



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

May 2004 Newsletter

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

President: James Moore ZL1JYM, Secretary: Merv Thomas ZL1SK

Newsletter Editor – John Neill ZL1NE

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	10th	May	General Club Meeting - Barry ZL1ACZ on early New Zealand DX
Saturday	15 th	May	Cambridge Market Day - 10am - (vendors 8:30am)
Monday	17 th	May	Committee Meeting
Monday	14 th	June	General Meeting – Topic to be announced

Club Evening 10th May

Our next meeting on Monday 10 May 2004 will discuss the remits for the upcoming conference. There are only two, which we ask you to study from your latest 'Break In'.

Following that, there will be a talk by Barry Williams, ZL1ACZ, on "The origins of early DX in New Zealand and the radios used for that purpose."

April Club Evening

At the April Club Meeting, Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW spoke on APRS and the work he has carried out to date in setting up a Digi-peater for the Club. The Node is not running as yet but will be soon on 144.575 simplex. When operational you will see the Club call ZL1AC on the map on your computer screen if you have UI-View or similar software running. See the diagram and story in last Months newsletter on building a simple interface to connect your computer to your radio. The UI-View software is available from the web at www.ui-view.com and choose **UI-View (16 bit) Downloads** for an unregistered version. Everything you may ever want to ask about APRS and maps can be found on Alan Wallace's website <http://www.zl1amw.wallace.net.nz/>. Don't wait for the clubs Digi-peater before getting started because as I write this, 58 stations throughout New Zealand are currently active. Some are WX stations and I am watching the progress of Saturdays rain by the amount of rain collected at each station as it moves down country.

AREC Repeater

The Repeater is currently operating under test from Roy's house in the Waitakere's Ranges. The frequency is 146.925 with a negative split. Feel free to use it while it is in this test mode. At the moment the repeaters antenna is situated on Roy's terrace and only just above roof level. Reports to date indicate a good coverage from this location. The audio quality appears excellent. Signal reports from your location would be appreciated.

Propecia Rally of New Zealand 2004

Four members of the WSRC AREC section took part in the rally. Brian ZL1MW assisted at Head Quarters, getting all the radio equipment and linking operational. Bob ZL1GD and Brian helped out at the post-test day for the teams to check out their cars before the start of the rally, which commenced on Thursday evening at the Manukau Supper Special Stage. Brian helped out with the early bird shift at HQ over the three days of the Rally. The conference centre at Sky City was the focal point where the signals went out and back to a small team who took all the nets, both VHF and HF, from the field teams out on the event. This comprised start and finish groups that were involved in recording the start and finish times of the rally cars. This was a back up of the electronic data that came by Satellite from the starting and finish lines. In the stages were 5 km operators that logged the cars as they passed by and radioed the details into base. This is done as a safety check to keep track of the rally cars in the special stages. Merv ZL1SK and Ross ZL1VRR were out in the field with many other operators.

We stayed at Waipu Cove at the camping ground on both Thursday and Friday nights as we had early starts both mornings. The roads were closed very early for reconnaissance, prior too the rally cars driving at race speed later in the morning. Our

set-up point was marked with a red disc and this was confirmed with a photo taken of the point that they required us to operate from. We had to set-up in a paddock clear of the road. Once we had our dipole up we checked com's back to base at Auckland, then listen around and report in the safety cars then the rally cars as they passed. On our first two stages we had a medic team with us but they thankfully were not required. Good copy was recorded from all positions with no QRM. All stages were run a second time in the afternoon with two of the morning stages being combined to make the longest stage in the rally. There were 13 - 5km check points, so keeping a track of all the cars. Day two started early again as we had to be in place before the roads were closed, and the competitors had a last chance to check out the roads and come up with their preferred tyre choice. Listening to the control channel on VHF and 5km safety points on HF kept us busy. Adrienne and Jim at ZL1EXC monitored the call-ins from the 5km operators.



Radio set-up in Ross's Camper



The Antenna on the Rear



Temporary Repairs to the Drivers Window.

All went well but for a stone that accidentally found it's way though my driver's window. A slower car at that, but that's rallying. We packed up and made our way back to Maungaturoto to camp for the night before heading back to Auckland, the following day.

A good two days in which all fell into place and a job well done.

Indoor Bowls

Western suburbs was successful in bringing home the Jumbo Trophy at the last Indoor Bowls evening. Congratulations to the team on a fine effort. Obviously some serious training is going on because it is the third time in recent years that the club has been victorious

Western Suburbs Radio Club

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

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the 2004 elected Committee.

Monday 19th April 2004. (Edited)

Attendance Merv Thomas ZL1SK, Secretary, James Moore ZL1JYM, Chairman John Turnwald ZL1JT, Treasurer; Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW, Vice President; Ross Reddell ZL1VRR; Brian Huggard ZL1MW; Bob Highet ZL1GD, Maurie Challinor ZL1FK; Barry Williams ZL1ACZ

Meeting commenced at 19-29 hours.

Apologies John Neill ZL1NE.

Minutes As circulated by email, by the secretary were taken as a true and correct record. Moved: Maurie Challinor ZL1FK; Seconded: Ross Reddell ZL1VRR

Matters Arising Noted that the General meeting of 12 April 2004 approved the payment of the Insurance Excess for the repairs to the clubroom walls.

Financial Report The Treasurer provided his report as of 18th April 2004. 8 subs received so far, account received from Barry ZL1ACZ for photocopying. Suggestion that a "tear-off" attachment be appended to the newsletter for subscription renewal. Moved: John Turnwald ZL1JT; Seconded: Bob Hight ZL1GD

Correspondence: Inwards Branch 02 & Howick branch newsletters.
A photocopy of an English article received from Branch 20 re "Rejuvenating Amateur Radio" extolling the success of the 'Foundation License' scheme in Britain. (The subject of a remit for 2004 conference).

AREC 1st, Deputy Leader Brian Huggard, ZL1MW's related the success of the 2004 Car Rally which involved some WSRC members. The club's new SPST repeater was successfully accessed from locations outside of Auckland whilst installed at Roy Milam's home for testing.

General Business:

Wednesday 21st April is Jumbo Bowling event.
Secretary to write to M.E.D. updating the club's current Trustees.
ZL1's GD, ACZ, FK volunteered to paint out the graffiti on the back clubroom walls.
John ZL1JT informed that the repairs to the damaged walls has been assigned to a contractor but that there is a 3-week delay before commencement.
NOTE: 2004 club members' subscriptions of \$25.00 are now due.
The committee unanimously approved the construction of a Digi-peater along with its associated expenses at the clubrooms.

Meeting concluded (stopped) (finished) (halted) (packed-up) (went home) at 20-25 hours.

Merv Thomas, ZL1SK, Secretary / Scribe
20th April 2004.

For Sale

A 4-element tri-band beam, rotator, cabling and tilt over mast, all in good condition are for sale. The beam used by ZL1BI Titirangi, is erected and operational, and can be seen by contacting Frank Cummings 817 7935,

You Can Tell a *REAL* Ham

1. He uses a knife switch instead of an antenna relay.
2. He not only logs all contacts but makes a log entry when making a test transmission.
3. He uses lamp cord for transmission line.
4. He knows nothing about his SWR, but uses brute force to load the antenna but using tight link coupling to the tank coil.
5. After a CQ he says tuning the band for a call.
6. He looks out the window to see if his neighbor is watching TV, as his unshielded rig with long leads radiates strong harmonics on all TV channels.
7. He designs his 6L6 final so he can turn chassis upside down in a bucket of water to water cool the tubes and run higher power.
8. He touches the plate cap of his 807 final to test for RF, being careful to not touch ground to get shocked by high voltage.
9. Not being able to afford a meter, he uses a small light bulb and loop of wire to tune his transmitter.
10. Being crystal controlled he can not afford a VFO, he uses one crystal to work 4 bands on harmonics., example 7110, 14220. 21330. and 28440.

11. He uses a carbon mike from an old telephone for AM phone.
12. He uses plug in calls for each band.
13. He uses his receiver as a CW monitor.
14. He builds his rig on a breadboard, and winds his own coils.
15. He works only CW his first year on the air until he can afford to build or buy an AM modulator and knows the dangers of cathode keying.
16. He has QSL's with 1-cent stamps on them.
17. He uses the phonetics ABLE, BAKER, CHARLEY, DOG.
18. He uses a lack of filtering in his power supply to have a T7 note which helps his CW signal cut through QRM.
19. He worked 11 meters with 1kw legally as a ham before 1958.
20. He uses CW to talk to voice stations on 75 meters as he only has a class B (General) license) and voice was not permitted with this class until 1953.
21. And he can read a schematic, copy CW, and pass a real FCC test!

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 May 2004	ZL1ACZ	Barry
14 May 2004	ZL1WI	Roy
21 May 2004	ZL1VRR	Ross
28 May 2004	ZL1MW	Brian
4 June 2004	ZL1JL	John
11 June 2004	ZL1NE	John



Sunset from Music Point January 2003. Picture ZL1SK.