

## KRG Directory

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# KRG 109

## Kent Repeater Group Newsletter

# March 2003

## An 'umble apology

This newsletter is published four times a year; in March, June, September and December. Normal practice is to post each edition to members so as to arrive at the beginning of the month of publication.

Last December anything that could go wrong seemed to go wrong with the result that, instead of KRG108 dropping through members letterboxes on or about the second of December, the newsletters were not even posted until the 22<sup>nd</sup> - nearly three weeks later.

Basically there were three problems: lost e-mails, address labels that would not print, and postal delays. I'll say no more, other than it usually runs so smoothly ... !

My apologies to all members for the late delivery, especially those who were wished 'A Merry Christmas' after the event! I would fall on my sword - but I'd probably miss ...

Having said all that, I now have to endeavour to get this edition out early in time for the Rainham rally!

Dave G7MFW - Newsletter Editor.

## Technical Reports - cont'd.

### GB3NK

Bob G8JNZ reports that the performance of the 2-element beam was disappointing. Whilst it was providing a good signal to the south of the site there was no radiation at all off the back of the beam, rendering the repeater inaudible in nearby areas such as Erith, Slade Green and Lower Belvedere. Neither was it audible just across the river in Essex. It was agreed to revert to an omni-directional antenna. G4EGU had a Diamond X-50 colinear which he was prepared to donate to the Group. An application for changes to the antenna was started and would be submitted when a coverage map had been completed.

It had been noted that activity on the Group's various repeaters had plummeted; 'NK was extremely inactive even before being moved from Wrotham. In order to try to promote some usage G4EGU proposed linking 'NK to the Internet. He then explained the technology to the Working Group saying that it would be similar to that used on GB3EK except that control of the system would not be via radio but by ADSL/EchoLink.

### GB3RE

Spike G4AKQ reports that the repeater continues to work well.

### GB3SK

No report received.

## Technical Reports

*The January committee meeting was cancelled due to bad weather, therefore there were no minutes of meeting from which to extract the technical reports for this newsletter. Some reports were e-mailed to me and are reproduced below. Where no report has been received it is assumed that the repeater is working without problems.*

*Dave G7MFW - Editor.*

### **GB3CK**

No report received.

### **GB3EK**

Don G4TKR reports that the new logic has been installed in both GB3EK and GB3CK and seems to be working well.

Work continues on the interlinking, the two simultaneous tones are in use for the internet gateway to GB3EX and are reliable in operation.

### **GB3KN**

No report received, but it was noted recently that Ted G3YCN had to change the logic board – and was bitterly complaining about the cold weather!

### **GB4KS**

Jim M1BKI reports that there have been no problems and the repeater has been working well since his previous report. The Morse lessons are continuing and are well received.

## Rainham Rally 2003

### The Kent Repeater Group

will be attending the

### **B.R.A.T.S. Rainham Radio Rally**

on

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2003.**

On that day our Treasurer will be present and will be delighted to relieve you of all due – and any overdue – annual subscriptions!

Various repeater keepers will also be on hand during the day to receive your plaudits and to discuss any problems you may have accessing any of our repeaters - or just to have a chat!

**See you there!!**

## **Advance Notice:**

**The Annual General Meeting**  
of  
**The Kent Repeater Group**  
will take place at  
**8.00pm**  
on  
**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2003**  
in the  
**Electronics Block**  
of the  
**University of Kent**  
at  
**Canterbury.**

Make a note of this date and come along  
to support the work of the group.

Further details will be published in the  
June newsletter.

## **Wanted:**

### **One Newsletter Editor**

*No previous experience  
or  
special skills required!*

The June 2003 Newsletter will be the final one that I shall produce, as I shall not be seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

When I took on the job at the 1999 AGM I was still working and active. Since that time my health has deteriorated considerably and my mobility has become seriously impaired – forcing me to take early retirement.

Although the work of producing and distributing the newsletter is enjoyable, and is not particularly onerous, it does require periods of commitment every three months or so, and I now find that I am unable to guarantee that commitment. Rather than let the membership down, I feel it is time to bow out gracefully and allow time for a successor to be found.

Dave G7MFW – Newsletter Editor.