

COULSDON AMATEUR TRANSMITTING SOCIETY

G4FUR



M1FUR

CATS WHISPERS

November 2006



Affiliated to the RSGB

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CATS Committee

Chairman: Rob Cole 2E0AYT
Secretary: Andy Jackson G8JAC
Treasurer: Derek Hands G1PGS
Members: Steve Conway G7SYO
Stuart Barber G6CJR
Dave Young G8VXB
Ian Peck M3IGP

CATS Whispers Editor: Andy Jackson G8JAC
email address for contributions:

Regular Society Meetings

These are held on the second Monday in each month at:
St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley at 2000hrs to 2200hrs.

Society Nets

1st Saturday of Month - 1715hrs Crescenta Valley / CATS Net on Echolink
Normally via MB7IPL node on 145.2875 MHz.
Sunday mornings - 1100hrs. Call on S20 (V40) then to 145.2875MHz.
Sunday evenings - 1700hrs. 3.700 MHz +/- QRM
Wednesday evenings - 21.00hrs. Call on 70.425 MHz

CATS Website:

Email:

Forthcoming Meetings

Mon 13th November – CATS Quiz, hosted by Steve G7SYO
Mon 11th December – Annual General Meeting
Mon 8th January 2007 – An introduction to Yoga by Steve G3WZK



CATS is Twinned with the
Crescenta Valley Radio Club
Glendale California USA www.qsl.net/cvrc

October Meeting Report

Due to your scribe taking the opportunity of grabbing a bit of late summer sun by visiting friends down in EA5, I was not able to attend the October meeting. However I am greatly obliged to Steve G7SYO for a report on the evening.

Terry G4CDY gave us a very interesting lecture on the design of a circuit board created from the initial circuit diagram all the way through until the creation of the actual prototype board. He was using a professional software package with various inter-linking software components to achieve this goal. The task was to build a simple op amp that doubled up as a power supply and 1kHz Filter.

When the basic type of circuit you wish to design is known, it is possible to drop in the relevant block sections and then adjust the parameters of the component values to produce the desired effect. Terry demonstrated how the program could run the simulation of the circuit with emphasis that the schematic is the reference right throughout the whole design process from circuit to board layout. The effect of this was shown later with the program preventing virtual tracks merging due to the constraints imposed by the circuit design.

Time domain simulation is the most common test, with varying voltages over a period of time that were initiated by choosing a number of starting values e.g. entering resistor and capacitor values and placing a virtual load on the output circuit. When run, the output produced an informative graph using virtual test probes on the voltage supply rails, to show that in this case the 9Volt supply was divided across the input voltages over the ramped up voltage from around 1volt to 15volts.

A similar test was run to show the effect of changing the capacitor values and the final operating frequency of the filter. It was mentioned that Monte Carlo simulations could also be run on the schematic allowing more testing conditions than would ever be possible had the circuit been a real one on the test bench.

Once the schematic has been run in the virtual simulation, the next stage was to place the components on the board in a 'rats nest' simulation starting point. It is then up to the designer to start thinking about the routing of the actual tracks as they will finally appear on the finished board. This is not always so easy when factors such as RF design have to be considered. Auto routing is not advisable and it was not apparent from this software that it possessed sufficient intelligence to take on such an advanced task. Therefore it is a fairly manual process, juggling the virtual pieces of copper track around on the board.

To save time and in good Blue Peter fashion, Terry produced one he made earlier so we could proceed to the next stage. Also very useful considering that our favourite Operating System decided to throw a few tantrums in the middle of the demonstration with slight displeasure on Terry's part!

The interesting challenge for the designers is to be able to change the physical layout of the board which is fairly easy if it's a simple circuit, but as Terry mentioned, it takes a person with some pretty remarkable memory skills to mentally juggle a number of parameters in their head to be able to produce changes in the final board layout.

The actual milling machine was not able to be brought down, but I think it was fairly self evident from the final output of the program of how the co-ordinates were transferred to the final stage of the process had it been present.

Thanks to Terry G4CDY for a very enjoyable evening and with apologies for lots of detail missed due to the brevity of this report.

Steve G7SYO

CATS Activity News

CATS Bazaar

As no one can still be unaware, our annual bazaar is just around the corner. Three committee members did a preparatory recce of the scout hall and identified a couple of snags but nothing that we can't overcome.

As in previous years, we will be laying out the hall on the Saturday afternoon and any offers of help with table arranging will be gratefully accepted.

Saturday 18th November at 17.00 is the time.

If anyone wants a last minute table booking, call the secretary to see if you can be squeezed in.

If you just want to get shot of the odd item, you can sell it at the price you want on the Bring and Buy stall. This will operate in a similar way to the B & B stall at Kempton Park.

CATS members who are willing to act as bazaar stewards or operate the Bring & Buy on the day will have free early entry; the secretary will issue stewards badges on the day.

The bazaar is our premier public event of the year and has been widely advertised, and it is hoped that as many CATS members as possible will be able to support us either by helping out or of course just coming as a customer. A huge amount of work has been put in by the committee, so please support your society.

Kempton Park

The CATS Bring and Buy at the twice-yearly West London Radio and Electronics show has now become a well-known fixture of the event. The next show is on **Sunday 12th November** and we will again need volunteers to man our stall. Members who volunteer get free entry to the show and entry before the public is admitted which sometimes enables you to spot that one-off bargain.

We have been allocated 10 entry passes for CATS members so anyone wishing to help must let the secretary know in good time. We make a useful amount for club funds from this activity which goes towards buying kit and equipment that can be used by all members and not least, ensures that we continue to have one of the lowest annual subscription rates.

CATS Visit

We have planned a CATS trip to the **Brooklands Motorsport and Aviation museum**, located near Woking, Surrey, on **Sunday 26th November**.

The museum contains many items of technical interest illustrating the history of motor racing including the famous Brooklands racing circuit that was popular in the 1930s. Part of the original track has been preserved and can be seen.

For aviation enthusiasts, the name of Brooklands is synonymous with the British aircraft industry and there are many exhibits from this glorious era, many of which can be entered and inspected close-up. Of particular note are a preserved Concorde, the Wellington bomber recovered virtually intact from Loch Ness that is being rebuilt to exhibition standard, and several development aircraft. There is also a small exhibition of aviation-related radio.

Contact the secretary if you would like to go. Email, telephone or call in to a CATS net.

Help with transport may be available. Please ask. FOUR members have signed up for this trip so far. Provisional plans are to meet outside the museum main entrance at 12.00.z Those with 2m mobile can use 145.2875 MHz both for co-ordination and to call in to the Sunday morning CATS net.

Museum details and more information is at <http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/>

CATS Weekend?

Older members will remember that a social weekend away, often in the winter season when there is less pressure on hotel accommodation (i.e. it's cheaper!) and the summer holiday is a distant memory, was a regular event undertaken by CATS members and XYLs. Visits to the Isle of Wight and the Marconi

museum at Poldhu to name but two fairly recent successful trips, are fondly remembered.

Stuart G6CJR is enthusiastic about reviving this activity and would like anyone who is interested to contact him with suggestions and ideas. Some ideas have already been passed on so watch CATS *Whispers* for further info,

CATS Dinner

We have decided to repeat last year's successful New Year dinner. Subject to confirmation, the venue will be the White Hart at Godstone Green but keep the evening of **Friday January 12th 2007** clear in your diaries!

What's coming up

We traditionally hold a CATS Quiz in **November** and for the past few years, it has been hosted by Andy G8JAC and his XYL. This year for a change, Steve G7SYO is having a crack at presenting it and as usual, we will be inviting our local clubs to enter a team and join in a social occasion. We would like some CATS members to support it as well.

As usual, our **December** meeting will be devoted to the Annual General Meeting. See separate announcement in this issue.

The **January** meeting will certainly be something different! It is perhaps not generally known that Steve G3WZK is a qualified instructor in Yoga and we have prevailed upon him to present a talk on what it's all about, the benefits, and after the tea break, a gentle practical introduction to the subject. Steve assures me that the practical part will be well within the capabilities of even the oldest and most decrepit CATS members!

Thinking Day on the air

A team to assist the Croydon Girl Guides, Thinking Day on the Air by providing and operating an amateur radio station has been assembled under the leadership of Len G0GNQ, however additional help is needed.

The date is 17/18 February 2007 and the location will be in Radcliffe Road, Croydon. Operation will likely be primarily at HF with VHF a possibility depending on takeoff from the site, which is not particularly high.

If you can commit to helping out on this weekend, please telephone or email to the secretary, or contact G0GNQ direct.

As well as an interesting project to set up and operate an HF field station, it's for a really good cause.

CATS AGM

Notice is hereby given to all members that the Annual General Meeting of the Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society will be convened on Monday 11th December 2006 at St. Swithun's Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley
The meeting will commence promptly at 20.15...

The business to be conducted will include:
A review of the CATS year
Committee report
Financial and membership reports
Election of officers and committee for 2007...

Wine and light refreshments will be provided.
Nomination forms and required paperwork will be sent to members separately.

TransPONDer net news

A very welcome report from Paul M3JXN on recent TransPONDer net activity.

We are used to seeing regular reports of the monthly TransPONDer net with our sister club in California, but the October link-up was a little different than normal.

Our local MB7IPL node was up and running and a call was heard from Mark W6MW at precisely 17:15 BST to start things off. Present on the U.S. side were Jim KE6URZ, Dave KO6KOZ, Tim K6POI and Dale KD6PYQ.

Disappointingly, only two CATS members were present in the U.K., Terry G4CDY and myself M3JXN.

Luckily, and here is where the net got interesting, Andy G0KZT was also able to call in from his holiday in Tenerife. Andy had taken his handheld transceiver with him and was able to link into the net via a local repeater with Echolink access using the callsign EA8/G0KZT. The repeater had a dropout time of just one and a half minutes so overs were kept short to keep Andy 'in the loop'. This worked well and we were soon made aware there was another caller on the net.

This time Andy G8JAC, who was also on holiday south of Cartagena in Spain had managed to use Skype, the 'Voice Over Internet Protocol' programme, to contact Mark W6MW. With no time to make proper arrangements, the only practical way to link him into the Transponder net was for Mark to hold the Skype earpiece to the microphone. From the U.K. end this was just audible but only by cranking up the volume to maximum on my receiver. In the log I now have this contact down as EA5/G8JAC via Skype.

An interesting way of forming a net but one that worked none the less, our thanks go to both Andys for their efforts.

Don't forget, the transPONDer net is always the first Saturday of the month and C.A.T.S can always do with more callers at this end. Our twinned club, Crescenta Valley, are always very welcoming to voices they haven't heard before, and it's really nice to be able to put a voice to a photo or call sign you've seen in Cats Whispers.

So come on, if a 'wet behind the ears' Foundation licensee like me can do it, so can you. How often do you get to California on 2metres?
See you there.

73,
Paul M3JXN.

Andy G0KZT takes up the story.....

For me, this was a TransPONDer net with a difference. I found that during the Saturday of the net, I was to be in Tenerife. Not to be outdone, I made a little research using ECHOLINK and found that the 2-metre repeater located on La Gomera, the neighbouring island, was equipped with ECHOLINK. I had used this repeater once before when staying in Los Cristianos (prior to IRLP) and as the resort I was staying in was a little further around the southern end of the island, I felt sure that I would be able to work the repeater. So I packed my old but trusty Alinco handheld transceiver along with my validation document for my licence.

On arrival in the resort, I could clearly see the island of Gomera and was able to access the repeater with just 500mW. I tried several times to get a connection with MB7IPL but it wasn't available. Instead, I sent a SMS text to Mark W6MW and later that day had a QSO with him. He arranged that I could connect to his ECHOLINK at the time of the TransPONDer net and call in via the USA.

At 1715hrs I made the connection and MB7IPL was also present. Overs were limited to 90 seconds due to a time out at EA8AJC (my end of the link) but the net went really well. Present from the CVRC end was Mark W6MW, Jim KE6URZ, Dave KE6KOZ, Tim K6POI and Dale KD6PYQ. In the UK were only Terry G4CDY and Paul M3JXN. Andy G8JAC was in the EA5 region of Spain and was unable to get through via ECHOLINK. However, he did connect via SKYPE to Mark's computer but audio levels were too low for Andy to be effectively heard.

So, if you are planning a trip either in the UK or abroad, why not see if there is an ECHOLINK site nearby? Failing a radio site, if you have a laptop and access to the WWW, why not try running ECHOLINK. Now there's no excuse for not being able to call into the CATS or the TransPONDer net!

APOLOGETIC RADIO JAMMER JACK GERRITSEN GETS SEVEN YEARS, FINES

Those CATS members who have participated in the TransPONDer net for some time may recall that on a few occasions in the early days, the net suffered from deliberate interference at the Californian end. A not unfamiliar problem here for anyone that uses certain 2m repeaters, but in the US, these things are taken seriously. Here's a report from the ARRL.

It was a day many radio amateurs in Southern California had been anticipating for a long time. On September 18, US District Court Judge R. Gary Klausner sentenced convicted radio jammer Jack Gerritsen, now 70, to seven years imprisonment and imposed \$15,225 in fines on six counts -- one a felony -- that included willful and malicious interference with radio communications and transmitting without a license.

Before sentencing, Gerritsen apologized to the federal government, the FCC and the local Amateur Radio community, which had endured the brunt of Gerritsen's on-air tirades and outright jamming.

"I'm sorry, and I apologize to everyone here," Gerritsen told those in the courtroom, which included more than a dozen radio amateurs and Gerritsen's family members. Gerritsen's contrition did nothing to convince Klausner toward leniency. "How many times have you said you would not do this again?" Klausner reportedly asked Gerritsen, a repeat offender who served as his own attorney during his trial. "But based on your history, you come back again and again for this. I believe you will continue to do it, and it would send the wrong message to others, that five years is not long enough either!"

The sentence even exceeded US District Attorney Lamar Baker's recommended 46-month sentence. Gerritsen could have received up to 15 years in federal prison. Sentences on all counts will run concurrently.

The judge also tacked on two years' supervised probation following Gerritsen's prison term, but he recommended Gerritsen remain in custody during that period. Klausner further ordered Gerritsen to participate in a substance-abuse program. He told Gerritsen he could not identify himself by using any other means -- including his previously held Amateur Radio callsign KG6IRO -- than his real name, and he prohibited Gerritsen from owning, possessing or using any radio transmitting equipment.

The FCC fielded complaints of illegal radio transmissions linked to Gerritsen for four years. According to court documents, the Commission's investigation and signal tracking revealed that Gerritsen transmitted both Pre-recorded messages and real-time harassment and profanity for hours at

a time. He often targeted local Amateur Radio repeater systems, precluding their use by licensed operators, and hams were among the most vocal complainants.

In May 2005 FBI agents, accompanied by FCC staff, arrested Gerritsen without incident and seized his radio equipment. Released on \$250,000 bond while awaiting trial, Gerritsen remained in home detention, barred from possessing any radio equipment. The FCC had already fined Gerritsen \$10,000 for violating its rules and the Communications Act during his reign of radio terror. Just days before his December 2005 trial, the Commission affirmed \$42,000 in additional fines -- two \$21,000 forfeitures. In doing so, the FCC rebuffed every argument Gerritsen offered in response to each Notice of Apparent Liability, including insistent "freedom of speech" claims. The government has yet to collect anything from Gerritsen.

Following his nearly four-day trial, Gerritsen, who lives in Bell, (*between Glendale and Los Angeles -- Ed*) was found guilty on a felony count of causing malicious interference to a communications system operated by the United States -- the US Coast Guard Auxiliary -- during a 2004 search-and-rescue operation. He was convicted of misdemeanors for interfering with American Red Cross radio transmissions in early 2005 while the agency was preparing for disaster relief operations, and for causing the cancellation of a US Army Reserve homeland security training exercise in 2005 by interfering with US Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) communications. He also was convicted of transmitting on Amateur Radio frequencies without a valid license on three separate occasions in 2003 and 2004, all misdemeanors. The jury deliberated for less than an hour before returning its verdict. Gerritsen has been in custody ever since.

In 2000, a state court convicted Gerritsen of interfering with a California Highway Patrol radio system and sentenced him to a year in prison. After his release, Gerritsen in 2001 successfully passed the Amateur Radio Technician class examination, filed an application and received the call sign KG6IRO.

Just days later, however, the Commission realized its error -- granting a license to someone convicted of interfering with Public Safety radio frequencies -- and set aside the license. Claiming the FCC could not revoke his operating privileges without a hearing, Gerritsen continued to identify as KG6IRO in some of his transmissions.

CATS trip to W6 – A YL's view

Readers of Andy G0KZT's narrative of the CATS visit to the Crescenta Valley club last June may have wondered what the third member of the party got up to. Here's the answer from Prue G4RWW.

A Field Day to Remember

I must confess that for us, our trip to Southern California for the ARRL Field Day Contest was a resounding success.

The American hospitality is second to none as we all know and our friends from the Crescenta Valley Radio Club in Glendale certainly took us on board. From the moment we stepped out of the Customs Hall in Los Angeles on 21 June 2006, to returning us to the airport a week later when we took our leave of Dale and Mark, there was nothing they would not do for us to make our stay a happy and memorable one. Stan W7SLP and Dale KD6PYQ were at the airport to pick me up and take me to Burbank and the two Andy's were driven by Mark W6MW to Glendale.

While the "boys" stayed in Glendale as guests of Mark and Tim K6POI, I stayed with Ruth, KG6FXG in Burbank, among the film studios of Walt Disney, Universal Studios, NBC, ABC, etc. During my stay with Ruth, I met up with the boys at the meeting of the Radio Club on the following day, Thursday, 22nd. The meeting was held in a large room in the Verdugo Hills Hospital in Glendale. The President of the Radio Club, Dale Boyd KD6PYQ, opened the meeting by showing members the Proclamation for Amateur Radio Week in Glendale that had been presented by the Mayor at the City Council Meeting the week before, to him and to Jim, KE6URZ, representing Glendale Emergency Auxiliary Radio Service. A copy of this certificate was made by Jim for us to bring back and show to our members at CATS.



Prue drawing the 50/50 raffle at the Crescenta club meeting with Tim K6POI and Mark KE6ZRP.

Dale then introduced Andy G0KZT, who gave a talk about the CATS and the locality of Croydon.

Everyone was interested because Croydon is world renowned for its airport, so Andy did very well and was enthusiastically applauded.

Andy G8JAC then went on to present the trophy we had taken with us for the Crescenta Valley Radio Club. This trophy was passed round the group and greatly appreciated by all. It was a delight to see all the pictures being taken of it and the pleasure they gave us in receiving such a gift to remind them of our visit. Crescenta Valley had also prepared themselves for our visit and all three of us were presented with a black bag full of radio 'goodies' including some rather nice call sign badges, cap and badges to wear when in the sun and loads of information and magazines. I used the bag during my stay and as hand luggage on the way home. It was, and is, such a useful size and very smart. I for one am delighted and I know the boys will find theirs invaluable too. A very big 'thank you' to our "twin"!



Prue and Andy G8JAC operating the W6MW HF station during the ARRL Field Day contest.

I joined in the fun of Field Day at the weekend and you would not believe the set-up; antennae were everywhere, masses of cars, caravans, tents, etc. The whole of the top of Lightning Point was buzzing. There was a permanent BBQ set-up for the use of visitors to the site and we certainly had a BBQ to wish for. The Americans like to eat and the planning for this Field Day event went so smoothly because Jim and his wife, Christine, had got the food buttoned up to perfection. Many other people helped with refreshments and a special mention has to be made of Leah KE6MMU, who was only allowed on site with the proviso that she brought her specialities with her – chocolate cookies – and aren't we glad she did! They were delicious and didn't last long on the dish. There were plenty of them so everyone had their share. It was a most enjoyable time altogether.

On the Monday following the weekend in the mountains, the Tonight Show starring Jay Leno was recorded at the NBC Studios and several of us went along as Tim, K6POI, who is in the business, had managed to secure tickets. It is a fast moving show to begin with (the part that is not televised!) and then it settles down to interview two or three individuals to do with show business. This show goes out on television rather late the same evening everyday and is typical of a talk show and topical in content. There was plenty of clapping, cheering and loud music so a good time was had by all.

I was lucky enough to be invited out for a day on Tuesday with Jim. He had taken the day off to drive me to Long Beach to visit the Queen Mary and sign the log book in the Radio Room on board. Following our tour of the ship, we motored along the freeway to have lunch and on to Santa Monica where I did some shopping at the World of Washi, an outlet for selling handmade paper from the Jungshin paper factory, the only remaining hand papermaking facility in Bhutan. The paper was fascinating and rather expensive, but I found some I wanted so I bought it. Jim also took me to the Bergamot Station Arts Center in Santa Monica which had a calming effect all of its own and some beautiful works of art and design. I had a lovely day and greatly appreciated the time Jim gave me.

While I was in Long Beach, the 'boys' were parading about in Hollywood, no doubt nodding at the 'nodding' donkeys! Nodding donkeys (small oil rigs) are a novelty to us Brits, but the Yanks don't take any notice of them. Many visitors see them, but don't know what the things are doing. I met up with Andy, Andy and Mark on the handheld as we were driving along our respective freeways and they said they had enjoyed their day so we were very happy bunnies all round.

Our last morning culminated in a visit to the Glendale Police Department, recently moved to a new headquarters building located in downtown Glendale. As you can imagine Andy, G0KZT found the tour very interesting and so did Andy J and I, especially when it came to the Forensic Department where we were shown all the investigative facilities by a detective sergeant. I had arrived earlier with Jim KE6URZ, who is also the City Radio Officer for Glendale and visited the Radio Emergency Room used by the Amateurs involved in the service. It was very well equipped with Kenwood rigs, etc. Quite exceptional.



I wonder if Glendale police would miss this cruiser?

Later that day I was driven by Dale to the airport in Los Angeles and the 'boys' were in convoy in Mark's car, leading the way. Having parked the cars we said our farewells under the flight path of jets just above our heads every few seconds, or so it seemed with the sun still shining down on us as it had been throughout our stay in Southern California.

This write-up is to let you know that CATS have made really worthwhile friends across the pond by twinning with the Crescenta Valley Radio Club. Long may contact be continued.

73 and 88
Prue

G3UMI

It is with sadness that we inform members of the death on Tuesday 17 October of

Geoffrey Milne G3UMI

Geoffrey was a well-known local amateur and member of Bromley & District ARS. He was the son of past RSGB President Arthur Milne G2MI.

His funeral was held on 2nd November at St Mary the Virgin Church, Hayes. CATS was represented by Stuart G6CJR.

Contest news

or

Oh-ohh, I wonder if that was us?

The results of the Low Power contests have been published. In respect to the 432 MHz entry we submitted compared to the adjudicated score, there is a massive difference in the figures. The score submitted was 117,952 points with 33 contacts and 32 multipliers but the adjudicated score was only 51,120 points with 21 contacts and 24 multipliers. The comment made in the results was "Logging standards were variable, with one entrant losing almost 60% of their claimed score! This demonstrates the importance of logging accuracy, particularly in a multiplier contest with relatively small numbers of QSOs."

The computer does all the number crunching (both locally by myself and by the adjudicator) and we know that when the adjudicator inputs all the logs from ALL the entrants, a master log is made. It is from THIS log that the errors are found. I understand this can be a simple missing of a suffix, incorrectly record QRA locator information or the callsign itself. Hearing what someone relays to you and copying it down either onto a paper log or a computer keyboard is not rocket science.

Is it the unfamiliarity of the computer software (or the computer itself) at fault? Or is it lack of experience of operating in contests or good old interference? If the consensus is that we should return to paper logs, then so be it. This will involve having to decipher handwriting and having to input the whole entry into the computer post event. There was an idea about making a voice recording of the whole event for post-event analysis. Maybe that was not such a bad idea.... It works well in aircraft black boxes!

I welcome any comments. It seems a shame that after putting the effort into lugging the equipment to site, erecting it and finding personnel to operate it that the overall effort is wasted by what could be simple errors.

Contesting 2007

Details have been published on the VHFCC website for the rules and dates for next year's contest calendar.

One interesting note is that regardless of what OFCOM decide regarding the making the use of the /P suffix optional when operating portable, portable stations will still be required to sign /P when taking

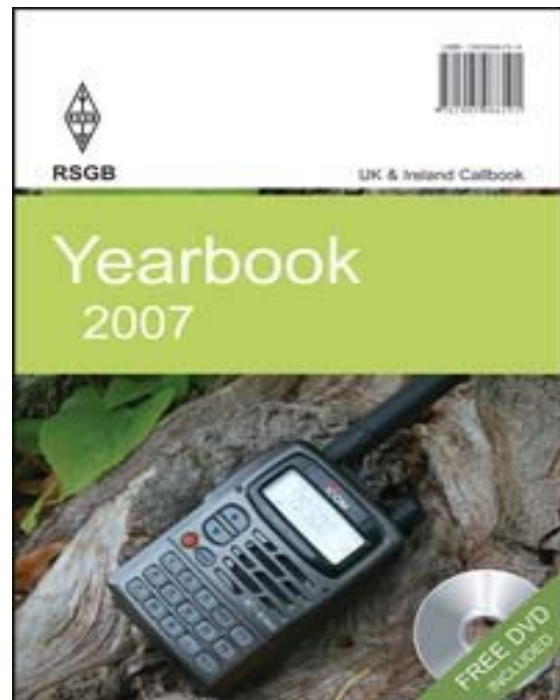
part any VHFCC contest. All stations entering in VHF NFD must use the /P suffix.

I have listed an edited list of contests (see page 9 below) that we MAY wish to consider. I have taken out the 70 MHz and everything above 70cms basically because of the lack of known available equipment.

There's a lot there to consider. I quite fancy having a go at some of the Backpackers contests and may venture onto 6 metres. Does anyone else fancy doing this? If so, we could possibly acquire a 6 metre beam via the club. A good few years ago, Steve G7SYO had a go and gained a certificate. They only last a few hours and only limited equipment is required.

Have a think about what you want to do and let's chat about it on club nets and amongst ourselves. I will publish the list of HF options once they have been published.

Andy Briers GOKZT **Contest Secretary**



The 2007 RSGB yearbook has been published and as an affiliated society, CATS have received a copy. This year we appear in the Featured Clubs section (there's even a picture of Cliff G6FPQ and Ian M3IGP from the DF hunt). It contains a CD of information about the RSGB and some useful radio-related software.

Although it's going to be a bit difficult to share it out amongst the members, if anyone wants it, let the secretary know. It will be available at our monthly meetings.

Date	Time	Contest Name
2 Jan.	2000-2230	144MHz UK Activity Contest & Club Championship
9 Jan.	2000-2230	432MHz UK Activity Contest
4 Feb.	0900-1300	432MHz Affiliated Societies Contest
6 Feb.	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC & CC
13 Feb.	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
27 Feb.	2000-2230	50MHz UKAC
3/4 Mar.	1400-1400	March 144/432MHz
6 Mar.	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC & CC
13 Mar.	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
27 Mar.	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
3 Apr.	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
10 Apr.	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
22 Apr.	0900-1200	First 50MHz Contest
24 Apr.	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
1-May	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
5-May	1400-2200	432MHz Trophy Contest
8-May	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
19/20 May	1400-1400	144MHz May Contest
20-May	1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #1
22-May	1900-2230	50MHz UKAC
29-May	1900-2130	70MHz UKAC
5-Jun	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
10-Jun	0900-1300	144MHz Backpackers Contest #2
12-Jun	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
16/17 June	1400-1400	50MHz Trophy Contest
17-Jun	1100-1500	50MHz Backpackers Contest #1
26-Jun	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
3-Jul	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
7/8 July	1400-1400	VHF National Field Day
8-Jul	1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #3
10-Jul	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
15-Jul	1100-1500	50MHz Backpackers Contest #2
22-Jul	1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #4
24-Jul	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
4 Aug.	1400-2000	144MHz Low Power Contest
5 Aug.	0800-1200	432MHz Low Power Contest
7 Aug.	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
14 Aug.	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
28 Aug.	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
1/2 Sept.	1400-1400	144MHz Trophy Contest
2 Sept.	1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #5
4 Sept.	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
11 Sept.	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
25 Sept.	1900-2130	50MHz UKAC
2 Oct.	1900-2130	144MHz UKAC & CC
9 Oct.	1900-2130	432MHz UKAC
14 Oct.	0900-1200	Second 50MHz Contest
23 Oct.	1900-2230	50MHz UKAC
6 Nov.	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC & CC
13 Nov.	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
27 Nov.	2000-2230	50MHz UKAC
2 Dec.	0900-1700	144MHz Affiliated Soc. Contest
4 Dec.	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC & CC
11 Dec.	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
26-29 Dec.	1400-1600 on each day	50/70/144/432MHz Christmas Cumulatives Contest

Other Club News & Contact Information

BROMLEY & DISTRICT ARS

Website – www.bdars.org.uk
Email bdars-news@talk21.com
3rd Tuesday at Victory Social Club,
Kechill Gardens, Hayes, Kent
7-30pm for 8pm

The Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club

Meets on 1st Friday of every month at
7.30pm at All Saints Church Parish
Rooms, Beulah Hill.
Club Net – Wednesdays 2000hrs
145.525 MHz
www.qsl.net/g3oou/

3rd November – Railway maintenance
Anton G1XVW

CRAWLEY ARC

www.carc.org.uk
Club Nets –
Tuesdays 2000hrs 145.550 MHz
Fridays 1900hrs 1.970 MHz
Every Wednesday at Hut 18 Tilgate
Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate
Forest, Crawley from 7-30pm, and
Sundays, 10.30 until 13.00.

15th November - PRACTICAL HF ANTENNAS.
An interactive discussion/presentation by Phil
Godbold G4UDU

DORKING & District RS

Club Nets –
Sunday 0815hrs 3.770 Mhz
2030hrs 144.750 Mhz
Meetings are held at the Friends Meeting
House, Butterhill, South Street Dorking at
1930hrs.
Email: wb@g3jkv.co.uk

HORSHAM ARC

Club Nets –
Saturdays 2130hrs 144.725MHz
Sundays 1000hrs 3.722 MHz

Meetings: 1st Thursday at The Guide
Hall, Denne Road, Horsham.
Latest news – www.harc.org.uk

MID SUSSEX ARS

Club Nets –
Sundays 0800hrs 3.740 MHz
Sundays 1100hrs 145.350 MHz
Wednesdays 2000hrs 145.350 MHz
Daily 1330hrs 21.330 MHz
Every Friday at Cyprus Hall, Cyprus
Road, Burgess Hill West Sussex for
7.45pm
Info – <http://www.msars.co.uk/>

MITCHAM & DISTRICT ARS

(G3HFY) – Last Wednesday of each
month 1930hrs at ATC HQ, Commonsie
West, Mitcham.
Details Mike Knott G0WCR
Tele: 020 8764 4716

REIGATE ATS

Club Net –
Thursdays 2000hrs 145.500 MHz
Sundays 2000hrs 3.740 – 3.760 MHz
Website www.qsl.net/rats
Email rats@qsl.net
3rd Tuesday at RNIB Redhill College,
Philanthropic Road, Redhill for 7-30pm

SRCC

Ray Howells G4FFY 020 8644 7599
Club Nets –
Sunday 0930hrs 29.111 MHz
Friday 2030hrs 144.325 MHz
Thursday 1900hrs 145.500 MHz
Website – www.g3src.org.uk
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays at T.S. Terra
Nova, 34 The Waldrons, South Croydon
7.45pm for 8pm

6th November - TBA

SUTTON & CHEAM RS

John Puttock G0BWW 020 8644 9945

Club Nets –

Monday 2000hrs 145.500 MHz

Tuesday 1030hrs 3.700 MHz

Tuesday 1500hrs 144.300 MHz

Friday 1100hrs 433.500 Mhz

Saturday 1100hrs 3.700 MHz

Saturday 1200hrs 145.500 Mhz

Website – www.scrs.org.uk

3rd Thursday at Sutton United Football Club,
The Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green
Lane, Sutton 7-30pm for 8pm

16 November - The Development of Audio
Equipment Through The Years' by Jon Weller
GØGNA

THAMES VALLEY A.R.T.S.

Trevor Farris M0CDB 013 7245 767

Club Net Only – G3TVS

Saturdays 1400hrs on 40m

7.070 – 7.085 MHz

WIMBLEDON & DARS

Website – www.gx3wim.org.uk

Club Net –

Mondays 2045hrs 145.500 MHz

2nd & last Friday of each month at
Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh
Avenue, Merton Park SW20. 7.30pm for
8pm.

10th November - Gwen Edwards will talk about
the origins and development of St John
Ambulance

For Sale & Wants

This space is available to any CATS
member (or others subject to approval) to
place an advertisement. If you're looking for
that elusive part or need to make some
room in the shack, just pass the details to
the Secretary. **It's free!**

Local Rally & Event Calendar

Dates for your diary:

12th November - West London Electronics
Show, Kempton Park (Radiofairs).

Note: CATS are involved in this event.

19th November – **CATS Bazaar.**

**Our well-known and regarded autumn
amateur radio event.**

This year bigger and better than ever!

4th February 2007 South Essex ARS Mobile
Radio Rally, Canvey Island.

www.southessex.ars.btinternet.co.uk

3 & 4 March 2007 M0VOG Radio Club Rally
Firepower, The Royal Artillery Museum, Royal
Arsenal, Woolwich, SE London. Vintage radio
display. Demo and radio junk sale (no computers).
Open 10:30 both days. Details: 0208-654-2582.
EMail: M1CCF@talktalk.net Web:

<http://tinyurl.com/y2jaze>

15th July 2007 McMichael Rally

Reading RFC, Sonning Lane RG4 6ST

A little further afield.....

18-20 May 2007

56th Dayton Hamvention

Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road,
Trotwood, Ohio USA

22-24 June 2007

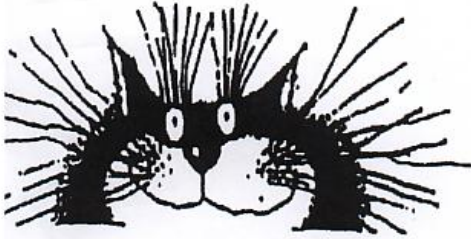
International Exhibition for Radio

Amateurs, Friedrichshafen, Germany.

CATS Whispers is published monthly by
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Contents © CATS 2006

It's finally here, - it's the 2006 CATS Bazaar!

COULSDON
MATEUR
CATS TRANSMITTING
SOCIETY



RADIO And
ELECTRONICS
BAZAAR

At the 1st Coulsdon Scout Group HQ
ACCESS VIA
PUBLIC CAR PARK
IN LION GREEN ROAD
COULSDON

FLEA MARKET AND
TRADERS STALLS
SALE OF NEW AND
SECOND-HAND
EQUIPMENT

SUNDAY
19th
NOVEMBER
2006

10.00 AM
TO
2.00 PM
Admission £1



Bring and buy -
Bring your gear and we will sell

To book a table or for more information
Please e-mail cats@qsl.net

Enquiries for tables or information to cats@qsl.net or Andy G8JAC g8jac@btinternet.com