



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

**MINUTES**  
**Committee Meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015**  
**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	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU		
	Nigel Auckland	M0NAF		
	Simon Tribe	G0IEY		
	Julia Tribe	G0IUY		
	Bill Mahoney	G3TQM		By Skype
	Nev Grant	G0FOD		
	Al Terry	G4PZV		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Adrian Mori	M0JVM		

**1. Chairman's opening remarks**

The Meeting started at 19.30 and the Chairman welcomed everyone.

**2. Apologies for absence**

- a. As above.

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

- a. Proposed by Wally and seconded by Nigel and agreed unanimously.

**4. Matters arising**

- a. Joe to confirm next year's booking for the AGM with the Mess Manager **DONE**
- b. Wally to report on progress with the booklet on the history of the Society In progress
- c. Bill to draft a press release announcing the repeater. **DONE**
- d. Secretary to contact members in the US and suggest they pay via PayPal **DONE**
- e. Joe to redesign Application Form to include Rally name In progress
- f. Simon to draft the letter and Secretary to send it to ICEE. **DONE**

**5. Chairman's Report**

- a. Doug reminded everyone that Adrian our Treasurer would be stepping down at the next AGM and that we were looking for a volunteer to take over the role. Unlike other Clubs our Membership Secretary handles all aspects of membership so that does not form part of the Treasurer's remit. Furthermore, in these days of online banking it was not necessary for the Treasurer to be local.

- b. Security at Collingwood continues to be tightened. Only regular visitors to the Club will be listed on the Key List. The keys are now held at Main Gate Security. Similarly, only regular visitors to the Shack will be issued with passes. Serving members can use their existing passes.
- c. Doug said he had been in touch with Gavin Keegan about the Easter trip to HMS Belfast that Julia G0IUU had organised. She had been in touch with Marc about parking. Doug would also be meeting Hans DK9OS and Maren DK9MOS who were visiting the UK and who planned to visit the HQ Shack.
- d. He reported that our newest serving member Simon “Brigham” Young had taken his Foundation exam, was planning his Intermediate exam and hoped to take his Advanced in the not too distant future. On his return to Faslane Brigham hopes to set up a Club Station on the base and Doug said we would be helping in any way we could.

#### **6. Secretary’s Report**

- a. 50 year membership blazer badges have been collected and along with certificates will be sent to the 5 recipients.
- b. Blazer badges with the new logo were bought at the same time so they will be available from the Commodities Manager.
- c. The filters for the new digital voice repeater GB7RN were purchased at an advantageous price and the equipment is in the process of being installed. The equipment includes a 3-socket power extension lead with a built-in SIM. This will enable us to switch on and off individual power sockets with text messages.
- d. We hosted an advanced RAE/RCF exam in December. There were 4 candidates and just 1 passed.
- e. At the suggestion of a member I am contacting members in and around Belfast to see if they would be willing to set up a station on HMS Caroline which is berthed in that city.

Joe G3ZDF

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

- a. Wally reported that we are just ahead on membership and the rate of gaining new members was slow.
- b. He said that renewals after 1<sup>st</sup> February would be counted towards 2015/16 subscriptions. He said that members still tend to pay their subscriptions on the anniversary of their joining rather than on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Wally G4DIU

#### **8. Treasurer’s Report (received after the meeting)**

- a. The Balances for the minutes were;
  - i. Current Account £687.87
  - ii. Deposit account £16,443.30

Adrian 2E0JVM

#### **9. Open Day**

- a. Chairman reported that he had spoken to the Open Day Team. We would be doing the same as last year.

- b. He said it was essential that we get our camera teams on the Parade Ground and a camera on the dais.
- c. He confirmed that he had asked for 3 senior rates to accompany the camera teams.
- d. He had also asked that ships and shore establishments be advised of the live streaming on BATC.TV. This also includes a facility for sending live messages back to Collingwood.
- e. He said we would have a full dress rehearsal 2 days before Open Day to confirm everything was in place and functioning.
- f. Simon suggested that camera teams would need high visibility passes in order to avoid the problems they had last Open Day.
- g. Secretary to arrange NOV with OFCOM for GB6COD.

#### **10. Report from Sub-Committee on attendance at rallies (G3TZM)**

- a. Bill submitted his report along with a supplement both of which are attached to these Minutes.
- b. There was a wide ranging discussion about the purposes of attending rallies and whether attendance was cost-effective. The Treasurer had reported that the cost of attendance at the Newark Rally/HamFest was of the order of £550.
- c. Bill suggested that if the purpose of attending rallies was to get some publicity we might get a better return by taking out a half page ad in Practical Wireless.
- d. It was agreed unanimously that
  - i. We cancel attendance at the Newark Rally
  - ii. We only attend rallies where the cost of attending is minimal.

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

- a. Chairman reported that the quality of the food served in the WO & SRs Mess to attendees at the AGM last year was of very poor quality and that it had been suggested we consider alternative catering arrangements for this year's AGM.
- b. Mick said he had been told that the reason for the poor quality was that the Mess had had an unexpected increase in the number of Collingwood staff coming in for lunch.
- c. Various types of self-catering were proposed and discussed. However, it was pointed out that self-catering would bring its own problems of food hygiene and cleanliness.
- d. It was agreed by a majority to give the Mess a last chance but to advise them of the exact numbers who would be attending and to agree a specific time with the Mess Manager. If the meal this year is not satisfactory then we will look at the alternatives.

#### **12. Canvass of Submarine ARC**

- a. Secretary reported that in an effort to make better use of the HQ Shack he had written to some 45 members of the former Sub Club who lived in the PO and SO postcode areas inviting them to join or rejoin the Society and to see if they would like to come into the Shack on a regular day. He had 4 replies, one saying that the addressee had not

lived at the address for some 25 years, a second saying that the addressee had unfortunately died 2 years previously, a third rejoined the Society and fourth who wrote quite a detailed letter explaining why he would not be rejoining the Society. An anonymised copy of this letter is attached.

- b. The points raised in the letter were discussed particularly and the Secretary was asked to reply with some of the comments which had been discussed.
- c. The Chairman went on to say that we were able to occupy the HQ Shack thanks to the Captain of HMS Collingwood not MOD.

### **13. Life Membership conditions (G4DIU)**

- a. Wally questioned whether we should be accepting more applications for Life Membership in view of the numbers we already had.
- b. The 2014 Constitution says:
  - c) Life Membership - open to members who have completed 30 years membership and on payment of a lump sum of five years subscription at the highest rate payable at the time of application.*
- c. The 2007 Constitution additionally said:
  - The total of Life Membership shall not exceed 10% of the total paid up membership.*
- d. Currently we have 681 members of which 119 or 18% are Life members.
- e. It was agreed unanimously that there should not be any change to current practice.

### **14. Managers' Reports**

- a. **Shack Manager**
  - i. Much has been done since the last Committee meeting.
  - ii. A big clear out and tidy up of the workshop area was completed. This has got rid of items that were useless and given us more storage, and made the workshop look inviting to use. I would like to express my thanks to Neville for the help he gave me with this.
  - iii. The electrics in the workshop have been brought up to a modern and safe standard. There are now plenty of sockets along the workbench, with an RCD and a master breaker, and the same has been installed on the other side of the room for the two repeaters. An additional double socket with its own RCD has been installed on the Repeater side of the workshop for the use of tools and equipment when working on the servers. We owe Simon Tribe a big vote of thanks for this work. We are lucky to have somebody with his knowledge and experience, and willingness.
  - iv. The equipment store was checked and surplus equipment identified. This was taken to the Harwell RC rally at Didcot and sold. A total of £1424.00 was raised to defray the 2M

repeater costs and the electrical work. It was hard work but well worth the effort. A bog "Thank You" to everyone involved.

- v. A new 2M aerial for the repeater has been installed on the south mast (please note that in future the masts will be referred to as North and South masts, the North mast being on the entrance door side of the shack), together with a 2m Yagi array for 2M SSB use. New cable has been used to ensure the best response from the aerals. We are still waiting for the wire cable on the mast to be replaced.
- vi. A new transceiver has been put in the digital bay and correctly set up. I am pleased to say that the Delta Loop aerial is now very efficient and digital modes are fully operational.
- vii. We now have to replace the electrics in the radio room and at the same time I intend to install backing boards in every bay. The sockets will then be on these backing boards with a breaker for each bay. These will have a neon on them so there will be no excuse for leaving anything switched on!!! At the same time the aerial cables will be taken under the bench and put in trunking. Each cable will also be identified with labels at each end, and along its length, for ease of maintenance at later dates. This will make the Radio Room both safe and very efficient and clean looking in time for Open Day. I do apologies but whilst this work is being undertaken it will not be possible to use the radios. We will get through the work as quickly as we can but it may mean that for two weeks we cannot transmit.
- viii. Finally a plea for help. It is time to Spring Clean the shack. It would be foolish to make everything look ship shape and Bristol fashion and then have dirty windows, cobwebs and dirty carpets!!! It would be a great help if we could have a team of WILLING volunteers to help with this. It would only take one Tuesday if we had a decent team and any carpet shampooing could be left until just before we close the shack to enable the carpets to dry. I am willing to accept the names of volunteers by phone e-mail, note or verbally!!!!!!

**Nigel Auckland, M0NAF Shack Manager**

- ix. Thanks to help from Dave G8PUO and Paul M0LRE for their help with the set up of the new repeater. For the moment it is only operating as a plain repeater.
- x. Nigel said that when the power trunking in the operating bays is complete Simon G0IEY will list everything that was used and will publish user instructions.
- xi. Mick G3LIK questioned whether the ATU in the HF bay was working correctly and whether a new one was needed. Nigel said that as far as he was concerned it was working fine but that he would check it. (Subsequent to the Meeting Nigel confirmed that the ATU was working properly.)

b. **QSL Manager**

No report

c. **Data. Comms. Manager's Report** for the RNARS Committee

Meeting to be held on 12th February 2015.

There is nothing to report.

73, Diana ~~~~~G0RNO/3926~~

a. **Web Site**

i. Some more copies of The Communicator added to the site. I am now scanning the copies that were loaned to me by a non-member in Yorkshire.

ii. A new page was added with the history and other details of HMS Collingwood.

.Joe G3ZDF

b. **Area Rep Co-ordinator**

Nothing to report.

c. **Newsletter Editor**

i. . The Spring edition is almost full. I have set the date for final submissions to the Spring edition which has been promulgated. Therefore publication date could be as early as the first of March.

Regards to all, Colin

d. **Commodities Manager**

ii. Doug said that the current system was working quite well. He holds about £450 worth of good in stock covering 1 size of each of the customisable items of clothing. As 1 item is bought and sent for embroidering he orders a replacement.

**15. Other items**

a. Nigel the Shack Manager reminded everybody that they needed to sign the Attendance Book even if they only came into the Workshop. For that reason there will be a second signing in book in the Workshop.

**16. Date of next Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month

# **PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR SOCIETY ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE RALLIES**

**Prepared by AG Walker, D Lacey and W Mahoney**

## **Background**

For some time now, there has been concern expressed about the presence or otherwise of the RNARS at various radio rallies and events around the UK and, in one case, abroad. In the past there have been many volunteers who have come forward to run a stand at a number of the radio rallies around the country. At one time there was a network of Regional Representatives who managed, in a small way, a few of those volunteers. However, in recent times the regional representatives have not been forthcoming. The numbers of rallies and events have also reduced in number and perceived costs of attending were rising.

The RNARS committee called upon volunteers for a sub- committee to study the situation and come up with some ideas for improvement. The authors of this report were formed as the sub-committee to produce a strategy.

In general, organisations exhibit at shows and events for a number of reasons whatever their business. Each of these has a number of objectives for attending, largely to do with marketing, sales, image and unique selling point which may give them the edge over the opposition. The RNARS is similar in some ways to this and the various attributes are discussed below.

### **1. Objective of rally attendance:**

The main reason for the Society attending these events is for marketing the Society to potential new members. In addition, there is the image to be portrayed, i.e. “flying the flag”, literally in some cases. The main objective remains to sign up new members. The social aspect of existing members visiting the stand is secondary.

### **2. Assembling a list of preferred rallies**

There are many rallies and events throughout the calendar year in many parts of the UK. Some are big show events, for example the “National Hamfest” at Newark in Nottinghamshire. Some others can be little more than “car boot sales”. Luckily, there is a published list of these events produced by the RSGB, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. As the list is not always up-to-date and may not cover the whole of the calendar year, it is essential that the rallies and events are monitored for any new events posted.

Past practice has been to attend specific or particular events, e.g. the Flight Refuelling Rally, Longleat (when it was running), Kempton Park, etc. There is no reason to discontinue this practice.

### **3. Assessing rally attendance costs**

In order to assess the rate of return on the investment of attending, the any costs imposed by the event organisers need to be taken into consideration. Included in the costs should be travel expenses and accommodation if necessary. Some of the events attract no charges from the organisers but these may tend to be the smaller ones.

### **4. Notification to committee**

Once the Committee has decided to which events the Society should attend and the call goes out to volunteers, then The Membership Manager, A G Walker G4DIU needs to be notified as early as possible of those members that intend to go to specific rallies especially when representing the Society.

### **5. Submitting request to attend**

Similarly, if members wish to volunteer to represent the RNARS at a specific event then they should contact the Membership Manager/rallies co-ordinator at the earliest opportunity.

## **6. Attendance requirements**

Past practice has seen that Society stand managers at events have been well-behaved and are aware that representing the Society is a reflection of the Senior Service. The Society expects members to dress accordingly.

## **7. Package of documentation**

One of the purposes of exhibiting at events is the giving out of information. To this end, there has been a variety of documentation available based on the Society's activities. These include application forms, awards information sheet, RNARS radio frequencies and sked times, etc., and are listed at **Appendix B**. Copies of these documents are available on request. In the past, a number of copies have been printed, held at HQ, with the Secretary or regional Reps, etc. One of the problems is gauging just how many copies are needed at each event. In addition some have to be disposed of by becoming out-of-date rendering any stocks held useless. By standardising these documents, they can be sent electronically to the attending member/s for them to print off a small quantity sufficient for their needs. By so doing this eliminates the amount of postage to get documents up and down country. However, it would be useful for a few of the surplus copies of past Newsletters to be circulated to members attending events.

### **Proposal**

There now follows the need for action by the Committee to adopt a strategy for rallies based on the information provided above.

In view of the best possibility of success at any of the events, it is suggested that the Committee study the rallies list at the earliest opportunity with a view to selecting the preferred rallies to attend.

However, it is considered that once the Committee has selected the rallies to which it is committed to having a presence that an announcement is made at the earliest opportunity by all the means available to the Society to publicise the fact. It may be prudent to then ask for volunteers and also asking any existing volunteers which rallies or events they would be willing to attend on behalf of the Society.

Where costs of attending an event are identified, it has to be decided by the Committee whether it would be a good return on the investment (ROI) to attend. Some measure of this figure can be assessed by referring to past history of attendance figures and sales of commodities at events.

Members of the Society will need to inform the Membership Manager as soon as they commit to attending on behalf of the Society. This will need to be circulated by the Committee twice a year.

Documentation will have to be reviewed periodically by Committee to ensure that it is up-to-date.

These actions should ensure that the Committee retains a measure of control over representation of the Society to a high standard.

29 January 2015



## **Appendix A**

### **RSGB Rallies List as at 10 Jan 2015**

18 JANUARY

HATHERLEIGH RADIO RALLY – Hatherleigh Community Centre. Bowling Green Lane, Hatherleigh, Okehampton, Devon EX20 3HB. OT 10am, £2. Roger, 2E0RPH, 01822 852 871.

18 JANUARY

RED ROSE WINTER RALLY – The George H Carnall Leisure Centre, Kingsway Park, M41 7FJ. Easily accessible from M60 J9 (opp. Trafford Centre). OT 11am. CP (free), TS, B&B, SIG, C, DF, DIS, RSGB Bookstall. John, 07840 389 427. [www.wmrc.org.uk].

25 JANUARY

HORNCastle WINTER RALLY – Horncastle Youth Centre, Lincolnshire LN9 6DZ. OT 10.30, £1.50, DF, C, free CP. Tony, G3ZPU, 01507 527 835, tony.nightingale@yahoo.co.uk.

1 FEBRUARY

30th CANVEY RADIO & ELECTRONICS RALLY – ‘The Paddocks’, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex SS8 0JA (southern end of A130). Free CP, OT 10.30. C, DF, TS. Vic Rogers, G6BHE, 01702 308 562, nvr@blueyonder.co.uk. [www.southessex-ars.co.uk].

8 FEBRUARY

HARWELL RADIO AND ELECTRONICS RALLY – Didcot Leisure Centre, Mereland Road, Didcot. TI S22, free CP, OT 9.45/10.00, £3 (under 12’s free). TS, FM, SIG, LB, C, DF. Ann, G8NVI, 01235 816 379, ann.stevens@btinternet.com. [www.g3pia.org.uk].

15 FEBRUARY

RADIO-ACTIVE RALLY – Civic Hall, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 5DG. OT 10.30, £, TS, B&B, C, DF, WIN. Jayne 07926 078 232, Jayne.ruscoe@yahoo.com. [www.midcars.org].

22 FEBRUARY

BRATS RAINHAM RADIO RALLY – Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0BX. TI, OT 10.00/9.30, TS, SIG. David Filby, 2E0DCN, Dfilby191@yahoo.com. [www.brats-qth.org].

22 FEBRUARY

PENCOED ARC TABLE TOP SALE – Pencoed RFC, The Verlands, Felindre Rd, Pencoed CF33 5PB off at J35 M4. Tables £5, OT 8.30am sellers, 9:30am buyers, £2, C. Madeline Roberts, 01639 885 126. [www.mw0prg.co.uk/events.uk]

1 MARCH

EXETER RADIO & ELECTRONICS RALLY – America Hall, De La Rue Way, Pinhoe Exeter EX4 8PW. OT 10.15/10.30, £2. TS, B&B, C. Pete, G3ZVI, 07714 198 374, g3zvi@yahoo.co.uk.

8 MARCH NEW VENUE

30th WYTHALL RADIO CLUB RALLY – WRC HQ, Wythall Park, Silver Street, Wythall B47 6LZ. OT 9.30/10am, £3, CP, TS, C, LB, DF. John, 07428 055 931, m1jss@ymail.com. [www.wrcrally.co.uk].

15 MARCH

DOVER RADIO RALLY – Whitfield Village hall, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, Dover

CT16 3LY. Doors open at 10am and the auction starts at 12.30pm. The rally ends at 1pm. Entrance price for visitors is £2. For booking form for tables, please visit the website. [www.darc.org.uk].

#### 21 MARCH

40th DUTCH NATIONAL RADIO FLEA MARKET – “Autotron”, Rosmalen, just off A59 motorway. TI PI4SHB, 145.500MHz, CP, OT 9am. TS, FM, C. Details: info@radiovlooiemarkt.nl. [www.radiovlooiemarkt.nl].

#### 22 MARCH

LAUGHARNE RADIO RALLY –Millenium Memorial Hall, Laugharne SA33 4QG. OT 10am (9.30am) to 2pm, £FREE, tables free, WIN, C. Matthew, GW6KOA, 01994 427 581, matthew.twyman63@btinternet.com.

#### 29 MARCH

DEVON & CORNWALL REPEATER GROUP + CALLINGTON ARS RALLY – Callington Town Hall, Callington, Cornwall PL17 7BD. OT 10am, £2, CP, B&B, Camping site available. Roger, 2e0rph@gmail.com

#### 12 APRIL

HACK GREEN BUNKER RALLY – Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 8AL Sale of electronic equipment, amateur gear, components, military radio sets and vehicle spares. OT 10.00, TS, C. Lucy, 01270 623 353, Lucy@hackgreen.co.uk. [www.hackgreen.co.uk]

#### 12 APRIL

WEST LONDON RADIO & ELECTRONICS SHOW (Kempton Rally) – Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Road East, Sunbury on Thames, TW16 5AQ. TI, free CP, OT 9.50/10am. TS, FM, B&B, SIG, C, DF, WIN, LEC. Paul, M0CJX, 08451 650 351, info@radiofairs.co.uk. [www.radiofairs.co.uk].

#### 12 APRIL

31st YEOVIL QRP CONVENTION – Digby Hall, Hound Street, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3AA (adjoining the central shopping car park). TI S22, CP, OT 9.30-3.00, £3, TS, LEC, B&B, C, DF. Steve, G7AHP, 01803 666 407, steve@g7ahp.co.uk.

#### 12 APRIL

52nd NORTHERN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION EXHIBITION (Blackpool rally) – Norbreck Castle Exhibition Centre, Blackpool FY2 9AA. TI, CP, OT 10.15/10.30. TS, B&B, SIG, MT, LB, C, DF, RSGB book stall. Dave, M0OBW, 01270 761 608, dwilson@btinternet.com. [www.narsa.org.uk].

#### 19 APRIL NEW DATE

WEST LONDON RADIO & ELECTRONICS SHOW (Kempton Rally) – Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Road East, Sunbury on Thames, TW16 5AQ. TI, free CP, OT 9.50/10am. TS, FM, B&B, SIG, C, DF, WIN, LEC. Paul, M0CJX, 08451 650 351, info@radiofairs.co.uk. [www.radiofairs.co.uk].

#### 3 MAY

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND RADIO RALLY – Aviemore Primary School and Community Centre, Muirton, Aviemore PH22 1SF. TS, SIG, RSGB bookstall, CP. OT 10.30am-4pm. Free tables for clubs and private sellers. Seating area. Roy, GM4VKI, 01563 850 976, rkavampsev@btinternet.com.

#### 3 MAY

DAMBUSTERS HAMFEST – Thorpe Camp Visitor Centre, Coningsby, Lincs LN4 4PE. TI S22, GB3FR, £3, RAF heritage centre on site. Overnight camping by appointment. C, OT 10am. Mainly an outdoor rally but some limited space is available indoors. Contact tony.nightingale@yahoo.co.uk. [www.thorpecamp.org].

4 MAY (Bank holiday Monday)

DARTMOOR RADIO RALLY – Tavistock College, Crowndale Road, Tavistock, Devon. PL19 8DD. OT 10.15/10.30, £2, Free CP, No TI, TS, B&B, SIG, C, DF. Roger Hann, 2E0RPH, 01822 860 619, 2E0RPH@gmail.com.

31 MAY

BLACK COUNTRY RADIO RALLY – Portway Lifestyle Centre, Newbury Lane, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 1HE. OT 9.30am, TI, CP, TS, B&B, SIG, C, DF, WIN, £2, RSGB Book Stall. Martin, radio-circle@live.co.uk

6 JUNE

SUSSEX ELECTRONICS & RADIO FAIR (SERF 2015) – Eastbourne Sports Park, Cross Levels Way, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 2UF. info@serf.org.uk [www.serf.org.uk]

7 JUNE

SPALDING & DARS ANNUAL RALLY – The Sir John Gleed Technology School, Halmer Gardens, Spalding, Lincs PE11 2EF. TI S22, free CP, OT 10am. TS, C, CBS. John, G4NBR, 07946 302 815, rally-secretary@sdars.org.uk. [www.sdars.org.uk].

14 JUNE

14th JUNCTION 28 QRP RALLY – South Normanton Alfreton and District Amateur Radio Club in association with the G QRP Club. Alfreton Leisure Centre, Church Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 7BD. 10 mins from M1 J28 and the A38. TI S21, OT 10am. TS, SIG, C, LB. Anya Lawrence, 2E0BQS, 0115 930 7322, adylawri@btinternet.com. [www.snadarc.com].

20 JUNE

SOUTH LANCS SUMMER RALLY – Bickershaw Labour Club, Bickershaw Lane, Bickershaw, Wigan WN2 5TE. OT 9.00 (traders 7.30). £2.50, B&B, C, DIS, CP, SIG, DF, TS, LB. Jason, G0IZR 01942 735 828. [www.slarc.co.uk/rally].

21 JUNE

28th NEWBURY RADIO RALLY – Newbury Showground, next to M4 J13. TI S22 (V44), free CP, OT 9am (visitors), 8am (sellers). Visitors £2.50, CBS pitch £12.50. Huge radio, electronics & computing boot sale including demonstration marquee with display of amateur radio on air (SSB, CW, & DATA), air traffic radar, plus clubs and national society stands. TS, C, CBS, WIN, DF, FM, SIG. Contact rally@nadars.org.uk. [www.nadars.org.uk].

28 JUNE

WEST OF ENGLAND RADIO RALLY – Cheese & Grain, Bridge Street, Frome, Somerset BA11 1BE. CP, OT 10am-2pm, £2.50. TS, RSGB book stall, C, DIS. Shaun, G8VPG, 01225 873 098, rallymanager@westrally.org.uk. [www.westrally.org.uk].

19 JULY

FINNINGLEY ARS SUMMER RALLY – The Hurst Radio Communications Centre, Belton Road, Sand toft, Doncaster DN8 5SX. Easily accessible from M180 J1/J2. OT 10am, £3, TS, CP, B&B, TI S21, RSGB bookstall. Kevin, G3AAF, 07831 614 640. [www.finningleyrally.co.uk].

19 JULY

McMICHAEL RADIO RALLY & CAR BOOT SALE – Reading Rugby Football Club, Holme Park Farm Lane, Sonning Lane (B4446), Sonning on Thames, Reading RG4 6ST. TI, free CP, £2, LB, C, SIG, WIN, TS, CBS, OT 9:30. Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697. [www.mcmichaelrally.org.uk].

26 JULY

HORNCastle SUMMER RALLY – Horncastle Youth Centre, Lincolnshire LN9 6DZ.  
OT 10.30, £1.50, DF, C, free CP. Tony, G3ZPU, 01507 527 835,  
tony.nightingale@yahoo.co.uk.

9 AUGUST

FLIGHT REFUELLING ARS HAMFEST – Cobham Sports and Social Club Ground,  
Merley, nr Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3DA. TI S22, CP, OT 10.00, TS, CBS, LB, C.  
Tony Baker, G3PFM, hamfest@frars.org.uk. [www.frars.org.uk].

4 OCTOBER

HORNSEA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RALLY – Floral Hall, 7 The Esplanade, Hornsea,  
East Yorks HU18 1NQ. OT 10am, CP, TS, B&B, SIG, RSGB, RAFARS, LB, C, DF,  
WIN. Details from Rick, M0CZR, 01964 533 712, R106221@aol.com.  
[www.hornseararc.co.uk].

11 OCTOBER

HACK GREEN BUNKER RALLY – Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker, Nantwich,  
Cheshire CW5 8AL. Electronic equipment, amateur gear, components, military  
radio sets and vehicle spares. OT 10am, TS, C. Lucy, 01270 623 353,  
Lucy@hackgreen.co.uk. [www.hackgreen.co.uk].

18 OCTOBER

HOLSWORTHY AMATEUR RADIO RALLY – Holsworthy Community College, Victoria  
Hill, Holsworthy EX22 6JD. TS, B&B, C, DIS. Enquiries to  
<http://harc.postalboard.com/login>. [www.radioclubs.net/harc/]

25 OCTOBER

26th GREAT NORTHERN HAMFEST – Barnsley Premier Leisure Complex, Queens  
Road, Barnsley S71 1AN or follow the brown Metrodome signs. GNHF in  
association with SYRG. OT 10am, TS, SIG, C, FAM. Ernie, G4LUE, 07984 191 873.  
[www.gnhf.co.uk].

8 NOVEMBER

WEST LONDON RADIO & ELECTRONICS SHOW (Kempton Rally) – Kempton Park  
Racecourse, Staines Road East, Sunbury on Thames, TW16 5AQ. TI, free CP, OT  
9.50/10am. TS, FM, B&B, SIG, C, DF, WIN, LEC. Paul, M0CJX, 08451 650 351,  
info@radiofairs.co.uk. [www.radiofairs.co.uk].

15 NOVEMBER NEW VENUE

CATS RADIO & ELECTRONICS BAZAAR – Coulsdon Community Centre, Chipstead  
Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BE. Limited on site parking (50), street  
parking available. OT 10am-2pm, £1 including a complimentary tea or coffee,  
B&B, C, DIS. Glenn, G4FVL, bazaar@catsradio.org.

15 NOVEMBER

PLYMOUTH RADIO CLUB RALLY – Harewood House, The Ridgeway, Plympton,  
Plymouth PL7 2AS. CP, TI, OT 10am, £2, TS, C. Sheila Hart, 2E0YSH, 07815 542  
477, sheo@fsmail.net.

5 DECEMBER

SOUTH LANCS WINTER RALLY – Bickershaw Labour Club, Bickershaw Lane,  
Bickershaw, Wigan WN2 5TE. OT 9am, traders 7.30am. £2.50, B&B, C, DIS, CP,  
SIG, DF, TS, LB. Jason, 01942 735 828.

## **Appendix B**

### **List of RNARS documentation pertaining to rallies and events**

**RNARS Membership Application form**

**RNARS Attendance sheet Jan2015**

**RNARS Commodities Jan2015**

**RNARS NETS AND FREQUENCIES Jan2015**

**RNARS Scene of Activity frequencies**

**RNARS Awards Jan 2015**

## **SUPPLEMENT TO PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR SOCIETY ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE RALLIES**

**Prepared by AG Walker, D Lacey and W Mahoney**

### **Assessing rally attendance costs**

At the RNARS Committee meeting held this evening the following additional information was made available to the meeting:

“Costs vary from rally to rally. For societies and clubs some are free, some are free but extra tables are charged and some charge for any tables at all. For example, the Harwell Rally at Didcot which the Society attended cost £17 for the extra table on which to display the surplus equipment for sale. This was probably the best ever return on investment for the Society. Newark rally has been “hijacked” by the RSGB and is the worst ROI for the Society.”

The following charges available at this time were given to the meeting when asked for by the Chairman:

Pencoed	£5
Wythall	£20
Dover	£12.50
Kempton	£27
Yeovil	£10
Sussex (Eastbourne)	first table free, extras £15
South Lincs	£8 (pre-booked), £10 on the day
Newbury	£12.50; plot 5m x 5m £10
Mc Michael	Free to Societies but boot pitch £10, £12 on the day.

At around this time in the meeting it was stated that the costs for the Newark event, including transport to and from and including accommodation, was approximately £544

This information was provided at the request of the Chairman during the course of the meeting and assisted in making the decisions concerning attendance at future rallies.

12 February 2015

## Response to Sub Club canvass

Dear Mr Kirk,

Thank for your 7<sup>th</sup> January letter inviting me to rejoin the RNARS, a matter to which I have given due and serious consideration. Quite frankly I do not see that the current structure and operation of the RNARS at Collingwood is of any real benefit to those members who cannot take advantage of the facilities of the HQ station. It is one reason in addition to 'age' why I resigned from membership of the RNARS Committee and RNARS and now decline your kind invitation to rejoin.

In practice the RNARS membership and RNARS affiliated societies as a whole are perceived as subsidizing the activities and interests of the few. The social activity, amateur television, D-Star, 2M digital voice repeater, Hamsphere and many of the modes to which your letter refers can only be of benefit to those few RNARS members living in the area and/or able to visit Collingwood on a regular basis. That this is so has been confirmed by discussing the activities of the RNARS with members or ex members known to me. Needless to say there are differing opinions, members living at a distance see little or no real benefit from RNARS membership and have either left the Society or are considering doing so and ex RNARS members see no valid reason to rejoin. One member went as far as to say that he no longer bothers to open his electronic Newsletter which he deletes on receipt and only continues with membership because he is a 'life member'. Another 'local' visits Collingwood primarily for social reasons and possible use of the 'local' facilities.

As an 'outsider' I have my own views, opinions and a few positive suggestions too. RNARS members subscriptions should be 'ring fenced' and used only to fund capital or other expenditure of benefit to **all RNARS members, not just the few or 'locals'**. Thus the question to be asked of the RNARS Committee is 'are proposals to acquire equipment, to operate a facility or support a particular operation be technically justified and fully comply with such criteria? In this respect if it fails this test then the proposal must be rejected and the answer a firm 'not approved'. A full and proper inventory should also be kept of RNARS owned equipment with disposal when surplus to requirements fully documented and accountable. Consideration should also be given to what can be done for the benefit of more distant RNARS members – what would they like to see? The Newsletter is the only apparent universal benefit. Some or all of the foregoing may already be happening, if so it does not seem to be particularly well known.

This then leaves the matter of 'local interest' I suggest completely separating local members activities from those of the RNARS and reviving the Collingwood Radio Club (CRS) G3CRS. Local RNARS members attending Collingwood would be required to join and be members of CRS and pay a realistic subscription to CRS. CRS would then function as a local Club with its own equipment, funding and accounts and purchasing or paying exclusively from its own funds for those facilities which are of only local benefit (albeit meeting in and accommodated in the RNARS HQ station building). CRS with direct access to and use of RNARS facilities would also pay an agreed and possibly enhanced affiliation fee to the RNARS. Local RNARS members would then be required to join and subscribe to RNARS membership in exactly the same way as their 'country cousins'. This places 'locals' at a cost, on the same footing as the more distant RNARS members albeit with the benefit of use of RNARS HQ facilities and equipment, fairer then to all.

Now to my final point, if as I suspect, your letter indicates a continuing drop in RNARS membership, something common to many Societies and Clubs then what of the future? You are in a better position than me to say what potential for new members there are from within the RN. If the realistic answer is 'not a lot' then what other possibilities exist. Knowing that the RAFARS and RSARS are facing similar problems, maybe the time has come to consolidate resources and form a 'Joint Services Radio Society'. I believe such a proposal has already been made by the MOD who to some extent subsidizes the RNARS and others. Such support becomes politically difficult for the MOD to justify particularly when the majority of RNARS members are no longer in uniform and other service 'in uniform' societies claim similar support.

Please feel free to telephone or e-mail should you wish to talk over any of the issues raised, my phone number and E-mail address are at the heading to this letter.