

October 2016

# INTERFACE

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

## Club Calendar

- General Meeting; 13 Oct. EOC, 19.30hrs
- Social Group; 20 Oct. 12.00hrs - The Vines
- Committee Meeting; 27 Oct. 07.30hrs - EOC



Editor: Caryl Simpson  
[caryl@simtronics.co.nz](mailto:caryl@simtronics.co.nz)

Website:  
[www.zl2ks.org.nz](http://www.zl2ks.org.nz)

## Branch 22 Notices

1. ?????

VHF Mondays 1930 hrs  
146.950MHz, 145.600MHz,  
147.225MHz  
Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

I hope you have all been working on your entries!

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930  
144.150MHz

---

# CONSTRUCTOR'S AWARD WINNER LARA MONTYRE



**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING EOC**  
**08 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 19.40 HOURS**

**Present:** Grant Simpson ZL2BK, Don Laing ZL3DN, Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ, Paul Rennie ZL2RE, Lara Mdntyre, Graeme McKay ZL1BDS, Ken Menzies ZL2BJV, Ian Conway ZL2BGL, Bill Cousins ZL2AYZ, Nelson Bateman ZL3FM, Stuart Watchman ZL2TW, Kaye Hannagan ZL2KU, Rob Carter ZL2IW, Conrad Nalder ZL1JB (Visitor)

**Apologies:** Harry Stevens, Chris Grant, Ron & Helen Harris, Gerard van Antwerpen ZL2GVA

**Previous Minutes:** Taken as read. Agreed by those present as a true and correct record. No matters arising

**Correspondence: Inward** - Agreement re loan of KenwoodTS-590S at Brayshaw Park  
- Club Insurance Policy  
- Club License Fees  
- Email re Jamboree  
**Outward** - MDC Submission

**Finance:** Accounts presented

**REPORTS:**

**Repeater:** Kaikoura - Repeater relocation work on-going. Aim to complete by Christmas.  
NED - still has 'crackle' to rectify. All other repeaters are working satisfactorily.

**SAR/AREC:** Routine training & HQ liaison.

**Brayshaw Park:** Internet link to BPMVFM including BPMVFM end is now operational. Link mounted high on tower to clear trees but need to check alignment. Also BPMVFM end link relocated to avoid building blocking signal path. Link data rate was improved by changing frequency but fine tuning proceeding to try and improve further. Kenwood TS590 operational software is being implemented. Some signal noise to track down and attenuate. Aim to have complete system fully operational by 30/09.

Card purchased to interface the antenna rotator control.

Action - Grant

BPMVFM Service Agreement – No further update on document signing by BPMVFM

Action - Stuart

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Scout Jamboree**

Email received from Marie Smolniki but generally found to be confusing as to what is specifically required from the Club. To reply requesting clarification and also to advise that as local volunteers we did not expect to be charged for food & accommodation. To contact Nelson Club to ascertain what they are considering.

Action - Don

**Marlborough District Council Proposed Marlborough Environmental Plan**

Submission has been handed in to MDC. 1000+ submissions made so expect long process.

Hard copy circulated at meeting and available on Club website.

Action - Don

**Health & Safety**

Club organised Field Days - draft Hazard Identification form still to be drafted.

Grant to provide typical Contractor forms as examples to assist.

Action - Don

**Museum Award**

Bill Cousins presented International Museums Weekends certificate awarded for his participation on behalf of the Club from the Marlborough Museum during June 2016.

**Redundant Kordia Site**

Meeting advised of redundant Kordia site on DOC land above Havelock that maybe useful for a repeater and extending coms range into the Sounds area. Agreed that Committee to investigate further.

**Future Meeting Topics/Speakers**

**October** Stuart Watchman (Paul Dixon has broken ankle)

**November** Gerard van Antwerpen (Paul Dixon may be available)

Visit to the new Coast Guard boat and ERC building be arranged during summer.

Action - Paul

**AREC Radio Kit**

Tait radio portable briefcase has been made up by Ken Menzies and displayed at meeting.

Meeting closed 20:45 followed by the Constructor's Award.

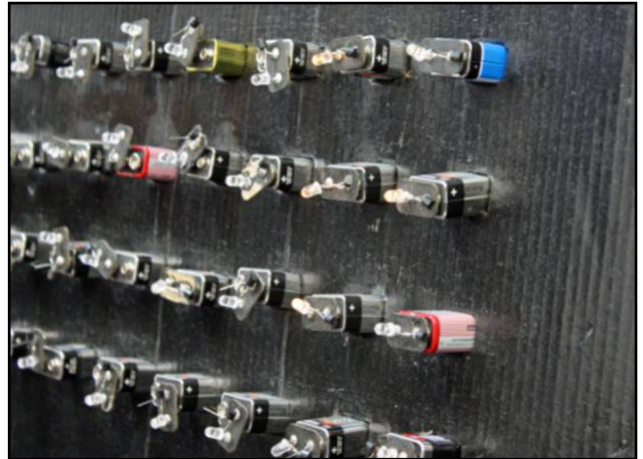
## PRESENTATION – CONSTRUCTOR’S AWARD

**Ken Menzies** - Tait Radio briefcase

**Bill Cousins** - dc - dc converters for 30V transceiver power supply considering RFI of various switch mode devices

**Lara McIntyre** - Electric charge detector school pupil project

### Constructor’s Award awarded to Lara McIntyre



Ken showed the portable self contained Tait VHF radio in a Pelican case. This was complete with a 17 A/H battery and kept charged and ready for any emergency use.

Bill explained his construction of a 12 to 30 volt dc converter for use with the Yaesu 200 Watt HF radio at the remote hut in Brayshaw Park. He cleverly used multiple small dc - dc converters in parallel to supply the required current. After testing for noise, he found some that cause no HF interference.

First time entrant, Lara, deservedly won this year’s competition showing the very clever use of old, used, 9 volt batteries recovered and tested by her class students to check they still had a useable charge. Connected to these are junction FET’s with open gates and LEDs connected in series to demonstrate the operation of the FET with a very high impedance voltage applied to the gate. Many of us had fun with balloons rubbed in our hair and on clothing to get a static charge on them. We then held the balloon close to the FET and the LED came on. I doubt any of us had tried this before and I think we had as much fun with it as her students.

This was a great demonstration of what can be done with very little resources and a lot of enthusiasm!

To save you counting, there are 100 sets of batteries and FET’s etc on the panel. Well done Lara!

Cape Palliser lighthouse



Lat. 41° 36.8’ S, Long. 175° 17.4’ E. Light first shone 27.10.1897. There are 253 up to the lighthouse. Cast iron tower 18m high, 78m above sea level. Light flashes 2x every 20 secs & can be seen for 48kms. 1,000W lamp operates on mains electricity with diesel generator on standby. Originally burnt oil, converted to diesel-generated electricity 1954 then mains electricity 1967. Fully automated 1988.



Ken M will be Chair for the next two meetings as Grant (and I) will be overseas (with Ron & Helen Harris & Ian McKercher) touring Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Your next newsletter will be sent (I hope) from Phnom Penh, Cambodia and will probably include a few photos of our trip.

We have just finished a tour of the lower North Island with an MX5 group. Above, is Grant having fun crossing a ford at Cape Palliser.

**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**22 September 2016 at 19:30 Hours**

**Present:** Grant Simpson, Don Laing, Ken Hynds, Rob Carter, Chris Grant

**Apologies:** Stuart Watchman, Paul Rennie,

**Matters Arising:** Grant S will be away for next 2 meetings. Ken Menzies will chair in his absence

**Correspondence:**           **Inward:** Nil                           **Outward:** email to Marie Smolniki re Scout Jamboree

**Finance:** Accounts tabled.  
Bill expected from Stuart W.

**Repeater Report:**

Kaikoura refurbishment is unlikely to be completed until 2017. Rob will check out availability of redundant radios with the intent of getting the repeater temporarily operational until final installation completed.                           **RC / GS**  
Also 6m beacon frequency little unstable and may need another module.

**SAR Report:** No report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Upcoming Events:**

Silver Fern Rally – no further news to date. Rob to try and contact to clarify. Getting too late to organise anything but maybe able to help on limited remote stages.                           **RC**

**Brayshaw Hut**

- Agreement with the Vintage & Farm Machinery Society still awaits their signature & return.                           **SW**
- Internet link but tree obstructing signal path limiting speed.                           **GS**
- Need to instruct MARC members on operation of the remote HF internet link soon so they will be ready to operate it when available.                           **CG**
- Hut earth bonding to be complete and some 'whistling' interference to be rectified.                           **GS**

**Club Meeting Talks**

October – Gerard Van A to be asked as Stuart W unavailable                           **DL**  
November - Don L managed to contact Paul Dixon, ZL3VY, re the Mini VNA Antenna analyser. Paul had broken his foot. November is possible but to confirm closer to time.                           **DL**

**MDC Proposed Environmental Plan**

Submitted and await MDC response.                           **DL**

**Jamboree**

No response from Scout Rep Marie Smolnicki to clarification email. Nelson Branch also advise that she has not been in contact with them. Paul R & Bill Cousins have offered some activities.  
To try and telephone Marie before next General Meeting.                           **DL**

**Antenna Analyser** – returned by Chris G having been repaired. Borrowed by Don L



Earpiece from a crystal radio set made in Stalag V111B. Part of a display in the Waiouru Army Museum.

**WE HAVE TRAINED OUR MOTORBIKES NOT TO CLIMB ON TO CHILDREN.....PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR KIDS ARE SAFE AND KEPT OFF THEM.**

Sign on the seat of this BSA motorbike in the Waiouru Army Museum.



Castle Point



Lat. 40° 54.1' S, Long. 176° 13.9' E. Light first shone 12.01.1913. One of last attended lighthouses built in NZ. Cast iron tower 23m high, 52m above sea level. Light flashes 3x every 30 secs & can be seen for 48kms. 1,000W lamp operates on mains electricity with diesel generator on standby. Originally burnt oil, converted to diesel-generated electricity 1954 then mains electricity 1961. Fully automated 1988.

**Cape Campbell Lighthouse; (for comparison)**

Lat. 41°43'39.37" S Long. 174°16'31.30" E.

The original lighthouse at this site was first lit on 1 August 1870. This lighthouse was constructed of timber, and in 1898 these timbers were found to be decaying. This led to the construction of the current cast iron tower, 22m high, which began operating in October 1905. Range 35kms. Originally fuelled by oil. In 1938 replaced with electricity powered by diesel generator then subsequently replaced by mains electricity 1960s. Fully automated 1986.



Aerials of some sort on the outskirts leaving Waiouru ☺



**DON LAING**

(Last month)



Display at Waiouru Army Museum

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

See what's coming up in **your** dub. Make sure **you** volunteer for something, if able, & mark it on your calendar!

**OCTOBER**

13..... Gerard Van Antwerpen?

**NOVEMBER**

10..... Stuart Watchman?

