COULSDON AMATEUR TRANSMITTING SOCIETY

G4FUR M1FUR

CATS WHISPERS

December 2011

Affiliated to the RSGB

CATS Committee

Chairman: Glenn Rankin, G4FVL
Secretary: Steve Beal, G3WZK
Treasurer: Steve Conway, G7SYO
Members: Stuart Barber, G6CJR
Frank Emery, G3ZMF
Dennis Noe, M0NDJ
James Flint, G0SDB

CATS Whispers Editor: Steve Beal, G3WZK
email address for contributions: newsletter@catsradio.org

Regular Society Meetings

These are held on the second Monday of each month at:
St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4LA at 20:00 to 22:00

Society Nets

1st Saturday of month	- 17:15 - Crescenta Valley / CATS Net on Echolink/ GB3NS
Sunday mornings	- 11:00 - Call on 145.400 MHz ± QRM
Sunday evenings	- 17:00 - Call on 3.700 MHz ± QRM
Wednesday evenings	- 21:00 - Call on 70.425 MHz

CATS Website www.catsradio.org Email enquiries@catsradio.org

Forthcoming Meetings

Monday Dec 12th	AGM
Monday Jan 9th	CATS Annual Dinner
Monday Feb 13th	Contest Logging – G0KZT

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

CATS November Meeting

This was the reintroduced CATS Quiz hosted by CATS treasurer Steve G7SYO and partner Wendy.

Three teams turned out for the event on what was a rather cold and very foggy evening, but everyone who did manage to get there felt it was well worthwhile and a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

CATS Quizmasters Steve G7SYO and Wendy

"Warlingham Wizards" Paul G8KDQ, Steve G3WZK and XYL Jenny

"Dumb and Dumber" Len G0GNQ and Ian M3IGP

The "Three In One" team: L-R Andy G8JAC, Paul M0JXN and Tom G4DFA

The eventual winners were the "Warlingham Wizards" team closely followed by the "Three In One" team, who judging by the evidence on the table (see photo above), managed to get reasonably well oiled on the evening!

Membership Matters:

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This month we welcome Ken Wheatley to the Society as a new member. Ken G3BBR lives in Redhill and visited this year's CATS Bazaar (see page 4 of this issue of Cats Whispers) and decided to join up there and then. Ken's main interest is in CW operating.

CATS December Meeting

Advance Notice Of AGM

Annual General Meeting Of The Society
In accordance with the rules of the Society, notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society will be held on Monday 12th December 2011 at St. Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 4LA, commencing at 20:15 hours.

The Annual General Meeting is the one meeting a year that all members should attend. It is an opportunity to exercise your right to influence what CATS does and how it does it by being part of the decision making process.

At this meeting you elect the members to serve on the committee to run the society for the coming year and also to raise matters that you wish to have decided or discussed by the

membership. No participation means no influence and therefore no complaints if things are not to your liking. It's called democracy!

It is also the time to review the events of the past year.

Nomination forms for committee posts have been sent out by the Secretary. Nominations should have the prior agreement of the nominee and must be seconded by another current member. Forms should be passed to the Secretary by post or email before the meeting, or by hand before the meeting commences. Additional forms will be available at the meeting. The Secretary is also sending out the AGM agenda. Please find time to read these before the meeting.

Elections will be held for the following committee posts to serve for 2012:

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Five Ordinary members, from whom one will be elected by the committee members to serve as society Chairman of for the year.

Your attention is directed to Society rules governing the conduct of the AGM, specifically: rule 7.2 that states that all committee members shall retire at the AGM but may seek re-election if they so wish.

Please give some serious thought about whether you would like to volunteer for election to the committee.

To reflect the festive season mince pies (hopefully warm) and wine will be available as customary at the meeting.

CATS 2012 Annual Dinner

The Fox Public House on Coulsdon Common, is again the venue for the CATS Annual Dinner. The date for your diaries is 9th January 2012, 7:30 for 8:00 pm.

Click on the link below for other information about The Fox.

www.vintageinn.co.uk/thefoxcoulsdoncommon/

This is a direct link to the menu:

www.vintageinn.co.uk/thefoxcoulsdoncommon/pdf/thefoxcoulsdoncommon-food_menu.pdf

Sixteen members and guests have already put their names down. Please let the Secretary know if you and any guest wish to attend.

An email has been sent to all members about the event.

February Meeting

There has been a change to this meeting because of the plan for CATS to participate in the 144/432 MHz contest on March 3rd/ 4th 2012. As it is planned to use a different software logging package (Minos instead of SDV), the February meeting will be structured to introduce CATS members (and anyone else interested) to the new package. The meeting originally planned for February will be rescheduled to a later date.

April Meeting - Advanced Notice

The CATS Committee has decided to cancel this meeting as the date (April 9th 2012) falls on Easter Monday. In its place there will probably be an informal gathering at a nearby local hostelry.

Kempton Park Rally & CATS Bazaar

This November the Kempton Park rally took place on Sunday 6th November. Helpers on the CATS Bring and Buy stand included Graham 2E0XDZ, James G0SDB, Ian M3IGP, Steve G3WZK, Steve G7SYO, Frank G3ZMF and Len G0GNQ.

Under Starter's Orders: The CATS Bring And Buy Stand At This Autumn's Kempton Park Rally

Prospective buyers inspect the quality merchandise available from G3ZMF

A transceiver that was sold on the CATS Bring-And-Buy stand at Kempton Park

CATS member Len G0GNQ inspects some of the items available on our stand

The stand wasn't as busy as on some previous occasions but we nevertheless made a useful sum for CATS funds. Thanks to Glenn G4FVL for organising CATS participation.

CATS BAZAAR REPORT

Queueing in the sun:
At the door CATS members Len G0GNQ and Steve G7SYO

Several records were broken at this year's annual CATS bazaar – the 34th – held on Sunday 20th November. It was a beautiful sunny day and although we weren't scheduled to open until 10:00, people started queuing at 09:15 and by 09:45 there were so many visitors that we had to open the doors and make an early start. In total, we had 190 visitors, breaking the previous record of 175.

The 34th CATS bazaar

Stands were provided by other clubs such as Dorking, Sutton and Cheam, plus RAIBC and RSGB. We were pleased to see Rosemary and Robin and the Sycom stand after Robin's stroke earlier in the year. CATS provided its customary Bring-And-Buy stand which also ran successfully.

The CATS Bazaar was also visited by Martin Butler M1MRB, from SC&RS, to record some interviews for the well-known ICQ Podcast that he produces regularly. This is now available from the following site:

http://icqpodcast.co.uk/

Goodies on the SCRS stand

DDRS Stand

The catering department did a roaring trade with hot sausage rolls, toasted sandwiches, teas and coffees and other delights: see below:

CATS Catering L to R: Prue G4RWW, Jim G4WYJ and Barbara M3WYJ "doing the locomotion"

The other record broken this year was for the longest-travelled visitor to the CATS Bazaar.

Previously, the record had been held by Dave Parker KB2USM who came from New York City, but this was well and truly surpassed in 2011 by Ian Baker VK3XIB from Phillip Island which is just south of Melbourne, Australia. According to qrz.com, that's a total distance of 16970.0 km by the short path!

Ian had been in London on business and sent CATS Whispers the following email after his arrival back in Oz the following Wednesday:

"G'day Steve, nice to hear from you. Arrived back in VK3-land this morning off the overnight QF flight.

"Thoroughly enjoyed the day out – and brought back a mobile 4-band antenna (pre-loved) from the Bazaar for my Toyota Landcruiser!

"There's a couple of pics on QRZ.com (see below – Ed) *– of me operating portable with my FT-450D + Buddipole in the Victorian high country. You're most welcome to use them.*

"I look forward to receiving the newsletter, and if I'm back in your neck of the woods – I might even get to one of your meetings!

"73 de Ian B VK3XIB/N3IAN"

Ian VK3XIB Operating portable in Victoria State on 20 Metres with the FT-450D and Buddipole at around 25 feet

A big thank you to all CATS helpers, to other clubs and traders, and most of all, to all the visitors for helping to make it such a successful event this year.

The date for next year's Bazaar is 25th November 2012.

Too late ....

Stuart, Maura and Tormud 2011

The above picture arrived too late to be included in last month's article in CATS Whispers about the talk on Radio In The Scouting Movement. It features (L to R) CATS member Stuart G6CJR, his daughter Maura M3URA and Tormud LA8RU and was taken this summer at the 22nd World Scouting Jamboree in Rinkaby near Kristianstad in Sweden. Maura and Tormud last met up at the World Scout Jamboree of 2007 at Hylands Park in Chelmsford, Essex.

Maura and Tormud in 2007

G0KZT Radio Play Day 2012

Andy G0KZT has kindly offered to organise this for CATS. It is planned to discuss this idea further at the AGM on 12th December.

CATS Contesting

The CATS Committee have decided to participate in next year's "Brass Monkeys Contest" (144/ 432 MHz) on 3rd/4th March 2012. Offers of help to G3ZMF, please.

G3WZK Contesting

Hard to believe I know, but last month (November) G3WZK was very briefly in the lead in the UKAC 6 metre contest when the following appeared on the RSGB website:

Entries received for 50MHz UKAC 2011

Sort by Date QSOs/Section Callsign Club

22 Nov (3 Logs)

Callsign	Section	Qsos	Group	Date Received
G3WZK	AR	6	Coulsdon ATS	Tue Nov 22 21:10
M3EYP	AL	3	Macclesfield & DRS	Tue Nov 22 21:05
G6NHU	AR	1	Martello Tower Group	Tue Nov 22 20:45

What had happened was that I had given up early with a suspected antenna problem and managed to submit my log with half an hour of the 2.5 hour contest still left to run. For a brief while, I was the best of the three entrants. However, in the final analysis of course my entry has disappeared – all very odd!

Guides TDOTA 2012

CATS has received two requests for help with Guides Thinking Day on The Air (TDOTA) 2012, from South Norwood and Croydon Guides respectively, via Dennis M0NDJ.

TDOTA will take place over the weekend of February 18/19 2012 and the idea is to support one of the Guide Troops on the Saturday and the other on the Sunday. Offers of help to Dennis, please.

K9YA Telegraph: Articles of a Historic Nature, 2011

From Mike M1CCF

“This may interest somebody - I subscribe (free) and find them "interesting" but that is about the level of it as there isn’t much technical content.

“To see more, click on the at the end of this item

“73 de Mike M1CCF.

http://k9ya.org/k9ya_telegraph1.htm

Training Course

The next Intermediate Licence Training course will be run by S&CRS with CATS help over the following 6 Saturdays next year:

Saturday 3rd March, Saturday 10th March, Saturday 17th March, Saturday 24th March, Saturday 21st April, Saturday 28th April

The examination will be on Sunday 29th April at 2pm.

CATS members interested in enrolling may contact the CATS Secretary to be put on the distribution list for details of how to apply, or contact Derek Poulter of S&CRS direct.

Contests Coming Soon

2011:

Dec 4: 144MHz Affiliated Societies Contest
Dec 26-29: 50/70/144/432MHz Christmas Cumulatives Contest

2012:

Jan 15: AFS Contest CW
Jan 21: AFS Contest Phone
Feb 5: 432MHz Affiliated Societies Contest
Feb 11-12: First 1.8 MHz Contest
Feb 26: 70 MHz Cumulative #1
Mar 3-4: 144/432 MHz (Brass Monkeys) Contest
Mar 10-11: Commonwealth Contest
Mar 11: 70 MHz Cumulative #2
Apr 1: First 70 MHz Contest
Apr 8: RoPoCo SSB
Apr 15: First 50 MHz Contest
May 5: 432 MHz Trophy Contest
May 5: 10 GHz Trophy Contest
May 5-6: 432 MHz to 248 GHz Contest
May 13: 70 MHz CW Contest
May 19-20: 144 MHz May Contest
May 20: First 144 MHz Backpackers
May 27: 70 MHz Cumulative #3
Jun 2-3: NFD
Jun 10: Second 144 MHz Backpackers
Jun 16-17: 50 MHz Trophy Contest
Jun 24: 70 MHz Cumulative #4
Jul 7-8: VHF NFD
Jul 8: Third 144 MHz Backpackers
Jul 22: 70 MHz Trophy Contest
Jul 22: Low Power Contest
Jul 28-29: IOTA Contest
Aug 4: Fourth 144 MHz Backpackers
Aug 4: 144 MHz Low Power Contest
Aug 5: 432 MHz Low Power Contest
Aug 5: RoPoCo CW
Aug 12: 70 MHz Cumulative #5
Sep 1-2: 144 MHz Trophy Contest
Sep 1-2: SSB Field Day
Sep 2: Fifth 144 MHz Backpackers
Sep 9: Second 70 MHz Contest

Seasons Greetings

It’s been a busy month here at the ‘WZK QTH. So much to do and not helped by having a major computer breakdown. Everyone has been telling me that radio conditions were good and when I finally managed to fire the rig up, I had a nice QSO with Cuba on 28 MHz. Can’t be bad!
The XYL says that the next task is to put up the outside Christmas lights. Basically, this will consist of several chains of LEDs connected to form a somewhat bent dipole-like arrangement either side of the front door.

A previous incarnation of this system had different-coloured lights that could be made to change colour in a “tasteful” way. Unfortunately, the electronic gizmo controller

thingy generated RFI that was quite a nuisance on 80 metres, but you'll be pleased to note that the new version is free from such vices.

Thus our preparations have begun, the turkey has been ordered and writing the Christmas cards is next.

CATS Chairman Glenn G4FVL is ready too, having incorporated some LEDs in the shape of a Christmas Tree into a brick wall that he built in his garden during the summer.

So good luck to everyone with their preparations for the festive season. The CATS Committee and I wish all CATS members and their families – and readers of Cats Whispers – a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

73 de Steve G3WZK

For Sale

(1) Yaesu FT690 Mk 2 six metre multimode with soft case, whip antenna, mike, DC lead, battery tray but no rechargeable cells. £250.

(2) Two metre linear amplifier, 80 watts output, 10 watt drive, with new PA device. £80.

Contact Frank G3ZMF on 07780 347906 or via GB3NS if interested.

Local Rallies & Events

15 January 2012
7th Dover Radio Rally
Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover, CT16 3LY.
Open 09:00
Parking, Boot Fair, Refreshments.
Bring and Buy
Talk in on GB3KS
Contact: Ian, G3ROO, 01304 821588 or
Ian.g3roo@gmail.com
www.doverradiorally.com/index.html

5 February 2012
27th Canvey Radio & Electronics Rally
'The Paddocks'', Long Road, Canvey Island, SS8 0JA
Open 10:30
Parking, Catering, Disabled Facilities, Trade Stands
Major Amateur Radio and Electronic component exhibitors Selling New and S/Hand equipment .
Freshly made refreshments. (And by popular demand the famous Canvey Radio Rally Bacon Rolls are back on the Menu).
Free car parking with space outside main doors for disabled visitors
Contact: Dave, G4UVJ, 01268 697978 (evenings)
rally@southessex-ars.co.uk
www.southessex-ars.co.uk/

12 February 2012
Harwell Radio and Electronics Rally
Didcot Leisure Centre, Mereland Road, Didcot, OX11 8AY, Oxfordshire. Radio, electronics and computing trade stalls, secondhand stalls, special interest groups, displays. Refreshments.
Open 10:30 to 15:30.
Contact: Ann Stevens 01235 816379 or
rally@g3pia.org.uk
www.g3pia.org.uk

26 February 2012
Rainham Radio Rally
Rainham School For Girls, Derwent Way, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0BX
Contact Trevor, G6LYW, 07717 678795 or
trev@wig1.co.uk

11 March 2012
Bournemouth RS 23rd Annual Sale
Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Pk, Millhams Rd, Kinson, Bournemouth, BH10 7LH. Open 09:30. Free parking, trade stands, catering,
disabled facilities.
Contact John G0HAT 07719
700 771.
http://www.brswebsite.org.uk/

4 March 2012
Cambridge and District ARC Rally
Wood Green Animal Shelter, King's Bush Farm, A1198 London Road, Godmanchester, Cambs, PE29 2NH.
Open 10:00/10:15. Admission £3. Talk in. Trade. B&B. Catering with bar. Disabled facilities. SIGs. Raffle. Lectures. Family attractions.
Contact John G0GKP 01954-200072
j.bonner@ntlworld.com
www.cdarc.co.uk

15 April 2012
West London Radio & Electronics Show
Kempton Park Racecourse.
Open 10:00. Parking, trade stands, catering, disabled facilities. Contact **info@radiofairs.co.uk**
NOTE: CATS involvement in this event. The CATS bring and buy sale is a permanent feature of this rally.
www.radiofairs.co.uk

17 June 2012
25th Newbury Radio Rally & Boot Sale
Newbury Showground, M4 J13.
Open 09:00. Free parking, trade stands, catering, disabled facilities. Contact **rally@nadars.org.uk**
www.nadars.org.uk/

22-24 June 2012
Hamtronic Show, Friedrichshafen
Messe Friedrichshafen, Germany
Open 09:00 each day
- 63rd DARC Lake Constance Meeting
- with lectures and meetings
- HAM RALLYE - Friday and Saturday
- HAM tent camp
- HAM NIGHT - Saturday

www.hamradio-friedrichshafen.de/ham-en/index.php

15 July 2012
McMichael Rally & Boot Sale
Reading Rugby Club off A4 east of Reading
Open 09:30. Parking, trade stands, catering.
Contact **g0jms@radarc.org**
www.mcmichaelrally.org.uk

Other Club News & Contact Information

BROMLEY & DISTRICT ARS
Website: www.bdars.org.uk/
Email: info@bdars.co.uk
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of every month at Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes, Kent, 19:30 for 20:00.
20 Dec - Mince Pie Evening and Quiz
20 Jan – Club dinner
21 Feb - TBA

CPREC (CRYSTAL PALACE)
Website: www.qsl.net/g3oou/ or http://www.g3oou.co.uk/
Club Net: Wednesdays 20:00 on 145.525 MHz
Meetings: 1st Friday at All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill at 19:30
02 Dec - Christmas Social
06 Jan – Loops by Colin Butcher M0XED
03 Feb – AGM and construction contest

CRAWLEY ARC
Website: www.carc.org.uk
Club Nets: Tuesdays 20:00 on 145.550 MHz and Fridays 19:00 on 1.970 MHz
Meetings: Every Wednesday at Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley from 19:30, and Sundays, 10:30 to 13.00.

CRAY VALLEY RS
Website: www.cvrs.org
Contact: Richard Perzyna, G8ITB (see website)
Club Nets: Wednesdays 21:00 on 145.500/QSY and 22:00 on 3.720 ± QRM, and Sundays 11:00 on 3.720 ± QRM
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at Progress Hall, Admiral Seymour Road, Eltham, SE9 1SL
1 Dec – Reprise on CVRS in the 1970s
15 Dec – Christmas social

DORKING & DISTRICT
Website: http://www.ddrs.org.uk
Email: ddrs.secretary@yahoo.co.uk
Contact: David Smith, M0SXD, 07808579501
Club Nets: Sunday 08:15 on 3.770 MHz & Thursday 20:00 on 144.775 MHz
Meetings: Friends Meeting House, Butterhill, South Street Dorking at 19:30.
9 Dec - Christmas Dinner
24 Jan - AGM
28 Feb - Early TV Receivers - Stephen Niechcial
27 Mar - Valve Audio Amplifiers - aspects of their design and performance - Keith Thrower
24 Apr- Radio from VP8 - Roger Eeles - G0SWC / VP8DBR

HORSHAM ARC
Website: www.harc.org.uk
Club Nets: Saturdays 21:30 on 144.725MHz and Sundays 10:00 on 3.722 MHz
Meetings: 1st Thursday at The Guide Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, Sussex
1 Dec – AGM
3 Dec - HARC Xmas Bash
5 Jan - Club Night: Bring Show Tell

MID SUSSEX ARS
Website: www.msars.org.uk
Club Nets: Sundays 08:00 on 3.740 MHz and at 11:00 on 145.350 MHz, Wednesdays 20:00 on 145.350 MHz and Daily 13:30 on 21.330 MHz
Meetings: Every Friday at Cyprus Hall, Cyprus Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex for 19:45
09 Dec - Club Christmas Dinner
16 Dec - Christmas Quiz

REIGATE ATS
Website: www.qsl.net/rats
Email: rats@qsl.net
Club Nets: Thursdays 20:00 on 145.500 MHz and Sundays 20:00 on 3.740 – 3.760 MHz
Meetings: 3rd Thursday at RNIB, Redhill College, Philanthropic Road, Redhill for 19:30

SRCC
Website: www.g3src.org.uk
Contact: John Kennedy G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
Club Nets: Sunday 09:30 on 1905 kHz
Daily natter channel – 144.215 MHz at 19.30.
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT 19:45 for 20:00
5 Dec - Talk (TBA)
9 Jan - Talk (TBA)
6 Feb - Talk (TBA)
5 Mar - Spring Surplus Sale
2 Apr - Annual General Meeting
14 May - Construction Evening
11 Jun - Construction Contest
2 Jul - Barbecue
6 Aug - Talk (TBA)
3 Sep - Autumn Surplus Sale
1 Oct - Talk (TBA)
5 Nov - Talk (TBA)
3 Dec - Talk (TBA)

SUTTON & CHEAM RS
Website: www.scrs.org.uk
Contact: John Puttock GØ BWV 020 8644 9945
Club Nets: Monday 20.00 on 145.500 MHz
Saturday 11.00 on 145.500 MHz
Meetings: 3rd Thursday at Sutton United Football Club, The Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green Lane, Sutton. 19:30 for 20:00
15 Dec – Christmas Junk Sale
19 Jan - Ham Radio Olympics - Roger G3SXW
16 Feb - Military Radio - Denis MØNDJ
15 Mar – TBA
19 Apr – TBA
24 May - AGM

WIMBLEDON & DISTRICT ARS
Website: www.gx3wim.org.uk (currently unavailable also checked 26.11.11))
Contact: Jim Bell M0CON 020 8874 7456
Club Net: Mondays 20:45 on 145.500 MHz
Meetings: 2nd & last Friday of each month at Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, Merton
9 Dec - Christmas Social

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