



# DOVER RADIO CLUB

Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

**G3YMD**

**[www.darc.org.uk](http://www.darc.org.uk)**

# The Net

**August 2010**

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## **Information**

**Information about club activities, meeting times, contacts, training, local nets and repeaters can be found on the club website [www.darc.org.uk](http://www.darc.org.uk)**

**Contribution and news items for inclusion in The Net should be sent to the  
NET Editor: Matt M1CMN – Email [thenet@darc.org.uk](mailto:thenet@darc.org.uk)**

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## **Club Meetings**

The Club meets at the Dover Grammar School for Boys at 7.00 for 7:30pm every Wednesday during term time. (Please check Club Yahoo group for regular updates)

The first and third Wednesdays of each month are normally operating/natter evenings. Operating takes place in a separate room to the natter sessions. Members and guests seeking operating experience or hobby related advice are encouraged to use these evenings for their development.

The second, fourth and the occasional fifth Wednesday evening of each month are reserved mainly for radio related talks, demo's and event planning.

## **Club Contacts**

**Chairman: Vacant**

**Secretary: Catherine M1CVF [secretary@darco.org.uk](mailto:secretary@darco.org.uk)**

**Membership Secretary and Treasurer: Anne G4RJZ [treasurer@darco.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@darco.org.uk)**

**Special Event Manager Peter G0KOK [events@darco.org.uk](mailto:events@darco.org.uk)**

**Net Editor Matt M1CMN [thenet@darco.org.uk](mailto:thenet@darco.org.uk)**

The Dover Club is registered as an examination centre.

All forms of training can be arranged via the club secretary Catherine M1CVF [secretary@darco.org.uk](mailto:secretary@darco.org.uk)

Please contact Catherine for more information on forthcoming courses, and an application form.

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## **A few words from the editor**

Hi all,

I have offered to take on the job as “Net Editor” for the club, and hopefully will keep the club magazine going

Replacing Brian G8ZYZ has been difficult; he has done a fantastic job over the years, and it is great to look back at earlier editions.

Thanks to all those that have contributed to The Net, and please help me to make it a success in the future.

I shall try and have the camera with me as I normally do at most club events, but would appreciate any articles from members.

Many thanks

Matt M1CMN

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## **Local Net**

The Dover Radio Club “White Cliffs Net” is on air daily at 10:10 Hrs local time on 1. 845.00 (+/-) Please feel free to join in. Net Controller is Tony M0VYW.

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## **Local Repeaters**

VHF voice repeaters covering the catchment area of the Dover club are GB3KS at Dover (145.625MHz) and GB3FK at Folkestone (145.750MHz).

There is no UHF repeater in the immediate locality but GB3EK at Cliftonville Tx (Output) 430.8875 MHz, RX (Input) 438.4875 MHz [Offset 7.6 MHz] CTCSS 103.5 Hz (look at [www.gb3ek.co.uk](http://www.gb3ek.co.uk) for more information)

GB3SK at Canterbury (433.150MHz) provide good coverage with the exception of the low lying areas of Shepway.

GB3FK is operated by the Folkestone Repeater Group.

Further information can be obtained by logging onto [www.gb3fk.com](http://www.gb3fk.com).

The other repeaters mentioned above are run by the Kent Repeater Group and full details of all their repeaters can be found on their web site at [www.krg.org.uk](http://www.krg.org.uk)

## Voice Repeater Access and Usage

All the voice repeaters in Kent can be accessed by a 1750 Hz tone of between 200 m/seconds and 1 second OR by CTCSS tones of 103.5 Hz (except GB3SK) followed by at least 3 seconds of audio this can be achieved by giving your own call sign twice to ensure the repeater is opened properly.

**ALWAYS** wait for the over signal, usually a 'K' or a 'G' between overs before transmitting. The 'G' indicates access by CTCSS.

## DSTAR Digital Repeater

GB7FK - This digital repeater is located in Capel le Ferne. Port B 439.7375 MHz Port C 145.7875 MHz for more information visit [www.gb3fk.com](http://www.gb3fk.com)

Please send your reports to: Matt M1CMN.

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*Silent Key*  
**BRIAN JOYNER G8ZYZ**

Brian Joyner passed away peacefully on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

Brian was, of course, a great friend of many members in the Radio Club. He supported it for most of his life, and will be sadly missed. He was a true gentleman and will be remembered for all the contributions he made to the Club. As a committee member, he was a tireless and efficient organiser. He would often set up ATV at special event stations; the most notable of which was the Marconi Centenary at the White Cliffs Experience. With the help of other enthusiasts, a two-way audio and video link between Dover and Wimereux Town Hall in France was maintained throughout the weekend. This was something of a technical triumph with signals being relayed via Dover Castle and the lighthouse at Cape Gris Nez. He was also the first amateur to transmit television direct from the Goodwin Sands just off Deal. He would always be willing to give talks or demonstrations to the Club, which were invariably informative, interesting and well-presented. He took over as the editor of *The Net*, and brought a new standard of professionalism to its pages, introducing colour photographs, and later initiating its distribution online to save costs. Possibly his greatest contribution was as a teacher, on the Novice, Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced courses. Brian was also the exam secretary for the club. In recognition of this invaluable work, he was made an Honorary Life Member. Several grateful amateurs who owe their success to his efforts have contacted the Club with their tributes.

The funeral was well attended by past and present members of the club. Our thoughts go out to Marion and the family with the assurance that he will not be forgotten.

**DAVID HARDING G0DQI**  
**MATT CURTIS M1CMN**



**Brian G8ZYZ/SK, David G0DQI, and Fred G4GAN/SK all accepting there honorary member certificates (April 2005)**

**Paragraph below taken from an older edition of "The Net"**

The above members joined the club's three other Honorary Life Members: Ian G3ROO, Pete G4EGQ and Des (SWL).

After the photograph was taken Fred mentioned that it was nice to receive the honour on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of him joining the club. As with all comments of this type the thought processes churned out some facts and figures and it turns out that Brian was in his 30<sup>th</sup> year and David is in his 25<sup>th</sup> year as club members. It was also noted that they have completed a combined total of 55 years training on behalf of the Dover club and the RSGB.

Brian, David and Fred teamed up when the 'Novice' Licence was in the planning stage and after being approved as instructors by the RSGB they commenced training courses on behalf of the Club in 1990. For many years Fred was also the City & Guilds examination secretary for all C&G examinations undertaken at the club.

In the region of 300 amateurs have been trained under the 'progressive' scheme at the Dover Club to date

It must be mentioned that the three instructors have been supported by Graham 2E1ITE and formerly Cecil G00JZ as invigilators, and by Ben M0TUX, Matt M1CMN and Anne G4RJZ as assistant invigilators and instructors, and also Brian G4SAU, Tony G4IMP and previously Norman G4HL, all of whom provide valuable instruction and monitoring during the Foundation Course practical assessments.

The high pass rate of students undertaking training at the Dover Club is a credit to the combined efforts of all these members.



**Pictured above an old photo I found of Pete G4EGQ (in his shorts as always!) and Brian G8ZYZ at a DARC special event many years ago!**



**(Left to Right) Brian G8ZYZ sk, John G0ADK, Pete G4EGQ and Des SWL sk taken at a special event station many years ago!**

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## **GB2SFL 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> August**

GB2SFL was held on 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> August from South Foreland Lighthouse.

GB2SFL was operational on HF all weekend, as well as VHF/UHF DSTAR.  
Many contacts were made, and there was a good turnout of club members.

Thanks must be made to our event organizer Peter G0KOK who does a marvellous job arranging the events.

Here is an update from our QSL Manager Tony G4IMP:

Here is an 'add up' from log books. Total contacts on each band as per the log books:

<b>2m &amp; 70cms (inc. D Star)</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>10m</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>15m</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>17m</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>20m</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>30m</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>40m</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>80m</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>

Also contact with top band White Cliffs Net.  
Some good direct contacts all around the UK and longer distance into Europe, the Far East and South America. Also many parts of the world were worked on D-Star, including South Africa, Texas and The Netherlands.  
A total of 13 club members were present at some time during the weekend.



**Peter G0KOK at South Foreland Lighthouse**



## **Foundation Course September 2010**

The next Foundation course will be running on Wednesday evenings starting on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

The Exam will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> October.

If you would like to enrol on the course, or have friends and family who maybe interested, please contact the club Secretary Catherine M1CVF for an application form:

[secretary@darco.org.uk](mailto:secretary@darco.org.uk)

You can also use this email address to register your interest for Intermediate and Advanced courses and examinations, though at the moment no dates have been set as to when they may take place. The running of courses is subject to demand and instructor availability.

We'd also like to thank Tony M0VYW for volunteering to become the club's examination secretary after many years of great service from Brian G8ZYZ.

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## **Club HF Antenna**

The club HF antenna is now built. Thanks to Ian G3ROO for hosting the evening and constructing the antenna which was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

The antenna will be installed at the school as soon as possible, so that operating nights can commence from September.

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## **Club Social BBQ at the QTH of Peter G0KOK**

The Club BBQ was held on August 4<sup>th</sup> at the QTH of Peter G0KOK. A great evening was had, with a very good turn out from club members. A big thank you to Peter and Sarah for their hospitality and excellent catering

## HF Receiving – Broadcast Bands

I am writing this short article as a complete “amateur” to the HF Bands. For those that know me you will know that my main interest has been in VHF/UHF, and the data modes.

I have however always been interested in SW broadcast band receiving. David G0DQI is of course our resident expert in listening to the broadcast bands, and I hope that he will do an article for us (Thanks David!! - Ed).

Over the last few months I have spent a lot of time listening around, especially late in the evening. I have several stations that I listen to regular with broadcast some very interesting programs. A regular station I listen to is All India Radio from Delhi – English broadcast is from 2045-2230 on 6280 7550 and 9445. Last night (16<sup>th</sup> August) they had a DX program on from 10pm mentioning listeners all over the world who had given them signal reports. Very interesting

For those that are new to the club, or don't have a license, it can be very easy to setup and listen around the broadcast and ham bands. A simple receiver and a bit of wire does the trick nicely.

The receiver that I use for listening in the evening is a very simple receiver, but does work very well. It's called the Target HF receiver which is pictured below.



Simple receivers like this can be found on Ebay cheaply. For the antenna a random piece of wire does the trick, and I find works very well. I am currently experimenting with an Active antenna too, but can't give you any reports yet.

When you have some time, do have a tune around the SW Broadcast bands, there are still plenty around to listen to, and some are very interesting.

**Matt M1CMN**

# Club Programme

**August 4th** - DARC BBQ at Kearsney Abbey details from [Peter G0KOK](#)

11th - Portable night – Dover Memorial 19:00hrs

18th - Pub drink at Marine Court, Travelodge - Dover sea front

21st / 22nd August - **GB2SFL Special Event station at South Foreland Lighthouse**

25th - Portable Night - Dover Memorial 19:00hrs

**September 1st** - Net on GB3KS at 19:30 hrs

8th - Dover Radio Rally Discussion Evening

15th - Operating and Natter Night

22th - Installation of the new club antenna + Testing

29th - Operating and Natter Night - a chance to test the new antenna!

**October 6th** - TBC

13th - TBC

20th - TBC

27th - School Half term Net on GB3KS 19:30Hrs

**November 3rd** - EGM

10th - What's in the bag? - Catherine M1CVF

17th - Operating and Natter Night

24th November - VHF Propagation - Presentation by Tony G4IMP

Information about the Christmas social will be available soon, as well as the missing items in the club diary.

## PLEASE NOTE

**On the odd occasion the committee may be forced to change the programme at short notice due to circumstances beyond their control. Please check for updates on the club website regularly.**