

Nov 2018

# INTERFACE

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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

## Club Calendar

**General Meeting;** 8 Nov. EOC, 19.30hrs

**Social Group;** 15 Nov. 12.00hrs - The Vines

**Committee Meeting;** 22 Nov. 07.30hrs - EOC



**Editor:** Caryl Simpson  
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**Website:**  
[www.zl2ks.org.nz](http://www.zl2ks.org.nz)

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

**Net Controller;** Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

**VHF - USB Net** Wednesdays 1930  
144.150MHz

## Branch 22 Notices

1. Gary Spence, Marl. EMO - guest speaker...8 Nov
2. AREC Training.....25 Nov
3. Christmas Parade.....1 Dec
4. Club BBQ - Onamalutu?.....? Jan

### NED MAINTENANCE & REPEATER REPLACEMENT

On Saturday October 13 a team visited the 695 site to perform maintenance and replace the repeater. The last two visits were late 2017 to replace the guys to the building with stainless steel hardware to eliminate the annoying crackling noises on signal through the repeater. During those visits it was noted that the door was suffering corrosion and there was a small leak in the roof.

The team went up in two vehicles: Ron 2BDDs land cruiser and David 2WDRs Nissan patrol that looks a bit like something out of a mad max movie. The rest of the team were Ken 2BJV and Stuart 2TW. David also brought Cameron along, a work colleague.

The building door is made like the rest of the hut with a section of colour steel and polystyrene sandwich but has an aluminium frame. The corrosion was at the lower part of the door probably where water could sit. A layer of rust killer and a two pot paint top coat was applied and should fix the problem for years to come.

The leak on the roof was where an overlap existed between colour steel angle and the roof allowing water to pond at the lower side. The same two pot paint was applied around the overlap in a very thick layer which should block the leak.

The VXR9000 repeater was replaced with the original Ned unit which has had its gate level reset. The usual solar panel clean was performed and charge current reached nearly 10 amps at times so there is plenty of charge current and the batteries look in good shape.

Stuart took the chance during the visit to set up on 40 meters phone portable to activate the summit for SOTA, summits on the air. Four contacts are required to activate the site, 5 were made from Kaiapoi in the south to Papakura in the north along with Grant 2BK locally and Warren 2AJ mobile in the Waikato.

Thanks to all those who helped and Ron and David for providing transport.

#### - Stuart ZL2TW

*6 guys and none thought to take any photos????  
These photos were taken in 2006 and 2008.  
I assume everything still looks the same.  
Thanks to Stuart for the report.*

- Ed



**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING EOC**  
**11 October 2018 at 19:30 Hours**

**Present:** Grant Simpson (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Kevin Berg, Graeme McKay, Bill Cousins, Gerard van Antwerpen, Chris Grant, David Rothwell, Ken Menzies, Bernie Lankshear, Ron Harris, Helen Harris

**Apologies:** Gavin Piercy, Ian Conway, Ken Hynds  
**Visitors** – Bjorn Olsen

**Correspondence:**

Inward - None

Outward - Permission granted to Latvia station for remote use of Brayshaw Park

**Finance:** No report due to Treasurer's illness.



**REPORTS:**

**Repeater:**

**The Ned** - Site visit still to be arranged. DR

**Ward** - Ian C has been in contact with Wind Farm rep.

Hopes to arrange site visit with him and land owner within few weeks. IC

**Kaikoura** - Grant having difficulty arranging access key. GS

**Brayshaw Park** - No issues

**Picton** - Transmission failed. Software reset but local noise interfering with operation.

Removed and settings adjusted to mitigate. Upon replacement will have appropriate test gear to analyse. GS

**Golden Bay Link** - Nelson, Branch 26 have followed up.

Shed interior & equipment wet. Equipment dried and operational.

To relocate and investigate direct internet link to ZL2KS GS

**SAR/AREC:**

- AREC meeting 7 Oct with all relevant local organisations to update on SAR/AREC reorganisation. PR

- Cold search at Karamea in November for missing person.

**General Business:**

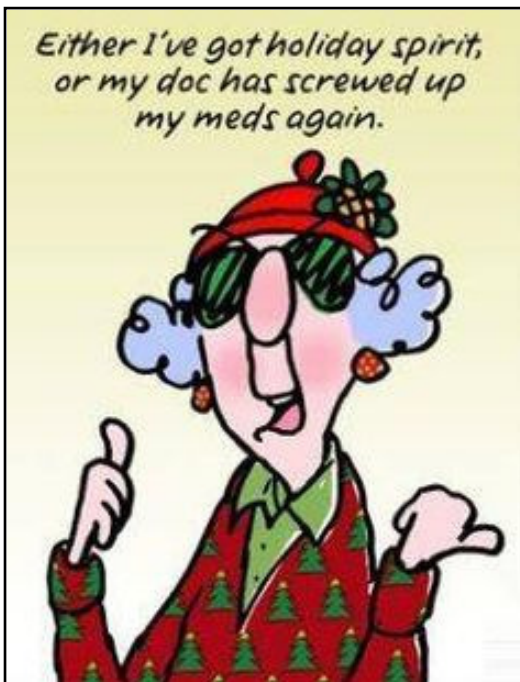
➤ Oceania CW contest this weekend.

**Future Events:**

XMAS parade 01/12/18 @ 3.30pm. Grant took volunteer names.

**Meeting closed:** 20:00

Presentation by Gary Spence, Marlborough EMO, postponed until November GM.



**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING**  
25 October 2018 at 19:40 Hours

**Present:** Grant Simpson (Chair), Don Laing, Ken Hynds, Ken Menzies, Paul Rennie  
**Apologies:** Stuart Watchman

**Correspondence:**

**Inward:** Break In magazine  
MDC responses to submission points 2 & 3  
**Outward:** None

**Finance:** Annual Club NZART sub invoice received



**Matters Arising:**

MDC Submission - MDC advised re submission points 2 & 3 on a proposed ARC (Amateur Radio Configurations) definition. Agreed that this definition was acceptable and to advise MDC accordingly. Still await MDC response to submission points 1 & 4.

DL

**Repeater Report:**

**Picton (Mt Freeth)** - Died again. System has been removed and will be bench tested to determine fault and long term stability once repaired. No local interference detected with spectrum analyser.

GS

**Ned** - Repeater & faulty coax replaced last weekend. Solar panels cleaned, roof & door frame painted, rainwater leak sealed.

**Kaikoura** - Access key. Followed up but still no response

GS

**Weld Cone** - Ian C hasn't heard from wind farm operators re site visit - will follow up with them again.

IC

**Golden Bay Link** - Nelson investigating internet link as radio signal path weak & unreliable

**SAR Report:**

PR

4 & 5 Nov Karamea cold search  
25 Nov AREC training being arranged

**General Business:**

- Chorus Repeater Sites (MARC digipeater at Jamies Knob) - still await advice from NZART. **SW**
- Wayne Parker following up with Marlborough Lines to ascertain possibility of transferring digipeater into their adjacent facility. **WP**
- Presentation by Gary Spence, local Emergency Management Officer, to MARC postponed until November GM
- Club Advertising - Following up on recent Break-In articles proposed that MARC General Meetings be listed on the "Follow-Me" website which is used by local newspapers to list "what's on" activities to advertise MARC. Agreed to start in 2019. **DL**
- Succession & Contingency Planning - Don L suggested that we may wish to consider recording Club technical information for future people and recovery from an unplanned incident especially regarding key technical club members. Grant S advised that he has recorded all equipment configurations, settings screen shots etc in a master folder. The main issue he considered would be to obtain another internet link as presently all via his ISP account.

**Upcoming Events:**

Gary Spence EMO - Next GM 8 Nov 2018  
**XMAS Parade** - 01 December at 3:30pm  
**(MORE VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED)**

**Meeting Closed:** 20:26



You are not asked to help with a lot but the Christmas Parade needs more of you for traffic management. It takes very little time (from 3 - 5pm), you get to see the parade and the joy on the little kids' faces, then enjoy afternoon tea and a natter with the rest of the group. Contact Grant NOW if you can help. [grant@simtronics](mailto:grant@simtronics), Ph: 578 9390, Mob: 021 158 6634  
Thanks to the few who have already offered their help but more are desperately needed!