



## Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

### March 2010 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn,  
PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640

President: Ian Sangster ZL1RCA, Vice President Ross Reddell ZL1VRR.

Secretary: Roy Milam ZL1WI. 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	8 <sup>th</sup>	March	Club Evening – Ross ZL1VRR and Roy ZL1WI on their Field Day Operations
Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup>	March	Used Equipment Auction VHF Group – Date and time to be confirmed.
Monday	29 <sup>th</sup>	March	AREC Section Meeting
Monday	12 <sup>th</sup>	April	Annual General Meeting – And Club Evening.

#### March Meeting

At the March Meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> Ross ZL1VRR and Roy ZL1WI will give a presentation of on their Field Day operations. And show and tell.

#### February Meeting

The February club Night on the 8<sup>th</sup> was a talk by Ross ZL1VRR on the recent Waiheke Island Wharf to Wharf running and walking races and also the Waiuku Horse Endurance Event North Island championship. Ross showed a series of photos taken during the events and described to us the radio setup that was used at each site. Thanks Ross for a most informative talk.

#### Annual General Meeting

The AGM is scheduled for Monday 12 April 2010.

#### AGM

##### Agenda

- 1 Presidents Introduction
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of 2009 AGM
- 4 Treasurers Report
- 5 AREC Report
- 6 Presidents Report
- 7 Election of Officers
- 8 General Business

##### Election of Officers

- 1 President
- 2 Vice President
- 3 Treasurer
- 4 Secretary
- 5 Four Committee Members
- 6 Auditor of Accounts
- 7 Newsletter Editor

#### HF Field Day

ZL1AC was active during field day as a single operator station.

#### APRS Repeater

The software in the APRS Repeater has been updated to Digi-Ned 4.0. This was installed at the last Club Evening on the 8<sup>th</sup> February. Reports from other stations have been encouraging that the repeater is functioning better with just a few adjustments still being necessary. Thanks to Graham ZL1GTB from the North Shore who has a direct path to our station and has helped me in getting the settings closer to correct. (ZL1NE)

## **Preview of the NZART Conference Details**

Full details will follow but here is a preview of the weekend's events and prices. The NZART conference is to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at the Alexander Park Raceway.

Friday night is registration at the Race Course.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> is the AGM to lunch time. There will be 5/6 remits to be discussed. The AGM is free but lunch to follow is not. There will also be a free display open to all and to the public. There will be displays by I-Com, Radio DX League, Vintage Radio and others still to be announced.

After lunch there will be Forums such as AREC, and Battery Maintenance. In the evening there will be dinner and light music and a guest speaker mid evening.

Sunday WARO, Digital TV, ECHO Link, ARPS, OTC, SPAM, IRLP, VHF/ UHF/SHF, AMSAT, Kiwi Sat, Digital Modes, Antenna Engineering, Contests, and D-Star. Then Sunday dinner and more Entertainment for the evening.

There is an Alternative Program for Partners on both days.

Costs are:

- Full Registration \$195:00 if paid by 15th May
- Alternative Program \$195:00 if paid by 15th May
- \$10:00 surcharge if paid latter than 15th May
- Day Only Saturday or Sunday is \$60:00 a day
- Evening Meals are \$60:00 for each night

Please treat this information as preliminary. Full details will follow.

## **AREC Meeting**

The WSRC AREC section will have a meeting on Monday 29th March at 1930hrs at the club room 3000 Great North Rd New Lynn. The Agenda is for review and election of officers for 2010/2011 prior to the WSRC AGM

Ross ZK1EK ZL1VRR Section Leader.

## **Kordia Co-Location Agreement**

I regret to report that negotiations with respect to fully funding the annual Kordia account for site leases have been unsuccessful. A change late last year to the Equipment Schedule introduced by Kordia, charging for rack space as well as the antennas, has almost doubled the annual fees payable.

Negotiations over the last two years have seen the annual amount payable reduce from over \$27,000 per annum (\$27,350), down to a total of just under \$10,000 per year (\$9966.00). Despite offers of financial help from Branches with equipment in Kordia sites, totalling \$3966, the shortfall which would be a debt your Association would have to pay, is \$6000 per annum. Council, at its face-to-face meeting in Wellington over the weekend of February 20/21 concluded that this was unsustainable.

There are a total of 11 Kordia sites around New Zealand where we have repeater equipment located: Te Aroha, Mt Egmont, Wharitie, Mt Erin, Mt. Grey, Blue Duck, Fitzherbert, Whakapunake, Kuriwao, Mt Murchison and Mt Cargill. The negotiations with Kordia resulted in the offer to "pay for some" and stay at the rest for free, provided that the space is not required for future Kordia equipment and systems. Arising from this offer, it was determined that there were three sites we could not do without in order to keep the National System going: Mt Egmont (Taranaki), Blue Duck and Mt. Cargill. These three sites do not have any viable alternative site which equipment could be relocated to without major re-engineering of the National System.

For the three sites we need to keep the National System viable in its present form (Mt. Egmont, Blue Duck and Mt. Cargill), the annual cost is \$9206 including GST. This does not include power which is paid for at all 11 sites which is currently another \$760 per annum incl. GST.

As a result, I regret I have had to advise Kordia that NZART is unable to sign the Co-Location Agreement. The consequence of this is that we will have to shut down and remove the amateur radio equipment from all 11 sites at the earliest opportunity unless your Branch can meet the on-going cost - see 1 below.

## Where to From Here

1. Kordia are willing to enter into individual site agreements with Branches who want to retain their repeater site and can afford to meet all the costs. If your Branch wants to do this, please contact me for details of the person in Kordia to make contact with.
2. Kordia have agreed to a six month time frame in which all amateur equipment is to be removed. This is effective from 28 February 2010.
3. NZART has received an offer from TeamTalk to host amateur repeaters at their sites at no charge where possible. If your Branch has a repeater in a Kordia site, and can relocate to a nearby Teamtalk site, then this may offer a solution. If this is a solution in your area, I can provide contact details for TeamTalk. Note that TeamTalk are already hosting amateur repeaters at several locations throughout New Zealand and we are grateful for this excellent cooperation.
4. In the longer term, we have the possibility to re-engineer the National System to totally bypass Kordia owned and operated sites by making use of TeamTalk and other sites. This involves more equipment, shorter links between nodes, and some use of higher frequencies (23cm and up) and a considerable amount of re-engineering. However it is achievable and should be a goal to work towards.

If I can provide more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Vaughan Henderson ZL1TGC  
NZART Vice-President.  
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## Rally New Zealand and Rally Whangarei dates

### Rally New Zealand

- Friday 7th May around Whangarei
- Saturday 8th May around Franklin
- Sunday 9th May around Te Hutewai and Whanga Coast

### Rally Whangarei

- Friday 2nd July Official start (I guess!!)
- Saturday 3rd July around Whangarei
- Sunday 4th July around Whangarei

## 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-Mar-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
12-Mar-10	ZL1RCA	Ian
19-Mar-10	ZL1MW	Brian
26-Mar-10	ZL1NE	John
2-Apr-10	ZL1ACZ	Barry
9-Apr-10	ZL1WI	Roy
16-Apr-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
23-Apr-10	ZL1RCA	Ian
30-Apr-10	ZL1MW	Brian