

G3WSC  
G6RC  
GX3WSC

# CARC News Bulletin

October - Nov 2016

Crawley Amateur Radio Club

Editor: John G4PEO

## Other Clubs & Events

### Horsham ARC (HARC)

<http://www.harc.org.uk>

**6th Oct:** Junk Sale

**3rd Nov:** Noise Cancelling,  
Graham Sommerville, BHI

### Crystal Palace REC

<http://www.g3oou.co.uk/cprec.html>

**7th Oct:** How to Use an SDR,  
Damien, 2E0EUI

**4th Nov:** Club Project - An  
Arduino Based Frequency Counter  
by Alan G8NKM

### Sutton & Cheam

<http://scrs.org.uk>

**20th Oct:** Antenna Modelling,  
Andrew, M0GJH

**17th Nov:** Millimetric Microwaves,  
Chris, G0FDZ

### Mid Sussex ARC

[www.msars.org.uk](http://www.msars.org.uk)

**14th Oct:** AGM

**25th Nov:** Smart Phones - G4ZCS

### CATS (Coulston)

[www.catsradio.org](http://www.catsradio.org)

**10th Oct:** TBA - See web site

**14th Nov:** ICQ Podcast, Martin,  
M1MRB/W9ICQ

**20th Nov:** CATS Bazaar

### Dorking & District Radio Club

<http://ddrs.atspace.com/>

**25th Oct:** TBA - See Web Site

**22nd Nov:** AGM

### West London Radio & Electronics Fair, Kempton Park

**6th November.**

<http://www.radiofairs.org.uk>

### CATS Bazaar, Old Coulsdon

**20th November.**

<http://www.catsradio.org/>

## Updates to the CARC programme:

[www.carconline.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.carconline.blogspot.co.uk)

or contact John , G3VLH:

[john.longhurst@hfcom.net](mailto:john.longhurst@hfcom.net)

News Bulletin items contact G4PEO:

[john@g4peo.net](mailto:john@g4peo.net)

## CARC DATES

**October 26th (Wednesday)**

Choosing a VHF/UHF Radio - Alwyn Seeds G8DOH

**November 23rd (Wednesday)**

CARC / HARC Challenge

*Advance Notice - December 2nd (Friday)*

Annual Fish & Chip Supper

**CARC meetings are held in our clubroom at  
Tilgate Park, Crawley, West Sussex.**

**Every Wednesday: 8pm**  
**Every Sunday: 11am - 1pm**

Formal events are normally held on the last  
Wednesday of the month, 7-30pm for 8pm.

*For further information about CARC, please  
Contact the Hon Secretary:*

**Phil, M0TZZ, [secretary@carc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@carc.org.uk)**



Welcome to the October / November 2016 edition of the News Bulletin.

In memory of Derek, G3GRO, CARC is sponsoring the Derek Atter, G3GRO Memorial Trophy. It's first presentation was at the CARC Microwave Round Table event held recently. See Page 2 for details.



*The inscription reads:*  
The Derek Atter G3GRO  
Memorial Trophy  
Presented by  
The Crawley Amateur  
Radio Club

## Local Repeaters

**GB3MH:** 145.625/88.5 **GB7MH:** 439.6375 (D-Star)

**GB3WS:** 145.750/88.5 **GB3NX:** 430.850/88.5 (438.450)

**GB3NS:** 439.675/82.5 **GB7NS:** 439.1625 (DMR) **GB7ID:** 430.975 (DMR)

**GB3HO:** 430.8875/88.5 (438.4875) **GB3HY:** 430.900/88.5 (438.500)

**Past President:** Derek Atter (G3GRO)

**Hon Treasurer:** Howard Palmer (G4PFW)

**Hon Secretary:** Phil Moore (M0TZZ)

**Programme Secretary:** John Longhurst (G3VLH)

**Training Lead Instructor:** Malcolm Harman (G3NZP)

**Committee Member:** Richard Hadfield (G4ANN)

**Chairman:** Keith Evans (G3VKW)

**Vice Chairman:** John Pitty (G4PEO)

**Exam Secretary:** Phil Moore (M0TZZ)

**QSL Manager/News Editor:** John Pitty (G4PEO)

**Committee Member:** Alex Sheppard (M1YAP)

**Shack Managers:** Mike Davies (G0KAD), Rob Barter (M0ZAF)

## Calendar Items - October & November

### Choosing a VHF/UHF Radio - Alwyn Seeds G8DOH, Wednesday October 26th

Alwyn gives a comprehensive assessment of the key features and performance requirements of modern transceiver design.

### CARC - HARC Challenge, Wednesday November 23rd

It's that time again, where a team or teams from each club 'battle' to overcome a fiendish but fun, and usually not too difficult technical challenge. This year it is CARC's turn to devise and host the event, and in the process, hopefully redeem ourselves, as Horsham were the victors last year.

Some 'challenges' are in the process of being devised/assessed, but if you have any ideas, please contact **Keith, G3VKW**. For a fun and interesting evening, make sure you attend the club on the 23rd..

## Previous Meetings & Events

### Microwave Round Table

Again, another successful Round Table gathering at the CARC hut, organised by Chris, G0FDZ. Success was not only measured by technical content and numbers attending, but also the amount of food consumed!

About 39 visitors from all over the country attended, with judging for the UKuG (UK Microwave Group) Project contest, plus sales of bits and pieces taking place in the morning, followed by lectures in the afternoon.

The 'bits and pieces' included some of Derek G3GRO's microwave 'projects' and components. **Keith, G3VKW**, and **John, G4PEO** set up a makeshift 'car boot sale' outside the hut, comprising mostly of Derek's non microwave 'assorted items' plus other items we have for sale, whilst the more interesting and useful (microwave) equipment was on display/sale inside the hut. Although we managed to sell quite a bit of equipment, a considerable amount was left over. **Barry, MOHBM** kindly agreed to store the unsold items at his QTH/garage, transported there via three large cars, courtesy **G3VKW, G4ANN & G4PEO**... These items will then be collected in November, to be taken to the CATS Bazaar, (20th Nov), where CARC will have a table or two.

Thanks as usual to **Dick, MORXZ** who did a sterling job looking after the catering for the day - in fact such a good job that Dick sold out of practically everything - a first for this event!

In recognition of **Derek, G3GRO**, CARC has sponsored the Derek Atter G3GRO Memorial Trophy. Considering Derek's interests and many achievements in the microwave world, both professionally and through amateur radio, it was fitting that the trophy should be presented to the winner of the Crawley Microwave Round Table heat of the UKuG Project contest.

The first recipient, for his 144MHz transverter, was **Sam Jewell, G4DDK**, shown here (far right) receiving the trophy from CARC Chairman **Keith, G3VKW**.



Photo G0FDZ

Photos G4PEO



**Previous Meetings & Events - cont**

**Microwave Round Table cont:**



*G4PEO / G3VKW CAR  
'Boot' Sale*



*10GHz Antenna with 10GHz / 144MHz  
Transverter into an FT290*



*Dish Alignment*



*More Dishes / Proud Owner*



*Looks About Right..*

*Photos G4PEO*

## Club News

**HARC - CARC Challenge, November:** Again another reminder for this annual, lighthearted technical challenge, (Horsham vs Crawley clubs), which is great fun, so try not to miss it. Although there are a few ideas being considered, **Keith, G3VKW**, is still on the lookout for (fiendish/interesting) suggestions. Please contact Keith if you have an idea that might fit the bill....

**QRP-Labs:** More interesting developments from **Hans, G0UPL**. As mentioned in the last News Bulletin, the QRP-Labs high performance receiver kit, (to complement the U2/U3S TX's), is now a reality, together with a polyphase network plug-in module designed to fit the receiver module, which will cancel the unwanted sideband and produce a SSB output, without need for Digital Signal Processing. The receiver requires a local oscillator input (4 x RX freq) which can be derived from either the QRP Labs U3S kit, VFO/Sig Gen kit or the ProgRock kit. The RX utilises a plug-in band pass filter kit, selectable for the band required. (10 HF bands available). <http://qrp-labs.com>



Receiver Board with BPF & Polyphase Module

### Training Update - Malcolm Harman, G3NZP, Lead Instructor

In the August news bulletin I mentioned that Ewan Potter was unable to join the rest of his course for the examination, but I'm pleased to report that he duly passed on 21st August and now has the call sign **M6HNJ**. Give Ewan a call if you hear him.

His nine year old daughter Isabelle is also very interested in learning about amateur radio. She wants to be involved in projects, such as home made antennae, has her own multimeter, PSU, breadboard and components to make up basic circuits. May be soon to be an M6 .....



G3NZP, M6HNJ & M0RXH

### Now for what's ahead:

#### Advanced

If you are thinking of progressing to an Advanced licence it might be worth considering the 18 week long Bath Based Distance Learning Course. Using a combination of weekly quizzes, revision tasks and support from RSGB approved trainers, students have a selection of online features to use to enhance their learning experience by being able to quickly review lecture notes, complementary learning documents and worked answers as well as being able to communicate with fellow students and tutors using an integrated messaging system. The next course runs from January to June 17th, so keep an eye on the RSGB web site or see RadCom for enrolment details, alternatively go on the waiting list to receive an early booking form late October by sending a request to Steve Hartley [g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk)

Once you have successfully completed the course I will run a series of seminars on demand, so that any areas of concern can be discussed amongst the class and conclusions shared. When everyone is confident we can set a date for the exam, now available from the RSGB as required.

#### Intermediate

During this year we have had 12 Foundation passes, so I reckon there must be some of you out there wishing to obtain an Intermediate licence. While the topics are mainly an extension of what has gone before, a good read of the "Intermediate, building on the Foundation" book together with a few coaching sessions should lead to success. However there is a lot more practical work involved, but this would all be part of a course that would run over a two or three consecutive Sunday afternoons on a "drop-in" basis, an approach which has worked well in the past. Nevertheless, please bear in mind I would like a minimum of a least four applicants before arranging dates.

#### Foundation

I believe there is a growing demand for a Foundation course, either during late October or early November, particularly as once again we may have an interest from Thales in Crawley. I would like students to be largely self taught by first reading this recommended RSGB book "Foundation Licence - Now" by Alan Betts, G0HIQ. If you want to obtain an Amateur Radio Foundation Licence this book is for you, available from the RSGB book shop £4.99.

In conclusion I would ask that if you know of anyone who may be interested in the courses offered, albeit a CARC member, work colleague, friend or relation, please mention our current plans and for more information about courses, dates, etc. please e-mail [training@carc.org.uk](mailto:training@carc.org.uk)

## Club News - cont:

### Club Clothing

The committee thought it would be a good idea to investigate the possibility of CARC sweatshirts/polo shirts etc; which would then help identify us as a club at various events, such as SERF/Eastbourne and CATS Bazaar.



**Alex, M1YAP** has designed a club logo which has been accepted as suitable for embroidery by Ravenspring, a company specialising in embroidered garments for clubs, and who were recommended by **Mike, GOKAD**; as the company also supplies embroidered clothing to the sailing club he is a member of.

Garment prices are very reasonable, and club members will be able to view the various clothing options, and also order/pay directly via the Ravenspring web site once a garment(s)/hat etc; has been chosen. There is also the additional option of having your callsign embroidered. Details are still being finalised, but it is hoped to have more news soon, (watch the notice board initially), together with the scary prospect of some committee members soon to be seen modelling said garments!

### Contest Group QSL Card

As they have been receiving large numbers of cards via the RSGB QSL bureau, the contest team, (CARC and RATS members), needed a QSL card in order to reciprocate.

**John G4PEO**, recently 'appointed' QSL manager for **G3M** duly obliged with the dual purpose (cost saving!) design shown, which is currently being printed by well known QSL card supplier, Gennady, UX5UO. <http://www.ux5uoqsl.com/> Once the cards have been delivered, the task of replying to the pile of incoming cards can begin in earnest...



### Chairmans Report - Keith, G3VKW

Hi all,

When you read this, we will be heading towards winter, and that brings improved conditions on HF. For those of you unfamiliar with some of the Dx stations that are on the air, you can go to a very useful web site called ADXO which stands for Announced DX Operations, which lists in calendar order what is on, finished, and about to come on air, in a very user friendly way.

<http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

Leading on, members may wish to join Club Log. <https://secure.clublog.org/>

This is a really useful facility, as you can upload your logs to it, and it tracks how you are doing. Also CARC has a private club list so you can see how other club members are doing. This can be set up for all time, the current year, and also it can be mode or band specific. So it would be super if we could get some more club members using it. It is free and run by Michael Wells G7VJR. Many modern logging programs can be configured to automatically upload your logs to it.

Regarding radio, there is an online RSGB survey, which you do not to be a member to complete regarding internet and PLT interference. If you do suffer as I do now, please fill this in, as it gives the RSGB more ammunition to fire at big business that is trying to destroy our hobby by taking shortcuts in their equipment design.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GMVDZYP>

CARC hosted the Microwave Round Table Crawley leg again this year, and this was very well attended, and we managed to sell a lot of G3GRO's microwave gear, and this gave us a tremendous boost to the clubs coffers.

You will notice that the club house has been emptied, and is as it should be, a neat and tidy place for all club members to enjoy. Let us make sure we all do our best to keep it this way.

The Committee are still open to idea's regarding the HARC / CARC Challenge, so if you have any devious ideas then let us know, as we need to beat Horsham this year.

Just a reminder, as winter approaches and the rainy season, do be careful where you park your cars, as we had a car stuck in the mud last year.