

# SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY

*Promoting and Supporting Amateur Radio since 1961*

## THE CATSWHISKER - AUGUST 2009

*Keeping members and  
SDRS events and news*



*friends informed about  
since March 1967*

### LOCAL FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### SPECIAL AUGUST EVENT

**ALTHOUGH THE SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY DOES NOT NORMALLY HOLD A MEETING IN AUGUST ROB AND CAROL HAVE INVITED ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO THEIR JOINT 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ON TUESDAY THE 11<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST AT THE USUAL VENUE.**

#### **Sunday the 9th August.**

Flight Refuelling Hamfest at Wimborne. The SDRS is taking part in this event!

The South Dorset Radio Society has booked two tables at Hamfest. See 'July Table Top Sale' below for more information.

#### **Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August.**

Carol and Rob's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash! This will be held at our usual meeting venue from about 7pm. *It would help if you could let Carol know if you are coming to this event but it's not a condition of attendance to do so!*

#### **Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 16th of August.**

Lighthouses and Lightships on the Air. GX3SDS at the Nothe Fort.

#### **Tuesday September the 8<sup>th</sup>. SDRS meeting.**

A video presentation: Tony Hancock's 'The Radio Ham' and 'The Blood Donor'.

# BYLARA

## BRITISH YOUNG LADIES AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

### 30<sup>th</sup> PEARL BIRTHDAY BASH

Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2009

To be held at National Hamfest in the George Stephenson Exhibition Hall

*BYLARA would like to welcome you all to come and join us to celebrate – Carol.*

## NATIONAL HAMFEST

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LINCOLN SHORT WAVE CLUB AND THE RSGB

- The RSGB – complete with committees and book stall
- Full range of national traders
- Specialist traders
- Club stands
- Special Interest Groups
- “Bring and Buy” stand
- GB4FUN – located outside of the hall
- Local companies
- Static military vehicle display
- Car boot sale (non-trade)
- Hot and cold refreshments - including a licensed bar
- A large seating/meeting area, adjacent to the catering facilities and in the main hall
- 2m talk-in station – run by Lincoln Short Wave Club
- Caravan pitches (available directly from the Showground)
- Whilst you are at the National Hamfest the family can visit Lincoln or Newark

*October 2nd and 3rd 2009  
Opening times – 10am to 4pm*

To be held at the Newark Showground ([www.newarkshowground.com](http://www.newarkshowground.com)) – 5 minutes from the A1, with extensive parking and set in quiet countryside. The rally is being held in the George Stephenson Exhibition Hall – a great exhibition space – with plenty of room to host the trade stands and offer a large meeting and refreshment area.

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

## MUSEUMS ON THE AIR 2009



### THE FT450 IN USE FOR GX3SDS

Yet another event in the busy schedule of the South Dorset Radio Society calendar. Arthur, Fred and myself being the operators for this event, we set up the 80 metre dipole using the flag pole flying the Union Jack lobbing to the east / west and the 10 / 20 metre trap dipole to the south side of the fort. Fred and me had the room at the top in the southeast corner of the Nothe Fort, while Arthur was in the room below us with the CW station.

Fred brought along his FT450, which I think is the replacement to the FT840. It was a good job he brought the manual, but after a while we worked out how to get around the menus, which were confusing, but once set up it worked very well. Fred was most pleased with the performance of his FT450 and allowed us to use it for a talk and demonstration at the club.

The only drawback with using the fort is that the club can only work when the fort is open. During the day the 80-metre band is bad enough at the best of times but although the band conditions were very difficult on this occasion we managed to make 38 contacts, of which 9 were other museums with the same problems.

My thanks to both Fred and Arthur for their help over the weekend and to all the stations that worked GX3SDS. We hope to be there again in August when we do Light House Weekend.

Graham, 2E1GOQ

Arthur has kindly supplied a copy of his CW (Morse Code) Station Log for the above event and this is shown below.

## MUSEUMS ON THE AIR 2009 – CW STATION LOG EXTRACT

### Museums on the Air - Nothe Fort 20<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Name and QTH</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
1005	MW3VVC	599	John / Anglesey	7010
1125	GB2OH	599	Tim / Oxburgh Hall, Norfolk	7014
1140	DK8IT	579	Gerry / Heidelberg	7023
1220	GB0WAM	599	Tom/Wickenby Airfield	7018
1235	GB2WM	599	Denzil / Worthing Town Museum	7018
1240	GB0RMM	599	Ray / Royal Marines Museum	7018
1258	GB2POW	579	Albert / Eden Camp Museum	7010
1318	GB0RTM	599	Peter / Rougham Museum	7005
1408	G4MJO	579	Alan / Nr Leeds	
1425	TM6SCH	599	Cherbourg – Locator: IN99	
1440	GB2VCB	599	Norman / Benache (Aberdeen Club Visit)	

Heard G3ICO (George) at Yeovil Museum but couldn't establish contact.

Station closed at 1500Z.

### Museums on the Air - Nothe Fort 21st June 2009.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Name and QTH</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
1035	GB0RTM	579	Terry / WW2 Airfield Rougham.	7018
1115	G0NXY	559	Paul / Tamworth	
7013				
1135	IK1LJL	599	Paolo / Turin	14054
1150	GB4BBR	599	Del / Brigham Nr Kelso	14048
1155	DL5CL	599	Ron / Bad Eilsen	14048
1220	GI4CFQ	579	Gary / Belfast	14048
1229	ON6PQ	589	Ed / Nr Ghent	14048
1232	OK2QX	599	Short Exchange only.	14048
1237	DF5WN	599	Eckhard / Mainz	14048
1350	GB0RMM	599	Mick / Royal Marines Museum.	7021

Conditions deteriorated on the bands, listened around but very poor.

Station closed at 1420Z.

Arthur, M0VAW

## WW2 EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE NOTHE FORT

JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> 2009

GX3SDS also operated at the Nothe Fort during this event, which coincided with the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day Landings. Operations were somewhat limited by the other activities taking place for the main event which included a firework display! Nevertheless a fair number of contacts were made on the Saturday and Arthur has kindly supplied this copy of his CW (Morse Code) Station Log. All the contacts were made on 40 metres.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Station</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Name and QTH</b>
1210	F8DVU	579	Jean / St Nazair
1223	F6KWP/P	569	
1350	PI4MRC	569	Francis / Museum Minesweeper Den Helder
1420	DK1EG	579	Klaus / Frankfurt
1436	DQ1A/P	579	Test Station Only
1450	IK2QIK	579	Franco / Nr Brescia

Conditions were very poor and the station closed at 1515Z Hrs.

Arthur, M0VAW

## JULY TABLE TOP SALE

At the last meeting every available table was taken up with a huge display of radio equipment that had been donated to the Society from recent Radio Shack clearouts. All those present had a wonderful opportunity to have first choice of what was available and raise some much needed funds for the Society. From complete transceivers to a multitude of accessories, including SWR/Power meters, signal generators, dip meters, aerials and feeder, power supply units and extension speakers with in-built audio filters - all at bargain prices. This was not an event to have missed!

Many thanks are due to Rob and Carol for storing, sorting and transporting everything so that we could all enjoy the evening. As there is still a lot of stuff left and even more to come; a couple of tables have been booked at Hamfest where hopefully it can all be converted into cash to help keep the SDRS alive.

To finish off the meeting we were all invited to Rob and Carol's joint 60<sup>th</sup> 'birthday bash', which will be held at our normal venue on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August. Please come along and show them your appreciation.

As with all meetings, contributions to the raffle and refreshments are of course always welcome!

## SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Unless you have already paid it, the annual subscription to the South Dorset Radio Society for the year 2009/10 is now due. The rates are £10.50 per member, or £5.00 for anyone still in full-time education. Payment should be made to our treasurer and cheques made out to the South Dorset Radio Society please.

## SDRS MEETING VENUE

The Society meets on the second Tuesday of every month (except August) at the Chickerell Youth Club Hall.

Directions: From Weymouth, proceed northwest towards Chickerell along the B3157 (Chickerell Road) from its junction with the B3156, Lanehouse Rocks Road (or the Marquess of Granby junction) for approximately one mile. Passing the Army Camp on your left, at the bottom of a dip, turn right into Glennie Way. Follow this road until you pass the Willow Bed Hall on your left. At the bottom of the hill, take the next turning left into Lower Way and then left again into Rashley Road. Ahead you will see the entrance to Chickerell Primary School with the Chickerell Youth Club building to the left. Please note that you have to use the entrance at the side of the building accessed from Fairfield.

## WIRELESS WAVES AT BLETCHLEY PARK

Bletchley Park will be celebrating the essential contribution of radio to the war effort with the family event 'Wireless Waves' over the weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. Various radio societies and other groups will demonstrate a range of equipment from World War Two onwards, including the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society, Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society, Bletchley Park Radio Society and a World War Two replica German field radio station.

Full details are at [www.bletchleypark.org.uk](http://www.bletchleypark.org.uk).

## HAPPY 65<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

Mike Carter, G0NEV who for many years was a very active member of the South Dorset Radio Society was 65 on Sunday the 26th July. **Many happy returns Mike!**

## **SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY 2009/10**

### **G3SDS G8SDS M2Z**

#### **CONTACTS**

CHAIRMAN: Graham Webb, 2E1GOQ [2e1g0q@g3sds.org.uk](mailto:2e1g0q@g3sds.org.uk) 01305837356

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Arthur Werrett, M0VAW  
Fred Talmage, G0LVF  
Jamie Wrightson, 2E0WON (Pending confirmation)

President: Geoff Watts, G0EVW  
Vice President: Robert Hodges, G0RYL

SDRS Web Site: [www.g3sds.org.uk](http://www.g3sds.org.uk) Pictures here: [www.sdrs.zoomshare.com](http://www.sdrs.zoomshare.com)

SDRG (GB3SD/DR) Web Site: [www.gb3sd.radiouk.com](http://www.gb3sd.radiouk.com)

#### **WORDS OF WISDOM**

*“As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not certain, and as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality.”* Albert Einstein

#### **THE CATSWHISKER**

Our Society's Newsletter has been called 'The Catswhisker' since its inception. The word is defined thus in the Oxford Concise Dictionary.

*cat's whisker n.*  
*a fine adjustable wire in a crystal radio receiver.*  
*the cat's whiskers (or pyjamas) slang an excellent person or thing.*

#### **NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION**

Until a new editor/producer can be found, the SDRS Newsletter is being produced and edited by our President, Geoff Watts, G0EVW. Please send any material for inclusion in Catswhisker to Geoff using e-mail [g0evw@g3sds.org.uk](mailto:g0evw@g3sds.org.uk). Or by post to: 46 Links Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 0PE. You can also phone or send a text message to Geoff on 07502198447. Please note that news material needs to arrive *at least* 10 - 14 days before each meeting.