



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

June 2003 Newsletter

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

President: James Moore ZL1WOT, Secretary: Merv Thomas

VHF Club Net Wednesday 07:30 146.525 MHz, HF Club Net Fridays 07:30 3.622 MHz

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

Club Calendar

Monday	9 th	June	Club Night – Guest Speaker John Turnwald
Monday	28 th	July	Committee Meeting
Saturday	26 th	July	Waitakere Phone Sprint
Tuesday	29 th	July	Regional Coordinating Committee
Saturday	2 nd	August	Waitakere CW Sprint
Tuesday	30 th	September	Regional Coordinating Committee

Club Night Monday 9th June

John Turnwald will be the Guest Speaker at this meeting. Topic unknown at this time.

Last Meeting - Death By Radiation

The guest speaker, David Morey ZL1UTR from South Auckland Funeral Services gave a most interesting and descriptive talk on his connection with Ham Radio and his experiences as a funeral Director in being involved with the Police and other official groups at various fatal occurrences. There were a great number of varied questions from the meeting and some general advice given on funeral arrangements and the advantages of family trusts. Some photographs handed around of various vehicles from accidents were a good reminder of the severe damage possible at vehicle clashes. Definitely not a morbid dialogue from David and presented with sometimes appropriate humour in keeping with the subject.

Radio Examinations

As from, 29 April 2003, Alex ZL1BVK (Br03) and Doug, ZL1AVY (Br66) have been granted permission to conduct the Entire amateur radio exam (written papers and CW testing). Both are retired and can accommodate prospective examinees at any times that suit them.

At some future date Alex and Doug will be holding "open" days at Br03 and Br66 for operators with Tech calls, to run CW tests & give them the opportunity to update their call signs. We'll notify you when we will start these tests.

73 - Doug ZL1AVY

Me and my ZC1

Like many other new hams of the 50s and 60s, the ZC1 got me on the air easily and quickly. Of course over a period of time I made the usual modifications and on the whole they improved performance. A couple of experiences I had with my ZC1 taught me a thing or two. At some stage I decided to go mobile with my ZC1 and built myself an 80-metre base loaded whip which when mounted was reasonably effective.

I duly placed the ZC1 in the back seat, ran some true rip twin flex from the ZC1, out the front window and under the bonnet of the car and to the battery. In the early 60s, 80 metres was quite active even during the day on the weekends. I had a quick QSO and all was working well. So I decided to get mobile. I

established another contact and drove off all apparently going well, until I noticed smoke coming from underneath the bonnet. I quickly pulling over I had the bonnet up to find the clear plastic covering of the true rip was rapidly melting and smoking profusely. I cannot remember the model of the car but there was oil and grease around on the motor so I quickly pulled the wires off the battery and away from the motor. A major car fire was averted and I became aware that a ZC1 draws a reasonable current and that the clear plastic covering of the wire had a very low melting point. Lesson one.

Some months later I drove up to my mates farm at Whangaparaoa where we did our broadcast and SW DXing on long wires running around the farm. It was night when I arrived and I wanted to show Lloyd how my ZC1 worked as a mobile. We sat in the car and I called CQ. I worked one VK after another for over an hour on 80 metres with amazing signal reports. I was astounded as the reports were far better than those I was getting at home with my half wave dipole. It was not until the morning that it became apparent as to the reason why. I had parked the car in such a position that the whip was only a foot or so away from one of the SW antenna lead-ins. This particular antenna was 400 feet long and 60 feet high. Obviously my whip was inducing a lot of RF into a very big antenna that happened to be radiating well to Australia on 80 metres. Lesson 2, inductive coupling.

The only other ZC1 incident was when I was experimenting with a ZC1 tuner unit. I cannot remember the set up, but while having a QSO on 80, another ham up and told me I had a spurious signal just below 3500 kcs. I immediately went QRT but 5 minutes later the phone rang and I was advised by the authorities that I was interfering with a commercial frequency and to get the hell out of it. My only brush with the law.

Barry ZL1ACZ

Jumbo Trophy

Our radio club was skillful enough to again bring home the Jumbo bowls trophy at the recent tournament at Albany. Congratulations to the team. Brian Huggard ZL1MW reports that the "Jumbo" trophy has been engraved and is currently in the equipment cupboard for safe keeping. Ask Brian to get the trophy out and show it to you next time you are at the club.

EchoLink

EchoLink Vanity Node Numbers is now available! This is a new feature and a great way to get an easy-to-remember ID for your node, and to help support EchoLink. For details, please see the EchoLink Web site: www.echolink.org

Court In Code

Article in the column 8 section of the Sydney Morning Herald recently.

"I thought I was the only one who was courted in morse," says Lynne Ellis, of Kincumber (Column 8, Wednesday). When she was 12 she had a 16-year-old boyfriend who wrote her love letters in the code. "As I was too young . . . and too lazy to translate them, my kind mother obtained a morse code book and translated them for me. I hope he never found out." As for the romance, it came to -. --- - -. --.

The New Look For 2003

The Auckland VHF Group Inc. Trading Table will be open for sales on SAT 14 JUN 2003 9 am till noon. The clubrooms are situated at the end of Hazel Ave in Mt Roskill (just behind the Scout Den).

All new components - Resistors, capacitors, transistors, IC's, memory & microprocessor chips, VHF & UHF components including a few MAXON 70 cm pre-programmed h/hs \$60 each, VHF/UHF pre-amp kits \$18, connectors, NAVMAN GPS units \$220 (o/s at the moment, but more stock due late June), TinyTrak-1 kits \$85, plus NEW Data Modes CD & Utilities vers 4.04b with EchoLink update, inc HAMCALC - \$10.

Plus we have a large assortment of variable caps - Arc5 and a goodly number of BC variables (suitable ATUs) & a few computer cards (modems, i/o, sound, Ethernet etc) plus some very cheap dot matrix LCD modules @ \$7 each. Two only Pentium 133 computers with cds and monitors - MAO ?.

Our new catalogue is out - ask for a free disk copy. I'll e-mail you a copy on request. Open invitations to share some ham radio fellowship, renew old acquaintances, and maybe make some new ones. Coffee, Tea and biscuits are always available. If you need to know more about anything mentioned above, then please contact Doug Tennent, via:

packet: ZL1AVY @ ZL1AB
e-mail: zl1avy@ww.co.nz
ph. 836-8206

Musick Point Video

NZART has a copy of the commemoration of Musick Point to Captain Musick who was killed in a fatal crash at Pago Pago 65 years ago. This video is available for hire at a cost of \$3 from NZART.

NZART Conference

David Karrasch represented the Club at this years conference. He has written a report for us and this will be tabled at the next club evening on 9th June.

Western Suburbs Radio Club

Branch 03, N.Z.A.R.T. Inc:

Minutes of the 3rd: meeting for 2003 of the elected Committee.

Monday 26th: May 2003.

Attendance: James Moore ZL1WOT, President; Merv Thomas ZL1SK, Secretary; John Turnwald ZL1JT, Treasurer; Barry Williams ZL1ACZ, Newsletter Liaison; Brian Huggard ZL1MW, A.R.E.C; Ross Reddell ZL1VRR; Marc Veldhuisen ZL1TMV, Auditor Meeting commenced at 1930 hours.

Apologies: Bob Highet ZL1GD recuperating from a hospital visit.

Minutes of the last committee meeting as distributed were taken as read.

Matters arising

The secretary was instructed to forward the WSRC 2003 remit voting results to Debbie at NZART Headquarters.

James Moore ZL1WOT reported that he had sold all the Conference raffle tickets and would forward the money and butts to NZART.

A.R.E.C

Brian Huggard ZL1MW reported that GM300 radios are now set to 16 channels with the frequencies matching the Icom F3's as follows; 4 with AREC frequencies and 2 for SAR purposes. James Moore ZL1WOT thanked Brian Huggard ZL1MW for the work that he had put into the above. He also reported on the January Woodville Horse event and reported that no donation towards re-imburement of expenses had so far been received.

General Business

Barry Williams ZL1ACZ enquired about QSL cards for ZL1AC.

Discussion on the responsibility of someone to bring milk to the meetings was left to voluntary action.

The subject of working bees to finish the multi-band antenna installation and the tidying up of the backroom along with getting the club rigs going was aired. Digging a trench for the outside light feed to accommodate the installation of radials was left in Marc Veldhuisen's hands to enquire about "free"

underground armoured cable. A working bee was set for June 7th. Publishing that fact to the general membership was not discussed.

A fee of \$20.00 as payment to club meeting speakers (outside of club membership) was agreed to.

Marc Veldhuisen ZL1TMV directed that John Turnwald ZL1JT be the club's June meeting speaker.

Discussion then took place on the supposed membership list that the secretary had prepared from various lists and was trying to edit down to actual and potential members. Ross Reddell ZL1VRR handed the secretary a file of last years financial members receipts, which will be part of the edit. Help was requested from committee members of any information relating to the list.

Brian Huggard ZL1MW reported on a dubious vehicle behind the clubrooms when he had visited the clubrooms during daylight. The said vehicle left in a hurry leaving behind two beer cans. The fitting of a guard chain was discussed as a result, and James Moore ZL1WOT recommended that John Turnwald ZL1JT investigate the cost of a chain.

A request from FMTAG for information on our repeater set-up is being handled by Brian Huggard ZL1MW who will contact Brian Ingram

Marc Veldhuisen ZL1TMV reported that he had been unable to contact the Western area Coordinator for the science fair to be held at Henderson for secondary school pupils that the NZART had a prize donation to be give out if it came within the radio/electronics guide lines

The secretary also tabled Photostat copies of the Local paper community notices showing 2 weeks inclusion of our notice about the clubs training courses.

The meeting concluded at 21-03 hours.

Merv Thomas ZL1SK,
Secretary / Scribe. 27th: May 2003.

Rally of New Zealand 2003 Pictures

Auriol



Burns



Makinen



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>

6 June 2003	ZL1VRR	Ross
13 June 2003	ZL1MW	Brian
20 June 2003	ZL1NE	John
27 June 2003	ZL1ACZ	Barry
4 July 2003	ZL1WI	Roy

John Neill ZL1NE - Newsletter Editor john.neill@clear.net.nz