



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

JULY 2007 — No: 778

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 7.30 FOR 7.45pm

July Meetings at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT

"A" MEETING 2nd Jul 2007 CONSTRUCTION CONTEST

"B" MEETING 16th Jul 2007 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
	2E0UYP Peter Sutton	07974 296045

Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the Jul 2007 Newsletter and may I firstly thank you all for your kind words and support following the recent loss of my dear wife Mary on 31st May 2007. I think we gave Mary a good send off and I gratefully thank those of you who attended the funeral service at Croydon Crematorium on Thursday 14th June 2007. My website www.g4ffv.co.uk has some details of Mary's passing and I will be putting up the Order of Service which has that collection of pictures of Mary over the years. Donations to the MS Society have reached over £500 – wow. In the four weeks since Mary's passing my feet haven't touch the ground and it's only now (Thursday night 28th June) that I have been able to concentrate on the next newsletter! Normal service nearly resumed . . .

For both of our July meetings we are trialling using rooms at Trinity School. The "A" meeting on Monday 2nd July will be the Annual Construction Contest with the other meeting this month being the regular "Fix-It" and "Move-It On" Meeting on Monday 16th July. Please note we are starting earlier at 7:45pm as we need to be out of the premises by 10pm. The other major activity this month is the annual VHF NFD contest over the weekend of 7th & 8th July 2007. More details follow below:

NEXT "A" MTG: Monday 2nd Jul 2007 7.45pm Annual Construction Contest - Trinity School

Monday 2nd July will be the night for the 2007 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.

NEXT "B" MTG: Monday 16th Jul 2007 7.45pm FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"

The "B" meeting on Monday 16th July at Trinity School 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! We also plan a PSK31 demonstration and Pat G4FDN will be leading this.

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.

Trinity School Location Details:

Attached to the Newsletter is a publication from Gareth G4XAT giving an aerial view of Trinity School. This is based on the following link:

<http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?near=cr9+7at&q=maps&f=p&btnG=Search+Maps&rl=1>

Gareth also wrote: On the presented page click Satellite, then zoom in 4-6 clicks. It shows the site as a building site (when they were building the new bit) but the car parks are the same and the entrance is arrowed, up the steps. Entry to the site can be from the Addiscombe road, one arrow, or off the Shirley Road, short second arrow. If you miss the Addiscombe road entrance, you can go around the roundabout or up the dual carriageway, round the roundabout at the top and so on. I'm sure it will make sense on the night.

VHF NFD WEEKEND: Sat 7th/8th 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. Our precise location along the Limpsfield Road will now be known until a few days before the event. We will either be located in the field we used up to 2005 by the two houses, about ½-mile south from the junction with Slines Oak Road; or in the field we used for the first time last year a further ½-mile south.

Once again we have support from various local clubs including Wimbledon, Sutton and Cheam and CATS, as well as our own membership and friends; in fact 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 1500-2300BST)
 - 4m G3SRC/P (Sunday 0900-1500BST)
 - 2m G3WIM/P (24hrs)
 - 70cm G3ZPB/P (24hrs)
- Sunday afternoon from 15:00BST for aerial and station dismantling.
- 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.
- More details can be obtained from John G8IYS (020-8657 0454).

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 14th May 2007 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION EVENING



The Constructing Evening was another success led by Gareth G4XAT who is thanked for all his preparation, supply of the kits and loan of tools, etc. The project this time was a PIC based Frequency Counter from EI9GQ's October 2006 Radcom. I believe all those built on the night worked though read a 10MHz reference about 1.5kHz high. John G8MNY has produced some mods to the project which I will circulate next month as I need to re-type them and my time has been a bit short.

LAST "A" MEETING: Monday 4th June 07 BBQ at G4CCY's / G4DDY's

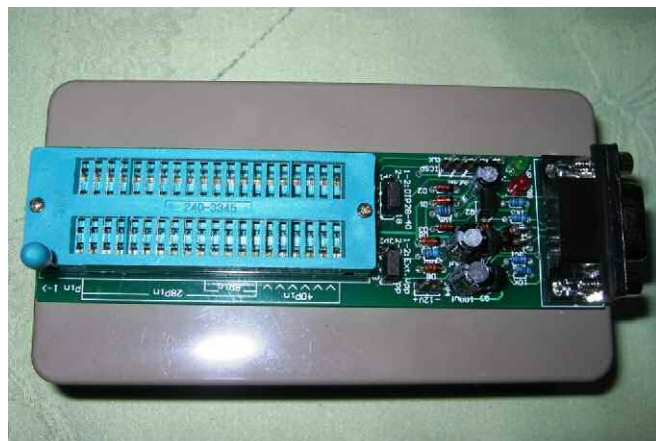
At the last minute we moved the venue of the Annual BBQ to the QTH of Prim and Maurice's, G4CCY and G4DDY, as our normal venue options were not available this year. We are very grateful for them stepping in and hosting the BBQ which was a great success and we thank Prim and Maurice for all the arrangements and preparations they made. Graham G3RJW took his place as chief Chef bringing in his BBQ from next door. I'll hopefully publish some pictures next month once I have retrieved them from other people's cameras.

The CHAIRMAN's BLOG - July 2007



A short contribution from me this month as work, house guests from Germany, and being away from home for several days have all reduced the time available for hobbies. I even missed the June 'B' meeting. As is reported elsewhere, the BBQ at Prim & Maurice's (G4CCY & G4DDY) QTH was a great success and I think the club is very grateful to them both for stepping in at such short notice to host it.

Returning to the subject of the PIC frequency counter I think John G8MNY's excellent contribution on his tests, experiments and mods should be included elsewhere in this newsletter. {Editor's Note: I'll publish them next month} I managed to get my own PIC programmer built from a kit this month but still have to get it packaged in a case. It is based on the JDM design but is enhanced to work with lower RS232 voltages often found on laptop computers. It can also be powered externally.



I have done some superficial changes to the frequency counter source code, e.g. start-up message, just to prove that I could correctly compile, load and program the PIC. So if anyone wants to change their counter for a particular frequency offset, for example, I'm willing to have a go on their behalf. I have purchased a suitable case for the PIC programmer but have to make some cut-outs and mountings. If completed I'll bring it along to the club's construction contest. Hope to see you all there.

73, Pat G4FDN

26th Jun 07"

THE CALENDAR SECTION

SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:

2nd Jul	Construction Contest (Trial Venue Trinity)
5 th Jul	Sutton & Cheam RS – 'Natter Night'. Meetings @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton –8pm. Sec: John G0BWV 020-8644 9945 www.scrs.org.uk
6 th Jul	Crystal Palace: Home Construction Techniques Review @ 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
9 th Jul	CATS: DF hunt discussion and contest planning, plus Concorde video – 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
13 th Jul	W&DARS – The Magnetic Dip Circle Talk and Demonstration @ 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/
16th Jul	Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On (Trial Venue Trinity School)
17 th Jul	Reigate Amateur Transmitting Society. Main meeting 3 rd Tuesday's at RNIB, Redhill College, Philanthropic Road, Redhill 7.30pm. www.qsl.net/rats or rats@qsl.net
17 th Jul	Bromley & District – Graham G4NPD - Direction Finding Hunt - 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
19 th Jul	Sutton & Cheam RS – 'Antenna Modelling' by Andrew Vine - M0GJH - Deputy Regional Manager RSGB. 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
24 th Jul	Dorking & District Radio Society – Devil's Dyke – they 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 Jul	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commons West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
27 th Jul – 5 th Aug	W&DARS – Annual Summer Camp, Crossways Farm, Crossways Lane, Upper Gatton, Reigate RH2 OTX. Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/wiki/index.php/Summer_Camp
6 th Aug	TBA
17 th Sep	Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman with Andy G8JAC
1 st Oct	Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale
5 th Nov	Around the USA

SRCC Meetings indicated in BOLD with venue of Terra Nova

Rally Calendar, etc:

15 th Jul 07	McMichael Rally and Boot Fair Reading RFC, Sonning Lane RG4 6ST Open 9:30am, entrance fee £2.00. Details http://www.radarc.org/MMRally.htm
15 th Jul 07	Martin Lynch's Summer Fair Instead of their usual open day at the Chertsey store, they are supporting their local Reading Club at the McMichael Rally & Boot Sale http://www.hamradio.co.uk/news.shtml?nws=37
12 th Aug 07	Flight Refuelling ARS HAMFEST , Wimborne, Dorset. Details: http://www.frars.org.uk/

Thoughts of our Hayes, Kent Correspondent

Your editor is catching up here and I publish both last month's and this month's ToHKC for your interest:

June 2007:



"It's been a bit quieter this month, mainly due to less than ideal weather putting the lid on much radio-controlled flying activity. In preparation for the aerobatic competition Reuben was entered for several evenings on the trot were spent up at the flying field at Chelsham heights, not actually that far from the field day site. With the forecast looking really grim for the bank holiday, the decision was taken to cancel our attendance at the competition and to spend the hotel and petrol money on a new airframe instead. That should be completed by the time you actually read this and since it will be re-using all the radio gear and servos from his current 'steed' the cost should not be too great. On the car front I finally located a suitable donor engine, supposedly 35,000 miles (as a replacement engine) and it certainly looks like a true story. However, this particular engine, universally acknowledged as NOT one of Fords finest, is an absolute pig to remove from the car – it took me 5 hours!!! One thing after another had to be removed just to get at some bolts, and then today, as I started replacing the new engine, I found the starter motor would not fit. It turns out that the oil sumps are a different shape for either the automatic or manual gearbox option. Which fool dreamed that option up I wonder!! So, off with both sumps, clean out the right one, order a gasket (no longer a stock item) and hope that I can get it all done and finished tomorrow. As preciously mentioned, I'm not that fond of the Mondeo Estate that I bought to tide me over and I really can't wait to get shot of it. Having driven all manner of things over the years, from Land Rovers to Lorries, I find modern cars thoroughly disappointing. Perhaps I'm enjoying the luxury of what I can't afford (new) and it's that which I miss, that and rear wheel drive – the Mondeo has cheap eastern block tyres on the front and it's all over the place in the wet, unless driven with a great deal of care. Not much to report on the radio front either, just a balun or two, lots of tidying up and chucking out at home, got to make some room somehow!!

Gareth, G4XAT

30th May 07"

July 2007:



"How time flies, it's past mid summers day already and I have hardly noticed!!

The London to Brighton bike ride went very well, positioned as it was the day after my 50th Birthday. Jayne and I spent my big '5-0' visiting Kew Gardens, somewhere that has long been on my list of places to go. It was interesting, and remarkably restful other than the jets going overhead far too often. The heavens opened quite often, but under a big broolly it was not a problem. Compared to the Eden project it's fairly small scale, but there is a lot of history embodied and all sorts of different things. Only bad bit was the journey, 1:40 one way. 1:30 the other, it's not like it's far away....

With the cycle training going really well, I was not worrying too much about the next day and so it turned out, ideal cycling weather, Jayne dropped the three of us (Joshua, Reuben and I) off about a mile from the start at Clapham Common and we cycled in to meet our other companions from school, two friends of Joshua. I had my usual 7/8^{ths} on the back of my bike connected to my VX5R, they all had VX2R handhelds. I'd forgotten to restore the repeater shifts on mine and so did not make my usual appearance on West London as we cycled out of town. Reuben stayed with me (he'd not done as much practice as Josh) for the first 20 miles and then off he went with Joshua, leaving me to bumble along at what turned out to be a good pace, whizzing past what seemed like hundreds of people. We all met up again at the base of Ditchling by which time the sun had started to shine. Refreshed and rested we ALL cycled up Ditchling although Reuben did stop a few times, he assures me that he did not push, except on the pedals! A lovely view from the top as usual, then off down to the Lewes road and the last few miles into Brighton. We made it, crossing the finish line 5 abreast, and the commentator even spotted my corked and flagged 'Tower'!

We then slowly cycled along to Hove Gardens, where we collapsed, met Jayne complete with a food basket and ate a huge pile of food, followed by a nice doze in the sun. Then we loaded up and drove home. Thanks to the many club members who directly or obliquely (via heart aid!!) sponsored my endeavours, it looks like we should raise not far short of £1000 for the British Heart Foundation. Any other donations remain most welcome, in person or by post!! Cheques payable to "British Heart Foundation".

Our electric car racing activities re-started last Sunday with a race at Castle Combe near Chippenham. Lots of midnight oil had been burnt getting the drive train and brakes up to scratch on the new car (TSR-4) and old faithful TSR-2 had a gearing hike in light of our season opener results and later battery testing. Josh took his creation out and on the second lap reached 40 mph! And that's without the aerodynamic package on yet!!

Our two cars soon became 1-2 and what had started as a shakedown opportunity became a two car race. Reuben got the next drive and repeatedly broke the lap record, reaching an unknown top speed but achieving an average speed of 33 mph, up from about 26 mph for TSR-2! Two other drivers also got a chance in the hot seat and they easily turned in sub 4 minute laps, leaving the other cars behind as the four hours progressed. At the flag TSR-2 was a full 7 miles up on our nearest competitor and TSR-4 was just 2 laps behind in second place. We lost the fastest lap to a car that we helped repair during the race, but we now know how fast they can go when desperate, all we have to do is beat that. Watch this space....

For the next meeting you are invited to Trinity School for a change of venue, unfortunately I am leaving that afternoon for our annual Shell Economy Marathon. For a change we are hoping to use bio-diesel and E-85, but with the Midlands heat of the Greenpower series the Tuesday before we have gone for a 3 day excursion with 5 cars!! Our two electric racers will be using 'solar' energy to complete the course too and that will be interesting to see what the mpg equivalent might be. It will be a very busy time indeed. I'll be back on the Friday, on the net on the Sunday and then working through my last week before the summer break. Hope the weather improves a bit, I've got some rest due me!!

Gareth, G4XAT

26th Jun 07

Sutton Model Engineering Club - 72nd Exhibition Day - Sunday 13th May

John G8MNY and Mike G3TWJ operated the SRCC Club Station GX3SRC on Sunday 13th May as part of the Sutton Model Engineering Club 72nd Exhibition Day.



John G8MNY and Mike G3TWJ operating GX3SRC

Maurice G4DDY and John G8MNY visited the site earlier in the week to setup the dipole aerial and John G8MNY arrived on site early enough on the Sunday in order to take part in the Sunday morning Top band Club Net. It was a wet day and operations were mainly held on 80m. Thanks extended to John G8MNY and Mike G3TWJ for taking the time out to setup and operate the station.

Web-Site of the Month

From Charles M0BIN this month take a look at:
DL4YHF's Audio Spectrum Analyzer:
<http://freenet-homepage.de/dl4yhf/spectra1.html>

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 Jul 2nd is the annual Construction Contest, and the "B" meeting is on Jul 16th - details at the beginning of this Newsletter. Both these meetings are being held at Trinity School - see attached sheet - and we are starting earlier at 7.45pm in order to vacate the room at 10pm sharp.

The following weekend (7th/8th Jul) is VHF NFD so please come up to Nore Hill and help, etc. You will be most welcomed.



73 and 88

Ray G4FFY

Posted: 29th Jun 2007

My First Fish - 23rd Jun 2007

SRCC Subscription Renewal Form July 2007

Name: Callsign/RS:

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Member: £8.00 Family: £12.50

Cheques payable to SRCC and send to:
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