

COULSDON AMATEUR TRANSMITTING SOCIETY
G4FUR  **M1FUR**
CATS WHISPERS



January 2013

Affiliated to the RSGB

CATS Committee

Chairman: Glenn Rankin, G4FVL
Secretary: Steve Beal, G3WZK
Treasurer: Steve Conway, G7SYO
Members: Stuart Barber, G6CJR
Andy Briers G0KZT
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 \pm QRM
Sunday evenings - 17:00 - Call on 3.700 MHz \pm QRM
Wednesday evenings - 21:00 - Call on 70.425 MHz

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

Forthcoming Meetings

Monday	Jan 14th	Cats New Year Dinner at The Belmont
Monday	Feb 11th	EGM
Monday	Mar 11th	Talk by Mike G0JMI of Alton Antenna Arrays



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

CATS December Meeting

The December meeting, as usual, was devoted to the Annual General Meeting. A total of thirteen members, down from nineteen the previous year, turned out for the event.

CATS Chairman Glenn G4FVL opened the meeting and gave his view of the Society's past year, including membership and past/proposed activities.

CATS Secretary Steve G3WZK then delivered his report on the Society's year 2012, detailing membership figures, attendances at meetings and events, society activities, contest activities, and the work of the committee in managing the society's affairs.

The current membership is 40 compared with 45 at the end of 2011, and 38 at the end of 2010.

CATS Treasurer Steve G7SYO then presented the Society's audited accounts for the year ended 31 October 2012, which showed a healthy surplus.

In the Committee elections, the nominations exactly matched the posts available. The 2012 Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected for 2013. Andy Briers G0KZT joined the Committee and James Flint G0SDB rejoined after a short break, both as ordinary members. As there was a vacancy prior to the AGM, only one person left the Committee at the AGM - Frank Emery G3ZMF. (Details as on page one of this issue of *CATS Whispers*.)

There was then a break for refreshments – including mince pies and wine - followed by announcement of the Chairman for 2013 (Glenn G4FVL) and Any Other Business. In his closing remarks, Glenn thanked G3ZMF for his work on the Committee over the past few years.

A full, detailed, set of minutes has been sent to CATS members.

CATS 2013 Annual Dinner

This will be held at The Belmont, which is located at Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5SU. They serve traditional pub grub, with a very good value carvery. The date for your diaries is 14th January 2013. So far, a total of 22 members and partners have signed up to

attend this year. Please contact the secretary urgently if you would like to join us at this traditional CATS event. For more information visit:

www.greatbritishcarvery.co.uk/our-pubs/belmont

CATS February Meeting

It is proposed to call an EGM to discuss the future of the club and any rule changes that might be needed. There will also be a social element to the meeting. CATS members will be sent more information by email. The date for your diaries is 11th February.

CATS March Meeting

This will be a talk by Mike G0JMI from Alton Antenna Arrays. Mike's presentation describes the development of the 6MBA 50MHz antenna that featured in September's "*RadCom*" in terms of a "why, where and when" format. He plans to bring along a 6MBA and a 2MBA to demonstrate the design. The date for your diaries is 11th March.

CATS April Meeting

This will be a talk by Malcolm Harman G3NZP and David Davies M0IDD from the Crawley Club, focussed mainly on the GB3MH repeater but also on GB7MH, the co-sited 70cms D-Star repeater. It is planned to include some practical demonstrations of EchoLink, Internet Repeater Link Project (IRLP) and D-Star linking procedures. The date for your diaries is 8th April.

Kempton Park Rally

The next Kempton Park Rally is on April 21st 2013 and CATS will again be providing its customary Bring and Buy Stand. If you would like to help man the CATS stand, please contact James G0SDB.

For anyone proposing to bring kit to the B&B, please note that we only accept radio-related equipment. See the CATS website:

www.catsradio.org

The TransPONDer Net **By Andy G0KZT**

Those members who have been in the Society for a while will recall when we, the Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society, were privileged to form a friendship with The Crescenta Valley Radio Club who are based in Glendale, California. This was in around 2005 and since then, several members of CATS have enjoyed hospitality provided by CVRC members and Mark West W6MW has enjoyed several trips to us.

This monthly net, which initially started on a 2m link operated by Terry G4CDY and then later taken up by Martin G4FKK, eventually found a home on the 70cms repeater GB3NS. The platform that allows us to make the link to Los Angeles is Echolink. In recent times, the popularity of the net has waned slightly, partly due to technical and personal difficulties on the US side. But some of those issues have been resolved and we should be on schedule to enjoy the net again on Saturday 2nd February.

The net commences at 17.15hrs UTC and follows a breakfast meeting held in Glendale by the CVRC. It is believed that the format of the net will take on a bi-monthly frequency. However, more news will be broadcast via our own regular nets, emails and of course, in "CATS Whispers".

Where Should I Point My Beam?

This information relates to the series of Activity Contests that took place during 2012 as published on the VHF Contest Committee website. As the results for each month are published, other useful information can be gleaned and, in this case, the number of stations operating in any specific locator square (IO91,JO01 etc). These Tuesday night contests take place on all of the VHF/UHF/SHF over the month. However these statistics relate to 2m (by far the most popular band), 70cms & 6m. See page 6 of this issue of CATS Whispers for a map of the locators heard by band. The figures shown for each square are the average number of Stations heard each month for each band.

Not all squares are sited solely on land and as you can see, only IO82, IO92, IO91 & IO93 are. What I found most interesting is the

number of stations in IO83 square. At least 33% of that square is at sea but has the highest number of stations listed. And that is applicable across all of the bands. My expectation was that IO91 Square would have had the largest concentration. Sadly there are some squares where there is no or little activity shown. I hope you find the information useful. My next project is to do a similar map of VHF NFD or maybe one of the other series of contests we have taken part in. Is IO83 really the place to be?

73 de Andy G0KZT

Contest News – Results

During 2012, myself and Steve G3WZK have been representing CATS in the VHF/UHF Activity Contests. While the contests are scored on an individual basis, our combined efforts also count to the club. The results of the 144 MHz section have been published. Between us in the restricted section (one aerial with maximum of 100 watts) CATS came 41st out of 92 entries. The top places were G6NB Trophy Winner being The Bolton Wireless Club and Runners-up being The Trowbridge & District Amateur Radio Club. As a comparison, The BWC have 23 stations within their team and Trowbridge have 20 which make up their winning scores. Individually, Steve G3WZK came 118th and I came 79th, both out of 272 entries.

Why not join us for 2013? Have a go and submit an entry. You can easily log on paper and manually type it up onto the contest website, so no contest software required (although it does make it a lot easier to use one as my talk last year demonstrated).The adjudication also gives us scope for our own little competition too. If you need any advice on placing an entry, then please get in touch. The full results are available at

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/vhfresults.pl?Contest=144MHz%20UKAC&year=2012>

73 de Andy G0KZT

CATS Contesting in 2013

We have nearly finished working on our contest proposals for this year. Details will be published as soon as they become available.

Contests Coming Soon

Jan 13: AFS Contest CW
Jan 19: AFS Contest PHONE
Feb 3: 432MHz Affiliated Societies Contest
Feb 4: 80m CC SSB
Feb 9-10: 1st 1.8MHz Contest
Feb 13: 80m CC DATA
Feb 21: 80m CC CW
Feb 24: 70MHz Cumulatives #1
Mar 2-3: March 144 / 432MHz
Mar 4: 80m CC DATA
Mar 9-10: Commonwealth Contest
Mar 10: 70MHz Cumulatives #2
Mar 13: 80m CC CW
Mar 21: 80m CC SSB
Apr 1: 80m CC CW
Apr 7: RoPoCo SSB
Apr 7: First 70MHz Contest
Apr 10: 80m CC SSB
Apr 14: First 50MHz Contest
Apr 18: 80m CC DATA
May 4-5: 432MHz-248GHz Contest
May 4: 432MHz Trophy Contest
May 4: 10GHz Trophy Contest
May 6: 80m CC SSB
May 12: 70MHz Contest CW
May 15: 80m CC DATA
May 18-19: 144MHz May Contest
May 19: 1st 144MHz Backpackers
May 23: 80m CC CW
May 26: 70MHz Cumulatives #3
Jun 1-2: NFD
Jun 3: 80m CC DATA
Jun 9: 2nd 144MHz Backpackers
Jun 12: 80m CC CW
Jun 15-16: 50MHz Trophy Contest
Jun 20: 80m CC SSB
Jun 23: 50MHz Contest CW
Jun 23: 70MHz Cumulatives #4
Jul 1: 80m CC CW
Jul 6-7: VHF NFD
Jul 7: 3rd 144MHz Backpackers
Jul 10: 80m CC SSB
Jul 18: 80m CC DATA
Jul 21: Low Power Contest
Jul 21: 70MHz Trophy Contest
Jul 27-28: IOTA Contest

Local Rallies & Events

20 January 2013

7th Dover Radio Rally

Whitfield Village Hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover, CT16 3LY. Open 10:00 Admission £2
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

3 February 2013

28th Canvey Radio & Electronics Rally

The Paddocks Community Centre, 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: Vic Rogers G6BHE Tel 01702 308562
NVR@blueyonder.co.uk
www.southessex-ars.co.uk/

10 February 2013

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. Entrance £2.50.
Open 10:30 to 15:30.
Contact: Ann Stevens 01235 816379 or
rally@g3pia.org.uk
www.g3pia.org.uk

3 March 2013

Rainham Radio Rally

Rainham School For Girls, Derwent Way, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0BX
Contact Trevor, G6LYW, 07717 678795 or
trev@wig1.co.uk
www.brats-qth.org

3 March 2013

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
rally2013@cdarc.co.uk
www.cdarc.co.uk

21 April 2013

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

16 June 2013

26th Newbury Radio Rally & Boot Sale

Newbury Showground, M4 J13.
The Rally takes place at one of the biggest showgrounds in the south of England.
Newbury Showground is located right next to junction 13 of the M4 Motorway.
Nearest Post Code: RG18 9BB
Open 09:00.
Free parking, trade stands, catering, disabled facilities.
Contact rally@nadars.org.uk
www.nadars.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.

11 Jan 2012 – Annual Club Dinner

15 Jan 2013 - Annual General Meeting

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

4 Jan - Kick-off of the Club Construction Project

1 Feb – AGM and construction contest

1 Mar – The Story of the Crystal Palace “Lost” Railway

5 Apr - TBA

3 May - bhi DSP Noise Cancellation by Graham Somerville M3ZGS of bhi Ltd

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.

23 Jan – AGM

27 Feb – WBR Regen Rx by G4FYY

CRAY VALLEY RS

Website: www.cvr.org

Contact: Malcolm Bryan G8MCA (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 1st Royal Eltham Scouts HQ, Rear of 61 - 71 Southend Crescent, Eltham, London, SE9 2SD.

17 Jan 2013 – Annual planning meeting

DORKING & DISTRICT

Website: <http://www.ddrs.org.uk>

Email: ddrs.secretary@yahoo.co.uk

Contact: George Brind, G4CMU

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.

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

3 Jan - Renewable Energy by John Narborough

7 Feb - Volks Electric Railway - Ian Gledhill

7 Mar - Club - Junk Sale

4 Apr - The Aurora Borealis and Radio Propagation - Prof. Mike Underhill G3LHZ

2 May - RF Leakage from Cable Networks by G4LRP

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

11 Jan 2013 – Round table discussion

25 Jan – Talk on Titan missile museum by G4UDU

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

7 Jan – Talk by Alton Antennas

4 Feb – Talk TBA

4 Mar – Surplus equipment sale

8 Apr - AGM

SUTTON & CHEAM RS

Website: www.scrs.org.uk

Contact: John Puttock G0 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

17 Jan – Talk on 2012L by M0MCV and G4BUO

21 Feb - International Beacon Project by Leslie

Butterfields G0CIBA

21 Mar – Airborne Surveillance Radar by Prof. Simon Watts G3XXH

18 Apr – The Sun & HF Propagation by Dr. Colin Forsyth

16 May – AGM

WIMBLEDON & DISTRICT ARS

Website: www.gx3wim.org.uk (currently unavailable also checked 26.11.11))

Contact: Andrew Maish G4ADM

020 8335 3434

andrew.maish@ATntlworld.com

Club Net: Mondays 20:45 on 145.500 MHz

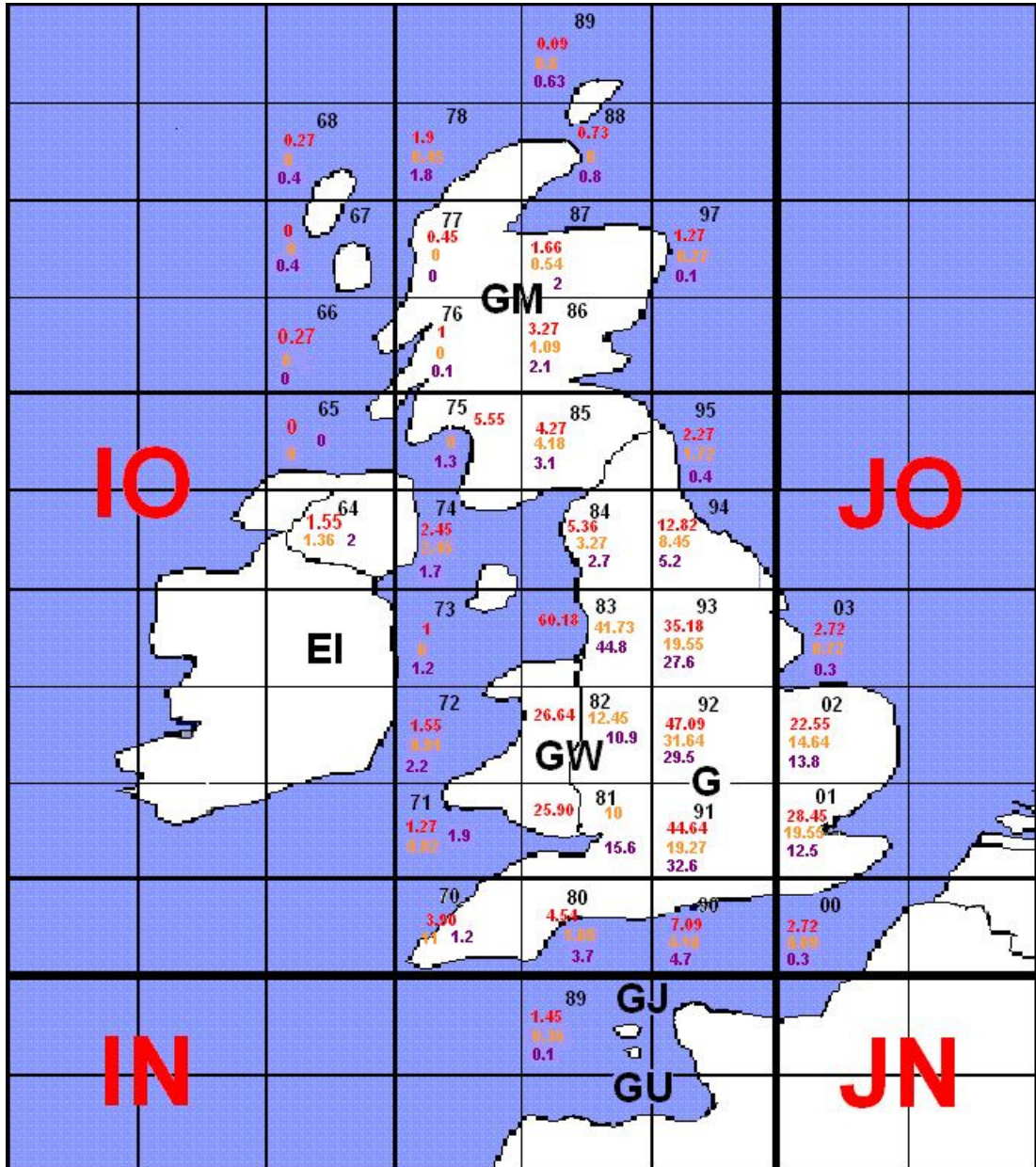
Meetings: 2nd & last Friday of each month at

Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, Merton

11 Jan: Member's Reports of Radio Activities over the Holidays

CATS Whispers is published monthly by
S J Beal G3WZK on behalf of the
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Map Of Locator Square Analysis By G0KZT



KEY	
Locator square number	e.g. 91
Average no of stations heard by G0KZT by month by band	2m
	70 cm
	6m