



Ragchew

“The Voice of Branch 68”

March 2020



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 March ZL3QR

March 12th – Simon ZL3SI will give us a talk on the history of broadcast radio, this promises to be an interesting talk.

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

General Meeting

The North Canterbury Amateur Radio Club

Held in the Clubrooms Woodend – 13 February 2020 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Don ZL3DMC (Chair) and 18 members and visitors as per attendance book.

The Chairman gave a special welcome to our new member – ZL2ARY David Jenks

APOLOGIES: ZL3GA Geoff, ZL3OV Bev, ZL3AX Michael and ZL3MR John

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING held on 14 November 2019 as circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record. (ZL3QR/ZL3BA)

MATTERS ARISING:

Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inward: - Letter from Nelson Branch promoting Eastfest – to be circulated with the minutes
- Letter from IRD

Outward: Nil

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

\$150.00 for Repeater licences and \$54.90 new battery for generator.

(ZL3HI/ZL3AHY)

REPORTS:

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

Sat. 14/12/19.- Two Forestry units, assistance call to a grass and scrub fire threatening trees in the former Eyrewell Forest area. This required resources called in from a large area including at least one helicopter.

Fri. 27/12/19.- Two Forestry units, assistance call to a ute and a paddock on fire near North Loburn. The ute was destroyed.

Wed. 1/1/20. - Two Forestry units, assistance call to a tractor on fire in a hay paddock near North Loburn.

Mon. 6/1/20. - One Forestry unit, assistance rescue call to a car-v-pole near North Loburn. First Response (Rangiora) deemed assistance not required and stood down the Forestry unit.

Sat. 11/1/20. -Two separate call-outs on a day of hot, gusty N-W winds.

- (1) One Forestry unit assistance call to a hedge on fire near Loburn. Found to have self-extinguished so unit stood down while en route.
- (2) Three Forestry units in major call-out to hedge and paddock fires threatening property in Loburn area. CHCH Command Unit and a helicopter also included in this call-out. One property owner required treatment by Ambulance.

Wed. 15/1/20. - (1) One Forestry unit, assistance call to smoke in the area of Leithfield. First arrival (Amberley) found a permitted, controlled burn and stood down other responding units.

(2) One Forestry unit, assistance call to investigate a smouldering bonfire, late evening. Turned out to be minor and all units stood down.

Sat. 18/1/20. - Two Forestry units assisting in trying to locate source of smoke initially in the Okuku area but there was much confusion because of the low cloud around the hills. One of our units finally located the smoke in the North Loburn area. Found to be a permitted burn but the owner had forgotten to advise Firecom before lighting up.

Wed. 22/1/20. - One Forestry unit, assistance call to a paddock and header harvester on fire up the Waipara Gorge near Broomfield.

Sat. 1/2/20.- Three Forestry units, assistance call to scrub fire, north side of Ashley River near Loburn. Had been spotted by small aircraft approaching Rangiora airfield. 4WD units required. Very difficult to locate and deal with.

Sun. 2/2/20. - Three Forestry units, assistance call to major scrub fire, same area as previous day and continuing as a multiple day event and difficult to control in the hot, windy N-W conditions prevailing at the time. Stood down overnight.

Mon. 3/2/20. The Forestry units recalled (at 3.20am) to fire out of control, mostly on property protection work until late that night. They were not required again though the fire took at least a further day to finally extinguish. This fire required wide ranging resources, fire pumps, tankers, heavy machinery and helicopters

-Report from Geoff ZL3QR Dep S/L

AREC News:

Nil

Member News: – Nil

Repeaters: – Both going well.

Council: – Don reported that NZART have a new website about to be released soon.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Mike ZL3MIKE reported that a new Fusion repeater was up and running from Woolston on 720 and 840 using a 123 Tone access and appeared to be operating well under test. The repeater will be moved up to Marleys shortly and should be good for everything digital.
- Don ZL3DMC spoke about the Jock White Field Days – to be held at View Hill Domain again this year. The club will be looking for helpers and welcomes visitors during the contest which runs from 3pm to midnight Sat and from 6am to 3pm on Sunday. There

will be a meeting on site to discuss antenna positioning on Sunday 16 at 2pm for those interested.

- Don ran through some typical questions asked in the recent hamcram event at Branch 05 and attempted to catch out some of our more technically inclined members.

Field day 2020

A great time was had by all involved in the Jock White Memorial Field Day this year. We arrived on site around 10am and setup the tent and facilities, then at 12pm we launched a line over a large Gum tree on the domain and proceeded to raise our 80m antenna.

Then the 40M antenna was raised on Grant ZL2GD's portable mast and we settled down to wait for the start of the contest.

We started steadily and proceeded at this pace for the entire contest, which I think was the reason we put in a fairly respectable score of 227,304pts which is a great improvement over last year's score of 128,180pts.

There was a significant amount of rain that started soon after the commencement of the contest, but luckily it cleared up for the Sunday.

Operators

Don ZL3DMC

Geoff ZL3AL

John ZL3MR

Alastair ZL2ARC



Repeater Reports



Mount Grey 675 Repeater

This repeater is working well.

Mount Noble 6975 Repeater

This repeater is working well.



Annual Subscriptions
\$40 Single, \$50 Family

Payment by instalments can be arranged with the Treasurer.

Bank details for Internet payment. Please include your Callsign / Name. ANZ Bank: 01 0877 0105044 00 PLEASE HELP THE CLUB and PAY PROMPTLY

Branch 68 Officers

President	Don MacDonald	ZL3DMC	03 327 7415
Vice President	Tony Buckland	ZL3HAM	03 312 5352
Secretary	Grant Daniel	ZL2GD	027 439 4234
Treasurer	Denise Hider	ZL3HI	03 313 4907
AREC S/Leader	Don MacDonald	ZL3DMC/ZK9EG	03 327 7415
Ragchew Editor	Don MacDonald	ZL3DMC	03 327 7415
Committee	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137
	Tony Buckland	ZL3HAM	03 312 5352
	Grant Daniel	ZL2GD	027 439 4234
	John Van Dijk	ZL3MR	0274879057
	Geoff Gooch	ZL3AL	03 920 2800
	Simon Hill	ZL3SI	021 210 1786
	Mark Carshalton	ZL3BA	027 9602741
Webmaster	Don MacDonald	ZL3DMC/ZK9EG	03 327 7415

Repeater Trustees

6975	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137
	Brian Holland	ZL4WX	03 312 3344
675	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137
	Richard Smart	ZL4FZ	03 385 8355
ZL3RR	Geoff Gillman	ZL3QR	03 313 7137

CALENDAR for 2020

General Meeting - Second Thursday at 1930 (7.30pm)

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
-		12	9	14	11	9	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
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		26	23	28	25	23	27	24	22	26	-

Branch 68 Marketplace

FROM BRANCH 68

Club Monograms (cloth) \$9.00 - Club Badges (metal) \$6.50
Enquiries to Denise ZL3HI, phone (03) 313 4907