



# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

**SEPTEMBER 2002** — No:720

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

Hon. Sec. Ray Howells G4FFY  
 9 Aultone Way  
 SUTTON  
 Surrey SM13LD  
 (020) 8644 7589

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

E-Mail: [secretary@g3src.org.uk](mailto:secretary@g3src.org.uk)

**MONTHLY MEETINGS 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAYS 7.45 FOR 8pm**

**AT THE S. TERRANOVA, 34 THE WALDRONS, SOUTH CROYDON**

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**"A" MEETING 2<sup>ND</sup> Sep 2002 The Airship: PRIDE LEADING TO DISASTER with G3KQR**

**"B" MEETING 16<sup>TH</sup> Sep 2002 FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN -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 Sep 2002 newsletter which once again due to many calls on my time is being done in a hurry and will probably be posted on Friday (currently aiming for Thursday!)

For September our main meeting on the Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> is at the Terra Nova for an evening on "The Airship" with David Foster G3KQR. Monday 16<sup>th</sup> is the "B" meeting.

**NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2002 "The Airship: Pride Leading to Disaster" with David Foster G3KQR**

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep we are pleased to welcome back David Foster G3KQR who will be presenting a talk about the events leading up to the tragedy of the R101 airship a 15 minutes pass 2 o'clock on the 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 1930 when it crashed in flames on a hillside in Beauvais, France – just north of Paris. 48 of its 54 passengers were killed and David's talk will demonstrate the horrible mixture of governments getting involved with private initiatives (sound familiar?).

As previously advised this is a STARS sponsored event and is open to all other affiliated STARS club members. All are welcomed for this talk and it would be nice to have some wives/husbands along.

**NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Sep 2002 FIX-IT and "MOVE-IT-ON" Evening**

The "B" meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Sep 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!

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.

**SSB HF NFD WEEKEND and 144Mhz Trophy: Sat 7<sup>th</sup>/ Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Sep**

Following the enjoyment of the recent VHF NFD it was expressed that the local Clubs could join together and take part in SSB NFD and the 2M Trophy contests taking place over the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> September.

Unfortunately I have to report that a SRCC lead field activity has probably timed -out as I have been unable to get confirmation as to what is happening prior to my Newsletter deadline. I suggest that we take a few moments at next week's "A" meeting to finalise if we are going to operate instead at the well -known location in Whyteleafe.

To ensure this situation doesn't happen again, we must as a Club generate a calendar of contest events for the coming year, assign owners and drive it through for your benefit and enjoyment. Any thoughts on what you would like to enter. Hopefully using the STARS forum we can ensure that there is sufficient resources available.

**LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2002 An Evening with the Shepperley's + Buffet**

Due to work commitments I unfortunately missed the start of this meeting but arrived in time for the excellent buffet put on by Mikiko Shepperley. It was nice to see so many wives also present making it a truly family evening.



Enjoying the Buffet with Mikiko



This informal evening was very well received, Robert talked of his involvement in amateur radio and Mikiko (in traditional dress) also gave a short talk. There was an abundance of food that she had prepared. Many thanks to Robert M1MRS & Mikiko for an enjoyable and unique evening.

### THE CALENDAR SECTION

#### SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

2 <sup>nd</sup> Sep	<b>Airship: Pride leading to Disaster –David Foster G3KQR –STARSSponsored Talk</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Crystal Palace –Natternight/Club project @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill. 7:30 for 8pm. Bob G3OOU01737552170 (Meetings 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays) <a href="http://members.aol.com/rfcburns/">http://members.aol.com/rfcburns/</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sep	Thames Valley ARTS –Airships with David Foster G3KQR –1 <sup>st</sup> Tues 8pm Library Reading Room, Giggs Hill, Thames Ditton –Trevor M0CDB01372 –457674
9 <sup>th</sup> Sep	CATS –Weather Station Construction Part II @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday's <a href="mailto:cats@briersa.fsbusiness.co.uk">cats@briersa.fsbusiness.co.uk</a> Contact: Andy G0KZT01737 –552139.
13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	W&DARS –History of Avo Meters with Len Stuart @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon –7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737356745 <a href="http://www.wadars.thersqb.net">http://www.wadars.thersqb.net</a>
16 <sup>th</sup> Sep	<b>Fix-It, Advice, Chin -Wag, Move -It-On</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Bromley & District –Operating Night (Meetings 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday's) @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes –7.30 for 8pm. Alan G0TLK0 20-87770420 <a href="mailto:alan@alangm3.idps.co.uk">alan@alangm3.idps.co.uk</a>
19 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Sutton & Cheam RS –To be arranged @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton –7.30 for 8pm. Sec: John G0BWW020 –86449945 <a href="mailto:scrs@btinternet.com">scrs@btinternet.com</a>

20 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Crystal Palace: I -Link –Amateur Radio Over the Internet by G4CDY @ All Saints Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill –7:30 for 8pm. Further details from Sec: Bob G3OOU01737552170 – <a href="mailto:RFCCBurns@aol.com">RFCCBurns@aol.com</a>
24 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Dorking & District Radio Society –Meetings 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday's @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking –opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Jon G0GNA01306 –883718
25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Crawley ARC –Tra nsatlantic on LF with Peter Dodd G3LDO @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley –7.30pm. Jerry G0FPI 01293-512932 <a href="mailto:jerry@spence0663.freeserve.co.uk">jerry@spence0663.freeserve.co.uk</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mitcham & District ARS –GB50 with Bob Treacher BRS52525. (Meetings last Wednesday of month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commons side West, Mitcham. <a href="mailto:m0bgx@freenet.co.uk">m0bgx@freenet.co.uk</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> Sep	W&DARS –@ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon –7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737356745 <a href="http://www.wadars.thersqb.net">http://www.wadars.thersqb.net</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>Video Evening at RA Whyteleaf</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	CATS Bazaar 2002 –4 <sup>th</sup> Purley Scout HQ, Lion Green Road, Coulsdon
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	<b>GB50 Talk with Bob BRS52525 &amp; Team</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Jan 03	<b>TBA</b>

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

#### Rally Calendar, etc:

1 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Mid Sussex ARS Tabletop Car Boot Sale, 10am Start: Merle Place Car Park, Leylands Road, Burgess Hill. Contact Sue G6YPY on 01273845103
20 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Leicester Amateur Radio Show –Geoff G4AFJ on 01455823344 or <a href="mailto:g4afj@argonet.co.uk">g4afj@argonet.co.uk</a>
23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	London Communication & Computer Show, Wodson Park, Wadesmill Road, Ware, Herts. Radiosport on 01923893929 or <a href="http://www.radiosport.co.uk">http://www.radiosport.co.uk</a>

### STARS South Thames Amateur Radio Societies 2nd meeting held 15th July 02

Ray G4FFY and Roger G4WAY represented SRCC at this forum and the following Constitution was agreed:

**Objectives:** To enhance the prospects of individual clubs increasing their membership and reducing the age profile, promote the hobby to the public and to advise and assist member Societies

**Methods:** Publicise in the local area using the media. Provide guidance to exhibition stations; improve the image by a planned and coordinated marketing. Set up a skills and equipment database and finally, maintain close liaison with the RSGB.

**Funding and Organisation:** Voting to be one vote per Society, with a maximum of two people from each society at committee meetings. The Secretary and Treasurer are to be elected annually. The Chair and minutes secretary to rotate between the clubs and a 2/3rds majority will be required for policy and financial decisions. All other votes by simple majority and the Chair will have the casting vote.

**Budget:** To be approved each quarterly meeting and a suggested contribution of £30 from each member Society per annum subject to review and feedback from Societies.

**Communication:** To be reviewed

## Marconi Museum Tour 12th-14th Oct 2002

May I repeat the following notice – the deadline is fast approaching:

The Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society would like to invite our club members to take part in their **Marconi Museum Tour - 12<sup>th</sup> –14<sup>th</sup> October 2002**

CATS are planning a trip to visit the following sites :-

**Porthcurno “The Centre for History of International Telegraph Communications”**

**Goonhilly Earth Station**

**The Eden Project Cornwall “The Living Theatre of plants and people”**

It is planned to travel down by hired self-drive minibus on the Saturday and to stay in a small hotel or bed & Breakfast (depending on the total number), returning on the following Monday. The cost will be in the region of £110 per person (based on 2 nights accommodation, entrance fees, and minibus hire) but this may vary depending on the number of people interested and the number of places an individual would wish to visit.

Please circulate this information to your members. CATS have already 1/2 filled a standard minibus and if necessary, additional minibuses can be hired to meet the demand. Please reply to the CATS Secretary with your club's requirements. We anticipate setting a deadline for bids during the first week in September but your earliest response would be very much appreciated.

73deAndyG0KZT

CATS Secretary – Andy Briers G0KZT  
c/o 33, Deans Walk, Old Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 1HR  
Telephone 01737 552139  
Mobile No. 07751 560223  
Email – [cats@briersa.fsbusiness.co.uk](mailto:cats@briersa.fsbusiness.co.uk)  
Packet Radio [g0kzt@qb7cip.#32.gbr.eu](mailto:g0kzt@qb7cip.#32.gbr.eu)

## FOUNDATION COURSES

SRCC are in the process of finalising our plans to run a course and should have an update for the next newsletter. In the meantime may I repeat the following:

Our friends at the Bromley club are holding a two day Foundation Licence course on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2002. SRCC Members have been invited to take part.

Applications by E-Mail to the BDARS Secretary Alan G0TLK on [BDARS@alangm3.idps.co.uk](mailto:BDARS@alangm3.idps.co.uk) or attend their 20<sup>th</sup> August meeting. The application list will close on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

Pat G4FDN – Holiday News

I have received the following E-Mail from Pat G4FDN: “Hi Ray,

Just a quick note which might be of some interest for the newsletter.

Just got back from our holiday in Maine, USA. I did manage some radio operation during the visit as I took along my FT-100, a switched mode PSU and shortened loaded dipoles for 20m and 10m. I operated from a lakeside house near Bridgton, Maine (Grid FN44OC). I didn't manage any 10m contacts though I did hear some Central and South American stations occasionally

conditions seemed to be fairly flat on that band most of the time. On 20m things were a lot better and I had QSO's on both PSK31 and SSB. I had some RF feedback problems on PSK31 into the laptop I was using for PSK31, but these were alleviated when I reduced the power to around 5W - but this was still sufficient for contacts back to Europe. I had some interesting contacts on SSB around the US providing two stations with their first contacts with Maine and requests for QSL's as soon as possible!

Overall I was glad I brought the gear. I was able to pack the FT-100 in the same carry-on case as used for the laptop and the coax and loaded dipoles went into one of the suitcases. There were no problems with customs at either end (US customs were more concerned about my son's large water gun!). We were in Maine for 3 weeks and only operated on nine of the days and then only for about an hour of two on each of those days so didn't interfere with the holiday for the rest of the family. It was the first time I had brought HF gear as previously I had only ever taken FM equipment for 2m and 70cm.

Planning to go to Ireland next summer so will probably try 40m or 6m then as well.

Hope to see you at the next club meeting.

73, Pat ”

## John Mathews G3ENG: New Address

John G3ENG has recently moved and I advise of his new address as follows:  
51 The Gallop, SUTTON, Surrey SM25RY  
Phone: 02086526604

## VHF Contest Co-ordinator

Time moves on and Bernie G8TB has decided to relinquish the reins of VHF Contest Co-ordinator after many years in this role, and the committee reluctantly accepted his resignation. A replacement has been found with John Simkins G8IYS who took over the role in August.

You may have spotted this change at the beginning of the Newsletter where I give the committee roles.

## PICATUNE updates from Paul MOCJX:

### 21<sup>st</sup> June:

There is a small mod. required on this last batch of boards - don't panic it's easy! On the RF PCB find RL8/D8+ and connect it to the 12v rail track, 1mm of track has gone missing! There should be no other mods required, but will keep you informed of any problems or tipsets.

A TIP, when winding in the L1 coil. Take the edges off the 126 holes first using a counter sink or a large drill - it makes it easier to wind the coil in, I used a large drill by hand just to take the edges off.

### 1<sup>st</sup> July:

Here is a FAQ. - regarding the logic PCB. The latest batch have plated through holes, therefore do not top solder the board - just the underside. This applies to boards obtained within the last 3 months.

### 27<sup>th</sup> July: E-Mail to Paul:

Hi Paul,

I hope you won't mind me asking one small point regarding the physical construction.

I've finished the logic board and it chirps CW merrily at me. The main board is populated all but the capacitors, which are the next job.

My query is this, I have the logic board with double sided copper clad board (abt 25mm wide) on three sides as per the write up (the plug side is open), do I have to make a screened (brass shim or copper clad board) for the top and the bottom, this would effectively make a screened box containing the logic board but with one side, the plug side, open. Also having done this how is this all mounted on the main board ---it would sit over the capacitors C9 C10 & C11 ---if there is a bottom cover for the logic board compartment, there are the capacitor nylon screw heads that would stop it sitting down flat on the main board.

Also there is no copper cladding on that side of the main board to solder it down to --so how do you hold it in place and does it need a hard solder connection to the main board copper earth from the logic board case?

I am really enjoying the project and all seems to be going well so far, I hope all goes well with you.

One point they may or may not know about already - I have had excellent results in sourcing components from Sycom at Leatherhead ([robin@sycomcomp.co.uk](mailto:robin@sycomcomp.co.uk)) Robin Sykes is a most helpful chap and I managed to get some of the more difficult items from him ---very quickly. This may be helpful to others whom you may write to you.

All the best,  
73, Ted Burrell G3LPU

**Paul's response:**

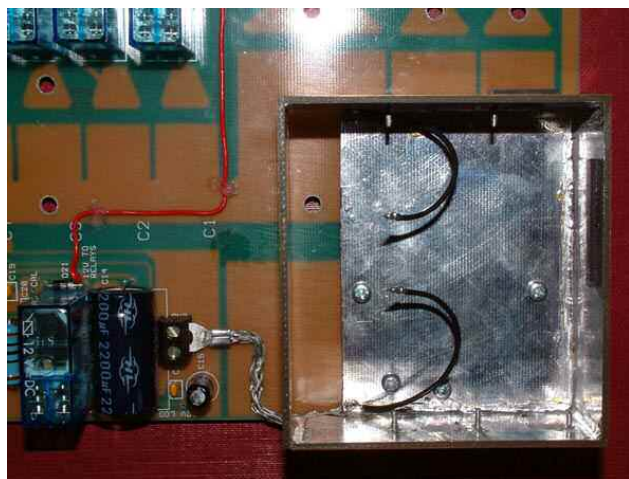
Hi  
The logic box as you say is fully screened which sits over the caps. I drilled three mounting holes for three stand offs and bolted them down. This ensured that the box was clear to the nylon screws. The stand offs could be threaded. Of course don't drill the mounting holes near the capacitors!

The board is earth to the box, I used 2 wires from the earth plane of the logic board to the box and the used a third wire to the board where it says EARTH, that is all that is require. Seem my photos.

Paul M0CJX



LogicBoxSideView



LogicBoxTopView

**SD Logging Programme Rig Control Ideas:**

John Headland G3BFPE - Mailed me the other day:

Would you by any chance have the descriptions of the pins on a 25-pin serial and also a 25-pin parallel/printer plugs? Am doing a bit of skulduggery with rig control from SD prog. Shall be using parallel for keying and series for rig control...all being well...it keeps the old grey matter on the move!!

In response, upon using the Google search engine I came across:

<http://www.cablingdirectory.com/pinouts/pinouts.htm>

John was able to continue his project and I recently received the following:

I went into the web sites and got all the info I wanted and more because they also gave the 36 Pin plug layout for printer connections!!

Have made up a lead with the necessary transistor etc so that I can now key via the parallel port or via the series on, (two separate cables). However, the series port will now be reserved for a new set up with a chip and a few components, Bernie has offered to make it up when I get the components as a PCB would be neater in a little box or something. When done this will control the transceiver band changing from the keyboard...the only thing I shall then have to do would be adjust the volume control with my little hands...how lazy can u get?

**SIGNING OFF:**

In closing I hope that many of you, wives, and friends from other clubs will attend next Monday's Airship Evening at Terra Nova when we welcome David Foster G3KQR. Hopefully we can also take 5 mins out to discuss entering SSB NFD over the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Sep.

73 and 88 *Ray G4FFY* Posted: 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2002