



# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

**MARCH 2003** — No: 726

CLUB NET 1.905 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  
 9 Aultone Way  
 SUTTON  
 Surrey SM1 3LD  
 (020) 8644 7589  
 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**

Normally AT THE T.S. TERRA NOVA, 34 THE WALDRONS, SOUTH CROYDON

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**"A" MEETING 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2003 SPRING SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE**

**"B" MEETING 17<sup>th</sup> Mar 2003 FOUNDATION COURSE + FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN-WAG, etc**

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 March 2003 newsletter which was prepared on Wednesday night & Thursday (27<sup>th</sup> Feb). My self-employed status is keeping me quite busy solving client's PC problems, including resolving software problems, changing faulty hard disk drives, changing motherboards, and solving networking problems.

During the last month, some Club members have taken part in 70cm AFS and I give the claimed results further down. And the Top Band Sunday Morning net is going from strength to strength – note we have QSY 5kHz lower to 1.905MHz

For our main meeting on Monday 3rd Mar we are holding the Spring Surplus Equipment Sale with Bernie G8TB and Maurice G4DDY as the auctioneers. Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Mar is the usual "B" meeting, and we will also be prepared for any foundation candidates.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that the Annual General Meeting of the SRCC will be held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2003 at the clubroom 7.45 for 8.00pm. Following our usual practice this notice is over a month ahead, but this is to comply with club rules. It allows time if there are any proposed alterations to the rules, or to give you an opportunity to raise any points at the AGM, the committee would like notice of important ones.

We also ask for nominations for committee, with such nominations (and acceptances) to be received by the committee prior to the opening of the AGM.

With the next newsletter I will include the minutes of the last AGM, the full agenda and also another nomination slip for a new committee and also for a Secretary (nominated separately).

### NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2003 SPRING SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

We hope there will be a good turnout for this Spring Sale, when members can bring along items for sale and also items to be donated to the club. It is very helpful, as in the past, for sellers to be in the clubroom well before 8 o'clock, and no boxes of "rubbish" please. All members and visitors they have brought along must sign the attendance book and all must be conversant with the rules.

**Note** that the club accepts no responsibility for goods sold at this private sale, and the purchasers buy on the understanding that they are capable of determining the usability, fitness for purpose and SAFETY of goods obtained. The following also applies:

1. Only SRCC members are permitted to sell.
2. All items not donated must be marked with the name or callsign of vendor, brief description and details of any reserve price.
3. Bids should be in steps of 5p up to £1 and 25p thereafter.
4. Visitors are welcome but must be introduced by a member who is responsible for informing them of the rules.
5. All members and VISITORS must sign the attendance book.
6. Sellers will not be paid until all buyers have settled up.
7. The club levies 15% on all transactions.
8. Please try and arrive early to allow start by 8 o' c.
9. PLEASE KEEP THE DOORWAY CLEAR FOR FIRE PRECAUTIONS.
10. SMOKERS are requested to keep to the rear of the room.

**NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2003  
1<sup>st</sup> FOUNDATION COURSE EVENING + FIX-IT and "MOVE-IT-ON" Evening**

The "B" meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Mar will be the regular "Fix-It", "Move-It-On", Advice and Chin-wag. If you have a radio item, or anything else that you just wish to clear out then bring it along – you never know who is there and may be looking for just an item.

At the February "B" meeting one of the discussions was ATU's. I had brought along my Cap.co ATU and John G3ENG brought along his home-built version for comparison. Pictures below show the differences in construction.



**Cap.Co SPC3000D ATU**



**John G3ENG ATU**

**LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2003  
Microwave Talk - Jim G4WYJ & Peter G4ZXO**

This was an excellent evening when we welcomed Jim G4WYJ and Peter G4ZXO who presented a personal and practical perspective on Microwave Contesting. Over the number of years that Jim and Peter



have been operating together, Jim does the logistics like getting up the hill, whilst Peter does the Technical.

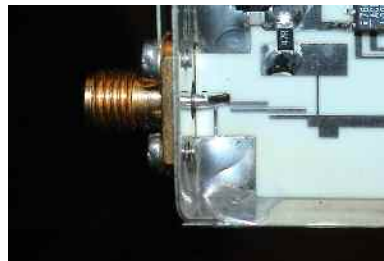
The kit is mostly homebrew with some Commercial equipment for the higher frequencies.

**Jim G4WYJ**



**Peter G4ZXO**

Peter is describing a 35db gain dish with a half-degree beam width. A spirit-level job to ensure vertical alignment! A 10w transverter is mounted behind the dish.



Many pieces of equipment were shown and passed around the members present. It has been built up over a number of years with some of the commercial equipment only becoming available

providing it is only used for amateur purposes.



**The "Cart" which gets the gear to the hilltop**



**The Dish with Transverter + 2m Talkback Aerial**

A real issue at microwave frequencies is Local Oscillator stability so temperature controlled techniques is now the norm. For the KU band the LO is at 10.224GHz and when operating in the field some 30m to an hour is needed for it to settle down and be within 5kHz.

The team have won three out of the last four 3cm Cumulatives – well done. A great write up on Peter's G4ZXO 10GHz portable station can be found at: <http://www.wadars.thersgb.net/microwave.htm> or <http://www.q3pho.free-online.co.uk/microwaves/zxo.html>

This is just a brief resume of the interesting and informative meeting and thanks extended to you both.

THE CALENDAR SECTION  
SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Mar</b>	<b>Spring Surplus Equipment Sale</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Thames Valley ARTS – AGM. Meetings normally 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues 8pm Library Reading Room, Giggs Hill, Thames Ditton – Trevor M0CDB 01372-457674
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Crystal Palace – Natter night/Club projects/Morse Class @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill. 7:30 for 8pm. Bob G30OU 01737 552170 (Meetings 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays) <a href="http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm">http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	CATS – My Favourite Things – Brian Cannon G8DIU @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday's. Contact: Andy G0KZT 01737-552139. <a href="mailto:cats@briersa.fsbusines.co.uk">cats@briersa.fsbusines.co.uk</a>
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	W&DARS – Surplus Equipment Sale @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737 356745 <a href="http://www.wadars.thersgb.net">http://www.wadars.thersgb.net</a>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On Foundation Course Session (!)</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Crawley ARC – Antennas & Feedlines 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop with Derek G3GRO @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Jerry G0FPI 01293-512932 <a href="http://www.carc.org.uk">www.carc.org.uk</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Bromley & District – Construction Contest (Mtgs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday's) @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8. Alan G0TLK 020-8777 0420 <a href="http://www.bdars.org.uk">www.bdars.org.uk</a>
19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Crawley ARC – RSGB & the new Licensing Structure with Ivan G3GKC @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Jerry G0FPI 01293-512932 <a href="http://www.carc.org.uk">www.carc.org.uk</a>
20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Sutton & Cheam RS – GB50 (TBC) @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton – 7.30 for 8pm. Sec: John G0BVV 020-8644 9945 <a href="http://www.scrs.org.uk">www.scrs.org.uk</a>
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Crystal Palace: Poldhu Radio Museum – Alan St Albans @ All Saints Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill – 7:30 for 8pm. Further details from Sec: Bob G30OU 01737 552170 – <a href="http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm">http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings normally 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday's @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Jon G0GNA 01306-883718
26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonside West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	W&DARS – Morse Code Practice @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737 356745 <a href="http://www.wadars.thersgb.net">http://www.wadars.thersgb.net</a>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>AGM</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>VHF NFD Inquest/Planning @ G8IYS QTH</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Constructing Evening</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Jun</b>	<b>Construction Contest</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>BBQ</b>

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

Rally Calendar, etc:

2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	18 <sup>th</sup> Rainham Radio Rally by Bredhurst R&TS, Rainham School for Girls, Highfield Way, Rainham. Trev Cannon G6YLW. E-Mail: <a href="mailto:trev@wig1.co.uk">trev@wig1.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.wig1.co.uk">www.wig1.co.uk</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Crystal Palace Radio & Electronics Spring Radio Fair, St John's Hall, Sylvan Road, London SE19. Bob Burns G30OU 01737 552170 Web: <a href="http://www.members.aol.com/rfcburns">www.members.aol.com/rfcburns</a> . Also see advert in Jan2003 SRCC Newsletter.

27 <sup>th</sup> Apr	West London Radio & Electronics Show at new Exhibition Centre, Kempton Racecourse. Organised by Radio Fairs - Paul Berkeley M0CJX E-Mail: <a href="mailto:m0cfx@ntlworld.com">m0cfx@ntlworld.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.epsomrally.co.uk">www.epsomrally.co.uk</a>
22 <sup>nd</sup> Jun	Epsom Radio & Electronics Fair. Organised by Radio Fairs - Paul Berkeley M0CJX E-Mail: <a href="mailto:m0cfx@ntlworld.com">m0cfx@ntlworld.com</a> Tel: 01737 373979. Web: <a href="http://www.epsomrally.co.uk">www.epsomrally.co.uk</a>

SRCC ACTIVITIES

The following are proposed for SRCC to participate in and put on demonstration / activity stations, etc.

MILLS WEEKEND 2003

This is taking place over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> May 2003. Details can be found at the following Web Site: <http://www.qsl.net/g4cdd/mills.htm>. Last year we operated from the Shirley Windmill in Postmill Close, Shirley Road, Shirley. For this year details are being finalised as I write but if you are interested to help please let me know.

East CROYDON DISTRICT SCOUTS CAMP 2003

This is taking place over the weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> May 2003. We have had an E-mail from Steve French advising that the event is to be held at Coombe Farm Playing Fields in Croydon. They are looking for an Amateur Radio Activity base to be run on site during the weekend, enabling the Cubs and Scouts to take part in the whole experience.

We have yet to respond to Steve as we are considering what to offer but if you are interested in helping or have some ideas, please let Maurice G4DDY know – thanks.

LAST CLUB ACTIVITY: Sunday 2nd Feb 2003  
0900 – 1500 432MHz AFS

Members will be pleased to learn that we have made an entry as follows:

Callsign:	Contacts:	Score:
G4WYJ	50	5000
G8IYS	36	3232
G4FFY	8	85

Thanks to all who took part and put SRCC on the map. We all managed the same number of contacts as last year with similar scores.

MEMBERS NEWS

New Members

We are pleased to welcome back Barry Mawn G0BKD and also welcome Martin Charman G4FKK, who mentions amongst his interests 160m. Their details are as follows:

Barry Mawn G0BKD 46 Newstead Walk CARSHALTON Surrey SM5 1AW 020-8648 0971 <a href="mailto:barry-g0bkd@homechoice.co.uk">barry-g0bkd@homechoice.co.uk</a>	Martin Charman G4FKK 3 Mount Park CARSHALTON Surrey SM5 4PR 020-8773 2983 <a href="mailto:g4fkk@qsl.net">g4fkk@qsl.net</a>
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SRCC CLUB DINNER

We have now agreed a date of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at The Beefeater Pub & Restaurant, Park Place, 54 Commonside West, Mitcham (020-8646 0028) 7:30 for 8pm. Would you please send your £5 per head deposits to myself (cheques payable to Ray Howells) ASAP so that we advise the restaurant of likely numbers – thank you. We thank Prim G4CCY for coming to our rescue. The 3-course meal will cost £17.00 with a choice of dishes, which can be selected prior to the evening.

## FOUNDATION LICENCE COURSE

May I remind you that we are able to run a Foundation session during the "B" meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> Mar 2003.

Following the STARS meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan it was agreed that future Foundation Courses should be organised through STARS, and so spread the load. Currently the Bromley & District ARS have been doing a sterling job with their courses which each run over two Saturday's. I believe they are about to run another session in early March and it is proposed to then have another course in June, but would like help from local clubs to run it (give themselves a break). SRCC is reflecting on its approach.

In the meantime try this link [www.amradioinfo.co.uk](http://www.amradioinfo.co.uk), which provides links to Foundation and Intermediate Licence home study courses. These have been provided by the Bredhurst Receiving & Transmitting Society (BRATS).

## VHF NFD 2003 (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> July)

A planning meeting was held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2003 at the QTH of John G8IYS. The meeting decided upon the following entry:

### Section – Mix & Match

Stations: 6m G3SRC – Restricted  
2m G3WIM – Restricted  
70cm G3ZPB – Restricted  
23cm G8MNY – Low Power

The key issue now is resources, especially people to help put up and dismantle the stations, as well as operators and check-loggers. We intend to publish a rota per station prior to the VHF NFD weekend. If you could spare just a couple of hours you will be more than welcomed. Please let John G8IYS know – thanks.

The next meeting has been organised for Monday night 14<sup>th</sup> April 2003 from 8pm at John's QTH (18 Riding Hill, Sanderstead). Please advise John of your intention to attend, either on 020-8657 0454, or e-mail [johns@connectnet.org.uk](mailto:johns@connectnet.org.uk)

## SUNDAY MORNING CLUB NET

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter the participants in the Sunday Morning club net have been testing on Top Band. This has proved a great success and will now be a permanent fixture. The frequency is changed slightly to 1.905MHz. The Top band net has also allowed our "Country" members to join in. It has also provided local stations strong signals to one another – no more listening in the noise!!

To me we have virtually turned full circle back to Top Band as this was where I heard my first Amateurs. Back in the early 70s Top Band was mostly AM operation. It was easy to tune to as it was just off the top end on a Medium Wave radio set, requiring only simple tweaking!

## RSGB REGION 9 MANAGER

Until elections at the end of the year Paul Berkeley M0CJX has been co-opted as manager for Region 9 – London and Thames Valley. Full details can be found under: <http://www.region9.org.uk/index.htm>. This means there is a vacancy for Paul's old role as DRRM for District 94, anyone interested should contact Paul on 01737 373979 or E-Mail: [m0cjx@ntlworld.com](mailto:m0cjx@ntlworld.com)



### FOR SALE #1

Paul M0CJX recently sent me an E-mail advising that he has an Icom 746 for sale, complete with both SSB filters fitted (worth £200), instruction manual and box as new condition. It has also been modified (Icom mod.) to cover the VHF commercial air band for WX fax - £850. Contact details as above.

### FOR SALE #2

Alan Scarisbrick G7ELG has for sale a Maxon 4m FM mobile rig with built in spkr complete with mic and mounting brkt. Bought from Norcall re-furbished, unused gift - £35 o.n.o. Could deliver on next trip to Croydon. Contact details are E-Mail: [scaryng33@msn.com](mailto:scaryng33@msn.com) or Tel: 01572-767908

### SIGNING OFF:

I think that is it for this month - if I have missed anything I give my apologies and hopefully remember it next time. I am currently awaiting my new ADSL connection, which will give me faster upload speeds to the SRCC Web Site. (I won't need to dial the FTP server.) I will then add more pictures, etc. For example I have more regarding the Microwave talk that Jim G4WYJ has kindly sent me.

So for our main meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> we are holding our Spring Surplus Equipment Sale to which all our welcome, but only members can sell. And get your thinking caps on for any nominations for the committee election during April's AGM.

We also look forward to lots of helpers for the Windmills on the Air Weekend and East Croydon District Scouts Camp Weekend – thank you (I can but try!)

Finally, enclosed with this Newsletter is the latest **Club Address List and Callsign order List** (the latter has any additional callsigns you may hold and that I am aware of). Hopefully it is correct but please let me know of any changes required.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2003

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## NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE 2003—2004 (Please return to Ray Howells G4FFY)

I ..... wish to nominate .....

For the position of **Secretary / Member** on the SRCC committee 2003 - 2004

If elected I agree to stand. Signed: ..... Date .....

(You may wish to photocopy this form rather than spoil the Newsletter)