



RAY~Link is published for the benefit of all members of the Network. It is posted to all current members' registered addresses.

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## Annual General Meeting 2000

The Network's Annual General Meeting will be held at Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes, on **Saturday 4th. November 2000**. Although the historic museum which is situated within the grounds will not be open that weekend, we will benefit from a presentation as part of the day's proceedings.

There will be a Dinner in the evening at a local hotel, (modest additional cost) and the opportunity to stay overnight on either or both the Friday and Saturday nights at a negotiated rate.

Full details, and the calling official notice, will appear in the next edition of RAY~Link, (which will be sent to all registered members,) but in the meantime, please mark the date in your diary.

## The 80m net

The 80m net meets on Sunday mornings at 08:30 hrs. local on 3.663 MHz

The duty roster is as follows:-

2nd July -	Duty G4AAL,	standby G4KUJ
9th July -	Duty G0BDA,	standby G0VPJ
16th July -	Duty G0EWO,	standby G0MRH
23rd July -	Duty G0VPJ,	standby G4FSN
30th July -	Duty G4KUJ,	standby G0BDA
6th Aug -	Duty G0MRH,	standby G4AAL
13th Aug -	Duty G0NZU,	standby G3STG
20th Aug -	Duty G3STG,	standby G0EWO
27th Aug -	Duty G4FSN,	standby G0NZU

## Donation from BT

Martin Green, G4PMG, chair of the Finance Group has forwarded to the treasurer a cheque for £500 which has been given to the network by the "BT in the Community" award scheme.

This is the result of forwarding the Business Case which was produced by Jim, G1HUL detailing the replacement of the membership computer system. It is the maximum value of award which BT makes under the scheme. Martin has responded on behalf of the network thanking BT for their generosity and support.

All correspondence and membership registrations should be sent to:-  
"Hunters Moon", Newton-le-Willows,  
BEDALE, North Yorks, DL8 1SX

**Emergency 24 hour contact line:-** (0141) 621 2121

### CHAIRMAN:

Ron Cowan, GM4SRL  
(0141) 620 1000

### ZONES:

- Z1:** Tom Hanratty, G0JRT  
(01207) 505315
- Z2:** Contact Meantime Brian  
Tindill, (01677) 450387
- Z3:** Keith Gudgin, G0CXP  
(01909) 565257
- Z4:** Martin Green, G4PMG  
(01422) 828678
- Z5:** via G8RWH at present  
020 8397 8027
- Z6: and Deputy Chairman**  
Cathy Clark, G1GQJ  
(01844) 351461
- Z7:** Chris Hampson, G8RXA  
(01425) 672002
- Z8:** Contact meantime via ZC 10  
(01244) 336639
- Z9:** Madeley Smith, G8KVU  
024 7659 7411
- Z10:** David Hicks, G6IFA  
(01244) 336639
- Z11:** Contact Meantime via ZC 12  
(01290) 421298
- Z12:** Tom Stewart GM0BKX  
01290 421 298
- Z18:** Contact meantime via ZC 10  
(01244) 336639
- Z22:** Iain Strachan, GM4FLP  
(01382) 580356

### SPECIALIST TEAMS

#### Emergency Planning:

Cathy Clark, G1GQJ

#### Finance:

Martin Green, G4PMG

#### Publicity:

David Hicks, G6IFA

#### Information Systems and Registrations:

Jim Andrew, G1HUL  
01530 249 218

#### Technical:

Chris Hampson, G8RXA

#### Training:

Tom Hanratty, G0JRT

#### Talk through applications:

Ian Jackson, G8RWH,  
5 Vivien Cl, Chessington,  
Surrey, KT9 2DE

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Emergency Network.

## ***Fancy becoming a Zonal Coordinator?***

**Y**ou've opened this edition of RAY~Link and there, facing you, is a calling notice for an election of a Zonal Co-ordinator in your Zone. Maybe you've been thinking about it for some time, or your existing ZC has already given members notice that s/he wants someone else to take over the job. So now's your chance....but what does it involve?

Ideally, a Zonal Co-ordinator should have held posts within their own zones, such as a group or county/area controller. S/he should have a working knowledge of the organisation, probably gained from being a member of the Network for several years. It is desirable that you have e-mail, as much of the day-to-day running of the Network is conducted via this.

As a Zonal Co-ordinator, you would have a number of roles to fulfil; firstly to undertake certain duties and responsibilities within your Zone and secondly as a Company Director and Charity Trustee of The Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network.

Within your Zone, your duties and responsibilities are clearly defined in the RAYNET Rules. In addition to those duties expected of an ordinary member, you would have to:

- \* co-ordinate the activities of the County/areas within your Zone so as to provide a communications service throughout the Zone. This will mean having regular contact with your County/Area controllers, and may mean that large events involving one or more Counties/Areas will need you to liaise between them.

- \* establish and maintain good relations with User Services and any other relevant organisations. Though much of the liaison goes on at group/county level, you may be required to liaise at a Zonal level with User Services whose area covered more than one county.

- \* co-ordinate the activities of the Zone with those of other Zones so as to provide a national communications service. Where a situation covers more than one Zone, you may be asked to liaise with other Zonal Co-ordinators so as to provide wide-scale communications cover, or find additional resources in an emergency.

- \* report to the Committee of Management and is answerable to the County/Area Controllers in the Zone. It is important that the CoM are aware of what is going on in your Zone, and in particular, if you are experiencing any problems. This is done via a Zonal Report, which is distributed in advance of each CoM meeting. Also it is important to communicate certain matters of relevance from the CoM back to your Zone - this can be done via a Zonal meeting or newsletter. In addition, you will be expected to chair a Zonal General Meeting each year, at which you will present your Annual Zonal Report, and the reports of any officers within the Zone (such as Zonal Secretary and Treasurer). You may also wish to have reports from county/area controllers and group controllers.
- \* assist County/Area Controllers, Group Controllers and members to discharge their duties. Often you will be asked for advice or to deal with problems which might arise.

- \* assist in Appeals Panels when required. Occasionally, a dispute will require investigation, and the Zonal Co-ordinator for that area will be asked to obtain relevant facts, documentation or written submissions on the matter. These will then be passed to the Appeals Panel (appointed by the Company Chairman) who will consider all the evidence and give a finding.

- \* hand over all documentation associated with the post to your successor or the Company Secretary when ceasing to hold office. It is important for anyone succeeding you as ZC that continuity is maintained, and that paperwork is handed over to them.

As a member of the Committee of Management, your role is defined under the Articles of Association Sections 50-56.

It is expected that you will attend all CoM meetings (usually four meetings a year at Beaconsfield), unless apologies for absence are sent to the Company Secretary; reasonable expenses properly incurred in attending and returning from these meetings may be paid. At present, you may claim a fuel allowance of 15p per mile or provide the Treasurer with receipted fuel costs for the journey. All ZCs should attend the Annual General Meeting, but it has been agreed that they will fund the cost of this themselves.

The re-payment of expenses whilst on business within the Zone is currently under discussion, but at present, the Company does not refund these, though Zones may have their own local arrangements for this.

Prior to each CoM meeting, you will write a Zonal Report, which will be circulated to all members of the CoM in advance (at least 14 days before and usually on e-mail); if you have additional responsibilities as a Team Leader, then a report will also be submitted on behalf of that Team. Matters arising since the submission of written reports can be raised at the meeting.

You may invite a visitor to attend a CoM meeting, but this must be agreed with the Chairman in advance, and on the understanding that s/he may be asked to leave if a "Committee Confidential" item is being discussed.

As a Company Director, you will take an active part in the policy decisions made by the CoM and shall have a vote on any matters requiring one. At each CoM meeting, you will hear the reports of the Company Chairman, Company Secretary and Company Treasurer. Items for the agenda of each meeting should be lodged with the Company Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting, along with a brief document for circulation to all members of the CoM, so that they are informed about the reason for it.

You will receive minutes of each meeting within four weeks, which will detail those present, any appointments made and the

resolutions and proceedings of the meeting. Proceedings are broadcast on the 80m news the Sunday after each meeting, and distributed to those members on the e-mail list, as well as on packet. ZCs receive an advance copy of the 80m news on the Wednesday prior to broadcast via e-mail (unless it is a CoM meeting weekend, when the news is written after the meeting.)

As a Company Director, you will be privy to certain confidential information, which should not be disclosed. Items of confidentiality are marked as such in the minutes, and should not be discussed outside the CoM.

You will also be responsible for submitting a Zonal report for each edition of RAY~Link. This can either be collated by yourself, or the task delegated to someone within the Zone. It must be submitted to the Chairman as either a Word or text file, via e-mail or on disk, before the deadline for each edition. Any ZC with team responsibilities also submits a Team Report.

You may be required to act as "duty controller" for the National Emergency telephone number, in which case, you will be informed in advance and it will automatically be switched to a number of your choice (home, pager, mobile etc.) for the given period. In reality, this duty usually falls to the Vice Chairman.

As a Charity Trustee, you need to be aware of the role you play under Charity law, and information will be given to you on this matter.

Upon taking office, you will be provided with an information pack, containing information on the Network and its teams, confidential contact telephone numbers and other documentation of relevance. Upon signing an agreement under the Data Protection Act, you will be provided with a copy of the Network's membership database, which is password protected, and receive regular updates of data from the Information Systems Team. You should also receive documentation from your predecessor about zonal matters.

Upon ceasing to hold office, any documentation should be handed to your successor or passed to the Company Secretary in the event of no successor being appointed. You should also return your copy of the database to the IST, and delete any information held on your computer.

Still interested in being a ZC?

Then give it serious consideration.

It is not an easy job, but it is a vitally important one, as you are acting as the link between the members of your Zone and the Committee of Management. Being a Zonal Co-ordinator takes time and effort. There are no financial rewards, but the satisfaction of taking an active part in the work of the Network and sharing in its successes are reward enough.

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## ***Fax over Radio***

**David Smith, G8IDL,  
Emergency Planning Team.**

One of our user service CEPOs needs to be able to operate standard FAX machines over a radio link in an emergency. Dual band duplex 2m/70cm radios could be supplied and would work over the distances required. A separate channel to request "switch on" by the other end would be acceptable. Has any Group done this? Ideas - positive or negative - would be appreciated, together with information about available units which could interface the (unmodified) FAX machine with the (unmodified) radio unit at each end of the link. Which make and model radio would be the best?

David is QTHR, or can be contacted at [dadsmith@iee.org](mailto:dadsmith@iee.org)

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## ***The RAYNET Trophy***

The RAYNET Trophy is awarded annually at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for this year's presentation should reach the Secretary at Hunter's Moon no later than 31st. August 2000.

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## ***How Much for Membership and/or PAI Insurance?***

**Membership.** Current Network registration rates are 40p per month or part of a month, (£4.40 per year), payable for one or two years, plus a monthly payment for new members until the Group's normal registration date.

**PAI Insurance.** The Personal Accident Insurance premium, (including Insurance Tax) is £1.05 per year, or part thereof, each insurance year starting on the 1st, of May.

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## ***Don Lovatt, G7OCL***

Don Lovatt G7OCL (GC East Berks and CC Berkshire) became a silent key on July 1st 2000. He joined East Berkshire Raynet in 1993 becoming Deputy Controller in 1995 and Group Controller in 1997, while also taking on the role of County Controller. Previously he had been Secretary of the Maidenhead and District Radio Club. In a time when it is becoming increasingly difficult to find new members he managed to staff all of our events.

Despite ill health over the last few years Don also attended most of our events and those of surrounding groups. He had also been active in CB circles prior to his involvement with Amateur Radio. Our condolences go to his partner Pat.

# Zonal Reports

To give members in insight to what others are up to, a selection of the reports submitted to the Committee of Management are reproduced below, with some names removed to protect the innocent! Absence of a report here does not reflect the absence of a report to Committee!

## ***ZONE 1 Tom Hanratty, G0JRT***

### **Northumberland**

The group has not been too busy for the first six months, but events for the latter half of the year are starting to come in now. The group will be covering the annual 'Border Hike' with assistance from other groups in the zone.

### **Tyneside**

Have had a quiet start to the year with just one exercise covered so far. On Sunday 25th June the group will be providing communications for the organisers of the 'Chevy Chase' this is an annual event.

### **Sunderland**

No report received from this group although it has some events to cover.

### **Cleveland**

Have covered three events so far this year with a further three in June, July and September.

### **N.W. Durham**

Have covered three events this year 'Horse Ride' event in March, the 'Nike Destiny Run' in and around Durham City and another 'Horse Ride' in May. On the 10th June the group will be covering the Long Distance Walkers Association's 26 mile walk around Weardale, this is an annual event. Other events are also planned for later in the year.

### **E Durham**

Have had a slow start to the year with the cancellation of the annual 'Fishing Contest' event held on the East Coast in February. The group has been asked to provide communications for a big fireworks display on a twelve mile stretch of the East Coast in September. No agreement has been reached until some technical problems have been worked out.

## ***ZONE 6 Cathy Clark, G1GQJ***

All groups in the zone are currently very busy with events.

### **Berkshire:**

The problem discussed at the last CoM meeting (that of private commercial first aid providers) was solved by Thames Valley Police offering to act as the User Service.. I have asked the County Controller to keep me informed of the situation.

A member of Reading and West Berks raised the point of the new declaration on the membership forms. (This is a once off signature requirement as detailed in the May edition of RAY~Link)

### **Buckinghamshire:**

The three groups are very active, having covered 10 events between them since the last CoM meeting. This has included three events assisting groups outside the county.

Two of the groups will be involved in the London-Oxford Bike Ride on June 25th, working jointly with the London groups.

Bucks EPU made a very generous donation towards the costs incurred in the preparation for the Millennium and groups are currently making a decision as to what to purchase.

### **Hampshire:**

NE Hants has shrunk in membership to 5, though they do assist other groups, such as Reading and NW Hants.

NW Hants had a meeting recently, where the Group controller, who has served for 12 years, agreed to continue in office. He will be supported by other members of the group.

SE Hants still remains the most active, and is the largest group in the County. The GC has recently raised the matter of User Services attendance at events. (The Network holds a letter from the RA saying that personal attendance by a User Service is not required)

I have little contact with SW Hants, though I do receive the occasional report on activities through the County Controller.

### **Oxfordshire:**

The two groups in Oxfordshire work mainly as one, and both will be involved in the Birmingham-Oxford Bike Ride on 25th June (running alongside the London-Oxford one).

### **Surrey:**

The two Surrey groups remain active, and have recently completed work on their Health & Safety Manual. The CC attended the course at Easingwold in April.

### **Sussex:**

Eastbourne and Wealdon group are very active. They have recently completed a re-build on their group caravan and are currently refurbishing their TTU.

## ***Zonal Matters:***

At the request of the London BRCS, Ian G8RWH and I are co-ordinating both the London-Oxford and Birmingham-Oxford Bike Rides. The latter has proved extremely problematic, as the route chosen presents a host of communication black-holes, as well as a series of technical challenges.

## ***ZONE 7 Chris Hampson, G8RXA***

### **Avon -**

Nothing to report.

### **West Devon -**

Registrations now hopefully sorted out mainly due to unavoidable delay of AGM which was held on 17 May with no change of officers. Usual exercises undertaken with the Ten Tors over period 12, 13, 14 May and closer links formed with the emergency services particularly the Police and Ambulance Service. Due to Charity status being achieved for the Group several applications for help have been made resulting in 3 responses so far totalling in donations and equipment something over £1000.

### **Dorset -**

The training day at the end of March was a great success but despite invitations to adjacent Groups/Counties and the National Training Team there were no takers beside our 16 members who took part. Both field and inside training exercises were organised and sufficient interest was shown that we were asked to assist in a mini exercise for the Red Cross early in May. The usual exercises have been undertaken with the biggest event being the BHF ride when 30 operators out of the 50 members in the County assisted on the event. Attendance at the first County VASEC meeting saw their support of our Forward Control Vehicle in a donation for the road fund licence.

### **Wiltshire -**

Usual activities have taken place - the two day Hill Forts Walk being the most prominent. It has been noticeable that there has been a reduction in requests for our services over the last two years.

## ***TECHNICAL TEAM***

### ***Chris G8RXA***

I have done a survey on the use of 446Mhz licence-free handheld radios. There are some very cheap offers at the moment and a pair could be around £50. However if these are to be loaned to others eg CEPO, BRCS, etc I believe it is better to purchase more robust equipment such as the Motorola at about £60 each. They all have similar range of about 5Km in the open and should prove to be a very useful addition to any RAYNET Group equipment.

## ***PUBLICITY TEAM,***

### ***Dave, G6IFA***

An article by Gordon Chapman G1IEE, of Cumbria RAYNET made the April 2000 of Civil Protection, although our official RAYNET report of millennium activities did not!

Progress continues to be made on the poster situation and enquiries are now being made concerning an artist used previously. A further supply of the 3-fold Blue leaflet, is also being progressed.

## ***Zonal Coordinators***

Zonal Co-ordinators retire in rotation on the 31st. December each year. This year, nominations for Zonal Co-ordinators are required for the following zones.

Zone 2, Zone 4, Zone 5, Zone 8, Zone 10, Zone 18 and Zone 22

Zones 2, 5, 8 and 18 currently have caretaker co-ordinators, the current ZC's in Zone 4 (Martin Green) and Zone 22 (Iain Strachan) are not seeking re-election, and David Hicks, the current Zonal Co-ordinator for Zone 10 is eligible and willing to stand for another term of office.

### **Zonal Elections.**

Zone Co-ordinators have four distinct roles to fulfil. They are:

- 1) Directors of The Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network, a company limited by guarantee.
- 2) Trustees of the Registered Charity
- 3) The voice of the National Organisation to members
- 4) The voice of the members to the Committee of Management

As Directors of the Network, ZCs may also be the leaders of the Volunteer Teams, co-ordinating its work, and reporting to the other Directors.

Any member of the Network, who is registered by a Group defined to be within the named Zone is eligible to stand. Nominations should be sent to the Company Secretary at the BEDALE address, marking the envelope "ZONE ELECTION", to arrive by 17th. August 2000.

The nomination must contain a declaration from the Nominee stating that he/she is willing to stand for the post and is not disqualified from being either a Company Director or Charity Trustee. (see Charity leaflet CC3a, and Article 54 of the Articles of Association of the Network). The nomination should be supported by Controllers or Members from within the Zone. If the post is contested, ballot papers will be distributed to controllers on 1st. September and these should be returned by 13th. October. The result of the elections will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in Bletchley Park on the 4th. November. (Note:- All group, area and county controllers in the Zone, who are registered with the Network, are entitled to vote.)

If there is a current local arrangement to elect a ZC at a Zonal Meeting a Zone may notify the Company Secretary and then conduct its own election, notifying the result to the Company Secretary by 23rd. October 2000.

It is YOUR NETWORK! Please check that your group controller knows your views on who should represent your zone during the next three years.

