

## MUSICK POINT RADIO GROUP (INC.) NEWSLETTER

--NZART BRANCH 86--

-----For JUNE 2023-----

-Incorporating The Society for the Preservation of Amplitude Modulation News-  
and with Green Radios On The Air (GROTA)

Musick Point Memorial Radio Station, Bucklands Beach, Auckland. Call Sign-ZL1ZLD.

BRANCH 86 NET- TUESDAYS, 7.30PM, 145.775 MHz, Musick Point Repeater. All welcome!

SPAM Remote Receiver - <http://spamnz.zapto.org:8901/>

Website- <https://musickpointradio.org> Webmaster-Neil ZL1NZ.

SPAM A.M. (ZL6AM) Nets- Mondays 11.30AM, some Wednesdays 11.30 AM, Fridays 8.30PM , 3.850MHz.

A.M. Calling frequencies- 3.850MHZ, 7.125 MHz

Editor- Martyn, ZL3CK.

Meeting- Second Sunday of the Month (Except May-Third Sunday, to avoid Mothers' Day)

NEXT MEETING- **Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. Snacks, coffee and tea provided.**

**ATTACHED-Minutes of April General Meeting, 2023 AGM, and Membership application.**



**Some ZLD operators from the 1980's. Maybe you might know some of them?**

Pictures from Neil ZL1NZ, Musick Point Radio Group's Webmaster.

For more information see- <https://musickpointradio.org>

## From the Chair

Here I am, sitting in front of a blank virtual page with a blank brain staring out through two watery eyes. I took the week off to have a good rest and catch up on a few necessities: optometrist, dentist, robbing a bank to pay for them, and woke up this morning with a head cold. Dug around inside each nostril trying to find the way to the brain then did the usual waiting thing until it was obvious that only the one red line was going to appear and that I am not pregnant after all. A great way to start a break.

I think the worst thing about driving a time machine will be your kids in the back always moaning: "Are we there yet?" ~Paul F Taylor

Last Sunday saw us hold our AGM, albeit a month later than normal. Office bearers are: Chairman - David ZL1DRV, Treasurer - Dave ZL1DL and Secretary - Martyn ZL3CK. Martyn also continues to hold the Newsletter Editor role and Neil ZL1NZ continues as Webmaster.

An important change to the Constitution was made to reduce the numbers required to make a quorum for any meeting to 6. This is a number which is more in keeping with the size of our membership.

On the subject of membership, please note that subscriptions for this year are due and can be made online. The subscription has not been changed and remains at \$40. There should be a membership form at the end of the newsletter with payment option details.

If you don't know what introspection is, you need to take a long, hard look at yourself. ~Ian Smith

I watched a confusing video in the "Ask Dave" series by Dave Casler KE0OG the other evening, which has left me wondering whether he is well. The video can be found by clicking on this link >

[https://youtu.be/ZDeyg\\_jhK2E](https://youtu.be/ZDeyg_jhK2E)

The video deals with dipoles and is titled: "Real dipoles don't do this!" Dave makes some confusing statements about dipoles and the currents and voltages present which sent me (more?) nutty – so I went off and opened a book to realign my thoughts with the facts according to 'other experts'. That aside, the whole way through, Dave kept showing the dipole drawing he was sent, which had the most glaring mistakes around the feedpoint area – and he didn't mention them once, but just went on and on about current and voltage. Have a look and see. I will accept that I might have misunderstood, but a second viewing has not changed my mind.

Crime in multi-storey car parks? That's wrong on so many different levels. ~Tim Vine

A week on from the AGM, Dave and I decided to have a bit of a clean-up in the repeater room. Actually, we moved things around a bit, sorted through some boxes of stuff that should not be there, added bits and pieces to them and then carried them down to the workshop and generator room (we should call it the storeroom as there hasn't been a generator in there for a long time). The repeater room is tidier as a result. In the 'storeroom' we rifled through a few boxes of donated equipment and took a few pieces upstairs to test, with a view to listing them for sale. This all takes time which we don't seem to be aware of until thirst strikes and we decide that it is time for a cuppa.

Until next month:

73, and call CQ  
David, ZL1DRV

## MPRG News

AGM was held with a good turnout of members, thank you to all who came to make it a useful meeting. The Minutes of both the last general meeting and the AGM are attached for your information on what was discussed and decided.

At the station, the Sundays are usually attended by several members, which is good as a regular presence is vital to our role as 'honorary caretakers' of the building and to inform the constant trickle of public who come to the door of what the building is about. Also, the never ending small things outside to clean up, sweep etc. are good to do to keep the place looking 'loved' and will help reduce the risk of vandalism and burglaries.

.....

### **Musick Point Radio Group Inc. Minutes of General Meeting held at Musick Memorial Radio Station on 21/05/2023**

Present: Per attendance book, apologies: ZL1KFM, ZL1EK

Minutes of previous meeting 12 Mar 2023: As read: ZL1TOF / ZL1DRV. Errors & Omissions: Nil

#### **Financial (as at end of Apr 2023)**

##### **Bank Account Balances**

Current Acct: \$2079.26, Serious Saver: \$7602.56, Repeater: \$ 465.31 Total: **\$10,147.13**

Accounts accepted: Jason ZL2JDH, Rick ZL1WOT

#### **General**

Martin ZL3CK to represent Branch 86 at NZART conference 2023 (there were no other volunteers).  
Vote on conference remits by qualifying (both NZART and BR86 memberships) members present:

**Remit 1** "NZART to create a digital only membership, for those wanting a digital only copy of Break In with discounted membership fee."

Discussion was generally that reducing the printed magazine count would increase the cost of the fewer printed copies. The costs of implementing and maintaining a secure digital distribution system could also be considerable. The proposal requires more investigation. On vote, there were 0 votes in favour of the remit and 7 against.

**Remit 2** "NZART to reduce membership fees for members associated to clubs that are charities or the club does not meet the criteria to be covered under NZART public liability insurance".

There was little understanding as to what was covered under NZART's insurance. As part of our lease agreement, MPRG has a public liability insurance policy for \$2M. On vote, there were 0 in favour of the remit and 7 against.

Meeting closed 13:42

Notes-1. At the NZART Conference both remits were as expected lost, the first was replaced with a new remit that an electronic version of Break In be made available to members *in addition to* the printed copy. This was passed.

2. A transcribed electronic version of the current MPRG Constitution 2013, was done last year as there was no electronic version available in the archives. This is attached.

**Musick Point Radio Group Inc. Branch 86 NZART  
Minutes for Annual General Meeting held at Musick Memorial Radio Station  
on May 21 2023 13:44**

Quorum present with names as per attendance book. Apologies received: Keven ZL1KFM, Ethan ZL1EK  
Minutes of previous AGM 10 Apr 2022: No errors, omissions or matters arising were tabled. Minutes accepted as circulated; proposed to accept by Jason ZL2JDH, seconded by David ZL1DRV. Accepted by all present.

**Finance**

The club accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023 have been reviewed; the reviewer is satisfied that the accounts presented represent a true record of income and expenditure.

The accounts summary was provided to the meeting. Expenditure exceeded income for the year by \$438.38 and the club held \$10,198.87 in bank accounts as of the 31/3/23.

**Annual Subscription Setting:** For a number of years, the subscription has been held at \$40. After discussion on the merits of raising or holding the amount, it was decided to continue with \$40 for the annual subscription. Many members add a donation to their annual contribution, and it was thought this was preferable to raising the sub. Martin ZL3CK proposed the annual subscription be maintained at \$40. Graham ZL1TOF seconded the proposal. The proposal passed by show of hands.

**Reports** from the Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster were presented.

**Election of Officers** No prior nominations were received. Dave ZL1DL has been holding both Secretary and Treasurer positions; Martin ZL3CK volunteered to be nominated for the secretary role. All other position holders agreed to continue in the respective portfolios – no other nominations were received. Elected and other positions were confirmed as:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominated by</i>	<i>Seconded by</i>	<i>In Favour</i>
Chairman	David ZL1DRV	Dave ZL1DL	Graham ZL1TOF	All
Secretary	Martin ZL3CK	David ZL1DRV	Rick ZL1WOT	All
Treasurer	Dave ZL1DL	David ZL1DRV	Martin ZL3CK	All
Newsletter editor	Martin ZL3CK	N/A	N/A	All
Webmaster	Neil ZL1NZ	N/A	N/A	All

**General Business**

The issue with monthly meetings often having to be deferred owing to insufficient members attending to reach the minimum numbers required for a quorum was raised. The existing requirement for 8 members (including at least two office holders) to make a quorum was, in general, seen to be difficult to achieve from a total membership of approximately 25. Against reducing the numbers required to make a quorum was the potential risk of a small group taking control. After discussion, Martin ZL3CK put a motion to make a change to the club constitution:

“I move that paragraphs 6 (d) and 8 (a) of the club constitution be updated to provide for a quorum of 6 members (4 financial members plus 2 elected officers), from the existing quorum of 8 members (6 financial members plus 2 elected officers)”. The motion was seconded by Graham ZL1TOF. The result of the vote was 7 for and 1 against. The motion was carried.

Meeting closed at 14:45

## GROTA and SPAM News-

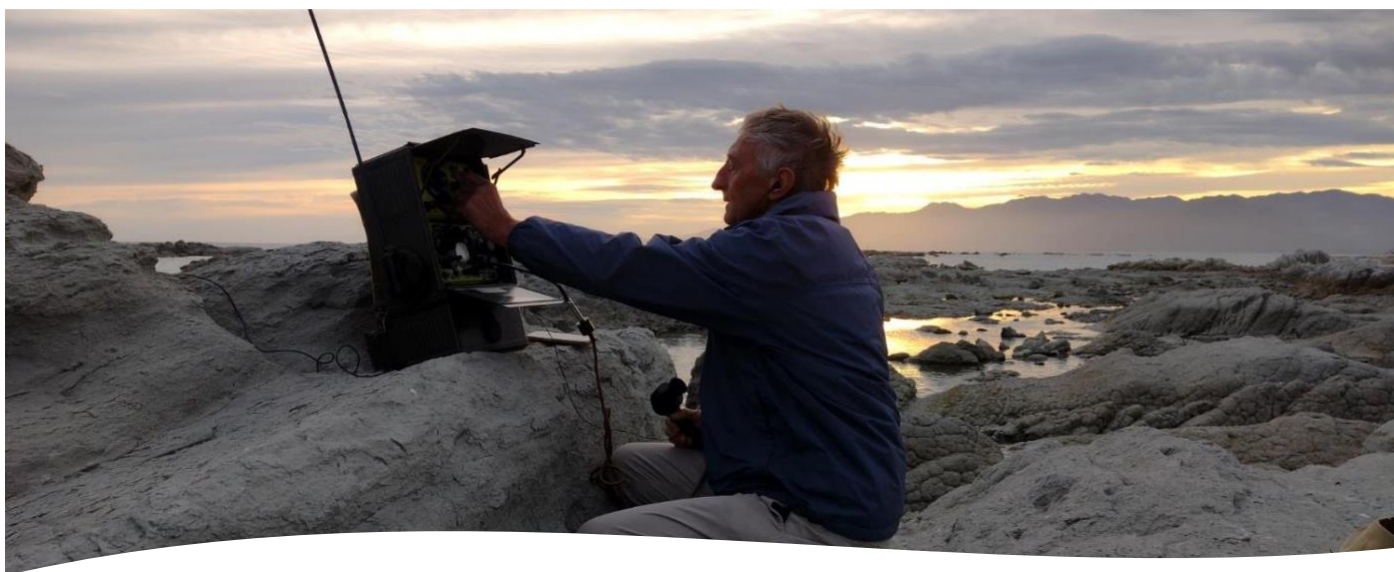
At the recent NZART conference we were lucky to be given separate 'slots' for the SPAM and GROTA groups. The SPAM AGM was held with 12 attending, minutes are below. The GROTA session was attended by about 25 and were given a short 'power point' show. Thanks to Gavin ZL1NUX who kindly provided the audiovisual equipment.

On 13th May the GROTA group had another attempt at the Kaikoura to Sumner circuit on 7MHz with WS48 sets. This time we had a station half way near Motunau. Signals over the whole distance were extremely good, 59+ reports both ends, and just as strong from the halfway point . In previous tests they were barely readable.

The question: why were they far stronger (+20dB ish) than previous tests? Improving sunspots and Near vertical Skywave would normally be the answer, but on checking, the critical frequency was down at 5MHz, which rules out NVIS . Sometimes, "it don't make sense". Head scratching continues.

Audio files recorded by Des ZL3AK Sumner. Kaikoura station manned by young Aidan ZL3APB, halfway was Bryan ZL3BHS.

Kelvin ZL3KB



**Kaikoura to  
Sumner.  
Ninety miles  
sea path  
with 48 sets**

### **Is it really true?**

Kelvin ZL3KB (WS48) and Aidan ZL3APB (A510) at Kaikoura,

Des ZL3AK and Bryan ZL3BHS (both WS48) at Sumner.

Again we witnessed non reciprocal propagation.  
Better going north (?)

R4/5 sigs at Kaikoura, R3 sigs at Sumner

## **SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMPLITUDE MODULATION NZ**

**Minutes of meeting held Sunday 4th June 2023 at 8:30 AM Ferguson room Millennium Copthorne hotel Palmerston North.**

**Apologies** Were received from- ZL1ABR, ZL1FS, ZL2MOH, ZL2TBH, ZL3AK, ZL3BHS, ZL3KB, ZL3MJS, ZL4AV.

**Present-** ZL1TOB, ZL1AOX, ZL2BHF, ZL3ART, ZL1HOG, ZL2TLL, ZL1BXA/ZL1WAI, ZL1PO, ZL!KM, ZL1ATU. ZL3CK in the chair.

**Silent Keys** were acknowledged.

No officers are required and none were appointed.

**Minutes** of the 2022 meeting had been circulated previously and were summarised, and accepted as distributed by those present.

**Newsletter-** ZL3CK resigned from editing the SPAM newsletter in December after 10 years. There being no takers for editing the SPAM Newsletter, and with no objections received from either the Musick Point Radio Group membership or SPAM, were combined in January 2023.

As always, items of interest relevant to AM, and any 'for sale' or 'wanted to buy' will be welcome.

**Membership-** New members joining since the last AGM are- Chris ZL4AV, Bruce ZL3BN, Bryan ZL1BHS, Kevin ZL3KE. Some other members who did not receive their certificates have had them sent. During the conference three new members joined up. They are- Alan ZL4QT, Jeff ZL1TOB, and Howard ZL1BXA/ZL1WAI.

**Finances-** the SPAM ASB account printout of 25 April 2023 showing the balance of \$1327.09 was circulated.

Income was \$100.00 since last year's meeting (September) from four new memberships, sale of one 3.850 crystal, and a donation.

Expenditure has been \$20 for postage.

**Discussion-** suggestions regarding the money in the account resulted in a recommendation to put a substantial amount on Term deposit. \$1000 will be placed on a (?) 6 month rolling deposit leaving about \$300 for immediate use. There are no ongoing costs to run the club now as all bar one member are on email.

Continued over-

**Minutes continued..**

**Possible use of the money** (suggested last year)- ‘someone’ volunteers to establish an SDR for AM use. The problems are- 1. Finding a suitable site with reasonably long term occupancy, low QRM and internet access. 2. What sort of SDR? The kiwi SDR is still available for around \$500, but is old software and may be updated sometime, the Web SDR like Musick Point uses a direct conversion receiver (“Softrock 2”) which is no longer produced, and only covers a narrow segment of the spectrum.

**Contests- “H” night** continues to draw a good crowd on the night. **Rob ZL2IW** is happy to be the coordinator, and applies for and obtains the special short-term ZL6H call sign each year, thanks Rob!

In the past we have run **“Boat Anchor”** nights for vintage sets, this could be arranged at relatively short notice by email, please let the writer know if you are interested. Musick Point can be activated at night by arrangement.

**MOTAT** are running an open day on 18 June and it is believed that there is some input happening from a local radio club. Contacts are Peter Handon and Mark Vincent. Suggestion that we contribute in some way.

Meeting closed at 9 AM, and was followed by a short presentation on the Musick Point Memorial Radio Station.

### For Sale-



#### *MP Members Offer*

2M/ 70cm Fibreglass Base Station Vertical Antennas. Complete with mast mounting clamps, this antenna is available in two heights: 1.3m (model SD-X30) and 1.7m (model SD-X50). Modelled on the Diamond X series antennas, these are quality Chinese built antennas at a price that won't buy Diamond.

For a limited stock quantity, these antennas are available to MP members at a special price of **SD-X30 : \$90, SD-X50 : \$124**  
Further info available at <https://intelec.nz> or contact Dave ZL1DL@intelec.co.nz

**FREE to a good home-**



Contact **Charles ZL1RKO**, he'll bring it to the mainland at a convenient time. [charles@waiheke.radio](mailto:charles@waiheke.radio)

**Wanted by Steven ZL2UV** (New Plymouth)

I am still wanting to buy a high power modulation transformer, with a view to making Big Bertha (T1509 converted to a 1KW linear by the late Eric Duffy) a dual mode amplifier, Class C as well as a linear amp. The power transformer in it looks to have plenty of current available. I think it may be a pole transformer.

Email- [steven.prout@gmail.com](mailto:steven.prout@gmail.com)

Best 73 to all, Martyn ZL3CK.

**MUSICK POINT RADIO GROUP INC., ZL1ZLD- Branch 86 NZART**  
(formerly Suburban Amateur Radio Club Inc.)

**Membership Subscription form for Financial Year 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024**  
Subscription is \$40 for the year.

**PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR SUBSCRIPTION**

**PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO –**

**MPRG SECRETARY Martyn Seay at [martyn.seay@gmail.com](mailto:martyn.seay@gmail.com)**

**YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR CALL SIGN AS PAYMENT REFERENCE.**

**BANK ACCOUNT FOR MPRG- (ANZ) 11-5373-0651319-11**

**Name- .....**

**Callsign/s-.....**

**Address.....**

**Phone/s- .....**

**Email.....**

**Financial Member NZART? Yes/no**

**Subscription- Cash/On line -- to above bank account (delete as necessary)**

**\$.....**

**Donation- Cash/On line -- to above bank account (delete as necessary) \$.....**

**Sponsored by- .....Callsign-.....**  
(New members only)

**Club use only:**

**Approved:**

**Not Approved:**

**Receipt no.....Date.....**

Note- The information requested is for membership records required to be maintained under the Incorporated Societies Act, and having due regard to the provisions of the Privacy Act.

The Society for the Preservation Of Amplitude Modulation (NZ)

Application for Membership

Surname: .....

First Names:.....

Call Sign.....

Name used on air: .....

Postal Address: .....

E-Mail Address:.....

Phone No: ..... Mobile:.....

Applicant's Signature: .....

Date of Application:.....

The subscription is \$5.00 payable once only – and is required with the application.

SPAM account- Society for the Preservation of Amplitude Modulation NZ

(ASB) 12-3086-0264368

You will be posted a certificate for framing.

You can email your application to the co-ordinator : Martyn ZL3CK  
[martyn.seay@gmail.com](mailto:martyn.seay@gmail.com).