



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'S OFFICERS

<p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">President</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Chairman</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Vice Chairman</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Treasurer</p>	<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Terry Adams</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Mike Wogden</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Dave Boyes</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Alan Fisher</p>	<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G4CHD</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G4KXQ</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">2E0KVJ</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">2E0EUZ</p>		<p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Committee</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">QSL Manager</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Web Master</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Exam Secretary</p> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;">Editor</p>	<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Ben Louder</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Mark Wildig</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">John Lovell</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">John Lovell</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">John Lovell</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Mike Wogden</p>	<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">2E0FTZ</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G6BNB</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G3JKL</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G3JKL</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G3JKL</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">G4KXQ</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">mikewogden@gmail.com</p>
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EDITORIAL

Thanks to all those who attended and supported my talk for the April meeting. I hope some found it interesting and for those inspired I'm happy to supply internet links for anyone who wants to build HamClock for a Raspberry Pi or any board of Linux based Single Board Computer.



This month's talk will be given by Terry G4CHD. Terry will explain the methodology of designing aerials from theory to practice. The talk will be entitled 'Aerial Design – From Modelling to Metalwork!!' It should prove to be an interesting evening.

Starting with the May meeting we are intending to trial the on-line streaming of club meetings when we have a guest speaker or in-house presentation. This will hopefully allow those members who are unable to attend the club meetings in person to gain more from the club. Ben Louder 2E0FTZ has kindly agreed to be 'the man behind the camera'.

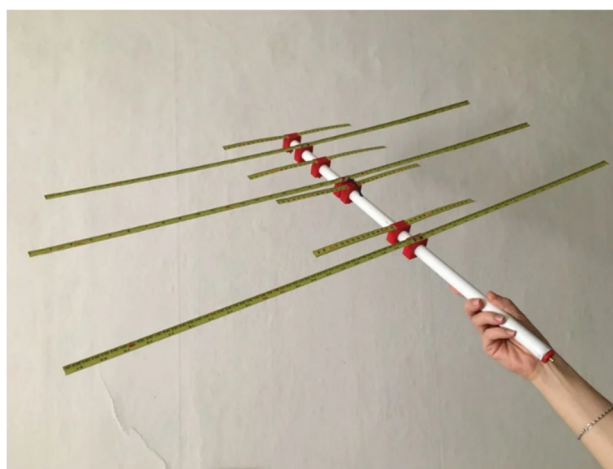
In April we held our first committee meeting of the new year. The main item on the agenda was the club program for 2024-25; the proposed program is varied and should be interesting.

May 19th 2025	Aerial Design: From Modelling to Metalwork	Terry G4CHD
June 16th 2025	Natter Night including Show and Tell	
July 21st 2025	Quiz Night	Quizmaster Mike G4KXQ
Aug 18th 2025	Talk on the film industry special effects	Mark G6BNB
Sept 15th 2025	Antenna Build - Practical	Mike G4KXQ Mark G6BNB
Oct 20th 2025	External On-Line Speaker	TBC

Nov 17 th 2025	Bring & Buy	
Dec 15 th 2025	Christmas Party	
Jan 19 th 2026	External Speaker	TBC
Feb 16 th 2026	To Be Confirmed	
March 16 th 2026	Annual General Meeting	

A few dates to note in the diary; Mark G6BNB, whose biography was included in last months newsletter has kindly agreed to present a talk recounting his experiences in the film special effects industry. I'm sure the evening will go with a bang!!

For the September meeting we are proposing to hold a practical antenna building evening with the aim of building a dual band portable yagi for 2m and 70cm suitable for satellite work. All you will need is a 10ft tape measure and some coax.



BIDEFORD FAIR

Just advanced notice that the club has been invited to put on a demonstration station in Victoria Park during the Bideford Fair to be held on Saturday 7th June. The club had been regular attendees during the years prior to 2024 when we were missed off the invite list. Please could you add a note in your diary reserving that day to help set-up and run the station. On the day we need to be setup before and all cars removed from the park by 10:00 AM

CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at the **Appledore Football Social Club** starting at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Visitors always welcome. For further information, please contact the Secretary, John.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

The weekend of 27th and 28th September will be Railways on The Air where we intend to operate for the Bideford Heritage Railway at the old Bideford Railway Station, East the Water.

73 Mike (G4KXQ)

LOCAL NETS

Weekday Zepp FM Net: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri :

145.450MHz - 4pm - 5pm

Wed via GB3DN - 4pm - 5pm Net Control : Len (M0SXY)

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 Fusion Room just before the listed
start and end of each FM Net

SOUTH WEST REPEATER NEWS

GB7MZ 439.6875MHz with -9.0Mhz split is now on the air from Tiverton connected to the South West Cluster so if you're DMR rig has roaming enabled add this frequency to your codeplug.

Two new 50MHz (6m) repeaters to look out for:

GB7EXE – 50.65MHz – Exeter

GB7TIV - 50.65MHz – Tiverton

I've got no other details for these two repeaters at this time.

The proposed new DMR Repeater for the Barnstaple/South Molton area GB7XM is progressing. The repeater is to be located at Mark G6BNB, QTH at Brayford. Frequency Pair - 439.6625MHz Tx, 430.6625MHz RX.

GB7MX is to be located near Tiverton – A Wires-X, Yaesu System Fusion is progressing. Frequency Pair 145.575 MHz TX, 144.975 MHz RX.

A little bit further afield the Mendip Repeater Group are please to advise GB3WR & GB7PM have returned to the airwaves.

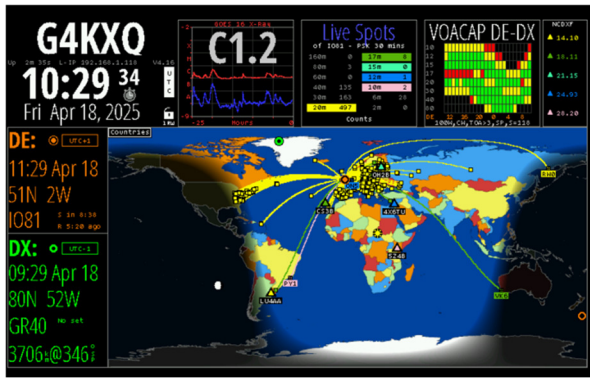
GB3WR repeater output 145.600MHz input 145.000MHz 94.8Hz

GB7PM C4FM repeater output 439.4375MHz input 430.4375MHz

HAMCLOCK - THE POOR MANS GEOCHROME

The April meeting was a short presentation by yours truly on the Hamclock application. This application runs on a Linux based Single Board Computer either with a local display or as a web page on an internet browser. HamClock is a kiosk-style application that provides real time space weather, radio propagation models, operating events and other information particularly useful to the radio amateur.

The slide pack from the presentation has been added to the clubs Facebook page for further reading.



The display is infinitely variable with the options to display lots of information including:

- Satellite Tracker - ISS SSTV
- Aurora Probability
- Sunspot Number
- Weather at Local and DX Locations
- Contest Calendar
- Grey Line
- Mercator and Azimuthal Projection
- VOACAP
- Solar Flux
- Planetary K Index
- On the Air Spots
- Solar Image
- Band Live spots
- X-Ray Levels
- Current Lunar View
- DX Cluster

And of-course the current time in GMT.

There are lots of interesting articles scattered around the internet.

One of the most useful ones is the QSO 365 website from Keith G6NHU

<https://qso365.co.uk/2024/01/hamclock/> and <https://qso365.co.uk/2024/05/how-to-set-up-a-hamclock-for-your-shack/> The site is well worth a visit.

Reflection on the Price of Modern Rigs

If, you're like me, you were probably shocked about the list price of the latest ICOM 7760 HF rig at £5339.00 ('Best UK Price Guaranteed' – Martin Lynch and Sons) It's interesting to reflect how this compares with the price of HF rigs back in the late 70's when I was starting out in the hobby. I was somewhat stunned when ICOM released the IC-701 with a list price of £999 in 1979 when most of the current rigs at that time were priced between £400 and £550 i.e. FT-1010E and TS-520, both hybrid rigs with the IC-701 all solid state and synthesized.

It's interesting to reflect on how affordable modern rigs are when compared to average wages. Though not quite in the IC-7760 range; I found an interesting article on the internet.

Relative affordability of Amateur Radio (1984-2024)

Amateur radio has come a long way in the past four decades, with significant advances in technology making transceivers more powerful and feature-rich. This short article explores the extent to which the affordability of these devices has changed in relation to average income.

Let's explore this by comparing the Icom IC-7300, a modern mid-range transceiver, with the Yaesu FT-757 which was released in 1984.



Icom IC-7300



Yaesu FT-757

Transceiver Models and Their Release Prices

Icom IC-7300 (2020s)

Price at Release: GBP: £936 (Interesting how this price has crept up over the years)

Yaesu FT-757 (1984)

Price at Release: GBP: £825

Adjusting for Inflation

To understand the relative affordability, we need to adjust the historical prices for inflation.

Inflation Adjustment (GBP)

Using a UK inflation calculator:

1. Yaesu FT-757 (1984 to 2023)

- 1984 Price: £825
- Adjusted for 2023: Approximately £2,650

Average Income Comparison

Next, we compare these prices to the average income at the time to determine relative affordability.

Average Income Data (GBP)

1. 1984 UK Average Income: Approx. £8,600 per year
2. 2023 UK Average Income: Approx. £38,000 per year

Affordability Analysis

Yaesu FT-757 (1984)

- Price as a percentage of average income (GBP): $825/8600 \times 100 \approx 9.59\%$
- Adjusted 2023 price as a percentage of 2023 income (GBP): $2650/38000 \times 100 \approx 6.97\%$

Icom IC-7300 (2023) Price as a percentage of average income (GBP): $936/38000 \times 100 \approx 2.46\%$

Conclusion

Over the past 40 years, mid-range amateur radio transceivers have become more affordable relative to average income, when prices are adjusted for inflation - the current Icom IC-7300, a mid-range transceiver, costs a smaller percentage of today's average income than the Yaesu FT-757 did in 1984, which was a comparable model for its time.

Amateur radio equipment has demonstrably become more affordable over time, making the hobby increasingly accessible. Compared to earlier models, modern transceivers provide advanced features and better performance at lower relative costs when accounting for inflation and average income growth. There really has never been a better time to be a ham radio operator.

It's interesting to note that I have found out that an Amateur friend of mine is the proud owner of a ICOM 7760, just as when I first moved to Plymouth in 1979 another amateur radio friend had bought a IC-701.

I appreciate that a lot of the members are on a fixed pension income so the figures on average salary aren't applicable, but the principles are still the same.

LOCAL REPEATERS/GATEWAYS

Frequencies are those transmitted and received by the Repeater

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 Simon G4MQQ

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 Repeater- Holsworthy Beacon

Repeater TX 145.5875 RX 144.9875, Tone 77Hz, Connection SW AllStar Network (SWAN) Keeper G1BHM

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



DX NEWS

As time as a little short this month I thought I would present the DX News a little different this month. This is in the form of a combined table. Please let me have your feedback/comments.

DXPEDITONS & CONTEST SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2025																												www.hamradioweb.org			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
ZS8W																															
TX9A (FO/A)																															
GD3JIM GD2TT																															
GD6DX																															
JD1BPG																															
GU6EFW																															
GU80LIB																															
D44TW0 D44ZZI																															
D84C AS-084																															
B#CRA																															
Z68TT - Z68ZZ																															
JG8NQJ/JD1 (JD/M) until mid june...																															
KH7AL/KH9 activities as scheduled, see link.																															
NEXT MONTHS OVERVIEW																															
June				July				August				September				October															
												V6D				FW5K															