

HAMLARKS

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club



July 2017

Branch 05 Club re-occurring events

MAIN BRANCH MEETING First Wednesday of the month 7.30 pm, except January. At Clubrooms, 5 Idris Road, Fendalton. *All visitors welcome*
Branch 05 Website www.chchhamradio.org.nz

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

DAYTIME MEETING (Branch05)
Meet third Thursday of month, 1 pm at Branch 05 clubrooms.
All visitors welcome.

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

AREC MEETINGS Normally the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30 pm. 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 145.625 MHz repeater if available, otherwise 147.050 MHz repeater.

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

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

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Programme for next branch meeting

Wednesday July 5th
Dave Hadler ZL3TRX will talk to us about

Equestrian Event Tracking Communications

Secretary Rory's Ramblings - ZL3HB

The year marches on doesn't it? Past the shortest day so back towards summer and better HF conditions - maybe!

Another HamCram coming up on 15/16th July with 14 booked originally plus some already booked for the November HamCram. I don't know where all these people come from but I reckon you must all be doing a really good job singing the praises of the hobby to the world out there for the responses we are getting. So keep up the good work. For those of you who weren't at conference or last meeting the club won the Rothschild cup for the most exam passes in the previous year - 32 passed. So we are getting new Hams in which is fantastic. And good to see new faces at the club as well which adds to the diversity and interest. And we are on track for a similar number this year too.

A few of us are taking Radiotek into a school to see how that goes. OK so far but we have to be pretty quick as trying to cram a usual days building into a short class timeframe. Has it's challenges!

Currently working on drawings to get prices to do the paving and concrete work at the club. Will be good to get this done and then the fence and landscaping done to tidy it all up. Plus get a few more aerials up. Watch this space for some working bees!! If anyone has a few spare minutes it would be nice to have the cabbage tree leaves picked up around the garage.

We have all the cable and aerial for Marleys so that will be progressing soon hopefully.

There are still a few of you who have not renewed your membership this year so a \$35 late payment deposit would be appreciated. One reason not mentioned earlier for staying a current member is that you are covered by club insurance if you are participating in club activities; like climbing poles at Marleys or whatever. Don't underestimate the importance of this if anything goes wrong!!

See you in July. Rory ZL3HB

From the President

June commenced with the NZART Annual Conference in Rotorua. I had a very busy Saturday morning collecting the Rothschild Trophy for the Branch with the most exam passes, then a certificate and Icom handheld for Mathew ZL3COG for the best youth exam mark, and finally the NZART Amateur of Year Trophy on behalf of Kelvin ZL3KB. Gareth ZL3VP, Mike ZL3TMB and Mike ZL3MJS made strong efforts to gain the Stirrer's Award, but were pipped by the President ZL2TW. Conference next year is in Mosgiel, so a good opportunity to support Branch 30.



The committee has agreed to purchase a Kiwi SDR that will be operating at the QTH of Mike ZL3TMB. Stuff for the next stage of the Marleys refurb is coming together. Thanks to Mike ZL3MJS for bringing 200 metres of coax from Rotorua. Looking forward to another working bee in the next couple of months.

Over the next couple of months the driveway will be finished. We can then put up the front fence and put in some landscaping to make our clubrooms look more attractive.

Advertising for Hamcram has increased and July's session is now full, and names are being taken for November. If you know any potential hams then get them to contact Rory or Mike to reserve a place in November.

From the Acting Editor

Hamlarks editor Kelvin ZL3KB will be overseas until the end of the year and I have been "volunteered" to stand in for him. So if you have copy, hamads, etc for Hamlarks please send it directly to me at john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz or phone 03-3489 084.

Thanks and 73

John Walker ZL3IB

NZART Amateur of the Year 2016; Kelvin Barnsdale ZL3KB

Christchurch Branch nominated Kelvin Barnsdale ZL3KB as NZART Amateur of the Year for 2016.

During the past year Kelvin participated in the following activities :-

1. He was a member of the Organising Committee for the 2016 NZART Conference held in Christchurch. In particular he organised all the forums.
2. He organised four Radiotek events.
3. He was one of the five tutors in all three Hamcrams held by the Christchurch Amateur Radio Club. All participants have eventually passed the Amateur Radio Examination ..This event qualified 32 new radio amateurs in 2016.
4. He was the editor of the Christchurch Amateur Radio Club monthly newsletter – Hamlarks.
5. He was Technical Editor of *Break In*.
6. He was a member of the NZART Exam review panel.
7. He ran a “quiz” at one of the Christchurch Amateur Radio Club’s monthly meetings.
8. He was an Exam Supervisor for Christchurch Branch.
9. He was a member of the Vintage Radio Society that has moved its meetings to the Christchurch Amateur Radio clubrooms.



In addition, Kelvin has been one of the stalwarts of the weekly “Activities and Study Night”. We now have between 30 and 40 members regularly dropping in to the clubrooms every Tuesday night – it has certainly re-vitalised the club.

Kelvin was always on hand to mentor members at any club event.

Congratulations Kelvin; a well-deserved award.

NZART HF Contests April – July 2017

Wayne, ZL2AYB, plans to use the Branch 05 facilities to participate in NZART HF contests. If you do not have an HF station or are not already involved in contests this is an opportunity for interested club members. Although they are all single operator contests, you are invited to join Wayne at the club rooms to assist with the log keeping for some or all of the following events (or part thereof). There are CW components but you do not have to be a CW expert or even have done any CW at all. If you have any questions or intend to join Wayne please contact him beforehand at <fisher.well@xtra.co.nz>.

Memorial Contest:-

When: Saturday 1 July and Sunday 2 July. Time: 2000 to 2300 each evening. Mode: SSB and CW (Field Day format) (alerts) or those happening now (spots) and you may be surprised how many you can hear. Give them a call, they will appreciate it.

For more information about SOTA read all about it at <http://www.sota.org.uk> or drop me a line: z13c@yahoo.com

Hamads**More stolen PA speakers**

I would appreciate members watching out for three more PA horn speakers stolen recently from the Christchurch Show Grounds. One is a Toa reflex horn, 600 mm diameter, 630mm from flare rim to driver rear, and is coloured a well-faded light grey shade. The Toa TU-631M driver is round, grey plastic, with switch to set the 100 V line power you want. The other two are Toa SC-35L, rectangular plastic horns 360 x 220 x depth 410 mm. These are 2-tone brown-beige coloured. We have had a report of male persons mounting these on bicycle handlebars, and making loud noises ! Thanks.

Ross ZL3TFK, weir.rd@xtra.co.nz.

Early communications systems

The Branch 05 June AREC meeting was held last week and the various agenda items discussed. However at the end of the meeting Richard ZL4FZ commented how the New Zealand Police generally appeared very pleased with the way our AREC unit was operating and getting the "Message" through! Richard compared this with the French 'Chappe' semaphore system used by Napoleon to get his messages through. The Chappe system was sufficiently robust that it allowed the Napoleon military to get a message across the European Continent in 2.5 days which is a lot quicker than a man and horse or men and a relay of horses.

The late Mr Ken Beauchamp made comment that this type of system allowed a message from London to Portsmouth in 15 minutes assuming a perfect English summer day-Not in your normal standard English WX!



Last year my wife Mary and I enjoyed a Big OE in Europe and the friends that we toured France with actually live fairly close to one of these stations as shown.

Subject: Windows vs Ford

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on.

At a recent computer expo COMDEX reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated;

"If Ford had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25 cars that got 1000 miles to the gallon."

Ford's response to Bill 's comments:

If Ford had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash.....twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
- 3.. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
- 4.. Occasionally, executing a manoeuvre such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
- 5.. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
- 6.. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "*This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation*" warning light.
- 7.. The airbag system would ask, "*Are you sure?*" before deploying.
- 8.. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
- 9.. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
- 10.. You'd have to press the "*Start*" button to turn the engine off.

PS - I'd like to add that when all else fails, you should call "customer service" in some foreign country and be instructed in some foreign language how to fix your car yourself!



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FOR MORE INFORMATION or TO REGISTER:
Email - secretary@chchhamradio.org.nz
Website - www.chchhamradio.org.nz

* You must be registered in advance to complete this course, there will be no walk ups accepted on the day. The HamCram weekend course is \$25 on registration which includes the course booklet.
This course gives basic instruction in radio and electronics aimed at the Radio Amateur Exam and will conclude in an opportunity to take the exam and gain an Amateur license.
Study of 3 minor syllabus areas prior to the course is required.
The lifetime Radio Amateur license is \$95 which includes your first year's membership of NZART and your first year's membership of the Christchurch Amateur Radio Club.



CHRISTCHURCH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - 5 IDRIS ROAD, FENDALTON, CHRISTCHURCH



THE AMATEUR RADIO WEEKEND COURSE

Hamcram at Branch 05
The next HamCram will be in July, and places are filling fast.

Minutes of the last Branch 05 meeting**Christchurch Amateur Radio Club meeting 7th June 2017**

Apologies ZL3ADF, ZL3JGM, ZL3RX, ZL3TPM, ZL3EP, ZL3UCI, ZL2BCF.

Moved to accept Ian ZL3TAO. Carried.

Visitors ZL3TKX Howard ex Br 56.

Minutes of May meeting moved to accept by Rory ZL3HB, seconded Bruce ZL3TDF. Carried.

Correspondence Ragchew, Q-bit, St John Re AED, Ashburton Aviation museum thanks.

Reports AREC Busy month. 2 x Halswell evidence searches
Dip Flat National Police SAR training week. All went well.

Repeaters All running OK. Coax coming ex Auckland.

Aerials from Hi-Tec have arrived

CARDS has taken over 850 repeater from ex Br 56.

QSL Bureau No new cards. Looking for new ZL3 bureau manager.

Tuesday night Busy still with 30+ members and friends attending.

Band report Dead!! Winter sprint starts next Tuesday evening.

General Business Rory ZL3HB asked if anyone had a spare digital camera for photos of club members for database.

Garage has finally passed compliance.

Mike ZL3TMB gave a comprehensive Conference report. Club awarded Rothschild cup for most amateurs passed exam, Kelvin ZL3KB got Amateur of the year and Matthew Woermann got Icom Handheld for youngest amateur with best exam pass.

Steve ZL2UCX talked about AREC and their websites AREC.today and AREC.info.

Sharon has sold Icom NZ but will/may keep amateur side.

Meeting closed at 8.07 pm

Program Jane Foley, with friend, from the Hillmorton Nurse training unit gave an interesting talk on CPR bringing us up to date on various practices.

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