

July 2014

INTERFACE

MONTHLY BULLETIN - MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
P.O. BOX 432 BLENHEIM NEW ZEALAND



CLUB CALENDAR:

Editor: Caryl Simpson
caryl@simtronics.co.nz

General Meeting; 10 July. EOC, 19.30hrs

Social Group; 17 July. 12.00hrs - The Vines

Committee Meeting; 24 July. 07.30hrs - EOC

VHF Mondays 1930 hrs
146.950MHz, 145.600MHz,
147.225MHz

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

1. Mid Winter Lunch at The Argosy10 August

2. Lighthouse Weekend.....16/17 August

3. Silver Fern Rally.....8 - 15 November

Very quiet over winter as we recover from conference :-)

HF Net Fridays 1930
3.575MHz

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz

MID WINTER LUNCHEON @ THE ARGOSY CAFÉ

MAIN RD, WOODBOURNE

AUGUST 10TH

START 12 NOON FOR CHAT, SEATED TO ORDER 12.30PM



Teas
MEALS
Great
COFFEE



RSVP to Kaye by the end of July
(572 7056 or Katznkaye55@gmail.com)

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at EOC on 29th June, 2014 @ 16:45 hrs

Present: Kaye Hannagan (President), Grant Simpson (Vice-President), Bill Cousins (Sec), Ken Hynds (Treasurer), Paul Rennie

Apologies: Rob Carter, Chris Grant

Previous Minutes: Taken as read.

Correspondence:

Inward: Letter from Dew & Co.

Email from FMTAG regarding repeater information in callbook.

Letters of congratulation from Nelson Branch & NZART HQ re National Conference.

Email resignation from Stuart Watchman

Outward: Email to Rob Carter regarding tower installation.

Phone calls to Stephen Sheat regarding tower installation.

REPORTS:

National Conference: The committee meeting was preceded by a review of the Conference.

Guests for this discussion included Helen & Ron Harris, Christine Conway, Caryl Simpson and Stuart Watchman.

Summarising the deliberations:

- The letters of congratulations from NZART HQ and Nelson Branch were gratefully received.
- Income exceeded expenditure by \$1082 but there are two outstanding accounts to pay i.e. Blenheim School and Dave Scott. Dave had offered his PA services for free but committee felt that in light of the above, \$300 should be forwarded to him. It was noted that, but for the raffles, the above financial situation would have indicated a loss. Christine advised that most of the raffle tickets were sold on the Friday and Saturday, with Saturday morning being particularly busy.
- Helen advised that "thank you" letters have been sent to all alternative programme venues.
- Stuart confirmed that similar letters have also been sent to forum leaders, all of whom seemed satisfied with the arrangements made for them.
- Caryl indicated that the registration process went well and that there was good, positive feedback on the alternative programme. She found Stuart's "To Do" lists following pre-conference meetings helpful.
- Grant suggested that it would have been useful to have alternative beverages to tea/coffee available (e.g. juice or water) at the refreshment breaks.
- There was one complaint about the lack of toilet facilities at the school hall.
- It was agreed by all that the additional cost of not having to shift furniture (apart from the raffle facility) and do cleaning was well worth it and a great relief!

Brief financial report from Ken Hynds: Ken moved (seconded Bill) that \$300 be forwarded to Dave Scott for his much appreciated provision and operation of a fine public address system throughout the Conference.

SAR Callout: Paul mentioned there was a callout to search for a woman missing on the Queen Charlotte walking track earlier this month but that she walked out herself safe and sound.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Inventory of Club Equipment: Ongoing.

Repeaters: Grant advised that all repeaters were operational and functioning satisfactorily.

Replacement Committee Member: Following conference, Stuart Watchman has withdrawn from the committee. Committee decided that a replacement be sought by first advertising the vacancy in Interface. With Chris Grant also away until September, the matter is rather urgent.

HF Tower: Bill has been in contact with Stephen Sheat, consulting engineer, to determine whether he is willing to oversight the installation and whether a building permit will be necessary. Stephen will discuss this with the original designer in Nelson when the designer returns from sick leave. Ken will continue to monitor the local container situation.

Livingston Trust Grant: A letter from Dew and Co. regarding our application for funding for the Tower indicated that no grants are being made this year due to a reduction in funds available.

6m Beacon: An opportunity has arisen to replace the current 6m beacon with a unit recently withdrawn from Mt Climie in the Hutt Valley. The 10m beacon originally on Climie is also available. Bill suggested that the provision of the latter could also be useful for other users nationally. Further discussion is apparently to be held on this.

Coming Events: A "Mid-winter" lunch is to be held at the Argosy Restaurant on Sunday, 10th August probably at 12 noon.

Bill asked members for suggestions as to suitable speakers for future general meetings.

Lighthouse Weekend: 16th/17th AUGUST, 2014, Cape Campbell Lighthouse. Overnight accommodation available in lighthouse keepers' quarters.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 24th July, 2014, at 7.30 pm.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1725 hrs.



With the recent resignation of Stuart from the committee we are in need of at least one more member. This is an urgent matter as we need a quorum of 5 to pass business and now only have 6 on committee, with one on extended leave, so it only takes one absentee at a meeting to fail to reach the required quorum.

Committee meetings are not too long, or onerous, and it is only until the next AGM, 6 - 7 meetings (as they do not meet over Christmas/New Year).

If you can offer your club help in this regard, please contact Bill ASAP.



Guest Speaker at next General meeting (Thursday, 10th July):

Bill Cousins, ZL2AYZ, will show some pictures of gear seen at some overseas radio museums e.g. Australian Army Signals museum (Melbourne), Amberley (UK), Royal Navy Museum (Portsmouth), Radar museum (UK) and RAF Signals museum.

Lighthouse Weekend: Cape Campbell facilities are booked for this event on 16/17 August. However it is expected that, as in previous years, we will travel out in pooled cars (probably need to be 4WD) on Saturday morning and return Sunday afternoon.

Comfortable beds available but you will need to bring sleeping bag and pillow.

Food will be pot-luck, with some organisation planned beforehand when we see who is going.

Always enjoyed by those who have taken part previously, in comfortable and relaxing surroundings. A fierce southerly or an earthquake may force cancellation but hopefully we are over those by then!

Details will be sent to those indicating interest with Bill by 10th August

(b.cousins@xtra.co.nz or 579 3121), and also published in the next Interface.

