



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

JULY 2006 — No: 766

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>

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 3rd Jul 2006 CONSTRUCTION CONTEST

"B" MEETING 17th Jul 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	020-8647 1186
	2EQUYP Peter Sutton	07974 296045

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the July 2006 newsletter which I started on Monday night, a week prior to the Annual Construction Contest on Monday 3rd July, and before that it's VHF NFD weekend this coming Saturday and Sunday (1st/2nd July). "B" meeting will be on Monday 17th July. More details on these are given below:

I started this month, if not busy enough already, to play with Suse Linux 10.1 – WH Smith have been selling a special edition of Linux Format where the cover disks were a full 5-CD set of openSUSE Linux 10.1. I have discovered a whole new world of computing and have installed it on a spare PC alongside Windows98 and WindowsXP – the 80GB Hard Drive now has 6 partitions – 3 for Linux and 3 for Windows. I decided to use the KDE Desktop, as GNOME wouldn't "mount" the floppy drives. I also had problems in mounting the Windows FAT partitions – permissions error! I have now cracked this – there's always an answer out there via Google . . .

NEXT "A" MEETING: Monday 3rd Jul 2006 Annual Construction Contest

Monday 3rd July will be the night for the 2006 Construction Contest. This is going to be the meeting to display your construction skills, whether it is Amateur Radio based or not. In other words we would like to see all your efforts that involve some form of constructing.

Hopefully we will have a rush of entries and we will be able to have several sections. These will be finalised on the night but possibilities are Major, Minor, Club Project, and Non-Radio.

Entrants will be asked to give a brief talk explaining their entries and this always breaks the ice and allows members to get to know one another better.

The Dave Deacon Coronation Cup and the Basil Wardman Tankard will be presented, along with cash prizes. Members will vote for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each section, and when deciding your vote please take into consideration the facilities available, the technical standing of the builder and obviously give more weight to the 14 year old over the professional engineer!

There are few rules; the main one is that an entry must not have won an SRCC contest before. Kits may be entered but we must be told this, and like previous years' we are allowing non-radio entries you have constructed.

Come along anyway and have a great evening.

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

It is here, the weekend of the year when SRCC takes part in the VHF NFD contest. We will be located in a new field about a further ½-mile south of the usual field along the Limpsfield Road (Still on the "WEST" side), making it about a mile south from the junction with Slines Oaks Road. The TQ reference is TQ388564 which can be put into www.multimap.com to locate us. The locator will be IO91XG

Once again John G8MNY will be operating a 23cm station, with Alun G4WGE and team on the 2m station, Peter G3ZPB and team on the 70cm station, John G3BFP and team on the 6m station; along with other friends and local club members, the more people the better. So, this activity will be an ideal opportunity for any of you to take part.

Personnel are wanted to help put the stations up, and do some operating - so please come along. The weekend itinerary is as follows:

- Up on site from 09.00BST Saturday for aerial erection and station assembly;
- Contest runs from 15:00BST Saturday till 15:00BST Sunday, and we will be operating:
 - 6m G3SRC/P (Saturday only)
 - 2m G3WIM/P
 - 70cm G3ZPB/P
 - 23cm G8MNY/P
- Sunday afternoon from 15:00BST for aerial and station dismantling. More details can be obtained from John G8IYS (020-8657 0454).
- Some of the team are meeting up at John's on the Friday at 15:00BST to transport aerial poles, etc to the site and mark out the station locations, etc.



New Site looking eastwards towards Limpfield Road

**NEXT "B" MEETING: Monday 17th Jul 2006
FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"**

The "B" meeting on Monday 17th 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!

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.

Another activity that Charles M0BIN and Graham G3RJW have started is Morse. See them below with Peter 2E0UYP looking on at the June 2006 "B" meeting:



**LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 5th Jun 2006
BBQ at Peter's G3ZPB**

This was a very pleasant evening with us being blessed with good weather (though the rest of the week did get warmer). We extend thanks to Peter G3ZPB and Wendy for their kind hospitality and all the arrangements they made. Peter was the chief chef, along with Graham G3RJW, and plenty of food was on hand. We started out in the garden but ended the evening in the gazebo with a round of a warming cup of tea (or coffee). It was a nice evening, thanks Peter & Wendy.



BBQ Picture Index:

Top Picture shows Gareth G4XAT, Peter G3ZPB, Maurice G4DDY, and Pat G4FDN;

2nd Picture shows Graham G3RJW and XYL Dawn, G3ZPB XYL Wendy, John G8IYS and XYL Carole;

3rd Picture shows John G4DJR, Bob G3DPW, John G8MNY, Robert M1MRS and XYL Mikiko, and Tony G3GHI;

Bottom Picture shows G3GHI XYL Ali, Bernie G8TB and XYL Blanca.

The CHAIRMAN's BLOG - Jul 2006



Firstly this month an appeal: it has been recognised by the committee that transport for getting to club meetings may be an issue for some members. So I am asking if there is anyone who could benefit from a lift to/from the club if they could

let a committee member know and we will see what we can do to help.

Secondly, another appeal: I would like input from members for suggested future club talks and speakers - especially if they have some influence with the prospective candidate. As most members know we are open to a wide range of topics and not just those immediately relevant to amateur radio. Our talk in August on The Orpington Repeater is down to the efforts of new committee member Peter, 2E0UYP.

I haven't managed much operating this month except a couple of appearances on the 144.215 USB vertical polarisation net with Graham G3RJW and Peter 2E0UYP. All of us operating Yaesu FT-817's at the time. As far as I can tell there is usually some activity on this frequency nearly every night, bar club nights, from 9pm for an hour or so.

I have fitted one of the Shaffner IEC inlet filters, that I mentioned last month, in my main computer PSU and having the earth lead choke appears to have made a noticeable reduction to the noise that gets put out on to the mains wiring. For anyone interested, technical details of the filter are at:

http://www.schaffner.com/components/en/_pdf/Datasheet%20FN329%20e%20B.pdf

That's all for now and hope to see you at next week's Construction Contest meeting.

Regards,
Pat, G4FDN"

From Our Hayes, Kent Correspondent



" Well it's been a busy month with two Greenpower races contested already and a third by the time you read this. Our first heat of 2006 was the Sussex/Surrey/Hants heat at Goodwood. It was a hot day and we planned a safe strategy to get us on the qualified board. As it turned out it turned it was a well planned strategy

that paid out handsomely as other teams fell by the wayside and the last hour was gripping, with the last ten minutes seeing us snatch second place and a guaranteed place in the final. We finished the race with power to spare and a creditable 158 miles on the board. Two new drivers acquitted themselves well and several others were trialled in our slower but safer TSR-1. By the time the season is over they should be ready for our new car in 2007.

Last weekend we contested the Kent heat, held for the first time around the access roads at the Kent County Showground. It was a far from ideal circuit,

worn slippy tarmac, full of tiny gravel marbles and we declined to race (and so risk) our top car.

However, TSR-1, 'old faithful' turned out to really suit the circuit and the new drivers slowly learnt to trust in its agility and were launching into the bends with gusto. Not quite the fastest car, with hindsight we could have upped the gearing a little and actually won! As it was we missed out on the top 3 by just 11/2 miles with plenty of power spare, all around us had battery chargers wheezing under the strain! A fun race and a good chance to sort out who of the new drivers had 'it'.

Alert readers of RadCom may have noted a small article on page 7 detailing the RCF's continued support of Arkwright scholarships. Joshua Evans, M3LSU is one and the same, i.e., my eldest son! The scholarship provides useful funding for educational projects that recipients may wish to pursue during their A levels. On the radio front things have been fairly quiet with preparations being made for the construction contest next Monday and my generator being checked over ready for field day. Apart from setting up the gene and gazebo that will be the limit of my contribution as we have the Castle Coombe heat next day. This is probably the best circuit for our cars and it seems likely that the all-time speed and distance record will be broken here. It will be a good race and we will have 2 metres with us so if we have a moment spare we will try and pop up and work a few stations, (not least SRCC), via my 12 element ZL Special.

Also on the car front, I have finally decided to convert my daily driver to run on LPG, not least as the dear old government has undertaken to leave the duty on LPG at least 40p a litre less than petrol for the next 3 years. Rather than buy a new conversion kit I had a trawl on eBay and found a system from a 2 litre Honda for £150. The vendor had carefully removed the whole kit from the car and it even came with a full tank of gas. The tank is a snug fit in the spare wheel well and it took about 3 days, off and on, to complete the installation. It still needs calibrating and an 'insurance inspection' completed. The whole lot should cost about £350, plus my 'labour' but at 46p a litre and 23 mpg it will not take me long to recoup the investment. The car still runs on petrol literally at the flick of a switch. I'll report about driveability next month.

Modern multipoint injection systems are indistinguishable from petrol in terms of performance, grants are even available for new cars, should you be considering one. Emissions are much reduced and the engine oil stays cleaner too. Having dual fuel also gives the car a range of 600 motorway miles, enough for me thanks. LPG is far more available these days (BP stations in particular) so although you may need to plan your route a little, it should not be a problem.

As for no spare wheel, I can't remember the last puncture I had; in fact my 'new' car still has its unused spare from 15 years ago! I will be carrying a couple of aerosol foam puncture repair kits though. Rather than drill a new filler hole in the bodywork, I opted for a tow bar mount filler, so I had to add a tow bar. After some internet searching I found www.towbarsrus.co.uk. Next day service and a bargain price, I'd recommend them, but you will have to fit it yourself. About 3 hours work including the wiring for the trailer socket. Useful to have something with a tow bar, they make good brackets for aerial support (just had an idea!!!).

Good luck on Field Day and see you at the construction contest where the Evans Family will be en-mass (well, 3 out of 4 anyway, Jayne is up to her neck with examination board work at the moment).

Gareth G4XAT"

Members News

John Headland G3BFP

John is going up in the air again!! John recently sent me an E-mail containing the following: "If you or anyone wants a laugh, on the 9th August at 0930am, subject to weather, at Redhill Aerodrome, I will be dressed up like Biggles. It is going to be video'd, I presume departure and return. Also I have 30 minutes in the powered glider at Kenley on the 28th June at 11.30am so it's all happening."
John G3BFP"

THE CALENDAR SECTION

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

1 st /2 nd Jul	VHF NFD Weekend
3 rd Jul	Construction Contest
7 th Jul	Crystal Palace: An Evening of Receivers @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill from 7:30pm. Bob G3OOU 01737 552170 (Meet monthly on 1 st Friday) http://members.aol.com/rfcburns
14 th Jul	W&DARS – Croydon Airport Society @ Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, MERTON PARK SW20 9JZ – 7.30 for 8pm 2 nd & last Friday's Details: Jim MOCON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/
10 th Jul	CATS: Annual 2M DF Hunt – 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
15 th Jun	Sutton & Cheam RS – Chris Taylor of Martin Lynch, TBC. 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
17 th Jul	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On
18 th Jul	Bromley & District – Restored Military Radio Talk - 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
25 th Jul	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
26 th Jul	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonside West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
26 th Jul	Crawley ARC – Construction Evening @ Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley – 7.30pm. Sec: Keith G8KZZ on 01403 257788 www.carc.org.uk
28 th Jul – 6 th Aug	W&DARS – Summer Camp 2006 (until 6 th August) @ Crossways Farm, Crossways Lane, Upper Gatton, Reigate RH2 0TX. Details: Jim MOCON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/wiki/index.php/Summer_Camp
7 th Aug	GB3OK with Tony G1HIG - http://www.gb3ok.com/
4 th Sep	Surrey Raynet - Brian G3OYU and Nigel G1XBV - http://www.surreyaynet.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:

15 th Jul 06	Martin Lynch's Summer Boot Fair & BBQ 09:00-16:00 Guildford Street, Chertsey - http://www.hamradio.co.uk/
16 th Jul 06	McMichael Rally, Reading AFC, Sonning, RG4 6ST - http://go.to/mcmichaelrally from 9.30
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
12 th Nov 06	West London Radio and Electronics Autumn Show – Kempton Park www.radiofairs.co.uk
19 th Nov 06	CATS Bazaar

M3's get 10m

Ofcom have announced plans for British Foundation Licence holders to be given access to the 10m band with effect from 1st Oct 2006. Foundation licensees were originally prevented from using 10m because of concerns over the proximity to the 27MHz CB allocation.

While some amateurs have opposed the proposal saying that it removes incentive for M3s to make the effort to advance to Intermediate level or higher, AMSAT-UK does not believe that the relaxation in the rules goes far enough. The organization is calling for Foundation licensees to also be allowed to use amateur satellites.

At present, although Foundation licence holders are allowed to transmit on the satellite frequencies, they are not permitted to exploit the services offered by the satellites. According to AMSAT, the UK is the only country that prevents its Foundation licensees from using amateur satellites. UK Foundation licence holders are, however, allowed to communicate with astronauts on the International Space Station or Space Shuttle.

Details of Ofcom's proposed changes to 10m access can be found via the Ofcom website: http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/tech/interface_req/ir_2028.pdf

Thanks to CATS Whispers Jun 2006

Mass Amateur Satellite Launch - 26th July

The launch of 13 amateur radio satellites has been delayed after a problem was found with the rocket booster. The booster is being replaced and the satellites will now be launched on 26 July from the Kazakstan Baikonur Cosmodrome. They were originally scheduled to be sent into space on 28 June. If the launch goes ahead successfully, it will be the largest ever deployment of amateur radio satellites. The satellites will be put into a 500 by 566km orbit with an inclination of 97 degrees. Each satellite, measuring just 10cm cubed, is packed with a battery, transmitter and various experiments. Twelve of the satellites have downlinks in the amateur radio satellite service allocation between 435 and 438MHz and one will operate on 145.950MHz.

One of the satellites was built by students at the Nihon University in Japan. It contains a CW beacon, Digi-Talker and other experiments. After launch, it will operate a CW beacon on 437.485MHz using the callsign JQ1YGU. For further information on amateur radio satellites, including advice on how to build one, visit website www.cubesatkit.com. Amateur radio satellites will also be discussed at the AMSAT-UK International Space Colloquium on 28 to 30 July at the University of Surrey in Guildford.

Thanks to RSGB

Under Croydon

Have you heard of this initiative, a partnership of Arts, Business and Education with a purpose to transform the experience of living and working in the community. It encourages self-expression, as well as the promotion of Croydon's diversity and multi cultural dynamism. Through involvement, the community would share an active role in the future development and the artistic growth of Croydon. Every individual can gain pride, ownership and training skills through the participation of Undercroydon's exciting public art projects. There is a Web Site www.undercroydon.com giving more details.

Those of you who have been to Terra Nova recently would not have missed the boards that were being painted by Jeanne-Marie with various designs. Well these were for the Vision Heritage Mural in Dingwall Avenue (near entrance to Alders) which had its Project Launch last Saturday 24th June. Maurice G4DDY went along and took these pictures:



Jeanne Marie and Susan Beresford



Graham Peach of TS Terra Nova & Mayoress Janet Marshall

For a future exhibition some of our senior members were "interviewed" about their memories of Croydon and the Club has been asked to find some old electronic artefacts and we may even have a space for exhibits, more details to follow.

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.

This weekend is VHF NFD so please come up to Nore Hill and help, etc. You will be most welcomed.

For our main meeting on Jul 3rd it is the annual Construction Contest - details at the beginning of this Newsletter. The "B" meeting is on Jul 17th.

Now back to my Linux box - currently upgrading KDE from build 3.5.1 to 3.5.3 - taking hours!!

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: 30th Jun 2006

PS: Mikiko in Japan

Robert kindly gave me this photo of Mikiko proudly wearing our Club Sweatshirt in Japan.



SRCC Subscription Renewal Form July 2006

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