

August 2013

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; 8 Aug, EOC, 19.30hrs

Social Group; 15 Aug, 12.00hrs - The Vines

Committee Meeting; 22 Aug, 07.30hrs - EOC

VHF Mondays 1930 hrs

146.950MHz, 145.600MHz,
147.225MHz

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

1. Lighthouse Weekend 17/18 Aug
(cancelled due to quake damage?)

HF Net Fridays 1930
3.575MHz

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz

GUEST SPEAKER FOR AUGUST: "ZL2BHF's Audio World - The Official Broadcast and More"

Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, will give a presentation and demonstration of putting together the NZART Official Broadcast and his other activities.

PHOTOS FROM NELSON'S MID-WINTER DINNER - WHERE WE GOT TO SIT ON SANTA'S KNEE!



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Held at EOC on 11th July, 2013 @ 1932 hrs.

Present: 15 members

Apologies: Ian Conway

Correspondence:

In: May/June Break-In

Out: Nil.

My wife's credit cards were stolen last week. I haven't reported it yet though...because so far they are spending less than she was!
--

Reports:

Financial report from Ken Hynds (Treasurer)

SAR: Paul Rennie reported the purchase of 12 waterproof bags for the handhelds.

Business Arising:

Lighthouse Weekend: 17/18th August. Seven members have indicated their intention to take part. Details regarding transport and victuals to be decided early in August.

General Business:

Springlands Noise: Bill reported that, despite a reminder email, nothing further has been heard from RSM. It would appear that unless we can locate the source of noise and prove that it originates from non-compliant equipment, little can be done.

Coming Events: The guest speaker at the 8th August meeting will be Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF. Members were also reminded the next Constructors Night is scheduled for September 12th.

Equipment Available:

A VHF/UHF discone antenna.

A UHF multi-element yagi (originally used for WE-FAX reception).

Hugh Lightwood's KDK crystal-controlled VHF transceiver.

Contact the Secretary (b.cousins@xtra.co.nz) or 579-3121

Remote HF Site at Selmes Road:

Previous minutes indicated that the Committee considered the purchase of ZL2JKP's tower and Optibeam HF antenna plus rotator, but decided against the purchase. Since that decision, approval in principle has been offered to re-site the tower at Selmes Road. This led to reconsideration of the decision regarding the equipment and the establishment of a first-rate HF site at Selmes Road for use by members. However, in view of the fact that the cost of removal from Ngakuta Bay and re-installation at Selmes Road would cost in excess of \$1000, the feeling of the meeting was sought in regard to the possibility of such a remote site and the purchase and re-installation of the tower and antenna.

After discussion, which was supportive of the proposal, the following motion was moved by Grant Simpson and seconded by Roger Burdon:

[1] That approval be given to purchase the Optibeam antenna (the tower and rotator being kindly donated to the Club by ZL2JKP) and the relocation of the tower to Selmes Road;

[2] That negotiations with Graeme Gane take place to formalise the location of the tower at Selmes Road with respect to a formal lease;

[3] That the finance to purchase the equipment, remove the tower from Ngakuta Bay and transport to Selmes Road, and re-install at Selmes Road be approved.

The motion was passed unanimously.

N.B: Since this meeting, the site at Selmes Road has become unavailable.

Closure: There being no further business the meeting closed at 1955 hrs and was followed by an illustrated talk by Ian McKercher and Chris De Wagt on their experiences running bike tours in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at EOC on 25th July, 2013 @ 19:30 hrs

PRESENT: Kaye Hannagan (President), Rob Carter (V/Pres), Bill Cousins (Sec), Ken Hynds (Treasurer), Stuart Watchman, John Neal, Grant Simpson, Paul Rennie. *No apologies.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inward; Emails from Foss Leach, ZL2JKP.

Outward; Email to Burleigh Engineering re removal of tower from Ngakuta Bay to Selmes Rd.

REPORTS:

Financial report from Ken Hynds. Payment to ZL2JKP for Optibeam antenna.

SAR report from Paul Rennie. Concern for boys up the Branch river after quake but all well.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Ward Repeater: Maintenance will now have to wait till mid-September due to lambing. However, the equipment is functioning well despite storm and earthquake.

Inventory of Club Equipment: Ongoing.

District Plan "Minor" Amendments: No date set yet by Council for hearing submissions.

Electrical Noise on HF: Action by Radio Spectrum Management now considered unlikely.

Key Register: Ongoing.

Kaikoura Repeater: Ongoing. Grant reported that the removal of Teamtalk gear from the Airways hut has left plenty of space in both hut and on antenna pole. Coax that could be utilized has also been left in place.

Lighthouse Weekend: This event looks likely to be cancelled due to earthquake damage to both road and accommodation.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Coming Events:

- The feature at the next General Meeting (8th August) will be a talk by Jim Meachen.
- Constructors' Night is scheduled for September 12th.
- A visit to the Air Traffic Control Tower is being organized by John Neal for October.

Selmes Road HF Site: Stuart Watchman and Harry Stevens visited Graeme Gane and a written agreement has been drawn up for the Gane Family Trust to consider and sign.

A working party of Stuart, Harry and Bill visited Ngakuta Bay to assist with the removal of the Optibeam antenna which was placed in storage at Selmes Rd.

District Council has confirmed neither Resource Consent, nor Building Consent is necessary for the installation of the tower at Selmes Rd, but there is a 10m height restriction in the area.

Arrangements are in progress for the removal of the tower from Ngakuta Bay to Selmes Rd,

N.B: Since this meeting, the site at Selmes Road has become unavailable.

Google Balloon Repeaters:

Grant is looking into a repeater system for Broadband using balloons.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 22nd August, 2013.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2015 hrs.



Since there is nothing but Minutes in this month's newsletter, I thought I would add this recipe that I saw today. It sounds great (haven't tried it yet) and is so simple even the guys could make them! They are also very healthy so you can sit and eat the lot.

2 INGREDIENT COOKIES

2 ripe bananas

1 C oats (instant or regular but instant holds together better. If using regular, chop it up a little for better combining)

optional extras ideas; choc chips, walnuts, raisins or cinnamon
If you have a sweet tooth, honey could be drizzled on top.

Slice or mash the banana into the oats and mix together.

Put in 1 Tbs blobs onto baking paper or greased tray.

Flatten them a little if desired.

Bake 180C for about 15 minutes.



ready to cook

Since all bananas are different sizes, the needed measurements can vary.

If it seems too runny and the cookies would flatten out too much, add in more oatmeal.

Don't add too many extras as the cookies won't hold together very well.

The ones below left had a handful of choc chips, a tsp or 2 of cinnamon, and 1/4ish C of crushed walnuts added.



Longest nerve in the body?

Did you know that in the human body there is a nerve that connects the eyeball to the anus?

It's called the anal optic nerve and it's responsible for giving people a shitty outlook on life. If you don't believe it, pull a hair from your backside and see if it doesn't bring a tear to your eye!

