

# SCARF NOTES

16<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Those present at the meeting included; Mick Senior G4EFO HARC, Barrie Broomfield G4OKB Wings Museum, Timothy Dabbs G7JYQ GDRS, Nigel Thrower G3YSW DR103 RSGB, Mike Pollock G8KMP MSARS, Kim Newland G7AIE MSARS, Paul Barnett G4TMC HARC, Phil Moore M0TZZ CARC, Keith Evans G3VKW CARC, Richard Hadfield G4ANN CARC, Alister Watts G3ZBU HARC, Keith Bird G4JED WKARS.

Barrie, G4OKB, Wings Museum: The Museum is closed from 11<sup>th</sup> November. The radio shack is open on Wednesdays during close-down, as the radios have to be fired up from time to time otherwise they will refuse to work. About 12 sets are running, and the 1,200V HT PSU parts supplied by Robin, G3OGP, from HARC, will eventually get the 1154/1155 going. Amateur radio leaflets are handed out to people who seem keen, but they don't receive any feedback as to whether the local clubs are contacted. Apart from bits of aircraft in the Museum, they also have a Merlin engine from a Halifax in runnable condition, complete with its 'saxophone' exhaust. Some Bomber-Boys came round to see it; the youngest is 95!

Tim, G7JYQ, Guildford: The 24th-27th August activity was well-attended in spite of rain on the Sunday. Guildford is twinned with Freiburg, so despite terrible HF conditions, the two Mayors were able to exchange greetings. There were 45 at the BBQ. Other items were a recent construction contest, JOTA, a forthcoming talk on FPGAs by G3ZBU on 9<sup>th</sup> Nov, and a Natter Night on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Nigel, G3YSW, Worthing: 3 passed at the last Intermediate exam and 1 at Advanced level. An Advanced course for 5 will be held in December. One candidate is from Essex and has been doing the Bath distance-learning course, and another candidate is Anna, from the University of Sussex Space dept. They are also running 2 Jota stations in the Bognor area.

Mike, G8KMP & Kim G7AIE, Mid-Sussex: Of the 10 candidates in the last Foundation course, 6 passed. One question was from the next syllabus, so it seems highly unfair, and questions were asked. 3 Intermediate students passed. There is a Table Top sale coming soon, and the Surplus Equipment Sale on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. M7 calls are now being issued.

Paul, G4TMC, HARC: We recently has a photo quiz by Andrew, M0GJH, which was fun. An extremely good talk was 'I was a Cold War Spy', by Brian Browby, (email [bjbrowby@icloud.com](mailto:bjbrowby@icloud.com)) from Seaford. He uses an i-phone and will need to have a test of the Club's PC-projector before the event. There will be a 2m DF hunt on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov in the morning.

Phil, M0TZZ & Keith, G3VKW & Richard, G4ANN, CARC: 61 members at present, a bit of a record of recent years. Forthcoming events: 24<sup>th</sup> Oct, FPGAs by G3ZBU, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov, HARC-CARC Challenge, 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, Fish & Chips evening, Jan: AGM. The JOTA support has been poor, mainly due to age!

Keith, G4JED, West Kent: Plenty of interest on Aspidistra. Mike G8KMP and David Ansell, 2E0NKC, have both organised site visits which are fascinating. November is a Show & Tell meeting, and they prove very popular. December is a social meeting and January is a planning session.

Mick, G4EFO, hon. Chair: Re JOTA etc, Roffey Cubs will be operational for the Saturday afternoon. Peter, G4LKW runs Shipley Scouts. January next year is the Titans/Explorers foundation course. Mick is working on a talk on Radio Surveillance as requested by the Farnham Club.

Training courses can be published on his SCARF pages, on [www.aerialsystems.tv](http://www.aerialsystems.tv), please advise if required.

The Cray Valley website CVRS.org has a calendar of training courses. West Kent, Cray Valley and others pool tutors. A discussion on the exam system was next. Many clubs have been inspected only once. A new syllabus is about to be issued so many people are taking courses now before the changes happen. Even though the latest system is online, paper will not be scrapped in the foreseeable future. To prevent cheating, the software locks out the rest of the laptop.

AOB:

Keith, RSGB regional rep, asked about entering Club of the Year. Alister said that each year the criteria change and it can be arduous finding something to say that is relevant. Keith asked each club to update the RSGB's database when officers change, dates of meetings, etc.

Mid-Sussex were having a spot of bother getting the G5RV callsign as the owner was not keen to relinquish it. Apparently OFCOM say a special call can be held by a club member who does not have to be an officer, so it is not so easy to force the issue.

Tim said the next Hernia Cup quiz night will be held at Eccleford, Sunbury-on-Thames. Their Centenary celebrations were mentioned in PW.

CATS will not distribute other clubs' newsletters. Alister suggested this may be because authors occasionally 'lift' photos and sometimes text, from Web pages and they may be subject to copyright. It was suggested that if material is posted on the Web, and did not have Copyright watermarked over it, then it should be considered Public Domain. Lawyers would probably disagree, however!

CARC's current construction project is an antenna analyser which runs from 160m to 10m. It uses an Arduino, DDS, LCD screen and AD8307 log amp detectors, which are far more sensitive than diodes. CARC members have modified the original design to obtain better accuracy. A 3-D printed box costs £3 and a kit of parts circa £38. It also uses a PowerBank 3.6V to 5V converter so it can run from an internal rechargeable battery. The project has had over 20 builders. Their previous project, A Whisper transmitter, had 40 takers! Next year's plan is a power meter.

The meeting ended at 9:16pm.

**Mid Sussex Events calendar;**

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct Radio night and tabletop sale.

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Oct "On Air Night"

Fri 02<sup>nd</sup> Nov Surplus equip sale ( n.b. - upstairs )

Fri 09<sup>th</sup> Nov Nag and Natter night

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Nov Radio Night and table top sale

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov Construction Contest

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Nov Movie Night tbc.

Fri 07<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas dinner in house

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Quiz

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> and Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Dec no meetings – closed.

**[NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 15th JANUARY 2019 - 8.00pm CRAWLEY CLUB HQ](#)**