



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

August 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

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

August Club Meeting

The August Meeting will be a discussion on Freeview Television both terrestrial and satellite and what is involved in setting up the appropriate receiver. Terrestrial Freeview will add a few channels to enjoy but with satellite and the right equipment the additional channels are seemingly limitless. The meeting will be on Saturday 7th at 10 am. Come early and have morning tea before the meeting.

Note this meeting is a week earlier than normal as the second Saturday happens to be the same day as the Hamilton Market Day and a number of the Club members will wish to attend the sale.

July Club Meeting

At our Saturday club Meeting on the 10th July we had the two David's; David Crosier and David Robinson ZL1ADR talking on Teleprinters. There was good number of club members present to hear a presentation. David Crosier gave the history of the first Teleprinters, where they came from and the progression up to the late 80's from the first introduction of early Telegraph and signal sending messages down rail lines. He talked about the early inventors and the name Creed came up time and again as years passed the to the modem area. Then David ZL1ADR showed some of the equipment used in Post Offices where he served his time with David Crosser and Grant Broadbent. Incidentally Grant has just passed his licence and has just gained his the call ZL1GKB. The Teleprinters had to be regularly stripped down and parts replaced to keep them working. NAC had a large patch for information from Agencies to the main Booking Office. This was used for years before the phone modem which we now use from our computers to send messages around the world. *Unfortunately I don't have the photos of the equipment yet so I will try and put them in next month's newsletter. ED*

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

It is with sadness that the Club records the death on Ian Walker ZL1BFB on Friday 30 July 2010. The club extends their sympathies to Anne Walker on the loss of Ian. Ian was not a club member but had a close association with the club and was well known to all Hams because of his passion for the hobby and being a retired Radio Inspector.

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.

Club Identity Sign

The sign outside the Radio club has been refurbished and reinstalled. This should make the Club easier to find for visitors. Thanks to Ian ZL1RCA and Grant ZL1GSM for carrying out this work. The new sign is shown in the photograph below.



Rally of Whangarei July 3rd And 4th July 2010

A week before the rally we began to put the Radio gear into the motor home and get ready to travel north. We decided to leave early Friday morning and travel up via highway 1 north through the Road Tunnel to save ¾ hrs travelling time. The road was fairly clear and so a good time was able to be made and so by lunch time we stopped at Mangataroto for that break. Then we proceeded to a bush camp at Arapotiu for the evening, just about ten minutes drive to our check point. I gave a call out to Fred, who was on our SS1 team, with 6 other radio operators. After an early night we were up to be ready to be on site at 7:00am report time. It was unpack our gear and erect our mast by torch light and get ready for the safety cars to check out the stage. We did a radio check after tuning up and given a good signal. With base ZK1ERX results. We could then settle back and call in the 0 cars as they passed by our position. At the due time the stage went green.

At the appropriate time the first car left and proceeded to travel at speed though the stage. As each car passed the various checks their numbers were called in to results were we could write down this number against the check passed. The first group of cars were either Asian Pacific cars or New Zealand championship running in the National Series. Then there was a short gap between the two minute cars and one minute. This took care of about 33 cars. Then came the group 2 cars, followed by the all comers with plenty of noise and slide. Conditions were reasonably good with fog down in the stage, but as the sun broke, it lifted and turned into a beautiful day, if you were in the sun. But we were against a pine belt and this kept the sun off us, so at the break between stages, second time through we went for a walk in the sun before the safety cars again checked the stage for clearance.

We changed to SS5E and called them in. We were given a message to look out for the F.I.A car as he was checking the yellow flag and jerkin ready to be waved when told. They stopped at our position and came over to talk to us and check what we knew about the yellow instruction. He was an Australian who ran the Queensland Asian Pacific round of the championship. He had an assistant from China who ran their round. He chatted away for about four minutes.

It was then time for the cars to start. Most cars were running faster this time though with the road having dried out more. The number of competitors were down with as the last cars drove though, and sweeper came by, we were able to close and drop our mast, pack up and head back to Mangataroto where our Sunday stages were to be held. We parked over at a country club, had tea and settled back to a good sleep. We woke early and the drizzle had started, and as the morning progressed it got harder. Arriving at our check point it was still very dark and rain. Setting up proceeded with the aid of torches. We did have a brief hiccup with the engine been turned off with the lights on full. When we came to start the engine it refused. Fortunately a passing Ute came along and gave us a jump start. After getting off the road and in position we placed all our signs out. Then we waited for the safety cars to pass by ready for the first cars to start.

The rain had eased while we set up, but the rain soon came down even heavier, but we were dry and warm in the van. There was a slight delay before we got under way due to an accident on the Rally route so had to be rerouted down alternative roads. Car 3 was first car on the road and Paddon was flying as all the top cars trying to make their mark on the timesheets. A number of cars were missing on the start sheet but with water and mud caked to their side panels the orange numbers showed up in the rear back window as they flew round a corner and down the slight decent to make good watching and viewing though a wet window. It did not take long for the Asian Pacific cars to pass, followed by New Zealand Championship cars. Then followed the group 2 cars, followed by the Hysteric's as they had their rear tires sliding out on the wet road. The Trail car followed though quickly after the last car. After a quick lunch of hot soup and toast to warm us up. Followed by the safety cars ready for the start of the afternoon stages SS13. It was now just up to the cars to stay on the road and make it to the finish without not losing any more places. Some were hanging out still trying hard to gain a few more seconds in stage time. A few more cars were missing on the final few stages. Till they made it to the finish ramp back in down town Whangarei and spoils to winners of groups placing. Haddon Paddon won the overall Rally, but it was great to see that Emma Gilmore finishing second overall over the top of the N.Z. Rally Championship, the first time a female had being on top of the other men competitors. Once the Trail car had pasted and all the recovery trucks we packed up with a slight stoppage of the rain, and packed all the gear into the trailer, before making our way out of the stage and back to Auckland, being blown and rained upon to arrive back in time for tea. We left all our gear, to unload the next day.

Thanks to Richard and David back at Rally Base for receiving all our messages from all the mud points in all the Rally stages with good com's over the whole weekend. Our stage positions were just great with plenty of parking room and good pictures of our locations. Thanks for all your work from all the Radio operators. We were able to follow all the cars though the stage by our check sheet and knowing what to expect next.

Regards Ross ZK1EKR / ZI1VRR



Ready for the Rally Cars



The Radio Equipment



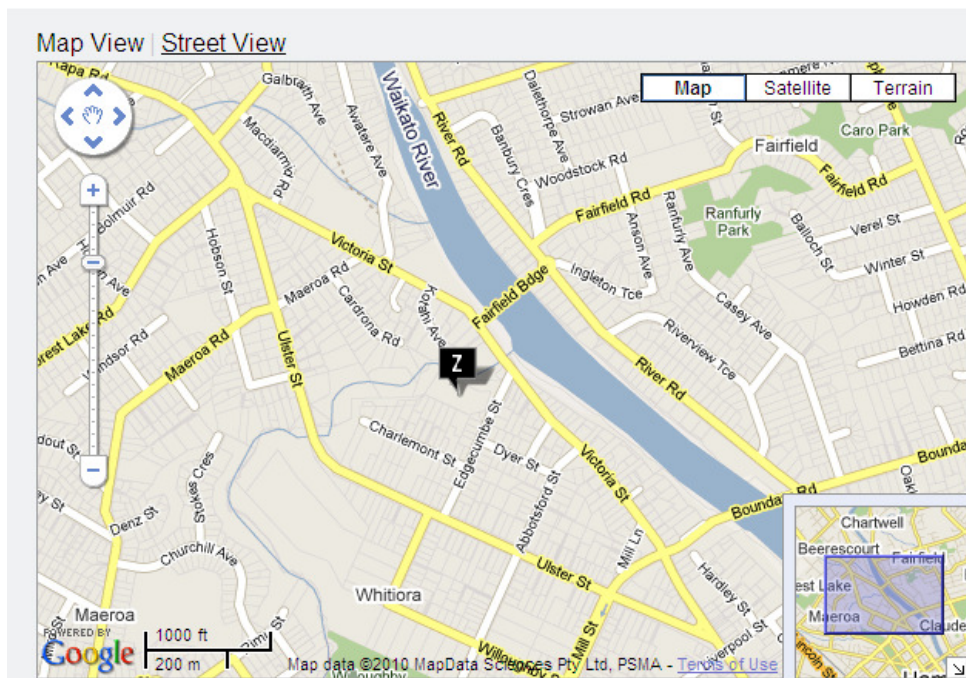
Van and Trailer



Antenna

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.



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>

6-Aug-10	ZL1ACZ	Barry
13-Aug-10	ZL1WI	Roy
20-Aug-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
27-Aug-10	ZL1RCA	Ian
3-Sep-10	ZL1MW	Brian
10-Sep-10	ZL1NE	John
17-Sep-10	ZL1ACZ	Barry
24-Sep-10	ZL1WI	Roy