



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

MAY 2001 — No: 704

CLUB NET 29.111 MHz Sunday 9:30am
 CLUB NET 144.325 MHz Friday 8:30pm
 CLUB NET 145.500 MHz and Down Thursday 7.00pm

CLUB Internet WEB Site:
<http://www.g3src.org.uk>

Hon. Sec. Ray Howells G4FFY
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 Surrey SM1 3LD
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MONTHLY MEETINGS 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS 7.45 FOR 8pm
 AT THE T.S. TERRA NOVA, 34 THE WALDRONS, SOUTH CROYDON

"A" MEETING 14th May 2001 CONSTRUCTING EVENING - Nicad Charger Project

"B" MEETING 21st May 2001 FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN-WAG, CLUB STATION + "MOVE-IT-ON"

Chairman	GOPAR David How	020-8761 2954
Vice-Chairman	G3ZPB Peter Burton	01737-551413
Treasurer, Liaison & Equipment	G4DDY Maurice Fagg	020-8669 1480
Secretary, Membership & Communications	G4FFY Ray Howells	020-8644 7589
VHF Co-ordinator	G8TB Bernard Wynn	020-8660 7517
Publicity & HF Co-ordinator	G4WAY Roger Holyoake	020-8689 7089
Members	G4XAT Gareth Evans	020-8462 2837
	G3RJW Graham Marshall	020-8669 8722
Co-opted	2E1MRS Robert Shepperley	020-8640 5166

Dear Members

Hello and welcome to the May 2001 newsletter, the first as I start my third year as Secretary. At last month's AGM, Graham G3RJW completed his three years in the chair and the reins were handed over to David GOPAR. We also welcome Robert Shepperley who was co-opted onto the committee. More about this later, in the meantime lets start with details about the next meetings. Please note that the May meetings are sandwiched in between the Bank Holidays.

NEXT MEETING:

**"A" Meeting Monday 14th May 2001
 CLUB CONSTRUCTING PROJECT 2001
 NICAD CHARGER**

Once again, we are indebted to Gareth G4XAT for this year's Club Constructing project. In order that your efforts can be suitably displayed at a Construction Contest, the committee has decided that the "A" meeting on Monday 14th May will be the Constructing Evening for the Nicad Charger Project. Delaying the annual Construction Contest until Monday 4th June, which will allow the full May meeting to be utilised for constructing. It will also allow you time to suitably "box-up" your chargers for entry in the June Construction contest.

Gareth has supplied me with the following details:

"I found obtained a box of 'wall warts' (10 volts ac @ 300 ma) that feed a PCB. On the PCB, a simple capacitor/diode voltage doubler, feeding a 7805 regulator set up for constant

current, switchable between 50, 75 and 100 ma. This will be via a centre off, DPCO slide switch. This should cover most AA nicads, old (500 mahr)/new (700mahr) style and the higher capacity NiMh (100 mahr). It may feature a power on LED and a charge in progress LED (i.e. cells connected). There will be no timer. I will arrange for the output to be a PCB DC power socket, supplied with a matching plug. Users can then use as they wish. Gareth G4XAT"

The price per kit will be £5 but in order to have sufficient kits on the night could you please advise a committee member how many kits you would like - thanks very much.

Gareth will also be supplying sufficient soldering irons, tools, etc so unless you have a favourite iron or whatever, then just bring yourself for this meeting.

I'm sure this will be an enjoyable and fun evening.

NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 21st May 01 FIX-IT and "MOVE-IT-ON" Evening

The "B" meeting on Monday 23rd April will be the now regular "Fix-It" and advice evening but with the extra twist. If you have a radio item that you just wish to clear out then bring it along - you never know it may be just what another member is looking for!

The Fix-It section has proved very interesting and successful so please bring along that item that has been giving you grief - the collective heads at the meeting usually come up with something.

Reminder this meeting is being held only one week after the "A" meeting due to the Bank Holidays.

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 2nd April 01 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I unfortunately missed this important meeting due to business taking me to New York. I am indebted to Bernie G8TB for being "Secretary" for the night who has kindly produced the minutes for me - many thanks Bernie.

The meeting was opened with 17 members present and apologies from a further seven. The minutes of the last AGM had already been circulated to members, and these were accepted.

The Chairman gave a review of the Club activities over the last 12 months, which included lectures on The Wright Brothers, LF (137kHz), Ropes & Knots, and 2 Short-talk evenings. We also had an IEE Faraday Lectures Video evening, Bar-be-cue @ G3ZPB's, fielded a team at the CATS quiz, took part in VHF NFD and HF SSB FD weekends, held two Surplus Equipment Sales, and a Construction Contest. We also provided a demonstration station at Scout Camp 2000.

The Treasurer Maurice G4DDY assisted as always by Prim G4CCY, presented the accounts for 2000/2001, which following the rule change, showed the position for the year ending January 2001.

The election of the new committee followed and is as shown at the top of the Newsletter along with the extra offices that the committee members are prepared to hold.

It then came the time of presentation of awards with the Johnny Hayden Rose Bowl being presented to Graham G3RJW for his work as Chairman for the last three years. In his absence the Sutton Trophy (CW Cup) was presented to Charles Rodgers M0BIN for his dedication to CW.

During AOB discussion was held re support for contests and whether or not we should have a dedicated "B" meeting to whip up interest. It was noted that the May construction project had support from 8 members for the Nicad Charger. For visits strong support was given for BBC Caversham and also Duxford, though it was suggested that if arranged groups should travel in cars - easier than having to arrange a coach. A further suggestion adopted was that members could bring along items for sale at "B" meetings rather than wait for Surplus Sales. In closing it was agreed that members are welcomed to bring a friend to meetings as a means of encouraging recruitment.

LAST MEETING:

VHF NFD Group Meeting held 9th Apr 2001

I am indebted to Bernie G8TB for the following notes:

A large part of the meeting was employed discussing the effects of the "foot and mouth" outbreak on the contest calendar this year. It is possible that the event may be cancelled completely, or it may be postponed from 7/8 July to 1/2 September. As the event normally coincides with the IARU contest we would not have continental contacts. However it was suggested that we still operate (private) portable on 7/8 July from Nore Hill or RA/RTCG Whyteleafe, a good opportunity of testing gear and gaining operating experience.

It was also suggested that as the government considered that it would be possible to hold elections in June that VHFNFD could go ahead in July, and that representation should be made to RSGB, HM government, etc.

In view of this uncertainty it was decided that the next meeting would be in May, giving us a minimum of four weeks to

prepare, and in the meantime we should press on with preparations.

It was proposed that we enter the Restricted section with 4m 6m, 2m, and 70cms. It was also suggested that 70cms operate from the same tent a 23cms station, as a non-entry to fill in time.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on Tuesday 29th May at Pound Cottage, QTHR of Peter G3ZPB.

THE CALENDAR SECTION

I have re-vamped this section to include not just Club meeting dates of SRCC and local Clubs, but also future Rallies and some contests that you may like to enter or experience before the big ones that SRCC enters.

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

14th May	Constructing Evening - Nicad Charger
14 th May	CATS – "Packet Radio" with Mike Bues G8AAI @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley – 8pm. Contact: Andy G0KZT 01737-552139
18 th May	Crystal Palace - The BACAR Project by Quentin M1ENU/ZR1ABX @ All Saints Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill - 7.30 for 8pm. Further details from Sec: Bob G3OOU 01737 552170 or WEB Site
15 th May	Bromley & District - Talk on M2000A the Millennium station @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8pm. Sec: Alan G0TLK 020-8777 0420
17 th May	Sutton & Cheam RS – AGM & Construction Contest @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton – 7.30 for 8pm. Sec: John G0BWV 020-8644 9945
21st May	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, "Move-It-On"
22 nd May	Dorking & District Radio Society - "Prelude to Radar" with Brian Kendal G3GDU @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking - opposite Spotted Dog. Details: Jon G0GNA 01306-883718
30 th May	Crawley ARC – "Introduction to PIC" with Stewart G3YSX & Adrian G3VJM @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Sec: Jerry G0FPI 01293-512932
30 th May	South London College ARS (G3HFY) - " <i>No details at the time of writing</i> " @ ATC HQ, Commonsides West, Mitcham - 7.30pm. Derek M0BGX 020-8684 0963
11 th May	W&DARS – Three Short Talks with G3OOU - HF Stub Loaded Aerial, z-Match, Heathkit Conversions @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon-8pm. Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737-356745
4th June	Construction Contest & Short Talks
5 th Jun	Thames Valley ARTS – "Operation Treeant" do trees radiate @ Library reading Room, Giggs Hill, Thames Ditton – 8pm. Sec: Trevor M0CDB 01372-457674
2nd July	Talk on John Logie Baird by Jon G0GNA
9 th Jul	CATS Inter-club Quiz Night - more details next month
6th Aug	Barbecue @ Peter's G3ZPB
3rd Sep	"For those in Peril" - Peter G7PWV
1st Oct	Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale
5th Nov	Digital Audio Broadcasting - Peter G3ZPB - this will be held at RA/RTCG @ Whyteleafe CR3 0YY - more details nearer the meeting
3rd Dec	TBA

SRCC Meetings indicated in **BOLD** with venue of Terra Nova unless otherwise stated.

SRCC Activity Station & Contest Calendar:

29 th May	VHF NFD Group Meeting @ G3ZPB's
13 th May	Windmills on the Air - Due to Foot & Mouth restrictions this activity is now a low-key event. Watch out for something special next year. However Maurice G4DDY will be operating a station at the Sutton Model Engineering Club for their 66 th Annual Exhibition.
7 th /8 th Jul	VHF NFD - Currently Postponed due to Foot & Mouth Restrictions BUT see VHF NFD Meeting above. Contact Bernie G8TB (020-8660 7517)
8 th /9 th Sep	HF SSB Contact Roger G4WAY (020-8689 7089)

Contest Calendar: (Ray's Selection)

(Oct 2000 Issue of RadCom has full list and details)

5 th Aug - 2 nd 0700-0900 CW: 3520-3570kHz	RoPoCo - a real test of your CW operating skill. Chinese whipsers using rotating postcodes! Exchange RST plus for the first contact, one's own postcode. For each subsequent contact, RST + the postcode received from the previous contact.
2 nd /3 rd Jun 1400-1400 50MHz	50MHz Trophy - co-ordinated with IARU contest.
10 th Jun 1800-2200 432MHz FM	432MHz FM - Postcode and Country multiplier

Other Activities:

2 nd /3 rd Jun	National Museums on-the-air Weekend 2001 See: http://www.qsl.net/m1byl/
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Rally Calendar:

13 th May	Three Counties Radio & Computer Rally. Contact: John 01527 545823
17 th June	Newbury & DARS Annual Boot Sale @ Cold Ash
8 th July	Sussex Amateur Radio & Computer Fair. Contact: Ron G8VEH 01903 763978 or 01283 417756 (Office Hours)
21/22 Sep	The Leicester Amateur Radio Show - Geoff G4AFJ 01455 823344 g4afj@argonet.co.uk

MEMBER NEWS

Gail Jenkins G1CKB:

I have received the following from Bernie G8TB:

It was a sad and rain swept day as we gathered at St. John's Church, Dormanlands on Thursday 5th April for the funeral of Gail Jenkins G1CKB. The church was very full with an estimated 200 for the service. Many friends of Roger and Gail were present including Jim Gale G4WYJ and Barbara, John Headland G3BFP and Hazel, Maurice Fagg G4DDY with Prim G4CCY, Tony Naylor G3GHI and Bernard Wynn G8TB. We will miss her and all SRCC members will wish to join with me in passing our condolences to Roger G8HDP.

Gav Sowter G2OS:

I recently had the opportunity to visit Gav's Beckenham home to assist the family in its clearance. There was some 100years of knowledge in there and I took away a 3-element Tribander that is a bit worse for wear and needs some straightening. Apparently it had taken some 3 aerial erectors to get it down safely when it was found leaning over a neighbour's glass conservatory.

I also have awaiting a good home a KW2000A and Pyramid 800W linear (I haven't yet run these up to see how they work though!).

Free Licences for those aged 75years or over:

Further to last month's newsletter item, it seems the telephone number quoted was for only TV and Radio Licence department. Ron G7TER advises that the appropriate number is 0117 925 8333.

A comment that was given to me "is that it is suspected that the "Worm in the Wood" correspondent must have suffered a dose of Rentokil at the time. Trust he/she has fully recovered with no lasting effects".

Smoking of Meat, Fish and Cheeses A(nother) report by Gareth G4XAT:

Some of you may know that I am a keen vegetable gardener as well as brewer, constructor and participant in the Sunday morning net. In an ideal world I'd live on top of a hill in the middle of nowhere and be entirely self sufficient with a huge aerial farm stretching in all directions! Well, you can dream.....

I have known about the existence of this smoking course for many years but family circumstances have prevented me from attending. At last I found a niche in the domestic calendar and attended on Saturday 10th March. Sadly this will be the last such course at this venue although there are all sorts of other self-sufficiency/organic practice events available, see HDRA.org

The course covered the theory and practice of preserving and flavouring food by means of curing (mostly using salt) and smoking (for flavour mostly and slightly for preservation).

There are two main ways of smoking, HOT and COLD. Hot smoking actually cooks the food and is similar to a kettle type barbecue; the only difference is the smoke is derived from your chosen wood (hardwood or fruitwood) rather than charcoal and meat fat/juices dropping onto the coals. Heat is applied externally to the chamber, which contains the wood sawdust/flakes, over which sits a drip tray (to catch the drips of fat/juices) and wire racks to hold the food, giving all round access of smoke to the produce. I was surprised just how quickly food was cooked by this method.

Although edible straight out of the smoker, items tended to taste a bit 'acidic' whilst still hot and improved with time, especially after 24 hours. Food cooked in this way needs to be consumed within 3 days or frozen.

Cold smoking uses cold smoke and is a much slower process. The chamber used must not rise above 18 centigrade and this process is often reserved for the winter months for this reason. An old coat/overall metal locker (about 6 foot high, a foot square or similar) works fine. The base is raised on bricks to allow a gas burner to be placed underneath, a small pile of sawdust or chippings inside and the food hung up near the top. For this method the food is often cured first either using salt crystals or brine solution. The little extras such as herbs & spices and glazes are almost a separate subject and are many and varied. Suffice to say, discounted sides of salmon from Tesco's on a late Saturday evening can be turned into the most wonderful tasting product imaginable, probably a factor of 10 ahead of the 2 for 1 packs that are seen in supermarkets these days.

Woods for smoking are commonly beech (German sausage flavour, strong) oak, nice and mild, or apple, cherry, hickory etc. Pine is not suitable as it is far too resinous and acidic. So next time you chop (or have chopped) down a fruit tree give me a ring and I might collect some of it for you!

New E-Mail for Charles Rodgers MOBIN

Charles has advised that he has a new E-Mail address as follows: m0bin@parc.demon.co.uk

John Simkins re VHF NFD Issues, etc:

Hi Chaps. You may remember we discussed what other activity in Europe there may be on the normal dates and the possible postponed dates for VHF NFD. I have found the following:

On 7th & 8th July (normal VHF NFD) active counties with planned contests: OK(144 & 432), ON and OZ (both 50 up), DL, F, I, OK, OH and PA (all 144 up)and hopefully G etc.

On 1st & 2nd September (poss. postponed VHF FD) the only contest planned is IARU Region 1 (144 MHz only) and nothing else except possibly G etc on all bands. The postponed date will obviously be jam packed with QSOs !!!!!!!

This suggests that activity from a portable site (given no F & M warn-off at Warlingham or we firm up on Kenley) or separate stations from home QTHs on the bands 50 MHz, 144, 432 and 1296 on 7 & 8 July will be rewarding and we should think very seriously about doing this if we don't go together somewhere, I definitely plan to be on from home on 432 on 7 & 8 July (Planned TVI tests permitting).

You might like to pass this info on to others maybe via the Newsletter. Regards John.

John - done; and here is another E-Mail from you - you didn't miss the deadline as I always publish in the week before the "A" meeting!

Hi Ray/Peter. No doubt missed deadline for newsletter. Latest sit rep on 70cm from home QTH. 23-ele up at circa 10m above ground level - metre or so above my 4-ele for 6m. LDF450 run in and terminated. Good match to Tx, which is giving 30w o/p. No sideband QSOs yet since no activity heard despite a few QSOs. Have worked a few stations through Amersham repeater - which is 40dB over 9 (Chilterns are visible from my roof, 160m ASL, on a good day). Noise floor is below S0 and can copy signals on EVERY repeater output channel strengths S3 (Farnham) to 20 over S9 (Central London) and others underneath them. Now considering masthead amp just to nudge the floor up so noise is discernable. All looks good. No TVI reports. There is a 70 cm activity contest next Sunday but can only get on for final hour - hoping that there is someone to talk to. Regards John

Having a subsequent chat to John he did operate a couple of half-hours during the activity contest and made some 15 contacts. With his 30-watts he was easily working into Europe with QSOs averaging over 400km. John's best DX was DK0BN @ 573km.

Robert Shepperley:

Robert has advised me of his new callsign 2E1MRS - well done Robert who is now taking the RAE soon, to be followed by achieving a full Class A licence. They also have a new telephone number of 020-8640 5166.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS:

I have been negligent in reminding you all that it is subscription renewal time. Please send £8.00 (or £12.50 for family membership) to Maurice G4DDY QTHR (or 020-8669 1480) as soon as possible. The newsletter address label indicates year of renewal, but may not have caught up if you have paid in the last few days. I have printed a Slip below for your convenience.

SIGNING OFF:

That's it for this month, many thanks for your contributions, which are always welcome so keep them coming - thanks.

At the home front, now that we have the extension with its wider doors we now need to do the same with the old part of the bungalow. So we are still busy boxing up stuff in readiness for all the dust that will be created when we start knocking the door openings wider.

See you all at the Constructing Evening on Monday 14th May.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 10th May 2001

FOR SALE:

FT221R (2m 144-146MHz) with digital readout
£100 ono Ron G6LX Tel: 020-8654 6267



Graham G3RJW being presented with the Johnny Hayden Rose Bowl by Bernard G8TB at AGM on 2nd April 2001

SRCC Subscription Renewal Form May 2001

Name: Callsign/RS:

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Member: £8.00 Family: £12.50

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