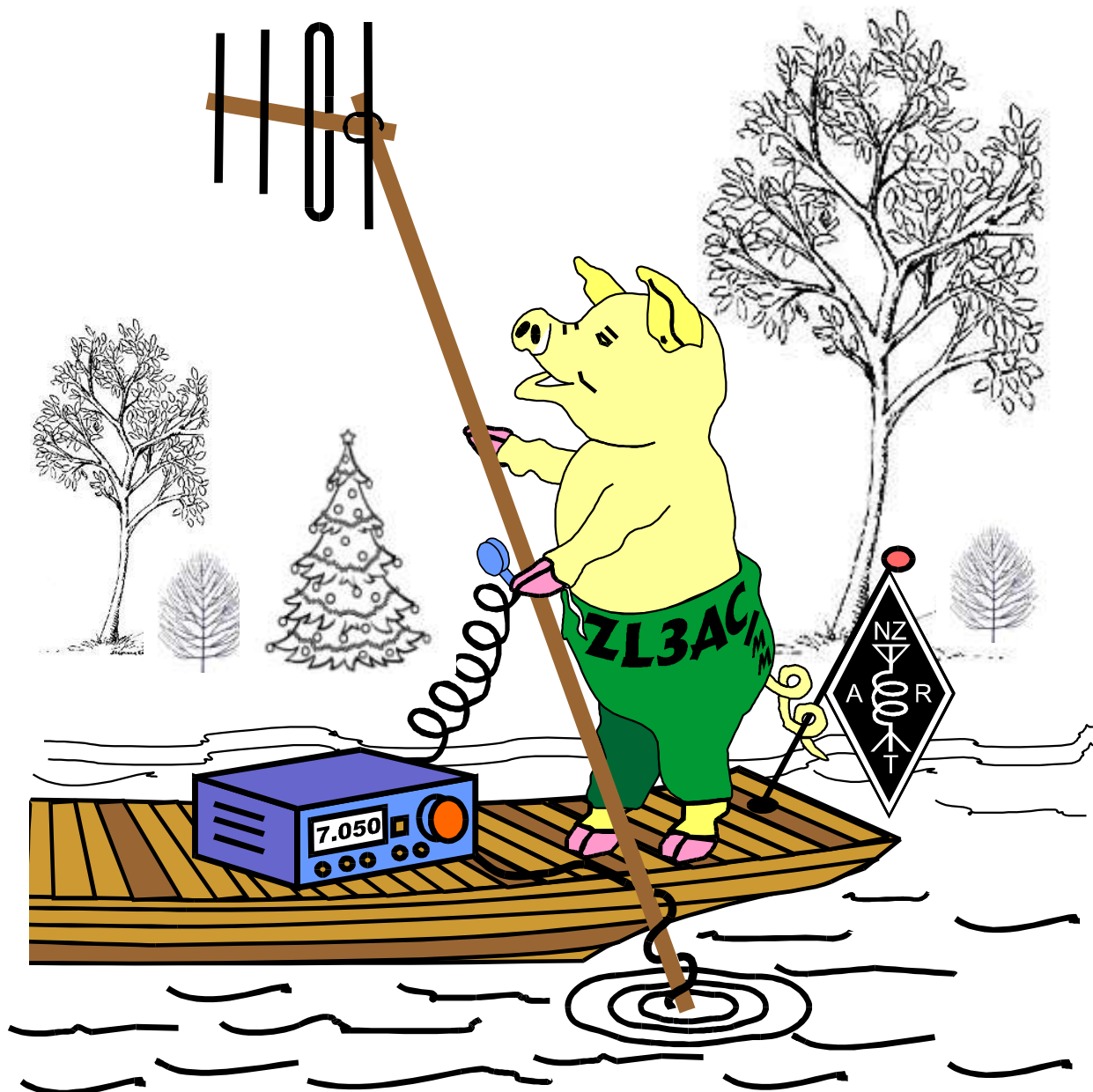


# HAMLARKS

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club



February 2016

**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](http://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 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.

**CW PRACTICE**

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

### Programme for next branch meeting

By **Steve Davis**, New Zealand Red Cross IT & Telecommunications  
Emergency Response Unit

#### **Title - IT & Telecommunications in a Disaster**

Steve's presentation will give a brief introduction to the international Red Cross and the NZ Red Cross IT&T team. This will be followed by an outline of the impact that greater use of telecommunications and IT infrastructure has had on the response efforts in disaster-hit areas such as The Philippines, and Nepal, the challenges faced, as well as some of the background to the Red Cross IT&T team. Many examples will be presented through photographs from work in disasters, with particular emphasis on his mission to the Philippines after Super-Typhoon Yolanda in 2014 and in Nepal after the Earthquake last year.

Steve is an ICT professional and dedicated volunteer who is also passionate about radio and electronics having been an Amateur Radio operator for more than 30 years. Steve combines his profession and interest in radio to help others save lives by helping Red Cross, Search and Rescue and Civil Defence with ICT and Telecommunications support when needed. Through his work with New Zealand Red Cross Steve has helped in major disasters in Haiti, Christchurch, the Philippines, Nepal and assisted Red Cross national societies around the Pacific.

### Presidents Report 2015

This year has been notable for the signing of a 3 x 10 year lease, the purchase of the clubrooms and gaining resource consent to carry out the club activities and erect a garage. The radio shack, workshop and museum have become established. Several computers and a network with wifi access have also been installed. The existing repeaters and beacons have been maintained and a remote SDR, DMR repeater and D-Star repeater are in progress.

Monthly meetings have included presentations on radio interference from variable frequency drives, DMR, eVelocity, a photo quiz, super typhoons in the Philipines, power line rfi detection, man pack radios, Kiwisat, DigiliteZL and St John Ambulance.

The Tuesday night informal group has continued to flourish and Radiotek continues to be well subscribed. The Christchurch Robotics Group and CARDS have become tenants.

The bi-annual Combined Branches meetings have been suspended until further notice.

A Club Picnic was held at Spencer Park in January and mid winter dinner was held at the Gardens Restaurant in August.

New innovations were a daytime meeting at 1pm on the third Thursday of each month, and a technical workshop to discover oscilloscopes.

A small group has begun to organise NZART Conference 2016 in Christchurch.

Submissions regarding the new Christchurch District Plan, prepared by Mark ZL3AB, Andrew ZL3CC and Richard ZL4FZ, appear to have resulted in a favourable outcome.

A membership drive has increased membership over 100. Generally the subscriptions should cover the running costs (power etc) of the club (approx \$50/member), but with a surplus of over \$16,000 the committee is recommending an increase to only \$20, but removing the supper charge.

Finally my thanks to committee and officers for their support during the year, especially Rory ZL3HB who keeps the club ticking over.

### Secretary Rory's Ramblings - ZL3HB

Well another year underway again. Lots been happening & more to come. So come on down and enjoy your active & vibrant club. Tuesday nights have been humming with a regular turnout of over 20 people. Yakking, setting up the workshop, CW & SSB, raffles for Conference, surfing the net etc, etc.

Speaking of raffles – all the handhelds have gone with John ZL3ADF scoring the last one – on one ticket bought so be in – it does happen!! Next raffles are going to be dualband aerials with PL259 on bottom I think so ideal for the vehicle or with a mag mount, Maybe we can do mag mounts as well??. David ZL2IC has that under control.

The club has been donated a colour laserjet double side printer to go with the computers. There will be a book & \$\$\$ box for those that print stuff out to recover ink & paper costs so it's use is cost neutral to the

club. There will be a sheet behind the printer with the actual costs to print different types of page so you can make the correct deposit.

The trading table has been well patronised with some good deposits to club funds. As the subscriptions are still well under the running cost of the club these donations all help with our costs.

We have signed the contract to put the overhead power lines underground so this will be done as the first stage towards the garage. The ground has been found to be TC2 which will mean a considerable excavation to put the garage on so we are currently working through these issues.

Your club memberships are due so please pay ASAP so we don't have to chase down the stragglers which we hate having to do. Print out the form in this Hamlarks and put it in your 'bills' drawer. Or better still, go online & do it right now, before you forget!! Remember name/callsign as we always get one or two deposits with nothing & have no idea who has paid!! With a good strong membership of over 110 we hope you will all continue with us to enjoy this great club.

As I have said before – any ideas for making the club better please let committee members know. Who knows what we might agree to.

Rob, Morry & I did a Herbert trip last week to see what was up as I reckon there is an issue as I have trouble getting in from out Kirwee/Darfield way & cannot trigger it from the farm 1000 feet up behind Coalgate! We couldn't find anything wrong while there so it is a mystery. If you have any thoughts/comments please let us know. How can 705 be strength 9 but Herbert a 1-2 out at Kirwee??

We do intend a trip to redo aerial mounts & fix the engineering link aerial which is a bit sad and maybe the coax. Plus solar panel upgrade. The club picnic was shifted from Spencer Park back to the clubrooms as it was a bit wet. 15 or so attended so that was good.

We are intending to run HAMCRAM weekend course & exam on 23/24th April. So if you know of anyone who would like to get their Ham licence please let me know.

That's probably enough from me for the first one for the year so see you on the 3rd.

Cheers

Rory ZL3HB.

**Hamlarks editor on the mic – ZL3KB**

Happy New Year to all the readers of Hamlarks, here we go again! The editor feels spoilt this month, so much submitted for inclusion in this issue! Many thanks for all your offerings, I had more than I had space for, apologises to contributors who missed out, but keep it up! So for the first time in my eighteen editorial years I will publish more than twelve pages. Some trees will have to be sacrificed!

**AREC report ZL4FZ/ZK9EA**

The AREC AGM was held in November, and there have been some changes in the officers for the section. I wish to thank Ian (ZL3TAO) who has been our secretary over the last. Ian has stepped down to concentrate on duties as Club President. Andrew White (ZL3CC) has agreed to step into this position. Steve Davis (ZL2UCX) was re-elected as Deputy Section Leader, and this year the section decided to also appoint a second Deputy Section leader. I welcome David (ZL2IC) into this role. Trevor (ZL3ADZ) has agreed to continue as treasurer for 2016. Thank you to all of these officers (both new and ongoing) for your commitment to the section.

In November, we were provided communications services for the Equestrian Horse Endurance Ride at Cannington (just outside Cave). Don McDonald (ZL3DMC) lead the event with the assistance of Jim (ZL3ND). The event was staffed by members of Br05, Br68, Br34 and Br01 and was by all accounts very successful. AT this event, a large screen TV (provided by Jim ZL3ND) was used to provide up to date results of times through the various checkpoints. This was very well received by the event organisers and at times drew large crowds of competitors and support crews.

The December Classic Kayak race was cancelled because the Waimakariri River was flowing too fast for the event to be safe. This has happened before, with the December weather being erratic enough to provide heavy rainfalls across the Divide as the summer settles in from spring.

Just after New Year, the section provided communications for another Equestrian Endurance event - this being a National Event. The team this

time was led in the first instance by Dave (ZL3TRX) and Jim (ZL3ND). Dave brought to the event his large horse float (truck) which acted as a communications base. To this he also provided a Low Power FM transmitter (background music and announcements, and a local Webserver and WiFi access point. These last two were used to "publish" the event results (updated every time a horse went through a checkpoint) with the results made available to every one with a wireless device (computer, tablet, smart-phone) to be able to get the latest updates anywhere around the ride base. A local TV was also available. This facility (WiFi) was a huge hit with the organisers - and was so successful we will need to put together the kit to do this type of update in a more robust fashion. Thank you to all those operators from Br05, Br68, Br56, and Br34 that assisted with this very wet but successful event.

We have been asked to provide communications for the next National Equestrian Endurance ride in Easter as well - so watch this space for details.

Coming up early in the year, I will be speaking at a Critical Communications Conference in Wellington on the use of volunteers in major incidents using the Christchurch Earthquake as a case study. Daniel (ZL1DFA) is also speaking at the same conference (different presentation).

The annual SAREx will be held in March this year, probably at Mt White. Last heard this may be based around a cold case event in that area. Antenna and feeder have been ordered for the new Gondola site for the AREC DMR repeater, and it is hoped that this can be installed before the end of January, or at worst early February.

The first AREC meeting for the year will be held 10th February at Idris Road, and all are welcome.

Richard Smart  
ZL4FZ/ZK9EA

**Boxing Day Bash ZL3JVX**

Branch 05 clubroom opened up early on Boxing day 2015 to welcome a band-of-warriors intent on continuing the festive season with the traditional 'throw something on the barbie\*' view of Christmas.



The club provided 'essential infrastructure' for the event, this included mince pies, sausages, buns, soft drinks, and a large xmas cake, along with a couple of BBQs, some helping hands, and a little light music. Fourteen people turned up, including a few delightful ladies, as well as a couple visiting from the west coast.



The event wound up early afternoon, and was deemed 'quite a success' from those who were asked. Given the availability of our new clubroom, and the uncertainties of life, maybe we should do this a bit more often!

73, Mark Atherton, ZL3JVX  
(\*No female models were harmed in this event – Ed)



## Mount Herbert 725 repeater work ZL3HB

Today we scaled the mount. Rob, me & Morry ZL3RP went up in 60 knot winds. Could hardly stand up!! No pole work!! Nearly got blown off ladder measuring frame!

Repeater all tested OK. 110db Rx & 25 watts out so no idea what the problem is. Except we found water in the white trunking around the coaxes so if one has nick or is slightly porous could be the issue. SWR



**Figure 1 Tank shade panels**

was fine so aerial seems OK. But on way down we realised had checked power out at back of PA but didn't check filter output so possibility of filter fault??

We also discovered we were trespassing!! On way up there are a couple of new containers by cattle yards & a woman with 2 kids came out & waved us down & asked what we were

doing. Turns out they are the owners of the land & have been so for two years. No-one thought to tell us!! Sarah & Zac Kyle from Mt Summers. They just come down & work the place as needed. So we asked permission & were granted. They were gone when we came down so didn't get a chance to ask more Q's.

On the way down we also went further round the track looking for better access until we arrived at the shelter but it is all gorsed up so where we go up is best.

Took measurements to build solar panel frame. Can't go on tank as would definitely shade other panels. So we will just add to the end with another post & back stay.

We need to decide how many panels we should put up? Maybe 3 x 90's so if one craps out easier changed & also frame will be same size at the one there. Or 4 x 90's?? Need to decide soon to make frame to suit.

DOC have replaced a solar controller, one has been removed & other isn't turned on. Two more batteries have been added to their lineup.

Also – Coastguard have taken over marine repeater – or have I mentioned that previously. Nice of some-one to tell us too wasn't it!! Tried to contact Coastguard but person away until 24th so left a message.

Tank padlock I put on last time up has been removed!! Ladder still there though so have put it in the repeater hut & put a small padlock I had on tank. Just to see if anyone breaks in again! Thinking of making a frame to go on wall of tank to padlock ladder to then we don't need to lock it?

Engineering link beam is a bit sad. Reflector flopping around in the wind & still on a chain mount. Mind you – all DOC/marine aerials are on

chain mounts!

So we achieved info for panels but no 725 resolution!



**Figure 2 725 aerials**



**Figure 3 DOC63 batteries**

**Club Picnic ZL3HB ZL3MTB**

Pictures from the weekend social BBQ, held at the clubrooms. Due to the UK style summer weather the BBQ venue was changed to 5 Idris Rd, with Rory manning the BBQ in the rain on and off. A number of members and visitors enjoyed catching up. 20+ attended. Trevor's BBQ worked a treat thanks.

**\$\$ Hamads \$\$**

**For sale** FT101's x3, Kenwood t&r 599s matching tx and rx, Dentron GLA1000 amp, FL2000B amp, TS700s 2mtr multi mode rig, FT480R 2mtr multi mode rig, FT1802 2mtr FM only radio.

Prices on application and I appreciate PICK UP.

Roly ZL4AU <[roly\\_zl4au@hotmail.com](mailto:roly_zl4au@hotmail.com)>

**Wanted.** If anybody wants to sell his/her Kenwood TS700 transceiver I am interested to buy.

Kindly regards Jean , Behiels jean-Pierre [[on4aef@telenet.be](mailto:on4aef@telenet.be)]

**Wanted** - a mike insert for a Sure high impedance microphone. Nos CR or CM 99 ABCD 9986 1000 ohms plus. For bullet type JT30 microphone. Please contact Bill Wallace in Golden Bay. 03 5258863

**Wanted** - A member is looking for FT-101 power plugs. Boyd Guard ZL3LE 3143771

**NZART Conference in Christchurch 2016****Celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NZART**

Riccarton Park Function Centre, 165 Racecourse Road, Sockburn,  
Christchurch 8042

**General program**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016 Check in & social get together at Branch 05 new clubrooms.

5 Idris Road, Fendalton, Christchurch.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016 - NZART AGM and AREC AGM

Dinner at the conference venue, with entertainment and “ham natter” accompanied by casual music.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016 – special group AGMs and Forums

Evening program to be confirmed.

**Alternate programs**

The alternate programs will be

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Kaleidoscope Tour of Christchurch and port hills including gondola, punting, tours etc (to be confirmed).

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Activities including the famous Riccarton Market.

**Forum sessions**

There will be forums and presentations throughout Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Many speakers are booked into the sessions, with subjects including: D-star systems, Battery technology, RDF using UAVs, RF Baluns, Amateur Satellites, Summits On The Air, Military Radios, Precision timing, Raspberry Pies with Ham, DXing, Digital modes, Contesting, etc.

**There are still spare slots available, so if you would like to present a technology or ham radio related subject, please contact Kelvin ZL3KB kb.ew@xtra.co.nz**

Topics shown above are subject to confirmation.

See the latest details on [www.hamradio.co.nz](http://www.hamradio.co.nz)

**Minutes of the Branch 05 meeting****Christchurch Amateur Radio Club meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015**

**Apologies** ZL3QL, ZL3HAM, ZL3ACU, ZL4FZ, ZL3VY, ZL3AIB, ZL3TFM.

Moved to accept by Rob ZL3RX, seconded Andrew ZL3CC. Carried.

**Minutes** of November meeting moved to accept by Rory ZL3HB, seconded Rob ZL3RX. Carried.

**Correspondence** Q-bit, Email re wheelchair interference.

**Reports** ARECKlassic Kayak 13<sup>th</sup> Dec weekend. Meeting next Wednesday to organize.

Horse event at Cave went well

Next one in New Year. 1 -3 Jan. Need members to help.

**Repeaters** Marleys pole mount this coming Saturday.

Herbert - when we get there!

**QSL Bureau** 99 cards in.

**Tuesday nights** – continues with up to 25 attending.

**Band Report** 80m no good in AM

Greg ZL3IX has worked 160m long path to Holland. Ist time ever!

Rod ZL3NW has achieved 6m DXCC. He was applauded.

Has been open to VK5 on 6m.

**General Business** Mark ZL3AB talked about the district plan outcomes and the Lee Jennings award. Mark was applauded for work he and Andrew ZL3CC & Richard ZL4FZ have done.

Club picnic -decided to hold it at Spencer Park again on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Rob ZL2ROB talked about Orientation week at the University & that they could have an Amateur Radio display. Ian ZL3TAO to check with students association.

The garage was discussed re funding. David ZL2IC moved “That the committee be authorized to spend up to \$80,000 for the garage construction.” Seconded Keith ZL3AHL. Carried 27 for and 4 against.

The first Conference raffle was drawn by Jean Bell. Winner of Boefeng handheld was Graham ZL3GSL.

Rory ZL3HB asked for some motions re funding as follows.

1. Rory ZL3HB moved “that the club apply to Pub Charity for funding for a Heartstart defibrillator machine”, seconded David ZL3DO. Carried.

2. Rory ZL3HB moved “ that the club apply to the Rata Foundation for funding towards the 2016 Conference venue costs” seconded David ZL2IC. Carried.
3. Rory ZL3HB moved “ that the club apply to the Lion Foundation for funding towards the 2016 Conference alternative programme”, seconded by Gareth ZL3VP. Carried.

Meeting closed at 8.32 PM.

# Payment Due. Special for 2016

## Chch Branch 05 Subscription for 2016

Call \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Single Membership

\$20 if paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April

\$30 if paid after 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Family Membership

\$25 if paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April

\$35 if paid after 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Junior Membership if still at school \$ free.

***Our Club Bank Account number is: 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.**

**Christchurch Amateur Radio Club**Committee for 2016 email: [rory1@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rory1@xtra.co.nz)

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<b>Treasurer:</b>	Richard Prattley	ZL3UE	325 2685		027 226 2205
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<b>AREC</b>	Richard Smart	ZL4FZ	385 8355	3728603	021 443 086
		Email: <a href="mailto:rsmart@netaccess.co.nz">rsmart@netaccess.co.nz</a>			0275085718

**Repeater Trustees:** Rob Thirkettle ZL3RX 3483815 Gareth Bradshaw ZL3VP 3322406 Mike Barnes ZL3TMB 03 3133321

**Auditor:** Community auditors/reviewers

**Hamlarks:** Kelvin Barnsdale ZL3KB Hm 3238377 Cell 021 02904020 Email: [kb.ew@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kb.ew@xtra.co.nz)

**Clubrooms** 5 Idris Rd, Fendalton **Mail to** PO Box 1733 Christchurch

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