

January 2024

INTERFACE

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

Club Calendar

General Meeting;.... 8 Feb, 7.30pm, EOC
Social Group; 18 Jan, Dodson St Beer Garden
Committee Meeting; 18 Jan (week early), 7.30pm, Zoom



HF Net Tuesdays & Saturdays
2030 hrs 3876kHz

VHF - USB Net Wednesdays
1930 hrs 144.150MHz

Branch 22 Notices

1. Club BBQ Onamalutu 21 Jan
2. Wine & Food Festival..... 10 Feb
3. Jock White Field Day 24/25 Feb
4. Carluke Combined BBQ..... 9 March



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

**CHECK OUT PAGE 3 FOR
DETAILED INFORMATION ON;**

Branch 22 Onamalutu BBQ (RSVP required)

Jock White Field Day

**Combined Branch 22/26 Carluke BBQ
(RSVP will be asked for next month for this)**



**READ ALL
ABOUT IT!**



**Ron Harris, Ken Hynds,
Caryl Simpson (65!!) &
Jim Meachen (Nelson)**

SUBS WERE DUE DECEMBER!!

\$30.00 Single Member \$40.00 for Family Membership
Internet Payment only please.

Kiwi Bank Acc. N^o: 38 9002 0114897 00

Please Quote Call Sign and "Subs" as reference

Payment before December 30th would be appreciated.

Don't make us send the boys around!

If you're unsure if you've paid, ask treasurer Greg gjbarton@gmail.com



MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING

at EOC, 14th December 2023 at 19:30 Hours

Present: John Errington (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Greg Barton (Treasurer), Bill Cousins, Ron & Helen Harris, Paul Rennie, Gary Lodge, Gerard Van Antwerpen, Stuart Watchman, Graeme Dillon, Ken Menzies, Ian Conway, Don Jamieson, Tony Whitaker, Graeme McKay, Ken Hynds

Apologies: Nick Batt

Visitors: None

Health & Safety: No issues raised

Previous Minutes: As published in Interface agreed by those present as a true and correct record **Carried**

Matters Arising: None

Correspondence: (since Committee Meeting 23/11/23)

Inward

27/11/23	S. Watchman	Confirmation of Wine & Food festival 10 Feb 2024
01/12/23	Kiwibank	Deposit account maturing
02/12/23	CARC	'Hamlarks' magazine & NZART conference raffle
05/12/23	NZART	Break-In magazine

Outward

Responses & distribution of the Inwards as applicable

Motion: *The Inwards correspondence be accepted and the Outwards endorsed* **Carried**

Matters Arising: Included in following business

Finance & Membership:

Membership 58 paid, 1 unpaid, ZL3LI, ZL4IY will transfer by year end

Accounts (available upon request)

Income Subs (16 individual & 7 family) & Interest

Payments Nil

Motion: *The financial report be accepted and payments approved* **Carried**

Events:

21 Jan 2024	Onamalutu Picnic. Noted same date as Nelson BBQ	
10 Feb 2024	Wine & Food Festival. S. Watchman to issue Volunteer request email	SW
24/25 Feb 2024	Jock White Field Day. D. Laing to book PortaLoo. I Conway to contact Land Owner	DL/IC
9 Mar 2024	Nelson & Marlborough combined function at Carluke	
April 2024	Weld Cone repeater visit	

Repeaters & Systems:

Kaikoura - No advice

DR

Picton Battery Replacement - No advice

DR

6m Beacon - Original Beacon repaired and operational. Working on new model.

BC

Brayshaw Park - Replacement Internet link POE supply module installed and 40/80m hash reduced

GvA

System installed & operational since 2/12/23 however rotator control interlink cable missing
Wood Workers Guild requesting reinstatement of their internet link

Speaker Schedule

Feb 2024 SOTA etc discussion & demonstration

March 2024 AGM

PR

SAR / AREC

Standby Call - Out Tuesday 12/12/23

EOC HF Tuner - All sorted

Thanks for assistance at Thursday CD radio checks

A&P Show Remittance - Await next NZSAR meeting 2024

General Business:

Gerard has various Morse training programs on his lap-top for members to trial if interested.

Meeting closed: 19:45

Next Committee meeting: 18th January 2024 (**NB: 1 week earlier**) by Zoom, 7:30pm

Next General meeting: 8th February 2024 at EOC, 7:30pm

Replacement Internet link POE supply module available to install and hopefully cure 40 & 80m hash

Dear Life,

*When I asked if my day could get worse,
it was a rhetorical question, not a challenge!*

BRANCH 22 BBQ ONAMALUTU DOMAIN, 18 January: RSVP Required!

BBQ will be fired up at 12 noon but come along earlier for a natter beforehand. Some may have over-nighted there so there will be company.

Club will supply the BBQ, meat, bread & sauce.

Bring a salad to share (with utensils to serve), or whatever else you want to have with the meat, and maybe a dessert/cake/after dinner nibbles to share as well. There is always an interesting selection of salads and plenty of food for all.



You will need plates, cutlery, cup and a chair. I also suggest sun screen and insect repellent! John will have his coffee machine for those who need the real thing rather than instant.

RSVP to caryl@simtronics.co.nz before 18th January (next Thursday) for catering purposes.

WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

Stuart thanks those who put their hand up to help at the festival, he now has enough volunteers.



JOCK WHITE FIELD DAY - 24/25 February: Stuart, ZL2TW

Hi all, a heads up for field day which will be on the weekend of February 24/25.

Site: at the end of Dillons point road, last driveway on the left.

When: set up begins at 1200, radio ops start at 1500 to 2400, then 0600 to 1500 on Sunday. Tear down at 1500 on Sunday.

We operate from the clubs tent on 80 and 40 metres, phone and CW.

Ian is away this year, so I would appreciate another helper to organise things. There will be more information in the next interface and watch for emails.

If you are planning on coming, let me know.

Most of you will know all about this and have been there before BUT if you are new to this and want to know more, see my e mail address below.

It is always a fun event,

Stuart ZL2TW

clareandstuart@xtra.co.nz

A change from the "Come & be outstanding in your field" jokes that usually accompany Field Day info



MARLBOROUGH / NELSON AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS' COMBINED BBQ AND FOX HUNT

WHEN: Saturday March 9th, 2024 **TIME:** 11am onwards **WHERE:** Carluke Hall, Rai Valley

Bring: Salad and/or dessert to share, drink, plates & eating utensils, chair, sun hat, sun screen, handheld for Fox Hunt (and a spare if you have one to lend to someone who hasn't).

Both clubs will be providing meats, bread, onions, sauce.

You may stay overnight on Friday if you wish, the toilets will be open for your convenience. Plenty of space for campervans/tents. I think it still costs only \$10 for a powered site.

If there is anyone who would like to attend but needs transport, let me know and I am sure something can be arranged.

RSVP to caryl@simtronics.co.nz by 3 March for catering purposes!

NEW YEAR'S PORTABLE ACTIVITY DAY - Gerard Van Antwerpen, ZL2GVA

For a few years NZART has organized a New Year's Portable Activity day on, you guessed it, the 1st January.

Last year I set up in the back of our section and made some nice contacts with other stations that had ventured a bit further from their home QTH.

This year I made the leap as well and left the security of the home section, only a few km's away I set up on the Wairau River stop bank. As I took my gear on my bike I was a little bit limited in what I could bring along. Some shelter from the sun in addition to my hat would have been nice! A beach towel provided a little bit of comfort while sitting on the ground.

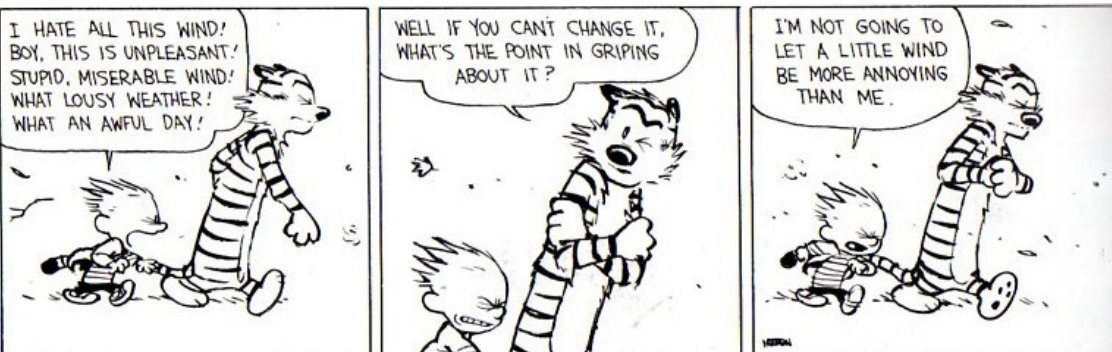
There was a handy gate to tie my telescopic post to (scouted out beforehand!). The weeds, although very colourful and nice to look at, were quite tall and liked to grab hold of my thin antenna wire. This is quite flimsy, any hard pulling to free it would have snapped it, so it was carefully untangled on more than one occasion.

The radio I used was a Xiegu G90 (20W) on loan from Nick, ZL2NEB. This performed very well, and making contacts was very easy (phone and cw). It got fairly hot in the end, but this was more due to the sun on the black aluminium case than from operating. There was a great number of stations on the air all over NZ, many on hill tops (SOTA) or in parks (POTA).



Graeme ZL1BDS at Marfells Beach and John ZL2BH at home were the only Marlborough contacts I made. I also had one eye-ball QSO, with Neville ZL2BNE, this lasted considerably longer than the on the air ones! One of his dogs provided some excitement by running through my 'shack' and pulling a few wires, but no harm was done.

After about an hour and half things got too hot and I packed up to get some lunch at home. There were still plenty of active stations at that time, so my contact tally could certainly have been higher than the about 15 QSO's I made.



More details about the Carluke Combined BBQ will be in the next issue