



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.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). 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.

Jock White HF Field Days

A report appears within this newsletter.

The pictures on this page show:

Top: Durlene ZL1ULK demonstrates on air procedure to Gary ZL1GAC.

Bottom left: Gary ZL1WGL on 40 m

Bottom right: Gary provided this forklift to help with awkward lifts.



Club Notice Board

General meeting, Tuesday 16 March

Now that we are in Covid Level 1 a face to face meeting can be contemplated.

We will start with the usual business. Then there will be a time slot for new hams, (and the not so new) to ask the gathering technical questions relating to the amateur exam syllabus. There is no need to advise what your questions will be as someone among those present should be able to give a well explained answer.

The final part of the meeting will be given over to some explanations of baluns.

Papakura Car Boot Sale

The sale has been cancelled. There had been several postponements due to Covid requirements, and the last one broke the camel's back

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





Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held as a Zoom conference, 16 February 2021

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 2000 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PJH, ZL1BQA, ZL1MFL, ZL1ULK, ZL1UOM, ZL1PZ, ZL1AQS, ZL1TZP, ZL1LL, Jack S.

Acknowledgement: The passing of Steve ZL1TWR.

Minutes of the 19 January 2021 meeting.

The minutes were approved as true and correct.

Correspondence:

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

Registrar of companies – annual report is now on the Companies web site.

Correspondence report received.

Finance:

Expenditure: Reimbursements have been completed.

Firewatch Counties has been paid by cheque.

Income: Sale of batteries. Payments totaling \$175 have been received from ZL1AOX, ZL1TZP, ZL1WGL, ZL1TO. QUA records our thanks to David ZL1DW. This kind of fund raising is just what we need in 2021 on account of our much lower anticipated return on investment of the \$21000. Work on getting the new bank signatories authorized is

continuing. Peter and Tom are completed, which allows us to go to internet banking. Gary? Durlene?

The finance report was received.

Reports

AREC: Message handling exercise reported in QUA.

Jock White Field Days 27 & 28 February 2021. Volunteers ZL1WGL, ZL1UOM, ZL1TO, ZL1GAC, ZL1ULK (Saturday), ZL1PJH.

James Allan Rally – The event will be 28 February. Volunteers ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1BBZ, ZL1PZ. Map of the course has been circulated by Richard ZL1BNQ. Stage one from Ferndale Road entry via Malloy Road to beyond HQ and near junction of Quarry Road. Stage two Quarry Road and Ridge Road to tarmac at east edge of forest. Location of operators is - ZL1PZ midpoint stage 1, ZL1BBZ finish stage 1, ZL1MFL start stage 2, and ZL1ULK midpoint stage 2.

The AREC report was received.

General Business:

Gary ZL1GAC suggested that we meet next Tuesday evening 23 February. ZL1TO says that is a good idea, but it should be an evening checking out the gear for field days, rather than a talk fest or business meeting..

Other preparations for field days – log sheets – petrol – oil change – rigs –

The above minutes have been reconstructed from the agenda that had been circulated, as notes taken during the meeting have been mislaid!



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held on 690 repeater, 2 March 2021

President Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1BOA, ZL1MFL,

ZL1ULK, ZL1UOM, ZL1PZ

Apology: ZL1PJH (listening – unable to transmit)

Minutes of the 2 February 2021 meeting.

Durlene ZL1ULK corrected Rob Jeffare's call sign to ZL1BTR.

The minutes were approved true. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Correspondence:

Inward - Newsletters from Branches 13/25 (February), 29 (March), 65

Correspondence report received. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Finance:

No BNZ statement by snail mail. Statements from internet have been downloaded and circulated to the committee. Expenditure - Reimbursement for power completed.

Firewatch Counties have not yet presented their cheque.

Income - Sale of batteries – payment from ZL1UOM \$50.

Current power bill Contact Energy \$50.62 will be set up for internet authorization by ZL1WGL and ZL1TO.

The finance report was received and Contact Energy payment approved. ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Reports:

AREC: HF Field Day (– see item page 3 this edition QUA.)

James Allan Rally – The event set for Sunday 28 February was cancelled due to the Covid decision on Saturday night. Volunteers ZL1ULK, ZL1MFL, ZL1BBZ, and ZL1PZ had received a map of the course from Richard ZL1BNQ.

The AREC report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1ULK

General Business:

None. But there may be some general business to follow in the Zoom meeting which will follow.

The meeting closed at 1950 hrs

The Zoom meeting ran for two 40 minute sessions. Peter ZL1PJH set up and attended that meeting, and Durlene ZL1ULK contributed by telephone.

Topics included:

Printers and their cartridges.

Field Day movie shown in 'share screen' facility.

Time for learner hams at general meetings.

Baluns and chokes.

Problems with the 690 repeater, and idiosyncrasy of Chinese microphones..

Field day lost and found.

List of club members to be made available in hard copy.

03.(February) AGM 24 April. HF nets 8 pm Fridays on 2.650 MHz. Go QRP and HF Field Day coincide.

13/25 Vacating Clifton HF/UHF site. Preparing "Deco-Techo" for Sunday of NZART Conference weekend. Cathy ZL2ADK silent key. Boefang playing with national system. Oscilloscope restoration project.

29 (March version 3) Meeting 1 March cancelled. Ham exam 13; entrants sat and passed. Cancelled Jock White HF Field Day – nobody available to run it. SDR links. Shack clean out – Yaesu, Icom, Kenwood rigs for sale. An amateur photograph of the moon.

65 Meeting 3 March on air 690 repeater due to Covid lockdown. Car boot sale cancelled. Project nights - building antennas for ISS and home stealth. Field day report. Beware illegal two way radios. Dogs and light bulbs. Solar storms. New Plymouth and Te Puke sales 20 March. Radio Electronic Group sale 15 May.

80. AGM 10 March if out of lockdown. HF net Mondays 8 pm on 3.605 MHz. 40th anniversary year. Field day performance impaired - electrical interference.

86. Meeting 14 March at 1:30 pm Covid permitting. FCC and radio inspections. Wanting a 19 inch data cabinet. Dirt bikes on golf course and club lawn. Ground station at Musick Point for Americas Cup data, TV and voice communications.

NZART Conference, June 5 and 6

The Napier ARC (Branch 25) is organizing and running the 2021 NZART annual Conference and AGM. We have set up a small information website to promote the event at: <https://karl125.wixsite.com/nzartconference>

Please fill in the registration form (two for couples) completing the bottom box with the options chosen. Work out the cost and enter the amount due. We will correlate this with bank statements. I will confirm receipt of registration and payment. Registrations close Friday May 14. Late registrations will be accepted only with the late payment fee. Looking forward to seeing you June 5 and 6, Queen's birthday weekend in Napier.

Regards and 73
Karl Matthys ZL1TJ,
Secretary, Napier ARC, Branch 25 NZART.

Jock White Field Days 27 February 2021.

The gear was checked over and the generator given an oil change on Tuesday evening 23 February – with ZL1UOM, ZL1BQA, ZL1TZP, ZL1GAC and ZL1TO attending. Volunteers on Saturday; ZL1WGL, ZL1UOM, ZL1TO, ZL1GAC, ZL1ULK, ZL1PJH attended at Attewell Road. At 9.10 pm we heard the radio broadcast of Auckland about to go into level 3 from 6 am Sunday morning. The station, coax feed, generator and power leads were dismantled and returned to the clubhouse. As we did not have Mike's trailer on site some items remained at the field day site.

We had been on track for a good score (compared to our effort in recent years), with 31 multipliers and 136 contacts on 80 m; 29 multipliers and 107 contacts on 40 m. The score claimed will be 44340 points. A short video (2 minutes) of the team's effort has been prepared. Some team members gave out points as home stations through the Sunday session of the contest.

The destinations of some items at unexpected places are:

Two headphones (ZL1WGL) at Clubhouse shack on top of the radios in the cupboard. - Three soft chairs and one black chair (FARC) at Attewell Road cabin. - Long grey table and table on castors (FARC) at Attewell Road cabin. - Grey chair with chrome frame (ZL1GAC) at Attewell Road cabin. - 6 mm to 3.5 mm adaptor (ZL1UOM) at clubhouse top table. - Petrol funnel (ZL1WGL) at clubhouse top table. - LED torch (ZL1UOM), with Peter ZL1PJH. - Double adapter for 6 mm phone (ZL1UOM), with Peter ZL1PJH.

Gary ZL1WGL dismantled the antennas and their coax cables on Monday. They were coiled up in the cabin at Attewell Road and later transferred to the clubhouse.

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

Earthquakes and Tsunami

Tom McDonald ZL1TO

Friday morning, 5 March, kept producing surprises. First up was a magnitude 7.1 earthquake to the east of East Cape. This was deemed sufficiently serious for a Tsunami warning to be issued for parts of the East Coast. Then at 6:41 am a magnitude 7.5 earthquake off the Kermadec Islands was reported. However the biggest was yet to come. This one at 8.28 am was magnitude 8.1 about 180 km east of Raoul Island.

The first that your editor heard of the big quake was by an email at 8.38 am, from the Hawaii Tsunami warning centre. As I could not access the 690 net from Maraetai I forwarded the warning by email to several of our AREC members, and indicated that I could get through via the 670 repeater. The warning from Hawaii was most informative, and besides indicating the size and location of the ‘quake gave the estimated time of arrival of the predicted tsunami at various points around the Pacific. We would have until 10.18 am to prepare for its arrival at North Cape.

Before long the broadcast radio reports and television were giving the official warning of a tsunami threat for New Zealand. Initial reports predicted a 1 to 3 metre wave for parts of the east coast between North Cape and East Cape.

At right: Much abbreviated version of the warning by email

From: tsunami-information-ioc@lists.unesco.org
To: tsunami-information-ioc@lists.unesco.org
Date: 05 March 2021 at 08:38
Subject: [Tsunami Message - IOC] PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MESSAGE
TSUNAMI MESSAGE NUMBER 1
NWS PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER EWA BEACH HI
1937 UTC THU MAR 4 2021
PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MESSAGE.
.....
PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS

* MAGNITUDE 8.0 * ORIGIN TIME 1928 UTC
MAR 4 2021 * COORDINATES 29.6 SOUTH
176.0 WEST * DEPTH 10 KM / 6 MILES *
LOCATION KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION
.....
ESTIMATED TIMES OF ARRIVAL
RAOUL ISLAND KERMADEC ISLANDS 29.2S
177.9W 1948 03/04
LOTTIN POINT NEW ZEALAND 37.5S 178.2E
2049 03/04
NORTH CAPE NEW ZEALAND 34.4S 173.3E
2118 03/04
<https://lists.unesco.org/wws/sigrequest/tsunami-information-ioc>

In my household the greatest concern had been for the welfare of mother-in-law who lives on the flat, 200 metres from Orewa Beach. Family were despatched to give her support.

As there was at least an hour of warning I made sure that my portable radio gear was fully charged and fresh water was put into storage (against the possibility of a power cut caused by high water anywhere nearby). I could see very little chance of a damaging wave at Maraetai as this area is protected by islands and there are only narrow channels leading from the strait to the outer Hauraki Gulf.

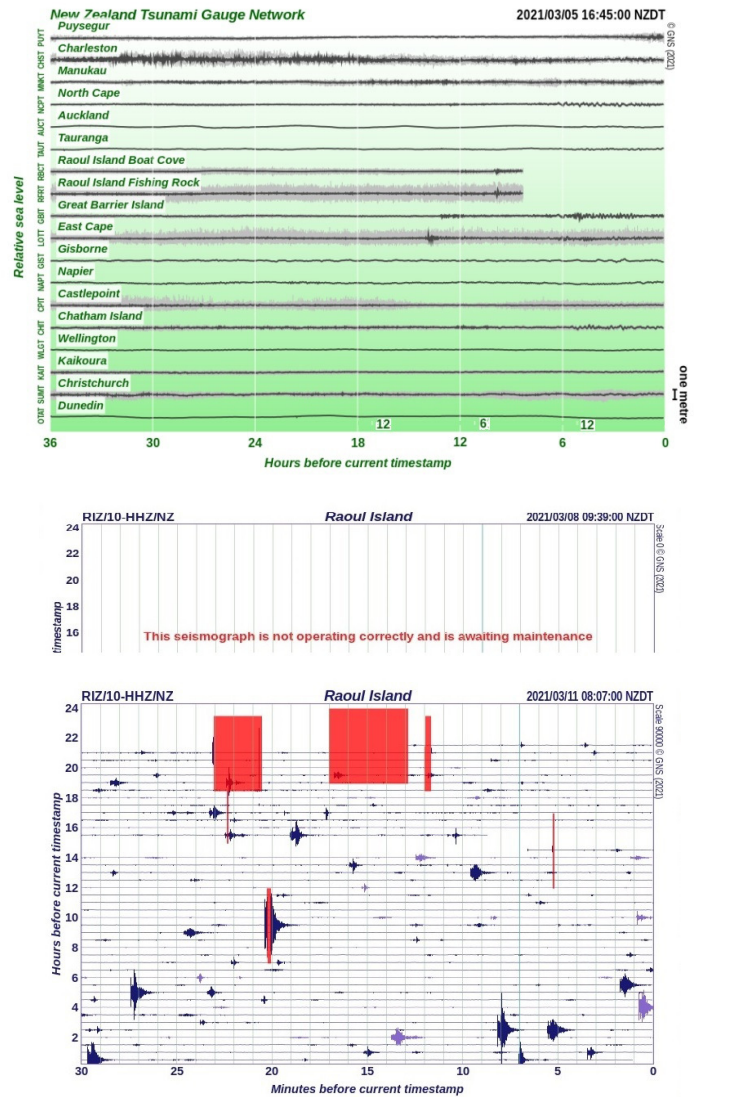
If I have any regret, it is that our radio club does not have a close relationship with our local Civil Defence. Our radio capability is a potential asset in a real emergency.

Over time the severity of the prediction eased back, until at 3:52 pm the warning was lifted.

In the days that followed it has occurred to me that the situation at Raoul Island may have been more serious than has ever been acknowledged. And the best information from close to the source of the tsunami may have been lost by the impact of those events.

At right notice that the tsunami gauges at Boat Cove and Fishing Rock on Raoul Island both went offline. This was at a moment which tallies with the time of the earthquake. And also the seismograph at Raoul had been offline for several days after the ‘quakes, but restored before 11 March. However I have not found a way of searching back in time to find when the seismograph fault occurred.

This opinion piece is not necessarily the view of Franklin Amateur Radio Club.



Challenge Chimney

Peter Henderson ZL1PJH

So how easy is it to clean out your Masport fireplace chimney? I have never cleaned a chimney before. In the UK where I lived from 1998 to 2018, chimney sweeps were easy to find and they cleaned out your chimney in less than an hour. They charged about £75. And that was for a two-storied building!

Back here in Kiwiland, we do this sort of thing ourselves. My son Jason left me a box of flue clean equipment. The rig consists of a cylinder shaped brush and four plastic shafts. Since I did not appear to know what I was doing, Jason gave me the benefit of his experience. 'Make sure you tighten them REAL TIGHT,' he emphasized. I decided to do what he said. Here I am with the shafts fitted tightly together.



In this shot, the Health & Safety Manager checks the ladder for stability. You can see the support poles to my 80m and 2m antennae in the background. I don't really like heights but if I want my chimney to be clean I need to step up (pun intended) like the good person I am and ascend to the workplace.



Up on the roof, I remove the rain-cap and poke the brush down as far as it will go. I give it a good up and down scrub for good measure. Yes, that's my 80m mast on the right. I have to be careful not to take out the 80m half-wave dipole wire as I pull the brush out of the chimney. I also have to try and remain on the roof!



Job done! My apprentice (she's capable of multi-tasking) cleans powder residue from the flue brush - an important part of all apprentice training regimes.



After two years use, the chimney flue had only a light powder that easily fell away as the brush dislodged it. I did not see any sap or resin adhered to the sides. The wood I get from Wecks in Patumahoe is obviously just the right sort of firewood for this chimney.

Back inside the house, I found approximately 3 cups of black powder at the bottom of the fire box. I closed the door and left this to solidify for a couple of days before I removed it. I noted the fire bricks at the back of the firebox need replacing and intend to source these in the next few days. So, my challenge is complete and I can now get back to ham radio.