

# QUA FARC



# JUNE 2023

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 6

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/](http://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](mailto: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.

## D-STAR Digital Radio – Ted ZL1BQA

Ted spoke at our last meeting on D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio). D-STAR originated in Japan in the early 2000s and was the result of collaboration between ICOM, the Japanese government and the Japan Amateur Radio League. D-STAR proprietary technology is fitted to ICOM, Kenwood and Flex radio equipment.



Ted ZL1BQA demonstrates D-STAR-equipped ICOM two bander

Essentially, D-STAR assigns IP addresses to call signs and Gateway servers. This enables both voice and data via digital encoding over the 2M (VHF), 70cm (UHF), and 23cm (1.2 GHz) amateur radio bands to "Gateway" servers.

Each participating station (call-sign) must register at a Gateway as their home system. These details are then populated onto a 'trust' server which stores worldwide information. As each gateway operates both a public 'Internet' connection and a local domain connection, when the Internet goes down stations on local connections can still access each other through their home gateway – useful in emergencies.

Thanks Ted for an informative and motivational chat.

## Next General Meeting

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday 20 June at our clubrooms at 19 Stadium Drive at 1930 hours. We welcome all those interested in the exciting and wide-ranging hobby of amateur radio. Ted will continue his series of talks on digital radio with a chat on getting ready for DMR – with help from Steve ZL1ZP.

## Growing Membership

We are currently working to increase our membership though appearing at public events and promoting our activities on Facebook. On June 18, we will take part in a Live Telecom Exhibition Event at MOTAT. The Telecom Exhibition Centre staff at MOTAT told us the Morse display gets the most visitors. They asked if we were able to provide their visitors with a Morse code experience and we have taken up that challenge by operating an HF station at the entrance to the centre. Please contact us at ZL1SA on 7020 kHz between 1000 and 1400 hours on CW or SSB mode. We hope MOTAT visitors will enjoy sending their name in Morse and you will be able to reply to them.



EXHIBITION

## Telecommunications

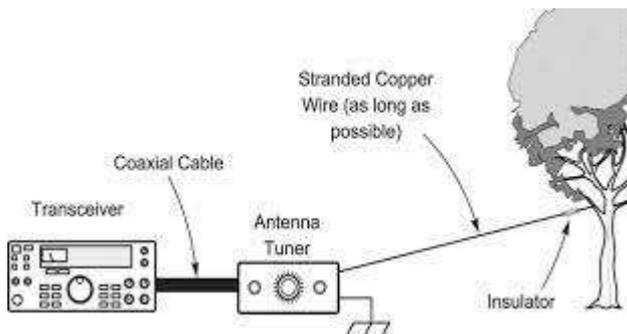
This long time MOTAT favourite offer a unique hands-on experience of telecommunication equipment and technology.

## MOTAT - A team challenge

Peter ZL1PX - with able assistance from David ZL1MZ, Steve ZL1TZP and Ted ZL1BQA.

Our mission was to set up a live station at MOTAT (Museum of Transport and Technology) at Western Springs in Auckland and transmit Morse code on the 80 or 40 metre band. We Would ask visitors to the centre if they would like to send their name in Morse to a radio ham somewhere outside the Museum? Or perhaps they might like to talk to a radio ham?

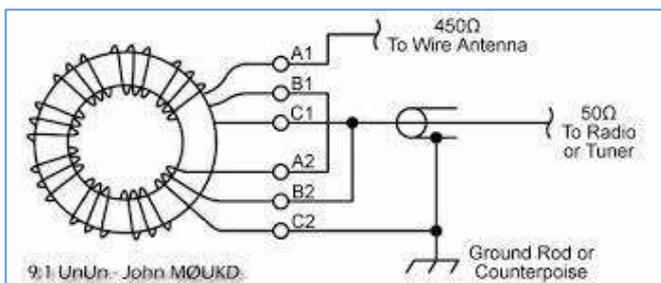
But to offer them this opportunity, we needed to know if we could make ourselves heard outside Western Springs. Our first attempts did not look promising. Knowing there are limited spaces to put up an antenna at MOTAT, Steve and I tried end-fed random wire antennas from our home rigs in Waiuku and Pukekohe.



End fed antenna using ATU-130 tuner led to high SWR

We both used the ATU-130 HF ANT AUTOMATIC TUNER which sells at AliExpress for around \$NZ100. At frequencies of 3545 and 7020, Steve's SWR readings reached 4 or more. David visited my site with his VNA on Monday 29 May and found my end-fed antenna showing more than 5.

We realized impedance in the stranded copper wire must still be too high so decided to insert a 9:1 unun into the top end of the antenna as per the circuit below.



Working quickly, Steve soldered this unun together in a few hours using bits and pieces he found in the shack and a toroid that Ted made available.

However, when Steve tested, his antenna still produced a high SWR. Why? Possibly because we did not use a coax feed upward from the tuner.

On a net meeting over the weekend, Ted suggested that if we wanted to broadcast on the 40m band then why not try a dipole? If resonant at 7.020 MHz, the maximum length of this antenna would be less than 20 metres. I thought this a good idea and wondered if the clubrooms would be a good place to try it out.

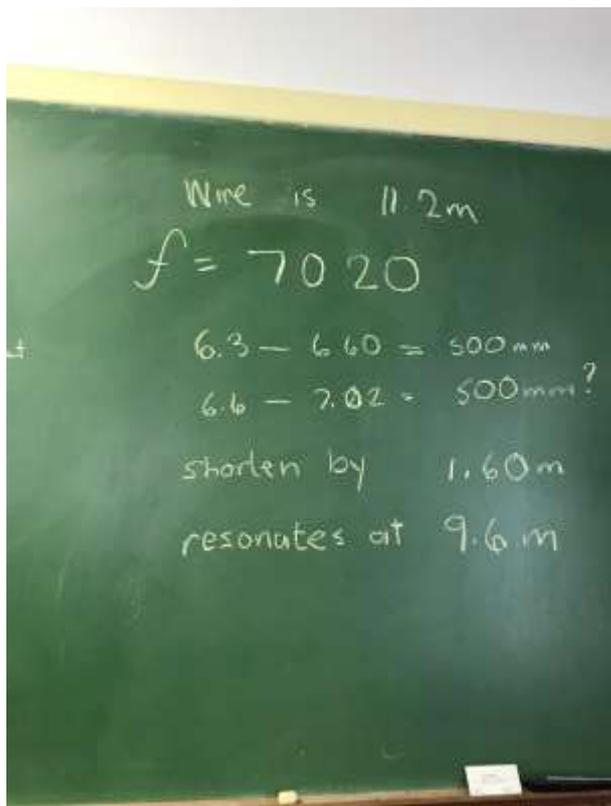


On Tuesday 30 May, at the clubrooms, Steve inspects the flagpole at the back of our building. Luckily, the rope placed there some years ago remained in good condition and we could use it to suspend our new antenna.

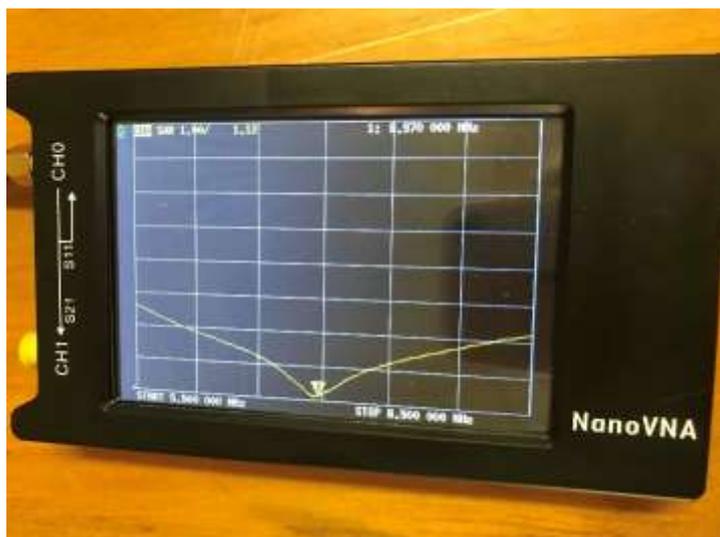
With a one-to-one balun at the top, our new antenna is installed between skatepark and Carl's Junior. Feeder cable is hard to see but is laid across glass and enters clubrooms through an out of sight storeroom window on right.



We cut our antenna wire to be 11.2 metres each side. When Steve first applied his Nano VNA to it, we saw it was resonant at 6.3 MHz. To keep track of our changes we used the chalk board in the clubrooms to record the numbers.



When we shortened this length by 500mm, we moved our resonant point to 6.6 MHz. Another shortening of 500mm wasn't enough to reach our goal of 7.02 MHz, so we elected to make our total shortening a distance of 1.6m which gave us a resonant frequency of just under 7.000 Mhz. Steve's Nano shows this below.



Nano VNA set between 5.5 and 8.5 MHz shows low SWR at 7.0MHz

We tried transmitting on 7020 at this point (11.30 AM) and found we could reach SDRs all over the country. Ted could hear us strength 9+ in Waiuku. We knew now we could set up at MOTAT and be heard. Our challenge was achieved! Great teamwork guys.

## Vintage Radio Enthusiasts Prepping for Disaster

Borrowed from Guardian, UK.



Glen Morrison, President, Desert Amateur Radio Transmitting Soc.

There's an ancient fable that Glenn Morrison, a pony-tailed, 75-year-old who lives in the [California](#) desert, likes to tell to prove a point. As the lesson goes, one industrious ant readies for winter by stocking up on food and supplies, while an aimless grasshopper wastes time and doesn't plan ahead. When the cold weather finally arrives, the ant is "fat and happy", but the grasshopper starves.

In this telling, Morrison is the ant, and those who don't brace themselves for future emergencies – they're the grasshoppers.

Morrison is in the business of being prepared. He's the president of the Desert Rats (or the Radio Amateur Transmitting Society), a club based in Palm Springs that's dedicated to everything ham radio.

The old-school technology has been around for more than a century. In lieu of smartphones and laptops, ham radio operators use handheld or larger "base station" radios to communicate over radio frequencies. The retro devices can range from the size of a walkie-talkie to the heft of a boxy, 20th-century VCR.

Generations after its invention, one of ham radio's biggest draws for hobbyists is its usefulness in an emergency – think wildfires, earthquakes or another pandemic. If disaster strikes and internet or cellular networks fail, radio operators could spring into action and help with emergency response communications, and be able to keep in contact with their own networks.



Glen in his backyard with uhf antenna

And the historically fringe world of ham radio is having a moment. In California, there are now nearly 100,000 licensed amateur radio operators, often simply called "hams", and more than 760,000 across the country. That total greatly surpasses the number of hams from 40 years ago, even as newer technology has left radio in the dust.

In an era of climate crisis with more intense storms and more frequent wildfires, and other disasters such as global pandemics, ham radio is becoming a tool for some who want to regain a modicum of control.

“Ham radio,” Morrison said, “is like the original social media.”

“People aren’t prepared. And they keep thinking, ‘Well, that’s not going to happen in my lifetime.’ And it may not, but you never know.”

On a balmy Saturday morning in Palm Springs, the thermostat already creeping its way towards 80F (27C), a few dozen people trickled into a local gymnasium, finding seats at folding tables set up below the basketball hoops. Volunteers with the Desert Rats, who had organized the makeshift radio testing day for new hams, handed out a stack of exams. If the hams passed the 35-question test, they could become licensed as entry-level amateur operators by the Federal Communications Commission.



‘Ham radio is like the original social media,’ Morrison says.

One prospective ham was a high school student, a 17-year-old in a gray sweatshirt named Boaz, who took the course with his dad. Boaz first got into amateur radio through YouTube videos, he said, a year before the pandemic started.

“I’ve always wanted to be ready for what’s next,” he said. “If something happens and there’s no cell service, how am I going to talk to people?” Getting his driver’s license, his dad added, is Boaz’s next major goal.

Another newly christened ham, a college professor named Skip Fredricks who sported a black bandanna, tinted aviator sunglasses and a Star Wars T-shirt, said he was hoping to use amateur radio in the classes he teaches about drones. In disaster areas, where drones are sometimes used for search and rescue missions, the radios could help drone pilots communicate better, he said.



Skip Fredricks, a college professor, recently obtained his radio certificate

“In very remote areas, communication is a problem,” he said.

“The ham radio support is better than just walkie-talkies – and cellphones are useless in the mountains.”

Fredricks held up his new radio certificate, proving he had passed the exam, printed on a bright yellow sheet of paper. “Pretty cool, huh?” he said, looking it over. “My students will probably be impressed.”

Since the early 1900s, ham radio has been used as a lifeline during storms, disasters, wars and other emergencies.

Hams, a term thought to have originally been a smear targeting unskilled amateur operators, were deployed to the Caribbean in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017. Shortwave radio also became a way for Ukrainian citizens to get news after Russia attacked communication towers last year, and Taiwanese ham radio enthusiasts have used it to prepare for potential war with China. Astronauts have even used ham radio to chat with people back on Earth.



Japanese astronaut ham Mamoru Mohri 7L2NJY calls earth from SST

The radios have even cropped up in disaster movies and TV shows – most recently in scenes from HBO’s *The Last of Us* that show a clandestine radio operator sending messages across a zombie-ravaged country.

Living in southern California and considering the region's web of fault lines, Morrison, the club president, often thinks about earthquakes.

"If 'the big one' hits, we're not going anywhere," he said. "You have to be self-reliant. You're going to need food supplies and all that stuff. But also if you want Aunt Marge in Portland to know that you're OK, then we can send her a radio gram."

More specifically, if organizations such as hospitals, fire stations and emergency command centers call for communications assistance, qualified amateur operators can mobilize to help; many hams have "go kits" for just that purpose, with supplies including handheld radios and portable antennas.

One such emergency response took place this year, as winter storms pummelled California. In Big Bear, a remote, mountainous community that saw an onslaught of heavy snow over the past few months, amateur radio operators frequently went on the air to broadcast road closures and other local news to their networks. "I knew the roof on one market had collapsed before it was on the news because I heard it on the radio first," Morrison said.

As an informal slogan for the American Radio Relay League, a national association for amateur radio, promises, ham radio is the ultimate backstop for "when all else fails".



Dorothy Strauber, member of the Young Ladies Radio League of Long Island, uses earphones to listen to her ham radio receiver in 1954.

Richard Norton, director of the league's south-western division, first got hooked on ham radio in high school because he was drawn to the hobby's technical side. Decades later, he's seen newer hams' interest shift to emergency preparedness. In the little town of Topanga outside Los Angeles, where Norton lives, many residents have thought about what they would do during an earthquake or wildfire if cell signal was lost, he said.

One answer? Get a ham radio.

"Even when cellphone systems go down, our ham systems generally are working and we can communicate," he said.

From a hushed neighbourhood tucked into the base of desert mountains, about 10 miles down the road from downtown Palm Springs, Morrison took a seat at his desk and "worked the world". Spinning a large black dial on the face of a bulky base station radio, he tuned into a realm of static and distant, garbled voices. He strained to listen, parsing faint words, then pulled forward a gold microphone.



Morrison listening for contacts at his home

"Uh, Whiskey, Bravo, six, Romeo, Lima, Charlie," Morrison said into the static, adopting the upbeat lilt of a radio DJ. The illogical string of words represents WB6RLC, his call sign, or the unique signature assigned to each ham that inevitably becomes as important as a name. Morrison's sign was printed in bold letters on his hat, and the back of his T-shirt proudly displayed the Desert Rats club logo: a grinning rodent, its tail wrapped around a radio antenna.

Still spinning the radio dial, Morrison stumbled into a perfunctory conversation between someone around the general Nevada and Utah "call area" (the designation for where a radio license was issued) and a man in Barcelona.

"That's how you just tune around and find somebody," Morrison said happily. "And oh, look, he's in Barcelona."

On a computer monitor connected to his radio, Morrison pulled up a comprehensive list of 215 countries, territories and other areas he's "worked", or contacted, from this small town in southern California: Argentina. Australia. Algeria. American Samoa. "And those are just the A's," he said.

Around Morrison's one-story home, everything revolves around radio. Desert Rats sketches and maps adorn the walls. A tangle of antennas sprouts from the corner of his roof. The camper van parked in his driveway is equipped with a "mobile station" radio for any necessary on-the-go calls. There are radios in every room of his house, save for the guest bathroom.

And Morrison's main radio room, where he overheard the Barcelona conversation, is the crown jewel. The small space attached to his garage has a command center-style feel, with an entire wall devoted to dozens of vintage radios, some over a hundred years old, that Morrison sources from flea markets and friends.

Sometimes they just find me," he added.



Beyond using the radios for emergency communications, hams find meaning in the hobby for its own sake, and in the almost-instant network it provides. Every Monday night, the Desert Rats host a radio “net”, similar to a public conference call, where amateur operators check in and go through a simple verbal roll call of names and call signs. That type of basic welfare check was particularly important three years ago, during the very first isolating, stay-at-home phase of the pandemic.

“It gave me something to do,” Morrison said. “I’d go to my radio shack in the garage, flip on the radio and find somebody, God knows where, to talk to.”

Back in the Palm Springs gymnasium, volunteers with the Desert Rats graded exams, their own handheld radios holstered at the hip. Annie Larson, head of membership for the club, buzzed around the room’s periphery, glancing at some of the complex test questions about signal frequencies and the properties of radio waves. “I don’t know if I would pass today,” she joked.

Larson, who recently turned 80, has been a licensed ham for more than a decade, but she doesn’t think of herself as a “tech-y” person. “I’m just interested in being able to take care of myself in an emergency,” she said.

Larson grew up in Idyllwild, a small town lodged in the mountains that loom above Palm Springs. The community, heavily wooded and right on the doorstep of Mount San Jacinto state park, is often threatened by wildfires. A few years ago, as one blaze moved closer and closer to the town, Larson ignored local evacuation warnings and stayed behind with a few park rangers. Having her radio with her was a great reassurance.



Annie Larson has been a licensed ham for more than a decade>

“I could listen to it at night and just leave it on,” she said, instead of needing to constantly check her phone. “If something came up, I was available.”

While amateur radio used to be something of a boys’ club (and “it still is a little bit”, she added), Larson said she sees more female operators today; about a quarter of those at the Palm Springs testing day were women. And with the wide-ranging impacts of the climate crisis, Larson thinks the hobby is relevant for all.

“People used to think it was like this old guys’ club, guys just putzing around,” she said. “But it really is important, because the population is increasing and there are many more disasters.”

Fortunately, within the Desert Rats club, hams remain a tight-knit bunch. As the latest batch of radio operators received their certificates after the testing day, some were emotional as they walked out into the desert heat. Morrison stood by the exit, congratulating and shaking hands with each person.

“We’ll catch you on the air,” he called behind them.

[Catch Franklin Amateur Radio Club Facebook pages here.](#)

**Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting  
held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 2 May 2023**

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours with a welcome to all.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1BQA, ZL1UOM, ZL1ULK, ZL1GAC

Minutes of the April meeting.

The April minutes were approved.

ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

Correspondence

April Newsletter from Branch 29. Xtra has been down for a period recently so not all information is up to date.

29. POTA workshop 15/16 April. Meeting on 1 May will address antennas and testing. Remits to be considered. Message from Auckland Emergency Management expressing gratitude for response in flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle. Steve ZL1SRP spoke on contest logging at April meeting. Roger ZL1TLF silent key.

Auckland Council re lease.

Our Incorporated Society status has been restored.

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance:

Income Interest \$92.74

Subscription ZL1AQS \$20

Expenditure Fire Extinguishers pressure test and refill \$356.21

Power bill due 3 April \$48.66 (paid 3 April)

Power bill due 4 May \$58.16 (set for payment 2 May)

Watercare \$0.91 due 6 April. Electronic billing has now been set up.

The fire extinguisher bill was paid on its due date 20th of April.

The finance report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Reports

Steel and Wheels, Waiuku on 30 April

Peter ZL1PJH has paid the \$30 fee and the committee approves reimbursement.

Peter ZL1PJH reported we had a large sign. This was one of the biggest crowds that Steel and Wheels had ever seen. Quite windy. Had amplified speaker so people could hear the response. Peter spoke as loud as he could into the microphone.

Hundreds of the visitors heard hams on the air. 14 amateur stations responded. Peter gave out a few cards; of note to Paul of Patumahohe, Pieter of Orere Point, John of Kaiaua (ex police). There was also a visit from Alan Makgill. 8 amateurs in person visited the display – including ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1ULK, ZL1LL, ZL1NUX, ZL4AX, ZL1MZ, ZL1WGL. Gary ZL1WGL commended Peter on doing a good job. Machinery exhibit at rail would be a good site for a future exhibit and David ZL1MZ would be a good contact to discuss this further.

ZL1PX suggests we approach other clubs to participate in similar events in the future.

Aged Expo may be hit or miss on account of not enough helpers reported ZL1ULK. FARC to book a stand at Positive Ageing Expo which the Secretary is to action promptly (as the organisers have a meeting next week).

AREC.

A petrol voucher was passed over to Gary ZL1WGL for previous car rally.

General Business

May general meeting.

This will be our NZART remit meeting. Two remits from Branch 05 have been advertised in Infoline – for an option of reduced subscription with electronic BreakIn, and a discounted subscription for members of clubs that are ineligible for NZART public liability insurance cover. Ted ZL1BQA may be able to do a talk on talking around the world with a 5W hand held.

Testing goods donated for Junk Sale

Ted ZL1BNQ reported the hand held AOR powers up; the desk top AOR had no power lead until ZL1TZP found one in Japan and will return on 12 May. Ted would like one of us to check the ICOM receiver.

Christchurch Branch 05 Remits

- 1) NZART to create a digital only membership, for those wanting a digital only copy of Break In with discounted membership fee. Transmitting

NZART needs to get with the times with increasing costs, several members don't need or want a paper copy of Break In these days. There needs to be a cheaper option for those wanting a digital version. A digital version can be searched and indexed with a couple of mouse clicks unlike the paper copy. This also helps to save the planet with reduced paper use.

*Council Comment: Council does not believe that opting out of a hard copy subscription of Break In would lead to reduced costs. It would likely lead to increased costs. Council does not support this remit.*

This committee agrees with the Council comment ZL1BQA / ZL11PX

- 2) NZART to reduce membership fees for members associated to clubs that are charities or the club does not meet the criteria to be covered under NZART public liability insurance. Transmitting

Recently it has been discovered that several clubs are not covered by the NZART Public liability insurance policy. These branches need to know that they are or are not covered before any event, so that no one assumes they are covered when in fact they are not.

*Council Comment: NZART has no control over whether branches do or do not meet the requirements to be covered under NZARTs insurance. Therefore, NZART does not believe it should reduce the membership as it may lead to perverse outcomes with clubs opting out of insurance cover to reduce costs. Currently there are only 5 branches to which this may apply. Council does not support the remit.*

The committee recommends to the club that we vote against this remit. ZL1BQA / ZL11PX

It was suggested that the delegate to NZART Conference should ask the Business Manager, or the lawyer (who is likely to attend) how we can have as a club member a club life member who is no longer a member of NZART. Is there any dispensation that NZART can give in view that we awarded him life membership?

The club voting strength has been advised. The Secretary is authorised to advise NZART Business Manager of email addresses of members of this committee which are missing from the list.

Junk sale

Barbara Knowles has delivered 9 small boxes from Bob ZL1BAD shack, for club funds at the junk sale. Barbara's home suffered water ingress in two rain events earlier in the year and she has worked on clearing Bob's shack. A callsign board ZL6IW turned up in the clean up, and Barbara may be able to supply an electronic photo of Bob suitable for our silent keys corner.

A man and his wife who were rock and rollers, new to Pukekohe, will have gear for the junk sale. Lynnette cannot recall his call sign,

The meeting closed at 2043 hours

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**Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting  
held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 16 May 2023**

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours with a welcome to all.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1UOM, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1BQA, ZL1TZP, ZL1GAC, ZL4FJ (Francois), ZLAMQ

Apology ZL1MFL received.

ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Minutes of the April meeting.

The April minutes were approved.

ZL1BQA / ZL1TO

Correspondence

May Newsletter from Branches 29, 65

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.

Leon Bro – of Taskforce Kiwi asking for advice on communication plan. The Secretary has replied.

Regarding the mail from Auckland Council – Ted ZL1BQA asked that the committee look at the lease proposal and formulate a reply. A pdf copy of the scanned document will be circulated.

This meeting gives authority to the committee to respond to the proposal.

ZL1BQA / ZL1PX

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance:

Income Interest \$92.74

Subscription \$20

Expenditure Fire Extinguishers pressure test and refill \$356.21

Power bill paid 4 May \$58.

The finance report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Reports

Steel and Wheels, Waiuku on 30 April

The meeting approved reimbursing Peter ZL1PX the \$30 registration fee. Gary ZL1WGL thanked Peter for his effort which was much appreciated. Thanks also to Peter for standing in as Chairman during Gary's absence.

AREC.

There is to be a regional meeting at Branch 29 on Thursday 18 May.

An AREC Roadshow will be held on Saturday and Sunday 20-21 May. Tom ZL1TO is booked to attend. Sessions may be accessed through TEAMS.

General Business

NZART Conference.

Two members (ZL1TO, ZL1LL) will be attending conference over Kings Birthday weekend.

This meeting appoints ZL1TO to be our delegate to conference, with authority to exercise discretion in making their vote.

ZL1BQA / ZL1WGL

Franklin's NZART membership strength is 18 transmitting and 1 non-transmitting members.

Christchurch Branch 05 Remits

1) NZART to create a digital only membership, for those wanting a digital only copy of Break In with discounted membership fee. Transmitting

NZART needs to get with the times with increasing costs, several members don't need or want a paper copy of Break In these days. There needs to be a cheaper option for those wanting a digital version. A digital version can be searched and indexed with a couple of mouse clicks unlike the paper copy. This also helps to save the planet with reduced paper use.

*Council Comment: Council does not believe that opting out of a hard copy subscription of Break In would lead to reduced costs. It would likely lead to increased costs. Council does not support this remit.*

This FARC committee agrees with the Council comment.

Ted ZL1BQA commented that this remit is word for word what Christchurch proposed some years ago. This Council and the past Council are agreed against the remit. There is considerable cost setting up the web page to be members only for BreakIn. Our vote on the remit:

In favour (nil) Against (18) Abstain (nil)

2) NZART to reduce membership fees for members associated to clubs that are charities or the club does not meet the criteria to be covered under NZART public liability insurance. Transmitting

Recently it has been discovered that several clubs are not covered by the NZART Public liability insurance policy. These branches need to know that they are or are not covered before any event, so that no one assumes they are covered when in fact they are not.

*Council Comment: NZART has no control over whether branches do or do not meet the requirements to be covered under NZARTs insurance. Therefore, NZART does not believe it should reduce the membership as it may lead to perverse outcomes with clubs opting out of insurance cover to reduce costs. Currently there are only 5 branches to which this may apply. Council does not support the remit.*

The FARC committee recommends to the club that we vote against this remit. Ted ZL1BQA commented that it's the Club that doesn't qualify for liability cover, not the members.

In favour (nil) Against (18) Abstain (nil)

#### MOTAT Exhibit

Peter ZL1PX has heard that MOTAT want to run a live telecoms exhibit on June 18th and they would like ham activity. Mike ZL1ROK of MOTAT has suggested CW. Possibly Western Suburbs might like to be involved as well. A four hour shift is suggested by Peter. Peter will action with Branch 03. This is a chance to put ourselves and amateur radio in front of others. This meeting agreed.

#### Aged Expo.

Durlene ZL1ULK reported that all is go with the Expo this year. The event will be on 29 September.

#### Junk sale

Barbara Knowles has delivered 9 small boxes from Bob ZL1BAD shack, for club funds at the junk sale.

Do we go ahead with the annual junk sale on Tuesday 18 July? It was agreed we leave a decision on the shelf in the meantime. Ted ZL1BQA reported the hand held AOR powers up; the desk top AOR had no power lead until ZL1TZP found one in Japan. Ted asked that the ICOM receiver be checked.

The meeting closed at 2030 hours