

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



July 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 July 13 Operating Evening
Monday August 10 Barbecue at G4RWW QTH
Monday Sept 14 Talk on DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) by Denis G0OLX.



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

CATS June Meeting

The June CATS meeting was a DF Hunt and, just for a change, the location was in the Banstead Woods area. To reach the start, which was due to begin at 7:30, competitors and spectators had to approach via Holly Lane and enter a small lane that runs in a southerly direction towards a public car park.

As we arrived it was quite sunny and pleasant but at 7:15 there were worried faces all round as the weather changed and it began to drizzle. Meanwhile organiser Denis M0NDJ was busy setting up the foxes (miniature transmitters) for the event but having technical troubles with the rechargeable batteries.



Denis M0NDJ sets up the "foxes" prior to secreting them in Banstead woods

It was therefore decided to delay the start for ten minutes, but when Denis eventually set off to hide the foxes, the rain stopped and a rainbow emerged over the car park.

It wasn't long before Denis returned and the first competitor could set off, to be followed by subsequent entrants at 2 minute intervals. While spectators adjourned to the nearby Ramblers' Rest public house for refreshments, Denis remained in the car park to record the return times of the entrants.

This year's entrants were Alan G8UHN, Dave M0TRQ, Martin G4GFI, Steve G7SYO and Stuart G6CJR.

This year's winner was Stuart G6CJR who retains the CATS DF Trophy. He was two minutes quicker than the other entrants.

We are very grateful to Dennis M0NDJ who not only organised this fun event for us again this year but also supplied all the necessary equipment.

A selection of photos follows:



The rainbow over the car park shortly before the start



One of the "foxes" before the event



The group assembles in the car park waiting for the start



Martin G4GFI checking his system



Steve G7SYO checking his system



Dave M0TRQ checking his system



Alan G8UHN – the last to leave – chats to Denis M0NDJ before setting off to find the foxes



Stuart G6CJR checking his system

CATS July Meeting

For this meeting, we intend to hold an operating evening at St Swithuns, where stations will be set up for both HF and VHF/UHF.

Members are also invited to bring along any radio gear that they would like to experiment with.

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.

If you wish to attend, please contact Prue direct, or Club Secretary Mike Buckley (see front page of this issue of CATS Whispers for contact details.)

CATS September Meeting

This will be a talk on DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) to be given by Denis G0OLX.

The date for your diaries is September 14th 2015.

CATS 2015 Radio Play Weekend 5th/6th September

It is with some regret that we must announce that this event has been CANCELLED due to lack of interest. An email is being sent to all members with more information.

CATS Bazaar 2015

Glenn G4FVL writes:

“Hi Folks.

“I thought it was time to request the army of helpers needed for this year’s Bazaar on 15th November 2015.

“Unfortunately the new venue does not have Saturday 14th available for pre setting-up, so set up will be taking place on the morning of the bazaar. The hall will be available from 07:30 BST and I will be there at this time to unlock etc.

“We will need folks to help set up tables etc starting at 07:30 to enable trader entry at around 08:00 or 08:30 ish.

“During the Bazaar we will need:

- Folks to man the door
- Car park managing during the event.
- Catering (hopefully Prue, Jim and Barbara if they can make it) plus help to keep the eating area clean after folks use it.
- Bring and Buy
- Floor walkers to help and liaise if needed.
- Finally help to clear up and leave the hall in tip top condition at around 14:00 ish

“No doubt there will be other issues needing

assistance during the day

“Please feel free to email me directly or give me a bell if you can spare some time, using the contact information given below:”

- glenn.m.rankin@btinternet.com
- Landline 0208 763803

For Sale

CATS member Dave G8VXB has a considerable amount of equipment that he has generously offered free of charge to CATS members. Alternatively, Dave will let non-members take items away subject to making a donation to CATS. In either case, recipients would need to collect the equipment from Dave’s QTH which is in the Kingston area.

Equipment List		
Quantity	Description	
1	Dymar Meter with 711 millivoltmeter plug in + probe	
1	Dymar Meter with 761 noise factor plug in	
1	Dymar 785 mod meter plug in plus handbook	
1	Rohde & Schwarz Wavemeter WAL BN4321/2	
1	Box of video cameras & lenses	
1	Addlestone BH22 Pulse & Bar Generator	
1	Tektronix 7603 scope with 8 plugins	
1	Some parts for 400W 2M linear (valves, bases, PSU)	*
10	Anti static boxes for I.C.'s	
2	BBC Transmitter test units	
1	TS700 2m Tx/Rx	
2	Overhead Projectors	
2 pairs	Alvarion 5.8Ghz Ethernet link	
1	Honeywell Galaxy 520 Alarm panel	
1	Mechanics of very old Ferrograph	
1	Mechanics of Magnavox Tape Recorder	
1	Dedicated Micros Sprite Multiplexor	
1	Marconi TF791D Deviation Meter	
2	3.5 Floppy Disc drive	
2	50uA meters	
1	Marconi TF762C Signal Generator	
1	Brother HL1250 Laser Printer	
*	Includes construction details	

Faulty Equipment		
Quantity	Description	
1	Tektronix 475 scope inc handbook (5V rail fault)	
10	Hitachi VKS914 camera module	*
15	Sony EX470 camera module	*
43	Sony EX480 camera module	*
4	Sony EX1000 camera module	*
1	Scslumberger OTDR SI7721	
*	These have plug in cards that can be swapped	

If you are interested in any of the above items, please contact Dave by email at:

youngdw930@gmail.com

GB3XP Goes Live!

Andy G0KZT writes:

“On Monday 22nd June 2015 I heard for the first time the newest addition to the VHF repeater network, GB3XP. Sited at St Helier’s

Hospital in Carshalton IO91vj, it is currently operating with just 2 watts and is “End Stop” here in Coulsdon. I was even able to access it “fully quieting” on my old Yaesu FT290r positioned in the window of the shack with the retractable ¼ wave extended!

“The repeater is experiencing some problems however with co-channel site interference which is causing a slight noise on transmission. It does not require any tone (either CTCSS or 1750 Hz) at the moment to open the repeater. It is however transmitting the CTCSS tone of 82.5 Hz on the output.

“The output is on 145.6875 MHz and the input is 600 kHz lower. The keeper is Neil M0ZEY and more information is available at:

<http://scrs.org.uk/repeater/>

“73 de Andy G0KZT”

Contests Coming Soon

<u>Tuesday Activity Activity</u> <u>Contests 2015 – all begin at</u> <u>8pm local time</u>	
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

Other Contests - 2015

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

Local Rallies & Events

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

Computer Equipment

Demonstrations & Lecture

First Aid Post

Talk in Station on VHF

Parking, trade stands, catering, bar, BBQ.

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 1RJ

Open 10:00

Radio, computing, and electronics traders

Car boot sale.

Ample free parking

Food and Drink, Licensed bar

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 parking, catering, bar

Car boot area

Open 10:00

Entry £3.

Contact: Steve 07866 673192 or

<http://www.mkars.org.uk/mkars/rally>

13 September 2015

West Kent Radio and Electronics Fair

Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys, St. John's Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9XB

Open 10 am.

Admission £2.50, Children under 14 free

Catering, Talk in station, Parking

RSGB bookstall

Wide range of trade stalls

rally@wkars.org.uk

www.wkars.org.uk

25-26 September 2015

National Hamfest

Open 10:00 to 16:00.

George Stephenson Pavilion, Newark & Nottingham

Showground, Lincoln Road, Winthorpe, NG24 2NY.

Flea market, Traders, Bring and Buy

Entrance £5

For the latest details and ticket information, visit:

www.nationalhamfest.org.uk

9-11 October
RSGB 2015 Convention
Kents Hill Conference Centre in Milton Keynes
Five lecture streams covering 27 topics.
<http://rsgb.org/main/about-us/rsgb-convention/>

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.
21 Jul – Toilet roll crystal sets, everything to be home-made except wire and detector
18 Aug – Operating and Social (TBC)
15 Sep – DSP introduction

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
3 Jul – 'Keep It Dry' by Prof Billingham
7 Aug - Club Project "Build & Buns"
4 Sep - RSGB Activities – RSGB Regional Manager

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.

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.
16 Jul – Dxpediton to St Kilda by Dave G4BUO
6 Aug - The History of Eltham through its Street Names, by Margaret Taylor
17 Sep – Top tips for working DX by Fred G3SVK

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 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
2 Jul - 21MHz Four Square Beam Antenna - Garth Swanson G3NPC
30 Jul – Fox Hunt
6 Aug - BBC Outside Broadcasting - Tony Crake G0OVA
3 Sep - TBA

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
3 Jul – Prep for NFD
7 Aug – Fox Hunt

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
12 Jul – SRCC 80th Anniversary Celebration at G3MCX QTH.
3 Aug - The Crystal Palace Story (1851 -1936)
Barry McKay, Crystal Palace Museum
7 Sep - TBC

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
16 Jul - 'The Rosetta Mission' by Professor David Southwood
20 Aug - Early Wireless Licences by Dr Elizabeth Bruton
17 Sep – PCB construction –Matt 2E0MTT

WIMBLEDON & DISTRICT ARS
Website: <http://gx3wim.abar.co.uk/>
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
10 Jul – Summer Camp Preparation

Annex A: CATS COMMITTEE REPORTS: JUNE 2015

CATS Secretary Mike M1CCF writes: "Rather than send out the full committee minutes to CATS members we have decided to continue to use the newsletter to provide a synopsis. Members' feedback on this will be appreciated! What follows is a synopsis of the meeting of June 1st 2015."

FUTURE MEETINGS PLANNED:

- July - OPERATING EVENING at St Swithuns individual committee members will bring appropriate kit including aerals.
- August - BBQ - Prue has invited us once again, 1930 start time
- September Denis Stanton telling us about GB7NS & DMR repeater in Caterham
- October - Dead Bug construction by Bob Burns from CPREC Mike to contact Bob and agree detail
- November - Bob Burns returns with a construction evening - Project Pixie being reviewed by Steve B who finds it is problematical and will finally report back on 7th July.
- December - AGM and social evening, Wine and snacks with an evening of nostalgia photographs.
- January – Dinner – Chateau Napoleon in Coombe Lane, Croydon. cost - £15.95 (2 course) £19.95 (3 course) + drinks as purchased.

FUTURE OUTSIDE EVENTS: Kempton Park is next booked for us to organise the Bring & Buy for *8th November - Remembrance Sunday*, Graham Parsons leading on this.

RSGB INSPIRE WORKSHOP: – RSGB group implementing the proposals, and we are asked to provide input where possible – more details to come.

TREASURER'S REPORT: £2129.58 Current £3015.44 on Deposit.

MEMBERSHIP: No new membership applications, currently we seem to have 39 members. Subsequently the Treasurer confirmed we have 35 paid members, + 2 Life Members + 2 who have not paid but are retained on the current membership list. Reduced subscriptions for those disabled was raised, and the existing Society Rules were thought to be adequate to cover and implement this. The Annual membership details will be distributed shortly, asking for all to review and update any inaccuracies, noted.

PUBLICITY: Stuart has looked into the ATC and now thinks we might do better to contact the Monks Hill Squadron, who have available equipment, and are looking for help with this and with the erection of suitable aerals.

We discussed offering a year's free years CATS membership to anybody signing up on a display stand and agreed to give this a trial through the CATS Bazaar. We will design and print postcard sized cards for distribution via the B&B Stand at Kempton Park, offering this to people attending. Cards to be exchangeable at the Bazaar as part of the "free Drink" offer we always have and not to be available to any former member.

RSGB Year book entry sent off by Steve B who will also design an A4 poster for display on the noticeboard outside St Swithuns, alongside other users information. Mike to laser print and encapsulate for longer life.

We agreed not to pursue the idea of an Special Event Station at Whitgift School for their 2016 exhibition.

QUESTIONNAIRE REVIEW: Andy managed to get the Survey Monkey questions on screen for us to see and we agreed that we would all look further at these and come back to the next meeting with suggestions. The multiple answers are from members, the 5 replies are from the committee, separately.

AOB: We agreed to look further into the RSGB requirements for Clubs to have a Child Protection Policy in the constitution.