

November 2022

INTERFACE

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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

CLUB CALENDAR

General Meeting; 10 Nov, 7.30pm, EOC
Social Group; 17 Nov, Dodson St Beer garden
Committee Meeting; 24 Nov, 7.30pm, via Zoom



HF Net Tuesdays & Saturdays
2030 hrs 3876kHz

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays
1930 hrs 144.150MHz

BRANCH 22 NOTICES

1. 10 minute talks - "Interesting Shorts"..... 10 Nov
2. Christmas drinks & supper (bring a plate)..... 8 Dec
3. Onamalutu BBQ..... Jan
4. Antennas Part 1..... Feb

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

Net Controller; Rob Carter, ZL2IW

Website: www.zl2ks.org.nz

Editor: Caryl Simpson caryl@simtronics.co.nz **MARC Contact:** marcbranch22@gmail.com



Straight Key Night (Summer Edition) will be held on Sunday 4 December from 9pm to 10pm on 80 metres. SKN is not a contest, but it is a great chance to dust off that straight key and let us hear what it can do.

New to CW? No problem, we'll happily match your speed.
Details are at radio1nz.com/skn

The birthday cake was cut by Bernie Lankshear ZL2AZK, as he was the oldest member with the longest continuous membership in attendance.

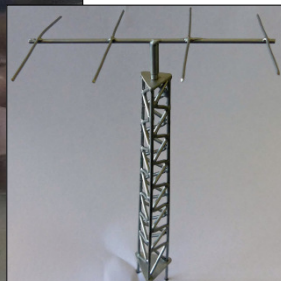
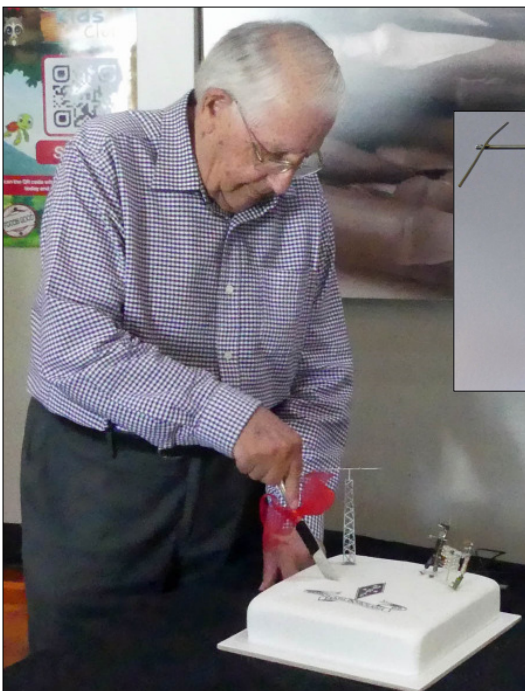
The cake, a mixed fruit cake with almond and white fondants, was made and decorated by me (Caryl).

The tower was made by Ken Menzies ZL2BJV and the two wee men holding the 90 sign was made by Neil Shepherd ZL4LO.

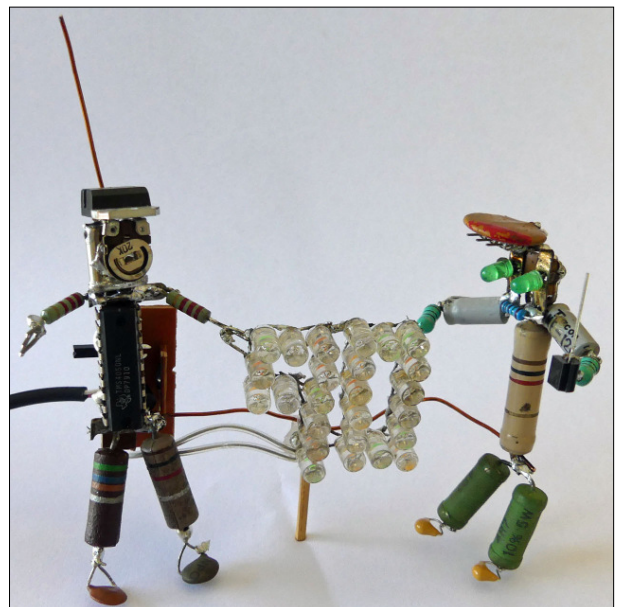
The "90" could remain unlit, glow white, or flash multi-colours as it was made up of little LEDs, powered by a cellphone battery.

Note the figure on the right is even holding a little handheld!

Thanks to Ken and Neil for going above and beyond the brief.



More cake photos & the recipe, as requested by several people, on Page 5



**Marlborough Amateur Radio Club General Meeting
at EOC, 10th October 2022 at 19:40 Hours**

Present: John Errington (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Greg Barton (Treasurer), Ian Conway, Don Jamieson, Ken Menzies, Antony Winter, Graeme Dillon, Helen & Ron Harris, Paul Rennie, Gary Lodge, Stuart Watchman

Apologies: Gerard Van Antwerpen, Bill Cousins, Grant Simpson, Tony Daiken

Correspondence: (since General Meeting 08/09/22)

Inward

09/09/22 Stuart Watchman Acceptance as Branch 22 rep at NZART AGM
09/09/22 Treasurer Insurance annual payment
18/09/22 NZART Feedback request re 2023 AGM date
26/09/22 Kiwibank Statement
11/10/22 Sheila Cunningham EOC roster swop for 20/10/22

Outward None

Matters Arising:

2023 NZART AGM date – Query from NZART discussed and general opinion was that it should remain as at present on the King's Birthday public holiday weekend.

Finance & Membership:

Membership - 55

Payments made for annual insurance renewal & repeater license fees

Upcoming Payments - Branch 22 NZART subscription due 30/11/22

Stuart W confirmed that MARC participation with the 2023 Wine & Food festival has been confirmed although MARC exact role to be confirmed.

Events:

- **NZART Conference** - report in last Interface. No offers yet for 2023 AGM
- **90th MARC Anniversary award**
 - Caryl S circulated various draft award certificates
- **90th MARC Anniversary lunch**
 - Caryl S circulated draft slide show for proof reading
 - attendance confirmation required asap
- **Field Day Coordinator** - Bill C has resigned and replacement required. Stuart W volunteered
- **Antenna Workshop** - a lot of interest but no coordinator has volunteered yet.
Suggestion that a series of workshops covering interested topics.

Repeaters & Systems:

Grant S & Gerard VA absent

Alternative site ownership being determined.

Speaker Schedule

Tonight Gary Lodge

November Interesting shorts

- Encrypting DTMF, or how to defeat teenage boys with a tape recorder (John E)
- A high wire act in Tory Channel (Paul R)
- Building a ham shack in a hotel room (Nick B)
- A scary Halloween story (John E)

December - Christmas Drinks

January - Onamalatu picnic

February - Antennas Part 1

March - AGM

April - Marlborough Lines Comms system

May - David Rothwell on waterproof joints (Antennas Part 2)

June - John E – Antenna software (Antennas Part 3)

SAR / AREC: Nothing to report

AREC/SAR SLA being studied to understand finance flow

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Ian C suggested alternative Field Day site be considered

Meeting closed 20:15

Next Committee meeting: 27th October 2022 by Zoom, 7:30pm

Next General meeting: 10th November at EOC, 7:30pm

Presentation: Gary Lodge spoke about his interesting life and challenges.



Helen ZL2HH Harris
with her AREC certificate
in appreciation of her long
service

The club has radios available, as well as an antenna analyser, for members to borrow when required. Contact a committee member for more details if you would like to avail yourself of any of these. marcbranch22@gmail.com

MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING
via Zoom 27th October 2022 at 19:35 Hours

Present: John Errington (Chair), Don Laing, Graeme McKay, Gerard van Antwerpen, Bill Cousins, Paul Rennie, Greg Barton, Grant Simpson, Nick Batt

Correspondence: (since GM MOM 13/10/22)

Inward:

- 16/10/22 Tristan Crockett NZART communication 'Discord' service invitation
- 17/10/22 Stuart Robinson, Nelson Branch President, 90th Birthday invitation apology
- 19/10/22 Mark Gooding, NZART President, 90th Birthday invitation acceptance
- 21/10/22 B. Cousin's Wine & Food festival award no longer NZART listed
- 24/10/22 G. Lodge Withdrawal from EOC radio roster
- 25/10/22 P. Rennie Apologies & financial approval of \$460 for AREC yagi
- 26/10/22 C. Simpson 90th Birthday guest list (40)
- 26/10/22 Ian Wright, Northland Branch President, 90th Birthday congratulations & Whangarei 75th birthday special event call sign.

Outward:

- 11/10/22 Companies Office Changing regulations for Incorporated Societies
- 14/10/22 Stuart Robinson, Nelson Branch President, 90th Birthday invitation
- 14/10/22 Mark Gooding, NZART President, 90th Birthday invitation

Matters Arising:

Invitation from Tristan Crocket of North Shore club to everyone to join a 'Discord' communications server was discussed. Agreed that to be distributed for individuals choice but of no present benefit for a Club account.

Finance: Membership 55

Payment was made for Repeater license renewal to 30/9/23

Upcoming Payment NZART subscription ZL2KS due 30/11/22

Paul R approval request to purchase a Yagi antenna for AREC put on hold pending investigation into where, why & how separate AREC funds originated and also considering minimal activity since 2019.

Similarly with the Reserve account.

GB/JE

Events:

- 90th Birthday: 3 speakers John E, Stuart W & Caryl (re power-point presentation)
Cake finished
40 attendees at present. To be confirmed with Armadillos restaurant **DL**
Mark Gooding, NZART President, attending. Await flight details to arrange pickup **DL**
- Award Certificates – 'Sounds' picture (No 2) selected with black font lifted into upper Blue for legibility
- Anniversary Award – All proceeding. Information letter being distributed.
Stuart W & Bill C will operate Club station.
- Field Day Coordinator – Stuart Watchman offered at last General Meeting. Ian Conway said he will assist.
- Wine & Food Festival – Stuart W has been notified. Await details.
- Onamalutu picnic – Set date at next general meeting.

Repeaters & Systems:

- **Kaikoura** - Now operating at full power. Proceeding with alignment checks **GS**
- **Brayshaw** - No issues **GS**
- **Reverse Beacon** - Operating at Gerard's QTH with Brayshaw antenna.
Slight degradation from his 80m loop but performing OK. Picking up a lot of 10m CW contacts
- **Repeater Development**
Still trying to identify owner of possible site. Suggestion to use Council on-line map system **PR**
Draft a letter to Clubs inquiring about their standard system specifications **JE/DL**
Only spare is a Controller. Suggestion to set up two mobiles in a package as a standby system to be temporarily used in the event of a repeater failure.

Speaker Schedule:

November - John Errington, Nick Batt & Paul Rennie – 4 short talks.

December - Christmas Drinks

January - Onamalutu picnic

February - Antennas Part 1 – Antony Winter Introduction & demonstrations

March - AGM

April - Marlborough Lines Comms system. Bill C await ML response

May - Antenna Part 2 – David Rothwell on waterproof joints

June - Antenna Part 3 – John E on antenna software.

AREC: No incidents

PR

- SAR demo at Pernod Ricard Winery on 9th November which members welcome to attend.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- EOC Radio Roster - Gary Lodge has resigned from Roster. Don Jamieson has been approached and await his response. Volunteer request in Interface **DL**
- Gerard vanA suggested that surplus financial funds be placed in a Term Deposit account to maximize interest income. To be investigated and proposal for next meeting **GB/JE**

Meeting Closed: 20:40hrs

Next Committee Meeting: 28th November 2022 (via Zoom) **NB** Changed

GREETINGS FROM NORTHLAND

From Members of Whangarei ARC ZL1AM, Branch 28 wish Branch 22 a very happy forthcoming 90th birthday. Whangarei also celebrates its 75th birthday at same time.

We are using ZL75WARC as our special callsign. Confuses a lot thinking we are on Chatham Island! Hope to see your lot on the bands. Info qrz.com

73 de lan ZL1MVL - President Whangarei ARC ZL1AM Station op ZL75WARC



Hello All,

We'd like to invite everyone to join a communications server that Philip ZL1PSH and I, Tristan ZL1TC (the lead for this project) have created for amateur radio operators in NZ. It's on Discord and is called ARNZ, Amateur Radio New Zealand. Discord is a free application that can be installed on computers, tablets, and smartphones. There is also a Raspberry Pi client available.

The server is not specifically for the North Shore Radio Club, as we'll be opening invites to other clubs and in-fact all amateur radio operators in New Zealand. Discord is a great way for groups and organisations to communicate via text, audio, and video. The more people we can get on the server, gone will be the days of needing to ask others for email addresses or cell phone numbers. Or even asking when an event is due to occur, as events and attendees can be registered and checked in real time. So please, come join us and help create a community, for all hams.

Here's how you get the app, install it, create an account and verify said account - https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/360033931551-Getting-Started#h_01EYMPFKBTRY1SMJKTSJ39T2K

Again, install it on your pc, mac, tablet or smartphone. Or all of your devices.

It may be easier for you to simply click on the server invite and create your account. Here is the invite to ARNZ - <https://discord.gg/xXa8MmCd9q>

In the interests of transparency, this is completely non-profit and there are to my knowledge, no conflicts of interest. We expect nothing in return, other than the knowledge communication in the amateur radio community will become stronger and much, much easier. This is also not intended to replace email or existing comms.

Feel free to invite all amateur radio operators from other clubs or individuals. Everyone is welcome.

- Tristan Crockett & Philip Sharp, ZL1TC & ZL1PSH



We need some volunteers for the Thursday EOC radio check roster.

If we get a few more participants it means you only participate once a month which makes it easy for everybody.

Also keeps us in the good books with EOC management and use of the meeting room. Contact the committee marcbranch22@gmail.com

Lesser Known Knights joke from Neville ZL2BNE

Medical joke from Stuart ZL2TW

Lesser Known Knights of the Round Table

- ♦ The knight who was afraid to fight: Sir Render
- ♦ The knight no one believed: Sir Real
- ♦ The knight too big to sit at the table: Sir Round
- ♦ The knight who designed the table: Sir Cumference
- ♦ The undercover knight: Sir Veillance
- ♦ The knight who was never killed in battle: Sir Vivor
- ♦ The knight who exceeded expectations: Sir Passed
- ♦ The knight who showed up unexpectedly: Sir Prize
- ♦ The knight who overcame obstacles: Sir Mount
- ♦ The knight who funded the kingdom: Sir Tax
- ♦ The knight who kept the maps up-to-date: Sir Veyor
- ♦ The knight who drank too much: Sir Rhosis
- ♦ The knight who stood in for the king: Sir Rogate
- ♦ The knight who stood out among the rest: Sir Perb
- ♦ The knight with the fragile ego: Sir Amic
- ♦ The knight who performed in three rings: Sir Cus
- ♦ The saddest knight of all: Sir Rowful
- ♦ The knight who wasn't needed: Sir Perfluous
- ♦ The knight who liked to dance: Sir Prance Alot



"Somehow your medical records got faxed to a complete stranger. He has no idea what's wrong with you either."

CHRISTMAS CAKE

Several asked for the recipe so here it is...

1kg mixed fruit
½ tsp vanilla
1 tin condensed milk
1 ¼ C cold water (fill empty condensed milk tin as it = 1 ¼ C)
1 Tbs marmalade (plum, or whatever you have on hand)
2 Tbs brandy (whiskey, or whatever you prefer)
1 tsp mixed spice

Place above ingredients in large pot, simmer, stirring, for 4 - 5 minutes.
Add 300g chopped up butter & stir until butter has melted.

Remove from heat & cool (if you don't have time then don't bother)

Add

2 ½ C plain flour
¾ tsp baking soda

Mix well then place in 20cm tin lined with double baking paper.

I put heavy brown paper or cardboard under baking paper as well, to stop edges burning and/or drying out)

Bake at 140°C for approx. 4 hours

Important: Place sheet of brown paper over top of cake after 1 hour or it will burn.

Once cooked, remove from oven & pour over another 2 Tbs brandy.

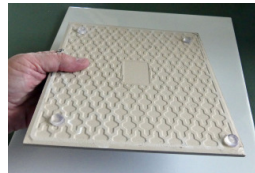
The club cake was cooked in a 25cm square tin.

Cake was 5cm high plus 1cm extra for almond and white fondant.

26cm square tin gives you a 3.5cm high cake

24cm round tin gives you a 6cm high cake.

*Tile underside
with feet*



The cake "plate" is a 30cm ceramic tile with round, plastic, stick-on 'feet' attached under each corner. The 'feet' are bought in strips from places like Mitre 10 and Bunnings. Tiles can be bought in different sizes and make excellent plates for cakes, especially heavy ones like fruit cakes. They also don't mark when you cut the cake, even if you use an electric knife, and are easy to wash clean. The feet make it easier to get your fingers under the edge of the tile to lift it off a flat surface like the table top.

BRANCH 22's 90th CELEBRATIONS

We had 37 attend on the day. 38 were booked but one was having a great time at the A&P Show and had forgotten to put the lunch in his diary! We were sorry Bill and Marie Cousins had to send a late apology but Bill's sister died and her funeral was set for the same day, then Marie got Covid so she was unable to attend funeral or lunch. It was nice to have NZART president, Mark Gooding (pictured right), join us though.

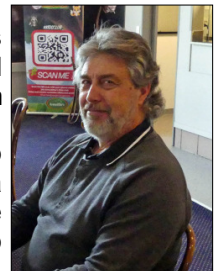
There were a number of apologies from those who were working, or had other commitments that day but our thoughts went to those unable to attend due to illness or ongoing medical treatments. On a brighter note, we had some former members attend and able catch up with other members, so that was good.

We had Armadillo's restaurant to ourselves (as we took up all the tables) so were able to set up the PowerPoint presentation in one corner and play it on a continual loop, until the data projector overheated so we had to give it time to cool down again before re-starting the programme. Another corner had the cake on one table then several photo albums and old club newsletters from 1980 - 82 on another. People were able to look through these at their leisure.

I didn't hear any complaints about the food so I assume everyone enjoyed theirs as much as I enjoyed mine, when I eventually got it. They miscounted the orders so were one steak short. This meant I had a 10 minute wait to get my main but it was OK as they offered me a discount, or free dessert, so I enjoyed an apple crumble while most people had a piece of cake. I *hate* fruit cake and fondant!

Before, and in between, the courses we had a brief welcome from club president, John, and a congratulatory speech from NZART president, Mark, as well as a not quite so brief talk by me (John asked me to do this) explaining how much work went into putting the PowerPoint together. Paul Rennie also made AREC presentations to Grant Simpson and Ron and Helen Harris. All got certificates for long service plus Ron & Helen got boxed medals for Long Service while Grant got a lapel pin.

I was also presented with a lovely bunch of flowers from AREC.



L-R: Mark Gooding, Paul Rennie, Grant Simpson, Helen & Ron Harris, Caryl Simpson (flowers from AREC in thanks for supporting Grant when he was ARECing.

There were a lot of discussions about past events and people no longer with us, so it was good to share these memories as part of the 90th birthday. People wandered about and chatted before and after the meal and I think the lunch went very well with everyone enjoying themselves. These photos were taken by me. Linda Laing's photos follow on from page 9.



Bernie ZL2AZK & Brenda Lankshear
Graeme ZL1BDS & Heather McKay



Linda & Don ZL3DN Laing
Dianne & Ken ZL2BJV Menzies



Chris & Gavin ZL4IY Piercy

Maricel & Dave ZL2WR Rothwell
with Anthony ZL1VBX Winter



Graeme ZL3TJM & Doreen Dillon



Ian ZL2BGL Conway & Jack ZL2BHU Reddan



Greg ZL2GBX Barton



John ZL3TIL Errington



John ZL3LI Neal



Jack ZL2BHU Reddan
& Sam ZL2SWT Tennent



Robyn & Ken ZL2KHZ Hynds



Chris Piercy

*Linda was right, Amadillo's is a terrible place for taking photos.
It is either too dark, or you couldn't get away from the light from the windows!
A flash was often too bright or got confused by the shining light. Curtains wouldn't close.*



Audrey & Les ZL2BN Rice
Helen ZL2HH & Ron ZL2BDD Harris



Paul ZL2RE & Sharon Rennie
Tony ZL2BTU & Faye Daken



Heather & Wayne ZL2AIE Parker



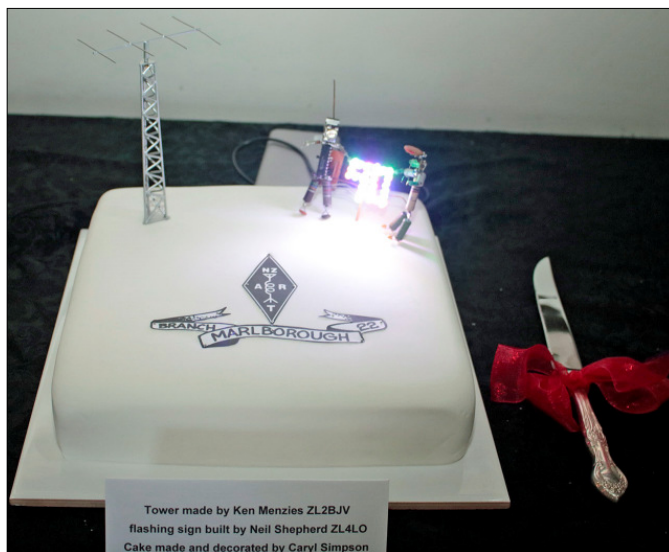
Grant ZL2BK Simpson receiving his AREC certificate
in recognition of his long service and support to
AREC for over 40 years. He also got a lapel pin.
Presented by Paul ZL2RE Rennie





Ron ZL2BDD & Helen ZL2HH Harris with their AREC certificates, medals & lapel pins, in recognition of their long service and support to AREC. Ron for over 40 years and Helen, 38 years. Presented by Paul ZL2RE Rennie.

All photos from here on, apart from the one on the left, were taken by Linda Laing. Between the two of us, we got photos of everyone present - except for John Elvy! He must have ducked!



Red ribbon to hide the blood if anyone cuts themself
Caryl Simpson explaining how she did the PowerPoint



Dave ZL2WDR Rothwell & Anthony ZL1VBX Winter
Don ZL3DN Laing & Les ZL2BN Rice



Grant ZL2BK Simpson & Paul ZL2RE Rennie





Robyn Hynds, Caryl Simpson, Ken ZL2KHZ Hynds,
Ian ZL2BGL Conway, Jack ZL2BHU Reddan
John ZL3TIL Errington, Grant ZL2BK Simpson,
Ron ZL2BDD Harris

Helen ZL2HH Harris, Bernie ZL2AZK
& Brenda Lankshear
Ken ZL2BJV & Tony ZL2BTU Daken



NZART President,
Mark ZL2UFI Gooding

Grant ZL2BK
& Caryl Simpson





Mark ZL2UFI Gooding giving a brief congratulatory speech on behalf of the NZART, with the PowerPoint running in the background.



Branch 22 President, John ZL3TIL Errington giving a brief speech

