

April 2024

# INTERFACE

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

## Club Calendar

**General Meeting - April NO MEETING, See Ward trip Social Group;** ..... 18 April, Dodson St Beer Garden  
**Committee Meeting;** 25 April, 7.30pm, Zoom

**HF Net Tuesdays & Saturdays**  
2030 hrs 3876kHz

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

## Branch 22 Notices

1. Ward Repeater Visit/Picnic, 10am Ward Hall.... 20 April
2. Duplexers, Aerials & Stuff ..... 9 May
3. Winery Tour (TBC)..... June
4. HamCram..... 22/23 June



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

**Net Controller;**  
Rob Carter, ZL2IW

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

**Editor:** Caryl Simpson [caryl@simtronics.co.nz](mailto:caryl@simtronics.co.nz) **MARC Contact:** [marcbranch22@gmail.com](mailto:marcbranch22@gmail.com)



Marlborough's Tony Daken, ZL2BTU, presents Nelson's president, Dylan Smart, ZL2SAR, with the Interbranch Challenge Trophy.

It is so long since they won it, they probably forgot what it looks like!

Not only were we seriously outnumbered this year but they had 4 new, young (and by young I mean teens and early 20's) members who can hurl a Tait a lot further than our more senior members.

At least we beat them in the brains department by winning the quiz by as big a margin as they won Toss the Tait.

Read my report to see how they won the Fox Hunt ;-)

**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 92nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**EOC Rooms, 14 March 2024, 19:30**

**Present:** John Errington (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Greg Barton (Treasurer), Grant Simpson, Gerard Van Antwerpen, Paul Rennie, Bill Cousins, Graeme McKay, Ken Menzies, Anthony Winter, Nick Batt, Graeme Dillon, Helen & Ron Harris, Wayne Parker, Tony Whitaker

**Apologies:** Ian & Christine Conway, Gary Lodge, Rob Carter, Kay Hannagan

Welcome by the President, John Errington

**Health & Safety:** No issues raised

**Minutes of 2023 AGM N<sup>o</sup>.91:** As published in Interface agreed by those present to be a true and accurate record  
*p. John Errington s. Graham McKay* **Carried**

**Matters arising:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**REPORTS:**

**Financial:** The 2023 Balance sheet and Reviewer's report distributed and accepted.

*p. John Errington s. Helen Harris* **Carried**

The Treasurer advised that the Club's income had been slightly improved mainly due deposit account interest. A&P show assistance with NZSAR recently paid. Await invoice payment from the Wine & Food Festival.

Paid membership is 61. Subscriptions presently not renewed to date is 6

Accounts Review Appointment

**Motion:** That present Reviewer, *Blenheim Accounting Ltd.*, be reappointed

*p. John Errington s. Greg Barton* **Carried**

**The following reports were published in the February 2024 Interface:**

President, Examiners, QSL Manager, Webmaster / Librarian, Social Group, AREC, Repeater & Editor

Reports taken as read and accepted

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Nominations were received for the following positions -**



<b>President:</b>	John Errington
<b>Secretary:</b>	Don Laing
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Greg Barton
<b>Committee:</b>	Nick Batt Gerard van Antwerpen Graeme McKay David Rothwell
<b>QSL Manager:</b>	Bill Cousins
<b>Examination Supervisors:</b>	Bill Cousins Gerard van Antwerpen
<b>Call Sign Trustees:</b>	Paul Rennie Graeme McKay
<b>Repeater Trustees:</b>	David Rothwell Stuart Watchman
<b>Social Group Coordinator:</b>	Christine Conway
<b>Librarian:</b>	Gerard Van Antwerpen
<b>Interface Editor:</b>	Caryl Simpson
<b>Web Master:</b>	Gerard Van Antwerpen
<b>AREC Section Leader:</b>	Paul Rennie



*This is the 2nd Tait used for Tossing the Tait.  
Written on it is;  
"The Tait" #2  
In service on 9th March 2024*

**Motion:** That the Election of Officers be Accepted

*p John Errington s. Don Laing*

**Carried**

**Motion of thanks to Stuart Watchman for his long and dedicated Committee member service**

*p John Errington s. Greg Barton*

**Carried**

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Subscription for 2024 ~ 25:

Proposed by Gerard Van Antwerpen that the subscription for 2024~25 remain as at present

*p Gerard Van Antwerpen s. John Errington* **Carried**

**Meeting closed:** 07:40pm

*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](mailto:marcbranch22@gmail.com)*



## MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB GENERAL MEETING

at EOC, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 19:40 Hours

**Present:** John Errington (Chair), Don Laing (Secretary), Greg Barton (Treasurer), Grant Simpson, Gerard Van Antwerpen, Paul Rennie, Bill Cousins, Graeme McKay, Ken Menzies, Anthony Winter, Nick Batt, Graeme Dillon, Helen & Ron Harris, Wayne Parker, Tony Whitaker

**Apologies:** Ian & Christine Conway, Gary Lodge, Rob Carter, Kay Hannagan

**Visitors:** None

**Health & Safety:** No issues raised



**Change of General Meeting Format:** The President explained that the format of the General Meeting is changing with the emphasis of the General Meeting being more “fun” with activities and with minimal formal business. The Club business will be managed by the Committee and reported via the Committee Minutes that will be published monthly in Interface. There will be an opportunity at each General Meeting for any members to raise any matters in the Committee Minutes for discussion and resolution by the members present

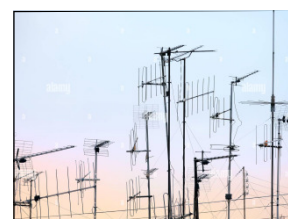
### Upcoming Speakers & Events:

- Tonight - Nick Batt on “HOTA”
- 20 April (TBC) - April Meeting. Picnic & visit to Weld Cone subject to weather & fire restrictions
- 9 May - May Meeting. David Rothwell & John Errington on Duplexers, Aerials and other stuff
- June Meeting (TBC) - Winery Tour
- 22/23 June - HamCram
- July Meeting - Lightning characteristics and protection including earthing practices.

**Matters arising from Committee Meeting 21st March 2024:** No matters raised

### GENERAL BUSINESS

- Carluke Combined Picnic – Reported to be a very good day although significantly outnumbered by Nelson Branch 26 and unfortunately lost the Cup.
- Club has been paid for A&P Show assistance. Still await Wine & Food Festival invoice payment.
- AREC vest & superseded VHF hand held transceiver ex Chris Grant returned.
- A questionnaire was distributed for proposals for future events.



**Meeting Closed:** 19:55



## WESTFEST 2024 MURCHISON **DATE CHANGE** now 7<sup>TH</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024 (This is to avoid a clash with International Lighthouse Weekend)

This is to inform you and your club members that we, Br26, will be organising WESTFEST 2024 in Murchison. Programme is in its infancy and if any of your members would like to present a topic then please get in touch. Programme will start at 10am, go through to around 5pm, then again on Sunday from 9am finishing around 1pm.

Please can you let your members know and, if going, they need to organise their own accommodation.

We will only be providing morning/afternoon teas.

We will be in touch when we get a programme together and other items finalised.

Any questions, potential presenters, please get in touch.

Stewart Robinson ZL2STR  
HamCram organiser for Nelson ARC Br 26.  
[strobzn@gmail.com](mailto:strobzn@gmail.com)  
022 459 0415



### WARD REPEATER TRIP - THIS REPLACES THE GENERAL MEETING FOR APRIL

**DATE:** April 20th      **TIME:** Meet 10am

**WHERE:** Ward Hall (take 1st left past A&P Showgrounds into Ward St. Hall on left at other end of road.

Morning tea will be provided.

**BRING:** Your own lunch. This will be in the hall supper room or on the grass depending on weather. Hot water, cups, tea, coffee, sugar, milk will all be available.

Sally Peter, historian, will talk on the Flaxbourne history and the status of the Flaxbourne East Coast Museum.

After that, we will visit the Ward Repeater.

**RSVP:** to Caryl [caryl@simtronics.co.nz](mailto:caryl@simtronics.co.nz) by 13th April



Artist's impression of the new museum



**MARLBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**via Zoom 28th March 2024 at 19:30 Hours**

**Present:** John Errington (Chair), Greg Barton, Don Laing, David Rothwell, Gerard van Antwerpen, Graeme McKay, Nick Batt

**Apologies:** Paul Rennie

**Health & Safety:** No issues

**Minutes of last meeting:** of 22/02/24 confirmed. No matters arising. *Moved JE, Seconded DL, Passed: All*

**Correspondence:** (since CM MOM 24/02/24)

**Inward:**

26/02/24	CARC Secretary	Surplus UHF repeater
27/02/24	Luca Ghinazzi	Payment of Club Subscription for BP transmitter access
28/02/24	Kiwibank	Account options
28/02/24	Stewart Robinson	Westfest 2024 information
29/02/24	Luca Ghinazzi	Connection request for BP radio
01/03/24	Companies Office	Filing annual financial statement
01/03/24	Blenheim Accounting	Reviewed annual financial statement + reporting letter
08/03/24	NZART / AREC	Winlink emergency comms weekly check-in
13/03/24	Post Office	Final PO Box invoice
18/03/24	LandSAR	Discontinue with PO Box
19/03/24	Tony Topley W4NMA	BP transmit privilege request
25/03/24	Bill Cousins	Beacon frequency change license fee payment request
26/03/24	AON Insurance	"Insights" newsletter
27/03/24	Stewart Robinson	Westfest 2024 date change

**Outward:**

Responses & distribution of the above Inwards as applicable

26/02/24	Daniel ZL4DE	Idea for enhancing HamCram attendance
27/02/24	CARC Secretary	Interest for UHF repeater
02/03/24	K & D Menzies / S Tennant	Condolence cards
06/03/24	8 Branch 22 members	Final subscription reminders
19/03/24	LandSAR	Invoice for 50% PO Box charge

**Motion:** Inwards correspondence be accepted and Outwards endorsed *Moved DL, Seconded JE, Passed: All*

**Matters Arising:**

- LandSAR Discontinue with PO Box
- Tony Topley W4NMA BP transmit privilege request
- To be discussed in following Business

**Finance:** (In Committee)

Treasurer presented his report.

- Membership is now 51 with 6 unpaid

**Income since last meeting;**

- Donations
- Subscriptions
- Interest

**Payments since last meeting;**

- Onamalutu picnic expense
- Field Day expenses
- Accounting review
- PO Box rental
- Brayshaw cable
- Annual Website/domain name
- Carluke joint picnic

**Upcoming payments:**

- Repeater batteries
- Installation Kaikoura repeater

**Motion:** *That Accounts be accepted and payments approved.*

- Noted that Gerard yet to be paid for replacement reverse beacon PC

PO Box - Too late to cancel for 2024 so has been paid

To request LandSAR to reconsider invoice payment as their advice received too late to cancel

**Motion:** *That PO Box to be cancelled for 2025*

**Events:**

**Carluke:** Reported to be a good event with fewer members from MARC and Nelson with more youth members leading to them winning the trophy.

**Motion of Thanks to Caryl Simpson with acknowledgement for better communication in future.**

*Moved JE, Seconded, GvA, Passed: All*



**BRANCH 05 (ChCh) AUCTION 16th April**

Hopefully, I have remembered to attach the catalogue along with Interface.  
If not, please let me know!

Auction bids accepted from members of ChCh Amateur Radio Club and kindred clubs.

Absentee bids to [auktion@chchamradio.org.nz](mailto:auktion@chchamradio.org.nz) by 5pm on Auction Day.

\* Transmitters will only be sold to licensed Amateur Radio Operators.

All items untested, unless stated otherwise.

Whole dollar bids only.

**Payment:** Cash at end of auction or by arrangement with the Treasurer.

Goods remain the property of the club until fully paid for.

**Weld Cone Picnic & Repeater Visit 20 April 2024**

- Needs to be clearly communicated that this replaces routine General Meeting 18 April
- John E requested replacement for liaison with Helen H. Graeme McKay will consider and confirm

**Mid-Winter Dinner**

- John E will liaise with Caryl Simpson and Helen Harris

(Chair's note – HamCram to be added to agenda for next meeting)

**Repeaters & Systems:**

- 6m Beacon** - Motion: Approval for payment of license fee for frequency change by Bill Cousins and to request proportional refund of license already paid Moved JE, Seconded, DR, Passed: All **JE/BC**
- Weld Cone** - To review required maintenance at site visit on 20 April **DR/PR**
- Kaikoura** - Duplex Filter internal corrosion. Filters have been dismantled and one is being treated cleaned & polished to ascertain if it can be brought back to specification. Cabinet has been obtained to be modified. **DR**
- Picton Batteries** - No immediate action required **DR**
- Brayshaw Park** - Rotator interface cable fabricated and functionally proved but seems to be a software issue that needs checking out. **GvA**
- Tony Topley W4NMA BP transmit privilege agreed as per current policy **DL**
- Query sent to RSM re remote use of NZ licensed transmitter by foreign operator **GvA**

**Speaker Schedule:**

- April 24 Weld Cone visit - Propose 20 April subject to weather & Fire Ban
- May 24 Duplexes, aerial & VNA's by JE & DR
- June 24 (TBC) Winery Tour site visit
- July 24 Brayshaw Remote & SDR's
- August 24 ???
- September 24 Constructors Award
- October 24 Lightning characteristics & protection

**AREC:** Carluke Field Day - Reported to be a worthwhile event with Nelson AREC

**PR**

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**New Constitution** - Await ratification of new NZART constitution at the next NZART conference following which NZART will issue a model Branch constitution.

**NZART 2024 Conference Remits**

- To request copy from NZART HQ as can not find any published copy **DL**
- Branch 22 Delegate. John E confirmed attendance. To confirm with Stuart W if he will be Branch 22 Delegate **JE**

**Branch Publicity for Membership**

- To advertise MARC meetings in local Newspaper "What's-On" **DL**

**Meeting Closed:** 21:30

**Next General Meeting:** 20th April 2024, Weld Cone Picnic & Repeater Visit

**Next Committee Meeting:** 25th April 2024, 7:30pm (via Zoom)

**REMOTE RADIO UPDATE**

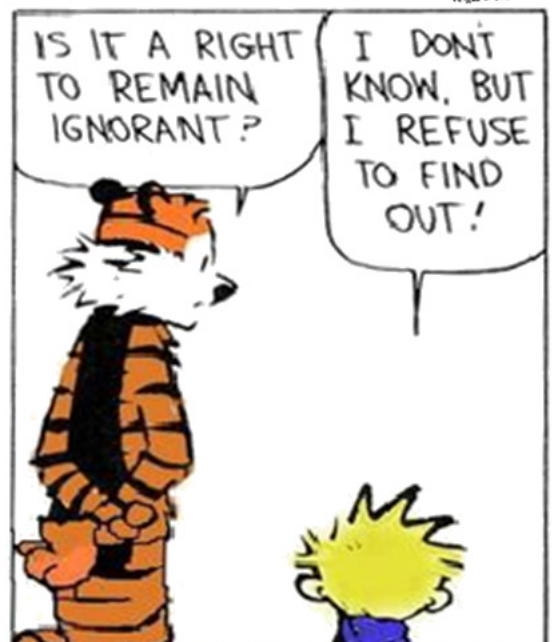
Gerard made up the missing cable between the rotor Yaesu control box and the computer interface. Put it in, but it didn't work. Left it a week, and then Nick spotted a mistake in Gerard's notes so Gerard went to the hut to fix this. Upon inspecting his work, he saw that he had completely mirrored the connections in the plug! So fixed that and could then confirm the cable was correct.

The feedback signal changed when manually (with the Yaesu control box) moving the antenna. Shortening the appropriate control pins to ground allowed him to move the antenna CW and CCW. Having that correct, he was still unable to do it via the computer interface!

Left it another week, and together with Nick we finally got it going. For some reason we had to reload the firmware in the computer controller! So now that's all working ok.

Only thing they probably need to do is check the users' rights to use the rotor. They thought this was linked to the TX rights, but it seems a separate setting. It will be sorted when they have time.

**calvin and HOBBS**





## AREC COMBINED TRAINING AT CARLUKE

*All photos by Lindsey Ross & taken from AREC website except two from Garth Haylock (labelled GH)*

The Saturday of the 23rd March saw Marlborough and Nelson combine at Carluke Domain for a day of communication training. We were privileged to have the Southern Area Manager, Lindsey Ross, in attendance. The day started out rather cool with slight fog around the hills but the attendees were introduced to all and then started off with the first of 12 tasks being Starlink introduction and setup by Garth Haylock. It was kept useable all day for outgoing phone calls etc.



GH

After morning tea the new police portable repeaters, of which there were three, spread around the ground plus one older Hallswell repeater to be set up and assembled into a working state. This equipment was not familiar to the Nelson members as they are not utilised by the police in Nelson for any SAROP, which is disappointing. The exercise was well received and all members were very impressed by the equipment of its capabilities and compactness.



Next, we erected an HF setup with 3 poles and a 40M di-pole to aid a Winlink demonstration. Garth duly took us all through a SARTRAC demonstration, which was also a new topic for the Nelson Members. Greg Lyford then gave a thorough demonstration of Winlink which he has been experimenting with and is getting very popular around the country.

We had a break for a supplied lunch, which was enjoyed by all. After lunch, Garth showcased the Wander Tracking device and pendant which he hid on the grounds and members then had to find - with very successful results. While this was happening, I set up the PLB tracking device and also hid away from the ground, a training beacon for members to try and find. It was successfully found by Chris Scott who was very impressed with the tracking unit as none of them had seen it and didn't know it existed.

The next exercise was the setup of the POLSAR HF portable radios to set up and transmit a test call to each other which was successful. Garth then gave a demonstration with the INREACH unit which many had not seen or used before and was very interesting but relies on satellites for messaging and tracking.



GH

Afternoon tea was next on the agenda and superbly set out by Helen, "Camp Mother". Many thanks to Helen for looking after the catering all day.

Then came the last exercise, ably presented by Andrew Mackie, which consisted of message handling and computer work of de-fusing a bomb and building a rocket with Lego. A very different exercise but thoroughly enjoyed by all.

This was the last exercise so it was time to pack up and have a very informative de-brief, from which it was decided to try and hold more training six monthly with the two groups.

My thanks to ALL participants who thoroughly enjoyed the day and thanks to Lindsey Ross for his attendance.

**PAUL RENNIE, AREC DISTRICT MANAGER.  
TASMAN SAR.**





## CARLUKE COMBINED BBQ REPORT

(most of the photos are mine but some are thanks to Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF)

Due to various circumstances, we were well down on numbers for our team this year so were outnumbered more than 2 to 1. Usually it is the other way around but Nelson has had a recent influx of new, young, members thanks to recent HamCrams. When we arrived, we were surprised to see a shut gate with a No Camping sign on it and an orange road cone in front of it. As there was a large camper inside the grounds (belonging to one of the Nelson members who had stayed overnight), we moved the cone, opened the gate, and drove in anyway. Turns out the council had closed the free camping at the Brown River Reserve just down the road but has made space, along the road beside the Carluke Hall, for freedom campers. The signs were directed at them but we had paid so were allowed in the grounds, although campers are allowed to use the separate toilets outside the hall and they have put in a place to empty camper waste.

Soon after we arrived a Nelson member pulled up in his car, towing the BBQ on a trailer. He approached us, rather sheepishly, and admitted he had loaded the BBQ but had left the gas bottle behind! Luckily, we were able to use a gas bottle thanks to our overnight camper.

People started steadily arriving with some enjoying catching up with others not seen since last year and others being introduced to new faces. Food was put in the kitchen, ready for later, and chairs and a gazebo quickly set up outside.

While the BBQ was fired up to season the plates, we started with the quiz. The first rule was "NO PHONES OR INTERNET DEVICES" were allowed to be used. The new Nelson members were keen to know if they could use books, and were quite insistent about my wording of the rule until I realised they thought the quiz was going to be all radio related and they'd planned to look up the answers in their HamCram book! They were crestfallen when they discovered the quiz was for everyone, so no radio questions were included. A couple of Nelsonians volunteered to join our team to even up the numbers, slightly. Quiz sheets were handed out with 6 or so per team. They could all confer, then collate their final answers onto one sheet so each club was marked from one sheet per team. The result was an overwhelming win for Marlborough 15½/20 compared to Nelson's 10/20. One of the answers was the ice age and one of the youngsters was heard to mutter that our team members were more likely to have been around during the last one so would be more likely to know the answer!



L-R: Heather,  
Grant ZL2BK, Fay,  
Topsy ZL2LS



DESSERTS!

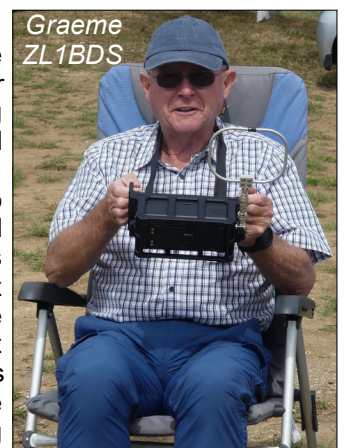
We then enjoyed a delicious lunch. I meant to take a photo of all the meat, onions, salads, new potatoes with butter, stuffed eggs, potato chips & bread laid out nicely but the locusts quickly entered and soon cleaned it all off, leaving little to photograph! Thanks to Topsy and Heather from Nelson who organised the kitchen, as usual doing a sterling job, plus the Nelson guys who manned the BBQ. I did manage to photograph the desserts - cheesecakes, cupcakes, Appleby Salted Caramel ice cream, cream puffs, choc eclairs, a couple of cakes, water melon and other fresh fruit.

After lunch, the Fox was activated. Everyone headed off, listening to the tone which was triggered for 1 minute every 4 minutes. The problem was, the winner won by physically finding the Fox by accident, not by listening to his radio! Andrew had tucked it inside one of the metal washing tubs hanging on the side of the nearby Rai Valley historical cottage and they were just mooching about waiting for the next signal burst when Daniel decided to lift the tub. Similar to a past year when Topsy's young granddaughter, Bella, also found it by accident, not having a radio with her at the time but excited to be out with the others hunting. Oh well, a win is a win so well done to Nelson's Daniel Winch, who hasn't actually got his radio licence yet. They (he had others near him when he found it) were told to keep quiet so the others could keep looking, so second was one of the new amateurs from Nelson, Chris Clarke, ZL2CXX and third was also from Nelson, Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF. There were a few interesting aerials some thought would give them the edge over basic hand helds but one was heard to reply, when returning the aerial to his car after the hunt had finished, if that was the first time he had used it replied "Yes, and it will be the last!"



Stewart  
ZL2STR

It was then time for Toss the Tait, and we had a new one this year, the last one being rather worse for wear after being flung about for several years. When it came to tossing Tait, Nelson excelled this year due to their influx of youthful members. They chose 8 of their attendees to have a go, mostly the young ones, while we only had 5 fit enough to toss, so three of ours had to throw twice. The individual lengths were then totalled. Not only did Nelson win by miles (or metres) with a total of 161.00m against our 111.67m but Daniel threw a new record of 27.34m. Perhaps the replacement Tait is lighter than the other one? I thought about suggesting that perhaps the reason we lost was because two Nelsonians were manning the measuring tape but Topsy wouldn't cheat and it was obvious to all observing



Graeme  
ZL1BDS





Chris ZL4CS

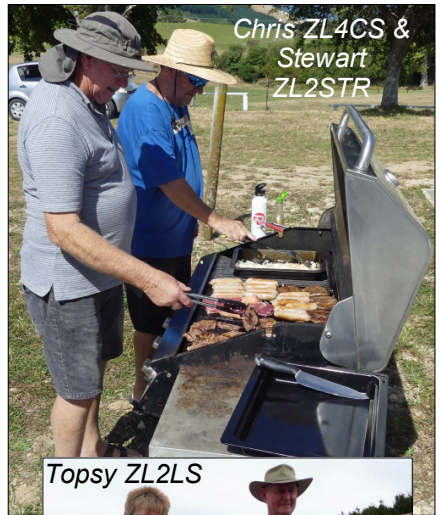
that their tosses were far superior - they are obviously champion tossers!

As that was two wins for Nelson in the Fox Hunt and Toss the Tait but only one win for Marlborough in the quiz, the over-all Interclub champions for 2024 were Nelson. I believe it is their first for 4 years, so we can't begrudge them their well-earned win. There was a lot of back and forth banter between the teams all day and one of our Toss the Tait participants said to me, with a grin, "It's a good thing we pulled back a bit in that so they had a chance to win for once."

We then all gathered around for a chat about the future of the combined BBQ and whether we should continue to hold it and/or move it to elsewhere considering the cost of the hall and grounds hire. As a result, those present unanimously voted to continue, depending on agreement from both clubs. Nelson agreed immediately as they had all their committee members there to vote but Marlborough needed to take it to their committee. Hopefully they agree to at least one more year as Topsy has already booked the hall/grounds for 2025 and some ideas for new games and the re-introduction of the sales table have been put forward.

Tony Daken, as our oldest member present (and no committee members to do the job) presented the trophy to Nelson's president, Dylan Smart, then we all had afternoon tea and a final chat before heading home.

Special thanks to Chris and Stewart for manning the BBQ and Topsy and Heather who did all the food prep, majority of the clean-up and floor sweeping.



Chris ZL4CS & Stewart ZL2STR



Tony ZL2BTU



Helen ZL2HH

Ron ZL2BDD

Heather

Tony ZL2RKL

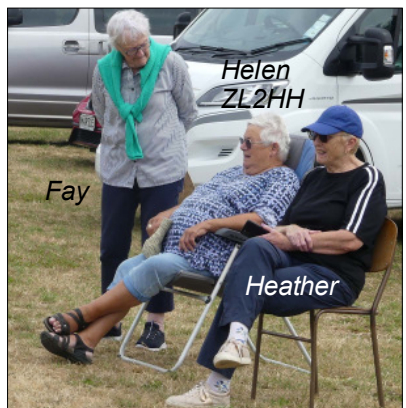


Topsy ZL2LS

Ron ZL2BDD



Rob ZL2IW



Helen ZL2HH

Fay

Heather



Andrew ZL2HZ

Dylan ZL2SAR



Eric ZL2HEM

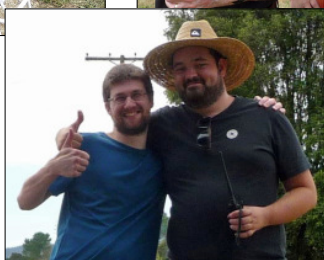
Topsy ZL2LS



Grant ZL2BK

Caryl

Dylan ZL2SAR



Chris ZL2CXX & Daniel



They seek him here, they seek him there, they seek that damned fox everywhere!



Ron ZL2BDD



Chris ZL2CXX in full swing



Connor ZL4XY launches the Tait



Rob ZL2IW



Graeme ZL1BDS



Daniel



Tony W, ZL2RKL





Tony kept pulling funny faces as he presented the trophy to Dylan!

The fox was hidden in the top tub, seen on the end of the house, below left.



Grant's late dad Bill, ZL2BO, told us his parents and siblings, were the last family to live in this cottage while their house was being built next door. That would have been around 1930 as I think he said he was about 11 years old at the time and his bedroom was in the lean-to bit you can just see at the back right of the above right photo. He said he had to be careful if he sat up in bed as his head would hit the ceiling. The house would have been around 49 years old at that time (if my maths is correct) so in better condition than it is today at 143 years, but it was still really rough he said.



**I missed John Errington's birthday on March 3rd!**

Some of the Nelsonians were asking; "When is Stuart, ZL2TW, going to make another appearance?" Apparently, they miss him (no, I don't know why).

