

SCARF Notes of Meeting, 10th July 2018 at CARC HQ at 8pm.

The meeting was chaired by Mick G4EFO.

Notes:

1. Present: Mick G4EFO, Keith G3VKW, Nigel G3YSW, Alister G3ZBU, George G4CMU, Keith G4JED, Barry G4OKB, John G4PEO, Paul G4TMC, Tim G7JYQ, Mike G8KMP.
2. Apologies: Adrian G4LRP and Kim G7AIE.
3. The Notes of the previous meeting were circulated to those present.
4. Clubs represented: CARC, Dorking, Guildford, HARC, Mid-Sussex, West Kent, Wings.
5. RSGB represented by Nigel G3YSW, DRM103.
6. Noted Points:
 - a. Questions about HTTPS were raised. It is not a requirement to use https but it help raise the listing profile in search engines
 - b. The Eastbourne rally was cancelled due to lack of interest and Dan was having to organise it all. Attendances at previous Eastbourne rallies have been poor.
 - c. Nigel, G3YSW, is the new area deputy for the RSGB.
7. Club News
 - a. Mid-Sussex. Mike said that participation on the last fox-hunt was 2 cars of 8 people. A Foundation course has been organised for 6th/7th October. Two more fox-hunts are in the calendar. A BBQ at Sue's. Finally a Surplus equipment sale, upstairs at the Club premise, on 2nd Nov.
 - b. Guildford. Tim said that due to unreasonable 24-hour car park charges at Newlands Corner, aerial playing will now be Puttenham Common, near the Hog's Back. A 100 years of Amateur Radio in Guildford event will be held on the 24th to 27th August. Other clubs are invited to bring tents if they wish to display items. Wey Valley will operate on the HF bands with Guildford doing VHF/UHF. There may also be a celebratory lunch or dinner in September or October.
 - c. Wings Museum. Barry said the shack is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10-4 and 10-5 at weekends. Visitors seem to come from all over the place. Many are offered contact details to the local radio clubs but no follow-up info is available.
 - d. CARC. Keith listed the events: 25th July talk by Duncan Brooker on Comms on the new aircraft carrier. No August meeting due to holidays. Sunday 9th September is the microwave round table. Very popular with increasing turnout each year. Perhaps that is due to bacon butties and sausage sarnies? The Junk Sale is on 26th September. The HARC-CARC challenge is in November. Oct 24th G3ZBU on FPGAs. Friday 7th December is the Fish and Chips Supper. Finally the AGM is on 23rd January. One member has recently reappeared after doing the Foundation some time ago.
 - e. Dorking. George said an advanced exam was held recently with 3 locals and 2 from further away. It is a self-study course and it seems people are having a bit of difficult finding exam centres. Other items: 24th July South Downs evening at Devils Dyke. 17th August Fish and Chips. Mike Underhill on Loop Aerials. 25th September, On 23rd October Philip Grey from Sutton and Cheam: Back to Basics: Engineers Distrust. On 27th November AGM then RSGB video. December is the Christmas Dinner.
 - f. Horsham. Paul listed evens: Fox-hunt Thursday 12th July evening. August 2nd , Andrew M0GJH with a Photo Quiz. September 1st talk – I was a Cold War Spy. October 4th Junk Sale. November is still TBA as Chris Bridges of AMSAT is hard to pin down. AGM on 6th

December. Christmas dinner 8th December. The last talk was Amateur Radio, Fact or Fiction, by Mike G8CKT; it was excellent.

- g. West Kent; Keith has a talk lined up on Aspidistra by Mike M0FCD. Another talk is Amateur Radio in Films by G4DCV. The Bring/Show/Tell meetings seem to go down well. This is booked for November. December has a Xmas social. The big event is Tonbridge Castle's commemoration of 100 years of WW1 on 18th/19th August. Lots of groups will put up stands in the Castle grounds. VMARS may be there. Keith asked for assistance and WW1 period gear. Paul suggested Combined Ops.
8. Discussion: Mick will attempt to organise a website to link local clubs to SCARF. Keith G4JED suggested having a holding page somewhere. George said the cost of equipment insurance was going up and there are a couple of companies out there according to Tim. Keith G3VKW said the CARC contest group had a fair bit of damage following an RTA two years ago. The money due still has not been paid yet! The subject of GDPR was raised. Apparently we are considered to be 'insignificant' by the authorities and breaches of data protection etc do not interest them in the slightest. Some clubs have an annual renewal membership form and provide boxes to tick to opt-in to stuff. A question was raised about what happens to the data held on people who wish to have it removed. It would seem unreasonable to have to delete old records. HARC have the membership account details stored on a Windows 98 machine that is fairly safe because it is never plugged into a network. Keith G3VKW suggested using Member Mojo, but apparently it costs money if there are more than maybe 40 members. Keith G4JED stated that each committee should have a policy and must allow people to opt out. Keith also said that AROS is being phased out and replaced by a new service OAS – Operating Advisory Service which will be proactive and 'assist' operators whose procedures are lacking. Mick said that GB3WS and possibly GB3NX repeaters will be moving location. One of CARCs repeaters required a new board from the US of A. One board was lost in transit so another was ordered and G4ANN will fit it. Finally a legal question on where to find the specific wording of using mobile equipment in the car. Alister said the law specifically makes it illegal to use hand-held mobile devices which use the 900/1800MHz GSM bands. However the Police are at liberty to arrest hand-held mic operators driving without 'due care and attention'.
9. The meeting ended at 9:05pm. The next meeting to be held on Tuesday 16th October 2018.