

2KO TIMES

Editorial

Greetings to you all.

This month I thought I'd write about some of the things that have happened in April. You'll see in Ritchie's article that we're committed to extending the clubrooms storeroom back as far as the toilet window, to provide more storage and allow us to clear the main hall of junk (sorry, used radio equipment & other goodies), in waiting for the next table sale. To this end we had a mini-workparty last Saturday when Len, Ian and I moved the galvanized pipes, removed the small remnant of concrete left over from pouring of the original floor last century (1970s actually) and tidied up the site to enable Len to install the boxing in readiness for pouring the floor for the extension in a couple of weeks or so. Our near neighbour, Dave, provided a sledge hammer and helped break up the slab. Well-meaning fellow, our neighbour.

The annual RTTY Sprint also occurred in April, split between the last two Saturdays, one for 80 m and one for 40 m. I wondered if I was deaf because I heard only three stations in the 80 m part and worked one of them again during the second half hour to get a total of four. One of the three told me that he'd only worked three stations total.

The situation was no better for me for the 40 m part of the contest. I worked only three stations none of them twice, but heard probably a total of six to eight including some VKs, although I couldn't work the VKs. Sending CQs didn't get any replies on 40 m although it did the week before on 80 m. Band conditions were noisy and I found signals were being inverted by QRN/M (unless it was RF getting into my sound card which is highly likely). The problem is that by the time you invert your receiver to receive letters, most of the incoming message has come through as unreadable numbers and punctuation.

Despite the trials and tribulations of the RTTY contest it is a good activity to do for an hour or so on a Saturday night and I hope that Allan continues to promote it.

Regards
Hugh ZL2BFB

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2KO Contact Info

- Website - www.zl2ko.org.nz
- Postal - P.O. Box 1718, Palmerston North
- Email - info@zl2ko.org.nz
- President - Richie ZL2KP
- Secretary - Cheryl ZL2VCC
- AREC Section Leader - Len Inkpen ZL2LI
- Editor - Hugh ZL2BFB

Next Club Night: Wednesday May 4

As this is the last-but-one meeting before the Upper Hutt conference, we will be discussing REMITS, and there are 13 of them including ours. They are all listed in the latest 'Break-In'.

Next afternoon meeting: Wednesday May 25

Your Editor will be talking about electronics used in the hills (e.g. for tramping, Search & Rescue, hunting, etc).

Website matters

If you want a username and password for the website, or if you would like an email address via ZL2KO, please let me know. My e-mail address is webmaster@zl2ko.org.nz

You can also send e-mails to the following club officers:

secretary@zl2ko.org.nz

president@zl2ko.org.nz

treasurer@zl2ko.org.nz

committee@zl2ko.org.nz

arec@zl2ko.org.nz

editor@zl2ko.org.nz

Lastly, if there is anything you would like to see on our website that you think might be useful please contact me at webmaster@zl2ko.org.nz

Cheers
Stuart - ZL2SGA

ZL2KO Roster

MAY	1	ZL2LI	MAY	8	ZL2BJA
MAY	15	ZL2ADN	MAY	22	ZL2AUB
MAY	29	ZL2IAN	JUNE	5	ZL2BPX
JUNE	12	ZL2RMH	JUNE	19	ZL2BJA
JUNE	26	ZL2ADN	JULY	3	ZL2FE
JULY	10	ZL2BEQ	JULY	17	ZL2RMH
JULY	24	ZL2IAN	JULY	31	ZL2BPX
AUG	7	ZL2LI	AUG	14	ZL2AUB
AUG	21	ZL2ADN	AUG	28	ZL2FE
SEPT	4	ZL2BEQ	SEPT	11	ZL2RMH
SEPT	18	ZL2BJA	SEPT	25	ZL2IAN
OCT	2	ZL2BPX	OCT	9	ZL2LI
OCT	16	ZL2AUB	OCT	23	ZL2ADN
OCT	30	ZL2FE			

de Pete ZL2AUB

Presidents Page - -

From Richie ZL2KP



Club Rooms

The club room extension is now in progress to extend the storage room to the full length of the building. With a larger and longer storage area, the ever-increasing clutter in the main meeting room can be moved to the larger store-room. This will help make the main meeting room more appealing for visitors. There are also ideas on getting the plaques up to date and even updating the decor.

Contests

For the last year or three there has been a core group of Branch 20 Members taking part in the VHF field day, and heading up to the top of the Ruahines. I would like to invite some discussion of ideas on what we can do to make this contest go forward. Also, is this the only VHF contest we should be involved in?

Travel

This month will see me away again to the large island in the west for two weeks: this time to both Sydney and Melbourne. Also, my free time when I am home on weekends has me in Wellington where Paula is managing the renovation project (and providing a lot of the manpower) for our house in Mana. This means that the erection of the dual-band base antenna here at Potts Road will need to wait at least another six weeks. The signal from 7125 to our home here suffers from a lot of fading (QSB) although it is generally workable with the SlimJim. Reception should be an S point or three better with the new antenna (when I can get it up).

Sheriff

Please read Stu's comments in the newsletter regarding the pirate, and provide Stu with as much useful feedback as you can manage.

Cheers

Richie – ZL2KP / VK2IAX

Richard Prior

President - Manawatu Amateur Radio Society

From the pen of the Secretary:

The **AGM** will be in August. Members to think about who they want guiding the club.

Midwinter Social: 25 June is the date and the venue the Cloverlea Tavern (to be confirmed).

AREC: Jeff Sayer (AREC National Director) has advised that six handhelds are to be issued to us for SAR and other AREC events. We are also expecting an Icom HF transceiver for the same uses and to arrive some time later.

Clubroom extensions: Raised at the last general meeting and now ratified by the Committee at the last meeting. More working bees are expected.

Message from the Branch Sheriff



Pirate Alert

Hi all, I have been trying to catch our pirate but need more help from you! I have caught one pirate which is a breakthrough. However, I'm not prepared to stop here as we still have one pirate in our mix called "Bob". I have heard "Bob" talking on the repeater for a while, now.

Please don't slag him off, even though he is a pain in the ****. However, do get him talking so he stays on the repeater longer so people can track him down. Remember, while you are talking to him either ring me or use the over-repeater (5725 or 8525) and ask for help.

When on the air report that you have him on 7125 and ask if there is anybody else around to get a signal strength report. When you have a good signal from him (on repeater reverse) e-mail me, or another committee member, with the information below.

Put your radio in repeater reverse i.e. on the input to the repeater (147.725 MHz). Then please supply the following data:

- Date and time the intruder was heard
- Your location e.g. home or mobile
- Intruder's signal strength
- Direction of the intruder's signal if possible.

If you can supply this information you will be doing something to help your club by helping catch the pirate. If you don't do anything, then don't complain about pirates on 2m.

Cheers
Stuart

Message from your Editor

Please don't hesitate to send me articles and comments if you want to have your say in the newsletter. Perhaps even a letter to the Editor if you feel strongly about some issue relating to amateur radio. If you send me articles you have come across, please acknowledge the source.

You can contact me via the club e-mail: editor@z12ko.org.nz

Ed.

Day of the YLs

For the first time in the world, "THE DAY OF THE YLs" 21st and 22nd of May 2011

This weekend is intended to gather on the air all amateur radio women around the world and, of course, all OM's are invited to participate.

THE DAY OF THE YL's 2011 RULES

- **Organisers :** Carine F5ISY, Sandra HK3JJB, Petra DF5ZV, Mona KI4PJC
- **Aim of this day:** To promote YL's activity around the world
- **Time:** 21-05-2011 0000 UTC to 22-05-2011 2400 UTC
- **Bands :** 3.5 - 7 - 14 - 21 - 28 MHz

To help competitors to find each other we propose to use frequencies that are +/- 10 kHz from the following activity centre frequencies:

CW: 3.533, 7.033, 14.033, 21.033 and 28.033 MHz

RTTY: 3.588, 7.044, 14.088, 21.088 and 28.088 MHz

SSB: 3.733, 7.133, 14.233, 21.233 and 28.433 MHz

Modes: CW, SSB, DATA (RTTY, PSK ...)

Exchange: RS(T) + Name + YL/OM (e.g. 59(9) Sandra + YL)

The same station may be worked once on each band and mode

Award: An award will be issued to all participants. (SWL's are welcome) who have achieved or heard more than 33 contacts with YL's (PDF file accepted)

Results will be published separately for OM's and YL's according to the number of YL's logged

Logs : E-mail log to f5isy@orange.fr no later than 26-06-2011

Log to contain: Call + OM/YL + Number of YL contacted + Total number of QSO's

Logging software is available from: http://flagw.free.fr/AGW_YL/AGW_YL.htm

Thanks to Allan ZL2SKY for bringing this contest to our notice (Ed.)

Summary of last general meeting

There was a general discussion about the proposed extension to the clubrooms and the members present at the meeting showed their support for the proposal through a show of hands.

Stuart and Mike ZL2UKW spoke about the recent VHF Field Day and showed some photos of the branch field day site at the top of Takapari Road. Stuart also gave us a demonstration of how to send group e-mails from the website and how to post events there.

M.A.R.S

Manawatu Amateur Radio Society

P.O. Box 1718
Palmerston North

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Upcoming Meetings

4th May 2011 - General Meeting
18th May 2011 - Committee Meeting
25th May 2011 - Afternoon Meeting

Sunday morning net is at 9am on 3.570 kHz LSB

Netmasters

May 8th: Barrie ZL2BJA See page 2 of this issue for the latest roster.

Branch 20 Contact Information

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