

Bromsgrove & District Amateur Radio Club.

Newsletter 25.06.21

My Life with Radio.

Continuing the story of John, G4PKW.

Reading through my last article it seemed the radio connection had become a little tenuous. However, it was my care taker friend's daughter's boyfriend, who as the brother of the young lady whose party he invited me to, which would change the course of my life and that was the lady who shared her life with me for the next seventy-three years.

On December 7th 1944, our "courting" as it was called came to an end by my call up papers requiring me to report to The Royal Leicester Barracks in Warwick for eight weeks primary training, to be turned into a real soldier.

First orders were "forget what you have learned in the Home Guard, this is the real Army". However, it would mean that most of my training was made a lot easier due to my former experiences. Winter 1944 was bitter cold with lots of snow to lie in and march around in. After eight weeks were a lot tougher young men, next came a selection board, where according to your civilian occupation and ability you were sorted. I was posted to Catterick camp in Yorkshire as a member of The Royal Corps of Signals. I was to train as a wireless and line operator, not to my dismay as a radio mechanic! It seemed the need for more operators was the greatest. At this point it seemed my radio connection had again changed the course of my future. Had I been conscripted into a different branch of the Army things could have turned out very differently.

To be continued.

B&DARC Committee Meeting Minutes for Monday 21st June 2021.

1/. Present (on Zoom): John G8SH, Barrie G4AHK, Pete G4LRL, Brian M7GFC.

Noted that Roy G6NYG attempted to join but was not able to access via Zoom!

2/. Apologies: Alan G4LVK.

Committee only had four members present, therefore 'Not Quorate'.

3/. Minutes of last Committee Meeting:

Read & acknowledged but not able to be accepted at this time.

4/. Matters Arising:

The AoB items from previous committee meeting are to be 'carried forward' for discussion at the next Quorate committee.

Shown below:

a/. Pete Coates has confirmed that the G3VGG call sign has been re-validated for a further 5 years.

b/. Ken G4AHO, has raised the following question: should the club not make a donation to Avoncroft Museum following their recent vandalism event. He had suggested a donation of either £500 or £100.

The suggestion was considered in detail but as we are not tenants of the Museum but of the Arts Centre & that the club was currently in deficit, it was felt not appropriate to assist them.

However, as they have in the past been good enough to allow the club to hold SES event in their buildings that we could contact them in the future to see if there was any other way in which the club could assist.

It was noted from the Friday Zoom Meetings that they may be in future need of 'period artefacts' to display in the buildings once repaired. Crockery, pictures & figurines' were mentioned.

c/. Committee were advised that Mark Mearns may have now moved to take up his new post on the IoW, Secretary to email to confirm.

5/. Treasurer Monthly Report:

In the bank: £7,104.72p.

All bills are paid up to date (21st June 2021).

Our next big bill is the quarterly Shack Rent which is £230 due on 30th June 2021.

6/. Constitution, on-going minute.

7/. Shack Report:

Both Roy & Brian have been visiting & setting up club equipment. They have been operating G3VGG on 2M band when they have been there.

One of the 'logging' computers is no longer working, John G8SH, has provided a possible replacement, Roy & Brian will attempt to set this up at their next visit.

8/. Club Net:

Alan G4LVK reports that this is functioning well on Monday, Wednesday & Friday nights on 145.400mhz FM mode from 19.30hrs.

9/. AGM update:

As the Government has moved its 'freedom day' to 19th July 2021, the clubs AGM has had to also be moved. It will now be held on Friday 23rd July 2021.

John G8SH, Secretary to send out a revised 'Notice of AGM', Agenda & last AGM Minutes to members.

The 'cut-off date' for AOB items has also moved to Monday 12th July 2021.

10/. List of possible members standing for committee at AGM:

Roy G6NYG, Terry Stack M0KKO, Pete G4LRL, John G8SH, Ken G4AHO, Brian M7GFC, Alan G4LVK, Barrie G4AHK, Graeme Coultas, Pete Coates M1FHI, Nigel G1BXL,

11/. Any Other Business:

a/. Computer replacement for club shack, John G8SH to liaise with Roy G6NYG regarding delivery.

b/. Possible Table Top Sale to be held after AGM, all monies for club funds.

c/. Possible club Bar-b-Que on Friday 30th July at Avoncroft.

12/. Date of Next Committee Meeting:

12th July 2021 at 19.30 via Zoom.

This date coincides with the AGM 'cut off date' for AoB items.

Meeting ended at 20.00hrs.

John Storey G8SH,

B&DARC Secretary,

07759370544.

B&DARC SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2020-2021.

This is my second year in the post as Bromsgrove & District Amateur Radio Club Secretary & what an eventful one it has been, or should I say that without any of us being able to meet in person, an 'uneventful' year!!

All of our Friday night meetings have had to be undertaken via Zoom, with some very regular attendees, which was encouraging. In addition, for those members who did not have access to Zoom or did not feel it was for them, the club's net, on 145,400Mhz (FM) held on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 19.30hrs, was well utilised, I was even found to be on there on occasions. Thanks go to Alan Kelly G4LVK for largely co-ordinating the net meetings. Alan has also been very supportive by co-ordinating the club's Newsletter & ensuring that members who need a paper copy of our emails receive them to keep them in touch.

During the year I have tried to keep members up to date with what the club's Committee have been discussing together with a set of quick notes taken from the Friday Zoom meetings, The Friday Flier!!

Thanks also go to Roy Adams G6NYG & Brian Capewell M7GFC who have taken time, during these COVID restricted times, to visit the club shack activate radios etc & to update the club's inventory.

Also, I remain as your local RSGB District Representative, DR52, in the RSGB Region Section of the Yearbook, so any queries you may have in this area, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I'm looking forward to returning to club meeting on a Friday night & hopefully the Wednesday coffee mornings in the shack.

A short report for this year & I look forward to remaining in post, if you'll have me for 2021-2022.

John Storey, G8SH,
B&DARC Secretary, 2020-2021,
07759370544.

Avoncroft Arts Centre.

This is the latest response from Avoncroft sent to our secretary, John G8SH:

Unfortunately, due to the delay in COVID restrictions being lifted, we will not be able to allow group meetings on site for private hirers until at least the 19th July (depending on Government regulations). We are very sorry about this, but we have to follow the guidelines and we are being monitored by the EHO. Hopefully by the 19th July we will be able to fully reopen but I will keep you updated.

The Royal British Legion.

I would like to give a huge thanks to B&DARC members who made donations for the Centenary Pin Badges recently. You donated £55.00 in total.

This week's Zoom meeting. Friday 25.06.2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/7911047603?pwd=dlhZWkNnd0lvMU41TXF1YVYV5U1hLZz09>

Meeting ID: 791 104 7603

Passcode: Jme9Qe

Clubs nets.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. 7.30 local time. 145.400MHz FM.
All welcome.

As always, articles for next week's newsletter to me ASAP please.

Alan G4LVK.