

COULSDON AMATEUR TRANSMITTING SOCIETY  
**G4FUR**  **M1FUR**

# CATS WHISPERS



September  
2012

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  
vacancy

**CATS Whispers Editor:** Steve Beal, G3WZK  
email address for contributions: [newsletter@catsradio.org](mailto: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](http://www.catsradio.org)

## **Email**

[enquiries@catsradio.org](mailto:enquiries@catsradio.org)

## **Forthcoming Meetings**

Monday Sep 10 <sup>th</sup>	Construction Evening with Dave G8VXB
Monday Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	TBA
Monday Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	Microcontrollers with Denis M0NDJ



CATS is twinned with the Crescenta Valley Radio Club  
Glendale California USA [www.gsl.net/cvrc](http://www.gsl.net/cvrc)

## **CATS August Meeting**

The weather forecast for CATS August meeting – the traditional barbecue – was not good but there was a good turnout of members including: Alvin G6DTW, Dave G8VXB, Gerry G8NNT, Ian M3IGP, Kim G6JXA, Mike G6YOG and Deanne, Mike M1CCF and Sheila, Steve G3WZK with Jenny and Richard, Steve G7SYO and Wendy, and Stuart G6CJR. Our host, Prue was there of course with friend Graham, his grandson Terry and Terry's girlfriend Lisa, plus two other friends of Prue.

Prue's gazebo had already been put up and the decision was also wisely taken to erect the CATS gazebo. The WX was such that both were needed for the majority of the evening. It might have been damp, but spirits were not dampened and the event continued until almost midnight.

A big thanks to Graham and Terry and all of Prue's friends for helping with the cooking and putting up the CATS gazebo, but most of all to Prue for not only providing us with such delicious food and a thoroughly enjoyable evening but also for letting us all invade her QTH once again.

A selection of photos follows.



L-R: Steve G3WZK, Jenny and Richard (G8NNT photo)



Stuart G6CJR (G8NNT photo)



Glenn G4FVL and Yvonne (G8NNT photo)



Deanne (G8NNT photo)



Chef Terry (G3WZK photo)





Ian M3IGP (G8NNT photo)

## CATS September Meeting

CATS member Dave G8VXB has kindly agreed at short notice to provide us with another of his popular construction evenings.

Dave intends to supply five kits of parts for the project, which we hope to undertake as five teams. While Dave will be bringing some test gear and tools, it is recommended that people should bring along their own hand tools including a soldering iron and multimeter. One or two mains distribution boards would be helpful, too please.

In addition there will be prizes awarded – (1) for speed and (2) for the overall quality of the finished result. So if you fancy getting a bottle of wine and enjoy a bit of soldering, you know what to do!

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at this event.

## CATS October Meeting

TBA

## CATS November Meeting

At this meeting CATS member Dennis M0NDJ will be giving a talk on Microcontrollers. Dennis has very kindly stepped in at short notice after the previously-planned speaker had to pull out for health reasons.

## HF SSB Field Day

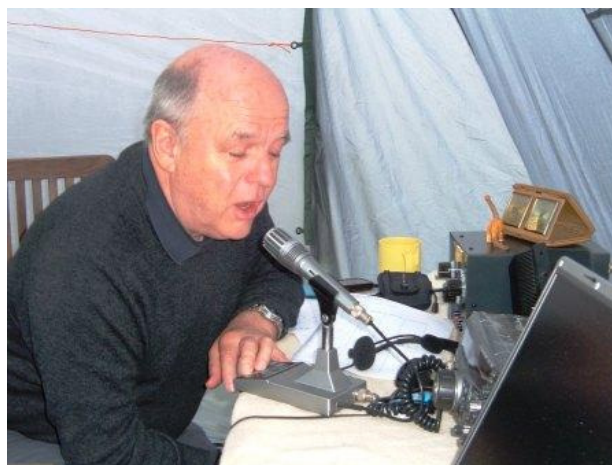
*Stop Press:* After a break of several years from entering HF contests, this year CATS took part in the HF SSB Field Day from a site at Crossways Farm in Reigate over the weekend of 1st/2nd September.

Operators included Andy G0KZT (who organized the event), Frank G3ZMF, Kim G6JXA, Steve G3WZK and Terry G4CDY. Other members helping to set up and run the station included Glenn G4FVL, James G0SDB, Len G0GNQ and Stuart G6CJR.

The log shows that we had 288 QSOs over the 24 hour period, and gained 70 multipliers for a total score, as yet unchecked, of 90,790 points.

Many thanks to Andy G0KZT for organizing such an enjoyable event.

A full report of this weekend will appear in a future issue of CATS Whispers. A selection of photos follows.



Terry G4CDY



L-R: Terry G4CDY and Andy G0KZT



The CATS station at Crossways Farm

## **Helpers needed for Kempton Park rally and CATS bazaar**

It's now only two months to go until these two regulars in the CATS' calendar. If you would like to help at either or both of these events, please contact James G0SDB (who will be in charge of the Bring & Buy stands at both events) or any committee member.

The dates for your diary are:

Kempton Park - November 11<sup>th</sup> - Help needed on B&B stand

CATS Bazaar - November 25<sup>th</sup> - Help needed to set up on the early evening of 24<sup>th</sup> November and to run the event, including the B&B stand, on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Membership Matters:**

Sharp-eyed readers will note from the first page of this edition of *Cats Whispers* that James G0SDB is no longer listed as a committee member. He resigned last month due to the understandable difficulties associated with attending committee meetings and then having to get up to go to work at 4 am the following morning. A big thank you to James for all the contributions he made to CATS while on the Committee.

James will however continue to be responsible for the Bring and Buy stands at the Kempton Park Rally and the CATS Bazaar (see above).

As two other committee members have indicated that they are unwilling to stand for re-election at the next AGM in December's, it means that we will potentially be short of three committee members next year. So there is a

pressing need for other CATS members to put themselves forward for committee service, but this is not as onerous as you might think, because some committee meetings are now run using Skype and so you can take part from the comfort of your own home. Please give it a thought. CATS needs YOU ...

## **Contests Coming Soon**

Sep 9: Second 70 MHz Contest  
Oct 6: 1.2 GHz Trophy/ 2.3 GHz Trophy  
Oct 6-7: 432 MHz – 248 GHz IARU  
Oct 7: 21/28 MHz Contest  
Oct 21: Second 50 MHz Contest  
Nov 3-4: 144 MHz CW Marconi  
Nov 10: Club Calls Contest  
Nov 17-18: Second 1.8 MHz Contest  
Dec 2: 144 MHz Affiliated Societies Contest  
Dec 26-29: 50/70/144/432 MHz Christmas Cumulatives Contest

## **Local Rallies & Events**

**14-16 September 2012**

**Amsat Colloquium**

Holiday Inn Guildford GU2 7XZ

[www.uk.amsat.org/colloquium/twelve/](http://www.uk.amsat.org/colloquium/twelve/)

**September 2012**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

**Gatwick Vintage Radio Weekend**

[m1ccf@talk.talk.net](mailto:m1ccf@talk.talk.net) or Andy G8JAC

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

**28/29 September 2012**

**National Hamfest**

Open 09:30 to 16:00.

George Stephenson Pavilion, Newark & Nottingham Showground, Lincoln Road, Winthorpe, Newark NG24 2NY. For the latest details and ticket information, visit:

[www.nationalhamfest.org.uk](http://www.nationalhamfest.org.uk)

**12/14 October RSGB Convention**

Horwood House, Little Horwood, near Milton Keynes  
Convention and lectures

[www.rsgb.org/rsgbconvention](http://www.rsgb.org/rsgbconvention)

**11 November 2012**

**West London Radio & Electronics Show**

Kempton Park Racecourse.

Open 10:00. Parking, trade stands, catering, disabled facilities. Contact [info@radiofairs.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.radiofairs.co.uk)

**25 November 2012**

**CATS 35th Annual Radio and Electronics Bazaar**

1st Coulsdon Scout Group headquarters, Lion Green Road in Coulsdon, Surrey. [Map](#)

Open 10:00 to 13:00

Parking, trade stands, bring and buy, refreshments

Contact: [enquiries@catsradio.org](mailto:enquiries@catsradio.org) or

[www.catsradio.org](http://www.catsradio.org)

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](mailto:ian.g3roo@gmail.com)

[www.doverradiorally.com/index.html](http://www.doverradiorally.com/index.html)

## Other Club News & Contact Information

### BROMLEY & DISTRICT ARS

Website: [www.bdars.org.uk/](http://www.bdars.org.uk/)

Email: [info@bdars.co.uk](mailto:info@bdars.co.uk)

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

18 Sep - Digital Amateur TV by Justin G8YTZ

16 Oct - RSGB Re-Organization by Alan G8TLK

20 Nov - Construction Contest

18 Dec - Mince Pies and Quiz

### CPREC (CRYSTAL PALACE)

Website: [www.qsl.net/g3oou/](http://www.qsl.net/g3oou/) or <http://www.g3oou.co.uk/>

Club Net: Wednesdays 20:00 on 145.525 MHz

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at All Saints Church Parish Rooms, Beulah Hill at 19:30

7 Sep - An evening of short talks

5 Oct - The GB3VHF Beacon Project by Chris G0FDZ

2 Nov - The Cassini Mission to Saturn by Dr Chris Arridge

7 Dec - Christmas Social

### CRAY VALLEY RS

Website: [www.cvr.org](http://www.cvr.org)

**NB: change of contact details and meeting QTH**

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: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 1st Royal Eltham Scouts HQ, Rear of 61 - 71 Southend Crescent, Eltham, London, SE9 2SD.

6 Sep - Health and Safety by M0MGR

20 Sep - Scilly Isles Dxpedition by G0VJG

4 Oct - SDR by G3OQD

18 Oct - Metalwork without tears by G0FDZ

1 Nov - Surplus equipment sale

### DORKING & DISTRICT

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

Email: [ddrs.secretary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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.

25 Sep - The Sun and HF radio propagation. Dr Colin Forsyth (MSSL)

23 Oct - Receiver architectures and assessment of their performance. Peter Hart G3SJJ

27 Nov - The Elecraft K2 transceiver. Roger Eeles G0SWC/VP8DBR

7 Dec - Christmas dinner

### HORSHAM ARC

Website: [www.harc.org.uk](http://www.harc.org.uk)

Club Nets: Saturdays 21:30 on 144.725MHz and Sundays 10:00 on 3.722 MHz

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at The Guide Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, Sussex Western, G3SXW

6 Sep - Construction of GPS device by Tony G3NPF

4 Oct - Junk Sale

1 Nov - Frequency standards by G3JKV

6 Dec - AGM

### MID SUSSEX ARS

Website: [www.msars.org.uk](http://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

7 Sep - Talk by Sussex Lowland Search and Rescue Team

5 Oct - Radio night and post event equipment testing

16 Nov - Construction Contest

7 Dec - Club Xmas meal

21 Dec - Christmas Quiz

### SRCC

Website: [www.g3src.org.uk](http://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: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT 19:45 for 20:00

1 Oct - Autumn Surplus Sale

5 Nov - Codes, Cyphers, & Cryptography Peter Burton, G3ZPB

3 Dec - Talk (TBA)

### SUTTON & CHEAM RS

Website: [www.scrs.org.uk](http://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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at Sutton United Football Club, The Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green Lane, Sutton. 19:30 for 20:00

20 Sep - MKARS HF SDR Receiver Kit' by Steve Drury G6ALU from Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society

18 Oct - Radio From The Falklands - VP8 by Roger Eeles G0SWC / VP8DBR

15 Nov - Contesting / DXing / Awards / Station Improvements / Do I need an Amplifier / UR59 - All Details Again' by Alun Cross G4WGE

13 Dec - Christmas Junk Sale

### WIMBLEDON & DISTRICT ARS

Website: [www.gx3wim.org.uk](http://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: 2<sup>nd</sup> & last Friday of each month at Martin Way Methodist Church, Buckleigh Avenue, Merton

14 Sep - Summer Camp Retrospective

28 Sep - Australian Radio Evening - Dick Shanahan

12 Oct - On The Air

26 Oct - AGM

CATS Whispers is published monthly by  
S J Beal G3WZK on behalf of the  
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