

May 2017

INTERFACE



MONTHLY BULLETIN

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

CLUB CALENDAR

- General Meeting; 11 May, EOC, 19.30hrs
- Social Group; 18 May, 12.00hrs - The Vines
- Committee Meeting; 25 May, 07.30hrs - EOC



Editor: Caryl Simpson
caryl@simtronics.co.nz

Website:
www.zl2ks.org.nz

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

Net Controller; Ken Hynds ZL2KHZ

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

- 1. St Clair Half Marathon..... 13 May
- 2. Mountain Bike Ride..... 21 May
- 3. Mid Winter Lunch, Wairau River Wines..... 16 July

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays 1930
144.150MHz

MID WINTER LUNCH

DATE: 16th July

TIME: 12 noon (come earlier for a pre-lunch drink or chat by the fire)

PLACE: Wairau River Wines Restaurant
11 Rapaura Rd (cnr Rapaura Rd & SH6)



RSVP to Simpsons **BEFORE 10 July**
grant@simtronics.co.nz or 578 9390
for catering purposes. Thank you.



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING EOC

13 April 2017 at 19:45 Hours

Present: Grant Simpson (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Ken Hynds (Treasurer), Chris Grant, Bill Cousins, Don Jamieson, Ian Conway, Paul Rennie, Ron Harris, Wayne Parker, Gerard Van Antwerpen, Ken Menzies, Kevin Berg, Kaye Hannagan, Rob Carter,

Apologies: Stuart Watchman, Helen Harris

Previous Minutes: No matters arising

Correspondence: Inward – 'Break-In'

Outward – Application to Lottery Commission for quake damage to Weld Cone repeater **KH**

Finance: Applied initially to 'Blue Door' for Weld Cone repeater relocation due to earthquake but referred to Lottery Commission which had a special earthquake relief fund. Granted \$1500

Payment for Grape Ride still pending plus outstanding Subs.

REPORTS:

Repeaters; All seem to be operating OK.

Weld Cone - Still no access and Police still assessing. Hollow Top site visited and alternative space to be determined as insufficient space adjacent to Marlborough Lines site. Still to negotiate with Land Owner. Site VHF linking checked out OK with hand-held. **GS**

Havelock - Kordia site not feasible and alternatives being investigated.

Kaikoura – Hardware is being prepared **GS/KM**

Repeater License fees confirmed \$50 each transmitter. Total fee for Club is \$500

SAR/AREC: To assist Christchurch group with Dip Flat SAR exercise early May

Brayshaw Park: Work ongoing. Facility is now available for listening only. Sorting out rotator control system and earthing system to be completed. **GS**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Jock White Field Day – Tent replacement suggested during present winter sales. Committee to consider.

Mountain Bike Ride – 21 May 2017.

St Clair – 13 May 2017.- Chris G to follow up with Stuart W. **CG/SW**

Meeting closed 20:00

Presentation by Grant on the Club's Repeater system and operation of the Brayshaw Park HF facility.

LEFT-OVER BBQ PATTIES

There are a lot of patties taking up space in the Simpsons' freezer. These were leftover after the club BBQ at Onamalutu and the combined BBQ at Carluke.

The corn patties are always popular (they cost more than the beef patties but are bigger too) which is why there are only 3 packs left so first in first served.

The beef patties are all free frozen loose so you can order any number you like.

Corn patties - 3 packs

8 patties per pack = \$7 per pack

Meat patties - 50c per pattie

Ring or email Grant if you want to buy any.

grant@simtronics.co.nz or 578 9390



"It's a Weber PalmPit Pro handheld barbecue with 24 Btu, rechargeable battery pack, and applications for roasting, smoking and open-flame cooking."

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
27 April 2017 at 19:35 Hours

Present: Grant Simpson (Chair), Don Laing, Ken Hynds, Ken Menzies, Paul Rennie, Rob Carter

Apologies: Stuart Watchman,

Correspondence Inwards/Outwards: None

Finance: Bank Account – Grape Ride to be invoiced & paid

SW

Matters Arising: None

Repeater Reports:

All are operational

Weld Cone - To contact Police re vehicle access.

When relocation proceeds equipment to be bench tested with Kaikoura equipment to ensure linking etc works.

Hollow Top possible site identified but Land Owner authorisation is still to be obtained

GS / RC

Ned – Site working party postponed due to poor weather forecast

Kaikoura – Re-establishment still to be determined.

Location of various repeater equipment components to be determined.

SAR Report: Successful search for lady lost on Queen Charlotte track.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Brayshaw Hut;

Kart Club antenna pipe lengthened, which has improved signal separation.

Link has been installed to Wood Workers' Guild.

Rotator interface now working.

Working on a remote system switch on as it presently can be switched off remotely which then requires a hut visit to switch on.

Hut working party 29 April (subject to weather) to lower and realign hut link antennae.

LL

National Conference;

Proposed amendment to Remit 2 suggested by Kaye Hannagan

All Remits to be discussed & agreed at next MARC General Meeting.

Any amendments will have to follow formal procedures and be tabled at National Conference..

Upcoming Events;

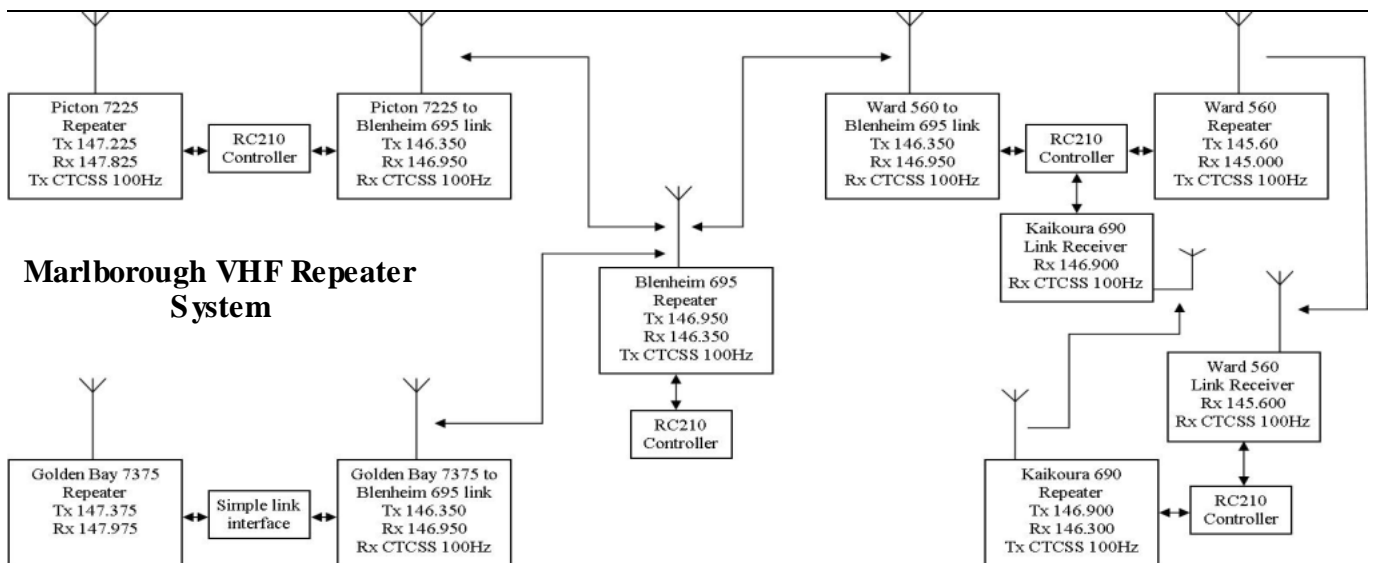
Mountain Bike Ride – 21 May 2017.

St Clair – 13 May 2017. Await info from Chris G & Stuart W

Midwinter Dinner - midday, 16 July, Wairau River Wines Restaurant (SH6 / Rapaura Road)

CG/SW

Meeting Closed: 20:05



Marlborough VHF Repeater System

Where RC210 controllers are used, a short 50mS tone is inserted to indicate the origin of the link signal. Different pitch for each site.
 The controller is used for various control functions and alarms using DTMF tones.
 The first digit of each command is 1 (Picton), 2 (Blenheim), 3 (Ward), 4 (Kaikoura)

- 06 Alarm messages OFF
- 07 Low power
- 08 High power
- 09 Auto power
- 41 Link ON
- 42 Link OFF
- 48 Battery Voltage
- 53 30 seconds silence
- 58 Temperature

Alarms generate a voice announcement, repeated every few minutes. This announcement can be turned OFF but automatically resets once the alarm clears. Door alarm is generated when the door is opened for example.

Brayshaw Park Remote HF update.

The rearrangement of the Ubiquiti 5GHz link equipment to Brayshaw Park happened last Saturday. The link equipment at Grant's house had already been changed to operate to the Brayshaw Park hut via the Kart club. Fortunately the path from the Kart club to our hut still worked even though the equipment on our tower had not been realigned yet.

The tower was lowered and the link facing the Kart club was realigned. This is a Ubiquiti Nanostation M5 which has a second LAN port which can be used to connect to any other device. It can also power that second device. Therefore we moved the Ubiquiti Nanostation Loco M5 facing the Vintage Farm Machinery building was moved to the top of the tower and fed from the one facing the Kart club. This meant a short 2 metre screened LAN cable could be used with the hope it would reduce any HF interference from the link gear. No LAN switch would be required in the hut and only one Power Over Ethernet (POE) screened lead up the tower.

The much improved signal levels mean there should be no noticeable speed loss in bad weather as there was before.

There had been interference caused by the original layout and a quick test showed the only interference was coming from the laptop being used and not the network itself.

Gerard has added links to the presentations Grant did last month on our repeater (on the repeater page) and the remote HF site at Brayshaw Park (on the Remote HF Station page).

If you want to try connecting to the remote HF gear you will need to download some software. It's free and available from: <http://download.remotehams.com/>
At present you cannot transmit as it's running on a very poor antenna at Grant's house while final bugs are ironed out.



Paul aligning the radios on the tower

