



SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

APRIL 2023 – No 968

SRCC supports the RSGB Child Protection Policy

General Club Business: secretary@srcc.uk
Membership/Treasurer: membership@srcc.uk
Newsletter articles/distribution: newsletter@srcc.uk
Club Equipment Loan: equipment@srcc.uk
Club Website: <https://www.srcc.uk>

Honorary Secretary & Editor
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MONTHLY MEETINGS NORMALLY ON 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS 7.30 FOR 7.45pm

Meetings at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT

1st MEETING Monday 17th April: Annual General Meeting

2nd MEETING Monday 24th April: Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat with John G8MNY

SRCC COMMITTEE 2022/23

Chairman & Publicity	G3MCX John Kennedy	020 8688 3322
Vice Chairman	G4LZE Colin Lugard	07533 174388
Hon. Secretary & Newsletter Editor	G3WRR Quin Collier	020 8653 6948
Treasurer, Membership & Liaison	G4FFY Ray Howells	01732 357474
Events	G6JXA Kim Brown	07812 735507
Webmaster	G4FYF Steve Jones	01424 584143
Committee Member (Co-opted)	G3ZPB Peter Burton	01737 551413
Committee Member (Co-opted)	G7RUX Jason Gardner	07515 357630

EDITOR'S OPENER

Dear Members & Friends, welcome to the April 2023 SRCC Newsletter.

As predicted in the March Newsletter, the early part of March proved to be a busy period for a number of SRCC members, mainly focussed around collection and preparation of equipment for conversion into disposable income at two sales – our own March SRCC Surplus Equipment Sale at Trinity School and the Hamzilla Radio Fest near Ashford the following weekend. Both were successful events and further details are provided later in this issue and will be included in the next.

Your scribe was unable to attend Hamzilla owing to an important (if rather unwelcome) family commitment, and on return to Mission Control Norwood went off by himself for four days of light relief in the Deep South West – specifically Totnes in the appropriately named South Hams area of Devon. This proved most relaxing and amongst other things he spent the day at Paignton Zoo with an old (non-amateur) chum from university half a century ago. For those with a zoological interest,

please see the photo below.



**CAN YOU DISTINGUISH
BETWEEN G3WRR AND
WOODEN MEERKATS?
(no prize offered....)**

And now on to the incisive journalism you are eager to read...

73, Quin G3WRR

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

March A meeting (6th March) This was one of our twice-yearly Surplus Equipment Sales (SESs). There was a large amount of varied equipment available (including antennas, ATUs, test gear, receivers, VHF handhelds and power supplies): so much in fact that there was not sufficient time for our usual auctioneer Gareth G4XAT to offer it all to the enthusiastic purchasers. As a result, a fair quantity was carried forward to the Hamzilla Radio Fest six days later. The great majority of what was available at the SES came from three sources - the estate of Maurice G4DDY, the estate of John G3ENG and existing SRCC stock, with a limited amount from the membership at large. The total takings were a healthy £446. Since the families of Maurice and John had very generously offered the proceeds of the sale to SRCC, this results in a welcome addition of £434 to club funds. Thanks are due to Pat G4FDN for sorting, cataloguing and testing the G3ENG gear.

March B meeting (20th March) This was the usual Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat session with John G8MNY and his extensive array of test gear.

FUTURE MEETINGS

April A meeting (17th April) – Annual General Meeting. As stated last month, this is sometimes seen as a rather dry session – but it is your opportunity to influence who runs the club and to express your views on events for the forthcoming year and how things should be done, so please come along and have your say! In accordance with SRCC rules, the AGM Calling Notice was

issued with the March issue. The notes of last year's AGM and the agenda for this year's, together with a proposed set of changes to the SRCC Rules will be issued along with the current Newsletter issue or slightly later. Election nomination forms were included in the March issue but a further copy is attached at Annex A in case you have mislaid them!

April B meeting (24th April) This will be the usual Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat session with John G8MNY and his extensive array of test gear.

May A meeting (15th May) Peter G3ZPB will lead a planning meeting for VHF NFD on the weekend of 1st/2nd July from (subject to confirmation) our usual site on Warlingham Ridge.

May B meeting (22nd May) This will be the usual Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat session.

June A meeting (5th June) Subject to confirmation this will be the talk by Jason G7RUX on "data communications and CCTV networks" rescheduled from February 2023.

June B meeting (19th June) This will be the usual Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat session.

HERE AND THERE

I think most of us are aware of "Moore's Law" – which states (depending on exactly which definition you believe) that the number of transistors on a single microchip doubles every two years with a corresponding fall in cost. This was originally formulated in 1965 by Gordon Moore - who later co-founded Intel. (Doing my usual "Mr. Picky" act, in fact this is not a law in the strict scientific sense - as Ohm's Law, for example, is - but an empirical observation which seems to work). Despite an initial view that it would only apply until around 1975, it has held true within reasonable limits until the present day. Nowadays there seems to be a thriving industry predicting when Moore's Law will finally cease to apply (some pundits claim, for example, that quantum mechanical limits will start to apply as we continue to micro-miniaturise and knock it on the head) but it has nonetheless served, and for now continues to serve, the industry well. A little snippet of news recently (it's from the Daily Telegraph so it must be true... 😊) is that Gordon Moore died on March 24th this year aged 94. His obituary makes interesting reading (in a good way) but this is not really the place for it: I am keeping a copy of it, so if you are interested let me know and small fee I will bring it along to show you.

Quin G3WRR

SRCC LEAGUE TABLE – FEBRUARY 2023

Thanks to the eight "usual suspects" for their February inputs. Ray G4FFY, in what he describes as a "higher activity month", was once again the monthly leader (making this his sixteenth leading position out of the last eighteen sessions), followed by Peter G3ZPB who moves up four positions to second place. There were small changes in the rest of the table but none were greater than two positions up or down. The monthly figures for February are as follows:

ENTRANT	WORKED DXCC / SQUARE	WORKED SRCC MEMBER	WORKED IN CONTEST	POINTS THIS MONTH
G4FFY	99	4	27	213
G3ZPB	57	2	32	150
M0CGF	42			84
M0LEP	16	4		40
G4FYF	18	1		38
G3WRR	6	1	7	21
G4LZE	4	2		12
G3EUE	5			10

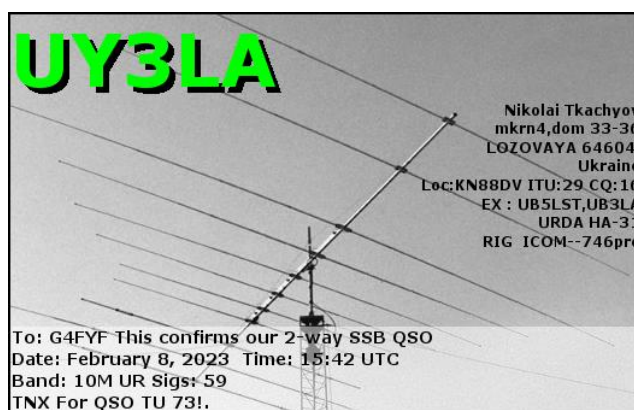
The great majority of Ray's scoring contacts were again made on HF, but he also had ten (11% of the total) on 2m & 70cm. All his HF contacts (as well as half his VHF ones) were made using FT4 or FT8, and included all continents except Antarctica, the majority (62%) being with European stations, followed by Asia (14%), Africa (8%), North America (8%), South America (5%) and Oceania (3%). His distribution of contacts demonstrates the improved condition of the higher HF bands, with over three times as many contacts made on 12m & 10m this February as in February 2021 before Cycle 25 started doing the business. His tally this month included HH (Haiti) on 10m FT8 as a new DXCC, making his total 152.

For Peter's February entry I can do no better than quote his words verbatim! *"A big improvement to 150 points (I tried harder!!!). Some notable events during the month included 70cms AFS, 70cms FT8, CQ WPX RTTY and HF FT4 Contests and new DXCCs of HC5 (Ecuador) on 10m, and VU2 (India) & AP2 (Pakistan) on 40m. Also notable for me was working a VK3 on 40m (unthinkable a few years ago!!), and a QSO using "Olivia16/500" mode (a new mode for me). Aside from the 70cms AFS on USB, all the other QSOs were made using various data modes. All-in-all, a very varied and interesting month"*

All Ian's scoring contacts were made on HF, consisting of 69% using SSB, followed by 26% on digital modes (including a first time QSO on a new digital mode, VARAC) and 5% on CW. They included all continents except Antarctica: 69% were with European stations, followed by North America (12%), South America (7%), Asia (5%), Africa (also 5%) and Oceania (22%). 20m was his most productive band, providing 55% of his scoring contacts followed by 12m (14%), 40m (12%), 10m (9%) and 17m (7%) and 15m (2%).) on 10m.

Like Peter, Rick has made things very easy this month and his words are quoted verbatim *"Apart from the usual suspects in the SRCC Monday morning 80 metre Net, it is entirely down to SOTA chasing on CW. The up-turn in Solar activity is now making a bit of a difference, and activations over the Atlantic are now more often workable. Still not quite hearing any activations in the Far East or Australasia, though"*

Steve noted that his entry contained a contact with UY (Ukraine) but was not sure about the licensing situation in that troubled country. But he subsequently received an eQSL from the station in question – see picture at right. So it's "in the book". He adds *"that apart, 10 meters continues to offer fun, sadly my 100W and G5RV didn't quite make to far east delights. Rest is 40 & 20 meters"*



Quin's scoring contacts were all made in the 70cm AFS contest using the G3SRC club call and the ARRL DX CW contest on HF using his own call. The latter is an interesting contest (North America – defined as mainland USA, Canada, Hawaii (KH6), Alaska (KL7), St. Paul Is. (CY9), and Sable Is. (CYØ) - works "rest of the world" and vice versa): unfortunately that does stack up well with the way our League Table awards points! But it was fun anyway, with five Canadian provinces and 36 of the 48 contiguous US states worked. (I always thought Contiguous was a Roman general?). Again, the improved HF conditions were evident from the fact that 45% of the contacts were made on 10m.

Colin's scoring contacts were all made using FT8 on 10m and were all with European stations, including two SRCC members.

Although no further details are available, it can safely be assumed that all Ted's contacts were made on CW on the HF bands.

The annual table is shown below:

ENTRANT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOT
G4FFY	155	213											368
G3ZPB	43	150											193
M0CGF	70	84											154
M0LEP	71	40											111
G3WRR	63	21											84
G4FYF	24	38											62
G4LZE	46	12											58
G3EUE	10	10											20

It is good to note that, in addition to the measured Solar Flux Index (SFI) being well ahead of predictions for Cycle 25 (see for example <https://www.solarham.net/progression.htm>), the observed band conditions are telling the same story.

73, Quin G3WRR - SRCC Leaguemeister

SRCC NETS

The following is a list of structured nets on which members of SRCC meet regularly. They are sometimes joined by members of other local clubs, who are always made most welcome. The net is not usually led by a nominated controller, but stations normally transmit cyclically in the chronological order in which they sign in. If any member wishes further occasions and frequencies to be added to the table, please let me know at q.g.collier@btinternet.com.

BAND/FREQUENCY/MODE	DAY OF WEEK	START TIME (clock)
160m / 1905 kHz / LSB	Sunday	9.30 am
80m / 3710 kHz (+/- QRM) LSB	Monday	9.00 am
10m / 28.078 MHz / JS8	Wednesday	10.00 am
6m / 51.55 MHz / FM	Tuesday	8.00 pm
4m / 70.30 MHz / FM	Thursday	8.00 pm

2m / 144.6125 MHz / Digital Voice	Friday	7.30 pm
2m / 145.35 MHz / FM	Friday	8.00 pm

* The Friday night Digital Voice net usually starts with D-star.

In addition to the regular Club Nets, several members monitor the local repeater channels, particularly GB3XP (145.6875MHz 82.5Hz CTCSS FM)

THAT'S ALL FOLKS.....

That's it for this issue – see you next month!

73, Quin G3WRR SRCC Newsletter Editor

ANNEX A

AGM NOMINATION FORMS

NOMINATION FOR HONORARY SECRETARY - 2023 / 2024

(Please return to Hon. Sec., Quin Collier, G3WRR before the start of the AGM).

I.....wish to nominate.....for
the position of SRCC **Honorary Secretary** for 2023 - 2024.

I agree to stand and serve if elected.

Signed.....Date.....

NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBER - 2023 / 2024

(Please return to Hon. Sec., Quin Collier, G3WRR before the start of the AGM).

I.....wish to nominate.....for
the position of **Committee Member** on the SRCC Committee for 2023 - 2024.

I agree to stand and serve if elected.

Signed.....Date.....

END