried, connected and it works. The phone number is 528-2039. How many years has this taken? Now we have to find a way to pay for it.

Report of the NZART AM and voting on remits: Gwynne ZL1AAR was our delegate. Steve ZL1FS attended also. They will report about happenings at the Annual General Meeting that took place at Nelson on Queens Birthday weekend..

Nets: While Ray ZL1AJY is cruising the ocean blue during June, the nets will be run by:

James ZL1KNI HF 3.645 MHz at **2000** every Monday
Gwynne ZL1AAR VHF 145.775 MHz at 2000 every **Thursday**.

These Net masters would like to hear more Members and visitors checking in to tell us of their amateur radio activities and to provide feedback about your Branch Committee's projects.

Fox Hunting:

Kind remarks and "thanks" have been written up by other Branches who participated in the Inter Branch Fox Hunting Competition that we convened last month. Branches further south are showing interest in the revival of this sport. We welcome the expansion of this event. Accordingly, I have agreed to write a page about Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) for the next issue of the Call Book.

Ole ZL1OLE has programmed a PIC for the two new 80m foxes, so that they transmit their call-signs MOE and MO5.

The next local event is likely to take place in the vicinity of Musick Point, probably in September.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a report of the ARRL Region II Championships held last week near San Diego, USA.

New Member: Welcome to Eric Richards ZL1ERR who passed the exam last weekend. Listen on VHF for him.

The next Contests

Rob, ZL3AKM, is the new contest manager for the VK / Trans-Tasman contest.

As part of a consolidation of the Trans-Tasman contest activity, these contests are now held on two nights instead of four, and both 80m and 160m CW and Digital contests have been combined with the 160m phone contest on the 21st July.

Brass Monkey Contest, all bands 50 MHz and up, on Saturday the 4th and Sunday the 5th of August 2012. The operating times are: Saturday 1700 to 2300 NZST and Sunday 0700 to 1300 NZST.

European Football Championship 2012 on the AIR"

.... is an on-the-air activity which promises to be a great deal of fun, organized by Polish and Ukrainian amateurs affiliated with PZK and UARL.

From **June 1 to July 5 2012**, there will be numerous special event stations active on the air. They will be operating concurrently with the 2012 European Football Championship, which this year is organized jointly by Poland and Ukraine. More detailed information about our activity can be found on our website <http://efc2012.pzk.org.pl>

2012L — that is, **Two Oscar One Two London** — will be the callsign of the London ham radio station celebrating the London Olympic Games and Paralympics. We will be based at Eltham Palace which is in the London Borough of Greenwich, one of the six 'host boroughs' for the Games. The last letter of this special callsign denotes its location [Ed.]

We plan to make at least 60,000 contacts during the seven weeks operating on the air. Visitors may view an exhibition about radio communications and electronics, and sit down at the radio and make contact with amateur radio operators right around the world. Radio hams from around the world are encouraged to visit 2012L.

Auckland Branch, NZART (Inc.)

Minutes of General Club Meeting

On: Saturday, 19th May 2012 at 1335 hours
At: Clubrooms

Present: Steve ZL1FS (presiding), Wallace ZL1WAL, Ray ZL1AJR, Ole ZL1OLE, Gwynne ZL1AAR; James ZL1KNI

Apologies: George ZL1TUJ; Bob ZL1AFU; Japie ZL1JJN

Sustained ZL1WAL / ZL1AAR

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on 17th March 2012 at 24 Dingle Road, St Heliers.
Having been circulated (in April newsletter), these were taken as read and approved:
ZL1FS / ZL1WAL

Reports:

Finance:

*The Treasurer presented the accounts as were presented to the Committee on 1st May.
Subscriptions have been received by 23 of 40 members (in 2011). Invoices have been sent to all others.*

Phone line:

*The cost of excavation has exceeded our budget because the ground was so hard.
Since the previous General Meeting, the 'phone line has been tested and the trench across the yard was filled by a working party over two weekends.
Also, there is a large conduit between the clubroom and the implement shed through which a coax can be pulled.
John Martin ZL1GWE has been asked to seek assistance from IBM for a subsidy towards the monthly fixed cost of the phone line. He pays for it by doing community work, as RF Monitor for NZART.*

Roof:

This has been painted and it looks good.

Maintenance:

Steve has leveled the ground between the clubroom and the implement shed. It is intended to re-grass it.

Antennas:

*Alignment of the beam did not occur as planned. It can only be done at a time when Steve and Japie are available at the same time.
A suggestion was made to erect long wire antennas (160m or Beverage) while the section is vacant.*

Honorary Life Member:

Steve presented a lapel badge to Ray Chapman ZLAJY and thanked him for his long service to the Branch as a Committee Member and as Net-Master. A photograph was taken.

Remits: (Secretary wrote to 19 Amateurs "attached" by NZART to invite them to this meeting to vote).

<i>That NZART dissolve 4 regions, and establish 9 electorates for Councilors.</i>	Lost
<i>Adjust Constitution (subject to Remit 1) for quorum to be "President and 5 Councilors".</i>	Lost
<i>Instruct FMTAG to alter policy about requiring externally engineered licences to go for publication before approval by NZART members for bandplan and frequency reuse compliance.</i>	Lost
<i>That NZART Investigate "Associated Membership" status, (having voting rights or Break In)</i>	Passed
<i>End routine packet forwarding on the National System.</i>	Lost
<i>That NZART work with RSM to keep channel 39 ATV allocation or provide other regional UHF allocation.</i>	Passed
<i>That NZART work with RSM and Defence to allow amateur access to 5 MHz.</i>	Passed

Appointment of Delegate to NZART Conference:

Gwynne Rowe ZL1AAR was appointed Steve ZL1FS will also be attending the conference in Nelson.

Meeting closed at 1500 hours.

Auckland Branch 02, NZART (Inc)

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Date / Time / Place: Tuesday, 5th June 2012 / 1940 hours / Clubroom

Attendees: George ZL1TUJ (presiding), Steve ZL1FS, Wallace ZL1WAL, Gwynne ZL1AAR, Ray ZL1AJR, Japie ZL1JJN, Wes ZL2TE, Ole ZL1OLE

Minutes of the previous Committee meeting on Tuesday 1st May 2012

Taken as read and approved ZL1TUJ / ZL3TE

Correspondence In:

Newsletters: North Shore, Franklin, Hibiscus Coast

NZART Break-in

Attached Member – intends to transfer his attachment to Western Branch

Attached Member – wishes to be deleted from our records.

Correspondence Out:

NZART asking that two Silent Keys “attached” to our Branch should be deleted

J Searing advising that he has to take the initiative with NZART-HQ to have his “attachment” changed to another Branch.

Received and Approved ZL1TUJ / ZL1FS

Finance:

The Treasurer presented the Year to date Finance report.

He said that \$1,000 had been transferred from the FastSaver account to enable bills to be paid.

After paying this month's accounts, the funds remaining in the Fast Saver account would be used up.

About \$300 can be expected from further subscriptions that are due to be paid.

Martin Seay ZL3CK has donated \$70.

Received ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Payments requiring approval:

Lawns \$69.00 to R Higgins

Trenching \$343.00 to Scarbros

Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1TUJ

Telephone \$258.20 to Telecom ((See minute on Sponsorship)

Approved ZL1AJR / ZL3TE

General business:

Reports:

AREC: Japie requires an assistant at the Rally of NZ on Friday 22 June at Raglan

Membership: Subscriptions – 32 / 41 have paid.

Remotely operated station: It had been inadvertently switched off.

Batteries: Charging OK

Smoke alarm: Installed

Surveillance: Camera has been purchased; needs to be interfaced to Laptop.

Equipment out on loan: Checked OK

Nets:

HF by James ZL1KNI on Mondays 11th, 18th and 25th June.

VHF by Gwynne ZL1AAR on Thursdays 7th, 14th, 21st 28th June.

Maintenance:

Painting walls and base: Deferred until summer

Water supply pipe: Steve to do next Saturday; Wallace to supply tap.

Grounds: Reclaiming / grassing area between clubroom and implement shed: Done

Computers, LAN: deferred until Broadband implemented.

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

	Speakers	Visits	Projects
June 16 th	Report of NZART Conference	Video of Gwynne's son-in-law's trek (40 m)	
July 21 st		Motat	
Aug 18 th	Bench demo of coax chokes		Beverage
Sept 15 th		Telephone Exchange	

Suggested:

Understanding propagation predictions;

Fox-hunt using 80 metres

Agenda (continued)

Sponsorship for the Telephone line:

The cost of installing the line is a one-off investment, deemed essential in our role as an emergency AREC site. Note that Papakura and VHF Group are better established.
George will research COGS and Internal Revenue sources of funds.
The cost of the line is \$52.24 per month. A broadband / phone package costs \$70.
The annual cost, \$840 should be treated as a budget item.
Presently we pay \$208 per annum for Woosh (slow) broadband.
The cost increase \$532 represents \$17.50 of the subscription (presently \$30 p.a.).
Such an increase in subs would not be acceptable.
Therefore sponsorship is the only practical way to fund it.
Wallace will follow up with John Martin ZL1GWE who is making application to IBM for Community sponsorship for us.

Antennas:

Improve 80m; not done yet
Align Beam: not done yet
Coax testing: Steve suggested that the connectors should be wiggled to test for intermittent breaks. The lengths of each need to be measured and marked on each roll.
Central antenna switch: George plans to obtain the relays (7) for a Branch project.
Erection of Beverage or loop planned for General Meeting – Saturday 8th August
Other possibilities being considered while the section is bare
Rhomboid.
160 m loop
43 ft verticals.

Membership drive:

Notice boards at Educational Institutes.
James ZL1KNI (Teacher) and Brian ZL1UBX (Lecturer) are to be asked to assist.
The President suggested a new category of Membership that may require an amendment to our constitution. This is intended to include Amateurs who have gone “quiet” and have ceased paying subs, but nevertheless still have an interest in their old hobby. The Branch will:

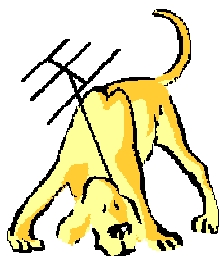
- Continue to send newsletters (because no cost is incurred),*
- Make periodic ‘phone calls to each*
- Offer assistance with disposal or sale of their junk. (This is sometimes a daunting task to widows).*

Fox hunting (likely to attract younger / agile members). Other Branches will hold events
Build-a-thon projects on Saturdays (successful in other Branches) – This needs a convener.

Projects:

Keyers for two foxes for 80 m. Ole will program a PIC using Arduino to emit MOE and MO5 in CW.
Wallace is to buy two crystals 3.51 and 3.55 MHz from Rakon for the two new foxes
More sniffers are needed to be assembled from kits ex China, or built from parts available within the Clubroom.
D Star relay station was discussed.

The meeting closed at 21:30 with supper provided by Ray ZL1AJR



The fox hunting page

By Wallace ZL1WAL



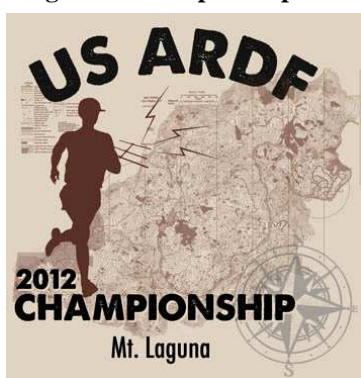
Break In:

In the recent issue of BREAK-IN, in addition to my article in the "Around the Branches" column announcing the results of the Inter-Branch Fox Hunting Competition in April, Simon Watt-Wyness ZL1SWW, described his experience on the VHF page. These articles have aroused interest by Members in other Branches.

Call Book:

Accordingly, I have agreed to contribute a page to the next issue of the Call-Book to explain what is Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), colloquially known as Fox-hunting.

Region II Championships:

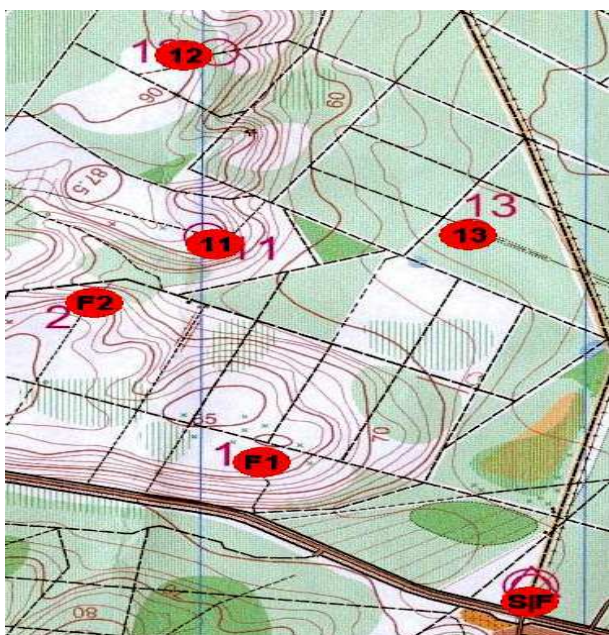


Activities got under way at Mt Laguna Village, 45 miles east of San Diego, on Wednesday and Thursday, May 30 - 31, when an optional two-day "training camp" took place. The official championships opening took place on Friday with practice and equipment testing sessions, followed by a meeting for orientation and rules review. The two-meter contest was on Saturday, after which all gathered for a banquet in the evening. Sunday's schedule included the 80-meter contest and an awards ceremony, timed to end in early afternoon to accommodate those who needed to hurry home.

These championships were a qualifying event for ARDF Team USA, which is forming to compete at the Sixteenth IARU ARDF World Championships in Serbia during September. Team members will be selected based on performance in these 2012 USA Championships and the [2011 USA Championships](#) near Albuquerque.

National ARDF Championships are for individuals only. No teaming or assistance on the course is permitted. Participants are divided into six age categories for males and five age categories for females in accordance with [standard IARU rules](#). Medals are awarded for first, second and third places in each age category on each band.

Beginning this year, the ARDF World Championships will include competitions in two new events: **Sprints** and **fox Oring** for demonstration and training only.



Most of the medal winners after the award ceremony

Fox Oring seems like an ideal way to get classic orienteers interested in ARDF. It encourages ARDF enthusiasts to improve their orienteering skills. Only 80 meters is used for Fox Oring.

At the start, competitors get a map marked with nominal positions of the transmitters that are within 100m.

All Fox Oring transmitters operate continuously. They are very weak (10 mW) and therefore are audible only in the near vicinity of the antenna.

