

**Christchurch West Amateur
Radio Club Inc.**



Official Newsletter

Branch 56 website; www.radioamateurs.org.nz

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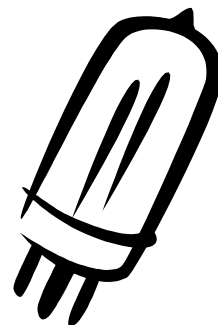
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What's on at the next meeting?"

**“Conference reports. Movies of home-brew valve
construction and vintage aircraft reconstruction
*Visitors and guests most welcome***

24th June 2008

Visit the NZART website <http://www.nzart.org.nz>

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56

Clubrooms; Auburn Park, Upper Riccarton,

P O Box 31 095, Ilam, Christchurch.

Branch 56 web page; <www.radioamateurs.org.nz>

<i>Branch Officers</i>			
<i>President</i>	Mark Carshalton	ZL3BA	322 4518
<i>Vice-President</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<i>Immediate Past Pres</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
<i>Secretary*</i>	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Tyerman	ZL3IA	332 4885
<i>Committee</i>	Mike Barnes	ZL3TMB	352 2294
	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	354 1958
	Brent Officer	ZL3TUI	385 2742
	Bruce Smith	ZL3TFM	343 2432
	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Trustees</i>	Des Borgfeldt	ZL3ACS	980 9705
	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<i>Auditor</i>	Roy Timms	ZL3AIB	358 6347
<i>Branch Officials</i>			
<i>Archivist</i>	Roy Timms	ZL3AIB	358 6347
<i>EMC Officer</i>	vacant		
<i>Free n'Easy Coordinator</i>	Graeme Johnstone	ZL3JO	981 5990
<i>Librarian</i>	Ron Rowlands	ZL3AIV	348 2747
<i>Morse Admin</i>	Des Borgfeldt	ZL3ACS	980 9705
<i>Morse coaching</i>	vacant		
<i>Newsletter editor*</i>	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<i>QSL cards</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Webmaster</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

***Email address; <zl3ib@nzart.org.nz>**

Annual subscriptions;

Individual \$35.00, Family \$40.00, Junior \$17.50

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

General Meeting of the Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club
May 27th 2008

Present: Mark ZL3BA (Chairman), Doug ZL2BCF (Acting Secretary), 22 members and guests.

Visitors: Nil

Apologies: Mike ZL3MJS

Minutes: Confirmation of minutes of April 2008 meeting.

Matters arising: Nil

Correspondence

Inward: NZART Branch circular

Outward: Branch info for *Call-Book*. Letters of thanks to Malcolm and Darrin Gordon.

Financial: 28 financial members.
QTC56 Printing \$16.

Free and Easy report: May meeting; Tony ZL3HAM gave talk and demonstration of QRP rigs.

Classes report; 2 students at present.

General Business:

- 1 Installation of the ceiling insulation completed.
- 2 Installation of new curtains completed. Vote of thanks to Gail and Doug Pratt for their excellent work.
- 3 New projection screen has been installed; a generous donation from Darrin Gordon.
- 4 The floor in the radio room will require replacement in the near future due to rotten floor boards.
- 5 Branch web page; Keith requested more material for the new club web site <www.radioamateurs.org.nz>. Malcolm ZL3UU assisting with Club's history.
- 6 Control of heaters; installation of a timer approved. Doug ZL2BCF to investigate and action.
- 7 Club's radio station ZL3VV will be open every Tuesday from 1700hr. All welcome. Contact Maurice ZL3MEM for more info.

Meeting closed at 2008hr.

Program

Talk and demonstration of MKARS-80 QRP kitset transceiver by David Searle ZL3DWS.

EO&E excepted

Changing your details within the SMART Database.

It should be emphasised that it is the legal responsibility of each radio amateur to ensure that their details held by RSM are current. I have been asked to provide a procedure to describe how to have your details changed within the SMART database.

Those who are computer literate will be able to follow the procedure shown on page 27 of the November – December 2007 *Break-In*, and make changes there. Remember, you will require your client key, client password and client ID to be able to do this.

For those who are “not computer literate”, you may phone RSM on 0508 776 4636 and ask them to change your information or write to them at PO Box 2847, Wellington 6140. Please ask for verification that changes have been made.

Tony Case ZL1UD for NZART Council.

Jumbo “ZL1HV” Award 2008; Bert Wise ZL3ADL

Members will be delighted to learn that Bert Wise ZL3ADL was one of four hams selected for the first Jumbo ZL1HV Award. These awards were announced at the recent NZART Conference 2008 in Dunedin. Congratulations to Bert on this well-deserved Award.

The purpose of this award is to remember one of New Zealand’s best known hams who fully supported NZART at national and branch level. This award has been instituted to recognise the efforts members of the amateur service working at branch level. The Award is made to a radio amateur who has given outstanding service to amateur radio at the branch level over a period of time and that has not been recognised elsewhere.

Here is a small selection of Bert’s many past activities in support of 0Branch 56.

- Bert Wise has served as Secretary and President of the club and on the Committee for many years. In recognition of his service he was awarded Life Membership of Branch 56.
- Following the Club’s purchase in 1996 of a redundant Scout Den to become the present clubrooms Bert organised the sourcing and installation of a new false ceiling and lighting. He did much of the work himself.
- Bert Wise was actively involved in the early development of the Branch 56 70cm repeater.
- Served on the 1999 and 2006 NZART Conference Committees.
- Has been, and continues to be, the Supper Steward for as long as we can remember.
- Bert Wise, along with several other members, has played a leading role in the setting up and running of our very successful Wednesday afternoon “Free n’Easy” meetings.
- He has played a key role in the organising of most of the deceased estate sales which have contributed much to the Branch’s financial health.
- On a more personal basis Bert Wise has helped many local amateurs who have gone into rest homes to remain on the air. He has assisted many amateurs anonymously and in many different ways.

Free n’Easy Group

Our guest on the 14th of May was Tony ZL3HAM who discussed and demonstrated his QRP projects. He had two units on display, for both 40/80 metres. These were connected to the club’s antenna and contact was made with ZL3AHN on each band. His talk was enhanced by use of the data projector. A very good crowd were present and they showed intense interest in the very professional finish of both units which are the hallmark of all Tony’s building. It is always a pleasure to have him as a guest speaker and I thanked him for the effort made in making this presentation.

Our meeting on the 11th of June will be a demonstration of Freeview by ZL3SK who will demonstrate setting up the dish outside the club which will be followed by a discussion of available programmes at the present time with more channels becoming available in coming months. We hope this will be of interest to a wide spectrum of the branch. If you are free that afternoon please come and join us, at Auburn Reserve commencing at 1330 hr, everybody most welcome

73s Graeme ZL3JO

X Beam; 20m antenna construction project

In the next few weeks, possibly on Tuesday nights, we are getting together a group of club members who are interested getting onto 20 metres with very practical mini X-Beams.

Interested? Please contact Keith ZL3QH as soon as possible since we need to do some shopping for components. Estimated basic cost is less than \$200.

73, Keith ZL3QH, 358 4108, <keith.stanton@clear.net.nz>

HAMADS

For Sale. Stereo headphones Pioneer model SE-4 as new still in box ideal for rig use or HiFi listening \$20. Power supply universal AC adaptor model PA2444U for Toshiba Lap Top computer DC output 15V @4A. Can also be used as a general purpose 15v 4A power supply \$20. Telephone answer machine Code-A-Phone model 1620 with 2 x mini tapes and AC adaptor, as new condition \$20. 5 Computer keyboards USB and Mini Din plug types, Mouse x 4, Mouse Pads x 2. \$10 the lot. CD walkman, Sony portable CD player has earphones with remote control in lead, AC adaptor, operating manual and carry bag \$20. Office chair, good quality, gas operated, adjustable back, grayish colour diagonal stripe pattern material, ideal for operating desk or computer desk, as new \$40. Sub-woofer "Solid Brand" made by B&W; this is a passive sub-woofer with 2 x speakers and inbuilt filters for low frequency boost, \$40. Goldair Mini-Donut maker model DD1, makes 6 donuts at once as new condition \$20. Overhead Projector, Beseler 'Century' brand, model VU-Graph excellent condition \$40. Piano heater, tubular 230V, 15W, hang it inside your piano to stop any moisture or condensation which can cause the keys to stick etc, \$20 (about \$60 to buy new). Phone Malcolm ZL3UU on 322-4784 or email: <Malcolm@darkstar.co.nz>

For Sale; Brother AX-250 daisy-wheel typewriter. Offers wanted; John ZL3IB, ph 03-3489 084, email <zl3ib@nzart.org.nz >.

Wanted; SATO Vernier Dial or similar; 6:1 ratio, either 36mm or 50mm diameter,. David ZL3DWS, 03-358 9776, <ZL3DWS@nzart.org.nz>

HAMADS in QTC56 are a free service to members.

Send to John ZL3IB at <zl3ib@nzart.org.nz >.

Radio Memories; Transistor Sets

By David Searl ZL3DWS

Looking back over any field of human endeavor can be instructive. It can reveal that nothing much changes, or even remind us how lucky we are today. The field of radio and electronics is no different in this respect.

Ever sat waiting for the lights to change with a *Boy Racer* (*Girl Racer*) beside you with his *Sounds* pumping loudly? Your pacemaker starts to keep the same beat, or so it seems! Or what about that pretty young thing, shouting to a friend on her cell phone in the supermarket about what happened (or didn't happen) with *Her Latest* she hooked up with last Saturday night? Your pacemaker skips another beat! Time to change the batteries me thinks?

Seems nothing is new. Here follows an Editorial from a 1962 issue of *Practical Wireless*. The solution may seem severe, or was it?

Quote: "The word "transistor" has acquired a particular meaning in the lay mind; to the radio enthusiast and the technically knowledgeable, it means a semiconductor device, but to the man in the street it stands for any form of miniature radio receiver. Over the past few years, the use of these small receivers has grown enormously and has certainly revived interest in sound radio; nowadays, it appears to be the "done thing" to have at least one transistor set (or "tranny"). Naturally, as time goes on these receivers are being continually improved in running costs, sensitivity, and more particularly in the volume of sound which they will produce. In fact, some sets give so much output that they are considered objectionable; it was last summer when objections to the invasions of privacy by sounds from portable radios reached their height and several towns passed by-laws prohibiting the playing of portable radio receivers in public places. In London, buses carried notices pointing out that the operation of portable receivers could not be permitted.

The bye-laws and the notices in public places gradually seemed to take effect last year, and, late in the summer, it was rare to hear portable sets playing in the open air. However, no doubt many more receivers have been brought this year, and to their owners they will be novelties. This seems to us to be the main reason for the annoyance caused by these sets; their owners play them in many instances not because they are interested in or really to require to hear the programmes, but because they are using a new gadget. For the radio enthusiast who builds his own portable receiver, the same sort of problem does not arise since he is accustomed to such circuits and they have no novelty value for him.

It is hoped that as transistor radios become even more commonplace, their indiscriminate use will be reduced. Unless this happens, more definite steps must certainly be taken to discourage the playing of portable receivers in public places." End of quote.

In 1962 Walkmans, iPods, Cellphones, Personal DVD's, AM Ultra Lights, and Text Bleepers were still a glint in some inventor's eye. How they would have coped with that lot on London buses way back then, one can only imagine!

From: *Practical Wireless* editorial July 1962. Reprinted with the kind permission of Rob Mannion, G3XFD/EI5IW, Editor, *Practical Wireless*. © DW Searle 2008 <ZL3DWS@nzart.org.nz>

Calendar for 2008

ZL3VV on air; Tuesdays 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
	13	12	9	14	11	9	13	10	8	11	10

Committee Meeting - Third Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
22 ?	19	18	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	

General Meeting - Fourth Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
29	26	25	22	27	24	22	26	23	28	25	

Free & Easy:

June 11th A demonstration of Freeview, 'free to air TV' by ZL3SK

General Meetings

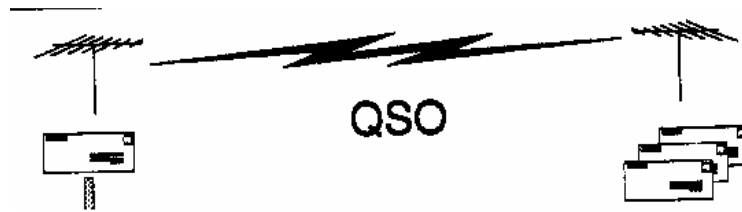
June 24th Conference reports. Movies of home-brew valve construction and vintage aircraft reconstruction

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.

QTC56



Monthly Newsletter

Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc.

NZART Branch 56