



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

October 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 3.623 MHz

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

Club Calendar

Monday	11 th	October	Club Night – Guest Speaker Nigel ZL2SEA explains Echolink
Monday	25 th	October	Committee Meeting
Saturday	6 th	November	Western Suburbs Radio Club Used Equipment Sale
Thursday	18 th	November	AREC Section Leaders Meeting

Club Evening 11 October 2004

I am very happy to report that the next meeting of our club on Monday 11 October 2004 will feature a talk by Nigel ZL2SEA who is a contributor to the management of the ZL1VK repeater and its Echolink system. I attended his talk at the Manukau branch last month and found it very interesting, very explanatory and easy to follow and understand. He is a very strong advocate of keeping our repeaters occupied and this is certainly a very pleasant way of using one of them. From a position of reluctance to try and use Echolink because of lack of operating knowledge I used it on the following weekend and had 2 very interesting contacts into the USA, one of them in the flooded Florida area. His talk is further enhanced by the showing of relevant PC screens by projector and various printed hand-outs. See you there. Merv ZL1SK Secretary

September Club Evening

Warren Vickery gave us a very well prepared and explanatory talk on the Low Power FM frequencies available to the public for broadcasting and the activities of the "Unforgettable Music Society Inc" members who use ½ watt transmitters to broadcast music of the 1940's to the 1970's. He demonstrated the play lists on computer, showed us a couple of the locally made transmitters and explained the strengths and weaknesses of the two FM frequency bands which are free and unlicensed to the operators. His unit transmits from Blockhouse Bay on 106.9 MHz using a 'Slim Jim' antenna. The Society also has a program on Sundays on 1593 A.M. from 1500 to 1900 hours. Warren described the statistics for the greater Auckland area as having 50% of its citizens aged 35 and up and that it is felt that they don't have a reasonable cultural representation on the 'Air Waves'.

Warren explained his 'day job' as rep for Harris transmitters etc of USA and showed us some photos of the high-tech, high powered equipment he has played a role in supply and installation. The secretary thanked Warren for his most interesting subject matter and explanations and referred to his talk as being of an "other than Ham" related subject but with a very important connection to the technology of radio communications. Merv Thomas ZL1SK, Secretary.

Used Equipment Sale

The hall is booked for the WSRC ANNUAL USED EQUIPMENT SALE. With the continued support of branch members and Auckland amateurs, we can expect another very successful get-together and sale. WSRC needs donated items for the club table. Please check through your shack or workshop for any items you may wish to get rid of. Bring them down to the clubrooms or on the day. The day being SATURDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2004. The venue being the same as last year, THE ROSEBANK ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL, 217 ROSEBANK RD. AVONDALE.

For further information or to book tables contact;

Barry ZL1ACZ 627-9070
Roy ZL1WI 814-9550
Merv ZL1SK 828-7174

Antenna Working Bee

Many thanks to Ross Reddell ZL1VRR, Barry Williams ZL1ACZ, Brian Huggard ZL1MW, Maurie Challinor ZL1FK and (humbly) myself who turned up to the club rooms on a beautiful warm sunny day to finish the clubs HF vertical antenna. The radials were duly erected satisfactorily and voltage measurements taken of the induction from the EHT power lines on both sides of the grounds. Our induced high voltage fears did not eventuate with the highest value of 98 volts showing on a NO-LOAD digital meter and reducing to 22 volts with a load of 5 megs on an analogue meter. Brian also checked the antenna with an expensive MFJ antenna analyser with no detrimental effect on the device. A very good match was obtained on 3.7, 7.05, 10.0, 13.3, 14.0, 18.0 megs WITHOUT AN ANTENNA TUNER but one would be beneficial on 21 and 28 megs.

So guys the club is now operational on HF, VHF and UHF, with its own Digi-peater in operation and our own brand new (and paid for) STSP repeater. It would be nice sometime for volunteers to use the clubrooms for the Wednesday night V.H.F. sked, and the Friday night 80-meter sked. If there are new or older hams out there who currently don't have any on air gear or hams who are antenna less or would like a change, please ring or email me and I will arrange to get you into the clubrooms for some "on air" time. It is there, it works and it is available for members to use. Barry ZL1ACZ also did a great tidy up and sorting of some recently acquired equipment via James ZL1JYM for our November 6th equipment sale. An interesting lot it is too. During the day those at the working bee had chocolate bikies: with tea or coffee and 3 of us had lunch there enabling to carry on and finish our tasks.

Merv Thomas ZL1SK reporting from Avondale for Branch 03.

National System Award

This award is sponsored by the Wellington VHF Group and will run for the whole of October. The aim is to make contact with as many of the Branch Clubs as possible. Contacts with Mobile Stations will not qualify this year. Certificates will be awarded for 25, 50 and 60+ contacts. Send your log to the:

The Award Custodian,
PO Box 26-098,
Newlands,
Wellington

Rally Of Waikato Subaru Tarmac Rally 2004

This rally was the climax to the NZ rallies Championship for 2004. Most of the main participants were there to see if they could beat Chris West, who until this round was leading. All the stages were on tarmac, so there was plenty of tyre smoke and very quick stage times as the cars raced round the roads in the Waikato area bounded from Morrinsville Matamata Tirau and the Waikato River. There were 11 stages some short and others up to 18km long. About 56 cars started and 38 finished so a number dropped out with damage to pride and car. There were no serious injuries to crew. Some of the cars were reaching high speeds with one-stage cars averaging 160 kph for the stage. This was the final time the group A cars will race in a championship, so much was at stake.

Radio wise we had four repeaters being used, 695 main, STSP 6875 and 6825 for 5km safety, and 5325 for radio coms and information to cover all the various groups involved. Unfortunately not all were able to cope with the traffic and interference problems occurred. This kept those at base busy with all the reports coming in. They were crammed into a small room with up to six people taking down information and listening as the stages were run and reported in from out in the field.

Richard ZL1BNQ and David ZL1DK worked tirelessly from daybreak to dusk logging and receiving calls on when the cars started, finished and their stage times. The 5km operators in the stages recorded as the safety cars passed, then after the stage had gone green, recorded all the rally cars as they passed by. The service park was based in Matamata. The cars ranged from Group A to Group N with classics like a Ford Mustang, Holden and Ford Falcon special. The winner was Neil Allport in a Mitsubishi-Lancer EVO 6 with the quickest time over the tarmac.

One of the stages had an up hill start. This required one car with a slipping clutch to start back from the start line on the flat 10 seconds before its allotted start time. Even so it was 8 to 10 seconds late over the start line. On other stages some of the cars did not make the end retiring mid stage. Others suffered bad panel damage with one rolling and losing its back window; a bit drafty? At our 5km safety point we were on a sharp right angle bend which saw most cars clipping the corner with plenty of wheel spin and tyre smoke. A couple did 360 degree spins before setting off in the right direction again. Our final position was at the end to record the final arrival time in Hamilton as they crossed the finish ramp, in Garden Square. We got plenty of on lookers as we drove in and parked under a veranda. The times were transmitted back to base on simplex channel about 500 meters from Rally Base.

We found the mobile home worked well with all on board. We could cook up a hot meal for both lunch and tea. We slept overnight at a friends place in Hamilton East. Thanks to all who arranged the day and all who helped in any small way to make the day that it was.

From Ross ZL1VRR



Chris West Championship winner 2004 Car 3



Neil Allport car 6, round winner

Western Suburbs Radio Club

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

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the 2004 elected Committee.

Monday 27th: September 2004.

Attendance: James Moore ZL1JYM Chairman. Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW Vice- Chairman Merv Thomas ZL1SK, Secretary, Brian Huggard ZL1MW; Ross Reddell ZL1VRR; Bob Highet ZL1GD, Maurie Challinor ZL1FK; Barry Williams ZL1ACZ,

Meeting commenced at 19-28 hours.

Apologies: John Turnwald ZL1JT Treasurer. John Neill ZL1NE Newsletter Editor

Minutes: As circulated by email by the secretary were taken as a true and correct record.. Moved: Barry Williams ZL1ACZ, Seconded: Ross Reddell ZL1VRR

Matters Arising:

- Brian ZL1MW reported to the committee that no word had been received from the Borough Council yet re the club rooms lease.
- Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW brought us up to date on his proposal for the removal of redundant equipment from his place of employment. A public liability insurance of \$1,000,000 for a 6 month period will need to be acquired before removal can commence. The batteries will be available for ready for sale at the November 6th equipment sale. Moved: James Moore ZL1JYM and Seconded: Ross Reddell ZL1VRR the purchase of above insurance cover be proceeded with provided it is within the maximum limit of committee spending power. Passed by voice vote with Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW abstaining.
- John Turnwald ZL1JT Treasurer to proceed or report back to the Chairman A.S.A.P. for the purpose of calling a special extraordinary meeting.

Correspondence:

- Received various branch newsletters. NOTE: These will be placed all together on the side table for members perusal at the next meeting.
- The Digi-Peater licence received by hand from Scott Neill of M.E.D. after formal inspection of equipment, Friday 24 November 2004.

Outgoing:

- Secretary tabled letter and display notice for approval to be sent to Ann Tollemache in appreciation of her work in arranging the equipment of deceased estate, William Ralph Taylor ZL1IX to be transferred to WSRC ownership as recorded in his will. So approved and will be sent.

Finance No report available due to Treasurers health. John Turnwald ZL1JT Treasurer to forward WSRC bank account number to Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW ASAP for transfer of funds from impending redundant equipment sales as noted above.

AREC A formal agreement between W.S.R.C. A.R.E.C. group and the Waitakere City Council has been signed by Brian Huggard ZL1MW and Bill Morley of Waitakere Civil Defence and the details explained by Brian. This agreement is held and is available from the document folder. Two members helped with Comms at a recent Maramarua forest Car Club rally, with one assisting in the Rally of Waikato tarmac event for final round 2004 championship and two members will be assisting with Horse Trials near Waiuku on October 10th.

Agreement has been reached with the property owner for the temporary placement of the S.T.S.P. repeater when required at Horseman Road. Agreement was described by Brian and placed in document folder. (Copy of agreement attached)

The next AREC Section Leaders meeting will be at our Br: 03 club rooms on Thursday 18 November 2004.

Moved: James Moore ZL1JYM and **Seconded:** Barry Williams ZL1ACZ report be accepted. Passed.

General Business:

Describing a visit to Manukau branch by the secretary to hear Nigel ZL2SEA explain the Echolink system in great detail with excellent examples and computer screens, the committee asked the secretary to see if he could repeat the same at our October 11th meeting. If unavailable, to ask Scott Neill of MED to give us a talk on any of the various subjects he has offered through John Neill ZL1NE.

Bob Hight ZL1GD suggested an equipment sorting working bee to sell off equipment surplus to requirements at the forthcoming equipment sale. Bob and Barry Williams ZL1ACZ have agreed to same on Thursday morning 30 September at the club rooms.

Liaison (booking tables etc;) for the equipment sale assigned to Ross Reddell ZL1VRR, assisted by the Secretary where necessary, due to Barry Williams ZL1ACZ being overseas for 3 ½ weeks but back in time to tie up any loose ends with the hall booking arrangements. XYL Alice will cover the mailing of the newsletter in his absence.

The secretary arranged a working bee for the ZL1IX QTH to remove all the antenna equipment and to pickup the remaining equipment of the bequest from 65A Butterworth Drive, Glendene for Saturday 2nd: October 2004. Barry Williams ZL1ACZ, and Bob Hight ZL1GD have agreed to attend.

A disappointing number of logs and a scoring dilemma for the Sprint Contest was reported by Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW which lead on to a lengthy discussion on preparations and a scoring regime for the December 6th: 'All Kiwi Contest'. Committee members were asked to give the arrangements some thought and come up with suggestions as to point and multiplier scoring and log sheet design.

Discussion of an alarming nature explored costing, effectiveness, monitoring and value for money details and it was decided against installing a system in favour of providing strong lockable cupboards for the most valuable equipment. Moved: James Moore ZL1JYM Seconded: Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW and passed with Maurie Challinor ZL1FK voting against.

Further to the proposal of a "Project evening" for the club constructing a Loop Antenna system James Moore ZL1JYM handed a design in the ARRL Handbook to the secretary to copy for further evaluation and practicability.

Meeting concluded at 21-35 hours.
Merv Thomas, ZL1SK, Scribble Agent / Secretariat.
30th: September 2004.

Club Nets

VHF Net 146.525 MHz 7:30pm every Wednesday, HF Net 3623 KHz +/- QRM/QRN 7:30pm every Friday. All are welcome to check in on the nets.

8 October 2004	ZL1JL	John
15 October 2004	ZL1NE	John
22 October 2004	ZL1ACZ	Barry
22 October 2004	ZL1WI	Roy
5 November 2004	ZL1VRR	Ross