

QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10



JULY 2023

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 7

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) 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 (controller ZL1PX). If repeaters off air, try simplex 145.775 MHz, 146.625 MHz, and 146.900.

QUA Editor: Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com
Sent free of obligation by e-mail to club members and anyone interested. Provided you include authorship, permission to copy material is freely granted.

Next General Meeting

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday 18 July. This will be a show and tell event, led by Tom ZL1TO using stored GPS data with Great Circles and Peter ZL1PX getting people interested in amateur radio. All welcome.

Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)

At our last general meeting, Ted ZL1BQA spoke on setting up DMR. DMR sets send and receive a digital signal which can't be decoded on non DMR equipment. They can be used simplex (radio to radio) or via a DMR repeater.



Constantino Onti (KKVUR) is on the contact list of this DMR

DMR radios store a contact list of DMR users. When a caller is in the contact list, the radio displays his/her registration information – as shown above for Constantino.

Digital Mobile Radio DMR (Cont.)

If a radio does not have the caller's contact info, then a DMR reference number is displayed (See ref 319263 number displayed on the AnyTone handheld.). User contact list capacity on different models varies from 100,000 up to 500,000. There are currently around 245,000 registered DMR users.

Registration for DMR can be set up at <https://radioid.net>. This creates your user info that all DMR sets can access and store. Registration will require an electronic copy of your amateur licence be sent to radioid.net.

DMR coverage is not good in Auckland but increasing over NZ. NZ DMR repeaters are shown below in a clickable image. If you can't access a DMR repeater directly, you will need a hotspot.

Frequency	Offset	Tone Up / Down	Location	Call	Use
144.56000	+0 MHz	CC1	Levin	ZL2AUS	OPEN
145.42500	-0.6 MHz	CC1	Whangarei Data	ZL	OPEN
432.73750	+0 MHz	CC1	Levin	ZL2AUS	OPEN
433.07500	+5 MHz	CC0	Tauranga	ZL1TPD	OPEN
433.82500	+5 MHz	CC1	Masterton, Rangitikei	ZL2OA	OPEN
438.62500	-5 MHz	CC1	Levin	ZL1OZ	OPEN
439.57500	-5 MHz	CC NAC	Christchurch	ZL3DVR	OPEN

A hotspot accepts transmissions from a DMR radio and routes these to DMR servers on the Internet. You can build your own hotspot from a Raspberry Pi Zero W board and an MMDVM interface board. This unit will connect your DMR radio to the Internet through WiFi or any mobile phone 'hotspot'.

Our thanks to Ted for a well-prepared and well-executed presentation

MOTAT LIVE EVENT

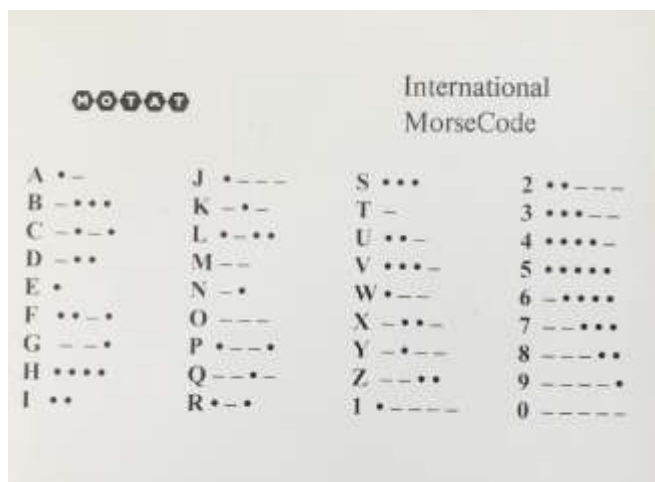
Peter Henderson ZL1PX

In early June, I learned MOTAT (Museum of Transport and Technology) in Auckland had asked for ham radio support for a 'LIVE' event in the Telecom Exhibition Centre. Their request commented that the most popular exhibition in the centre was the Morse code key with buzzer connected. They observed many families stopped at this exhibit to use the Morse chart to translate and the key to practice messages. They wondered if an amateur radio station might be set up to send and receive the code on the day of the live event.



I visited the centre on Tuesday 23 May to see how Franklin Club could help. I met with Mark Vincent, Tim Major and Murray Keenan. They showed me an area just outside the centre where an amateur station might be set up and a smallish antenna could be erected.

At this stage, I thought we might use my car to power the station and mount the antenna but Mark and Murray explained that power was available outside the building and we could mount an antenna on the roof of the exhibition centre. Tim Major offered to have cards printed as a takeaway memento for those visitors who sent and received Morse messages on the day.



Morse chart printed by MOTAT printers for live event

Over the next two weeks, Steve ZL1TZP, Ted ZL1BQA, David Black ZL1MZ and I worked on an end fed antenna for the event. We wanted to send and receive at 7020 kHz on a 10 metre single wire strung between two corners of the building. However, it quickly became clear an end fed antenna would not 'match' easily. The SWR (Standing Wave Reflection) level remained stubbornly at 5:1 or more even

when Steve created a 1:9 balun to feed it. We needed a different solution.



Steve works on tuning our dipole for MOTAT

On May 30, Steven and I tested a half wave dipole at the clubhouse that delivered an SWR of 1:1.2 or better. When we listened to our signal on SDR (Software Defined Radio) receivers at Rotorua and Blenheim, we heard robust CW tones.

We decided the easiest message for a visitor to send at MOTAT was their own name. By now Tim Major had printed cards ready. These were postcard sized. On one side was a Morse chart showing dots and dashes for all letters and numbers. On the other side were two large rectangles. Each visitor to our station wrote their name into the first rectangle and translated this into Morse characters in the second rectangle using the chart for reference.



Nancy wrote her name and code translation on the memento card.

On Friday 9 June, a week before the event, I keyed a QNC (message to all) on the NZ Net CW session at 9 PM.



My QNC gave times and frequency details. I asked all who were interested to link in on Sunday 18 June and reply to any visitors who keyed their name. I felt elated that four NZ Net operators contacted me within 24 hours. All four promised to listen and reply to my MOTAT visitors.

Steve and I arrived at 8 AM at MOTAT on Sunday 18 June. With help from centre workers, Howard Buxton and others, we got our antenna mounted and power connected. The RF noise level at MOTAT was high (S9+). When I called CQ, only three stations Neil ZL1NZ, Paul ZL1AYJ and Graeme ZL2GVA could make themselves heard. Neil reported others were calling but I couldn't hear them over the high noise level.



A MOTAT visitor is delighted to hear her name over CW

Around 10 AM, family groups with kids lined up to send their name in Morse. Steve got them to write their name into the first rectangle on the memento card and translate this into Morse in the second rectangle. They next practised sending their name a few times on a Morse sound generator. The sound generator volume level setting on high helped families to hear the practice runs and give praise for good keying. Some kids didn't understand dashes are longer than dots so I 'played' their name for them to provide that concept.



I hold the base of the key as another visitor sends her name

When each visitor was ready to send, I would call a link operator (Neil, Paul or Graeme) and let them know who was sending. The visitor then took over my Morse key and typed their name. The link operator sent the name back **slowly** so it was easy for each visitor after their practice session to recognize the letters they were hearing. There was much joy and excitement in MOTAT at this moment.

So it went for 40 MOTAT visitors from 10 AM to 2 PM. That was 40 young persons who created a memory of sending and receiving a Morse code message successfully. MOTAT personnel pronounced the event a success and will likely invite us back. I can't think of a nicer way to spend a Sunday.



Rain drove us indoors at 1200 but Steve managed to extend our antenna feed so we could still operate. Here we check our SWR before play resumes.

Klondyke Update

These notes taken from a presentation given at 2023 conference by Vaughan Henderson ZL1VH.



View of Klondyke site.

Klondyke repeater tower was erected in 1985/6 by a large team of specialists.

What's up there:

National System Node

Links to Taranaki, Waikato and Brynderwyn and

439.857MHz UHF repeater

146.625 2m Repeater

6m Repeater (53.725 MHz)

Remote HF TS440 and linear with w/band aerial

D-Star 2m and 70cm added 2009

Channel 6 PRS repeater

Compass Communications WiFi & M/Wave links

Downer Communications DMR node

In March 2022, work was done to install a new cable tray in levels 1, 2 and 3. These levels are on the bottom half of the Klondyke tower. The new cable tray was produced by UniStrut and made in China. It was attached to the tower struts with a single bolt with large washer and nut holding the tray as per the manufacturers recommendations.



Manufacturers' recommended fixings installed March 22

However, on 20 June 2022, high winds dislodged the tray, pulled it out of its mountings and damaged the cables it was meant to support.



Dislodged cable tray and damaged feeder coax

This damage resulted in the loss of the local National System UHF repeater, receive from Brynderwyn, D-Star UHF transmit, and probably the link to Kaimi.

In February 2023, agreement was reached with the rigging company that a new tray would be installed. This new tray fitted with wooden blocks - the method used for the original tray on the tower - withstood Cyclone Gabrielle successfully. However, the cables damaged back in June still need replacing.



New tray attached to struts with wooden blocks

As of 4 July 2023, the work still needed is:

1. Fit two new 7/8 inch coax cables to NS UHF North and South antenna bays.
2. Identify and fix problems with NS links
3. Replace 6m repeater

These repairs await a fine weather window of one or two fine days predictable 3 to 4 days ahead.

Longer term work still planned for the mast includes tower painting: \$60,000.00 (estimate) and refurbishment of the 2m antenna bays \$10,000 (estimate)

Our thanks for Vaughan for access to his PowerPoint notes.

[See our Facebook pages here. You need a Facebook account for this link.](#)

ZL WINTER SPRINT CONTEST

Every Tuesday evening in August

Make contact with as many stations as you can between 8 and 9 PM.

You can take part as CW only, SSB only or both CW and SSB.

Time allocations

First half hour CW 8.00 to 8.29

Second half hour SSB 8.30 to 8.59

Band – 80m

Suggested frequencies CW 3520 – 3550 kHz
SSB 3630 – 3660 kHz

Exchange is RST and outside temp to nearest degree

No QSY rule. You don't need to move frequency after working a contact.

[Full details at this link.](#)

Example Exchanges

CW STATION ZL3AB ZL3XYZ ZL3AB: ZL3XYZ: ZL3AB:	TRANSMISSION CQ ZL3AB Test ZL3XYZ ZL3XYZ 599 m1 (minus one) 599 5 TU ZL3AB Test
SSB STATION ZL3AB ZL3XYZ ZL3AB: ZL3XYZ: ZL3AB:	TRANSMISSION CQ ZL3AB Contest ZL3XYZ ZL3XYZ 599 m1 (minus one) 599 5 THANK YOU ZL3AB CONTEST

Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 6 June 2023

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1933 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1UOM, ZL1BQA

Apology: ZL1GAC, ZL1ULK

Minutes of the May meeting.

The May minutes were approved.

ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Correspondence

June Newsletter from Branches 29

29. Hosted AREC Roadshow. HamCram 10-11 June. Testing antennas with a VNA. Rally of Whangarei report. Fan dipole workshop 17 June. MOTAT telecoms day. Weather fax is closing.

Auckland Council with lease to be signed by 12 June. There are 11 pages specifically for FARC and a further 12 pages of general terms to be considered. Brought to May meeting for further action this evening. The club response is dealt with under topic – Reports.

Application for membership.

Francois to become a member. First half year no fee.

ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance:

Income Interest \$89.75 and then \$92.75 received today

Expenditure Watercare \$0.91 has been processed
Power bill to be paid today \$54.15
Reimbursement for SteelWheels registration \$30

The finance report was received.

ZL1BQA / ZL1UOM

Reports

Auckland Council Lease proposal

It was suggested that the aerial photo by Steve ZL1TZP, with proposed boundary lines added by Tom ZL1TO should be sent with our response. The words can include a thank you for the out of date data regarding the lease area and here is a photo showing the clubhouse and the area we would like.

We reply to AC thanking them for the proposal, but saying the site plan is grossly out of date etc. ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

AREC.

Tom ZL1TO sent an apology to the regional meeting at Branch 29 on Thursday 18 May.

An AREC Roadshow was held on Saturday and Sunday 20-21 May. 21 registered, but only around 13 attended. Some were on Teams, including Leon Bro who had earlier approached ZL1TO for information on how Taskforce Kiwi could form a communication plan.

General Business

NZART Conference. There is a comprehensive report in the latest Infoline

Having achieved a quorum of 1270, the AGM commenced.

Subscriptions - Subscriptions for 2024 will increase by \$5, with Students incurring an increase of \$1. o Transmitting/Non-Transmitting \$120 o Family Transmitting/Family Non-Transmitting \$30 o Total for Family membership payable \$150 o Students \$50 o Overseas (excluding GST) \$155 • A rebate of \$15 is applicable to Transmitting/Family, Nontransmitting/Family non-transmitting members only. Subs must be paid by 30 November 2023 to be eligible for this rebate.

Call Book - Call Book will be produced in December this year, digitally only and made available via the NZART website. If there are no privacy restrictions it will be released on the NZART web site. If this is not possible, a Call Book CD-ROM will may be the alternative. - The Call Book Editor and Repeater/beacon/map Editor requests that branches ensure their details are correct on the website. Neill ZL1TAJ will only amend maps on request from a branch, as he is no longer going to chase branches for this information. All amendments need to be notified immediately.

Examinations - The Study Guide for the NZART Examination Question is 95% complete. Categorising questions to align with HAREC requirements 2 and questions is approximately 40% complete. The final stage is getting RSM sign off and approval to go live. Updates on this progress via HQ InfoLine, the Official Broadcast and the NZART website.

Office appointments - Council approved the appointment of Stewart Robinson ZL2STR as the new NZART Awards Manager - Council also acknowledged from Philip Sharp ZL1PSH his resignation and has therefore appointed his deputy Douglas Beale ZL3DUG to the position of Break-In Editor effective 3 June 2023. A reminder that close off for the July/August issue of Break-In is 10 July 2023.

Annual Accounts & 2024 Budget forecast - Stuart Burns, the new Association Treasurer reported a small surplus was achieved in 2022 compared to 2021. During COVID a higher rebate was offered which affected the bottom line. In 2022 this was reduced back to the normal rebate - Term Deposit interest continues to increase. A recent term which matured on 7 June 2023 saw an increase from 3.5%, to 5.6%.

Remits - Remit one was lost on voices after considerable discussion, however the following motion was put and passed. Motion: NZART Council to create a digital copy of Break-In and make it available to the membership electronically.

- Remit 2 was withdrawn by the branch.

Future Conferences - Christchurch Branch 05 and surrounding branches have offered to host the 2024 AGM and Annual Conference at Kings Birthday Weekend (1-2 June 2024). Venue yet to be confirmed, however are considering a venue at Wigram Air Force Museum.

Plans are well underway for the Centenary Conference to be held in Auckland in 2026. Regular updates will be available, although yet to be officially confirmed, the venue may be the Ellerslie Convention Centre.

Awards 3 The following awards were presented: - Young Amateur of the Year - Corban Paterson ZL1CAP, Branch 53 - Jumbo Godfrey award - Lawry Carr ZL2HQ – Manawatu Branch 20 - Youth Award under 20 – best exam result - Logan Costa ZL3XOF 57/60 aged 19 – Christchurch Branch 05. - Best Examination Result 100% Examination Passes: o Branch 02 – Auckland; Andrew Creegan ZL1ACR, o Branch 05 – Christchurch; Nicolas Lynch ZL3NLA, David Palmer ZL3CLV, Ian Thompson ZL3IVT, Jack Pribis ZL3JAX, Chris Dinh ZL3TTD, Robert Helps ZL4XP, Kaiwang Li ZL4KWL o Branch 12 Hamilton; Graeme Glasgow ZL1COD o Branch 20 Manawatu; Rhys Nicholls ZL2RH, Matthew Watson ZL2KDR o Branch 78 Far North; Don White ZL1DEW o Branch 89 Radio Electronics Group – Philip Dew ZL2DEW - Rothschild Cup – Christchurch Branch 05 – 32 successful passes. Other branch results include, North Shore Branch had 19, Radio Electronics Group 15, Gisborne 13, Manawatu Br 11 & Dunedin 10! Break-In Awards: - Best technical award, Alan Page ZL3UJY - General Articles Award, Craig Crawford ZL3TLB - Column Award, Geoff Clark ZL3GA - Long Service Award, Simon Watt-Wyness ZL1SWW Situations Vacant –

Expression of Interest NZART HQ Office Administration Vacancy NZART is looking for a person to take up the role of NZART HQ Office Assistant. This new role is to provide replacement cover for the Business Manager/General Secretary from time to time, to cover for extended annual leave periods, sickness or other support as required. The role is the same as that of the Business Manager/General Secretary but will exclude the role of NZART's Approved Radio Examiner (NZART ARX). This role will be undertaken by other members of NZART. The purpose of this is for the employee to remain current with the day-to-day running of NZART HQ. 4 The role is that of a casual employee and is not a full-time role. It is expected that after a period of training working alongside the current Business Manager, the successful candidate will work a minimum of 10 hours per week, form the office of NZART. If you wish to apply for this position, please forward a resume to Debby.

Debby is working on NZART public liability cover in the coming week, and this should be good time for us to apply for a certificate (which would satisfy Auckland Council lease requirement).

MOTAT Exhibit

Peter ZL1PX reported he had contacted Ian Sangster – but Branch 03 has no one to do CW with Peter. Peter will use Gary's rally pole and 9m wires to get a signal out on 40m. A quantity of cards with morse alphabet codes is prepared and has been printed. Supporters should arrive at MOTAT 8am Sunday 18 June. Steve ZL1TZP will come along. Neil Sanderson would take part as a link, also Paul Barrett, and Stephen in Masterton will participate.

Terry ZL1HOG of Branch 29 proposes to run a display of more modern modes of radio communication at the same exhibition. Branch 29 will have some AREC gear and do FT8 on 10 metres.

Aged Expo.

Our application form is yet to be forwarded to the organisers.

Junk sale

We have decided there will be no Franklin Junk Sale this year.

Message from Ken Jarman

Ken, from Waiuku, telephoned a day ago to say that he is tidying his collection of electronic components looking ahead to the day he may longer have use for them. The Secretary suggested that Mike ZL1UOM and Ted ZL1BQA would be the most appropriate members to consult with at the appropriate time. Ken's father was ZL1HO. At one time Ken worked for Pye.

Ted ZL1BQA reported on the operational status of donated AOR gear. The desk-top scanner lights up but the display is dead. It was built between 1991 and 199x. Tech bulletins suggest new backup battery will be needed. Uncertain what Trademe or Ebay prices would be. AOR had better selectivity than EPITERU its competitor 20 years ago.

Next Meeting

Peter ZL1PX would like to hear about DMR. Ted thought how about hotspots. This month, June 20th – how to get started on DMR.

Other talk topics to consider in the future are: Gary ZL1WGL on building tunnel houses and Mike ZL1UOM and his electrolyzers.

The meeting closed at 2045 hours

Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting
held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 20 June 2023

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1UOM, ZL1BQA, ZL1TZP, ZL1AMQ, ZL1JRW, ZL4FJ

Apology: ZL1MFL, ZL1GAC

ZL1TO / ZP1PX

Acknowledged the passing of Eileen ZL1BRX who with Fred ZL1SP has been a friend of the club, being President in 1990 and Eileen was a member. The farewell for Eileen will be at Grahams, Tuakau, 1 pm Wednesday 21 June. Ted Durlene, Tom Lynnette will attend. Bob ZL1BBZ has asked if there is anyone coming from his direction who can offer him a lift, and is going with his daughter.

Welcome to new member ZL4FJ Francois Combrink.
Francois to become a member. First half year no fee.

ZL1PX / ZL1WGL

Minutes of the May meeting.

The May minutes were approved.

Correspondence

June Newsletter from Branches 29, 86, 65

- 29. Hosted AREC Roadshow. HamCram 10-11 June. Testing antennas with a VNA. Rally of Whangarei report. Fan dipole workshop 17 June. MOTAT telecoms day. Weather fax is closing.
- 65.
- 86.

Our proposed response to Auckland Council regarding the lease is attached to the minutes of today's meeting.

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance:

Income Interest \$89.75 and \$92.75

Expenditure Watercare \$0.91 has been processed
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Debby has been working on NZART public liability cover, in good time for us to apply for a certificate (which would satisfy Auckland Council lease requirement).

MOTAT Exhibit

Peter ZL1PX reported that the MOTAT had rain for first 30 minutes – tent with radios getting wet. Ted, Steve and Peter got antenena made and MOTAT people helped string it up. NZ net people all came up – Ian ZL1NZ, Paul ZL1AJY, Graham ZL2BGA. MOTAT produced 600 cards to be given away. – Youngsters first used sounder then gave an exchange on air. 40 people tried sending something in morse. Neil sent congratulations on the effort at MOTAT. The club's big brass key did not work.

Peter added that Terry ZL1HOG of Branch 29 worked from indoors with half wave end fed FT8.

Aged Expo.

Our application form was sent to the organiser before deadline date. Bring electrical gear to club to get electrical tags.

Junk sale

We have decided there will be no Franklin Junk Sale this year.

Message from Ken Jarman

Ken, from Waiuku, telephoned a fortnight ago to say that he is tidying his collection of electronic components looking ahead to the day he may longer have use for them. The Secretary suggested that Mike ZL1UOM and Ted ZL1BQA would be the most appropriate members to consult with at the appropriate time. Ken's father was ZL1HO. At one time Ken worked for Pye. Ted volunteers to make contact.

There has been an enquiry after sitting the exam by Steve Spring, who works in the cogeneration power plant at New Zealand Steel

Peter spoke about grandparents net / day 1 October. Working with Stewart Whiteside to get something going. 40 m might be used. Around 7.095 MHz (near SOTA frequency?)

Odd key – An army patent morse key came up for discussion.

Future topics on meeting night might include: Gary ZL1WGL on building tunnel houses and Mike ZL1UOM and his electrolyzers.

The meeting closed at 2005 hours