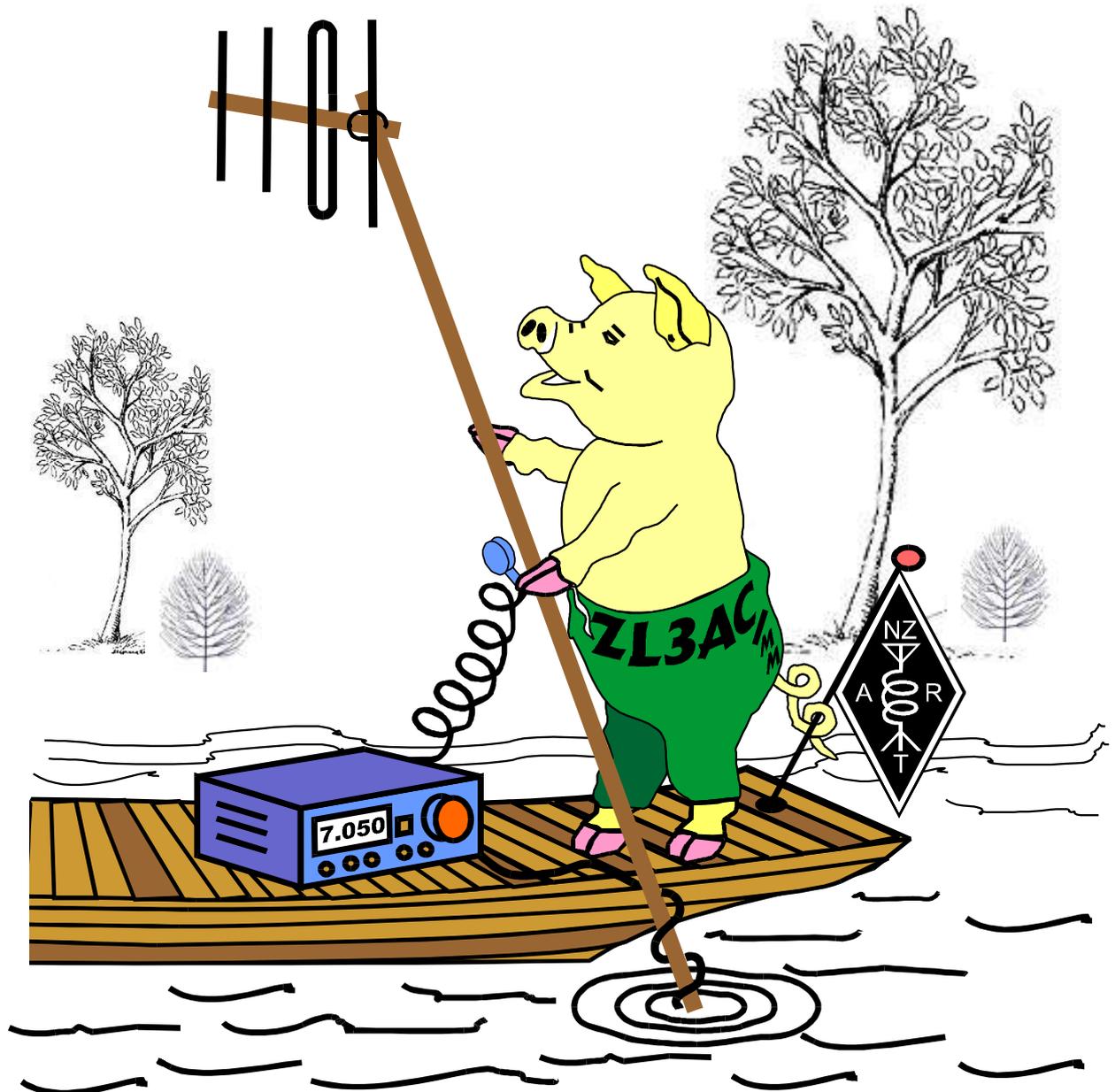


# HAMLARKS

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club



August 2014

**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.

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

**COMMITTEE MEETING** 1st Monday after branch meeting 7.30pm  
At 5 Idris Road, Fendalton

**AREC MEETINGS** Normally the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

NEW ZEALAND YOUNG AMATEURS CLUB NET (Branch05)

Meet every Tuesday night at Branch05 clubrooms.

Branch 05 Website [www.chchhamradio.org.nz](http://www.chchhamradio.org.nz)

**Programme for next branch meeting**

The program for the August club meeting will be a visit to Orion Networks. See meeting details in this issue. I notice Doug McConnell from MIMOmax Ltd will be giving a talk on their very special communication system, do not miss it!

**Secretary Rory's Ramblings - ZL3HB**

Ian & I had a most constructive meeting with the Council re leasing. We have now prepared the documents required and these go to Council this week. Then it is just a waiting game while they go through the process. Plus probably answering any questions they might come up with. Inside the clubrooms we have started with some of the patching of cracks etc with more to go obviously.

It has been decided the radio shack will be in the back left room so any workshop type activities don't interfere so the big room will be workshop construction & storage with external access to the outside. We have put up a simple HF aerial to use while we think about what we might like to do long term.

The inaugural Breakfast working bee was great with about 10 there. Egg cakes, bacon, sausages, tomatoes, hash browns etc. Yumm – you should have been there! David ZL2IC tells us the next breakfast will be equally delectable.

But we need to get a bit more organised delegating jobs so there is less standing around thinking about what to do!! However, as we don't own the place yet, there is a limit to what we can do.

The clubrooms really has a good feel to it so come along & enjoy your new space.

See you at Orion next meeting. Also other clubs should have got an invite to Orion as well for the 6th August as takes a bit to organise such a trip and easier if we all go together.

See you there.

Rory

**From the Hamlarks editor – ZL3KB**

Winter greetings from the Hamlarks office. Not much going on in the Barnsdale shack recently, except for trying to make a 434MHz circular polarised patch or panel antenna. I was going to have a go at a microstrip patch design, but then I found some academic papers on a Standing wave circular loop antenna. This is just a 348 degree circular track on a low permeability substrate, or air, over a ground plane. Fed at one end, the open circuit end causes a standing wave, and if I get it all tuned correctly, will create a circular polarised radiation field. Although

it looks resonant OK, I am having trouble getting close to a 50ohm feed match, so I may have to move the feed point, which may upset the standing wave. The black art of Radio, do we not love it?

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Hamads \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

**For Sale** Hank Jacomatti has some old (over 60 years old) radio receivers that have travelled around the world with him. One Philips. Anyone interested to take them, could give him a call on 329 4888.

**Wanted**

Wanted to borrow - Silicon Chip Magazine Sept 2010 & Oct 2010 to copy articles on Hearing Loops.

Ron Mccaw ZL3RON Ph 03 3584573.

**Advert**

**COM-CENTRE's COMMUNICATOR de Richard, ZL1BOK**

Winter delayed its arrival, but when it came, it hit hard. Damaging winds, plenty of rain, snow and harsh temperatures - all of which making getting out to the shack that little less inviting.

A perfect time for us to lift your spirits and re-energize your enthusiasm for getting back on the bands.

Just have a look at the special prices we are able to offer on these top performing, proven and popular pre-owned items - great opportunity to up-grade at huge savings. Remember, these items are one-offs, so don't miss the opportunity to save, at the same time rekindle the cockles of your heart for our great hobby.

**YAESU VL1000 - Now this is something very special A FULL KILOWATT SOLID STATE LINEAR AMP.**

**Fully automatic, including the Built in Auto Antenna Tuner, antenna switching, full protection.**

This is the preferred Solid-State Linear amplifier used by most DXpeditioners, a true QRO amp that is reliable and being fully automatic, so very simple to use. Keen on lifting your station's performance on HF, this is your answer - The problem - usually it exceeds the depth of our pockets, BUT look at this offer :

\$5500 and it is yours Given the vendor originally paid over \$12,000 - that is an exceptional offer !!

**YAESU FT100D A preferred wide-band H/V/UHF mobile/base transceiver with full DSP.**

Certainly my pick of this modern trend in transceivers both for its performance and ease of operation - the size of the LCD allows you to read it !! Sadly they have been

discontinued, but given their popularity and ease of operation - once acquired they are rarely relinquished, so here's your opportunity :

[Yaesu's FT100D c/w YSK100 remote kit - Yours for \\$795](#) - well less than 1/2 price of new model.

***ICOM IC761 Prestige Fully-featured, self-contained base station, Auto ATU etc,etc***

- A complete HF station in the one box for the most discerning HF/DX operator. We have re-negotiated a special price with the vendor, now keen to sell - I believe it is a bargain, considering a current equivalent with same features would have you spending near \$3K - **This can be yours for \$760** including the desk mic !

***BHi NES10 DSP Extension Speaker*** The ultimate in Noise elimination - ask those who already own one !

Here's a steal - Normally \$395 - Buy this one still in its original box \$ 250.00

***Innov-Energy 25amp Power supply*** - Essential item in any modern station - rugged, reliable ONLY \$235

***Scanners for Sticky-beakers - To ensure there is something for everyone !***

Sorry have nothing to offer pre-owned - but lets make your winter monitoring more enjoyable, and we all know what a busy time it becomes for those special services when the roads are wet and storms hit !

***Yaesu VR120D - \$375 or AoR AR-Mini \$395 - There's \$100 saved on a new hand-held receiver.***

I trust these very special offers give you another chance to update your station equipment and help overcome the wintery woes ! Of course, I can not detail every stock item, but you know what we always have available in the latest range of modern transceivers, communication equipment, antennas and accessories. It can be a little slower for us around this time of year, so if you looking to invest in your hobby, give us a call and you can be assured of securing our best possible pricings. With all the noises being made about our \$NZ being too high, now could well be the right time before any meddle with interest rates that directly affect our exchange rates - then the price you and I need pay - particularly in an election year !! Look forward to hearing from you and our negotiating to secure the lowest mutually acceptable prices -

Oh - reminder, if you are ringing, I am more readily available before 1PM any weekdays. Happy Hamming, keep warm, 73

**Richard - ZL1BOK** for The Com-Centre Group

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400 Hillsborough Road, Auckland

**Exam pass**

Congratulations to Gaby Montejo, who passed his amateur exam on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014 at 5 Idris Road. Gaby first heard of Amateur Radio and our club through contacts he had with our SCAPE partners, and has been coming to classes at Branch05 for the last few months. We hope you hear you on the air soon Gaby.

Kelvin ZL3KB

**Club meeting- visit to Orion, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August.**

The meeting will take place at 565 Wairakei road, people can park in the Orion car park, the barrier arm on Wairakei road will be up from 6.30pm, entrance will be by our front door where they will be greeted by Chris ZL3TLN (wife of Neville)

We will be meeting in our café area. As we are a secure site we are very tight on security so people cannot move around at will.

After the Branch05 business meeting part we propose the following:-

1. I will give a brief over view of the communications networks we deploy, one of them world leading.
2. Doug McConnell (also a ham) from MimoMax will cover the specifics of the MIMO radio technology we use, the world's largest deployment.
3. We will break into two groups
  - Group 1 will visit our control room area, depending on the staff on roster and their current work load we will cover off the technologies in a Glass control room (everything on monitors these days)
  - Group 2 will view our Transportable Data center's once again a world leading technology tool
4. The groups will then swap over.
5. Finish with supper in Orion's café, tea coffee provided.

Neville

## Typhoon Rammasun

Typhoon Rammasun, known as Typhoon Glenda in the Philippines departed that nation on Wednesday, July 16th. This after causing at least 20 deaths while knocking out power to entire provinces, ripping roofs of buildings and forcing nearly half a million people to flee from its strong rain and winds.

According to news reports, the number of citizens evacuated to emergency shelters reached more than 423,000. These were mostly in the eastern province of Albay which was the first to be hit by the typhoon.

Before the typhoon made landfall, Philippine Amateur Radio Association President Thelma Pascua, DU1IVT, had activated the groups Ham Emergency Radio Operation or HERO network with primary operations on 7.095 MHz in the 40 meter band. Other frequencies used by these ham radio first responders included 7.119 and 7.151 MHz. All amateurs within radio range of these frequencies were asked to stay clear until the emergency was declared over.

Also prior to the typhoon's arrival the Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council had warned the public of the storm, with possible landslides and flash flooding. According to reports, the HERO network and other emergency response agencies were working closely with one another to provide communications into isolated areas and to assess damage caused by the storm.

*Amateur radio Newsline.*

## The Challenge

It is a long time since I printed any of these - Yes, you can tell I am desperate for members to contribute to Hamlarks! Here is the question:

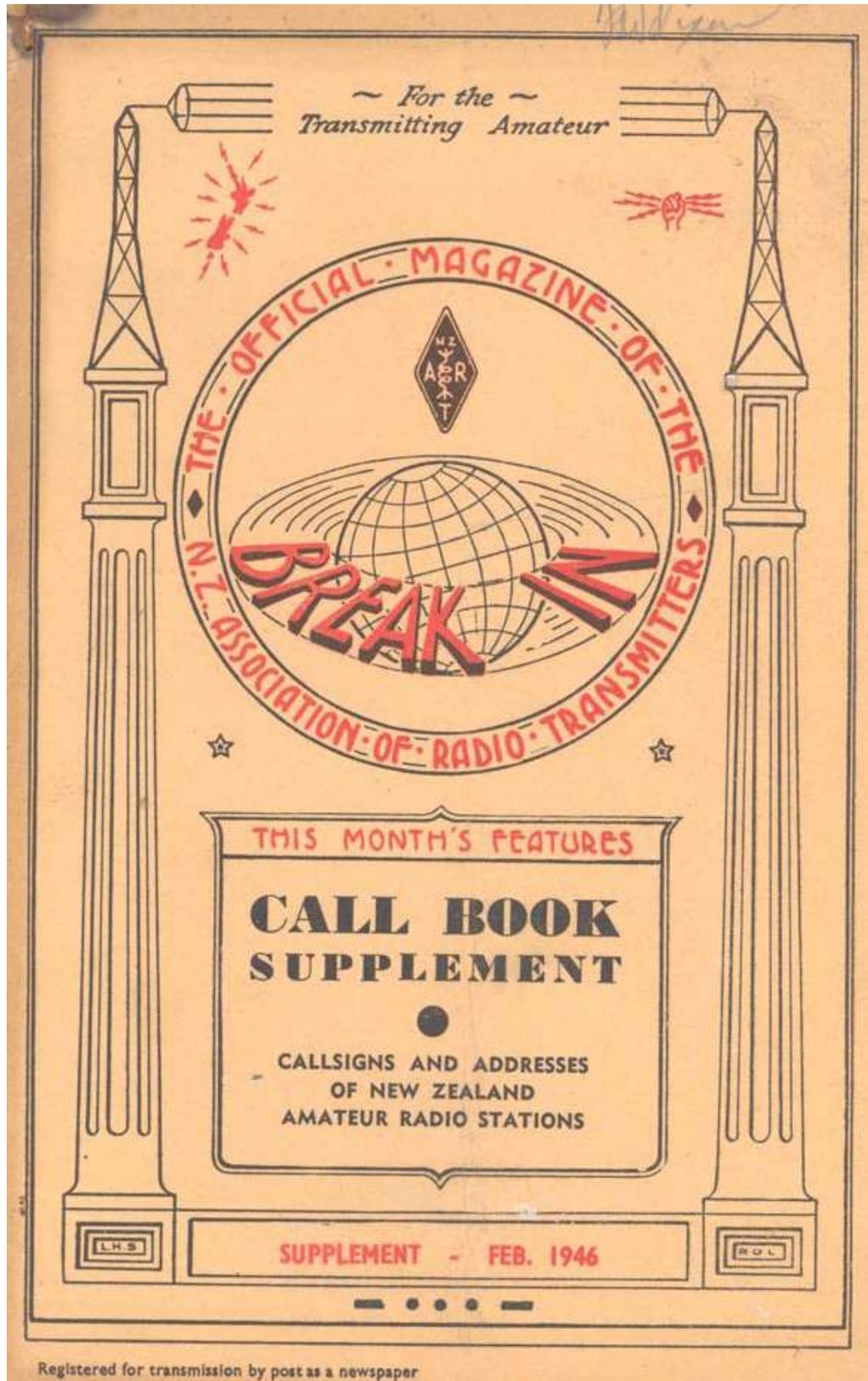
*You come home to find the kids arguing yet again (and it's just the beginning of summer vacation... sigh)! This time they're arguing about, of all things, whether any two people on the planet have the exact same number of strands of hair on their heads. Your daughter contends it's a common occurrence; but your son says, "No way! Well... maybe in the case of twins it's possible, but otherwise, people are like snowflakes, no two are exactly the same." When your daughter says she can prove it, your son challenges her to do so. Can she?*

*Answer: Sure she can, using proof by contradiction as the basis of her argument. Assume, for purposes of the proof, that person number 1 has one hair on his head, the next person has two, the next person has three, and on it goes. Given the total population of planet earth (billions of people), a point will be reached (rather quickly, actually) when there is not enough room on a human scalp to hold all the hair. So theoretically, there are thousands upon thousands of people who have the exact same number of hairs growing on their heads. (And undoubtedly, those with the most can be seen in shampoo ads.) So your daughter wins this one. Other contributions: "Of course she can prove it. If one person is losing their hair, and another is gaining hair, the number of hairs is going to match at some point. And this coincidence probably happens millions of times a day between people all over the world."*

*"Your daughter could easily prove her statement, with some simple algebra. The typical human has between 50,000 and 200,000 hair follicles on their head, giving a range of 150,000. The world population is approximately 6.5 billion. Dividing the world population by the range of follicle numbers on the head gives you the average number of people with an identical number of head hairs, the answer being a little over 40,000. This method assumes that the distribution of the range of follicles on the head is uniform. Were this not the case, then where the distribution peaks, even more people would have the same number of hairs on their heads, so in any case, your daughter would have proven her point."*

BreakIn Archives

Did you know the NZART website has a section carrying the archives and index of previous BreakIn issues? This is the cover of the Feb 1946 BreakIn with a call book special supplement. Makes for an interesting read on a rainy Sunday.



## Minutes of the Branch 05 meeting

### **Christchurch Amateur Radio Club Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**Apologies** ZL3VP, ZL3QL, Moved ZL3TAO. Carried

**Minutes** of May meeting & SGM moved to accept by John ZL3ADF, seconded Rob ZL3RX. Carried.

**Correspondence** CCC email,

**Reports** AREC Harris Trophy held 18<sup>th</sup> May at Ashburton Gorge – 5 teams

**Repeaters** All OK.

National System interference not found yet. May be some issues with Audio from Edgecombe?

**QSL Bureau** One very big lot of cards in. Some old cards dumped.

**Tuesday night** Continues – sorting gear from junk table.

**Band report** Low flux index – winter doldrums so quiet. 17m OK at times.

**General Business** Scouts gear arranged to move out. Will price a cabinet for museum gear.

Club email list & Google groups needs sorting as confusion as to who gets contacted.

Mike ZL3TMB gave a comprehensive Conference report.

David ZL3DO's future document was discussed & given the thumbs up as a comprehensive document for moving forward.

Rory ZL3HB suggested we have a regular monthly breakfast & working bee at the club.

Clubrooms progress discussed and a vote taken on staying permanently. John ZL3ADF moved

“that the club decides to stay at 5 Idris Rd and pursues buying the building from Scouts Association and obtaining a lease from Christchurch City Council” Seconded David ZL2IC.

Carried unanimously.

Lawyer to be contacted re documentation.

It was suggested we look at installing an audio loop for hearing aids.

Meeting closed at 9.40PM

After the meeting the club held an Amateur Radio Quiz night by ZL3KB

**Christchurch Amateur Radio Club Contacts**

Committee for 2014

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