



Wythall Radio Club Newsletter

Summer 2005

g1wac@wythallradioclub.co.uk
<http://www.wythallradioclub.co.uk>

Wythall Radio Club meets from 8pm every Tuesday evening at Wythall House, Wythall Park, Silver Street, Wythall near Birmingham. Visitors are very welcome.

Club callsigns: G1WAC, G4WAC, G7WAC, G0WRC and M5W

Wythall Radio Club is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain



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Editorial

It gets a little hard to write the editorial when so much time has to be spent writing the articles that other members should have written. This is your club newsletter, and you need to write articles to keep it interesting. As Chris G6KMQ has not been too well recently the chairman's report is a little shorter than normal.

Spring and summer are always active times for the club. We have had the Rally, Mills on the Air and the Tolkien Weekend

already and we are looking forward to VHF NFD, the Wythall Carnival, shooting and 10 pin bowling.

The mobile shack is pretty much finished and proved very successful at both Mills on the Air and Tolkien. We will see how it handles NFD. The club shack has a new bench and a raised floor. Callum still has a little more to do to finish that.

Contest Report

It's good to see that the RSGB 80m Club Championships are encouraging more Club members to enter contests — as many as 10 have taken part in sessions this year. The contest finishes at the end of July so there are only a few sessions left to boost the Club's score. Every entry is needed no matter how small. Most of the entries are in the 100w SSB section, but Vic, M0AEJ, and John, M3UKX, are entering the QRP (10w) section and are making their presence felt. Callum, M0MCX, has also joined Lee, G0MTN and Pete, M0COP for the data sessions and with Chris, G6KMQ, and Vic with data capabilities, we could have a good entry in this section too.

In the 2004 144MHz Club Championships we managed to finish in 4th and 5th positions out of 13 because we accidentally used 2 callsigns. This year we have been putting in regular entries every first Tuesday of the month with many new members and M3s appearing on the operators' list. If you're not at the club on this night consider putting

in an individual entry and help to boost the Club's score.

Lee again was the most prolific contester with some good results in the European and World contests and also a first place in the Data sessions of the 80m CC.

It's Backpackers' time again. These low power portable contests are a great way to get contesting. Les M0COK, entered the first one from the Lickey Hills, so you don't have to climb mountains or travel far to enter. There are 2m and 6m sessions throughout the summer.

The RSGB VHF National Field Day is on the 2nd/3rd of July from 1400 to 1400; the Club will be operating from Wythall Park for this so all are welcome. There will be a barbecue on the Saturday night.

There's a great variety of contests over the summer, something for everyone. Look out for the RSGB IOTA Contest at the end of July.

Peter M0COP

Contest Calendar

Rules & Info:

HF: www.rsgbhfcc.org/
www.sk3bg.se/contest/
VHF: www.blacksheep.org/vhfcc/

Activity nights each month:

First Tuesday: 144MHz, Second Tuesday: 432MHz,
Third Tuesday: UHF, Fourth Tuesday: 50MHz,
Fifth Tuesday: 70MHz.

Also, the 144MHz Club Championship contest takes place on the first Tuesday of every month.

July

HF

1	Fri 0000-2359	RAC Canada Day Contest — CW/Phone
2-3	Sat 0000-Sun 2400	Venezuelan Indep. Day Contest — CW/SSB
2-3	Sat 1100-Sun 1059	DL-DX RTTY Contest — RTTY
3	Sun 1100-1700	DARC 10 m Digital Contest “Corona” — DIGI
4	Mon 2000-2130	RSGB 80m Club Championships — CW
9-10	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	IARU HF World Championship — CW/SSB
13	Wed 2000-2130	RSGB 80m Club Championships — SSB
16-17	Sat 1800-Sun 2100	CQ World-Wide VHF Contest — All
17	Sun 0900-1200	RSGB Low Power Field Day (1) — CW
17	Sun 1300-1600	RSGB Low Power Field Day (2) — CW
21	Thu 2000-2130	RSGB 80m Club Championships — Data
30-31	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	RSGB IOTA Contest — CW/SSB

VHF

2-3	Sat 1400-Sun 1400	VHF National Field Day
3	Sun 1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #3
10	Sun 1100-1500	50MHz Backpackers Contest #2
17	Sun 1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #4

August

HF

6	Sat 0000-2400	TARA Grid Dip — PSK/RTTY
6	Sat 1200-2359	European HF Championship — CW/SSB
7	Sun 0700-0900	RoPoCo 2
7	Sun 1430-1830	SARL HF Contest — SSB
13-14	Sat 0000-Sun 2359	Worked All Europe DX-Contest — CW
20	Sat 0000-0800	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (1) — RTTY
20	Sat 1000-2200	RDA Contest — CW/SSB
20-21	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	SEANET Contest — All
20	Sat 1600-2400	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (2) — RTTY
21	Sun 0800-1600	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (3) — RTTY
27-28	Sat 1200-Sun 1159	SCC RTTY Championship — RTTY
27-28	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	TOEC WW GRID Contest — CW
27-28	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	YO DX HF Contest — CW/SSB
28	Sun 1430-1830	SARL HF Contest — CW

VHF

7	Sun 0800-1200	432MHz Low Power Contest
21	Sun 0900-1500	70MHz Trophy Contest

September

HF

3-4	Sat 0000-Sun 2400	All Asian DX Contest — SSB
3	Sat 0000-2400	Russian “Radio” RTTY WW Contest — RTTY
3-4	Sat 1300-Sun 1300.	RSGB SSB Field Day
3-4	Sat 1300-Sun 1259	IARU Region 1 Field Day — SSB
4	Sun 1100-1700	DARC 10 m Digital Cont. “Corona” — DIGI
10-11	Sat 0000-Sun 2359	Worked All Europe DX-Contest — SSB
10-11	Sat 1200-Sun 1200	CIS DX RTTY Contest — RTTY
16	Fri 2100-2400	AGB NEMIGA Contest — CW/SSB/DIGI
18	Sun 1200-2359	Panama Radio Club Ann. Contest — Phone
24-25	Sat 0000-Sun 2400	CQ WW RTTY DX Contest — RTTY

VHF

3-4	Sat 1400-Sun 1400	144MHz Trophy
4	Sun 1100-1500	144MHz Backpackers Contest #5
18	Sun 0900-1200	Second 70MHz Contest

Contests Entered

February

RSGB 144MHz Club Champs	G1WAC (G0MTN, M0MCX, M0COP, M3ZCR, M3UKX) 43 Q
RSGB 432MHz AFS	G1WAC (G0MTN, M0MCX, M0COP, G0EYO) 32 Q, G6KMQ 10 Q
RSGB 432MHz UKAC	G1WAC (G0MTN) 8 Q
RSGB 80m Club Champs	
SSB	G0MTN 66 Q, M0COP 30 Q, M0MCX 17 Q, G6KMQ 17 Q, G0EYO 14 Q, G0ICJ 6 Q, M3UKX 3 Q
DATA	G0MTN 59 Q, M0COP 59 Q
CW	G0MTN 92 Q, M0COP 26 Q
Dutch PACC	M0MCX 70 Q, G0MTN 67 Q
CQ WPX RTTY	G0MTN 792 Q, M0COP 304 Q
Mexico RTTY	G0MTN 216 Q
RSGB 160m CW	G0MTN 59 Q
ARRL Int DX CW	G0MTN 600 Q
UBA CW	G0MTN 964 Q

Contest Results

OK RTTY 2004 M0COP 66/193 SOABLP

UBA DX SSB G0MTN 44/228 SOAB
CW G0MTN 20/212 SOAB

Russian DX G0MTN SOABLP World 18/76, EUROPE 14/54, 1ST G

XE RTTY G0MTN 82/291

German Happy New Year G0MTN 84/117.

RSGB 144 MHz Club Championship 2004 Final results
Open Section: G1WAC 4/13, G4WAC 5/13.
Single Fixed: G0NES 42/42

RSGB 144MHz Club Championship 2005 Jan:
Open Section: G1WAC 3/5

RSGB 80m Club Championship 2005 Jan:
CW G0MTN 25/109, M0COP 75.
SSB M0COP 18/132, M0MCX 44, G0EYO 96,
G6KMQ 105, G0ICJ 119, MW5HOC 124.
SSB QRP M0AEJ 21/24, M3UKX 24.
DATA M0COP 28/64, G0MTN 48, G6KMQ 64.

RSGB 80m Club Championship 2005 Feb:
Overall Wythall ARC 14/57
SSB G0MTN 23/148, M0COP 69, M0MCX 100,
G6KMQ 101, G0EYO 108,
G0ICJ 130.
SSB QRP M3UKX 17/18

RSGB 80m Club Championships 2005
Overall Wythall ARC 12/61

Individual Sessions:
Feb Data: G0MTN =7/63, M0COP =7
Feb CW: G0MTN 27/108, M0COP 89
Mar Data: G0MTN 1/75, M0COP =6

RSGB 144 MHz May 2004 Section M:
GB2ME 9/9

RSGB 432 MHz AFS:
Club: Wythall Contest Group 10/14
Individual: SF G6KMQ 23/27
Others G1WAC 7/10 (G0MTN, M0MCX, M0COP, G0EYO)

BARTG HF 2004 G0MTN 144/298

SP DX RTTY 2004 G0MTN 33/279 (1ST G), M0AEJ 221

SP DX Contest 2004 G0MTN 3rd G (SOTB MIXED)

Welcome to EU Contest	G0MTN 3/37 (6 hrs HP)
144MHz CC	
JAN	G1WAC 3/5
FEB	G1WAC 2/4
MAR	G1WAC 2/5
144MHz Club	Wythall ARC 7/10
80m CC MAR	
CW	G0MTN 3/116, M0COP 92,
SSB	M0COP 19/149, M0MCX 24, G0MTN 26,
QRP	M0AEJ 20/22
80m CC Club	Wythall ARC 13/66
CQ WPX SSB 2003 DX	All band single el:
	M0COP 107, G0EYO 112, G0ICJ 120
CQ WPX RTTY	G0MTN 18 SOABLP
Baltic Contest 04	G0MTN 11/41 Eu sec. A
ANARTS RTTY 04	G0MTN 252/276
DL DX RTTY 04	G0MTN/P 4/6 Multi Op, All Bands, Ops: G0MTN, M0AEJ. Wythall Radio Club 32/62 1st G

Club Diary

Wythall Carnival	Sunday, August 14th, 2005
Telford Radio Rally	Sunday, September 4th, 2005
Note: Temporary Venue	
West Midlands Agricultural Showground, Shrewsbury	
Lord Pettit Shooting Trophy	Saturday, September 18th, 2005
Leicester Radio Rally	Fri / Sat, Sept 30th / Oct 1st, 2005
Wythall Radio Club AGM	Tuesday, October 4th, 2005
8.30 pm	Board Room, Wythall House
10 Pin Bowling	Saturday, October 15th, 2005
Christmas Party	Friday, December 9th, 2005
Wythall Radio Rally	Sunday, March 19th, 2006
	To be confirmed.
Tolkien Weekend 2006	Sat / Sun, May 13 / 14, 2006

GB0DGW, Mills on the Air Weekend, 7/8 May

This year, as in the past few years, we received permission from Avoncroft Museum to set up a special event station for the Mills on the air.

The weekend started on Friday afternoon with Lee and I loading most of the shack into my car. At 0900 on Saturday morning, Chris, G0EYO, Colin, G6ZDQ, Pete, M5DUO, Les, M0COK and myself met at Avoncroft and once the gates were opened, we drove round to the mill and began setting up the antennas. The HF antenna was a Windom, one end hung over a tree, the other end supported on a short mast tied to the hedge. The feed point was supported by the telescopic mast at about 6m. For VHF we had a 17 element Tonna at about 6m on a separate mast. Chris, G6KMQ, arrived with the newly refurbished caravan and it was parked behind the HF mast with the VHF mast to the side. Chris EYO cooked a welcome breakfast whilst the rigs and feeders were



being installed.

Once on the air, Les began calling on an unresponsive 2m band, whilst the rest of us tried to find out why the SWR on the Windom was so high. No solution was found so it was replaced with a makeshift 40m dipole. This was only slightly better, but we battled on, taking turns to make calls in the poor HF conditions.

After a filling lunch provided by Chris, John, M3UKX, and Dave Parsons (M3 to be) turned up and John spent some time on the radios.

There weren't many visitors to the mill as it wasn't working; even fewer (none) came to see what we were doing. We eventually packed up at about 1630 after a slow day.

On Sunday morning the HF mast was moved further from the caravan and the club's trapped dipole erected. This cleared the high SWR problem and although the bands were still a little flat, a few more QSOs were made. We also had our first and only visitor.





Chris EYO, Pete, Colin, Lee and Dave turned up later and after another lunch from Chris, both stations were on the air again. The rate on HF picked up with Lee working some European DX and a few more mills were worked. 2m was still very

slow going, although the day ended with aurora conditions on the band. Over the weekend 54 HF QSOs were made and 22 on VHF, with 18 mills being contacted.

The caravan worked well with the operating positions easy to set up and comfortable to work from, the 240V supply being taken from the mill. Logging was done on laptops with Turboglog for HF and Winlog32 for VHF. The photographs were taken by Colin.

The station was dismantled around 1630, Chris KMQ collecting the caravan, and the equipment taken back to the shack.

Pete, M0COP

Chairman's Report

Well another three months have passed and again Wythall Radio Club has seen some excitement. Having got another new member on the air, and taken part in Mills and Tolkien weekends the newly refurbished caravan has seen some action. A few new faces having been seen, how nice it would be to see even more members getting involved in these external events.

Some things coming up on the horizon are weekends like the VHF NFD, HF Field day. Our 10 pin bowling evening and the now famous Lord Pettitt shooting trophy.

These events help to cement the club's future; I thank you all for your efforts in making this one of the best Radio Clubs in the UK.

Meanwhile, let me take the opportunity of wishing you all a fantastic summer and good DX.

Have fun and enjoy,

Chris
g6kmq@g6kmq.me.uk

Lord Pettitt's Shooting Trophy 2004



Pete	M0COP	27
Pete	G4KQU	29
Mark	G4LCH	24
Martin	G8VXX	33
		-10 handicap = 23
Richard	M1RJS	20

Chris	G0EYO	30
Colin	G6ZDQ	26
Peter	M5DUO	29
Jonathon		27
Simon		32
Lawson	G7DCM	20
Mike	G4VPD	31



Carol Got into Ham Radio

Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah

Everybody's yawning
On a Cardiff Sunday morning
How I long to be there
A sweet M3 who waiting for me there
Every lonely city where I park my van
Ain't half as pretty, I'll be there when I can

Carol got into Ham radio
All her hard work sure has paid Oh
Carol got into ham radio
She's the M3 who waits for me.

She has now gone and bought a radio
A good price was what she paid oh
Carol got into ham radio
She's the M3 who waits for me

Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
She's the M3 who waits for me.

There's a ding dong ringing
That's BC and the song it is singing
For my sweet M3
And the guy who longing to hear her

Just along the highway
There's the Severn Bridge
When I hear her cross it
She'll be here in a smidge

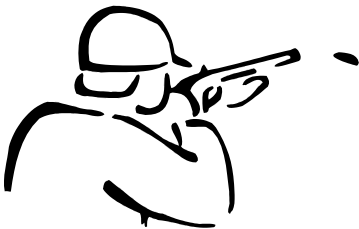
Carol got into Ham radio
All her hard work sure has paid Oh
Carol got into ham radio
She's the M3 who waits for me.

I'm glad she got into ham radio
15 years of me nagging has paid oh
She finally got into ham radio
She's the M3 who waits for me

Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
Dah di dah didah didah dah
She's the M3 who waits for me

Darren GW7HOC

Wythall Radio Club Shooting Day



Sunday September 18th
Come and join us for
The 3rd Lord Pettitt Shooting Trophy
at
Hereford and Worcester Shooting Ground,
Brockhill near Redditch

Cost £35 per person

Contact Chris G0EYO at g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk

GB2ME — Tolkien Weekend 2005

Once again Wythall Radio Club was invited by the organisers to put on a special event station for the Tolkien Weekend held at Sarehole Mill on May 13th and 14th.

Thanks to a few members with access to towing vehicles, we were able to use the 100ft mobile Versatower, and the mobile shack as in previous years.

After an anxious week checking the weather for the weekend, Friday dawned sunny and dry, albeit rather windy. Over the course of the afternoon, various members arrived with pieces of equipment or just to help. Having measured out the ground, the tower was positioned. As there were going to be more exhibitors this year, we tried the tower pointing the length of the field to reduce the width of our plot.

By the end of the afternoon we had the tower vertical with a 17 element Tonna for



2m attached. We even had a flag bearing the white hand of Saruman. Vaughan MOVRR joined me during the evening as we enjoyed a Fish and Chip supper from the shop just over the road.

In the past we have had the doorway of the mobile shack facing down the length of the field. For a change we had decided to try it facing across the field towards where the Farmers' Market were going to be. However after consideration over supper we, with a little help from some of the local youth, man-handled the caravan through 45° so the doorway was at an angle. We spent the evening checking the RF loom and fitting the network patch-panel. Unfortunately it was not possible to get the internet link running on the Friday as there was too little time to raise the other mast.

After a pretty quiet night, a good number of members turned up bright and early to





the Icom IC910 on SSB and FM, and 40m from the Yaesu FT920 on SSB and CW. Steve M0KQU brought his TS2000 and ran RTTY, PSK and SSTV modes. Colin provided his collection of morse keys which proved an attraction to passers by.

As Vaughan was staying Saturday night as well, we spent the evening tweaking the website and uploading the first day's pictures while stuffing ourselves with an excellent pizza from a local

finish setting up the station. The 2m was augmented with a windom and the HF vertical. The windom caused a few problems initially as it was too long to fit inside our cordoned area. In the end we tied one end to a nearby tree, well above the heads of visitors.

A 30ft sectional mast was rapidly assembled and the 2.4GHz dish for the internet link fitted to it. Amazingly the link worked first time with no tweaking, and remained stable throughout the weekend.

Vaughan discovered a better way of starting the gas generator by partially obstructing the air intake. We also investigated the hunting problem and the generator now runs smoothly and stably under varying loads.

By the time the event opened at 11am we had all stations up and running. We had 2m running from

pizzeria. The link performance degraded into the evening, and we were unable to watch Doctor Who streamed over the link from my Media Centre PC. However in one of my short visits back home I burnt it to DVD and Vaughan watched it on his laptop.

Sunday was much the same, and as the wind had lessened it felt really warm and there were a plenty of visitors. We even





managed to have a bit of a play with ATV, thanks to Mark G4LCH for the loan of the 2.4 GHz modules and Steve M0KQU for a monitor and cameras. We set up a camera by the mill with the link back to the station. Unfortunately we were not able to create a proper Palantir in time.

Band conditions were even worse this year than previous years, and it was a little bit of a struggle to work any distance. Hopefully if we continue doing this event the

conditions will improve as the sun's cycle approaches its peak.

The cloaks provided by the organisers were well received and resulted in some wonderful photo opportunities. There were no real problems with any of the equipment, although as always with an event like this we could have done with more bodies for setup and knockdown.

I would especially like to thank Reg G7OJO for the



bacon and sausage butties, Chris G6KMQ, Colin G6ZDQ and Vaughan M0VRR for their towing vehicles, my father G8ENA for the loan of the motorcaravan, and everyone else who lent equipment or turned up to operate and set up or dismantle the station.

Those who could or would not attend missed a great event. I hope we will be able to do the same next year.

GB2ME

Wythall Radio Rally — March 2005

The Wythall Rally held at Woodrush Sports Centre was a success again this year thanks to a little bit of distributed organisation, reducing the overall workload for any one individual. The weather was fine, although some rain over the previous week did make patches of the field a little soft.



To ease car parking it was decided to use the field first as it is difficult to arrange cars on the playground when they arrive in bunches. This proved to be a lot less hassle although we did end up with one American RV needing a tow off the field.



Unfortunately, as is the trend, visitor numbers were down significantly on previous years, but we still made a profit to go towards the ongoing shack refurbishment.



The traders seemed happy and the good turnout of club members meant that the running of the event was very easy. Martin G8VXX's van was of great use in getting the large signs put out and we had many favourable comments about the sign posting.

Let us hope we can do as well next year.

Members' List

Ian	Ashford	G8PWE	Ken	Miller	M1DJG
Colin	Baker	G6ZDQ	David	Morgan	M3EUN
Lawson	Bant	G7DCM	Martin	Moyes	G8VXX
Peter	Barnes	G7KNP	David	Parsons	
Roy	Bartlam	G0HDF	Chris	Pettitt	G0EYO
Frank	Breedon	G3MZU	Dryden	Phillipson	G4ISP
Reg	Brown	G7QJO	Matthew	Preston	M3LTH
Don	Bryant	G0NES	Mick	Pugh	G4VPD
Graham	Bullen	G7NJW	Vaughan	Ravenscroft	M0VRR
Les	Champion	M0COK	Geoffrey	Reid	G6UEU
Chris	Colclough	G1VDP	Anita	Richards	
John	Cornish	M3UKX	Peter	Richards	M5DUO
David	Dawkes	G0ICJ	Golsby	Roger	M0DOH
Ralph	Dutton	G6VRH	Nigel	Rollason	G4NRR
			Alan	Rowley	G8MYK
Mark	Garton	M0CZE	Alan	Sammons	G0HBC
Peter	Green	G4LWF	Richard	Speak	M1RJS
Mark	Gregory	G4LCH	Kenneth	Stone	2E0KEG
Betty	Hawkins		Kev	Tatlow	G4XLO
Jack	Hawkins	M3JKZ	Jim	Tonge	M3JPP
Marie	Hawkins	G7OKF	Vic	Trend	M0AEJ
Simon	Hawkins	G4TVR	Lee	Volante	G0MTN
Ray	Heath		Carol	Warburton	MWYKL
David A	Hesketh	G6MTB	Darren	Warburton	GW7HOC
David	Hillyer	G0RQO	Pete	Wesley	M0COP
Peter	Homer	G4KQU	Lew	Williams	#Hon
Steve	Homer	M0KQU	Barry	Zarucki	M0DGQ
Paul	Huband	2E0PPH	Craig	Zarucki	M3ZCR
Andrew	Hughes	G4KOR	Joe		MW3JNV
David	Johnson	G4DPZ			
Adrian	Jones	G1KEA	Overseas Members		
Peter	Jones	G4EQV	Dana	Colbert	
Callum	McCormick	M0MCX	Giorgio	Romanin	IV3-57306
Chris	Meadows	G6KMQ	Greg	Tuby	PE2GRT

Next issue: September 13th, 2005

Material to the editor by: August 23rd, 2005