

QUA FARC



MAY 2023

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10

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.

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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
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Maurie Ogden – Building Model Boats



Maurie Ogden ZL1UTL was happy to share some of his model boat building secrets at our April meeting.

All Maurie's boats are built from light weight wood and fitted with radio controls and electric motors. After exhaustive experimentation, he has found the optimum temperature to paint his boats works out to be exactly 23

degrees centigrade. At any other temperature, paints are likely to run or form unsightly clots. As some boats can take months to complete, it is understandable such care is needed on the paintwork or the boat may be ruined.



A selection of boats Maurie has built and sailed in recent times.

Maurie also spoke of King Edward Park Lake in Hawera, a purpose built venue for model boats where enthusiasts meet to compete and chat every year over Labour Weekend. Happy sailing and thanks for coming to visit us, Maurie.

Next General Meeting

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday 16 May at our clubrooms at 19 Stadium Drive at 1930 hours. We welcome all those interested in the vast and wonderful hobby of amateur radio.

At this next meeting we have two NZART remit items to consider in advance of the 2023 Annual Conference at Palmerston North in June. Both remits are proposed by Branch 05 – Christchurch Amateur Radio Club (Inc). Remit 1 asks for digital only membership as a way to reduce the cost of belonging to NZART. Remit 2 proposes reduced membership fees for members of clubs not covered under public liability insurance. NZART Council opposes both these remits. [See remits below.](#)

After the main meeting, Ted ZL1BQA will introduce D-Star under the heading 'talking around the around the world with a 5W hand held'.

Growing Membership

As part of our 12 month commitment to growing our membership, we attended Steel N Wheels Festival on Sunday 30 April. The event drew a big crowd and we received some solid enquiries. I want to thank everyone for their generous support through this event.



David ZL1MZ answers a VHF Klondyke caller in early afternoon.

Stories From Gabrielle

Peter ZL1PX with help from Mike

Mike – A Local Effort



Mike Mather ZL2CC – Te Karaka

Mike Mather ZL2CC lives in Te Karaka, one of the hardest hit areas of Tairāwhiti, inland from Gisborne. Mike's house is on a high point and not vulnerable to floods so is a designated Civil Defence Evacuation Point. On the night of February 13, the Waihora River that flows down towards Te Karaka flooded and cut off Kanakanaia Road at a number of points. With water wiping out roads and bridges, the whole area soon lost power and by 3AM the next morning all cell phone and Internet coverage had gone.

Mike is not with AREC but had pre-arranged with fellow hams Barry ZL2BJA in Palmerston North and two Gisborne hams to listen on HF frequency 3775 KHz and a local EchoLink repeater on the hour. So it was that a purely local effort got underway to help an isolated community.



Te Karaka settlement – about 30 Km east of Gisborne

Civil Defence soon arrived to man the evacuation site and he let them know he could get emails sent if people needed that facility. Up to 80 individuals arrived at this site through the time of the cyclone. A local farmer opened up a barn nearby and set up a BBQ to feed folks. Soon many people were asking for emails or messages to be sent out to loved ones through the link with Barry in Palmerston North or through the other two links in Gisborne.

A second civil defence centre on the other side of the township helped up to 300 evacuees but as no radio link existed for this centre, he was unable to provide messaging for this group until water levels dropped a couple of days later.



Silt and water damaged property piled outside a Te Karaka residence

With typical ham radio modesty, Mike comments 'our operation was just a local effort between mates' but this is exactly what the situation required and his 'customers' very much appreciated the chance to tell family and friends they were in a crisis area but were safe and well. Mike and his links continued to provide their message service for up to five days until cell phone towers had been restored.

In retrospect, Mike thinks there were some valuable lessons gained from this emergency. He reports, 'We have decided that in the next emergency, we will send public messages by data, probably PSK rather than read them out. Less chance of mistakes and a little more private. We're setting up trials to test different data modes'.



Te Karaka resident Tahurangi Ruru sits amid silt in her living room

Mike's township Te Karaka suffered badly from the cyclone, with four fifths of all buildings either red or yellow stickered, including the Marae. As a result of that, three months later many people are still living in motels or with relations or friends. A handful of 'cabins' have arrived as temporary accommodation but only a small number of these are available.

Mike sent this final comment: "from past experience after "Bola" cyclone, the council, cellphone companies and Civil Defence will not learn from this and the same chaos will happen again. My son in a village further into town (Ormond) is arranging for radios to be set up around his area. He's also a ham. I have a family friend just 1.2km over the river (Puha) who was flooded out and I am arranging a similar system to keep in contact. As he's not a ham, it will be via CB radios."

Stories from Gabrielle

Peter ZL1PX – with Roger's help

Roger – a local service

Roger Sewing ZL2RC found himself isolated within Gisborne as Cyclone Gabrielle passed through. Internet and power were gone and did not return fully for up to a fortnight. Roger was fortunate to have a few solar panels, a 24V 450AH (rather ageing) battery bank and a 1200VA 240V inverter, to run his ham station, lights, TV if needed, and other smaller sundry items. He also possessed a second backup rig, an Atlas 210X rig in a suitcase, with tuner, aerial and cable bits, DC lead with battery clips, spare bits, a complete set-up, minus the power source. He had used Covid lockdown time to make sure the Altas worked and sure enough when his main rig failed he was able to move to backup within a few minutes. Being just outside Gisborne, his town water supply failed but luckily a home water tank remained full.



Gisborne under threat - February 15, 2023

Roger's first task was to get messages out to his own family in Auckland and overseas by way of Barry ZL2BJA in Palmerston North. He also started receiving messages inwards and found himself passing these messages ON to people in his neighbourhood. He reported "I would knock on the door, introduce myself and why I was there. Everyone I had messages for had heard of ham radio and really appreciated the service. I met some really nice people."

Roger works for Colvins, a local mobile communications company and continued to be busy setting up radio sets for a commercial VHF DMR network. He also worked at delivering fuel to generators at different radio sites.

He reported that despite many hams thinking of HF as noisy and old fashioned, it worked. It provided a service offering message delivery to the public along with the local commercial broadcast stations which also worked well.



Stories from Gabrielle

Barry ZL2BJA

Barry – emergency situations and hams

All hams are AREC - Amateur radio Emergency Communicators. There is no need for anyone to tell you what to do in an emergency. If you can help someone then, do it.

The Keys to me are; 1. Preplan. 2. Proactive 3. Positive.

1. Preplan

Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle was surely predictive to a point, and surely on the East Coast of the North Island some rough weather was possible the way Gabrielle was tracking. That was the time to pre-plan, work out simplex frequencies, HF, VHF and UHF if need be, and to plan with hams outside of your area in case things happen with power and communications and the need to relay.



Napier earthquake 1931 - 256 deaths and most buildings destroyed.

The Napier Earthquake of 1931 surely taught every ham that it was outside help that was needed. As I result we did plan as above with the Poverty Bay area never thinking Hawkes Bay would be hit so hard too. But over the years Dave ZL2DW and I had always discussed this point and importance of 665 and 670 could be in an emergency. So plan outside what frequencies and plans you have available.

2. Proactive

Proactive means you don't have to wait for some official to do anything, or you don't need a special uniform or whatever to go into operation. We saw what happens when you have to wait for a Mayor or whoever to declare before you can act. You just need back up power, charged systems, lights, etc. and to establish a link with someone outside your area ready to go.

Weather events are the easiest, not so earthquakes like Porangahau which was worse. On that occasion I called on 670 and got Rob in Taradale and Gary in Central Hawkes Bay, and were able to report to each the situation.

Stories from Gabrielle

Barry ZL2BJA

Barry – emergency situations and hams (continued).

3. Positive

By being Positive I mean doing things even if not permitted usually under our regulations or normal procedure. Who is going to criticise you in a National Disaster? I know I broke the rules a few times but it worked to the benefit of the communities I was trying to help. Also, organise things you think may help and other hams to help. I'm still here!!!

Status of Gisborne repeaters

In the Gisborne case the preplan of frequencies, times etc. were the key. The cooperation of hams and frequencies was brilliant by both Hawkes Bay and Gisborne hams, who I take my hat off to as they were in the thick of things and yet were able to communicate and do a brilliant job. They all deserve a pat on the back for how well they did in Gabrielle. Whenever I needed the repeater it was made clear, fantastic well done. I had the easy job.

Besides the simplex plan of frequencies it is worth considering using digital modes for relaying messages to save time and to ensure accuracy of wording.

Another point is Local Government plans need to be standardized and any changes anywhere need to be notified to NZART. Not just for the affected area but area of hams who are trying to help, it may be worthwhile NZART/AREC taking up this issue.

Today the need for radio hams I found during Gabrielle was more important than ever. People are getting so dependent on social media that when it goes out they are lost. People are so used to immediate responses whereas in the old days it may take days or weeks to hear from anyone.

Finally don't forget people outside the disaster zone are frantic to find out how loved ones are getting on and if they are safe? Most of the messages we passed many to overseas were in this category, just to know that their family was safe.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 18 April 2023

Chairperson Peter ZL1PX opened the meeting at 1930 hours with a welcome to all.

Attendance: ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1BQA, ZL1UOM, ZL1LL, ZL1GAC, ZL1AMQ, ZL1UTL, Frodie, Mateus
Apologies ZL1WGL, ZL1MFL, ZL1TZP ZL1TO/ZL1PX

Minutes of the March meeting.

The March minutes approved. ZL1BQA / ZL1UOM

Correspondence

April Newsletters from Branches 29, 86 as in QUA plus Branches 65, 03

65. Kevin Everitt to speak 5 April. Vehicle install night 26 April. 6 passed exam. Parks on the air workshop 15-16 April. World Amateur Radio Day 18 April. Whanganui sale 6 May. Radio Electronics Group sale 20 May. AGM 22 April. ANZAC Day special call ZL1PPY. Using the Nano VNA to measure inductance

Proposed reply to Auckland Council re lease. The text of the letter is appended to these minutes. [See text of lease.](#) Our Incorporated Society status has been restored. Two remits are published in the latest Infoline (but were not in the recent BreakIn) and will be circulated with these minutes. [See remits 1 and 2.](#) Correspondence report received. ZL1PX/L1TO

Finance:

Income Interest \$83.77 and \$5.09

Expenditure Fire Extinguishers pressure test and refill \$356.21

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

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

We are now in credit with Watercare. The fire extinguisher bill will be paid before 20th of April.

The finance report was received.

ZL1BQA / ZL1TO

Reports

AREC.

Replacement registration cards have been received.

Three volunteers (Durlene ZL1ULK, Mike ZL1MFL and Tom ZL1TO) from Franklin formed part of the safety communications team for a South Auckland Car Club rally at Symes Road Maramarua on Sunday 16 April. There were 42 competitors. No serious incidents – though one car rolled and continued with very little delay, a tree came down across the track, and the 4th stage was stopped for a few minutes with a missing car. The rally frequency was 147.525 MHz simplex

Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 18 April 2023 (cont/)

Morse Code Peter ZL1PX reported CW learning is going very well on Zoom and 3755 KHz Mon at 7.15PM, Tue, Thu, Fri at 7.30 PM

General Business

Steel and Wheels

Peter ZL1PX reported that he has visited the site several times. His preference is to operate through the 6625 repeater. Club signage will be used, and Peter has an Easy-Up tent for the car. Sunday April 30 10am to 2pm. Volunteers are sought. ZL1TO and ZL1LL volunteered, with members encouraged to answer calls from home.

April general meeting

The speaker tonight will be Maurie Ogden ZL1UTL. Maurie makes radio controlled model boats, both power and sail, and has brought along a selection from his collection.

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. [See remits below.](#)

Ted ZL1BQA will present “talking around the world with a 5 Watt handheld”

The meeting closed at 1945 hours

Finance:

Income: Interest \$92.74 Subscription ZL1AQS \$20

Expenditure: Fire extinguishers pressure test and fill \$356.21 paid on due date 20 April, Power bill due 3 April paid 3 April, Power bill due 4 May \$58.16 set for payment 2 May. Watercare \$0.91 due 6 April. Electronic billing for Watercare now set up.

The finance report was received

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Reports

SteelNWheels, Waiuku on 30 April. Peter ZL1PX has paid the \$30 fee and the committee approves reimbursement. Peter ZL1PX reports we had large signage and a big crowd turned up at this event. We amplified incoming signals so these could be easily heard. Peter spoke as loud as he could into mike for outgoing calls. Hundreds of visitors heard hams on the air. 14 amateur stations responded. Peter gave out contact cards of note to Paul of Patumahoe, Pieter of Orere Point, John new to Pukekohe (ex police). Eight amateur club members visited the stall. ZL1PX, ZL1TO, ZL1ULK, ZL1LL, ZL4AX, ZL1WGL, ZL1UOM and Alan Makgil.

Gary ZL1WGL commended Peter on doing a good job. Machinery exhibit at Glenbrook would be a good site for a future exhibit. David ZL1MZ would be good contact to discuss this with further. ZL1Px suggests we approach other clubs to participate in similar events in the future.

POSITIVE AGEING EXPO 2023– secretary to book a stand for September.

AREC – A petrol voucher was passed over to Gary for a 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. [See remits below.](#)

The committee recommends we vote against these remits.

ZL1BQA/ZL1PX

Junk Sale

Barbara Knowles has delivered 9 small boxes from Bob ZL1BAD's shack for club funds at the junk sale. Barbara's home suffered water ingress in two rain events earlier this year.

A couple at SteelNWheels have gear for the junk sale which they will bring to the clubhouse.

The meeting closed at 2043 hours.



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

Chairperson Gary ZL1EWGL opened the meeting with a welcome to all.

Attendance: ZLWGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1BQA, ZL1UOM, ZL1ULK, ZL1GAD.

Minutes of the April meeting

The April minutes were approved ZL1BQA/ZL1PX

Correspondence

Branch 29 April Newsletter. Xtra has been down for a period recently so not all information is up to date. POTA workshop 15/16 April. Message from Auckland Emergency Management expressing gratitude for response to flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle. Steve ZL1SRP spoke on contest logging at April meeting. Roger ZL1TLF is silent key. Auckland Council re lease.

Our Incorporated Society Status has been restored.

The correspondence report was received. ZL1TO/ZL1PX

Remit

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

NZART needs to get with the times with increasing costs, several members don't need or want a paper copy of Breakin 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.

- 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.**

Recently it's 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.

Supported by B05

President



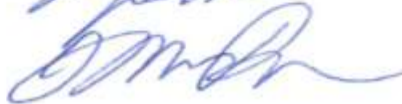
2L3TMB

Vice President



2L3RIK

Treasurer



2L3TAO

Copy of Lease Request

Proposed Lease at 19. Stadium Drive ~~Rukekohe~~

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc wishes to apply for a 10 year lease with 10 year right of renewal on the Council reserve land that we occupy at 19. Stadium Drive, ~~Rukekohe~~.

In view of the impact that the poor behaviour of some of the neighbouring skate park users has on our building we are looking to have a buffer zone between us and the skate park.

We are grateful to the ~~Rukekohe~~ Borough Council and its successors who have been our landlord for the past 70 years.

Yours faithfully