



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2003 — No: 732

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS 7.45 FOR 8pm

Normally AT THE T.S. TERRA NOVA, 34 THE WALDRONS, SOUTH CROYDON, CR0 4AZ

"A" MEETING 1st Sep 2003 **i-LINK with Terry Giles G4CDY**

"B" MEETING 15th Sep 2003 **FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN-WAG, CLUB STATION + "MOVE-IT-ON"**

Chairman	G4XAT Gareth Evans	020-8462 2837
Vice-Chairman	G4WAY Roger Holyoake	020-8689 7089
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	020-8687 0811
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 September 2003 newsletter which is being written following the late Summer Bank holiday – so is summer over now? It has certainly been warm recently! For the "A" meeting on Monday 1st September we welcome Terry Giles G4CDY to the TS Terra Nova for a presentation on i-Link.

NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 1st Sep 2003 i-LINK with Terry Giles G4CDY

We are pleased to welcome to our club on Monday 1st September Terry Giles G4CDY who will be giving us a presentation on i-Link.

I am new to this communication tool, but the software used is EchoLink® (www.echolink.org). The intro on their website states: "EchoLink® is software that allows Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, from computer to station, or from computer to computer, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 100,000 registered users in 137 countries worldwide!"

Terry's own site (www.g4cdy.co.uk) describes the "Ultimate Linking Interface" – the box between your Transceiver and the Computer.

I am looking forward to learning more about this and then hopefully understand more how to use the EchoLink® software and linking my transceiver. I note, for example, that "Firewalls" can be a problem but the site does give some suggested remedies.

NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 15th Sep 2003 FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"

The "B" meeting on Monday 15th September 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.

Club Trip to IOW on Spectrum II - 6th Sep

Peter G3ZPB has made a kind offer of supporting an SRCC outing to the Isle of Wight on "Spectrum II" on Saturday 6th September with a reserve date of 2 weeks later if the weather is bad.

If time allows it is proposed to visit the IOW Steam Railway (see <http://www.iwsteamrailway.co.uk/index.htm> for details).

Numbers are limited and will be on a first come first served basis so let me (Ray G4FFY) know quickly if you are interested. I suggest about a fiver a head for the sea crossing, and there is a free car park near the Warsash Marina which will ease that aspect of the trip.

For Multimap <http://www.multimap.com/> (Multimap show the one way system!) or Streetmap <http://www.streetmap.co.uk/> the Postcode is SO31 9FR and we should aim to arrive at Warsash no later than 10am. Peter has suggested it takes about 1½ hrs to get there meaning a departure time no later than 8.30am

**LIST "A" MEETING: Monday 4th Aug 2003
MY FAVOURITE THINGS with Brian G8DIU**

This was a very pleasant evening with Brian recalling for us how he got involved with Amateur Radio and detailing his interests, some being other than Amateur Radio. He brought along a number of interesting books, not all radio; plus some of his favourite radios, including examples of gear he has carefully restored as shown below.



Brian is ex-BT having worked in departments including Radio Interference, Radio Paging, and Cellnet (then a linkup between BT and Securicor) between 1966 and 2000. In 1995 his office was relocated to Slough and in 2000 he took early retirement.

His radio interests started at the tender age of 5yrs old due to an uncle who was a SWL and made all his own gear. Amongst some of the early receivers his uncle had was the AR88, and when linked to a BC221 as the BFO, allowed reception of Sputnik on 19.995MHz. Brian achieved G8DIU in 1969, and amongst some of the books on display was Gilbert Davy's "Fun with Short Waves", published in the late fifties. Another book which influenced Brian in the hobby was the ARRL Radio Amateur Handbook, and Brian displayed a 1963 copy.



This picture shows Brian proudly explaining the finer details of a Davco DR30, which he had longed to own for many years and when the opportunity arose it turned out to be a "bag of bits". Brian spent many a happy hours in restoration.

Thank you Brian for taking the time in coming to the SRCC and showing us some of your favourite items. I hope this right-up was reasonably correct?

**THE CALENDAR SECTION
SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:**

1st Sept	i-Link with Terry G4CDY (www.g4cdy.co.uk)
3rd Sept	Crawley ARC – Special Junk Sale featuring a large donation of Test Equipment. Meetings held @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Jerry G0FPI 01293-512932 www.carc.org.uk
5th Sept	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 st and 3 rd Fridays) http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm
6th Sep	Club Trip to IOW on Spectrum II – arrive Warsash Marina by 10am – SO31 9FR. Contact Ray G4FFY for further details.
12th Sept	W&DARS – Members Evening & PicATune building @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737 356745 http://www.wadars.thersgb.net
8th Sept	CATS – RSGB Video Evening @ Prue's G4RWW. Meetings normally at @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 nd Monday's. Contact: Andy G0KZT 01737-552139. cats@briarsa.fsbusiness.co.uk
19th Sept	Crystal Palace - WWII V2 Rockets, John Becklake @ All Saints Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill – 7:30 for 8pm. Further details from Sec: Bob G30OU 01737 552170 – http://www.qsl.net/g30ou/id3.htm
15th Sept	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On
16th Sept	Bromley & District – Visual Basic Programming – Alan G0TLK. Meetings on 3 rd Tuesday's @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8. Alan G0TLK 020-8777 0420 www.bdars.org.uk
18th Sept	Sutton & Cheam RS – Alternative Energy Sources – Martin Berry. Meetings @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton – 7.30 for 8pm. Sec: John G0BWV 020-8644 9945 www.scrs.org.uk
23rd Sept	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings normally 4 th Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Jon G0GNA 01306-883718
24th Sept	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonside West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
26th Sept	W&DARS – Proposed Talk on Military Radios (to be confirmed) @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim G4WYJ 01737 356745 http://www.wadars.thersgb.net
6th Oct	Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale
3rd Nov	Top Band Members Evening with Martin G4FKK
1st Dec	"The Good Life" with Gareth G4XAT

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

Rally Calendar, etc:

19th-20th Sept	Leicester Amateur Radio Show and Convention, Castle Donington International Exhibition Centre, Donington Park. www.lars.org.uk
27th Oct	West London Radio & Electronics Rally, Kempton Racecourse. Details: Paul M0CJX 01737 279108 E-Mail: m0cjx@ntlworld.com Web: www.kemptonrally.co.uk
23rd Nov	CATS Bazaar – andy@briarsa.fsbusiness.co.uk

CHAIRMAN MEOW - Sep 2003



Well the hottest day has been and gone and by the time you read this our family holiday to the Isle of Wight will also be over, as will my summer holiday. This is being written during a two day jaunt to Tanner Farm Park near Goudhurst. Recommended to us by friends, I took the two boys (Joshua, 13 and Reuben, 10) for a couple of days under canvas (nylon actually). A very good example of agricultural diversion, the site can house over a 100 caravans and tents, has comprehensive toilet and shower facilities and many pitches with power. Not much like camping then but very peaceful and pleasant, with numerous walks carefully described and accessible in and around the nearby countryside. We also had a trip on the Tenterden to Bodiam Castle Kent & Sussex Steam Railway - very pleasant and worth a trip in its own right. All I would say is that at my age I need a decent bed and a pillow so that I get a decent night's sleep! Perfect weather though, a delight to sit outside and cook a fry-up on the gas stove. The tent came from the local boot fair for £20 - "used once didn't like the spiders"! Whilst not a rough weather tent it is a reasonable weather proof four person ridge tent with a small porch. Since the metalwork is minimal (it's not a frame tent) it's pretty lightweight and compact too.

The many radio projects I hoped to complete this summer have vanished into the distance but two radio control models have been guided to successful conclusions under the hands of Joshua and Reuben respectfully. I've also added a chain tensioner to my petrol assisted pushbike and put a few miles on it. Not pedalling is addictive and the only time I actually pedal is as you pull away from e.g. traffic lights and the odd rotation to keep from getting cramp in the leg muscles. It's now getting dark so although my Psion palmtop has a great backlight I can't see the keyboard, and no, I didn't bring a tent light. We left in a bit of a rush!

Gareth G4XAT

Gareth also sent me this picture of the biggest sunflower he had ever grown. As an incentive to 'renew your subs to SRCC' please renew else the chairman will come round and plant your garden for you!!



UPDATE ON A NON RADIO CHALLENGE!

Firstly, I must say, a big thank you, to all of you who have already sponsored me, it is greatly appreciated.

For those of you who haven't or might have missed the previous article, I am doing a charity cycle challenge; it is 400 km in 5 days along the banks of the Nile, in aid of Samaritans in November. There is still time if you would like to contribute.

In the Meantime, I thought I would give you an update on how things are going, regarding all aspects of the challenge.

The training is going quite well and my fitness and stamina levels have certainly increased, Jim (G4WYJ) will vouch for that, as I acted as porter for him when he was up on Ditchling Beacon playing microwave contests (there's devotion for you!). I aim to go to the gym 3 times a week and cycle to work twice, though this does not happen in practice! Those of you who know where we live know it is on top of the downs and I work in Ewell, this is fine going to work, but Reigate Road is a long steady climb upward coming home! I took part in a training day, it was just under 40 miles around Stratford, oh boy, I didn't know there were hills like that round there! I still have a way to go but I recently had some 'altitude' training in Cyprus, where I hired a bike and went out every day.

The fundraising is now going well after a slow start. It is certainly an eye opener and I have full admiration for those colleagues of mine who do it full time! We have been doing car boot sales, as some of you may be aware, having found us trying to sell you things! Other activities have been quiz evenings, making cakes, jams and chutney's, I have now made a name for myself in this area and get regular orders for more. The minimum target of £2,600 (which I have to have in by 1 September 03) is now insight, which is a great relief. I will be fundraising right up to going to the Nile in November to try and raise as much money as I can.

Thank you again for all the support you have given me, both moral and monetary.

If anybody would like some more information please do not hesitate to contact either Jim or me.

88's

barbaraeves@btinternet.com

Barbara Eves

Mobile: 07973 800948

Members News

- Pat G4FDN

I have received this update from Pat:

"Just a quick note to say I did manage some radio while on holiday in Ireland. We were really glad to be there away from the blistering heat you had in SE England. Daytime temperatures were around 70 to 74F and night time around 50 to 55F. Perfect, with the peace and quiet of the locations in Co. Mayo and Co. Sligo.

All my contacts turned out to be on PSK31 on 20m mostly around 2200-0100 but occasionally earlier, mostly Europeans and Near East earlier on with North and South America later. Notable contacts were with CX4NF, PY2NJ, CE3AK, WB4RQD, & N3IVT. M1EZF in Poole was my only UK contact.

One afternoon when I was about to lower the portable mast to change the antenna coils for 40m a gust of wind blew it over and the telescopic dipole elements were damaged. I decided not to effect a repair as this would have delayed other holiday activities but overall the operating time on the radio was good fun.

Also managed a visit to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Museum in Enniskillen in Co. Fermanagh where I was able to learn more about my grandfather's exploits in the Boer War.

Pat G4FDN"

- Robert G4GTO - Silent Key

I am sorry to advise that Robert McEwan Reid G4GTO died at home on Tuesday 29th July after a long illness. The funeral took place on Monday 11th August at Croydon Crematorium.

On behalf of SRCC, I would like to express our deepest sympathy and condolences to Robert's wife Marjorie. Robert will be sadly missed by a large number of Radio Amateurs. Many will remember his RAE classes and some of our members were taught by him.

- Peter G4WPB - Mars Images

I have received the following update from Peter G4WPB on his Mars image exploits:

"I have managed some fair pictures so far showing quite good detail.

My only hope is the British weather will hold up and the Mars dust storms stay down....

I recon so far I have taken about 800+ images of this red ball and it is proving the most difficult object I have ever had to image. You get so much atmospheric turbulence on this object - you end up with every shape from a rugby ball to a full petal spinning red rose.....

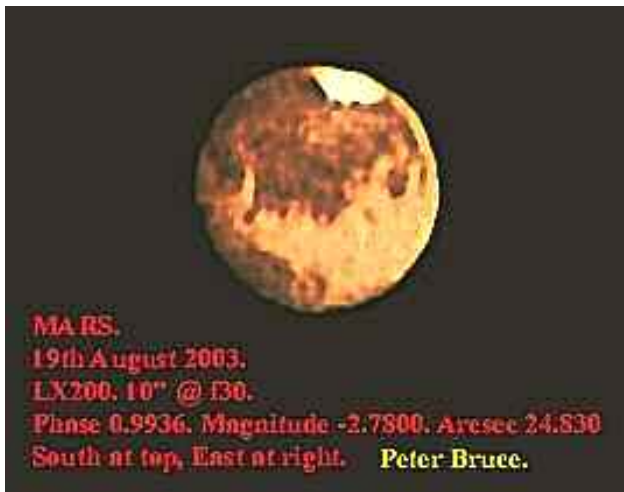
I am using the latest astronomical camera technology and loads of patience to achieve the best results I can get from my equipment - it seems to be paying off.

I enclose the best image to date and if you feel it is worthy to go into the club mag feel free to use it as I know many members share an interest in astronomy.

As a further point- although it's a bit off beat I would be prepared to give a broad talk on telescopes and equipment if you wish (after November) if you all feel it would be an interesting enough subject to the members.

I could bring along the 10" computer controlled scope and show the wonders of how modern technology enables you to find objects in the night sky at the touch of a button and also if you have one of the wonderful computer projectors I could also show what you can image. I know the latter is pushing the bounds a bit....

Peter G4WPB"



- New Members

We are pleased to welcome to the SRCC Alun Cross G4WGE and Richard Sutton. Their details are given below and we wish you Alun and Richard a long association with the SRCC.

Alun Cross G4WGE

31 Mountcombe Close
SURBITON
Surrey KT6 6LJ
020-8399 7063
g4wge@qsl.net

Richard Sutton

120 Glenister Park Road
STREATHAM
London SW16 5EA
020-8764 2633

- Stephen MOLDX - Aerial Party!

I understand that on Bank Holiday Monday afternoon a party consisting of Maurice G4DDY and Charlie M0BIN visited the Streatham QTH of Stephen MOLDX to effect the erection of a 30ft mast. The intended 5mins turned into 3hrs apparently for a multitude of reasons but success was had with the rawbolting of the mast to the bottom garden wall. Stephen was left to erect his aerial - an 80m dipole with open wire feeders to a balun at the bottom to allow use of coax to the shack.

We look forward to working you on the HF bands Stephen and hopefully you will be able to come up on the Sunday morning Top-band net.

E-MAIL DOING THE ROUNDS:

Champion Generation

We've made it! According to today's regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were kids in the late 50's, 60's, and 70's probably shouldn't have survived.

Our baby cots were covered with brightly coloured lead-based paint which was promptly chewed and licked.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, or latches on doors or cabinets and it was fine to play with pans.

When we rode our bikes, we wore no helmets, just flip flops and fluorescent 'clackers' on our wheels.

As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.

Riding in the passenger seat was a treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle - tasted the same.

We ate dripping sandwiches, bread and butter pudding and drank fizzy pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.

We shared one drink with four friends, from one bottle or can and no one actually died from this.

We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then went top speed down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes.

After running into stinging nettles and brick walls a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back before it got dark. No one was able to reach us all day and no one minded.

We did not have Playstations or X-Boxes, no video games at all.

No 99 channels on TV, no videotape movies, no surround sound, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet Chat rooms. We had friends we went outside and found them.

We played elastics and street rounders, and sometimes that ball really hurt.

We fell out of trees, got cut and broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits. They were accidents. We learnt not to do the same thing again.

We had fights, punched each other hard and got black and blue - we learned to get over it.

We walked to friend's homes.

We made up games with sticks and tennis balls and ate live stuff, and although we were told it would happen, we did not have very many eyes out, nor did the live stuff live inside us forever.

We rode bikes in packs of 7 and wore our coats by only the hood.

Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected.

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of.

They actually sided with the law. Imagine that!

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors, ever. The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

And you're one of them. Congratulations!

SIGNING OFF:

That's it for this month - if I have missed anything I give my apologies and hopefully remember it next time.

Anyway in closing I hope that many of you will attend next Monday's (1st Sept) presentation at TS Terra Nova with Terry G4CDY giving us a talk on i-Link.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 28th Aug 2003