

QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc.
NZART Branch 10



May 2025

VOLUME 34 ISSUE 5

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

Subscriptions: Individual \$20, Family \$30, 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 (Peter ZL1PX); DMR on TalkGroup 5301, Wednesday 7.30 (Steve ZL1TZP)

Next Meeting

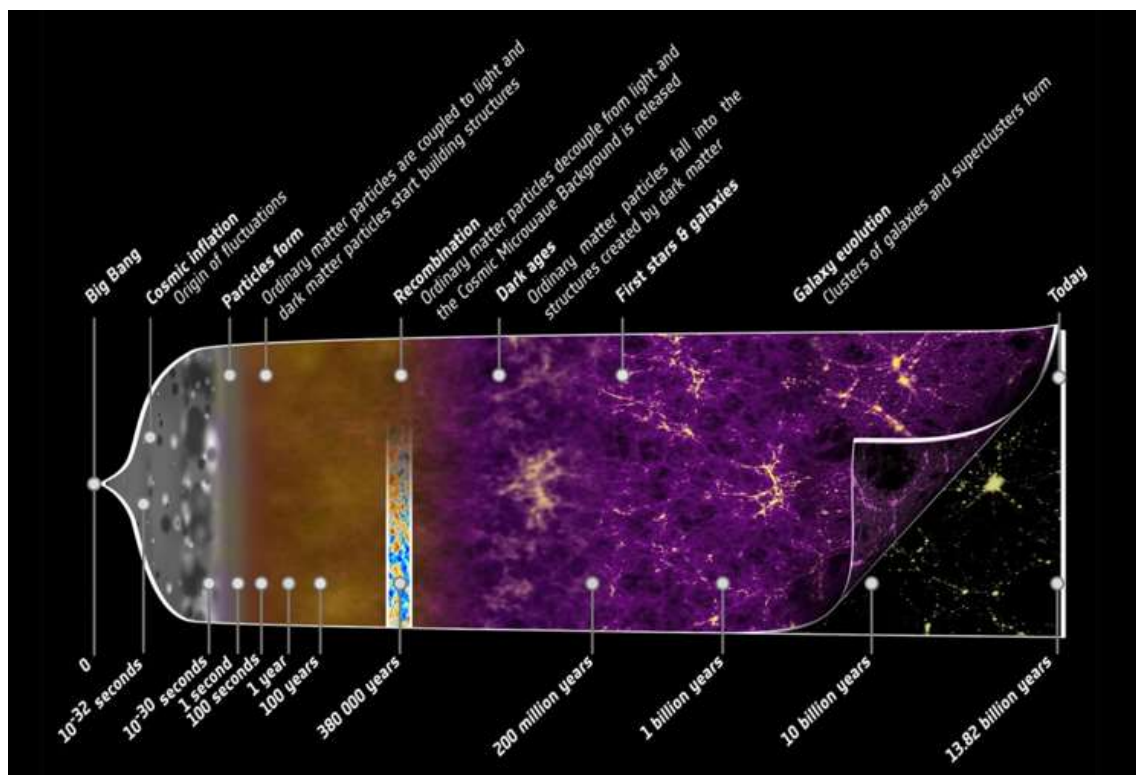
Tuesday 20 May, 7.30 PM, clubrooms. Member show and tell. Peter will start with Copilot chat.

Last Meeting

At our last meeting, Tom ZL1TO presented a talk on Emergency Readiness and Preparedness for Pukekohe. Tom likes to be thorough and start at the beginning so his first sentence was...

The sun and solar system planets were formed around 4.5 billion years ago (only a theory).

Tom presented this image to back up his opening statement.



The universe since the Big Bang. Note: It took nearly a whole second for particles to form and up to 100 seconds for ordinary

matter particles to start building structures.

After this auspicious “beginning”, Tom discussed the theory of continental drift – also only a theory, he reminded us, and explained how this supposed drift presents hazards for us the human passengers.

Tom then showed us examples of these hazards...



Tom added other possible hazards into the mix: Tsunamis, fires, strong winds, heavy rainfall. He then showed Auckland City Council top tips on how to prepare for emergency situations.

Top tips to get ready for an emergency

 <p>Know your hazards. Check Auckland Emergency Management's Hazard Viewer for your where/home, work & school.</p> 	 <p>Learn where you can go if you need to evacuate.</p> 
 <p>Create a household plan, including evacuation.</p> 	 <p>Prepare a grab bag in case you have to evacuate.</p> 
 <p>Keep emergency supplies in your where/home and car.</p> 	 <p>Get ready with your community and know your community's emergency plan.</p> 
 <p>Keep spare cash.</p> 	 <p>Know your neighbours and look out for each other.</p> 
 <p>Check your insurance and keep electronic & hard copies.</p> 	 <p>Get your business ready.</p> 
 <p>Plan your evacuation routes.</p> 	 <p>Get prepared for specific hazards including storms, floods, earthquakes and volcanoes.</p> 

Tom reported there are numerous civil defence centres or hubs where shelter or supplies can be obtained in an emergency.

Central Franklin emergency centres



Tom described how important it was to maintain clear communication during an emergency.

Tips for reporting an incident by phone or radio.

When you are reporting an urgent incident it is very important that your message is clear and easy to understand.

Send information in a logical order. The most important things need to go first. (This means that if you are cut off before you have finished the call, you have already passed on the most important bits).

First – Location

If you need help the most important bit of information is where the help is needed. If we don't know where you are we can't send help.

Second – Headline.

Just like a newspaper article an incident report needs a headline which gives the person at the other end a quick summary of what the rest of the message will be about. Remember they know nothing about what you can see, and they need to get the overall picture before you start to give the details. Without the headline to introduce the message people will become confused and mistakes will happen.

The headline should be short (about 10 words) and just give a brief indication of the general situation.

Third – The people involved

Casualties, Victims, the people who need help. How many? Number and type of injuries? Fatalities? People trapped? This means that the level of urgency can be decided.

Fourth – Hazards for rescuers

What sorts of hazards will rescuers need to be prepared for?

Fifth – The Problem

What is happening and what needs to be done?

Communication protocol for emergency situation. Give your information in this order...

1 Location	At John Street, Pukekohe.
2 Headline	Culvert overflowing and flooding roadway
3 People	No casualties
4 Hazards	Tree branch fallen on power lines – live wires on ground.
5 Problem	Road blocked between Glasgow Road and Nelson Street. Thirty houses isolated.

Thanks Tom, for a well-prepared and interesting talk. Your graphics were impressive!

Upcoming Events

Franklin Amateur Radio Club 75th Anniversary Dinner - August

Motat Live Communication Day - September 21

Franklin Positive Ageing Expo - 3 October

JOTA JOTI – 17/19 October

VHF Field Day - November

YL and Friends Dinner Brings Two Clubs Together in Takanini

More than 20 amateur radio enthusiasts recently came together for a special YL and friends dinner in Takanini, marking a fantastic evening of camaraderie and connection between members of the Franklin Amateur Radio Club and Papakura Amateur Radio Club.

Organized by Ann-Maree ZL1GIT of Papakura Amateur Radio Club, the event highlighted the important role of YLs—female amateur radio operators—in fostering inclusivity and strengthening bonds within the radio community. With conversations buzzing just like the airwaves they navigate, attendees shared stories, experiences, and plenty of laughter over a warm meal.

Capturing the spirit of the evening was photographer Tom ZL1TO, whose pictures reflect the warmth and enthusiasm of the gathering. This dinner stands as a testament to the ever-growing presence of YLs in amateur radio and the power of shared passion in bringing people together across the bands.

Here's to more events celebrating the voices—both on and off the radio—that make the amateur radio world so vibrant!



From left: Trish ZL1TTM, Carol ZL1AJL, Aurora, John ZL1OJ, Ian ZL1AOX, Jacky ZL1WA, Rosemary ZL1RO (obscured) Ann-Maree ZL1GIT, Durlene ZL1ULK, Mike ZL1MFL, Lynnette ZL1LL.

From left: Ann-Maree ZL1GIT (standing), Steve ZL1SB, Deborah ZL1DY, Pippa ZL4SKY, Tina ZL1NZB, Kristin ZL1KDK, Roseanne ZL1RSE, Guy ZL1AFE and Bruce ZL1SRY



1. Exercise Manaaki

Tom ZL1TO

On Friday 2 May members of AREC were active for an exercise at Pukekohe Civil Defence Centre from 0800 to 1500 hrs.

AREC were in the Stevenson room upstairs in the Local Board's area of 'The Centre'. Our AREC response leader was Richard Gamble ZL1BNQ, with helpers Tom McDonald ZL1TO and Trish Murray ZL1TTM. Radio comms were voice FM through ESB 147 on Pukekohe Hill, a Tait portable for automatic position reports

also through ESB 147, SARTrack connected to the library WiFi downstairs and Winlink by UHF to a relay at the QTH of Ian ZL1AOX. Antennas comprised a VHF mag-mount attached to the internal steel frame of the building and UHF whip on a short aluminium pole poked outside through an open window. At the other end of the AREC comms link was Murray Freeth-Edwards ZL1MBZ who had SARTrack and Crosswire to provide data to the Auckland Emergency Management's emergency coordination centre in downtown Auckland city. We had no radio problems throughout the exercise. With practice the relaying of information and responses will certainly get faster.

The other significant service in our room was Red Cross. Their personnel were mostly from south of Auckland. Red Cross equipment came in eight large trolley boxes that could only just fit, one at a time, in the building's lift and included a generator and bedding equipment. 'Actors' with welfare problems had been recruited from the Pukekohe response steering committee.

Visitors and assessors had come from Waikato as well as Auckland. A representative of Hunua/Paparimu/Ararimu community response was also on hand.

2. AREC Monthly Branch Activity Report

The AREC Monthly Branch Activity Report for April 2025 details various activities carried out by AREC branches across New Zealand, including civil defence support, training exercises, search and rescue operations, technical work, and community events.

Key highlights:

- **Civil Defence & Technical Work:** Multiple branches performed radio checks, technical reviews, and equipment maintenance to ensure operational readiness.
- **Search & Rescue Activities:** Several SAR operations were conducted, including successful searches for missing persons and lost devices.
- **Training & Meetings:** Regular AREC and SAR training sessions, committee meetings, and community engagement events were held across multiple locations.
- **Community Engagement:** Public demonstrations, exhibitions, and emergency service open days helped raise awareness and strengthen AREC's connection with local communities.
- **Notable Events:** Large-scale exercises such as the Otago Rally and various SAREX events saw significant participation and contribution from AREC members.

Total reported hours for the month were 2,465 across 93 events, involving 401 operators. The activities reflect AREC's ongoing commitment to emergency preparedness, technical excellence, and community service.

Franklin's Contribution: The Franklin branch actively participated in the Steel n Wheels event in Waiuku Township on April 13th. They set up two stations where the public could send their name in Morse Code and receive it back, engaging attendees in a hands-on demonstration of radio communication. This effort involved four members and contributed 26.25 hours to the overall AREC activities.

SEND YOUR NAME IN MORSE

Steel N Wheels Festival comes to Waiuku village around Easter each year. This year, Franklin Radio Club offered *Send Your Name in Morse* at the event. Our goal was to give visitors a memory of a ham radio activity. To make that happen, we used two CW stations working 144.200 MHz sending from the footpath on Kitchener Road and receiving at Waiuku Museum.



As the stations were less than two hundred metres apart, reception was excellent. However, we weren't the only attractions at the event. Behind us, on the children's playground, trick motor cyclists looped the loop – a dangerous, exciting and enormously loud spectacle. A few metres up Kitchener Road, gun club enthusiasts fired their guns – equally loud. Across the duck pond from us, a jet motor fired up at 30 minute intervals and sprayed a jet of flame across the water (The ducks were not impressed).

With all this excitement you might think CW didn't stand a chance. However, in the intervals between these noisy attractions, queues formed at our stand as nearly thirty families brought their young ones to tap a Morse key. We gave each visitor a card with two blank spaces. He or she wrote their name in the top blank and filled out a Morse translation in the bottom. Once they saw their name in dots and dashes, they could practice on a sound generator. When that sounded dangerously good, we moved them on to the real thing. We sent a simple QRV to the receiving station and prompted our visitor to send.

Before the event we thought about a fail-safe. What if the receiving operators, Steve ZLTZP and Steve ZL1SPR could not copy the name? We circumvented this with 2M VHF simplex handhelds. We tuned these sets to 146.500 MHz. Each time a new visitor arrived, we simply called the receiving operators and told them the name. In the circumstances, with noisy motor cycles, guns and jet turbines doing their thing around us nobody noticed or minded. And after each visitors heard their name coming back, there were thumbs up and big smiles all round.



For the technical minds, we achieved our CW contacts with straight keys on All-Mode transceivers. The sending rig was an Icom IC-290H via a mag mount antenna on a Toyota Wish roof. Power was provided through the car's cigarette lighter socket. Our receiving rig was a Yaesu FT-818, powered by a 7Ah 12.8V Lithium battery. The antenna was a mag mount UHF/VHF whip antenna on the porch roof.

Word Finder Steve ZL1TZP

C	Q	E	T	E	L	E	C	R	A	F	T	E	C
E	L	A	E	F	L	E	X	R	A	D	I	O	Z
E	S	N	N	X	D	R	A	D	N	A	T	S	M
D	C	N	T	Y	E	X	O	H	E	Q	Y	E	O
X	I	S	E	A	T	A	K	F	U	T	E	W	C
X	N	T	C	N	D	O	E	A	Y	S	N	E	I
X	O	T	O	R	S	W	N	Y	T	A	W	N	K
I	R	N	I	U	R	S	W	E	N	R	E	E	E
E	T	G	T	K	H	C	O	L	L	I	N	S	E
G	N	E	O	E	H	E	O	E	K	A	R	D	U
U	A	I	N	E	T	T	D	N	H	S	A	A	N
C	K	G	R	D	T	B	A	O	F	E	N	G	Y
W	O	U	X	U	N	Y	N	E	E	R	A	O	X
Y	S	W	A	N	G	I	T	O	H	U	Z	I	M

- MIZUHO
- TENTEC
- QUANSHENG
- YAESU
- HEATHKIT
- KANTRONICS
- FLEXRADIO
- WOUXUN
- DRAKE
- XIEGU
- ICOM
- KENWOOD
- STANDARD
- SWAN
- ELECRAFT
- BAOFENG
- TYT
- ANYTONE
- COLLINS

Cryptic Clues Peter ZL1PX

(NINE LETTERS) SEARCH NEAR SCONE FOR THE IDEAL DIPOLE ANTENNA PROPERTY

	E					N		
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(TEN LETTERS) A GALLILEAN MOON TURNS ON BACK TO A GLOBE THAT REFRACTS RF

		N						R	
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