# **QUA FARC**



# **AUGUST 2018**

**VOLUME 26 ISSUE 8** 

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc NZART Branch 10

President: Mike Jane ZL1UOM Vice President: Gary Landon ZL1WGL

Secretary: Tom McDonald ZL1TO Ph. 09 238 8580. 25 John St, Pukekohe 2120 E-mail zl1to@nzart.org.nz Committee: Ted Doell ZL1BQA, Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK

Club examiners: Ian ZL1PZ and Tom ZL1TO.

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

The committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month (excepting January) at 7.30 pm in the clubrooms.

Subscriptions \$20.00, family \$30.00.

Nets every Sunday at 9.00 am on 3.700 MHz and 9.30 am on the 146.900 MHz repeater. 2 metre frequencies are 145.775 MHz, then 146.625 MHz, and 146.900 simplex if repeaters off air.

Newsletter: Editor Tom ZL1TO tom.mcdonald@xtra.co.nz A copy is sent to members and clubs in the Auckland area. Sent free of obligation by e-mail to anyone interested.

# Remote control of transceivers

The general meeting on Tuesday 21 August will feature a talk and demonstration on remote control. The presenters will be Nigel ZL2SEA and Gavin ZL1NUX.

Your attendance is recommended.

Venue is the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, with the presentation getting under way by 7.45 pm.

#### Club web page

When you go to <a href="www.qsl.net/zl1sa/">www.qsl.net/zl1sa/</a> the banner below will be your first experience. The site is under construction and Peter ZL1PJH welcomes input from members.

# **Club Notice Board**

# Auckland area AREC, Thursday 16 August

The next meeting will be at Branch 66, commencing 1930 hours.

## **General Meeting, Tuesday 21 August**

Following usual business, which starts at 7.30 pm and will run at most 15 minutes, there will be a talk and demonstration by Nigel ZL2SEA on remote linking to an HF station.

#### General meeting, Tuesday 18 September

The talk will be given by Ted ZL1BQA and Steve ZL1TZP on digital hotspots and their use with the different digital modes available.

#### Franklin Positive Ageing, Friday 28 September

We have a stand booked for this year's Expo. The venue is the Indian Hall on Ward Street Pukekohe from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm. There will be live radio activity and people from the club available for just a chat and maybe some reminiscences.

The Expo is well organized, with around 100 exhibitors, stage entertainment and snacks and drink available.





#### The General Meeting on 17 July was given over to the Franklin Junk Sale.

The Club extends its thanks and gratitude to all who came along to make the evening a pleasant and welcoming event.

Thanks especially to the club members who helped with the raffle, supper, tidy up and sort out of gear prior to the sale.

## **Branch 12 Market Day**

The next annual Market Day is to be held on 15th September, 2018,

Waikato Table Tennis Stadium, Edgecumbe St, Hamilton. Don't miss out!

Sellers have access from 8 am and buyers can enter at 10 am.

Table space will be \$20 per space if booked in advance but will cost \$25 per space on the day.

As always there is free entry for buyers and there will be food available for purchase at the cafeteria.

More details on the Hamilton Club web site at zl1ux.org.nz/market day.html including a sellers registration form.

## Manawatu - Wanganui Ham Cram

A Ham Cram weekend is being run in Palmerston North with members of Branch 20 and 48 participating as tutors and examiners.

It will be running it on the 13th and 14th of October 2018. Further information is available by sending a message to newham@zl2ko.org.nz

#### **New Plymouth Junk Sale 2018**

Date: Saturday September 1st 2018 Hall opens at 8:00 am for Vendors Selling Start Time: 10:00 am Venue: Mangorei Memorial Hall

Corner Kent Rd and State Highway 3, New Plymouth

#### Stolen Items

Items stolen from North Shore Amateur Radio Club:

- 1. VHF Transceiver model Kenwood TM421A. Serial number 60901261
- 2. UHF Transceiver model Kenwood TM-441A. Serial number 60600215
- 3. Kenwood Antenna Tuner model AT-120. Serial number 20852.

Anyone finding these items please contact Dennis Thornton ZL1TAY email: zululima1tay@gmail.com



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held in the Clubrooms Stadium Drive Pukekohe on 7 August.

Chairman Mike ZL1UOM opened the meeting at 1935 hrs.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as a true ZL1WGL / ZL1BQA record.

#### Correspondence

Inward: August newsletters from Branches 12, 29, 65, 80, 86

Howard Buxton re Public Liability

Peter Mulhare re Public Liability Chris Stabler re Positive Ageing

Douglas ZL1BFS re Waikato District plan and other area plans.

Laurie ZL1ICU made announcement on VHF net Sunday 5 August regarding inspection of the Klondyke tower and repairs necessary.

To Debby Morgan NZART Headquarters with Outward: Branch update.

To Debby Morgan re Public Liability scheme. Message to Pat Dunsbee with cheque from sale.

Inward and outward correspondence were approved

ZL1BQA / ZL1UOM

#### Finance

Payments: Estate \$963 proceeds from sale Contact Energy \$49.42 paid presented 4 July

Contact Energy \$60.13 posted 1 August Watercare remains \$4.44 in credit

Receipts: ET transfer \$25

Junk sale net proceeds on the night \$1646.00

Junk sale raffle \$56.00 Subscription \$20.00

The finance report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Sale of coax switch from estate \$10.00 tonight.

#### Reports

AREC: AREC newsletter is now posted on web site http://arec.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/AREC.Info-Newsletter-2018-07.pdf

Auckland AREC has a meeting on 16th August at Branch 66.

#### General Business

September meeting: Ted ZL1BQA can talk about various hotspots and modes on DStar, DMR, YFS and NXDN

August meeting: Gary suggested that Nigel ZL2SEA be approached to give us a talk about remote linking. Tom ZL1TO is to follow up, maybe for a date months down the track.

Gary ZL1WGL could do a talk on the Driving Creek railway. Tom ZL1TO could do a talk on the Stevenson Lighthouses in due course. Night vision technology was mentioned as a topic for a talk by Mike ZL1UOM

The meeting closed at 2100 hours

# AND SER BRANCAROLS

- 02. Club event International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend 18/19 August at Kohimaramara Yacht Club, activating Bean Rock light. History of ILLW. Indonesian amateurs respond to Magnitude 6.9 earthquake on 5 August. Official time signals on WWV and WWVH to cease. New land mobile band G, 174 MHz to 184 MHz.
- 12. Ham Hum by email. Next meeting to prepare for Market Day Saturday 15 September. Propagation report from K7RA. BIRDS-2 constellation of Cube-Sats transported to International Space Station on behalf of hams in Bhutan, Phillipines and Malaysia. Scientific American notes sunspot cycles of 11, 88, 200 and 2400 years. Sanyo camcorder repairs by VK3TGX.
- 29. The achievements of Gary ZL1AN now silent key. Tribute given by Vaughan ZL1VH. AREC exercise Aspirin between North Shore and Waitakere hospitals using two cross band repeaters to overcome limitations due to difficult radio environment report by Andy ZL1COP. Photos of wine tasting with Vadi ZL1BXD.
- 65. Mad about Mars at Skydome. History of lighthouse weekend ... 18-19 August. Papakura Hamfest 16 March 2019 9am to 5pm. The weekly list of ssb nets. The ham connection in Thai cave rescue. Remote control of

- transceivers at 1 August meeting. Active direction finder project. Sales at New Plymouth 1 September, Hamilton 15 September.
  - 66. Cover photo Marine Rescue Centre inside report on talk by Matthew King. Presentation on Klondyke Tower maintenance 13 August. Remembering Gary Bold ZL1AN brilliant physicist, inspired teacher. History of ZL1BQ callsign. Interference on 70 cm National System.
  - 80. 8 August 7:30pm, Club Meeting. 11 August Mid Winter Club Dinner Kuzina Restaurant, Orewa. Visit to Warkworth Radio Telescope Wednesday 15 August travel by Brenton's Bus. Result of ten pin bowling 11 July. Earth station project group plans for steerable dish antenna.
  - 86. David ZL1DL to speak at meeting 12 August. Marconi Diversity receivers. from Waiouru to Maungatapere Thai cave rescue. First Trans-Tasman contact with ZL1ZLD on 630 metres. Gary ZL1AN and Bernie Smith silent keys. 50 years since fire aboard SS Gothic.

# NZART

# It's not them It's us

#### Franklin Junk Sale 17 July



This year the sale ran for longer than normal. At the microphone Ted ZL1BQA kept the ball running smoothly. The clubhouse was packed nearly to capacity. We thank the visitors, particularly those from the more distant parts of the city for coming along to support the sale. We eventually broke for supper at 11 pm.

One of the more endearing stories of the night was how Ian ZL1PZ bought, as junk, a receiver that he had built more than 50 years ago.

The picture at left shows Ian at work to find the fault. Ian knows the circuit very well. He spent several months of a winter building the set. The home build runs right through to the dial mechanism, where a tin lid, rotated by a string wrapped around the shaft of the tuning knob produces the slow motion for the frequency pointer moving across a linear scale.

The specification for home brew receiver made by ZL1PZ about 55 years ago is:

Bands covered: 80; 40; 20; 15; 10. (The WARC bands were not available at that time)

Modes: AM, SSB, CW

It is an 80m, double conversion super heterodyne receiver with crystal controlled converters for the higher bands. The first intermediate frequency is 4550 kHz with home brew crystal filters to give the sharp selectivity that is needed for SSB and CW. This high IF also gives very good image rejection.

This is converted to a second intermediate frequency at 85 kHz which rejects any signal that has come through out of the pass band of the first IF. There is a choice of AM or SSB/CW detectors.

For the higher bands a crystal controlled converter is switched in and the 80m receiver then becomes a tuned IF. This arrangement gives the same stability on the higher bands as on 80m.

#### Web page under construction

Peter ZL1PJH is building a simple (so he says) website for the club. This will be hosted on one of the free sites offered to radio amateurs.

The site will initially list the club contacts and will have an archive of club newsletters.

Any member who can put a few words together on an activity that we get up to, with a few photographs will be most welcome to forward that information to Peter.

Feel free to contact Peter directly at <a href="mailto:pjh@teachit.com">pjh@teachit.com</a>
Take a visit to <a href="mailto:www.qsl.net/zllsa/">www.qsl.net/zllsa/</a>

# Outcome of VHF Group discussion on Klondyke Tower

The meeting on 13 August was well attended by 25 people, with a good geographical spread. The reports on tower condition with accompanying photographs show that a significant amount of restoration is urgently needed. Competitive quotes have been obtained.

The VHF Group has committed a very sizeable sum to the job, and is investigating obtaining funds from several other sources. At the present other clubs in the area are not being canvassed for their monetary support. However clubs can anticipate that they may be approached to receive the report by way of a presentation to their members.

[Unofficial report by QUA Editor]

# Auckland VHF Group (Inc) Branch 66 General Meeting Notice

13th August 7.30pm, Hazel Avenue Club Rooms

## The Evenings Subject: Klondyke Tower Maintenance

This is a very important meeting and all Branch 66 members and users of Klondyke tower should attend. Due to major concerns by your president and committee regarding the condition and past maintenance of Klondyke Tower, experts from a major tower maintenance company were called in to do an inspection.

We now have the results. They are not good. The tower is rapidly deteriorating and urgent major work is required to attend to rust and corrosion, metal depletion, and paint de-lamination. It is not a job that can be done by a working bee, professionals need to be employed. A large amount of metal will need to be replaced. It will be costly and we will need to raise money.

There will be a presentation at the meeting to show the condition of the tower and recommendations to restore its integrity. This will be followed by a general discussion.

Klondyke tower is a major asset of The Auckland VHF Group Inc. and amateur radio in general. It supports major links for the national system and local repeaters including 146.625

Please come along and participate.

THIS IS URGENT! EVERYBODY WELCOME



For Sale
30 foot
tilt over
tower

Arborist will cut back trees to allow removal.

From the estate of the late Bob Knowles.

Contact Tom McDonald in the first instance.



## Prohibiting illegal use of two way radios

The RSM Compliance team is working on a Prohibition Notice to limit the import and illegal use of a range of low end two way radios.

There are a variety of these radios on the market, like Beefing, Puffing and Wound for example. They allow users to programmer their own frequency from the front panel or via a USB cable. Although designed for the Amateur Radio Operator, these radios in the wrong hands have been attributed to malicious calls on police, forestry and rail frequencies.

The import of Amateur two way radios locked to the Amateur bands won't be affected by this new Notice.

[Radio Spectrum Management Business Update - August 2018]

## Cardboard boxes required

Paul ZL4AX is part of the team that has been sorting out parts in the late Bruce ZL1TDH shack. A dozen or so cardboard boxes are required. Members may drop off any spare boxes at the clubhouse and we will get them to the workers.