



# Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society

## **NEWSLETTER**

Nov 2019

# Mid Sussex Matters



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Meetings are held on Friday evenings starting 7.45pm at the rear of  
Cyprus Hall, Millfield Suite, Cyprus Road, Burgess Hill,

West Sussex

**Visitors are always Welcome**



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## From the President's Corner

Email sent to Ken on 9th Sept.

Hi Ken,

We arrived home after a whirlwind holiday late on Saturday evening. As you know, we first went to Myrtle Beach SC. Tourists were under mandatory evacuation orders on Monday due to the possibility of a hurricane.

We went west to Asheville NC where we made our base for the remainder of the trip. From there, we did go to a transportation museum at Maggie Valley. We also visited the Indian reservation at Cherokee and went to Pigeon Forge TN. Of course, we toured the Blue Ridge Mountains on several occasions. To top off our holiday, we visited the Biltmore Estate. All-in-all, the trip was rewarding, even with the abrupt change in plans.

This morning, I attempted to listen to the net. No luck, I could tell there was a trace signal at times on both the German and Dutch SDR, but no copy. I'll try again during the week.

Regards to all at MSARS,

Bob N4XAT—More from Bob in the next edition





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## From The Chair

Well who would have thought I would once again sit here writing a 'From the Chair' report, not me.

Thank you for all your support in voting for me, to be the Chairman again, and I hope that you will find it justified.

The first 5 months have seen us take part in 3 outdoor events. Firstly we set up station from within the grounds of the Jack Windmill, for this years Mills on the Air weekend. The weather was fairly kind to us, we had quite a good result considering the conditions, with quite a few other mills in the log.

Alas owing to a certain government dept failing to send us the NOV we once again aired our special callsign IE G5RV/P.

We had a fair turnout of members, some for their first outdoor event, which I hope they did not find to daunting and I'm sure they learnt a lot.



Our second event was The Burgess Hill Fun Day and we had glorious weather, unlike some previous years, and I believe it was a bumper year for visitors to the park.

Again conditions were flat so it was a struggle...

for most of the day. It would have been nice to have had a few more members there, but I think we all enjoyed the time.

Our third event saw us returning to the Keymer Post site on the South Downs after a gap of 4 years, to take part in the annual VHF NFD 24 hour contest. Fortunately we entered the low power section so only 16 hours for us. We had 2 trailers in use, our mobile shack and Mark, one



of our Honorary members, once again allowed us to use his.

Before we could even contemplate towing the trailers up to Keymer Post, we had to have a Tank Track clearance evening.

Having not done this for 4 years, it was worse than first thought. However, after 3 hours of toiling by a small group of us, we finished clearing a path wide enough, for the trailers to navigate their way to the top on Saturday morning.

Saturday morning with both trailers waiting for us at the gate, we set off up the track with Mike G8KMP following to the site bathed in warm sunshine.

Once both trailers were in position, we said goodbye to both Mark & Rob 2E0RJA, a former

member, and thanked them and said goodbye. Then we unloaded both masts & antenna's and began to assemble them ready to put up, any spare hands were then left to erect the mess tent and make a cup of tea.

Once antenna's checked and raised, both radios were set up and we were ready to go, only 20 minutes late considering we were 30 minutes late getting up there not bad.



2metre started off quite well, however 70cms was very quiet and did not improve over the weekend.

Operators and loggers did a sterling job, and they continued till late evening, then some well earned sleep if they were lucky,

Adrian M0TCD arrived early Sunday morning, and found them all fast asleep. However they were soon up and raring to go. Chris 2E0GZZ was soon preparing breakfast.



Unfortunately the weather had changed overnight and rained and also a lot cooler, although it didn't dampen the spirits just the shoes also the mess tent.

Once again conditions were not good, 2mt was slow & 70cms very quiet.

The day passed quickly, and it was soon time to start dismantling everything, ready for loading into the trailer, which Adrian was going to tow back to Cyprus Hall.

My son-in law had volunteered to come down from Rochester to tow the other trailer, and to park it on our drive ready to be collected by Mark.

Before Mark arrived, the sound of a Land Rover approached, driven by Del 2E0KDL, followed by my son-in law. Soon both trailers were loaded, and ready to leave to go down the track and back to Burgess Hill.

After unloading, and the items put away, our trailer was taken to Sue's G6YPY QTH to be collected, and taken to Mark's workshop. This allowed Chris M1CSE to re-wire the lights, and some other repairs to be carried out.

The trailer was then returned to Shermanbury for storage until September for Haywards Heath Town Day.

We await to see how we got on. Mike has submitted our logs.

Although I was not there, I understand the Fox Hunt went well. Sue & Kim were well hidden in their lair, but were found by Stella & Alan. Well done everybody.

The Windmills evening to celebrate our birthday was quite well attended again, however as the weather turned cooler we retired to the public house at the bottom of the hill.

As this years Chairman's BBQ, for personal reasons, did not take place, I quickly organized a Fox Hunt. Alas only 2 teams participated.

I had parked in an entrance to a bit of waste ground along with Val just north of the pub in Littleworth Nr Partridge Green.

After a long wait and plenty of clues, we were found by Chris M1CSE. Then by the Satellites Tony Mike & Peter, who joined us at the local...

pub. An earlier forecast said we could expect heavy rain later, and they certainly got it right just as we headed home, not nice!

We also enjoyed a Treasure Hunt organized by Stella & Alan which took us to Hassocks, Hurstpierpoint, Henfield & Sayers Common.



### Refreshments after the Hunt

We had to find answers to 4 or 5 questions at each location and then back to Burgess Hill for a drink.

Also Dave talked to us about his venture operating an SDR and how he will introduce the subject to candidates on future courses.

We also enjoyed a third Fox hunt for the year. The foxes this time were Stella & Alan. By the time they were found it was dark, which didn't help. We then retired as usual to a local watering hole.

We also had a return visit for a talk by the Kent Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance, who told about the new helicopters they are now using, which

allows them to fly at night with 2 pilots and doctors as well as patients family.

Chris G4ZCS gave us a very interesting talk on Time and Amateur Radio, and I think we all agreed not enough time for our hobby.

Finally Tony showed us some film and photos of the trip he, Mike & Mervyn made to Radio Caroline moored of the Essex coast it brought back memories of my old tinny transistor radio.

We have had some very interesting talks by John Berry G8JBJ , also a Quiz with a twist G4UDU had a memory stick with 40 questions which appeared on the screen for 30 seconds at the end questions also appeared with answers, still all the usual banter but good fun.

A reminder to you all we have 4 nets, Sunday 08.00 hrs 80mts. At 11.00hrs 2mts. Wednesday 20.00 hrs 70cms HY repeater & Monday to Friday 13.30 hrs. Lunchtime net, and I'm sure the net controllers would appreciate more members to join in.

Thank you to all who once again have done so much to make another successful year

Finally if you still want a Newsletter, more copy is required, think about it PLEASE.  
Till the next time.

Regards  
Russell Nelson G7TMR  
Hon Chairman  
MSARS

# Surplus Equipment Sale 2019 Held at Cyprus Hall on Friday 1st November. Report in next edition of the newsletter.



## **RECYCLING IN WEST SUSSEX**



**Colin  
McFarlin**  
**Volunteer Waste  
Prevention Advisor**  
**from**  
**West Sussex  
County Council**

## **Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society**

Colin, who writes a monthly article on recycling in Lindfield Life Magazine, will talk to us about what happens to our recycling and ways to improve our recycling and will be happy to answer any question you have on recycling.

**Please do bring along to the meeting any items you are unsure how to recycle, and Colin will advise you.**

**Date: 28th February 2020**

**Time: 8pm**

**Venue: Millfield Suite, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 8DX.**

## Greetings from the Editor Tony G3XQM

Revival of an old friend

Around once a month throughout 1999 I would find a copy of the latest 'Mid Sussex Matters' landing on my front door mat. At the time I wasn't a member of the society.

Back then, I was running a business supplying Satellite TV equipment into the education sector, for the reception of Foreign Modern Languages. This took us to far flung places from the south of England to the North Midlands.

Eventuality I was persuaded by Gordon G3XTH and Gil G3XUP to come along to one of their Friday night-club evenings, which at that time were held at Marle Place Adult Education Centre, Leylands Road Burgess Hill.

I hadn't been a member for very long, before I was finally persuaded to take on the role of newsletter editor. I guess I always wanted to be more involved in our club, and so here was the opportunity.

It was certainly a hard act to follow. John Fuller has much to be credited for, continually producing the excellent Mid Sussex Matters.

For my part I was trying to learn very quickly, how to use my new computer, Word 2000 and the Internet. Having taken over the reigns in the editorial office, I guess by the end of the year, I might have a better understanding of all this technology?

My grateful thanks must go to John G0OIO and Gil G3XUP for putting up with my frequent cries of HELP on the telephone whilst trying to put together that first newsletter.

### November 2019

One frequent plea by any newsletter editor is for 'copy' from the members. Any topic that is ever so slightly related to our hobby, will be seriously considered. For instance have you just purchased an electric car?

All contributions of copy for the newsletter please send to:

[Tony Finch](#)

(Tel: 01444 254511)

Details of club events etc go to:-

[MSARS Web Site](#)

General enquires about The Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society Tel Sue 01273 845103