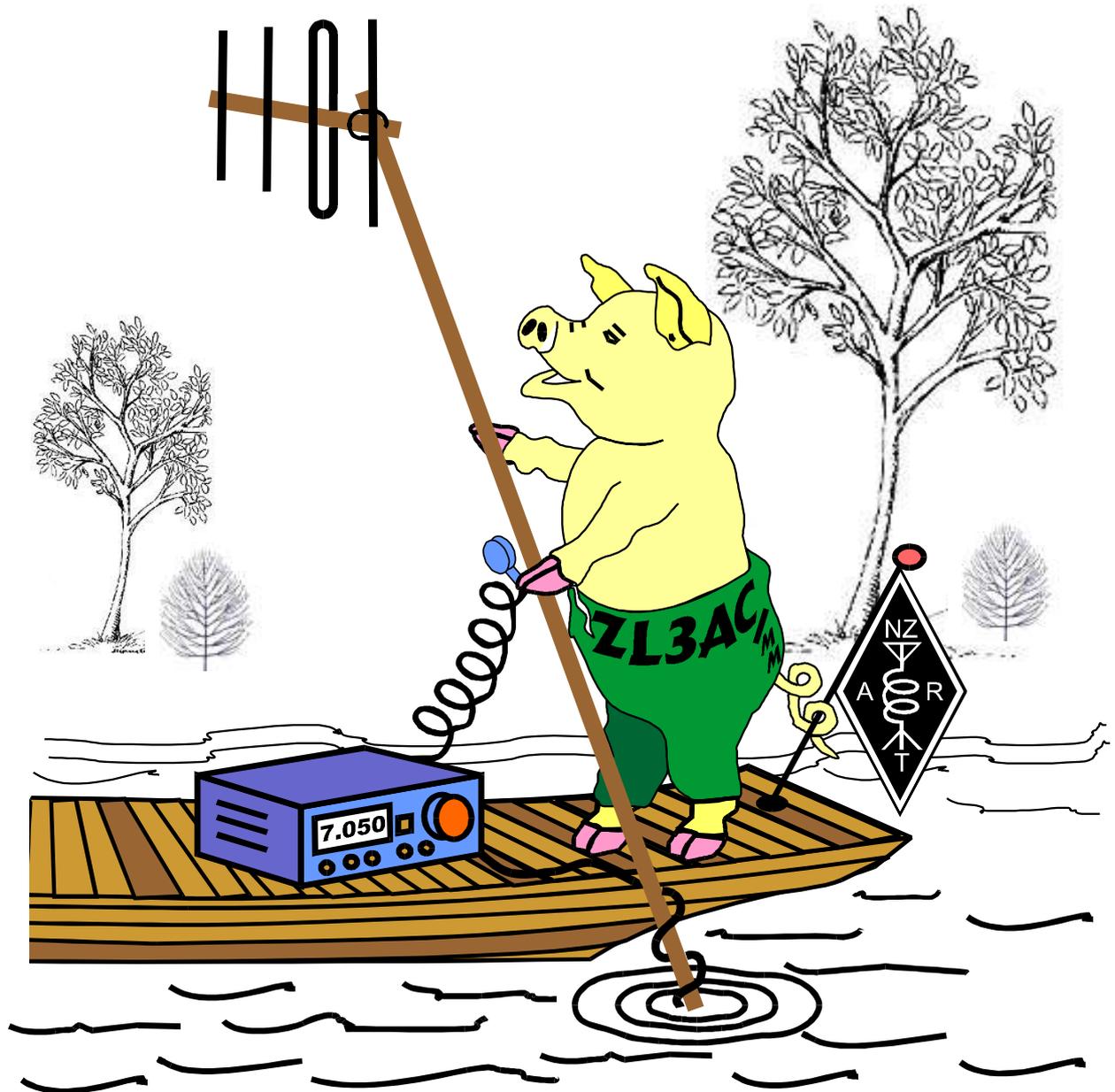


HAMLARKS

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club



September 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 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.

NEW ZEALAND YOUNG AMATEURS CLUB NET (Branch05)
Meet every Tuesday night at Branch05 clubrooms.
Branch 05 Website www.chchhamradio.org.nz

Programme for next branch meeting

"The real future of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles".

by Kelvin Barnsdale ZL3KB

We are constantly bombarded these days with news on how “drones” will do so many tasks in the future. It is true the technology is out pacing the aviation laws that were written in the days when there was always a pilot on board. This presentation will look at the challenges ahead for this tool of the 21st century, and what needs to be done to get public and legislative acceptance.

Secretary Rory's Ramblings - ZL3HB

Spring is nearly sprung and hopefully we will soon be leaping around in excitement with our new clubrooms. Who wants to plan an opening party? Or maybe I should just shut up & not put the cart before the horse??

We have heard that the Scout Association in Wellington have signed the purchase agreement & it is on its way back down.

That is definitely good news as we thought it might disappear into a black hole in Wellington!!

Will now try & find out how long the Council lease process might take.

We have had a couple of builders turn up to look at garaging options and another put in a sight unseen price?? So things are starting to come together. One wanted us to spend some \$\$\$ & go to a Council pre-planning meeting but we feel it is a bit premature to spend much \$\$ yet. Once we see the colour of the lease we will feel more certain.

Last working bee cleaned up low hanging branches & David ZL2IC's mulcher made short work of them. Next couple of working bees might be more social as we are getting on top of odd jobs & major stuff can't happen until we own/lease the place. If any of you have any ideas as to what you would like to see in your clubrooms please let someone know so we can incorporate it in the planning.

New aerials aren't performing very well so need to look at those next time. With longer days might be able to get a few outside jobs done Tuesday evenings soon.

We have had a bit of interest from other groups wanting to use the building so the committee is looking at that. Not sure how far we need/want to go with that but if we can help other groups we can at least consider it.

See you all next meeting.

Cheers

Rory ZL3HB

From the Hamlarks editor – ZL3KB

There has not been much activity in the 3KB shack recently, unfortunately I have been too busy working ☹

We have had a regular attendance at Idris Road on Tuesday nights from three young hams, but they could use some guidance and help. Maybe we could have some ideas how to encourage them in radio activities? There was a suggestion we could buy some Arduino microprocessor development kits for them to use at the club and to show the students on RadioTek days. These cost around \$40 each. This idea would need to be passed by the committee.

I was given a HP8751A Vector Network Analyser for the club, so it is now in the back room. The screen is a bit dim, but it seems to work well and it is reasonably calibrated according to my own instrument. This should not be used until some basic training has been received, just for the safety of the inputs!

Keep warm, and I am sure you are looking forward to spring!

See you at the next meeting.

73 Kelvin ZL3KB

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 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.

Wanted – Does anyone have info on programming Kenwood commercial gear? Particularly a TK880H-1 and a TK-380 handheld.

Any info appreciated. Rory ZL3HB.

Available - A note to members – check out a notice on the Idris road clubrooms notice board from someone with old radio parts if anyone is restoring old gear etc. He didn't want it in here so have put details up on the board.

HAM RADIO TO FLY AROUND THE MOON

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Heather Embee, KB3TZD,

The Southgate News says that towards the end of the year, radio amateurs will have the opportunity to receive what might just be the ultimate DX. This, from a ham radio payload transmitting the data mode JT65B as it flies around the Moon. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD, reports:

According to AMSAT-UK, China is planning to send a lunar orbiter around the Moon carrying a battery powered ham radio payload known as 4M-LXS. The amateur radio payload will transmit a JT65B signal on 145.990 MHz which can be decoded by radio amateurs using the free W-J-S-T software.

The orbiter is one of the test models for pre-mission testing of Beijing's new lunar probe called Chang'e-5. When finally launched, Chang'e 5 will be tasked with landing on the moon, collecting samples and returning to Earth.

For the initial test, the orbiter will be launched into Lunar Transfer Orbit then will perform a flyby around the Moon while sending data back home. After that it will make a return trip to our world and re-enter the Earth's atmosphere after 9 days.

The launch of this ham radio orbiter is planned for 4th quarter 2014, and is aimed at testing the technologies that are vital for the success of the later Chang'e-5 round trip Lunar flight.

The orbiter has already arrived at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center. As soon as an exact launch date is announced we will let you know. More on this story is posted at amsat-uk.org.

(Southgate, AMSAT-UK, xinhaunet.com)

RadioTek Day – On more under the belt

RadioTek day, which is run by Branch05 four times per year, was held on 10th August 2014, inviting students, young and old, to come to the club for a day to build electronics projects and radios. This time we had six first timers, five second timers and a fourth timer, mentored by our members, the “old timers”!



The students worked hard all day, without pay except for free soft drinks and biscuits, and produced some good projects. For some unknown reason, we had lots of little faults to deal with this time, but they cannot be attributed to any major reason. Our fifth timer built a line following robot kit, which refused to tow the line, and we have to pull in the reserves to sort that out. In the end all faults were cleared up by the members, and everyone went home with a working “wiggly wire game” and AM radio. We look forward to seeing them come back in November to add the next stage to their radios.



As

usual the parents were very impressed with their offspring's work, and we picked up a couple of new members during the day too. We had an excellent turn out from the club team, and so we should say thanks to the RadioTek squad, Rory ZL3HB, Brian ZL2BAT, Graeme ZL3GSL, Rod ZL3NW, Aidan ZL3APB , John ZL3ADF and Kelvin ZL3KB.

By the way - the club has now purchased the complete set of instructions for all the Jaycar electronics kits, so the students do not need to buy them.

Some news for our Six Metre members - G3TCT

I have just received this email from my colleague in the UK. Graham is a long standing 6m operator.

Hi Kelvin- I've just been reading the news about a 6m QSO between Stu, MAOBSM and Paul ZL4AX on 12 April this year. (MA is a special callsign for MM, see <http://www.qrz.com/db>). This was a transpolar QSO, Stu beaming north as was Paul. This is pretty remarkable given the absence of UK to ZL contacts during previous cycles which have been much better than this one. There have been contacts between UK and ZL previously on 6m but they were EME; this is the first terrestrial QSO.

Neither station was running anything out of the ordinary, and the QSO was random, no schedule and not arranged through the internet.

UKSMG propagation expert Jim Kennedy KH6/K6MIO says this is a quite plausible contact. It is very similar to the well documented (but rare) path sometimes seen between KH6 and ZS except in that case both stations are beaming south.

There's just a faint chance this path might open this autumn.

73 Graham G3TCT

Hamlarks Humour

"A GOOD QUESTION. ACTUALLY I GOT INTO THE BUSINESS WHEN SOME CONSERVATIONISTS UP IN CANADA TAGGED ME WITH A TINY RADIO TRANSMITTER."

Minutes of the Branch 05 meeting**Christchurch Amateur Radio Club meeting 2nd July 2014**

(Please note these minutes were not printed in the last Hamlinks correctly, hence they are re-printed here).

Apologies ZL3GIG, ZL3IX, ZL4FZ, ZL3BAW, ZL3APB. Moved to accept Ian ZL3TAO. Carried.

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

Correspondence Q-bit.

Reports **AREC** Last week Ellesmere SAR had a radio training night at the clubrooms. Went off well.

No events on the horizon.

Repeaters All running OK.

QSL Bureau No new cards in but a lot to be collected by members.

Tuesday Night Had cleanout of Scout gear and good attendances by enthusiasts.

Band Report 80m poor, 10m still opening along with 15m and 20m at times.

General Business Intend to see Council next week re lease.

Kelvin ZL3KB is going to give a Kiwisat talk to some schools at the University

Working Bee breakfast to be postponed a week to Saturday the 12th.

SDR – Rob & Greg still investigating. Looking at Hermes kit.

Discussion had on PA system. David ZL2IC moved “that we purchase a wireless microphone system for the PA” seconded Keith ZL3AHL.

Carried.

Broadband – Mike ZL3TMB looking into cost of fibre to clubrooms & whether feasible.

Meeting closed at 8.12PM.

Kelvin ZL3KB then ran a great quiz with a real mix-up of questions!

Christchurch Radio Club meeting 6th August 2014 at Orion

Branch 05 members were joined by members from branches 56 & 68.

Apologies Bruce ZL3TFM. Moved to accept Ian ZL3TAO. Carried.

Minutes of July meeting not moved as June ones published in Hamlinks in error.

Correspondence Lease documents to Council

Reports AREC No report as nothing happening.

Repeaters All OK

QSL Bureau Nothing for last 6 weeks.

Tuesday night Busy preparing working bee sheet. Gaby passed exam and is now ZL3EL.

Band report All over the place

General Business Working bee on Saturday 9th

Radiotek on Sunday 10th

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Visit to Orion:

Neville ZL3OJ, Doug ZL3TLJ & Bill Wilson gave a talk on Orion's radio systems & MIMO and then we were shown around their control room and computer data container. A most enlightening evening. Followed by supper in Orion cafeteria complete with cappuchinos & hot chocolate!!

Christchurch Amateur Radio Club Contacts

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