

QUA FARC



APRIL 2023

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 4

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Vice President: Peter Henderson ZL1PX
Secretary: Tom McDonald ZL1TO Ph. 09 238 8580

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Examiners: Tom ZL1TO, Peter ZL1PX
Web page: www.qsl.net/zl1sa/ Webmaster: Peter ZL1PX

MEETINGS: The club meets on the third Tuesday each month, in the clubrooms, 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome.

The committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month (excepting January) 7.30 pm in the clubrooms.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: individual \$20.00, family \$30.00.

NETS: Every Sunday at 9.00 am on 3.700 MHz (controller ZL1UOM) and 9.30 am on the 146.900 MHz repeater (controller ZL1PX). If repeaters off air, try simplex 145.775 MHz, 146.625 MHz, and 146.900.

QUA Editor: Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com
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David Black – Electromagnetic Safety Standards



At our meeting last month, Dr David Black spoke to the club on "How Electromagnetic Safety Standards are Formed and Application to Amateur Radio"

David ZL1MZ spoke of his double career in electronics and medicine which led to him being chosen by the US Air Force to explore the effects of radio waves on humans in the early 90s. He joined fellow professional Eleanor Adair (US

Air Force Senior Scientist) at San Antonio Air Force Base in Texas for the final research.

The specific absorption rate (SAR) is commonly used to measure the power absorbed by the body from microwave ovens, mobile phones and MRI scans. It is a measure of the potential thermal effects on the patient's tissue due to exposure of the body to electromagnetic radiation and is defined as the power absorbed per mass of tissue in Watts per kilogram. Researchers at San Antonio quickly found the accepted standard of 2 Watts per kilogram of body weight of radio frequency failed to create a rise in body temperature. When this was advanced to 4 Watts per kilogram and there was still no rise in temperature, the research was stopped as the accepted standard had been doubled and there was no wish to cause unnecessary harm to the human subjects.

David has provided links to documents based on this research:
[Here is ICNIRP 2020 – safety guidelines.](#) Preferred by NZ MOH
[Australian Safety Standard ARPANSA RPS S-1](#)

Thank you David for a clear and informative presentation.

Next General Meeting

We welcome Maurie Ogden ZL1UTL to our next general meeting at 7.30 PM on Tuesday 18 April at 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, when he will talk about his model boat making activities.

Maurie first contacted the club back in the dark days of the Covid pandemic in 2019. Restricted to staying home, like everyone back then, he worked in his workshop on his model boats with his VHF radio switched on so he could hear our morning 'Welfare' net on the Bombay repeater on 146.900 MHz. He would sometimes transmit on our net to share his experience with storing adhesives or fine motor work as he added small pieces to his models.



One of Maurie's model boats – tastefully displayed on a North Shore beachfront.

Our meeting will be a short one, about 30 mins and then Maurie will give his chat and show some of his model boats. After the chat there will be question time and refreshments.



[Check out our Facebook Postings and leave an entry.](#)

Membership Growth

Peter ZL1PX

We have two projects underway to grow membership: Facebook and Talk Ham Radio.

Project Facebook



Our current Facebook headpiece showing ham/astronaut Reid Wiseman KF5LKT on ISS

Facebook started operating in March. Our purpose in creating the Franklin Amateur Radio Group is to showcase the different activities that happen in amateur radio. I post events I am involved with, such as Morse training and attaching additional elements to my HF antenna. Ted, Tom, Gary, Howard and Francois have posted to the site. Membership of Franklin Amateur Radio Group has grown steadily and is now at 32 joined members. You don't have to be a member to post to the site and several others have left comments so the general readership is probably wider than just members. I spoke with a chap at Cossie Club Waiuku last week who reads our Facebook and offered me an 'Easy Up' – a tent to fit over our SteelNWheels stall (see below) – so Facebook seems to be doing its job as a promo tool very well.

[SteelNWheels Festival 2023](#)



Waiuku town hold SteelNWheels every autumn. This will be the first event since before the pandemic. Classic, vintage and antique cars will occupy most of Queen Street. A Bluegrass band will play from the rotunda by the town clock. Organisers promise *“lots of entertainment, family fun, markets, free kids carnival and lots of motor throbbing attractions such as classic cars, hot-rods, chainsaw racing, dragster fire-ups, bike stunts that will amaze, and more!”*

Our club stand will be in Kitchener Road at the entrance to the event. Our intention is to run a VHF conversation between the event stand and home stations. People passing are invited to chat to a local ham and given contact details for local ham clubs.

Project Talk Ham Radio



Cheshire County ARC, USA amateur radio stand

Talk Ham Radio is a commitment to taking part in a number of public events in Auckland over the coming year. Our SteelNWheels stand at Waiuku on Sunday 30 April between 10AM and 2PM will be a rehearsal for that.

There are many small and large people-gathering events all over Auckland in a typical year. Our intention is to find these events and select those where we can set ourselves up with car and rig. We offer the public ham radio in action, perhaps a chat on one of our frequencies. We make sure they leave our stand with a feeling of success and contact details for amateur radio in the Auckland area.

Talk Ham Radio offers the chance to team with other amateur radio clubs at these local events. Either we hold an event in Franklin and another club provides home station links for us, or we provide links for their local event stand in another part of Auckland.

These are some kernel ideas which apply to doing membership growth. The activity happens in an open public area, not hidden in a clubroom or hall. Large signage lettering identifies us as amateur radio personnel. We have a 'young' person on the stand team ('young' being defined as less than 60). We also work to make sure any person who talks on our rig feels they have been successful.

Some underlying principles should work to make these “kernel” ideas ensure success. All equipment is rigged for safety. A speaker amplifies received signals. We test and retest at the stand location weeks before the event. Spare equipment is kept handy in case of failure. We set up equipment well in advance of the published time on the day of the event.



On All Bands amateur radio blog offers a series of good ideas for growing ham radio membership. You might like to have a look to see how we could adapt some of these solutions to work for us. [Click here for On All Bands – Growing Membership.](#)



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 21 March 2023

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1930 hours.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1UOM, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1BQA,
ZL1TZP, ZL1BBZ, ZL1AMQ, ZL1MZ, ZL1AOX, ZL1GAC, Viv
Apologies: ZL1WGL, ZL1MFL accepted ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Minutes of the February meeting.

The February minutes have been published in QUA, and were
approved. ZL1BQA / ZL1ULK

Correspondence

Email from Paul Duffy asking if our club would be interested
in Derek Duffy's ZL1BOQ (SK) collection of ham radio awards,
cards and so on.

With people, originally Ground Force, interested in radio
communication for self help in emergencies

Phone call from Auckland Council Community Lease Adviser
Jenny Young 7 March. Follow up reply by email.

Registrar Incorporated Societies web site advising our
registration is dissolved. The Secretary has corresponded
with the Registrar and our Incorporated Society status has
since been restored.

To Manukau Beautification and Community Constable re
Graffiti on clubhouse. This will require a second contact with
both, as the graffiti remains untouched after a week.

Logs and summary sheets for Jock White Field Day, plus
explanatory email to Stuart Watchman.

With a donor of communications receiver IC R9000 and two
scanners.

The correspondence report was received. ZL1TO/ ZL1ULK

Finance:

Income Interest \$83.87 and \$5.09

Expenditure Power bill paid 4 March \$50.00

The finance report was received. ZL1PX / ZL1TO

Reports

A thank you has been circulated by Andy ZL1COP to all
those who assisted and/or made themselves available for
the AREC response to Cyclone Gabrielle in Auckland. Andy
led the AREC response at North Shore Civil Defence, where
traffic on eight suburban CD ESB repeaters was monitored
and passed on to Auckland Emergency Management. The
system was set up by the AREC of North Shore. Andy.

A meeting at Papakura Radio Club to advise of the radio
procedures adopted for the response was held on
Wednesday 1 March.

A regional AREC meeting was held at Auckland VHF Group
on 2 March.

Petrol voucher is on hand for Gary ZL1WGL for expenses at
car rally.

The reports were received ZL1PX/ZL1TO

General Business

Jock White Field Days 25-26 February.

Logs and summary sheets are in the mail to the contest
manager. We are likely to be second in Montgomery Cup for
northern branches competing in the both bands, both modes
category.

Membership Growth.

Peter ZL1PX has worked on getting a club presence on
Facebook. Members are encouraged to get on Facebook and
post something. The total number of people using the
Facebook site has reached 33. Most are younger – all good!

Peter also spoke in favour of *Talk Ham Radio*. This is a long
term project envisaged to operate throughout the
Auckland region. The idea is to pair with other clubs, for a
link between say us and West Auckland. Members of the
public would have a chat with a person at the other end.
Advertising signage would be needed. Radios would be
running speakers not headphones. The public would leave
with some details of our club.

April general meeting

The speaker will be Maurie Ogden ZL1UTL. Maurie makes
model boats.

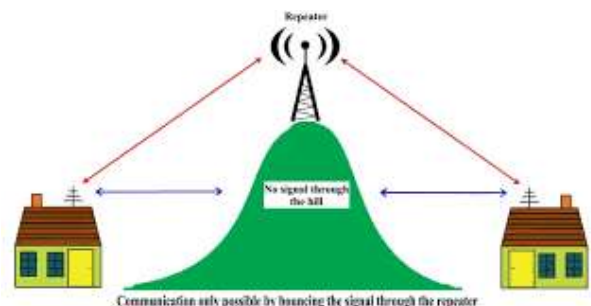
March talk.

Dr David Black ZL1MZ is about to speak on the effects of
electromagnetic radiation on the human body.

The meeting closed at 1950 hours

SteelNWheels Dress Rehearsals

Peter ZL1PX will set up a rehearsal station at the Kitchener Road
carpark in Waiuku on Saturday 22 April at 10 AM to test the
functionality of 2M band repeaters. This will be in preparation
for the SteelNWheels event on Sunday 30 April between 10 AM
and 2 PM. If you are able to switch on your 2m rig around 10.00
to 10.30 on Saturday then please give a signal report or other
details. Repeaters will be Auckland 6625 or Auckland 670.





**Minutes of Franklin
Amateur Radio Club
Committee Meeting
held at the clubhouse,
Stadium Drive,
Pukekohe 4 April 2023**

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1932 hours with a welcome to all.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1UOM, ZL1ULK, ZL1BQA
Apologies ZL1WGL ZL1BQA/ZL1PX

Minutes of the March meeting
The March minutes were approved ZL1PX / L1BQA

Correspondence:

April Newsletters from Branches 29, 86

29 – Nine passed ham-cram 25/26 March. Philip ZL1PSH spoke to March meeting on Editing Break-In. Antenna working bee on club mast. Solar Cycle 25 predicted to have high peak number.

86 Cover photo – Musick Point emerging from morning fog. AGM 16 April. Thoughts on simple fox hunt. Western beam has rotator damage. Virtual art installation. Degraded signal strength on 145.775 repeater. Repairing 40m dipole. RDF at Musick Point. Electric Lamps and radio interference. Testing range of the ZC1. 2m/70cm fibreglass base station antennas on member offer.

Phone call from Auckland Council Community Lease Adviser Jenny Young 7 March. Follow up reply by email. The meeting was asked if they want the secretary to send a formal request for a lease?

We apply for a 10 year lease with 10 year right of renewal
ZL1BQA / ZL1UOM

Our incorporated society status has been restored.

A phone call to Manukau Beautification reminded them of our graffiti attack. Overpainted the next day.

The correspondence report was received ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance

Income - Interest \$83.77 and \$5.09

Expenditure Fire extinguishers pressure test and refill \$356.21. Power bill due 3 April 48.66 (paid 3 April).

Watercare \$0.91 due 6 April. Electronic billing now set up. It was agreed that we pay Watercare \$10 to put us in credit and have no need to make small monthly payments.

Bills for water, electricity and fire extinguisher were approved for payment. ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

The finance report was received ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

The secretary was asked to enquire of Firewatch Counties the cost of new extinguishers so that we can compare to the five yearly service.

Reports

AREC –Replacement reg cards have been received.

Petrol voucher is on hand for Gary ZL1WGL for expenses at car rally.

Three volunteers from Franklin were requested to volunteer for a South Auckland Car Club rally at Maramarua on Sunday 16 April. Durlene ZL1ULK and Mike

ZL1MFL have volunteered. Tom ZL1TO has also volunteered.. Our volunteers were accepted. Report time on Syme Road is 0830 hours.

Morse code – Peter ZL1PX reported Morse code learning group going well. Seven are listening to the Zoom version. QRS has a number of listeners also.

PRS Status

Ted ZL1BQA has not had success with the Klondyke PRS repeater. Mike ZL1UOM has accessed the Klondyke PRS a few months ago.

General Business

SteelNWheels event

Peter ZL1PX visited the venue after he had been told there would not be a fee for a car site. Vanessa has since said as his is not a classic car there will be a charge of \$30, comprising a \$20 non-refundable deposit plus \$10 on the day. This site is on Kitchener Road, Waiuku, away from the band, so noise should not be a problem. In preparation, Peter has used the 146.700 IRLP repeater, with a good response from Honolulu. Ted asked if Tom or anyone else could come up on DStar from Waiuku through the Klondyke repeater, to make a prearranged contact with Steve in Japan. It was agreed the club will pay the registration fee.

Positive Ageing Expo

Durlene ZL1ULK reported that Positive Ageing Expo may not go ahead this year. Chris Stabler has resigned from his position in charge. The Expo committee needs some men for the heavy lifting, setting up electric cables and so on.

April general meeting

The speaker will be Maurie Ogden ZL1UTL. Maurie makes model boats. He prefers to be here in person, rather than on a Zoom conference.

May general meeting. This will need to be our NZART remit meeting. A home-grown talk could be more flexible with time constraints. Ted ZL1BQA to do a talk on DMR.

The meeting closed at 2040 hours.

What Wives Think About Ham Radio

December 1966 QST



An intriguing survey undertaken in the 1960s on what ham wives make of their husbands' hobby. Click on the picture to read.

The survey findings probably apply just as much today as they did back then.

Keeping in touch during the effects of climate challenges

Story David black

Reprinted from *West Franklin Breeze*, April 2023

The need for reliable communications emerged as an important issue during the recent weather related events in NZ. Technical requirements fall into two main categories, broadcasting, that is the ability to get information out to a large number of people on a one-to-many basis and radio telephony, the ability to establish and maintain two way communication under adverse conditions.

For broadcasting the existing government and commercial network of radio and television throughout the country performed well. However for television to be useful mains power is generally required for the receivers and that is often severely compromised.

New Zealand still has an extensive AM (amplitude modulated) radio network operating in the low frequency broadcast band which gives long distance coverage and can be received by simple readily available receivers such as transistor and car radios. The AM network proved invaluable as it has in the past. At this time the official view of this network has been that it is obsolete and redundant and there are apparently plans to close it down. Whilst for day to day broadcasting AM transmissions have been largely superseded by FM which provides higher audio quality, the reliability and coverage of AM is legendary.

Radio telephony has been around for over 100 years and amateur radio operators (hams) excel in their skills in the use of this medium. That has been well organised by the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications AREC movement which is well established and managed in New Zealand. As cyclone Gabrielle Approached Auckland AREC was asked to provide radio communication support across the entire Auckland region for field teams. These consisted of a mix of response teams, New Zealand defence force Personnel and other volunteers. AREC developed detailed communication plan and personal rosters to assist with the radio operation coordinating the use of the Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) network using some commercial channels as well as amateur repeater channels many of which are specifically designed for AREC work.

Some 14 civil defence centres were established throughout the Auckland Region and AREC maintained radio contact with these. The link between was based at the North Shore Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) base and they provided the link between the field teams throughout Auckland and the incident Management Team Located at the Auckland Emergency Coordination Centre.

AREC volunteers provided technical skills in setting up, maintaining the equipment radio operation including establishing and maintaining contact, keeping logs, recording and forwarding messages and transferring them to other modalities such as email. As well as keeping records, people with appropriate allied abilities such as computer skills were recruited to collate and provide the data To AEM.

The ARSC operation was established on Wednesday 8 February and stood down on Thursday 16 February. During this time 18 experienced amateur radio operators supported the operation at the base, with 25 others on standby throughout the region. Sixty additional radios were sourced and re-programmed to operate on the civil defence emergency channels and loaned to AEM.

On the afternoon of Tuesday 1/4 February, AREC established a portable repeater station to provide on scene communications between rescue workers operating at Muriwai in the search for the missing volunteer firemen. During this time cell phone coverage was down and AREC provided the only available communication. It is notable that the mainstream media barely mentioned the role of AREC, giving much more coverage to the use of satellite telephones.

Much more recognition needs to be given to these skilled and well equipped volunteers. Any plans which are underway to dis-establish AM broadcasting network needs urgent reconsideration. Complex modern systems such as mobile telephones fibre based networks and digital television whilst of enormous value in good times are fair weather friends. When the weather or the elements turn against us nothing is as good as proven standalone systems operated by skilled people. They exist now so we must recognise and protect them.