



# SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

## NOVEMBER 2022 – No 963

### SRCC supports the RSGB Child Protection Policy

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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 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November: Annual Construction Contest**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November: Fix-it, Move-it-on and Social Chat with John G8MNY**

### SRCC COMMITTEE 2022/23

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Resources & Liaison	Vacant	
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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,

You should already have received an e-mail via the membermojo distribution system reporting the sad news of the recent death of Maurice Fagg G4DDY. This information is being repeated here because the Newsletter provides a formal record of the activities of SRCC and its members. Maurice's wife Prim G4CCY had been suffering from dementia for some time and had required full time care which Maurice had been providing. With the passage of time Maurice himself had been getting increasingly frail and had had a number of falls – one of which was bad enough to require hospitalisation. In hospital I gather that he was quite cheerful and seemed to enjoy being looked after. Although there was initially talk of discharging him after a period of recuperation, an MRI scan discovered that he had two lymphomas (a kind of cancer associated with the lymphatic system) and he passed away peacefully on the morning of Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October. The sad news

was passed to SRCC from Maurice's daughter Liz via Pat G4FDN & Kim G6JXA. The funeral will be held on Monday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon at North-East Surrey Crematorium in Morden, followed by refreshments at the Park Place Restaurant in Mitcham. A membermojo e-mail was distributed to members on 26<sup>th</sup> October providing more details and Ray G4FFY is collecting numbers to pass to the family ([ray@g4ffly.co.uk](mailto:ray@g4ffly.co.uk) or 07921 567651). Meanwhile I am sure we all offer our sincere sympathies to Liz and other members of his family: a card will be brought to the November A meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> for members to sign.

It would be nice to produce an informal "In Memoriam" for Maurice in a forthcoming Newsletter. Personally, I had only known Maurice for about ten years since joining SRCC and, although knowing him to be one of the respected long term members of the club and someone who was always good to talk to, I knew little more than that, particularly about his history and life outside our hobby. So, can I please ask any members who know more than I about his background and activities inside and outside amateur radio to let me know? And of course, a few anecdotes – particularly humorous ones – would go down well, as would a few pictures! If you could let me have any inputs by, say 25<sup>th</sup> November that will give me time to stitch it all together for inclusion. In the December Newsletter would be good – but, if necessary, it can be stood over for a while allowing information to be collected.

### 73, Quin G3WRR

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

October A meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> October) This was the autumn Surplus Equipment Sale. There was a good amount of interesting gear on offer from six sellers, although perhaps not quite as much as in earlier sales. Total takings were £176.50, of which £24.98 goes to club funds as commission on sales. Interestingly the financial spreadsheet shows an item of 2p for "donations". Whoever said that SRCC members are careful with their money?!

October B meeting (17<sup>th</sup> October) Unfortunately owing to a "process failure" in the Trinity School machinery, the nine or so members who turned up were unable to gain access to the school. It is a sad fact that mid-October is not a good time for al fresco meetings and so after 45 minutes or so the hardy attendees all drifted off homeward. This was doubly unfortunate as both Raymond G7ODG and Richard G0VCH, neither of whom are able to attend regularly for domestic reasons, did manage to attend this time. And of course, John G8MNY's van load of test gear was brought along in vain.... Ray G4FFY (our Trinity "link man") has spoken to the school administrators: although an apology was received no reason was given. Let us hope this does not happen again!

## FUTURE MEETINGS

November A meeting (7<sup>th</sup> November) This will be the Construction Contest. Members are encouraged to bring along items they have made or assembled (thus items built from kits can be entered) and which they think may be of interest to others. More than one item per member is fine – the more the merrier. There is no need for these to be constructed to showroom standard – items based on clever designs or of interest for other reasons will be just as welcome, and entrants will be given a brief slot to describe each offering. After display, attendees will be invited to vote for their three favourite items (there will be no organised criteria for ranking them – it's all a case of what you think deserves it). And our Treasurer has been prevailed upon to provide (small) financial prizes for the top three items! Entries may be spilt into more than one class (e.g., assembled kits versus "all my own work") depending on what is brought along.

December A meeting (12<sup>th</sup> December) Please note that this will be on the **second Monday of the month** rather than the first. It will be the annual Inter Club Quiz (the first one since 2019 due to COVID) and will this year be hosted by Sutton & Cheam RS – hence the (for SRCC) non-standard date. It will be held at the 7<sup>th</sup> Banstead Scout HQ – further details are shown at <https://scrs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Scout-HQ-Location-1.pdf>

Traditionally this has been a three-way play-off between SRCC, S&CRS and CATS. However, Chris M0TCH (the organiser at S&CRS) is intending to invite the Dorking and Crystal Palace clubs along as well which should add to the fun. Clubs may field more than one team (typically of 4/5 members each). SRCC have done so in the past so why not have a talk to some of your fellow members so that SRCC can enter two (or more...) teams - or we could put teams together on the night. But even if you are not actively participating, please come along to observe and cheer on your team(s) (in a genteel manner of course). Modesty suggests that I shouldn't really mention this, but that isn't going to stop me...SRCC won the last three pre-COVID quizzes so it would be nice if we could maintain the tradition! I'm not sure what S&CRS have in mind for questions but usually these have not been an orgy of high technology but have included a mix of technical, amateur radio general interest and general knowledge.

As stated in the membermojo e-mail dated 22/10/22, we have been asked to provide an idea of likely numbers of SRCC attendees. This is to allow our hosts to make provision for tables, chairs, teas, coffees and perhaps even biscuits! Numbers would be indicative only, so "signing up" doesn't commit you to attending - we all know that family and other commitments can interfere with the best laid plans...Thank you to those who have already notified me. But if you are intending to attend and this has slipped your mind could you please notify me now?

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 Cat with John G8MNY and his test equipment. In fact, the December B meeting will be an instance of "unless advised otherwise". It will be held on the third Monday (19<sup>th</sup> December) and will be the usual pre-Christmas Social with light refreshments, soft drinks and mince pies – plus Dyson to clear up the crumbs afterwards. After last year's experiment of adding custard to the party (for the mince pies), further culinary delights are being considered for 2022....

## SRCC WEBSITE – CONTEST AND OTHER RADIO ACTIVITY CALENDAR

An acquaintance of mine, G3MGQ, compiles a comprehensive monthly list of contests and other interesting radio operations and events such as IoTA, SoTA, Windmills on the air, etc, from a number of sources; primarily DXpeditions from Bill NG3K's ADXO website, with his permission, and then checked with DXWatch, QRZ.com and individual DXpedition websites, and contests primarily from WA7BNM's website and RSGB contest HF & VHF calendars. Personally, I find this a handy, useful, reference source to perhaps connect with some exotic DX stations. G3MGQ has very kindly given me a link to the West Kent ARS where you can download, or print, or simply refer to. This is now available on the SRCC website. Open the website, [www.srcc.uk](http://www.srcc.uk), select 'On-Air Events', then click 'Contests' from the dropdown. There you will find the link. Click on it and away you go!



### 73 Steve G4FYF

## RAY'S I.T. SPOT !! – WINDOWS 22H2 UPGRADE

My Windows 11 computer recently performed an upgrade from Windows 11 21H2 version (2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of the year) to Windows 11 22H2 version (2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of the year).

All was fine until I came to use my amateur radio setup and found that I was no longer communicating with my rigs (IC-7300 and IC-9700). It turned out that Microsoft had decided to upgrade the driver for my Prolific leads connected from my desktop to the CI-V ports on the rigs, and then tell me that the chipset in the leads was not compatible with Windows 11.

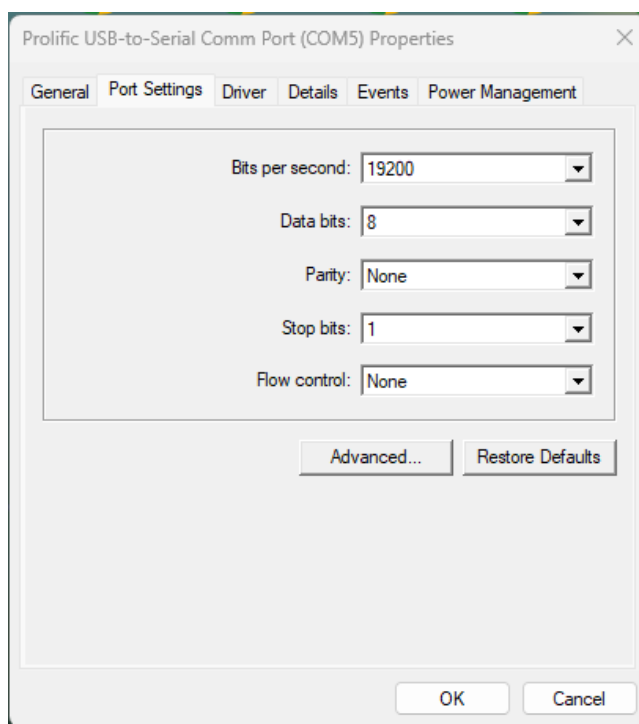
I had to downgrade the driver to version 3.8.39 which works under Windows 11 but, more importantly, supports the leads chipset!!

I located a working set from this page:

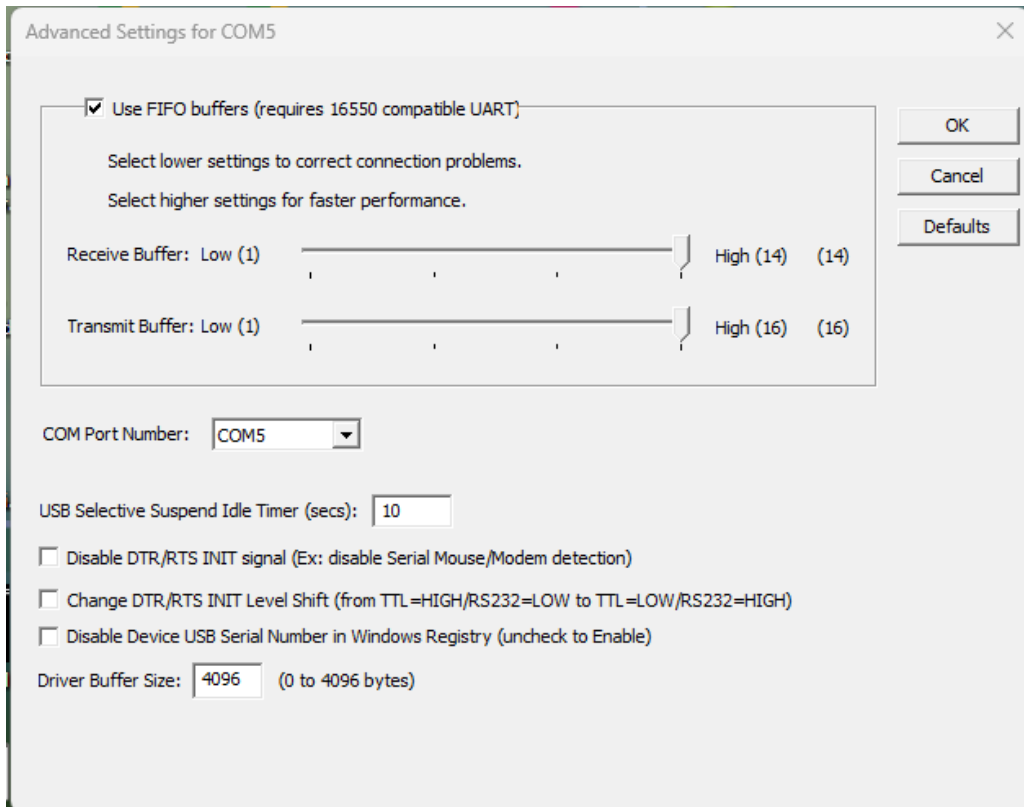
[https://www.trendnet.com/support/support-detail.asp?prod=265\\_TU-S9#downloads](https://www.trendnet.com/support/support-detail.asp?prod=265_TU-S9#downloads)

Drivers			
	Date	File Size	
<b>Drivers (Mac)</b>			<a href="#">Download</a>
Filename: Mac_TU-S9(10.9-10.12).zip	10/2/2020	5.72 mb	
SHA-1 Checksum: 8460283EF52BC4E91D25BB30D8E8EC2F0B5EC844			
<b>Drivers (Windows)</b>			<a href="#">Download</a>
Filename: Drivers_TU-S9(3.8.39).zip	5/4/2021	10.66 mb	
SHA-1 Checksum: 3F79E3BC49B3414BBFCB1E0519D0CBAFF3A1A61F			

I then had to carefully reset the port details for each lead as these had been removed by the Windows upgrade. Here is one of my settings for my IC-9700 (the IC-7300 is using COM8):

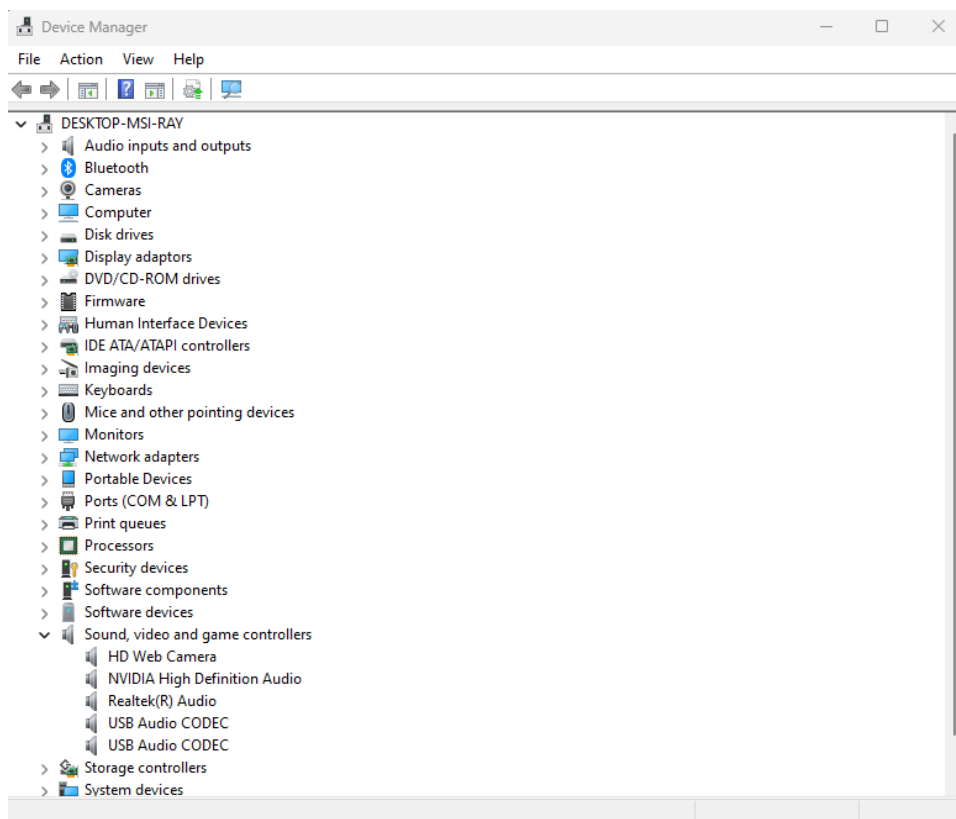


I also had to reset my COM port to match the software I was using for the rig (WSJT-X) and this can be changed under the Advanced.. button:

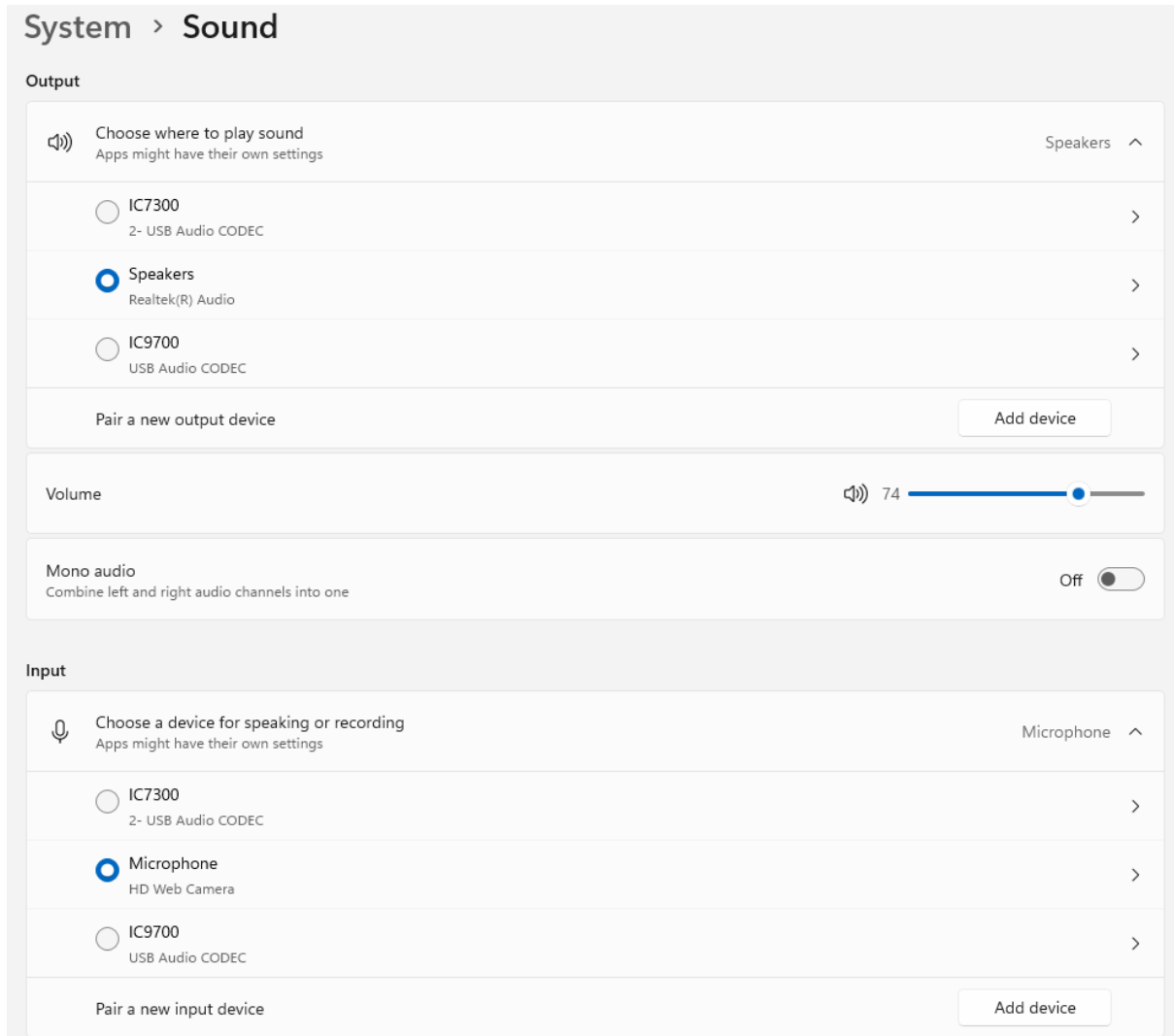


So, I thought great all sorted but no!! I then had audio codec port problems via the USB connection to the rigs and wasn't able to transmit my FT8 signals from WSJT-X!!

Once again, I had to remove the two existing USB codecs using device manager, and then one by one get the computer to re-install them so that I knew which rig was using what USB Codec.



Once that was sorted, under Windows 11 “settings-system-sound” it is possible to rename the codecs to something more friendly!!



So, I am now up and running again with my digital capabilities via WSJT-X.

**73, Ray G4FFY**

## **RAY'S "LEAF PEEPING" TRIP TO VERMONT ....**

Many thanks to Ray G4FFY who has kindly provided the following pictures from the recent holiday that he and his wife Caroline took in the USA. No titles – but we can see where “leaf peeping” comes from! I am hopeful that he can be prevailed upon to give us an article for a future Newsletter – provided he can still type after having his arm twisted up his back....



## HERE AND THERE

Just one item this month....something from my distant past that popped into my mind recently for no reason. I became actively involved in amateur radio via the now long defunct Purley and District Radio Club, which I joined in June 1966. One of the key members there was Sid Law G3PAZ who lived in Alexandra Road in Croydon. Sid was one of those larger-than-life characters of a type we don't see so often these days. He often used to make up downright silly poems that Alan G3FTQ used to publish in the newsletter. The thing that popped into my mind was the following offering from Sid:

“There once was an amateur named Keith  
Who poked in his rig underneath  
The HT he found lying flat on the ground  
On top of his flying false teeth”

In addition to being a humorously useful cautionary tale, it occurred to me that this might not be properly understood by the younger generation of amateurs – how many of them would recognise the term “HT” in a world of semiconductors? That isn't a jibe of the “standards have slipped” type so beloved of many from my parents' generation. But it does show that humour, in context as well as style, may not always transfer well between generations and gave me pause for thought! (PS - if anyone does want to know what “HT” is / was, come and ask me and I will bore you to death about the delights of valve technology...)

### 73, Quin G3WRR

## SRCC LEAGUE TABLE – SEPTEMBER 2022

The number of entries received for this month's League Table was eight (the same as in August), including one null entry. Last month's suggestion that the lower scores in July and August were due to the holiday season seem to be borne out by the fact that the average score of the top three entrants in September was 28% up on the equivalent figure for August. (I do like a world that seems to make sense...).

The monthly results are shown below. Ray G4FFY, despite saying that his activity was down, is again leader, followed by Peter G3ZPB who moves up four places to second, moving Ian M0CGF and Steve G4FYF down one place to third and fourth respectively. Rick M0LEP maintains fifth place, with Quin G3WRR moving up one place to sixth and Ted G3EUE down three to seventh. Colin G4LZE again retains eighth place - but hopes to get back on track in the October listing!

ENTRANT	WORKED DXCC / SQUARE	WORKED SRCC MEMBER	WORKED IN CONTEST	POINTS THIS MONTH
G4FFY	76	6	27	194
G3ZPB	39	0	33	111
M0CGF	42	0	0	84
G4FYF	25	1	0	52
M0LEP	17	4	0	42
G3WRR	7	0	7	21
G3EUE	7	0	0	14
G4LZE	0	0	0	0



89% of Ray's scoring contacts were on HF. All his HF contacts were made using data modes – fairly evenly balanced between FT8 and FT4, with the majority of the latter made in the RSGB FT4 contest. Just over half were made on 40m & 20m, with the rest on 15m, 17m, 80m, 12m & 10m in descending order. All continents with the exception of Antarctica were worked, with Europe dominant followed by Asia, North America, Africa, South America and Oceania. Three of his scoring VHF contacts were made on SSB in the 4m & 70cm UKACs, with the other five on FT8 in England, France, Ireland and the Netherlands. He also made six scoring contacts with SRCC members.

Peter's scoring contacts were mostly made in the RSGB 70cm FT8 and (HF) FT4 contests. The latter included 5R8 (Madagascar – seriously rare!), PY (Brazil), PJ4 (Bonaire) and A4 (Oman).

Ian's scoring contacts were all made on the HF bands. 85% were evenly balanced between 40m & 20m, with the remaining 15% evenly balanced between 17m & 12m. 64% were European, followed by South America, Asia, North America, Oceania and Africa in descending order. Interesting ones included CE (Chile), ZP (Paraguay) and FM (Martinique).

Steve found improved conditions on 10m, where his haul included contacts outside Europe with 4X (Israel), CX (Uruguay), OD (Lebanon) and PY (Brazil), using 80-100W to a G5RV or dipole.

Rick visited Germany during September and despite his wife picking up a bug (possibly COVID) managed to fit in a brief excursion to a handy SOTA summit, contributing to a total of 41 scoring DXCCs.

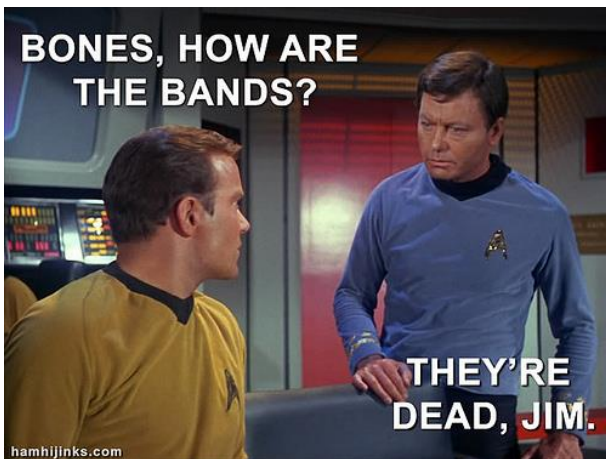
All Quin's scoring contacts (seven big squares) were made in the RSGB 4m AFS contest and were all intra-UK.

There is little detail available on Ted's scoring contracts, but we can be confident that they were all made on the HF bands using CW!

The cumulative annual table is shown below, with relative positions remaining the same as for August.

ENTRANT	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOT
G4FFY	166	153	207	164	252	536	205	166	194				2043
M0CGF	102	87	108	86	194	424	0	82	84				1165
G3ZPB	90	123	0	31	54	46	32	0	111				487
G4FYF	36	42	68	36	32	16	44	56	52				382
G4LZE	0	73	42	0	84	51	39	0	0				289
M0LEP	18	26	20	34	52	14	8	32	42				246
G3WRR	0	66	60	0	0	4	48	0	21				199
G3EUE	22	0	0	0	0	27	34	34	14				131
G3SRC	66	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				81

The solar flux seems, despite significant variations on a day-to-day basis, seems to be continuing with its upward trend although the rate of increase shows some signs of dropping off. Hopefully we are still a few years from the scenario depicted in the picture on the left (courtesy of Steve G4FYF although the original source is not known).



The picture on the right, labelled “Happy Sun”, is courtesy of VE3EN’s excellent Space Weather website (<https://www.solarham.net/>) and shows a picture of coronal holes (highlighted) on October 26<sup>th</sup> . It’s good to see that solar astronomers have a sense of humour.....

### 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 [g.g.collier@btinternet.com](mailto:g.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.....

Nothing more to add this month – hope to see you at Maurice’s funeral on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

### 73, Quin G3WRR Newsletter Editor