

# RIDGEWAY REPEATER GROUP

<http://www.rrg.org.uk>

## Newsletter

June 2014

### 2014 Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Ridgeway Repeater Group was held on Wednesday May 21st at the offices of, &, by kind permission of Thrings LLP, 6 Drakes Meadow, Penny Lane, Swindon, SN3 3LL. The meeting started at 19.30 hrs & was attended by 15 existing members + 2 new members, John G1QQV & myself Neil M6CUE. The top table hasn't changed this year, Andy G0BEQ (Chairman), Rob G4XUT (Secretary) & Martin G0BQK (Treasurer), although Andy G0BEQ expressed a wish not to stand again in 2015. Those who attended thanked the committee for their tireless work over the past 12 months. GB3TD & GB3WH repeaters are still working well, but there has been some qrm on TD which has been partially eliminated by putting TD on CTCSS only, the qrm is still there but at least it doesn't keep the repeater open like it used to, creating some issues with some lower powered stations/operators, WH still has 1750Hz tone as well as CTCSS. The MB7UR APRS repeater has again been running with no site visits necessary to attend to it this year. Traffic remains steady, and with little change from previous years. Still very few local users and mainly data passing through the area. A new aerial is now fitted, though no-one seemed to have noticed or commented on the change. The handover of the GB7NW packet nodes which included all equipment to Chris G1YGY hadn't formally taken place. This item will be addressed by the new committee.

The election was as follows as per the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of office rule:-

Nigel, G8VRI proposed by G6REG and seconded by G0UWS

Neil, M6CUE proposed by G4XUT and seconded by G0BEQ

Tim, G4VXE proposed by G8VRI and seconded by G0UWS

Tony, G4LDL proposed by G8VRI and seconded by G0UWS

Andy, G6REG proposed by G8VRI and seconded by G0BEQ

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Officers not requiring re-election were:-

G0BEQ, G4XUT & G0BQK

The prize draw was carried out and various prizes were won by G4AJA, G6REG, G0BQK, 2E0ZPT, G0JTD, G3JOT, M0ACM, G4MUF & 2E0BDK

Thanks to all who attended & have paid their Subs, for which we are very grateful. For those who haven't yet paid but would still like to remain a member could you please pay by June 30th, either by cheque, PayPal, or, good old fashioned cash. Please see the website at <http://www.rrg.org.uk> for more details.

Many thanks. Rob G4XUT

### G4XUT under steam



Here's G4XUT at Blunsdon Station, after a journey on the Blunsdon to Cricklade railway. Whilst on board he managed a qsl with G1QQV & M6CUE, he was using his Baofeng UV-3R and 2 watts from inside the coach. So another first for TD, a steam mobile.

## GB1WW (Wilton Windmill) for Mills on the air weekend

Over the weekend of the 10/11th of May this year, some members of NADARS (Newbury & District Amateur Radio Society) activated GB1WW at Wilton Windmill nr Marlborough Wilts for Mills on the air weekend. Main operators were John G1OQV, Bernie MONKS, Bill M0TDW, Phill G6EES, logging were Bryan M0RLK (Trowbridge Club), Ken G1NCG (NADARS & Swindon) along with other operators from Swindon, Trowbridge, Newbury & Itchen Valley. In all 322 qsos were logged, 319 on 40 Mtrs + 3 on 2 Mtrs all SSB. Neil M6CUE was responsible for the design & update of the QRZ.com page. If you want to know more about the station or the Mill, please go to <http://www.qrz.com> & look up GB1WW



On the left is the Windmill, above, l to r, Bernie MONKS, Bryan M0RLK logging & John G1OQV on the mic, below the "shack" & Antenna installation.



Unfortunately the wx was pretty grotty on Friday afternoon when the antenna & masts were erected, Saturday was little better with high winds & driving rain (hence my qso with G4XUT from the Portaloo), Sunday though was a little better, no rain, but the wind was still as strong.

## Dates for your Diary

Sunday June 15th 2014 ————— Newbury Rally, Newbury Show-ground, off J13 M4

Sunday June 29th 2014 ————— West Country Rally, 'Cheese & Grain', Bridge Street, Frome, Somerset, BA11 1BE.

Sunday July 13th 2014 ————— McMichael Rally, Reading Rugby Football Club Holme Park Farm Lane, Sonning Lane (B4446), Sonning on Thames, Reading. RG4 6ST

## Maritime Mobile QSO



On Wednesday May 28th a MM station from Wilhelmshaven in Germany was heard via Echolink through TD by Rob G4XUT, Rob spent approx. 15 mins in qso with the operator Knut (DC7FL/MM), locator sq JD43MD. Left is a photo of Knut's boat, a 28 ft river cruiser. The boat., "Seezwerk III" is a Phantom 28 from 1971. Knut says "As you can see in the pictures, I do have many possibilities to use wire antennas for shortwave in the harbour. I am QRV in pactor III , robust packet and SSB on HF. On VHF/UHF I am using a Diamond VX-4000 ( without radials ) up to 100 watts."

So yet another first for TD a Maritime Mobile, all we need now is an AM (Aeronautical Mobile) & I think that's all types of transport covered, we've had Mobile, Pedestrian Mobile, Bicycle Mobile, Portable, Portaloos Portable, if anyone knows of any other type, answers on a postcard please.

## Forthcoming Events

It is hoped to hold a natter night net on TD & or WH, also an activity day somewhere including a BBQ & liquid refreshments, more on those later.