Wirral & District Amateur Radio Club

Airwave 70.450 MHz

Volume 4, Issue 2 | **www.wadarc.com** | *Newsletter:- April 2004*

2004 Committee

Colin G3RLA
Chairman / Newsletter

Bob G4NCI
Treasurer

Tom G4BKF
Secretary / Publicity

Steve G7BBF
Broadband

Gordon G8MMM
Publicity / Newsletter

Phil G6IIM
Neil G4OAR
Gerry G8TRY

Meetings are held at Irby Cricket Club 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 8pm Start.

Visitors are always most welcome

Suggestions for Club talks or your comments on any topic .. to:-

Colin

g3rla@wadarc.com

or any commitee member

Chairman's Notes :-

A very successful start to 2004. Our pre-owned sale evening on the 28th of Jan drew in quite a crowd of eager punters all looking for that special bargain. The lively banter between our able auctioneer Gordon and his captive audience is always guaranteed to amuse. The sum of £51.00 was a welcome addition to club funds and our thanks go to all who contributed.

The Pic4pic revisited evening was well attended and those wishing to give this mode of communication a try were presented with the latest version of the program on floppy disk. (Note:- anyone requiring a copy of this software should request it directly from the writer).

The excellent talk by Simon Grainger concluded with an active demonstration of Flight Simulation Software (see above)

An impromptu evening to demonstrate useful Amateur Radio Software resulted in an informative talk on the basics of protecting your computer. Many other interesting and varied applications were shown and full details and URLs are given elsewhere in this newsletter.

The NARSA Rally was enjoyed by all who attended, and special thanks go to all those who gave their time in the manning of the disabled entrance. The Club entry into the Newsletter Competition received a second place (Highly Commended) award , the winner being SADARC (Southport) with their eight page Monthly SADARC News

Club Roundup

A superb evenings entertainment was provided by Simon Grainger with his talk on Learning to Fly. Simon has a wealth of experience as an aviator with several thousands of flying hours to his credit. He made it sound all so easy and oh so cheap (he is busy building his own plane at the moment,... who said home brew was dead). Simon concluded his talk with a wonderful demonstration of flight simulation software giving Tom (G4BKF) a chance to re-live his days as a helicopter pilot. It is rumoured that Tom is now busy re-reading his collection of Biggles books.

Simon:- Smooth Take-off

Tom:- Fasten your seatbelts

Ever fancied working the world from an Australian Location? .....

You can now do this very thing from the comfort of your armchair……..
There are several internet sites that allow you to take over the use of the Amateur Radio Base Station in the USA or in Australia. Take a look at www.daves-portal.com for access to the VK3UR Internet Remote Base. The system is located in Ballerat, Victoria approx 100 km West of Melbourne and runs a Kenwood 2000X with a variety of antennas.
You can apply for a listening only facility by supplying your call sign details or full Tx/Rx capability by sending a copy of your licence.. The associated W4MQ software will give you full control of the Rx and Tx functions and even allow you to control the antenna rotation.

Leasowe Makeover:-

Members were recently invited to help with the painting of the lighthouse. Fortunately our photographer was on hand to capture some of the activity

NARSA

Some visitors to the event take time out to sample the coffee.

Friedrichshafen Rally ….2004

The stunning scenery of Lake Constance is again the venue for late June, nine club members have already booked their flights. Visit the Best Rally in Europe. For details contact Neil (G4OAR) A.S.A.P At:- g4oar@wadarc.com

A PRIZE RADIO QUIZ for the Members!

Answers to The Chairman by the 12th May meeting

Q1. Give the name of a popular Direction Finding (DF) antenna.

Q2. What type of antenna is specifically excluded?

Q3. Whereabouts do our Wirral foxhunts commence?

Q4. What frequency do we traditionally use for the hunts?

Q5. What piece of equipment is of particular advantage when you are close to the fox?

Q6. What are two of the primary objectives of the hunt?

Q7. Name one Club trophy associated with these Club events?

Q8: Where can you find a design for the G3UVR attenuator?

Q9. What is the date of the N Wales DF Hunt this year?

Q10. What is the date for this years Eileen Medley Hunt?

Committee Meeting of 5th April, brief:-

1. The Club has a library of various technical books associated with our hobby and although still valid, some of the information is a little out of date!. The Committee are considering upgrading the library but would invite feedback as to what books would be of benefit to you the membership.

2. Publicity was discussed and we can announce that Short Wave Magazine (now titled SWM on the cover) now carries our current contact information. It was also reported that Practical Wireless was very responsive and our new details should be in that publication as well. Anyone who has spotted this please tell us! The last remaining "challenge" is RADCOM and we now know how best to get our info into that Journal.

Club publicity is not just a committee activity...anyone who feels that they could find a suitable audience for a notice board poster, would they please approach any of the committee with their suggestions.

3. One of the ham radio activities that we really do well is Direction Finding (foxhunting) and we have several Club trophies to back up our efforts. For whatever reason we don't get the support that we used to so we are targeting this activity with both our quiz and promotion at the Club.

Can we please have your views on this at the next meeting and what you would like to see happen so that you can get the same fun as the guys who regularly turn up.

Wirral & District ARC - Calendar 2004

April

7th, D&W The Fox and Hounds, Barnston.
14th, Project Goodwill, Albania 2003. Prof J.A.Share G3OKA.
21st, D&W The Harp, Neston.
28th, A Talk by our Local Historian Glynn Parry.

May

5th, D&W The Green Lodge, Hoylake.
12th, Weather Satellites by Geoff Morris GW3ATZ.
19th, D&W The Chimneys, Hooton.
26th, The practice DF Hunt.

June

2nd, D&W The Farmers Arms, Frankby.
9th, The WADARC Annual FAMILY Barbecue.
16th, D&W The Shrewsbury Arms, Oxton.
23rd, The Eileen Medley DF Hunt.
30th, D&W The Black Horse, Lower Heswall.

July

7th, D&W The Harp Inn, Neston.
14th, A Bring and Tell Evening.
21st, D&W The Fox and Hounds, Barnston.
28th, The Revenge DF Hunt.

Follow-up to the Software evening:-

For information and downloads for any of the programs demonstrated click on the appropriate URL below.

G4BKF Zone Alarm www.zonelabs.com
Anti Virus Guard www.grisoft.com
Ad-Aware www.lavasoftusa.com
BadCopy www.jufsoft.com/

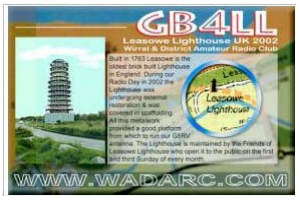
G3UVR Webspace for Amateurs, e-mail reflector www.qsl.net
Internet Call Book www.qrz.com
Ham Radio Chat www.on4kst.com/chat/start.php
The DX Cluster www.gb7mbc.spoo.org
Unconeer, unit conversion program www.watercom.ca/downloads.htm
QSL Cards on the web www.eqsl.cc/qslcards/Index.cfm
Transistor Specs Torbase.zip www.geocities.com/dre_cb/dwnl.htm
By e-mail from Denis:- g3uvr@wadarc.com A) JNT Terrain B) Instant track

G3RLA PC Cleanup "WIPE" www.topdownloads.net/software/view.php?id=11598

Irfanview Photo Viewer www.irfanview.com/main_download_engl.htm

GB4LL QSL Cards

Are about to roll off the WADARC press. All stations who made contact with our special lighthouse call GB4LL will shortly receive one of these attractive cards.



IMPORTANT.. New e-mail Address???
Changed your e-mail address lately? Then please advise the Secretary …. Tom. G4bkf@wadarc.com

Welcome

The Wirral & District ARC extends a warm welcome to
Steve Davies M0SPD
Tony Newton G0LPU

And wish you a long and happy stay with us.

Dates For Your Diary in 2004 :

The North Wales DF hunts this year will take place on Sunday 25 April.
The Midcars Rally at Winsford is on Bank Holiday Monday 3 May
The Drayton Manor Rally (£7 entry) is on Sunday 23 May

The Elvaston Castle Radio Rally is on Sunday 6 June

The Leasowe Lighthouse weekend will be on the 21/22 August