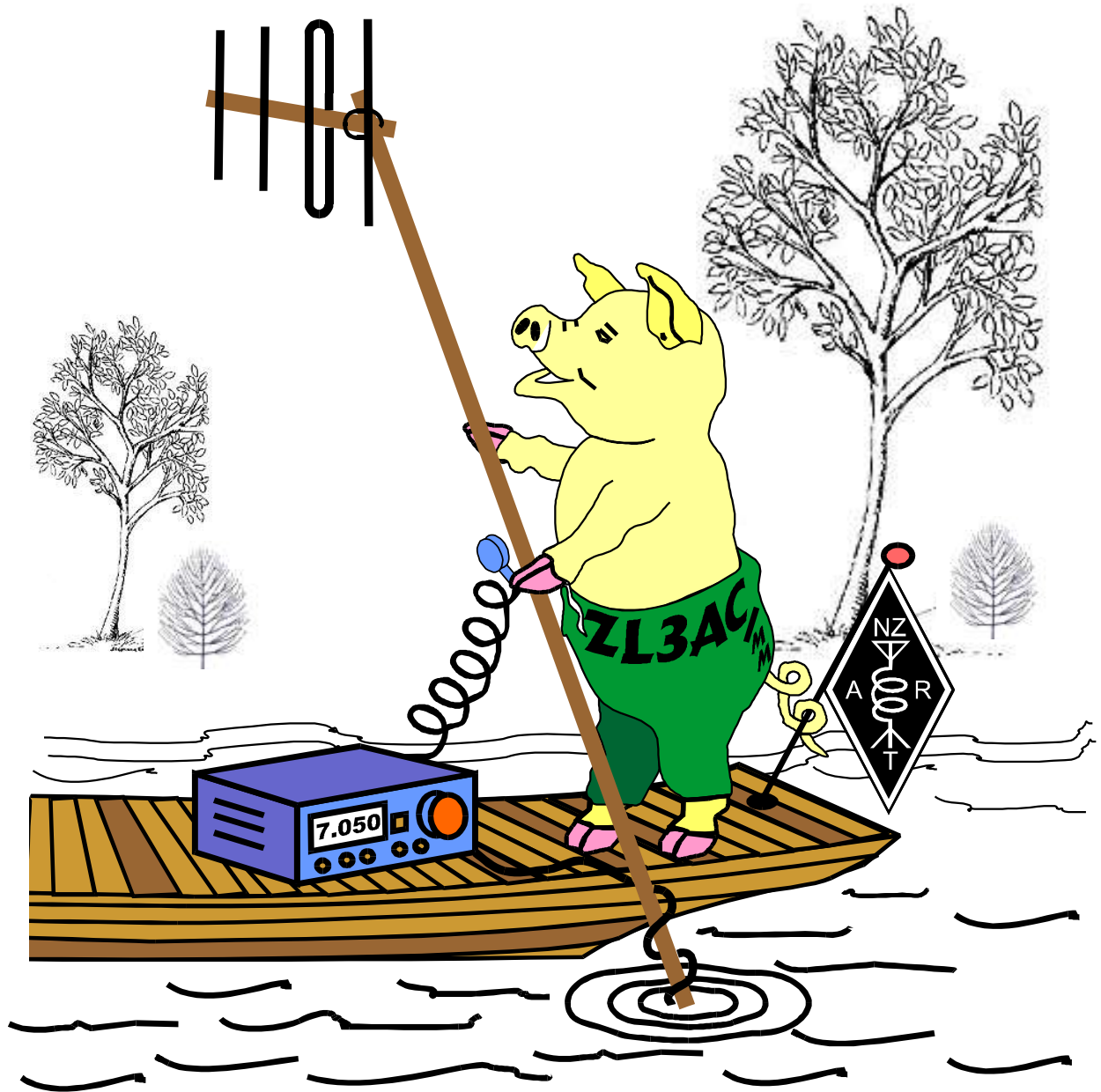


HAMLARKS

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club



June 2018

Branch 05 Club re-occurring events

MAIN BRANCH MEETING First Wednesday of the month 7.30pm, except January. *All visitors welcome.* At 5 Idris Road, Fendalton.

Branch 05 Website www.chchhamradio.org.nz

ACTIVITIES and STUDY NIGHT Every Tuesday 7:30pm at 5 Idris Road, Fendalton.
All visitors welcome.

DAYTIME MEETING (Branch05)

Meet third Thursday of month, 1PM at Branch05 clubrooms.

All visitors welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETING 1st Monday after branch meeting 7.30pm

At 5 Idris Road, Fendalton

AREC MEETINGS Normally the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm. At 5 Idris Road, Fendalton

DEADLINE FOR HAMLARKS COPY 11 days before the main branch meeting.

WEEKLY CLUB VHF NET Every Sunday 8:00 PM on 145.625MHz repeater if available, otherwise 147.050MHz repeater.

OFFICIAL NZART BROADCAST Last Sunday of the month 8:00 PM on 147.050MHz repeater.

CW PRACTICE

Boyd ZL3LE every Tuesday at 8pm. 3550 kHz. Listen in your shack or come along to Branch 05 clubrooms.

Views expressed in "Hamlarks" are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Committee of the Christchurch Amateur Radio Club. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles submitted for publication for reasons of clarity or length. No part of Hamlarks may be reproduced without the express consent of the Editor.

Programme for next branch meeting

The June meeting will review the NZART conference report, and be entertained by a DVD of a radio nature.

Secretary Rory's Ramblings - ZL3HB

At last we have all the driveway concrete poured. That is the last major component of structural work planned for the clubrooms at this stage. Good to get that done. We just need some tidying up around the edges then get on with the landscaping.

A club member hopes to come up with a plan for that. So far we have some self seeded plants plus some cacti. Another working bee will be arranged in due course.

A couple of club members are working on improving the DC feed situation at Marleys which should make for a more resilient system.

These little things keep happening to keep the club rolling along.

Another Hamcram not far away on 16th and 17th June. Also, we have been out to Clarkville school to do a mini Radiotek for them there, and that continues over the next few weeks.

With the demise of branch 56 it has been noted that previous members from there need to update their branch affiliation with NZART. Most seem to have joined us so, you need to get in touch with Debbie at NZART and change that affiliation to Br 05, or whatever other branch you wish to be affiliated to. Please don't just leave it as it could make a difference with voting at NZART Conference coming up in Mosgiel next weekend.

See you after Conference

Rory ZL3HB

President's proclamation ZL3TAO

Greetings all.

We would like to plan our mid winter dinner social event, so any venue suggestions are welcome; bring them to the June meeting or send them to a committee member. Last year we went to the Papanui Club.

Also, if you still have Branch 56 on your Break In wrapper you need to contact Debby at NZART headquarters to change it. Just because you have joined Branch 05 doesn't update NZART.

Cheers, Ian

New Hams on the block ZL3RIK

Following the recent Ham cram at branch 05 the following call signs have been officially allocated in Christchurch / Rangiora. The information has come from Debbie Morgan, business manager for NZART. We include these in Hamlarks as a way of welcoming them & help them move forward to get their 50 contacts. If you hear them on the air, give them a hand!

ZL2BZ	Zane
ZL3MLF	Mathew
ZL3GRE	Wayne
ZL4IN	Sagar
ZL3MWB	Murray
ZL3VD	Joel

There were another 3 call signs for out of Chch

Cheers

Rick ZL3RIK

Homebrew night – Thursday 21st June at 7.30pm

Home brewers

- Assemble electronic kits
- Build circuits they have found in a magazine or the internet
- Design their own circuits or make enhancement to existing circuits
- Make alcoholic beverages from barley and hops

If you are interested in any of the above then come to 5 Idris Road at 7.30pm on Thursday 21st June. Bring along your latest projects for a show and tell. Bring along circuits you are interested in building.

After the show and tell we can break into project groups where members can discuss their projects in greater detail.

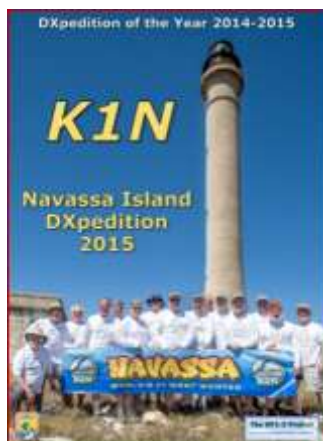
Several members are assembling uBitx kits.

Ross ZL3TFK has an excellent article in the latest Break In – “Building VHF dipoles: Adventures of an Aerial Fiddler”

Galbraith Projects had a 2m power amplifier – should we update it?

Want to experiment with an Arduino based kit? – Napier Amateur Radio
Remember the club had a swr/power meter.

Daytime Meeting – Thursday 21st June at 1pm



This month we are inviting some rest home residents to join us at our daytime meeting.

We will start with a short description of our hobby. Then we have a video of the K1N dxpedition to Navassa Island.

While we are finishing with a cup of tea some of the visitors may be able to have a Ham Radio experience.

2018 Jock White Field Day

For those that do not know yet, **We WON!** The midland trophy goes to the ZL3AC team this year, beating ZL3ARC and ZL2KS.

Well done team, keep up the good work.



Abridged report. Full version can be read on NZART infoline

Place holders were similar to last year with an upset in the phone only section with the Papakura branch taking this out over Manawatu.

This year we had very good weather over the whole country and good band conditions, what a pity the field station entries were markedly down on recent years.

Looking at 2016 as a comparison, this year there were 7 fewer field stations and 32 fewer multipliers! This is of real concern. Was 2018 a bad year for some reason? Were a few branches having a break and we will see them back in 2019? I will try and promote the event in advance more

enthusiastically prior to the 2019 Field Day and that might improve things.

As usual a few field stations made insufficient contacts to gain multiplier status (50 on phone for each band, 20 on CW). These numbers are not hard to attain even if just operating for one of the days. In one case there were plenty on one band but not enough on the other. Please, please if you are not going 'all out' proportion your operations between the bands/modes to prevent this from happening.

Entries

A number of entries did not use the standard three page score/multiplier sheets that are available on the NZART web site. These make life a lot easier for me and they are not difficult to fill out. If you score the event electronically it will take less than 5 minutes to transcribe the information, not a lot to ask for especially considering the time you put in to setting up and operating!

I have had the usual enquiries about 'going electronic'. About 1/3 of entries are electronic. For many Field Day is the only 'contest' that they operate in and use paper records. Electronic entries are not for them and I believe if we made electronic log keeping compulsory the event would be killed off.

Feel free to operate the event electronically, you just have to fill out the sheets as above and send them in, it is not a big ask.

Operating Technique

Again I would encourage teams try and stamp out: "thank you ZL2XYZ for your five nine zero zero branch XX, my numbers to you are ...etc." This just makes the queue longer for those waiting to have their turn and is not needed. Read backs etc. are not normally needed, and if conditions are deteriorating the other station can ask for a repeat.

Statistics

140 operators approx at 26 field stations

Unsolicited Team Comments (I do enjoy receiving these)

Best conditions ever weather-wise

...so we lowered it and found a fault in the balun at the aerial feed-point. After rolling out electric extension leads, soldering irons, and pliers, the balun was fixed, and up went the aerial again

Conditions were fairly good but I noticed that branches were somewhat down again in CW

I think that it is about time in our contest that we pull back the 4 weeks allowance for logs back to a fortnight.

Bands held up till the end.

'We were held up by visitors and the farm owner who likes to chat'

Unfortunately the 'my numbers to you' have caught on and spread'.

Low site noise was a great advantage but obviously many other stations were not experiencing the same conditions

Log sheet for 80 m Sunday 9am hour was lost (probably due to a gust of wind through the tent)

Mostly good signals. No Major splatter issues from other stations

Stuart Watchman ZL2TW - JWFD Manager

Used equipment sale at Branch05 clubrooms - ZL3JVX

On Saturday the 23rd June 2018 at 9am, there will be a public Garage Sale at 5 Idris Road. This will be a combined event between the Branch 05 radio club, Christchurch Vintage Radio Society, The Christchurch Robotics Group and CARDS. Set up for sellers will be Friday 22nd between 6 and 8pm, and between 8 and 9am Saturday morning. The car park will be available to sellers in case of overflow in the morning. If you are a successful seller, Branch 05 will happily accept a donation for managing this event.

Mark Atherton ZL3JVX



Hamads

For Sale The club has some 80 watt solar panels for sale from an estate. Up to 10 available. We are thinking \$130 for each panel. These are brand new unused.

For Sale One Yaesu FT847 all band transceiver 100 watts asking price \$900.00 o.n.o ex order.

One GAP Titan vertical antenna \$70.00 o.n.o. all come with instruction book.

Please advise by return if any further info is required. My phone numbers are land line 033474428 cell 0222762539
John Banfield

Wanted A power plug or cradle for a Tait 498 UHF radio.

This is a data type plug with the coax connection in the centre.

Richard ZL3UE Phone 3252685

Hamlarks editor on the mic ZL3KB

The Barnsdale household, such as it is nowadays, has finally given up the landline. No more need for a copper pair to the house, and yes, I know, we could be vulnerable in an earthquake when the power goes off.

However, in the 2011 quake we lost landline phone as well, so it is susceptible to line breaks. I reckon I can take the \$10/month saving and put it towards a battery to run the wireless modem. Cell sites seem to keep going when things get tough, at least for a day or so.

If any of the committee or trustees have disconnected the copper, please let me know so I can change the back page.

Keep warm. Kelvin ZL3KB



Minutes of the Branch 05 meeting

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club meeting 2nd May 2018

Apologies ZL3TFK, ZL3ADZ, ZL3JVX, ZL3EP, ZL2IC, ZL2BCF, ZL3TVP, ZL4FZ.
Moved to accept by Ian ZL3TAO. Carried.

Minutes of April meeting moved to accept by Rory ZL3HB, seconded by Mike ZL3MJS. Carried

Reports

AREC All quiet. Assisted SAR with HF training. Nearly one callout but didn't eventuate. The Emergency Services open day scheduled for last weekend postponed Dip Flat SAR exercise next week.

Repeaters All going OK. 705 drainpipe noise less but still there. ZL3TOY is recording it. May need new filters and may try changing CTCSS tones.

Mt Radio has cleaned up some of their pole gear.

QSL Bureau No new cards

Tuesday night still going strong with 40+ attending
Cat has set off alarms.

Band report Mostly dead. Some 40m between 4 & 6 PM.

General Business Mike ZL3MWD reported on the Hamcram+ night. 6 turned up and got some contacts.

Don ZL3SZ mentioned Horace ZL3WE has attained 100 years. Gareth ZL3VP moved 'that we send a letter of congratulations on his attaining 100 years', seconded Rob ZL3RX. Carried.

Noel ZL3QC offered a folder of technical notes for the Tait T198. Suggested it go into manual collection.

The meeting then went on to consider NZART remits for upcoming Conference.

Remits were discussed and voted on.

Remit 1	For	6
	Against	28
Remit 2	For	1
	Against	33
Remit 3	For	33
	Against	1
Remit 4	For	34

	Against	0
Remit 5	For	33
	Against	1

There were 34 NZART members at the meeting voting.

Rory ZL3HB moved 'that Gareth ZL3VP, Ian ZL3TAO & Mike ZL3TMB be Br 05 delegates at upcoming Conference in Dunedin' seconded David ZL3DO. Carried.

Rob ZL3RX moved ' that the delegates be granted power of discretion' seconded Rory ZL3HB. Carried.

There was no discussion or questions on the various NZART reports.

Meeting closed at 8.05 PM

Brent ZL3TUI then gave an interesting talk on locks that was well received.

"It is that time again", again

Annual Subscription for 2018

Chch Branch 05 Subscription for 2018

Call _____ Name _____

Single Membership

\$35 if paid after 31th Mar 2018

Family Membership

\$45 if paid after 31st Mar 2018

Junior Membership if still at school \$ free. Need parents email address

Our Club Bank Account number is: Westpac 030826 0145249 00

If you pay by internet banking, please make sure that you use your **Call Sign** as the transaction **reference number** so that our treasurer can identify you.

If you are posting your Subscription, please send to:

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club

P.O.Box 1733,

Christchurch.

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