

# 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)

## SEPTEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

### CHAIRMAN

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

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

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### DIGITAL PROJECTOR

Following the clubs purchase of a Hitachi Digital Projector, the July meeting saw its first use with the showing of two DVD's. The first was entitled 'The Conwy Crossing' which was shown with the permission of John Lawson-Reay GW8WFS who made the original film. The original version was made on VHS, but the secretary had recently converted it to a DVD with GW8WFS' permission.

John Lawson-Reay also supplied a copy of the second DVD, which was entitled 'Army Surplus', it displayed the activities of local collectors of ex-military vehicles.

The new projector performed to expectations and both films were enjoyed by the members.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Potential problems from British Telecom

1. Received from Mark Harper (MW1MDH on the 13<sup>th</sup> July by e-mail

Hi all

Just thought I'd pass this around - I'm sure we're all aware of the potential threat of powerline transmission, but BT are now adding to the problem, by selling these adaptors. As you can see from the videos in the links, these things are making an awful mess of HF....and apparently the newer ones are causing QRM in 2M..

If you're a BT vision customer chuck these things away!..If you're getting the QRM, give Ofcom a shout...but generally make some noise to the appropriate authorities!

Original message came from the newsgroup uk.radio.amateur (apologies for the formatting!)

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Just listen to this.

British Telecom are supplying their customers with devices called Home Plugs (power line adapters) that send TV/data around the house using the mains wiring of that house. To do this they use the frequency range of 3-30 MHz. There are two videos on YouTube showing the effect of this in the UK: BT Vision Powerline Adaptor Interference BPL - theBTman.com

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=afYqUCktxo>

UKQRM Video showing the interference caused by BT Vision (4 minute video uploaded on Thursday showing interference caused to shortwave broadcast stations and action you should take if you are affected):

[http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=S\\_\\_UBDaL-aE](http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=S__UBDaL-aE)

[With acknowledgements to the British DX Club]

73 de G3NYY

## From Downing Street

2. Received from 10 Downing Street on the 13<sup>th</sup> August

You signed a petition asking the Prime Minister to "Petition to keep the 70centimeter amatuer radio band."

The Prime Minister's Office has responded to that petition and you can view it here:

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page16474>

Prime Minister's Office

Petition information - <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/70cmsband/>

**For those who can't receive this information the reply is below: -**

Wednesday 13 August 2008

### **70cmsband - epetition response**

We received a petition asking:

“We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to petition to keep the 70centimeter amatuer radio band.”

#### **Details of Petition:**

“The government and OFCOM are clearly trying to slowly wedge away 70cms from us amateurs as secondary users. Please do not let this happen, don't be a fool, sign this petition now. 70cms is a great band, please don't take it off us. They have already started taking it off us, We can start calmping down on it now. SIGN THIS PETITION.”

- [Read the petition](#)
- [Petitions homepage](#)

#### **Read the Government's response**

Thank you for the e-petition requiring the retention of the 70 centimetre amateur radio band.

The petition cites Government and Ofcom as attempting to deprive amateurs and secondary users, usage of the 70 cm radio band. However, the 70 cm radio band is administered by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and not Ofcom.

The MoD is currently consulting on its programme of spectrum release and sharing in line with the Government's response to the Independent Audit of Spectrum Holdings. The MoD's proposals do not envisage any sharing or release in the 70 cm band before 2012, but recognises that freedom to operate under secondary use could be affected by an increase in spectrum use by primary users, whether civil or military. However the MoD's document acknowledges the Amateur community's interest and looks forward to continuation of its constructive relationship with the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB).

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## Taking a Break

3. Received from Mark Harper (MW1MDH on the 19<sup>th</sup> August

Hi all

As some of you may or may not be aware, I am officially the latest victim of the credit crunch.

Without going into too much detail, my arm of HBOS is being shut down, and officially it is to be absorbed by another part of the company..admittedly, given the processes involved, this means there is no definite date for closure of the company..however the official word is that we should all consider ourselves on notice.

With this in mind, and with the blessing of HQ, I am taking a break from my RM duties, , at this point I'm not intending for it to be long...but I can't say....Understandably I need to concentrate my energies elsewhere at this moment in time.

Please continue to keep me in the loop, but please accept my apologies in advance if I cant help or don't answer your e-mails or queries.

In the meantime, please make use of your excellent and knowledgeable DRMs - they are your regional reps after all, but they are based in your area, and at this time can support you more than I can at this time.

I still intend to be present at Llandudno, regardless of how things are at the time...

I'm hoping this isn't a long break, but please bear with me, normal service will resume....

Best 73s to all

Mark Harper (MW1MDH)  
- RSGB Regional Manager - North Wales (Region 6)

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**Change of Secretary at the Dragon ARC**

4. Received from Stewart Rolfe GW0EFT on the 21<sup>st</sup> August

Hi,

Our Secretary has decided to leave the club (don't ask!) with the result that our web site will have to change. So if you could change the link on your web pages to point to - [www.radioclubs.net/dragonarc/](http://www.radioclubs.net/dragonarc/) - you may get more sense.

Hope things well along the coast. We'll try to conjure up some decent weather to send your way but it may take a while.....

Cheers,

Stewart, GW0ETF

## First Digital Amateur TV for GW

5. Received an e-mail from John Lawrence GW3JGA

I have now got my Digital ATV up and running and have made tests with excellent results across to Amlwch. I think this Amateur DATV is a first for GW.

Included in the e-mail is a copy of the picture received in Amlwch sent across the water by John in Prestatyn.

Secretary's Note: John on behalf of CVARC congratulation & well done. I hope the RSGB pick this up, as a copy of this newsletter is sent to them.

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## **RSGB SSB Field Day**

The 6 – 7<sup>th</sup> of September will see the RSGB SSB Field Day. For those interested in taking part or the giving away of points to those participating, the contest will take place between 1300 to 1300 UTC on the following bands. 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 Mhz.

The requirement for the exchange in this Contest is the RS plus a serial number. (e.g. 59 001)

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## **Future Programme**

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2008**                      An illustrated talk given by Paul Kennedy GW4DVQ entitled  
'Training and career of a Radio Operator in the Royal Navy during the 60's and 70's'

**5<sup>th</sup> November 2008.**                An illustrated talk given by Les Hayward MW0SEC entitled the  
'Manufacture of Explosive Propellant' very appt for Bonfire night.'

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## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on the **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008** at 'The Studio'.

**Speaker's**                      **Nigel Ackroyd & Kay Wilkinson**

**Subject:**                        **An illustrated talk entitled,  
'Past, Present and the Future of Wylfa Nuclear Power Station'**

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