

QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10



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

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

Subscriptions: individual \$20, family \$30.
Bank Number: 02-0404-0157944-000

Nets: Sunday 9 AM on 3.700 MHz (Mike ZL1UOM) and 9.30 AM on 146.90 MHz (Peter ZL1PX). Wednesday 7.30 on DMR TG 5301 (Steve ZL1TZP).

QUA editor: Peter ZL1PX pjh@teachlit.com
Sent by email to club members and anyone interested. Provided you include authorship, permission to copy material is freely granted.

Franklin – Papakura Share Christmas Dinner 2023

Our shared Christmas dinner with Papakura Club will be held at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club, Ward Street, Pukekohe at 6.30 on Friday 1 December. The cost will be \$38 per person. You can view the menu below. Please contact club secretary Tom ZL1TO Tom McDonald tom.mcdonald@xtra.co.nz with name and numbers attending.

Last General Meeting

Thanks to Steve for further useful information about DMR radio details. See Steve's article below.

Next General Meeting

Our next meeting will be the annual general meeting for the year and will be held at 7.30 PM on Tuesday 21st November in the clubhouse at 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe. Come prepared to discuss the direction the club is headed and to elect officers for the coming year. All visitors are welcome to attend. After the meeting there be will a social gathering with refreshments.

Christmas on the Green - Pukekohe

A community fun event, Christmas on the Green, will be held at Pukekohe Navigation Homes Stadium on Saturday 2 December between 3 PM and 7.30 PM. Stalls will be outside on the football pitch. We will set up a station and do a Send Your Name in Morse on 7020 kHz and a Tell Santa What You Want for Christmas conversation on 2 meters. No power is provided but exhibitors may bring a quiet generator.



I visited the site recently and found it open towards the north but enclosed to the south so we may have some technical issues with this gig. However, I believe we can overcome these issues on the day and give the visiting public some happy ham radio experiences.



Christmas Function Menu 2023

(Children under 5yrs dine free)

Honey & Maple Glazed Champagne Ham, & Roast Chicken, all served with condiments and gravy/sauces.

Sliced Roast Beef in a Red Wine Gravy

New potatoes in mint butter, roasted kumara & pumpkin, MGB Cheffing honey glazed carrots, buttered baby peas, steamed long beans.

Seafood Pasta Salad, Green Salad Leaf, Greek Salad.

All served with a variety of dressings.

Shrimp Cocktail w Seafood Sauce

Christmas Plum Pudding, Brandy Custard, Fresh Strawberries, Pavlova, Fruit Salad, Xmas Mince Pies.

\$38 per person including GST
(\$12 price children 5yrs-12yrs)

Tea & Coffee Supplied

German Tank Morse Key

Frank ZL1AMQ brought this Morse key along to show the club. He reported his father found this key in an abandoned German tank and brought it back to NZ after the war.



The Baumustuer below was shown on a [RelicsWW2](#) website. The key appears identical but a different base plate is fitted.



Looking again at Frank's Morse key, I can see it has the same three screws connecting the base plate as the model shown above but a different base plate is connected. This different base plate probably slid into a sleeve in the tank signaller's position to make the key more stable. Perhaps this sleeve also allowed the key to be pulled out easily which would explain why Frank's dad was able to remove it and bring it away with him, although he would have needed to cut the wires to the transmitter.



Morse code was heavily used for cyphered military radio communication on both sides during WWII. In Germany, then, this key would often have been used in conjunction with the Enigma machine.



In this field station picture above, the operator has already used the Enigma machine to translate his message into cypher and now transmits on air with his Baumustuer.

And what is a Baumustuer worth? I found several companies in Europe offering Baumustuers in good condition for sale for between \$200 and \$300 NZ dollars.



A Google search shows this key was known as Baumustuer in Germany and was fitted to aircraft and land vehicles such as tanks and army HQ vehicles from 1930 onwards. It seems appropriate to have the work TAP written on the cover.

Baumustuer CW operators can open the hinged cover upward, if required, to clean the contacts or adjust the settings.



I cleaned the contacts on this Baumustuer and then attempted a CQ with my ICOM rig. It worked okay but the springs were a little strong for my taste. If I were a German tank signaller, however, and driving over rough ground, strong springs would prevent unintended keying and be a help rather than a hindrance.



Bombay JOTA Event

Thursday 26 October 1740 hours

I arrive at Bombay Scout den in Paparata Road. Cars clutter both sides of the road. I nose the car through an open gate and inch forward on the concrete drive. No one else is here so I have time to think about how the event will run.

1745 hours

I arrange two tables in the main area of the den. One will be a Morse training table and the second will be the Morse transmitter. I place a sound generator, a Morse key and a small speaker on the first table. A quick CQ test tells me it is loud enough for training but won't disrupt other activities. On the second table, I place the ICOM IC-728 transceiver and its power unit. With two parallel Morse keys plugged in, it only needs an antenna to be ready.

1755 hours

I take four pipe sections from the car and join them up to make a mast for an outside dipole antenna. The mast attaches to a post outside the den with two bungy cords. All it needs now is a dipole wire and feeder. A flock of sheep who graze the field around the den come over to check out my work and give it their reluctant approval.

1800 hours

Steve ZL1TZP arrives and starts to make the dipole. He fixes one end to a high fence above the den. I fix the other end to an abandoned electric fence post while he attaches coax and NetExpert – a handheld antenna checker. NetExpert reports an SWR of 1.3 on our chosen frequency of 7020 kHz.



1815 hours

Each scout will get the chance to send a Morse and a voice message. I key up the IC-728 transceiver on the transmit table and find Paul ZL1AJY on the North Shore receives me 599. Paul has kindly donated his time to the event by acting as a link station. I also contact Steve ZL1SPR – another generous volunteer - to see if his handheld can handle voice traffic. Steve reports no problems.

1830 hours

All scouts have arrived and leader Wiebe Boxem gets them to salute the flag. For our talk on JOTA, Steven and myself play 'tag speak'. I introduce the idea of a radio licence and explain how I passed an exam to get it. Steve jumps in to explain what a call sign is. For my next tag I demonstrate

how a handover is done – with the next ham to speak listed first in the handover. Steve's final tag is to show the scouts the NATO phonetic chart and how it is used.

1840 hours

The scouts each have a card with a Morse chart on one face and blank boxes on the other. Their task is to translate their name into Morse code – each letter to a box - and to fill the box below with the dot-dash pattern. They work quickly to translate and then quietly chat or help other scouts complete their translation. Steve gets Amy to practise her name in Morse with the sound generator.

1850 hours

I send a message to Paul asking if he is ready for Amy. He replies he is ready and Amy sends the Morse characters for A M and Y - using the Morse key that is wired parallel to mine. Paul sends the same letters back slowly so she can check he has got it right. She gives a wide grin as she recognizes the sounds. I hear Steve pressing the practice key on the practice table as he 'plays' the next scout's name in Morse to show him the spacing.

1910 hours

Paul has replied to all 13 scout Morse calls. I call Steve on my handheld radio to check he is ready for voice messages. A line of scouts forms in front of me. Each of them holds a NATO phonetic chart. Steve responds he is ready but my signal to him is breaking up. Gary ZL1WGL comes on air to say he can hear my signal okay and will respond to the scout voice messages if I need him. I accept his offer and give my radio to the first scout in the line. 'Press on the talk button and say who you are', I tell him. He begins at once, 'Hello Gary, I am Emmitt, ECHO MIKE MIKE INDIGO TANGO'. Gary asks Emmitt what school he goes to and what his hobbies are.

1930 hours

Gary handles the scouts well. While he talks with Emmitt, I find a second handheld radio, a JianPai 10-watt model that I had brought along as a backup. I switch it on and try it. Gary reports that it works better than the one Emmitt uses. I hand it to Emmitt who finishes his call with a 73 and passes it on to the next scout in the line.

1940 hours

Lorryn is the last scout in line. In answer to Gary's question about hobbies, she says she likes playing netball. When Gary asks her what the difference is between basketball and netball, she tells him that in basketball you are allowed to dribble.

1950 hours

Scout Leader Wiebe asks for volunteers to help us take down the ham station. When all equipment is cleared away, scout Emmitt calls the scouts together and calls out the letters B-R-A-V-O to which the scouts repeat with loud calls. Emmitt ends by thanking Steve and myself for showing the scouts a JOTA.

FRANKLIN DMR NET

Steve ZL1TZP

As a number of Club members have taken up DMR, as a Digital mode of operation, the idea formulated that a DMR net mid week could be an option.



It was agreed upon at one of the club meetings to hold the DMR net from 7:30pm, Wednesday nights, on BrandMeister TG5301.

As a result, the first Franklin Branch DMR net was held on Wednesday the 20th September 2023 from 7:30pm, with 7 checkins, a great turnout.

After the first net which went along the lines of the Sunday nets, I thought it might be a good idea to make a point of difference, by having a topic to discuss.

While the net is a 2 round net, we cannot get into great detail, but I thought it would generate a discussion, and give new and old Hams alike ideas for further investigation and experimentation. This was discussed and agreed upon during the second Club DMR net.

During the third net we discussed our first topic "HF antennas we are using and what we had used". It was very successful, giving an insight into what our fellow Hams are using and ideas follow up.

Since then we have discussed, portable antennas, and applications that we use on our phones. The next topic will be computer applications we use for our Ham Radio activities. Topics do not have to be related to Ham radio, if someone has other interests they would like to propose as a topic, please let me know.

As we are still learning about DMR, and along the way, we have run into a few small issues, some of which relate to learning how to connect to Talkgroups, and how to use the Hotspot, which we seem to have overcome.

The change to Tuesday came about because of limitations in the DMR+ network and how it treats connections to Talkgroups, and the fact that the simplex hotspot can be locked out by a second connected Talkgroup, something we encountered one Wednesday night. It occurred when another net was being held at the same time, a problem that I was aware of, but somehow overlooked.

The club DMR net has had good participation and has been a lot of fun.

USS Missouri HF Net

Steve ZL1SPR

(Steve ZL1SPR was in Hawaii for the week of Nov 5 to Nov 12. He organised with Battleship Missouri Memorial's Amateur Radio Club to visit the radio compartment on board on Monday 13 November at 8 AM NZ time.)

I was picked up by Dennis KH7MU at the Arizona Memorial carpark, we then drove a short distance along the highway and turned off across a causeway onto Ford Island, a US Naval Base, then parked near the USS Missouri and walked alongside, signed in and went aboard.

Through a bulkhead door and along several passages into the Radio Room, signed in again. Dennis switched on the rig and computer.



Dennis had a quick listen around to see what was open, then got ready for the Aloha Net on 40 metres, KH6PXM Rob was the net master, about 5 minutes before the net was due to start, he called for those that wanted to check in and out, then at 0900 he called for check ins for the net, Dennis checked in and I checked in. In the third round I did an over and talked about my rigs and about putting up my antenna when I get home.

After the net was over Dennis had a listen around to see what was open, he made contact with two stations in the US.

We then signed out of the Radio Room, we went out on deck and walked up towards the bow where the antenna is, which is a discone. We went ashore and signed out; Dennis dropped me back at the Arizona Memorial.



Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the
clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 17 October 2023

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1932 hours and welcomed all.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1GAC, ZL4FJ, ZL1SPR, ZL1TZP, ZL1UOM, ZL1LL, ZL1AMQ, ZL1RP.

Apology: ZL1MFL, ZL1ULK, ZL1BQA, ZL1JRW accepted

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Minutes of the September meeting.

Approved.

ZL1PX / ZL1TZP

Correspondence

Newsletters received since the September general meeting from branches:

03: September – Callsign Centenary Challenge. New ham Colin ZL1COL. ZL6QRP net. Portable half wave end fed HF antenna. Used equipment sale 4 November at Rosedale.

13/25: Talk on Starlink. Fault finding a ceramic cook top. Manawatu sale 30 September

29: Is anyone receiving the 29er? Our Editor of QUA, ZL1PX, gets it and will circulate to members.

65: Talk on discord server 4 October. Six at ham cram. DXpeditions to Niue and North Cooks. Smith charts. MMDVM. Branch 03 sale 4 November.

86: SS Manaia aground on Slipper Island. Sales on zlham.net.nz Videos by radio elmer Jim W6LG.

Planning New Years Day air radio event. GROTA active on Mt Grey in port hills. Service manuals for #19 set and ZC1 online. Grimeton VLF Radio in Sweeden. Proposal to dismantle tug William C Daldy.

FMG –Replacement \$81983.87 and \$3255; depreciated to \$58.925 and \$1500 for clubhouse and contents, signed off.

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance

Income Interest \$92.74 (4 September)

Expenditure Power bill \$55.41 for 4 September paid

Watercare \$2 paid

The finance report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

AREC

Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting, 1730 hrs 19 September. Next meeting on 17 October was deferred to November. Shakedown warning rehearsal some time between 0930 and 2230 on Thursday 19 October.

Positive Ageing Expo. Friday September 29. ZL1WGL reported this had been a brilliant day. Several members manned our stand. There were not as many visitors as in previous years. Four visitors gave us their contact details and Peter ZL1PX has emailed each and circulated them a newsletter. The sound system was clear – without squawk. A lot of other areas in Auckland would like to have a similar event.

Open Day Pukekohe Navigation Stadium

Peter ZL1PX contacted Shawna earlier today. The event will be at the rugby stadium next door to our clubhouse on 2 December from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. Exhibitors may bring a quiet generator. The organisers will decide in a couple of weeks if the ground is too waterlogged. Stalls will be outside – where a rugby game would be. Peter wants to do a Morse activity. We should have a liaison channel too – and voice by DMR and analogue too.

Grandparents day 1 October.

ZL1PX reported in QUA. Lots of grandparents – but not too many grandkids.

JOTA: The international JOTA weekend is 21-22 October. Peter ZL1PX will be doing a morse session with Bombay Scouts on 26 October. Steve ZL1TZP and Peter ZL1PX have met with Wiebe and can set up a 40 m link. Our operators will give a talk at 6:30 pm with radio work to follow. They are looking for link amateurs on 7020 kHz, for Morse and 7090 kHz for youngsters talking on SSB.

General business

Progress with DMR.

Steve ZL1TZP will be giving a presentation in a few minutes.

Future meetings: November: Annual general meeting. Nominations for office close 7 November.

A reminder that there is a DMR net at 8pm on Friday evenings on 530ZL. There is currently a SOTA POTA net now with ZL1HOG on Wednesday at the same time as our (Franklin) DMR net! Steve ZL1TZP suggests that our DMR net should shift to Thursday.

End of year dinner: Lynnette ZL1LL has spoken with Martin at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club, and has pencilled us in for Friday 1 December. Cost is likely to be of the order of \$35 per person. Papakura Radio Club have yet to be informed.

Peter ZL1PX has a proposal that if we have a field day it be in the vicinity of the clubhouse, for the sake of club visibility. Contrary opinions were expressed based on the lack of space for antennas, local electrical noise, and the proximity of RF radiation to the skaters

The meeting closed at 2020 hours