

# The Official Newsletter of the

# PAPAKURA RADIO CLUB INC.

# December 2020



Summer in the Hiv, Sand everywhere else





Papakura Radio Club Inc.

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## This Month's Meeting: AGM

Wednesday 2nd of December at 7:30pm will be the next general meeting for 2020.

Following General Business, Paul ZL4AX will be entertaining us with stories of going digital from a user (non technical) perspective

## **Christmas Dinner: 2020**

Friday 4th of December at the Papakura RSA meet at 6:30pm with a plan to eat at 7:00pm.

The full menu is later in the newsletter and provides options if the meat of the day (smorgasbord) is not to your taste. A good chance to get together and bring some happiness at the end of a challenging year.

The December and January meetings will be informal with our return to normal meeting starting in February

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## **CLUB ACTIVITY:**

Just a reminder Meeting Minutes and Financial statement are sent to financial members as a separate attachment. This is to de-clutter the newsletter

Note that as confirmed at the AGM, Subsections for the 2020/2021 year have been increased to 25 dollars for an individual member and \$40.00 for a family. Those who had already paid early, received a discount<sup>©</sup>, this better reflects the costs to maintain the club. But it is also a reminder to us all, that we should be seeking to bring new people into the hobby, to secure the future of the club and hobby.



And ... Yes it's the polite way to remind you your subs are now due

## **UPCOMING PROJECTS:**

#### PROJECT AND ACTIVITY NIGHTS

We will be building some HF antennas for Drury, and planning some long wire 5 band antennas for Home Stealth use over upcoming project nights, these will include some experimental stealth and portable designs suitable for AREC, SOTA or POTA type activities, as well as general field or Home use.



We will also be discussing some satellite antenna designs for working off the ISS or other satellites.

And we have a possible DC power distribution project, and a Power meter project. These will be subject to interest

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:**

WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER - GENERAL MEETING & AGM
WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER - INFORMAL PROJECT NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER - COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER - NO MEETING - BUT WILL BE LISTENING 146.900
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER - NEW YEARS EVE WISHES NET @7:30 - 146.900

PLEASE LISTEN FOR UPDATES ON THE SUNDAY MORNING CLUB NETS (SEE LAST PAGE FOR FREQUENCIES AND TIMES)

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## CITY OF AUCKLAND RALLY 2020

As both the International Rally of New Zealand and Rally of Whangarei events were cancelled earlier this year, a one day event was organised around four stages run twice north of Auckland and one on a custom made rally track on a 300 acre farm south east of Auckland 15<sup>th</sup> November.

As this was to run under international rules 5km points were deployed within the stages, nine were required overall.

Early planning was made by placing one of the Auckland STSP VHF repeaters up at Moirs Hill a high point just south of Warkworth which was basically in the middle of the stages. A drive through the stages to take pictures of the placement of these 5km points found that a couple were marginal into the repeater. A test at the proposed headquarters at Kumeu would also be marginal to the repeater as well, plans were made to crossband from a high point in the Riverhead Forest in case it was needed and also the AREC Accessor unit sited in the Hunua Ranges would be linked through to UHF as well.

On the day of set up it was found that with a high gain vertical antenna that the signal was ok to and from the repeater, also the radio operators at the 5km points had used high gain antennas and the radio network was all setup.

All was ok until later in the morning a commercial radio station was heard through the repeater, at first it was thought someone was causing interference but no, it turned out to be cross modulation from a site close by, the interference came and went all day but we managed work through it.





The only incident during the day was the deployment of the Red Flag in the middle of the third stage to stop the first car from proceeding, the reason for the flag was that the stage taping crew had not finished taping the stage and were still in it, the stage was cancelled. The Clerk of Course was very happy at the speed of making the flag deployment happen in time.

The safety tracking information from the stages was good and management were happy with our results. Just over five hundred safety information messages were passed during the day of the event.

#### Richard Gamble ZL1BNQ/ZK1EX







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## A VAN LIFE VIEW OF THE AUCKLAND RALLY

4am and the alarm sounds ... Even with the van loaded, it's a fast start to get some food in the belly, and a hot thermos to get on the road to be on site before the roads close. Destination, Kaipara hill road, 7KM past Glorit and a drive time just shy of 2 hours. So 15 minutes after we had to leave, we are on the road and the old van is back in business. I know the antenna and radio are ready; I used them last week at the Bridge to Bridge in Hamilton, and even made the 690 net (for the first time) from the base of the hakaramata hills in Ngaruawahia, but it's been a while since we rolled the van out, and I'm leaving plenty of time for the trip.

We arrived on time, and found the site ok. Parking behind a fence is easy, and a spectator is already doing the same in the paddock next to use, Antenna up, and Radios on frequency, and radio check is fine. Flags and vest ready (but hidden) and signage out on the road as per instructions ... Time for a coffee. Out with the gas burner, and we have hot drinks and time to wait for the first vehicle. So solar gets deployed, the battery won't need it, But hey, Why Not? And while I do that, Ann-Maree and Timothy get to have a walk to enjoy the views







One of the best parts is that at our location the breeze passes us to the road, so the dust will be blowing away from us, and close to the action. All is good. A few official cars, so we must be getting close.

It's not too long till the first roar tells us that the drivers are on their way, and then the first dust, at the ready to read the numbers and here we go. First car through, and I miss the number, and worse, get pelted with stones. As does the van windows and the solar panels, and the inside of the van ... no time to move, so we will make the best of it, The rest goes well, and we can see the rest of the numbers fine.







The rest of the stage passes without event, One media vehicle out, one Recovery vehicle in and then back out, but otherwise all quiet. A good time to move the van a bit further back .

The second stage in the afternoon goes much better, the repeater which for some reason went off air (overheating from the intermod maybe), is back in time for the start, and all goes will, Less stones hit us, and the van windows lack any permanent damage

Then once the stage closes, we watch the sweeper, and it's off home for the day ... Once I can recover the signs, and pack down the antenna ... I should have pushed to exit in reverse direction, but as requested we followed the sweeper out, ... It's one thing to drive this in a car, another thing entirely in a van, so it's a slow dusty trip out finally



exiting by Warkworth, so off to the city for an ice-cream, and a nice river walk in the shade, then how about dinner in Orini?

As it turned out Orini was a bit close, so we carried on to a park stop at Wenderhome Regional park (must activate that one day) and a bit of a rest, then to mission bay for a fish and chip dinner and finally home. A nice relaxing way to end a long hot day, and nice break from all the normal stresses of travelling.

The van and systems performed brilliantly, and the whole day was a nice change.

Highly recommended day out if you can make it, scenery alone is worth it and the whole rally well managed. Well done Richard and David for managing all six stages, and thanks for the opportunity to be involved.

Gavin, Ann-Maree & Timothy ZL1NUX/ZK1GIT/ZL1RDY

A few extra Photos From the AREC report... proving, not everyone had out comfort level

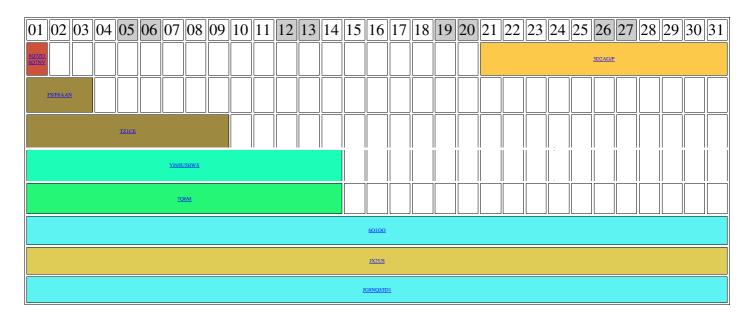


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## DX NEWS DECEMBER 2020

## **DX Calendar December 2020**



Click on the link (CTRL + Click for some PDF readers) in the PDF versions for information on the Expeditions



Or check them out at DX News.com

#### 3D2AG/P Rotuma Island - North of FIJI

DXCC country- Rotuma. WAC continent- Oceania.

WAZ zone- 32.

ITU zone- 56.

OTH locator- RH87.

RSGB IOTA reference- IOTA OC-060 Rotuma Island.





MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR & BEST DX FROM DXNEWS.COM



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## **UPCOMING CONTESTS - DECEMBER 2020**

Date	-Time	Dat	e-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1	0300	1	0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	qrp-labs.com/party.html
2	1700	2	2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
3	0000	3	0300	1.8	QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contests
3	1800	3	2200	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.nrau.net
3	2000	3	2200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
4	2200	6	1600	1.8	ARRL 160-Meter Contest	CW	W/VE: RST + ARRL/RAC Section. DX: RST	www.arrl.org/160-meter
5	0500	6	1000	3.5-28	UFT Meeting	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	www.uft.net
5	0600	5	0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup
5	1200	6	1159	3.5-28	PRO CW Contest	CW	RST, serial, "M" if member	www.procontestclub.ro
5	1800	6	2359	3.5-28	FT Roundup	Dig	RST, SP or serial	rttycontesting.com
5	2000	6	1959	3.5-28	EPC Ukraine DX Contest	Dig	RSQ, Ukraine region or serial	epc-ukraina.ucoz.com
8	0200	8	0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
9	0130	9	0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
9	1700	9	2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dg	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
12	0000	13	2359	28	ARRL 10-Meter Contest	CW Ph	W/VE/XE: RS(T), state or province. DX: RS(T), serial. MM: RST, ITU region	www.arrl.org/10-meter
12	0000	14	2359	1.8-7	PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
12	0600	13	1800	3.5-28	TRC Digi Contest	Dig	RST, serial, "TRC" if member	trcdx.org/rules-trc-digi
12	1200	13	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
12	1600	13	1559	3.5-28	International Naval Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), Naval club and mbr (or serial for non-members)	www.rnars.org.uk
13	2000	13	2300	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contests
13	2100	13	2259	14	CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	CW	RST, SPC	www.coloradoqrpclub.org
14	0100	14	0300	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
16	0130	16	0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
18	1600	18	1700	3.5, 7	AGB-Party Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, mbr (if a member)	ev5agb.com/contest/agb_party.htm
18	2000	18	2359	1.8	Russian 160-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), oblast code or serial	qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html
19	0000	19	2359	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
19	0000	19	2359	3.5-28	OK DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ zone	okrtty.crk.cz
19	0000	19	2359	1.8-144	RAC Winter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), VE province/territory or serial	wp.rac.ca/rac-canada- winter-contest-rules
19	1400	20	1400	1.8-28	Croatian CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	9acw.org/index.php/rules
20	1800	20	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	CW	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, SPC	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
20	2300	21	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
23	0000	23	0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
26	0000	26	2359	3.5-28	Gedebage CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	olkb.or.id
26	0830	26	1059	3.5, 7	DARC Christmas Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK or serial	darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste/ weihnachtswettbewerb/en
26	1500	27	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-character grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
27	0000	27	1159	3.5-28	RAEM Contest	CW	Serial, latitude, longitude (e.g. 57N 85W)	raem.srr.ru/en/main
31	0900	31	2359	3.5, 7	Bogor Old and New Contest	Ph	RS, operator age	www.orari-bogor.org/rule

#### All dates and Times are in UTC and are not adjusted for local time

Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state.

Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or *NCJ*. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at

#### www.contestcalendar.com

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

#### RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITORS DESK

As we wind down 2020 and head away for some well deserved holidays, I have to say well done to your all, you survived the strangest year I can remember. I have served in the military, been deployed in some "tense" situations, I have dealt with life and death emergencies, and have worked with some of the coolest technologies, but never have I experience a year with a many twists and turns as this year has challenged us with, yet we have not only faced the challenges head on, we have overcome them and are stronger as a result.

But make no mistakes, the triggers that led to the event of this year are far from over, and we have many more miles to travel till we are out of the woods. In social media talk; this year gets a 1 star rating, I would give it less than 1 star, but it's just not possible. Sadly changing the label on the year to 2021 won't change the content, and the ongoing problems we face from the lockdowns, the socioeconomic fallout will continue for a very long time,



There is very little that we as a club or even as a hobby can do to prevent this, but we can do a lot to help one another as we experience and struggle with the long term consequences and fallout from the crazy 2020 year. One of the main ways that radio can help is connectedness, While the internet & social media gives an illusion of "Friends" or "Followers" radio amateurs have real connections to real people who we get to know, and this connectivity is critical in times of isolation, In geeky news there is some reference to a study on this topic, we can keep lonely at bay by helping maintain these connections, we can listen and allow people to hold a different opinion without judgement, or we could discuss different opinions, in the same way some prefer a particular brand of radio, while others choose something else.

The microphone here has an enormous advantage over the keyboard but the exact method of contact is less important than the actual connection, modulation methods, bands, modes even our roles in the hobby, club or activity are not critical, it's the fact we have something we can do that keeps us connected. For me Parks over Summits is a choice, I love the park and the rest it gives, maybe due in no small part to my hectic life, but for others the joy is the climb, and they want a shack with a view. I'm happy to make a contact, but I'm in no hurry to join them on the walk





I have commented many times on just how big the hobby is, and sometimes that limits our connections, D-star, FM CW, DMR, Fusion, AM, FT8, SSB, EME HF, VHF Satellites .... the list goes on, but there are only so many items in a shack, and not everyone can use every system, so we tend to fall into smaller groups, and that's normal, but we share this amazing hobby of experimentation and technical challenge, as well as making contacts and catching up on air.

My drive time rag chew is a highlight of my day, the mix of different persons and backgrounds the experiences and perceptions, all contribute to my worldview, they expand it and challenge it, but we share a common thread (well two in fact, as we are usually also in the same traffic), and it's that commonality of radio that binds us into a strange team who can share freely. How lucky have we been to have this during the last year.

But is it too good to share?

Are we about keeping the club exclusive, or have we something worth sharing with others?

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I was, rightly, challenged at the AGM about fees and membership, and making sure we keep fees low, while increasing participation to keep the future of the club viable, unlike some councils we can't just raise fees to make up for revenue holes, and we do need to be growing interest in the hobby, if the hobby is to have a future, and I am pleased to say that we are looking at more ham crams and training, More exams and callsign applications in 2021, but that is not a role of officials or committees, it's a challenge for every one of us to share the stories and benefits, and help pass on our knowledge and experience, and of course to keep our skills up by be active in the hobby.

By its nature, Amateur radio is not a high profile event, but field days, helping at car rallies, outdoor activities all help promote it, but just talking the hobby with others, sharing how we have stayed connected may be the best advertising for the hobby in 2021.



Overseas travel may take decades to return to normal, but we can talk with our overseas fellow hams, and experience the world through their views with the cruise, or the airport, or even the hassle of the passport. But are we?

Are we having fun yet?

What new thing did you do in 2019, in 2020 and what new thing will you do in 2021 to make sure you are enjoying the hobby, and keeping the fun alive.

Fun is more contagious than a virus, and we should not be afraid to catch hold of some fun.

So as 2021 starts to loom, and the HF bands start to awaken, what will you do to re-awaken your interest in the hobby, and just maybe we can infect others with a passion for life, and life filled with friendship and communication.

It beats the alternatives.

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Happy Holidays & 73 to 2020 Lets make the next decade awesome!

## JAYCAR: 12.8V 7AH LITHIUM DEEP-CYCLE BATTERY



With SOTA, POTA HOTA even BOTA requiring portable power, Lithium battery car jump starters have become a common sight in many a portable pack, but these are pricey, and not really designed for constant current draw, so lower power (QRP) is used, But what are the alternatives?

Jaycar have introduced a range of Lithium replacements for SLA's – but are they any good? Keith ZL1BQE recently obtained one, and sent us this impression based on some early testing. Take it away Keith.

First impression is good weighs in at just over 800g size is the same as a standard 7Ah Gel battery, weighing 2,500g (2.5Kg) no load voltage is 13.3V under a 4A load it drops to 12.8V so far just like a Gel Battery

Discharge test at 4A until voltage is 11.5V gives a capacity of 5Ah which is OK the 7Ah rating is for a 20 hour discharge rate at 350mA

I have left the load connected to see how far the battery would discharge this is not recommend as it could have destroyed the battery due to over discharge, for this battery it seems to cope with this as it internally disconnected the load once the voltage reached 9.2V again not a recommended procedure. I connected the charger again and it recharged the battery back to full voltage.

Once fully charged at the recommend 14.6 volts the internal protection circuit would again disconnect the charger and charge current would reduce to 0, if left connect would occasionally give a boost charge for 3 or 4 seconds at maximum current from the charger

So far very good I have respected the maximum current from the battery as I suspect there will be some form of internal fuse to protect from short circuit this test I did not want to try as it may not recover it

**ZL1BQE** 

Thanks Keith for the above, lithium batteries has two really big advantages, Long storage life with low leakage, and low weight. While the 7Ah version can deliver up to 15 amps (for about 5 seconds) its constant draw should not exceed 7Ah, and so might be a bit limited for a full 100 watt HF rig, but there is an 18Ah version which might be a good choice for my field requirements. It would deliver the consistent 15 amps for transmission, and a long standby life, in a 2Kg package (lighter than a 7Ah gel cell) It's a reminder that trying out new technology can be rewarding and open new doors to operating away from home – Maybe even when staying away. And it's a lot lighter to carry than a spare car battery.



The 7 amp hour was \$89.00 while the 18Ah was \$220.00 at the time of the article, so these are not cheap, but with jump starters ranging between \$150 & \$300, they are competitive.

And the internal chargers and protection seem to be pretty good.

What toys are you checking out? Maybe you can tell us in a later newsletter - & Thanks Keith for sharing.

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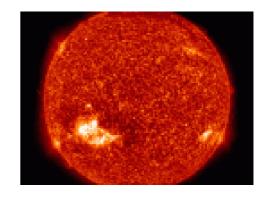
## **GEEKY RADIO NEWS**

## SOLAR CYCLE 25 PROGRESSES QUICKLY.

Solar cycle 25 was the stop start stop story of 2020, but it has not disappointed now that it's actually kicked in gear.

Average daily sunspot number rose from 12 last week to 27.9 in the current week, while solar flux rose to a high of 103.7, bringing average daily solar flux up from 79.8 to 90.1.

Predicted solar flux is:
December 4; 92, 88, and
85 on December 5 – 7;
82, 80, and 78 on December 8 – 10;
75 on December 11 – 17;
77, 80, 90, and 92 on December 18 – 21;
94 on December 22 – 25;
92 on December 26 – January 1,
88, 85, 82, 80, and 78 on January 2 – 6, and
75 on January 7 – 10.



Not quite as good as the brief 100+ at the end of November, but this will definitely open the higher bands, 20 metres has been good, with brief pushes right up to 10 metres. So there is HF life at frequencies above 40 metres if you're willing to look, and these bands don't need huge antennas. – Still chasing my first 15 Metre voice contact.

#### UNIVERSAL RADIO CLOSING

Ham Radio retailer Universal Radio, headquartered in Worthington, Ohio, is closing its store on November 30, although all existing orders will be filled, and the Universal Radio website will remain open to sell off "remaining stock, publications, and some select products." Owners Fred Osterman, N8EKU, and Barbara Osterman, KC8VWI, are retiring.



"I am very fortunate to have been in the radio business for over 50 years, 13 at RadioShack and 37 at Universal Radio," Fred Osterman said in a message of gratitude to its patrons. "We have met many wonderful people along the journey who have supported me personally as well as Universal Radio. It has been a privilege to have a continuous career in the fascinating field of radio since 1969."

The new mailing address for Universal Radio is 752 N State St. Unit 222, Westerville, OH 43082, telephone (614) 866-4267. (This is not a storefront.)

I for one, will miss the huge amounts of information on older rigs they made available to the Ham Community, But wish them a happy retirement

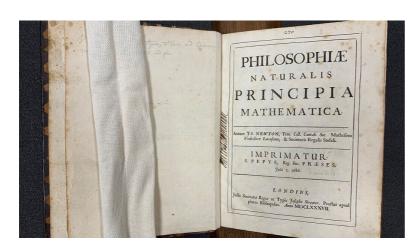


## SPECIAL CALL SIGNS IN BELGIUM DURING THE SECOND LOCKDOWN PERIOD

Due to the recent stricter COVID-19 measures, many radio amateurs will be forced to spend most of the following weeks at home again. Many are obliged to telework. Teleworking is definitely becoming the new standard for several employees. COVID-19 has accelerated teleworking for almost all companies.

At the request of the Royal Union of Belgian Radio Amateurs (UBA), the BIPT has decided to once again grant permission to apply for customised special call signs. These appropriate special call signs may be used at the home address of radio amateurs. The conditions are the same as during the first lockdown in spring.

## NEWTON'S GROUNDBREAKING PRINCIPIA MAY HAVE BEEN A TOP 20 BOOK



Isaac Newton's 17th century book, the *Principia*, gave the famed English scientist a reputation: "[T]here goes the man that writt a book that neither he nor any body else understands," a Cambridge student is said to have remarked as Newton passed by one day.

Likewise, historians have assumed that only a select few scientists and mathematicians were able to comprehend the highly technical book, which introduced game-changing physics concepts such as the universal law of gravitation.

A 1950s search found only 189 copies of the first edition, published in 1687 under the full title *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*. But a more recent search by the University of Mannheim in Germany, unearthed 386 existing copies, suggesting a far more substantial readership.

By tracking down original owners and studying the annotations that readers made, the researchers conclude that, in addition to scientists, well-educated laypeople were reading the book too.

#### Lonely brains crave people like hungry brains crave food



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A hungry brain craves food. A lonely brain craves people. After spending a day completely isolated from anyone else, people's brains perked up at the sight of social gatherings, like a hungry person's brain seeing food, scientists report November 23 in *Nature Neuroscience*.

IN the experiment 40 participants fasted for 10 hours. At the end of the day, certain nerve cells in the midbrain fired up in response to pictures of pizza and chocolate cake. Those neurons produce dopamine, a chemical messenger associated with reward

On a different day, the same people underwent 10 hours of isolation (no friends, no social messenging). That evening, neurons in the same spot activated in response to pictures of people chatting or playing team sports. The more hunger or isolation the subject reported, the stronger the effect.

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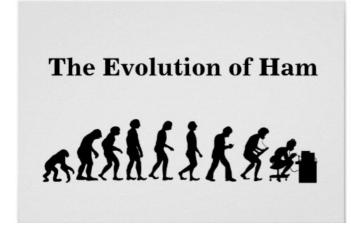
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In people who reported that they were generally more lonely, the social responses were blunted. "We don't really know what causes that," the researcher said. "Maybe being isolated doesn't really affect them as much, because it's something that is not that different, perhaps, from their everyday life."

The findings speak a lot to our current state. COVID-19 has left many more socially isolated, putting mental as well as physical health at stake and leaving people with cravings for more than food. It's important to look at the social dimension of this kind of crisis. The very sort that even in NZ has pushed mental health services to breaking point.

Maybe we should encourage people get a ham radio license; the social interactions of a discussion would most certainly produce the same positive experiences. But for those of us with one, it's another reason to put down the chocolate cake, and pick up the microphone – It's a healthier way to get your dopamine fix.







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## SEEN OR HEARD AROUND THE SCENES

#### SAVE THE DATE - 'H NIGHT' CONTEST

"H Night" is a commemorative contest, established after the return of Amateurs to the air following the second World War. All amateur activity was banned in 1939 at the outbreak of the war in Europe. On December 8th, 1945 amateurs were at last permitted to return to the air. This is also the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941.

In recent years, Rob ZL2IW, a member of the Society for the Preservation of AM (SPAM), has reactivated this contest for AM stations. It commemorates all radio amateurs who gave their service, and some their lives, for us, in World War 2.

#### 8 December 2020

Please put this date in your diary- and blow the dust off your AM rig- vintage or modern, all are welcome!

Rules will be similar to last year and will be published shortly on the NZART website, look under 'Activities' for "SPAM".

Many thanks Martyn Seay ZL3CK



## STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT SET FOR SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

It's time to dust off that old straight key and get ready for an hour of brass-pounding fun during Straight Key Night - Summer Edition.

This easy-going contest takes place from 9 to 10pm on Sunday 6 December on 80 metres.

There was an excellent turnout during the Winter edition in June, and operators enjoyed working with the new "QSY Rule" which kept everyone on the move. The QSY Rule will be back for the December event, along with the coveted "Solid Copy" certificate. Plus, there will be new awards for the youngest operator and the most "senior."

Rules and log sheets can be found at maritimeradio.org/skn

If you have questions, please email <a href="mailto:skn@maritimeradio.org">skn@maritimeradio.org</a>







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#### CHRISTMAS FUNCTION:

Here is the menu from the RSA for a Xmas Buffet style meal,



With A variety of choices, and good company, this will be a good chance to end the year on a high note, and there should be something for every palate, no matter how discerning.

We hope you will join us, but please let Ian know of numbers so we can ensure we can all be seated close together.

Hope to see many of you there

Gavin ZL1NUX

The roast of the day at \$18.50 and if anyone doesn't want that then to order from the Al la carte menu as included below.

As well as that menu there is a special menu with cheaper options for the week.

We may not get the fancy white tablecloth and cracker but I believe that most of our Members and Franklin would prefer a choice to suit their pocket.

Date: 4th December, as per last time I've suggested we meet at 6.30 pm to eat at 7pm

## Cheers Ian ZL1AOX

Chicken Parmigiana	\$25.00
Herb crumbed chicken schnitzel, melted mozzarella ch pomodoro sauce with Provencal ratatouille	neese & basil
Fresh fish of the Day	\$24.00
Fresh fish grilled or beer battered, served with fries ar	nd salad
Crumbed Scallops	\$23.00
Crumbed scallops with tartare sauce served with fries	
Sirloin Steak	\$23.00
250-gram grilled sirloin steak, cooked to your requirer caramelized onion, brie, bacon, onion rings and a red	
Scotch steak	\$25.00
250-gram prime scotch fillet, grilled to your liking Additional sauces	
Pepper sauce (\$2.50) Garlic butter (\$2.50) Mushroom	sauce (\$3.00)
Surf 'n' Turf	\$32.00
250-gram grilled scotch fillets cooked to your liking se scallops, and a creamy sauce	rved with prawns,
Please choose one: Peppercorn sauce or Mushroom sa	auce
Roast of the Day (See Blackboard)	\$18.50
Only Available on Friday Nights	

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## SOME NETS - FOR WHEN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR COMPANY

Day	Time (Local)	Freq (MHz)	Group
Sunday	08:00	3.750	Southern Net
•	09:00	3.700	Bch 10. Franklin.
	09:00	3.755	Bch 65. Papakura.
	16:00	7.125	SPAM Net (AM Mode)
	19:00	146.625	YL Net
	20:00	3.710	Bch 42. Titahi Bay
	21:30	3.595	Duran WIA Net.
	21:30	3.595	VK2WI
Monday	19:30	3.757	Bch 12. Hamilton
Honday	20.00	3.540	CW Practice Net
updated	20:00	3.605	Br 80. Hibiscus Coast
updated	20:00	Nat System	W.A.R.O
apaacea	20:30	3.870	O.T.C (Old Timers Club)
Tuesday	00.00	7.006	Fu Dook Office Tooks
Tuesday	09:00	7.096	Ex Post Office Techs
	21:00	1.850	160m Net _ Ron ZL4JMF ORP ZL2BH
	19:30	3.690	
	20:00	3.581	CW improvers Net
Wednesday	20:00	3.660	Geek Net
	20:00	3.645	Bch 02. Auckland
	20:00	3.745	Bch 84. Bay of Islands
	20:30	146.525	W.R.S.C
Thursday	09:00	7.096	Ex Post Office Techs
Thursday	19:30	3.690	QRP ZL2BH
	20:00	3.540	CW Practice Net
	20:00	3.615	Bch 89. REG
	20:30	3.696	ZL10A
	20:30	3.666	LF Net ZL2CA
	20:00	3.690	ZL QRP SSB Net
			== 0
Friday	20:00	3.850	SPAM (AM Mode)
•	20:30	3.650	W.S.R.C.
	20:30	3.560	Digital Modes Net
Saturday	10:30	28.530	10-10 Down Under
	19:30	3.650	Christian Fellowship
	20:00	3.760	???
	20:30	3.600	Ch 62. Reefton/Buller
Daily or Other	07:30	3.696	ZL2OA
	08:30	3.730	ZL3RP
	15:00	14.300	Pacific Seafarers
	17:30	3.760	Home Brew
	17:30	14.183	ANZA DX Net
	18:00	7.115	VK70B
	19:30	3.720	ZL1MO
	18:30	3.766	ZL3LE
	08:30/20:00	3.730	ZL3RP ZL2HN / ZL4RF
	20:30	3.725	
	21:00	3.677	Counties Net ZL2MA

This is designed to be a living list, Please update whenever you are able:

Also: Calling Frequencies: Daily Sunset-Sunrise 3580 USB NZ FSQCall Courtesy of Murray ZL1BPU Daily Sunrise-Sunset 7105 USB NZ FSQCall

Daily 24/7 7104 USB International FSQCall

I'm told the last of these sees some amazing DX, especially around sunset.

## Papakura Radio Club Inc. Branch 65 NZART Club Directory 2017

Wellington Park, 1 Great South Road. PO BOX 72-397 Papakura 2244 PHONE 09 296 5244

Westpac 03-0399-0019896-00

Club website: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/zl1vk">http://www.qsl.net/zl1vk</a> Club email: <a href="mailto:zl1vk.club@gmail.com">zl1vk.club@gmail.com</a>

Elected Officers					
President	ZL1NUX	Gavin Denby	Ph 09 299 3415	021 1046946	
Vice President	ZL1BNQ	Richard Gamble	Ph 09 5371238	021 729270	
Secretary	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	Ph 09 2981810	021 1981810	
Treasurer	ZL1MR	David Wilkins	Ph 09 2999346	021 1857903	
Committee	ZL1RJS	Rob Stokes	Ph 09 2961152	021 307005	
	ZL1IRC	Ian Clifford	Ph	021 8248400	
	ZL1ASN	Rolly Adams	Ph 09 2966107	021 0427760	
	ZL1DK	David Karrasch	Ph 09 296 8264	021 560180	
	ZL1RIC	Ricky Hodge		021 666421	
AREC Section Leader	ZL1BNQ	Richard Gamble	Ph 09 5371238	021 729270	
CD Liaison	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	Ph 09 2981810	021 1981810	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	ZL1NUX	Gavin Denby	Ph 09 299 3415	021 459 192	
Hall Custodian	ZL1AOX	Ian Ashley	Ph 09 2981810	021 1981810	
Newsletter.	Contact: zllnux@outlook.com				

Our newsletter is published monthly and normally distributed just prior to the club meeting. Please forward articles etc to editor Wednesday 1 week prior to the general meeting. Do notify any change of address. Including E-Mail Address.

#### Meetings

General Meetings are held at the Club rooms on the 1st Wednesday of each month, starting at 7.30pm. Look at your calendar and mark these nights. The speaker follows the General Meeting.

Project Evenings are on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Committee Meetings are held on 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm, unless advised.

Activity Nights are held on the 2nd Wednesday starting at 7.30pm.

AREC Meetings are on the 5th Wednesday night, also starting at 7.30pm

**AGM:** Held in November

**Subscription:** Full membership and newsletter \$25.00

Family Membership and newsletter \$40.00

Bank Account number: 03-0399-0019896-00

Working Bees As required.

**Branch 65 21 Award:** For contacts with ZL1VK (5 Points) and 8 Papakura Radio Club Members (2 Points each) after January 2011. Total 21 Points. Cost \$5-00. Certified list and \$5-00 to Secretary, Papakura Radio Club. Address above.

#### **ZL1VK Club Nets**

146.900 MHz Sunday at 8.30am. Controller ZL1NUX, Gavin Denby. If the repeater is not available, listen 146.475 simplex.

3.755 MHz Sunday at 9.00am. Controller ZL1BNQ Richard Gamble. (Linked to 146.675 & 438.775)

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