

# Wirral & District Amateur Radio Club

## Airwave 70.450 MHz

[www.merseyworld.com/wadarc/](http://www.merseyworld.com/wadarc/)

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## Club Update

### 2002 Committee

**Neil G4OAR**

Chairman

**Bob G4NCI**

Treasurer

**Gerry G8TRY**

Secretary

**Tom G4BKF**

Publicity

**Phil G6IIM**

NARSA

**Chris G0PKE**

Club Library

**Phil G0JSB**

Golf Advisor

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:-

Neil

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Gerry

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**Last Autumn, Club Nights** brought some interesting talks, with Colin G3RLA showing us some of the many uses for the shack PC. Slow scan on VHF was one with some colourful pictures taken locally with digital cameras. A multi-connect video link to VE7GQ, the author of the software, via the internet was most impressive once a problem with the modem connection at the club was sorted out.

**13cms ATV Off the Shelf** was another excellent talk and demo by Denis G3UVR ably backed up by Frank G8REQ. The portable Video camera in a die-cast box with sound made by Denis was most impressive both from the constructional point of view and performance.

**No Surprise then,** Denis won 1st prize with the camera at the "Home Construction" evening. This was followed

by a superb hotpot made by Brian G0VAX.

**A first for WADARC** was the remote talk, via the internet, given by Ian G3ZHI on "Using the Internet in amateur radio". This was live from his shack in Maltby and connected us to various stations around the world.

**The Year finished in style** when around 35 of us went to the Hotel Victoria in New Brighton for our Christmas Dinner and night-out. It was really great to see so many XYL's supporting the event which everyone in the gathering thoroughly enjoyed. A selection of photographs, taken by Colin G3RLA are shown below and my apologies for not being able to include more but space is the limitation.

**2002 is now with us,** also the New M3 callsigns. I wonder who will be first?

✉ [g4oar@g4oar.com](mailto:g4oar@g4oar.com)



### Coming Soon to Irby Cricket

Phil G0JSB is starting off our new year with a talk on "**Digital Video Editing**" a chance to see this in action before you buy? Not to be missed on the 27th Feb is a talk on the "**Mersey Wind Generators**" by Tim Bounds, Chief Engineer of Mersey Docks & Harbour Company. **The New Licences** are going to be explained by Tom G4BKF on the 13th March followed by an increasingly popular **Bring & Tell** on the 27th. Don't forget to bring something along. We could not let a year pass without inviting Glyn Parry and on the 10th April. the topic is "**Old Wirral**". The 24th April features a talk on **TETRA**, the new coms for the services by Dave G3UFO. Plenty of interesting talks, mark your diaries! CU there.



**Tech.Tip***"One piece of the free stuff I can't live without !"*

The Internet is full of free comms applications such as Yahoo Messenger, Netmeeting, Cooltalk etc all enabling us to text/phone/video each other.

The best in my view is ICQ. I can define a list of Radio Amateur friends and see instantly who is on-line when I switch on my PC. The application is available free from [www.icq.com/download/](http://www.icq.com/download/)

**What is ICQ ?**

ICQ is a user friendly Internet tool that alerts you in real time to which of your friends is on-line and allows you to chat with them either with text messages, voice, message board, data conferencing or file transfer. ICQ also supports a variety of popular Internet applications and serves as a Universal Platform from which you can launch any peer-to-peer application such as Netmeeting or Cooltalk. It can also be used in multiple-user mode, so groups can conduct conferences or just "hang-out" on line. The program runs in the background, taking up minimal memory and Net resources while you work with other applications.

**How does it work ?**

It's simple. When you install ICQ, the program asks you to register at a server. At the time of registration you receive a unique ICQ number. In addition ICQ gives you the option of entering personal information along with your ICQ#. This allows other ICQ users to recognise you when you log on. Once you've registered, you can compile a selected list of friends. ICQ uses this list to find your friends for you. Meanwhile ICQ waits quietly in the background without interrupting any other application in use. As soon as you log onto the Internet, ICQ automatically detects the Internet connection, announces your presence to your friends and alerts you when your friends sign on or off. Once you know who is on it only takes the click of an icon to initiate a chat. You can also send your friends messages while they are offline.

My ICQ NO. is 116273836. Send me a message when you are up and running. 73 Colin G3RLA

**hard-core-dx info****What is Hard-Core DX ?**

A Hard-Core-DXer is a shortwave / mediumwave listener who tries to listen to rare, weak and previously unheard broadcast stations. Probably the best website in the world ?

[www.hard-core-dx.com](http://www.hard-core-dx.com)

**N.Wales DF Hunt**

It is our club's intention to run a Sunday DF Hunt in North Wales again this year. As you all know this popular event had to be shelved the last two years due to foot & mouth. I will be circulating details to all those on record of showing interest in the past. If you would like me to add your name to the list please send me an email.

✉ [g4bkf@g4bkf.com](mailto:g4bkf@g4bkf.com)

**The AGM Challenge**

2002 we are eager to increase membership. To this end Neil G4OAR, as Chairman, is prepared to present a quality bottle of Malt to the first club member to enrol (not re-new) 5 new members to the Club this Calendar year. Forms from secretary Gerry G8TRY

**Is the Future ORANGE ? Ack**

A Correction to the item in the last Newsletter. For CELLNET, prefix a text message with \*0# and you receive an ack back when the other phone is switched ON, not when the message has been read. I'm also reliably told for Orange to Orange, to prefix your text message with the capitals RCT thanks to Andy GM7HUD.

My mistake ☺ Ed.

**Fact !**

The earth is actually 3 million miles closer to the sun in the middle of Winter than it is in the middle of Summer

**Question ?**

The earth reached it's closest point to the sun on the 2nd January at 92.5 million miles.

**What is this point called ?**

Answer next time ☺ Ed.

**URL's****Buying or Selling Radio Gear ?**

[www.junksale.co.uk](http://www.junksale.co.uk)

**Chip Data ? Try Chip Directory**

[www.chipdiruk.com](http://www.chipdiruk.com)

**Wirral & District ARC - Calendar 2002****January**

- 02 D&W - The Railway, Meols
- 09 WADARC AGM
- 16 D&W - The Fox & Hounds, Barnston
- 23 **Pre-owned Bargain Items Evening**
- 30 D&W - The Chimneys, Hooton

**February**

- 06 D&W - The Harp, Lower Neston
- 13 **The Art of Digital Video Editing by Phil G0JSB**
- 20 D&W - The Black Horse, Lower Heswall
- 27 **Mersey Wind Power Generators by Tim Bounds MDHC**

**March**

- 06 D&W - The Hoylake Lights, Hoylake
- 13 **All the New Licences Explained by Tom G4BKF**
- 17 NARSA Rally, Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool
- 20 D&W - The Bridge Inn, Port Sunlight
- 27 **Bring & Tell**

**April**

- 03 D&W - The Anchor, Irby
- 10 **"Old Wirral" an illustrated talk by Glyn Parry**
- 17 D&W - The Hotel Victoria, Lower Heswall
- 24 **Understanding TETRA by Dave G3UFO**

**NARSA Rally  
March 17th 2002**

Phil G6IIM is looking for people to help man the disabled door again. Let Phil know asap please.  
[philip.jones@btinternet.com](mailto:philip.jones@btinternet.com)



Support your local store

**A Turks Head Knot Maker ?**

**Left:** Vic G4UDR practicing his Turks Head Knot making while attending an International Scout Jamboree in Towcaster, Northants during sunny August last year.

**Right:** While helping to run GB4NN he was seen crying for his supper cutting up large onions for the evenings thick stew. (Video Pics by G4UDR)

