



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

July 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 ZL1WL. 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	10 th	July	Club Meeting – RTTY Teleprinters Discussion
Tuesday	20 th	July	Franklin Radio Club Junk Sale
Wednesday	28 th	July	Committee Meeting
Saturday	31 st	July	Waitakere Sprint
Saturday	7 th	August	Freeview Television - Receiving TV Programmes From Satellites and terrestrial
Saturday	7 th	August	CW Sprint
Saturday	14 th	August	Hamilton Used Equipment
Wednesday	25 th	August	Committee Meeting
Monday	30 th	August	AREC Meeting
Saturday	11 th	September	Club Meeting – Ian's D-Star
Wednesday	29 th	September	Committee Meeting
Saturday	9 th	October	WSRC Used Equipment Sale
Monday	11 th	October	Club Evening – Programme to be announced

July Club Meeting

The July Meeting will be a discussion on Teletext. The meeting will be on Saturday 10th at 10 am. Come early and have morning tea before the meeting.

June Club Meeting

At the June club meeting we had a very interesting and informative talk by Paul ZL4AX. Paul talked on his Echolink station at Pukekohe, Morse, DX, Bird Watching, Lockerbie and Chernobyl and working at a communications centre in England.

Saturday Meetings

From June on and for the rest of the winter, club meeting will be held on Saturday Mornings at 10:00 am. This was trialled last year and proved very successful. The club recognises the difficulty in going out on cold winter evenings and will bring as interesting programme as can be arranged for the Saturday meetings and we hope that all can attend.

Condolences

The club extends their sympathies to Barry ZL1ACZ on the loss of his wife Alice who passed away on 13th June 2010.

Club Fees

Club Fees are now due. Please pay promptly either to John ZL1JT at the next club meeting or by sending your remittance to PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640. Fees are the same as last year at \$30.00 with a discount available for family membership. Most club members have renewed their subscription but a few are still outstanding.

Calendars

Ross will have calendars for sale at the club meeting on Saturday. They were first available at the June Conference and start at June 2010 and run for 12 months to next June. The calendars are available to club members for \$13:00 each.

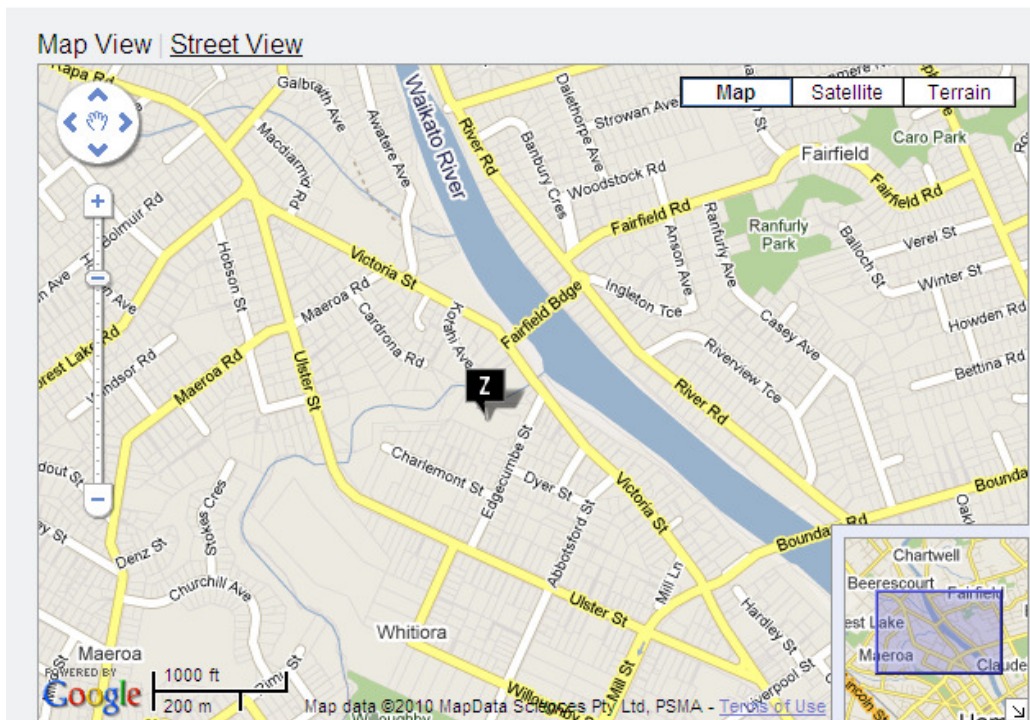
Franklin Junk Sale

Tuesday 20 July at 7.30 pm

The clubhouse doors, at Stadium Drive Pukekohe, will open before 7.00 pm and the sale commences at 7.30 pm sharp. Lots can be assembled at the clubhouse by arrangement with a committee member prior to the event, or brought along on the night. Please have your goods in sensible sized lots, with a reserve (if you wish) either given to the Sales Conductor or indicated on a note attached to the lot. The club understands that vendors will be making a 10% donation of the selling price obtained. As usual we will end the evening with a complimentary supper.

Hamilton Radio Club Market Day

The Hamilton Used Equipment Sale will be held on Saturday 14th August 2010 starting at 10 am at the Hamilton Table Tennis Club Hall in Edgcombe Street, Hamilton.



Morse Key Wanted

Maurie is teaching his grandson Morse code and he is looking for a ZC1 key to make up a practice set for him to learn on. If you have a spare key then please give Maurie a call.

Phone ZL1FK Maurie 827 5133

Low Power Communications Club

If you would like to join a club devoted to low power communications and DIY Amateur Radio using homebrew & low power, then the details have been supplied by Mike Sheffield and are given below.

NZ \$28 a Year, 1 Year \$28 2 Years \$56 3 Years \$84, AUS\$25 UK 8 Pounds US\$15 Euro 10 Banked to ASB account 12-3011-0984272 -58

<http://www.gqrp.com> Tony G4WIF Membership Secretary g4wif@gqrp.co.uk PO Box 298 Dartford Kent DA1 9DQ ENGLAND.

G3mfj@gqrp.co.uk Paypal Treasurer for club sales of parts and components

Four copies of SPRAT magazines (Journal of the G-QRP-Club) posted every year and a copy of the member's handbook. Editor Rev George Dobbs G3RJV. Club sales of books, parts and back issues of SPRAT (CD ROMs available \$10 each at NZART inc. Conference). From Graham Firth G3MFJ 13 Wynmore Drive, Bamhope, LEEDS LS 16 9DQ, England. G3mfj@gqrp.co.uk

Payments can be made in New Zealand to the New Zealand Club Agent - Phil Tarrant ZL2NJ PO Box 55 Wanganui. (Also to Michael ZL1ABS until the end of 2010 176 Albany Highway, Albany North Shore City 0632). Also payments to the National Westminster Bank PLC 01-07-44 ac 041094546 May be made. Notify the Secretary first though. ZL email list: gqrpzl@yahogroups.com

To subscribe email to: - gqrpzl-subscribe@yahogroups.com

NZ 40th International Car Rally. 6 to 9 May 2010. Activity report from ZL1SK

Merv Thomas. ZL1SK/ZK1EKT. (ED. Apologies to Merv for not publishing this earlier.)

As usual a very large group of Hams from many branches came together to provide Comms for this years Car Rally. This rally covered a very large area of the top of the North Island from Whangarei down to Raglan. The comprehensive Comms set-up at the Headquarters in SkyCity again proved reliable, well designed and fully up to the job required by the Official Marshalls.

My small part over the four days was providing Comms at the end of the Special Stage on the opening Thursday in the Auckland Domain on 147.575 simplex and then driving my 6 meter motor home down to Queens Wharf where I remained for the rest of the weekend at the Service Park. This had the advantage of not having to negotiate Auckland traffic 7 times over the weekend plus negotiating the complex security setup and entrance at the wharf to be on site at the required times.

There I provided Time Control data to Headquarters provided by 3 Check points each day once again on 147.575 simplex. This involved waking at around 5 in the morning to report the times of the cars leaving the Service Park to start the days rallying and then relaxing in or around the bus until early evening when all the cars returned to the Service Park to complete the days timing procedures. It was quite a relaxing time for me as I had good reading material, a television, photography and the occasional stroll around the Service Park. I even played "Solitaire" in my laptop. The rest of the time I was making numerous cups of tea, sandwiches and main meals with all the facilities on board.

My radio set-up is a YAESU 8900 4 band FM rig permanently installed on top of the dash of the bus along with all my other rigs. The antenna is a permanently mounted 3 band whip atop the bus. To enable me to sit comfortably at the rear of the bus at a table to organize the incoming time sheets and transmit the information I used my YAESU VX-5 H/H on 70 cms and used the 8900 in Cross Band mode to 147.575 simplex making a very workable set-up especially as the H/H sitting in its charge cradle has such a small footprint on the table even including a small external speaker for better sound and further, using the H/H's "Rubber-Ducky" antenna meant I had no antenna cable to worry about and also no heavy 12 volt battery to run a bigger rig for the duration.

Because I was to receive timing sheets from 3 separate service stages during one activity period on Queens Wharf all overlapping at the same time it meant that over the whole weekend I processed 272 time sheets from 13 stages showing the times and sequence of a total of 686 car movements through those 3 Time Control points. The time sheets I received were narrow strips of paper containing the times of 1 to 3 cars at a time. To keep the flow of paper in a manageable way and to avoid errors of misplaced sheets or missing or repeating the transmission of the data I used a plastic domestic kitchen utensil tray with 4 narrow slots which fitted the sheets perfectly using a separate slot each for the "A", "B" and "C" Time Control sheets. On receipt of a time sheet I made it a rule to hold it in my hand until the data was transmitted and then and only then place it in its particular "A", "B" or "C" slot in the tray. That made it easy to quickly find any particular data if there was an enquiry from headquarters.

On the first day, runners allegedly provided to bring the sheets to me didn't match the number of Time Control points which kept my assistant Bruce King very busy. On the Saturday morning at 6 AM there were no runners available and with no

assistant I had to frequently run the 185 paces to the “C” point there and back and then attempt message passing whilst puffing rather heavily (Note the non-mentioning of age here !). It was great exercise and a lot of fun.

The whole weekend for me was most enjoyable, the time Control crews a good bunch to get on with, (I was able to boil the tea kettle for “B” several times for their hot beverages), it was interesting and I felt it was a worthwhile activity to be involved in as well as an opportunity to contribute to the AREC cause. It was nice to feel part of a large team of able and willing Amateur Radio volunteers.



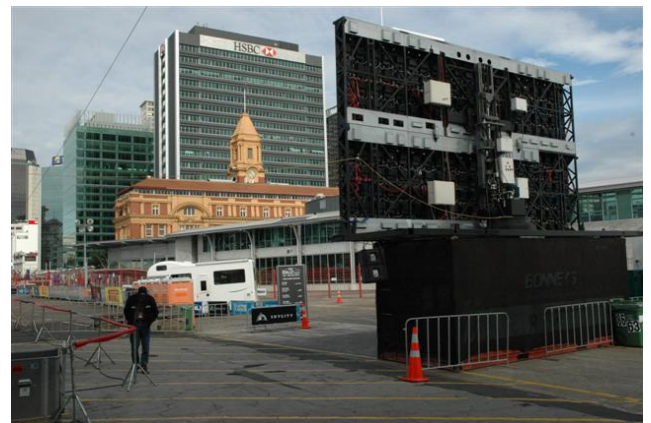
Merv ZL1SK Operating during the Rally



Service Park E



Service Park H



Service Park B

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>

2-Jul-10	ZL1WI	Roy
9-Jul-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
16-Jul-10	ZL1RCA	Ian
23-Jul-10	ZL1MW	Brian
30-Jul-10	ZL1NE	John
6-Aug-10	ZL1ACZ	Barry
13-Aug-10	ZL1WI	Roy
20-Aug-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
27-Aug-10	ZL1RCA	Ian



Time Sheets in the Utensil Tray