

Ham Hum

November 2011



The official newsletter of
The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (Inc.)
Branch 12 of NZART - ZL1UX
Active in Hamilton since 1923



Next General Meeting
16th November—19:30

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Contact Details 2011

Patron:			
Fin Bruce	ZL4HI	843 9634	
President:			
Robin Holdsworth	ZL1IC	855 4786	z1ux@nzart.org.nz
Vice Presidents:			
Gavin Petrie	ZL1GWP	843 0326	z1gwp@nzart.org.nz
Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
Secretary:			
David Nation	ZL1TCE	843 0108	z1tce@nzart.org.nz
Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
AREC Section Leader:			
David Nation	ZL1TCE	843 0108	z1tce@nzart.org.nz
Deputy Section Leaders:			
"Jono" Jonassen	ZL1UPJ		z1upi@nzart.org.nz
Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
Treasurer:			
Tom Powell	ZL1TJA	834 3461	z1tja@nzart.org.nz
Committee:			
Sutton Burtenshaw	ZL4QJ		
"Jono" Jonassen	ZL1UPJ		z1upi@nzart.org.nz
Gary Lodge	ZL1GA		
Colin McEwen	ZL2CMC	849 2492	
Raymond McNickle	ZL1RGM	827 0304	
Mike Sanders	ZL2MGS	855 1612	z2mgs@nzart.org.nz
Ham Hum Editor:			
David King	ZL1DGK	847 1320	z1dkg@nzart.org.nz
Ham Hum Printer:			
John Nicholson	ZL1AUB	855 5435	
ATV Co-ordinators:			
Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
Robin Holdsworth	ZL1IC	855 4786	
Market Day Co-ordinator:			harcmday@nzart.org.nz
Robin Holdsworth	ZL1IC	855 4786	
Webmaster:			
Gavin Petrie	ZL1GWP	843 0326	z1gwp@nzart.org.nz
BBS Team:			
Phil King (sysop)	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
Alan Wallace	ZL1AMW	843 3738	z1amw@nzart.org.nz
Doug Faulkner	ZL4FS	855 1214	
Gavin Petrie	ZL1GWP	843 0326	z1gwp@nzart.org.nz
Club Custodian:			
Alan Mowry	ZL1UGM	847 7868	
Equipment Officer/Quartermaster:			
Colin McEwen	ZL2CMC	849 2492	
QSL Manager:			
Sutton Burtenshaw	ZL4QJ	856 3832	suttonb@slingshot.co.nz
Net Controllers:			
80m net—Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz
2m net—Phil King	ZL1PK	847 1320	z1pk@nzart.org.nz

From the Editor

We had a working bee on 29th October to put up the new tower. And although things were a bit damp, the photo below shows that the journey from between 3rd and 4th Ave in Tauranga to our dubrooms is complete. Many thanks to all involved.

Bridge to Bridge is next month....names to Section Leader ASAP please.



**Next Committee Meetings -
2nd November & 7th December**

SB PROP ARL ARLP043

ARLP043 Propagation de K7RA

The day last week's Propagation Forecast Bulletin ARLP042 was released - Friday, October 21 - the daily sunspot number broke another record for cycle 24, when it rose to 207. You have to look back to November 26, 2003 when it was two points higher, 209, to find a number at least as high.

But average daily sunspot number for the week was off by two points to 156.6, and average daily solar flux rose nearly 8 points to 151.8.

How much higher will it go? Latest prediction shows sunspot activity peaking between February and July 2013, so there would seem to be plenty of opportunity for more daily sunspot readings of 207 and higher.

Propagation on HF is quite exciting right now, with 10 meters opening up world wide daily. Based on recent conditions, working the CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest this weekend should offer plenty of fun.

The latest predicted solar flux is 130 on October 28-31, 125 on November 1, 120 on November 2-5, then 125 and 130 for November 6-7 and 135 on November 8-10. Flux values for the near term are expected to peak at 165 on November 17-18.

Predicted planetary A index is 7, 8, 10 and 10 on October 28-31 and 5 on October 31 through November 3, 8 on November 4-5, 5 on November 6-10 and 8 on November 11-13.

Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet to unsettled conditions October 28, unsettled October 29, quiet to unsettled October 30 and quiet October 31 through November 3.

A week ago (October 21) we received this update from Jeff Hartley, N8II of Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and in the first part he was referring to the sunspot number reaching 195 the day before: "Whoo hoo! Actually, things sounded a bit better the 2 days prior to last night. It's fairly commonplace at 2100Z to hear JAs and western EU at the same time on 12 meters! I had a solid QSO (S5) with BG4AEC (China) running 100 watts and a vertical on 10 meters SSB around 0015Z on Oct 19, past the peak of propagation. It's hard to get much done because the radio is too much of a draw! Unfortunately, the flooding in SE Asia seems to be keeping the rare countries (XV, XU, XZ) off the air. K3ZO is in Thailand but unable to operate much because HS0AC is being used for emergency communications. Cars are being parked on bridges and upper levels of garages to avoid the flooding! I hear 9M6XRO almost daily on either 12 or 10 meters."

Speaking about the Draconids meteor shower, Jon Jones, N0JK of Wichita, Kan-

sa wrote: "The Dracs would have been big news a year ago on VHF, but with all the F2 and TEP being worked on 6M this fall, it kind of puts the Draconids meteor shower on the back burner. One important 'lesson' from it is the astronomer's predictions of meteor shower outbursts are much better now and more accurate."

Check this video of some solar events a few days ago: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vspRCZ8ISBI>.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. Find more good information and tutorials on propagation at <http://myplace.frontier.com/~k9la/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Sunspot numbers for October 20 through 26 were 195, 207, 164, 128, 151, 147, and 104, with a mean of 156.6. 10.7 cm flux was 159.1, 167.8, 164.1, 155.5, 145.3, 138.8, and 132.2, with a mean of 151.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 5, 3, 3, 23, 33, and 3, with a mean of 10.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 5, 2, 2, 16, 27, and 4 with a mean of 8.4.

NATIONAL SYSTEM AWARD

**Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Branch 12 NZART**

Presents

Kordia National System Award 2012

in association with

New Zealand Historic Places Trust

Kordia National System Award 2012 - Historic Places, is presented by The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Inc., Branch 12 NZART in association with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Based upon the original idea by Wellington VHF Group. This is a FUN award available to all amateurs to demonstrate the coverage and use of the National System, to promote our history and Category 2 Historic places.

The Award will run from **1 January 2012** to **6 February 2012**.

Thank you to all those who participated in the Award. Your participation has been greatly appreciated.

Whether you have only made **1** contact or **401** contacts and have the contact with ZL1UX, please enter your logs. All logs entered will receive a certificate.



Points will be allocated for:

1. Contact any Amateur in each NZART Branch area (excluding Branches in recess) via the National System. *Only Branches on the provided list are valid.* **1 point**
2. Contact ZL1UX, official station of Branch 12 via the National System. **3 bonus points**
3. Contact any Amateur, via the National System, operating from a Category 2 Historic Place (as listed in the [Historic Places Trust Register](#)). **1 point**
4. Contact any Amateur, via the National System, while operating from a Category 2 Historic Place (as listed in the [Historic Places Trust Register](#)). **1 point**

Points are cumulative and each site may only be listed once. Only one branch or historic site may be logged per contact. The log must record the registry number of the site, available from the [Historic Places Trust Website](#)

Participants are requested to note the following key points:

1. Safety is paramount, please be considerate of the safety of the field operator when making contact.

2. A number of the Historic Places are private property, these MUST be respected.

It is not necessary to enter any private property to log the contact. Participants

are expected to be in near proximity to the Historic Place, not on the site.

3. There are no definitive boundaries between branches, so participants need to determine which branch they are in, to log the point. This distance will vary for different parts of the country. Only one branch can be logged per contact. *Only Branches on the provided list are valid.*

4. Participants are encouraged to learn about the NZART branches and the places that define our history through visiting the Category 2 Historic Places



Correspondence to:

The Award Custodian



Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 606
HAMILTON 3240

Or E-mail
<branch.12@nzart.org.nz> with
NS2012 in the subject.

AWARD CUSTODIANS

Phil King - ZL1PK
and
Gavin Petrie - ZL1GWP

Send a log of contacts, with all details as per the standard log sheets provided, including a preferred award certificate format (electronic or hard copy) to:

The Award Custodian
Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 606
HAMILTON 3240

Or E-mail <branch.12@nzart.org.nz> with NS2012 in the subject line.

Applications close: 6 March 2012.

Tower raising helpers (missing ZL1PK and ZL1IC).

- thanks to ZL1PK for the photo



VK100ARV roster begins

The following roster is a guide to the times to work the special callsign **VK100ARV** as part of the **Amateur Radio Victoria Centenary**.

All are working to a UTC day.

Each valid contact with VK100ARV is worth a 10 bonus points. See also the Awards page of the website amateurradio.com.au

We thank the Scout Radio & Electronics Unit who will kick off the special callsign on Melbourne Cup Day, the five day stint by Western & Northern Suburbs ARC, and the Sunraysia Radio Group.

Fitting nicely around DATV through VK3RTV and Digital SSTV via VK3RML turns is Keith Proctor VK3FT.

He's joined by other individuals Joe Walsh VK3XH, Luke Steele VK3HJ, Peter Freeman VK3PF, Terry Murphy VK3UP and Tony Hambling VK3VTH.

Although each day is allocated there remains some limited flexibility. If you're keen to enjoy the once in a life opportunity it offers, contact the Award Manager Tony Hambling VK3VTH

vk3vth@amateurradio.com.au

November 1 - 0000-1300 VK3SGC Scout Radio & Electronics Unit.

November 2 - Keith Proctor VK3FT, Peter Cossins VK3BFG through VK3RTV.

November 3 - Luke Steele VK3HJ.

November 4 - Terry Murphy VK3UP assisted by Tony Hambling VK3VTH.

November 5 until 9 - Western & Northern Amateur Radio Club.

November 10, 11 & 12 - Terry Murphy VK3UP assisted by Tony Hambling VK3VTH.

November 13 - Luke Steele VK3HJ.

November 14 - Keith Proctor VK3FT, Digital SSTV Group (VK3RML 1000z-1300z).

November 15 & 16 - Keith Proctor VK3FT.

November 17 - Luke Steele VK3HJ.

November 18 - Peter Freeman VK3PF.

November 19 & 20 - Terry Murphy VK3UP (Brisbane Ranges National Park).

November 21 - Keith Proctor VK3FT, Digital SSTV Group (VK3RML 1000z-1300z).

November 22 - Luke Steele VK3HJ.

November 23 & 24 - Joe Walsh VK3XH

November 25, 26 & 27 - Sunraysia Radio Group.

November 28 - Keith Proctor VK3FT, Digital SSTV Group (VK3RML 1000z-1300z).

November 29 & 30 - Terry Murphy VK3UP assisted by Tony Hambling VK3VTH.

Jim Linton VK3PC

Successful Amateur CubeSat Launch

Friday saw the successful launch and deployment of CubeSats taking part in the Educational Launch of Nanosatellites (ELaNa) initiative.

The Delta II rocket blasted off from Vandenberg air force base at 0948 UT. Explorer-1[Prime] (E1P), AubieSat-1 and M-Cubed were released at 1126 UT, Radio Auroral Explorer 2 (RAX-2) at 1127 UT and the non-amateur Dynamic Ionosphere CubeSat Experiment (DICE) at 1129 UT.

As of early Friday evening signals from Aubiesat-1, E1P and RAX-2 had been received.

Watch [NPP] Second Stage Burn 3 & CubeSats Deployment

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFLmERzduUY&feature=player_embedded

Roland Coelho WH7BE took part in the media briefing on Wednesday.

Watch ELaNa CubeSat Media Briefing

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UgM2GhMD-E

Cubesat Frequency Information:

AubieSat-1: 437.475 MHz, 0.708W EIRP, 20wpm CW

<http://space.auburn.edu/>

DICE (not amateur radio): 465 MHz, 4.51dBW EIRP, OQPSK CCSDS Modulation data rate 1.5 megabit, Actual Tx bit rate 3.0 megabit

<http://www.sdl.usu.edu/programs/dice>

Explorer-1[PRIME] Flight Unit 2: 437.505 MHz LSB, -0.7dBW, 1200 bps Non-Coherent FSK

<http://ssel.montana.edu/e1p/>

M-Cubed: 437.485 MHz, <1W EIRP, 9600 bps FSK AX.25

<http://umcubed.org/>

RAX-2: 437.345 MHz, 9600 bps GMSK

<http://rax.engin.umich.edu/>

AMSAT Bulletin Board (AMSAT-BB)

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/maillist/>



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local, national and international
levels.

*It deserves our full support
if we are to continue to have
the frequencies and operating privileges
we currently enjoy.*

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is what you and I make it.**



New Zealand
Historic Places Trust *Pouhere Taonga*

Upcoming Happenings & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Happenings & Events</i>
1st November	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
5th November	Papakura Sprints (Phone)
6th November	NZART Straight Key Night (CW)
6th November	NZART HQ Infoline
7th November	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
8th November	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
10th November	Break-In copy due
12th November	Papakura Sprints (CW)
14th November	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
15th November	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
16th November	Hamilton General Meeting
19th November	Musick Point Radio Sale
20th November	NZART HQ Infoline
21st November	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
22nd November	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
27th November	NZART Official Broadcast
28th November	HF Net, 3.575 MHz, 19:30
29th November	VHF Net, 146.525 MHz, 20:00
30th November	AREC meeting (AREC)

3-4 December—Bridge to Bridge Ski Race (AREC)
3-4 December—NZART VHF Field Day Contest
?? December—Annual End-of-Year BBQ
4th December—NZART HQ Infoline
18th December—NZART HQ Infoline
18th December—NZART Official Broadcast
10th January 2012—Copy for Break-In due
18th January 2012—Combined General/Exec Meeting
22nd January 2012—NZART HQ InfoLine
4-5 February 2012—NZART DX Weekend Contest
5th February 2012—NZART HQ InfoLine
15th February 2012—Club AGM
19th February 2012—NZART HQ InfoLine
25-26 February 2012—Jock White Memorial Field Days
26th February 2012—NZART Official Broadcast
10th March 2012—Colville Connection (AREC)
10th March 2012—WARO 50th Anniversary Celebration
April 2012—WARO Thelma Souper Memorial
7-8 April 2012—NZART Low Band Contest
19-20 May 2012—NZART Sangster Shield
7-8 July 2012—NZART Memorial Contest
August 2012—Hamilton Market Day
Easter 2013—NZART Technology Conference - Auckland

For more information on any of the above please contact myself or any committee member.

AREC Event Operators Page

WRC Rally NZ/ Possum Bourne Rally	June 2012	Organiser : ZL1DK
Please contact the Section Leader with your team information and he will pass it on to Auckland.		

Rollo's Marine Bridge to Bridge Water-Ski Race	3-4 December 2011	Organiser : ZL1UPJ
<u>Position</u>	<u>Saturday Operator</u>	<u>Sunday Operator</u>
Base		
Start Boat		
Rescue Boat		
X-Band		
A.	Ngaruawahia/ Taupiri	
	Start/Finish at Point	
B.	Ngaruawahia Ramp	
C.	Ngaruawahia W/S	
D.	Horotiu	
E.	Pukete Ramp	
F.	Days Park	
G.	Fairfield Bridge	
H.	Malcolm St	
I.	Narows	
J.	Field Days	
K.	Between Pipe and F/Days	
L.	High Level Bridge	

Kairangi Hill Climb	Sunday September 2012		Organiser : ZL1IC	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>			
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
School C ycling	July 2012		Organiser : ZL1IC	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Operator</u>	
1.		5.		
2.		6.		
3.		7.		
4.		8.		
Colville Connection	10th March 2012		Organiser : ZL1PK	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Primary Operator</u>	<u>Secondary Operator</u>	<u>Other Operator</u>	
Base				
Stony Bay				
Fletcher Bay				
Hill 1				
Hill 2				
Fantail Bay				
Stand B y				

For Details about and to help w ith these events, contact the person indicated as the organiser for the event. See Page 1 for their contact information.

Club Information



Contacts :-

Business Meeting: 1930 First Wednesday of each month
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

General Meeting: 1930 Third Wednesday of each month (except Jan)
88 Seddon Road, Hamilton

Homepage: <http://z1ux.tripod.com>
eMail: branch.12@nzart.org.nz

HF Net: 3.575MHz LSB 1930 Mondays
VHF Net: 146.525MHz simplex 2000 Tuesdays

2m Repeater: 145.325MHz -600kHz split
STSP 146.675MHz -600kHz split
Repeaters: 438.725MHz -5 MHz split
ATV Repeater: 615.250 Ch39 (off air)

Cover Photo: Bridge to Bridge 2011 poster

Sender Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (Inc)
PO Box 606
Hamilton 3240