



FIVE AND NINE PLUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE
APPLEDORE AND DISTRICT
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Club Callsigns: G2FKO and GX2FKO
Web Site : www.adarc.co.uk

CLUB'S OFFICERS

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Editor	Terry Adams	G4CHD	

July, 2017

EDITORIAL

This month's Meeting on **July 17th** is a **Heritage Day Special Event Debriefing** where members will be able to discuss ways in which the Club's special event activities may be improved and perhaps the types of events targeted.

Just a brief mention that if anyone wants to experiment with MMANA-GAL (subject of our last talk) then a helpful article can now be found on the Club's website.

Terry (G4CHD)



LOCAL SKEDS

- Zepp Net:** Mon, Tues, Thurs : 145.450 MHz - 4pm
Wed via GB3DN - 4pm
- 6m Net:** Wednesday, 8pm, 51.480 MHz FM
- HF Net:** Friday at 3pm 7.134 MHz ± qrm
If conditions poor - 145.450 MHz
- 70cm Net:** Sunday, via GB3ND, 11am - noon local time.
Available on Echolink node 221334
- Top Band Net:** Sunday 1.860 MHz (LSB - 32W pep max) 9.30 - 10.15am
Contact Dave (G4XWQ) for details

CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Appledore Football Social Club starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Visitors always welcome. For further information, contact the Secretary, Alan (M6CCH) - details in the top panel.

- July 17th** Heritage Day Special Event Debriefing
Aug 21st Summer Natter Night
Sept 18th Open Meeting - Speaker to be arranged
Oct 16th Clansman Radio by Chris (G0FJY)
Nov 20th Club Bring & Buy
Dec 11th Club Christmas Party
Jan 15th Memory Lane Evening - mini talks by members
Feb 19th BITX40 - Homebrew Made Easy by Mike (G4KXQ)
March 19th Club AGM
April 16th Talk to be confirmed

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)

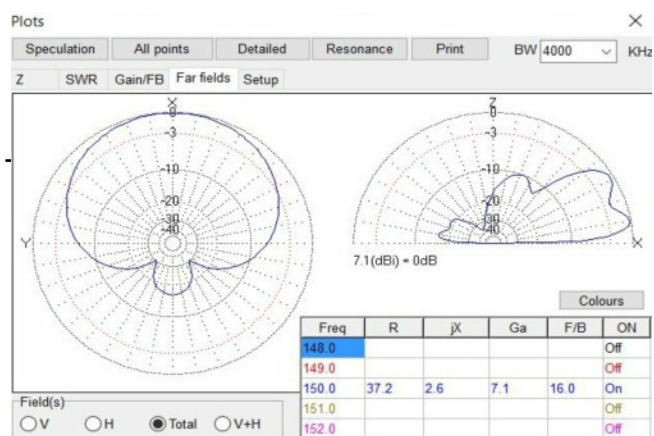
REPORT ON THE JUNE MEETING

Introduction and Demonstration of MMANA-GAL Antenna Design Software by Terry (G4CHD)

The talk by yours truly used the design of 3 different amateur antennas to demonstrate the power of this remarkable free antenna design software - namely a 2el 2m Vertical Yagi, a Moxon 2m Vertical Beam, and a 40/20m Trapped Dipole.

Examples of the first two were demonstrated within the Clubhouse but the high ambient qrn made it impossible to have a qso.

The software benefits of the built in Optimizer were shown and proved to work very effectively.



Hopefully those attending found the talk interesting and perhaps some may give it a go themselves for which a helpful pdf article can be found on the Club's website.

Terry (G4CHD)

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**

Terry (G4CHD)

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

CROSSWORD

Many thanks to Stuart (M1FWD) for this month's Crossword.

The answers will be published in next month's Newsletter. Good luck !

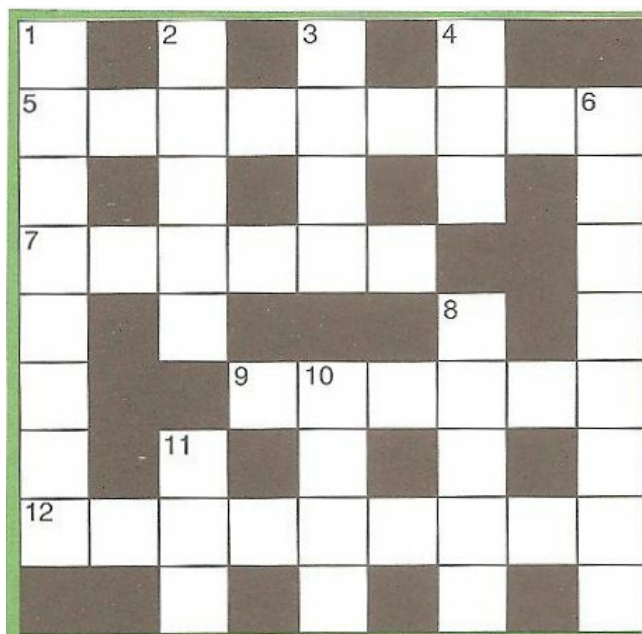


CLUES ACROSS

- Yankee Bravo (YB) land (9)
- Metal rod, wire, or other structure by which signals are transmitted or received (6)
- Piece of land surrounded by water (6)
- Capital city of Victoria, Victor Kilo Three (VK3) land (9)

CLUES DOWN

- Corrosion-resistant grey metallic element (8)
- Add beauty to, decorate (5)
- An ancient inhabitant of Oscar Alpha (OA) land (4)
- Welsh river with its source in Powys (3)
- The third-largest city in Golf Mike (GM) land (8)
- John Logie ? (1888-1946), one of the inventors of the mechanical television (5)
- A drag for a wheel (4)
- A thickness or layer of certain materials, for example wood or cloth (3)



Last month's answers :-

ANSWERS ACROSS: 3) smack 6) Esau 7) Anwar
8) Enigma 10) module 11) Exxon
12) Nile 13) skeet

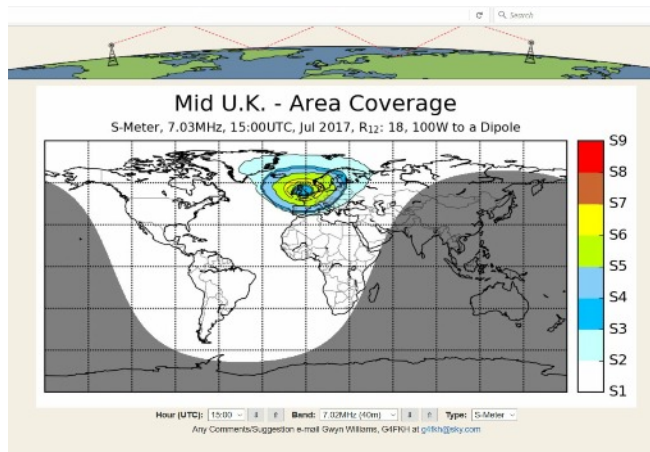
ANSWERS DOWN: 1) repeaters 2) Salix 4) Mona
5) Kerguelen 7) Ambon 9) cubic
10) mole

USEFUL HF PROPAGATION WEBSITE

Members may like to try clicking on the following link :-

<http://www.predtest.uk/>

which takes you to the 'ITURHFProp - Propagation Predictions' website from which the following image was taken showing the predictions for the 40m band at 1500gmt for July 2017.



Different months/times/bands and displays (S meter is shown) are possible. For a detailed review see July's Radcom.

However, the Southgate Amateur Radio Club website at :-

<http://southgatearc.org/propagation/g0kya/index.htm#.WV5JyOlumMo>

states :-

“NASA says the current sunspot cycle is the smallest since cycle 14, which had a maximum smoothed sunspot number of 107.2 in February of 1906.

“The next sunspot minimum is currently predicted to occur around 2019-2020. The solar maximum for cycle 25 is predicted to be around 2025, possibly with a monthly smoothed maximum sunspot number of around 60-65. If true, this is almost down to Dalton Minimum levels.

What we are seeing is that the ionosphere is currently struggling to regularly open up to DX at frequencies much higher than about 18MHz. Around the UK we are even finding 40m (7MHz) closing to inter-G contacts by early afternoon, if it opens at all.

“This means that 80m (3.5MHz) and 60m (5MHz) are coming into their own, although both are struggling with inter-G contacts by late afternoon.

“A succession of coronal holes and their associated high-speed solar wind streams are also causing disruption to the ionosphere. While these are typical of this point in the sunspot cycle they are generally not helping DX at all.

“This week's high K indices have been caused by such a hole, although the solar wind has mostly had a north-facing Bz field, which is less likely to couple with the Earth's magnetic field, and we haven't seen the very high K indices that indicate severe auroral conditions.

Don't think I will be around for the next sunspot maximum!!

LIST OF 6m BEACONS AROUND THE WORLD

With HF in the doldrums at the moment, maybe it is a good time to consider looking at the 6m (50MHz) band. A good place to start would be to monitor a few 50MHz Beacons in order to assess both conditions and your receive setup. The following website :-

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/por/50.htm>

by G3USF gives a comprehensive list of Beacon from which the following extract was taken :-

GB3RMK nr Inverness at IO77UO which transmits on 50.060MHz using 40W (F1 modulation) to a dipole beaming N/S. It is operational throughout the 24hrs and was last checked in June 2017

Perhaps an opportunity to try designing a Moxon Beam for this intriguing band!

That's it for this month - hope you enjoy the Newsletter

73s de Terry (G4CHD)