



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

December 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

Saturday	11 th	December	Branch 66 Clearance Sale – Hazel Avenue 9am till 3pm
Monday	13 th	December	Club Evening – BBQ and Social Evening
Tuesday	25 th	January	Auckland Regional Coordinating Meeting – Pukekohe?
Wednesday	26 th	January	Papakura Radio Club - Amateur Radio Promotion 5:30pm
Monday	14 th	February	Club Evening – Barry's (ZL1ACZ) Recent Trip to the Mid West USA

Christmas Meeting - Monday 13th December - after 6.30 pm

Our informal Christmas functions have been successful events over recent years and we would particularly like to invite club members that do not regularly attend monthly branch meetings. At the same time an invitation is extended to members from other Auckland NZART branches. Perhaps with the dropping of the CW requirements you may be interested in finding out how to get started on the HF bands and this is a good opportunity to talk and ask. All welcome, including XYLs.

Merv ZL1SK will bring a "Spike Jones and His City Slickers" video + "The Two Ronnie's at the Seaside" (not a word of English spoken, just grunts and gestures), two special comedy numbers from old movies, and an amazing act by a performer trying to get his microphone adjusted correctly at a Command Performance (again no spoken word, just gestures and hilariously funny). So bring along your Christmas wine and have an evening of fun, laughter, and convivial company with other hams.

As usual, for the regulars it is "bring a plate and BYO". The branch will supply a sausage sizzle, chips etc and tea and coffee.

We have the remnants from the Used Equipment Sale and we want it all gone. So free for the taking. There is also some interesting surplus computer gear at the club rooms which also must go - for a small donation. As usual there will be a couple of raffles so bring along a few dollars.

For further information please contact Barry ZL1ACZ 6279070 or Merv Thomas ZL1SK 8287174

November Club Evening

After the formal part of the evening, a welcome was extended to Dave Wilkins, ZL1MR, our guest speaker for the evening. Dave spoke about his recent Stewart Island trek. Dave described in very interesting fashion, accompanied by excellent projected still pictures, how he and 3 others spent 14 days walking 152 Kilometers in the normally reverse direction trek of the island. Among the many special points about the trip explained and shown were.

- Food stashed at a convenient place for later pick-up during the walk.
- The amazing and varied types of landscape and fauna.
- Their experience with mosquitoes and sandflies.
- The sighting of deer, kiwi, Hoi Ho penguins and seals.
- The meeting of tourists traversing in the usual direction by day and in the huts.
- The amount, selection and type of food carried and stored previously for the 14-day period.
- The many and varied tracks and terrain experienced during the walk. Some of the extraordinary geologic character and formations observed.
- His very portable 40 and 80-meter antenna and Yaesu 817 rig along with battery and solar panel charging arrangements and some of the contacts he made during the trek.
- Remnants of early logging and tin mining.
- Some very beautiful bays and beaches fortunately saved from development with DOC managing the island reserve.
- The many huts provided at certain points around the island.
- The provision of hunting blocks with aircraft access.



Dave ZL1MR demonstrating the Solar Panel that provided the daily top-up of power to run the FT817

His talk was well received and acknowledged by the meeting with enthusiastic applause.

Annual General Meeting

The March meeting is our AGM night. Please consider putting your name forward as a committee member. As always we need new blood and new ideas. The more one gets involved with the club the more one gets out of it. The committee this year has been very dedicated to keeping the club alive and well, much of which is "behind the scenes" and not seen. It would nice to keep it fresh and forward looking with new input.

Auckland Regional Coordinating Meeting

The Auckland Regional Coordinating Meeting was held on Tuesday 30th November 2004 at the Branch 66 Clubrooms. Some snippets that may be of interest to you follow:

- KiwiSat is operational from a land based address on the Shore. It can be accessed Downlink 144.695 and uplink 435.925 +/- 12.5 KHz
- Echolink is available via HF Radio. 3.750 evenings and 7.075 for parts of the day.
- Branch 66 will hold a clearance sale on Saturday 11 December 2004 at the Hazel Ave Clubrooms.
- VHF Convention will be held over Easter in Wellington in 2005. Easter is in March this coming year.
- NZART Conference will be in New Plymouth in 2005. Held during Queens Birthday Weekend.
- Papakura Radio Club will hold an Amateur Radio Promotion Day on 26 January 2005. Our Club is invited to attend and to mount a display to assist the promotion.

Used Equipment Sale

This was held on 6th November 2004. A very successful day by all accounts. A decent amount of equipment changed hands and the usual rag chew made for a pleasant time.

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. The HF Net Controller Roster is shown below.

3 December 2004	ZL1ACZ	Barry
10 December 2004	ZL1WI	Roy
17 December 2004	ZL1VRR	Ross
24 December 2004	ZL1MW	Brian
31 December 2004	ZL1JL	John