

# **Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.**



## **Official Newsletter**



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***What's on at the next meeting?***

***Emergency Communications during the February  
Earthquake.***

***A talk by Richard Smart.***

***Visitors and guests most welcome***

***Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2011***

**Visit the Br 56 web page; <[www.radioamateurs.org.nz](http://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**

<b>Branch Officers</b>			
<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
<b>Branch Officials</b>			
<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	322 9961

**\*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

**Christchurch West Radio Club Inc. Br 56**  
**Branch Meeting 23 August 2011**

**Apologies** ZL3OS, ZL3IB, ZL3BCF. Moved Maurice ZL3MEM

There were 21 members and guests present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were not presented at the meeting.

The President presented the Arthur Godfrey National Award to Maurice McNab ZL3MEM for his major contribution to the club, as station master, and opening the club rooms to members every Tuesday evening. The meeting enthusiastically congratulated Maurice for his hard work.

**President's report**

There was a brief report about the continuing vandalism to the club rooms. The president reported that the committee are investigating options to protect the club property. A motorcycle had been set alight next to the clubroom's west wall, and caused damage to the spouting and down pipe.

**Financial report**

The Treasurer reported that there are now 41 financial members and 9 unfinancial members. After the 'quakes there has only been a slight increase in the club's insurance premium.

**General business**

Tony ZL3HAM informed the meeting about Eastfest 2011, which is being run by the Ashburton Branch on Sept. 10 & 11. There is a total of 14 speakers and a cover charge of \$10-00 to cover the hall hire. The meeting closed at 8:10pm.

The meeting was followed by a presentation from Michael Trengrove from Trimble Navigation. (Welcomed by Ken ZL3KD.) The presentation was excellent and gave the meeting a good insight about the GPS systems used by Trimble after the CHCH earthquake, in determining the shifting of land and buildings.

Baden ZL3VI thanked Michael on behalf of the meeting.

**From the pen of your President**

We have done it again; yes Branch 56 has appeared on NZART honours list, not just once but three times.

At Conference 2011 in Upper Hutt, David Searle ZL3ADWS was awarded 'Amateur of the Year 2010 Award' David was a member of our branch for 10 years and an enthusiastic promoter of amateur radio. Not to be missed is Vice President Maurice McNab ZL3MEM who was awarded an 'Arthur Godfrey ZL1HV Award' for his contribution to his local branch. Now for the icing on the cake club new member Thomas Fellows ZL3PSG was presented with the 'Youth Achievement Award' for gaining his ham ticket with a mark of 55 out of 60; what an achievement at the age of 16. Well done.

Like most people in Christchurch we are still awaiting earthquake activity to settle down before repairs are completed to our building. Hopefully we wont have too long to wait.

We have also had to lodge a fire insurance claim for some damage done to spouting, windows and downpipe when an intruder set fire to a stolen motorbike outside our building in mid August. The Police are asking for help to solve this one.

Your committee hopes to organize some factory visits in the months ahead to supplement our monthly club meetings. We also have some very interesting speakers coming up. Watch this space.

Make sure you make it to next month's meeting; we have something real special on the agenda.

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

73

Keith ZL3QH Branch President

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### **What's on at the next meeting ?**

#### ***Emergency Communications during the February Earthquake.***

***A talk by Richard Smart.***

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### **NZART Awards**

#### **David Searle ZL3DWS – Amateur of the Year 2010**

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club, NZART Branch 56, nominated David Searle for Amateur of the Year as he has been an active member of the branch for over 10 years as an enthusiastic promoter of amateur radio.



David has been particularly active in taking amateur radio to the wider public with a special focus on introducing radio and electronics to young people. He has achieved this by means of a series of Buildathons which have been strongly supported by members of local NZART branches (namely 05, 56, 68 and CARDS). He has received considerable financial support for these activities from local NZART branches, the Christchurch Branch of NZ Vintage Radio Society, the NZART Radio Science Education Trust Inc, the Community Board of Christchurch City Council and several local businesses.

These Buildathons have generated useful publicity for amateur radio in the local press, in RSGB's *RadCom* and was included in an RSGB promotional DVD. Local MP Nicky Wagner has been strongly supportive and been present at several of these events. The Buildathons have been fully reported in *Break In..*

A report of these activities was presented to the recent IARU Region 3 Conference and was favourably received. David also served on the organising committee for this conference, being tasked with organising the Conference local office setup.

In addition David has been strongly supported by his wife Mary and family who have organised the catering for each Buildathon.

David was also involved with the 2006 NZART Conference, held in Christchurch. He assisted the organising committee and served as Master of Ceremonies at the opening and other events.

## **Arthur Godfrey ZL1HV Branch Awards**

### **Maurice McNab ZL3MEM**

Ever since Maurice joined the Christchurch West amateur radio club, Branch 56, he has consistently made a positive contribution to our club's well-being.

Every Tuesday, he opens the clubrooms and the Radio Shack and gets the Club Station ZL3VV on to the air. Maurice and the members who joined him on their regular Tuesday evenings operated HF Bands and as a consequence our club has become well known by DXers worldwide. As a result of this activity many new members have obtained their Amateur Radio licences and then became branch and NZART members.

The committee purchased a new Icom T2000 which Maurice made his mission to learn thoroughly and then deliver a lecture and demonstration at a club monthly meeting. It would appear that the Icom had a design fault in the receiver which Maurice researched and organised a repair.

Maurice has been involved in the club management for the last few years rising to Club Vice-President. When Maurice's wife Marinel became very sick, Maurice was still able to make the effort to contribute to the club. When he later suffered an industrial accident we still saw Maurice at the club.

Maurice has also involved himself in the Branch 05 AREC organisation and every year can be found helping the Speights Coast to Coast race.

Maurice has also encouraged his wife Marinel to be branch auditor; a duty she has performed with a integrity and professionalism.

## HAMADS

**For Sale** Pentax K1000 camera, Soligor zoom lens 30 - 200mm, Olympus C3758x zoom, digital camera. Brother AX-250 daisy-wheel typewriter; very useful for addressing envelopes and filling in forms. Any offers to John ZL3IB ph 3489 084 or <john.zl3ib@ihug.co.nz>.

**For Sale.** The Club has been given several sets of parts for Tait 186 PSUs (13.8 V, 7.5A cont). These include a hefty transformer, rectifier bridge, 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.

Matching pairs of brand new, 70mm square 25V and 25A meters (RS #313-558) \$25 per pair, also new SEW MR-56 square 1mA meters; (new cost \$22 ea) \$10 each. 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 >.

### Short off-centre fed dipole for 80-10m

Jesper Fogh Bang OZ1XB, <fogh.bang@gmail.com>

(Reprinted from *SPRAT* No.145, Winter 2010).

The design of this short off-centre fed dipole was discovered in an old German booklet about Windom and off-centre fed antennas [1]. It is a multiband antenna covering 80-10m. I have built and tested this antenna for several weeks and compared signals with my ordinary 80m dipole. It works fine on 80m despite the short length which makes it ideal for the small garden or for field days.

The feeder can be either 450 Ohm Wireman® or a homemade ladder line. I used a simple 1:1 current balun at the junction between the ladder line and the coaxial feeder together with an ASTU [2] close to the transceiver. Obviously, it would be better to have the ASTU placed at the feeder junction where the balun is shown on the schematic. however, the present layout is more convenient.

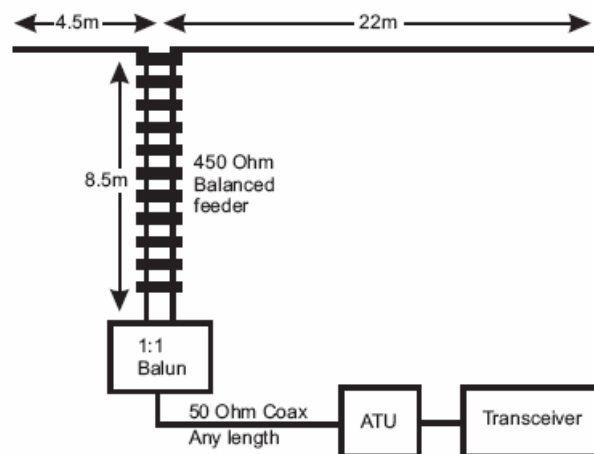
The 1:1 balun can easily be made as a coaxial cable balun with RG58U wound in a single layer on a non-magnetic form according to the following table:

<i>Band</i>	<i>Cable length (m)</i>	<i>Windings</i>	<i>Diameter (mm)</i>
80m	6.1	7	275
80-30m	3	7	135
80-10m	5.5	9	195

### References

(1) *Funkamateur Bibliothek* No. 15, June 2000. page 73

(2) Phi-C tuner. *SPRAT* No. 183. Any other type will do the same job.



## 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.** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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	9	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	23	27	25	22	

**Free & Easy:**

14<sup>th</sup> Sept Usual meeting 73 de Baden, ZL3VI.

**General Meetings**

27<sup>th</sup> Sept Emergency Communications during the February Earthquake. A talk by Richard Smart.

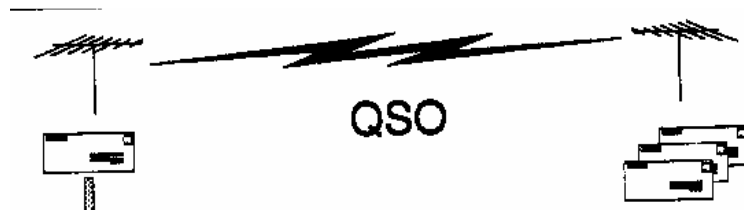
*Your committee welcomes suggestions for topics and/or offers of talks for Branch meetings.*

**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 second Saturday of the month. If you are interested please contact Jim Lovell ZL3AGS (ph 342 7760) or John Dodgshun <dodgshun@ihug.co.nz> for more information.

**Next meeting;**

# QTC56



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**Monthly Newsletter**

**Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

**NZART Branch 56**