



# Ragchew

“The Voice of Branch 68”

August 2015

The North Canterbury Amateur Radio Club Inc.  
PO Box 14, Woodend 7641



[www.ncarcinc.weebly.com](http://www.ncarcinc.weebly.com)

Meetings are held at the Woodend Youth Centre, unless otherwise advised.



QTH

## CLUB CALENDAR

Meetings start at 1930hrs, unless otherwise stated.

### Host for August – ZL3HI

August 9 **Mid-Winter Dinner - Sunday 9th @ 1200hrs. Garden Restaurant, Marshland Road.**  
13 General Meeting - “VK0IR Heard Island - Outpost at the Edge” DVD by Tony ZL3HAM

### Branch 01 Ashburton

August 10 General Meeting - Phil ZL3TIK is host

### Branch 05 Christchurch

August 5 General Meeting - “WWII Radios & Manpacks” by Kelvin ZL3KB

### Branch 56 Christchurch West

August 12 Free & Easy (1330hrs)  
25 General Meeting

### CARDS

August 19 General Meeting

## Nets and Frequencies

**Club HF** 3.665MHz, 1930hrs 1st Thursday of the month

**Canterbury 2M SSB Net** 144.200MHz every Tuesday from 2000hrs (vertical polarisation)

**Canterbury 6M Net** 3850 6M Repeater Thursdays from 2000hrs (vertical polarisation)

**Canterbury Area Net** 5625 Repeater, 2000hrs on Sundays

**National Broadcast** last Sunday of the month at 2000hrs on 3.900MHz, National System, 6975 and 705 Repeaters

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Editor: Tony Buckland ZL3HAM Phone 03 312 5352 Email: [zl3ham@scorch.co.nz](mailto:zl3ham@scorch.co.nz)*

# BAYLEYS

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Thanks to **BAYLEYS** for sponsoring the photocopying of the newsletter.

## President's Report

I hope you've been able to keep warm this winter. I have just picked up a new van for work and the difference in warmth is quite amazing, you will also miss the scream of the diff from my QSO's from now on!

My CW is still improving, a fairly long road to learn this with all the other things I have going on.

Thanks to Tony ZL3HAM for showing a DVD last meeting about the WRTC 2014. The VK0IR Heard Island DXpedition in 1997 DVD will be shown this month. Interestingly another expedition to Heard Island is planned for March/April 2016.

For further details here's a link to their website <http://vk0ek.org/>

I have had a shack rearrangement and the new layout makes operating much easier.

Till next month ...



73 Don ZL3DMC

**Mid-Winter Dinner - Sunday 9th August @ 1200hrs**  
**Garden Restaurant, Marshland Road, Shirley**

## AREC Report

Nothing to report on AREC/CD this month

**Don ZL3DMC, S/L**  
**Geoff ZL3QR, Dep S/L**

## Repeater Reports



### Mt. Noble 6975

As this is written I expect there is snow on Mt. Noble. There certainly was a few days ago. The modified software is ready to go. It's just a matter of getting the "ducks lined up".

Repeater functioning well with the battery over 13 volts at times.

**Mike ZL3AKZ**

### Mt. Grey 675

The repeater is working well with no known issues.

**Geoff ZL3QR**

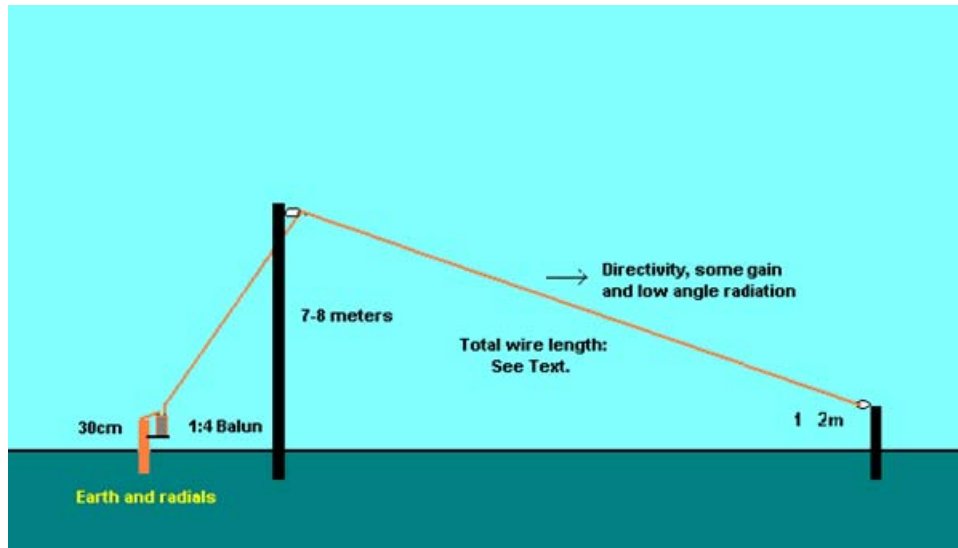


## All-Band Sloping Inverted "L" Antenna by LA1IC

Put that 4:1 balun, a couple of insulators and some extra wire to good use!

If your major antenna problem is deciding whether your new rotary beam will be a yagi or a quad, this article is not for you. I am aiming at two groups of amateurs. Those in one group consider themselves lucky to have an antenna at all. Any antenna they put up must be simple, inexpensive, easy to erect, and hopefully a good radiator on a number of bands.

Those in the other group are enthusiastic participants in amateur radio's favorite outdoor sport - experimenting with antennas. Here are two SLOPERS for your sporting enjoyment!



Alternative 1:

15M:  $75 \times 10.95/21.055(\text{MHz}) = 39 \text{ meters} = 127.95 \text{ Feet (128 Feet)}$

12M:  $75 \times 12.95/24.900(\text{MHz}) = 39 \text{ meters}$

10M:  $75 \times 14.95/28.750(\text{MHz}) = 39 \text{ meters}$

Alternative 2:

30M:  $75 \times 4.95/10.035(\text{MHz}) = 37 \text{ meters} = 121.39 \text{ Feet (121.4 Feet)}$

20M:  $75 \times 6.95/14.085(\text{MHz}) = 37 \text{ meters}$

17M:  $75 \times 8.95/18.140(\text{MHz}) = 37 \text{ meters}$

*cont'd on page 4*

### August Meeting

At our last meeting we viewed a DVD "WRTC 2014", not as advertised in the last Ragchew but enjoyed all the same. The World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) is a competition between two-person teams of amateur radio operators testing their skills to make contacts with other Amateur Radio operators around the world over a 24 hour period. All teams use identical antennas from the same geographic region, eliminating all variables except operating ability.

WRTC 2014 included 59 competing teams from 29 qualifying regions around the world. Competitors represented 38 different countries.

This month we have a DVD of "VK0IR Heard Island - Outpost at the Edge" to watch.



**\*\*August Happy Birthday's\*\***

Mary ZL3AHY  
Anne ZL3VR  
Geoff ZL3QR  
Rob ZL3RO



con't from page 3

### START WITH 39 METERS OF WIRE

With 39 meters of wire, (128.0 feet of #12 to 16 ), in operative height you start trimming on 15M. Cutting 18cm of wire (7.00 inches) will raise the frequency about 100Kc. Continue little by little until you get minimum SWR somewhere around 21.055MHz. Resonances on 12 and 10M will be found around 24.9 and 28.750MHz, respectively.

You have now optimized your antenna for these three DX-bands.

(10, 12, and 15 meters)

10, 12, 15M with one length and 17, 20 & 30M with another length **ALL WITHOUT AN ANTENNA TUNER ! THAT'S 6 BANDS WITH 2 ANTENNAS!**

With the "meager" years of propagation ahead you may prefer to optimize your antenna for 17, 20 and 30M operation. But wait a little before cutting to much! If you trim it up to about 21.450MHz you will still have a SWR of 1:1.2 on 21.000MHz. Resonances on 12 and 10M are now around 25.3 and 29.350MHz. But still the SWR is only 1:1.2 on 24.9 and 28.7MHz.

Let us see what happens to the other bands. Resonance on 17M will be around 17.850MHz with a flat SWR curve up to 1:1.2 on 18.240MHz. On 20M you will find SWR 1:1 on 13.9MHz, with a flat curve up to 1:1.2 on 14.320MHz. And finally, with a 30M resonance on 9.9MHz we still have a SWR of 1:1.2 over the entire amateur band.

As you have seen, like all asymetrically fed antennas this one is also very broadbanded. In other words, there is no urgent need to go on with Alternative 2 until the 10, 12 and 15 meter bands become hopelessly quiet in a couple of years!

### 40 AND 80 METERS

Although this antenna is not resonant on 40 and 80 it will, using your ATU, do a fair job on these bands as well.

### 160 METERS

On 160M our antenna is a quarterwave fed against poor earth, which in turn raises the feedpoint impedance somewhat. Nevertheless, even on this band the SLOPING INVERTED L antenna will get you on the air!

**73! Rolf, LA1IC**

# EastFest 2015



Saturday 12 September 1000-1730hrs  
Sunday 13 September 0900-1230hrs

**\*\*\* Note: New Venue \*\*\***

**Venue: Ashburton Masonic Lodge, 111 Havelock Street, Ashburton**

Following on from our successful EastFest of 2013 we have decided to hold another similar event this year with many talks and demonstrations of "hands on" ham radio.

Sunday afternoon will be a visit to the Lynn Woodwork Museum, "The Plains", Tinwald Domain.

We will provide morning and afternoon refreshments but not lunch or evening meals. However, Saturday evening meal has been booked at the Ashburton Club and MSA, 231 Burnett Street, Ashburton at 1830 hr. Reasonable prices to be paid on the night.

Cost for the weekend will be \$10 plus a donation to the Lynn Woodwork Museum.

There will be a raffle.



Further information from:

Tony Buckland ZL3HAM <[zl3ham@scorch.co.nz](mailto:zl3ham@scorch.co.nz)> or Jim Nelson ZL3ND <[jim.nelson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jim.nelson@xtra.co.nz)>





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### CLUB COMMITTEE

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	Rob Carpenter	ZL3RO	
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	Richard Smart	ZL4FZ	03 385 8355
ZL3RR	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137

### CALENDAR for 2015

#### General Meeting - Second Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
-							13	10	8	12	10

#### Committee Meeting - Fourth Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
							27	24	22	26	-

### Branch 68 Marketplace

#### FROM BRANCH 68

Coax RG58 (per metre) \$1.60

Enquiries to Geoff ZL3QR, phone (03) 313 7137

Club Monograms (cloth) \$9.00 - Club Badges (metal) \$6.50

Enquiries to Denise ZL3HI, phone (03) 313 4907

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