



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

September 2008 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn,
PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640
President: Andrew Barnett ZL2ALW, Secretary: Vacant.
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

Saturday	13 th	September	Club Meeting – This replaces the normal Monday Evening Meeting scheduled for 8 th The meeting will concentrate on Crystal Set Construction .
Saturday	11 th	October	Western Suburbs Radio Club Used Equipment Sale - Rosebank School Hall

September Meeting

The September meeting will occur on Saturday 13th September. This replaces the normally scheduled Monday Evening again. The Saturday meetings have been well attended during the winter months and with the grounds being so wet this year. This meeting will concentrate on Crystal Set Construction. There should be a few components available so bring your soldering iron and a few hand tools and be ready to build something. It may be a good idea to call into one of the hobby electronics shops and purchase a high impedance earphone, as the modern 8-ohm headphones will not work on a crystal set.

Waitakere Sprints

The Waitakere Phone and CW Sprints have been and gone. It is now time to get your log sorted if you haven't as yet and post it to David ZL1DK the contest manager. David will receive logs in any format that you can manage at prc@ihug.co.nz. A list of logs received to date can be seen at <http://www.qsl.net/zl1vk/LogsWSP2008.rtf>. The preferred method is by email but a paper copy will be accepted at the Clubs postal address PO Box 15-122 New Lynn, WAITAKERE 0640 or the Papakura Radio Club.

AREC

While the 670 repeater is off the air, the Thursday AREC net will continue on 147.400 MHz simplex.

Used Equipment Sale

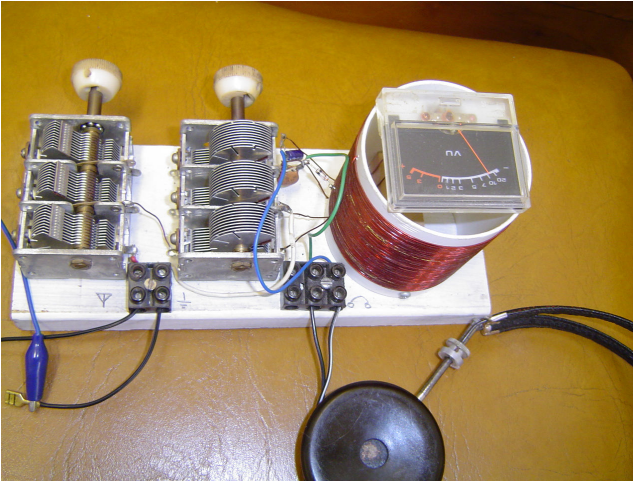
Don't forget the Used Equipment Sale to be held on 11 October. Start looking for that equipment that you do not require any longer and could sell or donate to the club to sell. There is a good amount of equipment that has been collected. This is in the Club Rooms and needs sorting ready for the Sale.

From The Club Archives 1949

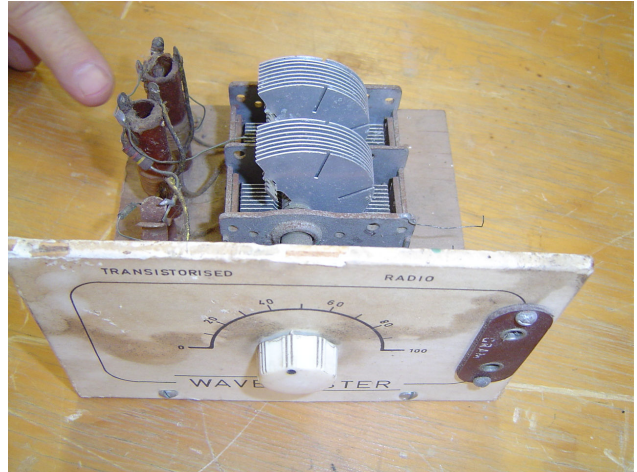
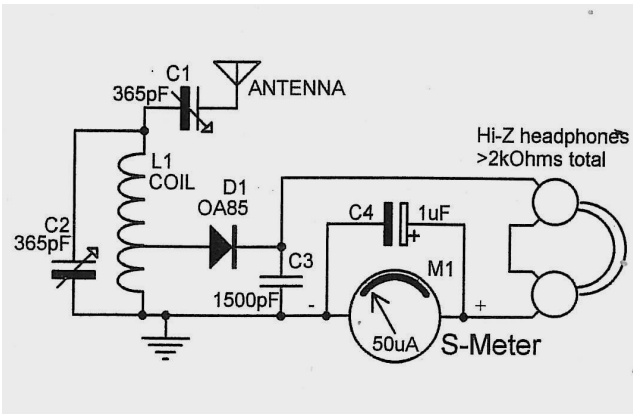
Western Suburbs Radio Club continues to gain prestige and new members now number about 45. The July meeting held on Monday 18th., saw an attendance of about 30 present, and the evening took the form of the club's first junk sale, with ace auctioneer Ed MacKay ZL1BE, doing a great job, and causing considerable amusement and a feeling of general well-being with his witty remarks and funny stories, most of which would not pass the censor on our "Ham" bands. Some quite good "Junk" was going at bargain prices, including half a dozen TU1'S taken away for 12/6 by Ivor ZL1BO, who later reported their emission to be very high, though their life rather too short. The West Suburbs meetings which were originally held at the New Lynn Bowling Club Pavilion are now held at larger and more central premises at the back of the New Lynn Council Chambers, on the third Monday in each month at 7.45 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Chairman is Keith Jessop ZL1UU, and Secretary-treasurer is Roy Milam ZL1WI.

August 2008 Meeting

Three Crystal sets appeared at the August meeting. They were quickly connected to an aerial and earth and tried out. This brought back some good memories for most of the members present and reminded us of our first efforts in the radio hobby. I guess where it all started for some of us. This inspired the Committee to concentrate on building some at the September meeting. Pictured below are some of the sets that were on display. Some Morse keys were also on display.



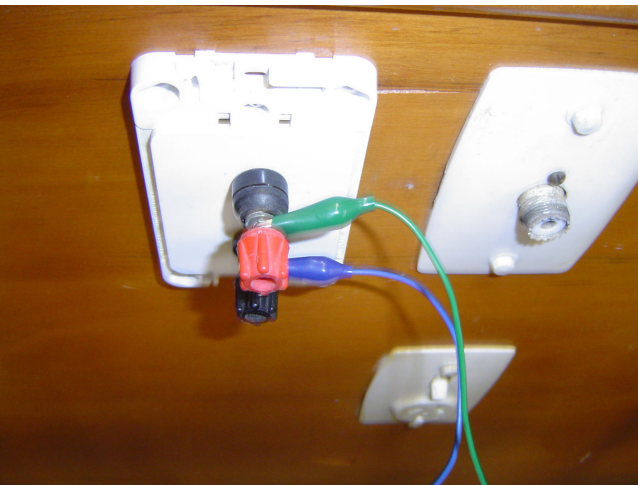
A simple Crystal set designed by Mike Kerr ZL2BCW and featured in Break-in in July/August 2001. A remarkable performer complete with signal strength meter. The Set was constructed by ZL1NE just after it appeared in Break-In. The circuit diagram for the set is pictured below.



This is a One Transistor Crystal set in a well-used condition and owned by Grant ZL1GSM. The Transistor was missing but is likely to have been an OC71. This Transistor was very popular for Crystal Sets in the 1960'.



Pictured above is a Cats-Whisker set owned by Ian ZL1RCA. This set was constructed quite recently. The parts are all salvaged from something else. The frame was nicely turned from Rimu. The Station are found by moving the brass slide up or down the coil after adjusting the Cats-whisker on the top. It worked well after a good spot on the cats-whisker was found but selectivity suffered.



To the left - we get radio out of the wall for nothing!

Amateur TV

From "Break-In" August 1949

Here is a summary of last Sunday morning's ARRL "Voice of America" broadcast, "Calling the Radio Amateurs of the World." The session this week was conducted by W2SKE and here are the highlights of his news roundup.

Three West Coast Hams are now on the air with experimental television transmissions in the 420-450 MHz band. Amongst the problems that they have already come up against are, firstly, that on account of the very heavy power drain required for the satisfactory flood-lighting of the subject, their houses have had to be re-wired to handle the heavy load; and secondly, that it is impossible to monitor their transmissions as the transmitter blocks the receiver, so that they have so far had to depend on reports from more distant receiving stations which of course, is not a very satisfactory state of affairs from the experimenters point of view.

Branch 02 Visit

The Auckland Branch paid Western Suburbs a visit earlier in the year. A return visit is planned for the near future possibly before Christmas. The date of this will be advised soon.

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 full HF Net Roster can be found on <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrc-hf-roster.html>.

5-Sep-08	ZL1NE	John
12-Sep-08	ZL1ACZ	Barry
19-Sep-08	ZL1WI	Roy
26-Sep-08	ZL1VRR	Ross
3-Oct-08	ZL1MW	Brian
10-Oct-08	ZL1NE	John
17-Oct-08	ZL1ACZ	Barry
24-Oct-08	ZL1WI	Roy
31-Oct-08	ZL1VRR	Ross



WSRC Used Equipment Sale 2007.

Rainfall

I received a number of positive comments on the Rainfall Graphs so I have included these graphs again this month because the September rain is also of interest. As you can see we are now way ahead of average after being substantially below for the first six months of the year.

