

**Christchurch West Amateur
Radio Club Inc.**

Official Newsletter



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What's on at the next meeting?"

**Gadgets and Gizmos in the ham hack;
a show and tell forum.**

Bring along your favourite items of test gear, tools, etc.

Visitors and guests most welcome

24th March 2009

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.

<i>Branch Officers</i>			
<i>President</i>	Baden Melhuish	ZL3VI	384 1584
<i>Vice-President</i>	Keith Stanton	ZL3QH	358 4108
<i>Immediate Past Pres</i>	Mark Carshalton	ZL3BA	322 4518
<i>Secretary*</i>	Doug Pratt	ZL2BCF	322 9961
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Tyerman	ZL3IA	332 4885
<i>Committee</i>	Brent Officer	ZL3TUI	385 2742
	Mike Barnes	ZL3TMB	352 2294
	Maurice McNab	ZL3MEM	354 1958
	Bruce Smith	ZL3TFM	343 2432
	John Walker	ZL3IB	348 9084
<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>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>

Annual subscription for 2009 is due NOW;

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

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club Inc
Tuesday 24th February 2009**

Present: Mark ZL3BA (Chairman), John ZL3IB (Secretary), Peter ZL3IA (Treasurer) and 24 members.

Visitors: Fritz Weld DL3MHB

Apologies: ZL3QH, ZL3DWS

Minutes: Minutes of 2008 AGM were read and confirmed (3JO/3MEM)

Matters arising: Nil

President's report appended. A Vote of Thanks to Mark ZL3BA for his leadership over the past year was moved and carried. (2BCF/3MEM)

Treasurer's report *appended.*

Subscriptions for 2009. Because of the Club's favourable financial position the Treasurer moved that subs for 2009 remain unchanged at \$35 (individual), \$40 (family) and \$17.50 (junior). (3IA/3AZ). Carried.

However the Treasurer did foreshadow an increase in the 2010 subscription.

Auditor's report; appended.

The President proposed Votes of Thanks for services to the Club to The Treasurer, the Secretary and Auditor. Carried by acclamation. (3IA/3IB)

Free n'Easy report

Our meetings for the last twelve months have been well attended and we have been fortunate with guest speakers who have provided us with interesting and informative subjects. It is interesting that these meetings continue to be a catalyst for branches all over Canterbury and that they all enjoy the company while in Branch 56 clubrooms.

Our last speaker was S/Constable Brian Price who gave a very full and interesting breakdown on Fingerprinting and DNA, this meeting continued on for two hours and many questions were fielded.

Graeme Johnstone ZL3JO

Free and Easy Co-ordinator

Election of Officers

<i>President</i>	Baden Melhuish ZL3VI	
<i>Vice-President</i>	Keith Stanton ZL3QH	
<i>Immediate Past-Pres</i>	Mark Carshalton ZL3BA	
<i>Secretary</i>	Doug Pratt ZL2BCF	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Tyerman ZL3IA	
<i>Committee</i>	Bruce Smith ZL3TFM	John Walker ZL3IB
	Mike Barnes ZL3TMB	Maurice McNab ZL3MEM
	Brent Officer ZL3TUI	
<i>Trustees</i>	Des Borgfeldt & Baden Melhuish	
<i>Auditor</i>	Roy Timms ZL3AIB	

General business

The President thanked Brent 3TUI and Maurice 3MEM for their efforts on opening the Club station ZL3VV every Tuesday evening.

Need for caretaker/Custodian. David ZL3AZ commented on the sorry state of cleanliness of the toilets and kitchen, etc. By way of explanation Peter 3IA pointed out that due to the large amount of work involved in replacing the radio-room floor, plus the general lack of volunteers for working bees, some tasks had been neglected.

Agreed that a volunteer to take on the role of caretaker be sought.

Presentation of Life Membership. Doug Pratt ZL2BCF moved that John Walker ZL3IB be awarded Life Membership of the Branch. He noted that John has served as Cttee member, or President or Secretary continuously since 1970. Carried unanimously.

Meeting closed at 2005.

**General Meeting of the Christchurch West Amateur Radio Club
Tuesday 24th February 2009**

Present: Baden ZL3VI (Chairman), Doug ZL2BCF (Secretary), 24 members and guests

Visitors: Fritz Weld DL3MHB

Apologies: ZL3QH, ZL3DWS

Minutes: Confirmation of minutes of Jan 2009 meeting.

Matters arising: Field Day; 29th Feb at Rimu Park confirmed.

Correspondence

Inward: nil

Newsletters *Break-In* Hamlarks, Rag-Chew,

Outward: Branch 56 remit to NZART HQ.

Financial: 61 (2008) Financial members

Free and Easy report: January meeting; Excellent talk on Modern Police Forensic Techniques.

Our guest speaker for 11th March is Terry Carrell ZL3QL who will be giving us a P/P presentation on what is happening in the Satellite world. This should be of great interest and I hope there will be a good attendance

73. Graeme ZL3JO

Classes Report:

General Business:

1 Antennas. Recent high winds have damaged the rotator system which is rather antiquated. Need to construct a new, improved clamping plate

Alternatively; seek a newer replacement rotator; can anybody assist?

2 Club's radio station ZL3VV will be open every Tuesday from 1700hr. All welcome. Contact Maurice ZL3MEM for more info.

Program

Doug Pratt ZL2BCF gave a PowerPoint presentation on modern Aircraft Traffic Control systems. This provided an excellent follow-up to our earlier 2008 visit to the Chch Air Traffic Control Centre.

Baden's Blurb

Hello. It was a great AGM with a very good turnout. Thank you to all who attended the AGM, especially those people who have taken up office.

Subs for 2009 are due now. Please pay these to Peter ZL3IA, our Treasurer, or any other committee member, or you can pay by direct credit to the club Bank Account. See notice in this QTC.

National Field Day took place last weekend, and the club operated a station at Rimu Park. Thanks to all who attended, and put the club call and branch number on air.

The committee have a number of speakers in line for talks at meetings. However, I imagine there are many of us who could give a talk on some aspect of our work and/or spare time activities, which would be of interest to the Club. Please let a committee member know. Thanks.

Joke of the month, and it's radio related : Two aerials meet on a roof, fall in love and get married. The ceremony wasn't much but the reception was brilliant.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that QTC is your Newsletter, and if you can help fill it up, our editor would like to hear from you, even if it's just a HAMAD.

73 de Baden, ZL3VI

March meeting

This will take the form of a “Show & Tell” forum on useful tools, gadgets and gizmos in the ham shack. Bring along something, or things, that you have found really useful in your shack or workshop and tell us about it.

Field Day 2009; In the Rain with Hot-Cross Buns

Saturday, National Field Day 2009, started bright and windy. Doug ZL2BCF and son Adrian were first on site at the traditional and well proven Rimu Scout Park. They made sure the caravan and all the necessities were quickly in place. Michael ZL3MJS followed by setting up two Yaesu FT757GX's on 80m and 40m. Harry ZL3LP used his immaculate fisherman skills to cast lines over the tallest trees to string up 80 and 40m dipoles end-to-end. What would we do without Harry? Hey Harry, thanks for being there! Hope to see you at some of our Branch meetings soon.

Upon discovering we couldn't find the 40m antenna, a new one was made up and professionally analysed and tested by Maurice ZL3MEM and Graham ZL3NK. The SWR was near perfect! Thanks guys for stepping in so successfully. Around this time the rain began and never stopped. Putting up antennas in the rain is as much fun as slapping folk with wet bus tickets. But we got there with minutes to spare.

At 3pm we started, and Peter 3IA and Michael 3MJS were first on the Air. Mike worked the 40m band until his 757 couldn't keep up and expired/died/broke/fused and went to hammy heaven. He quickly returned home for a Kenwood TS930S replacement which was a joy to use. 40m Europeans were booming in after 10pm but the temptation to work a few was avoided by lassoing a posse of friendly VK's.

Some 30-35 NZ Branch stations were active, similar to recent years. It was great to hear the return of Branch 05 ZL3AC on the bands; and Don ZL3DMC as another Branch 56 station. Having two 56 stations did cause stations to query we were really Branch 56 on occasion, it seemed. CW operation was attempted but non-functioning keys meant that mode was quickly shelved.

Sunday morning dawned rain free, sunny and warm. The two hardy souls who stayed in the caravan overnight were quickly on the bands at 6am sharp, despite one being somewhat handicapped from the snoring of Steve ZL2SR earlier! Signals were good and continued strong until closedown at 3pm. Clearly the bands are improving. Mid-morning a Boy Scout working bee began work in front of our station. Loud electric saws, drills, Abba music and Boy Scouts chasing Girl Guides competed with important SSB signals. A little later, the biggest ever Alsatian dog padded through the caravan and lean-to, and said good morning to everyone. It might have been friendly, but I hurriedly took morning tea at that point.

All Hams need good food to operate at their best on Field Day. Copious cups of coffee, hot cross buns and toasted sandwiches kept the dials turning and helped visitors to stop and share the fun just a little longer.

Field Day 2010 will be on February 27th and 28th. Mark the dates in your diary now, so you too can have as much fun as we did last weekend. Like a good Boy Scout though, be prepared to overcome some challenges on the day!

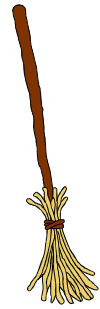
David W Searle <ZL3DWS@nzart.org.nz>

Wanted

Caretaker/Custodian for Branch 56 Clubrooms.

Further to an item raised at the recent AGM can anyone assist with basic cleaning and maintenance duties at the Auburn Park Clubrooms? Main tasks are to see that clubroom, kitchen and toilet areas are clean and in good order prior to meetings.

Please contact Secretary Doug ZL2BCF, or any committee member if you can help.



HAMADS

For Sale. Tektronix type 191 Constant Amplitude RF signal generator 50 kHz-100 MHz, as new condition \$50. 1% ¼W resistors, complete range, minimum of 50 of each value in 115 small Philips component boxes in 23 trays of 5 each; approximately 5750 resistor \$100. 5 computer keyboards; USB and mini-DIN plug types, Mouse x 4, Mouse pads x 2 @ \$5 the lot. Office chair, gas-operated, adjustable back, great for computer or ham operating desk, as new \$30. 3 x NiCd and NiMH battery chargers \$10 the lot. Video Sender new, transmit a low power TV or DVD signal to watch on a TV in another room \$20. Piano heater, small 15W tubular heater to hang inside the back of your piano to stop moisture or condensation which can cause the keys to stick etc, \$10 (about \$60 dollars to buy new). TH6-DXX antenna, 6-element, tri-band Yagi by HyGain, 24 ft boom, all stainless hardware, excellent condition \$300. Malcolm Gordon ZL3UU, ph 322-4784, email: <Malcolm@darkstar.co.nz>

Freebies. Two 'junked' DVD players. Any use to anyone? Contact John ZL3IB Phone 03-3489 084, email <zl3ib@nzart.org.nz> .

HAMADS in QTC56 are a free service to members.

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

Repeater news; Cass Peak and Tekapo 680 now linked

If you hear any strange southern call signs appearing on the 145.625 repeater, please welcome them; Tekapo 680 has now been linked to our CARDS 2m repeater.

Big thanks to all involved getting the gear in, especially Eion ZL3AG for his work configuring the equipment at both ends and the install at Cass.

73, Mike ZL3TMB

SECOND ZL3 BUILDATHON - 9am. Sat. April 18th, 2009

The second Buildathon will be held at Kendal School on April 18th. It's designed to interest all in becoming a recruit to Amateur Radio and construction.

You are most welcome to come along to help others build their AM transistor radio kit. A working ham station will be on air and mini-talks will be given to interest the public in amateur radio.

Please invite family, friends and work colleagues to come along and join in the fun. To register, simply email David Searle ZL3DWS ZL3DWS@nzart.org.nz or call 03 358 9776.

Calendar for 2009

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
	11	11	8	13	10	8	12	9	14	11	9

Committee Meeting - Third Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

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

General Meeting - Fourth Tuesday at 1930 (7.30pm)

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

Free & Easy:

11th March .Terry Carrell ZL3QL will be giving us a P/P presentation on what is happening in the Satellite world.

General Meetings

24th March “Show & Tell” forum on useful tools, gadgets and gizmos in the ham shack.

Combined Branches Meeting

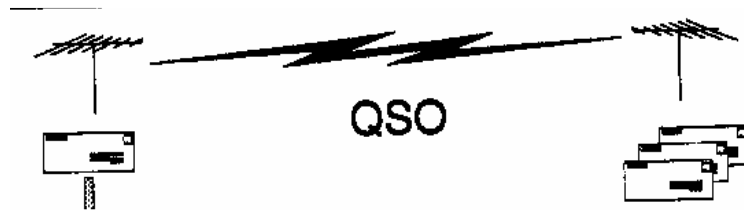
23rd March At Branch 68 clubrooms, Woodend. All welcome

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