



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

AUGUST 2005 — No: 755

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 Aug 2005 Defence of the UK from Enemy Bombers – John Downs

"B" MEETING 15th Aug 2005 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
Club Meetings	G4FDN Pat McGuinness	020-8643 0491
Members	G3RJW Graham Marshall	020-8669 8722
	G8TB Bernie Wynn	020-8660 7517

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to August 2005 newsletter and I start with the sad news that Ray Herbert G2KU became a silent key last Wednesday 20th July. More details can be found in the next column.

The SRCC meetings this month start with the "A" meeting on Monday 1st August when we welcome John Downs for a talk "Defence of the UK from Enemy Bombers"; with the "B" meeting on Monday 15th August.

NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 1st Aug 2005
Defence of the UK from Enemy Bombers – John Downs

We are pleased to welcome to the SRCC on Monday 1st August John Downs who will be presenting a talk on the History of Air Defence and Radar. John has kindly supplied the following synopsis:

"The first raid on Britain which was delivered from the air took place on Christmas Eve 1914 and from that moment, as an eminent scientist said, Britain ceased to be an island. The need for a system to counteract attack from the air became more apparent as the first world war progressed and in my talk I try to trace the political and scientific efforts to produce a co-ordinated and effective system of air defence. The periods throughout the 1914-18 war, the inter-war years which culminated in the Battle of Britain, the steady progress made through the war and then into the cold war years to the present day are all covered. The talk ends with a demonstration of the interception of a Russian spy aircraft during the cold war period.

John Downs"

NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 15th Aug 2005
FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"

The "B" meeting on Monday 18th July is 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!

Ray Herbert G2KU - Silent Key 20th July 2005

It is with sadness that I advise that Ray Herbert G2KU (1918 - 2005) became a Silent Key last Wednesday 20th July 2005. Ray was the historian of the Baird Company



well-known for his accuracy and authoritative approach, and a life-long enthusiastic radio amateur and member of the SRCC.

Ray Herbert's Funeral will be held at Croydon Crematorium on Friday 29th July at 2.15 pm. The family have requested no flowers but instead send donations to the St. Christopher's Hospice. Details can be found via their Web Site: <http://www.stchristophers.org.uk/page.cfm>

I have started a tribute page on the club website: www.g3src.org.uk and would appreciate more details on Ray's life as we wish to help the family in compiling a comprehensive obituary. If you knew of what he did during the war (we believe he worked at or with the people at Portsdown Hill on naval radar research) and what he did post-war until he retired that would be most helpful.

Ray G4FFY

(Picture courtesy of Don McLean www.tvdawn.com)

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 4th July 2005 Summer BBQ at QTH of Gareth G4XAT

As Gareth G4XAT reports below the weather was not kind to us on this evening but luckily there was enough room indoors or under the awning for everyone to stay dry. Some 25 or so members, wives, partners and families attended and a convivial evening was enjoyed by all. Many thanks go to Jayne and Gareth G4XAT for hosting and supplying the salad, bread, beer, Summer Pudding and barbequed bananas, etc. Gareth also had his BBQ going, along with the one brought by Graham G3RJW who operated it all evening, which was appreciated by all so thank you Graham.

The opportunity was also taken to present John G8MNY with the Basil Wardman Tankard which he had won at the Jun "A" meeting Construction Contest.



CHAIRMAN THOUGHT of the MONTH - August 2005



The thoughts of an absolutely exhausted Chairman!!!

Well, I made it to the end of term, just, after one of the busiest 6 week periods in my life!! As often happens I promptly caught a cold type lurg that had been circulating during the last week of term but I managed to shake it off without too much misery.

Firstly, the club barbeque...well the weather I booked failed to turn up but I think the good old British spirit shone through (unlike the sun) and we managed to just about find seating of some sort for everyone! Both BBQs worked within their capacity (thanks to Graham, G3RJW for bringing and operating his all evening) and several kilos of bananas met their end as previous participants renewed their acquaintances with the delicacy and those who had heard about them also joined in. (Barbequed bananas with maple syrup and ice cream for the benefit of those who didn't make the event).

Next day saw me loading up a hired trailer with our three fuel economy cars, two 'Mice' and our all-new TSR-3, powered by a 22cc 4 stroke Honda strimmer engine. We departed for Rockingham raceway, near Corby around 2.40 pm that afternoon, taking the M25, M11, A14 route for an excellent journey. Cars were unloaded in the pits and worked on (tyre pressures, batteries, oil, fuel etc) and then the team and I departed for Travel Lodge accommodation at nearby Kettering. The next two days were filled with an endless succession of "change this, tweak that..." but apart from a puncture on my car on the last lap of our last run, we ran the three most reliable cars of the event. Our economy figures were all shy of previous bests however, but conditions were really windy and occasionally heavy rain too. Despite the weather, my mouse managed 400 mpg on petrol, 349 mpg on LPG, the schools diesel mouse managed 458 mpg with three new drivers at the wheel (not all at the same time...).

Our all new TSR-3 managed a best of 688 mpg, considerably shy of what we hoped for but mechanically perfect throughout 80 plus miles of driving. I suspect that the little 22 cc (1 hp) was flogging itself to death, never a good route to economy. For next year we will upgrade to a 31 cc unit (1 ½ hp) or even a 49 cc unit, watch this space or our website www.trinityschoolracing.co.uk.

With no gearbox in our Greenpower car it looked like a quiet end to the term, but for once the British Postal System worked and it arrived 10.30 am on Saturday morning. Several frantic hours spanning produced a working car which we duly loaded up and departed to Castle Coombe for a 4 hour race on Sunday 10th July. After a few laps of practice to get some current curves for the track it was race strategy time and we set off as planned, aiming for a solid second place to qualify us behind the flying Turbo Tortoise, itself out to break a few records. They got the lap record OK, but the increased load they put on their motor did for it after about 45 minutes and although they managed to lash it up with Gaffer tape, it never caught us back up and we actually won, by a convincing 35 miles over second place. Since this was a 4 hour race, the distances were scaled up to give 6 hour equivalents, showing us as 177 miles and second on the grid for the final. We are unlikely to see that challenged as all the other races are on less ideal circuits. Time will tell.

To read our race report, go to:

<http://www.trinityschoolracing.co.uk/Race%20Report%20-%20Castle%20Coombe%202005.htm> and to see Greenpower report go to:

<http://www.greenpower.co.uk/events05/avon052.htm>. To read about our competitors woes (where we have already been, e.g., our previous race!!) see:

http://www.portaprompt.co.uk/greenpower/index_page0015.htm

In the photos below the first is TSR-3 with Reuben driving en-route to 688 miles per gallon (best figure), whilst the second is a certain pair of racing drivers talking with us on Thursday 7th July, prior to their big race at the weekend.



Barrichello & Schumacher with Gareth G4XAT

My two sons (Joshua and Reuben) both passed their model flying 'A' test last Sunday 17th July, this demonstrated basic competence to fly safely and without direct supervision. I'm proud of the pair of them and totally amazed at how fast they have both learnt the skills required. They are now working hard on improving their aerobatic skills and in doing so heading for their B certificate in a few months time. This would certify them to fly at public displays!! By the time you read this we (me and my two boys) will have been to Newgale Sands (Pembrokeshire, best beach in the world!!) to try out Joshua's new kite, a 4.5 sq. M beast designed to drag you along the beach. That and a bit of R & R, if camping can be called R & R!!



Photo shows Reuben (who built most of this plane) preparing for another flight....

Gareth G4XAT. 25th Jul 2005

LAST CLUB ACTIVITY STATION - 2nd-3rd July VHF NFD Weekend

May I start with many thanks for all of those who participated in this weekend, and worked our stations. We also had help from members of neighbouring clubs plus some people we don't often see. We also had a group on Saturday morning from Trinity School who were able to be involved with the stations setting up. Hopefully we have wetted their appetite for future years. All was appreciated and very welcomed.

This year everyone was ready to go at least an hour before hand so the pre-event planning paid off. There was an hiccup near the end when we forgot to check the fuel level of Gareth's G4XAT diesel generator and it run out during Sunday lunchtime.. We had to get Gareth back on site to bleed it, but in the meantime got the power back on courtesy of Graham's G3RJW generator. Even this took some working out as it had been forgotten that one needed to do a certain "twist" of the output socket in order to get power, was a puzzle for a while. Just prior to this we had tried the Club Generator but this keeping "coughing" on load demands but Maurice G4DDY now believes he knows the problem (a demand valve problem I think?) and even used John G8MNY little generator for a while.

This affected the 70cms station and for a while it looked like something had "croaked" but fortunately it all came back to life much to everyone's relief. The 2m and 23cm stations were able to continue during this due to a 12v battery strategy. I know that further developments are planned for the 70cms station so that power supply cuts can be coped with.

Most stations reported that conditions seemed better than average with our best result for ages. It will be interesting to see the adjudicated results in due course. Well done everyone involved and here's to next year – hopefully! We need an injection of new blood (younger?) to keep going!

Below are the claimed scores alongside last year's.

	2004		2005	
	QSOs	Claimed	QSOs	Claimed
6m	55	8833	87	48707
4m	--	-----	--	-----
2m	299	63669	407	105491
70cm	100	16506	139	31893
23cm	31	3248	30	3720

THE CALENDAR SECTION

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

1 st Aug	Defence of the UK from Enemy Bombers – John Downs
5 th Aug	Crystal Palace: An Informal Evening on the Air @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill. 7:30 for 8pm. Bob G3OOU 01737 552170 (Meetings 1 st and 3 rd Fridays) http://members.aol.com/rfcburns
8 th Aug	CATS – Member's BBQ – Meetings normally held @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 nd Monday's. Contact: Dave G8VXB on 020-8546 5445 dyoung@photo-scan.com
9 th Aug	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: John G3AEZ on 01306 631 236
12 th Aug	W&DARS – Members Evening @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.wadars.thersgb.net
15 th Aug	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On
16 th Aug	Bromley & District – Summer Natter Night/ Social/ Short Talks. 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
18 th Aug	Sutton & Cheam RS – Mini Antenna Workshop with Martin M1MRB. 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
23 rd Aug	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: John G3AEZ on 01306 631 236
24 th Aug	Crawley ARC – DAB & Being a Local Broadcast Station Engineer with Eugene Sully G0VIO @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Sec: Keith G8KZZ 01403 257788 www.carc.org.uk
26 th Aug	W&DARS – Club on Air? @ St. Andrew's Church Hall, Herbert Road, Wimbledon – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.wadars.thersgb.net
31 st Aug	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonsides West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
5 th Sep	PICs (Programmable Integrated Controllers) with Gareth G4XAT
3 rd Oct	Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale
29 th Oct	70th Anniversary Dinner – Venue is Trinity School and we are planning a 4-course lunch, exhibition area and special issue of the Club History in Pictures. More details to follow but please indicate your interest to myself Ray G4FFY – thank you.
7 th Nov	Short Talks with G4FDN and G4XAT - TBC
5 th Dec	Hybrid powered vehicles and vehicle battery systems with Peter G4WPB

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

Rally Calendar, etc:

29 th Jul to 7 th Aug	<p>Wimbledon & DARS Summer Camp – Crossways Farm, Crossways Lane, Upper Gatton, Reigate RH2 0TX. Wimbledon will be setting up their camp late on the afternoon of Friday 29th Jul running through to 7th Aug. There are buses from Epsom and Sutton (460 and 420 I think). The bus stop just south of the roundabout with Babylon Lane on the A217 about ½-mile from the site.</p> <p>If you need picking up please contact Andrew Maish G4ADM 07973 184040 to arrange a time and give warning of your visit, etc – thanks.</p> <p>Don't forget about the barbecue on Friday 5th August, bring your own food and drink and someone will cook for you.</p> <p>I understand that they should be operational on HF and 144MHz and skeds can also be arranged on the above number.</p>
7 th Aug	<p>Flight Refuelling ARS Hamfest from 9:30am in their HQ grounds. More info from: http://www.frars.org.uk/cgi-bin/render.pl?pageid=999998</p>

Members News
- Paul M3TZO

Paul M3TZO is now also the proud holder of 2E0TZO – well done Paul. Follow his activities on: <http://gadget17.symbiandiaris.com/index.php>

- John G3MCX

I was pleased to receive the following E-mail recently:

"Hi Ray,

I did get a computer, we do not quite understand each other yet and at this stage it is more of a liability than an asset! The other day my son was trying to get rid of the hourglass sign over the mobile phone from Leamington-Spa by using Ctrl+Alt+Delete, it worked once then came back again. A Neighbour said that I had got the Computer confused and the only way out was to break every rule in the book and push the "off" button, this seemed to do the trick.

However I can just about manage to receive an E-Mail as long as it does not have pictures sent as an attachment which are rejected by the anti-virus system.

I will get better, hope you get this.

73, John (G3MCX)

John's E-Mail address is: john.g3mcx@btinternet.com

- Pat G4FDN

"Just a note to say I and family will be off to Ireland from the 27th July for just under 3 weeks. I expect to be getting in a little bit of operating from Co. Donegal and Co. Mayo (IO54 & IO64) on PSK31 & SSB on 17, 20 30, & 40m and FM and maybe SSB on 2m & 70cm. Unlike previous trips I'm not bringing a portable mast or my higher power kit, but will be using a magmount with mobile antennas and a FT-817. If previous operating patterns are anything to go by I usually switch the radio on after getting back from the pub. Anyone who wants to try a contact sked can text me on my mobile 07711 439417. Call will be EI/G4FDN/P or /M.

Pat G4FDN"

FUTURE OF AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING

Further to the meeting that was held on 7th July at the Whitton Community Centre I have had the following feedback from Alison G8ROG:

"Dear All

Thank you for your attendance at our Regional Meeting that was held at the Whitton Community Centre in Twickenham on the 7th of July.

Despite the very sad and awful events of the day a large number of you were still able to attend. However, some of you were unable to make it due to the transport situation of the day.

The RSGB Key Objectives were discussed in detail by our General Manager Peter Kirby during the meeting, a copy of these is attached. {Sec's Note – I have printed this out on a separate sheet for you – responses required by 12th August}

I trust you all found the meeting very useful and informative, additionally, on behalf of the RSGB regional team we would like to thank all those who helped host our meeting, particularly the members of [Whitton ARG](#).

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss the Ofcom issue more, then you can contact any of the Region 9 team for assistance (www.region9.org.uk) or [RSGB HQ](#)

Best Regards

Dr Alison Johnston G8ROG
DRM Region 92
Berkshire

USEFUL WEBSITES:

"I have just received a catalogue from the Australian company Jaycar aimed at the home hobbyist. Using the terminology of my son they seem to "lots of cool things". The catalogue I received was priced in £ and shipping for orders up to £50 is £5. Their catalogue is 400 pages and it took a couple of weeks to come from Oz. They have a UK website at <http://www.jaycarelectronics.co.uk>. Some of you may know about them already as they advertise in Elektor magazine, but may be of interest to the wider membership.

Pat G4FDN"

70th ANNIVERSARY – Sat 29th Oct 2005

We should have finalised our plans for this event at the August committee meeting. It is possible that the venue may have change to a more central location of Fairfield Halls, we will let you know. More details are to follow but we would appreciate some idea of numbers so please indicate your interest to myself Ray G4FFY – thank you. To date it is only the committee that I have on my list!

SIGNING OFF:

That is about it for this month and I hope I have remembered everything, apologies for anything missing. I may see some of you at Ray's G2KU funeral on Friday, hence the slightly earlier newsletter this month so that you get this sad news.

Please support the "A" meeting on Monday when we welcome John Downs for his talk on the history of Air Defence and Radar.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 27th Jul 2005

SRCC Subscription Renewal Form August 2005

Name: Callsign/RS:

Address:

..... Tel:

E-Mail:

Member: £8.00 Family: £12.50

Cheques payable to SRCC and send to:

Maurice Fagg G4DDY

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Tel: 020-8669 1480

