

QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10



DECEMBER 2023

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 12

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Vice President: Steve Doell ZL1TZP
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Examiners: Tom ZL1TO, Peter ZL1PX
Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1sa>
Webmaster: Steve ZL1TZP

Meetings: Club meetings are on the third Tuesday each month in the clubrooms, 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, at 7.30 PM. Visitors welcome.

Franklin – Papakura Share Christmas Dinner 2023

Our shared Christmas dinner with Papakura Club was held recently at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club in Ward Street, Pukekohe. Forty one amateur ops or spouses attended this event making it our biggest Christmas event in recent times. The sliced roast beef was an especial favourite in the menu. As usually happens, members of both clubs rotated table by table to catch up on the events of the year. It was great to see newly licenced hams for 2023 from both clubs turning up for the party.



Seven transmitting YLs at Papakura-Franklin dinner

Subscriptions

Our thanks to all who have paid yearly club subscriptions so far. For those yet to pay, please see details below.

Club Subscriptions: individual \$20, family \$30
Payable in December
Bank Number: 02-0404-0157944-000
Newly licenced amateurs – Free first year membership

Next General Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 December at 7.30 PM in the clubrooms located at 19 Stadium Drive,

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

Subscriptions: individual \$20, family \$30, due December
Bank Number: 02-0404-0157944-000

Nets: Sunday 9 AM on 3.700 MHz (Mike ZL1UOM) and 9.30 AM on 146.90 MHz (Peter ZL1PX). Wednesday 7.30 on DMR TG 5301 (Steve ZL1TZP).

QUA editor: Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com
QUA sent by email to club members and anyone interested. Permission to copy material is freely granted, provided you include authorship.

Pukekohe. Steve ZL1SPR has kindly offered to talk to the club on his adventures in the radio room of the USS Missouri battleship in Pearl Harbour. After Steve's talk there will be coffee/tea and Christmas fare.



USS Missouri Museum Ship – Pearl Harbour, Hawaii

Morse Training

David ZL1DK, Rob ZL1RJS and Peter ZL1PX are looking for ops who want to learn CW in the coming year. Training runs March to September. Training days are Monday 7.15, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 7.30. 30 mins a session. Start speed is 6 words per minute.

You hear our code on the National System or 3755 kHz HF. After each transmission we read the text, then go on with the next transmission. By the time you finish in September, you will do better than 12 WPM.



Morse Health Warning. As you gain skill, some addiction is likely. But you will also gain friends and satisfaction as the hidden world of Morse reveals itself to you.

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind



William Kamkwamba

In 2001, William Kamkwamba, aged 14, and his family in Malawi had a problem. Each year they waited for the rainy season to grow their crop of maize. When harvested, the maize filled their storeroom with enough to survive until the next rains fell. But this year, the rains had come and gone quickly. The maize crop wilted. Irrigation was not possible because the only water supply was a deep well that required hard work winding a bucket up and down.

In the dry conditions, the family harvested a half dozen bags of maize – barely enough for two or three months. The bags sat in a corner of the family storeroom. William's father was not concerned. He explained that the government kept large warehouses full of maize and they would not starve. But then he attended a meeting in the chief's house. When he returned home he told the family that government officials had sold the stored maize and run off with the money.

As drought conditions worsened, people from the outer villages roamed the countryside asking for food. They asked William's father for help. He looked at the few bags left in the storeroom and shook his head. My family has to eat, he told them. Already, several people in the village suffered from kwashiorkor – a disease caused by protein deficiency.

William and his two friends Gilbert and Geoffrey liked science. As the drought worsened there was no money to pay their secondary school fees and no work was needed in the fields, so they hung out in an old truck yard hunting for wires and gadgets. They tried to repair the radios and other gadgets they found among the discarded trucks. They also visited a primary school library where a kindly teacher showed them a book called ***Using Energy***. William read and re-read this book many times, excited by the idea of using magnets to create electricity.



William uses an old iPod Nano motor to test his idea

Back in the truck yard, he found discarded wires and an old iPod Nano. He extracted the electric motor from the Nano and connected it to a battery. He danced when it worked. Already he had an idea to save his family from the drought. He would build a windmill to create electricity and use it to pump water from the well to the crops. To test his idea he melted plastic pieces on to the iPod Nano motor shaft so that it would spin in the wind. When he connected the wires to his father's Panasonic transistor radio, the radio began to play.



William used his father's old bike to transfer energy to a dynamo

William started building up the pieces for a larger windmill. He used his father's old bike as a central shaft. Although his fellow villagers thought him 'misala' or mad, he built a tower to catch the wind and mounted the central crank of his father's bike at the top of the tower. A friend donated a bicycle dynamo, the kind used to power a headlamp. With this he was able to power a pump to move water to the maize.

[This true story comes from ***The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*** by William Kamkwamba available in digital format from Auckland Library. You can also see a film based on the book in **Netflix**. William went on to win an All Africa prize in technology and gain a degree from Dartmouth College, UK. With money he received from lecture tours in USA, he was finally able to install larger pumps and batteries so his family will never again suffer the effects of drought.]

[See William explaining his windmill here.](#)

Franklin Club at Christmas on the Green - Pukekohe

Pukekohe Business Association staged Christmas on the Green on Saturday 2 December at Navigation Homes Stadium in Pukekohe. The event ran from 1500 to 1930 hours. There were free rides, free fun activities and a number of food outlets. Police, ambulance and community patrol operated promotion stalls.

We were allowed access at midday and by 2PM Tom and Peter had set up a CW station with a forty meter antenna. At 3PM Lynette and Peter commenced offering 'SEND YOUR NAME IN MORSE CODE' to visitors. Around 15 visitors tried this experience. Our link stations were Neil ZL1NZ and Paul ZL1AJY who kindly donated their time to make sure everyone who sent their name in Morse got a reply. At 5PM, we invited visitors to CALL SANTA and a number of visitors happily spoke to one of Santa's elves (Tom).



Two visitors learn how to translate their name into Morse



A new op tries her arm on our practice keyer

I am grateful to Tom and Lynette for their generosity in devoting the entire day to setting up equipment and running the activities. My thanks also go to Neil and Paul for their excellent linkwork.

Our next event: Jock White Field Day Feb 24/25

Amateur Radio field days have taken place all over the world since the first one in 1933. In NZ they happen on the last full weekend in February and are known as the Jock White Memorial Field Days.

Field days are in essence a preparation for emergency deployment. Radio club teams move themselves and their equipment to a remote site and within a short space of time establish a field station that runs independently of utility mains power just as they would in a real emergency. This requires excellent team cohesion and communication skills if the station is to be set up before the contest begins. In 2023, our remote site will be at Gary's farm on Attewell Road.

Field station shelters may be one or more tents sited within 10 metres of each other and erected on the weekend of the contest. Caravans, mobile homes or other vehicles may be used, but may only be moved on to the site on the weekend of the contest. Field station antennas may not be raised earlier than 1200 NZDT on the Saturday. Electricity must be from an independent source: battery, portable generator, solar panel, wind or water generation, etc. At Attewell Road we shelter in temporary cabins and set up a generator nearby.

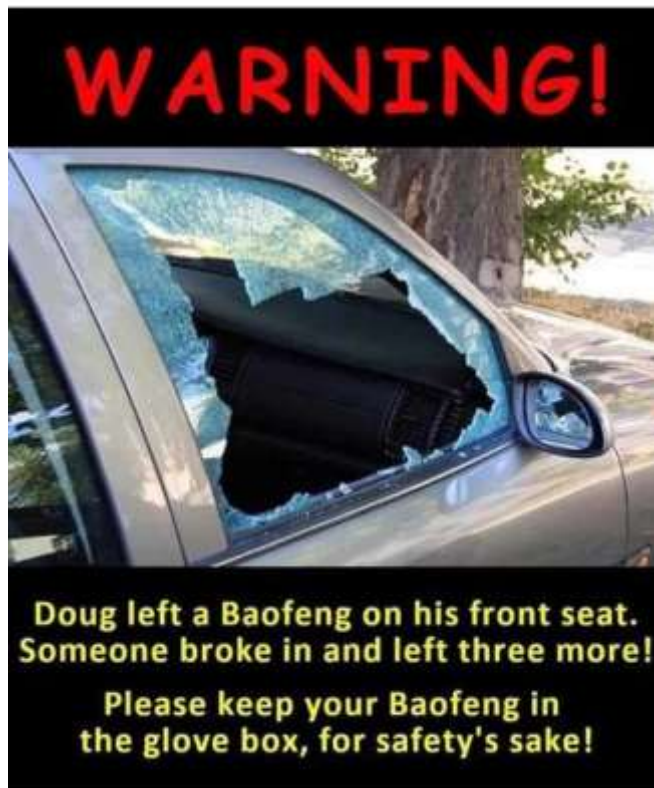
Once established, all stations begin at 3 PM on Saturday to contact as many stations as they can in each hour of the contest until midnight. We re-start Sunday 6AM and finish at 3PM. So, all in all, there are 18 hours of contest time.

During each hour of the contest, stations work either CW or phono on the 80 and 40 meter bands with one transmitter per band. When a QSO is established, operators exchange a signal report, a serial number beginning with 001 and a branch number. After one hour, all stations previously contacted in the first hour may be contacted again in the second hour and so on.

Field Days are very much a team sport and the following skill sets are important:

Road Crew	Move generator and antenna gear from clubhouse to field site and return it afterwards
Antenna Rigger	Erect and test coax and antennas
Service Engineer	Diagnose and repair transmitters
Operator - Phono	Call CQ and record contacts on log sheet
Operator - CW	Call CQ TEST and record contacts on log sheet
Log File Analyzer & Shift Organizer	Calculate multipliers, add scores, submit logs, make rota list
Food and Beverage Specialist	Keep team fed and hydrated
Fine Business Caller	Remind everyone how well they are doing

Our club members are a gifted and talented bunch and will likely be able to assist across most skill areas on the day. If you see a skill set you feel especially comfortable with, please jump in and stake your claim to that area of expertise. All skill sets are important, but the two that require the most people are Road Crew and Operators so if you can't identify where you fit, try one of those.



VHF Group Trading Table

VHF Group have some very good deals, especially for those new hams setting up HF antennas.

Printed Circuit Board. Thanks to a generous donation from N.Z.'s last circuit board production company (now closed down), we have a large quantity of single sided fibreglass printed circuit board material in sizes ranging from 1200 x 600 down to smaller pieces. There's some double sided board as well. Come along to our May meeting if you want some – prices can be negotiated!

RG58C/U 50 Ohm Coaxial Cable. Thanks to a bulk purchase we are able to offer this good quality coax at a competitive price. The cable has tinned centre conductor and screen braid making it resistant to long term corrosion. The price is \$2.00 per metre with a discount for purchases of 20m or more. See Vaughan ZL1VH on meeting nights to get this quality coax cable.

[The Trading Table is now on line. Navigate your way to our new look web site here and click on TRADING TABLE \(the most right hand tab\).](#)

Wait a few seconds and the on-line version of the Trading Table will pop up. From here you can browse the various sections, dig deeper to look at what's available and even place your order online.

If you prefer to just look at the Trading Table List, just hover your mouse pointer over the TRADING TABLE and a pull down list will appear. From this you can access the full trading Table list and download it in .PDF form.

VHF Group also have heaps of parts from dismantled commercial analog TV gear – transmitters, filters, circulators, patch panels, power supplies. Too much to list individually, so come along to the clubrooms and have a look.

QRS NET

QRS NET offers new CW hams a chance to practice their Morse code skills in an embarrassment-free zone every Wednesday evening at 8 PM. Speed is limited to 10 words per minute. You sign in to the net by giving your 'sine' - one or two letters from your call. When net leader repeats your sine back to you, you give your full call sign and a signal report and net leader asks you to wait by sending AS.

Each QRS NET session has a topic which is published in advance and you get the chance, when the net leader asks you, to send a first and later a second sentence on the topic in the course of the net.

QRS NET runs at 8 PM every Wednesday on 3545 kHz in the 80M band. We are currently in recess for the summer season but will resume February 7 when the topic will be Junk Sales. For a 'cheat sheet' contact Peter ZL1PX.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Annual General Meeting
held in the Clubrooms Stadium Drive Pukekohe on
21 November 2023

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 7.30 pm, welcoming all and thanking members for their attendance.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1LL, ZL1GAC, ZL1MFL, ZL1ULK, ZL1UOM, ZL1TGP, ZL1SPR, ZL1AMQ.

Apologies: ZL1BQA accepted

ZL1WGL / ZL1TO

The minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting, 15 November 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Arising

The President explained that regarding the 2022 request that we double the insured value of the clubhouse, with insurance prices going through the roof the committee decided to stay where we were.

The President, Gary ZL1WGL gave his report for 2023.

This has been more nearly a normal year, with no Covid difficulties. The club was second in Jock White field days. Steel and Wheels was a good feature. As was the display at MOTAT and activity at the Scout den at Bombay. Thanks were extended for the contributions by Peter ZL1PX and Steve ZL1TGP. Members were introduced to DMR radio, thanks to Steve ZL1TGP and Ted ZL1BQA. A DMR net has been started on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. We remember silent keys Nigel ZL1VEY and Eileen ZL1BRX. Peter ZL1PX was thanked for organizing guest speakers.

The President's report was received.

ZL1WGL / ZL1PX

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 was received and approved.

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

An AREC report was given by Tom ZL1TO.

The report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

The Editor gave a report

Peter ZL1PX is pleased that we all have different areas of interest. A new ham is keen on WSPR. The newsletter reports from Steve ZL1TGP and Steve ZL1SPR have been interesting. Peter has thoroughly enjoyed being Editor.

The Editor's report was received; the Editor being thanked for the job and thanked for showing willingness to continue.

ZL1WGL / ZL1TO

Other reports

Peter ZL1PX spoke on a strategy for growing membership. In February Gary suggested that once a month we should have a public open day at the clubhouse. Hence Peter came up with a string of public events – SteelnWheels, MOTAT(June), Franklin Positive Ageing (where we were visible), Bombay scouts (where participants

were keenly interested though none chose to do a licence). On 2 December there will be a *Christmas on the Green*. This event requires a quiet generator, and Mike ZL1MFL added that he has two solar panel power supplies which may do the job. Tom ZL11TO, Lynnette ZL1LL and maybe Steve ZL1TZP will be available to help for on *Christmas on the Green*. HamCrams are a good idea.

Election of Officers.

Nominations were accepted from the floor for all positions:

President	Peter ZL1PX	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1MFL
Vice President	Steve ZL1TZP	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1PX
Secretary/Treasurer			
	Tom McDonald ZL1TO	Moved ZL1PX	Seconded ZL1UOM
Committee	Gary ZL1WGL	Moved ZL1TO	Seconded ZL1WGL
Committee	Mike Jane ZL1UOM	Moved ZL1TZP	Seconded ZL1WGL
Committee	Ted Doell ZL1BQA	Moved ZL1TZP	Seconded ZL1TO
Committee	Steve Spring ZL1SPR	Moved ZL1TZP	Seconded ZL1PX
Committee	Frank Male ZL1AMQ	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1TZP

All were declared elected.

Appointments

AREC Leader	Tom McDonald ZL1TO	Moved ZL1PX	Seconded ZL1ULK
AREC Deputy	To be co-opted		
Net Control 80m	Mike Jane ZL1UOM	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1TO
Net control 2m	Peter Henderson ZL1PX	Moved ZL1TO	Seconded ZL1TZP
DMR net control	Steve ZL1TZP	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1PX
Newsletter Editor	Peter Henderson ZL1PX	Moved ZL1TZP	Seconded ZL1WGL
Clubroom custodian			
	Gary Landon ZL1WGL	Moved ZL1TO	Seconded ZL1PX
Call sign trustee	Steve ZL1TZP	Moved ZL1TO	Seconded ZL1ULK
Contact person	Tom McDonald ZL1TO	Moved ZL1WGL	Seconded ZL1PX
Web Master	Steve ZL1TZP	Moved ZL1PX	Seconded ZL1UOM
Tea making	Lynnette McDonald ZL1LL	Moved ZL1TO	Seconded ZL1ULK

All were elected by acclamation.

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.

Subscriptions

These are currently \$20 and \$30 family and are to remain the same for 2023/24.
ZL1PX / ZL1SPR

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

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm

Signed

Date



Agenda of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 5 December 2023

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1929 hours and welcomed all, to a new year in the life of the club.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1BQA, ZL1UOM, ZL1TZP, ZL1AMQ, ZL1WGL

Apology: ZL1SPR

ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Minutes of the November meeting.

Approved
ZL1TO

ZL1WGL /

Correspondence

Newsletters received since publication of November general minutes, from Branches:

29: Lots about Ham Cram. Plans for Jock White field days. Six new hams. Proposed remit to NZART that 5-25 MHz operation by new amateurs should no longer require logging 50 contacts. Reprint of newspaper article.

65: Youth on air month (YOTA). Will AI make radio more fun? H night 8 December. National System back on air. Playing with NVIS. Report and photos on Christmas Dinner.

86: (December) Cover photo - lowering ZLD towers 1993. Geochron world clock. Collins receiver project. H night contest 8 December. Motorcycle run to Musick Point. Incandescent lamps. GROTA November field trial.

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance

Income Interest \$92.74 (6 November)

Subscriptions received from ZL1RP, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL

Expenditure Power bill \$52.58 paid 3 December
 FMG Insurance \$765.83 paid 20 November and ratified at AGM

Suggested that the term deposit be rolled over for 1 year. Currently we can anticipate the new interest rate will be 6.1% (compared with the 5.2% we currently get – with interest paid monthly)

The finance report was approved, and roll over of the term deposit is approved.

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Reports
AREC.

Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting. The Franklin Local Board has contracted a professional to draw up a draft plan for Pukekohe and that was up for comment on Tuesday 28 November. ZL1TO attended the meeting at St Andrews. ZL1TO attended the AREC regional meeting at VHF Group clubhouse, Thursday 16 November. No move yet to recruit a Deputy Group Leader. Peter ZL1PX asked if we would like Carol McKenzie-Rex to speak to us, but Tom felt this had already been done by her consulting with the resilience group. The Pukekohe draft plan is to be circulated to this committee.

Christmas on the Green, 2 December

Peter ZL1PX reported that the radio display went quite well. Visitors had to enter past us to go to the free rides – a rock wall, bouncy castle etc. 20 kids and 1 adult did their stuff on the radio. Next year we may do this activity differently. Regarding the Morse on 7020kHz – ZL1NZ had lots of local noise, but Paul ZL1AJY had no noise problem at the North Shore. A 9 year old, Mason, did very well and his coding was computer readable.

Used equipment.

A friend of David ZL1MZ has gear to be picked up from Waiuku. It is about a car boot full, and will be collected next Tuesday by ZL1TZP and ZL1PX.

General business

The annual dinner with Papakura Radio Club was held at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club on Friday 1 December. From an anticipated 40 we had 37 in attendance. Price charged was \$35 each, which was a reduction of \$3 on what we were quoted. Franklin had 15. There were no complaints on the quality of the meal – and it appears to have been a happy gathering.

Ham exam

David Manning of Paparimu now has the callsign ZL1DMM. He does not yet have radio capability, and needs a 2 m antenna.

MOTAT

Peter ZL1PX reported that MOTAT would like to see us again for a display on March 18 2024.

75th Anniversary

Gary ZL1WGL has a copy of the ZL1WU booklet. Lynnette ZL1LL has done an updated list of Presidents and Secretaries.

Topics at coming general meetings

December: Steve ZL1SPR will give a talk on his recent trip to visit USS Missouri in Hawaii. Supper will include strawberries and icecream.

January: Peter ZL1PX has a contact at MOTAT who has a load of speakers available. One possibility is a talk on the old trams of Auckland.

At a month to be decided: Ted ZL1BQA has suggested that we assemble in a big circle of chairs for a general discussion – in a situation where everyone can see everyone.

There will be no Committee meeting in January

Jock White Field Days 2024

Gary ZL1WGL offers his place in a rural setting if we wish. We are happy to do the contest again and will do two bands both phone and CW. Two of our newest amateurs are keen on getting into operating CW.

The meeting closed at 2050 hours