



READING & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# **Reading & District Amateur Radio Club**

**Annual General Meeting**

**8 pm Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

**Woodley Pavilion, Haddon Drive, Woodley.**

## **Agenda**

**Chairman opens the meeting**

**Apologies for absence**

**Adoption of Minutes of the 2006 AGM**

**Chairman's Report**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Secretary's Report**

**Contest Report**

**RAE Licence Courses Report**

**McMichael Rally Report**

**Presentation of awards**

**Election of new Committee members**

**Open forum discussion.**

**Close of meeting followed by cheese and wine.**

## **READING and DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting December 14<sup>th</sup> 2006**

**2006AGM 1** The chairman G4JTR opened the meeting at 2015 hrs with 24 voting members and some visitors present and made the chairman's opening remarks.

**2006AGM 2** Apologies for absence were received from G0JMS, G8FRC and M3PQS

**2006AGM 3** The minutes of the 2005 AGM were accepted

#### **2006AGM 4 Reports**

2006AGM 4.1 Chairman's report: See agenda. Summarized by G4JTR

2006AGM 4.2 Treasurers report: See agenda, but note minor error in total for increase in capital assets – should read £535.89. Summarized by G4IWS.

The accounts were accepted by majority vote, proposed by G3NGX and seconded by G0JTN.

2006AGM 4.3 Contest Report: See agenda. Summarized by G0VQR

2006AGM 4.4 Secretary's Report: See agenda. Summarized by G3NGX

2006AGM 4.5 Foundation Course report: See agenda. Summarized by G3NGX

2006AGM 4.6 McMichael Rally report: See agenda. No summary due to absence of G0JMS

There was a vote of thanks to G0JMS for the rally work.

#### **2006AGM 4.7 Awards:**

The awards were presented after an informal report by G4JTR concerning the general status of club awards, recently tidied up and listed in a new club document, now on the web site.

G5KV Morse Key: to G0JMS for continued commitment to club operation and success.

A1 Award to G3XYX for his dedication to providing PA facilities to the club and McMichael rally over many years.

A2 Novice award to Joe Catt M3YJC for passing the Foundation Exam.

G2FZI Cup award to Dan Philips 2E0ZDA for passing the Intermediate exam.

Construction Cup: to G0LHZ (awarded at the construction contest)

Construction Cup (2nd prize): to Chris Smith J0JTN (replacing cup at construction contest)

Life membership was awarded to **Cliff Bryant, G4PZK** for his continued commitment to the club while living away by providing the free web hosting facilities which add so much to club identity and functioning.

**2006AGM 5** Election. G0LHZ took the chair for the election.

**Chairman:** G4JTR nominated by G4IWS and seconded by G4JNU No other nomination, so G4JTR is elected

**Treasurer:** G4IWS nominated by G0JTN and seconded by G3NGX No other nomination, so G4IWS is elected

**Club Secretary:** G3NGX nominated by M1CYE and seconded by G4ELY No other nomination, so G3NGX is elected.

**Ordinary Member**, (contests manager) G0VQR nominated by G4ELY and seconded by G0LGG No other nomination, so G0VQR is elected

**Ordinary Member**, (McMichael Rally Chairman) G0JMS nominated by G3NGX and seconded by G4KWT, so G0JMS elected.

**Ordinary Member**, (News Letter editor) G8FRC nominated by G0LHZ and seconded by G4KWT, so G8FRC elected.

Ordinary members: A nomination for M0DHO was left aside as there was no written acceptance from him and the constitution only permits a maximum of 3 ordinary members.

(M1CYE and M0DHO were later co-opted onto the committee as allowed by the constitution to help with business as necessary, see section 6 of the Constitution appended.)

The new committee then took over the meeting.

**2006 AGM 6.1** G4IWS proposed a reduction in membership fees from £12 to £10 (scaled for reduced fees) on the basis that membership has risen to double the size of 2001, giving a much larger subscription income. There was a lively debate, and the motion was defeated 13 against, 10 for and one abstention.

**2006AGM 6.2** G4IWS also proposed a gift of £100 to charity as a social gesture, specifically the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, since this is close to home and has some affinity to the radio world without being too close (the club usually donates to GB4FUN and the TVRG anyway). Carried unanimously.

**2006AGM 7** The formalities closed at approx 2130hrs and members enjoyed cheese and biscuits, mince pies and coffee and tea provided as usual by G0VQR.

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## Chairman's Report 2007

It is my pleasure to write the 2007 RADARC AGM Chairman's report after another busy and enjoyable year.

In, 2007, the 73<sup>rd</sup> year of RADARC, the Club has 57 members, very similar to last year plus around 8 complimentary members all of whom have passed the Foundation or Intermediate Courses run by the Club. There is a healthy turn over of members with new faces appearing regularly. I am very pleased that the age distribution of members continues to be very encouraging with many younger members joining. This is without a doubt, due to the exposure of the Club to those people who get complimentary membership by taking the RAE courses run by the Club. This brings me to the theme of this year's AGM Report. **The achievements of RADARC.** There is no doubt that RADARC now achieves an enormous amount each year and puts a lot back into amateur radio.

**M0AAA:-** Our first achievement this year was to re-instate the Club Callsign M0AAA. We originally got this prestigious callsign on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1996 and we put on a special event station to celebrate the issue of the 1<sup>st</sup> "M" prefix UK callsign. (The last "G" calls were issued on 31<sup>st</sup> march 1996). This was a huge success and we used it for several years. It was held by a Club member who subsequently left the Club and we were unable to transfer it. Late last year I noticed it had lapsed and re-applied for it. We were all delighted to get it back in February. We still hold call M0EEE and our original Club call of G3ULT and also the contest call, M4T which has been also used extensively. (This year, these calls made over 24000 contacts during contests, see below)

**RAE Course:-** I don't need to tell you that the RAE courses run by the Club have been very successful. We now run both the Foundation (now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year) and intermediate courses (started Sept. this year), run and managed largely by Harry Hogg, G3NGX. The intermediate course is lot of work. This required 7 sessions at Woodley totalling 22.5 hours of teaching, workshops and a construction project. The bulk of the work was carried out by 2 committee members, Harry and Dave Honey with help from others. The Club Committee agrees that there should be greater involvement from more Club members and I would like to hear from anyone who could provide as little as 1 evening help on future courses. We use the Chelmsford Club Power Point presentations so it's easy to present 1 or 2 topics. I would like to particularly thank Dave Honey, M0DHO, who put in a lot of time on the Intermediate course and organised the construction project for the course. For one session of the Foundation course, an HF Station was set up allowing the candidates to operate and experience the difficulties and achievements of traditional communication by HF radio. This was done by Mike Spooner M0DYD and Steve Christie G3WHB, using the Club's recently replaced doublet antenna.

We also actively support the **Advanced RAE Course** in Reading, run by Club member, Allison Johnson, G8ROG who is also our RSGB Regional Rep. Harry acts as the secretary for this course.

**Club meetings.** Harry has marked his second year as Club secretary with a good programme of meetings. The regime of 2 junk sales per year has paid off very well as the 2 sales this year brought in around **£632** to Club funds. These are now a serious piece of Club business and I believe we should take a good look at this operation in order to ensure it remains a significant source of income. I would like to thank Pete, G8FRC, James, G8XML and Jim GOLHZ for their great assistance as auctioneers. Again, I would like to express special thanks to Graham, G3XYX for the very professional sound reinforcement which he provides for each meeting, especially at the Junk Sales.

**Contests:-** Reading Tom's contest report below, please look at the statistics for M0AAA & M4T contacts. I was amazed at the huge volume of activity which has been generated by Club members. As usual Tom has been the drive behind Club entries in several other contests and this keeps RADARC in the contest listings in RadCom.

**The McMichael Rally:-** This is a terrific achievement and continues to be a success story. I should emphasise how important this event is for the Club, both financially and as a banner, advertising what a successful and well organised Club we are. The rally has a good reputation and we have a very good venue. I can only repeat the thanks due to the many Club members who helped make this a most enjoyable and profitable event. I will again, however, particularly thank Min, G0JMS who has been the McMichael Rally Committee Chairman for yet another year. We all continue to owe a great deal to Min for this commitment. Also to Andy, M5ALG as bookings secretary and Denis, G4KWT for organising talk-in and sign posting. Also Graham G3XYX for setting up and operating the very professional PA system. Tom, G0VQR for organising and transporting lots of tables for the event (loaned to the Rally by Woodley Horticultural society) and organising the Club table which brought in **£200** for this Club. This is in addition to the **£400** we earned as our share of the Rally income. In other words, the event netted the Club **£600**. RADARC is a major player in this enjoyable event and these members need all the support we can give. It looks like the 2008 event is already well supported by the same team and we are most grateful for this.

**Club Visits:-** The 3rd annual visit to Martin Lynch & Sons was on 26<sup>th</sup> April and this was very successful and this is now a regular event. The visit to the REME Museum at Arborfield on Sunday afternoon Nov 11<sup>th</sup> was very good indeed and thanks to Robin for organising that.

**Sale Of Equipment for third parties:-** Whilst the previous two years were very busy 2007 was less active. We did however benefit from the sale of a small amount of equipment from G3MVZ in Chichester including a 300W linear and some very good high power valves. So far about £40 has been raised with more to come. The most exciting event was the disposal of a huge amount of equipment from the Environment Agency's Telemetry Workshops at Fobney, S Reading. The Club was given first pick by an ex-colleague of mine who runs the workshops. Many Club members arranged to visit and "van loads" of gear removed. (some of it appearing at the November Junk sale!) The Club acquired a superb pneumatic, Clark 8M antenna mast which fits in a car boot and can be easily erected by 1 person. This is a major asset.

All the above benefited from **the RADARC Web Site** where events and items for sale are advertised. Without this we would not have been able to dispose of so much so rapidly and efficiently. To this end we have yet again to thank Min, G0JMS who is the Web site keeper and editor. The Web Site is one of the Clubs greatest assets and it gets better each year. It is free to members to advertise items for sale and the Club continues to reap financial benefit from these.

**Other events:-** The **3 Towers Scout Hike** in the Berkshire Downs took place this year, after a year's gap and Club members helped, as usual over the Saturday and Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>. We also helped again with the **South Oxfordshire Christian Aid** Walk in early May and provided Communications on 2M and 4M at the new base station location of Bix Village and at several checkpoints.

Special thanks go to Mike Spooner, M0DYD who selected, purchased and with Tom's help, completely replaced the Club's wire doublet Antenna and supports at the Woodley Pavilion. This now a full size G5RV and has been an immediate success.

Many other activities and interests could be mentioned. I think the Construction Contest demonstrates some of these and thanks to all those who made this such a good Club meeting. This contest has 2 magnificent awards thanks to the generosity of our Honorary Member, Peter Smith G4JNU.

**RADARC Awards:-** The awards will be presented at the AGM and the table below will then be updated. It has been a challenge to decide these as so many members have made contributions to the progress of RADARC.

**Finally:-** 2008 will be RADARC's 74<sup>th</sup> year and the Club is in good shape. The Club has a wide spread of membership age, and this is reflected in a wide range of member interests and has resulted in a well balanced Club. It is involved in a wide range of activities and events. There is no pressure on members to do more than they wish, which may be simply attend the meetings and drink beer and enjoy a chat with like minded people. We are all busy with many other commitments but in fact, the result is that many members support various Club activities because they want to do this. This is greatly appreciated and my thanks to the 2007 RADARC Committee members, Robin, Harry, Pete, Min and Tom, and co-opted members Chris and Dave, who have all worked very professionally as a team to run the Club.

I am very confident that 2008 will see RADARC involved in many more enjoyable events and activities. Let us not, however, become complacent. If we need to embrace new ideas, the committee wants to hear about them. Thanks to you all. In conclusion, I believe that RADARC is a well structured and a well managed, business like Club with an enormous amount going for it. Lets keep it that way

**Vin Robinson, G4JTR, Chairman.**

## **Treasurer's Report November 2007**

This year has been busy for the treasurer with three RAE courses, new equipment including the new Woodford Park aerial, and an auto ATU for field days. The aerial involved some negotiation with Woodford Park Leisure Centre

The figures on the Balance Sheet show a healthy club, with an increase in funds in spite of expenses associated with the RAE courses. A complication is that the figures include room costs for last autumn's Foundation, but not this year's autumn course, albeit similar in cost. The autumn junk sale takes place after the books are closed, so again the figures include last years but not the recent one. They also exclude the McMichael £400, and an outstanding Woodley bill (due to their error), but we are at least £300 better off than the report shows. The deposit account interest is also not entered because Nationwide have failed to send me a statement, in spite of repeated requests.

Sales of junk, SK equipment and the club table are higher than ever, plus the input from the McMichael Rally of £400 all making the club run easily. You might note that membership fees would have to be at least £30 a year without these sums and we should all be grateful for the volunteer effort by a number of people who make all this happen.

Dave Honey M0DHO has sent out a questionnaire asking in advance what you feel would be the best use of our funds in the interest of club activity and benefit, such as might attract more members, and I hope this will lead to some good ideas for the use of these funds.

We have made a loss on one of the RAE courses but overall these nearly break even. The view of the committee ever since these were mooted was that the club was happy to underwrite any cost over-run of these courses but not to subsidise them. We therefore reserve the option to increase the cost of joining a course, but at the present time we feel the club can afford the minor losses of around £50 met with so far. It may be more sensible to cancel courses which are undersubscribed, but we clearly prefer to keep up this facility whenever possible.

This year we have made donations to GB4FUN, 3B7C and the Air Ambulance (TVAC), and this year we propose to make a donation to the Thames Valley Repeater Group (TVRG).

Many thanks to Judith Hogg for auditing the accounts.

Robin Caine, Treasurer 2007

	Cash	Bank	Deposit	Total
<b>Balance Brought Forward</b>	£5.77	£1,014.60	£4,160.43	£5,180.80
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b> (as at 25th October)	£58.49	£979.67	£4,160.43	£5,198.59
<b>Increase in Funds</b>				£17.79
*****				
<b>Income</b>			<b>£1,919.37</b>	
<b>Membership Fees</b>		£516.00		
<b>Sales Total</b>		£1,287.32		
Nov 2006 Junk sale	£281.60			
March 2007 Junk sale	£282.25			
McM table	£200.17			
Misc club nights+SK sales	£523.30			
<b>Donations</b>		£54.00		
<b>Bank interest</b>		£1.63		
<b>Bulding Society Interest</b>				
<b>RAE courses</b>		£60.42		
Foundation	-£39.37			
Intermediate	£99.79			
<b>Outgoing</b>			<b>£1,901.58</b>	
<b>Meetings, room hire</b>		£570.82		
<b>ARIS insurance</b>				
<b>Affiliation+licence M0AAA</b>				
<b>Club equipment</b>		£548.06		
<b>Donations</b>		£306.00		
Air Ambulance TVAC	£100.00			
GB4FUN	£56.00			
3B7C	£150.00			
<b>Miscellaneous (stationery etc)</b>		£392.21		
<b>Hospitality, inc AGM</b>		£84.49		
				<b>£17.79</b>

## **Secretary's Report**

This has been a year when we moved to 2 meetings a month, for the winter months. The Committee wanted to see if there would be support for additional activity. Well, there have been 16 meetings in the 12 month from November 2006 with an average attendance of 33 and a range from 26 to 51 members and visitors.

We need interesting topics and good speakers to generate a good attendance on a regular basis, so I am dependent on club members to offer a talk on their special interest and to recommend speakers they have heard elsewhere. At present, other clubs are following up ideas gained from the Reading club programme; that's good, but we want a few new topics from elsewhere.

People who share common interests and who do activities together do become great friends. Many of us at RADARC have become personal friends through this hobby. There is further scope for including new friends in our own circles, so I hope that we can foster several new fun events in 2008. Fox hunt D/Fs come to mind. Putting on Special Events and Exhibitions can be great fun for the team involved as well as widening the public's awareness of Amateur Radio. They are good recruiting events too. You may have seen news reports suggesting that Reading is THE place to be in the South of England! The work, the decent weather, the houses, the shops, the bustle are all here along with communications by road, rail and air. I think we create a centre of activity in Amateur Radio which will be the envy of every other town in the region. You, the people, are here, we can do things, we can create events, we can spread the word, we can build networks of real friends, we can offer an enjoyable club experience to even more Reading people.

The other thing we can easily do is to make good use of the spare minutes as visitors come in to the Tea Room. Gather round a newcomer and make sure he/she is befriended and preferably introduced to someone else. Quiet visitors need to be given warmth; meeting new people can be a real pain for some folk, so let's say hello and chat about their interests. Show them the Bar. If possible, do it before starting a rag-chew with older friends. This sort of friendliness pays its own dividends and will ensure that Reading stays the best club in the Region.

Harry Hogg G3NGX, Secretary

### **RADARC RAE COURSES IN 2007**

The Club continued with the Foundation Courses at the rate of two courses per year, in April and October. This year we have plucked up courage and added an Intermediate Level course, in response to the pleadings of a lot of M3s.

We have found that Woodford Park is a generally suitable location, having a range of rooms suitable for instruction, having car-parking and an antenna ready for use. The cost of rooms has to be borne, but we have up to now subsidised the Foundation Courses by underwriting the room-hire charges. At £30, inclusive of exam fee, RADARC's is the lowest fee in the country and I think we could charge more.

Candidates generally love the practical operating training we give them on 2 metres and 80 metres and I want to pay tribute to Mike Spooner, M0DYD and Steve Christie, G3WHB who have organised stations between them for the day. Mike spent a lot of effort ( with Tom G0VQR) in erecting the dipole which resides above the Pavilion. So we have a facility for Nights on the Air and Contests.

Generally, there are two types of candidate on Foundation Courses; the practical people with engineering savvy and those to whom frequency versus wavelength is absolute greek. Generally we cope with both groups, but we have found that children candidates have a tendency to jump too quickly to answer a question without reading it properly. We are still trying to learn from our failures, but always encourage people to have another go, with better preparation.

Our first Intermediate Course, just completed, has been a delight to run, because there is not a sense of bewilderment with RF and motivation is high. Doing the practical exercises has, contrary to expectation, been enjoyable. Learning to solder, wiring a plug, building an 80Metre VFO and getting it to go has been very good and has built a camaraderie among course members. Ten passed the exam and the practicals; a very satisfactory result.

Reading Club is supporting the Advanced Course being run by Alison Johnston, G8ROG, the RSGB Regional Manager, being run for the second time November to January. Indeed all the team are RADARC members. There are 11 on this course.

There is scope for more members of the Club to become involved in Training, without getting lumbered with something for too long. I believe hams should proceed through the hobby, trying something interesting, like home-brewing, designing antennas, contesting, D/Fing, working WAB or IOTA challenges, then try giving a talk to share what has been experienced. In the Licence Courses, much material is already to hand, and new helpers can join in and be useful.

Thank you to G4JTR, M1CYE, G4IWS, G6ZTZ, G8FRC, M0DHO and 2E0POQ who have all given their time and knowledge to build the next generation of Amateurs.

Harry Hogg, G3NGX.

## **2007 Contesting Report**

### **G3ULT Winner in RSGB 21/28 CW Restricted section**

This year has been a fairly good year for contesting at the Reading club

The year started with the **AFS Contests**.

We had a good team for the **CW leg**. We were placed 10<sup>th</sup> out of 81 teams. In the Reading team were G0OPB, G0LHZ, M0DHO, G4ELY, G3VMY and G0VQR.

Next was the **SSB leg**. Another good result, achieving 11<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> placing out of 102 teams. Our teams consisted of G3VMY, M0DHO, G0LHZ, G4ELY, M3POQ, and G3ULT (Operator G0VQR).

**HFNFD** is the big event of the year for the Reading club. This year again we managed to put on four QRP stations. We had won the QRP section for the past 2 years hoping to make this one the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running, unfortunately we were not so lucky, this year only achieving 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Watch out for us next year. Thank you to all the helpers for assisting with setting up and dismantling the stations. Without their help field day could not happen.

**SSB Field Day** was much better supported than last year. We put on two stations, G3ULT/P and M0AAA/P, a serious station and a learning station for the less experienced operators.

Jim-G0LHZ, David-M0DHO, and myself G0VQR operated G3ULT/P for the full 24 hours this year. We were placed 7<sup>th</sup> from 28 stations in the restricted section. Thanks again to all helpers who turned up over the weekend.

We also took part In the IOTA contest I used the club contest call M4T. We only made 70 contacts this year as I had other thing planned that weekend so we were not expecting to be placed very high.

The best placed contest for the club this year was the RSGB 21/28 contest. We were placed 1<sup>st</sup> using G3ULT in the CW restricted section.

During February to July the **RSGB** hold a series of short one and a half hour contests called the **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**.

We had a large number of members taking part this year. The club was placed 26<sup>th</sup> out of 66 clubs, closely followed by club rivals Bracknell in 29<sup>th</sup> position.

Since the Reading club took over the M0AAA call at the beginning of this year we have contacted **1566** stations. Contests entered were Russian DX, WPX CW, CQ Ireland, Ropoco2, YU DX, CQ M (peace to the world contest), and the Marconi memorial contest. **M0EEE has made 9744 and M4T 12161 QSO,s**.

Two dates to remember are for the AFS contests in January 2008.

Date	Time (UTC)	Contest Name.	Dates - Mode - Frequency - Exchange
Jan 13	1400-1800.	<a href="#">Affiliated Societies Team Contest</a>	3510-3590kHz, RST+Serial (CW)
Jan 19	1400-1800.	<a href="#">Affiliated Societies Team Contest</a>	3600-3750kHz, RS+Serial. (SSB)

Send your logs to me after the contest, I will send in the club entry.

The contest logger SD by Paul O’Kain EI5DI is freeware and can be downloaded from <http://www.ei5di.com>.

Look forward to working you in a contest soon.

Tom, G0VQR

## **2007 McMichael Rally Report.**

I heard it, it was the mobile ringing and it was ten past six in the morning and I was stood in the middle of a field.

The caller asked was it on? - And the reply was yes!

Is it raining? - No.

What time does it open? - 9 O'clock I replied.

Is there anybody there yet? – Yes me (thinking is this twenty questions)

It's my turn to ask a question – where are you coming from? And the answer came Margate and its raining here.

Then a white van and a green Landrover came in to view round the corner of the club house and made it's way towards the field, the peace was broken. It was time to see if the 9 months of planning would prove successful.

The 2007 McMichael Rally was on and the weather was fine and the mobile kept ringing from people around the country asking "Was it On?"

It was on and soon the boot area and the car parking was marked out to get them into place for the buying to begin.

All the activity stirred some young rugby playing ladies who had rather over indulged to the early hours and had camped near to the club house and the pained heads and expressions could be seen and I think they wish they had camped the far side of the pitch after all. We had loads of helps from the 3 clubs and RADARC members did well supporting and filling any gaps or emergencies. The addition of Steve Turner G1PPA and his Birds of Prey brought interest from all with the demo with some of the birds who had never performed in public before was splendid.

The Henley Remote Radio Control Club gave demos of vehicles and helicopters and for their first time in doing this type of thing they got a good reception from young and old. Health and Safety made it impossible to fly any aircraft this year.

The prize giving with the free raffle got a good response and the prizes went well with a signed copy of one book which had sections from 2 members of RADARC.

The efforts of the MMR committee and the club members has manage to increase the amount of income to the club for this year as there an increase in visitors and I believe its due to MLS & Sons attending and advertising for us which we have found to be every expensive for the attendance gain.

As Chairman of MMR I would personally like to thank every one the helped towards the rally and its growing stronger every year were others are closing, without your support and efforts it would have to close.

Thank you again and next years date is 13<sup>th</sup> July 2008 (One Week earlier).

Min Standen (G0JMS) McMichael Rally Chairman  
RADARC Committee, [G0jms@radarc.org](mailto:G0jms@radarc.org), [www.radarc.org](http://www.radarc.org)

## Reading and District Amateur Radio Club Awards and trophies

The Reading and District Amateur Radio Club has a number of awards, in the form of cups and trophies, awarded to various members for achievements in the previous year. These are listed below, with their citations and rules for making the award.

- |  |           |   |
|--|-----------|---|
| 1. <b>G5KV Award</b><br>(commemorates Bill Leonard<br>G5KV)                    | Morse Key | For services to RADARC  |
| 2. <b>A1 Award</b><br>Presented by J. Linford<br>G3WGV 1993                    | Shield    | To any member for commitment to the club or an achievement, eg winning a contest, gaining full licence. |
| 3. <b>A1 Novice Award</b><br>Presented by J. Linford<br>G3WGV 1993             | Shield    | To a young or novice member for achievement.  |
| 4. <b>Constructors Cup</b><br>Presented by Peter Smith<br>G4JNU 2006 (Larger)  | Cup       | To the winner of the construction contest. Awarded by adjudication at the Construction contest.         |
| 5. <b>Constructors Cup</b><br>Presented by Peter Smith<br>G4JNU 2000 (Smaller) | Cup       | To the runner-up of the construction contest . Awarded by adjudication at the Construction contest .    |
| 6. <b>Fox Hunt Cup*</b>  | Cup       | 2m DF. Not currently awarded.   |
| 7. <b>G2FZI Cup, 1964</b>  | Cup       | Additional award, commitment to the Club.   |
| 8. <b>Bingham Shield, 1964*</b>  | Shield    | Not in use.   |

\*Stored by G4JTR

### Honorary Life Membership:

The Committee may also award at the AGM, Honorary Life Membership to a member for long-term commitment to and sustained effort for the club or exceptional achievement in the name of the Club. This will not necessarily be awarded every year, is not limited to one per year but in fact, there have been very few awarded, about 4-6 Honorary Life memberships since 1970. This is an exceptional award and should not be devalued by frequent nomination.

### Holders of awards:

	First Aw.	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
G5KV		M0DHO	G0JMS	G3NGX		
A1	1993	G0VQR	G3XYX	M0POQ		
A1 Novice	1993	M3NDP	M3YJC	2E0KGB		
Constructors 1st	2006		G0LHZ	G0LHZ		
Constructors 2nd	2006		G0JTN	M1CYE		
Foxhunt		-	-	-		
G2FZI	1964		2E0ZDA	M0DYD		
Bingham	1964	Stored	-			

Honorary Life Members: G3PGM 1998, G0JNU 2004, G4PZK 2006.

### **Dr Alan Curry, G3DMQ -- 1926 – 2007**

Alan Curry passed away in August this year and had been a Club member since the 1970s. It will not be know to many in the Club that Alan was one of the world's leading forensic scientists with an international reputation. RADARC owes Alan a few words of appreciation for support over many years.

Alan went up to Trinity College, Cambridge in 1943 to take the Natural Sciences Tripos, majoring in chemistry. In 1944 he was called up and was commissioned into the RAF. He was in signals and later the experimental high altitude flying in Mosquitos. Demobilised in 1947 he went back to Cambridge to finish his studies and continued as post graduate, obtaining a Phd. He then went to work at the Home Office Forensic Science Laboratories at Wakefield and was the first person to hold the post of Scientific Director to the Home Office.

Later he became director of the Forensic Pathology Labs at Aldermaston, later known as the UK Forensic Science Research Establishment. He became one of the world's leading toxicologists. The extract below lists some of his achievements.

# DR. ALAN CURRY RECEIVES 2002 LUCAS MEDAL

*Congratulations to Dr. Alan Curry, the recipient of the 2002 Douglas M. Lucas Medal President's This international award, sponsored by the **American Academy of Forensic Sciences, the AAFS**, is presented once every three years, at the meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS,) to a person who has made significant professional contributions to the forensic sciences.*

*Dr. Curry was the director of the **Forensic Science Research Establishment** at Aldermaston where new technology essential to forensic scientists throughout the world was developed. The center also served as a training facility for selected scientists receiving Rhodes and other scholarships. Several AAFS members have benefited from this availability. During his career, Dr. Curry wrote and edited a number of useful books, and is best known for **Poison Detection in Human Organs**, now in its 4th edition. He also contributed to numerous textbooks and scientific journals.*



*The first conviction of a murderer who had used insulin as the toxicant occurred in the 1950s, and was due to the extraordinary work of Dr. Curry and his staff. Dr. Curry developed methods for the extraction of insulin from the tissue, chromatographic methods for the separation of insulin from the body proteins, and that, together with complex animal tests, provided evidence for conviction.*

*Other important research by Curry et al, involved information on the production of cyanide in postmortem tissues, methods for the analysis of the vast number of new pharmaceuticals hitting the market from the 1960s on, and methods for thallium and other heavy metals. Interpretation of findings in both fatal and non-fatal cases led to much of the research at the Center.*

*Dr. Curry even went so far as to ingest arsenic in small doses and growing a beard for use in analysis and interpretation at one time! This was at the time instrumentation was available for the analysis of heavy metals from hair and his methods and findings were of much value to criminalists and toxicologists among others in the forensic sciences.*

*Recognizing the need for sharing information on an international scale, in the early 1960s, Dr. Curry met with several other forensic toxicologists and founded "**The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists**" in 1963 and the TIAFT Bulletin. The Bulletin was to be published monthly, and TIAFT has grown to several thousand members. AAFS President Graham Jones presented Dr. Curry with the Lucas Medal in August 2002.*

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*(The Lucas Medal was first established in 1999 and is intended to be presented by the AAFS triennially at the IAFS meeting to a person who has made internationally recognized contributions to forensic science The second recipient was Dr Alan Curry for his vast contributions to the field of forensic toxicology. The AAFS Lucas Medal recipient must have distinguished him/herself in the forensic sciences and have a record of meritorious service to the forensic science community and to professional peer group organizations. Additionally, the recipient must have made significant contributions to forensic science research and have been active in the educational field*

*as well as have demonstrated outstanding leadership and management capability, nationally or internationally. And finally, the recipient must have made outstanding contributions in the national or international aspects of public health, welfare and safety as these relate to the forensic sciences.)*

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In the 1970's Alan was Head of the European Anti-Terrorist Group at the time of the Bader Meinhoff and Black September Groups activities. Other posts included chair of the Race Horse Anti-Doping Commission.

A major achievement was the development of the measurement alcohol in very small quantities in the blood, which previously needed large quantities of blood. He led a small team which led to the development of the breathalyzer which allowed the introduction of the Drink Driving laws in the UK and many other countries. Alan considered this his finest achievement.

Alan was a well known radio amateur and was active in many ways. Always able get the maximum from limited equipment or circumstances. I well remember visiting him in the early 1980s when he showed me his shack in his 2nd Floor apartment just off the Bath Road in Reading. He proudly showed me his HF antenna. This was a "telephone wire" stretching nearly 200ft to the adjacent block of apartments at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor gutter level. He had spotted a "Post Office" engineer working on the phone wires and persuaded him to add his antenna, saying no one will know the difference. It's probably still there today.

I also remember an other occasion in the early 80s seeing him working on the latest Edition of his book, **Poison Detection in Human Organs**. The whole text was on a Sinclair Spectrum saved to Micro Drives. He always embraced "new technology"!!

Several club members kept skeds with Alan on 2 metres and received Christmas cards from him. He will be remembered as a brilliant international scientist, a gentleman and one hell of a nice guy.

Vin Robinson. 11-2007

## **Club Constitution**

This is the revised Constitution, as amended by the EGM held at Woodford Park on 24th March 2005.

### **1. Name**

The society shall be known as the Reading and District Amateur Radio Club.

### **2. Aims**

The aims of the society shall be to further the interests of its members in all aspects of amateur radio and directly associated activities.

### **3. Membership**

Membership shall be open, subject to the discretion of the committee, to all persons interested in the aims of the society.

Members will pay the full subscription unless they are Students or Senior Citizens who will pay a reduced subscription, or Honorary Life Members who will not pay a subscription. Students are defined as being under 25 years of age and in full-time education. Senior Citizens are defined as men over the age of 65 or ladies over the age of 60 years.

Honorary Life Membership may be granted to any person who, in the opinion of the Committee, has rendered outstanding service to the Society, either directly or indirectly. Such membership shall carry the rights of full membership but shall be free from subscriptions.

The committee may award complimentary membership to candidates who pass any examination organised by the Club. This complimentary membership shall cease after the next AGM. Complimentary members shall not have voting rights.

Members may invite guests to meeting free of charge. No guest may attend more than three meetings in each year.

All members shall abide by the Constitution of the Society. The Committee shall have the power to refuse the membership renewal of any person whose conduct, in the opinion of at least two thirds of the full Committee, renders them unfit to be a member of the society.

### **4. Subscriptions.**

The annual subscriptions for membership shall be set by the Committee and agreed by the AGM.

All subscriptions shall be due and payable at the beginning of the financial year. Members in arrears have no voting rights.

The financial year shall run from the 1st of January to 31st of December each year.

The Committee shall have the power to waive or reduce the subscription in special circumstances for a period not exceeding one year at a time.

The committee shall have the powers to extend membership for a limited period into a new financial year in extra-ordinary circumstances. This period will not exceed two calendar months and such powers if invoked will apply universally to all members.

## **5. Finance**

All money received by the Society shall be promptly deposited in the Society's bank account. Withdrawals from the bank of up to £50 require only the signature of either the Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary. Withdrawals of more than £50 require the signature of any two of the aforementioned officers of the Society.

## **6. Committee Membership**

The Society's affairs shall be administered by a Committee elected at the AGM. The members will elect individuals to specific offices. The Committee, in whom the society's property shall be vested, shall consist of:-

**A Chairman** who will preside at all meetings at which he is present.

**A Secretary who will be responsible for:**

- i) arranging all meetings of the Society throughout the year. These meetings run from February of the year of election to the following February.
- ii) ensure all correspondence is correctly handled.
- iii) keep the minutes of all Committee meetings of the Society.
- iv) acting as the Chairman in the absence of the Chairman.
- v) Publicising the club meetings in the amateur radio press and media
- vi) Keeping the RSGB services such as RadCom, GB2RS etc informed of all club activities
- vii) Arranging local publicity
- viii) Entering candidates to sit the RAE or NRAE at appropriate examination centres.

**A Treasurer who will be responsible for:**

- i) keeping the Society's accounts.
- ii) advising the Committee on all financial matters.
- iii) preparing the accounts and presenting them at the AGM.
- iv) maintaining a list of members.

**A minimum of one and a maximum of three Ordinary Members**, the number of whom shall be decided at or before the AGM, and whose duties shall be determined from time to time.

The committee shall be responsible for producing a club news letter from time to time. This shall be distributed to all members.

The committee shall have the powers to delegate any of their duties to other members of the society with the agreement of that member, for example production of the newsletter, RAE/NRAE entries and librarian. Such delegation will terminate at the end of each year at which time it may be renewed by the incoming committee.

The Committee, at its discretion, may co-opt members to the committee. If these members are additional to the normal Committee strength they will have no Committee voting rights.

If a full committee member resigns, or leaves the Committee within the second half of the year, the Committee may co-opt a member to fill the post without calling an EGM or an election. In this case the co-opted member will have full voting rights.

### **7. Committee Standing Orders**

The quorum for the Committee shall be four people, or if the committee is comprised of only four people, then the quorum shall be three people. In the absence of a quorum business may be dealt with, but any decisions taken only become valid after ratification at the next meeting at which a quorum exists.

Committee meeting may be called by the Chairman or any three members of the committee.

The Chairman may vote. In the event of a tie the Chairman has a second casting vote.

### **8. Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting shall normally be held at the first club meeting in December each year. At least 21 Days notice shall be given to members in writing. If the AGM cannot be held during December it shall be held in the following January, and the Committee shall have the powers to extend the membership and voting rights to include the AGM.

The quorum for the AGM shall be 20% of the membership.

#### **The agenda of the meeting shall be:**

- i) Apologies for absence.
- ii) Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous AGM.
- iii) Chairman's report.
- iv) Secretary's report.
- v) Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts.
- vi) Any Other Business.

Items i to v on the agenda shall be chaired by the retiring Chairman, item vi by an acting chairman who is not standing for election to office, the remaining business by the newly elected Chairman.

A member is eligible for election to Committee if nominated by two members, and agreed in writing by the nominee, prior to the closing date for nominations. If there are Committee posts for which eligible nominations have not been received, nominations and agreements in writing may be requested at the AGM.

Agenda items to be raised by members under Any Other Business must be notified in writing not less than 7 days before the AGM.

### **9. Extraordinary General Meeting**

An EGM may be called by the Committee or by not less than 10 members of the Society. The committee shall call an EGM within 28 days of receiving a valid request. NO other business may be transacted at the EGM.

The quorum for an EGM shall be one third of the membership.

At least 14 days notice shall be given to all members who were not party to the EGM being called. This notice shall be given in writing.

### **10. Amendments to the Constitution**

The Constitution may only be amended at an EGM called for that purpose.

### **11. Winding up of the Society**

The decision to wind up the Society may only be taken at and EGM or AGM.

In the absence of a quorum at such a meeting a motion signed by 10 members shall constitute the same decision.

The funds of the Society shall, after the sale of assets and the payment of all outstanding debts, be disposed of as directed by the members at the final EGM, or as agreed by the members present when the motion in 11b was signed.

June 2005