

# RAY~Link

Issue Nine - March 1993

The Regular Newsletter of the Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network Ltd.

•All correspondence for the Network should be sent to: PO Box 56 Eastleigh, Hants, SO5 6QS.

*RAY~Link is published for the benefit of all members of the Network. It is posted to all controllers who are requested to assist in ensuring a wide circulation amongst the membership.*

*National:*

**BEACONSFIELD MEETING, 23rd. January, 1993.**

Geoff Griffiths, G3STG - Chairman

**T**he new RAYNET Committee met for the first time on 23rd. January and faced the tasks lying ahead. There was obviously some formal tasks to be cleared first, but then the new Committee of Management got down to the first few basic policy decisions which needed to be taken. I am sure that our readers will have their own burning concerns over what are the *most* important areas, so I hope that the following brief notes will answer some of your immediate questions.

## **MONEY**

The Committee recognised that the level of membership fees is a matter of great concern to all members. It was clear that many members are very worried about the level of contributions being asked for and how they will be spent. The committee formally confirmed its determination to keep expenditure under very tight control, carefully monitoring how the first few months of operation go. Members at UMIST made it clear that they wished to fund only the core operations of the Company until the situation becomes clearer, and the committee is determined on your behalf to ensure that this is carried through.

The membership fees will stay at their current level until we have a few months experience of operating, but properly constructed budget proposals, taking into account early working experience, will be presented to the membership at the first AGM.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

The Committee recognised that the structure of RAYNET must be seen to be democratic. It therefore decided that there will be a General Meeting of the Company, that means you. in the autumn of this year.

## **DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS**

It wouldn't be sensible for the Committee to attempt to operate the day-to-day needs of our National Emergency Communications Network. It therefore confirmed that the principle of volunteer teams of specialists should continue to work for the organisation, doing the hard work of ensuring that the network prospers and becomes even more proficient at providing service to the community. The Committee will probably meet only three times a year once the initial workload is dealt with, and this will reduce costs.

Leaders of volunteer teams have been, or are being, identified for Finance. Memberships and Registrations, Publicity, Emergency Planning, Training, and Membership Supplies. In many cases, great progress has already been made by them, and their efforts are much appreciated. We hope to bring you reports from each team in future issues of *RAY~Link*.

## **RULES**

The Committee have confirmed the Rules of Membership, which have taken into account the comments you have made since they were published in draft. A copy of the Rules is being made available to all Controllers, and must be available to all members.

## **COMMUNICATION**

We recognise that one of your justified complaints has been about shortcomings in communications in the past with the RAYNET committee. It is the Committee's intention to improve this situation, and we have already begun discussing ways in which this can be achieved. It is intended to publish *RAY~Link* six times a year, and this will be the main line of formal communication with membership.

The latest news items will be transmitted on G4NRC which, for the immediate future, will continue on 3.663MHz. at 0830 local time each Sunday.

These news items will be repeated as a packet bulletin, but do please note that packet is not a secure medium. If in doubt about any information, please do check with your ZC. The committee has begun to look at the best way of utilising the potential of GB7NRC for making information available to members.

With the loss of Call-book information on RAYNET contacts, ways are being prepared of making this information widely available once again.

In addition, steps are being taken to make sure that our User Services understand the position of the new organisation very clearly.

## **LETTERS**

All letters to the organisation should continue to be addressed to PO Box 56, Eastleigh, Hampshire. SO5 6QS. They will then be forwarded to the appropriate member to ensure that you get prompt and accurate information. If you wish

however, letters can be addressed to your ZC direct who will probably have the answers anyway!

#### THE RSGB

At the moment, the Society's position regarding RAYNET seems to be somewhat confused, and we are anxious to give them time to decide where they stand. So at the time of writing this item, the question of RAYNET's affiliation to the Society is not resolved.

We hope to have a decision to report to you shortly, and the best advice is to monitor the 80m nets, or keep in touch with your ZC who will know the latest position.

#### OTHER GROUPS

The Committee have decided to encourage the closest possible links and operational cooperation with those Groups who have decided to affiliate directly with the RSGB rather than support our company, and with those Groups who have decided to operate independently of either organisation.

The most important aim is that your national service to the

Community and to the User Services in times of need should not be impaired by the present situation.

My earnest hope is that we should be operating again as one unified national organisation as soon as possible.

#### ZONAL BOUNDARIES

In order to improve representation and communication in the South West, Zone 7 is to be subdivided into two for a trial period up to the General Meeting.

The western part will include Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, with Avon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Guernsey & dependencies, Jersey and Wiltshire forming the eastern part.

#### AND SO....

I hope that you will agree that we have made not a bad beginning, but it is only a beginning.

The Committee meet again on 27th March. If you have any items for then, or any questions, please contact your Zonal Coordinator. ◇

<i>forthcoming Event:</i>	<b>CLEVELAND 100</b> Richard Trotter, G8EIA - Group Controller Cleveland
-------------------------------	---

**I**n May 1993, Cleveland RAYNET Group will be assisting the Long Distance Walkers Association on their Cleveland 100 event. The LDWA holds regular "100" events. Runners and walkers aim to complete a specified one hundred mile course in less than 48 hours. St. John Ambulance Brigade will provide first aid cover.

The route will be in the hills and dales of the North York Moors. If you don't know the area, it is the on the edge of James Herriot country and has plenty of heather, bracken, grass, sheep, daffodils and pubs.

The NYM National Park is in the North East of England between Middlesbrough on the River Tees and Scarborough. The East side is bounded by the North Sea and the West by the A19 road. The weather is errr.. variable. You can get both heatstroke and frostbite on the same day if you are really lucky. (G6AJF holds the copyright on that sentence!)

Our group of about 20 members will not be able to cope by ourselves. There are many checkpoints and relay points. The Event Control will be manned for three days continuously. The relay points and later checkpoints will be open for about 24 hours or more. If your RAYNET group is interested in principle in assisting us then please let me know. The nets will use both voice and packet for comms. The Cleveland 100 is on the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May. More specifically, the first runners start at 10:00 hrs on Saturday 29th May 1993 and the vast majority should have finished by 10:00 hrs on Monday 31st May 1993. Obviously, the organisers and RAYNET will be out and about before and after these times.

It promises to be a massive event requiring comms for administration and safety cover. LDWA search squads will be available and will require shifts of hill-wise (*that's me*)

and fit (*that's me out*) RAYNET ops to help sweep the course after the last competitors. There will be close liaison with the Police, Cleveland Search & Rescue Team and Scarborough Search & Rescue Team who will have full details of the event and will be called upon to assist in case of nasties. I have already booked my nervous breakdown!

RAYNET comms are provided at the request of the Police to offer safety cover and admin, of the event including the checking of progress of the competitors.

#### RADIO TRAFFIC

The admin method of keeping tabs on competitor's progress is by designating some CPs to send control full details of serial numbers and checked-in times of all competitors at hourly intervals. The hourly updates will be sent even if no competitors have arrived in that time slot.

Radio traffic from the other fixed locations is likely to be:-

- 1) The serial numbers and times of the first three competitors checked in.
- 2) Details of body wagons, bags wagons, sweep teams/officials, arrival, departure, destination.
- 3) Serial numbers of dropouts. (Control will plan routes for the body wagons which will save time and fuel. They will assume that dropouts are in a reasonable state of health unless told that transport is urgent).
- 4) Queries and stores requests.

If you or any of your members would like to take part or would like further details of the above event, please contact Richard Trotter, G8EIA. Group Controller, Cleveland RAYNET (01/CL/025). ◇



CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
OF A PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY

No. 2771954

I hereby certify that

RADIO AMATEURS' EMERGENCY NETWORK LIMITED

is this day incorporated under the Companies Act 1985  
as a private company and that the Company is limited.

Given under my hand at the Companies Registration Office,  
Cardiff the 8 DECEMBER 1992

*F. A. Joseph.*

F. A. JOSEPH

an authorised officer

HC007A

Copy of the Network's Certificate of Incorporation.

<b>Emergency:</b>	<b>AUCHTERMUCHTY FLOODING.</b> Jim Burke, GM4TNP - GC Central Fife
-------------------	---

Following severe flooding, the Central Fife RAYNET Group, was called out on Saturday 16th. January by the Senior Emergencies Planning Officer of Fife Regional Council to assist in manning the Communications and Support Unit (CASU) Vehicle, and to provide a tactical radio network in Auchtermuchty and the Regional Emergency Control Centre in Glenrothes. The CASU was underway within ten minutes of the callout, and other RAYNET members were alerted using Vodaphone whilst underway. On arrival at Auchtermuchty the speed and volume of the water racing into the village was quite frightening. Communications were established using two cellular phones, amateur transceivers, and regional department radios for water, drainage and roads.

Many roads were blocked by flooding and others by fallen trees. Simplex contact with the Regional Control Centre in Glenrothes was established even although the hill of East Lomond (1400 ft.) was in a direct line. Cross-band was used to allow mobile (portable) working around the sites. RAYNET were used until 2300 hrs. on the Saturday, and 1710 hrs. on the Sunday. As well as providing flood relief radio traffic. RAYNET were used to provide communications for the delivery of meals, keeping catering personnel up to date on the ever changing "road closed or open" situation, with 120 meals being dispatched.

During the emergency 90 residents had to be evacuated from 28 houses, and 9 RAYNET members were used, with another 6 on standby. In addition, adjoining groups placed members on standby in case they were needed.

The CASU vehicle, which is available to other Scottish Local Authorities, and to RAYNET, is divided into three units, a conference room, a communications room and a laboratory/galley. ◇

<b>National:</b>	<b>REGISTRATIONS.</b>
------------------	-----------------------

Controllers are reminded that registrations should be sent to:

Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network Ltd.  
PO Box 56,  
Eastleigh,  
Hants, SO5 6QS

As well as the registration form, please include a Registration cover sheet, the correct remittance. £3.60 per member per year, (or 30 pence per member, per month, to till in to the group's normal registration period, a passport (or slightly smaller) photograph, marked on the reverse with the member's callsign, and stamps for return postage. This is currently working out at 18 pence for up to 14 cards. 28p for 15 to 23 cards and 33p for 24 to 37 cards.

Supplies of ID Card wallets are available from Barbara Slater, 47 Broom Road. Lakenheath. Brandon. Suffolk. IP7 9EZ. ◇

<b>National:</b>	<b>INCORPORATION</b>
------------------	----------------------

Just a brief update - the Network has now been incorporated - a copy of the certificate is shown on page 3. This means that the Memorandum and Articles of Association, as amended by last year's widespread discussions, are now in effect so living us a formal structure. At present, we have to include Lid. in our title. but we hope to be granted permission to drop this later on this year.

Finally, our charity application has reached the top of the pile - the Commissioners are now actively considering it. ◇

<b>Exercise:</b>	<b>SOLFIRE 92.</b> Bob Bloodworth, G4VWP - CC Hampshire.
------------------	---

Members of Hampshire and Isle of Wight RAYNET Groups have recently been involved in "Exercise Solfire" which simulated an incident involving a Wight-Link car ferry. 270 passengers were evacuated from the ferry which was stranded mid way between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. The activity on the water was under the control of the Queen's Harbourmaster in conjunction with HM Coastguard, Wight-Link Ferries and other marine services. The passengers were split up and taken either to Portsmouth or the Isle of Wight, being landed at four separate locations. The Local Authorities set up reception centres on both sides of the water and arranged transport from the landing points.

Radio traffic was heavy on both Marine and Police channels and RAYNET was asked by CEPO to provide an overlay support network. RAYNET Control was established at the Wight-Link Headquarters building in Portsmouth and operators were located at the survivors centres and points of landing. Communications were done on 2 meters with a back-up 70cms. link between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. Liaison with the various services was established and radio traffic significantly increased as the exercise progressed.

The operation, which involved 17 RAYNET operators (10 Hampshire and 7 Isle of Wight) proved to be a very useful learning experience. ◇

<b>RAY-Link</b>	<b>MAY ISSUE</b> Ron Cowan, GM4SRL - Editor
-----------------	--

I hope to expand *RAY-Link* with more (short!) reports from Groups, Counties, Regions, etc. The next edition is scheduled for May 1993, and copy, if possible on disk, should be in my hands by 7th. April at the very latest. Earlier receipt would be most welcome! My address has changed, and so has my postcode, although the change to both has not always been made together! Please send your copy to me either via PO Box 56 or direct to 85 Easwoodmains Road. Clarkston. Glasgow G76 7HG. ◇

© 1993 Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network Ltd.

# Who's Who

## **CHAIRMAN**

Geoff Griffiths, G3STG  
11 The Grove,  
Asfordby,  
Melton Mowbray.  
Leicestershire LE14 3UF

## **COMPANY SECRETARY**

R. (). Watson.  
30A Mill Street.  
Bedford MK40 3HL

## **ZONAL COORDINATORS**

### **Zone 1**

Alan G. Wallis. G4YMU  
10 Middlewood Road.  
Lanchester.  
Durham DH7 OHL  
Telephone: 0207 520 477

### **Zone 2**

Ray A. Webb. G3EKL  
3 Hillcrest.  
Scotton.  
Catterick Garrison.  
North Yorkshire DL9 3NJ  
Telephone: 0748 832 809

### **Zone 3**

Dave Hocking. G4FSS  
10 Garfit Road.  
Kirby Muxloe.  
Leicester LE9 9DE  
Telephone: 0533 393 803

### **Zone 4**

Dave T. Seabrook, G6HPY  
"Lyndene"  
5 Mill View.  
Gazeley,  
Newmarket.  
Cambridgeshire CB8 8RN  
Telephone: 0638 750 571

### **Zone 5**

Ian R. Jackson. G8RWH  
5 Vivien Close.  
Chessington.  
Surrey KT9 2DE  
Telephone: 081-397 8017

### **Zone 6**

Cathy M. Clark. G1GQJ  
9 Conigre,  
Chinnor.  
Oxon OX9 4PY  
Telephone: 0844 51461

### **Zone 7**

Chris A. Hampson. G8RXA  
7 Merryfield Close,  
Bransgore.  
Christchurch.  
Dorset BH23 8BS  
Telephone: 0425 72002

### **Zone 8.2**

Dave Davies. GW0KWY  
71-73 Eaton Road.  
Brynhylyrd.  
Swansea.  
West Glamorgan SA5 9JL  
Telephone: 0792 653 785

### **Zone 9**

Don Sunderland. G6FHM  
1 Allfield Cottages.  
Conover,  
Shrewsbury,  
Shropshire SY5 7AP  
Telephone: 0743 723 815

### **Zone 10**

Paul D. Gaskell. G4MWO  
14 Portico Court.  
Eccleston Park.  
Prescot,  
Merseyside L35 7LP  
Telephone: 051-430 0974

### **Zone12N**

Ian Strachan.GM4FLP  
238 Coupar Angus Road.  
Muirhead of Liff.  
by Dundee DD2 5QN  
Telephone: 0382 580 356

### **Zone 12S**

Ronald M. Cowan. GM4SRL  
85 Eastwood mains Road.  
Clarkston.  
Glasgow G76 7HG  
Telephone: 041-620 1000



# Radio Amateurs\* Emergency Network limited

National Committee

PO Box 56, EASTLEIGH Hants, SO5 6QS

## *From the Chairman's Desk*

There is always a delay between the preparation of the contents of RAY~Link, and its publication, and as a result, unless you are an avid listener to the 80m news broadcasts, [3.663Mhz 0830 Sundays] it will always be difficult to keep up to speed with what is going on in Raynet around the UK, and in particular what the National Committee are up to.

The idea of preparing this extra newsletter is to try to give information right up to the printing date for RAYLINK, and I shall be interested to hear whether you find it useful. Please let me know if you think it is a waste of time, or if you welcome the effort to improve communication with membership.

I get the feeling that the most pressing matters on members minds at the moment are: Finances, the Logo, and Insurance cover. So let's try to get up to date with all these items

### (FINANCES)

As you will see from the accompanying issue of RAYLINK, this was one of the earliest items for the new committee, especially in view of the action of some Groups when renewing their membership of withholding all but a nominal subscription. The committee are very aware of members' concerns about the need for a national subscription, the level set by the caretaker committee, and the way in which the money is spent.

The National Conference at UMIST in 1991 set the committee the very clear guidelines that they should levy a subscription which would fund the core costs of the organisation only, and that anything more than that must be referred to membership democratically. The core costs must include the membership registration service, the minimum sensible costs of winning the national committee, the costs of communicating with membership (including RAYLINK), the costs of providing Insurance cover

for members, and the costs of setting up and holding an Annual General Meeting.

So if you got the impression that it costs £3.60 just to register your membership, I hope you can see that there is rather more to it than just that!

This core costing doesn't include things like funding the acquisition of supplies for sale to members, the work on a national training scheme, on international and national operational planning, on representation with our National User Services, on publicity or any of the highly desirable activities which your National organisation is undertaking, and needs to continue with. For these to continue, and to be properly funded, we need your authority.

There will be an Annual General Meeting in the Autumn at which we need your feed-back!

### (THE LOGO)

The Radio Society of Great Britain and

Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network Limited  
The application by Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network Limited for affiliation to the Society has been considered by the Society's Council.

It has become apparent that clarification of some points of the Company's constitution is necessary before a final decision is made.

The matter is now under discussion between the Society's Solicitors and the Company's Solicitors.

### (INSURANCE)

You will recall that there were a series of very positive statements made by the caretaker committee about the continuing level of

insurance cover for RAYNET members on active operation.

We are presently looking carefully at this situation, and will ensure that any areas of uncertainty are quickly resolved.

For the time being, please be reassured that you are covered by the following policies held by the Company:

Public Liability

Employers Liability

Personal Accident

#### **(TWO METRE REPEATERS)**

Members will be aware that the Radio Communications Agency has instituted a programme of closing Repeaters in the two metre band after 1800 each night. The repeaters affected are mainly in the Midlands area, and this measure might well be extended to other areas, although the time-tabling is intended to be short-term rather than permanent.

John Nash of the RA has now made it clear that these Repeaters may be switched on during the banned hours in support of Emergency Communications in support of a live operation connected with a User Service, although not for Exercise work.

#### **(MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORMS)**

Amongst the very large number of jobs now to be tackled by the Volunteer teams is the updating of all Membership Registration and Appointment forms.

-The existing forms may be seen with a "sell-by" date which is now expired.

Will all Controllers and Membership Officers please ignore those dates for the time being, and continue to use the existing forms until otherwise advised.

family in their loss.

#### **(EPO FUNDING)**

Some members may have been concerned to hear about changes in the funding of civil defence activities, and especially about financial support for Raynet Groups working for County Emergency Planning Officers.

The Emergency Planning Division of the Home Office before Christmas issued for comment a draft amendment to the Regulations relating this area.

The effect of the change is that Local Authorities would no longer be reimbursed by Government for training expanses incurred by volunteers involved in Civil Defence.

This is thought to be related to the closure of the Scientific and Community Adviser services and some County Volunteer Organisations, but obviously has an impact on some Raynet Groups. Many local authorities are intending to continue their support to RAYNET, either financially, or by continuing to provide venues and facilities for training.

Group Controllers are encouraged to discuss this area with their EPO, and contact the National Committee in the event of any problem.

#### **(FINALLY)**

That's all for this time.

Please don't forget to let us know whether you find this column useful, and talk to your Zonal Coordinator if you have any worries about the developments going on in RAYNET.

Don't forget, it is YOUR Organisation, and we are all answerable to you!

73 de Geoff G3STG

#### **G4GKL - SILENT KEY**

It is with great regret that we advise members of the death of Cynan Foster-Jones, G4GKL on Saturday 13th February.

Cynan had been County Controller for Oxfordshire for many years until ill-health had forced him to give up this post. He had just a few weeks ago felt well enough to take on board this job again, and had for his many years of Raynet Membership contributed to the 80m net with a dry wit and sense of humour which will be missed. Our condolences go to his wife and

# Raynet - Radio Amateurs Emergency Network National Raynet Supplies

Barbara Slater G6XYX, 47 Broom Road, Lakenheath, Brandon. Suffolk. IP27 9EZ  
Tel. 0842 860475

## Price List 1st February 1993

### High Visibility BS8629 Traffic Jacket with RAYNET Badges

			QTY	TOTAL	P&P
Small, Medium, Large	£47.50	P & P	£3.50		
XL	£51.00	P & P	£3.50		
XXL	£58.00	P & P	£3.50		

### High Visibility BS6629 Body Warmer with RAYNET Badges

Small, Medium, Large, XL	£25.00	P & P	£2.00		
--------------------------	--------	-------	-------	--	--

### Acrylic NATO-Style Jumpers - V or Crew Neck (Please State)

Small, Medium, Large, XL	£11.00	P & P	£1.80		
RAYNET Epaulettes	£2.00	P & P	£0.40		

### RAYNET Tabards to BS6629 - Note sizes are over shirt sizes, allow extra for use over Jackets etc

Small, Medium, Large, XL	£12.75	P & P	£1.25		
XXL	£13.75	P & P	£1.25		

### RAYNET Badges • Reflective Silver Letters on Blue

310mm x 100mm	£3.50	P & P	£0.40		
310mm x 100mm Magnetic	£6.00	P & P	£0.40		
140mm x 45mm	£2.50	P & P	£0.40		

### Car Stickers Black Letters on Yellow

500mm x 125mm	£0.80	P & P	£0.40		
200mm x 60mm	£0.40	P & P	£0.40		
100mm Circular	£0.80	P & P	£0.40		
360mm x 180mm Magnetic	£6.00	P & P	£0.60		
350mm x 350mm Magnetic	£22.00	P & P	£1.00		

### Miscellaneous

6 AMP Connectors (10 Sets)	£5.00	P & P	£0.70		
18 AMP Connectors ( 10 Sets)	£8.00	P&P	£0.70		
Lapel Badge	£1.30	P&P	£0.40		
Embroidered Logo Badge	£0.80	P & P	£0.40		
Embroidered RAYNET Badge	£1.25	P & P	£0.40		
RAYNET Pen	£0.70	P & P	£0.40		
I D Holders inc Clip	£0.70	P & P	£0.40		
RAYNET Ties	£6.00	P & P	£0.60		
RAYNET Flags	£15.00	P & P	£1.50		

CALLSIGN

GRAND TOTAL

Cheques which must accompany orders should be made payable to - Raynet Supplies  
Please write your Callsign on the back of your cheque Note - Prices are subject to change.