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G4HRS

H A R C N E W S



The Journal of Horsham Amateur Radio Club

April 2010

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Contents

In this issue

3. British DX
LF Hunt
4. Going, going, gone!
The old ones are always the best
5. Time for cuisene
A great centeniary
6. CQ World Wide
7. Better pictures
8. Not singing in the rain
9. Listen out
11. No circus here
12. Diary of events

Members score

Cover photo: Emma 2E1IGA and Jackie M0CUR running GG100HDG

Editorial

Greetings to Steve Rhodes M6ZOT and Simon Newlands M6SIN who have recently joined HARC. Emails have been arriving indicating that the satellite questions and answers session last month gave readers the information they needed. Input to this magazine has increased recently and any articles outstanding will appear in due course.

Please do send in photos of events whenever possible even if they were taken from your mobile phone. A while ago I mentioned the problem of my shack which had a major leak or two hence I am currently still off air. However the plan to rectify the issue has changed a couple of times and it looks that I may be back on in June or July.

In the meantime I have been using WebSDR sites since the information that appeared in last months magazine. I have found good reception with HB9FX from stations in the UK with G3LYW S9+20 on 160m Friday nights!

David G4JHI

Challenge

If anyone has DF equipment for 160m there is an amateur in Edenbridge who would like assistance in tracking down a source of interference. It is rumoured that Horsham Club are quite active in DF hunts and they may be interested in taking up the challenge although its a bit out of their area.

Interested parties should contact the HARCNEWS Editor for further information.

This message was submitted by: Derek Atter, G3GRO.
Hon President /Hon Sec CARC

HARC March Meeting:

Junk Sale



(Left)

Adrian,
Tony, Ron
and Robin

The March Junk sale had a good turnout and plenty of items to be sold which extended from one side of the room to the other. Items of interest included a steering wheel for a boat, arc welder, pair of steel toe caps, an assortment of tools, resistors and capacitors. Hard drives, floppy drives including 5¼"!

There were a couple of laptops (not Windows 7!), eprom eraser, signal generator and binoculars. Thanks go to auctioneers Tony and Robin, goods distributor Ron, on the door David J and David M. Finance department Adrian, Alister and Paul, Raffle tickets Alan, catering Pat and Andrew.

'Silent SWL' Sale

ETON E5 Rx. LW\MW\FM\SW to 29.999 MHz – SSB capability – 700 memories – ideal travel portable £45. Grundig 'Music Boy' Rx – LW – MW – FM – SW – Analogue tuning – Bandspeed 49 metre band – Collectors item £20.

Contact David 2E0NKC on 01403 240017 or 07768 118450

Broadcast Listener

A new station calling itself Soos-shi Radio has applied for a special RSL (restrictive service licence). Initially they asked to use the popular frequency of 87.7MHz FM but since this was not available and rather than broadcast on medium wave opted to apply to operate on DAB.

If approved the station will be the first of its kind on this platform playing music, dedicated local news broadcasts and recipes with an Eastern theme to North Sussex and South Surrey. A spokesperson said that this would be a great opportunity to capture a new audience on this expanding platform.

If the licence is granted engineers will climb to the top of the Reigate mast to put up the antenna and signals will reach Horsham. We wish them all the best success with this venture and transmissions are scheduled to start on the first Thursday in April.

Thinking day on the Air

The 25th Guides TDOTA weekend held at Christ Hospital in mid February saw 100 plus visitors over the weekend including 4 Rainbows, 34 Brownies, 21 Guides, 17 Leaders, and 17 Parents plus Scouting and other interested passerby's. This year the station was using the callsign GG1ØØHDG celebrating 100 years of Guiding which runs until the end of October.

Two stations were in operation and the operators/station helpers were David G4JHI, Emma 2E1IGA, Jackie MØCUR, Pete G4LKW, Roger G7VBR and Steve G4TPO. Equipment for the HF station was Steve's Kenwood TS 940s and KW1000 Linear, HARC's Tribander and Scouts MA5B Mini Beam. The LF bands were run by HARC's Club rig and the Scouts Trapped Dipole for 40M & 80M.

The HF Station made 158 contacts in 30 Countries

including 20 States of the USA on 20m and 15m plus 2 Canadian Guide Stations, 1 Austrian Scout station OE1XJA and 1 Italian Scout/Guide station IT7BRV with Guide leader Operator Maria ITNYD in Taranto.

15m was particularly good 1700-1830 on Saturday and 1230-1430 on Sunday. The LF station made 102 contacts in 12 Countries including 8 UK Guide stations and passed lots of Greetings messages.

During the period 1730 – 1900 on Saturday 40m was open to Europe and David was operating during probably the biggest pile up he had ever experienced! Everyone wanted that special call! The combined totals gave us 260 contacts in 38 Countries.

SSB Field Day 2010

Hi all

I have been tasked (volunteered?) to organise the SSB field day on September 4th – 5th 1300 to 1300 utc. The plan, so far, is to use Robin's (G3OGP) field at Garlands Farm, The Haven near Billingshurst (very close to the Blue Ship), and enter the Restricted Section in order to keep things simple. "100W output power.

One antenna only which must be a single element having not more than two elevated supports and not exceeding 15m above ground at its highest point. Equipment: One transmitter and one receiver or one transceiver. Both receivers in a dual-receive transceiver may be used, if desired. In all sections, equipment and antennas for packet radio access above 30MHz may also be used, if desired."

Full rules can be found on the RSGB site: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/rssbfd.shtml We have all the necessary equipment but are lacking one vital resource.... YOU! Being a 24 hour competition volunteers are needed to operate and

log the calls.

For those of you not up to speed with "competition" radio don't worry as help and guidance will be available from the more experienced operators. You do not have to be there for the entire time. One or two hours will be of great use. I nearly forgot to mention that you would not wish to miss out on an "EFO burger"!

I'm told it's something to behold. So don't be shy, step right up, and as they say "every little helps". Names please to myself as soon as possible please so the planning can be completed in good time.

73 Alan (2E0BTO) alan@gatwickweb.com

Transmitter Upgrade

The Midhurst TV transmitter is upgrading the signal of the digital Multiplex 2 on UHF channel 65 this month. This will bring improved coverage of services such as ITV1, ITV2, Five and More4 to the Horsham and surrounding areas. Multiplex A which includes ITV3, Virgin1 and Fiver on channel 62 may also be upgrading but this could not be confirmed at the time of writing.

It should be noted that after DSO (digital switchover) in 2012 the new multiplex7 will start and use channel 46. This is outside of the existing aerial group C/D (48-68). If you use a diplexer for group A and C/D to combine the aerial with Crystal Palace there may be a sharp cut off below channel 48 which should be taken into account.

If you were thinking of upgrading your current aerial it may be worth investing in a group E (35-68) or wait and see how the reception actually is. At Crystal Palace after DSO new Multiplex8 will start on channel 42 and will require a group K aerial (21-48) to receive all services. Finally the Reigate transmitter will require a wideband aerial (21-68) but reception may be less reliable around Horsham.

Please note that regardless of what you may have heard there is no such thing as a 'digital aerial' but they may be optimised for better digital reception and grouped aerials are recommended rather than wideband wherever possible for best results.

www.digitaluk.co.uk

Foxhunt Results 28th February

Despite the atrocious weather, turnout for this HARC Foxhunt was very good. A total of 8 teams arrived at the Mannings Heath start-point including the all ladies team of Marilyn G7EYL and Jan.

The Fox (G3WZT) was located at North Chailey Windmill.

RESULTS

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | Bryn, G3SWC and Eva. | 48 Minutes. |
| 2nd | Alister G3ZBU | 1Hr 09 Minutes. |
| 3rd | Mike G8CKT & Yvonne G6CKT | 1Hr 22 Minutes. |
| 4th | Marilyn G7EYL & Jan | 1Hr 33 Minutes |
| 5th | Robin G3OGP | 1Hr 36 Minutes |
| 6th | Mike G4EFO | 1Hr 43 Minutes |

The following teams did not find the wily old Fox.

- Adrian G4LRP
- Dom. 2E0DDW

All contestants were within a very small distance of the hidden station and it goes to show how difficult it can be DFing close in to the Fox.

Afterwards most contestants retired to the Bull on the Green in Newick. A lovely old pub with log fires and draught Spitfire for the boys! This turned out to be an excellent choice and most enjoyed a full Sunday lunch. Excellent food and good company.

Unfortunately, owing to the rather inclement weather no photographs were taken of this event. Congratulations to Bryn and Eva for finishing in very good time.

Thank you all for taking part on a wet miserable day.

John G3WZT

GB6GEO The Geoparks Communication Weekend 22 May – 23 May



Radio stations from around the world will be exchanging greetings over the airwaves with the English Riviera Global Geopark in May as amateur radio operators transmit live from Kents Cavern right in the heart of the English Riviera Global Geopark.

Using a special event call sign, GB6GEO, will establish contact with other radio stations around Britain, Europe and around the world from a base set up outside the entrance to Kents Cavern, Devon's internationally famous Stone Age cave and gateway to the English Riviera Global Geopark. There are now 53 Geoparks around the world.

Visitors will be able to link up with several other Geoparks by radio over the weekend, including Araripe Geopark in Brazil; Kanawinka Geopark in Australia; Langkawi Geopark in Malaysia. Also the Petrified Forest of Lesvos Geopark in Greece, the Brecon Beacons in Wales, Nature Park Terra Vita, Germany, Hateg Country Dinosaur Geopark Romania, Naturtejo Geopark Portugal, and to the Copper Coast Geopark in Southern Ireland.

Many Geoparks also have show caves and those participating so far include: Smoo Cave in the North West Highlands Geopark in Scotland, Marble Arch Caves Geopark in Northern Ireland and Unicorn Cave in the Harz Mountains in Germany. With

the event now global, the event will run from 0900 on Saturday 22nd May, through the night to 16:00 on Sunday 23rd May.

Geopark Certificate

For amateur radio stations/SWL's around the world who contact/hear Geopark stations, the English Riviera Geopark is offering a special beautiful commemorative European Geoparks Network radio amateur certificate for contacts with GB6GEO (instant qualifier), or two Geopark stations excluding GB6GEO (this award will also apply to SWL's on a heard basis).

This certificate is endorsed by our Queens husband H.R.H The Duke of Edinburgh, with his own words of congratulating the holder. Certificates will cost UK £2.50 each, Europe €4 and Rest of the world USD5. Alternatively certificate holders to be the first in their country to claim the certificate will have an 'FC' suffix following the certificate number.

This denotes the first person in their country to claim the 'Geoparks' award. These certificate holders will be worth one point towards the basic certificate, that requires two points, or work any five (5) certificate holders. Many of these certificate holders can be found in the Torbay Amateur Radio Society nets, details from the website www.tars.org.uk

Certificate Manager/ direct qsl's to Martin Foster G3VOF QTHR or QRZ.COM Please also see qrz.com for the latest updates. Only log details necessary.

QSL's

There is a special glossy high quality souvenir QSL cards for this event, promoting the English Riviera Geopark. All QSL cards will automatically be sent out via the bureau, or send an SASE in the UK. If you would like a card direct

(Please QSL via G3VOF).

Any information required about GB6GEO please contact Martin Foster (G3VOF) email: martin@riviera.fm or via qrz.com.

Chairman of the English Riviera Global Geopark and 5th Generation owner of Kents Cavern added: "Interest in the Global Geoparks Network and its Geo-tourism potential is rapidly gaining momentum around the world.

"Globally, the Geopark designation is recognised as a powerful way to bring economic benefits through the development of Geo-tourism activities and promoting Geo-diversity of the Geopark area.

"I'm delighted that Kents Cavern will be at the heart of this global radio link up which will raise awareness of our fantastic cave system here and of Torbay around the world."

Supported by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, and the Torbay Amateur Radio Society Weekend, 2010

Tip of the month

A feature of Acrobat Reader - not often used !

- 1 Open the document
- 2 expand to full size page view
- 3 then CNTRL L
- 4 Then use page UP and Down to go through the document.

Phil G4UDU

Copy deadline for May edition 20th April

For items sent by email please send to this address:

harc.news@g4jhi.co.uk

Diary

Apr 1st, Club Night: The Beginning of Airborne Communication and Navigation - G3GDU

Apr 4th, Happy Easter!

Apr 5th, 80m CW Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

Apr 8th, Committee Meeting - QTH G3ZBU

Apr 14th, 80m SSB Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

Apr 15th, Social Evening - The Rising Sun - Nurnourne

Apr 18th, West London Radio & Electronics Show
Kempton Park 10:00 www.radiofairs.co.uk

Apr 22nd, 80m Data Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

Apr 24-25th, HARC Weekend Away (via Calais)

May 3rd, 80m SSB Club Championship

May 6th, Club Night: GB7HQ during IARU Contest 2009


All above times are BST

Committee/Club Meetings and Socials start at 8pm

Club Champs 2010 - Horsham Club Scores

Issue: 20th March 2010 Rev B

| PARTICIPANTS | JANUARY | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | | APRIL | | | MAY | | | JUNE | | | JULY | | | TOTAL POINTS | % | MODE TOTALS | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|------|------|----------|------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|--------------|------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|--|--|
| | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | SSB | Data | CW | | | | | |
| G3LET Pete | | 437 | | | | 882 | | | 886 | | | | | | | | | | 2205 | 7.7 | 0 | 437 | 1768 | | | |
| G3NPF Tony | 884 | 528 | | 458 | 485 | | | | 611 | | | | | | | | | | 2966 | 10.4 | 1342 | 1624 | 0 | | | |
| G3OGP Robin | | 300 | 422 | 733 | 381 | 556 | | | 361 | 500 | | | | | | | | | 3253 | 11.4 | 733 | 1042 | 1478 | | | |
| G3PYC Ron | 178 | | | 125 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 303 | 1.1 | 303 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| G3SWC Bryn | 578 | 515 | 428 | 369 | 613 | 675 | | | 610 | 736 | | | | | | | | | 4524 | 15.9 | 947 | 1738 | 1839 | | | |
| G3VQO Les | | 260 | 302 | | | 675 | | | 420 | 679 | | | | | | | | | 2336 | 8.2 | 0 | 680 | 1656 | | | |
| G3WZT John | | | | | | 497 | | | | 600 | | | | | | | | | 1097 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 | 1097 | | | |
| G3ZBU Alister | 567 | 645 | 339 | 715 | 663 | | | | | 93 | | | | | | | | | 3022 | 10.6 | 1282 | 1308 | 432 | | | |
| G4EFO Mick | | | | | 145 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 145 | 0.5 | 0 | 145 | 0 | | | |
| G4LRP Adrian | 533 | 96 | | 715 | 315 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1659 | 5.8 | 1248 | 411 | 0 | | | |
| G4TPO Steve | 606 | | | 236 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 842 | 3.0 | 842 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| G8CKT Mike | 112 | 150 | | 447 | 449 | 178 | | | 302 | 215 | | | | | | | | | 1853 | 6.5 | 559 | 901 | 393 | | | |
| G8HQJ Barry | 600 | | | 303 | 376 | 82 | | | 356 | | | | | | | | | | 1717 | 6.0 | 903 | 732 | 82 | | | |
| M0FRH Ian | | | | 85 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 85 | 0.3 | 85 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| M0GJH Andrew | 445 | | 353 | 45 | 356 | | | | 448 | 393 | | | | | | | | | 2040 | 7.2 | 490 | 448 | 1102 | | | |
| M0YMK Ian | 228 | | | 223 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 451 | 1.6 | 451 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Mode totals | 4731 | 2931 | 1844 | 4454 | 3427 | 3901 | 0 | 3108 | 4102 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28498 | | 9185 | 9466 | 9847 | | | |
| Month totals to date | | | 9506 | | | 11782 | | | 7210 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | | | | |
| Contest dates/times | 13th | 21st | 4th | 1st | 10th | 18th | 18th | 1st | 10th | 14th | 22nd | 5th | 3rd | 12th | 20th | 24th | 7th | 16th | 14th | 22nd | 5th | Start times are all 2000 clock time, ending 2130 local | | | | |

HARC overall position after above results announced **7/64 7/68 11/50 5/72 5/74 5/75 6/76 6/78**  **HARC DOWN 1 POSITION since last report - see latest date.**

All entries to be uploaded with the Contest Robot at:- <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl> Latest robot entries may be viewed at:- <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfposted.pl>
 Contest rules:- <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2010/r80mcc.shtml>

WE HAVE NOW DROPPED TO SIXTH PLACE AND NORFOLK ARC SEEM TO BE BREEZING BY! EVEN THE TWELVE ENTRIES WE HAVE JUST PUT IN FOR MARCH SSB WILL BE HARD PUSHED TO CATCH UP THE 3450 POINT DIFFERENCE, HOWEVER WE DID HAVE A COUPLE OF STAR ENTRIES - MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH WHEN THE RESULTS ARE OUT. PLEASE NOTE THAT GRIMSBY ARE ONLY 1442 POINTS BEHIND US, SO WE NEED TO BE VERY AWARE!

WELL DONE PETE/G3LET FOR THE 886 POINTS AND SECOND POSITION GAINED IN THE MARCH QRP CW.

WE REALLY DO NEED SOME MORE SUPPORT & EFFORT IN THE DATA CONTEST - MARCH IS DOWN ON OUR FEBRUARY SCORE - SO COME ON CHAPS!
 IS THERE ANYONE ELSE WE CAN PURSUDE TO JOIN THE GROUP?

THE TOP TWELVE CLUBS - out of approx 78 participating
 (data courtesy of RSGB website)

| Pos | Club Name | Total | CW | SSB | DATA |
|----------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Bristol CG | 53546 | 21300 | 15138 | 17108 |
| 2 | Newbury & DARS | 49976 | 18827 | 12239 | 18910 |
| 3 | De Montfort Univ | 43121 | 13433 | 8807 | 20881 |
| 4 | Three As CG | 38659 | 20380 | 9474 | 8805 |
| 5 | Norfolk ARC | 31948 | 11801 | 6137 | 14010 |
| 6 | Horsham ARC | 28498 | 9847 | 9185 | 9466 |
| 7 | Grimsby ARS | 27056 | 13812 | 3626 | 9618 |
| 8 | Brimham CG | 20678 | 9271 | 3321 | 8086 |
| 9 | Reading & DARC | 18995 | 10573 | 3830 | 4592 |
| 10 | Tall Trees CG | 16947 | 6613 | 2705 | 7629 |
| 11 | RAF Waddington | 16084 | 5720 | 3934 | 6430 |
| 12 | Torbay ARS | 12809 | 4942 | 3801 | 4066 |