



## **Derby & District Amateur Radio Society**

**(Inc. Derby Wireless Club, 1911)**

**Affiliated to the R.S.G.B.**

**Callsigns: G2DJ G3ERD**

### ***NEWSLETTER – CHRISTMAS 2011***



#### **Happy Christmas!!**

Well, we've very nearly done it and had as full a year as possible working the GB100D call-sign celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Derby Wireless Club. We've made about 1000 contacts and contacted over 60 countries – and we've not finished yet as it is hoped to operate the call-sign right up to midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> December. Thanks are those who have operated the station as and when they and the premises have been available.

**Bonfire in the Car Park** – This happened on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November with the match being applied to the assembled wood – and dis-assembled furniture – at about 6:30pm. Tea and coffee's were available and many of those present were in deed very grateful for those who brought food to share between us. Most generous and thanks again! The fire was built during the day – not to the height we've had it before but even so it got nice and hot. Hot enough to see Jack 2E0RLG and Chris G4AKE walking about in short-sleeve order at about 20:30. A 'reet good do' it was too with about 15 folks there. Brilliant! And the fireworks provided by some of our members were a vast improvement on the previous year as well, so now there's a new bench-mark to beat. Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2012. Make a note!

#### **Christmas Fuddle** – December 20<sup>th</sup>

Last meeting of the year will be the Christmas Fuddle. Again, knowing what people want to eat and drink is a nightmare so we ask as we have in the past for people to bring something they'd like to share. This has worked very well in the past with not everything being savoury or mince pies. So, the same again for this year? You up for it? Yes, of course you are, so we'll see you in the Clubroom then!

**Club Trip 2012** – Anywhere you think it would be good for the Society to visit next year? Sorry, the Caribbean isn't on. Duxford went down well a few years ago and since then Concorde has been put under cover (yes, it WAS some time ago!). Duxford has the added advantage in that there is 'retail-therapy' in nearby Cambridge for those who aren't 'into' Duxford. Bletchley Park might be good, just to see what the RSGB has been up to there as well as a look round the mansion and the buildings associated with the code-breaking activities of the Second World War. Maybe a look-in at GB2BP as well. Then again, how about

Cosford? Free admission the last time Denis and I went although they do ask for donations. Parking is reasonably priced but charges for a 'bus I don't know. So, one or two ideas there. If there's enough call for a visit to somewhere then we'll see what we can do. No guarantees though! We'll put a list on the Notice Board in the clubroom in the New Year for those ideas. Maybe even a pen to scratch your ideas down with too.

**Club Programme.** Ideas are needed by Richard for folks who can give a talk, or maybe one on an amateur radio related topic. Maybe we could invite friends from Nunsfield House ARG for the larger talks. This is your Club, as to what the programme has in it is down to you, the members. If only a few have their say, then don't complain if you don't like what's on the menu. Richard gave a brilliant talk on broadcast aerials a few weeks ago and made some of our best attempts at making aerials seem positively – umm – 'amateur'. I'm betting there are people amongst our number who have an aspect of this enormous hobby they're really keen on who could give a 20 or 30 minute talk without any trouble whatsoever. Frightened that there may be someone in the audience who knows more than you? I'm sure they'd be only too pleased to hear someone talk on 'their topic' and would be most supportive. Richard has started the ball rolling so your ideas to help fill the calendar would be really appreciated. And speaking of the programme, here's what's on offer until the end of March –

January	03	Junk Sale.
	10	Committee Meeting.
	17	Video Night.
	24	Technical Topics.
	31	Night on the Air.
February	07	Junk Sale.
	14	Committee Meeting.
	21	Video Night.
	28	Night on the Air.
March	06	Junk Sale.
	13	Committee Meeting.
	20	<b>Annual General Meeting.</b>
	27	Night on the Air.

We're hoping to have a talk on 'The Development of The Telegraph 1700s to 1900s' together with a demonstration of vintage telegraph sounders during April. Thought it worth a mention but check future programmes to ensure you get the correct date.

**Club Net** – There has been some discussion by a few about having an informal club net. These have been tried before over the years, some with success and some with failure despite a lot of personal expense and hard work. Maybe it's about time we had another go, but will there be support for the idea? And if so, then what band should it be on?

### **It's that time of year again!**

The presents had been opened and you've re-charged the battery pack already, you've listened to the Queen's Speech, followed it with a snooze, then a cold-cut of the turkey you carved into at that too-big a meal at lunchtime, the washing-up is piled high in the sink, and you look around from the comfort of your armchair to locate the indigestion tablets. Maybe that second or third helping of Christmas pudding was a bit too much! Your eyes alight upon a present you've

not opened. Quickly the wrapping is removed to reveal – a Diary for 2012. Great! Now you can put your holidays in (unless you're on permanent holiday then you can write in the days you're going to do something instead), write in what you do or don't do each day, pop the birthdays in of those folks you can remember - and then it hits you. January 1<sup>st</sup> is just a few days away! And that's when your DADARS subscription becomes due! Better look around quick to see if you can see a pen and the cheque book and get one written up and popped into the mail to Martin.

But how much to make it out for? It's been the same for the last two or three years, but with the expenditure of the Centenary during 2011 the funds have taken a bit of a hammering and as we've not had any sales tables at any rallies during 2011 then coffers need topping up a bit; so maybe it'll come as a bit of a surprise that the subscription for 2012 is £10 and compared to a lot of other radio society's it's still very cheap. So, if you wish to pay more and indicate the excess is a donation, I'm sure Martin will record it accordingly and with thanks. One thing to ask – if you are paying by cheque, please ensure it's dated on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 (remember – 2012!). Payment can be made to Martin at the Junk Sale on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, or to be absolutely certain that you've paid your money on time then you can mail it to:

Mr M.Shardlow, G3SZJ  
19 Portreath Drive  
Allestree  
Derby  
DE22 2BJ

### **Final final.**

Well, it looks like the 'put this in the next issue' file is empty so it's time to call it a day. Or even a newsletter. I've already wished you a Happy Christmas, so now I'll wish you all a very happy New Year and a hope that it brings good health to you and yours. (And a bit less QRM on the bands too!) Thank you all for your support during 2011 and let's hope that 2012 sees more activity on the bands. I'm certain DADARS will be there adding to the action on events during the year, more of which next time.

73!

*Dave, G1VAB*