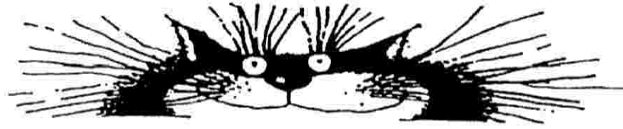


COULSDON AMATEUR TRANSMITTING SOCIETY

G4FUR



M1FUR

“CATS WHISPERS”



February 2017

Affiliated to the RSGB

CATS Committee

Chairman: Stuart Barber G6CJR

Secretary: VACANT

Treasurer: Steve Conway G7SYO

Members: Terry Giles G4CDY

Vacancies: Currently remains at **THREE**

CATS Whispers Editor: Andy Briers G0KZT

email 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 20:15 to 22:15

Society Nets

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 13th February – The GB3XP Repeater Project by Martin Rothwell M0SGL

Monday 13th March – Roll Your Own PSB's by Matthew Nassau M0NJX



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

January Meeting Debrief – Annual CATS Dinner – Le Chateau, Croydon

10 members and 9 guests joined together for a very pleasant three course meal. There were pre-drinks in the bar before we were ushered into the main restaurant. Andy Briers G0KZT, who had organised the booking and the menu choices of each of the guests, appeared to get the requirements right. The staff members who were assisting us plus one other party, were most attentive and efficient.



David G6VMI with his mother to his right. Also Paul M0JXN, Jan (XYL of G8JAC) and their Australian guest



Terry G4CDY and Andy G8JAC

The food wasn't bad either. The main meals were presented under silver covers for that "volia!" appeal which also kept the food piping hot.



Gerry G8NNT and Wendy



Stuart G6CJR, Martin G4FKK & Jenny (XYL G3WZK)



Steve G3WZK & Kath (XYL G4CDY)

Thanks go to all those members who brought their guests and supporting this annual event.

February Meeting – The GB3XP Repeater Project by Martin M0SGL

Martin Rothwell M0SGL has kindly agreed to give us a talk on GB3XP, our nearest 2 Metre repeater which is housed on the roof of St Helier Hospital in Carshalton. He will be supported by Neil M0ZEY. This repeater has been developed by members of Sutton & Cheam Radio Society and has encountered a number of challenges because of its co-siting with other PMR radios. But, when Martin gives his presentation, he will be updating his previous presentation to include the latest development. Yaseu UK have donated a C4FM Yaesu Fusion interface to help promote the digital mode in the London area.

So why not come and learn a bit more about the workings of the repeater and how the analogue and digital systems work together.

More information on GB3XP via <https://gb3xp.m0idm.uk/> & <http://scrs.org.uk/repeater/>

March Meeting – Roll Your On PCB's by Matthew Nassau M0NJX

Matthew has kindly agreed to give his presentation of his technique of printing circuit boards locally.

We look forward to giving him a warm welcome.

Committee News

There has been a slight development to the committee, but sadly not positive news. Dave Bassett M0TRQ has had to stand down as an ordinary committee member because of poor health.

Dave sends his regrets for withdrawing his committee post but wishes to concentrate getting his health back on track.

Dave has been a great contributor to the Committee and CATS as a whole.

Dave, we wish you well and hope to see you back at the club very soon.

Annual Subscriptions

By the end of this month, the TWO MONTHS GRACE period will have elapsed.

So, if you haven't renewed your membership, please contact the Treasurer ASAP

Sutton & Cheam “Big Quiz”

CATS Triumph at Sutton and Cheam by Terry G4CDY

An intrepid team comprising: Stuart Barber G6CJR, Steve Conway G7SYO with Wendy and Terry Giles G4CDY, managed to beat off the severe competition from the Sutton and Cheam at their recent Quiz Night, to win the magnificent trophy below.



The excellent questions were prepared and asked by Nick Humphrey 2E0NUX aided by Neil Horton M0ZEY as scorer, using a clever EXCEL spreadsheet display. The questions ranged from pure amateur radio through radio in the media to general knowledge. We were very lucky to have Wendy on our team as she was able to help with her extensive knowledge of films which had references to radio.

The answers were marked very strictly and we lost out on some of the rounds because our solutions were slightly imprecise/too precised. For example one question was “Which layer of the Ionosphere moves up and down during the day” and after some deliberation we said F2 and the correct answer was the F layer.

Neil had created some very clever “Dingbat” type picture questions. One I particularly liked, showed a Nato Flag, a number 2, a star, a cross and a picture of two lovers, see the answer below. Another was an anagram of Yaesu shown as morse characters.

Neil did a superb job writing and asking the questions and we thank the Sutton Club for inviting us to a very enjoyable evening. We offered to organise a quiz next year, so guys, please start getting into training by watching University Challenge, Mastermind etc.

PS. To be absolutely fair we came second, the winning team from Sutton, were penalised 5 points for arguing with the question master!

Answer: Letters R & J in the Nato phonetic alphabet.

Ofcom Licensing System Update c/o The RSGB

Ofcom updated its [licensing system for radio amateurs](#) on 30 January.

Changes include the ability to request a Notice of Variation for standard special event stations; a verify my details button, which prompts users to confirm or update their personal details annually after login; a display showing the date your personal details were last verified; and some accessibility improvements with larger system icons.

It remains a licensing requirement to validate your details at least every five years.

CATS Personalised Clothing Offer

Our illustrious Chairman, Stuart G6CJR has undertaken to produce a new version of the CATS polo tops, sweatshirts and new for 2017, a fleece top.

Members will soon receive a personal email with the full details and a booking form. These productions are effectively a "one off" production tailored to each member's own specification. So, if you want to be included, best make sure you're subs are up-to-date as I'm sure the 2017 membership list will be used as the mailing list.

Contests Corner

Activity Contest Results – 2016

Overall Club Scores

Pos	Club	<u>50</u> <u>MHz</u>	<u>70</u> <u>MHz</u>	<u>144</u> <u>MHz</u>	<u>432</u> <u>MHz</u>	<u>1296</u> <u>MHz</u>	<u>SHF</u>	Total
1	Ossett ARO	878	953	871	1000	761	1000	5463
2	Travelling Wave CG	1000	1000	1000	958	1000	70	5028
3	Drowned Rats RG	906	704	807	815	502	81	3815
22	Coulsdon ATS	116	177	83	146	108		630
41	Crawley ARC	49	24	85	35	20		213
44	Guildford & DRS	84	9	41	28			162
69	Cray Valley RS			39	4			43
76	Surrey RCC	19	6	2				27
77	Reigate ATS	8		1				25
98	Addiscombe ARC			7				7

Above are the Club Championship scores for 2016. Out of all the local clubs, we came 22nd out of 112 clubs and are the lead Society in our part of the South East.

Individual Scores

Pos	Call	<u>50</u> <u>MHz</u>	Logs	<u>70</u> <u>MHz</u>	Logs	<u>144</u> <u>MHz</u>	Logs	<u>432</u> <u>MHz</u>	Logs	<u>1296</u> <u>MHz</u>	Logs	<u>SHF</u>	Logs	Total
1	G4ODA	714	11	981	3	973	12	992	12	942	12	818	31	5420
2	G4CLA	998	9	1000	4	998	8	1000	10	1000	10			4996
3	M0MDY	916	11	946	4	938	12	941	12	968	12	87	4	4796
36	G4GFI	818	10	717	4	777	11	781	11	340	7			3433
90	G4DFA	278	4	557	4	205	3	586	12	501	12			2127
324	G3ZMF					24	2	233	6	139	7			396
394	G4FKK			167	2	69	1	5	1					241
463	G6DFM	33	1			67	3	40	3					140
494	G0JOS	38	3			30	3	39	2					107
583	G3YCR					58	4							58

Martin, G4GFI has done fantastically well to reach 36th out of 736 participants. I apologise to any members whose efforts have been missed while scanning through the list.

I would however like to thank everyone who got on the air and submitted an entry. Our team effort clearly is reflected in our score.

Finally, this is only a snap shot of our overall effort. Each band has its own score. It would take far to much space in the newsletter to produce all these results. To view them, why not visit <http://www.rsgbcc.org/vhf/results/resindex.shtml>

Sadly, we have a big gap to fill without Frank G3ZMF's entrys this year.

Date	Band	Period of Operation
Thursday 9 th February	50 MHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Saturday 11 th February	1.8 Mhz (CW Only)	1900 - 2300hrs
Tuesday 14 th February	432 MHz FMAC	1900 - 2000hrs
Wednesday 15 th February	80m Club Championship DATA	2000 - 2130hrs
Tuesday 14 th February	432 MHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Tuesday 21 st February	1.3 GHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Thursday 23 rd February	80m Club Championship CW	2000 - 2130hrs
Sunday 26 th February	70 MHz Cumulative	1000 – 1200hrs
Sat 4 th & Sun 5 th March	144/432 MHz	1400 - 1400hrs
Monday 6 th March	80m Club Championship DATA	2000 - 2130hrs
Tuesday 7 th March	144 MHz FMAC	1900 - 2000hrs
Tuesday 7 th March	144 MHz UKAC	2000 – 2230hrs
Thursday 9 th March	50 MHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Sat11 th & Sun 12 th March	HF Commonwealth Contest	1000 - 1000hrs
Sunday 12 th March	70 MHz Cumulative	1000 - 1200hrs
Tuesday 14 th March	432 MHz FMAC	1900 - 2000hrs
Wednesday 15 th March	80m Club Championship CW	2000 - 2130hrs
Tuesday 14 th March	432 MHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Thursday 16 th March	70 MHz FMAC	1900 - 2000hrs
Thursday 16 th March	70 MHz UKAC	2000 – 2230hrs
Tuesday 21 st March	1.3 GHz UKAC	2000 - 2230hrs
Thursday 23 rd March	80m Club Championship SSB	2000 - 2130hrs
Sunday 28 th March	SHF UKAC	1900 – 2130hrs

Rallys & Events

5 February 2017 32nd Canvey Radio & Electronics Rally

The Paddocks Community Centre, Long Road, Canvey Island, SS8 0JA.

Open 10:30 (08:30-traders). Trade. SIGs. Free parking. Disabled facilities. RSGB books.

Refreshments, including Mark's famous bacon baguettes.

Details: Vic Rogers, G6BHE, 07957-461694 or Dave Speechley, G4UVJ, 01268-697978

g4uvj@btinternet.com

12 February 2017 Harwell Radio & Electronics Rally

Didcot Leisure Centre, Mereland Road. Didcot, Oxon. OX11 8AY
3 miles from A34 between Oxford and Newbury
Entry £3 (under 12s free). Talkin by GX3PIA 145.550 MHz. Easy parking.
Disabled facilities (including lift). All-day refreshments (sandwiches,
homemade cakes and hot drinks). Well signposted. RSGB. Trade
Details: Ann Stevens, ann.stevens@btinternet.com

19 February 2017 Radioactive Fair

Civic Hall, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 5DG.
Computers. Electronics. Amateur Radio. Catering. Free parking.
Trade enquiries via <http://www.radioactivefair.co.uk>

19 February 2017 Audiojumble

The Angel Leisure Centre, Angel Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SF
Secondhand and vintage hifi event. Vintage & modern hifi, valve amps,
speakers, turntables, tuners, tape-recorders, CD players, records,
components, books & vintage radios. Details: <http://www.audiojumble.co.uk>

26 February 2017 The Rainham Radio Rally

Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, Rainham, Kent, ME8 0BX.
Just off the A2 and M2 J4.
Open 10:00. Talkin 145.550 by GB4RRR. Light refreshments. Exhibitor and trader places
available. Details: Rally-coordinator@brats-qth.org <http://tinyurl.com/hzqn9wu>

Other Club News & Contact Information

BROMLEY & DISTRICT ARS

Website: www.bdars.org.uk/

Email: info@bdars.co.uk

Club Net: Wednesdays 9:00pm - meet on 145.500 MHz FM and QSY

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of every month at Victory Social Club, Kechill Gardens, Hayes,
Kent, 19:30 for 20:00.

CRYSTAL PALACE & DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY

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

3rd Feb - Annual General Meeting

3rd Mar - Spectrum Utilisation Efficiency – 4G and Beyond by Ian Clark

7th Apr - Club project - Frequency Counter Design Considerations and the use of KiCad by
Alan O'Donovan G8NKM

4th Aug - Summer Social

1st Sep - Antenna Modelling by Quin Collier G3WRR

6th Oct - SDR Without Maths by Alan G0TLK

1st Dec - Christmas Social

CRAWLEY ARC

Website: www.carc.org.uk

Meetings: Every Wednesday at Hut 18, Tilgate Forest Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley from 19:30, and Sundays, 10:30 to 13.00.

Wed 22nd Feb - The Icom IC-7300 Transceiver, - Mike, G0KAD & Alex M1YAP

Wed 22nd Mar - GB7MH Upgrades - Paul G7KBR

CRAY VALLEY RS

Website: www.cvrs.org

Contact: Richard Cains G7GLW rcains@btinternet.com

Club Net - 10m Sunday morning net @ 10:00 local: 28.570 MHz +- QRM

4m net – Fridays in weeks where there is no club meeting @ 20:30 local: 70.450MHz, then

QSY to 70.425 or 70.475MHz

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 1st Royal Eltham Scouts HQ, Rear of 61 - 71

Southend Crescent, Eltham, London, SE9 2SD.

16th Feb - Radio Astronomy – Paul G4CSD

2nd Mar - Construction Contest

16th Mar - Signal Generator and Spectrum Analyser demos by Bob G300U

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

28 Feb Practical evening, part 2

28 Mar "Dead bug" construction by Bob G300U

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

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

SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

Website: www.g3src.org.uk

Contact: John Kennedy G3MCX, 020 8688 3322 email secretary@g3src.org

Club Net: Sunday 09:30 on 1905 kHz , 70.300 MHz Thursday 8:00 pm, 145.35 MHz +/- 25kHz Friday 8:00 pm

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT 19:30 for 19:45.

Monday 6th March - Surplus Equipment Sale

Sutton & Cheam Radio Society

Sutton United Football Club. The Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green Lane, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2EY

Web site: <http://www.scrs.org.uk> General Enquiries e.mail: info@scrs.org.uk

Nets – Wednesday 20.00hrs 145.500 MHz , Saturday 10.00 7.125 MHz, Saturday 11.00 145.500 MHz

16th February - 'What to look for in choosing a VHF/UHF Radio'

Professor Alwyn Seeds G8DOH

16th March - To be confirmed

20th Apr - Home Construction & Finishing' – Bob Burns – G3OOU

18th May - Annual General Meeting and Constructional Contest

Wimbledon & District Amateur Radio Society

Meets on the 2nd and last Friday in the month at Martin Way Methodist Church Hall, Martin Way Merton Park, London, SW19 9JZ at 19:30hrs for 20:00hrs.

Contact: Andrew G4ADM on 020 8335 3434 or [andrew.maish\(at\)ntlworld.com](mailto:andrew.maish@ntlworld.com)

Submissions are most welcome from CATS members, Local clubs and societies

*CATS Whispers is published monthly by Andy Briers G0KZT on behalf of the
Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society.*

© CATS 2016

CATS fully support the RSGB Child Protection Policy