



Ragchew



“The Voice of Branch 68”
July 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 July Simon ZL3SI

July 10 – We have a great speaker for you this month, Samantha Chapman will give a presentation on the redevelopment of Scott Base, including the reasons behind the project, the process of redevelopment, and where the project is currently sitting.

Another speaker not to be missed

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 – 11 June 2020 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Don ZL3DMC (Chair) and 17 members and visitors as per attendance book.

APOLOGIES: ZL3OV Bev, ZL3MOM Mary, ZL3AHY Mary and ZL3AGS Jim

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING held on 12 march 2020 as circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record. (ZL3HAM/ZL3SI)

MATTERS ARISING:

Don reported that the Branch 68 team won the Midland Trophy beating the 05 gang in the recent Jock White Memorial Field Day contest – whoopee !

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inward: - Nil

Outward: - Nil

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Nil

REPORTS:

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

16/4/20 - Two Forestry units, assistance call to a very large rubbish fire near Sefton.

25/4/20 - Two Forestry units, assistance call to a fire near Loburn where, in burning the piles of hedge trimmings, the hedge had also caught alight.

26/4/20 - Two Forestry units, assistance call to a fire near Loburn where a controlled burn had escaped into an area of gorse.

4/5/20 - One Forestry unit, assistance call to a supposed “out of control fire” near Leithfield. First arrival (Amberley) found it was a controlled burn and stood other responding units down.

13/5/20 - Two Forestry units to a garage fire near Loburn. First arrival (Rangiora) quickly had fire under control and stood the forestry units down on their arrival.

21/5/20 - Two Forestry units, assistance call to deal with six large piles of tree slash on fire in the Okuku area.

24/5/20 - One Forestry unit, assistance call to supposedly trees on fire in the Ashley area. Turned out to be a controlled burn and were stood down on arrival.

11/6/20 - One Forestry unit, assistance call to help locate smoke reported as north side of Ashley River just downstream from Rangiora Bridge. First arrival (Rangiora) found no smoke or fire and stood Forestry Unit down prior to them departing the Station.

AREC News:

Nil

Member News: ZL3QR Geoff mentioned that Jim ZL3AGS has been admitted to hospital. We wish him all the best and hope it is a short stay.

Repeaters: - 695 - Mt Grey is going well. A new Yaesu Fusion digital repeater is planned to replace the existing analogue unit.

6975 - Mt Noble failed in March. Suspect controller unit has failed after 20 years of service

Council: – Don reported that the NZART AGM will be held in Wellington. There will be no conference this year.

A new Exam Study book has been completed and will be released soon.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Simon ZL3SI mentioned that there will be 14 sitting the Hamcram this weekend.
- Don ZL3DMC mentioned that the Mid Winter Luncheon will still be held, a date is to be announced after the next committee meeting.
- ZL3AX Michael was our quest speaker for the evening. Michael demonstrated his homebrew all band, all mode transceiver which is now up and running after nearly three years of research and development. Built from scratch, Michael has made a fantastic radio which he hopes others might be keen to build.

Repeater Reports



Mount Grey 675 Repeater

This repeater is working well. Soon it is to be replaced by a Yaesu Fusion (FM & Digital) repeater which

will mean some changes to operating protocol. Explanation of this will be given closer to the time.

Mount Noble 6975 Repeater

This repeater failed in late March due, it is believed, to a faulty controller. A new controller has been prepared for when we get the chance to get up to the repeater for the next maintenance trip.

The current controller is the original one fitted about 20 years ago so has given rather good service



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

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Branch 68 Marketplace

FROM BRANCH 68

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