

# CONWY VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

(AFFILIATED TO THE RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN)



CLUB CALL SIGN:  
GW6TM

Meetings held at: - The Studio, Penrhos Road, Colwyn Bay  
on the 1st Wednesday of each Month.

The meetings start at 7.30pm

(Exceptions: NO meeting January or August)

## MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

### CHAIRMAN

Ray Jones GW3MDK  
COLWYN BAY  
LL29 7BB  
Tel: 01492 530523

### TREASURER

M. Jones GW4NNL  
COLWYN BAY  
Tel: 01492 530725

### SECRETARY

R.W. Evans GW6PMC  
16 Monmouth Grove  
PRESTATYN  
LL19 8TS  
Tel: 01745 855068

Club Web Site <http://www.conwyvalleyradio.org.uk>

Secretary's E-mail: [wynne.evans@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:wynne.evans@dsl.pipex.com)

---

### Past, Present and the Future of Wylfa Nuclear Power Station.

The members of the club returned after the Christmas break to the February meeting where they were given an illustrated talk by Kay Wilkinson and John Williams, two members of staff of Wylfa Visitors Centre, based at Cemaes bay on Anglesey.

They explained the history of the Wylfa Magnox Nuclear Power Station, from its planning stage in 1956 to its commissioning in 1971. They also explained that although all the Magnox power stations are similar in concept, they are different in design and unfortunately making each one unique. The consequence of this is that when the supply of fuel design specifically for Wylfa runs out, the power station will cease producing electricity. They estimate that latest date of production will be 2012. Many questions were asked and answered which greatly enhanced the talk.

As a side line to the talk they mentioned that in part of the grounds of Wylfa is a secluded garden originally planted by a Lady Violet Vivian. This garden is open to the public twice a year. May Bank Holiday and the August bank holiday, there is a charge which goes to charity and from the pictures shown looks like a worthwhile visit.

---

### Silent Member

It is with deep regret that I have to inform the membership of the passing of **Harold Pomfret** on the 5<sup>th</sup> January. Following correspondence sent to him regarding the February meeting and the subsequent phone call regarding the weather left on his answerphone, his family contacted the Chairman Ray Jones GW3MDK with the sad news.

Although Harold was not a licensed Radio Amateur or a listener, he enjoyed the fellowship and attended the club when possible. He will be missed.

---

### Those inevitable price increases...

On the 6<sup>th</sup> February the following e-mail was received from Martin Lynch after reading it I thought I should share it, as the contents may have been written by their marketing department but were very interesting (Sec.)

We're sure you've noticed prices steadily creeping upwards on various websites both here and overseas. A customer rang this morning saying he couldn't understand why for example, Yaesu and Icom have put their prices up, in turn forcing us to increase our prices. "Don't they know there's a credit crunch on?" he commented. What he failed to realise was that no one in their right mind would actually choose to put prices up in a recession. (It's actually a recession not some spun new term "credit crunch").

Trouble is, when our UK importers (Yaesu, Icom in fact anyone that imports and resells from Japan, America, China, even the rest of Europe) buy stock with our British Pound they get at least 30% less than they did say twelve months ago. If a particular product cost £1500 trade, they would now have

to pay £1950! That in turn forces them to charge more to us and after we trim it back as best we can, we sell on to you.

In reality, prices today have rarely been so low. Take a Yaesu FT-817ND. When it first came out we couldn't get our hands on enough to sell at £679. Just a few years ago, that figure had fallen to £449. Today it's under £400! There are many examples, please check them out and you may agree that Ham Radio equipment is still extremely good value. It's still a good time to buy (or you could keep your money in the bank and earn a laughable rate of return on your investment). Do also bear in mind that if the exchange rate between good old Blighty and Japan (in particular) continues to fall, the prices will continue to rise.

Check out our latest offerings and if you want to discuss a particular deal, have a part exchange, want a bit of finance, whatever, give us a call. Either way we'll do our very best to put a smile on your face and a new rig in your shack!

73 Martin Lynch

This is the link that came with the newsletter

[http://campaign.constantcontact.com/render?v=0010nZqjBlxFzrZXVaTDKcCVz-s6TnpuYLZxGzTfn-gCxTfH9noIVk-zRTdcDBrkdb\\_jt5sIHOIYkC9Zma0Z3reMB8AvW5IaTaoHETMgw9GDkRUjQS\\_rezJvw%3D%3D](http://campaign.constantcontact.com/render?v=0010nZqjBlxFzrZXVaTDKcCVz-s6TnpuYLZxGzTfn-gCxTfH9noIVk-zRTdcDBrkdb_jt5sIHOIYkC9Zma0Z3reMB8AvW5IaTaoHETMgw9GDkRUjQS_rezJvw%3D%3D)

---

### **Correspondence**

Received on the 7th Feb the following in reply to an e-mail sent regarding the February meeting:

Hi Wynne

Tnx for info & phone message too. I'm not at home as I had a bit of an accident while on a ski hol in France. I say on hol as I wasn't skiing at the time, just in a cafe for a hot choc & loo. Tripped & then slipped on way to loo (dangerous places toilets in france !!) & fell on the step & broke neck of femur !! All very dramatic helicoptered off mountain, 24 hrs traction & op to pin leg. Now off leg for 3 months so that's cut me down to size !! After 9 days in french hospital, I got repatriated & Peter came to look after me, crutches are a bit restricting & am now down at Peter's in Bristol for a couple of weeks. Meanwhile, I'm keeping busy & counting the weeks.

Regards to all CVARC mems.

73 Liz GW0ETU

Received on the 18<sup>th</sup> February from Mark Harper (MWIMDH)- RSGB Regional Manager - North Wales (Region 6)

Hi all

Hope everyones doing OK, having come back after Christmas, I realise February is almost over, but I've not had any programs from any clubs recently, and at the moment Wrexham is the only one populating the R6 site!

If I could have your most up to date programs ASAP please..Ideally 3 months ahead would be good..but if you can take it further, then great!

Just so as you all know...I am still here, despite the new job, with its wonky shift pattern, I'll keep you posted how that works out!

Advanced warning as well!....I am in Portugal from 31/3 returning on 8/4 - I'm not going to be operating as CT/MWI, but during that period, please refer to your DRMs if there are any problems, however please keep me in the loop, so that I can follow up on my return to the UK...

73s Mark

Received on the 18<sup>th</sup> February from Mark Harper (MWIMDH)- RSGB Regional Manager - North Wales (Region 6)

Hi All

Not often I pass stuff like this on, but if you've got collectors of military kit in your club, this could be interesting!

----- Original Message -----

From: Paul Southerington  
To: mw1mdh@rsgb.org.uk  
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2009 7:00 PM  
Subject: Military Radios

Witham Specialist Vehicles are pleased to announce that in their next Sale by Tender there will be approx 100 + pallets of Military Communication Equipment mostly Clansman inc RT 353's, RT 350's, VRC 321's, PRC 349's Etc. also a large amount of accessories all to be sold in Lots. Date of Tender 23rd March viewing 18th 19th 20th and 21st March.

ALL WITHOUT RESERVE

Paul Southerington  
Managing Director  
Witham Specialist Vehicles Ltd  
The Sales and Marketing Agent for all Ministry of Defence Vehicles, Plant and Spares  
Tel 00 44 (0) 1476 861361  
Fax 00 44 (0) 1476 861441

Mobile 07736 105390

Web Site [www.mod-sales.com](http://www.mod-sales.com)

---

### **Information from QRZ.COM**

There are a number of interesting call signs on the first page of QRM.com with information of call signs that have or will be used for special events. New call signs issued to existing users etc. I thought members may be interested to see some of the following that were also included in the list. PLEASE read the piece that I have added to the bottom of the list regarding one call sign I have highlighted [2I0YOY](#) :-

#### [OX0B](#)

Not a Valid Callsign - appear to be a PIRATE - Please contact OX3HX, , , ,

#### [OXINC](#)

Not a Valid Callsign - PIRATE If not please mail OX3HX, With all General info abt contact, Incl. name - Qth etc.,

#### [PEILEN](#)

This Callsign Has Not Been Issued In Netherlands, See: [Http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi](http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi), , , ,

#### [PFIGSU](#)

Pirate Station - Not A Valid Callsign [Http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi](http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi),

#### [PA0GDR](#)

Not A Valid Callsign , , , ,

#### [PA2LW](#)

Not A Current Callsign [Http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi](http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi), , , ,

#### [PA7AR](#)

Pirate Station - Not A Valid Callsign , , , ,

#### [pa8sar](#)

Not A Valid Callsign Per: Call Book Radio Amateurs The Netherlands, , , ,

#### [PA3LW](#)

Pirate Station - Not A Valid Callsign [Http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi](http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi),

#### , , , [PA3FUI](#)

Not A Current Callsign [Http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi](http://www.agentschap-telecom.nl/callbook/cgi-bin/callboek.cgi), , , ,

#### [GM7GTX](#)

Not A Valid Callsign , , , ,

[GM8FYJ](#)

CALLSIGN TERMINATED CALLSIGN TERMINATED, CALLSIGN TERMINATED, CALLSIGN TERMINATED,

[2I0YOY](#)

Illegal Callsign, , , ,

[MI3WEB](#)

Illegal Callsign, , , ,

[IW5ANQ](#)

Dead callsign, Not valid, , ,

**The following has been copied from QRZ.com. Members can go to this site and see these for themselves.**

**2I0YOY**

Illegal Callsign

NORTHERN IRELAND - U.K.

This callsign is being used illegally, if you hear this call do not speak to him but if possible record any transmissions, check the signal strength and direction from your location and report to Ofcom ASAP.

This illegal operator needs to be stopped and if you know who it is or his location please pass all information on to Ofcom.

Please use the link below to pass on information to Ofcom or report other abuse of the Amateur bands.

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/complain/inter/intbr/?itemid=416379>

Thank you for your time.

Update as of 25/06/08 -

Again thanks to all information forwarded to Ofcom, several names and locations have been mentioned and on more than one occasion the same name has cropped up. If there is anyone who has recordings of this Callsign in QSO with MI3WAD, full recordings not edited clips, Ofcom would like to hear from you. Recordings have been sent in but it appears that most have been copied from an Internet site.

---

### Future Programme

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.**

**Speaker: Mr John Brimecombe GW3GUX, from Llangoed, Anglesey.**

**Subject: Radio Mobile, (Field strength propagation program)**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

**Subject TBA (The Chairman is making enquiries with the RSGB with regard to hiring a DVD on a recent DXpedition)**

---

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2009** at 'The Studio'.

**Speaker's Mr John Charles, Bangor University's Professional Glass Blower**

**Subject: A Demonstration of Glass Blowing and Model Making in Glass**

---