

October 2013

INTERFACE

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



CLUB CALENDAR:

Editor: Caryl Simpson
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- General Meeting; 10 Oct. EOC, 19.30hrs
- Social Group; 17 Oct. 12.00hrs - The Vines
- Committee Meeting; 24 Oct. 07.30hrs - EOC

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

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

1. Visit Air Traffic Control Tower..... 10 Oct
2. Marlborough Marathon..... 27 Oct
3. Queen Charlotte Challenge..... 9 Nov
4. Santa Parade..... 7 Dec

HF Net Fridays 1930
3.575MHz

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz

GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY 10th OCTOBER

This will take the form of a visit to the Air Traffic Control tower at Woodbourne. In order to accommodate people comfortably in the small space, there will be two "shifts" - one at 7pm and the other at 7.30 pm. Due to limited numbers in each shift, you are asked to contact Bill Cousins, either on 579-3121 or b.cousins@xtra.co.nz, if you wish to be included. First come, first served. The maximum for the combined shifts is 18. On the night, go directly to the airfield, enter the normal entrance to the terminal but turn right by SAFEAIR and travel around the airfield perimeter until you reach the locked gate. Bill will be there to let you in once each group has assembled. Please be there by 6.50 or 7.20 pm. Names already listed (from the last general meeting) are: Ross, Helen, Ron, Gerard, Paul R, Rob, Kaye, Chris G, Bill. **Please advise also your preferred shift.**



Grant hooning up 90 Mile Beach

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING
Held at EOC on 12^h September, 2013 @ 1935 hrs.

Present:16 members

Apologies:John Neal, Ian Conway

Correspondence:

- In:** Expenses claim from Mike Newman, NZART Local Body Liaison.
Repeater annual license fee Invoice.
Card from Ian & Christine Conway
- Out:** Letter re Tower placement to Vintage Farm Machinery Club

Reports:

Financial report from Ken Hynds (Treasurer)
Paul Rennie (AREC) reported on the Police Cold-case exercise at Wharanui Beach.

Business Arising:

Spring Dinner at the Argosy: Kaye reported that there has been a good response to the request for interest.

Resource Management Review: Kaye Hannagan reported on the Submissions Hearing which was held on Wednesday, 14th August. The NZART Local Government Liaison Officer, Mike Newman, presented the NZART submission and Kaye the MARC submission. Other Committee members were also in attendance. It was generally considered that proceedings went well.

Remote HF Site: Efforts to find a suitable site are continuing. A potential site in Bells Road has been looked at but limited tenure could be a problem. Bernie Lankshear reported on negotiations with Larry Pigou and an ensuing interview with the Mayor regarding District Council reserves land. Grant Simpson reported on encouraging noise investigations at the rear of Brayshaw Park. A letter has been sent to the Vintage Farm machinery people to sound out possible support for erection of the tower in their area.

General Business:

Coming Events:

October 27th: Marlborough Marathon

November 9th: Queen Charlotte Classic Challenge

December 7th: Santa Parade

The next General meeting (10th October) is in the form of a visit to the Woodbourne Airport Control Tower. Because of the limited accommodation in the tower, the visit will take place in two parties, one at 1900 hrs and the other at 1930 hrs. There will also be a cap on numbers (probably 18), so please contact Bill Cousins (579-3121 or b.cousins@xtra.co.nz) by 2200 hrs on Tuesday 8th October if you wish to go. Eleven have already indicated their intentions, so be quick!

Field Day Certificate: Stuart Watchman (Jock White Field day Manager) presented the First Place, Midland Region, certificate to the branch for their successful effort in this years contest.

NZART National Conference, 2014: There was considerable discussion as to whether Branch 22 should offer to host the 2014 National NZART conference. Grant Simpson moved (seconded Bernie Lankshear) that Branch 22 host the conference to be held on Queens Birthday weekend, June, 2014.

Silver Fern Car Rally: Rob Carter advised that the next rally is scheduled for the 8 – 15th November, 2014. As this could be the last time that conventional communications would be required, it could also be our last opportunity to be involved.

Closure:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2020 hrs and was followed by the Annual Constructors Night presentations.

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at EOC on 26th September, 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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inward; Burleigh Engineering invoice

Outward; Email letter to Vintage Machinery Society re siting of tower.
Repeater licenses paid.

REPORTS:

Financial report from Ken Hynds,

SAR report from Paul Rennie. Appreciation expressed for AREC involvement in "cold-case" search based at Wharanui.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Inventory of Club Equipment: Ongoing.

Kaikoura Repeater: Ongoing.

HF Tower: The Vintage Farm Machinery Society at Brayshaw Park have indicated that they are willing to support our proposal to re-locate the tower to their area at the Park. Approval now needs to be secured from the Park Administrators and a letter to them is to be sent accordingly. There was also considerable discussion on other aspects of this project, culminating in the following:

[i] Bill to send the above-mentioned letter in time for next Thursday's meeting of the administrators.

[ii] Paul to investigate the feasibility and likely cost of power reticulation to the site.

[iii] Rob to contact David Rothwell regarding accommodation facilities for the site.

[iv] Stuart to monitor TradeMe regarding accommodation.

Insurance: The public liability situation is to be reviewed when the policies come up for renewal.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Coming Events:

Next General Meeting: A visit to the Air Traffic Control Tower at Woodbourne on Thursday, 10th October. Due to limited accommodation in the tower, this will be run in two shifts, at 1900 and 1930 hrs. A roster will be compiled prior to the event.

Equine Event Dates: 31st November/1st December

NZART Conference, 2014: With the decision at the last General Meeting to hold the conference in Marlborough, Kaye and Stuart have been working on various options regarding venues and responsibilities. The findings thus far were presented to the meeting. Further work is continuing.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

24th October, 2013.

CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2040 hrs.



**Grant & friend
at Kerikeri**



CONSTRUCTORS NIGHT, 2013

It was very gratifying to see no less than six offerings this year, from four members.

The winner was Gerard Van Antwerpen, a man of many talents who not only cleans up in the cycling field, but also pulled it off in this event with his DSB QRP 80m transceiver. The design followed that of ZL2BML.

Gerard also offered a modified PC power supply, which he had modified to deliver 13.8V with a 10A capability.

Willy Wilhelmus also had two offerings, one an RF Sniffer of ARRL design to feed an oscilloscope or counter, while the other was a temperature controller.

This was based on a "Silicon Chip" design but modified by Willie to suit his requirements.

Ken Menzies was in there, also with an 80m QRP transceiver of Eric Sears (ZL2BML) design. The unit had been tested by contact with Gerard who was also using his QRP transceiver. Works well, but tuning can be a bit touchy apparently.



A "Silicon Chip" design also featured in the lead-acid battery condition tester built by Bill Cousins. This unit loads the battery under test to draw an appropriately high current briefly and measures the terminal voltage while under load, registering the result on a series of LED's. This provides an indication of battery condition on a good/fair/poor/fail basis.

Our thanks to all the contributors who made the effort to bring along their projects and to the

judges for their wise counsel.

Congratulations to Gerard, who gets to keep the fine trophy made specifically for the event by that artist of the mechanical, Ken Menzies.

