

## KRG Directory

The KRG web site:

<http://www.krg.org.uk>

GB3EK's web site:

<http://www.gb3ek.co.uk>

Chairman:

**Martin Stoneham G4RVV**

139 Hever Avenue, West Kingsdown, SEVENOAKS, Kent TN15 6DT

Tel/Fax: 01474 853014

e-mail: [martin@krg.org.uk](mailto:martin@krg.org.uk)

Secretary:

Post Vacant

Treasurer:

**John Wellard G6ZAA**

19 South Motto, Park Farm, Kingsnorth, ASHFORD, Kent TN23 3NJ

e-mail: [jwellard@zetnet.co.uk](mailto:jwellard@zetnet.co.uk)

Newsletter Editor:

**David Burdett G7MFW**

17 Brambledown, CHATHAM, Kent ME5 0DY

e-mail: [DaveG7MFW@aol.com](mailto:DaveG7MFW@aol.com)

# KRG 110

Kent Repeater Group Newsletter  
June 2003

## NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting

of the

Kent Repeater Group

will be held on

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2003

at

20.00 hrs

in the

Electronics Building,  
The University of Kent  
at Canterbury.

Notice on behalf of the Secretary in absentia.

# Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To approve the minutes of the previous AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2002 and reported in the September 2002 Newsletter.
3. To receive the Chairman's report from Martin G4RVV.
4. a) To receive the Treasurer's report from John G6ZAA.  
b) To agree Subscription Rates for 2003/2004.  
c) To appoint an Independent Examiner for 2003/2004.
5. To receive Technical Reports from Repeater Managers:

Repeater:	GB3CK	Report from:	John M0ZAA
	GB3EK		Don G4TKR
	GB3KN		Ted G3YCN
	GB3KS		Jim M1BKI
	GB3NK		Martin G4RVV
	GB3RE		Spike G4AKQ
	GB3SK		Dick G6DIK

6. To elect officers and confirm the appointment of Repeater Managers for 2003/2004:

President [John G3PAG elected for term 2002-2005.]  
Chairman  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Newsletter Editor  
Two ordinary members

Repeater:	GB3CK	Manager:	John M0ZAA
	GB3EK		Don G4TKR
	GB3KN		Ted G3YCN
	GB3KS		Jim M1BKI
	GB3NK		Martin G4RVV
	GB3RE		Spike G4AKQ
	GB3SK		Dick G6DIK

7. To consider any other business.

## Silent Key



Bob Mersh G8JNZ 1949 - 2003  
Manager of GB3NK repeater

Bob G8JNZ had a wide circle of friends through his extensive interests and hobbies. These primarily involved many forms of radio communication but also included music, cycling, theatrical productions and a long term interest in the Spitfire aircraft. Many of his friends he never met, but kept in contact with them by email. He will be well remembered for his extensive email joke list that will be missed by many.

Bob was a dedicated employee not just of the Metropolitan Police, to whom his commitment was well known, but also in his previous occupation as a telex operator.

Bob will be well remembered for his friendly and easy going manner and his acceptance of life and all that it could throw at him whether it be good or bad. He suffered great pain during his more than two years battle with cancer, which included over a year in hospital. Despite this, Bob actively maintained his interests throughout that long and difficult time, right up until a few days before his death on the 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Over 100 people attended the funeral. Bob's coffin was covered by a Metropolitan Police funeral drape in recognition of his service and a Superintendent and a number of other officers and civilian staff represented the force. Dick G6DIK and Martin G4RVV represented the Repeater Group and were joined by numerous other radio amateurs. At the request of Bob's mother, no flowers were sent, but a donation will be made in memory of Bob to a cancer research charity.

Bob will be sadly missed, especially by his mother and family, and by his many friends and colleagues.

## Ashford Amateur Radio Club

This new/old club, which closed down sometime around 1986, is now resurrected but needs more members and support.

The club meets at 7.30pm on the second Friday of each month at the Scout Hut, Norton Lane, Bethersden.

The old club callsign G4AAR is also back on-air after much research and letter writing. It can be heard on the fourth Friday of each month on the club's natter/operating night.

For more information visit the club's website at:

<http://www.g4aar.fsnet.co.uk>

or phone:

01233 503050.

Details can also be found on the website of the Museums on Air Weekend, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June, when it is hoped that GB0LAW will be operated by Ashford Club members. The station will operate from Headcorn Airfield, close to the Lashenden Air Warfare Museum.

Come and visit both the special event station and the museum. (The museum is only open on Sundays.)

John MOZAA

## Chairman's Report

There have been three Committee meetings during the year to organise the Group's business.

The Rainham Radio Rally was held in March and much of the subscription income due from December and March 2003 was collected and 1 new member was recruited.

Bob Mersh, G8JNZ did not recover as had been hoped and died on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2003. Whilst this is outside the period of this report I nevertheless wish to pay tribute to Bob who remained actively interested in the Group's work until the end. An obituary can be found elsewhere in the Newsletter.

The Group has encountered the usual range of difficulties during the year and these have been overcome by the hard work and persistence of the various repeater working party members.

The Group retains its presence on the Internet and has recruited members via its site (<http://www.krg.org.uk>). Developments in this area include the use of Echolink software to link two of the repeaters to the Internet. This has resulted in more activity including international contacts.

My thanks go to the Committee for their continued support throughout the year. Members of the respective Repeater Working Groups are thanked for their hard work during the year. They work quietly in the background making, in a number of cases, a very significant contribution to the Group as do a number of other individuals who work as professional radio engineers but give their support to the Group as well.

M W Stoneham G4RVV

Chairman

11 May, 2003

## Technical reports (dated early March unless noted)

### GB3CK

John MOZAA reported in March that the repeater now has a PIC based logic. A visit was due to resolve a de-sense problem and a spring clean of the site was required as well.

John later reported in May that, due to noise problems, normal service had not been fully available. Following extensive work by Don G4TKR the repeater is now a lot better. There is still a slight noise every now and then, which could be a feeder or antenna problem, but it is hoped the problem will be resolved by the time this newsletter is published.

When repeaters have problems one of the best ways to get them fixed is to have people using them; without users we are not aware of the faults. So use the repeaters, report faults, and help the group to maintain them by regular use.

### GB3EK

Don G4TKR reports that this repeater also has a PIC based logic, and a working internet connection. This latter feature had generated much more activity on a regular basis. An extra receiver can be added to allow repeater linking, this can be controlled by CTCSS. The repeater had been checked the previous weekend and a problem with periodic interference from the radar station on site had been identified.

### GB3KN

Ted G3YCN reports a number of incidents including a trimmer and bridge rectifier failure in the Marconi PA units. For several weeks there has been a 900-Hz tone apparent at low level on the output. A few days ago (late February - Ed.) it became apparent that CTCSS acceptance was not at 10% of system deviation (250-Hz) but more like 325-Hz. In order to increase input to the CTCSS decoder it was decided to modify slightly the de-emphasis components to give 3dB more into the decoder. On putting the modified receiver back into service severe feedback was experienced so it was taken out again.

## Technical Reports – cont'd

### GB3KN – cont'd

On 5<sup>th</sup> March Alan G10MH adjusted the notches on the duplexer and realigned the T30 driver unit and an alternative Marconi PA, using professional test gear. Repeater output is now 25-watts ex-duplexer with no 900-Hz tone, probably due to removal of some small Tx sprogs found prior to adjustment. Unfortunately there was no time to investigate the CTCSS modified receiver, so improved CTCSS access will have to wait until a thorough investigation has taken place. However the repeater is again working well. We will also be bench-testing the two spare T30 transmitter drivers and Marconi PA when time allows.

### GB3KS

Jim M1BKI reports that the repeater had been trouble free and, until recently, working well but reports have been received in the past week (early March - Ed.) from regular users that the repeater is a bit difficult to access. This would be investigated.

### GB3NK

Martin G4RVV reports that a new aerial has been fitted to the repeater with the approval of the RSGB's Repeater Management Group. Internet linking has been approved and testing is underway.

### GB3RE

Spike G4AKQ reports (May - Ed.) that the repeater is working well and has not needed attention. More users would be welcome.

### GB3SK

Dick G6DIK reports that he and Don G4TKR had visited the site. The repeater was slightly off-tune and this would be rectified in the near future.