

# QUA FARC



## March 2026

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Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc.  
NZART Branch 10

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Vice President: Steve Spring ZL1SPR  
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Committee Members: Mike Jane ZL1UOM, Ted Doell ZL1BQA, Gary Landon ZL1WGL  
Examiner: Tom ZL1TO  
Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1sa>  
Webmaster: Steve ZL1TZP

Meetings: Club meetings are on the third Tuesday each month in the clubrooms, 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe, at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome.

### NEXT MEETING

The March meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>. After the usual general reports and business we will be addressed by John ZL1HEX and Simon ZL3XL on Meshtastic and Meshcore.

### COMING UP APRIL.

The topic for the April club meeting is Portable Operation. We'd like to make it a more practical discussion with examples of equipment members are using and or are planning to use. There is of course, no one solution, so the more examples we have the better the discussion can be.

Please bring along

1. your portable setup for a show and tell.
2. equipment you are planning to use in the field, ask questions and get some help and/or advice from club members.
- 3 any questions you have to help you on the journey to portable operations.

### FRANKLIN JUNK SALE

This year the club has a considerable offering of used equipment and junk for sale. This means that the July junk sale is on again. Mark your calendar for Tuesday July 21. The sale starts at 7:30 pm and is in our traditional "conducted sale" format.

### JOCK WHITE MEMORIAL HF FIELD DAYS

Fine weather on the weekend 28 February and 1 March made for a good attendance of members at field days. Our location, as has become normal, was at Puni among cropping land. Thanks to Gary ZL1WGL for supplying the venue and accommodation. The generator is looking smart, and performed faultlessly, thanks to the effort of Rafal ZL1RCS.

Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month (excepting January) at 7.30 pm in the clubrooms.

Subscriptions: Individual \$30, Family \$40, due December  
See club secretary for bank account number

Nets: HF Sunday 9 am, 3.700 MHz (Mike ZL1UOM); VHF Sunday 9.30 am, 146.900 MHz (Steve ZL1TZP); DMR on TalkGroup 5301, Wednesday 7.30 pm (Steve ZL1TZP)

The club station ZL1SA worked the full 18 hours on 40 m and 80 m by phone only this year. We made contact with around 60 Branch stations (counting each band as a station) and our total contacts looks to make us competitive among northern region phone only stations.

The pictures below show some of the features of the station and the activity going on.



Above: The 40 m dipole was attached to the top of this pole



Above: Simon ZL3XL and Steve ZL1TZP do the honours on the Suzuki. The generator started at first attempt.



At left: The three wire dipole for 80 m is attached to the top of this arrangement

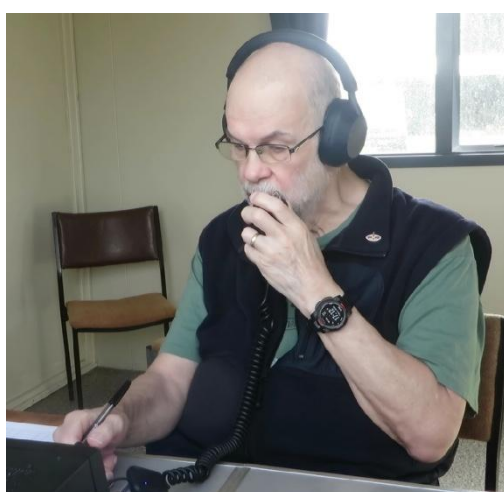


Left: Gary ZL1WGL and Chris ZL1CPH turned on bacon and eggs for breakfast on Sunday morning. The previous evening the cooks had done barbecue sausages with all the trimmings.



Above right: Peter ZL1PX operating 80 m phone.

Tom ZL1TO did not have any logs to check until after the first hour, so he did get a go at some operating.



Above: Durlene ZL1ULK awaits a turn on the radio – Steve ZL1SPR on 40 m - and Mike ZL1UOM on 80 m.

### St John Cadets

On Thursday evening 12 March three members; Steve ZL1TZP, Peter ZL1PX and Tom ZL1TO assisted at Pukekohe St John giving a lesson on Morse and using walkie talkies. For the first half hour the twelve young cadets worked at practicing giving their name in Morse and then sending it with a straight key by radio. For the second half hour it was play time with PRS handies changing channels, and speaking between small groups. A much appreciated thank you message has been received:

*“Thank you so much for coming in for the visit tonight. Was so awesome to have something a bit different for the kids to learn. I had such positive feedback from the kids and a few parents have messaged me saying their kids went home and told them all about what they learnt and how cool it was. I really appreciate all the effort you guys went to making it such a fun experience for them. “*