



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

March 2003 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

Thursday	6 th	March	AREC Meeting WSRC Clubrooms
Monday	10 th	March	Club Night – Annual General Meeting.
Sunday	23 rd	March	Special Meeting to meet a visiting US Amateur whom Barry ZL1ACZ has regularly worked.
Friday	11 th	April	Rally of New Zealand
Saturday	12 th		
Sunday	13 th		
Saturday	12 th	April	North Shore and Rodney Radio Clubs Market Day – Dairy Flat School Hall
Tuesday	29 th	April	Regional Coordinating Committee
Saturday	10 th	May	Cambridge Radio Club Annual Market Day
Tuesday	29 th	July	Regional Coordinating Committee
Tuesday	30 th	September	Regional Coordinating Committee

Club Night Monday 10th March 2003 - Annual General Meeting

This will be held on Monday 10th March 2003 at the Club Rooms. The Agenda will be as follows:

Annual General Meeting

Monday 10th March 2003 7:30 pm

WSRC Club Rooms 3000 Great North Road New Lynn

Agenda

- 1 Presidents Introduction
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of 2002 AGM
- 4 Treasurers Report
- 5 AREC Report
- 6 Presidents Report
- 7 Election of Officers
- 8 General Business

After many years of faithful service Roy ZL1WI, is stepping down as secretary. We need a volunteer to fill this vacancy. It involves taking minutes of the committee and general meetings and the very occasional letter. This is not a very onerous job so please consider putting your name forward. We would also like to see some new faces on the committee. The more members we have the easier the committee work is. For further information please contact Barry ZL1ACZ on 627 9070. There is a nomination form included with this newsletter for you to fill in should you or one of your esteemed colleagues feel motivated. Give the completed form to any current committee member or send to PO Box 15-122, New Lynn

Club Night Monday 10th February 2003

This was a big success with some very interesting talks by club members. Barry ZL1ACZ bought along a clamp arrangement that left us all guessing and we still are. The piece was probably in excess of 100 years old. He also discussed the motor in a floppy disk drive. Bob ZL1GD demonstrated his portable, collapsible 2 metre Slim Jim antenna that he uses in portable situations. Andrew ZL2ALW showed us some portable antennas that he uses on VHF Field Day occasions. The antennae are high gain and of very large dimensions but dismantle and all

components fit in a bag small enough to fit in the boot of a car. Tom ZL1CZ discussed the different antenna types and configurations that can be achieved with clever reshaping of a humble wire coat hanger. A most enjoyable meeting.

Also at the meeting the Monty Millar Cup for Notable Club Spirit was presented to Bob ZL1GD for his assistance and work he has provided to the Club and AREC. Bob is pictured below receiving the Cup.



Tomo in the WSRC Drive

A gaping hole appeared in the driveway at the Clubrooms possibly on Wednesday or Thursday. It was first noticed Thursday evening by one of the AREC members. The hole was about a metre deep maybe more. There were a number of pipes visible and a lot of water running at the bottom but not filling the hole. There was no evidence of water or soil being washed down the creek but the bank is well overgrown and could conceal it. All that soil and water must have gone some-where. Friday Morning (21st) left James ZL1WOT waiting for the council workers to arrive, and sort out the problem. The council arrived and it was found to be a burst water pipe that had scored out the large amount of soil. It was repaired and by the afternoon we were again able to use the driveway. The hole is pictured below.



Field Day 22/23rd February Report

After months of planning the day finally came round and eleven Club members took part in the Field Day Contest, over the weekend. They were ZL1WOT, ZL1TMV, ZL1SK, ZL1WBP, ZL1BVK, ZL1FK, ZL1BTR, ZL1GD, ZL2ALW, ZL1JC, and ZL1VRR. This gave us three CW, seven phone operators and support club

members. The event started with a phone call Thursday night saying that our driveway had a large hole in it (see the previous article). After supervising the repairs to the drive on Friday, James loaded up some of the gear from the Club and with Marc headed up to the site, for some of the preliminary preparation.

Next morning, Saturday, Bob and Brian loaded up the trailer with the tents, generator, tables, chairs and a few smaller items. Once they arrived on site, the tents were pitched ready for the radio equipment. Antennae were set out to be hoisted into the air at the appropriate time. The generator was placed in position and leads run out ready for the noon hour. The generator was fired up and Antennae checked for SWR. A bit of adjustment was needed to the antennae for best SWR with both 80 and 40 metre needing to be shortened. SWR of 1.13 was achieved without the tuners in circuit. Good signal reports were obtained when testing before the first contact at 1500 hour. The site at Anawhata that we used was a new one and it proved excellent with no electrical noise, as there were no power lines anywhere near. During the evening there were three contacts with VK.

Sunday I did not go out. Signals at my QTH were down from the signal strength experienced on Saturday. A good score was obtained from previous years as we had a full team. Thanks to all who helped and were part of the ZL1AC team. Now we wait to see what our score was compared to other clubs in our region. Why not plan now to join us at next field day.

Ross ZL1VRR

Exam success for Chris Hoffmann

Chris sat the amateur exam on Friday, 21st February 2003 at the Western Suburbs Club rooms and we are pleased to confirm a pass rate of 87.7%. Congratulations Chris. We hope you have many years of Ham operating.



Chris Receiving his Certificate from Doug

Doug Tennent ZL1AVY & Alex Learmond ZL1BVK
Examiners.

Rally NZ 2003

Planning is well advanced for the Rally of New Zealand which will take place in April. Still a bit of room left if you would like to help. Benefits are a privileged position to view the rally on one or more of the Special Stages. And a really good day (or three) out. Contact John on 828 5891 or Ross on 629 0504 for further information.

This year the rally route is as follows:

Friday 11 April – 5 stages east of Paparua Service Park – run twice.

Saturday 12 April – four stages west of Paparua S/P – Manukau SSS.

Sunday 13 April – Te Akau South then Te Akau North – Maramarua Forest.

Musick Point Pictures

These have all been uploaded to the web and can be viewed on www.qsl.net/zl1ac/page_01.htm

Committee Meeting Minutes

These were not available in time to get into the newsletter, as your editor is off on holiday to Norfolk Island on Sunday 2nd for a week and needed to complete early. I will try and get a double lot in, in the next newsletter. In the meantime enjoy the next article.

The French Computer

A language instructor was explaining to her class that in French, nouns, unlike their English counterparts, are grammatically designated as masculine or feminine. For example, "House," in French, is feminine - "la maison." "Pencil," in French, is masculine - "le crayon."

One puzzled student asked, "What gender is computer?" The teacher did not know, and the word wasn't in her French dictionary. So for fun she split the class into two groups appropriately enough, by gender, and asked them to decide whether "computer" should be a masculine or feminine noun. Both groups were required to give four reasons for their recommendation.

The men's group decided that computers should definitely be of the feminine gender ("la computer"), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic.
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for possible later retrieval.
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine ("le computer"), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on.
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves.
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem.
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you'd waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

THE WOMEN WON!

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 The full roster is on:

<http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrc-hf-roster.html>

7 Mar 2003	ZL1WI	Roy
14 Mar 2003	ZL1VRR	Ross
21 Mar 2003	ZL1MW	Brian
28 Mar 2003	ZL1JL	John
4 Apr 2003	ZL1NE	John
11 Apr 2003	ZL1ACZ	Barry

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