



Auckland Branch 02, N.Z.A.R.T NEWSLETTER November 2009



NOTICE OF GENERAL CLUB MEETING

**At the Clubrooms at 400 St John's Road,
Kohimaramara 21st November, 1330.**

Wallace will make a presentation of the K3 controlled by Ham Radio Deluxe software running on a computer. Additionally, there may be information to report from the fact-finding mission about remotely controlling this computer and passing audio to / from it.

AGM Tuesday 8th December 2009 at 1930.

AUCKLAND BRANCH, NZART (inc.)

Committee Meeting Minutes

On: Monday, 5th November 2009 at 1955 hours
At: Branch Clubrooms

Present: ZL1TCJ (VP), ZL1WAL (Secretary /Treasurer), ZL1JJN, ZL1SLO and ZL1BRC as an observer.
Apologies: ZL1BNO.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the Committee meeting on 28th September 2009 were taken as read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1JJN

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

Correspondence In:

1. Newsletters from other Branches. Placed in box for members to read.
2. Circular from NZART announcing:
 - a. Request for remits (deadline 31st December 2009) and paper about how to write a Remit.
 - b. Request for nominations for awards: Amateur of the Year, Young Amateur, Arthur Godfrey Memorial.
 - c. Examination forms and fees.
 - d. Amateur Band monitoring service stating info required to report an intruder (See notice board).
 - e. National System Award from 1/1/2010 to 7/2/1010 in association with NZ Historic Places Trust.
2. NZART approving nomination of Steve ZL1FS as Examination Supervisor.
3. NZART re Constitution amendment.
4. Selwyn, ZL1BRC, about errors on NZART Conference Committee web page about our Branch.
5. Selwyn providing list of radio gear from ZL1BK and shared with Branch 86.
6. Selwyn about non-Amateur frequency antenna bits being dumped by Cisco.
7. Selwyn stating that Lottie Schrickel requests help from the Branch to dispose of John's radio junk.
8. Selwyn summarising the law as it applies to our tenure and giving his opinion about the financial risks of committing large expenditure on the Clubrooms.
9. Post Office providing us with 100 prepaid envelopes.
10. Registrar of Incorporated Societies acknowledging registration of Alteration of our Rules.
11. Email forwarded from Branch 86 about Hastings' branch suggesting that all Branches pay \$95 each for use of repeater services.

Received ZL1TCJ / ZL1WAL

Correspondence Out:

1. Letter to NZART seeking approval of Amendments to our Branch Constitution
2. Letter to Incorporated Societies with the Alterations of our Rules
3. Email to Steve Miller responding to his enquiries about the outcome of our Special General Meeting
4. Email to John Nixon, ZL1FR, re our visit to his farm at Dairy Flat on Saturday 14th November and sending him info about the Monitoring Service.
5. Echolink to Clive Curtis, ZL1HZ, re our visit to him at Browns Bay on 14th November

Business arising from Correspondence:

1. No suggestions were forthcoming for remits and no nominations are to be made for awards.
2. Wallace to inform NZART Conference Committee to correct errors and to liaise with Gwynne, ZL1AAR.
3. Wallace reported Gerard Kilpatrick's comment about tenure of our Clubrooms. He agrees with Selwyn's conclusion about risk versus benefit but he said that the passage of time does not affect agreements made. Gerard offered to obtain the ACC lease to Scarbros. It should make mention of us.
4. Wallace and Selwyn to visit Lottie Schrickel to confirm the Club's offer to remove, sell, retain or dispose of John's junk on our terms (i.e., provided that the estate does not expect us to account at component level). We shall also offer to remove the antennae in summer when the ground is dry.

Resolved L1TCJ / ZL1WAL

Financial Report:

Accepted ZL1WAL / ZL1TCJ

Matters arising from the Finance report:

1. Expenses requiring approval for payment: Reimburse mark, ZL1BNO for alarm system \$138.00,
Approved ZL1WAL / ZL1TCJ
2. The budget shows a sum of \$250 as a donation for the use of repeaters. Further discussion revealed that we had had no acknowledgement from Branch 66 for our previous donation even after they had been prompted. Since we use only Branch 86's repeater it was decided to donate to them this year.

Resolved ZL1TCJ / ZL1SLO

Committee Minutes (5th November 2009) continued

General Business:

1. **Antennae:**
Leith reported how he intended to fix the 80m (bow tie) antenna so that it is resonant on two frequencies.
2. **Internal Maintenance:**
 - *The door's old keyhole is covered such that it cannot function. Keys for the new lock have been issued to 10 members in exchange for their contract and deposit of \$10. A register records these key holders.*
 - *Leith is seeking a quotation for re-blocking and for various repairs to the building. See Funding below.*
3. **Telephone line:** *A telephone number has been allocated. George, ZL1TUJ has asked a colleague to find the break in the telephone line between the roadside and the clubrooms and to scope what needs to be done. Until then, no quote for total renewal will be requested. Wallace reported a suggestion made by Gerard Kilpatrick that the Club should approach Scarbros asking how they could assist us to restore telephone services – after all, they had allegedly broken the line. The cost of such reinstatement could be offset by two thirds if we are successful in obtaining an Auckland City Council discretionary grant. Our justification for applying for such a grant is helped by the discovery of correspondence dated 7 Oct 1985, showing that Orakei Depot originally provided the telephone line (and electricity) to the Clubrooms. Our “thankyou” letter states: “... our continued function as a club and particularly to provide input to City Council Emergency and Disaster requirements, is dependent on having a working base with good facilities”.*
4. **Meeting Program:**
 - *General Club Meeting: 21st November; 1330. Wallace will make a presentation of the K3 controlled by Ham Radio Deluxe software running on a computer. Additionally, there may be information to report from the fact-finding mission about remotely controlling this computer and passing audio to / from it.*
 - *AGM Tuesday 8th December 2009 at 1930.*
5. **Training and Education:**
 - *Approval of Steve, ZL1FS, as an Examination Supervisor has come through.*
 - *A strategy to recruit new Amateurs needs to be formulated. Ideas are being sought for next year.*
6. **Technical projects:**
 - *Mark, ZL1BNO is working on improving our ATV receiver. Meanwhile a remotely controlled camera has been running in the clubrooms this month and may be viewed at <http://zl1aa.dyndns.biz:8080/>.*
 - *The three man fact-finding mission to John Nixon ZL1FR and Clive Curtis ZL1HZ is confirmed for Saturday, 14th November. Both are running remotely controlled transceivers,.*
 - *Mark has purchased a replacement burglar alarm with smoke detector. It will be installed soon.*
7. **AREC:** *Continued participation in AREC nets by Leith ZL1TCJ. A field exercise in support of Oxfam's annual Nihotupu tramline charity walk will occur on Sunday, 22nd November.*
8. **Web page information:** *Exceptions to meeting dates are:*
 - *General Club meeting on 19th December 2009 (third Saturday) – Cancelled.*
 - *Committee Meeting on 5th January 2010 (first Tuesday) – Cancelled.*
9. **Constitution changes:** *Completed.*
10. **Steve:**
Steve has been in contact with Wallace, Franc and the Committee via Echolink. After some repairs at Amsterdam “Arctic Sunrise” moved across the Channel, anchored off St. Margaret (near Dover) while crew recovered from sea-sickness. Next they went further south to Le Havre, Normandie, France.
11. **Funding:**
After discovering better evidence of our tenure (see above), Wallace tabled a draft application for funding “Upgrading the Clubrooms”. Such is a starting point for discussion. If funding the telephone line (see above) is successful, we could advance the same justification for other improvements. In the event of an AREC event, there would be a larger turnout of members; our premises would be found wanting for need of proper toilet and better catering facilities. Leith said that with borer present, a superficial do up is as far as we should go. Storage of valuable junk will become an even greater problem after John Schrickel's junk is added. Perhaps a walk-in container with shelves will be required, thus clearing the cluttered Clubrooms.

Meeting closed at 2100 hours.

Signed _____ Date _____
Leith Jackson, ZL1TCJ, (Acting Chairman)

From the Vice President:

With Steve ZL1FS away at sea on another boating adventure it is my privilege and pleasure to report on activities at Auckland Branch.

A recent check of aerals has revealed that the 80M bow-tie has a 3:1 VSWR. A senior club member has covered the cost of purchasing new wire and a balun, so we should soon have a new one built. It is intended to modify the bow-tie concept slightly to give broader coverage of the 80M band. A big "Thank you!" to Captain Bill for his donation. We will have an aerial building day on Saturday 21st November. Come along, as we will need plenty of willing hands. If we have time, the tribander beam will be tilted over for maintenance as well. Reports on the performance of the new 40M dipole into VK are very pleasing.

The project to have George's K3 running on remote through the Internet is progressing well. It is currently running on local control using Ham Radio DeLuxe software. This is proving to be very user friendly. Mark has proved the Club computer through Whoosh to be ready to go. He has it running with Skype on board. It is currently under test using a video input into the PC. You can see this on <http://ZL1AAdyndns.biz.8080>, but it is still under test.

A new alarm has been fitted to the building to replace the old one, now expired. It has new sensors and very loud sirens. It is connected to a radio which can be heard on 146.825. All members are urged to monitor this frequency.

This summer, some serious building maintenance is required. We will repaint the clubrooms roof and exterior. If everyone helps, this should be a simple task. We also hope to re-block areas around the main door to level the floor.

December is AGM time. Please consider putting your hand up for a position within the Club.

Branch 02 is in for an exciting future with projects under way, and is looking good as new members join us in making these happen.

Leith Jackson.