

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



June 2015



Affiliated to the RSGB

CATS Committee

Chairman: Stuart Barber, G6CJR
Secretary: Mike Buckley, M1CCF
Treasurer: Steve Conway, G7SYO
Members: Steve Beal, G3WZK
Andy Briers G0KZT
Dennis Noe, M0NDJ
Vacancy

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 20:15 to 22:15

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 June 8 DF Hunt: In Banstead Woods area
Monday July 13 Operating Evening
Monday August 10 Barbecue at G4RWW QTH



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

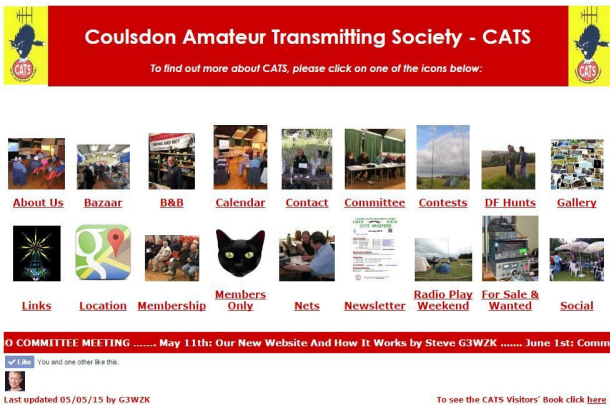
CATS May Meeting

At this meeting CATS member Steve G3WZK gave a talk about the new CATS website. He described how much the internet and IT in general has moved forward in the six years since the previous incarnation of the CATS website first went live and why it therefore became necessary to update www.catsradio.org



Steve G3WZK prepares to give his talk

The new site takes advantage of the much higher download speeds now available and has been configured so that anyone accessing the site from a mobile phone will see a specially designed set of pages.



The home page of the new CATS website

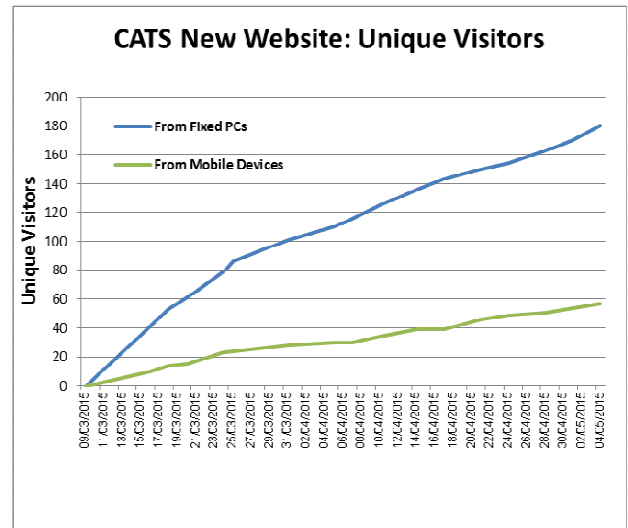


The audience on May 11th



The "About Us" page of the mobile version of the website

The site includes a gallery section with albums of CATS events organised by year and also a comprehensive library of back issues of CATS Whispers. If any members can help us to fill the gaps, please would they contact Steve at g3wzk@catsradio.org



Graph of the numbers of unique visitors to the CATS website, both from fixed PCs and from mobile devices, as shown at the meeting. At the time of final editing of this issue of CATS Whispers, the total number of unique visitors, from fixed and mobile devices, had risen to 253 and 87 respectively.

Similarly, please contact Steve with suggestions for other items to be added to the website, whether for public consumption or for inclusion on the "Members Only" section.

CATS June Meeting

This will be a Direction Finding hunt and will take place on Monday 8th June 2015, starting at 7:30 pm to take advantage of the summer evening light and (hopefully) pleasant weather.

This year, the location will be in the Banstead Woods area. To reach the start, approach via Holly Lane and enter the small lane that runs in a southerly direction. The public car park is then the first on the left, very close to the Council depot. See the link below:

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Banstead,+Surrey/@51.3101605,-0.1861433,18z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x4875e28ab13ec325:0xf9b8f792b81f542c>

An interactive map of the general area is available on the mobile version of the CATS website, as well of course as on the regular site.

We are very grateful to Dennis M0NDJ who is not only organising the event for us again this year but will also supply all the necessary equipment. There will be two or three different "foxes" to locate.

Afterwards, we will gather at the Ramblers' Rest public house.

As usual, all members are welcome to attend whether or not they intend to take part in the DF Hunt proper.

CATS July Meeting

For this meeting, we are developing ideas for an operating evening at St Swithuns. More information on this evening will be published in due course.

The date for your diaries is July 13th 2015.

CATS August Meeting

In August we will be holding the customary CATS barbecue. We are again very grateful to Prue G4RWW who has kindly agreed to host this event at her home QTH.

The date for your diaries is August 10th 2015 with a start time of 7:30 pm.

St Andrews and SCRS Radio Exhibition

Martin M1MRB of SCRS writes: "This exhibition is on the 6th June and will be open from 10am to 2pm. It is intended to encourage interest in our hobby as well as being of general interest. It is planned that we will have a selection of domestic radios hopefully some from around the war years as we are linking the exhibition with the church's commemoration of the 1st WW and the 2nd WW. The church is following the path of the 1st WW for four years, starting last year with the 100th anniversary of the start of the war and ending at the armistice, which for the church will be in 2018.

"If you can loan us an old domestic radio for the exhibition, than please get in touch with me. If you are going to bring it on the day then let us know so we can have a space for it.

"The address is :

St Andrew's United Reformed Church
Northey Avenue,
Cheam,
Surrey.
SM2 7HF

"If this proves successful for the club then there is no reason why other events cannot be tried.

"The exhibition is free."

For more information contact Martin Butler M1MRB - martin@m1mrb.co.uk

Play Weekend 2015 – Update

Andy G0KZT has asked CATS Whispers to remind everyone about proposals to have another radio play weekend this year on 5th/6th September. To date he has had only one offer of support, but it needs many more to make an event like this happen.

If the comments of members and other visitors attending events such as the Radio Play Weekend are anything to go by, these occasions are always immensely enjoyed by everyone who participates. However, as all CATS members will know, Andy puts in a lot of hard work to organise these events and he

needs to know in advance that adequate help will be available when the time comes.

With this in mind, please would you let Andy know by 30th June 2015 if you wish to attend the Radio Play Weekend. If insufficient responses are received, it may be necessary to cancel the event this year.

Once Upon A Baofeng



CATS member Frank G3ZMF writes: "I dropped my Baofeng UV-5R, and thought I was lucky that the flexible antenna had taken the shock. However, when I tried to raise GB3NS, I got no response. I brought up the repeater with the main rig but found the Baofeng still almost deaf. Whilst the repeater was up, I tried to check that the aerial was secure, but as my hand almost touched the handie's antenna, the received signal came up.

As a test, I tried a dual band "rubber duck" that I had bought at Kempton, plus a BNC/SMA adaptor, and the handie was back to life. On walking up to village, I noticed how much improved TX and RX was with this new aerial. Moral of the story is, try alternative aerials on your "Handies", as you may find an improvement.

The 145/435, BNC aerial used to be available at Maplins, for £8 or £9 a few years ago. Frank, G3ZMF.

Contests Coming Soon

<u>Tuesday Activity Activity Contests 2015 – all begin at 8pm local time</u>	
Jun 2	2 metres
Jun 9	70 cm
Jun 16	23 cm
Jun 23	6 metres
Jun 30	4 metres
Jul 7	2 metres
Jul 14	70 cm
Jul 21	23 cm
Jul 28	6 metres
Aug 4	2 metres
Aug 11	70 cm
Aug 18	23 cm
Aug 25	6 metres
Sep 1	2 metres
Sep 8	70 cm
Sep 15	23 cm
Sep 22	6 metres
Sep 29	4 metres
Oct 6	2 metres
Oct 13	70 cm
Oct 20	23 cm
Oct 27	6 metres

Other Contests - 2015

Jun 6/7: NFD
 Jun 14: 2nd 144MHz Backpackers
 Jun 20/21: 50MHz Trophy Contest
 Jun 28: 50MHz Contest CW
 Jun 28: 70MHz Cumulatives #4
 Jul 4/5: VHF NFD
 Jul 5: 3rd 144MHz Backpackers
 Jul 19: Low Power Contest
 Jul 19: 70MHz Trophy Contest
 Jul 25/26: IOTA Contest
 Aug 1: 144MHz Low Power Contest
 Aug 1: 4th 144MHz Backpackers
 Aug 2: RoPoCo CW
 Aug 2: 432MHz Low Power Contest
 Aug 9: 70MHz Cumulatives #5
 Sep 5/6: SSB Field Day
 Sep 5/6: 144MHz Trophy Contest
 Sep 6: 5th 144MHz Backpackers
 Sep 20: Second 70MHz Contest
 Oct 3: 1.2GHz Trophy / 2.3GHz Trophy
 Oct 3/4: Oct 432MHz-248GHz Contest
 Oct 4: 21/28MHz Contest
 Oct 18: 50MHz AFS Contest
 Nov 7/8: 144MHz CW Marconi
 Nov 14: Club Calls (1.8MHz AFS)
 Nov 21/22: 2nd 1.8MHz Contest

Local Rallies & Events

6 Jun 2015

**SERF, Sussex Electronics and Radio Fair
Eastbourne Sports Park, off Cross Levels Way,
Eastbourne BN21 2UF**

Open from 10am to 4pm.
Manufacturers, Distributors, Dealers, Clubs, Groups,
Societies, Educational and private stands, tables and
stalls, flea market, complete with a bring and buy area.
talk-in will be operating, together with
indoor and outdoor events,
refreshments
<http://serf.org.uk/>
admin@serf.org.uk

14 June 2015 East Suffolk Wireless Revival

The Ipswich Radio Rally
Orwell Crossing Lorry Park, A14 Eastbound, Nacton
Ipswich, Suffolk IP10 0DD
Open 09:30
Car Boot Sale, Bring & Buy Sale, Special Interest Radio
Groups, Local Radio Clubs, RSGB Bookstall, UK
Microwave Group, Vintage & Military ARS
Live Radio Demonstrations, Excellent Food and Facilities,
Easy Parking,
GB4SWR - HF Radio Station GB4SWR - Talk-in on
145.550MHz
Contact Steve, M1ACB 07711-329624
www.eswr.org.uk

21 June 2015

27th Newbury Radio Rally & Boot Sale

Newbury Showground, M4 J13.
Nearest Post Code: RG18 9BB
Open 09:00.
Free parking, trade stands, catering,
disabled facilities.
Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society, (RAFARS)
Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society
Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society
Radio Officers Association (ROARS)
Chiltern DX Club
UK Six Metre Group
Worked All Britain Awards Group (WAB)
Castles and Stately Homes on the Air (CASHOTA)
Vulcan To The Sky Group
Group for Earth Observation
Contact rally@nadars.org.uk
www.nadars.org.uk/

26-28 June 2015

39th 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

5 July 2015

Norfolk ARC Barford Radio Rally

Barford Village Hall
Barford 9 miles SW of Norwich close to A11 and A47
Open 09:00 (traders from 8am), CP, TI, CBS, B&B, C,
TS, RSGB Bookstall, Demos.
Contact: David G7URP 01953 457322 or
radio@dcpmicro.com
www.norfolkamateurradio.org

19 July 2015

McMichael Rally & Boot Sale

Reading Rugby Club Holme Park Farm Lane, Sonning
Lane (B4446), Sonning on Thames, Reading. RG4 6ST
off A4 east of Reading
Open 09:30.
Large Boot Sale on Level Site
Barbecue (weather dependant)
Fully Licensed Bar
Plenty of Parking Areas with Disabled special parking on
level ground.
Easy access from Reading & A4, A329(M) and M4
Talk in Station on VHF
Contact: Pete G8FRC 01189 695 697
www.mcmichaelrally.org.uk

24-26 July 2015

Amsat Colloquium

Holiday Inn Guildford GU2 7XZ
Networking
Speakers
Gala dinner
<http://amsat-uk.org/colloquium/colloquium-2015/>

9 August 2015

Flight Refuelling Hamfest

Cobham Sports and Social Club Ground, Merley, Nr.
Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3AA
Open 10:00
Radio, computing, and electronics traders
Also art and craft stalls.
Car boot sale.
Ample free parking
Food and Drink, Licensed bar
Overnight On-site Camping
Talk-In on 145.550MHz FM
Entrance Fees Adults £3.50 Under 14's free
Contact: 07773 157356 (eves only)
hamfest@frars.org.uk
Further information: www.frars.org.uk

30 August 2015

Milton Keynes 53rd Amateur Radio Society Rally

Longueville Hall, Hammond Park, Whaddon Road
Newton Longville, Milton Keynes MK17 0AT
Free on-site parking
Large indoor space
Dogs allowed
Inside catering
A bar
Car boot area
Toilets/shower area
Open 10:00
Entry £3.
Contact: Steve 07866 673192 or
www.mkars.org.uk

13 September 2015

West Kent Radio and Electronics Fair

Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys, St. John's
Road, Tonbridge Wells, TN4 9XB
The school is on the A26 main road between Tunbridge
Wells and Southborough, and will be open to the public
from 10am to 4pm and set up will be available from 8am.
Admission will £2.50 under 14 free
Catering available throughout the day
Talk in station
Excellent on-site car parking
RSGB bookstall
Wide range of trade stalls
rally@wkars.org.uk
www.wkars.org.uk

8 November 2015

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

15 November 2015

CATS 38th Annual Radio and Electronics Bazaar

NOTE NEW VENUE: Coulsdon Community Centre, Chipstead Valley Road in Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BE.

Open 10:00 to 13:00

Parking, trade stands, bring and buy, refreshments

Contact: enquiries@catsradio.org or

www.catsradio.org

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.

16 Jun – DF Hunt

21 Jul – Toilet roll crystal sets, everything to be home-made except wire and detector

18 Aug – Operating and Social (TBC)

CPREC (CRYSTAL PALACE)

Website: www.qsl.net/g30ou/ or <http://www.g30ou.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

5 Jun – The Park Langley Tramway - Jim M6BXL

3 Jul – 'Keep It Dry' by Prof Billingham

7 Aug - Club Project "Build & Buns"

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.

24 Jun - Arduino Introduction MOWID

CRAY VALLEY RS

Website: www.cvr.org

Contact: Richard Cains G7GLW rcains@btinternet.com

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.

4 Jun – Remote HF operation – G4TSH

21 Jun - GB150CM at Crossness Museum

16 Jul – Dxpedition to St Kilda by Dave G4BUO

6 Aug - The History of Eltham through its Street Names, by Margaret Taylor

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.

23 Jun – Oscilloscopes – David M3SXD

28 July – South Downs Evening

25 Aug – Social Evening

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

4 Jun - CubeSat - Dhiren Kataria

2 Jul - 21MHz Four Square Beam Antenna - Garth Swanson G3NPC

30 Jul – Fox Hunt

6 Aug - BBC Outside Broadcasting - Tony Crake G0OVA

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

12 Jun - Chairman's Barbecue

19 Jun - Windmills Evening at Jack and Jill Car Park

26 Jun - Radio Night and Table Top Sale

3 Jul – Prep for NFD

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

1 Jun - Theory, Technical Aspects, and Upgrading

Possibilities of the Component Tester - this years

Construction Project - Pat McGuinness, G4FDN

12 Jul – SRCC 80th Anniversary Celebration at G3MCX QTH.

3 Aug - The Crystal Palace Story (1851 -1936)

Barry McKay, Crystal Palace Museum

SUTTON & CHEAM RS

Website: www.scrs.org.uk

Contact: John Puttock G0 BWV 020 8644 9945

Club Nets: Saturday 10.00 - 7.120 MHz ± QRM

Saturday 11.00 - 145.500 MHz (S20) Then QSY

Meetings: 3rd Thursday at Sutton United Football Club, The Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green Lane, Sutton. 19:30 for 20:00

18 Jun – CQWW 2014 by John G4IRN

16 Jul - 'The Rosetta Mission' by Professor David Southwood

20 Aug - Early Wireless Licences by Dr Elizabeth Bruton

WIMBLEDON & DISTRICT ARS

Website: currently unavailable

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

Annex A: CATS COMMITTEE REPORT: APRIL 2015

CATS Secretary Mike M1CCF writes: "Rather than send out the full committee minutes to CATS members we have decided to continue to use this newsletter provide a synopsis. Members' feedback on this will be appreciated! What follows is a synopsis of the meeting of April 8th 2015. There was no committee meeting in May."

GENERAL:

Date and time of meeting: Wednesday 8th April 2015 at 7:30 pm using Skype.

Paperwork is still outstanding to provide an additional signatory to our bank account.

Mention was made of an evening set around using the "Raspberry Pi." We need an expert and a number of machines for project use either individually or in groups. *Ongoing*

FUTURE MEETINGS PLANNED:

- June - Foxhunt - Dennis N has agreed to organise/run. Location not known, commence 19.30.
- July - OPERATING EVENING at St Swithuns individual committee members will bring appropriate kit including aerials. A prior external recce time to be agreed and booked with hall secretary
- August BBQ - Pru has invited us once again

FUTURE OUTSIDE EVENTS.

4th Monday evening activity at Banstead Scout HQ continued

Kempton Park Bring & Buy went well for CATS, led by Graham 2E0XDZ with Andy G0KZT supporting him. The next Kempton Park Rally is 8th November - Remembrance Sunday

Planning for the PLAY WEEKEND is now closing with dates booked 4-6 September We now need confirmed membership support

Wings Museum located near Balcombe and a visit to BP in Milton Keynes will be investigated by Andy This is likely to be at a weekend, although Mike said he would be happy to arrange a weekday visit by rail - cost is about £35 with rail card via Watford Junction assuming RSGB Members get in free.

CROYDON's 50th Birthday - GB50 LBC . Participation in this activity has now been "filed"

MEMBERSHIP: – No new members, Len West has now resigned as he has moved the NE Kent. Stuart agreed as Chairman to write to him to offer him Life Membership of CATS and Secretary will prepare a suitable certificate for presentation.

PUBLICITY Stuart has looked into the ATC and is contacting Monks Hill ATC Squadron