



Ragchew

"The Voice of Branch 68"

August 2016

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



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 11 General Meeting - "DVD"

****Mid-Winter Dinner - Sunday August 7th @ 1200hrs. Garden Restaurant, Shirley****

Branch 01 Ashburton

August 8 General Meeting - ZL3HAM is host

Branch 05 Christchurch

August 3 General Meeting - "Restoring WWII Clandestine Radios" by Michael Wise ZL3AX
18 Day meeting (1300hrs) ""

Branch 56 Christchurch West

August 10 Free & Easy (1330hrs)
23 General Meeting

CARDS

August 17 General Meeting

Nets and Frequencies

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

*Secretary: Colin Rowe ZL3COL Phone 03 313 2303 Email: colingr@xtra.co.nz
Editor: Tony Buckland ZL3HAM Phone 03 312 5352 Email: zl3ham@scorch.co.nz*

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President's Report

It is with sadness I start this report and advise members that Win ZL3WZ became a SK earlier this month after a long battle with cancer. Win had been a member since 2006, our condolences to Judy and family.

Please don't forget our mid-winter lunch at the Garden Restaurant, Marshlands Road 12pm on 7th August. Please let me know if you would like to attend, if you haven't already done so.

The last branch meeting was well attended at our temporary premises, and it was great to see members new and old present us with a range of projects and an interesting selection of modern SMART meters courtesy of Mike ZL3TMB. It looks like we will be back in our clubrooms for our next meeting so come along and see the new renovations.

The ZL Winter Sprint series, that I mentioned in my last report has now finished and was a great success. Mark ZL3AB is planning to hold a summer series so more details on that closer to the time.

I have been offered a place on the upcoming VK9NZ Dxpediton to Norfolk Island in October, which I have accepted, so no doubt this will be the basis of a talk at club night in the not too distant future.

73 Don ZL3DMC

*** Welcome to New Members ***

Vaughan Penny ZL3LN
Keith Heyworth ZL3KH
Richard Sedcole

Mid-Winter Dinner - Sunday 7th August @ 1200hrs
Garden Restaurant, Marshland Road, Shirley

Please let Don know if you wish to attend, all are welcome.

AREC Report

Forest Rural Fire: (AREC supplied Comms / Logistics to Forestry Fire Teams).

Thu. 30/6/16. Two Forestry units called to assist a major turn-out to a homestead fire within fire boundary of Ashley Forest. Forestry units helped to provide water supply in a rural fire situation.

Geoff ZL3QR
Dep. S/L.

Repeater Reports

Mt. Noble 6975

The repeater is working well with no known issues.

Mike ZL3AKZ

Mt. Grey 675

The repeater is working well with no known issues.

Geoff ZL3QR



Dual Band Half-Wave “Flower Pot” Antenna by VK2ZOI

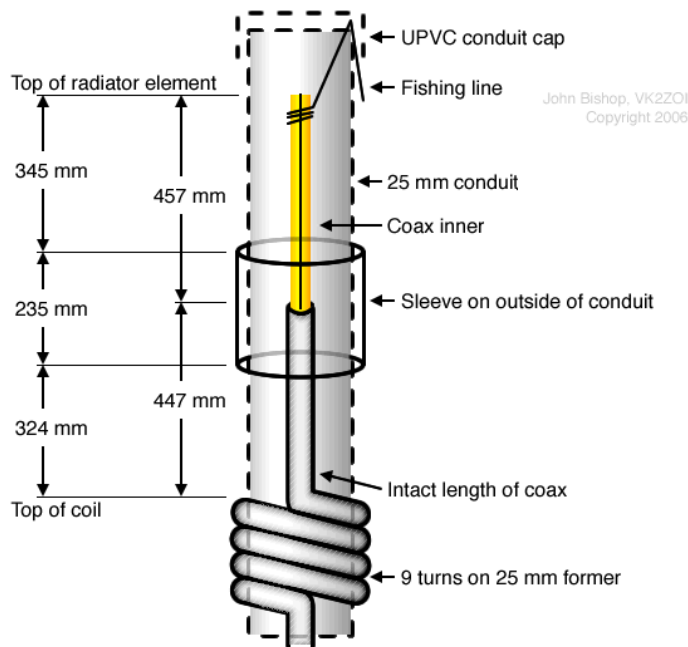
The [basic half wave version](#) of the Flower Pot antenna can be readily modified to dual band the antenna for operation on a band that is the (approximate) third harmonic of the fundamental resonance.

Operation on the third harmonic is achieved by using a sleeve technique so as to form quarter wave phasing sections (at the higher frequency) to end feed two half waves in phase at the third harmonic.

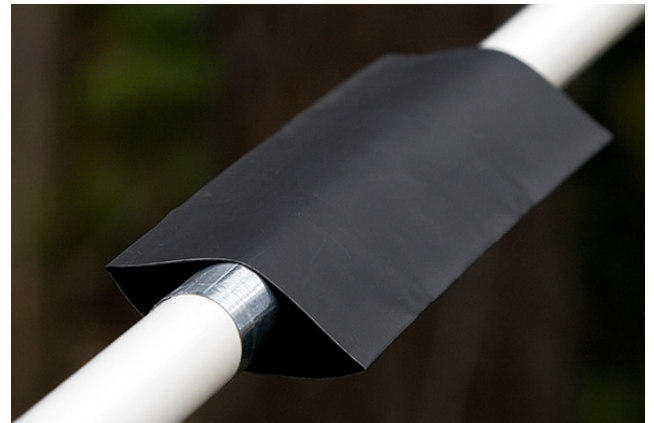
This arrangement provides useful gain (3dBd) on the higher band. The sleeve technique maintains the impedance matching for both bands and (probably fortunately) there is sufficient longitudinal impedance in the choke coil to provide the required isolation at the third harmonic.

The sleeve is applied after the basic antenna has been constructed.

Dimensions shown are for the (basic) 2m half-wave Flower Pot. The modification involves placing a co-ax phasing sleeve around the outside of conduit, positioned as shown.



Dimensions for a 2m half-wave Flower Pot



The sleeve material can be aluminium (kitchen) foil, copper foil, brass shim, roof/building alfoil sarking or salvaged coax braid.



Before fixing the sleeve in place, check VSWR on 2m The sleeve should cause little if no change to 2m VSWR although it may appear to very slightly raise the resonant frequency; With the sleeve fitted, the VSWR should not be greater than 1.15:1 across the FM portion of band).

Then check VSWR across the 70cm (430 – 450 MHz) band. Expected VSWR readings will be less than 1.2:1 at band edges and less than 1.1:1 in band centre.

If VSWR is outside these limits, adjust position of sleeve (+/- 5mm max) and, if necessary, trim sleeve length to lower VSWR. When trimming sleeve length (dimension B) adjust dimensions A and C accordingly to keep centre of sleeve adjacent to feedpoint of the inner 2m dipole. However, little, if any, adjustment to the sleeve should be necessary. When satisfied with the VSWR, fix in place and protect the sleeve with UV protected PVC tape or heatshrink.



This is a finished antenna constructed by Vaughan ZL3LN.

As can be seen Vaughan has used a round electrical box, at the base, to house the PL259/SO239 connectors. Overall a splendid job.

According to Vaughan the SWR on both bands is very low and the performance is good on both.

Why the name "Flower Pot"?
<http://vk2zoi.com/flower-pots/>

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August Meeting

Last month it was a "Show & Tell" session with Tony ZL3HAM showing three kits from QRPGUYS.com, Geoff ZL3QR an early Atlas 180 & a VHF setup with PSU, Mike ZL3TMB explained SMART meters in detail and Vaughan ZL3LN displayed his newly constructed dual band antenna (see Page 3 for details). Thanks to all, most interesting.

This month will be a DVD, possibly TX Factor 12.



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

Mike ZL3TMB
 Carleen ZL3ADO
 Jim ZL3ND





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CALENDAR for 2016

General Meeting - Second Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
-							11	8	13	11	8

Committee Meeting - Fourth Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
							25	22	27	25	-

Branch 68 Marketplace

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Enquiries to Denise ZL3HI, phone (03) 313 4907

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