Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

February 2006 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn, PO Box 15-122, New Lynn.
President: Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW, Secretary: Ross Reddell ZL1VRR
Newsletter Editor – John Neill ZL1NE
VHF Club Net Wednesday 07:30pm 146.525 MHz, HF Club Net Fridays 07:30pm 3.623 MHz
Website http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac

Club Calendar

Monday	13th	February	Club Night - Build your own Radio to Computer Interface
Thursday	16th	February	Auckland Area AREC meeting VHF Clubrooms 7:30 pm
Saturday Sunday	25th 26th	February	Field Day – Date to be confirmed
Saturday Sunday	25th 26th	February	Amateur Radio Promotion Branch 29 – date to be confirmed
			Musick Point Open Day – Date to be confirmed details to follow
Monday	13th	March	Annual General Meeting

February Club Evening

The February club meeting will be devoted to interfacing computers to Radio Transceivers. Bring along details of the plugs that fit your Transceiver and the connection that should be made to the plug terminals. The Transceiver's Manual should have details of the connections, so bring the manual as well. The software that you will need is generally available on the web. The VHF Group also produces a CD that contains much of the software used in decoding the various digital modes.

WSRC Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Monday March 13th at the club rooms 3000 Great North Rd New Lynn at 7:30 pm in accordance with club rules. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 2006 will be due from the AGM onwards. The agenda is as follows. Please consider putting your name forward for one of the positions on the committee. Only with support from all, can the club continue to provide support to the Radio Amateurs in the West Auckland Area.

Agenda	Election of Officers
1 Presidents Introduction 2 Apologies 3 Minutes of 2005 AGM 4 Treasurers Report 5 AREC Report 6 Presidents Report 7 Election of Officers 8 General Business	1 President 2 Vice President 3 Treasurer 4 Secretary 5 Four Committee Members 6 Auditor of Accounts 2005/2006 7 Newsletter Editor

Questionnaire

Members will shortly receive a questionnaire regarding what you want from the club PLEASE fill it in and return. It will be analysed and hopefully discussed at the AGM so the incoming executive knows how to progress and move forward over the next few years. We need your input both with the questionnaire and your views at the AGM.

Waitakere Sprints 2005

Here are the results of the 2005 sprint.

Call Area	Call	Phone	CW	Total
ZL1	ZL1DK	53	14	134
	ZL1WT	38		38
	ZL1REY	33		33
	ZL1AKY	26		26
	ZL1ACK	25		25
	ZL1VRR	21		21
	ZL1NE	20		20
	ZL1WI	16		16
	ZL1NI	12		12
ZL2	ZL2AJB	46	15	122
	ZL2TW	40	14	108
	ZL2AUB	36	13	98
	ZL2KID	22		22
	ZL2AL	14		14
ZL3	ZL3GL	22		22
	ZL3NB	14		14
VK / Oceania	VK5NJ	56		56
	VK4SN	48		48
	VK4FJ	38		38

SSB Highest VK VK5NJ
SSB Highest ZL ZL1DK
CW Highest overall ZL2AJB

2005 WAITAKERE SPRINT CHAMPION is ZL1DK with a combined score of 134.

A 2005 Certificate has been printed and will be sent to the winners in each call area and the sprint champion.

Congratulations to the winners from the WSRC.

Auckland Area AREC February Meeting

It was decided at the last Auckland Area AREC meeting that the format of the meetings would change. Instead of just the Section Leaders meeting for a debrief type meeting on past events, that we would invite all AREC members (and those who would like to be a member) to the meetings. The meetings would still have branch reports but would then be followed by a talk relating to AREC communications of some type. This should help those branches that are not having regular meetings or are finding it hard to get enough interest in branch AREC activities.

The February meeting will be a demonstration on all the Land Search and Rescue repeaters that are currently being used and also new repeaters being developed for future use. The next meeting is at the VHF Clubrooms February 16 1930hrs.

If anyone wants to go onto the emailing list please advise David, ZL1MR the Regional AREC SECRETARY. ZL1MR@nzart.org.nz

Value of Ham Radio

A glowing report on the value of amateur radio during an emergency was presented to a US enquiry into the role of emergency services during the KATRINA disaster.   The enquiry was told that upwards of 1000 amateur radio volunteers provided communications in the stricken areas for agencies such as the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army and to facilitate interoperability among agencies.

In the week after the disaster the Coast Guard, Red Cross and Federal Emergency Management Agency put out the calls for Amateur Radio operators to provide communications because phone lines and cell sites were inoperative and public safety communications were overwhelmed due to loss of repeater towers and the number of first responders in the area.

Hurricane Katrina Approaching

To the Sea Again   by   L. B. Cebik, W4RNL   http://www.cebik.com/tales/sea.html

I must go down to the sea again
Where the conductivity is high.
All I need is a tall array
And a rotor to steer her by.

I must go down to a south sea isle
Where the population is low,
And work DX without a rest. . .
--Pardon my QRO.

I must go down to the seaside dunes
And operate in the sand.
When I return, my log is full
Of QSOs from every land.

I must go down to the sea again
To watch the waves and swells,
And leave to someone else the task
Of answering QSLs.

(with apologies to John Masefield)

Maidenhead Locator

This simple little programme will calculate the Maidenhead Locator from the Longitude and Latitude of any point. It is written in Basic but a compiled version is available which will run in any of the Windows environments. Drop me a line at john.neill@clear.net.nz if you would like a copy.

```
100 CLS : PRINT "Enter Coordinates in Degrees, Minutes, Seconds ": E = .000001
105 PRINT " "
110 INPUT "Longitude"; A, B, C: X = 1: M = A: N = B: O = C
111 IF (A < 0) THEN LET X = (-1)
114 A = SQR(A * A): A = (A + B / 60 + C / 3600 + E) * X
115 IF (A < -180 OR A >= 180) THEN GOTO 110
119 PRINT " "
120 INPUT "Latitude "; B, C, D: X = 1: P = B: Q = C: R = D
121 IF (B < 0) THEN LET X = (-1)
124 B = SQR(B * B): B = (B + C / 60 + D / 3600 + E) * X
125 IF (B < -90 OR B >= 90) THEN GOTO 120
130 A = A / 20 + 9: B = B / 10 + 9: C = INT(A): D = INT(B): A$ = CHR$(C + 65) + CHR$(D + 65)
140 A = (A - C) * 10: B = (B - D) * 10: C = INT(A): D = INT(B)
150 A$ = A$ + CHR$(C + 48) + CHR$(D + 48) + CHR$(INT((A - C) * 24) + 65) + CHR$(INT((B - D) * 24) + 65)
152 CLS :
153 PRINT "Longitude ", M; N; O
154 PRINT " "
155 PRINT "Latitude  ", P; Q; R
157 PRINT " "
160 PRINT "Locator   ", A$
165 PRINT " "
170 PRINT "Another Y/N?"
175 LET A$ = INKEY$
180 IF A$ = "y" THEN GOTO 100
185 IF A$ = "Y" THEN GOTO 100
190 IF A$ = "n" THEN GOTO 210
195 IF A$ = "N" THEN GOTO 210
200 GOTO 175
210 END
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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 Roster can be found on http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrc-hf-roster.html. We are looking for more members to take a turn at running the net. If you would like to be rostered on, then contact any of the people mentioned below.

Date	Callsign	Name
3-Feb-06	ZL1ACZ	Barry
10-Feb-06	ZL1WI	Roy
17-Feb-06	ZL1VRR	Ross
24-Feb-06	ZL1MW	Brian
3-Mar-06	ZL1ACZ	Barry
10-Mar-06	ZL1VRR	Ross
17-Mar-06	ZL1MW	Brian
24-Mar-06	ZL1NE	John
31-Mar-06	ZL1ACZ	Barry