

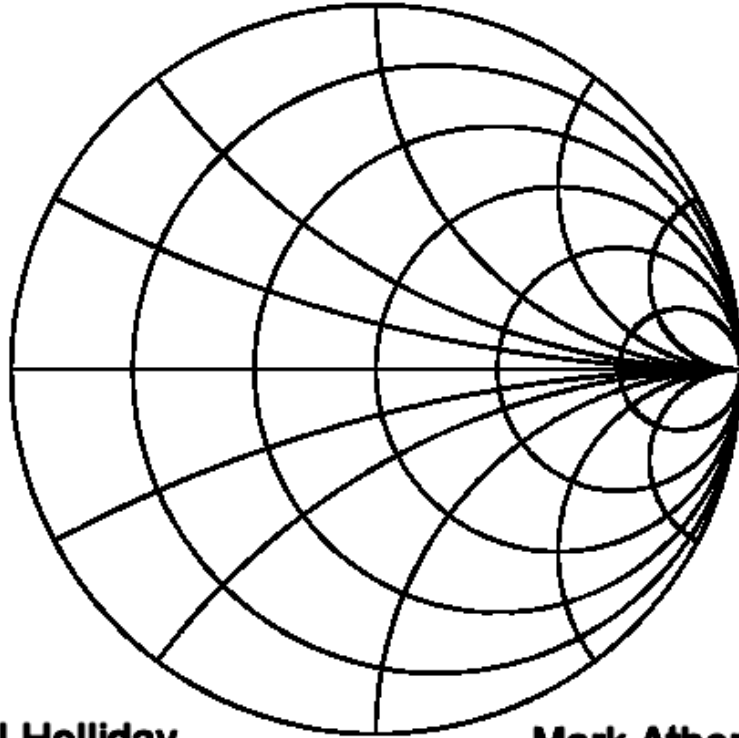
**Christchurch West Amateur
Radio Club Inc.**

Official Newsletter



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Graphical RF measurements the easy way



**Phil Holliday
ZL3PAH**

**Mark Atherton
ZL3JVX**

What's on at the next meeting?"

Graphical RF measurements the easy way; a VNA demo'

By Phil Holiday ZL3PAH & Mark Atherton ZL3JVX

Visitors and guests most welcome

31st January 2012

Visit the Br 56 web page; <www.radioamateurs.org.nz>

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56

Clubrooms; Auburn Park, Upper Riccarton,

P O Box 31 095, Ilam, Christchurch 8444.

Br 56 web page; <www.radioamateurs.org.nz

<i>Branch Officers</i>			
<i>President</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Vice-President</i>	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	327 3710
<i>Immediate Past Pres</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<i>Secretary*</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Tyerman	ZL3IA	332 4885
<i>Committee</i>	Brent Officer	ZL3TUI	385 2742
	Denis Coulter	ZL3DEN	342 9013
	Mark Carshalton	ZL3BA	322 4518
	Ken Duffey	ZL4KD	351 8115
	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<i>Trustees</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<i>Auditor</i>	Marinel McNab		327 3710
<i>Branch Officials</i>			
<i>Archivist</i>	Position vacant		
<i>EMC Officer</i>	Position vacant		
<i>Free n'Easy Coordinator</i>	Position vacant		
<i>Librarian</i>	Ron Rowlands	ZL3AIV	348 2747
<i>Morse Admin</i>	Des Borgfeldt	ZL3ACS	980 9705
<i>Newsletter editor #</i>	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<i>QSL cards</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>ZL3VV Station Mgr</i>	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	354 1958
<i>850 Repeater Mgr</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	358 5004

***Please note change of Secretarial email address;** <zl2bcf@nzart.org.nz>
Newsletter editor <john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz>

Annual subscription for 2010 is due NOW;

Individual \$40.00, Family \$45.00, Junior \$20.00

Treasurer's home address; 37A Penrith Ave, Chch 8002

Subs can be direct credited to our Westpac Account No. 030802 0590356 00

NB. Please ensure your name is against the bank payment.

If cheques are made "non transferable" or "account payee only" please ensure they are made out to "**Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.**"

The banks will not accept other names (e.g. Branch 56). Thank you

**Minutes of General Meeting of the Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club.
Tuesday 22nd Nov, 2011.**

The Chairman opened the proceedings with a welcoming address.

Present: Keith Stanton ZL3QH, (In the Chair), Mark Carshalton ZL3BA (Secretary) & 21 Members.

Visitors: The Chairman welcomed guests; Graeme Dillion ZL3TJM and Ross Redford.

Apologies: Mike Stubberfield ZL3MJ, Mike Duncan ZL3MWD.

Silent Key: Eion Gibson ZL3AG. A minute's silence was observed in respect of Eion ZL3AG's recent death. Doug spoke of Eion's contribution to the Radio Industry, Amateur Radio Fraternity and our Club.

Minutes: The minutes having been published in QTC it was proposed that the minutes be confirmed for the Monthly General Meeting dated 25th Oct., 2011 Proposed. John Walker Mr R. Weir 2nded.

Matters Arising: The contracted builder has undertaken repairs of the fire damage to the Club Rooms and the front door re-enforced.

We are still waiting for EQC to make a decision concerning Earthquake Damage to our Club Rooms.

Correspondence: Inward; Various club newsletters were circulated to the Membership. Outward; Nil.

Financial report: Peter reported that the club membership is currently at 48 Financial and 2 non-Financial members. The Treasurer contact these members to see if they wish to remain members.

Out-going Expenses \$400.00 Meridian Power Bill, \$250.00 Building Insurance Excess.

The excessive power bill was discussed and remedies offered.

Brett Officer Proposed Mike Stubberfield 2nded that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Classes Report: Nil.

General Business:

1) Maurice McNabb reported that the Buildathon at Merrin School had been very successful. There been a good turn out of volunteer helpers.

2) The Chairman opened discussion on the composition of the committee for the 2012/3 year. A potential committee was assembled.

3) The Chairman asked how many members would like a Christmas gathering. By a show hands a half the members expressed their interest in attending an Xmas gathering.

Show and Tell:

1) John showed the club a working control circuit for a stepper motor. The Chairman complimented John on the simple layout and concept.

2) Dennis produced a Linear Amplifier made from a Microwave Oven with metal work from Brent and various components from fellow members and available "junk". Again the Chairman complemented Dennis on a good piece of construction.

Next Meeting; The Chairman stated that the next meeting will be a social get together on the 13th Dec 2011 with wives and partners at our club rooms.

As my wife Mary has broken both her legs and has two plaster casts I was regretfully unable to attend.

The next Branch meeting will be 31st Jan., 2012.

There was no further club business meeting closed at 20.00 hr

Summary of Simon Lewis ZL4BPL's Lecture "Building VHF & UHF Antennas".

Simon needed no introduction and was welcomed by the membership with a round of applause. Simon then went straight into his lecture by describing a Yagi antenna and going into the parameters required by an antenna of this kind. These being;

- What service is required
- Bandwidth and Gain

- Feed type and whether to buy or build.

Simon then went into some detail of a DK7ZB match and his variation thereof, which he supported with a schematic. He also explained that there are other matches and passed around samples of his concepts.

Under very limited circumstances should stainless steel be mixed with aluminium. Ideally use one or other type of material. Simon then advised that a lot of time should be spent on design to get it right; then stick with the design. He spoke of different antenna configurations; ie a long thin construction or stacking of equal units to obtain similar results. If one is going to stack antennas then he advised that you consider DL7ZB rules of construction.

Simon concluded his lecture by briefing the club on NZART matters. Essentially it has been a busy year with the attendance of an international conference, *Call Book* and other projects. Simon also intimated that he will be staying on for 2012.

E&OE. Mark

From the pen of your President

Welcome to the New Year I hope everyone's had a good holiday break and trust you are all looking forward to a positive 2012 be it with a few shakes from time to time.

Our Christmas Wind-up on 13th December seems to have gone pretty well. I think all would agree this was a happy occasion where we were able to share a bit of fun and fellowship together to celebrate the season. Have a look at the pictures of this night on our club website <www.radioamateurs.org.nz> ZL3VV Gallery page; click on the hyperlink at the foot of the page to view.

The good news for the New Year is that the bands (80 metres thru to 10 metres) are really full of good DX. The sunspot cycle is really on the way up. Now's the time for you to turn on the rig and participate. Over the holidays I was able to work good DX while operating portable on 20 metres with 100 watts and a short length of wire as an antenna. It's was even better with my X-Beam at home working 10 to 15 stations per hour most evenings. If any member needs help getting setup just ask and I am sure we could help get you up and running.

Another bit of good news is the increase in amateur power limit. NZART President, Roy Symon ZL2KH, made the announcement 'That effective from 30 November 2011, the power limit for most bands will rise from 500 watts to 1000 watts PEP'. This power change should help those who keen on Contests and Awards by enabling them to compete with overseas DXers.

Our first factory visit is being planned for sometime in February; dates and place still to be firmed up. The club's AGM comes up at our branch meeting 28th February 2012; we are calling for nominations for committee etc. Nominations can be made from the floor of AGM or by writing with a seconder to the club secretary.

If you have any projects you have been working on please bring them along to our next meeting and show and tell. Likewise if you have had in great contacts on the air come along and tell us about them

Don't forget the next club meeting will be on last Tuesday the 30th January 2012.

73 Keith ZL3QH, Branch President

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Cell phones and Security; Two warnings, note from Dave ZL1BNZ:

This gives us something to think about with all our new electronic technology.

No 1. GPS: A couple of weeks ago a friend told me that someone she knew had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen.

The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents.

Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it... Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

No 2. Mobile Phones: I never thought of this. This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her mobile phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet... etc...was stolen. 20 minutes later when she called her hubby from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says 'I received your text asking about our PIN number and I've replied a little while ago.'

When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text 'hubby' in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

Moral of the lesson: Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc.... And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, *CONFIRM* by calling back. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very car



NZART Conference 2012

In fantastic Nelson

Queen's Birthday Weekend 1 – 4 June 2012

Venue: Tahuna Beach Conference Centre, Nelson, Tahuna Beach Holiday Park.
Accommodation on site includes; motels, tourist flats, studio unit, cabins and power sites for motor homes. There are also many motels within walking distance

to the venue.

We will not be making accommodation bookings; you will be required to do your own so book now to secure a motel etc.

Forums: If you or someone you know has something they would like to share, either a forum or a talk, please contact us. Remember this is your conference; we are just hosting it for you, so if you want to take part please let us know.

Please contact Branch 26 committee if further information is required:

Chairman; ZL2STR Stewart Robinson: <strob@xnet.co.nz>

Secretary; ZL2LS Topsy Scott: <scott@tasman.net>

Postal Address; Branch 26 NZART Conference 2012, PO Box 1820, Nelson 7040

We look forward to seeing you all here in Sunny Nelson in 2012.

Branch 56 Christmas Social on 13th December



Following the tragic death of the Human Cannonball at the Kent Show, a spokesman said "We'll struggle to get another man of the same calibre."

HAMADS

For Sale. Genius™ model SP-G06S computer audio system comprising two speakers with built-in amplifier; plugs into the "line-out" jack. Any offers ?. Contact John ZL3IB ph 3489 084 or <john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz>.

HAMADS in QTC56 are a free service to members.
Send to John ZL3IB at < john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz >.

It appears that **Vertex Standard Co. Ltd** is transferring the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) business to Motorola and returning to the name of **Yaesu Musen**. This to take effect 1-1-2012. To read the details, click on: <http://tinyurl.com/YaesuMusen20111227>

Calendar for 2012

ZL3VV on air; Tuesday evenings, contact Maurice ZL3MEM.

Theory and CW classes, Workshop activities, etc. Wednesdays at 1930 hr when required.

CARDS meeting. 3rd Wednesday; All welcome.

Free & Easy - Second Wednesday at 1330 (1.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
	8	7	11	9	13	11	8	12	10	14	TBA

Committee Meeting - Third Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
24	21	20	17	22	19	17	21	18	16	20	

General Meeting - Fourth Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
31	28	27	24	29	26	24	28	25	23	27	

Free & Easy:

8th Feb Programme to be announced.

General Meetings

31st Jan Graphical RF measurements the easy way; a VNA demo'. By Phil Holiday
ZL3PAH & Mark Atherton ZL3JVX

22nd Feb Annual General Meeting. "Home-brew test Gear"; a Powerpoint presentation
by John Walker ZL3IB

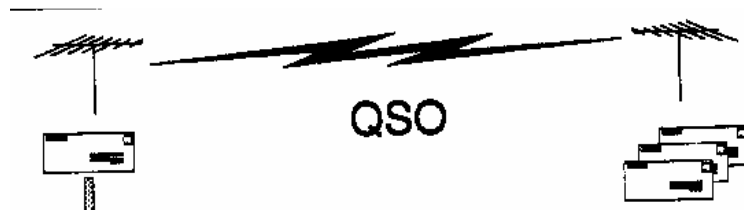
Your committee welcomes suggestions for topics and/or offers of talks for Branch meetings.

Interested in Old Radios?

The Christchurch section of the NZ Vintage Radio Society now meet in our club rooms. Meetings are normally held on alternate months on the first Tuesday of the month. If you are interested please contact Jim Lovell ZL3AGS (ph 342 7760) or David Chapple, email <canda@netaccess.co.nz> for more information.

Next meeting; 2nd March.2012

QTC56



Monthly Newsletter

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56