



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

March 2011 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	12 th	March	Committee Meeting – 9 am
Saturday	12 th	March	Club Meeting – Topic to be announce
Saturday	9 th	April	WSRC Annual General Meeting
Wednesday	20 th	April	Jumbo Challenge Indoor Bowles
Saturday	14 th	May	Paul ZL4AX on Packet Radio
Monday	30 th	May	AREC Section Meeting 7:30pm WSRC
Wednesday	12 th	October	Jumbo Challenge Indoor Bowles

March Meeting

This was to be a talk by Vaughan Henderson on Coaxial cables however Vaughan is unable to attend on this date so the talk has been postponed. Instead there will be guest speaker but the actual person is still to be confirmed.

February Meeting

The February meeting was a visit to MOTAT at Western Springs. This was a very interesting visit and well enjoyed by those who attended.



WSRC MOTAT Attendees

AREC

WSRC hosted the AREC Section Leaders Meeting Thursday 17 February. This meeting was held at the Civil Defence Building in Elcoat Avenue Henderson. With the advent of the Auckland Council Civil Defence is undergoing significant changes including a name change to Emergency Management. At the meeting was a representative from Emergency Management who brought the group up to date on developments.

HF Field Day

OUR CLUB'S EFFORT AT J.W.M.C. At the Vine-Yard 26/27th February 2011

A good time was had by the WSRC team led by Roy ZL1WI and Ross ZL1VRR. We had a total of four operators each day, There was Pat ZL1AXB, David ZL1ADR, and Grant ZL1GKB who caught on quickly with log keeping and, did some operating on 80m phone. After a quick trip to the club rooms to pick up some chairs and Radio Kenwood 728 we headed onto the Vineyard of Steve Sapich in Forest Hill Road. We found a position and set up the tent under some tall pine trees. Roy had some halyards strung over the high branches which we used to raise the 80m Antenna. We laid out the position of the tent and put the pegs in the four corners, then assembled the poles into place, hey presto it was up. Then we assembled the table of Roy's and started to lay out the Radio gear. A lead was run out to the portable generator and fired up to test out our gear. We had a few contacts with distant station to check out our signal. All seemed to be in order, so we shut down and waited for the start time at 15:00 hours. The weather over the whole weekend was brilliant with hot sun and warm evenings, Pat ZL1AXB helped out on both phone and CW. Roy has a electronic keyer and a hand key attached which worked well, and though we had some noise problems initially, we managed to eliminate most of the noise after we fitted an ATU. We were a little slow in getting going, but it appears that once we got into the swing of things it came right. In the evening we had contacts into Southland, but were not able to call any VK's though we heard them calling other stations, but not us. Some stations had good strength with their rigs. We worked though to midnight, before having a quick sleep and up again to restart at 6:00am.

We were surprised for the first hours Sunday morning with the good number of stations we were able to call and get numbers from to add to our score. David ZL1ADR came out on Sunday to help out with log keeping and also had a turn or two on the Radio calling ZL1AC, with a good number on contacts. Some stations were getting good scores for their club. Pat came back on Sunday and helped Roy with the CW operation. The afternoon came and went as the time got closer to 15:00 hours and close down. Then it was pack up all the equipment, tent and antenna system and put it all away for another year. One of the Sapich brothers passed by as he inspected the grapevines and the bird scaring gun used to keep the birds from pecking the new fresh grapes. After putting the gear in our cars we headed back to the club rooms to off load the club gear before heading back to our own QTH's. I think we all enjoyed the weekend with the great weather we had to enjoy.

The final score has not been calculated yet, but Roy has nearly completed the summary sheets to total up. He said that we had 304 phone and 170 CW contacts. Thanks to all the team for a great effort. Now we look forward to possible next year. Hi Hi 73's

From Ross ZL1VRR



Setting of Field Day Tent



Pat ZL1AXB and David ZL1ADR



The Heart of the Station



Roy's portable generator for AC power

Christchurch Earthquake

This article arrived 4th March from the Institute of Professional Engineers (IPENZ). The first paragraph is reproduced here, with IPENZ's blessing, and gives some idea of the scale of the earthquake and offers some explanation as to why buildings collapsed in this quake and not the earlier one. I have the full paper which is too long to reproduce here but I could make it available to anyone interested. I have also included a diagram which gives some indication of the process of Liquefaction. The following website has some interesting reading on the earthquake <http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/forms/pdfs/>
Ed – ZLINE

Christchurch Earthquake - an overview

THE EARTHQUAKE

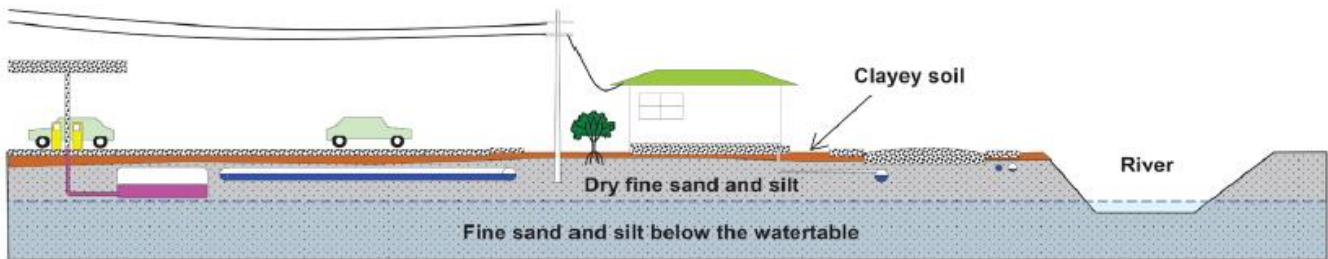
GNS Science believe that the earthquake arose from the rupture of an 8 x 8 km fault running east-northeast at a depth of 1-2 km depth beneath the southern edge of the Avon-Heathcote Estuary and dipping southwards at an angle of about 65 degrees from the horizontal beneath the Port Hills. The amount of slip between the two sides of the fault was up to 1.5 m. The Port Hills have risen by about 40 cm, the mouth of the estuary has moved westward by a few tens of cm, and the land just north of the estuary by tens of cm to the east. Land west of the estuary, and the estuary itself, will have sunk by roughly 10 cm as a direct result of the fault rupture. However, there may be additional subsidence on top of this as a result of ground compaction during the strong shaking.

Earthquake records show that some buildings may have experienced shaking more than two times more intense than a new building would be currently designed for, but perhaps for a lesser duration than envisaged by the loadings code (NZS 1170.5). The intensity of shaking appears to have died out rapidly as it travelled westwards from the fault.

Liquefaction and its Effects

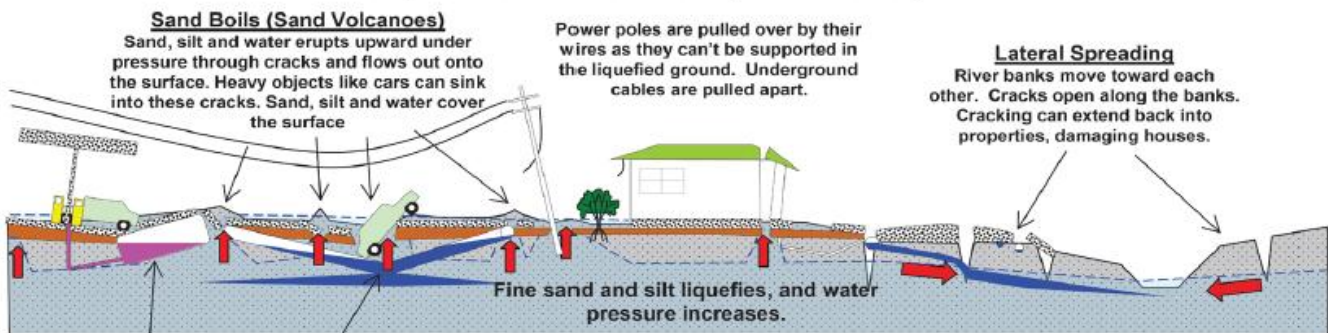
Before the Earthquake

Areas of flat, low lying land with groundwater only a few metres below the surface, can support buildings and roads, buried pipes, cables and tanks under normal conditions.



During and after the Earthquake

During the earthquake fine sand, silt and water moves up under pressure through cracks and other weak areas to erupt onto the ground surface. Near rivers the pressure is relieved to the side as the ground moves sideways into the river channels.



Tanks, pipes and manholes float up in the liquefied ground and break through the surface. Pipes break, water and sewage leaks into the ground.

Fact sheets compiled and distributed by the Institution of Professional Engineers of New Zealand

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

4-Mar-11	ZL1ACZ	Barry
11-Mar-11	ZL1WI	Roy
18-Mar-11	ZL1VRR	Ross
25-Mar-11	ZL1RCA	Ian
1-Apr-11	ZL1MW	Brian
8-Apr-11	ZL1NE	John
15-Apr-11	ZL1ACZ	Barry
22-Apr-11	ZL1WI	Roy
29-Apr-11	ZL1VRR	Ross

Ham Radio Exam at WSRC

An examination was held on Saturday 5th March. The candidate Stephanie passed with flying colours. We welcome her to the Ham Radio hobby and wish her well.

Franks Marine Mobile Operation

The following is reproduced from the Papakura Radio Club's newsletter.

Some snaps from Franc ZL1SLO/MM last weekend. His one-man expedition was ingenious and embodies all the great fun of ham radio!! Franc had his mobile radio shack van winched onto a large industrial flat-bed barge and towed out into the middle of the Waitemata Harbour, where it was anchored for the weekend.

For three days and nights he was marooned there with his large trailer-mounted generator supplying the radios, computer and webcam. He worked huge HF pileups through the nights and twilight hours, aided by the 360degree water path, and slept in the van between shifts, shielded from the scorching sun only by a tarpaulin thrown over the van.

The location became known as 'Fantasy Island' by local operators, but there's no doubt that this was a Maritime Mobile station of exceptional character. It is unknown if 'Man Friday' was along to cook the bacon and eggs for this modern-day 'Robinson Crusoe'!

Well done Franc, an outstanding operation.

Paul ZL4AX

