

February, 2012

### **EDITORIAL**

Welcome to another 5&9 Newsletter. This month's meeting will have the same theme - discussing the recent and proposed equipment purchases and it's relevance to the Club Equipment Fund - but will be more of a discussion lead by myself (G4CHD) and

Mike (G3PGA) than a presentation as Laurence is unable to attend due to family commitments. So come along and air your views so that your Committee can have the necessary guidance to make the right choices.

Next month's Meeting is our Club AGM when it is your chance to elect your choices for your Committee.

For your information, the list below shows which present Committee officers and members are willing to stand for re election or not :--

| Chairman      | Terry (G4CHD)    | willing |
|---------------|------------------|---------|
| Vice Chairman | Dave (G0PGK)     | willing |
| Secretary     | Brian (M0BRB)    | willing |
| Treasurer     | Laurence (G4XHK) | willing |
| Committee     | Beryl (G1SVP)    |         |

Dave (G3YGJ) Mike (G3PGA)

willing

Graham (G1ZTJ) is also willing to stand for election/co option to the Committee. If you feel that you would like to join the Committee and have an input on how the Club is run, please come forward at the AGM.

In addition, I'm pleased to report that Don (G0RQL) is willing to continue as our QSL Manager, and Ken

(G7VJA) as our Web Master. Many many thanks. I am also willing to continue as Editor unless someone wished to have a go.

As always, the Club is anxious to have new speakers for talks to take some of the load away from the 'regulars' and to give members some variety!

Put your thinking caps on between now and the March AGM when it will nice to hear your views.

Terry (G4CHD)

# **CLUB MEETINGS**

Unless otherwise stated, Meetings are held at the Appledore Football Social Club starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

February 20th Club Equipment Purchase Discussion

March 19th AGM

Talkthroughs, repeaters and filters by Steve (G6SOX) April 16th

Visitors are always welcome.

For further information, contact Brian Jewell (M0BRB)

# FOR SALE

4 element 50 MHz beam £ 65; 4 position coaxial switch (PL259 connectors) £25; 2 position coaxial switch (N type connectors) £15.

There will be a great deal of cables for sale later on.

Les, G8MEH 01288 331447. les.1938@btinternet.com. (Bude, North Cornwall).

## **REPORT ON THE JANUARY MEETING**

## QSLing by Don (G0RQL)

There was a very good attendance for Don's talk which from past experience is never one tp miss.

However, the meeting commenced by a formal handing



over of the Club's Presidency by Ken (G4NUJ) to John (G0UNB). Ken has had to relinquish this responsibility due to family commitments after steering the Club for many years to its present healthy state. Many many thanks Ken for all your hard work over the years.

Don's talk was as well researched and interesting as we have come to expect from Don with his attention to detail.

He described the QSLing process from sending to receiving together with many valuable tips for ensuring the process runs smoothly. Many thanks Don for a most fascinating talk which showed just how much work and effort goes into getting QSLs from A

to B - by hard working volunteers.



Terry (G4CHD)

#### LOCAL REPEATERS

## 70cm Handy Cross Repeater/Echolink (#221334) Gateway (GB3ND)

**User**: Listen 433.35MHz– Transmit 434.95MHz Access 1750Hz Tone (Timeout 4.25 mins)/ 77Hz CTCSS Repeater keeper is Jeff (G4SOF)

#### 2m Stibb Cross Repeater (GB3DN)

http://www.g0rql.co.uk/gb3dn.htm

**User**: Listen 145.6375MHz - Transmit 145.0375 MHz. Access 1750 Hz Tone or 77 Hz CTCSS Repeater keeper is Tony (G1BHM).

Yahoo users group for general chat and banter at :- http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GB3DN/

# **CROSSWORD**

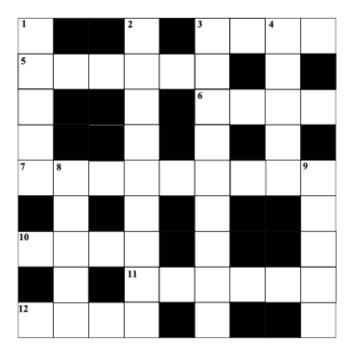
This month's Crossword by Stuart (M1FWD). The answers will be published in the next month's Newsletter. Good luck!

#### **Clues Across**

- 3) The smallest part of a chemical element that can take part in a chemical reaction (4)
- 5) High regard; respect (6)
- 6) The highest point (4)
- 7) A process or set of rules for calculation (9)
- 10) Anti aircraft fire (4)
- 11) In physics, the capacity of matter or radiation to do work (6)
- 12) Nautically, to run before the wind (4)

#### **Clues Down**

- 1) City in EA9 (5)
- 2) When computers are interconnected they are said to be this (9)
- 3) An electronic device for increasing the strength of electrical signals (9)
- 4) County town of Tyrone, GI (5)
- 8) A shrub or small tree of the genus *Syringa* (5)
- 9) Add 'and' to the end for a US state whose capital is Annapolis (5)



## Last month's answers :-

Across 1) sickness 5) nap 6) Oscar 7) coil 8) Spee 13) farad 14) AVG 15) all there

**<u>Down</u>** 1) sonic 2) Capri 3) neon 4) space 8) Osaka 10) phase 11) eagle 12) adit

#### LOCAL SKEDS

Zepp Net: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 145.450 MHz

Wed: via GB3DN 1600 local time

6m Net: Wednesday, 8pm, 51.5MHz FM

**HF Net:** Friday at 1600 local time

on  $7.095 \text{ MHz} \pm \text{grm}$ 

Slow Morse: Run by Dave (G3YGJ) on Tuesdays and

Thursdays, 1900 local time on 144.25 MHz

(FM) - all are welcome

## **SUDOKU PUZZLE**

The aim is to enter a number into each cell so that any column, or any row, or any block of cells contains all numbers from 1 to 9. This month's puzzle is categorised as Advanced difficulty.

|   | 2 |   |   | 7 |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 3 |   | 8 |   | 9 |   |   |   |
|   | 5 |   | 1 | 3 |   |   | 4 |   |
|   | 7 | 5 |   |   |   |   |   | 8 |
|   |   | 3 |   |   |   |   | 1 |   |
| 9 |   |   |   |   |   | 7 | 3 |   |
|   |   | 6 | 5 |   | 3 | 4 |   |   |
|   |   |   | 4 | 8 |   | 5 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 1 | 8 |   |   |

Terry (G4CHD)

#### **ANAGRAMS**

If you take the first name and location of some of our local amateur friends, you can make up anagrams, e.g. if you have the anagram **brief odd brain** it can be unscrambled to reveal **Brian Bideford** (M0BRB).

So have a go at these:-

King of merit men Rotten hamper Grab elegant poser Spoilt truant Mental horn Top girl in north Network pen

Answers in the March issue

73, Stuart, (M1FWD)

# **POEM WITH A FAMILIAR THEME!**

Many thanks to our President, John (G0UNB) for the following:-

## Where I have been.....

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane.

They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt.

That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often

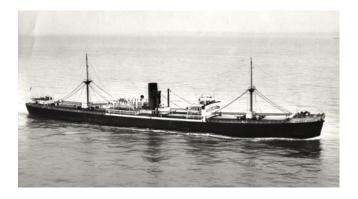
I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

I may have been in Continent, but I don't remember what country I was in.

It's an age thing.

## MY FIRST SHIP (Part 3) - by Brian (M0BRB)



Russia via the Black Sea. It was thought by all on board that if sailing to Russia it was much better to go via the Black Sea route rather then the North Atlantic and North Cape - there were some on board that had been this way in war time, it was not nice.

We arrived at the port of Odessa to pick up our Pilot to take us on to Kharson, the Pilot also came with his armed Red Army escort who stood on the after deck in a large fur coat and hat, he stood there for about ten hours and wanted to stop the 6<sup>th</sup> engineer from going to check on the steering engine in the steering compartment so the 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer on

the 4/8 watch had to phone up the Bridge to get the Pilot to contact the escort to let the engineer go pass to do his job.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Mate (promoted leading cadet) reported to the Captain a large naval unit at anchor, the Master in his wisdom told the young officer that it was a lit up part of the port, 30 minutes later it was reported that the lit up building up anchored and moved off at speed, it being part of the Black Sea Fleet.

At anchor, waiting for Russian Emigration Team to come on board, four Red Army Officers one Harbour Master and one Female Doctor, except the Arab Firemen all crew members had to stand in front of the Russian Officers to get inspected by each one in turn to compare each one of the crew with the photo in our Discharge Books, we all thought that we might be took off and sent to Siberia, the inspection took about four hours, meanwhile, the Female Doctor had lined up all the Arabs, in the nude, to check out private parts, I might add, that it was Snowing at the same time. Once we were alongside in Kharson, one had to have a shore pass to get off the ship, an Armed Guard at the gangway and also, if walking in the town, one could be stopped and made to show the shore pass by Red Army with a nice big Tommy Gun. We were all glad to sail away from there with a part cargo of grain and move along the coast another port. While doing so, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer (the man I disliked ) who was the Ships Navigation Officer, put the ship on the wrong course after passing Cape Balaclava we

Anyway we did get to our next port. Novorossisk. This, a Russian Navel Port, just like Devonport or Portsmouth, and what a jolly time, we had, the Russian Navy much nicer to drink with.

were heading into the Sea of Azov and two other ships followed thinking that a British Ship would always know

the way. (wrong ) again.

We the engineers, got drunk with the Russian Navy Guys Vodka was cheap, I can tell you now, that Vodka from a bar in Russia, not a bit like what one buys in this part of the world, like drinking Paraffin . The Agent had told us to wear our uniform when going ashore as the Russian people would not bother any one in uniform, also that if we took things like Lux face soap or any such items ashore, it acted like a passport with the females in particular ( I can not remember what I did with mine.).

When loading completed, our orders were for Santos in Brazil, which meant that we had to sail back the way we had come, first stop Istanbul, to collect an Estonian AB, we had left there for five days, because if he had come to Russia with the ship, the Russian would have taken him, so he had a nice little holiday at company expense. Still on day work, so time to look at rest of the crew. The Leading Hands in the crew aft, were the Bo'sun the ships Carpenter (Chippy ) and the Arab Donkeyman . There were some very hard men in the crew, three from Cornwall some from Scotland two from Liverpool -Newport and Cardiff all drinkers to a man. Except the Arab Donkeyman . the Cook was Maltese and very handy with his Knives, not the ones in use in the Galley but a set of throwing knives that he carried around and also threatened the crew with them, so there was always trouble brewing aft. The Mate (Ch/Officer) was a nice quiet guy, not strong enough to keep the crew in order.

So he depended on the Bo'sun, who was a very tough man

from Liverpool, always dressed in Bib and Brace Overalls - Hobnail Boots - Trilby Hat and a very large leather belt with Holster holding Steel Marlin Spike small Hammer – a Wood Fid – a very Large Knife, most of all Large Fist, which he used guite often to keep the crew in order, all that clobber he wore hot or cold conditions. Chips was from Australia and completely mad, but a ray of sunshine and sadly missed, when later he left the ship. The Donkeyman from Aden who was leading Arab and was respected by all. He had been awarded the OBE for sailing on the Russian Convoys in the war, I also thought that he kept Ch/Engineer Willi informed what the engine room staff were doing when he was not down below.

Because I was moving about the deck more then the other engineers I was able to get along ok with most of the crew, just one or two, I was careful with.

Ship not stopping at Gibraltar this time, right out into the Atlantic, ship to stop at the Azores Islands for refuelling.

# WEB SITE FOR WX AT A GIVEN POSTCODE

Many thanks to Mike (G3PGA) for sending me the following web site address .:-

http://www.xcweather.co.uk/

Interesting site which gives wind direction, speed, temp, etc. just type in post code.

## AMATEUR RADIO OBSERVATION SERVICE

Brian (M0BRB) is at present one of the volunteers to this valuable service which tries to protect our frequency bands. However, if any club member would like to take over from Brian, then have a word with him and he will give you all the info.

It needs some one that listens a lot on ssb rather then cw.

# LETTER INTRODUCING THE NEW RSGB DEPUTY REGIONAL MANAGER FOR **DEVON** - MARTIN SABLES (G7NTY)

The following letter has been received by our Club Secretary, Brian (M0BRB) :-

Dear Brian,

By way of introducing myself, Martin Sables.

I took on the role of RSGB Deputy Regional Manager for Devon last year and have set myself the task this year of raising the profile of amateur radio and the RSGB in the North Devon area. Toward that goal I need to raise my profile among the amateur radio community, get people aware that I am available and the profile of the RSGB. So firstly who am I and where am I from?

My family home was in Yelland though most of my adult life has been spent working away from home, except for a short tour at RAF Chivenor in the early 80's, I have family in Woolacombe, Bideford, Fremington and Barnstaple. I finally put my roots down in Chulmleigh in 2001. My involvement with radio started as a boy with visits to a neighbours shack (garden shed) and from then on the bug

had as they say "bitten". I left school intent on finding work in radio / electrical and eventually joined the RAF to achieve that aim. Since then I have been involved both professionally and personally at the hands on engineer and senior management levels, involved in UHF, VHF and GSM mobile networks in the UK and Europe.

My main interest is in HF operation and love chasing DX and have the following call signs G7NTY, VP8CEO and marine radio K9BB.

During last year I was getting to know what was going on in Devon with Pam Helliwell the RSGB South West Regional Manager and was mostly involved in attending rallies in the County. The impression that I have gained is that the balance between North and South Devon with respect to Amateur Radio activities and its profile, seems to be weighted toward the South. The Appledore club has without any doubt the highest profile in the North of the County and the club should be proud of that. What I would like to achieve is raising the profile of activity between Torrington to Tiverton and North over Exmoor This year I intend to get out and about in the North of the County and would like to visit all of the areas clubs (affiliated or not). Unfortunately I still have to earn a living so week days and week day evenings are still committed to the day job (that is the reason I have never been to your club to date). I would like to visit your club and wonder if you are planning any events on a weekend that I can plan to attend?

As part of my role is to raise the profile of the RSGB and Amateur Radio in general within Devon and having spent my time last year looking and listening, I have decided to see if I can achieve these by setting some challenges. Clearly I could never achieve them by myself but then that is not the intention as it is for the amateur radio communities profile not mine. Below are three challenges that I thought could help raise the Amateur Radio profile in the North of Devon area and give operators a chance to play radio, they are long term aims that would involve many willing volunteers. Each has the potential to develop into a regular event / activity. Maybe they have been tried before and there are good reasons for not doing them, any advice for or against would be welcome.

Last years bad weather saw many villages and towns across North Devon affected by bad road conditions and accessibility. So far this year the weather has been kinder. As part of a commitment to "emergency communications" can we form a UHF/VHF network of radio amateurs that can provide a nominated point to point for towns and villages? Basically this just building on the club nets with a bit more formality on the day. One aspect last year was BBC Radio Devon appealing for local weather and road reports, these help schools and the wider community etc. in their decisions to open or close, travel or stay at home. Wouldn't it be nice to hear them saying something along the lines of "The condition reports from the North Devon Amateur Radio network say that ......"

Is there an opportunity to provide a presence at the "North Devon Agricultural Show"? Many members of the farming community use CB. Do we have licensed amateurs who also have an interest and knowledge about CB's that would be willing to provide technical information on the safe installation and use of CB radios at the show, as well, others to encourage the take-up of an amateur licence and maybe

demonstrate a working station? We could apply for a special event call sign for the show.

Could we organise a North Devon radio rally (maybe for 2013)? What about the pannier market in Barnstaple as the venue, its empty on a Sunday or maybe Roundswell community centre though its not so big, Whats Bideford pannier market like (though parking is not so easy and its not so easy for strangers finding it)?

Each of these could be organised by a single club or by clubs working together, I will be writing to the other clubs with the same details, can you ask your membership what their opinions are? I am open to any constructive comments. Maybe together the cub would like to suggest something else to raise awareness of activity within the whole of North Devon.

Best Regards Martin Sables

# MIKE (G3PGA) BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT THE TUESDAY COFFEE MORNING.

Mike's birthday was last Sunday and so a few members took the opportunity to celebrate with him at the Tuesday Coffee morning in Barnstaple:-



Well that's it for this month - enjoy the read and PLEASE let me have any articles etc for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Best 73s Terry (G4CHD)