



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

JANUARY 2006 — No: 760

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
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 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 9th Jan 2006 From 50Hz to 2GHz with Peter Burton G3ZPB

"B" MEETING 23rd Jan 2006 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	020-8647 1186
	G8TB Bernie Wynn	020-8660 7517

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the January 2006 newsletter which I am composing following the Christmas and New Year holiday period. May I, on behalf of the Club, take this opportunity to wish all members, other clubs, friends and all our readers a Very Happy New Year and every success and health in 2006.

Our Christmas was very quiet as unfortunately my XYL Mary has developed a couple of nasty pressure sores for which the best cure is now plenty of bed rest, one of the original causes of the problem we think, However we now have a special air mattress with the nurses/carers now coming in at least 4-times a day to turn Mary. It will be a long haul to clear these up though we are hoping funding will be approved for the use of a technique called VAC (<http://www.worldwidewounds.com/2001/may/Thomas/Vacuum-Assisted-Closure.html>) which could speed it up.

I'm due to see my Consultant on 15th Jan after a further PSA test as the last result was not as small as it could have been (0.38) and I might need some Radio Therapy – keep an eye on www.g4ffy.co.uk for the latest.

The SRCC meetings for January start with the "A" meeting on Monday 9th January when we welcome Peter G3ZPB for a talk and presentation entitled "From 50Hz to 2GHz"; with the "B" meeting on Monday 23rd January, more on these below.

NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 9th Jan 2006 From 50Hz to 2GHz with Peter Burton G3ZPB

On Monday 9th January we have the pleasure of welcoming Peter G3ZPB for a talk and presentation entitled "From 50Hz to 2GHz".

Peter has advised me that this will actually be 2 talks...

The 50Hz one will cover changes to the Building Regulations which cover "Domestic Electrical Installations" and the 2GHz one will cover an innovative new tracking and location device being introduced by Hamble Marine Ltd (<http://www.hamblemarine.com/>)

The first one will cover the "Part P" regulations in some detail and explain the restrictions that now apply to the potential DIY electrician, what he can do and what he can't do and go into some detail of how to carry out a safe installation.

This will be a talk not to miss and I hope we will get a good turnout on the evening to support the efforts that Peter has made into giving us this meeting – thank you.

NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 23rd Jan 2006 FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"

The "B" meeting on Monday 23rd January 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 - the collective heads at the meeting usually come up with something.

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 5th Dec 2005 Hybrid Powered Vehicles and Vehicle Battery Systems - Peter G4WPB

On Monday 5th December, past Chairman Peter Bruce G4WPB, gave a well attended talk and presentation on "Hybrid Powered Vehicles and Vehicle Battery Systems".

This was a very interesting and absorbing evening with Peter starting his talk with a view of some alternatives to petrol propulsion before looking at Battery technology and how it has developed over the last 140 years or so. Peter is the proud owner of a Toyota Prius, which intelligently combines a petrol engine and an electric motor under a system called Hybrid Synergy Drive.

Peter went on to describe the technology which "drives" the Prius and on the way expose some of the myths and magic. His talk was supported with a PowerPoint presentation which included some of the technical aspects of the Prius configuration. I have put his presentation up on the club Web site www.g3src.org.uk and can be found under the Club Talk/Links page.

Peter then went on to briefly describe Fuel Cell technology and then to describe the latest lithium polymer batteries, which give much more power but with a lot lower weight/size. This makes them particularly useful in Mobile phones and Models. But one has to be careful about charging them and Peter did describe what can happen if this is done wrongly – they become explosive and a fire hazard.



Recognising Peter's other interests, we were also educated about his electric bike; and electric motors and batteries in models, including the important safety information about lithium polymer batteries.

Peter brought along his electric bike to show this alternative travel possibility and the power that can be had. This was also demonstrated with his two helicopter models and it was awesome to see what power was possible.

Those that attended had a treat of an evening and at the end it was really strange to see Peter drive off in a virtually silent car (it only needed the electric motor to leave the Terra Nova front drive). Thank you Peter for an entertaining and great evening.

As mentioned above please navigate to www.g3src.org.uk and click on "Club Talk/Links Page" to see his presentation in full.

CHAIRMAN THOUGHT of the MONTH - January 2006



Well that's all the fuss and over-indulgence over for another year...at least the children enjoyed it, as I suppose we all did too, really!! Anyway, a Happy new year to all our readers...

It has been a very busy two weeks in our household, with multiple relative visits to slot in both before and after Christmas, a 'loan cat' to look after for a week and also an attendance at the Model Engineering Exhibition and Show at Sandown at the end of the year. This year we displayed TSR-2 (electric) and TSR-3 (petrol), together with a DVD compilation of about half an hour of our better racing videos. From what I saw, it created a lot more interest as although the cars look like they can be driven, to see the racing helps put it all in perspective. I was also persuaded to give a 'lecture' on the last day and an interested audience of around 20 sat through my talk and PowerPoint show mostly about our Greenpower activities.

On the radio front I have at last been stirred into action and have started converting the 3 Pye MX294 PMR radios that I bought at a boot fair a couple of years ago. Like most things, life progresses and the conversion options for these excellent radios is, it turns out, no exception. When I bought them I searched out a new 'prom' that was available (and still is now, although cheaper!!) that gives you 100 channels usefully scattered around 2 metres and all driven off a pair of binary encoded thumbwheel switches. So long as you remember your favourite channels (or keep the list handy) these 25 watt FM radios make an excellent mobile station. All three of mine are 12.5 KHz ready too. Whilst the binary thumbwheels are very cheap to buy and you certainly get a working radio out of it, it lacks any frequency readout and CTCSS capability, increasingly necessary for repeater access these days (not least GB30K at Orpington, 145.650).

Some bright individual (Alan McDermott-Roe, G8UJS, see <http://www.mcdermott-roe.com/> and click on Amateur Products) has solved the problem by hacking into an optional control board that was popular with trunked radio applications. This gives you a last 4 digits frequency readout, up/down, scan, CTCSS tones, squelch override and pretty much every frequency you would want. At a price I might add, but what the heck, a full featured robust user-repairable (no surface mount bits in these radios) 25 watt FM mobile for under £50?? I'll have one in my car soon I hope, but having left my signal generator at work over the holiday period I can't complete the fine tuning until school opens again. With at least 5 of the 8 foundation licence holders keen (or very keen) to start operating, it has been suggested that we have a 2 metre 'net', probably one lunch time (13:10 until 14:15, Thursday looks most likely at the moment). Tune around and call in, some of them are getting to be quite slick operators. We have a triple band co-linear at 60 feet and 10 watts (Foundation limit) on all bands. Standing on the roof where the aerial is mounted gives an excellent view out over the London basin.

For January's talk we welcome fellow member Peter Burton, G3ZPB, who will tell us all about how the tentacles of the new electrical regulations have impacted on the nautical world...and you thought you could just use an extension lead? - fine until you leave the harbour and the plug pulls out!!

Gareth G4XAT"

THE CALENDAR SECTION

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

6 th Jan	Crystal Palace: Printing Techniques II - Nick M3FUB @ 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
9 th Jan	From 50Hz to 2GHz with Peter G3ZPB
9 th Jan	CATS – Digital imaging by Paul M0CJX – 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
10 th Jan	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Walter Blanchard, G3JKV on 01306 884359 wb@g3jkv.co.uk
13 th Jan	W&DARS – "How to Roll your Own PCBs" by Bob Burns G3OOU @ 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.gx3wim.org.uk/
17 th Jan	Bromley & District – Meetings normally on 3 rd Tuesday's @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8. Alan G0TLK 020-8777 0420 www.bdars.org.uk
19 th Jan	Sutton & Cheam RS – RAYNET with Nigel Watson G1XBV. 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 Jan	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On
24 th Jan	Crawley ARC – AGM @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Sec: Keith G8KZZ on 01403 257788 www.carc.org.uk
24 th Jan	Dorking & District Radio Society – Meetings 2 nd & 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 Jan	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonside West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
27 th Jan	W&DARS – Members evening, Club project and 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.gx3wim.org.uk/
6 th Feb	Life and Times of Early TV with Jon G0GNA
6 th Mar	Spring Surplus Equipment Sale
25 th Mar	SRCC Annual Dinner – Park Place, Mitcham
3 rd Apr	AGM
8 th May	Project Constructing Evening
5 th Jun	Summer BBQ (tbc)

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

Rally Calendar, etc:

5 th Feb 06	South Essex Amateur Radio Society Mobile Radio Rally
11 th Mar 06	CPREC Spring Sale 7:15 for 8pm
7 th May 06	West London Radio and Electronics Spring Show – Kempton Park. Please note new Date
18 th Jun 06	Newbury & District Amateur Radio Society Boot Sale
12 th Nov 06	West London Radio and Electronics Autumn Show – Kempton Park
19 th Nov 06	CATS Bazaar

SRCC Club Dinner: 25th Mar 2006

The last committee agreed that we should hold another Dinner at the Beefeater Park Place in Mitcham where we have had successful dinners over the past few years. I shall be pleased to take your bookings on a first come first served basis – secretary@g3src.org.uk - or as per Secretary contact details – thank you.

CLUB ACTIVITY: 80m AFS 2006

It's that time of the year again and this popular club event has something for everyone. What better way to start contesting than in AFS? You can contribute by just participating and gathering points for your team and Club. Enjoy the local rivalry, it's great fun! You don't need to have a high or complex antenna either, a simple low dipole works well.

Dates: CW Event: Sunday 8th Jan 2006
SSB Event: Saturday 14th Jan 2006

Time: 1400 – 1800 UTC
Frequencies: CW: 3510 - 3590kHz – RST + Serial
SSB: 3600 - 3750kHz – RS + Serial

Each team comprises of 5 club members for the CW event, and 3 for the SSB event; within 50 miles of the meeting place and each station can be single or multi-operator. I hope to be giving the SSB event a go and willing to collate and/or computerising the logs. Looking forward to more members on this year, why not join up with someone to spread the resources required.

Details on this web site:

<http://www.contesting.co.uk/hfcc/rules/rafs.shtml>

Members News

- Fessenden

Charles MOBIN recently brought this item to my attention http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reginald_Fessenden a Canadian with the title "Father of Radio Broadcasting". Take a look.

- Peter G8RUZ - Sony MHC1200

At the last "B" meeting Peter brought along a Sony Mini hifi system model MHC1200, some 13years old. It has a linear PSU with soft start that seems to have failed. I missed the "B" meeting but I understand that despite the best efforts of all those there, it was not solved. Peter wonders if anybody has a circuit or any ideas on this item.

- SRCC Sweatshirts and Tee-Shirts

At the last committee meeting we decided to go ahead and make arrangements for the production of SRCC T-Shirts and Sweatshirts with the SRCC Logo embroidered on the front. I believe the cost for a single T-Shirt or Sweatshirt is £8, plus an additional £2 if you want your Callsign incorporated in the SRCC Logo (see top of Newsletter, your callsign would replace the G3SRC).

If you are interested let me have your size (S, M, L, XL, XXL, and XXXL), colour choice, callsign if required, and how many T-shirts and/or Sweatshirts:

Ray G4FFY secretary@g3src.org.uk

VHF NFD 2006 - Meeting 30th Jan 2006

Chatting with John G8IYS we have set an Inquest and Planning Meeting for Monday night 30th Jan 2006 from 8pm at his QTH of 18 Riding Hill, Sanderstead, CR2 9LN. Please advise John of your intention to attend either on 020-8657 0454 or johns@connectnet.org.uk

Radio Society of Harrow G3LSY Trophy

I have recently received the following E-mail from the Radio Society of Harrow:

"Dear All

The Radio Society of Harrow (RSH) is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2006. To commemorate this event and also the memory of one of its longest serving members Derek Morris, who sadly died this year, the RSH is delighted to announce the G3LSY Trophy. This will be awarded annually to the newly licensed radio amateur who works the most CQ Zones on HF (1.8-28 MHz) operating from 1 February to 30 April and whose QTH is solely within the 32 London boroughs or the City of London. It is hoped that this event will encourage newly licensed London based radio amateurs to venture onto HF and work as much DX as possible.

All London amateurs are encouraged to enter and we ask you if you could please pass this information onto newly licensed members of your club whose postal address is in London as defined above. By newly licensed, we mean that anyone who has obtained his or her first licence in the past 3 years up to 30 April 2006. Applications by individuals or sponsoring clubs should be submitted by email to the RSH Contest Manager contest@g3efx.org.uk by 31 May each year. The announcement of the Trophy winner will be made by 10 June and published on the RSH website www.g3efx.org.uk. The decision of the RSH committee is final.

The inaugural trophy will be presented at the 60th Anniversary party of the RSH at Headstone Manor Harrow on 10 June by Rob Mannion – editor extraordinaire of Practical Wireless. Attached is a full list of rules and regulations for the G3LSY Trophy.

If you have any queries, please send them by email to contest@g3efx.org.uk and our Contest Manager would be pleased to help.

Many thanks and 73,

Chris G4AUF, Chairman RSH

Chris Friel

email: chris@chrisfriel.info
web site: www.chrisfriel.info

LOCAL CLUB NEWS:

- CATS:

Following the CATS AGM in December 2005, Andy Jackson G8JAC accepted a year's stint as Secretary. He can be contacted on 020-8651 2727 or g8jac@btinternet.com (Congratulations Andy and enjoy – I've been doing it for many years!!)

- Bromley:

The Bromley Club have been highly successful with their courses both at Foundation and Intermediate level with some 80 people passing their exams with them. They have now published their programme for early 2006 as follows:

A Foundation Course will be run on Saturday 25th February and Saturday 11th March 2006. This Course is now open for booking. If you are interested please email them using the links below.

An Intermediate Course is planned for May/June 2006. This will run on Wednesday evenings 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st May and 7th June with a full day on Sunday 14th May and exam on 20th June. This Course is now open for booking. Please email them if you are interested.

An Advanced Licence Examination Only facility can be arranged on the RSGB notified dates, subject to demand.

An Advanced Licence Course There might, subject to demand, be an Advanced Course starting January 2006 meeting term times only (13 weeks) at Newstead Wood School Orpington, Monday evenings 7.30 – 9.30.

Enrol - Bromley Adult Education College 020 8460 0020

E-mail - enquiries@bromleyadulthoodeducation.ac.uk

Web - <http://www.bromleyadulthoodeducation.ac.uk>

If you wish to express an interest in the Foundation, Intermediate or Advanced Exams please email - Alan G0TLK on

courses@bdars.org

More details can be found on their website www.bdars.org

- Caterham Radio Packet Radio Group

Paul last month e-mailed me the following information:

"Hello All

CatRad Members, copied to other clubs

I have been working on fixing the timeout problem that I had with the WEBCONVERS server running on the Caterham Packet Radio International Gateway.

I can report that it has now been running for over 90 minutes. So looks like I have fixed the problem by upgrading some system software,

Please give a try out, needs a bit of system testing. Enter the following in to your WEB browser

<http://www.theskywaves.net/webcnv.html>

Best regards

Paul g4apl (SysOp GB7CIP) 10th Dec 2005

Notice of Variation to Amateur Radio Licences

From 1 January 2006 Ofcom will take over the administration of amateur radio licences. Details can be found at:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/licensing/classes/amateur/Notices/20051222>

Those wishing to amend the terms of their licence by means of a Notice of Variation should contact:

Amateur radio licensing

Ofcom Contact Centre

amateurcb@ofcom.gov.uk

Tel: 020 7981 3043

Fax: 020 7981 3333

FORTHCOMING AGM 3rd April 2006

A note to remind you of this important Club meeting, more so since by then our current Chairman, Gareth G4XAT, will have completed his 3-years and has to stand down. So we will need to elect a new Chairman.

SIGNING OFF:

That's it for this month, apologies if I have missed anything. Monday 9th Jan is when we welcome Peter G3ZPB for his talk "From 50Hz to 2GHz" which I hope you can all make, whilst Monday 23rd Jan will be the regular "B" meeting.

In closing, may I wish all members, friends and readers a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 6th Jan 2006

