



President: Gary Landon ZL1WGL
 Vice President: Peter Henderson ZL1PX
 Secretary: Tom McDonald ZL1TO Ph. 09 238 8580
 Committee Members: Mike Jane ZL1UOM, Ted Doell ZL1BQA,
 Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK, Gary Collins ZL1GAC

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) at 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 (first log-on becomes controller). Other 2 metre frequencies are 145.775 MHz, 146.625 MHz, and 146.900 simplex if repeaters off air.

Newsletter: Editor Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com

A copy is sent to members and clubs in the Auckland area. Sent free of obligation by e-mail to anyone interested.

Next Club Meeting



Our next monthly general meeting will be Tuesday 20 December at 7.30 PM in the clubrooms at 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe.

Straight Key Night



Summer CW Straight Key 'saunter' with the emphasis on a simple QSO to exchange RST / Location / Name / Key / Transmitter / Power. Sunday 11 December. Run time will be 9 PM to 10 PM. Frequency will be around 3.510 to 3.540 MHz. Maximum power is 100 Watts. All contacts must be CW-to-CW, using a straight key. Exceptions are made for disabled operators who cannot use a straight key but no bugs, sideswipers, keyers or keyboards for the 'abled' among us. The essence of Straight Key is the operator controls the timing and spacing of all characters – you can use any mechanical aid but electronic assistance is frowned upon.

[Further details here...](#)

Car Club Rally

The South Auckland Car Club has advised they are holding a car rally at Jacks Ridge, Whitford on the Hawkswood Civil property, Sunday the 11 December 2022.

Nine radio operators are needed for this activity... Start, Finish, Clerk of Course (mobile) and 6 mid points.

The whole area is only about 1km square so your mobile car aerial and 10w radio would be enough.

Contact David ZL1DK at zl1dk@nzart.org.nz for more information.

Shared Christmas Dinner

Papakura Amateur Radio Club shared Christmas Dinnner with us on Friday 2 December at Papakura Club Inc. 5 Croskery Road, Papakura. It was the perfect opportunity to catch up with ham mates and make plans for the coming year. A good chat and meal was had by all. Thank you, Branch 65 for an excellent event!

Sound Quiz

[Click here to hear our Morse sound quiz.](#)

Clue – a seasonal message.

Answers and replies to pjh@teachlit.com

Good luck!

Subscriptions

It is that time of the year again. Our annual subs are \$20 (individual) and \$30 (family). Please pay to Franklin Amateur Radio Club at our BNZ account number 020404-0157944-00. Show your name or call sign in the reference field, so we are sure to record your payment.

Punchline

You're an electrical measurement, Harry. **I'm a watt**

Honda is coming out with the 1st electric vehicle with wireless charging - **The Honda Accordless.**

What do we call a wireless mouse? – **A Hamster.**

What's the easiest way to get a mobile phone into prison?

Charge it with battery.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Annual General Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 15 November 2022

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 7.30 pm, welcoming all and thanking members for their attendance. Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1BQA, ZL1LL, ZL1GAC, ZL1UOM, ZL1TZP, Lawrence. Apologies: ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1BBZ accepted. ZL1PX/ZL1BQA The minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting, 21 December 2021 were approved as a true and correct record. ZL1BQA / ZL1TZP

The President, Gary ZL1WGL gave his report for 2022. It now seems ages since the pandemic lockdown. For the first time in many years we participated in the CW section of Jock White Field Days, and we were second in the Montgomery Cup division. Talks are continuing on the possibility of Auckland Council either buying us out or shifting the clubhouse to our preferred site on Ngahere Road; but with a new Mayor it remains to be seen if that will proceed. Ian Sexton ZL1PZ became silent key during the year at 101 years old. The Junk sale was mostly Ian's equipment. Papakura Radio Club will organize this year's Christmas dinner. Gary thanked the committee, and all members, for the tasks they have done, and for giving talks at our meetings. The President's report was adopted ZL1WGL / ZL1TO

Finance

The financial statement was circulated among the committee for its November meeting. The statement has been circulated to members prior to today's AGM. The financial statement as presented was received and approved.

Proposed that we double the insured value of the clubhouse to \$150000 ZL1WGL / ZL1GAC Gary or Tom will phone FMG to advise the change.

An AREC report was given by Tom ZL1TO. The report was received. ZL1TO/ZL1PX

The Editor gave a report Peter ZL1PX has enjoyed writing before editor, and even more so now that he is editor. The Editor's report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Election of Officers. Nominations were accepted from the floor for all positions:

President Gary Landon ZL1WGL	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Vice President Peter Henderson ZL1PX	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Secretary/Treasurer Tom McDonald ZL1TO	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Committee Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Committee Mike Jane ZL1UOM	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Committee Ted Doell ZL1BQA	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
Committee Gary Collins ZL1GAC	ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
All were declared elected.	

Appointments

AREC Leader Tom McDonald ZL1TO	ZL1LL/ZL1BQA
AREC Deputy Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK	ZL1LL/ZL1BQA
Net Control 80m Mike Jane ZL1UOM	ZL1LL/ZL1BQA
Net control 2m Peter Henderson ZL1PX	ZL1LL/ZL1BQA
Newsletter Editor Peter Henderson ZL1PX	ZL1LL/ZL1BQA
All were declared elected.	

Banking

The signatories on BNZ records are any two of Tom McDonald ZL1TO, Gary Landon ZL1WGL, Durlene Griffin ZL1ULK and Peter Henderson ZL1PX. We have internet banking with Pukekohe BNZ.

The committee's spending limit presently is \$700.00 and is to remain unchanged.

Subscriptions These are currently \$20 and \$30 (Family) and are to remain the same for 2022/23

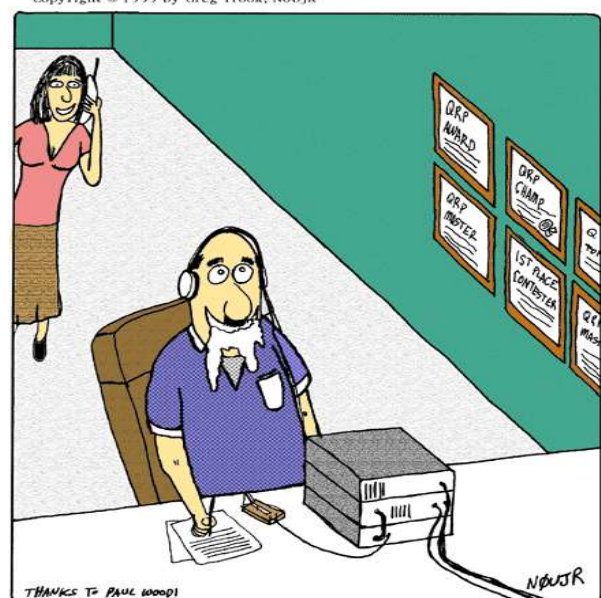
General Business The President announced that Life membership badges, rather than certificates would be presented to the new life members appointed at the 2021 AGM. Gary presented badges to Mike Jane ZL1UOM, Ted Doell ZL1BQA and Tom McDonald ZL1TO.



(Left to right) Gary presents badges to Mike, Ted and Tom.


The meeting closed at 8.06 pm

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"Oh Hi Rodger...Walter can't come to the phone right now, he just made a contact with a station in Tasmania at 10 milliwatts, and he's not finished foaming at the mouth yet."

Telegraph Antics



Staff of the Postal and Telegraph Office, Oamaru circa 1910

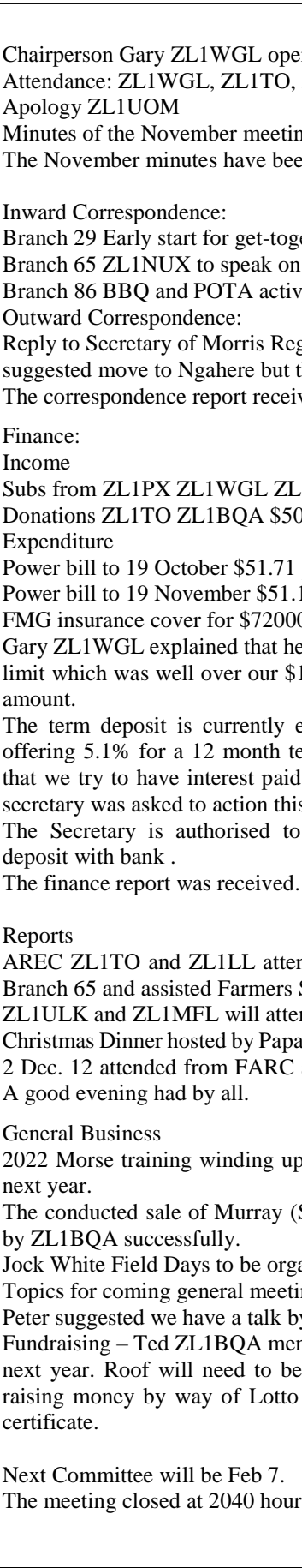
Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.

They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his."

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ended the meeting at 1930 hours.
ZL1PX, ZL1BQA, ZL1ULK.
ZL1WGL/ZL1PX
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ZL1BQA/ZL1PX
ether 5 Dec. Annual reports.
South Island tour 7 Dec.
ity 11 December.
gister saying We look forward to
his awaits Council's pleasure.
ved ZL1BQA/ZL1TO
1TZP ZL1LL \$80
)
paid 1 November.
11 paid 3 December
), \$648.88 paid 21 November.
e had got a quote for \$150k cover,
1000 – so we paid for the smaller
earning 2.2%. Presently BNZ is
term deposit. The consensus was
monthly or three monthly. The
s with BNZ.
negotiate quarterly interest on
ZL1BQA/ZL1PX
ZL1TO/ZL1BQA
ended regional meeting 17 Nov at
Santa Parade 27 Nov.
nd Jacks Ridge car rally 11 Dec.
kura ARC at 5 Crockery Road Fri
and similar number from PARC.
o. ZL1PX looking for helpers for
(SK) ZL1BPU radio gear handled
anised for the end of February.
ngs:
y the ICOM salesman.
ntioned we will need to fund raise
replaced soon. Ted pointed out
grants requires a tax exemption
s.

Watching the Coast



Coastal scene - Cook Islands

In the Second World War, New Zealand operated a large coast-watching organisation with the task of detecting enemy ships or planes and communicating back to headquarters by radio. The NZ Navy, which had operational control, set up stations around New Zealand and throughout the eastern Pacific to include Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, the Cook Islands, Tokelau, Pitcairn and Norfolk Island.

Coast watching was not an easy career choice. The radios and their supporting accessories were heavy – more than 200 kilos - and must be taken by sea or air sometimes under enemy sight in tropical heat and humidity to distant islands. Once there, they must be lugged uphill to a place with good all-round visual access. Next would come the tin shed built beneath the tree canopy. An antenna must be set up – but not look like an antenna. Food and medical supplies must be in place. Re-supply might not happen for months.

Finding operators was a problem. Coastwatchers had to know their radios inside out, overcome their isolation, treat their own medical issues, live on dwindling food supplies and make sensible decisions when enemy forces came close. There were just so many islands and so few people who had the skills.



Tai Nicholson operating coast watch radio at the government radio station on Rarotonga

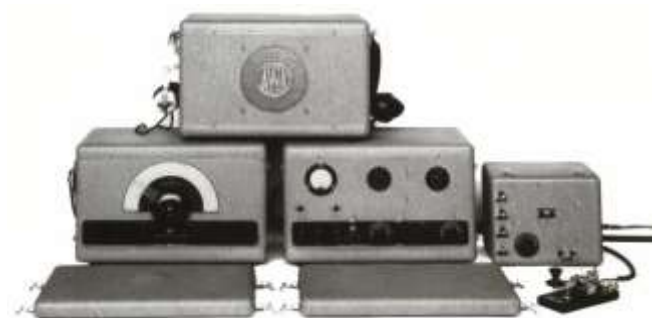
Early in 1942, we decided to train Pacific Islanders for Coastwatcher duties. We asked schools for their brightest students. Soon they learnt Morse code, radio engineering, ship and plane identification. Nearly a hundred local operators soon fed reports back to a handful of Kiwi 'base' operators. These locals were young, just out of school. William Cuthers, just 16 years of age, sole operator on the island of Mitiaro for some 18 months, watched each day for an armed invader.

By now, we knew how dangerous this was. Enemy units approaching an island worked to eliminate Coastwatcher stations and capture their operators. In October, 1942, Japanese troops on Tarawa in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands beheaded 17 NZ coast watchers as 'spies'. Ten of them were NZ army and not spies but seven were NZ Post Office Telegraphists – civilians doing military work. It was immediately decided to 'attest' the seven NZ Post Office civilians into the Second NZ Expeditionary Force (2NZEF). They became deceased military personnel with service recognition and pensions which their families could access.

The intention then was to 'attest' all Pacific Island Coastwatchers. They did the same job as Kiwi operators. They faced the same dangers. Enlistment into the armed services should protect them against being shot as spies. There would also be some pension if they were killed and might there not also be some pay arrears?

It didn't happen. It still hasn't happened. As in Afghanistan, we don't seem good at rewarding those who put their lives at risk for us. Why is that, do you think?

But to return to technical questions – which are a lot easier to answer. What radio did the Coastwatcher use? The radio most commonly used was the 3BZ made by AWA (Amalgamated Wireless Australasia). There were many versions, all called 3BZ, mostly comprising four steel boxes - receiver, transmitter, power supply and antenna tuner. They were heavy and needed muscle to be placed in position or moved about. Antenna, headphones, mike and Morse key were included in the set, but no speaker.



AWA 3BZ. PSU with mike, headphones and speaker on top, receiver on bottom left, transmitter, aerial tuner and key on right, covers in front

3BZ radios worked 5 switched bands from 200 kHz up to 30 MHz. They worked from a 12 V battery or an AC source of 110 or 230V. Power output while transmitting CW was around 12 watts or 15 watts on speech. Two antennas were provided: a low impedance Marconi for less than 100 mile communication and a 600 impedance single wire Hertz aerial for longer distances. So that I don't reveal more technical ignorance I recommend you [find more 3BZ spec details here](#).



Working AWA 3BZ in 2019

Over 3,500 AWA 3BZs were made and they still work for some hams. The one above is shown on Christmas Day 2019 in the shack of Andrew Miller (KD6TKX) in Fresno, California, USA. [You can see him tapping out his Christmas message here.](#)

Descendents of those Pacific Island Coastwatchers have questioned the way New Zealand treated their grandparents. One of these descendants, Willie Cuthers, grandson and namesake of William Cuthers stationed on Mitiaro Island at age 17, seeks recognition. He points out his grandfather did the same job as New Zealand servicemen, endured the same danger, employed the same skill set, but was paid a quarter of the wage. He asks why civilian European Coastwatchers were formally recognized by the defence service in 2012 but Pacific island civilians who worked for the Coastwatcher service still don't appear in official histories.

On 13 October this year, Minister of Defence Hon. Peeni Henare announced a recognition of Pacific Island Coastwatchers and the role they played in our Pacific early warning standup. The minister announced the government will work with families to identify Pacific Island Coastwatchers. He spoke of a National War Memorial service for October 15 to mark the service of all Coastwatchers. Every Coastwatcher will receive a signed certificate from the Governor General recognising their service. Government has also agreed a memorial plaque placed on the headstones of former Service personnel can be placed on the headstones of civilian Coastwatchers. [The full government statement is here.](#) No attesting of deceased Coastwatchers and no pension entitlement, but some progress perhaps.



A post-war photograph of William Cuthers (Kiri) who at the age of 16 was employed as sole operator Coastwatcher on the Island of Mitiaro.