



## NORFOLK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

We meet every Wednesday at Eaton CNS School, Eaton Road, Norwich, NR4 6PP from 7-10pm, usually in the 6th Form Centre at the front of school. For more information visit <http://www.norfolkamateurradio.org>

### Minutes of NARC Forum held on Wednesday 17th April 2019

#### Members Forum Attendees 47 + 12 Committee

#### Opening of meeting

David G7URP opened the meeting with the usual club notices before inviting questions or suggestions from the floor. David set a finish time of 21.00 for the questions, with an absolute finish at 21.15.

He also stressed that it wasn't just up the committee to decide and plan events etc, but should be guided by the members as to what is wanted in the way of talks, visits and other activities within the club. David then asked for comments on the previous year's events. The general opinion was that the mix of activities & events were more than satisfactory to most of the people most of the time. The Chairman asked that if the effort was made to put on an SES or visits that the members should make the effort to help or attend, as lack of support would result in these type of activities being cancelled in the future.

#### **Major suggestions discussed were:**

To give some order to proceedings, the forum addressed the three main activities within NARC.

#### **Talks:**

Steve M7EVA worried that members could not compete with external speakers and hence not able to win the Talk of the year, he suggested that we have a member and external category.

Tony G0MQG suggested that it would have no bearing on who offered to do a talk. Donard and Peter agreed that it wouldn't make a difference.

David G7URP mentioned he had to use Radio Active day presentations to have a list rather than the three that were local members talks, to pad out the list.

Peter M0VRA suggested a certificate for external speakers, which could be emailed to save the cost of shipping the trophy.

Phil G6AIO suggested an emailed certificate for best external speaker

Malcolm G3PDH saw the benefit of both internal and external awards and all agreed.

M0ZAE All speakers deserve some recognition as there is a lot of work preparing one.

David G7URP explained the committee thoughts and the decision on the proposal.

Jim G3YLA suggested that the limited number of internal speakers prepared to speak was making it awkward awarding the Trophy to the same people each year. He suggested a scheme to help decide on awards by awarding NARC points at all events and at the end of the year an award for the highest number.

Tony M0MQG thought and several agreed not many would do it.

Donard thought it a good idea but, suggested short 20minute chats on things that they are doing in the hobby in an impromptu type scene. He offered help to any that need it with planning and preparing a talk.

David G7URP has addressed this reluctance to speak publicly in a positive way and will be doing a Q&A interview with Tony G0MQG in a future evening.

Malcolm G3PDH thought it worth stressing that not that many voted this last year for the speaker of the year, he expected more votes for the next year. A proper voting form was available so there should be no excuse for not voting in any year.

Sonny M0SYW suggested that not all talks need to be Power point slide show it could involve practical demonstrations with live close up video to ensure everyone can see.

Roger G3LDI - Offered a full program for the whole of 2019 and asked for suggestions for new talks for the future, 2020 onwards. He said he wanted more radio related and personally he didn't like the 'my other hobby is' type presentations. He asked whether we wanted more quality skype type talks, Tony wanted more local member talks. But understood there were other reasons.(lack of volunteer member speakers) Donard suggested the current mix of skype, local and informal was a good mix and that we had had some excellent evenings.

The Members were then asked for a brain storm on any other suggestions for talks:

Donard offered to do a Historical aspects of Radio

Steve M7EVA offered a talk on Valves

Paul G3VPT liked non radio related offering Paul Moneys as an example..

Phil G4LPP offered to put something together, he also suggested a suggestion board that would be available for people to ask for topics of interest, NARC could then find a speaker

Steve G4GHO wanted a talk on smart metering and offered to assist A.N. other to do it....only if some could step forward to help.

Rod G0CBO wanted a talk on Listening/SWL but more of outside the ham bands. Ideas on what VHF UHF antennas for general coverage along with HF wires.

Ian G4JQT construction Winner, worked for BT monitoring and offered to do it, Tony G0MQG offered to assist.

Ian G4JQT thought of SDR radio as a topic. Chris G0DWV to get John or Andy of SDRPlay to come to explain how it works. Phil G6AIO suggested a visit.

James G7PQF, small talks but combined into one evening.

Robert G4TUK, PC software in the shack, Logging, Contesting etc

Peter M0HGR suggested a skype talk from Joe Taylor PSK FT8 etc

Talk on the Spectrum issue of interference, what they sound and look like on a panadapter. Many used radios with visual displays and thought it would be more than useful.

G4CCX didn't like the IOTA talk and didn't want it repeated.

Ian G4JQT wanted CW related talk and suggested a Key night. Roger said already in programme

Shack related EMC interference and associated cures.

Simon M7SMH asked for SSTV and ATV slow and fast

Rodney G0CBO wanted something on GB3TN and fast scan TV, repeater group (maybe a talk by Noel G7GT???)

Donard, suggested a league table of talks for the year rankings on speaker and subject, which many didn't like the sound of

Phil G6AIO Digital voice modes (at radio active maybe) wanted at the club evening to by several.

VLF as a topic What, how, why...Kit needed.

Microwaves- overview and what and how... antennas etc

### **Suggested Visits / Trips**

National Hamfest - (13 hands)

Bletchley Park has been done, last time response was poor and ended up being cancelled.

Where else?

Peter M0VRA suggested a trip to Norwich Airport

Ian G4JQT suggested Radio station at Baldock but that's shut.

RAF Neatishead, The Radar Museumn 20+ wanted this

John G0MXN suggested there is a visitor scheme at RAF Neatishead, where paying £9 you can go multiple times.

Stuart M0JKB suggested Bawdsey Radar, as it's now been opened

Rodney G0CBO thought the RNLI station at Caister, an event there would be good.

Secret under ground bunker but no one could find it!

Paul G4ZBA trip to NRC, not enough people booked last time so (many wanted to go if done again 35- 40 hands up) David to re-look at it!

Paul G4ZBA SDR internet bunker at Hack Green

Peter M0VRA suggest a mini coach 22 seater from Ian Colman coaches, for less well supported trips.

### **SES and outside events, NETS and all**

Marconi Day by Steve GOKYA

Radio Active on NFD-

Ideas: Rodney G0CBO Skill based talks/group Antenna Analyser, basic Test equipment etc

Paul G4ZBA Antenna Construction ideas etc  
Peter M0VRA how to fit mobile installations into modern vehicles- Andy M0NKR offered.  
Donard - Safe Reverse engineering of something... a component etc...  
Mark M0UMG how to operate an SDR including setup. PC setup and SDR, visualising on the  
pan-adapter the various signal  
Colin M0GMK wanted the 7300 setup to play with.  
Steve M7EVA wanted a "how to do radio stuff", general overview.  
Donard intro to N1NN or loggers.  
Tony G0MQG suggested bringing in radios by owners and advice on how to use them tips tricks  
Jim G3YLA what the controls do, a beginners guide.  
The Round table idea could work for this.  
John 2E0TWQ online help for 7300 users

Science day at the school

Radio by the seaside

Railways on the Air - Robert G4TUK suggested Mid Norfolk railway this time

Paul G4ZBA IOTA event to Scroby Sands DXpedition some interest from members.

Malcolm G3PDH – M0RYB is coordinating Cricket world Cup

Forum closed at 21.08