



# Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

## December 2002 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn, PO Box 15-122, New Lynn.

President: James Moore ZL1WOT, Secretary: Roy Milam

VHF Club Net Wednesday 0730 146.525 MHz, HF Club Net Fridays 0730 3.622 MHz

Website <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac>

### Club Calendar

Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>	December	Club Night – Christmas Social Function.
2003			
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>	January	Committee Meeting
Tuesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	January	Regional Coordinating Committee Meeting at Branch 03
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>	February	Club Night – Programme to be announced
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	February	Jock White Memorial Field Day
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>		
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	March	Regional Technical Lecture. Date and Speaker to be confirmed.
Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup>	April	Dairy Flat Sale
Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	April	Regional Coordinating Committee
Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>	May	Cambridge Radio Club Annual Market Day
Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	July	Regional Coordinating Committee
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup>	September	Regional Coordinating Committee

### *Seasons Greetings*

*The Western Suburbs Radio Club Committee wish all club members and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

### Club Night Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2002

The club evening will be a BBQ and Christmas Social. Bring a plate and drinks. Sausages will be provided for the BBQ. All welcome. The evening will commence at 7:00pm

### RALLY NZ 2003

An article in the New Zealand Herald last week outlined the changes that are to be made to next years Rally in April. It's only just over four months away. Planning is well under way for the Rally and will feature some major Service Park changes. This will mean that there will be two days in the north. Friday and Saturday with the rally centralising from Paparoa Show Grounds. The third day will be similar to last year. Raglan is to be put on the back burner but may feature in years to come. The World Body on Rallying wanting less travel for Service Crews bought this about this change. Not all teams are happy with this idea but that's the way it will be.

### MUSICK POINT

On 12<sup>th</sup> January 2003 there will be an Open Day at Musick Point. A plaque will be unveiled by the American Ambassador to commemorate Captain Musick and the Coastal Radio Station that operated from the site for many years. The radio clubs of Auckland have been invited by Ian Walker and Branch 86 to put on a display of some aspect of Radio. Branch 03 will be erecting a tent and using vintage radio, military and domestic equipment. The day will be used to show Amateur Radio to the public and it is hoped to give away some brochures to the general public to increase the awareness of amateur radio and to foster interest in the hobby. Here's hoping for a good day out. This is a club activity and as many members as possible are required to help out at Musick Point on the 12 January 2003 and make this a successful occasion.

## **FIELD DAY 22/23rd February**

A Site has been found in Anawhata Road to be used by our club for the Jock White Memorial Contest this year. Club stations from all around New Zealand will be competing in the contest. The aim of the field day contest is to demonstrate to the rest of New Zealand the radio amateurs' ability and preparedness to set up a field station and operate for an extended period free from mains power; and of course, to have a bit of fun. We need operators for both CW and Phone. The field day contest runs from Saturday 1500 hrs to midnight, then from 0600 to 1500 on Sunday. If you can help out for short or longer period of time you would be most welcome. The power source will be from the club's 4.1 kva generator. If you are interested in helping please give James ZL1WOT ph 627 5576 or Ross ZL1VRR 629 0504 a call and let them know what times you can help.

## **Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the Western Suburbs Radio Club Held in the Clubrooms At 1930 Hours Monday 25 November 2002**

**Apologies** were received from ZL1ACZ

**Present Were** James ZL1WOT, Brian ZL1MW, Ross ZL1VRR, Roy ZL1WI, Marc ZL1TMV.

### **Finance**

Accounts to Pay  
\$----- Genesis Energy (direct debit)  
\$125.00 Barry ZL1ACZ Hire of hall for equipment sale  
\$48.35 Roy \$19.95 envelopes for newsletters  
\$28.40 postage etc e-sale  
\$111.19 Ross ZL1VRR

Moved James ZL1WOT sec. Roy ZL1WI that the accounts be paid.

### **Correspondence**

In Comcentre, branch newsletter, 02, 10, 21, 66, 79  
Out To John ZL1JL

### **AREC Report**

The section assisted with the Santa Parade. Next WS AREC meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November 2002 1930hrs at the clubrooms. Next AREC Section Leaders meeting to be held at West Auckland CD HQ, Elcoat Street Henderson.

### **General Business**

The equipment sale was briefly discussed. A success socially and financially.

**Field Day 22/23 February 2003.** The club plans to put a station at the end of Anawhata Road on both 40m and 80m.

**Musick Point Radio Open Day 12 January 2003.** The club has been invited to put on a display at this event. The committee decided on a display of vintage radio equipment, both domestic and military.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>. Monday Club meeting.** A Christmas Social and sausage BBQ. Members to bring a plate. Start 1900 hrs.

**Auckland Regional Coordinating Committee** This coming year it is Western Suburbs turn to organise and run the committee, which means that our club has to provide the Chairman and Secretary. Meetings are held in different Branch Club Rooms in Turn. Western Suburbs is to host the first meeting, probably in January. Volunteers for the two above positions are wanted.

**Monty Millar (ZL1HA) Trophy.** It was suggested that this trophy be brought back into life again. Brian ZL1MW to make inquiries to have the trophy cleaned and engraved.

Roy ZL1WI Secretary

**NZART Business Manager Debby ZL2TDM Says:**

Elections - In the November/December Break-In due in the next few days, you will see that Evan Sayer, Returning Officer for NZART has placed a call for Council/Presidential nominations. Nomination forms can be obtained from me here at Headquarters. All nominations MUST be received at HQ by 31st December.

Subscriptions - Remember that all who have paid their 2003 subscriptions before 31 December 2002, will go in the draw to win. ... 1st prize of a 2m FM 50w Yaesu FT1500 Mobile Base Transceiver, 2nd two years free membership to NZART & 3rd one year's free membership to NZART. This is a Council initiative to attract more members and also to say thank you for the continued support from existing members. Good Luck! The draw will be made on the 10th January 2003, winners will be notified by mail.

Award Nominations - Early in the New Year would be a good time to consider forwarding nominations for the Young Amateur of the Year Award and the Amateur of the Year Award. Nominations for the Young Amateur should be sent to reach me at Headquarters by April 1st 2003. Nominations for Amateur of the Year for the year 2002, should be forwarded to the NZART President at his Callbook address to arrive by May 1st 2003. Full nomination criteria is available from HQ.

**BRANCH SPOT:**

Branch 74, the Wellington VHF Group bring news of the success of the National System Award 2002.

The NS Award was devised as a response to the Branch Committee's concerns that the National System wasn't being fully utilised. The aim was to foster on-air contact via the National System, to emphasise the coverage provided, promote contacts with the NZART branches, and provide opportunity for Limited grade calls to participate in a major award.

The award certainly stimulated activity on the system. One wit commented that at times it sounded a bit like a 20 metre pile up. A lot of new on-air friendships were established and old acquaintanceships were re-forged. Some enthusiastic Amateurs made special effort to travel to the "hard to get" branch areas to ensure those were available to award hunters. Others, equally enthusiastic, coordinated the availability and timing of their fellows to ensure optimum opportunity was provided for award hunters to log yet another branch. Kevin ZL1TEA reports he made 1340 contacts on the system during the award period.

As anticipated, several branch areas featured on the "hard-to-get" list. Members from Southland Branch 37 travelled north to Clinton several times to access the system via Dunedin 905. (There was a plea from them to have the system extended south to Invercargill). Similar excursions by members of Central Otago Branch 61, and Westland Branch 49 assisted award hunters achieve contact with those branches. Early success for Mercury Bay Branch 85 was achieved by aeronautical mobile, but later it was found that contacts could be made from several high points on roads within that branch area. Contact from Gisborne Branch 11 could only be achieved from a point just north of Wairoa, via Mt Erin 4175 in Hawkes Bay, and several Amateurs parked on this hill site from time to time to ensure the branch was made available.

As mentioned in the last issue of Q-Bit, Rahotu Branch 32 proved to be a difficult nut to crack. On several occasions Amateurs travelled from Opunake to near Kaponga to put Branch 32 into the system via Egmont 4025. It was only 3 days before the close of the award on 31 October that a contact was made from within the branch area. Ian ZL1AOX had the honour of a mobile contact from near the top of the Kiri Road into Belmont 900, the Wellington port. He was running 75 watts to a collinear, pretty much the conditions and location predicted previously as the most likely for success by Doug ZL2TAR.

Sadly one award hunter didn't have the opportunity to collect his "75" certificate. Before he had time to submit his log, Patrick ZL2WPR of Wanganui became a silent key. Subsequently the committee of his branch, Wanganui Branch 48, sent in Patrick's log and they will present the certificate to Patrick's family at a future branch meeting. Vale Patrick, let's hope there are radio awards to chase where you are now.

At the time this article goes to press, just on 90 certificates have been issued so far, and I expect more applications to arrive before the close-off at the end of November. Thanks to all who participated in the award, and thanks also to the many who sent complimentary comments with applications, you obviously enjoyed yourselves.

73 Dick ZL2TGQ

### **NASA's Great Moonbuggy Race**

To mark 10th anniversary April 11-12, 2003, in Huntsville, Ala., High School and College teams from across the nation will come to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala. April 11-12, 2003 for NASA's 10th annual Great Moonbuggy Race. The competition is inspired by the NASA team that designed and built the Lunar Roving Vehicle used by astronauts on the moon.

It's the hottest space-related race on Earth! NASA's Great Moonbuggy Race will celebrate its 10th year at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala., one of the state's largest tourist attractions.

Visitors to the Centre April 11-12, 2003, will see High School and College students race human-powered "Moonbuggies" over a half-mile of simulated lunar terrain. NASA's Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville sponsors the educational program and competition. Students face real-life design, engineering and building challenges in getting their buggies ready to race.

High School students race Friday, April 11, and College Students race Saturday, April 12. Sixty teams from 20 states and Puerto Rico competed in 2002. Prizes are awarded not only for the fastest vehicles, but also to the teams with the best technical solution for the engineering problems involved in navigating a simulated lunar surface.

More information about the competition is available on the Marshall Centre's Great Moonbuggy Race Web site at: <http://moonbuggy.msfc.nasa.gov>

### **Club Nets**

VHF Net 146.525 MHz 7:30pm every Wednesday  
HF Net 3622 KHz +/- QRM/QRN 7:30pm every Friday

HF Net Roster, Branch 03

06-December-2002	ZL1ACZ	Barry
13-December-2002	ZL1WI	Roy
20-December-2002	ZL1VRR	Ross
29-December-2002	ZL1MW	Brian
03-January-2003	ZL1JL	John
10-January-2003	ZL1NE	John
17-January-2003	ZL1ACZ	Barry

John Neill ZL1NE - Newsletter Editor [john.neill@clear.net.nz](mailto:john.neill@clear.net.nz)  
(PS [z1ne@qsl.net](mailto:z1ne@qsl.net) seems to be giving problems)