

May 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; 8 May. EOC, 19.30hrs

Social Group; 15 May. 12.00hrs - The Vines

Committee Meeting; 22 May. 07.30hrs - EOC

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

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

HF Net Fridays 1930
3.575MHz

1. **Conference**30 May - 1 June

2. Grant becomes a 1st time granddad ..2 Nov (approx)

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz



ROUTE BURN TRACK

L - R; Paul Rennie, his brother in law Beris with his son Johnathon, daughter Mandy, and Beris' brother Dallas (see full story back page)



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Held at EOC on 10th April, 2014 @ 1940 hrs.

Present: 15 members plus 1 visitor (ZL2PKJ).

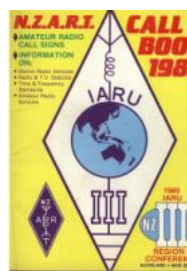
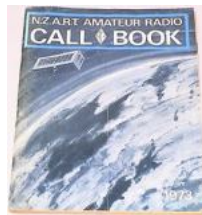
Apologies: John Neal, Rob Carter

Correspondence:

In: Request for Callbook Branch data.
Break-In Mar/Apr
NZART Branch Circular

Email from MDC requesting more information regarding the siting of the antenna tower at Brayshaw park and associated buildings.

Out: Reply to NZART HQ re Branch information.
Reply to MDC with requested information.



Reports:

Financial report from Ken Hynds (Treasurer). There are, to meeting date, 37 paid-up delegates for Conference.

AREC report from Paul Rennie. The SAREX at Hanmer, attended by MARC representatives Paul Rennie and Stuart Watchman, went well.

Business Arising:

Repeaters: We have yet to hear from Airways Corporation regarding Kaikoura. The frame to hold the solar panels for the Ward site is almost ready.

Remote HF Site: The MDC have requested further information regarding the tower site, its base and other buildings (container). This has been supplied.

Information has been sent to John Neal and forwarded to the suggested chartered engineer. John has also photographed the tower and provided some measurements.

Grapetide: Stuart reported the event went well and a couple of points were noted for improvement next year.

General Business:

Coming Events:

May 8th: Next General Meeting. Guest speaker will be Wayne Stronach, Network Engineering Manager from Marlborough Lines. His topic will be 3D printers.

May 30th – 1st June: NZART Annual Conference

NZART National Conference, 2014:

Guest speakers are still required for the Conference Opening and the Saturday evening. Lines of enquiry are being followed.

Members were reminded to get their applications in.

Members were also informed that help will be required over the weekend and it was hoped that most will be available accordingly, to support the event.

Silver Fern Car Rally (November):

A meeting was held with the organizers on Saturday 5th April.

The major questions were:

Is MARC keen to be involved? - Yes.

Will we do it? - Yes.

Financial requirements? - To be determined.

The organizers are happy to have the Base in Blenheim.

Some days could involve 10 stages.

The satellite-based RallySafe system will be employed, but this will only affect the 15km

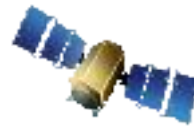


checkpoints on some stages and therefore not affect to a great extent the number of operators required.

Conference Remits:

There are two this year.

Both are outlined in the latest Break-In (Mar/Apr) and members are asked to study these so a vote can be taken at the next General Meeting (May 8) to determine the Branch response.



Membership Promotion:

The Branch circular from HQ advised of a scheme whereby members could help the Branch raise funds by persuading a non-member of NZART to join. 50% of the paid sub of \$99 would then be retained by MARC. The offer is open to any radio amateur who has never been a member, or has not been a member for 2 or more years.

Closure: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2015 hrs. This was followed by an interesting, illustrated talk by Wayne Parker on the subject of earthquakes and their effect on the Marlborough region.



PRO RATA SUBSCRIPTIONS:

In case you are talking to any potential NEW members of NZART, it might be helpful to know that new members joining late in the year may do so with their subscriptions proportional on a quarterly basis (pro rata) to the annual subscription. New members joining after August pay a full subscription which is valid through until 31 December of the following year. Note that pro-rata subscriptions only apply to new members and do not apply to existing members who are renewing their annual subscription.

Don't forget, too, that persuading a new member or a past-member whose membership lapsed two years or more ago to join/re-join means that the Branch benefits from half of their subscription fee.

2014 CALLBOOK:

NZART HQ would appreciate feedback on the usefulness of the CD-ROM callbook which was included with the November/December 2013 Break-In.

The options for this year are:

- 1. A full-size callbook with all information (as produced in 2012)
- 2. A slimmed-down version with Branch info, callsign listings, bandplans, repeater and beacon listings.
- 3. Callbook on CD-ROM, like last year.

Please advise Stuart of your preference, or contact the President at z1vh@nzart.org.nz or c/o NZART, PO Box 40525, Upper Hutt.

A reminder to members that NZART subs can also be paid on a drip-feed basis (\$10/month) if the one-off \$99 per year is a problem.



Our May meeting guest speaker will be Wayne Stronach, Network Engineering Manager from Marlborough Lines. His topic will be 3D printers.



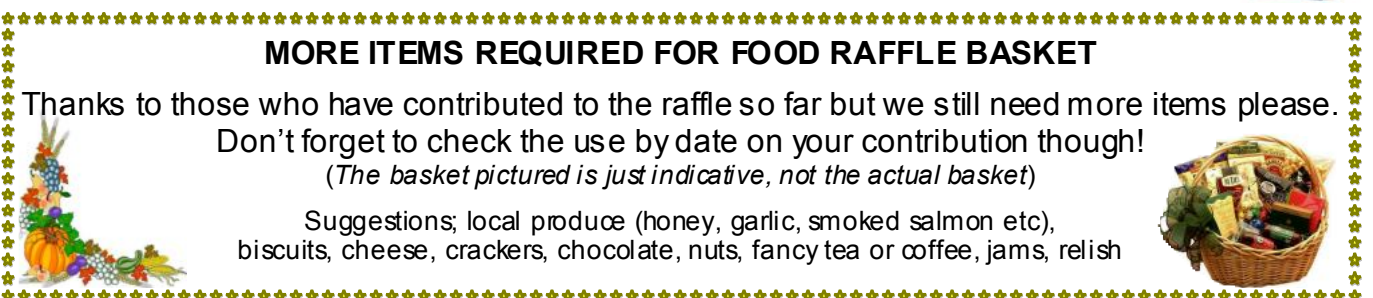
MORE ITEMS REQUIRED FOR FOOD RAFFLE BASKET

Thanks to those who have contributed to the raffle so far but we still need more items please.

Don't forget to check the use by date on your contribution though!

(The basket pictured is just indicative, not the actual basket)

Suggestions; local produce (honey, garlic, smoked salmon etc), biscuits, cheese, crackers, chocolate, nuts, fancy tea or coffee, jams, relish



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at EOC on 28th APRIL, 2014 @ 19:10 hrs

PRESENT: Kaye Hannagan (President), Rob Carter (Vice-President), Bill Cousins (Sec), Ken Hynds (Treasurer), Stuart Watchman, Paul Rennie.

APOLOGIES: Grant Simpson.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Inward:** A couple of enquiries regarding the conference
Email from John Neal regarding engineer's report on tower
- Outward:** Replies to the above.

REPORTS:

Brief financial report from Ken Hynds.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Inventory of Club Equipment: Ongoing.

Kaikoura Repeater: Ongoing.

HF Tower: No reply thus far from MDC regarding submitted additional information.

Stephen Sheat, engineer, has seen photos of the tower and commented accordingly. A site-specific base plan may be necessary.

Rob Carter to take over liaison with Stephen and John Neal.

The Nelson container is no longer available but Ken Hynds is to investigate a possible local source.

Repeaters: The Ward repeater solar panels and frame are at Ian Conway's QTH pending the confirmation of a date for the site visit.

Coming Events: The guest speaker at the next General meeting (8th May) is Wayne Stronach, speaking on 3D printers.

NZART Conference: Since the last scheduled monthly Committee meeting, a special meeting to discuss conference matters was held on the 14th April.

To date, 59 persons have registered for the conference.

Tonight's meeting focused on a list of tasks tabled by Stuart Watchman. Various tasks were allocated.

A list of volunteers for tasks on and leading up to conference is to be drawn up and it is hoped that members will rally round to assist with alacrity.

All major tasks have been settled.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 12th May, 2014, at 7pm.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2045 hrs.



Ray & Brian were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up and trying to figure out the best way to make a 20 meter stealth vertical out of it. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing.

"We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole," said Bubba, "but we don't have a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the flag pole down. She then took a tape measure from her pocket, measured the flagpole and announced, "Five point eight meters," and walked away.

Ray shook his head and laughed.

"Isn't that just like a woman? We ask for the height and she gives us the length!"



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear all

Conference planning is coming along nicely. The committee have worked very hard to make it stress free for attendees and volunteers alike.

In this Interface you will find some tasks that need volunteers to assist the organising crew on the day. Thank you to those who have volunteered to help out already, but more will be needed. Please check the volunteers list below and let Chris know when you could be available.

A reminder also, that if you are planning to attend it would be a good idea to get your registrations in for the early bird special.

It has been a while since a conference was held here in Marlborough and it would be lovely to see as many locals as possible supporting the Conference.

Wishing you a good weekend

Kaye Hannagan
President



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CONFERENCE

To ensure that the conference runs smoothly and successfully we need several volunteers. Tasks include...

- Being part of a team for the Registration, Enquiries and Raffle desks.
- Part of a team to monitor a talk-in station on 695. Friday 1200-1700, Saturday 0800-1000.
- Assistant for Debby Morgan.
- During the Forums we need a club member in each room.

There may also be other tasks.

Please contact me with your interest and availability.

Email chgrant@value.net.nz or phone 5776981



Thanks,
Chris Grant

Registration

Enquiries

A GENTLE REMINDER

You must register for conference if you plan to attend!!!

Even if you just go to the AGM we need to know numbers and make you a pretty name tag to match the others so people won't address you as "hey you!" (or worse).

The AGM itself is FREE (but you cannot partake of the morning and afternoon teas or lunch).

If you wish to attend any of the programmes and/or eat the food provided, you need to pay before 16 May (or we charge extra).

At the time this went out, we only had 9 Branch 22 members registered (plus a few partners, most of whom are actually assisting). Considering I send the Interface to 39 of you, this is a poor percentage. I note some key committee members have yet to register as well!

This is a great opportunity for you to attend a national conference and meet hams from around NZ. REGISTER as an Early Bird before 16 May or it will cost you \$40 extra! I have included a copy of the registration form on the next page to make it easy for you.

I know this repeated what Kaye has said, above, but it bears repeating (especially if you didn't read her report! If you didn't - do it now, and read the rest of Interface while you are at it!).

BLenheim NZART CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
Queen's Birthday Weekend 30 May - 1 June 2014
***** Please note, only ONE registration form per person *****

First Name: Last Name:.....

NZART membership N^o: Callsign:..... Name on Name Tag:.....

Full Weekend (Saturday and Sunday - excludes accommodation)

A – Amateur Programme – includes teas, lunch, dinner and entertainment \$199.00

B – Alternative Programme – includes transport, teas, lunch, dinner and entertainment \$199.00

Friday Night Meet & Greet: Please tick the box if attending

Below is for those who do not wish to pay for the whole weekend but choose selected programmes.

Saturday only:

C – NZART AGM 2014 – no morning or afternoon tea, or lunch

D – Amateur Programme – teas (morning and afternoon) and lunch \$55.00

E – Alternative Programme - teas (morning and afternoon) and lunch \$55.00

F – Evening Programme – includes dinner \$60.00

Sunday only:

G – Amateur Programme – teas (morning and afternoon) and lunch \$55.00

H – Alternative Programme - teas (morning and afternoon) and lunch \$55.00

I – Evening Programme – includes dinner \$60.00

****If payment is made after 16 May 2014, add \$40.00 for late registration***

Total Payment \$

If posting your Registration Form and/or payment, please send to:

NZART Conference
PO Box 432
Blenheim

Registration Email Contact: conference@simtronics.co.nz

For payment via Internet Banking: Account Number: 38 9002 0114897 01.

Please put your Surname or callsign as reference.

For payment via Internet Banking, you must complete a Registration Form and post, or scan then email it, to the above address so we can reconcile the deposit and registration.

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Welcome to
Mackenzie Hut
Altitude 1036m

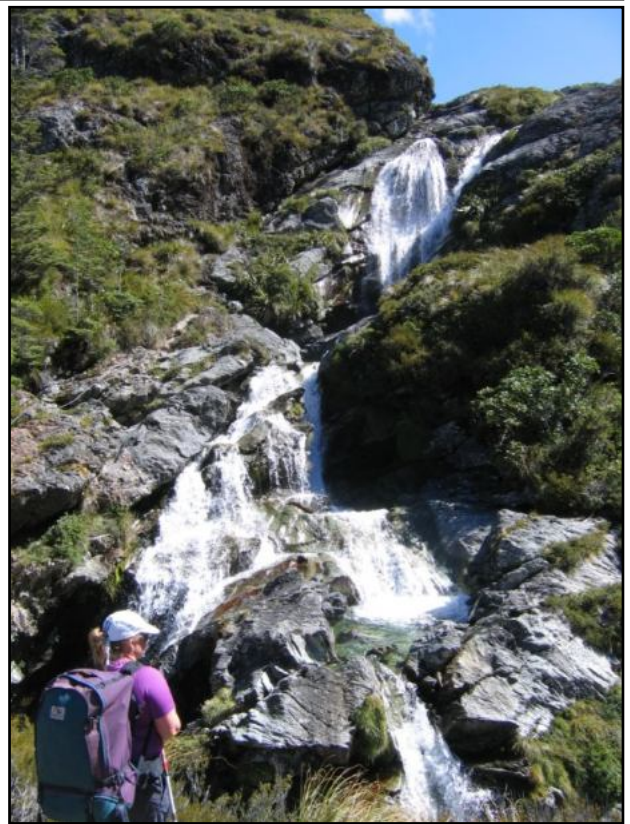
PAUL RENNIE'S FEBRUARY TRAMP OF THE ROUTEBURN TRACK

Darran Mts, looking down on Hollyford valley, from about 1200m



Lake Harris with Ailsa Mts in foreground, Humboldt Mts in the background, above the beautiful Lake Harris

Lake Mackenzie hut



Wonderful Routeburn Falls cascading down behind Route Falls Hut

Darran Mts, with Milford sound entrance in distance



Looking down Routeburn River with the north branch on the left