

SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY

Promoting and Supporting Amateur Radio since 1961

THE CATSWHISKER - FEBRUARY 2009

*Keeping members and
SDRS events and news*



*friends informed about
since March 1967*

**THE NEXT SDRS MEETING IS ON TUESDAY THE 10th OF
FEBRUARY AT THE USUAL VENUE**

THE FUTURE OF OUR SOCIETY IS IN DOUBT!

The falling membership and lack of attendance at monthly meetings means that it is no longer practical or viable to continue to meet at our current venue. At the last meeting there was an informal discussion about all the various options, including the very real possibility of winding the Society up! It is therefore essential that ALL members attend the next meeting.

Geoff, G0EVW – President SDRS

CATSWHISKER DISTRIBUTION – URGENT – PLEASE RESPOND

The Society is anxious to know how successful our distribution of Catswhisker is using this electronic format.

Please be kind enough to acknowledge receipt of this e-mail and better still, tell us about your experience with this method of delivery. This is the second time recently that we have asked members to do this and the response last time was disappointing.

The above text was included in the e-mail sent out with last months Catswhisker. I would like to thank those few members who responded. It was pleasing to get positive comments from you all. It is a shame however that the majority of members ignored the request!

Geoff, G0EVW

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Here are some locally accessible events readers may be interested in.

8 February - Harwell Radio Society rally at Didcot, Oxfordshire. (*At the school where I spent the entire 1960s, so if I go it would be a nostalgia trip.*)

1 March - Exeter Radio and Electronics Rally.

8 March - Bournemouth Radio Society rally.

19 April - Andover Radio Club boot sale.

25 April - International Marconi Day for us at Bradford Peverell.

26 April - QRP rally at Sherborne.

21 June - Newbury Radio club boot sale and rally.

28 June - West of England Rally at Frome (the old Longleat event).

9 August - Flight Refuelling's Hamfest at Wimborne.

These are all listed in greater detail in PW and Radcom, also on various clubs' websites.

John, M0BQO

BEACHCOMBER'S STORY

BY RAY, G1YRS

I first got to know Ray through regular contacts on our local repeater GB3SD before he moved to Portland from Severn Beach. Ray often told tales of his life and his experiences in early radio and later on, via Packet Radio and e-mail, he sent me a number of fascinating texts recounting his life.

Some time after Ray's death I found the texts lurking on an old computer hard drive and re-read them. Although it's unlikely that Ray ever intended them to be published they were so well written and told such an interesting story that I quickly realised that they would make excellent Catswhisker material and got permission from his widow Irene, G7EIS to include them in future editions.

In 2008 Ray's texts (almost without any editing) were published as they were written, in 10 parts, in Catswhisker - the Newsletter of the South Dorset Radio Society. All the episodes have now been combined in a single PDF document that can be downloaded from my website: <http://www.geoffrwatts.co.uk/docs/beachcombers-story.pdf>

Geoff, G0EVW

SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY 2008/9

G3SDS G8SDS M2Z

CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN: Graham Webb, 2E1GOQ 2e1g0q@g3sds.org.uk 01305837356

SECRETARY: Carol Hodges, 2E1RBH 2e1rbh@g3sds.org.uk 01305820400
Marine Cottage, 1a Clements Lane, Chiswell, Portland, Dorset. DT5 1AS

TREASURER: John Rose, M0BQO m0bqo@g3sds.org.uk 01305832057
45 Ringstead Crescent, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 6PT

Arthur Werrett, M0VAW
Fred Talmage, G0LVF
Jamie Wrightson, 2E0WON

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

SDRS Web Site: www.g3sds.org.uk Pictures here: www.sdrs.zoomshare.com

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

WORDS OF WISDOM

"The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible."

Arthur C. Clarke, 'Technology and the Future' (Clarke's second law)

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. 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.

SDRS 2008/9