



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

AUGUST 2006 — No: 767

CLUB NET 1.905 MHz Sunday 9:30am
CLUB Natter Channel: 144.215 MHz Daily 8:30pm

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

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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 7th Aug 2006 GB3OK with Tony G1HIG and Garry 2E0ULA

"B" MEETING 21st Aug 2006 FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN-WAG, CLUB STATION + "MOVE-IT-ON"

Chairman & Club Meetings	G4FDN Pat McGuinness	020-8643 0491
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
Technical Topics	G4XAT Gareth Evans	020-8462 2837
Members	G3RJW Graham Marshall 2E0UYP Peter Sutton	020-8647 1186 07974 296045

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the August 2006 newsletter which I started on Wednesday night i.e. late again! Next Monday 7th August we welcome Tony G1HIG and Gary 2E0ULA for a talk about GB3OK with, hopefully, a normal "B" meeting on Monday 21st August. More details on these are given below:

I have been to the Royal Marsden, Belmont, today for a check-up and all was OK. My PSA was still un-measurable following the hormone treatment I'm on prior to IMRT (Radiotherapy) still scheduled for Jan 2007. I have continued my excursion into Linux and loaded it onto spare Hard disk partitions on my main PC and got it logging into my Windows 2000 Server domain. The latest Linux Format has a cover DVD containing the Ubuntu distribution, might give that a go to see what it is like!

NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 7th Aug 2006 GB3OK and Echolink

On Monday evening, 7th August, we are pleased to welcome Tony G1HIG and Garry 2E0ULA to give us a talk on the Orpington 2m Echolink Repeater GB3OK.

Those of you on 2m may have heard GB3OK output on 145.7125MHz and it is managed by the Bromley Repeater Group (BRG). This is a totally independent, non-profit organisation and receives absolutely no funding from any other source. So far, all the costs for developing this project, the purchase of the equipment, the site rental and all peripheral expenses, have been borne by the members of the Committee.

However, the continuing success of GB3OK will depend on them being able to collect funds from the Radio Amateurs that frequent the repeater. It's a costly business and donations are always welcomed.

More details can be found on www.gb3ok.com both about the repeater, and the BRG.

Monday night will be an interesting presentation and I hope that many members will turn out to support the efforts of Tony and Garry who have kindly taken time out to come to us and talk about GB3OK.

NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 21st Aug 2006 FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"

The "B" meeting on Monday 21st Aug 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!

The Fix-It section has proved very interesting and successful so please bring along that item that has been giving you grief - rigs, PCs, whatever! The collective heads at the meeting usually come up with something.

I missed the July "B" meeting but I know it took place in the open air due to being "locked out", it was lucky it was a barny summer evening. Maurice G4DDY now has a copy of the new key so we should be alright from now on.

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 3rd July 2006 Annual Construction Contest

This was a very enjoyable evening and it was encouraging to see all the members efforts, an impressive display. All exhibitors gave a brief talk on their entries and during the tea break every one took part in a secret vote. The outcome was 1st Prize to a "gobsmacked" Maurice G4DDY for his Spark Eroder, 2nd to Joshua Evans M3LSU for his GCSE Battery Analyser, and 3rd to Reuben Evans M3TUC for his Flat Pack Model Aircraft.



1st: Maurice G4DDY receiving the Coronation Cup and cash prize



2nd: Joshua M3LSU receiving the Basil Wardman Tankard and Cash prize



3rd: Reuben M3TUC receiving Cash prize



Maurice G4DDY with his winning Spark Eroder



Joshua with his GCSE Battery Analyser



Reuben with his Flat-Pack Model Aircraft – "Corex Moronic"

Maurice's Spark Eroder was constructed from scrap with its purpose to remove broken taps and drills. It can cut round, square and hex holes in hard metals.

Joshua gave me the following notes on his GCSE Electronics Products "Battery Analyser":

" This is a 12 volt lead acid battery analyser built for my schools race team (Trinity School Racing). It drains the battery (from a full charge) down to 10.5 volts whilst monitoring the current being drawn, then charges the battery back up. By using this product the racing team have been able to find out which of their batteries were failing them!"

Reuben gave me the following notes on his "Corex Moronic":

" This is a completely flat-pack-able model, designed to take on holiday with me. The tailplane and wing are both made out of corex and are both held on by rubber bands. The model weighs about 260 grams and is powered with a Cyclon brushless motor coupled with a Tsunami 10 amp speed controller and a two cell 910 ma/hr lithium polymer battery. The model is heavily influenced by Avicrafts " Moronic" but has extra fuselage side area for improved knife-edge capability. The wing area has also been increased, as have the control surface sizes. The model performs all set aerobatics such as loops, rolls, flicks and spins very well."

VHF NFD WEEKEND: Sat 1st/2nd July @ Field-Day Site of Nore Hill, Warlingham

May I start with many thanks for all of those who participated in this weekend, including members of neighbouring clubs, and those of you who worked our stations. We were located in a new field about a further 1/2-mile south of the usual field along the Limpsfield Road (Still on the "WEST" side) but I think it was preferred by all.

Arrival on site started on Friday afternoon/evening and when I arrived on Saturday morning the 2m and 23cm aerials were already up. The weather was glorious, in fact too hot to be under enclosed canvas. On 70cm this was recognised on Friday evening and the purchase of an England coloured Gazebo was quickly made and the station setup under this. During Saturday the breeze kept the temperature down, however in the early hours of Sunday morning it got very cold and the station was moved into John's G8IYS trailer tent.

Activity seemed down on previous years but periods of ducting created openings into OZ and the Balkans. 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 which especially shows the good work done by John G8MNY on his set-up:

	2005		2006	
	QSOs	Claimed	QSOs	Claimed
6m	87	48707	75	54495
4m	--	-----	--	-----
2m	407	105491	289	63282
70cm	139	31893	125	25815
23cm	30	3720	45	8947

Photos will be published next month and earlier on website.

The CHAIRMAN's BLOG - Aug 2006



" I expect I was not alone to be glad the heat wave has now passed. I found it oppressive and draining which is why I probably prefer the cooler summers in Ireland.

I have had almost zero time for amateur radio this month with major renovations being done on our house including removal of all plaster in the main bedroom, hall stairs and upper landing, followed by re-plastering and painting. At times it seemed like living in a building site. Despite very good preparation and precautions it was impossible to stop the spread of dust permeating throughout the rest of the house. Thankfully the work is now finished but we still have flooring to deal with when we return from holiday. We will be in Maine, in the USA, for a while in August, and I hope to get some operation in on PSK31 on 20m and maybe 10m. I will be bringing a FT-817 with some wire and telescopic antennas.

I expect it has been reported elsewhere that the July ' B' meeting was an exclusively outdoor affair – outside the T.S. Terra Nova, as we were locked out. Hopefully liaison by Maurice G4DDY will avoid another occurrence. At least the weather was OK!

I'm sorry I will miss the talk on the Orpington Repeater & Echolink but I believe it will be an interesting presentation and thanks are due to Peter 2E0UYP for pursuing and cornering the speaker. Hopefully, not too many people like myself will be on holiday.

Until next time – 73, Pat"

From Our Hayes, Kent Correspondent



" What a month!! Starting around the middle of June I wrote out a timetable/list of the daily various activities I had to fit in until now, the last day of a Duke of Edinburgh Silver expedition supervision that I volunteered for. But it was worth it, we have contested three Greenpower heats, winning in the process a second place (Sussex), a third place(Avon) and the Surrey Shield for the best Surrey car. By doing the above we have qualified 4th on the grid for the national final, a placing unlikely to be toppled in the remaining heats! So, for the third year running, we are on the front row of the grid for the final. The team also attended the Goodwood Festival of Speed as an exhibitor on the Greenpower stand, a truly unique event. I met the creator of a Rover Meteor powered SD1 Rover car. Nothing unusual in that unless you consider a 27 litre V12 in a passenger car 'unusual'! An ingenious use of an epicyclic gear train to multiply up the engine speed, this then drove a GM automatic gearbox, modified slightly. This beast was running on the hour and had a clever LPG system added for economy although 24 injectors on a custom built manifold were in place ready for petrol power.

Then followed the annual Shell Economy Marathon, held again at Rockingham Raceway near Corby (11-13th July). My full race report is here (www.trinityschoolracing.co.uk) but basically after 15 years of trying we managed not just to break through the 1,000 mpg barrier but win top school too with a superb 1426.3 mpg. That equals London to Brighton on about half a small cup of petrol! Having listened happily to the accolade the team received in assembly on the last day of term that was it, all over for another school year. I went home and promptly fell asleep on the sofa, at 4 in the afternoon!!

Next morning it was a bright and early start, departing Trinity to East Grinstead where I dropped off my 6 pupils for the start of their walk. I had taken a 'radio' with me, not least so I could keep track of them en-route and also my 12 element ZL for DX duties between the ' skeds' . It also proved good for DF-ing the group, just to check that they were where they said they were! I parked on a local high-spot and worked Skipton, Liverpool, France, Guernsey and several more local stations. During the day I moved to a different location (to provide a water stop, pretty essential given the heat wave conditions we were experiencing) and worked members of Bromley Radio Society, out for a picnic on the top of Ditching Beacon. Ken, G3PHS, who used to live in Caterham and was a regular on the Peter Woods 144.800 net in the 80' s, called in and we had a nice chat.

Another night camping and I re-located to a car park just south of Five hundred acre wood (is this famous?), near Poundgate with pretty much a clear take-off in all directions (bar a few trees). A CQ to the south yielded F1BKM at around 275Km, so the ZL is clearly working. Although it is still un-calibrated as such, it has a -6db beam width of about 50 degrees (1 s point down each side of the main lobe), excellent front to back, S9+10 down to S1 on the Wrotham beacon, but I can't vouch for the S meter linearity! (54dB?? – I will check using my signal generator).

2 metres has provided excellent coverage of their walk, with Joshua (M3LSU) using his dual band co-linear on it's rucksack mount and 2.5 watts from a VX5R. To make his life easier he is using a cheap hand speaker/mic and together with his friend John-Luke, (M3WCL) himself using a VX2R, they have made good use of their licenses.

I used a 7/8th mag-mounted on the minibus roof, but had to keep removing it for low trees!

All in all a frantically busy four weeks but a huge amount achieved by those involved. And not one of them owns a gameboy.....(personal pet-hate!!)

Technology played it's part in all this activity, but I could have done with a little more planning time. Being stuck for the locator, Andre, the French station I worked fired up his computer, took my Latitude and Longitude and gave me my locator. Then he told me that all GPS receivers can be configured to display various grid locations....sure enough, there it was, GB NGR or Maidenhead locator. If only I had (time) to read the manual. A very handy feature for the keen radio-op, a walkers GPS receiver. I have a Garmin Etrex Vista that I treated myself to a couple of years ago. Apart from the on/off button getting pressed too easily, it is a great piece of kit and will be getting more usage soon. My Psion palmtop (although 'obsolete') also has the ability to record speech, or CW from beacons that I can't read. Fortunately, I know some men who can read it (CW), so I look forward to seeing what beacons I heard!

By the time I write the next 'thoughts', Joshua should have his GCSE results and I should be somewhat rested....

See you at the A meeting.

Gareth G4XAT"

MEMBERS NEWS

Seeking a New Home

FREE FREE FREE 19" steel rack with sides. Last chance or dump. Arthur G3YRB - buyer collects. Ring Bernie G8TB 8660 7517

Astronomy Picture of the Day

Take a look at this – thanks to Charles MOBIN:

<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>

THE CALENDAR SECTION

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

28 th Jul – 6 th Aug	W&DARS – Summer Camp 2006 (until 6 th August) @ Crossways Farm, Crossways Lane, Upper Gattton, Reigate RH2 0TX. Barbecue on Friday eve 4 th Aug. Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/wiki/index.php/Summer_Camp
4 th Aug	Crystal Palace: An informal Evening on the Air @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill from 7:30pm. Bob G30OU 01737 552170 (Meet monthly on 1 st Friday) http://members.aol.com/rfcburns
7 th Aug	GB3OK with Tony G1HIG - http://www.gb3ok.com/
9 th Aug	Crawley ARC – Radio BBQ @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Sec: Keith G8KZZ on 01403 257788 www.carc.org.uk

11 th Aug	W&DARS – Summer Camp Debrief @ Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, MERTON PARK SW20 9JZ – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/
14 th Aug	CATS: Summer B-B-Q at Prue's G4RWW – Meetings normally held @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 nd Monday's. Contact Andy Jackson G8JAC on 020-8651 2727 g8jac@btinternet.com
17 th Aug	Sutton & Cheam RS – 'TZ5A -Mali' & 'One Man DXpedition' Roger G3SXW, John G4IRN. 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
15 th Aug	Bromley & District – Operating Evening and Meal Out - Meetings normally on 3 rd Tuesday's @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8. Paul M3PGW bdars@greenwand.net or www.bdars.org.uk
21 st Aug	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On
22 nd Aug	Dorking & District Radio Society – normally meet on 4 th Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Walter Blanchard, G3JKV on 01306 884359 wb@g3jkv.co.uk
25 th Aug	W&DARS – On The Air @ Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, MERTON PARK SW20 9JZ – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/
30 th Aug	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonsides West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
4 th Sep	Surrey Raynet - Brian G3OYU and Nigel G1XBV - http://www.surreyraynet.net/
2 nd Oct	Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale
6 th Nov	TBA
4 th Dec	Home Brew Radio – Hans Summers G0UPL - http://www.hanssummers.com/

SRCC Meetings indicated in BOLD with venue of Terra Nova

Rally Calendar, etc:

13 th Aug 06	Flight Refuelling ARS Rally, Wimbourne, Dorset - http://www.frars.org.uk/
8 th /9 th Sep 06	Leicester Amateur Radio Show, Donnington Park - http://www.lars.org.uk/ from 9.30
15 th Oct 06	The 2nd Rusty Radios Rally - Cottered Village Hall, Cottered, Hertfordshire, located on the A507 between Baldock and Buntingford (A1M J10 and the A10) from 10.00 http://www.rustyradios.com
12 th Nov 06	West London Radio and Electronics Autumn Show – Kempton Park www.radiofairs.co.uk
19 th Nov 06	CATS Bazaar

SRCC Subscription Renewal Form August 2006

Name: Callsign/RS:

Address:

..... Tel:

E-Mail:

Member: £8.00 Family: £12.50

Cheques payable to SRCC and send to:

Maurice Fagg G4DDY

113 Bute Road, WALLINGTON SM6 8AE

Tel: 020-8669 1480



OFCOM Announcement - Licence for Life

On 4th July, just too late for the last Newsletter, Ofcom published a further statement on the implementation of a lifetime amateur licence and also the format of the new licence.

The statement is available at:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/aradio/lifetimellicence/>

and the new licence format can be found at:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/aradio/lifetimellicence/licenceformat.pdf>

A brief look through the new licence document reveals some interesting changes. On the matter of keeping the new licence in force, renewal must be within a rolling 5-year period of the last renewal or a notification to Ofcom of a change to the licence circumstances. If done over the Internet, it's free. If by conventional letter by post, there will be a charge.

The exact wording is:

(g) In order to avoid the Licence being revoked, by no later than five years after the date of issue of this Licence, the Licensee must either notify Ofcom of a change of the Licensee's details in Section 1 of the Licence or confirm to Ofcom that the details set out in Section 1 of the Licence are still valid. Unless the Licensee makes a further notification or confirmation to Ofcom once every five years from the last date of notification or confirmation, then the Licence will be revoked.

The current three versions of BR68 covering the three licence levels will be combined into one document.

When operating from an alternate (as opposed to a temporary) location, the licensee will have to add the suffix /A to the call sign. This is a return to the old practice that was abandoned some years ago. An alternate location is the address of a location which you have advised Ofcom *in writing* that you intend to operate from, as opposed to a temporary location where you would use the suffix /P. Again, the official wording is:

"Alternative Address" means a fixed postal address in the United Kingdom other than the Main Station Address;

The new licence clarifies the current confusion about exactly what equipment a Foundation licence holder is allowed to operate. Where the current BR68F talks about "equipment conforming to EC specifications" which no-one can define, the new licence states:

7(2) Where this Licence is a Foundation Licence, the Licensee shall only use commercially available transmitting equipment which satisfies IR 2028. Foundation Licence holders may also construct equipment using commercially available kits which satisfy IR 2028.

IR [Interface Requirement] 2028 is a UK specification derived from the EU Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE) Directive and defines the specification of parameters such as frequency coverage etc. In effect, it means equipment or kits built specifically for the amateur service. It therefore excludes such things as modified PMR sets, ex-military equipment, anything that can transmit outside of the defined amateur bands and home built equipment that is not from an approved kit.

The reasoning is that at Foundation level, a licence holder will not have the technical skills needed to ensure compliance with requirements such as radiated bandwidth and harmonic suppression for example. The document explaining IR2028 is at:

http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/tech/interfacereq/ir_2028.pdf

Some of the reasoning behind the granting of the 10m band to Foundation licencees (effective on the same date as the new licence structure commences) now becomes clear. As virtually all commercial amateur HF rigs available on the market include the 28 - 29.7MHz band, having this band available in a rig operated by an M3 would cause incompatibility with IR2028 unless the M3 had authority to use the band. Adding 10m to the schedule of Foundation licences avoids the problem.

A surprise in the new licence is changes to the requirement for log keeping. The relevant clause says: 12(1) For the purposes of any interference investigation, to determine compliance with the terms, conditions and limitations of this Licence, or for any other matter concerning the enforcement of any relevant legislation, the Licensee shall at the request of an authorised person of Ofcom, keep a permanent record (a "log") of such matters concerning the operation of the Radio Equipment, over such period, and in such form, as the authorised person may require.

As there is no other reference to log keeping in the new licence, this appears remove the requirement to keep a log of all transmissions, a log now only being required after a request to do so by Ofcom. If operating from a vessel, then the ship's master may still require the keeping of a log.

The new licence arrangements are proposed to commence on 1st October 2006. Whether the changes are good or bad for amateur radio will doubtless be discussed at length.

This article was originally published in CATS Whispers for July 2006

Baird Museum Amateur Radio Society - GB2TV

Special Event Station at this QTH this Saturday, when the Baird Museum Amateur Radio Society will be activating the call sign G2TV to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the World's first TV Transmitting Licence 2TV being granted by the GPO, to Baird's company, Television Ltd on 5th August 1926. G2TV will be operating on 3.700MHz LSB from 08.00 GMT this Saturday 5th August for most of the day. We will be giving demonstrations of what a 30 line TV signal sounds like and will issue a special QSL, card do give us a call should you be around on Saturday.

Jon G0GNA

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.

Our main meeting on Monday 7th August is the talk on GB3OK so please try and make it and support our guests Tony G1HIG and Garry 2E0ULA; the "B" meeting is on Monday 21st August.

73 and 88  Posted: 4th Aug 2006