

WIRRAL & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

G8WDC

NEWSLETTER Number 2

Chairman Colin Phillips GJRLA
 Secretary Ian D. Brooks G8PFW
 Treasurer Malcolm McIntosh G4TEQ
 Committee G8NDJ G8NNY G8TSC

Club meetings are held at 8pm in the committee room of the Concourse Sports Centre at West Kirby. Visitors are always welcome at the club. Further details, and membership forms etc. are available from the Hon. Sec.

Ian D. Brooks
 59 Mosslands Drive
 Wallasey
 Merseyside L15 2PZ

EVENTS ON

- 2 April D & W Red Cat - Greenby
- ✓ 9 Test your rig night G4GGS aided by G8QYO
- 16 Committee Meeting
D & W Seven Stars - Thornton Hough
- ✓ 23 Icon and Yacht Equipment - G3LEQ
- ✓ 7 May D & W The Harp - WMM's local on the Dee shore
- ✓ 14 Japanese House Cafe G3CSG N. Kendrick
- 21 Committee Meeting
D & W Argyle & Sutherland Highlander - Eastham
- ✓ 28 Womens Lib and The Law - G.Walker LL.B.
- ✓ 4 June Visit to Liverpool Police H.Q.
- X 11 Natter Night with Bring & Buy Stall
- 18x Visit to Speke Airport
- ✓ 25 D.F. Hunt (see article)
- ✓ 3 July Visit to Liverpool's Traffic Control Centre
- ✓ 9 Fire & Burglar Alarms - G8QVF (Petlyn Alarms).
- 16 }
23 } Summer Holidays
30 }
6 Aug }
- 15 Committee Meeting
D & W Lighthouse - Wallasey Village
- 20 }
27 } Summer Holidays
3 Sept }
- 10 Satellite operation for the beginner - J. Branagan G8WLD
- 17 Committee Meeting
D & W Lighthouse - Wallasey Village
- 24 Driving - Joe Owens G4GDM
- 14 Oct Visit to Grenall Whitley Brewery

11th June - Natter Night with Bring and Buy Stall

This will be a joint meeting with the Liverpool and District Amateur Radio Society with sandwiches provided by our wives. (offers of help to Linda G8TFW and Sue, G8SUE).

During the evening it is intended to run a bring and buy stall to raise some money for Xtals. So if every member can bring along a couple of articles - anything at all from that unwanted birthday present to your old S.F. books. To save my time please can you prominently mark each article with a reasonable price. Don't forget for this to work you have to buy something as well - so bring your money with you.

The concourse have agreed to let us have the use of the room next to the bar. - As ever the committee is looking after you - saving your feet.

V.H.F. Direction Finding Contest - 25th June

This will be the third contest organised by the club and some members are now becoming quite adept at finding the hidden station.

We hope that as many members as possible will take part REMEMBER without competition there is no contest.

We will meet at the usual location, on the A540, in the lay-by SJ831260 .

Meeting at 1940 all groups must book in with G3RLA-GTSG and receive their rules and instruction sheets.

The hidden station will transmit for 2min at 2000hrs and after that only when called by a mobile or portable station.

Callsign: G8WDC/P. Time of finish 2130hrs.

Visits for Members ONLY.

Please show your order of preference for each visit you wish to go on, since the numbers on most of the visits are strictly limited.

Wednesday 4th June, Liverpool Police H.Q. Communications Room

7.30pm in Liverpool

delete as necessary - preference
I / 2 / 3 / 4

Wednesday 18th June, Seake Airport Control Tower & Radio Room

8pm at Airport

preference

have you a car Yes / No

I / 2 / 3 / 4

how many passengers can you carry

Wednesday 2nd July, Liverpool Computerised Traffic Control Centre

X 8pm in Liverpool

preference

I / 2 / 3 / 4

Tuesday 14th October, Greenall Whitley Brewery, Warrington

7.30pm in Warrington

Brewery is expecting some ladies in our party

have you a car Yes / No

preference

how many passengers can you carry

I / 2 / 3 / 4

This form must be returned to the Club Secretary by 14th of May. He will then contact you personally to let you know if you have been selected, and what the arrangements are.

Name Call Sign

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Members only - club net crystals

At the committee meeting on the 19th March it was decided to adept SI3 as the club net frequency. In order to make it really work all members should try to fit this frequency in all their radies (even in your VFO controlled rigs, if they have this facility).

In order to reduce the expense the committee have decided to place a bulk order (a quantity disceunt has been negeciated) and to subsidise the crystals using the money from the Bring and Buy Stall on the 11th June. So if you bring all these unwanted presents and old books etc. along and spend some meny your Xtals might even be free.

This form should be completed and returned to the Secretary by the 14th of May and will be taken by the committee to be a firm order.

	Make and Model of Radie	If known Xtal Holder	pf
1			
2			
3			
4			

SignedCall Sign.....

Just to prove how updatode we can be the following will probably be appearing in your April or Mays Rad Coma.

Amsat Phase III

Oscar 9 is expected to cost \$150,00 by the time the shiping costs and ground control set ups are included.

Launch from ESA Kourou site is set for 1500 to 1800 UTC on 23rd May. Commentary from the launch site will be relayed by WA2LQQ from 1400 UTC on 28.880 Mhz. If propogation is poor 21.280 or even 14.280 will be used.

Due to the precedence of engineering tests and evaluation the transponder will not be available until it is declared operational and this will not occur until a number of orbits after the single burn of the kick-motor. It is imperative that no attempt to access the satellite transponder is made until operational service is declared, any transmission in the pass-band could seriously jeopardize the whole mission.

An H.F. bulletin service will be run every weekday from 1 week before the launch to 3 weeks after from W2JT

1800 - 1805 on 28.555

1820 - 1825 on 21.260

1830 - 1835 on 14.260

Preliminary tests of beacons show frequencies of I45.9834 (Engineering) and I45.8046 (General) - the general beacon will give hourly updated information on 60 wpm 170Hz shift fak Radio Teletype and in AI morse code.

WANTED

RTTY Handbook contact Steve Harry.

FOR SALE

Mobile Log Books 10p from Secretary



Extracts from Club Committee Minutes

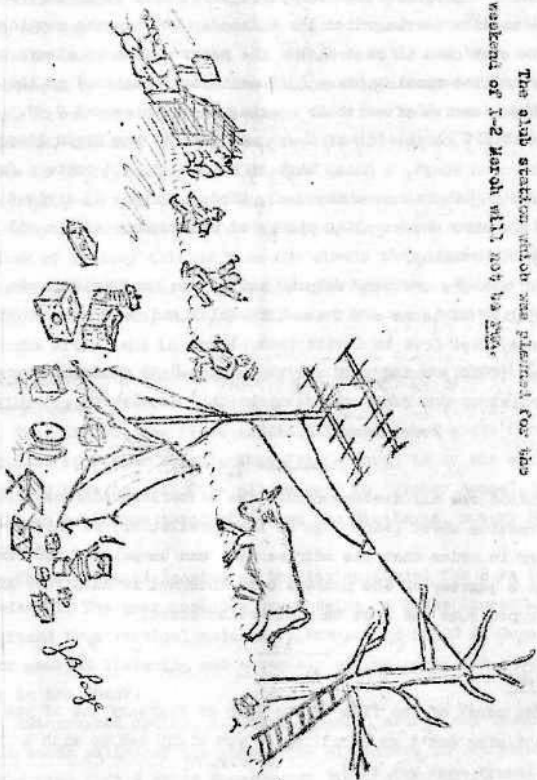
Points of controversy information or expenditure in the minutes and not shown elsewhere in the newsletter. The clubs books, including the committee minutes are normally available on club nights for inspection by any member.

20th of February

- 1) agreed to have some headed letter paper printed incorporating the clubs call sign.
- 2) agreed that any reasonable expense incurred by the Secretary e.g. postage (as a point of information this newsletter is at present being produced free of charge) would be payed by the Treasurer.
- 3) agreed to slight repairs and alterations to the club tent to make it more storm proof.

19th of March

- 1) CHEJAM Black and White QSL cards have been received from Wirral Borough Council, Merseyside County Council have promised to print some in colour.
- 2) Club now has 42 members highest ever- 32 in 1979, 34 in 78
- 3) Notice of club events should be appearing in Practical Wireless and Rad. Com. shortly.
- 4) Copies of Clubs Constitution can be obtained from the Secretary for 10p (profit to contest equipment fund).



CHEJAM
The club station which was planned for the weekend of 1-2 March will not be QRV.

Drinkers and Wafflers

As you may already know, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month the Drinkers and Wafflers meet, this is an informal get-together arranged on the Wednesday between the meetings at the club room in West Kirby. The venue chosen is always near the committee meeting place (3rd Wednesday - editor) so the committee arrive after their meeting, usually around 9.30.

The D & W on the 5th of March was held at the Seven Stars in Thornton Hough, a dozen members turned up, and quite a few interesting topics were discussed, Gordon (Triple M) arrived with his wife and supplied plenty of his humour, all in all an enjoyable evening.

Non members are very welcome and if you knew someone who would like to learn a bit about the club and meet some of the members, feel free to invite them along.

Jem (G8NOY) and myself are there from 8.30 onwards, there is a list of D & W water holes in this newsletter.

73's Steve Harry RS4I712

PLEASE can all members return the membership address list information sheet (back page of last newsletter) to the Secretary in order that the address list can be printed. So far about a quarter of the members have returned it HAVE YOU? If you're not sure see list on club notice board.

In Joke

The moral of the film on the 13th of February was if you cannot sing don't go carolling or you might end up with a MGY (moggy -cat get it?).

Did "JAM" Work? DX ?

It was 1457 GMT. Royden Park, Frankby, was relatively quiet at this moment; a few stalwart scouts were helping out in logging and map marking in the tent which housed our club activity station GB2JAM. Many local and European calls had been worked, evidenced by the gaily coloured pins which decorated the wall map. It was in this hushed moment that the call was heard - "GB2JAM, GB2JAM". The call was repeated yet again "GB2JAM - this is 9N1MM calling - 9N1MM. QSL"

Nepal, a small country located north-east of India, in the Himalayan mountains is, for most people, a land shrouded in a cloak of mystery thicker than the clouds that blanket Mount Everest. But DX chasers know of Nepal because it is the home of Marshall D. Moran, S.J., 9N1MM, one of the most active - and most sought after hams in Asia.

DXers around the world eagerly listen for the signal from 9N1MM (Nepal has two licensed amateurs - the other is Pradyumna S. Rana 9N1NFO, the first and only Nepalese ham and a former student of Father Moran). When Father Moran is on the air, he doesn't have to call CQ - all he says is "Mickey Mouse", and like an avalanche thundering down the Himalayas, hungry DXers answer.

The station is located at the Xavier School for Boys in Gadawari. The gear includes Drake twins, a Drake linear and a triband trap vertical antenna. A Hammarlund SP600 JX Super Pro for general listening and a variety of recorders are also set up in the shack.

Autographed photos, diplomas, special awards and thousands of QSL cards wallpaper the shack. The signatures on the photographs read like a White House guest list. Astronauts, ambassador

and film stars have met Father Moran. The King and Queen of Nepal are frequent visitors. Father Moran is the communications consultant for the many famous mountain climbers who journey to Nepal to challenge Mount Everest.

Father Moran has been granted lifetime operating privileges in Nepal by the Royal Decree of King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev. He can operate legally on all bands except 160, but usually be found on 20 meters between 14.320 and 14.325 kHz.

DXers wait for 9N1MH's signal from his home at the top of the world and here he was calling GB2JAM. After a hasty reply and a pleasant QSO and a promise to QSL he was gone!

We sat back in our chairs in disbelief. Was it really him? We still await that QSL ... Did "JAM" really work DX?

Outgoing QSL Buro

In order to reduce the postal costs of sending QSL cards to the R.S.G.B. Buro the committee have decided to organise an outgoing Buro. Anybody wishing to use the Buro is asked to give their cards to Graham G8NNS together with a postal donation of 2 pence per 5 cards or part thereof. (eg 8=4p). When the total weight reaches a certain limit they will be mailed to the RSGB. It is anticipated that they will be sent every 6 to 8 weeks. This Non-profit making service offers large savings, particularly to those who send only the odd card.

However please remember that in order to send cards via the RSGB you must be a member. Non-members can collect cards from the Buro by lodging envelopes with their Buro manager, details of this and pre-paid post cards for RSGB membership package available from the club secretary.

G 8 W D G

The licence was received in the first post on the 19th of March.

Applications by club members to use the club call sign for special events / contests must be made in writing to the Secretary 4 weeks before the event, stating which of the Supervisors will be helping you.

The club licence differs from your own licences in that while the Secretary is the official holder the call sign can still be used in his absence, (e.g. when he's asleep during contests or down at the pub) provided one of the following is present;

G4BKF G4GGB G8GYO G4LEQ G8GXY G8NDD G8NNS G8NOY
G3RLA G8TGU.

These names and call signs have been officially recorded at the Home Office as the station supervisors.

When using the call sign don't forget to put a readable signature in the log book (which has been donated by our Chairman G3RLA) and also enter the call sign of the station supervisor.

Liverpool & District Amateur Radio Society

The Secretary AL (G4GVZ) sends best wishes to all our members and adds that there is an open invitation to our members to go along any Tuesday evening. Their programme details are in the Rad Comm and our Secretary (G8PMW) has a copy of the Liverpool Newsletter.

Bartag News Bulletin

Tom (G4BKF) has offered to advise the Bartag News Bulletin of the Clubs forthcoming events. He will also be providing a copy of the Bulletin for the clubs notice board.



on the subject of correspondence I am receiving only the barest minimum of material from members for the magazine. Any material will be gratefully received whether it is serious or just plain humorous. All will be welcomed, air your views, criticise and praise, its your magazine and your club. Last date for September issue is the 13th of August,

5 and 9

I put out a signal, and get back a 5 and 9.

Now what does this really mean to me? The "5" I can understand, it tells me that my signals are fully readable at the other end, which is what I am trying to accomplish but the "9" in my opinion is sheer bunk!

The only information that the "9" gives me is that my signals are producing an unknown voltage at the rectifier of the receiver. This voltage is a function of:-

1. My radiated power
2. The propagation conditions
3. The efficiency of the receiving antenna
4. The efficiency of the receiver
5. The calibration of the meter

All that I am really interested in is the ratio of my signals to the QRM, which is in effect given by the R5 report. If the ratio of signal to QRM is satisfactory then the strength of the signal can be increased at the receiving end.

The "S" meter may be of use if I alter power, or swing the antenna, a comparative reading may then be given, but even then the "S" meter reading may not be linear. Am I R5?

Bob GSKJZ.

Any comments in writing to the Editor Ian GSPMW