

STARLITE

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of

G6OI
1938

Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society

G6SRS
1938

incorporating

Old Swinford Hospital School Radio Club

G4CVK

1969



SEPTEMBER

2004

SEPTEMBER	Mon 13th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 20th	Bob G4VPE – HF Amplifiers
	Mon 27th	Open Shack Evening + Committee Meeting
OCTOBER	Mon 4th	Planning for Society Open Evening. - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 11th	Shack Setup – Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 18th	Society Open Evening – Don't miss this!
	Mon 25th	Open Evening – Tea/Coffee always available
NOVEMBER	Mon 1st	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 15th	Main Meeting – Annual Surplus Sale

Produced by G8JTL



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Visitors always welcome



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

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

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(01562) 700513

honsec@g6oi.org.uk

STARS Web Site

WAP enabled ??

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Kidderminster
DY10 3ND

www.g6oi.org.uk

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

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EDITORIAL

Hi,

Had a rest through August (or so the theory goes) and now here's the next exciting issue of Starlite. I'm sure you can't wait to read the rest of the issue ! That's if you stopped to read this. I hope you have all managed to get a restful break over the Summer (what!!) holidays, cause we've a busy time ahead to if the Open evening is the success it needs to be. Got to keep this short as I now have to write up the Field day report. Note: Space issues has meant that the photos submitted by Malcolm G8BOP have had to be held over until next issue .. See you further on

73's for now de Malcolm G8JTL.

OUR OWN ROVING REPORTER

The week end after the July report Glenys & Myself were at the second 1940s weekend on the Severn Valley Railway, along with some of the other members from the Stourbridge GFS Branch and it was a grand week end. The first weekend I was in Blackpool for the Centenary as mentioned in the previous report. Unlike previous years, I did not see anyone connected with Amateur Radio, I would still like to see a Station [not Rail Station] operating at least one of the events on the Severn Valley, what say any Ideas ? On to the following Sat Glenys & Myself were on our monthly visit to Leominster, during which I always call to see Brandon Page of James Page Radio & TV, an old established business in Leominster going back before the war. Brandon has always been interested in Amateur Radio for over 45 yrs. He has recently acquired an AR88D & at the time I was in the shop, using temp. aerial, 15m was active, He is looking for a manual on the AR88 can anyone assist ?

Also during July Glenys & Myself were at The Imax Cinema again, this time for T Rex [not the pop group] & there were 60 in the audience. This time, as with Space Station, it was in 3D.

There were two Amateur Radio enthusiasts in the audience of the last concert at the Buttermarket [before the one month summer break]. They were Gerald an SWL from Upper Gornal with his XYL & Doug G3ZLJ with his XYL .

During two days in Aug it was decided to refurbish the console of The Wulitzer. Instead of motoring to Shrewsbury on both days & again later for the Shrewsbury Flower Show, I used the train from W,ton. One can enjoy the pleasant views from the carriage windows. For the first time I noticed, at Codsall Station, how close Bill G3CAQ's QTH & 3ele beam is to the station & Rail Lines. I was expecting to see an Amateur Radio Station at the show, all I saw was BBC Radio Shropshire.

If there had been any STARS members in Stourbridge on 26th July they would have seen Myself & a Friend pushing a Yamaha Electronic Organ through the Crown Centre & through the under pass to Enville St where we stopped the traffic so we could turn left to the Robin Woods Car Park, were I had parked the car. I don't like driving into the town centre. I had the Organ on a trolley that's used for transporting Pianos from the organ centre .

I would have liked to have taken part, even to help with the aerials, with NFD but I was running A GFS Centenary Concert on the Friday 3rd Sept at Baggeridge Social Club. It's the first time I had ever done anything like it in public. What small audience was there, enjoyed the 3 Hour concert presented by some of the Stourbridge Branch Members & Guests. On the Sat, when I should have been at NFD, I was at a computer fair at The National Motor Cycle Museum (where Glenys & Myself were the Sat before). I had to collect manufactures ink which was being sold off cheap for two of the Lexmark Printers I have. I was hoping to attend the Telford Rally at Cosford but it would have only been for 1hr 15mins because we would have had to got back on the M54 to get to Shrewsbury for the Organ Committee members annual social at 12pm.

I must admit that I have reached the stage in life were I have got to stop running about the country. I do seem to be slowing down since I have been on tablets for blood pressure & thyroids.

I have noticed that Langers Shops in Enville St will be closing following the passing of the owner & I wonder how many saw the Amateur Radio Station on Flog It & another Amateur winning the Weakest Link .

Finally I Have an Hammond Organ for sale. I would keep it but its space, & the new one takes up less room.

Best 73's from your roving reporter Malcolm G8BOP

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EGM REPORT

**Extraordinary General Meeting held at Old Swinford Hospital
Monday 19th July 2004**

Minutes

- 1 The meeting opened at 8. 10pm.
- 2 Agenda.
Election of new Vice Chairman.
 1. The President informed the meeting that the sole purpose of the meeting was to elect a new Vice President following the resignation from the Society of Tony M1CZH the present elected Vice President. Malcolm indicated that he had visited Tony and asked for his reasons for resignation, but he had refused to discuss the matter. All society materials have now been received back from Tony.
 2. Election.
The Secretary reported that only one form had been returned with a nomination for the post and this was invalid as the signature of the person nominated had not been obtained.
Nominations were called for from the floor by the President .

John M1EJG nominated Nick G6DQN seconded Dr. Bob G4VPE.
Nick accepted nomination and there being no other candidates and following a show of hands was declared elected unanimously with no votes against and no abstentions.
5. Eighteen members attended this EGM.

The meeting was then closed at 8. 20 pm.

GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Record of General Meeting held 19th. June 2004.

With the failure of the arranged speaker to attend - an impromptu general meeting was held after the EGM.

SSB Field Day:

4th/ 5th. September agreed to take part in SSB field day.

Venue to be Cookley Way field at the home of Maurice Evans Chairman of OSH old boys society. The Secretary confirmed that he had sent a letter to Maurice thanking him with a further letter to follow when more details known. Conditions of contest are one aerial and one transceiver 1300 hrs Saturday to 1300 Sunday and running from a generator. Following items agreed :-

- Operating from the Society tent.
 - To be set up on Friday night. Persons available James / Jim / Nick / John Scott / Eric / John (Sec).
Dr. Bob can provide and deliver pump up mast, John Scott has societies ' rocket ' masts available. Eric can provide necessary guys.
 - Agreed to use a G5RV club to purchase a new one if existing found to be unserviceable.
 - Wayne is to check over and service the generator, new plug and oil may be needed.
 - Show of hands indicated that five persons would be present on both Saturday and Sunday.
 - Overnight working would be done if sufficient members could attend. John Scott indicated availability but more required.
 - Logging would be by computer and Nick volunteered the use of a laptop set up ready.
 - Power limit of competition is 100W.
- Query was raised of the ability of the club generator to sustain the load when lighting was added to the requirement. Richard G0EWH offered the use of his quiet Honda generator for this purpose.

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Agreed to meet Monday prior to competition for a general chat and finalize any outstanding details.

Society Open Evening.

The club meeting of 18th.October is to be an open meeting to display our activities. The Secretary is to write to the school to appraise them of our intentions and enlist their support when further planning completed. Members will be required to put on displays in the “ Shack “ and the Art Room. Volunteers were:-

Wayne	SSTV.
Malcolm	Weathersat.
Steve and Chris	ATV.
General membership	HF and VHF.

Agreed that archives should be available

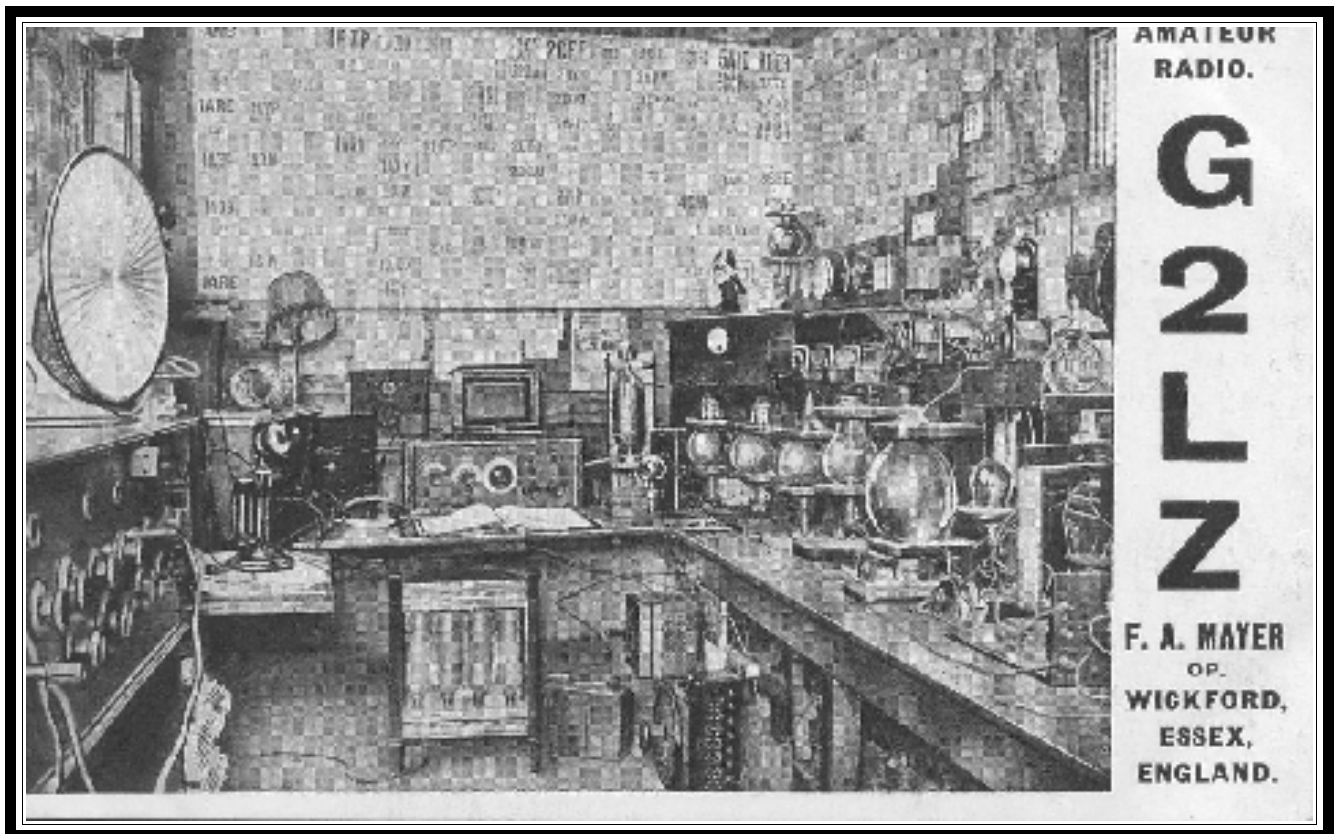
Provision of food to be discussed nearer to the date.

Suggested that local Amateurs should be invited by letter although this has not been very successful in the past.

Urgent work needing to be done.

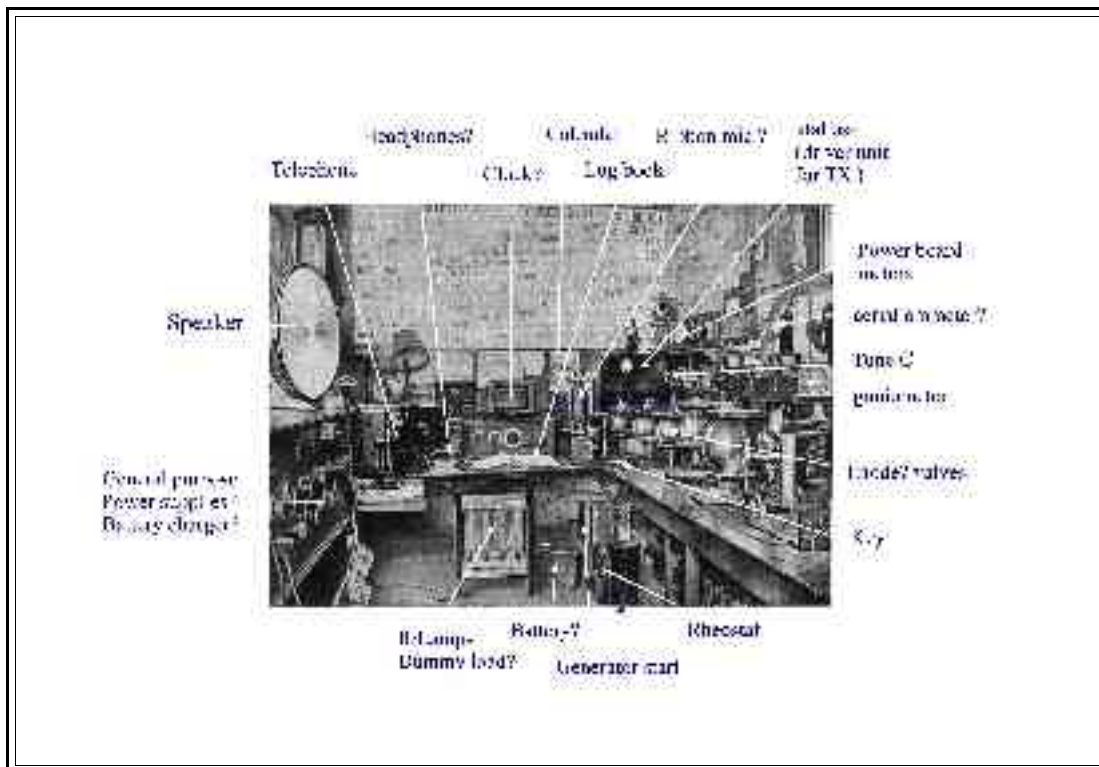
Aerials on roof need retuning. 2M feeder suspected of having water ingress. Analysis needed then obtain new parts or full down feed. Work to be carried out at club meeting of 26th. July. John (Sec) to provide ladder (weather permitting).

OLD QSL CARDS (4) G2LZ



This 1929 card simply said “Thanks for your card of 7/4/29 on the reverse and was sent to Richard Walker G6QI. The interest in the card is the picture on the front.

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The picture is enlarged and has been electronically cleaned up for printing in Starlite.

One cannot really call this a “shack” but it is certainly an experimental station as they were called in those days. The card has been examined by George G3AHX and Davey G3AGA and together they have annotated it and attempted to identify the contents of the station.

The size of the speaker and of the valves are immediately noted. In those days the lamps below the log would be used as a dummy load and apparently used to glow quite brightly.

If you want to see really old QSL cards use a magnifying glass. The table lamp and the table lamp would make excellent museum pieces these days

Mr. Mayer G2LZ sent this card in 1929 but the feeling is that the photograph of his equipment was probably taken many years earlier – note that there are no G prefixes to the QSL cards and the equipment certainly appears to be much earlier.

RALLY CALENDER

26 SEPTEMBER 2004

SOUTH WALES RADIO GROUP Radio & Computer Rally – Bridgend Recreation Centre, Bridgend. OT 10am, £2.

1 / 2 OCTOBER 2004

LEICESTER Amateur Radio Show – Donington International Centre, Castle Donington, Leics. Geoff, G4AFJ, 01455 823 344, fax 01455 828 273 or g4afj@argonet.co.uk

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3 OCTOBER 2004

BELGIUM Amateur Radio & Computer Rally – Hall 'La Louvière Expo', La Louvière, access direct from motorway 50km S of Brussels. OT 9am. FM, TS from UK, Holland, Germany & France. Michel, ON7FI, 0032 64 849 596.

9 OCTOBER 2004

G QRP CLUB Mini-Convention 2004 – St Aidan's Church Hall, Manchester Road, Rochdale. OT 10am, £1. Traditional-style rally, components, junk & kit vendors – no new equipment or computers! LEC, 'Pie & Peas' lunch. g3rjv@ggrp.co.uk

10 OCTOBER 2004

GREAT LUMLEY AR & ES Rally – Great Lumley Community Centre, Front Street, Great Lumley, nr Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, just off the A1. OT 10.30, £2 (accompanied under-14s free). Radio, hobbies, model club, electronics, computers, satellites and component stalls. CP free, C, B&B, TI. Nancy, 0191 477 0036 or 07990 760 920,

National Vintage Communications Fair - Hall 11, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. OT 10.30am, £5, under-14s free. 300 stalls, vintage wireless, valve amplifiers, classic hi-fi, gramophones, records (shellac 78, vinyl and CD), early TV, etc. Exhibition '100th Birthday of the Thermionic Valve'. Terry, 07947 460 161, info@nvcf.org.uk [www.nvcf.org.uk]

CONTEST CALENDER

3rd/4th Jul	1400-1400	VHF NFD
4th Jul	1100-1500	144 MHz
July 5	2000-2130.	80m Club Championships
July 14	2000-2130.	80m Club Championships
11th Jul	1100-1500	50 MHz Backpackers #2
July 18	0900-1600	Low Power Field Day
18th Jul	1100-1500	144 MHz Backpackers #4
July 22	2000-2130.	80m Club Championships
July 24/25	1200-1200.	IOTA Contest
August 1	0700-0900.	RoPoCo 2
7th Aug	1400-2000	144 MHz Low Power
8th Aug	0800-1200	432 MHz Low Power
22nd Aug	0900-1500	70 MHz Trophy
4th/5th Sep	1400-1400	144 MHz Trophy
5th Sep	1100-1500	144 MHz Backpackers #5
September 4/5	1300-1300.	SSB Field Day
19th Sep	0900-1300	2nd 70 MHz
2nd Oct	1400-2200	1.3/2.3 GHz Trophies
2nd/3rd Oct	1400-1400	432 MHz - 248 GHz IARU
October 3	0700-1900.	21/28Mhz Contest (SSB)
17th October	0900-1300	50MHz
October 17	0700-1900.	21/28 Mhz Contest (CW)
6th/7th Nov	1400-1400	144 MHz CW Marconi
7th Nov	0800-1400	6 hour 144 MHz CW
November 13	2000-2300.	Club Calls
November 20	2100-0100.	2nd 1.8Mhz Contest
5th Dec	0900-1700	144 MHz AFS
26th/27th/28th/29 th Dec	1400-1600	50/70/144/432 MHz Christmas Cumulatives.



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SSB FIELD DAY

A saga in the making!!

Day1:

It all started, as arranged on Friday afternoon at about 2.30pm. John, Bob and Myself met at the allocated field to survey the site, choose the spot and erect Bob's mast. It was decided to utilise a nearby tree as one support for the Aerial with Bob's mast forming the other support. By then we had been joined by Jim and the fun began. First which branch and how – once the first hurdle was cleared, which branch, then the next larger one was tackled – how to get the rope over – was it rope or string – or some thing in the middle!! We were then joined by adrian whom we hoped could nip up the tree but our hopes were dashed. So we resorted to the old way – tying something heavy on the end and throwing and hoping. Good job there was no video there! What we did learn was that the rope did what it wanted not what we wanted. Finally, with the aid of Bob's mast we managed to get the rope in position.



ON with the next problem – which way should the aerial run – finally this was agreed and the requisite distance was paced out , and then again, and finally a few more added for luck and the position was agreed. The rest of the time was taken up with setting the baseplate and pegs for the mast, attaching the guys and pumping the mast up to its full extent.

All looked ok – so the mast was collapsed and packed away with only the baseplate and anchors to show we had ever been there. oh and a piece of rope hanging from the tree. So we left for the day

Day2:

Well I was preparing to load my car and call to collect the G5RV from DeeCom when a telephone call came from John – HonSec

Trouble

Apparently we had been spotted on the Friday afternoon and the owner of the land (in Jersey) had been contacted with a report that a group of people had been erecting a 'Rocket Launcher' in the field. The owner was corrected by our local contact, but it resulted in us being asked to produce evidence of our public liability insurance .

Well at that point we had the insurance but no evidence to prove it – RSGB offices are closed – so frantic calls to any and all regional reps we can find. Finally the appropriate documentation was obtained and everybody was happy.

And so the event proceeded – if not a little late – but we reassembled the mast – erected the G5RV – erected the tent and generally setup for our stay there.



The station was ready to go on air just in time – in fact we started just 2 minutes after the Official start time.



From then on everything went smoothly if not a little slow at times, not too many members turned out but many thanks to those that did even if it was a fleeting visit to show support.

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Day3:



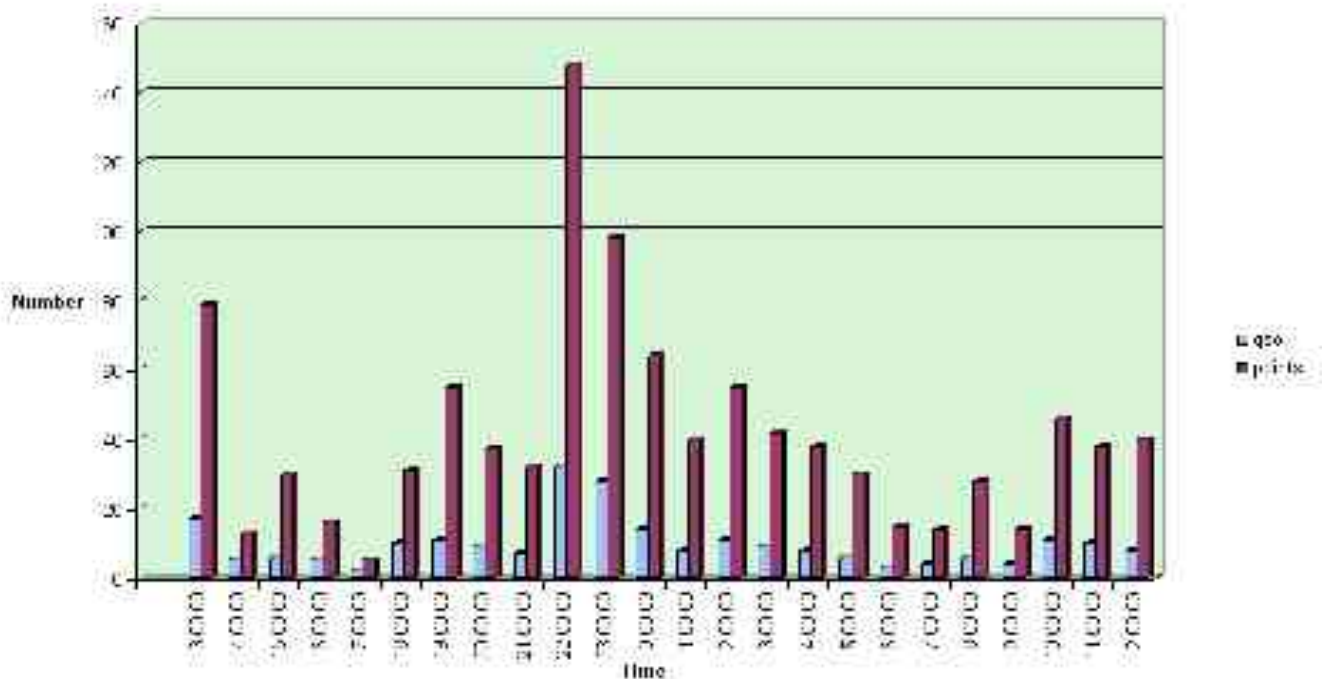
John HonTreasurer had manned the station alone from approx 1am after I left for home.

I arrived back at around 7.30 to find Jim and Eric had arrived and Eric was slaving away over the hot pan with bacon and sausages to feed the hungry hoards – well all four of us anyway!. Jim had arrived earlier and had taken over the mike. and so the contest continued – at this point we had achieved around 200 contacts. John arrived later after his Sunday chores at which point a second round of bacon & Sausage butties arrived. Finding/contacting additional stations was slow over the next few hours but we did achieve 237 contacts by the end. At that point all that was left to do was pack everything up and go home for a rest.



Everybody was agreed that the event had gone very well and had been enjoyable. We felt that we had done very well considering the lack of contest experience. But of course we won't really know until we see our place in the results table. The following graphs indicate the contact and scoring rates over the operating period

Contest Contact/Scoring Rates



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YOUR COMMITTEE

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

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	EGM + Planning for Contest + Open Evening
AUGUST	Mondays	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
SEPTEMBER	Sat 4 th /5th	SSB FIELD DAY - COOKLEY
	Mon 6th	Natter/Activity Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	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 #####

