



FIVE AND NINE PLUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE
APPLEDORE AND DISTRICT
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Club Callsigns: G2FKO and GX2FKO
Web Site : www.adarc.co.uk

CLUB'S OFFICERS

President	Terry Adams	G4CHD
Chairman	John Lovell	G3JKL
Vice Chairman	Mike Wogden	G4KXQ
Secretary	Alan Fisher	2E0EUZ secretary@adarc.co.uk
Treasurer	Ray Hunter	M0TLO

Committee	Andrew Brook	2E0FQE
	Keith Luxton	G0AYM
QSL Manager	John Lovell	G3JKL
Web Master	John Lovell	G3JKL
Exam Secretary	John Lovell	G3JKL
Editor	Terry Adams	G4CHD terrywho35@gmail.com

December 2020

EDITORIAL



Welcome to this - the final Newsletter for 2020 - and what an awful year it's been due to Covid 19.

We now have the first vaccine and hopefully this will bring us back to some degree of normality next year. I don't know that when we return back to normality things will be quite the same as before. In fact life may be better if people have learnt to be more caring and considerate to others.



But back to radio matters - of course this year's Christmas Party will have to again be 'virtual' - a word that seems to be ever present in our language these days!



Of course it will be a Zoom meeting when we can all get together for a chat and treat yourself to a glass of wine etc and a mince pie.

We are grateful to Dave (G0PGK) who will be giving his usual Christmas Quiz which always lightens proceedings. The 'Party' is on Monday, December 21st and will start at 7.30pm with the 'Waiting Room' open from 7pm so look forward to seeing many of you then.

So finally on behalf of your Committee, may I wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.



Keep safe and keep healthy

Terry (G4CHD)

CLUB MEETING



Due to the present Covid 19 pandemic, ALL meetings scheduled to be held at the Appledore Football Social Club have been CANCELLED until further notice

Until Meetings are reinstated a programme of 'virtual meetings using Zoom' has been arranged :-

Date	Topic
Dec 21 st	Zoom 'Christmas Party' - Quiz, etc - bring your own mince pies and drinks

It is hoped to add further Zoom Meetings so if you want to give a talk, please contact any Committee member.

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF DIGITAL RADIO

Having recently had a knee replacement op I invested in the Yaesu FT3D as it seemed a perfect way of being able to do some operating whilst horizontally polarised having an afternoon siesta. On a recent venture into communication via the internet, I was fortunate enough to meet up with an American amateur from Montana and was having a really good chat when we were interrupted by - of course - an anonymous breaker informing me that this was not a simplex channel - implying that it wasn't intended for chit chat. This has left me really wondering just what this mode is intended for and whether unfortunately it is going how other areas of become namely 59 QSL QRZ. I'm sure





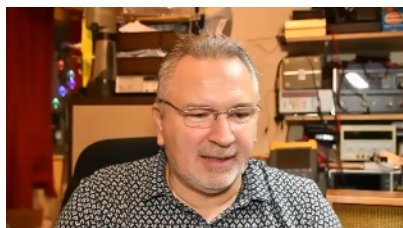
it was just a one of those situations and yes perhaps we should have left longer gaps in between overs - but I must confess that it's rather disheartened me from continuing to use this mode. I suppose like most new modes, it'll take time for an old timer like myself to adapt to the 'rules' of the system.

IAN'S (G4RVG) WIDOW SADLY PASSED AWAY

John (G8BXO) recently sent me the sad news that he had heard from John Binding that Ian's widow Edna recently died in a Retirement Home in Buckfastleigh. Our thoughts are with family and friends.

NOVEMBER ZOOM MEETING

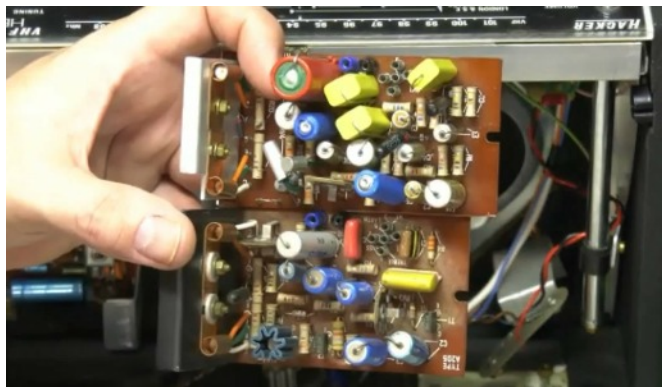
**TALK ON 'VISUAL HISTORY OF HACKER RADIO'
by Graham (M1GRA)**



This was a further Zoom talk by Graham on Hacker Radio - a subject which Graham is extremely knowledgeable and passionate. Graham's talks are always very

well prepared and professionally delivered making them extremely enjoyable and informative.

Graham covered in great detail the history and development of Hacker Radio including many examples of the radios they produced as well as examples of their internal PCBs.



The Meeting ended with a question and answer session which involved many members showing how much the talk had been enjoyed.



Our many thanks yet again to Graham for all his hard work and effort in producing such an excellent talk.

LOCAL REPEATERS



2m Stibb Cross Repeater (GB3DN)

<http://www.g0rql.co.uk/gb3dn.htm>

User: Listen 145.6375 MHz - Transmit 145.0375 MHz.

Access 1750 Hz Tone or 77 Hz CTCSS

Repeater keeper is Tony (G1BHM)

Fusion/C4FM/WiresX Gateway (MB6DT)

Frequency 144.8125 MHz.

Keeper Darren (2E0LVC)

Fusion/C4FM/WiresX Gateway (MB6DN)

Frequency 144.825 MHz.

Keeper Drew (2E0FQE)

LOCAL NETS

Zepp FM Net: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri : 145.450MHz - 4pm - 5pm
Wed via GB3DN - 4pm - 5pm

2m Elevenes FM Net: Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri : 11 - 12.00 noon
Mon/Tues/Thurs 145.475MHz
Wed via GB3DN
Fri start 145.475MHz & then possibly qsy to another band

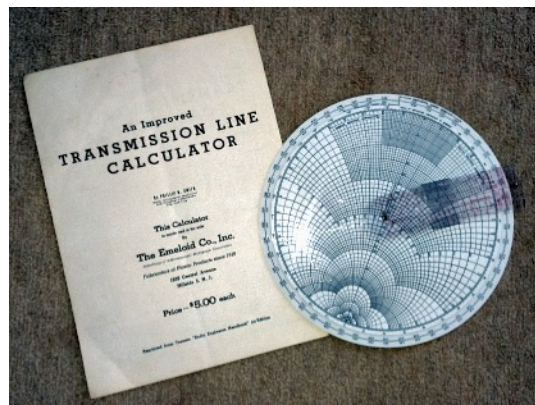
Friday Night 2m Net: Friday : 145.450 FM, 8 - 9pm

2m SSB Nets: Wed: 8 - 9pm 144.260MHz
USB SSB
Sun: approx 10.30am (follows Top Band Net) 144.260MHz
USB SSB (Vertical polarised)

Top Band Net: Sunday 1.860 Mhz
9.30 - 10.15am
(LSB - 32W pep max)

IMPROVED SMITH CHART CALCULATOR

Many years ago I bought this calculator which now appears to be somewhat of a collector's item! It has a rotating outer and a rotating arm calibrated in dB attenuation. After Christmas I hope to write an article on it once I've fathomed out how to use it!!





DX CLUSTER - GB7HTL

Ken (G7VJA) has sent me information regarding a DX Cluster - GB7HTL - which he runs.

Being a bit of a Luddite I asked Ken for some information and Ken kindly provided the following :-

What the DXCLUSTER does is show you who is working who and on what bands You can also send spots about a station you have just worked or announce the field day frequency you are working, You can send a SP (personal message) to any station you have just worked or any other station. It is possible to put an APP on your phone and connect that way as well,

All you need is a terminal type program to connect to it. (I use a program called Sally7 which is also linked to my Packet BBS) - just connect and leave it running. There is no time out or limits and uses simple on line commands and messages will go World wide.

I just updated to DXspider as the other program (DXnet) I was using is no longer supported.

Cluster details are :-

Cluster callsign GB7HTL
telnet 81.174.245.245 7300 or 9000
GB7HTL Read only Spots web site

To send a spot - type :-

dx freq dxcall your short comment (note no dot in the frequency)
eg: dx 7050 g7vja 599 to Appledore GD DX

CROSSWORD

Many thanks to Stuart (M1FWD) for this month's Crossword.
The answers are in next month's Newsletter. Good luck !



CLUES ACROSS

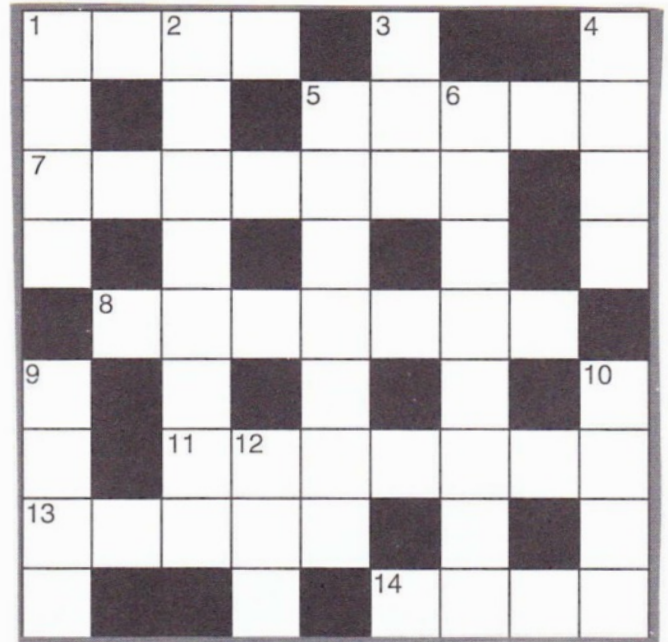
- 1) RG8X is said to be a low ? Coaxial cable (4)
- 5) The ? Sea, 1953 film starring Jack Hawkins (5)
- 7) A subatomic particle (7)
- 8) American reality TV series, 2008-2010 (3,4)
- 11) Popular brand of sports footwear (plural) (7)
- 13) Device to help maximise radio signals at particular frequencies (5)
- 14) Earth's largest and most populous continent (4)

CLUES DOWN

- 1) ? winded, speaking or writing at tedious length (4)
- 2) ? Cook Islands, Zulu Kilo One (ZK1) (8)
- 3) Antenna manufacturer based in Farnham (3)
- 4) Fits into a socket to make an electrical connection (4)
- 5) One of many pulled at Christmas (7)



- 6) Excessively flattering or ingratiating (8)
- 9) To reduce or eliminate sound (4)
- 10) ? Blair, British actress who appeared, for example, in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) (4)
- 12) A fish of the genus Anguilla (3)



Last month's answers :-

ANSWERS ACROSS:

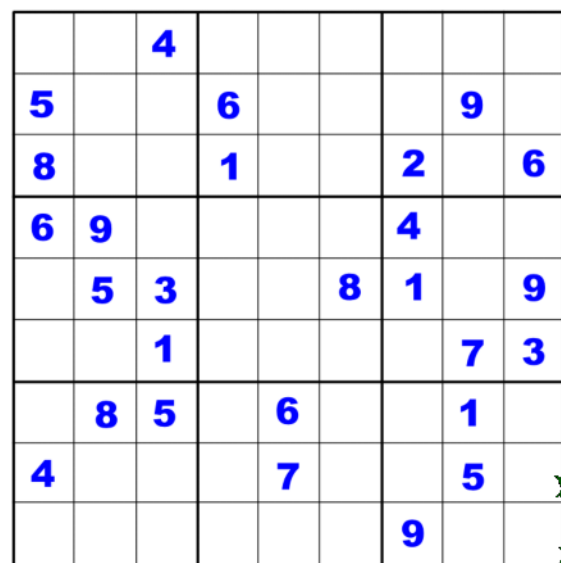
- 1) Guam 3) hiss 7) Saint 8) rue 9) ape 10) bit 11) lea
13) Una 14) Twatt 15) sash 16) this

ANSWERS DOWN

- 1) garrulous 2) apse 4) iota 5) sidebands 6) digital
12) ATAS 13) Utah

SUDOKU PUZZLE

The aim is to enter a number into each cell so that any column, or any row, or any block of cells contains all numbers from 1 to 9
Terry (G4CHD)





SOME IDLE THOUGHTS ON THE SPEED OF LIGHT

One night whilst unable to sleep, I got to thinking about the speed of light - as you do!

We all know that the speed of light in free space is 3,000,000 meters/sec or in old money - 186,000 miles/sec (equivalent to approx 670 million mph which is pretty nifty by anybody's standards !!)

So when we have a QSO with eg the East coast of the States which is about 4000 miles as a great circle route, it takes the radio wave approx 20ms to cross the Atlantic.

Of course it takes a bit longer if you are lucky enough to work into New Zealand (hopefully possible as conditions improve) where the distance is 11,400 miles (great circle distance) giving a time of about 60ms.

Therefore for terrestrial contacts. We can pretty well treat communications as instantaneous.

However once we consider Lunar - Earth communications, things get a little more complicated as it takes a radio wave approx 1.3 secs to travel the 239,000 miles (assuming you are not on the dark side of the moon!!)

Moreover, for a Martian Space Station to contact Earth, it will take a radio wave approx 183 secs ie approx 3 mins to cover the 34 million miles !! So the time between overs would be about the same as the GB3DN time out period!

Finally, solar radiation such as UV and X Rays which are responsible for ionizing our upper atmosphere and being part of the electromagnetic spectrum as are radio waves, will take approx 500 secs ie 8.3 mins to travel the 93 million miles. Of course nuclear debris such as high energy protons etc produced from solar activity take much longer - from hours to a couple of days depending on how energetic the particles are.

At this point I think I drifted off into blissful sleep which thankfully means that you don't have to read any more of this drivel!!

Terry (G4CHD)

So that's it for this month

Hopefully not too many errors this month!!

Stay safe and stay healthy and a Very Merry Christmas from me

Terry (G4CHD)

