



Wirral & District Amateur Radio Club



Airwave 70.4125

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www.wadarc.com

Newsletter: Autumn 2006

2006

Committee

Gordon G8MMM
Chairman

Bob G4NCI
Treasurer

Tom G4BKF
Secretary / Publicity

Steve G7BBF
Broadband

Peter G8WQQ
Publicity

Neil G4OAR
Webmaster

Geoff G4WUA

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:-

Gordon

g8mmm@wadarc.com

or any

committee

member

Club Roundup

Looking back on the programme so far in 2006 we have had some great talks and even managed to fit in a Club visit!.

We started off in April with yet another excellent talk by Peter G3PYU on workshop techniques. I reckon there is no end to this guy's talents and stock of tools! I myself put together a talk on VoIP (broadband phones) and this was followed by an insight into DIY "real" with a great talk and demo by Geoff G4UWA and newly licensed Simon Grainger 2E0BDO on the subject of home brew HF antennas for portable operation.

As for the visit, Phil G6IIM with the help of Paul our ICC bar manager fixed up an excellent visit which took us into the bowels of the Queensway Mersey Tunnel. It is amazing to think just how many times all of us have used this tunnel without knowing what goes on "underneath"

July saw yet another good turnout for the Club BBQ with an attendance of some 50 people. Once again the WX was good for us.

Can't finish a roundup without mentioning yet another good set of DF hunts, particularly the G8PMF cup which was won in "classic" style with a well-hidden fox!

Forthcoming Programme Notes

Lots of great nights to look forward to in the next few months as you can see from our Club calendar.

Not in any particular order I will be looking forward to the following nights..

The talk by Frank Smith on the subject of the story of Meccano. I have seen this one before and it is very interesting with lots of bits and pieces!

A particular favourite interest of mine is data modes on ham radio. I am just a starter in this but Richard G8NDD is a real "pro" and this will be a good night I am sure.

Our Xmas bash this year is likely to be held at Sheldrakes restaurant in Lower Heswall. The provisional menu looks good and a new venue is likely overdue.

DF Hunts

The Club DF hunts have always been a favourite night for me since I started ham radio in 1977. The Club has always maintained a strong presence in DF with Tom G4BKF also running the very popular North Wales event.

What I like about the DF nights is the way you can combine a lot of DIY construction with a good night out with friendly competition to see who can find the fox first. It is amazing just how little of the Wirral we actually know when it comes to finding "the lair". We also finish up in the pub!

I had noticed that the number of teams taking part had dropped but I am pleased to report a resurgence of interest. In addition the fox for the G8PMF trophy had done an excellent job of hiding extremely well hidden by nature.

It took a good team, excellent skills and precision kit to find him.

PS...by the way who won?

Echolink Node

Particular thanks to Bob, G4NCI for taking the time and trouble to install and licence an Echolink node on the Wirral.,

Bob G4NCI is running his Echolink node (No. 295192) from his QTH in Upton This can be found on 70.4125 MHz, and to start you off, here is a brief overview together with some pointers to help you make some "good contacts".

Echolink is all about interlinking your PC and/or Radio with other Radio Hams also using Echolink software anywhere in the world with the help of the internet. (Preferably with a broadband connection, although this is not absolutely necessary). A Radio link point to the Internet, is called a node.

Several of us have used this node to keep in contact with our friends at the Friedrichschafen Rally and Tom G4BKF at his holiday villa.

Much more on the node and how to use it is on the Club website <http://www.wadarc.com>

Well done Bob for this great facility!!

Events of Special Note

Aug 19th/20th (Sat/Sun)

GB4LL Lighthouses on the Air (g4wua@wadarc.com)

Sep 10th (Sunday)

WADARC North Wales DF Challenge

For latest info always check the Club website!!!

WADARC Events Calendar

September 2006

Sep 6th, D&W at the Bridge Inn, Port Sunlight
Sep 10th **N. Wales D.F. Challenge**
Sep 13th, **Sale of surplus equipment**
Sep 20th, D&W at the Anchor, Irby
Sep 27th, **TBA**

October 2006

Oct 4th, D&W at the Hoylake Lights
Oct 11th, **Glynn Parry Talk**
Oct 18th, D&W-The Harp, Little Neston
Oct 21/22 **J.O.T.A.**
Oct 25th, **Annual Hot Pot and Awards**

November 2006

Nov 1st, D&W at the Egremont Ferry
Nov 4/5th **Llandudno Radio Rally**
Nov 8th, **The Meccano story.**
Nov 15th, D&W, The Saughall Massie Hotel
Nov 22nd, **Radio Data, Richard G8NDD**
Nov 29th, D&W at The Chimneys, Hooton.

December 2006

Dec 3rd, (Sunday) **WADARC Xmas bash T.B.C**
Dec 6th, D&W at the Green Lodge
Dec 13th **Chairman's night**
Dec 20th, D&W at the Black Horse, Heswall.
Dec 27th, D&W at the Wheatsheaf, Raby

January 2007

Jan 3rd, D&W at the Railway, Meols
Jan 10th, **AGM**
Jan 17th, The Anchor, Irby
Jan 24th **Sale of surplus equipment**
Jan 31st, D&W TBA

W.A.D.A.R.C. Origins Part 2

Part 1 of "W.A.D.A.R.C. Origins", described the meeting in the "Green Lodge" of 8 local Radio Amateurs on Thursday 15th December 1977 which led to the decision to create a new radio club. The members present agreed to look for a venue to hold an inaugural meeting on 11th January 1978.

Word of the meeting was spread (mainly on 2m) and by the 11th of January, a room at the West Kirby Concourse had been booked. The minutes of the meeting show that 19 persons attended.

The Acting Chairman, Neville G8MGY, welcomed everybody and emphasised the need for every member to take an active interest in the club to make it a successful venture. He also informed the meeting that it was hoped that the club would run Morse classes in the near future for those who wished to take the 12wpm test.

Ballots for the various officers and committee members were then held resulting in the first W.A.D.A.R.C. committee consisting of;

Chairman: Neville G8MGY

Secretary: Malcolm G8NMG

Treasurer: Dave G4GGB

Ordinary Members: Tom G4BKF, Paul G4DLY, Graham G8NNS, Alan G8NPG

Paul G4DLY was also proposed and unanimously accepted as Contest Manager.

The subject of what to call the club was then aired. These present were asked for their views on the name "Mersey Amateur Radio Club" which those at the "Green Lodge" meeting had considered. After discussion, the following alternative names were suggested by those present:

"West Wirral Amateur Radio Club"

"Dee & Mersey Amateur Radio Club"

"Deeside Amateur Radio Club"

"Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club"

A vote was held and the club was christened "Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club".

The meeting then went on to discuss a constitution and it was agreed that the committee should draw up draft rules and a constitution to be discussed at a future meeting.

The business moved onto subscriptions and the members present agreed the following:

Group 1 (Full members) £5

Group 2 (Full time students under 21) £3

Group 3 (Persons aged 16 -18) £3

Group 4 (School children under 16) 50p

Finally the members present expressed satisfaction with the venue and agreed that it should be the regular club meeting QTH.

The meeting concluded at 22.00.

73 Tom G4BKF

Random Radio Notes...interesting bits from the web, magazines etc..

[Ofcom Consultation High Power Licence Exempt at 2.4 and 5 GHz](#)

The UK Regulator Ofcom has announced a consultation on High Power Licence Exempt operation at 2.4 and 5 GHz which closes 20/09/06.

The consultation proposes raising the power limits (up to 10 watts eirp for 2.4 GHz) for Licence Exempt equipment operating in the 2.4 and 5 GHz bands. (A lot lower than originally mooted)

[Scouts to axe Radio Communicator Badge](#)

According to a report in the Sunday Telegraph on July 9th, the Scout Association will be scrapping the *Radio Communicator Badge*, which only had an uptake of 1,532 in 2005.

The report says that in October the Scout Association will introduce a new Street Sports badge which will incorporate the current Skater award, which includes skateboarding and of which 4,413 were earned last year. The Radio Communicator badge was NOT the lowest scorer but other low-scoring categories have been kept.op

[Ofcom draft New Lifetime licence](#)

Ofcom have just released a draft of the new "lifetime" licence available from 1st October 2006.

It follows a new BR68 statement . It also confirms 10 metres for M3's, but worryingly it limits our types of transmissions . Gone is PSK31, as there is no reference to phase modulation. Maybe an error??

For the full Ofcom information so please use the Club website.

LOCAL RALLY INFORMATION 2006

October

1st	Telford & District ARS	Engineering Museum, Coalbrookdale	01952 299677
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November

4th/5th	North Wales RS.	Llandudno	01952 549121
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26th	West Manchester RC	Manchester	01952 893573
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Info obtained from Radcom

Only local (100m radius approx) rallies shown. All info is taken from Web sites and is for alerting purposes only . Always check for current info before travelling.