



Ragchew

"The Voice of Branch 68"

December 2015

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

Seasons Greetings

CLUB CALENDAR

Meetings start at 1930hrs, unless otherwise stated.

Host for December – ZL3QR

December 10 General Meeting - "Christmas Ham Radio YouTube Clips" by Don ZL3DMC
12 Xmas BBQ (1200 hrs) at the Club Rooms

Branch 01 Ashburton

December 14 Xmas Dinner - "Speight's Ale House (1830 hrs)"

Branch 05 Christchurch

December 2 Annual General Meeting - "New ChCh District Plan, Lee Jennings Award & Upcoming DXpeditions" by Mark ZL3AB
17 Day meeting (1300hrs) - "EME" by Rod ZL3NW

Branch 56 Christchurch West

December 22 General Meeting - "TX Factor DVD"

CARDS

December 16 General Meeting

Nets and Frequencies

Club HF 3.665MHz, 2030hrs 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

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

President's Report

As I write this report I have just returned from a trip down south. After attending the Fleetwood Mac concert in Dunedin (fantastic), we headed to Queenstown for a couple of days, then a night in Tekapo on the way back. Whilst in Tekapo we had a guided tour on a couple of Segway machines. What a great time, these things are fantastic, if you get the opportunity give one a go, I thoroughly recommend it.

I imagine most people are busy at this time of the year, but if you get a chance to come to our Xmas BBQ lunch, Sat 12th Dec you will be more than welcome. We have had the Cannington Endurance event in early November and we have the Classic Kayak race on the 13th December, more on these in my AREC report.

Have a safe and enjoyable festive season and all the best for the New Year.

73 Don ZL3DMC

AREC Report

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

Fri. 16/10/15 & Wed. 21/10/15. Assistance calls for one Forestry unit to previous slash burns re-kindled in gusty N-W winds. In both cases units were stood down while en route.

AREC:

Sat. 24/10/15. Lodge-to-Lodge Half Marathon / 10 kms Walk at Waiau. Bev ZL3OV, Geoff ZL3QR assisted Don ZL3DN to provide Safety and Timing Comms for this annual event. As usual there was excellent weather and no problems.

Geoff ZL3QR Dep. S/L

AREC:

7th & 8th November FEI Event Cannington.

A group of operators including ZL3RCK and myself headed to Cannington (inland from Cave) to help with safety comms for this event. Even though the organisers threw a couple of challenges at us (rearranging the whole course the night before!) Our operators did a sterling job and rose to all the challenges. Thanks to you all.

Ahead

13th December Classic Kayak race

We will be assisting Br 05 with this race.

Don ZL3DMC, S/L

****For Sale****

Tilt-over Tower 13M. Complete with beam, rotator & control, etc.

**For further details contact Geoff ZL3QR
(03) 313 7317 or zl3qr@kinect.co.nz**

Repeater Reports



Mt. Noble 6975

Seems to be operating well. Battery voltage up over 13 volts at times, helped by the nor-westerlies no doubt.

Mike ZL3AKZ

Mt. Grey 675

The repeater is working well with no known issues.

Geoff ZL3QR



A new 5 MHz International Allocation

NZART Members who have been monitoring the various Amateur Reflectors will know that the allocation of a 5 MHz band to amateurs passed its final hurdle on Wednesday. The Plenary approved the global allocation to amateurs of a 15 kHz band from 5351.5-5366.5 kHz on a secondary basis from January 2017. In most parts of the world, the international regulations will show a power limit of 15 watts EIRP but for Mexico the power limit will be 20 watts and South and Central America it will be 25 watts EIRP.

What will this mean to NZ Amateurs?

The answer is that we will need to work with RSM (as we did regarding the 630 m band) to agree the conditions that will apply in New Zealand. In particular, we will need to discuss the frequencies and power that will apply in NZ.

Frequency: In the HF area the NZ administration needs to coordinate any allocations with Australia to ensure that we do not interfere with their fixed and mobile services and vice versa. I am aware that there are some services in Australia in this band so it may affect how much of the band we receive.

Don Wallace ZL2TLL Administration Liaison Officer.

*“Equivalent Isotropically Radiated Power (**EIRP**) is the product of transmitter power and the antenna gain in a given direction relative to an isotropic antenna of a radio transmitter. Normally the **EIRP** is given in dBi, or decibels over isotropic.”*



*To the optimist the glass is half full.
To the pessimist the glass is half empty.
To the engineer the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.*

December Meeting

Last month Geoff ZL3GA gave us an update on post-cyclone Vanuatu following his recent visit there with his wife Francie. It's amazing how much damage was caused by 320kmh winds and heavy rain. Various aid agencies have done sterling work to assist them in their recovery along with Geoff & Francie, they all deserve a medal!

Francie asked if they could bring books and toys for the children but the answer was “please bring milk powder” as the children are suffering with calcium deficiency so a whole travel case was filled to the brim with packets of milk powder.

It was a dual purpose visit for Geoff as he could also play radio whilst there as YJØGA as well as assist Rod YJ8RN, Vanuatu resident ham, and Francie checked on the progress with setting up the pre-school on the Island. It's still a great place to visit and the extra funds will be greatly appreciated.

This month we will have a few Christmas Ham Radio YouTube clips presented by Don ZL3DMC and following there will be some Christmas fare along with the Branch 68 Christmas cake.

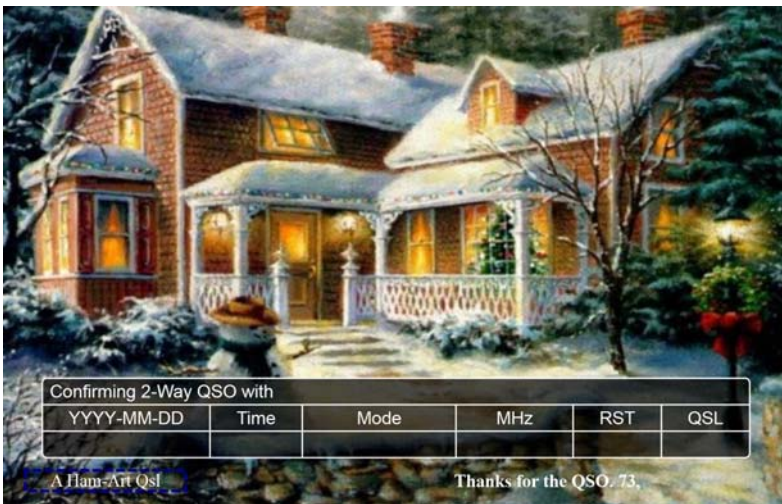
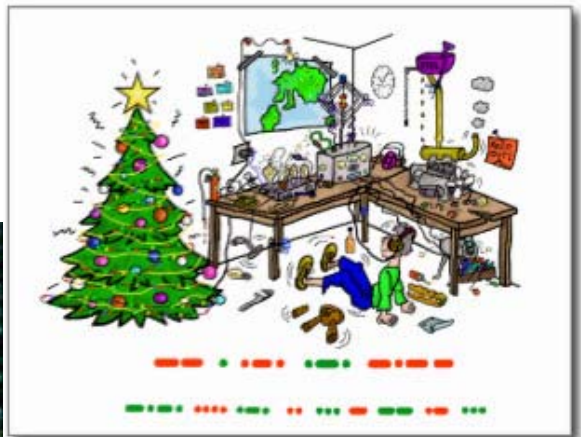
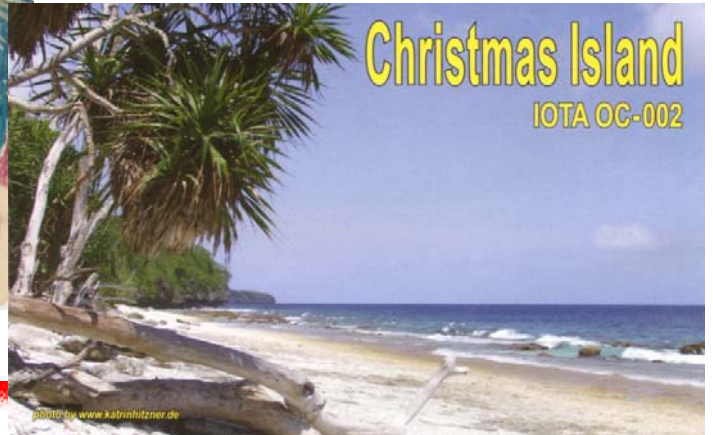


****December Happy Birthday's****

None known this month



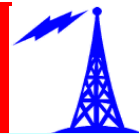
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	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137
	Rob Carpenter	ZL3RO	
	Tony Buckland	ZL3HAM	03 312 5352
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ZL3RR	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137

CALENDAR for 2015

General Meeting - Second Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Committee Meeting - Fourth Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

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

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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