



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

Club examiners: Ian ZL1PZ and Tom ZL1TO.

Web page: www.ql.net/zl1sa/

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

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 2

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.

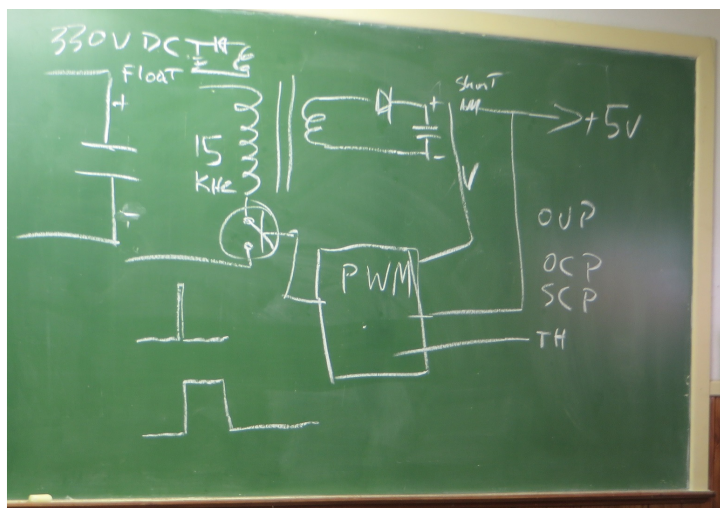
Nets every Sunday at 9.00 am on 3.700 MHz (controller ZL1UOM) and 9.30 am on the 146.900 MHz repeater (controller ZL1PZ). 2 metre frequencies are 145.775 MHz, then 146.625 MHz, and 146.900 simplex if repeaters off air.

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.

Presentation – Switch mode Power Supplies

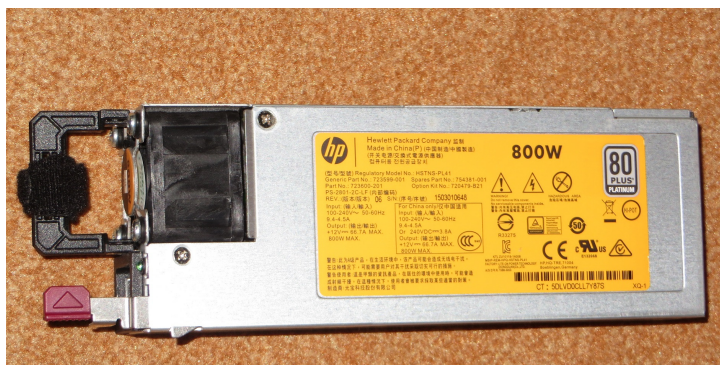
At the January general meeting Mike ZL1UOM and Ted ZL1BQA showed a selection of switch mode power supplies.

Mike gave an outline of the principles of switch mode supplies.



The brain behind the device above is the pulse width modulator, which can have sensors for over voltage protection (OVP), over current protection (OCP), short circuit protection (SCP) and thermal cutoff (TH).

Ted showed several supplies from computer servers. These supplies have an amazingly high power output, and despite being rated 12V (rather than the 13.8V rating as used in car circuits) will work well with the portable equipment that amateurs use when mobile.



Club Notice Board

General meeting, Tuesday 16 February

We are presently in three days of Covid19 Level 3 which it is hoped will conclude at Wednesday midnight. Consequently we will not have a face to face meeting on 16 February. Instead members are encouraged to meet on the 146.900 MHz repeater at 1930 hrs and a Zoom meeting has been set up to start at 2000 hrs.

Papakura Car Boot Sale, Saturday 20 February

This sale has been advertised for a date which may become affected by the lockdown. The times were to have been sellers from 8.30 am, buyers from 9 am. Ladies meet at 10 am for morning tea – bring a plate.

In the meantime this event is on indefinite hold.

Jock White HF Field Days, 27-28 February

The club will operate from Attewell Road, Puni. We have six volunteers spaced over the two days of operations.

James Allan Rally, Saturday 28 February

This will be a two stage rally, in the Maramarua Forest, with radio operators on site from 0830 hrs. Franklin has four volunteers. There will be two stages, each with start, finish and a single midpoint station. Richard ZL1BNQ is the organizer.

Paengaroa Sale, Saturday 20 March

See advertisement on page 3.

Hamilton Market Day, 15 May

The Radio Electronics Group Market Day will be held at the Glenfield Club, 211 Peacocks Road, Glenfield, Hamilton. 9 am for Vendors and 10 am for Buyers. Tables \$20. Inquiries to ZL1REGSALE@gmail.com or ZL1PO 0212045990

At left

Note the name plate of a 800 W supply from a computer server:

100-240 V AC input, 12V 66.7A output

Keep an eye out for these selling on TradeMe



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, 19 January 2021.

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1932 hours, welcoming all.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PJH, ZL1BQA, ZL1MFL, ZL1UOM, ZL1ULK, ZL1DW, ZL1TZP, ZL1PZ, ZL1AMQ, ZL1BBZ, ZL1LL, ZL1AOX, ZL1GAC.

Minutes of the 15 December 2020 meeting.

Mike ZL1UOM pointed out some inaccuracies regarding linear power supplies in January QUA. The transistors are used in a circuit that dissipates surplus energy. The beefy supply has three supplies on one AC phase.

The minutes were approved. ZL1TO / ZL1BQA

Correspondence:

Inward - Newsletters as reported in January QUA from Branches 66, 80, 86.

AREC information between ZL1COP, ZL1BNQ, ZL1DK and ZL1TO and our AREC personnel.

BNZ re signing up the signatories.

Registrar of companies reminder to lodge return.

Correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1PJH

Finance:

Contact Energy power bill paid on 4 January, and ZL1TO requests reimbursement of \$27.04



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe, 2 February 2021.

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1934 hours.

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

Apology: ZL1UOM. Accepted. ZL1PJH / ZL1BQA

Minutes of the 1 December 2020 meeting. The minutes were approved as true and correct. ZL1BQA / ZL1PJH

Correspondence:

Inward - Newsletters from Branches 13/25, 80.

AREC information between ZL1COP, ZL1BNQ, ZL1DK and ZL1TO and our AREC personnel.

BNZ re signing up the signatories.

Registrar of companies reminder to lodge return. Return lodged electronically 30 January.

A person from Pukekohe has expressed interest in taking the amateur licence exam and has an interest in robotics.

Barbara Knowles, re destroying old floppy disks.

Correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1PJH

Finance:

Expenditure: Contact Energy power reimbursement to ZL1TO \$27.04 to be processed. Contact Energy \$45.55 due 3 February reimburse ZL1TO. In credit with Watercare.

Income: Subscriptions (up until 24 December) have been received from 11 members. Work on getting the new bank signatories authorized is continuing.

The finance report was received. ZL1TO to be reimbursed.

ZL1TO / ZL1BQA

Reports:

AREC: Franklin's part in the message handling exercise organized by Andy ZL1COP 0830 hrs Saturday 23 January was confirmed.

Our volunteers for Jock White Field Days are ZL1WGL, ZL1UOM, ZL1TO, ZL1GAC, ZL1ULK (Saturday), ZL1PJH. James Allan Rally - The event will be 27-28 February. Volunteers ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1BBZ, ZL1PZ.

The AREC report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

We were visited by Curly who came to the clubhouse with an Eddystone 870A receiver of 1960-66 vintage. Mike ZL1UOM will have a look to see if it can be got running again

General Business:

Vandalism. A bong has been found under the clubhouse. The chain across the driveway has been pulled out (we think between 1615 hrs and 1900 hrs earlier today) damaging the clubhouse weather boards. Gary ZL1WGL will do a repair.

The fire extinguishers are being checked tomorrow.

David ZL1DW made some donations of equipment. The Club thanks David for his generosity. The Club VHF all mode transceiver is returned, and the loan will be taken up by ZL1GAC.

The meeting closed at 2029 hrs

Firewatch Counties, bill to check fire extinguishers \$69.00

Income: Sale of batteries. Payments have been received from ZL1AOX, ZL1TZP, ZL1WGL, ZL1TO.

Work on getting the new bank signatories authorized is continuing. Next stage is for all four signatories to sign the internet banking form. This stage completed tonight.

ZL1TO to be reimbursed. ZL1WGL / ZL1PJH
Counties Firewatch bill to be paid. And finance report received ZL1BQA / ZL1ULK

Reports:

AREC: Message handling exercise from 0830 hrs Saturday 23 January and through the morning.

Jock White Field Days 27 & 28 February 2021 which is the last full weekend of February. FARC will operate from Attewell Road.

James Allan Rally - The event will be 28 February. Volunteers ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1BBZ, ZL1PZ.

Tour de Ranges - likely to be 2 October. Durlene ZL1ULK pointed out that the event needs to fit in with a whole of New Zealand circuit.

The AREC report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1ULK

Ted ZL1BQA reported that Steve Palmer ZL1TWR passed away recently.

General Business:

Vandalism. Gary ZL1WL has repaired and repainted the damaged weatherboard near the toilet downpipe.

Various options for guest speakers were discussed.

The meeting closed at 2124 hrs

NEWSLETTERS FROM OTHER BRANCHES

13/25 Cover – civil defence exercise 1965. Stan White ZL2ST silent key. Branch 13 guest speaker Lester ZL4PO. Branch 13 homebrew photos. How a deceptive single handed sailor was uncovered by HF direction finding. Raspberry Pi Pico for US\$4. New web site www.vintageradiomuseum.co.nz

29. Committee and General meetings 15 February. Ham Cram 20-21 February. Peter ZL1ARB in care. IC-730 and AR8600Mk2 for sale. BreakIn and QST magazines available. Two new examiners ZL1BOP and ZL1AAN. Report on AREC Comms exercise ZL1COP and ZL1PJH. Ripple control of electric power.

65. Car boot sale 20 February. Nano VNA workshop 10 February. Report on AREC message handling exercise 23 January.

66. Cover photo Klondyke maintenance. Andy ZL1COP guest speaker 8 February. North Shore ham cram 20-21 February. Te Puke sale. Hamilton Market Day by Radio Electronic Group 15 May.

3 80. Meeting 10 February to discuss field day arrangements. BBQ 13 February. AGM 10 March. An ultimate stealth antenna that looks like a sunshade or awning.

86. Maurie ZL1FK and ZL5MC in Antarctica 1978-79. Napier earthquake 1931. Shack visit to Dave ZL3JE. Musick Point management plan 1978 to minimize QRM.

Thank you David ZL1DW

At the January general meeting David ZL1DW donated some equipment. The steel brackets would make good ends for a shelf of a shack or perhaps the club shack. The nine heavy batteries which are of 2014-16 manufacture and capacity either 150Ah or 105Ah have had light use. The suggested price to members is \$25 each, which is their scrap value. It was agreed that the funds would go to club funds. Ted ZL1BQA advised these batteries ought not to be discharged below 50% of their capacity. Charging voltage should be to 14.6V initially and then at float voltage 13.8V. Ted recommended a maximum power point controller as used with solar panels as imminently suitable. The batteries were allocated ZL1TOx2, ZL1TZPx2, ZL1UOMx2, ZL1AOX, ZL1WGLx2 The Club thanks David for his generosity.

The 690 net

During the big COVID lockdown of 2020 a daily welfare net was initiated by David ZL1DK starting at 8.30 am.. The net has continued since the health situation became more relaxed and is still patronised by typically six or eight amateurs each morning.

Members are reminded that this group is open to all, and it remains a means of keeping in touch with a circle of people with similar interests. Do join in if you are free.

Sundays are different. This has been traditionally a day for club nets. So The Papakura group come up at 8.30 am and then Franklin people are up at 9.30 am or after the Franklin 80 m net has concluded.

Welcome back Robert ZL1TBR

Some years back Robert was President of our club. He was a prime mover in our fund raising efforts during the 1980s. Robert has since left the district but is now back on the NZART roll. Thanks Bob ZL1BBZ for applying the thumbscrews! Do make Robert welcome back on the air waves when he comes up.

Well done Peter ZL1PJH

Members will notice that Peter has prepared an article on the short hand codes used in Morse. Do read latest Break-In.

Thanks also for setting up the Zoom meeting on Tuesday 16 February. The meeting number is 925 994 7329 and the password is Glenbrook

Te Puke Amateur Radio Club Inc
Branch 53 of NZART
20th Market Day
Saturday 20 March 2021
(GPS Coordinates: 37.49S 176.24E)

Venue open for Vendors from 06.30am.
Sale time 10.00am.

\$20.00 for a 1.8 Table, \$25.00 on the day.

\$12.00 for ½ a Table, \$15.00 on the day.

Overnight Parking for Motorhomes
(If required please advise by phone or email)

Hot Breakfast from 07.30am (\$12.00).

1 Sausage, 2 Rashers Bacon, 2 Eggs,
½ Tomato, 2 Pieces Toast, Tea or
Coffee. Also available Sandwiches,
Cakes,
Tea / Coffee, all at reasonable prices.

For further information & Table Booking's, Contact
Syd Rowe ZL1LWR Phone (07) 533 1029, Mobile:
0272488664, Email sydrowe@xtra.co.nz Postal
Address: 223 State Highway 33, RD 9, Te Puke
3189

Steve Palmer ZL1TWR – Silent Key

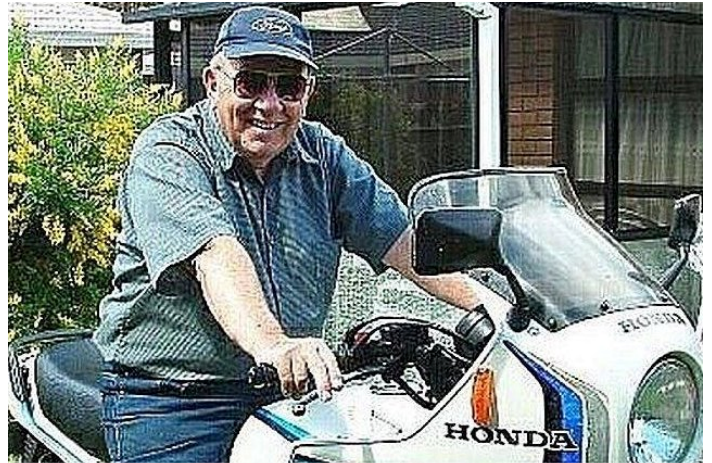
Steve, a former member of Franklin Amateur Radio Club became silent key 28 January 2021, aged 88 years.

Steve started in the Electrical Engineering Industry in 1948. At one time he was Apprentice Master Electrical and Instrumentation at New Zealand Steel. In addition to amateur radio, Steve had been a long time motorcyclist, having raced Moto GP bikes in 1950s to 70s, and he rode motorbikes until he was in his 80s. His radio interest began at age 10 and increased as his father became involved in radio engineering work for the NZBC. His father-in-law was an Awarua Radio operator during World War 2.

Steve finally became a ham in 1977. His main interests in radio have been the challenge of long distance VHF and UHF on single side band, antenna design and construction. He worked into six Australian call areas from New Zealand on 2 metres, and three on 70cm, over a 35 year period. In the 1980s he worked VK1VP for a VK1 overseas two metre record. In 2001, as ZL2WSP he worked VK7MO for a Tasmanian 2 metre overseas SSB record. On January 9th 2008 Steve worked VK5BC/P during a sporadic E opening; a distance of 3483km, on 144.1 MHz, and this was confirmed as a VK5 record. Steve has used SSTV, WSJT on 6 meters and then HF. He has been active in most VHF-UHF contests since 1978. He worked 36 countries via satellites since 1985. Steve

had Megawave awards for 6m, 2m, and 70cm. His new home in Katikati a small seaside township, was in a pleasant fruit growing area, situated on the east coast of North Island, grid square RF72xl. This had been a poorer VHF DX location, so Steve had more modest antennas, and made fewer VHF SSB DX contacts, due to falling SSB activity in New Zealand on those frequencies. He began to operate HF base and mobile using a Kenwood Base into a ground mounted dual band vertical for 20m and 40m. He could go 80m to 10m with a long wire and antenna tuner. He was mobile portable from 80m to 70cm.

Steve outlived his wife Betty, who he had met when 19 years old. One of their three children, Mark, has the call VK4XW.



Communications exercise 23 January

A message handling exercise was organized by Andy ZL1COP with preparations starting at 0830 hrs Saturday 23 January and run through the morning. Andy holds the position AREC Region Manager (North). Our volunteers at field stations were ZL1TO (Omana Regional Park), ZL1WGL (Off Jellico Road, Pukekohe), ZL1MFL and ZL1ULK (Waiuku Library), ZL1PJH (Grahams Beach). The 146.825 MHz simplex in a crossband repeater at Kohukohunui was used for communication with ZK1EBX base. A short term special purpose 146.875 MHz repeater was set up by Gavin ZL1NUX at Redoubt Road and used to relay messages via ZK1ESX. Field stations could also work on VHF, UHF, ESB, 80m and 40m and PRS.

Peter ZL1PJH could not access the 146.875 MHz repeater so he passed messages to ZK1ENP.

In a debriefing it was thought that too many operators used the least challenging route via the STSP repeater. In a future exercise the challenge may be to pass messages through other field stations, and then on to base. A total of 59 messages were passed through the network before conclusion at midday. Accuracy was 95%.

All the Franklin operators considered that this was a good public relations event, with members of the public showing their appreciation that we were prepared to help in an emergency.

In the photos opposite –

Top: A typical message

Bottom: Field station at Waiuku Library

AREC Exercise Message

Message Number: 88

Date/Time 230121

From: ZL1TO

To: ZK1EB

Relay via:

Text: INCREASED AERIAL ACTIVITY WITH NON
STANDARD AIR SYSTEMS OPERATING WITHIN A 5NM
RADIUS OF WITTERING OVERHEAD

