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# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB
## MARCH 2026 – No. 1003


| | |
|---|---|
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| 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 St. Paul's United Reformed Church, Croham Park Avenue, Croydon CR2 7HF**

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**1st MEETING Monday 2nd March 2026: Surplus Equipment Sale**
**2nd MEETING Monday 14th March 2026: Fix-it, Move-it-on & Social Chat with John G8MNY**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Chairman & Publicity | G4LZE Colin Lugard | 07533 174388 |
| Vice Chairman | G7RUX Jason Gardner | 07515 357630 |
| Hon. Secretary & Newsletter Editor | G3WRR Quin Collier | 020 8653 6948 |
| Treasurer, Membership & Liaison | G4FFY Ray Howells | 07921 567651 |
| Events | G6JXA Kim Brown | 07812 735507 |
| Webmaster | G4FYF Steve Jones | 01424 259377 |
| Publicity | G3MCX John Kennedy | 020 8688 3322 |
| Meetings | G4WEO Colin Gardner | 07500 280303 |
| Trophy Manager | G7RUX Jason Gardner | 07515 357630 |

## EDITOR'S OPENER

Dear Members & Friends,

This month's opener includes a follow-up on that from last month which reported on significant health problems for two of our members.

Ray G4FFY's wife Caroline, who was diagnosed with leukemia has been in Kings College Hospital in London and has successfully completed her first round of chemotherapy and seems to be considerably improved, cheerful and eating well: she answered Ray's mobile in most efficient secretarial style when I rang up recently. Caroline is out of hospital and at home awaiting a second round of chemo. I'm sure we all keep our fingers crossed for her continued improvement.

Steve G4FYF reports on his "waterworks issues" "*[Following a catheter change, I am]…feeling fine. Now a tedious daily regime of tube/bag management and weekly visit by district nurse for dressing changes. Next month have meeting with consultant to check progress and plan future surgery that will do away with the pipework. Anyway, my mojo is improving and target is to join the committee meeting next month*"

On a more upbeat note, we saw a strange yellow object in the sky recently for the first time in ages…..let's hope for more! And last weekend my son and his partner had a baby (well, strictly, she had the baby but you know what I mean) – 8lb 8 oz (don't know what that is in metric…) and named Owen Joe. Another one for me to explain what baluns are for in a few years…..

So on to the stuff you actually want to read…

**73, Quin G3WRR**

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

February first meeting (2nd February) *Usual "chat and test gear" session.* This included a presentation / discussion on the requirements (for SRCC as a club and its members as individuals) for Safeguarding of younger and vulnerable meeting attendees. This resulted in differing views but a Committee agreed position will be published on the website in the next few days.

February 2nd meeting (16th February) *"Radio Oddities" by Trevor Brook (G3WBQ).* This was the first in a series of occasional club funded "G4CCY/G4DDY Memorial Lectures" by external speakers. An excellent presentation – instructive and amusing – that covered a lot of ground. The following pictures – out of a total of 112 slides! - give a (very brief) flavour of it:

March A meeting (2nd March) *Surplus Equipment Sale.* This took the usual format led by Übersalesman Gareth G4XAT and Ray G4FFY as "money man"…no longer based on bits of paper but now using a fully computerised system! While the number of members offering goods (and perhaps a few not-so-goods?) for sale was a bit lower than in the past, there was a good level of interest from the buying community with takings of over £100 with some £42 for Club Funds.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

March B meeting (16th March) *Usual "chat and test gear" session.*

April A meeting (13th April) *Annual General Meeting.* **Please note** that this meeting will take place on the second Monday of the month rather than the first to avoid a clash with the Easter Holiday Weekend!

April B meeting (27th April) *Usual "chat and test gear" session.* **Please note** that this meeting will take place on the fourth Monday of the month rather than the third to avoid having meetings on two consecutive Mondays!

May A meeting (11th May) *"Number stations: 1950 to the present day" by Paul G7VAK.* This will be a rerun of the presentation Paul gave at the RSGB Convention in October. **Please note** that (once again) the meeting will take place on the second Monday of the month rather than the first to avoid a clash with the May Day Bank Holiday!

May B meeting (18th May) *Usual "chat and test gear" session.* Couldn't move this meeting to the fourth Monday as that is the Spring Bank Holiday Monday.

June A meeting (1st June) *On air evening* (subject to confirmation)

June B meeting (15th June) *Usual "chat and test gear" session.*

**73, Quin G3WRR**

## HERE AND THERE

Many thanks to Krishnan M0RSK for drawing my attention to the following URL: https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/755675 It should be of interest to all amateurs if you look at its description which reads:
"**Allow radio operators to install antennas & masts without planning permission**
Reform planning laws to allow licensed amateur radio operators to install antennas and masts without planning permission, to support innovation, skills, and emergency communications"

The way the system works is that if 10000 signatures are received the Government will "respond to the petition" – and at the time of writing the number of signatures (electronic of course) stands as 2907 so there is quite a way to go! In reality it would probably be unlikely to get through even if the 10k target is reached – how, for example, are the authority supposed to distinguish between and amateur installation and a non-amateur one? But that doesn't mean it isn't worth signing: I have done so and you may wish to consider doing the same!

Have you ever had someone tell you that “Morse code is dead”? Well, it is interesting to note that in the past couple of years a code for the @ symbol has been specified: it is **.--.-.** Good stuff - but I haven’t heard anyone using it yet!

We are always told to “check the expiry date” on products. I have always taken this with a pinch of salt. But last week I had to remove a splinter from a finger and, to be on the safe side, opened the medicine box to apply some antiseptic. I pulled out the bottle of TCP inside it: it smelt slightly odd so I went to the local pharmacy and asked for a replacement bottle of TCP and got a rather funny look: the assistant said “I don’t think they make that any more”. So I left with an alternative – which obviously did the biz as I haven’t died since application. But on return home I did check the TCP bottle which said “use before March 2011”. This made me think so guess I will be more observant in future…

## SRCC LEAGUE TABLE

The future of the League Table (in its current form at least) is open to question. In the short term at least, this has been due to a couple of the regular entrants not being able to provide entries for domestic reasons – but it has to be recognised that the level of entries had fallen to a low level anyway. So, the question has become – for 2026 onwards (a) should we continue in the current format? or (b) can anyone suggest a format that might work better? Your inputs welcome!

However as your scribe failed to include M0CGF’s entry last month, with apologies to Ian an up-issued version of the December 2025 listing is included below!

**December 2025**

The number of entries for the December League Table, which has been stable at five for a fair while, is down to three this month. This is largely due to the health issues noted in the Editor’s Opener (which, for clarification, is NOT an implement used for opening cans…).

| ENTRANT | WORKED DXCC / SQUARE | WORKED SRCC MEMBER | WORKED IN CONTEST | POINTS THIS MONTH |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| M0CGF | 100 | 0 | 4 | 204 |
| M0LEP | 16 | 3 | | 38 |
| G3WRR | 5 | | 5 | 15 |

The following notes are provided by the entrants…

**M0LEP:** *A slightly larger number of SRCC members than usual, all from SRCC Monday Nets. Most of the rest was SOTA chasing as usual, with a lot of it on the last weekend of the year, presumably because folks took the opportunity to get out of the house after Xmas. All the best for the New Year.*

**G3WRR:** *Apologies – although my November score was correctly recorded, the commentary referred to the wrong contest. In fact it had been the RSGB 160m CW contest* ☹️ *The December score was also unimpressive but* ***was*** *for the RSGB Club Calls Contest….*

The cumulative annual results – in fact this month's results are also whole year results - are shown below. Congratulations to Ian M0CGF and Ray G4FFY for gaining first and second positions – and thanks to all who took part for doing so!

| ENTRANT | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M0CGF | 146 | 223 | 128 | 286 | 360 | 513 | 376 | 292 | 203 | 158 | 188 | 204 | 3126 |
| G4FFY | 138 | 165 | 164 | 133 | 148 | 194 | 257 | 169 | 115 | 164 | | | 1547 |
| G4FYF | 40 | 22 | 68 | 24 | 26 | 36 | 66 | 66 | 54 | 86 | 12 | | 500 |
| G3WRR | 30 | | 68 | | 24 | | 150 | | | 9 | 6 | 15 | 302 |
| M0LEP | 6 | 30 | 4 | 30 | 6 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 18 | 12 | 26 | 38 | 226 |

The solar flux index continues to seesaw above and below the predicted values and at the time of writing was slightly above forecast.

**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…..

Rather short commons again this month. I have received a two items for Paul G7VAK but, with apologies to Paul I have run out of time for inclusion this month (due to domestics involving a grandchild and cats…) so watch out for them in future issues. Inputs from our membership of course continue to be welcome…

Until next time, all the best. **73, Quin G3WRR SRCC Secretary and Newsletter Editor**