



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

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Treasurer	Alan Fisher	2E0EUZ

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EDITORIAL

Hopefully as you can see from the header there is a new hand on the keyboard for the 5 & 9 Newsletter. Terry G4CHD has decided it was time to step back and let someone else take the helm, so with the answer to the worst kept secret in the club, I have taken over the Editor's position.



I'm sure you will all agree that Terry has done a fantastic job over the years, I certainly looked forward to receiving the newsletter each month as a preview to the forthcoming meeting.

As your all probably aware from my previous club articles, I've been involved in the hobby for around 50 years being first licenced as G8MOC in 1976 upgrading to the class A licence G4KXQ in 1981. I have worked in the defence military electronics and test equipment industry for the last 40 years, so I have good knowledge of the technologies that underpin our hobby.

As anyone who works with me knows, my mantra is evolution not revolution or 'if it ain't broke don't fix it'. It is my intension to add to the existing format and content of the newsletter not drastically change it.

My Amateur Radio interests are mainly

concentrated on the technical aspects rather than the operating side so please feel free to supply comments and feedback on the new format and its contents.

This month's club meeting will on **Monday 20th January** and will be a practical demonstration by yours truly. The demonstration will be: 'Adding Flex Radio SDR type facilities to your legacy rig'. Please come along to support and hopefully you will find it useful.

Mike (G4KXQ)

CLUB AGM MARCH 2025

The forthcoming March meeting will be the Annual General Meeting with the election of the club officials. A few club officials have already indicated that they do not wish to be considered for re-election this year so there will be some vacancies on the committee for some new fresh blood, or old blood if willing. New committee members with fresh ideas will be most welcome.

REPORT ON OUR DECEMBER MEETING

The December club Christmas Party was a great success with a good attendance and the free raffle proved to be a great hit. The request for members to bring their own food somehow missed the mark with very little take-up. The committee will probably consider just providing mince pies for members to consume alongside the tea or coffee for next Christmas.

LOCAL REPEATERS/GATEWAYS

Frequencies are those transmitted and received by the Repeater

GB3DN VHF FM/C4FM Repeater - Stibb Cross

Tone 77Hz (for analogue FM)
TX 145.6375 RX 145.0375
Keeper Tony G1BHM
Default Digital Connection : Wires-X Southern
Fusion <http://www.g0rql.co.uk/gb3dn.htm>

GB3ND UHF DMR Repeater - Holsworthy Beacon

TX 439.7375 RX 430.7375 colour code
1 Slot 1 local RF Slot 2 SW Cluster
Keeper Tony G1BHM

GB7FB UHF DMR Repeater - Bideford

TX 439.475 RX 430.4750 Colour code 5
Slot 1 Local RF/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster
Keeper Drew M0MFS

GB3LZ VHF FM/C4FM Repeater - Winkleigh

Tone 77Hz (for analogue FM)
TX 145.6625 RX 145.0625
Digital Connection : Wires-X Southern Fusion -
fixed Keeper Simon G4MQQ

GB7LZ UHF DMR Repeater - Winkleigh

TX 430.9125 RX 438.5125 Colour code 1
Slot 1 DMR Southern Fusion Slot 2 Local/CQ
UK/DoD Keeper G4MQQ

MB6DT VHF Fusion Gateway - Barnstaple

Frequency 144.8125 MHz.
Gateway Keeper Darren (2E0LVC)
Operational

GB7TG - UHF DMR Repeater - Wembworthy

TX 430.9750 RX 438.5750 Colour Code 7
Default Connection : Slot 1 Local/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster
Keeper G7SOJ

GB3NX VHF FM AllStar Repeater- Holsworthy Beacon

Tone 77Hz
Repeater TX 145.5875 RX 144.9875
Connection SW AllStar Network (SWAN)
Keeper G1BHM

GB3BU - UHF DMR Repeater - Bude

TX 430.9625 RX 438.5625 Colour Code 1
Default Connection : Slot 1 Local/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster
Keeper G1BHM

CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the **Appledore Football Social Club** (7.30pm for 8.00pm start) Visitors are always welcome. For further information, please contact the Secretary, John. At present meetings take the form of a general 'Natter Night' over a cuppa, however once details are known of any talks etc, an announcement will appear in the Club Newsletter.

LOCAL NETS

Weekday Zepp FM Net: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri :
145.450MHz - 4pm - 5pm
Wed via GB3DN - 4pm - 5pm Net
Control : Len (M0SXY)

2m Elevenses FM Net: Mon/Wed/Fri :
11 - 12.00 noon via GB3DN Net
Control ; Mike (G3PGA)

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

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

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

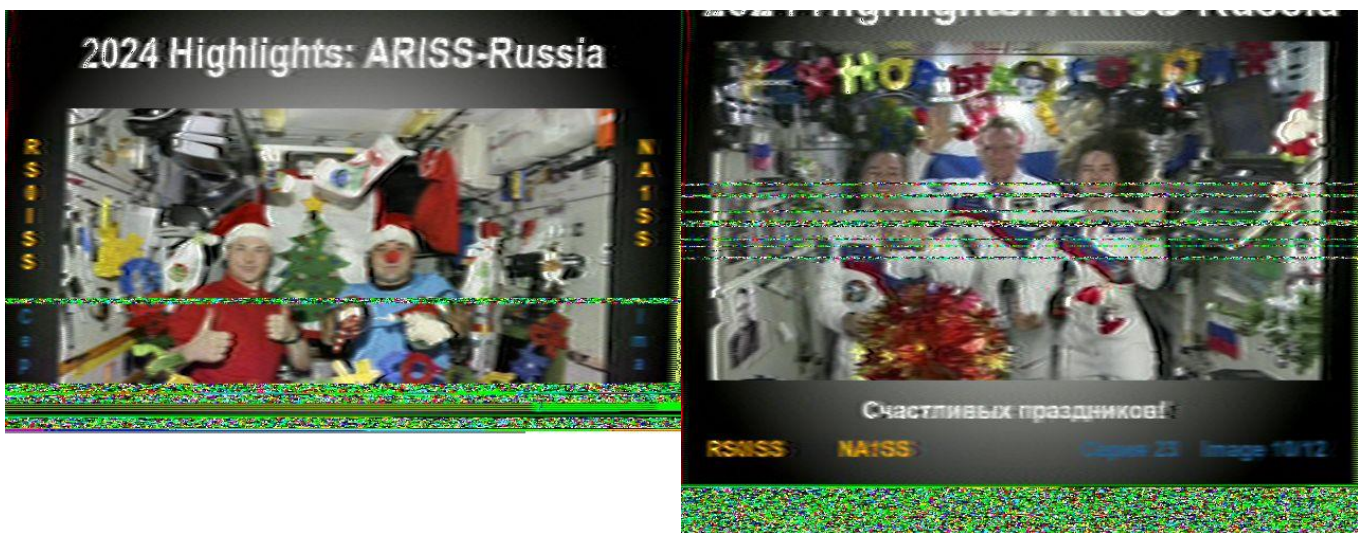
Sunday FM Net: Sunday: 11 to noon via GB3DN
Net Control : Chris (G0FJY)

Note :- FM Nets which use GB3DN as shown above will continue despite the recent changes. GB3DN is disconnected from the Wires-X/ Southern Fusion Room just before the listed start and end of each FM Net

SSTV on GB3DN

I was lucky this year to have a two week break from work over Christmas which allowed me to spend some time in the shack. I even managed to participate in the Youth on the Air contest in the run up to Christmas. The interesting part of this contest was the exchange which consisted of signal report followed by your age!!!. Interesting hobby demographic with lots of youngsters in their teens and the older generation.

Another event over Christmas was the SSTV picture transmissions from the International Space Station. The only problem was that most of the RF visible passes occurred overnight. I tackled this problem by setting up my IC-705 to record to the SD card whenever the squelch was opened. With the volume turned down the system was left running overnight with no disturbance to the rest of the house. The following day the memory recordings were played back into the SSTV decode software to obtain the pictures. I must admit I had limited success as my 2 metre antenna is a dual band co-linear. This is good for low level horizon passes but gave the usual drop out as the Space Station passed overhead causing interference on the decoded picture. During the daytime, when the radio can be manually operated during the pass, the receiving frequency can be adjusted to accommodate doppler shift. This is especially easy using a modern rig using a waterfall display.



As many members know, club member Mike G3PGA is a great fan of SSTV. His SSTV pictures often appear in my SSTV application history files if I have left my rig tuned to 14.230Mhz over the weekend. Mike is keen to promote SSTV activity within the club and also encourage more VHF/UHF activity within the North Devon/West Devon area. Mike has agreed with the GB3DN Repeater Management Team to allow him to transmit SSTV pictures through the repeater on a Thursday evening. Members are encouraged to listen in on the transmission and hopefully participate in the activity. To transmit you will need a means of getting audio in and out of your VHF transceiver. This is normally achieved by using the packet interface port connected to a suitable audio interface such as a signalink. If you're lucky to have a modern rig with a VHF/UHF capability and a USB port such as the IC-705 or IC9100 then it's even easier. An older 'shack in a box' such as the FT-817, FT-857 or Kenwood TS-2000 fitted with an audio interface used for HF datamodes will also suffice

Decoding software is commonly available. Examples are:

Windows:

- MMSSTV
- Yoniq SSTV (An improved derivate of MMSSTV)
- RXSSTV (Receive Only)
- ChromaPix
- HRD/DM-780

Linux:

- QSSTV

Apple IOS

- SSTV from Black Cat Systems

Android

- DroidSSTV
- Robot 36

The Yoniq SSTV application on the PC is recommended and Terry G4CHD is using it. Stand-by for a further article from Terry on this application.

A few new items for the newsletter; please let me know if it's something you are interested in.

Contest Calendar

Weekend Jan 25-26

- CQ 160M CW Contest
- BARTG RTTY Spring
- Belgium DX Contest (SSB)
- ARRL Winter Field Day

Weekend Feb 1-2

- 10-10 International. Winter Contest, 10M SSB QRP
- European Union DX Contest, All Bands, All Modes

Weekend Feb 8-9

- CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
- WAB 1.8 MHz Phone
- RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest
- Balkan HF Contest, 80m,40m – CW SSB

Weekend Feb 15-16

- ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW
- Russian PSK WW Contest, ALL Band PSK31, PSK63PSK125
- Feld Hell Sprint (One for the esoteric)

DX News

From	To	Country	Call
12/01/2025	27/01/25	Marquesas	TX7N
12/01/2025	31/01/25	Curacao	PJ2/W2APF
18/01/2025	28/01/25	Aruba	P40AA
19/01/2025	27/01/25	Martinique	FM
21/01/2025	3/02/25	St Helena	ZD7DPX
23/01/2025	26/01/26	Turks & Caicos	VP5/OE3GEA
26/01/2025	05/02/25	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA
26/01/2025	01/03/25	Guinea Bissau	J52EC
27/01/2025	15/02/25	Rwanda	9X2AW
28/01/2025	02/02/25	Turks & Caicos	VP5/KD8RTT
01/02/25	06/02/25	Senegal	9G5IK
02/02/25	28/02/25	Senegal	6W7
04/02/25	18/02/25	Anguilla	VP2ECV
05/02/05	18/02/25	Cape Verde Is	D44OA
08/02/25	15/02/25	St Helena	ZD7KYD
11/02/25	18/02/25	Cocos Keeling	VK9/W5EIT
11/02/25	23/02/25	Marshall Is	V7