

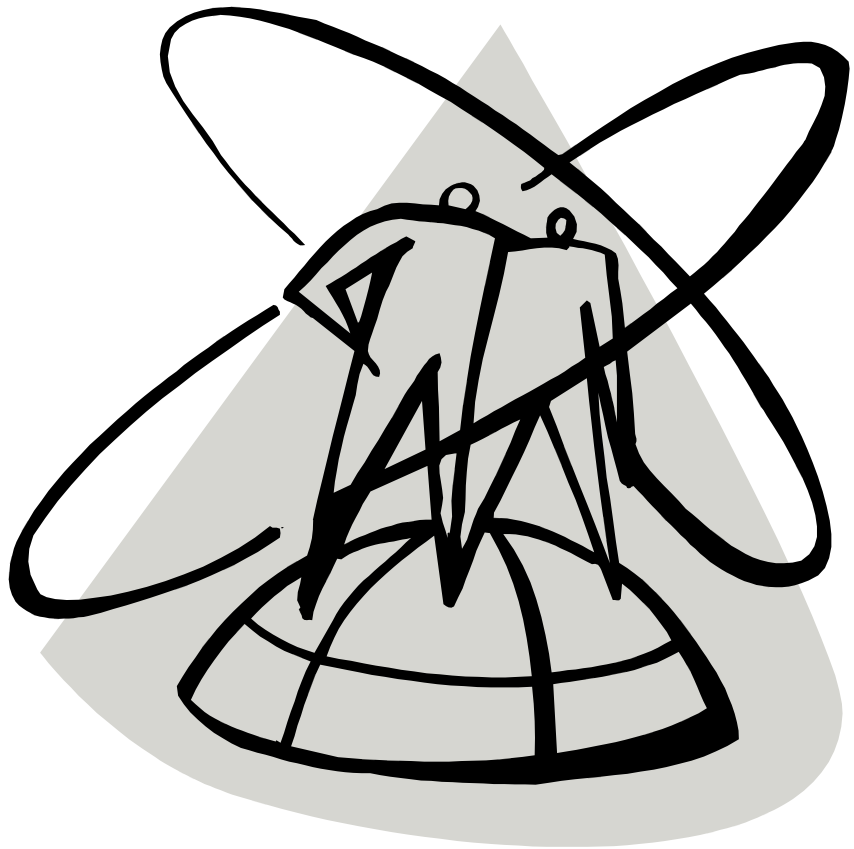
Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Official Newsletter

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What's on at the next meeting?

**Ian Forsythe who will talk on
"Disaster management with emphasis on
Nuclear waste".**

Visitors and guests most welcome

Tuesday 24th May 2011

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

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56

Clubrooms; Auburn Park, Upper Riccarton,

PO Box 31 095, Ilam, Christchurch 8444.

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

Branch Officers			
<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>	Mark Carshalton	ZL3BA	322 4518
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Tyerman	ZL3IA	332 4885
<i>Committee</i>	Brent Officer	ZL3TUI	385 2742
	Denis Coulter	ZL3DEN	342 9013
	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
	Blair Kendon	ZL3TOY	339 2967
	Mike Stubberfield	ZL3MJS	355 4501
	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
Branch Officials			
<i>Free n'Easy Coordinator</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<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; <carsh@xtra.co.nz >**

Newsletter editor <john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz>

Annual subscription for 2011 is due NOW;

Individual \$50.00, Family \$55.00, Junior \$25.00

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

Subs can be direct credited to our Westpac Account No. 03 0802 0590356.

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 March, 2011.**

Minutes of Monthly General Meeting of the Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc held at the club rooms on Tuesday 26th April 2011

Present: Keith Stanton ZL3QH, President, Mark Carshalton ZL3BA Secretary & 22 Members.

Visitors: Mark Card ZL3MC and K.J. Croker ZL3DAC

Apologies: Ross Weir ZL3TLK

Minutes: Confirmation of minutes of the Monthly General Meeting 22nd March, 2011- Proposed John Walker ZL3IB, Seconded Maurice McNab ZL3MEM

Matters Arising:

The May General meeting to set aside time to discuss and vote on the 2011 NZART Conference remits. The speaker to begin at approx 2030hr
It was confirmed that there will be a Branch 05/56 Junk Sale on Saturday 7th May, 2011 at Kendal School. This meeting will open to vendors at 0830 and general public at 0900.

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

Financial report: Peter Tyerman treasurer reported that the membership is currently 23 Financial and 58 non-Financial members.
Brent Oliver was paid \$15.00 to replace the blown light tubes and all the lights are now working.

Branch 05 have offered to give club \$500.00 towards our insurance excess on earthquake damage. CARDS represented by Mike Stubberfield presented to the Club with a cheque of \$250.00 towards our insurance excess on earthquake damage.

Classes Report: Nil.

As there was no further branch business the meeting was passed over to Max Chapman and Oliver from SATMAX Ltd who presented an excellent lecture and demonstrations on the latest in the.

The meeting concluded at 2200hr with supper

**Receiving Satellite Digital TV
Summary of Lecture by Max Chapman's.**

President Keith welcomed our guest speakers Max Chapman and Oliver; both of whom are involved with the Satellite Digital TV Receiving Industry.

Max opened his address that the industry is currently changing very fast and that generally the quality of video and sound is constantly improving and equipment was getting better. However some older equipment is still pretty good.

All members were very impressed with the hardware that Max and Oliver brought with them. The Satellite dish had 4 feed units with the required 4 transmission lines to distribution units in front of the clubroom. Max then distributed a training pamphlet that they had used some time ago and work through it showing how the various systems work.

Analogue TV broadcasts will end around November 2013 and will then be replaced by Terrestrial and Satellite digital signals. Max explained that the Satellite signal will be more robust. The terrestrial broadcasts will be more problematic with weak signals and marginal areas.

Max had brought with him a Panasonic Plasma Digital TV and a CRT unit. The CRT TV was attached to a Digital set top unit. And both units operated with out shadow snow or fuzzy audio. Signals from Australia-Melbourne and Sydney were shown. Max explained that there were many other stations other than Sky. More to the point these signals are also free to air. And if the members were happy to indulge in French, Malay or Chinese TV there are many more channels to choose from.

Our guests then spoke at some length on the size of satellite dishes. Essentially “the bigger the better”. Also the better the quality of the LMB receiver unit better will be the signal. The larger dishes will also dissipate rain fade. Rain fade is compounded by the rain droplet being the same size as the signal frequency.

Again a great lecture and if Lotto came knocking I would take up the hobby of Satellite TV hunting!!

E&OE Mark.

What’s on at the next meeting ?
Voting on Remits for NZART Conference 2011
Followed by Ian Forsythe who will talk on Disaster Management with his angle on Nuclear Management. Ian became involved in South Africa when the Gold Mining Industry started selling second hand stainless steel to Europe. The gold in RSA is a second cousin to Uranium.

From the pen of your President

At our AGM on Tuesday 22nd March 2011 some of our members spoke of their experiences they had in the earthquakes of 4th September 2010 and the 22nd February 2011 and of the effect on their home and family. Many also talked about the damage done to radio shacks.

In the last few days we have received donations of \$1300 towards the \$2000 we need to cover the insurance excess of \$2000 required to repair our earthquake damaged building. One member has generously donated \$1000 and another \$50. CARDS have also given us \$250. Branch 05 has offered us \$500. All we need now for say 4 donations of \$50 each to cover the remaining \$200. Any offers? Thanks guys

The treasurer was wondering why members are not paying their subs direct on line into the clubs bank account. Yes you’ve got it - the account number printed in QTC 56 (for at least the last 5 years) (and indeed showing on our website) is incorrect. All corrected now and we are looking forward to a rush of members paying their subs.

The Combined Branches 05/56 used equipment sale held at Kendal School last Saturday was very well attended and I am sure members would be pleased with their sales and purchases. Our thanks go to all the helpers and especially to John ZL3IB whom conducted the very lively auction. I can report the club funds benefited by \$201.60 from the proceeds. A considerable amount of Bert ZL3ADL’s gear was also sold and we will report to you latter on this.

Don’t forget to come to our next meeting on Tuesday 24th May when Conference remits will be discussed and voted on. We have a great speaker to talk to us after the remits; should be an enjoyable night..

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

Looking forward to meeting you all when I return from my extended overseas vacation. In my absence Vice-President Maurice ZL3MEM will be at the helm; see you all in August

73

Keith ZL3QH Branch President

How the Internet started

This is a revelation with an Incredibly Big Message (IBM): Well, you might have thought that you knew how the Internet started, but here's the TRUE story

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. Now Dot Corn was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent ...?"

And Abraham did look at her - as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. The drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighbouring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was called Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew To The People (HTTP).

But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secret himself inside Abraham's drum and began to siphon off some of Abraham's business. But he was soon discovered, arrested and prosecuted - for insider trading.

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS.

Lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum maker in the land, and indeed did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are." And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham. Because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

And that is how it all began! [via Vaughan ZL1TGC *The 29-ER*, April]

HAMADS

For Sale. The Club has been given 12 sets of parts for Tait 286 PSUs (13.8 V, 7.5A cont). These include a hefty transformer, rectifier bridge, smoothing cap, regulator PCB complete with mounted components etc. The PCB circuit info is available from Doug Pratt. To help club funds these are offered at \$25 each. Suitable cases are also available.

We have also been given matching pairs of brand new, 70mm square 25V and 25A meters (RS #313-558), also 6 new SEW MR-56 square 1mA meters; (new cost \$22 ea). Offers invited. 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 >.

The Doctor is in: Pacemakers and RF

(Reprinted from "The Doctor Is IN", QST)

Schley Cox W4AMW, of Owensboro, Kentucky, told the Doctor that he's headed to see the cardiologist next week about a pacemaker. He's already started researching their use around RF and says he is happy to go all low power (QRP), if that's what's called for. Schley mentioned that he might also be able to operate his rig remotely; perhaps 20 ft away, but he needs to know how to measure stray RF in the shack itself. Here's what the Doctor had to say:

'I haven't received actual reports of any pacemaker problems and that seems to go along with the info on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/pacemaker>.>

Note that there are no power levels (or field strength) limits noted there, nor have I found any on manufacturers' Web sites. Thus knowing the actual field strength level in the station may not help. If it were me, I would start by talking to my physician. She won't be able to give you power limits, but perhaps could indicate symptoms to watch for while on the air so you could take appropriate action quickly if called for.

I would start with a careful RF safety evaluation, as required by the FCC anyway. While the FCC guidelines were not based on pacemaker interference, they should result in a reasonably safe environment. If your station is properly set up; without common mode feed line current, for example, most radiation should surround the antenna and there should not be much RF within the shack.

Calibrated RF field strength meters are available, but are quite expensive. Relative measurement is pretty easy; look at any recent *ARRL Handbook*. If you had a simple field strength meter running at all times in the station (I'm thinking of the diode and microammeter type that doesn't require power), you could see if anything changed, and diagnose and repair as needed.'

Thanks Doctor!

Understanding LF and HF Propagation

Free e-book

Steve GOKYA and Alan G3NYK, of the Radio Society of Great Britain's (RSGB) Propagation Studies Committee, have released a free e-book called "*Understanding LF and HF Propagation*"

In 2008/2009 Steve and Alan wrote a series of features on LF and HF propagation for the RSGB's "*RadCom*" magazine.

You can download your free copy of "*Understanding LF and HF Propagation*" at <www.g0kya.blogspot.com>

Battery stain; Leaky battery deposits

The Technical Topics column of *RadCom* for October 2005 includes a useful hint which provides an answer to the question "How can I remove white deposits caused by batteries leaking in my camera flash after being left in too long?" The answer given should be widely applicable: "To remove battery deposits, sprinkle baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) on the affected areas. Using a cotton bud dipped in vinegar, carefully swab out the baking soda and the deposits underneath. Take care not to damage the battery terminals." (*I have not yet tried this. Ed*)

Calendar for 2011

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
	9	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	12	9	14

Committee Meeting - Third Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
18	15	15	19	17	21	19	16	20	18	15	20

General Meeting - Fourth Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
26	22	22	26	24	28	26	30	27	25	22	

Free & Easy:

11th May Usual meeting. Program TBA. See you all there. 73 de Baden, ZL3VI.

General Meetings

24th May Voting on Remits for NZART Conference 2011. Followed by Ian Forsythe who will talk on Disaster Management with his angle on Nuclear Management.

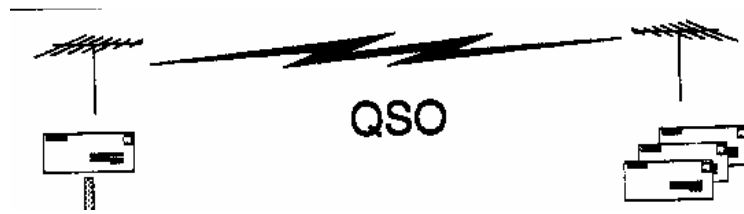
Your committee welcomes suggestions for topics and/or offers of talks for Branch meetings.

Interested in Old Radios?

The Christchurch section of the NZ Vintage Radio Society now meets 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; Saturday 14th May. 0930hr at the clubrooms.

QTC56



Monthly Newsletter

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56