



GB3PO - 145.650; GB3IH - 433.100; GB3EF - 50.720;
GB3EA - 145.6875; GB3EZ - 430.975

Web Site: <http://www.sargroup.co.uk/>

Chairman – Dave Sparrow G8XOR



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Secretary – Keith Gaunt G7CIY



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Minutes from the 2011 SARG AGM – held 28th April at St John, Bramford

Present: - G7CIY, G7DWN, M6TNG, G8XOR, G6GSG, G7RVS, M6VEJ, G1YFF, G7LNU, G4BIY, M0MUD, M0JAJ, M1NIZ, M5AEH, G4LRB, M3PUY, M1ACB, G6PDE, M1TES, G8BLS, 2E0BCM, M6JBG, G7SMW, G7DNT & G7UQV

Apologies: - G8CJL, G3ZYP, G0OZS, G8VZZ, M3VDO, G0TMX, G0YAP, 2E0EVE, G7OOW, M3SAD, M0JVC, M6AOL, G8BHC & M0SDY

Welcome and Introductions:-

Dave – G8XOR opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed everybody and went through the domestic arrangements for the building.

This was a return to this fine venue to which we are very grateful to St John for the facilities. All present agreed that this would be a suitable location for future meetings.

Minutes and Matters arising from the last meeting held 23rd April 2010:-

The minutes of last years meeting were circulated at the meeting. As there were no corrections or amendments, these were duly accepted as a true record of events.

Proposed by G8BLS, 2nd by G7UQV and carried by all.

The outstanding actions from last year were:

AP01/10 G0FEA and the SARG to follow up on information to provide a donation to the Hospital Radio Service

Please see details on link to Ipswich Hospital Radio, below:

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

Mark Keable is their PR person and I also note that Lesley Dolphin (BBC Radio Suffolk) and Mark Murphy (BBC Radio Suffolk) are part of the committee. This would give us the opportunity to get some positive PR for free and even get someone on Lesley's show in the afternoon? - SARG to follow this up.

AP02/10 G1YFF to continue working on GB3EA – specifically to conduct tests with 1750Hz tone access later this year

Jake reported that he had investigated this and a fair amount of work would be involved to achieve this, but as there didn't seem to be a huge amount of interest, this action will now be closed.

AP03/10 SARG to confirm with G0TMX that he is happy to remain as the Representative for the Western Area

This was done, but we need to re-confirm again for this year.

- AP04/10 All to make more use of our repeaters and respond anyone calling through.
Use them or loose them!
Action is closed, but should remain as something we all need to do. Please use the repeaters and make our efforts worthwhile.
- AP05/10 SARG to investigate Audio Streaming of initially GB3PO and then perhaps the other repeaters to our web site
- AP06/10 SARG to investigate RF Linking of GB3EF and GB3IH and to at least have a feasibility study by the next AGM
The above two actions will remain ongoing but be combined into a single new action. G7DNT will be the Technical Lead along with the SARG Committee to achieve this
- AP07/10 G6PDE to continue with outstanding work on GB3IT as per the last minutes.
Chris reported back that unfortunately, no progress had been made with obtaining the permission to use the license. This action will continue with an additional action for Steve M1ACB to try and make some enquiries with his RSGB hat on.
- AP08/10 G8VZZ to sell the TS60 by the best means possible for SARG funds.
Action closed – see Treasurer’s Report
- AP09/10 G8XOR to find a suitable gift for Alan G8CJL
Still ongoing, but the SARG have decided that a signed copy of “The Hidden History of Orford Ness” would make a nice gift.

Chairman's Report:-

This has been another successful year for the Group with all the repeaters working, if not to their full license conditions in terms of output power. GB3PO has been working on reduced power for some months due to the failure of the main transmitter. It was felt that time was better utilised in completing the build of the replacement repeater than repairing the old unit.

After one false start the new repeater based on Tait equipment was installed in the rack in the Ipswich Hospital plant room on Sunday 24/04/2011.

Initial reports appear to be favourable with good through audio and the "pips" adjusted to more acceptable level.

I am sure that there will be further comments as to minor adjustments that could be made to improve the operation of the unit. However it is not a clone of the old "PO" and the pitch of the tones and the feel of the repeater have change to some extent due to the use of a different control system. I feel that users will soon become accustomed to the new unique feel.

At this point I must extent my very sincere thanks to Jake G1YFF for all the time he has spent guiding me through the build and completing the software and hardware for the new control board. Without his help and support we would still be using the old equipment.

We are always open to comments from users on how we can improve the repeaters so if you have any thoughts on minor adjustments that need to be made please let one of the committee members know. One I have is that the time taken to receive an acknowledgement "pip" needs to be reduced.

As and when time allows further work is envisaged to improve the aerial filtering as the new unit has better isolation than the previous equipment.

May I extend my thanks to all who have supported the Group over the past year especially Keith G7CIY, Keith GOFEA and Juliet G7RVS who have worked in the background to keep the paperwork, Website and finances up to date.

Grateful thanks to those who have made contributions of time, money or equipment to support the projects so far. Our site rentals are very low and we are very fortunate that the site owners see this as supporting technology in the wider community but we still need financial support to continue to keep the repeaters managed by the Group running.

The next project being considered is an upgrade of GB3IH to Tait equipment. We have most of the hardware and the experience of building GB3PO. The project may start towards the end of the year and will mean that all repeaters will then be based on Tait equipment.

Finally, my thanks to St. John Ambulance Suffolk for providing the venue for the meeting tonight.

Dave Sparrow
G8XOR

Chair SARG

South Anglia Repeater Group Accounts

Balance Sheet as of 28th February 2011

Bank Statements	28 th Feb 2010	28 th Feb 2011
Current Account	£804.60	£1,023.10
Premium Account	£816.66	£817.06
Cash in Treasurers Hand	£0.00	£0.00
Sub Total	£1,621.26	
Un-presented Cheque	£18.50	
Total	£1,602.76	£1,840.16

Income

Subscriptions/Donations (see separate sheet)	£482.00	£376.00
Bank Interest	£0.31	£0.40
Sale of Radio		£108.00
Total Income	£482.31	£484.40

Expenditure to 28th February 2011

Cheque		
100143 to Keith Gaunt -Hall Hire and Insurance		£67.00
100144 to Steve Woodgate – Tait for GB3IH (note 1)		£90.00
100145 to Steve Woodgate – Spares for EZ and IH, Radio for EZ		£90.00
Total Expenditure		£247.00

Profit / Loss **£237.40**

Note 1. These are TAIT T800 series 1 UHF Base stations and a number of spare modules

Auditor's statement

I have reviewed the attached Repeater Group Accounts and am happy to approve them. They show that the Group is a reasonably good position with a slight increase over last year.

Signed Russell Keen G7OOW

Nominations and Election of Officers:-

At this point the conduct of the meeting was handed to Steve – M1ACB for the election of the Chairman and then back again. Voting took place and the following officers were elected for 2011/12

Chairman – Dave Sparrow – G8XOR david.sparrow5@btinternet.com
Prop M0MUD, 2nd M1NIZ and carried by all
Secretary – Keith Gaunt – G7CIY g7ciy@raynet-uk.net
Prop G6PDE 2nd 2E0BCM and carried by all
Treasurer – Juliet Bevan – G7RVS g7rvs@hotmail.co.uk
Prop G6GSG, 2nd G7UQV and carried by all
Auditor – Emma Penfold
Prop G7RVS, 2nd G7CIY and carried by all

Grateful thanks were noted both to Juliet for taking on this role last year and continuing again this year.

Additional positions within SARG are:

President	– Alan Dorling – G8CJL	
Repeater Keeper GB3PO, GB3IH & GB3EF	– Keith Gaunt – G7CIY	g7ciy@raynet-uk.net
Repeater Keeper GB3EA & GB3EZ	– Jake Bevan – G1YFF	g1yff@hotmail.co.uk
Technical Officer*	– Jake Bevan – G1YFF	g1yff@hotmail.co.uk
Western Area Representative	– Terry Beddington – G0TMX	g0tmx@btinternet.com
TV Repeater	– Chris Irish – G6PDE	cjirish@btinternet.com
Internet and Repeater Linking	– Keith Handscombe – G7DNT	keith@g7dnt.co.uk
Web Master	– Keith Hotchkiss – G0FEA	g0fea@yaesu.org.uk

*following from the agreement of the new constitution, the position of Technical Officer will be an appointed position on the Committee from next year.

Agreement from the meeting to adopt the revised Constitution for the Group

After much work by your Committee, a revised Constitution was presented at the meeting for agreement from the membership. The original version had several areas which could be misleading and have the potential to cause the Group difficulties. After some good discussion and some minor wording changes which were agreed at the meeting, it was voted on and carried unanimously that SARG will adopt the new Constitution. The updated version will be available to view from our Web Site by the time the minutes are published.

Repeater News and Updates:

G1YFF took the floor and gave some updates on all the repeaters that we maintain: as per the Chairman's Report, the main big news is of course the installation of the new GB3PO. Feedback on its operation, coverage and reception reports is welcomed to any member of the Committee. GB3EA still has some performance issues and we propose to change its aerial at the Wickhambrook site. Some tweaks to the firmware and logic may also take place at some point during the year. Much work has been done on GB3PO to get to where we are today although there may yet be some further improvements that can be made. We now have a full set of drawings completed. Steve – M1ACB asked what the SARG's views were on D-Star. Jake explained that it would be very expensive to initiate but we were not totally against it if there was sufficient interest. Those present at the meeting said that they preferred to keep things the way they were.

Keith – G7DNT then took the floor and gave a run down of what his system could do which included an option for people to use D-Star if they so wished. Further information can be found at <http://g7dnt.co.uk/mb7iip-ipswich.html> which should also be added to our web site.

Web Site News and feedback:

GOFEA reported that he was still happy to run and maintain our web site. The SARG notes that this was all self funded. There was no feedback from the floor so we can only assume that people are happy with the current format. The URL for this site is <http://www.sargroup.co.uk/>

AOB:

ESWR will be held Sunday 12th June at the Orwell Truck Stop. Please tell your friends and we look forward to seeing you there. <http://www.eswr.org.uk/>

Date and venue of next meeting:-

There being no other business, the meeting was formally closed at 21:12. Subscriptions were then gratefully received by G7RVS. Next years meeting will be held at the same location on Thursday 26th April 2012

Keith Gaunt – G7CIY
SARG Secretary
29th April 2011

Outstanding Actions as at 28th April 2011

- AP01/10 SARG to follow up and provide a charitable donation to Ipswich Hospital Radio
- AP09/10 SARG to purchase and present a gift (as per minutes) to Alan – G8CJL
- AP01/11 SARG to re-confirm that G0TMX is happy to remain a representative for the Western Area
- AP02/11 G7DNT to lead the project on providing audio streaming to the SARG web site (from a link on his own web site) and to work with the SARG to link the Group's repeaters together
- AP03/11 Steve – M1ACB to see what he can do to “oil the wheels” re: the license application approval for GB3IT (Amateur TV) and report back to the SARG via G6PDE
- AP04/11 SARG to have a list of Assets for accounting and insurance purposes
- AP05/11 SARG to arrange appropriate insurance cover