



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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September 2024

EDITORIAL

Our **Club Meeting this month is on Monday, September 16th** which will be a general Natter Night and as always a chance to catch up with everyone's news.

The Railways On The Air weekend special event at East The Water is on September 28th/29th which our Club has supported in the past. However, last year we had to pull out because of a lack of support which was a disappointment for the Bideford Heritage Railway Centre (BHRC).

We have been invited again for this year and hence your Committee needs to hear from those members who can offer their services both to setup the station and/or operate. It is important that as a Club we are confident of sufficient support to activate such a special event station before confirming with BHRC as a last minute cancellation not only disappoints them but I think does our Club's reputation no favours.

So as time is of the essence, **please let John (G3JKL) know if you can help ASAP** or at this month's meeting at the latest so John can let BHRC know that we will be able to attend.

So that's this month's Editorial ...

Terry (G4CHD)



LOCAL REPEATERS/GATEWAYS

Frequencies relate to **Repeater** and not your radio

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** starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Visitors always welcome. For further information, please contact the Secretary John. Presently, 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

REPORT ON OUR AUGUST MEETING

Everyone seemed to enjoy a good old natter over a cuppa served by Dave (G0PGK) to whom we are truly grateful for all his hard work keeping our thirsts quenched. Such meetings also provide an opportunity for any member to bring along any radio gear they wish to sell and in a similar way for bargains to be had.

AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY

Whilst Googling the web, I came across this excellent summary by G4KFK listing important events in the historical development of amateur radio in the UK.

<http://www.g4kfk.co.uk/>

The following caught my eye :-

March 1968

2m made available to holders of a B amateur licence. Previously, G8+3 licensees were restricted to 70cm and above.

August 1972

First repeater GB3PI in the UK licensed and operational and allocated 145.750MHz transmit, with its input 600kHz lower. Access by means of a 1750Hz toneburst at the beginning of each transmission

April 1986

Radio Society of Great Britain assumed responsibility for Morse tests for radio amateurs.

January 2002

Foundation licence was launched, permitting 10W on HF and VHF/UHF bands.

October 2004

40m band extended with effect from October 31st, to 7.0-7.2MHz (previously 7.0-7.1MHz)

January 2015

146-147MHz released to UK amateurs, subject to a Notice of Variation

To put some of the above into perspective, here are some of my own (boring!) recollections.

I got my first license G8ENK on November 5th 1971- a class B license - no HF allowed- only vhf/uhf although this effectively meant operating only on 2m using AM (A3). Transmitters were crystal controlled as vhf vfos weren't sufficiently stable, and a separate receiver used which initially consisted of a 2m Converter with an output of 28 - 30 MHz into a eg Lafayette receiver with bandspread to help tuning!

Local 2m nets were a bit of a nightmare as each member used a different crystal frequency which meant the receiver being constantly retuned. We dreamed of the day when we could all use the same crystal frequency - if only we could have seen into the future!!

At that time the 2m band was geographically zoned - ie the South of England used 140 - 140.5MHz and Scotland 145.5 - 146MHz. So if I was beaming North from Gloucestershire toward Scotland, I would call CQ CQ tuning high to low. Since Scottish stations calling CQ would then tune low to high, everyone in the South tried to have the lowest crystal frequency!!

Eventually I took my Morse Test at Portishead Radio at Highbridge and got my G4CHD callsign on June 26th 1973 and bought an FT200 which fed a W3DZZ trapped dipole. I can't remember the date that the 2m channel width was halved from 25 to 12.5kHz to cope with overcrowding on the band but looking at the band today such a decision seems incredible.

There have been many developments since then - some labeled as 'not real radio' which as I remember was said when 2m Repeaters were introduced! But whatever - it's a wonderful hobby - with so many different facets and something to keep the old grey cells working even after 50 years of being a radio amateur.

So that's it for this month - articles for inclusion are always welcomed
Enjoy the read