



# Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

## June 2018 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn,  
 PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640  
 President: Ian Sangster ZL1RCA, Vice President – Grant Manning ZL1GSM.  
 Secretary: Andrew Mitchell, ZL1AF. Newsletter Editor – John Neill ZL1NE  
 VHF Club Net Wednesday 08:30pm 146.525 MHz,  
 HF Club Net Fridays 08:30pm 3.650 MHz  
 Website <http://www.amateurradio.co.nz/>

## Club Calendar

Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	June	Mid-Winter Dinner – New Lynn RSA 6:30 pm
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	June	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	June	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	June	Club Meeting – 10am. Ian, ZL1RCA, The Trip Home From the USA by Ship
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	July	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	July	Franklin Amateur Radio Club Sale
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	July	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	July	Whangarei Radio Club Used Equipment Sale
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	July	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	July	Club Meeting – 10am. Topic to the Announced
Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	August	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	August	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	August	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	August	Club Meeting – 10am. Topic to the Announced
Wednesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	August	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	September	Taranakai Used Equipment Sale
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	September	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup>	September	Hamilton Used Equipment Sale
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	September	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	September	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	September	Club Meeting – 10am. Topic to the Announced
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	September	Daylight Saving Starts
Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	October	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	October	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	October	Labour Day
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	October	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	October	Club Meeting – 10am. Topic to the Announced
Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup>	October	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	November	WSRC Used Equipment Sale – 217 Rosebank Road Sellers 0800, Buyers 0900
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	November	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	November	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	November	Committee Meeting – 9am
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	November	Club Meeting – 10am. Topic to the Announced
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	December	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	December	Christmas Dinner – <b>Venue and Date to be confirmed.</b>
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	December	Informal Meeting at the Clubrooms 9:30am
Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	December	Christmas Day
Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	December	Boxing Day
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	January	New Year's Day
Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	January	Day After New Year's Day

## Meeting Agendas

If you have a topic that you would like to present at a club meeting, could you please contact the President or Vice President prior to meetings so that the item can be programmed for a future date.

### Mid-Winter Dinner

This will be held on Wednesday 13 June at 6:30 pm. The dinner will be at the New Lynn RSA. All are welcome and especially welcome is your partner and/or family members.

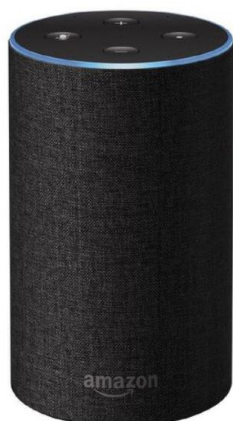
### June Meeting

The June meeting will be Part 2 of Ian's, ZL1RCA, recent trip to the USA. This talk will concentrate on the ship voyage home.

### May Meeting

Ivan, ZL1IA, gave us a talk on the Amazon Alexa. Alexa is a virtual assistant developed by Amazon. A thoroughly fascinating talk. Ask the Alexa anything you could think of and it responded with the answer. Usually the correct answer. Only a very few questions went unanswered. To use Alexa, you need to purchase either the Echo or the Dot. These are available from the local electronic appliance stores or on line from any of the normal suppliers. You then need to open an Amazon Alexa account. Do this by going to <https://www.amazon.com> Opening the account is free and the only time it will cost you anything is if you stream music.

Amazon Echo



Amazon Dot



## Informal Wednesday Meetings

Informal meetings are held fortnightly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month and the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday if there is one. There is no programme. Just turn up for morning tea and a chat. Bring with you the project that you are having trouble with and perhaps others will be able to point you in the right direction. The numbers attending each meeting has been approximately six to ten people. They are proving to be very popular so do come along if you can make it. Lately we have been working on Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) and programming the FT-817 Radios.

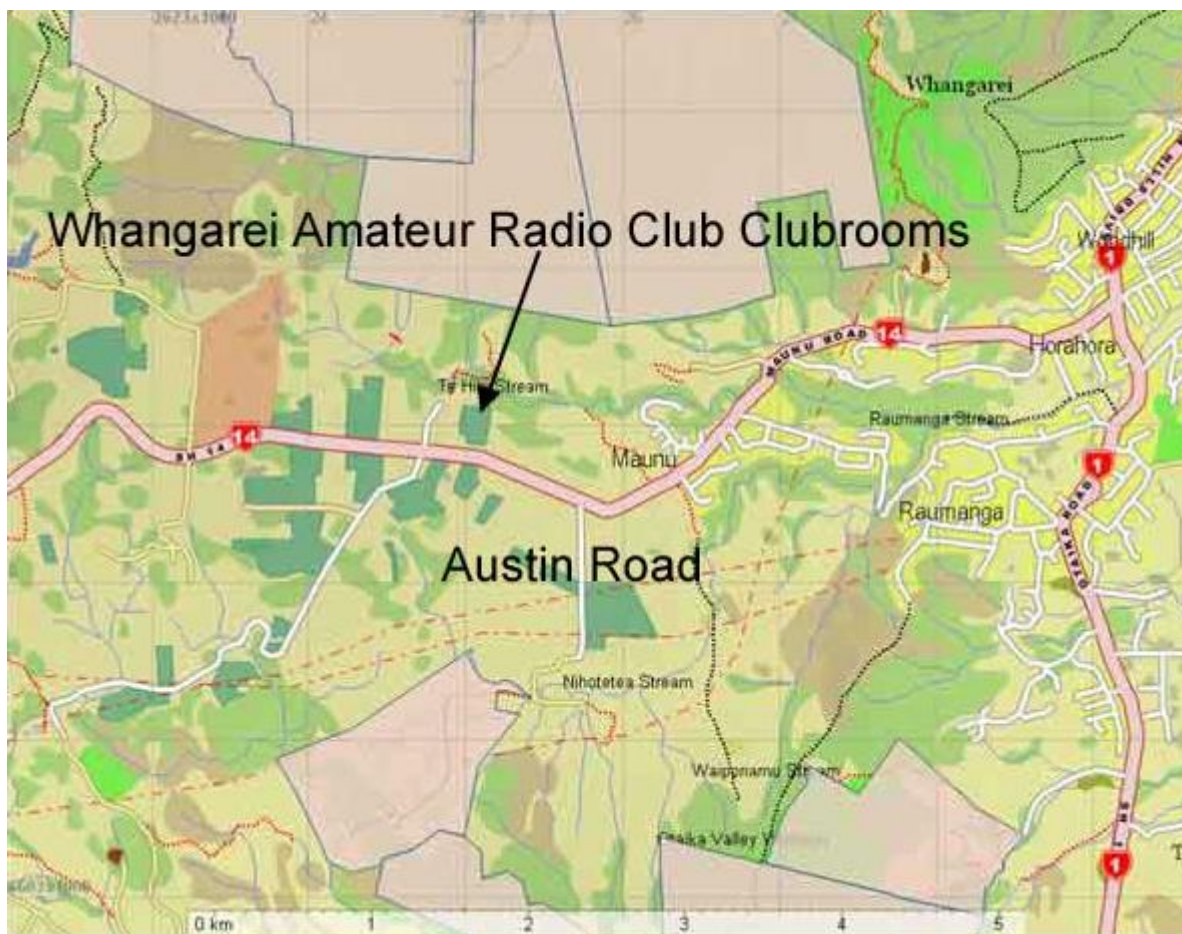
## Newsletters

I'm sorry that the paper copies of the May newsletter are only being delivered with this newsletter. Your editor had been in hospital and was unable to organise copies and postage. Please consider having the newsletter delivered by email if you can to ensure certainty of delivery. Please supply your email address to [john.neill@wsp-opus.co.nz](mailto:john.neill@wsp-opus.co.nz) if you have one.

## The Whangarei Amateur Radio Club

The Whangarei Amateur Radio Club will hold their used equipment sale on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018 at the Club Rooms. The clubrooms will be open for buyers at 10.00am

Allan has put the link on the WSRC website with further details of the sale.



Location Map for the Whangarei Club

## VHF News and Net

The Auckland VHF News and Net is run by the Auckland VHF Radio Club, NZART Branch 66, every Sunday evening at 2015. The Net is a little later on the last Sunday of the month as it follows the NZART Official Broadcast which commences at 2000 and runs usually for about 20 minutes.

The first section of the Net is a roundup from each of the Radio Clubs on events that will happenings in the coming weeks. Western Suburbs Radio Club, Branch 03, generally calls-in in this section and gives an update on our activities.

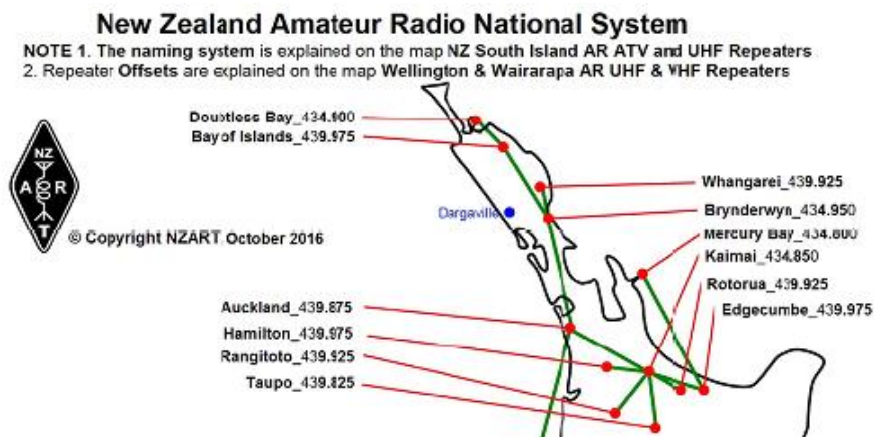
This section is followed by visitors to the Auckland region. Any visitors can call-in and let the Auckland people know they are here.

This is followed by call-ins from any Amateur with items that may be of interest to other Amateurs.

Next is a section on items for sale and items wanted. Anyone can call-in and either advertise something for sale or enquire about something wanted.

The concluding section is a roll call, where all stations that have been listening to the net can call-in and make their presence known. Please call-in as the number of stations listening indicates to Branch 66 the worth of the Western Suburbs Radio Club – June 2018

Net. The total net usually takes 10 to 15 minutes and it is a very good way of keeping up to date with coming events. The net can be found on the Klondyke VHF Repeater 6625, 146.625 MHz, and on the top section of the National System, Klondyke UHF 439.875 MHz, if you are in Auckland. If you are out of Auckland try one of the repeaters on the map below. The VHF and UHF repeaters are linked together so just use the one that suits you best.



The National System Repeaters for the Top Section of NZ – NZART Call Book

## Club Nets

VHF Net 146.525 MHz **8:30pm** every Wednesday,  
HF Net 3.650 MHz +/- QRM/QRN **8:30pm** every Friday.  
All are welcome to check in on the nets.

The HF Net roster is opposite. The full HF Net Roster can be found on: <http://www.amateurradio.co.nz/>.

22-Jun-18	ZL1AF	Andrew
29-Jun-18	ZL1RCA	Ian
6-Jul-18	ZL1LK	Roy
13-Jul-18	ZL1BAK	Graeme
20-Jul-18	ZL1NE	John
27-Jul-18	ZL1AF	Andrew
3-Aug-18	ZL1RCA	Ian
10-Aug-18	ZL1LK	Roy
17-Aug-18	ZL1BAK	Graeme
24-Aug-18	ZL1NE	John
31-Aug-18	ZL1AF	Andrew

## HF QRP Net

This is held weekly on Thursdays at 1930 on 3.690 MHz. A few of the WSRC Members have been checking in to this net recently and having a lot of fun. The net may be an hour later at 2030 during summer months. Many of the stations on are using QRP transceivers such as the FT-817, however turning the power down to less than 10 watts on your usual transceiver seems to be okay.

## Club Fees

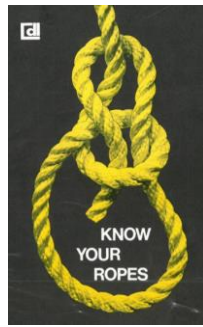
Club fees are now due. Pay by internet banking if you can. The Clubs Bank Account is **020184-0030318-00**. If paying online please add your “Call Sign” and the words “Club Fees” as a reference. If you require a receipt, the Treasurer will send your receipt to your email address or hand it to you at the next meeting. Please advise if you need one. If we don’t have your email address, please provide it to Merv at: [mervthomasmusic@gmail.com](mailto:mervthomasmusic@gmail.com) Use the payment slip at the end of this newsletter if you prefer to pay in cash or by cheque.

The fees are as follows:

- Standard Membership           \$30.00
- Family Membership           \$35.00
- Rural Membership             \$10.00



# Know Your Ropes



## KNOW YOUR ROPES, TIP No. 27

When joining two ropes together (in a towing harness, for example), protect each rope from contact with the other either by inserting protective packing pieces of canvas or rags etc., or with metal thimbles. This is absolutely vital when a fibre rope is to be joined to a wire rope. Never join a left-hand-laid rope to a right-hand-laid rope (The difference between the two rope types can be ascertained by holding them side by side. If the two sets of strands are parallel, the ropes are of similar lay.)

## KNOW YOUR ROPES, TIP No. 28

Be sure and store all cordage (even synthetic) away from strong chemicals. Remember that nylon is attacked by most organic acids, and polyester by most alkalis. Natural fibre rope is attacked by most strong chemicals. If you think a rope may have been attacked by chemicals, hose it down with cold fresh water, and test the portion suspected of damage. Polyethylene and polypropylene are very chemical resistant, but even these can be weakened by contact with strong solvents—especially if hot.

## KNOW YOUR ROPES, TIP No. 29

If you plan to leave a rope under tension for an extended time (for example a mooring spring) it is best to use one of the continuous fibre ropes. Staple fibre rope (i.e. rope in which the fibres are of short lengths) may exhibit a phenomenon called 'creep'. This means that the fibres may gradually slide apart causing permanent stretch and sometimes even breakage. Rope showing this tendency least are nylon (which will stretch a lot) and polyester (Terylene). If a nylon spring is used, it should be regularly checked for stretch abrasion. (See Tip No. 21.)

## KNOW YOUR ROPES, TIP No. 30

It is very important to remember that both polyethylene and polypropylene are *thermoplastic* ropes . . . that is, they soften with heat. While it is unlikely that you have a boiler room on your boat, nevertheless there are plenty of places where you could subject these ropes to great heat. Letting your polypropylene anchor warp run over a metal fairlead, for example, can easily build up sufficient frictional heat to fuse and damage it. Pinching sheaves or jammed pulleys can also cause this. But probably the worst cause is allowing your warp to slip on your anchor winch. Think of the money you have tied up in your warp, your pick and your boat . . . and how easily you could lose the lot . . . and even your *life*. It takes just one small patch of damage in your warp.

**Club Fees**

Club Fees are Now Due. Please send your payment to:

Western Suburbs Radio Club  
3000 Great North Road  
PO Box 15-122  
New Lynn  
WAITAKERE 0640

Or pay the Treasurer at the next meeting.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Callsign \_\_\_\_\_

Please Tick	Standard Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30.00
	Family Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00
	Rural Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
	Total Paid		_____
			_____

Alternatively, you may wish to transfer your payment directly to the club by means of electronic banking.

The clubs bank account number is **020184-0030318-00**. Please add your “Call Sign” and the words “Club Fees” as a reference. The Treasurer will send you a receipt if you require one.