



**Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society**  
Hon. Secretary Joe Kirk BSc MBCS C1TP G3ZDF 111 Stockbridge Road  
Chichester, West Sussex PO19 8QR

**MINUTES**  
**Committee Meeting Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016**  
**HMS Collingwood**

<b>Present:</b>	Doug Hotchkiss	G4BEQ	Chairman	
	Joe Kirk	G3ZDF	Secretary	
	Dave Lacey	G4JBE		By Skype
	Wally Walker	G4DIU	Membership Secretary	By Skype
	Mick Puttick	G3LIK	Hon. Vice President	
	Adrian Mori	2E0JVM	Treasurer	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU		
	Nigel Auckland	M0NAF		
	Frank Cotton	G0LFI		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Colin Topping	GM6HGW		

Tasks to be completed are underlined

**1. Chairman's opening remarks**

The Meeting started at 19.25 and the Chairman welcomed everyone. He said he had invited Frank to attend the Committee so that items about Collingwood Open Day could be discussed.

**2. Apologies for absence**

- a. As above.

**3. Minutes of the last two meetings**

- a. Proposed by Nigel, seconded by Doug Bowen and agreed unanimously..

**4. Matters arising**

- a. 10 (f) ATV group to produce video of the HQ Shack for viewing by members.

With the sad death of Peter G3PYB it was agreed that this item should be removed for the moment.

- b. 6 (a) iv Secretary to investigate feasibility of alternative AGM venues and report back to the Committee. –Will be covered in the agenda AGM item.

- c. 6 (a) v Mick to book WO & SR's Mess in Collingwood for AGM  
DONE

- d. 6 (a) vi Colin to publish a short questionnaire in the Society Newsletter to see how many members would attend were the AGM to be held at one of the alternative venues. In progress but awaiting outcome of this meeting.

- e. 6 (e) It was agreed that the Secretary approach Admiral Jones to see if he would be prepared to become our Patron Sec. Reported that he had

written to Admiral Jones who had agreed to become the Patron of the Society. In the meantime Admiral Jones had also been named as First Sea Lord designate. DONE

- f. 8 (a) The Committee authorised the Treasurer to roll over the deposit account. DONE
- g. 9 (a) Shack Manager to liaise with Bill G3TZM to ascertain their requirements before making recommendation to the Committee. Nigel reported that a rig was boxed in the cupboard and ready to go. Mick that Bill G3TZM was due to return to Malta mid-April. DONE
- h. 10 (a) Simon to prepare a list of the equipment required for running training and submit to the Committee. The 2m rig in the Shack was used for training and various small bits and pieces had been bought. DONE
- i. 10 (a) Joe was asked to prepare a folder for new entrants and then to approach our liaison officer. Joe reported that if we were able to give a short presentation to new entrants we should consider giving each of them a 'goody bag' containing say an RTL-SDR dongle, a USB stick with copies of or links to the software to make use of the dongle, a copy of the RSGB video "*Amateur Radio: A Hobby for the 21st Century*", a copy of the pictorial booklet "*Alex Discovers Amateur Radio*", an application form with an offer of free membership for 1 year. The cost per bag would likely be between £15 and £20. He was authorised to investigate further.
- j. 10 (a) Nigel was authorised to purchase an ATU for the digital bay similar to the one in the HF bay. Purchased and installed. DONE

## **5. Chairman's Report**

- a. Chairman reported on the sad death of Peter G3PYB. Many members had attended Peter's funeral service in Havant and the memorial service had been very well done. Peter had been a member of the Collingwood Radio Club and had been one of the driving forces in the ATV group. He would be sadly missed.
- b. Chairman reported that we had a new patron Vice Admiral Sir Philip Jones.
- c. Doug said he had spoken to the Training Officer about a dog watch presentation to new entrants and that this was being investigated.
- d. He said that the Tuesday meeting was multi-purpose, some members attended simply to socialise, others to operate and some to maintain or build equipment whilst some came for training. He said that where there were any one-off events such as special maintenance or cleaning these should be notified in advance so that anyone who wished to volunteer could do so.

## **6. Secretary's Report**

- a. All items covered on the Agenda

## **7. Membership Secretary's Report**

- a. Wally reported that membership was moving along. The number of joiners was just about the same as losses. Current membership stood at just over 700.
- b. The Chairman said that Wally had had a rough year medically and that he had indicated he would like to hand over the reins of Membership Secretary to someone else. He said that Wally had always been involved in the Society in some post and that the only position he had not held was that of Chairman. He thanked Wally for all he had done for the Society. He said that Wally had shown that it was not necessary to live locally to be the Membership Secretary.

#### **8. Treasurer's Report**

- a. Adrian reported that the balance in the Current account was £1,402, in the Deposit Account, £13,655 and in the Fixed Deposit account was £34,521.

#### **9. Examination fees (G0IUY & M0NAF)**

- a. Nigel reported that when examinations were done at HDARC participants were charged a small fee. He suggested the same should be done for exams in HQ Shack.  
This was agreed. Nigel to arrange.

#### **10. Revised bandplan proposal (G0LDJ) (Proposal attached)**

- a. Doug G0LDJ suggested that 40m nets should take advantage of the frequencies above 7.1MHz and institute an RNARS schedule on the 60m band.
- b. Mick G3LIK said that some countries with RNARS members who sometimes participate in RNARS Nets do not have access above 7.1MHz. He also said that Net Controllers have the authority to move frequency to suit conditions.
- c. It was agreed that
  - i. Net frequencies on the 40m band should remain as they are with Net Controllers able to move frequency to suit band conditions
  - ii. Doug G0LDJ be authorised to start an RNARS net in the 60m band and to advise the Secretary of the frequency and mode selected so that it could be published.

#### **11. AGM arrangements (G4BEQ)**

- a. Doug said that over the 3 or 4 years attendance at the AGM had varied between about 35 and 40. In recent years the Society had subsidised lunch for those attending the AGM as a way of encouraging attendance. However, catering in the WO & SR's mess had been disappointing and he felt we needed to look at alternatives. He said that previous attempts at holding events in other locations had been less than successful – one AGM in London managed 2 members in addition to the Committee and Officers and the get together in Coventry to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society had only managed to meet the minimum numbers by dint of him inviting members of his own family.

- b. Joe said as had reported at the previous Committee that he had been in touch with the Royal Maritime Club (Royal Sailors' Rest/'Aggie Weston's'). Costs for the AGM without lunch would be just under £20 per head. Single and double room accommodation is available. As suggested at the previous Committee he had been in touch with HMS Warrior and another Portsmouth Dockyard venue. Both venues used outside caterers. HMS Warrior had said that to hold our AGM with lunch for 40 would cost approximately £750. The Dockyard venue prices started at £40 per delegate for lunch and afternoon coffee. Joe was asked to check with local hotels to see what facilities they could offer to host the AGM.
- c. Doug suggested that with the numbers envisaged attending the AGM we could hold it in the HQ Shack. He had already confirmed with our ex-officio that we could have access to the other half of the building for the day. We could make use of outside caterers to provide a finger buffet rather than having a sit down lunch.
- d. Members will be canvassed not just to get their opinions but to find out the likelihood of them attending were the AGM to be held at one of the different venues. They will be canvassed:
  - i. Through the Yahoo Group (G4JBE) and
  - ii. Setting up a survey on the website (G3ZDF)
  - iii. Newsletter to invite responses to the Secretary(GM6HGW)
- e. Secretary to report the findings of the survey at the next Committee meeting.

## **12. Collingwood Open Day (G4BEQ)**

- a. Doug said we had been asked by Collingwood if we could feed some of the video content collected by our mobile video cameras through a large screen on the parade ground. Dave G8PUO suggested we needed to see the specification before we could decide and Doug had asked for that. Collingwood said they would put us in touch with the suppliers of the lorry and we could deal with them directly.
- b. Secretary to renew NOV for GB6COD
- c. Secretary to prepare some short paragraphs about RNARS to go into Open Day programme
- d. It was agreed that without volunteers the RNARS could not do itself justice. Secretary to canvass members within about 20 miles to try and find volunteers for the day. NL Editor and Yahoo moderator to similarly canvass for volunteers.
- e. It was also agreed that we should have a presence at Sultan Open Day. Secretary to contact Sultan for details of booking a stand.

## **13. New arrangements for email distribution of Newsletter (GM6HGW & G3ZDF)**

- a. Joe reported that after Colin's last problems with his PC he had asked if alternative means of distributing the electronic version of the Newsletter could be found for the next and subsequent issues. Joe said that he had tested out a free service from MailChimp that seemed to

offer the right facilities. The list of those receiving the newsletter would be generated from the membership database.

#### **14. Health & Safety (M0NAF)**

- a. Nigel reported that no Risk Assessment of the Shack and its environs had ever been done. This meant that in the event of an accident the Society would be liable. He pointed out that there should be at least 2 persons present whenever anyone was operating or carrying out maintenance.
- b. Nigel was asked to prepare and display a notice saying that 2 persons needed to be present for any operating or maintenance.
- c. Adrian was asked to look at the insurance implications and report back to the next Committee.

#### **15. Training (M0NAF)**

- a. Nigel that we might shortly be running a course for Sea Cadets. He was asked to keep the Secretary informed about any developments.

#### **16. Reports**

##### **a. Shack Manager**

- i. Not a lot has been done since my last report, but it was Christmas and I do have a life outside RNARS, at least, some of the time.
- ii. The ATU for the Digital bay has been installed. A 125W version was purchased and not the 200W version. The transceiver cannot put out more than 100W so we saved £10.00.
- iii. It is good to report that the shack has seen increased use since my last report. On some Tuesdays it is difficult to find a seat. I hope this continues, and maybe we can open on a second day in the week?
- iv. Training has also continued in the evening. We have now put another serving member through the Foundation course and he has moved straight onto the Intermediate Course. Ian is a Cadet Leader at HMS Excellent and there is a possibility that the cadets may attend the shack at time to both see what we do and to take their Foundation licences.
- v. Sadly there is a lot of work to do ATV wise following the death of Peter Blackborough. He was both an inspiration in his enthusiasm and a source of endless knowledge in the field of ATV. He is and will be sadly missed, but I am grateful to Dave Williams, Frank Cotton and Simon Tribe for stepping into the breach and getting to grips with the needs of Open Day. WE are aiming for a service as good as, if not better, than last year to be put out. There will be extra attractions in the shack this year to attract more visitors.
- vi. Any comments concerning the shack and its running would be gladly received. It is a facility for ALL members, not just those who can attend.

Nigel Auckland  
M0NAF  
Shack Manager

b. **QSL Manager**

- i. No report

c. **Data Comms**

- i. The group ticks along at a steady pace. Mail problems of recent have however caused problems with more than one member having to take rather drastic action to get their computers back on an even keel.
- ii. In spite of numerous warnings and links to information regarding security, some members seem to think it is not their problem! SECURITY is the responsibility of EVERY user.
- iii. Fortunately the Yahoo Group has remained unaffected as yahoo's own anti-spam filtering system is keeping out the worst of the problem mail.

Dave Lacey G4JBE # 0434

Yahoo Group Owner/Moderator

d. **Website Manager**

- i. Just the regular updates to the headlines and the publication of the last of the copies of The Communicator I had.

Joe G3ZDF

- ii. Joe was asked to add a page to the website for the ATV Group.

e. **Area Rep coordinator**

- i. Wally reported that reports continue to go to Colin even though he sometimes does not receive them

f. **Newsletter Editor**

- i. Some of you will be aware that an infected e-mail from a RNARS member slipped through my filter and wasn't picked up by my anti-virus software on the lap-top I use for RNARS and Newsletter traffic. I anticipate that this will caused me problems and probably some expense. It appears the virus was fairly new; hence it slipped past my AVG anti-virus software.
- ii. Similarly it is obvious from the number of phishing mails that circulate from member's addresses on the Yahoo Group that several of the group do not have sufficiently secure passwords as well as not updating their antivirus software. I know that over the years I have distributed the Newsletter by e-mail, my filter and antivirus has protected my lap-top many times.
- iii. My first step is to generate a new address specifically for RNARS traffic. Therefore immediately cancel rnars@colinsmagic.com and use the following for all RNARS mail: news@colinsmagic.com
- iv. The filter setting in the subject will remain the same, ONLY put RNARS in the subject. This also applies to replying to an

e-mail I have sent, you will have to strip out the “re” that most e-mail systems generate in the subject header.

- v. In order to protect my PC’s and all the RNARS addresses I hold, we may have to consider another method of distributing the Newsletter electronically? A sailing group I belong to put their Newsletter on the group web site for members to download. I’d appreciate the views of the committee on this.

Colin Topping

g. **Commodities Manager**

- i. Doug Bowen reported that December had been busy but January was quiet.
- ii. Chairman asked Doug to send 20 copies of the History of the Society to Wally.

h. **Almoner’s Report**

- i. It was reported that all necessary *Sympathy* and *Thinking of You* cards had been sent.

i. **Maintenance Manager’s Report**

- i. Simon submitted a list of equipment (attached) that would be needed by the ATV Group in order to ensure operation on Open Day. This was not discussed.

**17. Date of next Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month

The Meeting closed at 20.37.

PROPOSAL FOR RNARS FREQUENCY ADDITIONS

Date 6<sup>th</sup> December 2015

To Chairman/Committee

Submitted By:

Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society

Doug Cansfield/GOLDJ

Headquarters – HMS Collingwood

RNARS No. 3686

c/o The Secretary.

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES LISTING IN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS FOR USE BY RNARS MEMBERS.

Dear Sirs,

I would like to propose that additional frequencies be added to current published lists within the 40m Band and the 60m Band. (See attached RSGB band Plans for 40m and 60m).

THE 40m BAND.

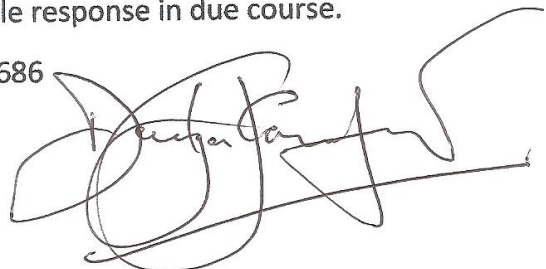
The 40m Band, since 2012, has been expanded to include frequencies above the 7.1 MHz section for use within the amateur allocations. The committee to add an additional 'slot' plus or minus QRM above 7.1 MHz; for use by members, mode primarily SSB; thus giving more flexibility for net activities. (Am cognizant that some members may have equipment not currently capable of operation above 7.1 MHz), which may prompt upgrading.

THE 60m BAND 2015.

The 60m Band has certain restrictions for its use dependent on licence grade and also the issue of a Notice of Variation by OFCOM. However, there is currently a Tri-Service Net (as described by our member Phil/G1LKJ) which flourishes with various amateurs and would like consideration to the adding this particular net/frequency/controller to the RNARS list. Plus a review as to adding a frequency or more within the 60m Band for use as future RNARS nets, reviewing modes, times etc. to suit the society members and meet the criteria of the 60m Band.

Thank you and look forward to a favourable response in due course.

Yours Aye/73 Doug Cansfield/GoLDJ/3686

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Cansfield', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

## 40M

### RSGB Band Plan (effective from 1st January 2012)

The following band plan is largely based on that agreed at IARU Region 1 General Conferences with some local differences on frequencies above 430 MHz.

7 MHz (40m)	Necessary Bandwidth	UK Usage
7,000-7,040 kHz	200 Hz	Telegraphy. 7,030 kHz - QRP Centre of Activity
7,040-7,047	500 Hz	<b>Narrow band modes</b> (Note 2)
7,047-7,050	500 Hz	<b>Narrow band modes</b> , automatically controlled data stations (unattended)
7,050-7,053	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , automatically controlled data stations (unattended), (Note 1)
7,053-7,060	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , digimodes
7,060-7,100	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , SSB Contest Preferred Segment digital voice 7,070kHz; SSB QRP Centre of Activity 7,090 kHz
7,100-7,130	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , 7,110kHz - Region 1 Emergency Centre of Activity.
7,130-7,200	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , SSB Contest Preferred Segment; 7,165kHz - Image Centre of Activity
7,175-7,200	2.7 kHz	<b>All modes</b> , priority for intercontinental operation
Note 1: Lowest LSB carrier frequency (dial setting) should be 7,053 kHz.		
Note 2: PSK31 activity starts from 7,040kHz.		
Since 2009, the narrow band modes segment starts at 7,040kHz.		
LICENCE NOTES: 7,000-7,100 kHz Amateur and Amateur Satellite Service - <b>Primary User</b> .		
7,100-7,200 kHz Amateur Service - <b>Primary User</b> .		

#### Notes to the Band Plan

#### ITU-R Recommendation SM.328 (extract)

**Necessary bandwidth:** For a given class of emission, the width of the frequency band which is just sufficient to ensure the transmission of information at the rate and with the quality required under specified conditions.

The use of Amplitude Modulation (AM) is acceptable in the all modes segments but users are asked to consider adjacent channel activity when selecting operating frequencies.

Foundation and Intermediate Licence holders are advised to check their licences for the permitted power limits and conditions applicable to their class of licence.

## 60M

### RSGB Band Plan (effective from 1st January 2015)

Access to this band is available to Full Licensees only

See Licence Schedule notes for specific conditions

5 MHz (60m)	Available Width	UK Usage
5,258.5-5,264	5.5 kHz	5,262 kHz - CW QRP Centre of Activity
5,276-5,284	8 kHz	5,278.5 kHz - may be used for UK emergency comms traffic
5,288.5-5,292	3.5 kHz	Beacons on 5290 kHz (Note-2), WSPR
5,298-5,307	9 kHz	5,317 kHz - AM 6kHz max. bandwidth
5,313-5,323	10 kHz	
5,333-5,338	5 kHz	
5,354-5,358	4 kHz	5,362-5,370 kHz - Digital mode activity in the UK
5,362-5,374.5	12.5 kHz	
5,378-5,382	4 kHz	
5,395-5,401.5	6.5 kHz	5,403.5kHz - USB common international frequency
5,403.5-5,408.5	3 kHz	
Unless indicated, usage is all-modes (necessary bandwidth to be within channel limits)		
Note 1: Upper Sideband is recommended for SSB activity.		
Note 2: Activity should avoid interference to the experimental beacons on 5290 kHz		
Note 3: Amplitude Modulation is permitted with a maximum bandwidth of 6kHz, on frequencies with at least 6kHz available width		
LICENCE NOTES: Full Licensees only <b>Secondary User: 100W max</b>		
Note that specific conditions regarding operating, transmission bandwidth, power and antennas are specified in the Licence		

#### Notes to the Band Plan

#### ITU-R Recommendation SM.328 (extract)

**Necessary bandwidth:** For a given class of emission, the width of the frequency band which is just sufficient to ensure the transmission of information at the rate and with the quality required under specified conditions.

## **LIST OF EQUIPMENT FOR ATV OPERATION BY SCART (Solent Collingwood Amateur Radio & TV) GROUP.**

The Group by carrying out the televising of HMS COLLINGWOOD Open day for the Royal Navy, help to promote the hobby of ATV/DATV and gives Amateurs an open window to the world. We have in previous years in particular, got the results of the Field Gun Competition Runs and Results out to serving personnel further afield before the RN. We usually get a mention in the Official Royal Navy Magazine. Because the BATC provides the Live Event streaming of our Output which others can log into, it also receives favourable mention and advertising as a result.

### **To that end, the Equipment required, in particular for HMS Collingwood Open Day ATV Coverage but also for other activities.**

- 1 x 23cm Yagi.
- 2 x 23cm TX/RX Analogue Units or separate modules.
- 1 x 13cm (2.4Ghz) Diversity RX
- 1 x 13cm TX to work portable with above RX and Camera(s).
- 2 x BATC Canon Video Cameras (Borrow for Open Day and a lead up for testing & Practice).
- 1 x 4 I/P Video/Sound Mixer Desk
- 1 x PC with Video Capture –Video O/P
- Software for same able to handle Video Download, Editing, and O/Ps.
- 1 x Separate PC for Video Capture/Downloading cards and Recording.
- 1 x Professional tripod (Heavy Duty).
- 1 x Lighting/Speaker Stand.
- 1 x Dual band 2M/70cm TX/RX. Especially for use by talk back from/to camera crews.

### **For Other Events and general running of the station(s) we also need.**

- 1 x 70cm PA.
- 1 x 23cm PA. To increase the output power of IV up to its licensed one.
- Any other 10Ghz units for linking Fort Widley to HMS Collingwood, etc..
- Any other equipment left over, even old coax connectors, etc., for demonstrating/development. Please don't junk anything the group will recycle it/make use of it here.

### **Equipment which belongs to Frank but which Peter was using.**

- 1 x Avair Electronics AV-1000 SWR & Power Meter 1.8-160MHz & 430-1300MHz in a black bag Peter's one had gone faulty and Frank GOLFI lent him his.
- 1 x Alford Slot aerial under evaluation, (belongs to Frank).

### **TEST EQUIPMENT.**

SWR Meter 70cm to 23cm.

Regal Analyzer )

Video Analyzer. )

Colour Bar Generator. )

Frequency Counter )

Multi-meter, Components, Hand Tools, etc..

All of which Peter used to bring in to Collingwood for the Group to test/maintain/train/develop/evaluate the installation. As with all Amateur Installations, ours is constantly being re-evaluated and improved.

### **TRAINING.**

The Radio Shack is an RSGB approved and registered Examination Centre. As a group we carry out the training for Amateur Radio Licences and have approved RSGB Assessors as members and promote the ATV/DATV and the advantages of belonging to the BATC.