



# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

87th Anniversary Year - Founded 1935

AUGUST 2022 – No 960

SRCC supports the RSGB Child Protection Policy

General Club Business:	<a href="mailto:secretary@srcc.uk">secretary@srcc.uk</a>	Honorary Secretary & Editor Quin Collier G3WRR 19 Grangecliffe Gardens, LONDON, SE25 6SY Tel: 020 8653 6948
Membership/Treasurer:	<a href="mailto:membership@srcc.uk">membership@srcc.uk</a>	
Newsletter articles/distribution:	<a href="mailto:newsletter@srcc.uk">newsletter@srcc.uk</a>	
Club Equipment Loan:	<a href="mailto:equipment@srcc.uk">equipment@srcc.uk</a>	
Club Website:	<a href="https://www.srcc.uk">https://www.srcc.uk</a>	

MONTHLY MEETINGS NORMALLY ON 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAYS 7.30 FOR 7.45pm  
**Meetings at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon CR9 7AT**

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1<sup>st</sup> MEETING Sunday 31 July: **CANCELLED** – see below

2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING Monday 15 August: **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 Records	G4FFY Ray Howells	01732 357474
Resources & Liaison	G4DDY Maurice Fagg	020 8669 1480
Events	G6JXA Kim Brown	07812 735507
Webmaster	G4FYF Steve Jones	01424 584143
Committee Member	G7VAK Paul Beaumont	07818 660493
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 August 2022 SRCC Newsletter. I'll open this month by saying that I was very pleased to hear recently from Ted G3EUE, a long term SRCC member formerly from Purley and now living near Shoreham with the news that he has now reached his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and has received his message of congratulation from Her Majesty The Queen. This is a remarkable achievement under any circumstances but all the more so as in communicating with Ted by phone and e-mail (but oddly never - yet - by radio) over the last year or two I got the impression of a much younger man. Great stuff Ted and I'm sure we all wish you all the best for plenty of years ahead!

Life here at Mission Control Norwood has been completely bonkers for the past several weeks.... This is largely due to the fact that three of the four portable outings with which I am involved each year take place over the eight weeks between the beginning of June and the end of July. That probably doesn't sound like too much like hard work, but of course in addition to the events themselves there is the preparation in advance and the clearing up afterwards to be considered – as well as a life outside amateur radio!

The first was CW Field Day on the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> June. This was mentioned briefly in last month's Newsletter so I won't repeat myself (well, not much anyway) but can now add the fact that we (John G4CZB, Alun G4WGE and myself) operating G3WRR/P from near Northampton on behalf of Flying Ducks Contest Group achieved 5<sup>th</sup> position out of 11 entrants in the Low Power Unassisted Portable section (basically the same as the old Restricted section). We made 730 scoring contacts using a setup pretty similar to the one used in 2021. We did have some computer problems this year but we also made some improvements with the antenna tuning arrangements, having finally got an auto-ATU to work reasonably well with a balanced antenna. A couple of pictures, courtesy of Alun G4WGE, are shown below:



**G4CZB OPERATING G3WRR/P  
IN NFD 2022**



**DILLY THE FLYING DUCK –  
(after whom the group is  
named....)**

Next up was VHF NFD on 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> July: This was largely “mixture as before”, operating as part of North East Surrey Contest Group from Warren Barn Farm near Warlingham. However, the absence of the Addiscombe ARC contingent (who have traditionally provided the 6m & 4m stations), and the fact that two of the key SRCC players had unavoidable domestic commitments for part of the weekend, meant that resources were distinctly thin on the ground. However, support from CATS members Andy G0KZT and Dave G6VMI (who I understand to be the grandson of Arthur Milne G2MI who some will remember was for many years RSGB QSL Manager) certainly helped out the SRCC team with the 6m/4m (G3WRR/P) and 70cm (G3SRC/P) stations. And as usual Alun G4WGE, Dennis G0OLX and G1KAG provided the 2m station G0SAC/P. A fuller report, including the results which have not yet been published, should be available next month. But for now, as a taster here is a picture:



**“THE USUAL SUSPECTS” - G7PWV and G3ZPB OPERATING 70cm STATION G3SRC/P IN VHF NFD**

And finally, Mike G3VYI and his wife Hilary, Alun G4WGE and myself are going over to Brighstone on the Isle of Wight again for the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> / 31<sup>st</sup> July to take part in the RSGB Islands On The Air (IOTA) contest as we have done for the last few years. As a fully paid-up island with its own island code (EU120) which counts as a multiplier for stations working it, the Isle of Wight is much in demand and should keep us busy with contacts...

Much as I enjoy each of those events it is possible to have too much of a good thing, and I will be glad when July is over and I can go down to Exmouth for ten days holiday (I hesitate to say relaxation...) with my son Guy and eight year old granddaughter Moo.

Right – let’s move on....

**73, Quin G3WRR – SRCC Secretary / Newsletter Editor**

## **IMPORTANT – CANCELLATION OF 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY “AL FRESCO SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER WITH FOOD”**

This event has in previous years been branded “barbecue” (or even “barbeque”) and last year “Pastyrama” – but call it what you will, SRCC has historically held an “al fresco social get-together with food” around this time of year. 2022’s session was scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> July at the QTH of John G3MCX. Hopefully you will already be aware of the fact from an e-mail sent out a few days ago, but as it is better to be told something twice than miss out completely the message is repeated here. Therefore, please be advised, with apologies, that **the Annual Alfresco Social Get-Together scheduled for 31st July has had to be cancelled** owing to the unanticipated absence of a number of the organisers. There will also be no A meeting on August 1st. Normal services will be resumed for the August B meeting on August 15th.

However, Kim G6JXA has suggested that as an alternative, members who like the idea of meeting others in an outdoor environment may wish to visit the Wimbledon and DARS Summer Camp (in the Banstead / Reigate area) at which at least two SRCC members will be present. Further details are provided below.

## **PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The July A meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> was a “Short Talks Evening” in which instead of a talk of 60-90 minutes duration on a single topic, a number of shorter talks, typically of around 20 minutes each, are presented. On this occasion there were three talks:

- Interfacing ICOM rigs to your PC by Ray G4FFY – Ray explained that in his case there was not a straightforward “one rig to one computer / application” situation. Instead he had two rigs, an Icom 7300 for HF and an Icom 9700 for VHF and UHF. These needed to be connected to several computer hosted applications:
  - *Log4OM* – station logbook
  - *WSJT/X* – for FT4/FT8 modes
  - *Grid Tracker* - for FT4/FT8 modes
  - *JS8 Call* – for JS8 mode
  - *Minos* – for VHF / UHF contest logging
  - *N1MM+* - for HF contest logging.

He explained that both rigs were able to support both USB and CI-V computer interfaces (the latter understood to be an ICOM “special” – designed during the pre-international standardisation era) and that the Omni-Rig PC utility provided assistance in bridging the protocol gap between a wide range of rigs and a wide range of amateur radio computer applications. On the principle that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, Ray showed a picture of his shack with the two rigs communicating with several applications at the same time!

- Interfacing to the IC7610 and update on Minos 2 by Peter G3ZPB – Peter opened by describing how the tools described by Ray could be used to support the Icom 7610 transceiver. He then went on to describe the latest status of the Minos contest logging software (for which Peter is part of the development team). He said that Minos 2 was thought to be the most advanced logging program available for RSGB contests (originally VHF but now also HF), and listed some of the features as follows:
  - real time contest logging
  - scoring
  - duplicate checking
  - production of statistics

- keyer control
- rig control
- rotator control
- chat facility
- access to cluster / KST / QRZ.com
- networking capability via UDP (user datagram protocol).

He went on to explain how to download and install the software and set up the parameters for the rig being used. And, again on the principle of the proof of the pudding being in the eating, he demonstrated the rig and Minos talking to each other.

- Use of auto-ATUs with balanced antennas by Quin G3WRR – Quin explained that the underlying problem arose from the rules for the Restricted section of NFD (CW Field Day) which only allowed a single antenna to be used for all six HF bands, necessitating switching between up to six ATUs. He described how the FD group had historically used mechanical switches, relay-based switches and auto ATUs – always with problems of a greater or lesser degree. Auto ATUs should be the logical approach but these are generally designed for unbalanced feeds and unbalanced antennas – not well suited to doublets which are the antenna of choice for NFD. Following earlier, largely unsuccessful, tests a trial had been conducted for 2022 which seemed to show the way forward. This involved putting the balun on the input to the ATU and “floating” the whole ATU at RF, with the consequential need to choke off the DC input. This had been largely successful because fairly well-balanced currents in the two legs of the balanced feeder had been obtained. Further work will be required as the setup was a bit “touchy” on 10m and the balun cooked up on 160m – but the approach now looked like the way forward. He displayed the assembled ATU and associated bits in its plastic case – but no “proof on the pudding” demonstration was possible this time as the balun had been cannibalised for VHF NFD!

## **HOLIDAYING WITH RADIO IN IRELAND 2020 & 2021 BY PAT G4FDN**

This is a seriously overdue write-up of Pat G4FDN’s presentation to SRCC on February 7<sup>th</sup> 2022.

Pat opened by saying that the aims of the presentation were to explain:

- how to have a family holiday with some amateur radio
- the logistical aspects of choosing locations, making bookings, travel etc
- an overview of the “holiday experience”
- how to set up / take down a station in around one hour.

He outlined his background in the hobby as follows:

- started as an SWL (A6175) in 1965
- took the RAE in 1970/71
- licensed as G8FDN in 1971
- joined SRCC in 1992
- learnt CW at the Bute Road CW Academy in 1976
- licensed as G4FDN 6/76
- has held the callsign EI2JW since 2007 and has previously also held the calls F6EEV and ON8IA (as well as operating in a number of other countries)
- main interest is currently narrowband digital voice on HF and VHF.

He explained that the emphasis was on a family holiday with a bit of amateur radio included, rather than an amateur radio focussed holiday. The emphasis on Ireland arose from the fact that,

in addition to offering a lot of holiday opportunities, he was of Irish descent and had family in the Irish Republic (Republic of Ireland – RoI) which provided a wide range of social contacts. He described the key features of such a holiday as including:

- travel by car & ferry
- typically four to five weeks duration
- self-booking (accommodation mainly self-catering but with a few hotel stays)
- eating out.

Pat expanded on some of the above points as follows:

- in addition to Ireland, he and his family have made similar trips to Germany, Austria, USA and Canada
- there are a number of main routes between the UK mainland and the island of Ireland:
  - Troon - Larne
  - Cairnryan – Larne
  - Stranraer – Belfast
  - Liverpool – Belfast
  - Liverpool – Dublin
  - Holyhead – Dublin
  - Holyhead – Dunlaoghaire
  - Fishguard – Rosslare
  - Pembroke – Rosslare.
- self-booking is nowadays mainly on-line – making life a lot easier than in the pre-internet days when he started organising trips of this type in 1997!
- typical mileage each year is 2-3000 miles, and the cars used over the years have been a VW Jetta and two Vauxhall Zafiras
- a number of differences between Northern Ireland (NI) and the Republic of Ireland (RoI) are worth noting:
  - their history differs greatly, with the island of Ireland having been colonised several times since the Norman Conquest by different groups from mainland England - leading ultimately to partition in 1922 into NI (the “six counties”) and RoI
  - The RoI is a full member of the EU, with NI remaining part of the UK
  - The RoI uses the Euro, with NI retaining Pounds Sterling
  - The RoI uses the km for distance and related units (eg. speed) and NI uses miles
  - supermarket prices (including alcohol) are around 25–30% higher in the RoI than in NI
  - property rentals are 15-20% higher in NI
  - pub / restaurant prices are roughly the same in each
  - petrol prices (at the time of the 2021 trip) were roughly the same in each
  - the temperature in the RoI is on average 5°C cooler than in NI – but probably only 2°C cooler in August
- things that need to be taken along (or are recommended) include:
  - insurance Green Card and vehicle registration document for RoI
  - breakdown cover and Satnav recommended!
  - photo ID for ferry and travel insurance
  - OS maps and guidebooks
  - mobile phone with roaming capability
- characteristics of properties suited for this type of holiday include:
  - detached houses / bungalows with adjacent space (many of these have been purpose built by small farmers for holiday lets)
  - in quiet, relatively isolated rural locations
  - but nevertheless within say a mile of a pub / restaurant
  - if sharing with relatives / friends, properties with 2+ bathrooms and 3/5 bedrooms are

- recommended
  - a washer / drier really is a must!
  - Google Earth, Streetview and Bing Satellite are useful tools for assessing potential locations
- booking arrangements:
  - ferries – direct with companies on-line advisable (Stena and Irish Ferries have been used) – fully flexible tickets advisable. At peak / popular times book, book 6-8 weeks ahead
  - hotels – direct or via booking agencies such as booking.com. For popular locations, book 3-4 months ahead
  - houses – via sites such as Airbnb, Home To Go, etc – unless the owners are known in which case direct. For popular locations / dates book 6-8 months ahead
  - indicative costs – for ferries in summer, return flexible tickets at popular times expect £400-500: for houses variable but between £330 and £750+ a week.

Pat then briefly summarised his 2020 – 2021 trips, noting that driving no more than five hours a day and making the journey part of the holiday avoided time on the road becoming a chore. A map showing the places visited and pictures of some of the properties occupied follows:

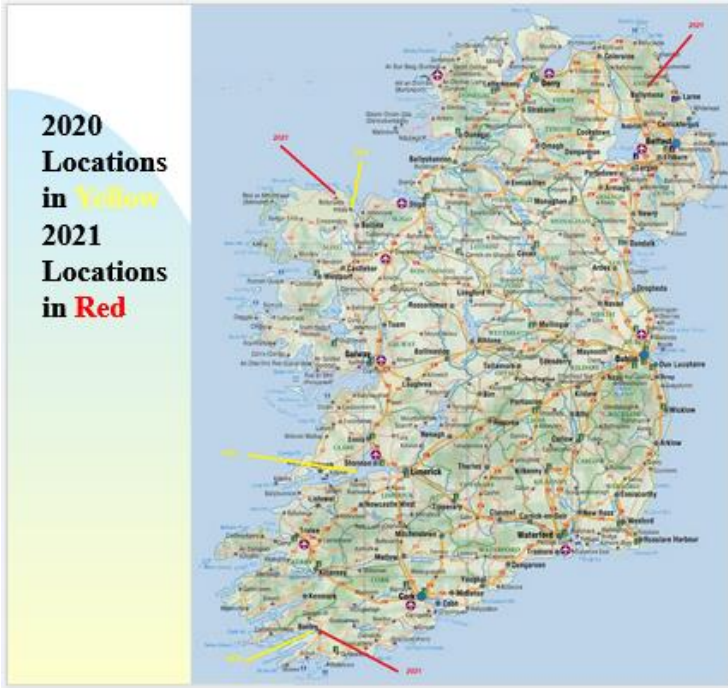
#### 2020:

- took overnight ferry from Liverpool to Belfast City: after 6.30 am arrival drove to Armagh for full Irish breakfast [*The editor wonders how that differs from a full English but is too polite to ask...*]
- drove to Bundoran (Co Donegal) staying in seaside hotel for two nights
- drove to Killala (Co Mayo), staying for one week in a rented house on the River Moy estuary – renowned for its salmon fishing
- drove to Kildysart (Co Clare) staying for one week in a rented house on the Shannon estuary
- drove to Bantry (Co Cork) again staying for one week in a rented house
- ferry from Rosslare (Co Wexford) to Fishguard (Pembrokeshire) staying overnight before driving home.

Pat mentioned that the choice of ferry routes had been significantly influenced by restrictions due to COVID.

#### 2021:

- after overnighting at hotels in Heysham (Lancashire) and Portpatrick (Dumfries and Galloway), took ferry from Cairnryan to Belfast City then drove to Gortnageera (Co Antrim) – 7 miles north of Ballymena – staying there for two weeks
- drove to rental house in Ballycastle (Co Mayo) staying for two weeks
- drove to rental house in Bantry (Co Cork) staying for one week
- ferry from Rosslare (Co Wexford) to Fishguard (Pembrokeshire) staying there for one night before driving home.



**MAP SHOWING PLACES VISITED DURING 2020 / 2021 TRIPS**



**HOUSE – ONE MILE NORTH OF BANTRY BAY**



**VIEW FROM FRONT OF HOUSE AT BANTRY BAY**





**VIEW FROM FRONT OF HOUSE AT  
KILDYSART**

Moving now on to the radio aspects of the trip, Pat opened by saying that the best way to get owners' permission to erect antennas is not to mention the subject in advance. He has found it better to wait until you meet them, then show a picture of what you intend and suggest where you would like to locate it. This has had a 100% success rate! He also advised against using trees and instead going for a self-supporting antenna such as a ground plane.

He then described a typical equipment list as follows:

- Yaesu FT897 and FT817 transceivers
- LDG Z-11 Pro auto ATU (AA battery powered) – in weatherproof box with common mode choke
- 10m fibreglass roach pole with aluminium tripod and 10m wire / guys/pegs
- 8 multiband (40m – 6m) ground radials
- two coax runs (40ft & 50ft)
- swaged aluminium pole set and tripod
- Diamond X-30 144/432MHz colinear
- set of coax adapters
- NanoVNA with connectors
- reusable cable ties
- tape of various types
- small electrical tool kit including test meter and rechargeable soldering iron.

The setup of the antennas and the station itself will depend on local conditions but needs to include consideration of:

- making sure antennas and feeders are safe and do not get in the way of family and locals
- access to power points
- ingress point for feeders
- optimum station location - which on one occasion included setting up the station on an ironing board in a spare bedroom.

Pat said that under favourable conditions and with family support, the station can be set up and taken down within an hour.

He said that problems **do** occur – but hopefully not every year. He cited some examples as follows:

- fracture of section of telescopic mast when it wouldn't collapse down properly – fixed with 20mm PVC conduit and duct tape
- deer trampling on and breaking radials
- forgetting auto ATU - but luckily antenna was resonant on 40m & 15m without
- mains power lead for FT897 left behind – but replaced from local shop.

*[Editor's suggestion – the trick is **don't panic** when things go wrong – there is almost always a work around available. But I do wish I could learn to take my own advice...]*

The following pictures show station equipment:



**ANTENNA AT BALLYCASTLE  
2021**



**FIBREGLASS ROACH POLE  
REPAIRED WITH PVC CONDUIT**



**ANTENNA TRIPOD AND ATU**

Pat went on to give an example of a typical day's holiday experience:

- leisurely start – get up around 8am the light breakfast
- on air around 0945 - 1000 for up to an hour, typically to work SRCC members on 40m. An SMS message group is useful to set up contacts with interested parties
- go out later morning to (for example) walk coastal paths, visit neolithic monuments (OS Maps useful here, visit stately homes / museums, etc)
- lunch 1300-1330 in pub / restaurant (typically the main meal of the day)
- continue morning's activity
- back to base early evening for light supper then perhaps out again to pubs (COVID permitting) or more time on the air (perhaps 20m or 17m at those times). As in Western Ireland daylight can continue till around 11pm there is plenty of scope for further enjoyment.

He then showed extracts of two videos (courtesy of G7CRQ, for which many thanks!):

- shows EI2JW from Ballycastle on 40m sked with SRCC members - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YXUGiCk5MCKIJTvGJ2NdZ1GT0MWTolYL/view?usp=sharing>
- rom around 5 min 23 sec in shows the “other end” of the sked from the G7CRQ station - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lu42SLYpVAT82m9Rv\\_wxpb3Ycl\\_dqJ--/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lu42SLYpVAT82m9Rv_wxpb3Ycl_dqJ--/view?usp=sharing).

Pat concluded by saying that every family's holiday expectations are different but hoped that the talk had shown that it is possible to enjoy a bit of our hobby while away without dominating the family holiday, and that operating away from home offers experience of different environments and the chance to make contact with local amateurs.

The Chairman concluded with many thanks for Pat for a fascinating and instructive lecture.

*[Editor's note – since giving his talk, Pat has advised that he and his family will be going to Ireland again this year, this time visiting Counties Mayo, Galway and Donegal. For those (like me) whose knowledge of Irish geography is limited, you may be interested to know that these three counties are on the North-Western coast: Mayo and Galway being in the Irish Republic and Donegal in Northern Ireland. We wish them all another enjoyable holiday].*

## 73, Quin G3WRR

## FUTURE MEETINGS

August A meeting As advised above, this has regrettably been cancelled.

September A meeting (5<sup>th</sup> September) This will be a talk on “Vintage Radios” by Steve G3ZPS and will cover rigs (particularly those of the KW Electronics marque I believe) from the 1960s and 1970s – and it is believed that some samples will be brought along.

October A meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> October) This will be a Surplus Equipment Sale – so bring some of your unused gear along for sale – and also cash to buy some new treasures which you will be able to re-sell at future sales....

November A meeting (7<sup>th</sup> November) This will be the annual Construction Contest. There will be prizes of real money (none of this Bitcoin stuff) for the winning entries – so why not get the thinking cap on and the soldering iron out?

December A meeting (12<sup>th</sup> December) Please note that this is the **second** Monday of the month rather than the first. This will be the annual (although the first one since 2019 due to COVID) Inter Club Quiz, which will this year be hosted by Sutton & Cheam RS – hence the (for SRCC) non-standard date. It will be held at a Scout Hall in Banstead – further details on location will be provided in due course. Traditionally this has been a three way junket between SRCC, S&CRS and CATS but Chris M0TCH (the S&CRS “link man”) is intending to invite the Dorking and Crystal Palace clubs along as well which should add to the fun. Clubs have fielded more than one team (of 4/5 members) in the past so why not have a talk to some of your fellow members so that SRCC can enter two (or more...) teams? Chris has asked for likely number of attendees by the end of October so I will be seeking inputs a bit nearer the date.

B meetings will, unless advised otherwise, be held on the third Monday of the month and will consist of the usual Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat with John G8MNY and his test equipment. In fact the December B meeting will be an instance of “unless advised otherwise”. Although it will be held on the third Monday (19<sup>th</sup> December) it will be the usual pre-Christmas Social with light refreshments, soft drinks and mince pies – plus Dyson vacuum cleaner to clear up the residue afterwards. After last year’s experiment of adding custard to the party (for the mince pies), further avant garde culinary experiences are being considered for 2022....

## WIMBLEDON CLUB ANNUAL CAMP

A regular feature of the annual calendar for a long time (I attended the 1968 one as a newly licensed G3W....) is the Wimbledon Club Annual Camp which is usually attended by two or three SRCC members. This year it will run from 30<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August. Visitors or attendees are welcome (you will have read from above that it has been suggested that members may wish to visit it in the absence of Pastyrama 2022). Further details are shown in the map below:

book your visit, or better still a weeks Pitch  
by ringing Andy G4ADM on 07973 184040

Crossways  
Farm track.  
With speed  
bump &  
night time  
gate! Leads  
to A or B  
Cow Field

GX3WIM

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">30th Jul to 7th Aug in Field A or B</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Wimbledon &amp; DARS Summer Camp - Crossways Farm, Crossways Lane, Upper Gatton, Reigate RH2 0TX. Wimbledon will be setting up the camp late on the afternoon of Friday/early Sat. running through to Aug. There are buses from Epsom and Sutton (460 and 420 I think) The bus stop just south of the roundabout with Babylon Lane on the A217 about 1/2-mile from the site.</p>
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In case the map above is none too clear, readers with access to OS maps may note that the NGR is TQ265534. In addition, Steve M0PEL, who is expecting to attend, has kindly offered to “talk people in” if they have difficulty finding the site: he can be contacted on 07452 777908.

## HERE AND THERE

Please see the following, received a few days ago from Jason G7RUX:

“I thought that you might like to hear that OfCom have started sending out emails to licence holders (including radio amateur licence holders, hence this email) requesting evidence of EMF assessments having been carried out for their stations. I haven't received one for my personal licences (yet!) but I certainly have for my work-based licences”.

If you have not already done so you may wish to carry out the assessments required by your licence in anticipation of a billet doux from the licensing authority!



An odd one – the picture above shows “enemy action” to the feeder for my HF inverted L. (It wasn't in this odd pattern when attacked – it's just been brought together to get all the damage onto one picture). There is no doubt that this is the work of Foxy Loxy, our local suburban fox. The question is why he should have done this (ruling out the possibility that he is working in concert with a supplier of coax to encourage me to trade up to UR67 ...). Do any of our wildlife focused members have any suggestions ?!

**73, Quin G3WRR**

## SRCC LEAGUE TABLE – JUNE 2022

The number of entries received for the June 2022 League Table was eight, none of these this time being a null entry. This figure was one up on May, and it is particularly good to see Ted G3EUE submitting a log again – his first since the January 2022 session: please keep them coming Ted! The top four entries (Ray G4FFY, Ian M0CGF, Colin G4LZE and Peter G3ZPB) retain the positions they held in May. Ted G3EUE re-enters the table at position five, Steve G4FYF retains position six, Rick M0LEP moves down two places to seventh, and Quin G3WRR retains a consistent if unimpressive last place.

<b>ENTRANT</b>	<b>WORKED DXCC / SQUARE</b>	<b>WORKED SRCC MEMBER</b>	<b>WORKED IN CONTEST</b>	<b>POINTS THIS MONTH</b>
G4FFY	250	4	27	536
M0CGF	212			424
G4LZE	17	1	17	51
G3ZPB	16	2	10	46
G3EUE	9		9	27
G4FYF	8			16
M0LEP	4	3		14
G3WRR	1	1		4

The leading two entrants had a very successful June, making scores that were over twice those in May. It is clear from examination of the entries that both really made the most of a very active month on 6m sporadic E.

Ray's entry included 155 big squares and 38 DXCCs on 6m (all on FT8) with particularly good results into Italy and Spain. His best 6m DX was into UN (Kazakhstan) at 4124km. As this is well beyond the range of single hop sporadic E, it is interesting to speculate exactly what mode was involved in that contact! He was also active on HF (mainly 20m), making 81 scoring contacts including all continents except Antarctica. Just over 60% were with European stations, followed by a fairly even spread between North America, South America and Asia and a sprinkling in Africa and Oceania. All but a couple (on SRCC nets) used FT4/8. He notes that he has worked Rodriguez Island (3B9) as a new DXCC, making his total now 138.

Similar to Ray, Ian appears to have focussed on sporadic E on 6m, where over 60% of his scoring contacts were made. These included 133 big squares in 34 DXCCs including six in North America and one each in Asia and Africa. 71% were made using FT4/8, the rest on SSB. His scoring HF contacts were made mostly (56%) on 20m, with the rest on 17m, 10m, 40m, 15m, 12m & 80m. These included all continents except Antarctica: 60% were with European stations, the rest being fairly evenly shared between Asia, North America and South America, with a handful in Africa and Oceania. He notes that a lot of his contacts were made on a trip to Guernsey, including one with VE (Canada) on 6m SSB using a Hamstick antenna on his car!

Colin's scoring contacts were all made in the RSGB FT4 contest and were split equally between 40m & 20m. All but one (a W2 on 20m) were with European stations.

Most of Peter's scoring contacts were made using FT8. The HF ones took place on 20m and included V3 (Belize), CO (Cuba), HP (Panama), 9V (Trinidad & Tobago), W0 (US mid west) and VK6 (Western Australia) and the UHF ones in the 70cm FT8 contest.

There isn't much information available on Ted's contacts, other than that they were made in a contest – and it can be assumed that they were on CW... Good to see you back Ted!

Steve describes his log as being “a bit minimal” but notes that most of his scoring contacts were on 10m which was lively to the south and east for a while. He adds that he is temporarily QRT following the removal of an old shed to which his mast was attached. The good news is that it will be replaced with a new higher, metal, mast but at the time of writing that was a couple of weeks away....

Rick says that he didn't have as much time as usual for amateur radio as he had to make a quick trip to Kenya for family reasons (and may have to do so again soon). However, he did manage to make a number of scoring contacts, which appear to be his usual mix of SOTA chasing and contacts with SRCC members on club nets.

Quin's highly indifferent entry consisted of a single contact – with Peter G3ZPB to check audio quality on the rigs to be used for VHF Field Day the following weekend! However, that does not tell the full story as he was also active in June as part of the Flying Ducks Contest Group entry in HF (CW) Field Day over the first weekend of the month. As that contest was a multi-operator entry and the League Table rules do not permit entrants to claim points for contacts they made in multi-operator events, no points could be claimed - but never mind...

Now that we are over halfway through the year, major changes in an individual month are needed if changes to positions in the cumulative listing are to result. As a result, G4FFY, M0CGF, G3ZPB, M0LEP, G3WRR and G3SRC retain their first, second, third, sixth seven and eighth positions: the only changes involve G4LZE and G4FYF changing positions, with the former moving up one place to fourth and the latter down one to fifth – and also G3EUE's welcome reappearance in eighth place.

ENTRANT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOT
G4FFY	166	153	207	164	252	536							1478
M0CGF	102	87	108	86	194	424							999
G3ZPB	90	123	0	31	54	46							344
G4LZE	0	73	42	0	84	51							250
G4FYF	36	42	68	36	32	16							230
M0LEP	18	26	20	34	52	14							164
G3WRR	0	66	60	0	0	4							130
G3SRC	66	15	0	0	0	0							81
G3EUE	22	0	0	0	0	27							49

It's interesting how quickly we become habituated to changes – particularly ones for the better! Solar cycle 25 continues to seesaw up and down (but on a rising trend). However, on looking at the daily figures and noting that the SFI had gone down from by three to 111, I thought “oh dear” (actually my thoughts were a bit ruder than that but this is a respectable Newsletter...). Less than a year ago, a SFI figure as high as that was something we could only have dreamed about – and here we are (well, I am anyway) getting long in the face about it! Perhaps the moral is “make hay while the sun shines”.... And perhaps we should feel the same about the sporadic E season while it persists!

**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](mailto:q.g.collier@btinternet.com).

<b>BAND/FREQUENCY/MODE</b>	<b>DAY OF WEEK</b>	<b>START TIME (clock)</b>
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.....

Nothing else to say this month – see you all in the September issue!

## 73, Quin G3WRR