



Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc NZART Branch 10
Committee

President: Gary Landon ZL1WGL

Vice President: Peter Henderson ZL1PJH

Secretary: Tom McDonald ZL1TO Ph. 09 238 8580

with: Ted Doell ZL1BQA, Mike Lee ZL1MFL, Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK, and Mike Jane ZL1UOM.

Club examiners: Ian ZL1PZ and Tom ZL1TO.

Web page: www.qsl.net/zl1sa/

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

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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 (controller ZL1UOM) and 9.30 am on the 146.900 MHz repeater (controller ZL1PZ). 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.



Dinner with Papakura Radio Club

Our thanks to our hosts for organising the end of year dinner at Papakura RSA on Friday 4 December.

We gathered for drinks at 6.30 pm and moved to the quieter dinning room half an hour later. The table arrangement made it fairly easy for participants to circulate and get to have conversations with everyone present.

These gatherings are a very pleasant way of maintaining the good friendship between our two clubs, on the southern fringe of Auckland. Attendance numbers were: 16 from Franklin and 22 from Papakura.

Farmers Santa Parade, 29 November

The dispersal of this major parade, down Queen Street in the central city has for many years been overseen by volunteers from the amateur radio community.

Radio plays a relatively small part of our contribution. And, as the front end of many amateur transceivers gets overloaded with the strong signals coming from the sky tower, it has become traditional to use PRS radios. That has the advantage that operators on the fringes of amateur radio can be included in the dispersal effort.

Lynnette ZL1LL was in the team that unloaded costumed characters from the floats. Tom ZL1TO assisted in getting the 1500 participants onto buses for their return to Aotea Square. This year we had to issue masks for protection against the spread of COVID-19. Light rain did not put a damper on the day.

Club Notice Board

General Meeting, 15 December

The meeting will commence at 1930 hours.

After usual business we will have a presentation on linear power supplies given by Mike ZL1OM.

The evening will finish with a Christmas themed supper.

Jock White HF Field Days, 27 and 28 February 2021

The decision has been made that Franklin will operate from Attewell Road. Volunteers are now being sought.

Tour de Ranges, 2 October 2021

Yes, this event normally held in January, has been delayed until quite late next year. Watch for developments at www.tourderanges.co.nz

Annual General Meeting

There were changes in the Franklin Amateur Radio Club committee at the AGM on 17 November.

The committee is now

President	Gary Landon ZL1WGL
Vice President	Peter Henderson ZL1PJH
Secretary/ Treasurer	Tom McDonald ZL1TO
Committee	Ted Doell ZL1BQA Mike Lee ZL1MFL Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK Mike Jane ZL1UOM
80 m net Controller	Mike Jane ZL1UOM
2 m net controller	Ian Sexton ZL1PZ

Subscriptions remain at \$20 individual and \$30 family. Subscriptions for the 2020/21 year are now payable. For those who wish to make their payment electronically, then the transfer can be made to Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc at BNZ account number 020404-0157944-00

FRANKLIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC

020404 0157944 00



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, 17 November 2020.

Chairman Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 2038 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PZ, ZL1BBZ, ZL1BQA, ZL1PJH, ZL1TGP, ZL1MFL, ZL1ULK, ZL1UOM, ZL1DW, ZL1GAC, ZL1LL, ZL1AMQ.

Apology: ZL2UJK

Minutes of the 20 October 2020 meeting were approved as true and correct. ZL1BQA / ZL1DW

Correspondence:

Inward - Newsletters as reported in QUA.

Auckland Council, re Asbestos plan. The Secretary is to acknowledge receipt of the message. A variety of ways of dealing with our obligations were discussed. It was agreed the best way forward is to download information from the Worksafe web site.

Andy ZL1COP with ideas for Auckland region AREC.

Soren ZL1SKL advertising AREC regional meeting.

Outward - Greg Lowe re thanks for visit.

Correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1MFL

Finance:

Expenditure: Insurance bill with FMG \$663.36 has been paid since October statement date.

The finance report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1BQA



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, 1 December 2020.

Chairman Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1940 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1BQA, ZL1PJH, ZL1MFL, ZL1UOM, ZL1ULK

Minutes of the 3 November 2020 meeting were approved as true and correct. ZL1BQA / ZL1PJH

Correspondence:

Inward – Newsletters, Branches 03, 13/25, 29, 65, 66, 80.

FMG Post December-February.

Correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Finance:

Expenditure: Contact Energy \$51.02 paid 3 November. \$51.48 due 4 December.

Income: Subscription \$20.00

It is noticed that the cheque for insurance has not been presented, despite it having been delivered in person to the FMG Pukekohe office before the due date. The Secretary is to investigate. Another three subscriptions paid tonight.

Gary ZL1WGL has paper work that signatories will need to complete for our changes at the BNZ to be activated, and money laundering regulations to be met. Topic referred to general business.

Financial report for the year is in preparation for forwarding to the Companies Office.

Reports:

AREC: The James Allan Memorial rallysprint at Maramarua on Sunday 25 October was cancelled.

Bridge to bridge boat race 7 November on the Waikato River. Mike ZL1MFL reported it went very well – but toilet facilities were poor. His fibreglass antenna pole worked well. It was claimed that boats with skiers in tow were doing 100 miles per hour in some categories.

Rally of Auckland. Peter ZL1PJH and Bob ZL1BBZ did get lost getting on site and cell phone GPS was no help. Four drunken hoons stood on the fence of a nearby bridge in a vulnerable position. Their mum got them off the bridge by shouting in adamant terms! Bob had done a lot of work on the 2 metre antenna and it worked well too.

Farmers Christmas Parade in the central city on 29 November or 6 December involves ZL1TO and ZL1LL.

Are there any aspects of the communication from Andy Brill that members would like taken to the regional meeting on 19 November? Ted ZL1BQA is looking forward to the training. Ted recommended that those attending the coming regional meeting should be good listeners.

General Business:

David ZL1DW reported that he had recently attended a Branch 80 meeting. David has also despatched a pallet of Cisco routers and switches to NZART Wellington.

Topic at the December meeting may be linear power supplies by Mike ZL1UOM.

The meeting closed at 2102 hrs

The finance report was received and power bill is to be paid. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Reports:

AREC: Farmers Christmas Parade in the central city on 29 November. Light showers did not prompt a change to the rain day. ZL1TO and ZL1LL were stationed at dispersal on Beach Road to unload people from floats and load buses with 1500 participants for their return to the Aotea Centre.

Four AREC members attended the regional meeting at Papakura Radio Club on 19 November. Concern was expressed at some of the proposed changes to the administration proposed for the Auckland region.

Tour de Ranges – we have had early warning that the event will be 9 January.

James Allan Rally – early warning has been given that the event will be 21 February.

The AREC report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1BQA

General Business:

Signatories at the BNZ:

The present bank signatories of Bruce Dunsbee and Ian Sexton are to be removed. The bank signatories are to be any two of Tom McDonald, Gary Landon, Peter Henderson and Durlene Griffin ZL1BQA / ZL1MFL

End of year dinner: Ian Ashley ZL1AOX has been advised that 13 from Franklin will be at this year's event at Papakura RSA.

Jock White Field Days 27 & 28 February 2021. FARC to be stationed at the onion farm on Attewell Road.

December meeting, linear power supplies by Mike ZL1UOM. Supper will include strawberries and icecream.

The meeting closed at 2059 hours

Nomination for officers of NZART, and notice of remits to 2021 NZART Conference are due by 31 December.

03: (November) 23 November Ivan ZL1IA to give talk on the TYT Open CD-77. Fortuna ZL1TCZ life member. Review of show and tell. Proposal for changes to AREC Auckland structure.

13/25: (November) Stan White receives Jumbo Award. Flood event in Napier. SOTA day at Taraponui. The Branch 25 homebrew competition. To circulate.

29: 7 December social evening. 3D printed battery box for Tait radios. Tour de Ranges 9 January. Five new amateur callsigns following weekend training course. Reports to AGM.

65: Reports on City of Auckland Rally. Deep cycle lithium batteries from Jaycar. H Night AM contest 8 December. Solar Cycle 25 developing. Straight Key Night 4 December.

66: Cover - VHF Group at Western Suburbs sale. General meeting and Christmas party 14 December. How to use repeaters in the VHF Group area. 9 cm and 3 cm under threat. Tower to be photographed with a drone. Report on talk at club meeting on NZ Coastguard and working aboard nuclear submarine HMS Vanguard.

80: Club meets Wednesday 9 December for fellowship. Visit of ZL1DW in November. Involved with satellite launch 20 November.

The ICOM 705

Ted ZL1BQA described the features of his new portable Software Defined Radio, at our November general meeting.

For those who were brought up on radios that used touchable components it is a complete amazement that a radio receiver, and transmitter can have all functions performed by a computer that performs calculations faster than the frequency of radio waves.

The IC-705 has HF/50/144/440 MHz multimode, all mode in a 10 W QRP rig. The menu structure is almost identical with the IC9700 and is accessed via the touch screen which can be easily seen in direct sunlight.



Above: The IC-705 with big brother the IC-9700

Geminid meteor shower

The Geminid shower should be just past its prime by the time you get the newsletter.

Your Editor was up early this morning, 15 December, and was lucky enough to see a meteor trail in the first 30 seconds of watching. But that was the first meteor seen in several nights of viewing.

I spent 2½ hours late in the evening of Friday 11th on the beach at Maraetai. My guide had a sensitive camera with fish eye lens and a motorized equatorial mount for his photographs. My camera and tripod really didn't cut the mustard.

As radio amateurs there are experiments begging to be done with meteor scatter. Would someone who has had success with meteor scatter propagation please step up?

The Geminids are so named because their paths, although parallel in space, appear to radiate from the constellation Gemini when we look up at the sky. The meteors are fragments of a minor planet (asteroid), through whose orbit our planet earth passes at about 14 December each year. The short lived ion trails work as reflectors for radio waves.

Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning:
"Windows frozen, won't open."
Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer."
Wife texts back 10 minutes later: "Computer really messed up now."

Contributed by Ted ZL1BQA – who prefers Linux

