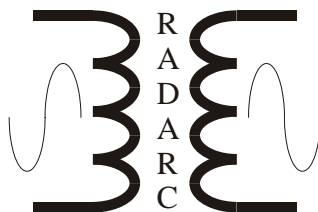


**Reading and  
District Amateur  
Radio Club**



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Thursday 12th December 2002

**Agenda**

*Chairman Opens The Meeting*  
*Treasurer's Report*  
*Chairman's Report and Presentation of Awards*  
*Election of the New Committee*  
*Any Other Business*



# TREASURERS REPORT

DECEMBER 2002

Once again RADARC has completed a successful year, with some great meetings and also contest results, reported elsewhere. Membership is slightly down at 32, and one is immediately reminded that G3PGM is not with us any more. It has been found that the membership list is not up to date with respect to addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses, which is essential if members are to receive communications such as the notice of the AGM etc. To correct this, you are asked to complete the new forms with your call sign and name and address. Please also supply telephone number and email address if possible, and please indicate your method of payment and how much. If you pay for two members by cheque, write BOTH call-signs on the back – I'm not a mind-reader, and I often receive many membership fees together on one evening.

Fees remained at £12 for full membership, with a few at the reduced rate for students and retired members at £6. The books are balanced with a slight increase in funds, and we have purchased a quantity of QSL cards at £288.41. Memberships totalled £318 (plus one for 2003) compared with an income of £400 from the McMichael Rally, due to the efforts of Peter G8FRC and Dennis G4KWT. I cannot over-emphasise the importance of this – without two

volunteers to help organise this our membership fees would have to double immediately, and more, as you can see that McMichael brings in more than the membership fees do.

The junk sale brought in £139.25, and essential expenditure consisted of the rent for the tea room (this room) at £193.05, insurance at £212.32 and the RA licences for G3ULT and M0EEE, and the RSGB affiliation totalling £70.50.

The current account stands at £1599.77, including a membership for 2003, compared with £1445.87 at the start of the year and the cash in hand is down from £54.63 to £12.80. The deposit account is unchanged except for the addition of interest, at £540.34, on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2002.

<u>Balance brought forward (12/2001)</u>	<u>£2026.63</u>
Cash-in-hand	£54.63
Lloyds TSB current account	£1445.87
Nationwide building society	£526.13
<u>Balance carried forward (Dec 2002)</u>	<u>£2152.91</u>

Cash-in-hand	£12.80
Lloyds TSB current account	£1599.77
Nationwide building society	£540.34
Surplus	<u>£126.28</u>

Details:-

Income:

Memberships	£330
McMichael	£400
Club Table	£85
Junk Sale	£139.25
Donations	£16.03
Bank Interest	£1.18
Nationwide BS interest	<u>£14.21</u>

£985.67 + £2026.63 = £3012.30

Expenditure

Meeting room (Woodley council)	£193.05
Licences & RSGB affil.	£70.50
Insurance 'ARIS'	£212.32
QSL cards	£288.41

Miscellaneous:	
Repair to HF150 Rx	£9.28
Stationery	£2.68
AGM drinks/food	£59.76
'Rounding up' G3PGM collection	£3.44
Chocs for YLs	<u>£19.95</u>

£859.39 + £2152.91 = £3012.30

Robin Caine, Treasurer

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S BIT

Well, this year has been a bit of a disaster on the Newsletter front. I've appealed for articles and, although in fairness I've had a couple from Graham and Ed, there's not been too much else. My problem has been that I've not really been around much to be able to chase people either.

So where have I been? Since February I've visited 17 different call prefixes in 11 different countries. If you want a list, here goes:

- GM, GW, GI, EI - the easy ones
- F, ON, PB, LX, DB, HB, OH,
- HS (Thailand)

- W5 (New Mexico)
- W6 (California: twice)
- W7 (Arizona: 4 times, Utah and Nevada)
- W9 (Illinois: twice)

Last week alone, I physically entered Germany 5 times and still fitted in a Committee meeting in the middle! When the euro [*spit*] was introduced in January to 12 different countries I had no inkling that I'd be visiting 8 of them by the end of the year...

In amongst all that, I've carried on fulfilling my dream of learning to fly. You'd expect the last thing I'd want to do is spend more time on a 'plane but, trust me, it's far better up the front. Coming back from PB in August over the Channel having a perfect view of the White Cliffs of Dover while overhead Dunkirk will stay with me forever. Mind you, my instructor took ages to understand how I knew the phonetic alphabet so well and could read the beacons' identifiers better than he could. Even the limited Q-Code didn't faze me for some reason and I still get frowned at for saying, "Farnborough, Golf Tango Echo request *QSY* Blackbushe 122.3".

Having mentioned Morse, I have to thank Tom, G0VQR for his encouragement in getting me to use a key. It'll serve me right for showing that I can read slow code, but turning up at his house and being told to "sit there, work the contest" was still great fun. I don't want to rub it in, but on that night this humble



G8 did get more QSOs than two of the Club's M5s put together!

One final story for you... About 2 weeks ago, my home PC was playing up – occasionally locking or giving random errors and even worse than the standard list of Windoze problems - so I took the lid off to fix it. Inside, one of the memory DIMMs was not seated right so I refitted it. When I switched it on again, it got going but the mouse wouldn't work for some reason. Seconds later, there was a crack, all the fans stopped and an interesting acrid burning smell filled the air. Since I'd now disobeyed what I call Jim Carter's rule of Electronics: Keep the smoke in because once you let the smoke out, it'll stop

working; I am now waiting for my new motherboard, CPU and hard drive to turn up. Much of my data was on a backup drive, but I'm not sure yet what I might have lost because I can't get at it. Last year's AGM minutes could well be on there.

So, on that record, I hope I'm excused. I understand that we have a willing volunteer (Harry, G3NGX) to take over producing a newsletter next year. I wish him the very best of luck and will give him all the support I can. I sincerely hope you will too.

73, Des G8FIF

## HFNFD CW

The weather this year for Field day could not have been better. After last year's foot and mouth outbreak it was great to be back in action again.

The thing we really missed this year was help setting up and dismantling the station.

I felt quite exhausted before the contest had even started.

Thank you to Chris M1CYE and Jim G0LHZ.

Without their help field day would not have taken place.

When we fired up the clubs diesel generator we discovered we had 40 over 9 of QRN on the rig while on top band. This was a very important band for us, as it is double points for 160 Meters and 10 Meters.

We only had about half an hour to go before the start of the contest. Luckily for us I had the clubs petrol generator in my garage. By the time I had returned to the site and set up the petrol generator we were already 30 minutes into the contest.

To my surprise Ed G3VMY arrived on site ready to do some operating for about 2 hours. Ed and Jim were using the call M0EEE/P and I was using G3ULT/P. As we were in the QRP sections we could only operate for 12 hours maximum for each call. Ed managed to get some double pointers on 10 meters during his session while the sporadic E was about.

Jim operated on the Saturday evening for a few hours and from about 0730 on Sunday morning.

We had a site inspection this year but it was not from the RSGB. It was Uri Geller and some of his family. This was the second time Uri had visited the contest site. The first was the year before the foot and mouth outbreak. He is always very interested in what we are



**L to R in foreground: Tom, G0VQR; Uri Geller and Jim, G0LHZ**

doing and very friendly.

The results have now been published for HFNFD. G3ULT/P was 3<sup>rd</sup> and M0EEE/P 7<sup>th</sup>. Next year I will try to be better organised, it would be great to get the Reading QRP trophy back home to the Reading club

One person that was greatly missed this year was Eric G3PGM. I know Eric was looking forward to field day, he had specially bought SD contest logger, so he could get some practice using the software before the contest. Eric had suffered with a heart condition for a number of years. I feel one of the

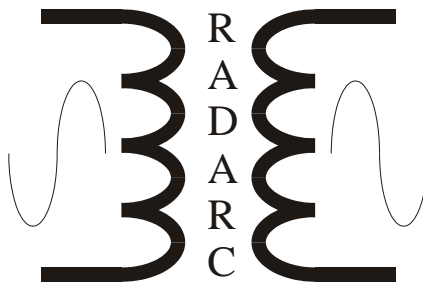
things that helped to keep him going besides his family was his interest in Amateur Radio especially his love of the Morse code.

Eric was a good friend. I will never forget him.

Chris M1CYE took the Morse assessment earlier this year and has now the foundation licence call M3PGM. Both Chris and Des G8FIF were practicing their CW skills at my QTH in the QRS contest (Slow Morse contest) during September. I am hoping they will both part of the operating team next year. They are both very good CW operators.

I am pleased Chris has taken this call, as I am sure he will do the call credit. I would not be surprised if he has won the contest with Des not far behind. Des was using the clubs call M0EEE/P. Chris had the advantage over Des in the contest as he operated for 3 sessions with Des only 2.

Tom, G0VQR



## 2002 IN PICTURES



**Jim Carter, G0LHZ at HFNF**





**Newly-licensed M3FRC and M3LLP (aka G8FRC and G6LLP)**



**2E1LOK (M3LOK), G8NXJ (M3NXJ) and G4KWT. Chris, G7MER is hiding behind Ian**



**PB/G8FIF/AM – formation flying over The Netherlands...**



**ARRL**  
The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO

# QRPDXCC

The Certificate that

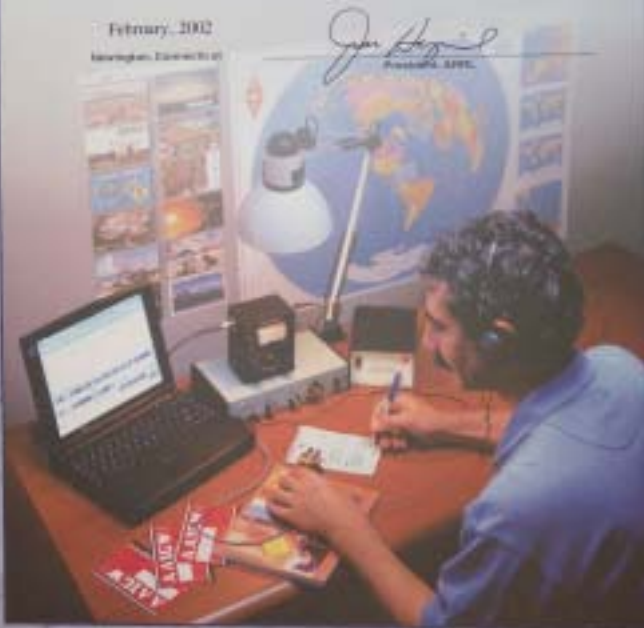
Edward Searle, G3VMY

Has this day submitted an application showing contacts with at least 100 different locations on the ARRL DXCC List and has certified that this has been accomplished using a transmitter power of five watts or less. In the proud tradition of DXCC, this award is issued in recognition of this outstanding achievement.

February, 2002

Washington, D.C. 20038-4242

*John H. ...*  
President, ARRL



**Not just DXCC, but QRP – well done G3VMY!**

# MEETINGS FOR 2003

**Thursday 9th January**

Nick Field on “Tesla Coils”

**Thursday 13th February**

Roy Powers, G8CKN

**Thursday 13th March**

Junk Sale

Meetings are held at:

Woodley Pavillion

Haddon Drive

Woodley

Starting at 8pm on the 2nd Thursday of every month

## **AGM Minutes 12-12-2002**

**1) Chairman Min opened the meeting at 8:20pm with the meeting agenda.**

**2) Treasurer Robin gave his report (as per the booklet), Robin highlighted or mentioned:-**

- 1) Membership is the same price £12.**
- 2) Reiterate McMichael as a source of income.**
- 3) Jim Carter audited accounts which were only 3p out.**
- 4) Membership form was introduced**
- 5) Aerial access will be restricted to named members who shall ask permission of the management before ascending the roof.**
- 6) Room access may be extended to 10:30pm or we must be more prompt at leaving at 10:00.**

**Andy proposed the report.**

**Nick seconded it.**

**3) Chairman Report – 2<sup>nd</sup> Year by Min**

- 1) Endorsement of the M3 license.**
- 2) New committee should look at promoting the club to new blood.**
- 3) Remembrance of Eric.**
- 4) Thanks to repeater groups for coverage.**
- 5) MMR supports are club. Lets support MMR.**

**Robin proposed the report.**

**Alan seconded it.**

- 4) Tom G0VQR was awarded the G5 award for his unstoppable help to the club.**
- 5) New Member Dave Honey M3DHO was awarded the 5 WPM award for his recent pass of the exam.**
- 6) Secretary Chris spoke briefly about the activities of the club.**
- 7) Pubilicity Rep Pete spoke about MMR.**
  - 1) The MMR chairman restood and this prompted the entire committee to restand as none want to see a successful event die through lack of commitment.**
  - 2) A debate ensued about MMR which was controlled by the chairman before the meeting overran.**
- 8) Thanks were made to the outgoing committee.**
- 9) The entire outgoing committee restood with the addition of Harry as ordinary member with special responsibilities for the newsletter.**

Voting went as follows :-

**Min Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pete**

**Chris Secretary 1<sup>st</sup> Vin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob**

**Robin Treasurer 1<sup>st</sup> Don, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris**

**Peter Pubilicity 1<sup>st</sup> Alan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ian**

**Des Ordinary 1<sup>st</sup> Dave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob**

**Harry Ordinary 1<sup>st</sup> Dave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob (sr: Newsletter)**

**Tom Contests Manager 1<sup>st</sup> Andy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave**

## **10) Cheese & Biscuits**

- 1) Vin and Denis acquired a batch of PMR radios which can be modified to 4M. The club members were invited to buy these 4M rigs at £15 (all monies to the club funds).**
- 2) Pete had bought camcorder recording of MMR and BBC Outside Broadcast visits which due to lack of time were never showed.**
- 3) Total Attendance was 23 members.**

January – Paul G4LHF Internet Linking (26)  
February –  
March – Junk Sale  
April – – The Magic of Digital Television (22)  
May – Chris Keen – The Magic of Digital Television (24)  
June – Robin G4IWS and Des G8FIF – Radio Navigation (16)  
July  
August –  
September - Ed Searle – Workable Amateur Techniques (20)  
October – Andy Giefer – Digital Radio Mondial (27)  
November – Chris Taylor ML&S and Paul from Yuesa (24)  
December – AGM (23)