Chairman’s Chat, January 2015.
Chairman – Clive Collins M0IAM

A very Happy New Year to all of our members and readers and I hope that you all had a good Christmas. I was lucky enough to find time on Christmas morning to join the 2m net and exchange greetings with members and one or two others. It always pleasantly surprises me to hear so many members on Christmas day that I have not heard on the air all year, as well as those more regularly heard.

I subscribe to Radcom, via RSGB membership, and also to Practical Wireless magazines and have been inspired by both. In the January edition of both magazines there are articles on two of the latest digital systems for 2m and 70cms. Radcom features Yaesu’s System Fusion and PW looks at DMR. Most of us have heard of D-Star but now we have a choice of at least three different systems, none of which are compatible with each other! This reminds me of the video cassette machine war, that many of us remember. Betamax and Philips 2000 eventually fell by the wayside leaving JVC’s VHS as the winner, leaving those with the former systems high and dry! Is it no wonder that many of us are holding back before splashing out on new radio equipment? One thing I can report is that The Guildford UHF Repeater Group have applied for a licence for a new DMR repeater, to run alongside GB3GF. The group have the new repeater equipment ready to go, once the licence has been granted. Apparently the first tranche of licences have been issued for more DMR repeaters and the Guildford application should be one of the first in the next batch. Apparently new DMR handhelds can be obtained for just under £200 for those who want to be ready to take advantage of the new repeater, which is also planned to have internet link connectivity to other repeaters. I am hopeful that Stella G0SWE will arrange a talk for us by The Guildford Repeater Group in the near future. In the meantime, Tony G6ZAC will be the best person to ask, if you need more information.

Upon reading the January edition of PW I also took great pleasure and pride when I read the results of the PW 70MHz (4m) contest that took place on Sunday 28th September 2014. Guildford & District Radio Society G5RS/P are the winners of the Open Section, Leading Multi-Operator, Leading English station and Leading station in square JO00. Our team of Peter G4YPC, Mike G0ROT and Kevin G1KAW set up and operated from a hilltop location near Dallington in East Sussex. Well done indeed for bringing us Fame and Fortune: yes fortune! InnovAntennas were good enough to provide prizes in the form of vouchers.

Looking forward, the contest committee are planning ahead for this year’s contests. I do recommend that, if possible, you take advantage of any opportunity to get involved, especially our newer members. I have learnt so much in the past from helping out at these events and enjoying being part of the team. 73 Clive M
GDRS Forum. **Attention:** [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/guildfordhamradio](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/guildfordhamradio)

**GDRS Nets**

Sun 1300A 3.792MHz SSB

2 metre net Monday to Friday on 145.400 FM. 10.30 am

Sun 2115A 145.525MHz FM

**Mon** 2100A 28.535MHz SSB /21.235  
**Thur** Thur 1230A 7.053 & 14.330MHz SSB  
*(The Freiburg Net)*  
**Thursday 12.30 Freiburg Link now starts on 7065 KHz (+/- a few.. to avoid QRM)... at 12.30 local G’ford time.*

**Society Meetings**
The Society currently meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month at:
Guildford Model Engineers HQ  
Stoke Park.  
Guildford.  
**The Web Site**  
[http://www.gdrs.net](http://www.gdrs.net)

**Club Call sign** G6GS

Chairman: Clive Collins M0IAM  
Secretary : Tim G7JYQ  
sec.gdrs@virginmedia.com  
Treasurer : Stella Whit-bourn, G0SWE

**Committee Members:**

Mike Davis  G0ROT.  
Peter Croucher , G4YPC  
Simon Curry G7HHI .  
President : Roger G0SWC.  
Lynn Gale-Beech QSL Cards.  
Barry 2E1CML Editor.

**Program 2015**

**January.**

9th Jan 2015  - Presentation/Update on Goonhilly by Stella G0SWE

23rd Jan - DVD/Video Evening  
30th Jan - Fifth Friday PRACTICAL/ON AIR NIGHT at The Clubhouse

**February.**

13th Feb - TBC  
27th Feb - PRACTICAL/ON AIR NIGHT at The Clubhouse

**March.**

13th March - TBC  
27th March - PRACTICAL/ON AIR NIGHT At The Clubhouse

Sat 28th March - SPRING SOCIAL  
Details/Venue to be confirmed. Please let Stella G0SWE know if you can recommend a suitable restaurant.

**Just a note** to remind every one.  
That the deadline for publication Of the Natter is the last of the month.  
Please let me know early as possible Of any emergency inclusions.  
Barry 2E1CML    Editor./ Email :bnccuk@ntlworld.com
GDRS Christmas Party 2014.
GDRS Christmas Party 2014.

Bill G0KDL

Malcolm G0MIC, Don G8JMP (red Hat)

Lynn Right, Stella G0SWE

Simon G7HHI

Chairman, Clive Collins M0IAM
GDRS Christmas Party 2014

The sunspots were roaring and the Old Dxer was working DX night and day. The faithful XYL had had it with his QRZing and blew her stack.
"DX DX DX - thats all you ever think about!" she groaned
"Why I'll bet you don't even remember our wedding date!!"
"I mostly certainly do" was the immediate reply.
"It was June 14th, 1958 - Thats the night I worked the XT1, the CRØ, and the G6GS.

Photos from our roving Reporters.
Stella G0SWE
Bill G0KDL
Barry 2E1CML

THE OLD DXER
Know your Radios

Pye model P75

serial number 335639

Pye model P75 AC mains operated table radio with Long and Medium and Short wavebands (1000-2000, 187-567, and 16.3-51.8metres) housed in a veneered wooden cabinet. Valve line up: ECH42, EF41, EBC41, EL41 and EZ41. 1953

Pye Ltd., Radio Works; Cambridge

Type: Broadcast Receiver - or past WW2 Tuner Year: 1953

Super-Heterodyne (Super in general); ZF/IF 470 kHz

Broadcast, Long Wave and Short Wave.

Alternating Current supply (AC) / 200-250 Volt
November / December 2014

**November**, another busy month for the Freiburg DARC chapter.

First event was a visit of 13 Freiburg hams to the local transmitting site of the public radio and TV corporation in southwest Germany, SWR, on November 7th. Formerly transmitting with 10kW on 828 kHz in AM using a 92m high lattice tower, SWR transmissions on Medium Wave have been discontinued in January 2012. The tower now is being used to carry antennas for the 3 FM radio channels SWR1, SWR2 and SWR3 to service the Freiburg area. Transmitters are of Rhode & Schwarz, models SR8000, output around 300W. Besides taking care of the maintenance of the local transmitting site, a hand full of technicians is also responsible for all the SWR radio and TV transmitters in southwest Germany. SWR technician Alfred Böcherer explained all components of the FM transmitters, talked about the AM history and gave some examples of their jobs “behind the scene”. Once in winter time, with a lot of snow on the Black Forest mountains, a TV transmitter stopped working late in the afternoon, right before a football match. A tree had fallen into a high voltage power transmission line. A team of SWR technicians went on the site with a snow blower to clean the road, and with a Freiburg DARC chapter.
generator to supply the TV repeater with electricity until the power transmission line could be repaired. 15 minutes before the start of the match the TV transmitter went on the air again. Most of the time we – the “consumers” – don’t really know what happens behind the scene, Freiburg hams now are a bit more aware.

November 8th, it was high time to perform the spring-cleaning ;-) Early 2014 we had too many other things to do, so we could not organize our annual club home cleaning session. As usual, the club house was turned inside out, floors swept, windows cleaned, electronic, metal and other waste separated and disposed of by a number of fellow hams. Summer can come now ;-) 

Next – TechniClub, our biyearly crafting event for kids, started again on November 15th. During a series of 5 Saturdays, 10 youngsters, amongst them 3 girls, will again work with electronic components. The first session was about LEDs, and all of the participants were proud with the results of their homebrewing. Next session will be held on December 13, when a FM detector is the subject – “everybody can buy one, but you build your own!”

December is usually a month with less club activities as some companies celebrate their Christmas Dinners on Fridays in the pre-Christmas time, so nearly every Friday in this season someone is missing.

Nevertheless, AØ5 could welcome a large number of members and friends on Friday December 5th for a closer look on Mayotte Island (FH, IOTA AF-027). Hartwig DL7BC discovered that a few days before there was a report on Mayotte in one of the German public TV channels. The idea was born to show this film and have Bruno DH1BL, ex FH4VOS, a member of AØ5, with us this evening to comment the film and to give his own impressions about what was shown. Axel DG3AL downloaded this report from the TV channel’s website, and at 20:15 (Germany’s TV prime time, hihi) the film started. The report was quite unbiased, showing the nice sides and sites of the island, but mentioning the ugly face, too. Mayotte is still more or less untouched by the mass tourism, and hence especially the sea offers a lot to see. A large coral reef invites for scuba diving or snorkeling, big sea turtles come close to the beach to find seagrass, their favorite meal and also to lay their eggs in the warm sandy beaches, dolphins, rays and in October even whales can be seen. Ylang-ylang trees with nice smelling blossoms which were the base for a lot of perfumes and other well-smelling things are getting less and less cultivated, as today the difficult “harvest” of the blossoms and elaborative procedure to get the concentrate out of the blossoms has been replaced by an industrial production of “nature identical” flavours. Which however are not produced on Mayotte Island.

Freiburg DARC chapter.
Mayotte is an overseas French “département” since March 31st, 2011, just like Réunion Island (FR), French Guyana (FY), Martinique (FM) or Guadeloupe (FG), and therefore part of the European Union (with the Euro as currency). The big problem is that around half of the population of around 210,000 are clandestine from the Comoros (D6) and Madagascar (5R). The closest island of the Comoros is just 80 km across the sea, so many people try to reach Mayotte in small boats, hoping to find a better life. They usually end up in slums around the small cities, or hidden in the woods, and if they are lucky, they get underpaid jobs.

Bruno, who lived on Mayotte for 4 years, is teacher and told us that despite the fact that those people living illegally on the island they have to send their kids to school.

The population of Mayotte, geographically (and politically until the independence of the Comoros from France in 1975) being part of the Comoros, is to around 97% Islamic. Even since becoming an overseas department, some of the traditional local laws are still applied, the beak has still a strong position in the Muslim society. Mosques can be found in every village, and children attend koranic schools before they go to public schools at 08:00 in the morning. The Imam shown in the TV report states that he sees a lot of problems with kids who lose the traditions and get too much influenced by Western habits. A society on the rise!

The semi-rare status of Mayotte Island for radio amateurs has not been mentioned ;-(

The second session of the new TechniClub edition took place on December 13th. Eleven young kids joined that day to build a FM broadcast receiver. After around 4 hours, some theory introductions and a lot of soldering and fixing, the kids could listen to the local FM radio stations. A QRL colleague of the author, who has sent her daughter to this years’ series of TechniClub events, told me later that her daughter was very excited having built “her own” radio, which despite all skepticism worked fine. It seems to be a way to attract young people, if just we could keep them with us until they pass their license exam and become active on the radio waves...

That’s all folks, for December, and for 2014, too!

I wish you a Happy New Year 2015, a lot of fun, health and DX, either on this or on the other side of the pile-ups....

73 de Hartwig, DL7BC for AØ5, your Freiburg radio club
DORKING AND DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY

The next meeting will be on 27 January when the talk will be

Unidentified Flying Objects

Leslie Baker – G8JIC/G0TEO

ABSTRACT

Leslie’s talk will consist mainly of a description of the “real” situation, briefly mentioning aspects of the cultures and technology associated with UFO's. He will differentiate between 'real Extra-Terrestrials' and 'the fakers' that have caused so much confusion in people's minds. He will explain why there are occasional sightings and contacts, but not as many as are claimed. There will be brief comments about our true history, and their visits and interactions with us. He will explain why there is a difference in attitudes between (for example) amateur astronomers (and professionals), orthodox scientists, and the student of metaphysical (paranormal) subjects. The three basic types of craft and their general purpose will be described as well as the types of 'drive' they use to explain how they do indeed travel many times faster than light.

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ANTENNA ROMANCE .

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn’t much, but the reception was excellent. Since they were a perfect match, soon they generated harmonics. Wrapped the harmonics in dipoles. But later the harmonics turned out to be PARASITIC elements. The true story -- she was a tri-bander and he felt trapped, so they went on separate beam headings.

OLD MEGAWATT

Ham 1 -- Hey I hear Old Megawatt is retiring from Ham Radio
Ham 2 -- Yeah I heard him say that before
Ham 1 -- I know, but this time the FCC said it!
Photos from Christmas Natter & Nibbles Night 12th Dec for Jan Natter

1. Tony G6ZAC and Denis G0NGI
2. Stella G0SWE and Lynn Gale-Beech
3. Group Shot Michael M6MGV, Malcolm G0MIC, Don G8JMP, Bill G0KDL, Barry 2E1CML, Keving G1KAW, Roger G0SWC, Anay G4XYW, Simon G7HHI and Simon Burstall
4. Stella G0SWE, Lynn Gale-Beech and Malcolm G0MIC
5. Big Group Photo.
That’s another good successful year gone by. What a hobby something for everyone. We hope that we can draw more people into the hobby and into the club. Well that the last comment only thing left to wish you all a.

“A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR”

Chairman: Clive Collins M0IAM.