



# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

September 2007 – No: 780

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 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAYS 7.30 FOR 7.45pm

**September meetings at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT**

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 "B" MEETING 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2007 FIX-IT, ADVICE, CHIN-WAG, CLUB STATION + "MOVE-IT-ON"  
 "A" MEETING 17<sup>th</sup> Sep 2007 Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman

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
	2EOUYP Peter Sutton	07974 296045

## Dear Members & Friends

Hello and welcome to the September 2007 Newsletter which I am writing on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August. The last newsletter was early due to your scribe taking a wonderful 10-day Great Railway Journeys holiday to Switzerland. The trip is known as the Glacier Express Revisited, so named as the trip is done in the reverse order to the traditional route. One travels on the first day from Waterloo International to Brussels, changing to a Thalys service for Köln for the first night. What a sight the Cathedral is . . .



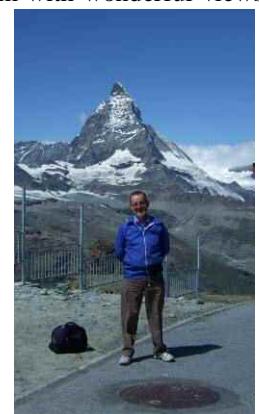
On the next day we travelled to Chur staying 4 nights. Whilst there we travelled on the Bernina Express to Tirano in Italy travelling in 1<sup>st</sup> Class Panoramic carriages; and on another day travelled to Lindau in Germany, across Lake Constance to Rorschach and St Gallen. On our "free" day I travelled to Luzern, up to Pilatus at 2129m, and back to Chur via Zurich. Whilst in Chur I also took a journey on the bendy Arosa line.

Then it was the highlight of the tour with a trip on the famous Glacier Express, the slowest express train in the world. We travelled on the section from Chur to Brig with lunch served at your table in 1<sup>st</sup> Class Panoramic carriages watching the wonderful scenery pass you by.



rack railway to Gornergrat at 3131m with wonderful views of the Matterhorn (4478m).

We came home via Dijon where we stayed for our last night when we had our "Dijon moment". The weather had been wonderful for the whole trip with sun, and temperatures up to the high 20's. Our evening in Dijon was no different and we retired to the pool side for liqueurs after our dinner. We went to bed about 11pm as we getting up early in order to leave the hotel for our coach to Dijon station at 6:45am. At 1:30am we were woken to some wild weather, with the howling wind finding the gaps in the double glazed windows, and bright flashes of lightning with loud cracks. It lasted about half-an-hour and we went back to sleep.



Thought no more about it, got up early, had breakfast and caught the coach. It wasn't until we were walking through Dijon station that we glimpsed the departure screen – "0751 Paris Lyon: Retard 1hr30m".



It turned out that the storm we had heard had bought down some trees on the line our TGV was coming from and in the end



it was 2hrs late. Luckily we still had enough time in Paris to get to Gard du Nord and catch out booked Eurostar to Waterloo.

This was the only "glitch" on an otherwise wonderful holiday, glorious weather and scenery, smashing trains (as the pictures above show), great company and lots of fun.

For both of our September meetings we are to continue to use rooms at Trinity School but the "A" and "B" meetings have been swapped. The "A" meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September when we welcome the CATS Secretary Andy G8JAC who will be presenting his talk "The Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman". The "B" meeting this month will be on the first Monday of 3<sup>rd</sup> September and will be the regular "Fix-It" and "Move-It On" Meeting. Please note we are starting earlier at 7:45pm as we need to be out of the premises by 10pm.

**NEXT "A" MTG: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Sep 2007: 7.45pm  
The Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman - Andy Jackson G8JAC**

The "A" Meeting this month will be the on 17<sup>th</sup> September so that we could welcome Andy Jackson G8JAC, CATS Secretary, for his popular talk on "The Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman".

This is a very interesting talk which has been given at the Kempton Rally and to some other local clubs. Details will be contained in the accompanying e-mail. We hope that there will be a large turnout to support Andy's talk.

**NEXT "B" MTG: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2007: 7.45pm  
FIX-IT, Advice, Chin-Wag & "MOVE-IT-ON"**

The "B" meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep at Trinity School (the first Monday this month) 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.

**Trinity School Location Details:**

I repeat the link given by Gareth G4XAT for finding Trinity School:

<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.

**THE CALENDAR SECTION**

**SRCC and Local Club Meeting Dates:**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Fix-It, Advice, Chin-Wag, Move-It-On</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Sutton & Cheam RS – 'Natter Night'. Meetings @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton –8pm. Sec: John GOBWW 020-8644 9945 <a href="http://www.scrs.org.uk">www.scrs.org.uk</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Crystal Palace: TBA @ All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill from 7:30pm. Bob G3OOU 01737 552170 (Meet monthly on 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday) <a href="http://members.aol.com/rfcburns">http://members.aol.com/rfcburns</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sep	CATS: Shack Nowtz – Frank G3ZMF – Meetings normally held @ St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Rd, Purley 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday's. Contact Andy Jackson G8JAC on 020-8651 2727 <a href="mailto:g8jac@btinternet.com">g8jac@btinternet.com</a>
14 <sup>th</sup> Sep	W&DARS – On Air and Construction @ Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, MERTON PARK SW20 9JZ – 7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 <a href="http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/">http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/</a>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman with Andy G8JAC</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Reigate Amateur Transmitting Society. Main meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday's at RNIB, Redhill College, Philanthropic Road, Redhill 7.30pm. <a href="http://www.qsl.net/rats">www.qsl.net/rats</a> or <a href="mailto:rats@qsl.net">rats@qsl.net</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Bromley & District – Meetings normally on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday's @ Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes – 7.30 for 8pm. Paul M3PGW <a href="mailto:bdars@greenwand.net">bdars@greenwand.net</a> or <a href="http://www.bdars.org.uk">www.bdars.org.uk</a>
20 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Sutton & Cheam RS – 'Software Defined Radio' by Stan Runcenko G0KBL. Meetings @ Vice Presidents Lounge, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton – 7.30 for 8pm. Sec: John GOBWW 020-8644 9945 <a href="http://www.scrs.org.uk">www.scrs.org.uk</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Dorking & District Radio Society – they normally meet on 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesdays @ Friends Meeting House, Butterhill South Street, Dorking – opp. Spotted Dog. Details: Walter Blanchard, G3JKV on 01306 884359 <a href="mailto:wb@g3jkv.co.uk">wb@g3jkv.co.uk</a>
26 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mitcham & District ARS (Meetings normally last Wednesday of each month) @ ATC Headquarters, Commonsides West, Mitcham. Sec: Mike Knott G0WCR 020-8764 4716
28 <sup>th</sup> Sep	W&DARS – Slide Show on Visit to Canada with Jim M0CON @ Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, MERTON PARK SW20 9JZ – 7.30 for 8pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & last Friday's Details: Jim M0CON on 020-8874 7456 <a href="http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/">http://www.gx3wim.org.uk/</a>
22/23/29 Sep	Foundation Licence Course at Banstead – details form Tim 2E0TTA 01737 350366
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Autumn Surplus Equipment Sale</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<b>EMC with Colin Richards G3YCR</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2008</b>	<b>History of our Local Weather with Ian Currie</b>

SRCC Meetings indicated in BOLD with venue of Trinity School

**Rally Calendar, etc:**

14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 07	<b>Rusty Radios Rally</b> Cottered Village Hall, near Stevenage, Herts. <a href="http://www.rustyradios.com/">http://www.rustyradios.com/</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 07	<b>West London Radio &amp; Electronics Show</b> , Kempton Park <a href="http://www.radiofairs.co.uk">www.radiofairs.co.uk</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> Nov 07	<b>CATS 2007 Bazaar - g8jac@btinternet.com</b>

## The CHAIRMAN's BLOG – Sep 2007



As I write this, I and family have just been back from holiday in Ireland a couple of days -and luckily I don't have to return to work for a few more. Before I comment on the holiday, and amateur radio activities while away, there are two other topics I would like to comment on this month:

**Meetings at Trinity School:** we now have had three meetings at the school and all the verbal feedback has been positive so far. I would like to urge members who have not attended a meeting there yet to come along and share their views, whether good or bad. If Trinity are willing, the committee intend continuing the trial for several more meetings before making any decision on permanency.

**Club surplus equipment sales:** these have, for as long as I can remember, been held twice yearly in March and October, so the next one is just around the corner. For several of the previous sales the committee has been concerned about the extremely low bids offered for many items, and intend to increase the minimum bid level. There will be more about this in the next newsletter. I would encourage all members to look around their shacks to identify any equipment or components they are no longer using or intend to use and bring them to the sale. For more valuable items we can pre-advertise them in the next newsletter to whet the appetite of prospective buyers. Do not be afraid in stipulating a minimum or reserve price. If you are unsure of what an item may be worth then Maurice G4DDY is the person to contact. He will also help if you have any items you want to donate for club funds.

**EI2JW operation from counties Mayo & Sligo:** as with most family holidays I manage to get some amateur radio operation in, and travelling by car to Ireland meant that I was less restricted than travelling by plane in what I could bring. The ferry route used was Holyhead-



travelling by car to Ireland meant that I was less restricted than travelling by plane in what I could bring. The ferry route used was Holyhead-

Dun Laoghaire, with the first stopover in Kilkenny for a couple of days, then up to Galway followed by a week in Killala, Co Mayo, where I operated from first.

I brought my Yaesu FT-100 and the antenna was a vertical fibre glass fishing pole mounted on a tripod with a 10m long wire taped to it together with sets of wire radials spread along the ground. The radials had been cut for  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength on all bands 10m to 40m.



The house we rented was overlooking the sea into Killala Bay and Barry Island and was approximately 36 feet above sea level.



Also nearby was the ruined Moyne Abbey, destroyed during the Reformation, and Killala's round tower.

This part of Ireland is steeped in history with many, many megalithic tombs, cairns, barrows, and standing stones.



The station QTH locator in Killala was IO54JE.

The house we rented was about a mile and a quarter outside the centre of Killala in the townland of Kilroe. It proved to be an extremely quiet location with the noise on 7MHz being below S1. The antenna worked as a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave ground plane on 7MHz and for operation on 20m I switched in an MFJ-902H ATU. The antenna tuned up OK on all bands 10m to 80m, though all contacts were made on either 40m SSB or 20m PSK31. I had several good morning contacts with Graham G3RJW and Peter 2E0UYP on 40m. Operation was usually for an hour in the morning and for a couple of hours in the evening between 2100 and 0100 after we got back from wherever we had been visiting. I never had any problem making QSOs as the EI prefix seems quite sought after. Conditions on 20m PSK31 were reasonable with contacts made with North and South America including A14WF and YV5ANF. Conditions on 30m also seemed good when I listened, but PSK31 is currently not permitted on that band – it is CW only in Ireland.

Later we moved up to Collooney, Co Sligo (IO54SE) where I encountered some interesting problems with the local wildlife after erecting the antenna. The house we rented was deep in a wood and adjacent to the Ballysadare river popular with salmon fishermen. The location was frequented by deer which was evident by the droppings on the ground. Most mornings I found my wire radials on the ground in disarray and on one morning several were broken. It appeared that a deer had probably got one of its feet/paws caught on the wires or tangled up with them and being very thin they didn't need much force to break. As Murphy's Law would have it two of the 40m radials were broken in half, but with a little rearrangement I managed to get an SWR of 2.5:1. My sked with Graham G3RJW had to be cancelled that morning but we did make contact the next day. However he texted me by phone that if he had fed the animals they may have left the feeder and radials alone! Compared to Killala the Collooney QTH gave very high noise levels on 7MHz during rainfall and for sometime after – up to S7 at times. Best DX worked on 20m was PY6/DG7DCL.

We got a lot of walking, rambling, and hill climbing done around Sligo including an ascent of the 1400ft Kings Mountain which offered spectacular views across the countryside out to the Atlantic, and in the evenings we usually managed a pint or two at a local pub often to the backdrop of fine music from local musicians.

All in all a very good holiday

While travelling around I came across these amusing signs:



**Last 'A' Meeting:** I unfortunately missed the short talks and demos by Robert M1MRS and Gareth G4XAT but Robert says he will bring his equipment along again for anyone who missed it.

I hope to see you all at the next 'B' and 'A' meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> respectively.

73, Pat G4FDN

15<sup>th</sup> Aug 07"

### Web-Site of the Month

From Charles M0BIN this month take a look at:

Solar Power for Amateur Radio FAQ:

<http://www.ctsolar.com/index.asp?PageAction=Custom&ID=8>

Lab Tests on the K2:

<http://www.cliftonlaboratories.com/>

### Gatwick Vintage Radio (Amateur and Military) Vehicle and Family weekend 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Sep

I have received the following E-Mail from Mike M1CCF as follows:

Hello all,

Last year we invited local radio clubs to join us in a paddock off the A217 near Gatwick. The invitation was to take part in and enjoy a radio operating day, mostly of vintage equipment, with an evening social and BBQ together. We planned this as a family event and families did come along, caravans and tents welcome.

We are doing the same again THIS YEAR and we are INVITING YOU TO JOIN US!! Ring Mike or Les 02086542582 or 01293773997 if you would like more details

Location: Hunter's Moon, Reigate Road, Hookwood, Surrey RH6 0HU - TQ262438

Event: Gatwick Vintage Radio (Amateur and Military) Vehicle and Family weekend

Timing: Any time Friday afternoon to Sunday lunchtime 8/9 September 2007: BBQ and social 7pm on Saturday, radio activity all weekend.



73's M1CCF

[www.vmars.org.uk/vmarsnews.html](http://www.vmars.org.uk/vmarsnews.html)

[www.radioclubs.net/m0vog](http://www.radioclubs.net/m0vog)

### GB3NS is back!

For many years, GB3NS (for North Surrey) was used for many years by local amateurs as a reliable repeater covering our area and beyond from a location at Banstead. Local interference difficulties caused its shutdown a few years ago but it has now been revived and is currently operational again.

Input frequency – 438.525 MHz

Output frequency – 430.925 MHz

CTCSS – 82.5 (D)

Note the wide shift of +7600 KHz.

According to the official website, this repeater will feature an additional receiver on 10.368575 GHz.

The repeater keeper is Dennis Stanton G0OLX and if you are interested in joining the GB3NS support group, then please send an email to [denis@gb3ns.com](mailto:denis@gb3ns.com). There is also an information website at <http://www.gb3ns.com/>

Thanks to CATS Newsletter for this info.

### 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. I will write up the August Members Evening talks next month.

Our main meeting for September is on the third Monday i.e. 17<sup>th</sup> September when we welcome Andy Jackson G8JAC for his interesting talk "The Evolution of British Army Radio from WWII to Clansman". The "B" meeting will be on the first Monday i.e. 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Both these meetings are being held at Trinity School and we are starting earlier at 7.45pm in order to vacate the room at 10pm sharp.

This newsletter has been produced early as I am now taking a 2-week holiday in Poland.

Ray G4FFY

73 and 88

Posted: Aug 2007

### SRCC Subscription Renewal Form September 2007

Name: ..... Callsign/RS: .....

Address: .....

..... Tel: .....

E-Mail: .....

Member: £8.00 Family: £12.50

Cheques payable to SRCC and send to:

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