



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

DECEMBER 2002 — No:723

CLUBNET 21.411MHz(NEW) Sunday 9:30am CLUBNET 144.325MHz Friday 8:30pm CLUBNET 145.500MHzandDown Thursday7.00pm CLUBInternetWEBSITE: http://www.g3src.org.uk	Hon.Sec.RayHowellsG4FFY 9AultoneWay SUTTON SurreySM13LD (020)86447589 E-Mail: secretary@g3src.org.uk
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MONTHLY MEETINGS 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS 7.45 FOR 8pm
Normally AT THE T.S. TERR ANOVA, 34 THE WALDRONS, SOUTH CROYDON

“A” MEETING 2ND Dec 2002 GB50 Talk with Bob Treacher BRS32525 & Team
“B” MEETING 16TH Dec 2002 FIX-IT, ADVICE, CH IN WAG, CLUB STATION + “MOVE -IT-ON”

Chairman	G4WAY Roger Holyoake	020-8689 7089
Vice-Chairman	G4XAT Gareth Evans	020-8462 2837
Treasurer, Liaison & Equipment	G4DDY Maurice Fagg	020-8669 1480
Secretary, Membership & Communications	G4FFY Ray Howells	020-8644 7589
VHF Co-ordinator (Co-Opted)	G8IYS John Simkins	020-8657 0454
Publicity & HF Co-ordinator	M1MRS Robert Shepperley	020-8640 5166
Members	G3RJW Graham Marshall	020-8669 8722
	G4FDN Pat McGuinness	020-8643 0491
	G8TB Bernie Wynn	020-8660 7517

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the December 2002 newsletter – and may I start to wish all our members and friends a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. At the time of writing, my full time job is in jeopardy as my employer is currently in Administrative Receivership. It's been over a week now and we are still awaiting news from the appointed trustees as to what the future will be.

For December our main meeting on Monday 2nd is back at the Terra Nova when we welcome Bob Treacher BRS52525 and team to give us a presentation on GB50. Monday 16th is the “B” meeting.

NEXT “A” MEETING: Monday 2nd Dec 2002 GB50 Talk with Bob BRS32525 and Team

It was a year ago that we welcomed Bob Treacher BRS32525 and team to give us an excellent on the Millennium Special Event station M2000A. Well they one better this year and the M2000A team formed the core of the GB50 operation and brought their expertise to Windsor Castle for the Golden Jubilee.

The event had several aims including:

- Offer many thousands of radio amateurs around the world the opportunity to contact Windsor Castle during the Golden Jubilee celebrations;
- Provide worldwide publicity for Windsor;
- Provide local, national and international media coverage of amateur radio in the UK;

- Demonstrate amateur radio to the public and offer visitor the opportunity to enrol in courses to become radio amateurs.



GB50 was on the air from 29th May to 9th June celebrating the Golden Jubilee with Amateur Radio. Over 24,500 contacts were made in some 130 countries, using the special GB50 call, using SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK31.

So come along on Monday 2nd Dec to see and hear all about this event from Bob and the team.

NEXT “B” MEETING: Monday 16th Dec 2002 FIX-IT and “MOVE-IT-ON” Evening

The “B” meeting on Monday 16th Dec will be the regular “Fix -It” and advice evening with the extra twist. If you have a radio item, or anything else that you just wish to clear out then bring it along – you never know it may be just what another member is looking for! This is also the last meeting before Christmas so should also be having those seasonal treats.

**LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 4th Nov 2002
Video Evening at RA RTCG Whyteleafe**

Courtesy of Peter G3ZPB, we were welcomed back to the RTCG at Whyteleafe, with its excellent facilities. The Club was there last November but I missed it due to being on holiday in Australia and New Zealand.

It was certainly an excellent venue as shown below:



At least 16 members and visitors attended and during the break were able to indulge in some excellent refreshments courtesy of Mikiko and Robert.

Following Gareth's G4XAT opening words, Peter G3ZPB gave a brief background to the RTCG and the evening's programme.



The RTCG is a centre of excellence concentrating on Compatibility and EMC. It is the engineering backup to the RA and is the nearest thing to R&D. Some 22 staff comprise the team.

We learnt of some of the areas that the RTCG is involved with and its standards setting work. This included DVB-T Impulsive Interference studies from items such as Central Heating thermostats and car ignitions. They can simulate this with a tool called FASS. Also involved with the carrying of xDSL over Power cables (yes its back on the agenda); optically transparent RF absorbing structures; baby alarm air band radiation; Bluetooth compatibility (clashes with Microwaves at 2.4GHz); and checking radiation from Cellular Base stations at 1.9GHz, which could impact on 3rd generation mobile (fortunately nothing there). It's a case of trying to get ahead of the game and have the answers ready for the future questions.

We were then treated to three videos; firstly "Dig a Little Deeper" the world premier showing of the work done by the RTCG; secondly "On the Pulse" showing the work of the regional offices; and lastly "The Listening Ear" on the work done at Baldock in protecting international radio services from 9kHz to 30MHz.

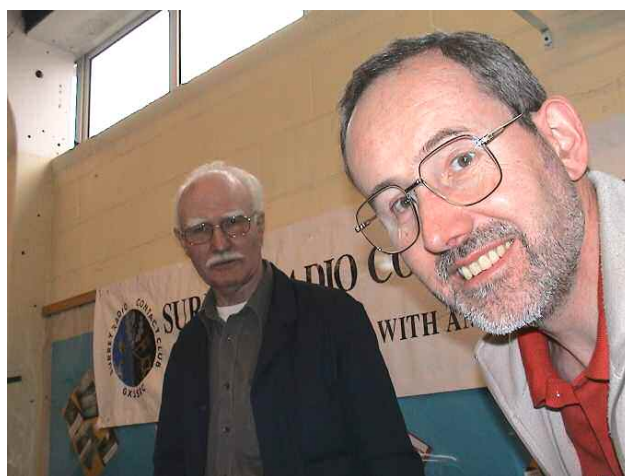
We all particularly enjoyed the opening RA credits for each of these films, which included animated resistors placing themselves in a PCB, dancing ICs, etc

Thank you Peter for the thoroughly enjoyable evening and for the use of the excellent Whyteleafe facilities, and also thank to Mikiko and Robert for the refreshments.

**LAST CLUB ACTIVITY: Sunday 17th Nov 2002
CATS BAZAAR Picture Gallery:**



Maurice G4DDY and Pat G4FDN



Charlie M0BIN and Ray G4FFY



General Scene including John G8MNY

Once again the SRCC had a presence at the excellent annual CATS Bazaar and the first two pictures show the people who helped out on the tables we had. Apparently we had a healthy injection of funds to the Club's finances which all helps to run the Club and keep the subs at a reasonable level.

It's also a great social event and a good place to meet one's amateur friends, etc. Also offer waste and coffee to wet one's whistle. Once I know next year's date you will know.

THE CALENDAR SECTION
SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

2nd Dec	GB50TalkwithBobBRS52525&Team
4 th Dec	ThamesValleyARTS –MembersChristmasPartyat QTHofG4CI –Nomeetingon3Dec.,meetings normally1 st Tues8pmLibraryReadingRoom,Giggs Hill,ThamesDitton –TrevorMOCDB01372 –457674
6 th Dec	CrawleyARC –Fish&ChipSupper@Hut18,Tilgate ForestRecreationalCentre,TilgateForest,Crawley – 7.30pm.JerryG0FP101293 –512932 jerry@spence0663.freeseve.co.uk
6 th Dec	CrystalPalace –Natternight/Clubprojects/Morse Class@AllSaintsChurchParishRooms,BeulahHill. 7:30for8pm.BobG3OOU01737552170(Meetings 1 st and3 rd Fridays) http://members.aol.com/rfcburns/
9 th Dec	CATS –AGM@St.Swithun'sChurchHall, GrovelandsRd,Purley8pm2 nd Monday's cats@briarsa.fsbusiness.co.uk Contact:AndyG0KZT 01737-552139.
12 th Dec	Sutton&CheamRS –ChristmasJunkSale@Vice PresidentsLounge,SuttonUnitedFootballClub, GanderGreenLane,Sutton –7.30for8pm.Sec: JohnG0BWW020 –86449945 scrs@btinternet.com
13 th Dec	W&DARS –ChristmasSocial@St.Andrew'sChurch Hall,HerbertRoad,Wimbledon –7.30for8pm2 nd & lastFriday'sDetails:JimG4WYJ01737356745 http://www.wadars.thersgb.net
16th Dec	Fix-It,Advice,Chin -Wag,Move -It-On
17 th Dec	Dorking&DistrictRadioSociety –SociaIEvening Meetingsnormally4 th Tuesday's@FriendsMeeting House,ButterhillSouthStreet,Dorking –opp.Spotted Dog.Details:JonG0GNA01306 –883718
20 th Dec	CrystalPalace:ChristmasSocial@AllSaintsParish Rooms,BeulahHill –7:30for8pm.Furtherdetails fromSec:BobG3OOU01737552170 – RFCBurns@aol.com
21 st Dec	Bromley&District –ShortTalks(Meetings3 rd Tuesday's)@VictorySocialClub,KechillGardens, Hayes –7.30for8pm.AlanG0TLK020 –87770420 alan@alanqm3.idps.co.uk
25 th Dec	Mitcham&DistrictARSNomeetingthismonth(I believe!!)(MeetingsnormallylastWednesdayofeach month)@ATCHeadquarters,CommonsideWest, Mitcham. m0bqx@freenet.co.uk
6th Jan 03	GettingGoinginDigimodeswithPat G4FDN
3rd Feb	MicrowaveTalkwithJimG4WYJ
3rd Mar	SpringSurplusEquipmentSale
5th Apr	AGM

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

Rally Calendar, etc:

29 th – 31 st Dec	ModelEngineeringShow@Sandown(see enclosedLeaflet)
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Diamond Riding Centre – Stamps

Many of you in the past have donated used stamps to the Diamond Riding Centre School. We wish to thank you all and also those outside of the club who have contributed.

Following last month's notice to send the stamps direct to the centre I have now found a new volunteer within the Club, namely Prim G4CCY. (Should have thought of it sooner as Prim is a regular rider at the Centre). So in future you can give/send your stamps to Prim, or via MauriceG4DDY –thanks.

THE BRASS MONKEY

I received the following recently in an E-mail:

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannonballs. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon, but how to prevent them from rolling about the deck?

The best storage method devised was a square based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem -- how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "Monkey" with 16 round indentations.

But if this plate was made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys". Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled.

Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey!" (And all this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you?) You must send this fabulous bit of historical knowledge to at least ten unsuspecting friends. If you don't, your floppy is going to fall off your hard drive and kill your mouse.

MEMBERS NEWS

GAV Sowter G2OS

Sadly I have to report that Gav G2OS passed away peacefully on September 26th at the grand age of 102. In the nursing home where he spent his last days he had an HFrig and was looking forward to climbing the tree (!) in the better weather in order to put up a decent aerial for his rig, at least a 300ft long wire believe.

PICATUNE WEBSITE

I recently received an E-Mail from Paul Berkeley M0CJX, advising of a web site dedicated to the Picatune, as follows:

www.picatune.co.uk

This is the site to go to keep up to date with the latest news, hints, etc on this interesting project.

SUNDAY CLUB NET

As you will have seen on the front of this Newsletter, and recognising the non-availability of 28MHz to Foundation Licence holders, it was agreed at the last committee to trial a net on 21MHz. Starting on the first Sunday in December (1st Dec) we will be moving the Sunday morning net to 21.411MHz and give it some 2 months before making a final decision.

A test was done last Sunday (24th Nov) and all went well so it's looking good.

FOUNDATION LICENCE COURSE

We are progressing towards getting ready with our material and resources to start running a course on "B" meetings starting 20th January 2003.

If you, or any of our readers, know of anyone who would like to join us would you please let me know – thanks.

Phil & Jackie Wedding on 5th July 2002
Phil has kindly sent me a photo taken at their wedding
(it's the one that was published in Radcom recently)



FOR SALE:

- 1 Icom 756 Pro Transceiver, HF+6M, 100W on all bands -£900.00
- 2 Hitachi Digital Satellite Radio Receiver KH-WS1 (for Worldspace Digital satellite radio) -£75.00. For more info see: <http://www.worldspaceradios.co.uk>

Contact Charlie M0BIN on 020 -86791387

SIGNING OFF:

I think that is it for this month, if I have missed anything I give my apologies and hopefully remember it next year.

So for our main meeting on December 2nd we welcome Bob Treacher BRS32525 and team for their presentation on GB50 Special Event Station. It would be nice to have a large crowd to support their excellent efforts - thank you.

As I close this Newsletter still no firm news regarding my employer but we have a company meeting at 3pm - I fear it's all over but we shall see. Those who get this Newsletter by E-mail may get a further update!!

Anyway may I wish all members, friends and readers a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Don't forget we have a Christmas morning net @ 9:30am and it will be on 21.411MHz or thereabouts.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 29th Nov 2002

