



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

July 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

Saturday	12 th	July	Auckland VHF Clubrooms and Trading Table Open 9am till Noon.
Monday	14 th	July	Club Evening – Guest Speaker, Paul ZL1WGP. Paul will talk on his recent experiences in the Marshall Islands.
Saturday	26 th	July	Whangarei Used Equipment Sale - Phone Brian Winger for table bookings.
Saturday	26 th	July	Waitakere Phone Sprint
Tuesday	29 th	July	Regional Coordinating Committee
Saturday	2 nd	August	Waitakere CW Sprint
Monday	11 th	August	WSRC Dinner Avondale RSA
Tuesday	30 th	September	Regional Coordinating Committee

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker for Monday 14th July will be Paul ZL1WGP. Paul has recently spent several weeks in the Marshall Islands (V7 land). Paul is an engineer and will tell us about the work he was doing while there. Do not miss this talk as it will be as interesting as the others Paul has given us.

Last Club Evening

Last club evening John Turnwald, pictured at right, spoke on safety at sea. Thanks John for a very interesting talk.



General Meetings

The committee realises that they must endeavour to make it worth members attending. It has been proposed that we have a guest speaker every second month. The alternative month will be more of a social gathering where different members, can bring along a new project and talk about it, ask technical questions, solve technical problems, and generally discuss amateur matters that have been raised from the floor. Your participation is what will make this a success.

Tying in with this, members will have name-tags available at the clubrooms. The intention is that they will be worn each time members attend meetings so that we can get to know each other better. This should be especially useful for new members and visitors.

Help Wanted

The more one is involved with a club, the more one gets out of it. We have several opportunities for members to help and be involved with the club.

- Someone to help clean the clubrooms every couple of months.
- Someone to organise and make supper, tea and biscuits, on meeting night.
- Someone to organise guest speakers. (Not necessarily radio topics).

None of these are onerous jobs and perhaps some of our members may wish to help. If so please contact a committee member by phone or at a meeting.

Raffles

At the next meeting we will be running a few raffles. The funds raised will be going towards the draining of the ground in the parking area of the clubrooms. Don't forget to bring a couple of dollars along with you.

Mid Winter Dinner Monday 11th August

It is time for our popular Mid Winter dinner at the Avondale RSA. Here is a chance of keeping in good with the XYL by taking her out for dinner and perhaps having a flutter on the Pokies. Please mark this date on your calendar.

Club Generator



At left is the club generator now on wheels, thanks to Bob ZL1GD. This will make moving the generator around a lot easier.

Working Bee's

In July there will be several working bee's at the clubrooms subject to weather. Two projects; the relocation of one of the outside lights, and the replacement of the coax on the vertical and attachment of radials. We WILL get the rig on HF this year!

Jumbo Trophy

In case you have not had a chance to look at the Jumbo Trophy here it is. WSRC have won this trophy on the last three occasions. Congratulations to the team of Bob ZL1GD, Brian ZL1MW, Ross ZL1VRR, Peggy, and Betti.



For Sale

Ken Lord has available for sale; A Yaesu 901DM transceiver and a trapped vertical antenna. For further details please ring 09 424 2592

Meeting Night Call In.

The club 2 metre rig will be on from 7 pm on Committee and Club meeting nights. Any member or visitor wishing to give their apologies or raise other matters should call in. Frequency 146.525 simplex, but may change if this does not work out.

**Western Suburbs Radio Club
Branch 03, N.Z.A.R.T. Inc:
Minutes of the 4th meeting for 2003 of the elected Committee. (Edited)
Monday 30th June 2003.**

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

Apologies: Bob Hight ZL1GD recuperating, John Turnwald, ZL1JT.

Marc Veldhuisen ZL1TMV opened the discussions with a report on his efforts and research on the problem of Amateur Radio publicity and public awareness. Extensive discussion took place on the falling interest in amateur radio due mainly to the development of technology like computers, the Internet and of course cellphones. All at the meeting related to the opportunity to speak to other lands etc; as a prime motivation for becoming a "ham". This of course has changed at the expense of amateur radio as a unique hobby. A search for some method to re-stimulate interest in the hobby is paramount to keeping our club alive. Even amateur TV has been overtaken to some extent by cellphones. Marc also reported that the "NO SMOKING" signs are on their way. After the discussion he felt that he had explored all the avenues open to him with no positive result and as such felt he was wasting his time in the committee so handed in his keys and resigned.

Brian Huggard ZL1MW and Barry Williams ZL1ACZ further commented that they had attended ModelX exhibition and observed that there had been no public interest in the Amateur Radio displays.

Chairman James Moore ZL1WOT thanked Marc for his work on the committee during his tenure. Marc then left the meeting for another appointment.

Correspondence

Inwards: Newsletters have been received from Branches; Manukau, Papakura, VHF Group, Franklin, Auckland and NZART Info Line.

Discussion then followed on the new licensing arrangements with The Ministry of Economic Development for Amateur Radio and an increase in the license fee was noted.

Nil outgoing correspondence.

Moved: Barry Williams ZL1ACZ and Seconded: Ross Reddell ZL1VRR that the correspondence be accepted.

Minutes

The minutes from the previous committee meeting of 26th May 2003 were read by the secretary. Moved: James Moore ZL1WOT. Seconded: Barry Williams ZL1ACZ that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

- Barry Williams ZL1ACZ explained that the subscription account due forms were not sent in June but will be sent in July's Newsletter.
- It was decided to try just using "the white powder" instead of bringing fresh milk for meeting suppers and see how the members react.
- Brian Huggard ZL1MW notified the committee that a requested letter had been sent to FMTAG as required.
- Further discussion took place on the underground cable requirements for the outside pole light and the subsequent finishing of the vertical trap antenna and its radials. Moved: Merv Thomas ZL1SK that the lamp be re-fitted to a corner of the building's utility room. Seconded: James Moore ZL1WOT. However further investigation of the site changed that decision to fitting both the exterior lamps on the same pole as the vertical antenna at 180 degrees placement. This would remove the need for underground cabling and make it easier and safer to install the required radials. Ross Reddell ZL1VRR will arrange a working bee on a day of suitable weather to make the alterations and installation.

AREC

Brian Huggard ZL1MW reported that as no activity had taken place during the preceding month there was no official report to table.

General Business

A suggestion was made by the secretary that we investigate ways of using our AREC handhelds and our forthcoming repeater to combine with schools on tramps, sports days or other suitable activity to help publicise our hobby amongst the younger generation.

The secretary read out a list of suggestions from John Turnwald ZL1JT aimed at improving the club's attendance figures and amenities.

- (1) The newsletter should be published at least a week before club meetings to better inform members of the up-coming meetings activities.
- (2) Guest speakers should be advertised well before meetings to encourage members attendance.
- (3) Club call sign and frequency to be advertised in the newsletter for pre-meeting call-ups for say, apologies and the like between 19-00 and 1930 hours.
- (4) Club computer to be set up and running with "Ham" type programs and working printer thus enabling members to swap files at meetings etc. Appoint a computer literate member / morse expert / etc; to maintain it for members use.
- (5) Name tags with callsigns to be kept at the club and pinned on, on arrival. Absentees are noted by swinger still on the board.
- (6) Appoint someone to maintain and run the "cafeteria" to make end of meeting suppers more appetizing and sociable.
- (7) Appoint a "house-keeper" to maintain the clubroom tidiness.
- (8) Club committee meetings to be on 1st: Monday of the month because of conflicting meetings for the treasurer on the present arrangement.
- (9) Select a guest speaker 1 month ahead for publicity purposes thereby having a speaker for every second general monthly meeting with social, homebrew equipment, building nights, technical and any other beneficial activity for members on alternate months.

By and large these measures were deemed to be good ideas by the committee and an effort would be made by the committee to implement them.

Brian Huggard ZL1MW reported that he had laid 5 bags of gravel on our soggy driveway.

Discussion ensued on the matter of providing a regulated battery charger for the club to maintain the batteries that Brian had sourced for the 2 metre rig that will be used for meeting night call-ups. It was decided that Brian will bring a unserviceable unit to the secretary for serving and subsequent installation at the club.

Thanks were expressed to John Turnwald ZL1JT for repairing the vandalized window.

The meeting concluded at 21-25 hours.

Merv Thomas ZL1SK, Secretary / Scribe. 3rd: July 2003.

Waitakere Sprints

Saturday 26th July for SSB and Saturday August 4th for CW

Once again it is time for the Waitakere Sprint contests and again I ask all club members to make a special effort to support this club activity. Over the years the sprints have become the most popular contests in the NZ contest calendar, with your support we hope to maintain that position this year. Get Radio Active lets hear you in the contest.

Full details are available on our web site www.qsl.net/zl1ac

Alex ZL1BVK

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>

11 July 2003	ZL1VRR	Ross
18 July 2003	ZL1MW	Brian
25 July 2003	ZL1NE	John
1 August 2003	ZL1ACZ	Barry
8 August 2003	ZL1WI	Roy
15 August 2003	ZL1VRR	Ross

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