

STARLITE

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of

Stourbridge and District

Amateur Radio Society

incorporating

Old Swinford Hospital School Radio Club

G4CVK

1969

G60I

1938

G6SRS

1938



J

U

N

2

0

0

4

JUNE	Mon 7th	Informal Social Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 14th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 21st	Dave Johnson G4DPZ AMSAT-UK
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
JULY	Mon 5th	Informal Social Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 12th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available + Committee Meeting

Produced by G8JTL



Produced using OpenOffice.org 1.1.0 under suse Linux 9.0



STARLITE

Visitors always welcome

MEETINGS

The Society holds its full meetings on the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each Month at

Old Swinford Hospital School

Heath Lane

Stourbridge

(8.00pm – 10.00pm)

Additionally the shack is open during the same times on the intermediate Monday's

Contents - May 2004

EDITORIAL.....	3
OUR OWN ROVING REPORTER.....	3
OUR MAN DOWN UNDER.....	6
HELP DESK.....	7
OLD QSL CARDS (2).....	7
COMMITTEE MINUTES.....	8
LOCAL REPEATER NEWS.....	8
RALLY SCENE.....	9
YOUR COMMITTEE.....	9
CALENDAR of EVENTS.....	10

*All correspondence/enquiries should be addressed to the
Hon. Secretary:*

John Clarke M1EJG

(01562) 700513

honsec@g6oi.org.uk

STARS Web Site

WAP enabled ??

STARS

C/O The Mill House

21 Mill Lane

Blakedown

Kidderminster

DY10 3ND

www.g6oi.org.uk

www.g6oi.org.uk/wap/index.wml



STARLITE

EDITORIAL

Hi,

Well another month rolls round - Not too much to say this time. I was hoping to put a transcript of my May talk in this issue but I haven't really had time so have to be next month. However one item I will cover is that all attendees at that meeting had their photo's taken in preparation for the replacement of Membership badges. Those of you that didn't attend can expect to be pounced upon next time you do.. so please don't make it too long!!

I note from Malcolm's report that he has a stand at Wordsley - I will make sure he has some documentation but anybody prepared to man a station to give a live demo?? If you are then please let me know **quickly**

Finally I along with a number of other members (not as many as hoped) attended the lecture given by Adrian and found it a very interesting evening

73's for now de Malcolm G8JTL.

OUR OWN ROVING REPORTER

Well halfway through the year and this is the month for the Elvaston Castle Mobile Rally. If I go it will be the first one this year that I have been able to attend, being unable to get along to Wythall or Drayton Manor, which I understand has changed lay out.

I always think of June and National field day which Stars always played a part in way back having the use of Caps Farm near Kinver for two days, an event which every member looked forward to.

The one year I made the journey from Leominster, I was living there at the time. I came in contact at that time while at NFD with Harry Jackson, G3MDN, who, along with Bill Wells, G3HVX, who were employed by Henry Wiggins B,ham.

The firm was moving to Hereford and Harry and Bill were moving to the Leominster, Hereford area, it's a small world. The Wiggins factory at Hereford had opened up 2yrs before the Company I was employed with at Leominster, Contactor Switchgear, and that was April 1959.

I was more into Amateur Radio in those days, than what I am now, I have got too many interests that seem to take Me away from the hobby which I have mentioned before.

As part of the celebrations of the Centenary birth of George Formby [26th May 04] held on the Sunday prior 23rd May, I found Myself on Wigan Pier at the George Formby meeting, of which about 300 attended through out the day.

Some even from Cyprus and Holland as well as different parts of the UK.

STARLITE

I was on stage during the evening doing two numbers one of which I will be featuring later on in June at a special meeting of The George Formby Society in the Pavilion Theatre at the Winter Gardens Blackpool.



No doubt some of the members of Stars may have seen all the write up which I had in the Express and Star issued Monday May 17th leading up to the event.

It improved the attendance at the branch meeting which doubled from 16 to around 35 and I think they will be back again. It pays to advertise from time to time I have suggested while I was at the Express and Star office in Stourbridge about having a good feature about STARS going back over the years.

While drafting out this report I am on route back from B,ham Library on the No 9 bus and calling in at Halesowen Library where I have been to take out the posters for the Organ Trust.

To get there I was out of the house at 7.30 am [on Sat 1st May 04 the reason being was to arrive at OHS in time to give assistance with the aerials on the roof of the shack.

Although My journey involved going by bus then metro tram then bus I was at OHS at 10.30 am.

The No 9 en route to Stourbridge, which is a very frequent service, passes by the former home of one of Our late and departed members of STARS, Martin Clift G3VDM. Both He and His first XYL Sheila were Licensed and she was also a member.

My thanks to Our treasurer John G8UAE for providing transport back home for Me after all had finished at OHS. It was a good day before the one day Holiday.

I have been invited to have a stall at Wordsley Carnival on Sat 19th June I will if space is allowed advertise not only GFS, Organ Trust,

STARLITE

SVR, WMAAC but also STARS will be included it would be great if there were a Station set up there. I understand I will be inside one of the tents.

I was most interested in the talk by Malcolm at the May meeting about Weather Satellites and the work that the club has on board in that direction.

Which also brings in the use of computers, currently a leading factor in My life since I became involved as My XYL Glenys well know,s. but would We do without them? They seem to be part of every day life now.

With the result of attending trade exhibitions at the NEC I receive, either via e-mail or post, several publications one of which being Electronics Weekly that explains about new products and developments.

The one dated 26th May features on page 8 about a 2.5mm antenna which when connected to a chip can radiate and receive over a distance of 5m across a room, how small can one get ?

I also noted in Monday nights Express and Star that the St Leonards [Stafford] Amateur Radio Society will be operating a special event station to mark the D Day landings on June 6th I wonder if any STARS members will have had contacts with them ?

Photo 1



Photo 2



And here's proof that I was there - Photo 1 was around 10:45 and the weather looked decidedly black but , as can be seen from the Photo 2, it brightened up later.

Best 73' s from your roving reporter Malcolm G8BOP

WANTED – More input for the future editions of starlite

STARLITE

OUR MAN DOWN UNDER

Hi all – Another note to raise a smile – a branch of the KISS method I think!!



MEMO: from the I.T. Dept

Dear All,

There are a lot of changes that are going to be taking place across the board as far as the servers and personal computers go.

The goal is to remove all laptop computers by Feb. 2005 and all desktop computers by Dec. 2005 as part of the ongoing cost-cutting around the company.

Instead everyone will be issued with an Etch-A-sketch.

There are many sound reasons for doing this:

1. No boot-up problems
2. No technical glitches keeping work from being done
3. No more wasted time reading and writing emails.
4. No more worries about power cuts.
5. Budget savings on upgrades unparalleled.

If you have any further queries, please feel free to contact the I.T. Department



regards to all Jim VK2IVJ

Still WANTED – More articles for the future Editions of STARLITE.

I have reached the bottom of my article list so come on Chaps – put those thinking caps on and get Pen to Paper or pound those keyboards – I'm sure there's still some interesting snippets out there. **Ed**

STARLITE

HELP DESK

Frequently asked questions from the Etch-A-Sketch Help Desk:	
Q: My Etch-A-Sketch has all of these funny little lines all over the screen.	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: How do I turn my Etch-A-Sketch off?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: What is the shortcut for Undo?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: How do I create a New Document window?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: How do I set the background and foreground to the same colour?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: What is the proper procedure for rebooting my Etch-A-Sketch?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: How do I delete a document on my Etch-A-Sketch?	
A: <i>Pick it up and shake it.</i>	
Q: How do I save my Etch-A-Sketch document?	
A: <i>DON' T hake it.</i>	

OLD QSL CARDS (2)

G6WF

Richard ‘Dick’ Walker G6QI lived in Hertfordshire and from a very early age was fascinated by wireless indeed he was too young to hold a transmitting licence and so initially held the Postmaster Generals permission to receive signals with the call sign 2AGT which later became EG2AGT and he then obtained G6QI.

His collection of early QSL cards is absolutely fascinating and while recently going through them I found two bearing the call sign G6WF. The first was dated 8/4/1929 and the postal service in those days was really first class as it referred to the card sent by 2AGT reporting the QSO the day before ! The aerial current was .37 amps and the transmitter was a two-valve grid controlled feeding a Hertz aerial 33feet above ground and 33’ 6” for each leg with twin 50-ohm feeder. At that time Bernard Whitehouse G6WF lived in Dudley, Worcestershire (as it was in those days).

By 1957 G-6WF had moved to Wombourne, Near. Wolverhampton in Staffordshire (as it was then) and G6QI was living in Cury, Near. Helston in Cornwall and 28 years after the first QSO they exchanged cards again. This time it was a ‘phone contact on top band with an R5 S6 report.

STARLITE

Bernard was an enthusiastic radio amateur and, as can be seen from the later card had DXCC awards – something much more difficult to achieve in those early days. He was a member of Wolverhampton ARC and joined Stourbridge ARS in 1947. He died in 1958.

Richard was also an enthusiastic radio amateur and remained on air until the week before he died in 2001.



Both Richard and Bernard were great characters, raconteurs with good sense of humour. While I got to know Richard well I do recall Bernard encouraging my interest in radio and seeing him at meetings of StARS.

David Barlow G3PLE

My thanks to Alec G8GF for information concerning his friend Bernard.

LOCAL REPEATER NEWS

GB3KD

A new local 2m repeater, GB3KD, in Kidderminster went live at 13:00 BST on 20th May 2004, it has VOIP and is connected to Echolink, current Node No. 187981.

It is on channel RV63, output = 145.7875 MHz, input = 145.17875 MHz, 2.5kHz maximum deviation, access via either 1750Hz tone burst, or 118.8Hz CTCSS and accepts DTMF tones for access to Echolink. At present it is working on a temporary antenna, but expected to be back on its main antenna within a few weeks. All the repeater control logic, filtering, tone detection and generation is computer based and written by G8PZT, including the access software for Echolink.

Hardware and software is still be adjusted and any reports would be appreciated to G8PZT. Those with Internet access may wish to look at <http://pzt.org.uk/gb3kd> for further details of the G8PZT site. GB3KD has a novel feature with its tones. If a user is running 2.5kHz maximum deviation, as is now required for 12.5kHz channel spacing, the repeater will give the "K" cw identifier after each over, however if the user is running a higher level of deviation, then the "K" is replaced by an "O" to indicated "Over Deviation". Also, if a QSO is taking place via Echolink, then the "K" is replaced by an "I" for the Internet QSO. Users should be aware that there is several seconds delay when using Echolink and should make

STARLITE

allowance at the end of an over when several RF and Inet users are in QSO.

Currently the G8PZT 70cms Echolink is off air, but it is expected back at some future time.

73' s d Richard G0EWH

RALLY SCENE

6th JUNE 2004

ANGLO-SCOTTISH REPEATER GROUP Radio Junk Rally - Mick, M0AOH, 01228 526 436

SPALDING & DARS Annual Rally - John, G4NBR, 07946 302 815.

WEST MANCHESTER RC 8th Red Rose QRP Festival - Les, G4HZJ, 01942 870 634

13th JUNE 2004

East Suffolk Wireless Revival - John, G3XDY, 01473 717 830, or Steve, M1ACB, 07720 412 648.

NUNSFIELD HOUSE ARG 35th Elvaston Castle National Radio Rally - Les, G4CWD, 01332 559 965

25 - 27 JUNE 2004

HAM RADIO 2004 - New exhibition grounds, Friedrichshafen, Germany. OT 9am. [www.messe-friedrichshafen.de]

27 JUNE 2004

SEVERNSIDE TV GROUP West of England Radio Rally - Cheese & Grain , Market Yard, Frome, Somerset, four miles from site of former Longleat Rally. OT 10am, £2, or £1 for accompanied under-14s. Entry fee halved after 1pm.

Shaun, G8VPG, 01225 873 003 , 01225 873 098. [www.westrally.org.uk]

4 JULY 2004

MILTON KEYNES ARS Annual Rally - St Paul's School, Chaffron Way, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes. OT 9am. TI on 145.550MHz and 433.550MHz. Venue 3 miles from jn 14 M1 and 1/4 mile from local Maplin store. Malcolm, M0MBO 01525 874 075, or rally@bletchley.net [www.mkars.org.uk]

YOUR COMMITTEE

Hon. President	MALCOLM	G8JTL	(01384) 894019
Vice President	TONY	M1CZH	
Hon. Secretary	JOHN	M1EJG	(01562) 700513
Hon. Treasurer	JOHN	G8UAE	
Committee Members	NICK	G6DQN	
	ERIC	G7JWJ	
	BOB	G4VPE	
	STEVE	G7JYZ	
	ADRIAN	M3HBA	



STARLITE

CALENDAR of EVENTS

It should be noted that the Shack will be open every Monday evening unless shown otherwise in the Calendar

APRIL	Mon 5th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 12th	Bank Holiday - No Meeting
	Mon 19th	Richard G0EWH - Using an Antenna Analyser
MAY	Mon 3rd	Bank Holiday - No Meeting
	Mon 10th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 24th	Malcolm G8jtl - Satellite Projects Galore
	Tues 25th	All members are invited to the TA Centre OldSwinford for a talk on the Gulf War given by Adrian M3HBA
	Mon 31st	Bank Holiday - No Meeting
JUNE	Mon 7th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 14th	Committee Meeting
	Sat 19th	+++++ Wordsley Carnival +++++
	Mon 21st	Dave Johnson G4DPZ AMSAT-UK
JULY	Mon 5th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 19th	Main Meeting - Yet to be announced
AUGUST	Mondays	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
SEPTEMBER	Mon 6th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	TBA	OHS - Activity Day
	Mon 20th	Bob G4VPE - HF Amplifiers
OCTOBER	Mon 4th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 18th	Main Meeting - Open Evening
NOVEMBER	Mon 1st	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 15th	Main Meeting - Annual Surplus Sale
DECEMBER	Mon 6th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 20th	Main Meeting - Yet to be announced
JANUARY	Mon 3rd	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 17th	Main Meeting - Yet to be announced
FEBRUARY	Mon 7th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 21st	Main Meeting - Constructors Competition
MARCH	Mon 7th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 21st	##### AGM - 2005 #####

