



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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July 2019

EDITORIAL

As you will already have read in an earlier email, this month's Meeting on **July 15th** **has been changed** and will now be a talk by **Terry (G4CHD)** on how **an external Spectrum/Waterfall Display can be obtained with the Icom IC-7300**. The talk will be illustrated by a Powerpoint presentation together with hopefully a practical demonstration of some of the various methods discussed. Although the talk is based mainly on the IC-7300, many of the options discussed are applicable to other rigs. As a consequence of this change, **the Bring & Buy has been slipped to be combined with the Natter Night originally planned for the August Meeting**.



Members are also reminded that towards the end of July, Stephanie (M1CVJ) and Dave (2E0KVJ) will be running the special event station **GB50WAB** from Stephanie's QTH in Barnstaple. They would welcome anyone interested in helping to contact them (details later in this Newsletter) and hope also to contact many local amateurs with this special callsign.

A **big thank you** for all those who turned up on Saturday June 29th for our special event station in **Victoria Park**. Despite conditions being both electrically noisy and quite variable, a good number of contacts were made mainly on 40m. The display of equipment was very impressive including a satellite and balloon tracking system making all the effort of putting on the station very worthwhile.
Enjoy the Newsletter. Terry (G4CHD)

CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Appledore Football Social Club starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Visitors are always welcome.

July 15 th	External Spectrum Display for the IC-7300 - Talk & Demo by Terry (G4CHD)
Aug 19 th	Summer Natter Night and Bring & Buy
Sept 16 th	Club Open Meeting - Topic and speaker TBA
Oct 21 st	DMR by Mike (G4KXQ)
Nov 18 th	Winter Bring & Buy
Dec 16 th	Club Christmas Party
Jan 20 th	TBA
Feb 17 th	TBA
Mch 23 rd	Club AGM
Apl 20 th	TBA

For further information, contact the Secretary, Alan (2E0EUZ) - see above panel for contact details.

GB50WAB



This station will be activated from Stephanie's qth in Barnstaple between **Tuesday July 30th to Friday August 12th**.

For further information, please contact Stephanie M1CVJ at (m1cvj@btinternet.com, or m1cvj@live.com) or phone 07918 722988.

REPORT ON THE JUNE MEETING

Radio Related Quiz by John (G3JKL)

This was a first for our Club and involved 2 teams of 2 competing to answer radio related questions by being first on a buzzer! The system was extensively researched and then constructed by John (G3JKL) and worked like a dream on the night. The whole evening was thoroughly enjoyable even by the team members who often struggled to answer the questions despite groans from the audience!! As a member of one of the teams I can admit to being astonished as to how much common sense seems to disappear when put on the spot with time of the essence!!

A huge thanks to John (G3JKL) for the amount of work that was necessary to get the system up and running so well. It would be very interesting to hear from members as to their thoughts on the evening and whether they would like to see another such evening later in the Club year.

There is an **excellent article by John** at the end of this Newsletter fully describing John's system which I'm sure many members will enjoy reading.

Terry (G4CHD)

LOCAL SKEDS

Zepp Net: Mon/Tues/Thurs : 145.450MHz - 4pm
Wed via GB3DN - 4pm

2m Net: Mon/Tues/Wed : 145.450MHz
10.45 - 12.00 noon

**Friday Night
2m Net:** Friday : 145.450 FM, 8 - 9pm

6m/2m Net: Has now moved to 145.475MHz
Wednesday, 8 - 9pm until conditions
improve on 6m

HF Net: Friday at 3pm 7.134 MHz ± qrm
If conditions poor - 145.450 MHz

70cm Net: Sunday, via GB3ND, 11am - noon
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

LOCAL REPEATERS

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

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

2m Stibb Cross Repeater (GB3DN)

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

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

70cm Twitchen (nr South Molton) Analogue Repeater (GB3SF)

User: Listen 430.9375 MHz - Transmit 438.5375 MHz
Access 77Hz CTCSS
Repeater keeper is Steve (G6SQX)

APRS Digipeater (MB7VE)

Frequency 144.800 MHz
Repeater keeper is Steve (G6SQX)

CROSSWORD

Many thanks to Stuart (M1FWD) for this month's Crossword.
The answers are in next month's Newsletter.
Good luck !

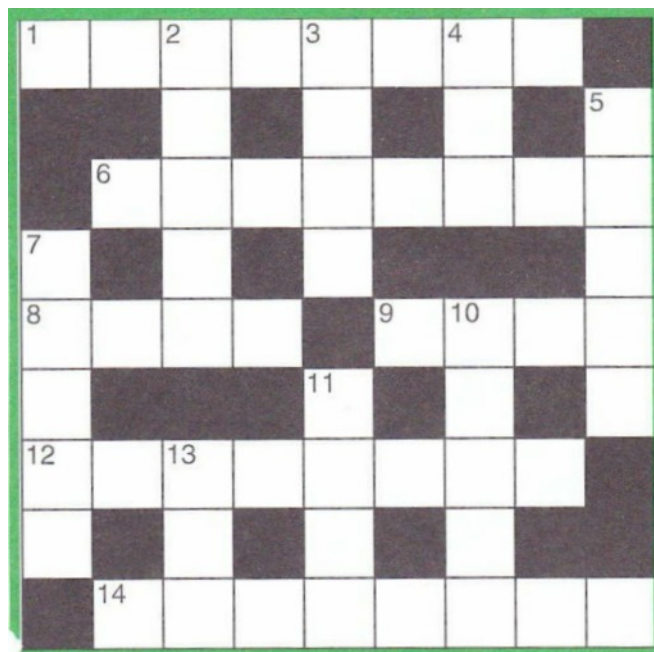


CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Eight Papa (8P) island (8)
- 6) Nine Yankee (9Y) island (8)
- 8) Essential component of many aerials (4)
- 9) The ratio of the speed of a body to the speed of sound in the surrounding medium (4)
- 12) Juliet Seven (J7) island (8)
- 14) Kilo Hotel Three (KH3) island (8)

CLUES DOWN

- 2) Less common (5)
- 3) British queen 1702-1714 (4)
- 4) Of advanced years (3)
- 5) US state nicknamed the Gem State (5)
- 7) Native of Sugar Mike (SM) land (5)
- 10) Famous UK racecourse in Berkshire (5)
- 11) Impedance transformer matching an unbalanced aerial to a feedline (4)
- 13) ? Zedong, leader of Bravo Yankee (BY) land 1949 - 1976 (3)



Last month's answers :-

ANSWERS ACROSS: 1) Dusty 5) gain 8) ladder 9) Al 11) by 12) relays 14) Mars 15) range

CLUES DOWN: 2) Saudi 3) Pan 4) analyse 6) Alabama 7) Yemen 10) Gabon 13) dry

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**

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

Terry (G4CHD)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE OF HELEN (G0EOA) GETTING HER LICENSE

Many thanks to Helen for providing this newspaper cutting of Helen's start in amateur radio



CHATTY Helen Aldridge can tune in to fellow radio buffs around the world from her bedroom in South Molton.

Language is no problem as many of them speak English.

And for Helen who has a bubbly and outgoing personality conversation comes easily.

"Radio enthusiasts are terrific people. You make friends from the first time you talk to them," she says.

Helen, who has two grown-up children and two still at school, enthusiastically took part in a mammoth link-up with radio hams around the world as part of the North Devon Hospice Care Trust autumn fayre.

With the help of Exmoor farmer Fred Bale, who loaned the powerful equipment, Barry Kissack who was there to demonstrate radio-link by computer and Len Herf from North Molton, Helen managed to contact operators in as far away places as Indonesia, Amsterdam, and Yugoslavia.

Nearer home she has managed to tune in to a house fete

By ANDREA FOSTER

for the physically handicapped in Cardiff.

Each time she was able to spread the word of the Hospice Trust movement in North Devon.

A former CB operator, her interest in amateur radio began when she moved to South Molton four years ago.

She decided to study for the City and Guilds Radio Amateur Exam at evening classes in Braunton, run by Eric Hodges, a founder member of the Exmoor Radio Club.

She passed that and was also successful in the coastguards morse test which enabled her to graduate to high frequency radio.

Given the right weather conditions she is now able to con-

tact operators throughout the world.

She is one of only a handful of women radio enthusiasts in North Devon. And with a call sign G0EOA — or Extra-Ordinary Angel for short — it is easy to remember her among the 150 or so male radio fans in North Devon.

So far Helen has tuned into people in South America, Israel, Russia, and Canada where several pensioners invited her to join their radio group, the Hillbilly Net.

A mutual interest in radio seems to promote a sense of camaraderie among fellow enthusiasts no matter how far apart they live.

"You only talk to someone for a few minutes, and they invite you to stay with them if you should visit their country," explains Helen who lives in North Street.

A former businesswoman, she now helps a friend run a market stall in South Molton and spends most of her spare time working voluntarily for the Hospice Trust.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION AT BIDEFORD FAIR

On Saturday, June 29th the Club put on a very successful special event

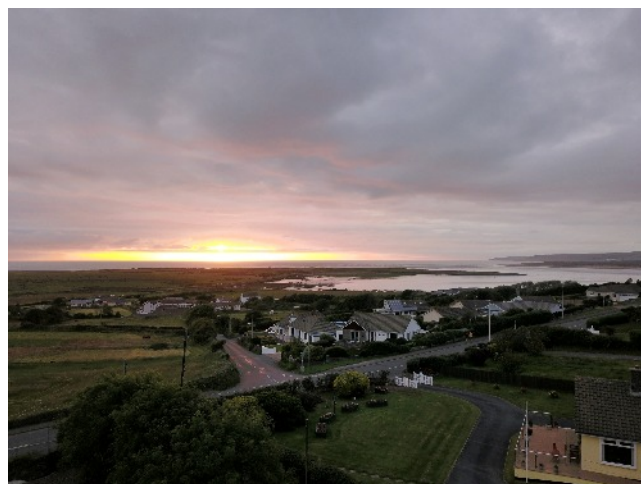
station as can be seen in the following photos provided by John (G3JKL)





DRONE IMAGES CAPTURED AFTER OUR JUNE MEETING BY ALAN (2E0EUZ)

After our June Meeting, Alan demonstrated his recently acquired drone producing the following stunning images. Perhaps Alan could be persuaded to give the Club a talk and demonstration at some time on Drone flying.



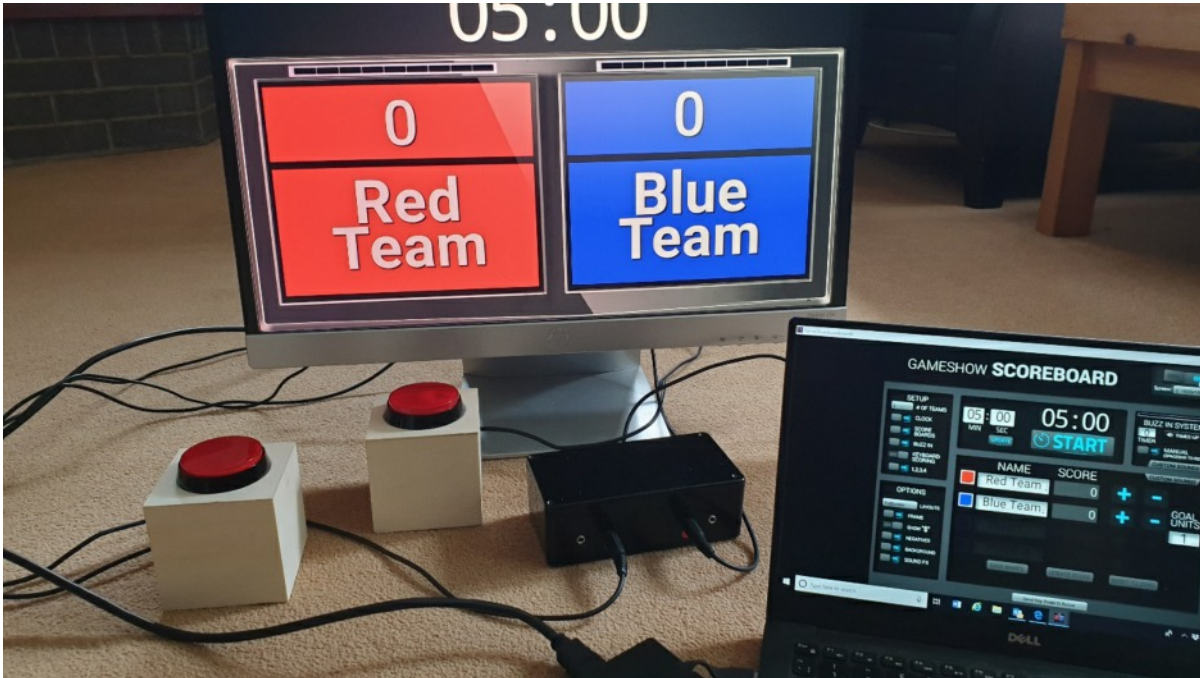
Finally, John's (G3JKL) article on his Quiz Buzzer System is on the following pages.

Enjoy the Newsletter

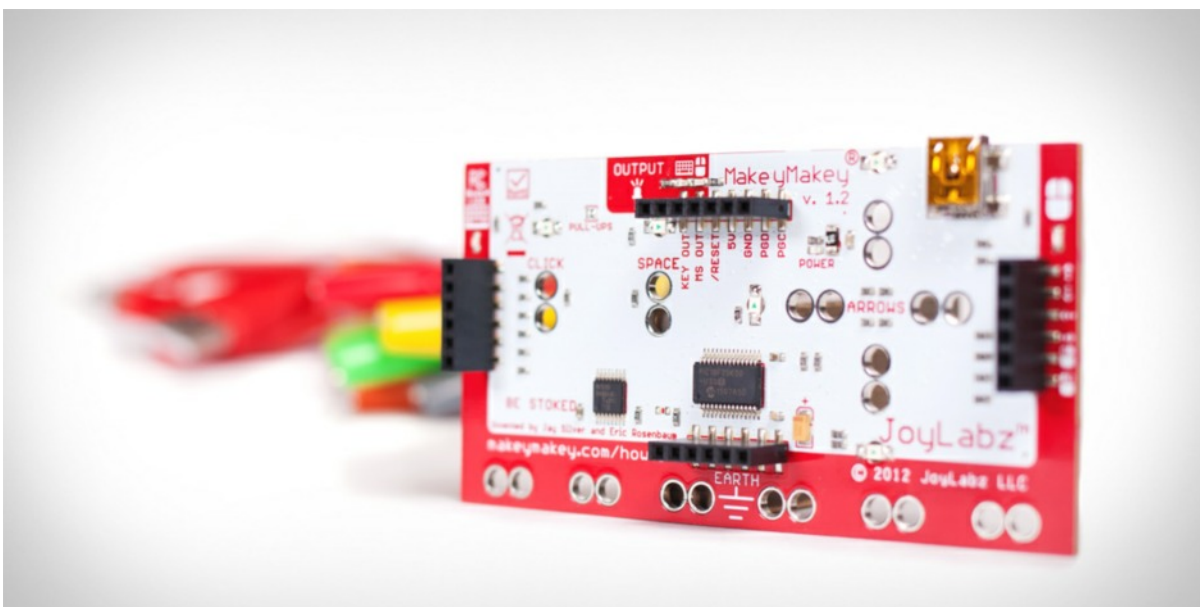
Terry (G4CHD)

G3JKL Game show (How did he do it?)

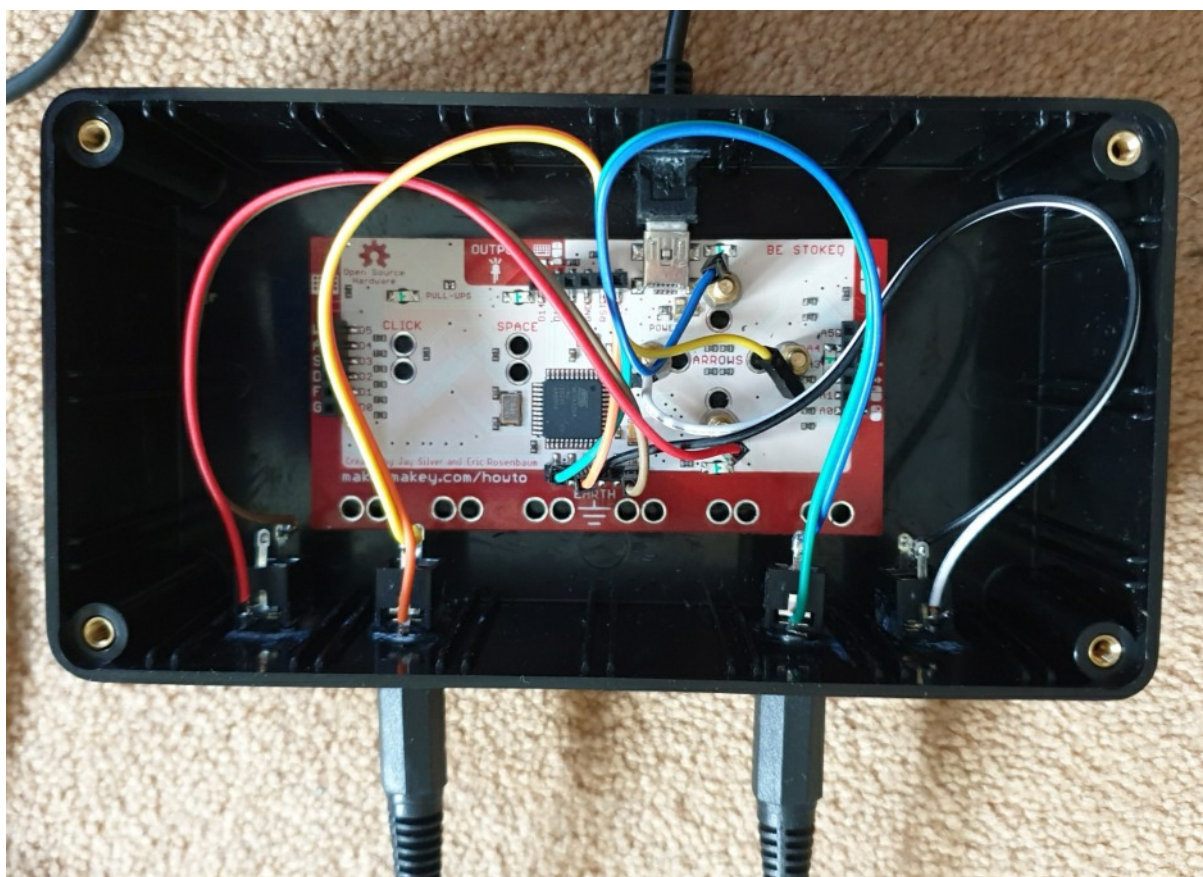
Thanks everyone who came along to my game show! I realise not everyone likes quizzes, so I decided to try something different. I'd toyed with the idea of a game show style quiz years ago using the first to the buzzer format, but wasn't sure how to go about it, so I did some detective work. Luckily I decided to do it at the right time as technology has made things a lot easier. To buy a system is very expensive, so I decided to do things the hard way. Googling game show buzzers came up with commercial companies selling a complete solution, but it also showed me what was needed; buzzers, software for the complicated part (scoring, sounds, graphics, and lockout system for first to buzz in) and an interface to connect the buzzers to the computer. Here is the completed system:



I spent a ridiculous amount of time looking for software, then stumbled across Gameshow Scoreboard (£19), which fitted the requirements perfectly. All the workings were done on the laptop and sent as an extended desktop to a separate monitor for the scores and timer for the audience to see. Some research into buzzer interfaces came up with a few solutions. One was using an Arduino (which was overkill for my requirements), a joystick controller (which required 3rd party software to control it) or the simplest solution, a MakeyMakey board (£ 9.79) which connected via USB to the computer and made the computer think an external keyboard was connected. This was perfect, as the Gameshow scoreboard software used up/down/left/right arrows for each buzzer.



Here it is mounted in a project box and connected to 4 mono jack chassis sockets and USB cable :-



Last thing to do was make the buttons. These are easily purchased on ebay for £3.92 a pair, and a couple of wooden boxes, also from Ebay to mount them in for £2.50 each, and connected to the control box with mono jack leads soldered to the switches.



All in all I was very pleased with the results, and having never used it in anger I was reasonably pleased with it on the night, although a bit disappointed at the low turnout! In the end I think the hardest part was coming up with enough radio related questions for a 30 minute quiz. Come the end I had maybe four questions left as the gong sounded the end of the quiz. Thanks to Terry and Mike on the Blue team, and Mike and Dave on the Red team for being the guinea pigs for the night, with only 2 points separating the teams. Well done the Red team, Mike KXQ and Dave XWQ for winning!