QUA FARC

A S R

JUNE 2021

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 6

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. Examiners: Ian ZL1PZ, 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.

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). Other 2 metre frequencies are 145.775 MHz, 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.

End fed antennas

The meeting on 18 May heard from Ted ZL1BQA on his work with chokes and end fed antennas.

Chokes and baluns: Why might I need one?

Summary:

- •To solve EMC problems
- Specifically... to stop RF currents flowing in the wrong places
- Chokes may be needed in several different places:
 - at the antenna feedpoint ("a balun")
 - at other places on coax feedlines
 - on other wiring in the shack (eg computer cables)
 - on mains wiring.
- The same choke designs will work for a range of applications

(only the cable and connectors need to change).

Ted explains how an end fed antenna cut for 40 m will also tune 20 and 10 m while after a trap more wire can suit 75 m.



A commercial choke.



Club Notice Board

General Meeting, Tuesday 15 June

The meeting starts with general business and a brief Conference report. Most of the evening will be given over to a presentation by Neil ZL1NZ. Neil's particular interest is Morse Code.

Members may wish to get up to steam by visiting a web site that Neil edits:

http://radio1nz.com/about-amateur-radio/new-zealand-nets/nz-net/newsletters/

Franklin Junk Sale, Tuesday 20 July

The Franklin Junk Sale is back again. It will be held in the clubhouse, 19 Stadium Drive Pukekohe. Start time is 7:30 pm prompt.

Our sale is led by a sales conductor.

Vendors are encouraged to bring their items in saleable lots.

Buyers are asked to pay to the cashier, on the night, or register with the cashier prior to the sale if making electronic payment. The Club's account with the BNZ is 02-0404-0157944-00 Please identify payments with your callsign and Junk Sale in the reference fields.

The door will open at 7.00 pm.

Vendors may arrange for items to be delivered ahead of the sale by contacting the Secretary at 09-2388580 or 0210-8186962 or zllto@nzart.org.nz

At the conclusion of the sale a complimentary supper will be served.

Although the third Tuesday is usually given over to a general meeting, there will be no general meeting in July. The entire session is Junk Sale.

Midwinter dinner, Friday 23 July

The club has arranged for a dinner at the Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club on the Friday following the junk sale. As we can not guarantee at least 30 attending we shall eat a la carte, assembling at 6 pm to sit down at 6.30 pm.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, 18 May 2021

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1938 hours.

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

Apology: ZL1GAC ZL1BQA / ZL1TO

Minutes of the 20 April 2021 meeting. The minutes were approved as true and correct. ZL1PJH / ZL1WGL

Correspondence:

Inward - Newsletters from Branches 13/25, 29, 65, 66, 80, 86 as outlined in QUA

NZART Branch Circular from Debby Morgan ZL2DL. Voting strength 20 NZART members. Annual return, Remit in simplified form, Infoline mail list may be incomplete, New forms to apply for a call sign and NZART membership.

Email message from Annalise asking for historical data on activity of AREC personnel.

There will be opportunities to discuss training at an AREC regional meeting Thursday of this week, and at conference. The correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Finance:

Power bill from Contact Energy due in next few days.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at the clubhouse 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, 1 June 2021

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1938 hours.

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

Minutes of the 4 May 2021 meeting. The minutes were approved as true and correct. ZL1TO / ZL1BQA

<u>Correspondence</u>: Inward - Newsletters from Branches 13/25, 29, 65, 66, 80, 86 as outlined in May QUA, plus Branch 03.

Email message from Annalise asking for historical data on activity of AREC personnel. The Section Leader is to advise Annalise the names of our active members. These will have been involved in some of the following: Car rallies, Sport events, Civil Defence, Supporting AREC with volunteer projects.

Outward - A report on the incident at Maramarua car rally 28 March has been sent to David Wilkins to be background for David's paragraph in AREC news and BreakIn. Ted ZL1BQA felt the requirement to not identify the amateurs involved ought to have been expressed in more direct terms. The correspondence report was received. ZL1BQA/ZL1TO

Finance:

Expenditure - Power bill Contact Energy due 3 May \$50.81

The finance report was received.

Reports:

AREC: Bob ZL1BBZ raised issues – training – to be ready within 15 minutes – ours a message handling role – location of 6825 repeater – message handling exercise January 2021.

ZL1BQA / ZL1TO

General Business:

Topic for coming general meetings

June. Neil Sanderson ZL1NZ to talk about CW.

July. Junk sale. The committee decided to go ahead with the sale on Tuesday 20 July. The sale is advertised in current issue of QUA.

Ian ZL1PZ is agreeable that his home brew receiver and SSB transceiver should be shifted to the shack, and set up so that they can be shown off.

Life membership. Our current life members are Ian ZL1PZ and Bob ZL1BBZ. Members were asked to put their thinking caps on regarding criteria for Life Membership.

Mike ZL1UOM described tests on the Kenwood 430S. In original condition. Perhaps we can sell it at the right price.

Midwinter dinner. We prefer Waiuku Cossie club on Friday evening. Members who use the Cossie Club will investigate.

NZART Conference. Delegate/s to be ZL1TO and ZL1AQS if he is agreeable. ZL1BQA / ZL1BBZ

Delegates have authority to exercise discretion when voting, but are accountable for their discretion. ZL1WGL / ZL1PJH Remit 1. In favour 20, Against 0, Abstain 0

The meeting closed at 2040 hrs

We remain in credit with Water Care. The finance report was received and power bill is to be paid. ZL1BQA / ZL1PJH

Reports:

AREC: There was a regional meeting on Thursday 20 May at Papakura. ZL1TO, ZL1ULK and ZL1LL attended from Franklin. After usual business and reports a number of Papakura members spoke about the mesh network.

Mike ZL1MFL and Durlene ZL1ULK went to the AREC meeting in Hamilton. Minutes can be circulated within FARC. Well done Mike and Durlene for attending.

General Business:

Durlene ZL1ULK advised options for a midwinter dinner at Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club "Shunters Club" – either prepay for a minimum of 30 or join in with the locals oin a Friday night. Durlene has the Shunters menu. Decision – we opt for Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club on 23 July and 20-25 people would eat from the bar menu. Meet 6:00 pm for a 6:30 pm meal. The Secretary to email Papakura Radio Club.

Topic for our June meeting is Neil Sanderson ZL1NZ talking about CW for 30 to 45 minutes. Table required.

The committee will start on rearranging the shack at the conclusion of this meeting.

Life membership. The May general meeting knows that any nominations will be put up at an AGM.

Clubhouse key holders now include ZL1PJH and ZL1MFL.

The fence between skate park and rugby club is repaired. The new strakes are circular rather than square section.

The meeting closed at 2045 hrs

POTHER BRANCHROS

03. (Received 18 May) Meeting 22 May Tony ZL1TLC on baluns and chokes. President report to AGM. Officer list. PO Box closed. Tales of 10/10 net. Club history from 1933. Franklin Junk Sale advertisement. Club fees.

13/25(May issue) Napier conference getting closer – can attend forums without charge if do not eat any meals. Long article on repurposing Napier aero tower/s as supports for 40 m and 20 m beams used in contesting.

65. Remit meeting 2 June, followed by discussion and presentation on amateur mesh network. Car boot sale 3 July. Report on Papakura Streetfest 8 May. Flower pot antenna for six metres. Arduino classes later this year. Waitakere Sprints – phone 31 July, CW 7 August. World's thinnest superconductor. Straight key night 8-9pm 13 June - see maritimeradio.org/skn Lighthouse weekend 21&22 August. 60 metre sublicence available. ALARA contest 28-29 August.

80. Club page is: https://www.facebook.com/ZL1HCR/KiwiSAT - go to WWW.nzart.org.nz and click on the Official Broadcast. June meeting - The topics will be:

- a) A report back on the NZART Conference,
- b) a discussion on the new Web Page

Kiwisat news

Kiwisat has been sitting, perfectly operational, in a clean room at Papakura for over 10 years. You can access it on 70cm, and it transverts your message back on the 2m band.

But apart from that, Kiwisat contains many other features apart from a transverter – things that have been developed lovingly by many clubs and individuals throughout NZ. We owe it to all of them to get it into orbit if we can.

The AMSAT-ZL committee appointed at the 2019 NZART Conference started off very enthusiastically, but came a bit unstuck during Covid lockdowns.

Let's re-start the project to launch this bird. For those who attend, we'll have discussed the options on Sunday Morning at the 2021 NZART Conference venue. For those who could not attend, but would like to give support, please email Douglas at ZL1BFS@nzart.org.nz If possible we'll set up a zoom session, and we'll email the zoom invitation to all those who are interested. Whether we manage the zoom or not, we will certainly email respondents with the outcome of the meeting.

Douglas dreams of getting this bird to fly as a major project which will mark the 100th anniversary of the formation of NZART in 1926.

For more information, contact Douglas, ZL1BFS

Notes from Conference (- unofficial observation)

Quorum – 1361 represented meets 1070 required.

BreakIn Awards:

ZL2JPM Best general article

ZL3TLB Best columnist for *Milestones* column.

ZL1BPU Best technical article ... on signal generator.

Council meeting decisions:

Full 80 page paper stapled callbook with December <u>BreakIn</u>. Check addresses are correct with RSM.

Subscriptions: Individual \$115, Family \$145 from which early payment discount \$16 may be deducted.

Amateur of the year: Don ZL2TYR

Conference 2022: No bids as yet. If there is no offer could be Wellington, weekend before Queens Birthday.

Jumbo Award: Greg Banks New Plymouth

Best exam: 100% ZL2WRF ZL2HUI ZL3PEB ZL1PDS Young exam: 57/60 to 9 year old Joshua ZL3MHZ Rothchild Cup: Branch 05 Christchurch with 34 passes

Archives: Correction made to Life Member list.

Remit: Address by Don ZL2TYR – carried on voices Council structure proposal brought by Warren ZL2AJ. Various ways of decreasing size of Council.

General Business:

ZL3AB – regarding electoral process.

ZL1VH – what is the status of Conference 2026?

ZL3CK – update on amateur television application

Retiring Councillors: Peter Mulhare, Stuart Watchman.

Stirrers award - The President Mark Gooding ZL2UFI

Mid-Winter Dinner

We would love to see as many as possible club members, their families and amateurs from our neighbouring clubs at the dinner, Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club, 23 July.

Please advise your numbers to:

Durlene ZL1ULK cyclinggriffins@gmail.com

Papakura Car Boot Sale

The mid –winter madness Equipment Sale Saturday July 3rd At the clubrooms – Wellington Park 1 Great South Road, Papakura Doors open at 10:00AM – Close 1PM

Free entry A Cafeteria will operate between 10:00 and 12:30

As space is very limited, Tables in the clubrooms will only be offered by application, however, boot sales, in the car park will be available to any private sellers, while there is no charge, bookings are required, and each seller will be allocated 1 car park, and must provide their own rain/shade cover. Sales are to be at the rear of your vehicle

Papakura Radio Club will be clearing up a collection of equipment and everything must go !!! Anything left is off to e-waste

This may well be the best priced sale of the year.

Sellers are to be on site by 9:00 AM for set-up, as the sales area will be closed off to all vehicle traffic after this time.

SO ... Get That Junk into the Trunk

Morse Pupil Journal #1

Peter Henderson ZL1PJH

Friday 30 April, 2021

I listen every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday to a Morse training broadcast from Papakura Amateur Radio Club. The delivery speed is 3 words-per-minute but the speed of the characters is adjusted to be equal to 20 words-per-minute. In practice, this allows a lot of "recall" time between one character and the next while we learn the full range of the alphabet and numbers. There are also a few punctuation characters - full stop, comma, forward slash, hyphen and question mark which accompany the basic characters.

The Morse broadcast comes via the National System so more hams can take advantage of this resource. The broadcast begins at 7.30 in the evening and runs for 30 minutes, with sometimes a few minutes extra on the end. For me, this requires a dual band FM transceiver set on 434.875 MHz with a matching antenna outside the shack.

I make a few mistakes at this gentle speed. The B and 6 morse characters sometimes sound the same to me. There is a similar problem with H and 5. I also can miss some punctuation characters such as hyphen and semi-colon. But apart from these early hiccups I seem to be getting the hang of it. It is a help to be able to copy any text into TEACH4 software (available from NZART website) and

practise receiving this text on my computer. I do at least two extra practice sessions each day using TEACH4.

Thursday 27May, 2021

I purchase a Morse key from AliExpress. It is a simple model with two red paddles. There are four strong magnets on the base to hold it in position on any ferrous surface. I am still on the hunt for a suitable flat iron surface to mount it on. The Morse-training broadcasts continue to trill out on the National System four nights a week. Their speed remains at 3 words-per-minute but as we have now covered all the alphabet, number and punctuation characters, I expect the speed to increase in the next week or so. I bought the Morse key in the expectation I will retain the characters better if I can work at send as well as receive.



Friday 28 May 2021

David, ZL1DK, one of the two Morse transmitters on the National System Morse broadcasts, announces we move to 5 words per minute next week. I am concerned to keep up as I sometimes miss punctuation characters slash, hyphen, semi-colon and question mark. I do extra exercises with these characters today and will continue over the next few days. NASA website timetables have many of these characters so I copy them into TEACH4 software and practise, practise, practise!

While at the recycle centre in Waiuku today, I find a hunk of metal that is 6 millimetres thick. This looks to be just what I need to provide ballast for my paddle. I hope it will be made of iron. Once I get it home, I find that it is indeed made of iron as the bottom magnets hold it firmly in place while I tap out a few characters.



Next issue: I build a morse code generator

Speed trap on Napier-Taupo Highway

A camera car was stationed, with its boot raised in the hinterland on a straight section of Highway Five. Given that the cameras are notoriously inaccurately calibrated, those drivers who returned from NZART Conference on Monday 7 June would be well advised to check any ticket against their GPS data for the journey. The data can be analysed on a site such as https://www.gpsvisualizer.com/

An ancient cruiser with a modern touch

Moored in line with the fishing trawlers at Ahuriri West Pier was the waka *Te Matau a Maui*. The statistics list 72 ft length. 13 ton displacement, twin fibreglass hulls, 1.9 kW of solar panels and a pair of 10 kW electric pod motors.

This vessel has sailed extensively through the Pacific Ocean, and has been seen on several occasions on the shore in front of the marae at Umupuia Beach (Duders).

