Volume 30

Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club Elements

July



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Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain and holds the call signs MM0CPS and GM2T which are used for our special event and contest entries.

The Club was formed by Bob Glasgow BEM GM4UYZ in 1984, to help the local amateurs get to know each other.

Far from being just a local club we have members regularly attending from the Borders, Dumfries, Strathclyde, Fife and Newcastle.

The Club meets on the first Friday of every month in the lounge of the Thorntree Inn on the old Cockenzie High Street from 7pm till late.



Editorial

Here we go again with another editorial and another newsletter. It seems no time at all since I sat down and was writing last month's one. Oh how time is flying! This one is a week earlier due to many being away to take part in the RSGB VHF Field Day event from Hardens Hill in the borders.

Ok what have we been up to since last club night? We are still holding our Cub Nights now Face-to-Face but sadly the numbers are really, really down and for me I must admit I find it quite demoralising as it looks like everyone has lost total interest in the club, I am sure it is not the case, but it is the way I feel at the moment. A few people still want to stay away as they are still terrified of catching COVID. It is a shame, but I fully understand their reasoning, maybe one day will see you at Club Night. Our monthly Activity Day is proving more popular so keep the logs coming in folks!! For the June Activity Day the report will be held over to the August edition as the report will be too late due to our early Club Night. I know also a few members have been dabbling at various contests over the past month, so it has been nice to see how we have all done. Lastly the CW classes are still running and those who have stayed with it are getting better. It is hard to believe I have been doing this for over 81 weeks, as I write this. The task in hand now is to try

and get the speed up to 12 WPM and we are getting there slowly.

To the future. As club night is a week earlier due to taking part in VHF Field Day (all being well) so hopefully there will be a story to tell on our attempt. Anyone who wishes to join us and see what a VHF Contest site is about can contact John MM0CCC mm0ccc@gmx.co.uk as John is organising the event.

Directions to the site are as below:

Streetmap link and directions to site

Streetmap.co.uk - Map of NT733547

On the ZOOM Control Click on the 3rd Box up from the bottom and it shows you Hardens Hill

On the ZOOM Control Click on the 3rd Box from the top as this shows the road it is on. (If you pull the map down you can see the route from Haddington then Gifford

To Hardens Hill

From Gifford follow the B6355 for approximately 5.5miles where you will find a junction with a "C" Class Road which is signposted to Longformacus. Follow the "C" Class Road through Longformacus for approximately 2 to 3 miles. You will come across a car park on your Left-Hand Side. Stop here and you will see a gate which takes you up to the

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contest site. The marker for the site is a large Telecommunications mast.

There is our normal monthly Activity Day event, so I hope many off you will take part and send me your logs. At the end of the month we will be taking part in the IOTA contest from Tiree. We will be operating from a new location on the island so there will be a nice new learning curve on how the station will be built.

Please listen out for GM2T on all bands from 80m to 10m and work us if you can (SSB and CW).

I also want to bring to your attention that in August we will be having our annual Junk Night once again to looking for your support.

Our Lighthouse Weekend has been cancelled as the costs to run it have become extremely high and made it non-viable. Looks like the end of another era, it is a shame, but the root evil of money is the real cause.

To the future we will be soon into the dark nights of autumn and winter so is there anything that you can think off that you would like to do ... ideas please and we can take it from there.

On the training front my next Foundation Course is Face -to-Face at the end of August. Looking for more candidates I have emailed those who have shown interest in doing the training but alas no takers. Is this the death nell for our training!!!

Lastly is old faithful about requiring Newsletter input so as always we're pleading for some. Why not try and submit some sort of article it really would be appreciated. You all have something to tell so why not put it in the newsletter i.e. how did you get started in amateur radio, experiences building your first aerial, etc, etc. Seriously anything is appreciated.

On newsletter input please just beware that John sometimes holds articles over to another month or even a couple of months down the line. It is not that he has forgotten about you, but he must balance what articles will fit into the newsletter. Looking forward to all those new budding authors and their articles.

That is about it for this month then, enjoy your radio and have some fun.

Bob GM4UYZ

[due to the early production of the newsletter to meet the amended date of club night, regular articles like the activity day report and HF propagation are not ready in time, where relevant they will be included next month]

JUNK NIGHT - LOOKING FOR HELP

As you know we are going to run our "Junk Night/Mini Rally" this year on Friday 12th August. I have booked the hall from 17:00 to 22:00 with doors open for the public at 18:30 which will allow time for us to get set up.

We are looking for help with the following:

Running the kitchen (Yvonne needs a bit more help so looking for maybe another 2 or 3 people). Help at the door taking the entrance money and selling raffle tickets.

Also looking for any food or raffle donations which can be handed in on the evening.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Bob GM4UYZ

REMINDER, REMINDER, REMINDER

27th ANNUAL MINI RALLY/JUNK NIGHT

FRIDAY 12th AUGUST 2022

Bring along your own "junk" and sell it yourself.
Tables on a First Come, First Served Basis

Time: 1830 till 2200

Location:

Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Centre (Main Hall)
South Seton Park,
Port Seton
EH32 OEE

Disabled access available

Entry: £2 ALL PERSONS

20:30 Food & Drink Available

Raffle @ 20:30, Food & Drink Available

If any one would like to donate any prizes for the raffle or food towards the catering it will be more than appreciated.

Construction Night

NOVEMBER NEW FUTURE EVENT -

CONSTRUCTION NIGHT -

Tues 15/11/2022 @ 19:00 Onwards

Location: Royal British Legion

Hall: Hall (Lounge) closest to the Old Harbour

Cost: Usual £2/head for club funds

COVID RESTRICTIONS: As what are valid on that date i.e.

Face Masks, etc.

Assuming there is no change to the COVID rules between now and then we will be holding our next Construction Night, the second of this year. As you can see from above, we are at a new location thanks to the generosity of the Royal British Legion and the hall we will be using is enormous so plenty of room.

It is up to you what you bring along to build from something nice and easy to something difficult. I suggest that if you are buying a kit that you do it now due to availability and getting here on time for the evening (they can take ages to come). See below a list of kits that I have plus others that I have come across note these are just an idea.

Personal Kits (I Have)

QUASER Project Kit #3009v3 – Oscillator Building Blocks -£6.00

I have 9 off bought for an earlier Construction Night that didn't happen.

Nice Easy kit to built



EBAY

VFO COMPONENT KIT NOVICE INTERMEDIATE EXAM CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AMATEUR RADIO - £14.50

S-PIXIE CW QRP Shortwave Ham Amateur Radio Transceiver 7.023MHz DIY Kits +Case - £5.98 + Postage

QRP Dummy Load and Power Checker kit - £9.50

CTCSS encoder kit - crystal controlled - 47 tones (for Repeater access) - £16.00 + Postage

New Pocket Morse Tutor Kit :- The PT20 Take it anywhere! - £26.50 + Postage

CW Magic Eye CW Tune Indicator Kit- £12.50 + Postage
Code Practice Oscillator , FULL KIT , Designed and supplied The West Midlands - £22.50 + Postage

Amazon

MagiDeal DIY PCB Circuit Board Digital LED Electronic Clock Alarm Kits Set 6 Digit (Shack Clock?) - £7.50

AliExpress

PIC Version 8W Super RM RockMite QRP CW Transceiver HAM Radio Shortwave kits - £13.05 + Postage

Phoenix kits online & EBay

MK4d FMT Full Kit - PhoenixKitsonline.co.uk - Cost £39.99 + Postage

The evening is about having a bit of fun, keeping your soldering going....and building a project.

Bring your own tools as well although I will bring along the clubs soldering irons and solder.

Look forward to seeing you all

Bob GM4UYZ

Contest Calendar

For anyone interested in contesting there is something for everyone. Contesting is not just about winning although that is the aim; it is about taking part, having some fun, honing your operating skills, helping you understand propagation and It is also a good opportunity to test out your station at home to see how it is performing.

Happy Contesting......

Extracts are from the RSGB Radio Sport VHF & HF Contest, UKEICC Contest and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar see web links below:

https://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/readcal.pl - RSGB VHF Calendar

https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/ - RSGB HF Calendar

https://www.ukeicc.com/ - UKEICC Contest Calendar

http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php - WA7BNM Contest Calendar

July 2022	
RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 2
NZART Memorial Contest	0800Z, Jul 2 to 1100Z, Jul 3
DL-DX RTTY Contest	1100Z, Jul 2 to 1059Z, Jul 3
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jul 2 to 1400Z, Jul 3
RSGB VHF Field Day	1400Z, Jul 2 to 1400Z, Jul 3
RSGB 3 rd 144MHz Backpackers	1100Z-1500Z, Jul 3
RSGB 80M CC CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jul 5
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 9 to 1200Z, Jul 10
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jul 9 to 2359Z, Jul 10
QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2300Z, Jul 10
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 11
RSGB 80M CC SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 13
RSGB 70MHz Trophy	1400Z-2000Z, Jul 16
IARU Region 1 70 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jul 16 to 1400Z, Jul 17
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Jul 16 to 0559Z, Jul 17
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z, Jul 16 to 2100Z, Jul 17
International Low Power Contest	0900Z-1600Z, Jul 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Jul 17 to 0100Z, Jul 18
RSGB FT4 Contest	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 18
NTC QSO Party	1900Z-2000Z, Jul 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 27
RSGB 80M CC DATA	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 28
RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 30 to 1200Z, Jul 31
RSGB 4 th 144MHz Backpackers	1400Z-1800Z, Jul 30
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	1700Z-2100Z, Jul 31

CLUBLOG TABLES

The clublog table for 2022 is now well underway.

Gordon MM0GPZ remains in the lead with 168 DXCC with Jim MM0DXH in second place with 120

You can join in at any time, simply sign up to clublog.org, submit your log and join the CPSARC club there (club members only)

John MM0JXI

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6 D	xcc s	lots Range
1	MM0GPZ	59	41	0	65	0	92	23	98	20	39	55	168	492 17 yrs
2	MM0DXH	0	4	0	28	4	92	26	85	3	22	0	120	264 19 yrs
3	MM0XXW	0	29	25	33	47	66	37	59	54	30	13	114	393 16 yrs
4	MORNR	1	7	6	23	12	30	21	30	11	55	13	93	209 23 yrs
5	MM0XAB	0	3	0	15	4	40	0	7	11	20	0	86	1008 yrs
6	GM4UYZ	0	8	0	14	11	42	28	22	11	5	0	58	141 42 yrs
7	2M0EGH	0	1	0	43	3	28	1	3	0	0	0	44	790 yrs
8	MMONBW	0	0	0	18	0	33	3	10	4	4	0	41	725 yrs
9	MM0GYG	0	1	0	5	0	7	9	15	15	8	3	39	63 13 yrs

Club Attire

The club has a design for Club T-shirts, Polo-shirts, Sweat-Shirts, Fleeces and Jackets and all of these can be obtained from Patricia Bewsey Designs

When making an order please quote 'Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club' to ensure that the Club Logo will be placed on the required garments.

Cost will depend on garment and should cover the garment and logo, call sign addition will be extra.

If you wish to add your call sign to the logo then please ask at the time of the order.

Order from:

PATRICIA BEWSEY DESIGNS,

Tel/Fax: 01620 850788 Mobile: 07970 920431

Email: patricia.bewsey@gmail.com

Note: the shop at Fenton Barns is now closed

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- A receiver with an RF front-end dynamic range of 100dB has a preamplifier added with gain of 20dB and a dynamic range of 110dB. The dynamic range of the combined receiving system is
- a. increased to 110dB
- b. increased to 120dB
- c. remain at 100dB
- d. decreased to 80dB
- 2. The image frequency in a superhet radio receiver is that frequency which
- will also mix with the local oscillator signal to produce a resultant on the intermediate frequency
- b. differs from the wanted signal by an amount equal to the intermediate frequency and can be either above or below the wanted frequency
- c. is on the opposite side (of the wanted frequency) to the intermediate frequency and of equal frequency separation
- d. is twice the difference between the wanted frequency and the intermediate frequency.

3. A purpose of AGC is to

- a. ensure that the RF stage of the receiver is not damaged by excessive input
- b. ensure that the AF stage of the receiver is not damaged by excessive output
- c. enable the receiver to compensate for varying signals
- d. enable the receiver to maintain a constant S meter reading.
- 4. The function of the multiplier stage in a transmitter is to
- a. multiply the output power
- b. enable the transmitter to be operated on a harmonic of the oscillator frequency
- c. reduce radiation of multiples of the oscillator frequency
- d. prevent 'pulling' of the oscillator.
- 5. Increasing the deviation level of a frequency modulated transmitter
- a. widens the r.f. bandwidth
- b. improves the speech quality
- c. overcomes f.m. noise
- d. increases the speech compression ratio.

- 6. A transmitter has been in use for some time and the speech processor is then switched on and set to maximum compression. The peak transmit power is, seen to be unaffected. It is LIKELY that the transmitter will run
- a. a bit cooler than before
- b. at much the same temperature as before
- c. slightly hotter than before
- d. considerably hotter than before.
- 7. A transmitter has a well regulated power supply. Keying which one of the following stages is most likely to result in chirp?
- a. Variable frequency oscillator.
- b. PA
- c. Driver amplifier.
- d. Frequency multiplier.
- 8. An SSB receiver has a signal to noise ratio of 10dB at an output signal power of 0.5μV. It is then re-tuned to another clean signal whose level is 1μV, an increase in signal power of 4 times or 6dB. The perceived signal to noise ratio on the new signal will be
- a. 4dB
- b. 6dB
- c. 10dB
- d. 16dB
- 9. Spurious signals in a receiver could be caused by
- a. signals separated from the wanted signal by an amount equal to the IF
- b. a strong signal overloading the receiver front end
- c. signals from a distant pirate broadcast transmitter
- d. signals on a harmonic of the frequency displayed on the receiver.
- A transceiver will often share circuits between transmitter and receiver. Typically this would include the
- a. AGC circuits
- b. IF filters
- c. frequency modulator
- d. discriminator

Club Events

24 June 2022	Club Night (early due to VHF Field Day)
2/3 July 2022	RSGB VHF Field Day
9 –15 July 2022	Activity Week
30/31 July 2022	RSGB IOTA Contest
5 August 2022	Club Night
12 August 2022	Mini Rally (see inside for details)
13-19 August 2022	Activity Week
20/21 August 2022	Lighthouses Weekend (no entry from CPSARC—see the editorial)
2 September 2022	Club Night
10-16 September 2022	Activity Week
16 September 2022	2nd 144MHz DF Hunt
7 October 2022	Club Night
8-14 October 2022	Activity Week
29/30 October 2022	CQWW SSB Contest
4 November 2022	Club Night
5-11 November 2022	Activity Week
15 November 2022	New: Construction Night at Cockenzie & Port Seton RBL
2 December 2022	Club Night
3 December 2022	Christmas Night Out
10-16 December 2022	Activity Week