



## Down Under

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February the Zoom topic was 'AMATEUR RADIO in NEW ZEALAND'. This was a live presentation by Doug ZL1BFS (where it was 8.30am compared to our 7.30pm).

Doug has a fascinating history in electronics and management and was able to bring his many years of expertise to bear on amateur radio. In addition to technical aspects of the hobby he talked us through the differences in licensing arrangements in New Zealand compared to the UK.



## Raspberry Pi

This was quickly followed on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February by another Zoom conference, this one led by Mike Richards G3WNC who talked us through the development of the Raspberry Pi. From humble beginning as an aid to school children to learn programming, this little green device soon took the market by storm and has had many iterations of development. The two hour presentation showed the power of the Pi and examples of its many applications. The motherboard with the processor and ports is so small it fits inside a miniature keyboard.

The next step is an online workshop on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March led by Eddie G0BKL. The aim is a construction project to put the theory into practice. You will need some Pi components ready in advance. Places may still be available, free of charge, so book you place via the email link at the top of this page. The closing date has been extended to 8<sup>th</sup> March.



## Message from the Chair, Nick G4HCK

Over recent months we have tried to introduce some new or different ideas starting with satellite working and we are now looking at Raspberry Pi's. Zoom club meetings have meant we can bring experts in the topic, to give an overview on a particular area. We are hoping the introduction of a new challenge will tempt some members, or friends of the club to try something new. Following on from the last event I am about to order my Pi ready for the get together again on Zoom where guidance will be given as to how to fire the module up.



Having spent many months in an unusual situation, sometimes allowed to go out and other times not, it does look as if the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter. Providing people follow the government's guidance we could be looking at a field day before long. Yes, we may have to be in little pods but if we can find a location which can accommodate us perhaps our first field day event will not be too far away (Photo shows us in May 2019). So, the next exciting event is the AGM and I know Iain the secretary is busy arranging that.

I am hoping the zoom events, what I call "Knowledge Transfer Events" will continue but at the same time I am also hoping we will be able to meet at physical events out in the sunshine (well can but hope for the sunshine).

## Regular Features (Details on Website)

Acorns run a series of regular activities: (1) SSTV Monthly Net (2) Weekly FM Net (3) Monthly SSB Net.