

Ham Hum

July 2008



The official newsletter of
The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Inc
Branch 12 of NZART - ZL1UX
85 years of leadership



Next General Meeting

16th July—ZL1TGC

Developments in Marine Electronics

Disclaimer: The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (Inc) accepts no responsibility for opinions expressed in this publication. Where possible, the articles source details will be published. Copyright remains with the author or HARC.

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From the Committee

Congratulations to Tony Case (ZL1UD) who has just finished 6 years of study to attain a NZ Diploma in Business, a Diploma in Information Technology and a NZIM Diploma in Management. This was a huge commitment from Tony as he was forced to change his career due to a workplace incident several years ago.

Many thanks to all who helped with the Rally New Zealand Promotion Day on June 29th. It was an excellent day, if cold and windy, with Dave (ZL1DK) from Auckland and Bernard (ZL1WT) from Te Awamutu coming over to add their expertise. We now look forward to the WRC NZ Rally in August.



The clubs Amateur Radio Examination Course is going strong with several attendees at the classes being held on Thursdays at 7:30pm. We look forward to them passing the exam and being welcomed into the Ham Radio community.

Next Committee Meeting - 6th August 2008

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SB PROP ARL ARLP027 ARLP027 Propagation de K7RA

Recent days graced by sunspots were short lived. June 10 through June 13 saw a single sunspot group, followed by two days with no spots, then a week of spots from June 16-22. During that week the sunspot number was 11 every day, the lowest non-zero sunspot number.

The four days since have had no spots at all. You can see the sunspot numbers for the last calendar quarter at, http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/quar_DSD.txt. This current quarter data is only available on the net through June 30. July 1 begins a new quarter.

This weekend is ARRL Field Day, and while there are no sunspots, sporadic E skip is a possibility, and conditions should be quiet, meaning no geomagnetic disturbance is expected. Predicted planetary A index for June 27 to July 3 is predicted at 10, 8, 5, 5, 5, 5 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague expects unsettled conditions June 27-28, quiet to unsettled June 29, and quiet June 30 to July 3.

Ken Standard, AD5XJ of Houma, Louisiana wrote, "I have been tracking the NOAA dynamic indicators available at, http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SWN/sw_dials.gif. While I see that if everything is in the green areas that is better than when they are in the yellow or red areas. My problem is figuring out what indication each has for HF propagation specifically. The available data on these indicators is scarce and ambiguous at best. Can you enlighten a student of El Sol?"

The first figure, the Magnetic Field Bz component, relates to the IMF, or Interplanetary Magnetic Field, which we've mentioned in past bulletins. When it is pointing north relative to earth, this provides a kind of shield against solar wind, and earth is less likely to experience geomagnetic activity. When it points south, the earth is vulnerable. The scale in this figure is marked green at one of the scale, indicating the most protection, and red at the

other end, to represent the greater likelihood of geomagnetic activity.

The next two figures, Speed and Dynamic Pressure, express the speed and pressure currently from solar wind. Similarly, the scales run from green to red signifying their relationship to geomagnetic disturbance.

For Sale

Yaesu FT-897 in good order. Hardly used by Hamilton Search & Rescue.

Contact Barry (ZL1BNP) Ph: 7-849-1189

Amateur Radio Satellites

For many years now, in fact since 1961, there have been earth satellites in orbit carrying amateur radio beacons and transponders.

Many of them are now non-operational or have re-entered the earth's atmosphere. However AO-7 a 28kg satellite launched into a 1459.00 x 1440.00 Km orbit inclined 101.59 degrees in November 1974 is still operational depending on the sunlight level at the satellite.

In the not too distant future NZ hams will join the club with the launch of Kiwisat. KiwiSat is a microsatellite under construction by AMSAT-ZL. It will have a 2W linear U/V (70cm uplink/ 2m downlink) linear transponder and additional experiments including FM repeater and data transmission. Details are on <http://www.kiwisat.org/>

There have been more than 60 amateur radio satellites launched on behalf of various groups around the world since 1961 and of these the following is a list of those still active to some extent taken from the AMSAT news service bulletin for June 2008.

VO52 AO51 SO50 FO29 AO27 AO16

AO7	RS30	CAPE-1	CP3	PO63	NO62
GENESAT-1	CO58	CO57	CO56	CO55	NO44
GO32	UO11	RS22	CAN X-2	AAUSAT-II	DO64
COMPASS 1	SEEDS 2				

ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station)

Some details on the INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION (ISS) – ARISS operation

Current Mode: FM Repeater - Mode U/V
 Voice - Occasionally
 BBS - ON
 APRS - ON
 SSTV - OFF

Expedition 17 crew:

Commander: Sergey Volkov RU3DIS
 Flight Engineer: Oleg Kononenko RN3DX
 Flight Engineer: Garrett Reisman KE5HAE

Available Modes and Frequencies:

Digital/APRS:

Worldwide packet uplink: 145.825 MHz FM
 Worldwide packet downlink: 145.825 Mhz FM

Voice:

Region 1 voice uplink: 145.200 MHz FM
 Region 2/3 voice uplink: 144.490 MHz FM
 Worldwide downlink: 145.800 MHz FM

Crossband Repeater: Mode U/V

Repeater Uplink: 437.800 MHz FM
 Repeater Downlink: 145.800 MHz FM

Mode and Antenna Polarization:

V: Linear
 U: Linear

Callsigns:

German: DP0ISS

Russian: RS0ISS
RZ3DZR
USA: NA1SS
Packet Mailbox: RS0ISS-11
Packet Keyboard: RS0ISS-3
Digipeater callsign: ARISS

Official ARISS Webpage: <http://www.rac.ca/ariss>

ISS Fan Club Webpage: <http://www.issfanclub.com>

APRS tracking page: <http://www.ariss.net/>

ISS Daily Crew Schedule: <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/station/timelines/>

Remember that the crew operates on UTC time. Also, all of the time line is NOT translated from Russian and posted.

- ZL1PK

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WHANGAREI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC

P0 Box 10-078 Te Mai Whangarei

NOTICE

USED EQUIPMENT SALE

SATURDAY 26th JULY 2008

Club rooms : Museum & Heritage Park, St-Hwy 14

Contacts:

President Charlie Moates ZL1DAC zl1dac@nzart.org.nz Phone 09-434-7292

Secretary Trevor Gould ZL1KAG zl1kag@nzart.org.nz Phone 09-439-1747

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Wanted

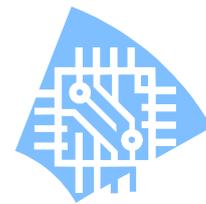
Transformer for a Kenwood TS-520 or TS-530. Call Laurence (ZL1LD) 7-824-4092 or via his address in the callbook.

The Hamilton Market Day



9th August 2008

Claudelands Event
Center



Heaphy Tce

Put this important
date in your diary now



Entry is free for buyers. Refreshments provided.
Prior vendors will receive registration details by mail.

NASA Science News for June 26, 2008

This summer, NASA engineers will try to realize a dream older than the Space Age itself: the deployment of a working solar sail in Earth orbit. The name of the sail is NanoSail-D and it is scheduled for launch onboard a SpaceX Falcon 1 rocket as early as July 29, 2008.

FULL STORY at

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/26jun_nanosaild.htm?list1067420



WAITAKERE SPRINTS 2008

The Western Suburbs Radio Club is pleased to advise that the Waitakere Sprint Phone section will be on the last Saturday in July and the Sprint CW section will be on the first Saturday in August.

The Sprints are of one-hour duration on 80m, and are open to all licensed amateurs in ZL, VK and Oceania call areas.

Eligibility

The Waitakere Sprints are open to all licensed amateurs anywhere in the ZL, VK and Oceania call areas. SWL logs will also be welcome.

2008 Contest Periods

Phone 1000 to 1100 UTC, on Saturday 26th July

CW 1000 to 1100 UTC, on Saturday 2nd August

The rules will be available from the Western Suburbs Radio Club when the website is updated.

New Plymouth Amateur Radio Club

Used Equipment Auction

Mangorei Hall, Junction Road.

Auction to be held on 19th July 2008.

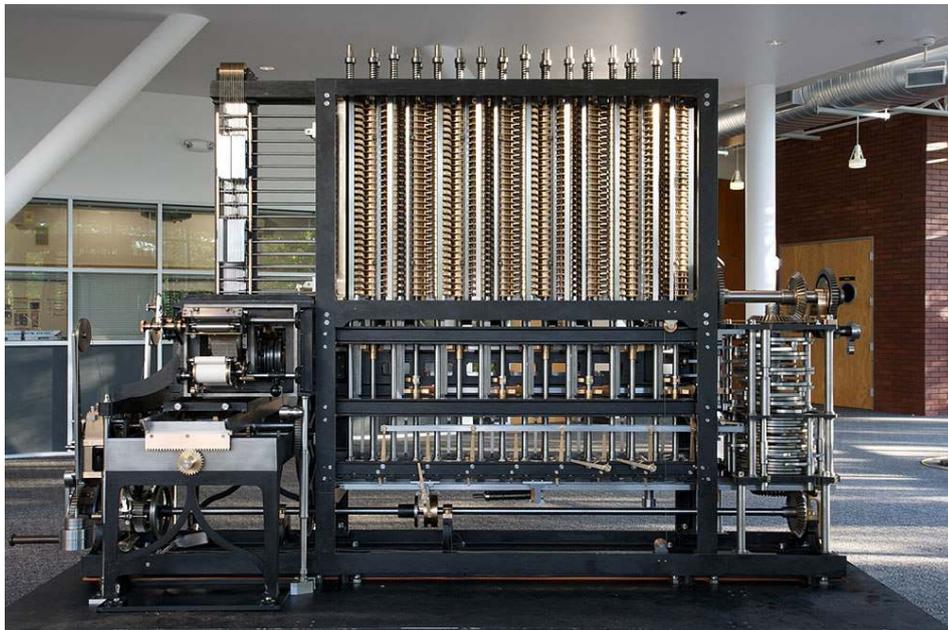
Inwards goods received from 0800 hrs

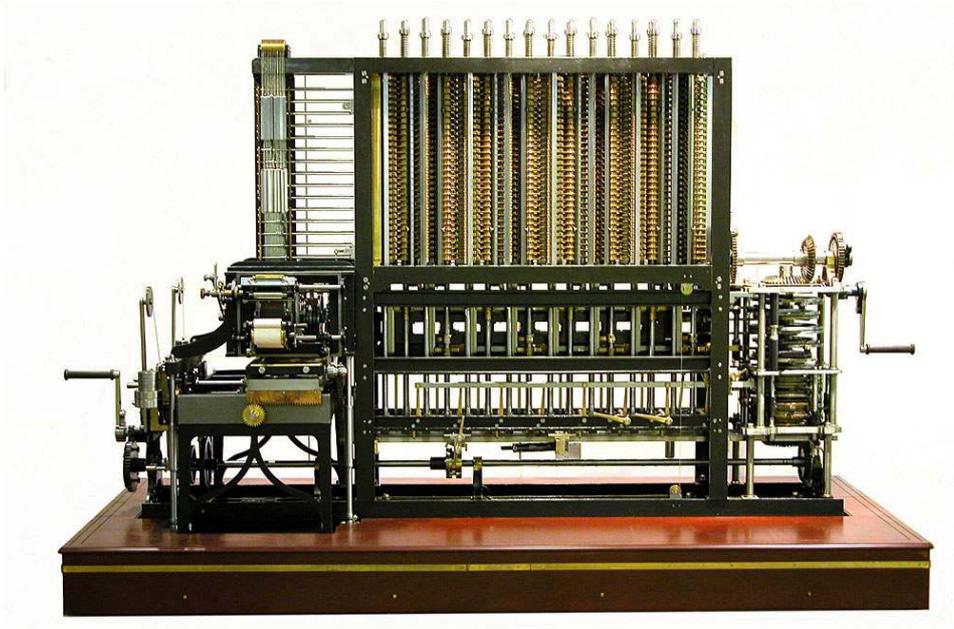
Auction starts at 1000 hrs

Equipment of a quality and type not normally seen at such sales will be available
at this sale.

(buyer registration is essential)

ZL2KH Roy Symon





Charles Babbage's Difference Engine No. 2, designed in the late 1840s, weighs five tons, is 11 feet (3.4 meters) long and seven feet (2.1 meters) high, and has 8,000 bronze, cast iron and steel parts. The Computer History Museum's Babbage Engine Exhibit launches on May 10, 2008, in Mountain View, Calif.

On the left hand side you can see the built-in printer for results.

-ZL1PK

Upcoming Happenings & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Happenings & Events</i>
1st July	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
2nd July	Committee Meeting
5-6 July	NZART Memorial Contest 80m CW & SSB
5th July	VK/Trans-Tasman Contest 160m Phone
6th July	NZART HQ Info-Line
7th July	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
8th July	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
10th July	Deadline July/August Break-In
14th July	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
15th July	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
16th July	General Meeting—ZL1TGC
19th July	VK/Trans-Tasman Contest 160m CW
20th July	NZART HQ Info-Line
21st July	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
22nd July	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
26th July	Hawkes Bay Rally
26th July	Whangarei Used Equipment Sale
26th July	Waitakere Sprints 80m Phone
27th July	NZART Official Broadcast

30th July—Hamilton AREC Section meeting
2nd August—Waitakere Sprints 80m CW
2-3 August—Brass Monkey Contest
3rd August—NZART HQ Info-Line
6th August—Committee Meeting
9th August—The Hamilton Market Day
16-17 August—International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend
17th August—NZART HQ Info-Line
20th August—General Meeting
29-31 August—Rally NZ (WRC)
31st August—NZART Official Broadcast
1-2 November—Bridge to Bridge
14th March 2009—Colville Connection
2nd May 2009—45th Rotorua Marathon

For more information on any of the above please contact myself or any committee member.

AREC Report

It has been a quiet month AREC wise, with Jono and I representing the Section at the AREC forum in Dunedin . AREC badges have turned up and been allocated. *Unfortunately, no one seemed to want to pay for the freight (extra weight in our luggage) from Dunedin for these.* My bag went down 17.8 Kg's and came back at 20.0 Kg's. The only thing added was the badges (*and they were in my carry on*).

There will be a Section Meeting at the clubrooms on Wednesday the 30th of July.

I am still looking for operators for the Bridge to Bridge. You can see if you are listed for events by checking the following webpage: <http://zl1ux.tripod.com/eventops.htm>

The section is looking for new members. Hamilton Section will only accept membership from applicants who do not live in an area covered by another section.

I have offered our clubrooms for the next series of Training sessions.

The Club 2M STSP has been removed from service and is being QSY'ed to 146.675 MHz (-ve split); one of the new STSP frequencies.

I am looking for operators for the Hawkes Bay Rally.

The dates are Saturday and Sunday 26 and 27 July. Accommodation is provided at the Mohaka Forrest Base. You will need something like an air bed.

Please get in touch with me urgently.

Colin ZL2CMC and I are going down on Thursday 24th. I have Council matters to attend to down there.

That's it for this month.

Upcoming AREC Events

Please mark these dates on your calendar and/or diary

The club has 2m handheld radios for use on events like these which means YOU can help out.

WRC Shakedown

29 June 2008, Mystery Creek
2m simplex FM (SSB optional)
ZL1DGK, ZL1PK, ZL1TCE, ZL1UD, ZL1UPJ
already booked in.



Hamilton Section Meeting

30 July 2008

39th WRC Rally New Zealand 2008

29-31 August 2008, Mystery Creek
11th round WRC, 5th round PWRC, 5th round NZRC
Names of primary operators to ZL1UD via eMail. Reserve your spot quick. ZL1UD/ZL1IC, ZL1TCE/ZL1UPJ, ZL1PK/ZL1DGK already booked in.

25th Annual Rollos Bridge to Bridge Water Ski Classic 2008

1-2 November 2008
16 operators needed
ZL1DGK, ZL1DK, ZL1GWP, ZL1IC, ZL1KK, ZL1KN, ZL1LD,
ZL1PK, ZL1TCE, ZL1TNO, ZL1UD, ZL1UPJ, ZL2CMC, ZL4QJ
already booked in.

Kona Colville Connection 2009

14th March 2009
Using HF & 2m (simplex & repeater).
ZL1KK/ZL1KN, ZL1PK/ZL1DGK/ZL1LD, ZL1UD/ZL2TW,

For Details about and to help with these events, contact :-

Tony Case ZL1UD zl1ud@nzart.org.nz

or one of his deputies (ZL1PK, ZL1TCE, ZL1UPJ).

Club Information



Contacts :-

Business Meeting: 1930 First Wednesday of each month
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

General Meeting: 1930 Third Wednesday of each month
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

Homepage: <http://z11ux.tripod.com>
eMail: branch.12@nzart.org.nz

HF Net: 3.575MHz LSB 1930 Mondays
VHF Net: 146.525MHz simplex 2000 Tuesdays

STSP 145.325MHz -600kHz split
Repeaters: 438.725MHz -5 MHz split
ATV Repeater: 615.250 Ch39 (off air)

Cover Photo: Plumbing meets Amateur Radio. 2m loop aerial built by N9OH.

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