

July 2015

INTERFACE

MONTHLY BULLETIN

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. P.O. BOX 432 BLENHEIM NZ

Editor : Caryl Simpson
caryl@simtronics.co.nz

Club Calendar

General Meeting; 9 July EOC, 19.30hrs

Social Group; 16 July 12.00hrs - The Vines

Committee Meeting; 23 July 2015 07.30hrs - EOC



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

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

Branch 22 Notices

1. Show & Tell.....July 9
2. Truck Shed Cleanout.....July 11
3. Mid-winter Lunch Speight's AlehouseAug 9th

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz

NEXT MEETING; SHOW AND TELL. How interesting this turns out to be is up to YOU!!! Any project can be demonstrated *briefly*, whether completed or contemplated, or any other item of interest, eg. qsl card, interesting article, event, item, memorabilia or whatever.



MEMORIAL CONTEST (NZART) Saturday/Sunday 4/5 July 2000 - 2300 each evening
80m only Mixed mode, or SSB only or CW only.

An enjoyable, simple contest at reasonable hours.
2014 Rules still apply. See NZART Website, Contest Rules section.

VK-TASMAN TOP-BAND CHALLENGE

Saturday 18th July 2000 Saturday to 0200 Sunday 160m, 80m, 40m. SSB, CW, TTY, PSK
Various sections, including High Power, Low Power (100W) and QRP (5W).

Be sure and read the rules in the Members' section of the WIA website, as there have been changes from last year.

This contest is the result of the revision of the VK-Tasman contest series and is now the only contest left of this series. As it relies on VK-ZL contacts, it not only deserves but needs good ZL support. Even partial participation is appreciated.

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING
Held at EOC on 11th June, 2015 @ 1935 hrs.

Present: 14 members

Apologies: Wayne Parker, Ken Menzies

Correspondence:

In: Card from Arkansas (ZL2TW)
May/June Break-In

Out: Sympathy card to Topsy Scott ZL2LS
Isabel Reid script to Break-In editor

Reports:

Treasurer Ken Hynds gave a brief statement of the current financial affairs, indicating that current holdings are in excess of \$30,000.

Paul Rennie thanked those who assisted with communications for the recent Cycle event.

Business Arising:

- **Club Future Planning Seminar (17th June):** The Club will be represented by Helen Harris.
- **EOC Truck Shed Cleanout:** Scheduled for **Saturday, 11th July at 10 am.**

General Business:

- **Brayshaw Park Site:** Bill Cousins outlined the purpose of the Working Group and its deliberations thus far. He reminded those present that any decisions that the Group might make would become recommendations to the Committee for support or otherwise, while any decisions requiring expenditure of funds over \$1000 would be placed before a General meeting for approval, or otherwise.
Information has been gathered and considered regarding the choice of accommodation for the site and a recommendation made at the last Committee meeting. This recommendation of an insulated dwelling from Martella Refrigeration, similar to the repeater sites at the Ned and Mt Freeth, was accepted by most.
As the cost was of the order of \$10,000, Bill moved (seconded by Ian Conway) that this expenditure be approved and, after some discussion, was carried by 13 votes, with 1 against. Chris Grant thanked the Group for their work thus far.
In order to further the work of the group towards the completion of the project, Bill asked for a vote of confidence in the Working Group and the mechanism under which it will work. This was carried unanimously.
- **July (9th) General Meeting:** Members were reminded that the July meeting will take the form of a Show and Tell evening and were asked to give participation some thought.
- **NZART Memorial Contest:** Members are reminded that this contest is scheduled for the weekend of 4/5 July. Rules are published in the Callbook Contests section and on the NZART website. This is an enjoyable contest to take part in, as well as only involving 3 hours per night.
- **Bon Voyage!** President Grant wished Chris Grant and Derek Harding best wishes for their impending trips overseas.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2005 hrs and followed by an informative illustrated talk by Stuart Watchman about his recent visits to nuclear and aircraft museum sites in the USA as well as the Hamfest at Dayton.



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at EOC on 28th May, 2015 @ 19:35 hrs

Present: Grant Simpson (President), Chris Grant, Bill Cousins (Acting Sec), Ken Hynds (Treasurer), Rob Carter, Stuart Watchman, Paul Rennie

Apologies: Ken Menzies

Correspondence:

Inward: Letter from Kiwibank re Rates
\$400 cheque from Mountain Bike people.

Outward: Nil.

Reports:

- **Finance:** Ken Hynds gave a brief report on the financial situation.

BUSINESS ARISING:

- **Inventory of Club Equipment:** Ongoing.
- **Brayshaw Park HF site:** With Ken Menzies being overseas the Working Group has not met recently, but the expenditure for the Martella shed was approved at the June General Meeting.
There has been email information regarding software for remote control and Grant has been in contact with the Park Trustees regarding the Internet connection for them via our link.
Chris Grant raised the question regarding accidental incarceration in the shed as has apparently happened elsewhere. Precautions will be taken to prevent such an occurrence accordingly.
- **Kaikoura Repeater:** Ongoing.
- **Guy Wires at Ward:** Ongoing.
- **Succession Planning Seminar:** Chris Grant attended this seminar and was able to report on proceedings.
It was divided into two parts: Business Plan and Succession Planning. She described the former, particularly, as “brilliant” and viable for any club. Points for discussion were Vision, Mission (to achieve the vision), vehicles to be used in mission, and success factors (to measure effectiveness). Chris also tabled a photocopy of notes from the seminar.
- **EOC Key:** Bill to contact Gary Spence (EOC) to affect a key transfer to the President.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Truck Shed:** July 11th is the day to cleanout the shed, beginning at 1000 hrs.
Any assistance from members would be appreciated.
- **Mid-Winter Dinner:** 9th August, at Speights Alehouse. 1 pm.
RSVP to Caryl and Grant Simpson (578 9390 or grant@simtronics.co.nz) by July 31st.
- **Show and Tell:** Members are offered the opportunity to demonstrate or speak on any project of their choosing at the General meeting on July 9th.
- **Branch Website:** Gerard Van Antwerpen has been researching the revision of our website. Grant to contact Gerard regarding the establishment of the site and further progress.

- **Constructors' Prize:** Following on from a suggestion by Willie Wilhelmus that a prize should be offered for the winning project on the annual Constructors Night, the committee approved the awarding of a \$50 voucher from Jaycar for this event in the hope of encouraging participation.
- **6m Beacon:** Grant is to order a crystal for the "new" 6m beacon inherited some time ago from Upper Hutt branch.
- **Lighthouse Weekend:** The date for this event is 15/16th August. The Branch has previously activated Cape Campbell Light and a booking for the facilities previously made needs to be confirmed along with an application to use the ZL6CC callsign. Stuart offered to see to the latter while Bill will confirm the booking if there are sufficient numbers to make the event viable. (See publicity in Interface with respect to this).
- **Phoning List:** Bill circulated a revised phoning list. Ken Hynds is to send Bill a current membership list.
- **Chris Grant Overseas:** Chris is heading overseas for the next two months and was wished Bon Voyage.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 23rd July, 2015

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2025 hrs.



INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND, 15/16 AUGUST 2015

If you would like a relaxed weekend away from home in delightful surroundings at Cape Campbell, taking in the sea air and a dose of ozone, then this is for you. Timing is from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon with comfortable mattresses, good food and relaxed operating as you wish. It is NOT a contest. Accommodation is in the erstwhile lighthouse keepers quarters, quite cosy, and there is room for about eight persons. Cost of quarters hire, food and perhaps drivers' fuel, is levied amongst participants.

We need to confirm with Sally Peter whether we still intend to occupy the premises this year, so please contact me before mid-July so that a decision can be made on activation and to confirm, or otherwise, our booking.

The special event callsign of ZL6CC also needs to be applied for. Please contact Bill on 579-3121 or b.cousins@xtra.co.nz

MID WINTER LUNCH

DATE: 9th August **TIME:** Sit to eat 1pm **RSVP:** by end of July

Join us at 12.30 for pre-lunch drinks and chat with fellow club members (and/or their spouses/partners).

RSVP to Caryl & Grant 578 9390 or grant@simtronics.co.nz.

Speights offer a Seniors' Menu on some dishes - smaller portions. Their meals are generous. <http://alehouseblenheim.co.nz/food-menu/>



PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

Bill, ZL2AYZ and the Brayshaw Park HF station group presented their recommendations for the building at the last meeting. This met with approval so we will soon have a fully insulated solid hut to house the equipment. Good to see some more progress on this project.

I recently met with the Vintage Machinery people to discuss the provision of internet access to their rooms. This will be using the link in to the Brayshaw Park HF hut with another link to the Vintage Machinery. As we will have the capacity to provide this it will suit us all.

It's usually quieter at this time of year but we still have a few events coming up as listed below. The lunch is always a good relaxed time for all so do attend. If you need transport then let us know so that can be arranged.

The Show and Tell can be interesting to see what others are working on or experimenting with but will only work if you bring something along. You might get some ideas for the Constructors' Award in September and remember this year there's a PRIZE!

Come along to the truck shed cleanout and you might pick up some treasure there that you can put to good use. You might even use it to win that prize.

The Lighthouse Weekend can be a fun weekend for those who would like to do some operating from a very different location. Bill will be very pleased to hear from you as soon as possible so the accommodation can be confirmed.

We do need a secretary as Bill has done this job (extremely well) for a number of years now and it's about time he had a rest. Have a chat to him about what he does and put your hand up to take over from our acting secretary. Please!

See you at the Show And Tell next meeting, July the 9th.

- Grant Simpson, ZL2BK

CONSTRUCTORS' AWARD - SEPTEMBER



CONSTRUCTORS' AWARD: Have you started on your entry yet? Please note, there will be a \$50 Jaycar Gift Voucher as First Prize for this year's competition.



There is only one
NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION
of
RADIO TRANSMITTERS.

It serves you at
local, national and international
levels.

*It deserves our full support
if we are to continue to have
the frequencies and operating privileges
we currently enjoy.*

The Association
is what you and I make it.

**"Wanna hear a construction joke?
Sorry, I'm still working on it."**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See what's coming up in **your** dub. Make sure **you** volunteer for something, if able, & mark it on your calendar!

JULY 2015

- 9 Show and Tell
- 11 Truck shed cleanout

AUGUST 2015

- 9 Mid Winter Lunch, Speight's Alehouse
- 15/16 Lighthouse Weekend

SEPTEMBER 2015

- 10 Constructors' Award

