QUA FARC

Franklin Amateur Radio Club Inc. NZART Branch 10



SEPTEMBER 2023

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 9

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.

Nigel Harvey ZL1VEY Silent Key

Nigel became silent key on Sunday 3 September. Nigel had been active on Citizen Band for many years before he took the amateur exam in the early 1990s. On the farm at Patumahoe the amateur tower was a prominent landmark and gave Nigel's signals a great takeoff. Nigel was a regular on the 3.695 MHz nets with similar country folk around the North Island. Nigel also tuned in to both club nets on Sunday mornings, but with the need to get away promptly on the days that he had church commitments.

With his shift to Pukekohe hillside five years ago, Nigel continued to have good access on VHF and was able to continue his HF interest too. Our sympathy goes out to Beth and the family.

Next General Meeting

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday 19th September at the clubhouse at 19 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe. The meeting will start at 7.30 PM, followed at 8 by a question and answer session on HF antennas led by Ted ZL1BQA.

Pew Operator

Congratulations to our newest club member Steve Spring ZL1SPR who passed his operator licence on Thursday 7 September. Please be sure to swap call signs and signal reports with Steve as he builds up his first 50 contacts. Welcome to ham radio, Steve.

Last General Meeting

At our last meeting, Steve ZL1TZP and Francois ZL4FJ shared their first SOTA activation which took place at Pukekohe Hill on Saturday 29 July. They explained that as this was a first activation for both of them, they needed to make a series of decisions about their activation to ensure that it was successful.

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
Sent free of obligation by e-mail to club members and anyone interested. Provided you include authorship, permission to copy material is freely granted.



Pukekohe Hill summit

Under SOTA rules all equipment must be carried by the Activator to the summit and the radio must be operated from a portable power

source – such as a battery or solar panel - with fossil fuel based generators not allowed. With these rules in mind Steve and Francois were concerned to 'lighten' their equipment as much as they could.



Lightening the load - equipment decisions

Here is the equipment they chose for their activations: antenna wire, battery, power distribution board, Yaesu EZ-818, 50 Watt amplifier, auto tuner and SWR meter. Reviewing the equipment post-activation, Steve remarked that he would probably not take along a power distribution board or an automatic tuner for his next summit as they weren't really needed. Also, he thought a smaller battery could have provided more than enough power for the activation.



Steve calls CQ SOTA

After setting up all gear and calling CQ SOTA, Steve and Francois were pleased to receive prompt answers to their calls. Steve logged 2M, 40M and 15M responses by 'Chasers' – persons who answer Activator calls. As each mode counts as a different contact and some Chasers used both SSB and FM modes, it was easy to reach the four contacts needed for the activation.



François listens for a chaser...



SOTA RESULTS AND DATABASE RECORD

Here is the SOTA RESULTS AND DATABSE record showing Steve's 1 activation point and how it was achieved. A total of 17 QSOs were recorded for the activation – a nice response from the chaser community.

Thanks Steve and Francois for your thoughtful and well executed presentation.

Upcoming Events - Grandparents-Grandkids Net

It is Grandparents Day in NZ on Sunday 1st October. To bring attention to this, we will host Grandparents-Grandkids net. This is a national event but we will use Klondyke 6625 repeater for communications in the Auckland region. Our call sign will be ZL1SA and we start the event at 3 PM.

Invite your granddaughters or grandsons over for Sunday dinner. (If you have not got a grandchild, borrow one) Once the eating is done and tidied and the little hand is nearing 3, invite everyone into the radio shack and tune your VHF to 146.625 MHz. Check-in will involve creating lists of call signs, grandads, grandmothers, grandsons and granddaughters. Once everyone checks in, each participant gets their turn onair. Suggested topics — best grandparent joke, best grandchild joke, my grandmum, my granddaughter, my grandad, my grandson.

Community Resilience Plan Template

Auckland Council have recently held webinars to discuss the weather events over the past six months and the Council's response to these events. Franklin Local Board have followed these meeting with local meetings in the Pukekohe area. Franklin Local Board are promoting a Community Resilience Plan Template to help residents prepare for likely emergencies.

The idea underlying the Resilience Plan Template is that smaller isolated areas are unlikely to receive help from central authorities for two to three days. The Resilience Plan is a document prepared by the community within the local area. The document describes how the area defines itself, what it sees as the likely hazards and what it will do about whichever of these hazards has occurred in the two to three days before help arrives from the central authorities



Do you want to know more? Click above to find resilience plan.

Upcoming Events - Franklin Positive Ageing Expo



Visitors grab a seat for on-stage entertainment at Franklin Positive Ageing Expo, Pukekohe.

Tom ZL1TO, Lynette ZL1LL, Steve ZL1TZP and Gary ZL1GAC will showcase amateur radio from a stall at Franklin Positive Ageing Expo at the Pukekohe Indian Hall in Ward Street, Pukekohe on Friday 29 September. This event will run from 10 AM to 3 PM. Other club members also taking part in this event include Gary ZL1WGL, Durlene ZL1ULK and Peter ZL1PX.



Gary ZL1WGL helps out with Franklin Positive Ageing Expo

As the number of club members with DMR capability has increased, we want to demonstrate DMR features by asking visitors for their response to Positive Ageing Expo. If you are also visiting Expo, bring along your DMR handheld. If you are at home, you might

like to keep your radio on so you can join conversations on the topic of retirement. Join New Zealand Zone, ZL Area 1 in DMR for this conversation.



Durlene ZL1ULK and Lynette ZL1LL help out at Franklin Positive Ageing Expo



FRIDAY 29th September 2023 9.30am - 3.00pm PUKEKOHE INDIAN HALL, Ward Street, Pukekohe

Want to come but no transport?
Tuakau: Call 020 4104 8850 to book
Pukekohe, Paerata, Tuakau: Driving Miss Daisy
(wheelchair pickups) Call Kerrie 09 239 1377
to book (at least day before)
If wet, shuttle from sealed parking at Rosa
Birch Park to venue.



Contact Details:

Email: positiveagingfranklin@gmail.com

Phone: 021 860 878

Facebook: https://facebook.com/franklin.ageing.expo

Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) Committee Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 1 August 2023

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours. Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1UOM, ZL1BQA, ZL1ULK

Apology: ZL1GAC (by email)

Minutes of the July meeting.

Approved true and correct. ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Correspondence

No newsletters received from other clubs since the General meeting, except

65. Discussion and video on Lighthouse Weekend 2 August.

Solar cycle 25 to peak late 2024. Vulnerabilities in TETRA. 2023 ZL Sprint Tuesdays through August on 80 m.

Various emails from Pukekohe Disaster Resilience Group.

The correspondence report was received. ZL1TO / ZL1PX

Finance:

Income Interest \$89.75 (4 July)

Grant Manning, \$220 (sale of donated goods) including \$20 subscription

Expenditure Power bill paid \$55.80 (4 July)

Power bill \$57.91 (for payment by 3 August)

The finance report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

The Treasurer asked if any other of our club signatories are experiencing difficulty with the BNZ mobile application that we are expected to be using from 1 August? Advised to keep trying – others have no trouble.

Reports

AREC.

Police 1st 2nd **SAREX** will be held Awhitu and September. at Newsletter Editor would like to put the notice in QUA. Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting, 1730 hrs 18 July. Durlene ZL1ULK had earlier reported that at the July general meeting lots of people were present. The next meeting is 15 August with people to come back with what they can help with or provide. Tom ZL1TO suggested we can offer our radio operators as unsolicited volunteers at community hubs to assist with communications, particularly when electric power and normal telecommunications are down. All told we would have around 10 members with the ability to set up "field stations" for communications on 2 m, 80 m, PRS. Various levels of portable power are available. Some operators would be better suited to pass messages from home.

Positive Ageing Expo. Friday September 29.

Peter ZL1PX has not heard more from Melanie. But it is all under way said Durlene ZL1ULK - who will be at the Indian Hall tomorrow at 5 pm for a further planning meeting. Is anyone willing to help on 28th August – to help setting up tables, and pin boards etc? We will ask club members at the next general meeting. Peter would like to produce an enlarged, A3, version of the article in *Our Auckland* for our pinboard – and Ted ZL1BQA can help with the printing. Tom ZL1TO suggested we might be able to offer PRS as a means of communicating between Expo officials on the day.

Grandparents day 1 October.

Peter ZL1PX reported that this is under control. Repeater Trustee, Vaughan ZL1VH, is happy for participants to talk all day on 6625. Plans are being published in Infoline.

JOTA.

Peter ZL1PX has had further communication with the Chief Scout and has been advised how to contact the Franklin Area Leader, Michael Smith.

General business

Steve Spring has been in contact with Ted and Peter. Earth rods of galvanised steel are recommended, or copper coated steel which is the gold standard.

DMR

Ted is negotiating for two DMR hand-helds and two VHF sets for club use where they can be loaned to new hams.

Topics at future General meetings

August - Steven ZL1TZP on his first SOTA activation. Francois ZL4FJ may be able to add his version of the shared exercise.

September - No decision

End of year dinner

Last year Papakura Radio Club were hosts at Papakura Club. If we have a meal at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan club the price may have risen substantially, but that has been a general pattern for food outlets. It was agreed that it is getting a bit late to organise a midwinter dinner.

The meeting closed at 2050 hours

Minutes of Franklin Amateur Radio Club (Inc) General Meeting held at the clubhouse, Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 15 August 2023

Chairperson Gary ZL1WGL opened the meeting at 1930 hours and welcomed all.

Attendance: ZL1WGL, ZL1TO, ZL1PX, ZL1UOM, ZL1GAC, ZL1TZP, ZL4FJ, ZL1BQA, ZL1LL, ZL1ULK, ZL1AMQ

Apologies: ZL1JRW, ZL1MFL accepted ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Minutes of the July meeting.

Steve and Ted's callsigns had been swapped.

As corrected approved true and correct.

ZL1PX / ZL1BQA

Correspondence

Newsletters received since the report in QUA from clubs

65 Discussion and video on Lighthouse Weekend 2 August. Solar cycle 25 to peak late 2024. Vulnerabilities in TETRA. 2023 ZL Sprint Tuesdays through August on 80 m.

86 Cover - QSL card ZL3DC dated 1933.

Various emails from Pukekohe Disaster Resilience Group.

AREC manager - SAREX exercise is at Wellsford, and full.

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club sale 16 September. Celebrating 100 years. Market Day, Gordonton Hall 1024 Gordonton Rd (S.H. 1B).

FMG Post – Supporting history makers.

The correspondence report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1WGL

Finance

Income Interest \$89.75 (4 July), and \$92.75 (4 August)

Expenditure Power bill \$57.91 paid 1 August

The finance report was received.

ZL1TO / ZL1PX

The Treasurer has managed to migrate to the BNZ mobile application.

Reports

AREC.

A Police SAREX will be held near Wellsford 1st and 2nd September. There will be no representation by Franklin FARC. An Auckland area AREC meeting is planned to be held later this week, at Papakura Radio Club, Thursday 17 August. Tom ZL1TO will attend.

Franklin Disaster Resilience meeting, 1730 hrs 15 August A meeting was held at the Pukekohe Anglican Hall earlier this afternoon. 25 people attended. ZL1TO suggested our members have a look at Auckland Council hazards maps; particularly flooding. ZL1UOM said how the fire hazard by way of tinder load in Waitakere and Hawaii is relevant.

Positive Ageing Expo. Friday September 29.

This event is still happening. ZL1ULK said that jobs are allocated. However there is a lack of heavy lift manpower volunteered for the day before the expo. Exhibitors will be allowed into the hall to set up, any time after 2pm on the Thursday. ZL1PX is to meet with Selwyn and Melanie to go over the sound system floor plan before long. Our desk is likely to be manned by ZL1TO, ZL1GAC and ZL1TZP.

Grandparents day 1 October.

ZL1PX reported that this event is pretty well organised.

JOTA.

ZL1PX has had no response whatsoever. It was noted that New Zealand scouts have recently left Korea due to a heat wave and a tropical storm – so efforts may be focused on that for the moment.

General business

ZL1BQA has two new-like Motorola handhelds and chargers for use within the club. They are programmed with the local repeaters. Also on hand are UHF CD handhelds and a valuable DMR/analogue. A hotspot to go with it can be organised by ZL1BQA or ZL1TZP. Technically and legally these are the Club's responsibility. The Secretary was asked to get in touch with NZART as the old certificate number of our club licence has been reissued – Steve ZL1TZP is to be the new trustee.

Examination

A candidate has been in contact with Ted and Peter, and is getting ready to sit the examination, sometime after 5 September.

Foundation of Franklin Wireless Club

ZL1TO drew members attention to an item in Franklins Time dated 12 August 1923.

A wireless (radio) club is formed in Waiuku. Its aims are stated as follows: "to promote an interest in the science of Wireless Telephone and if possible to acquire a Receiving Set for the Club which would be capable of receiving all the Broadcast programmes in N.Z. on a loud speaker."

Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections MJ_2076

Possible speakers at future meetings

ZL1PX has an amateur in mind who may speak at a meeting.

ZL1PX has been researching scams. One video might be useful, and the presenter may live locally.

End of year dinner

Last year Papakura Radio Club were hosts at Papakura Club. If we have a meal at Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club the price may have risen substantially, but that has been a general pattern for food outlets. It was agreed that it is getting a bit late to organise a midwinter dinner. Prices to be obtained for Waiuku and Puke Cossi clubs – first Friday in December, 6 for 6.30 pm, 25 people.

The meeting closed at 2020 hours