



FIVE AND NINE PLUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE APPLEDORE AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Club Callsigns: G2FKO and GX2FKO

Website: www.adarc.co.uk

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Terry Adams	G4CHD	Committee	Ben Louder	2E0FTZ
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EDITORIAL

Thanks to Colin for his very educational talk on the Hermes Light II transceiver in June. I've included a short report from this presentation further in the newsletter.

The July presentation will be a tag-team talk from Terry G4CHD and myself entitled "**How to tell a good Choke!**" This will be a discussion on Common Mode Chokes, sometimes called 1:1 Ununs, their usage, and the various types of construction methods available. The presentation will be followed by a short practical demonstration of the performance achieved from various construction types using a purpose-built test rig.

One of the topics I come across on the club nets is the use of Linux as a replacement for the Windows, as the Windows 10 Operating System comes to the end of its support life. Linux is especially useful to extend the life of a perfectly good computing hardware, particularly laptops that cannot be upgraded to Windows 11 due to the various roadblocks that Microsoft puts in the way of the upgrade path. I have extended the life of two laptops using this method, using a Ubuntu-based Linux distribution called Lubuntu. This is classed as a lightweight distribution capable of adequately running on lower-end computer specs. This newsletter is being prepared on a re-cycled laptop based around an AMD A4 processor with 4 GB RAM, using an open-source, Windows Office-compatible package called OnlyOffice. One of the complaints levelled at Linux is that everyone's favorite Ham Radio program will not run on it. This is where Andy's Ham Radio Linux package comes in. This is a downloadable script that allows you to install hundreds of Ham Radio packages onto your Linux distribution. I've included a full description of the program suite in this month's technical discussion, included at the end of this newsletter.

73, Mike (G4KXQ)

Important – Club Subscriptions were due March 2026

Club bank account details: Account name: Appledore & District Amateur Radio Club, Sort Code: 30-90-78, Account Number: 01047485. The club's membership subscription is £15

Regards Alan M9NAE. Club Treasurer.

LOCAL NETS

2m Elevenses FM Net: Mon/Wed/Fri :
11 - 12.00 noon via GB3DN Net Control ; Mike (G3PGA)

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

Sunday Top Band Net: Sunday 1.860 MHz
9.30 - 10.15am
(LSB - 32W pep max)

2m SSB Nets: Wed: 8 - 9pm 144.260MHz USB SSB (Vertical polarised)
Sun: approx 10.30am (follows Top Band Net) 144.260MHz USB SSB (Vertical polarised)

Sunday FM Net: Sunday: 11 to noon via GB3DN
Net Control : Chris (G0FJY)

Note :- FM Nets which use GB3DN as shown above will continue despite the recent changes.
GB3DN is disconnected from the Wires-X/ Southern England Room just before the listed start and end of each FM Net

CLUB PROGRAM

July 20 th 2026	How to Tell a Good Choke	Terry G4CHD
August 17 th 2026	Bring and Buy	
Sept 21 st 2026	LoRa Modulation and Its Uses	Chris G0FJY
Oct 19 th 2026	Club Quiz Night	
Nov 16 th 2026	Shack Remote Operations	John G3JKL
Dec 14 th 2026	Christmas Party	
Jan 18 th 2027	External speaker	TBC
Feb 15 th 2027	On-Line Talk – Portable Antennas	Colin MM0OPX
Mar 15 th 2027	Annual General Meeting	

Report of the June 2026 Meeting – Introduction To The Hermes Light 2 SDR Transceiver

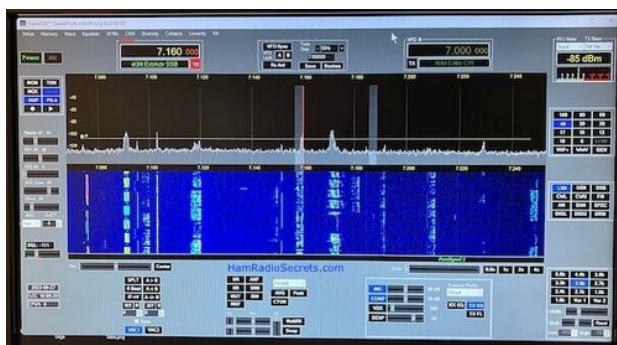
The June meeting featured an excellent talk by club member Colin Phillips G8NBO on the Hermes-Lite 2 SDR transceiver.

The Hermes-Lite is a low-cost, direct down/up-conversion software-defined HF transceiver. It is entirely open source and open hardware. The 10W transceiver has no operator front panel, being controlled via an Ethernet link from a soft front panel located on a networked personal computer, laptop, or desktop. It is available with fabricated PCBs from Far-East assemblers for under \$350.

Built around a broadband modem chip and featuring an FPGA, it covers the entire 160m to 10m bands. It distinguishes itself with "PureSignal" technology, which uses adaptive predistortion to produce exceptionally clean SSB transmissions with minimal splatter—a feature typically reserved for radios costing thousands of dollars.

While the rig requires a PC for control via software like PowerSDR, the Thesis software provides the best operator experience, with lots of Hermes-Lite owners around the world developing 'skins' to reflect their own personalised user experience.

The talk culminated with a demonstration of a typical system using the Thesis software.



Disposal of Amateur Radio Estate from Jim Pearson G0VTM SK

The club has been contacted by Tim Pearson, who last year moved to Bideford, his father Jim (GOVTM) died in 2023 and he has only just got round to sorting out all his radio gear. He had a few sets, Tim has tried plugging them in and the only one that seems to be working is the Drake TR7. He does not know enough about this equipment to be able to test any further, and wondered if there would be anyone local that might be interested? There are other radio related items as pictured (magazines etc.) All his QSO cards and some components too. He really wanted them all to go as one lot.

For anyone interested Tim's number is : 07508 766496





CONTEST CALENDAR - Data Thanks to WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Contest	Schedule
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jul 16
LABRE DX Contest	0000Z, Jul 18 to 2359Z, Jul 19
Russian Radio Team Championship	0700Z-1459Z, Jul 18
Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge	0800Z-1400Z, Jul 18
Feld Hell Sprint	1200Z-1359Z, Jul 18
IARU Region 1 70 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jul 18 to 1400Z, Jul 19
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Jul 18 to 0559Z, Jul 19
RSGB International Low Power Contest	0900Z-1200Z and 1300Z-1600Z, Jul 19
YOTA Contest	1000Z-2159Z, Jul 19
RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 25 to 1200Z, Jul 26
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 1 to 2359Z, Aug 2
European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 1
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 1 to 0559Z, Aug 2
SARL HF Phone Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Aug 2
WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 8 to 2359Z, Aug 9
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Aug 8 to 2359Z, Aug 9
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Aug 8 to 2400Z, Aug 9
YB Bekasi Merdeka Contest	1200Z, Aug 8 to 1159Z, Aug 9
SARL HF Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Aug 9
SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Aug 15 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 15 and 0800Z-1600Z, Aug 16
Russian District Award Contest	0800Z, Aug 15 to 0800Z, Aug 16
Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z, Aug 15 to 1200Z, Aug 16
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1759Z, Aug 15
CVA DX Contest, CW	1800Z, Aug 15 to 2100Z, Aug 16
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	1800Z-2359Z, Aug 16

DX NEWS

Date Range	DXCC Entity	Callsign	QSL	Information / Details
05/05/2026 - 20/07/2026	French Polynesia	FO	LoTW	By F6BCW as FO/F6BCW fm Tikehau, Tuamotu; 80-6m; CW SSB; QSL via F6EXV or Club Log OQRS.
11/06/2026 - 15/07/2026	Cameroon	TJ1GD/p	LoTW	By HF3GD fm Mondoleh I (IOTA AF-095); HF; QSL via Club Log or SP3EOL.
25/06/2026 - 13/07/2026	St Martin	FS	LoTW	By F4EQE as FS/F4EQE fm Orient Bay (FK88lc); 80 30 20 17 10m; CW SSB FT8 PSK31 RTTY; 100w; groundplane; QSL via Club Log OQRS or F4EQE Buro.
27/06/2026 - 14/07/2026	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	By KV1J as FP/KV1J; 80-6m; SSB CW FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS or KV1J direct; QRV for IARU contest and CQ VHF Contest.
03/07/2026 - 14/07/2026	Greenland	OX	LoTW	By DL8JJ as OX/DL8JJ fm Tasiilaq (IOTA NA-151) and mainland (IOTA NA-018);

Date Range	DXCC Entity	Callsign	QSL	Information / Details
				mainly 40 20m; CW; spare time operation; QSL via DL8JJ (B/d)
04/07/2026 - 23/07/2026	Crete	SV9	LoTW	By HB9EMP as SV9/HB9EMP; HF; CW; holiday style operation.
07/07/2026 - 04/08/2026	Benin	TY5FR	LoTW	By DL1BUG fm Cotonou (JJ16fj); 160-10m; CW SSB; 100w; wire; QRV for ARRL DX CW; QSL via DL1BUG (B/d) or Club Log OQRS.
08/07/2026 - 17/07/2026	Sardinia	IS0	LoTW	By IZ3KVD as IS0/IZ3KVD fm IOTA EU-024; HF; holiday style operation; QSL via LZ1JZ (B/d)
09/07/2026 - 18/07/2026	Ogasawara	JD1	LoTW	By JK1HFB as JK1HFB/JD1 fm Chichijima I; 40-6m; SSB FT8.
11/07/2026 - 24/07/2026	Crete	SV9	LoTW	By S50B as SV9/S50B; 40-6m; CW SSB + digital; QSL via S50B Buro or eQSL.
18/07/2026 - 23/07/2026	Jersey	MJ	LoTW	By DG3FEH as MJ/DG3FEH fm IOTA EU-013; 40 20 10m; SSB; QSL via DG3FEH Buro.
22/07/2026 - 14/08/2026	South Cook Is	E51KEE	LoTW	By ZL2KE fm Rarotonga I; HF; CW, some SSB; QSL via IK2DUW, Club Log OQRS, eQSL.
23/07/2026 - 08/08/2026	Azerbaijan	4K	LoTW	By Azerbaijan Radio Amateur Society; HF.
26/07/2026 - 06/08/2026	South Cook Is	E51CZZ	LoTW	Announced DX Operations.
30/07/2026 - 07/08/2026	Tuvalu	T2JK	LoTW	By JK1JXZ fm Funafuti; 80-6m; QRV after 5pm Tuvalu time weekdays, all day weekends; may extend stay until Aug 14.
05/08/2026 - 10/08/2026	Bahamas	C6AYM	LoTW	By K9GY; 80-6m; CW; QRV for WAE CW.
06/08/2026 - 10/08/2026	Aruba	P40AA	DL4MM	By DL4MM; 160-6m; CW SSB + digital; QRV for WAEDC Contest (SO HP)
15/08/2026 - 16/08/2026	Namibia	V55LH	LoTW	By V51Q V51F V51WO; 80-10m; SSB CW FT8.
15/08/2026 - 22/08/2026	St Lucia	J68TT	LoTW	By N4XTT; 40-10m, perhaps 80m; SSB CW FT8 FT4; POTA activations; QSL via Club Log OQRS or N4XTT direct.

Data courtesy of Ng3K.com DX Operations: 2026

LOCAL REPEATERS/GATEWAYS

GB3XM – UHF DMR Repeater - Brayford

TX 439.5625 MHz RX 430.5625

Colour code 1, Slot 1 Talkgroup 9 local and direct dial, Slot 2 South West Cluster

GB7MX – VHF FM Tiverton (*QRP, Solar powered*)

TX 145.075, RX 145.575, Tone 77Hz – Keeper Steve M0ZZT

GB7MZ UHF DMR Repeater - Tiverton, (*daylight hours solar powered*)

TX 439.5625 MHz RX 430.5625

Colour code 1, Slot 1 Bradmeister Talkgroup 91. Keeper Steve M0ZZT

GB3ND UHF DMR Repeater - Holsworthy Beacon TX 439.7375 RX 430.7375 Colour code 1
Slot 1 local RF, Slot 2 SW Cluster Keeper G1BHM

GB3DN VHF FM/C4FM Repeater - Stibb Cross

Tone 77Hz (for analogue FM) TX 145.6375 RX 145.0375, Default Digital Connection : Wires-X Southern Fusion <http://www.g0rql.co.uk/gb3dn.htm>. Keeper Tony G1BHM

GB7FB UHF DMR Repeater - Bideford TX 439.475 RX 430.4750 Colour code 5 Slot 1 Local
RF/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster . Keeper Drew M0MFS

GB3LZ VHF FM/C4FM Repeater - Winkleigh

Tone 77Hz (for analogue FM) TX 145.6625 RX 145.0625, Digital Connection :
Wires-X SOUTHERN ENGLAND. Keeper Phil G6DLJ

GB7LZ UHF DMR Repeater - Winkleigh

TX 430.9125 RX 438.5125 Colour code 1, Slot 1 Talkgroup 9 local and direct dial, Slot 2 South West Cluster.
Keeper G4MQQ

MB6DT VHF Fusion Gateway - Barnstaple

Frequency 144.8125 MHz. Gateway. Keeper Darren (2E0LVC)

GB7TG - UHF DMR Repeater - Wembworthy

TX 430.9750 RX 438.5750 Colour Code 7, Default Connection : Slot 1 Local/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster Keeper
G7SOJ

GB3NX VHF FM Allstar Holsworthy Beacon TX 145.7375 RX 144.1375. CTCSS tone 77hz Connection
SW AllStar network (SWAN). Wires-X default room: Southern-Fusion, Keeper G1BHM

GB7BU (was GB3BU)- UHF DMR Repeater - Bude

TX 430.9625 RX 438.5625 Colour Code 1

Default Connection: Slot 1 Local/DoD Slot 2 SW Cluster Keeper G1BHM

GB3JH – UHF Analogue Repeater – Tiverton

TX 430.8625 RX 438.4625, Tone 77Hz – Keeper G6ASK

GB3MD – UHF Analogue Repeater – Coldridge, Mid Devon

TX 430.850 RX 438.450, Tone 77Hz – Keeper G4PKZ

South West All Star Network (SWAN HUB)

Frequencies are those transmitted and received by the Repeater .

Andy's Ham Radio Linux - A laptop or Pi to support your station on the air

Imagine a Pi or Laptop with all the software you could ever require to support your Ham Radio Activities. Andy Stewart KB1OIQ 's Linux-based software collection gives amateur radio operators a practical, open-source way to explore digital modes, antennas, CAT control, SDR, logging, satellites, emergency communications, and STEM education without getting lost in setup.

A Project Built to Give Back

Andy Stewart, KB1OIQ, presents Andy's Ham Radio Linux as both a convenience package and a community-minded project. Built for amateur radio operators who want to use Linux without spending excessive time on configuration, it gathers useful radio applications into one accessible, free, and open-source collection. The project reflects the shared culture of ham radio and Linux: experimentation, practical learning, and helping others get on the air.

The goal is simple: let operators focus on radio rather than software installation. Andy's Ham Radio Linux organizes dozens of programs into practical categories and turns a supported Linux computer or Raspberry Pi into a ready-to-use radio workstation. Its commitment to open-source software is central. Proprietary programs are avoided so the collection can remain shareable, maintainable, and aligned with the collaborative spirit of both communities.

From Installer to Radio Toolkit

Earlier versions were distributed as full customized Linux images, but the project has since moved to a more flexible installer. Users first install a supported Linux distribution, then run the Andy's Ham Radio Linux installer on top of it. This approach reduces download size, improves maintainability, and supports several Linux flavours, including Debian Live, Ubuntu variants, Linux Mint, and Raspberry Pi OS.



The collection reflects the wide reach of amateur radio. Antenna experimenters can model designs, digital-mode operators can use tools such as WSJT-X, GridTracker, MSHV, and FLDigi, and builders can work with Arduino tools coil calculators, and KiCad.

Other applications support propagation, logging, contesting, emergency communications, rig control, satellites, software-defined radio, and tracking. Practicality is a recurring theme. Andy encourages users to read the “Getting Started” guide, confirm that their Linux version is supported, and use hardware with enough memory, disk space, and reliable internet access. The aim is not to remove the technical character of Linux, but to reduce friction so newcomers and experienced operators can become productive quickly.

Education and Community

The project also has an educational role. The ARRL Teachers Institute uses Andy's Ham Radio Linux as a base for Raspberry Pi systems in STEM-related radio instruction. A dedicated menu helps teachers and students find tools for Arduino programming, SDR experimentation, radio programming, and satellite work.

Community feedback keeps the project moving. Users report bugs, recommend new programs, and help shape future releases. That participation has helped make Andy's Ham Radio Linux a trusted starting point for operators who want Linux-based ham radio tools without building everything from scratch.

Taken together, the presentation and discussion frame Andy's Ham Radio Linux as more than a software bundle. It is a curated bridge between radio and computing, lowering the barrier to experimentation while keeping the focus on the hobby itself.

~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xv9YnREmeAA>

To download the latest build, go to <http://www.sourceforge.net> and search for KB1OIQ Andy's

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