



Ebrill / April 2021

Rhif / Issue 127

Cylchgrawn Clwb Radio Amatur Y Ddraig

The Journal Of Dragon Amateur Radio Club

## Club Programme

### May

Monday 3rd and Monday 10th **Club NETs**

Monday 17th *'Introduction to the RTTY Digital Mode'*

Guest speakers Dave GOCER and Heather MOHMO will tell all.

Monday 24th and Monday 31st **Club NETs**

### June

Monday 7th *'Simple Aerials for Operating Portable on HF and VHF'*

Talk by club member Simon MWONWM.

Saturday 12th *'**GB0VHF**, portable special event station from Parys Mountain.*

Full details will be emailed to members / published on Facebook.

Monday 14th **Club NETs**

Monday 21st *'Summer Solstice Beach Portable'*

Location TBC / Full details will be emailed and published on Facebook.

Monday 28th **Club NETs**

*Club NETs are held - **7pm** Online via Zoom, **8pm** 2 metres - 145.550 MHz and **9pm** 70cm via GB3AN repeater.*

*Outdoor Events are highlighted in **BLUE**. Current COVID-19 restrictions will apply.*

*Club meetings are currently held on Zoom*

Thank you to the following who have contributed to this issue of Llais Y Ddraig.

Danny Shurmer GW7BZR



**Club Programme ctd:****July**

**Monday 5th**    *'Communicating via the OSCAR 100 Satellite'*  
Club member Brian GW4KAZ reveals all!

**Monday 12th**   **Club NETs**

**Saturday 17th**   *'GB0AMC for the Summer AM QSO PARTY at Traeth Dulas*

**Monday 19th**   *'Software Defined Radio (SDR) ..... The Present and the Future*  
Club member Mark MWORZS will discuss the benefits of SDR

**Monday 26th**   **Club NETs**

**August**

**Monday 2nd**    *'QRP - The Fun of Operating Low Power'*  
Steve G0FUW, Chairman of the GQRP Club explains all.

**Sunday 8th**    *VHF - UHF Activity Afternoon (10:00 - 16:00 BST) TBC*

**Monday 9th**    **Club NETs**

**Monday 16th**   *'TBC'*

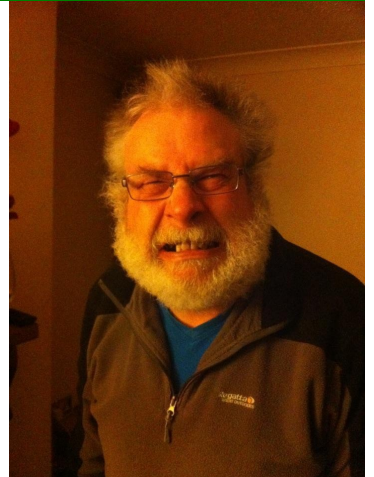
**Sat 21st - Sun 22nd**    *'GB2TD'*  
*from Penmon Point for International Lighthouse Weekend*

**Monday 23rd and Monday 30th**    **Club NETs**

*Club NETs are held - **7pm** Online via Zoom, **8pm** 2 metres - 145.550 MHz and **9pm** 70cm via GB3AN repeater.*

*Outdoor Events are highlighted in **BLUE**. Current COVID-19 restrictions will apply.*

*Club meetings are currently held on Zoom*

**From the Chairman ...****A Few Words From The GRUMPY OLD Chairman...  
AKA Danny Shurmer GW7BZR**

Every month the Chairman is asked if he can write something for the club magazine. It does take a little bit of time to think about what you were going to write or whether it is relevant to what is happening in these days. The Coronavirus is now hopefully disappearing and we will shortly be able to get back to some form of normality. That is of course if we could remember exactly what it was. I think that a lot of things will be different to what we were doing before and that we will have to alter a lot of things that we used to do on one of these special events days. These will have to be made a little bit more special because of the Corona virus. The club of course will ensure that all these precautions are taken. We do have a few special events in the pipeline and hope that we will start putting these on shortly. We shall try to do all the special events that we did in the previous years and hopefully they will be successful, and that people will come there even though we will not be able to put them on to the fullest way as we used to. One of the things that I think that needs to be thought about is that almost all these special events will be put on by the geriatric fraternity of the club. I would like to see a bit more participation by the younger members of the club so they can learn slowly off the elders of the club. Hopefully in this way they can also teach the elders a few little tricks of the trade as they say.

I wish all those who have passed their foundation course and also their intermediate course since the last bulletin all the best with their radios and hope to hear them on the air soon. I also wish all the participants in the Foundation Course and also in the Full Course all the best wishes and a successful pass at the end of it. Please remember to keep safe during this infection and remember that better times will come. Read the Facebook page for all the daily or weekly happenings and also have a look at the website. I am slowly putting QSL cards on there for the club to see. Keep safe.

73 Danny GW7BZR

## From the Editor ...

Welcome to the Ebrill / April 2021 edition of the Dragon Amateur Radio Club journal, Llais Y Ddraig / The Dragon's Voice. This short comment from me, the editor will include some good and bad news. First let's start with the bad news ...

I would like to offer you all my sincere apologies for this late and very thin issue of Llais Y Ddraig. It is a very thin issue because despite a couple of requests on Facebook and one via email, I have only received material for inclusion from one person, namely our Chairman Danny GW7BZR; thanks Danny. This edition is a few weeks late being published because I held it back hoping for more material, but eventually decided to issue it with what I have. We all lead such busy lives these days and not without our own worries, stress and lockdown fever, which appears to be thankfully coming to an end, at least for now. However with a club of approximately 60 members it would be nice to receive a few lines to add to the next issue, even a photograph or two. As amateurs we can be involved in so many facets of the hobby and indeed our Facebook group reflects this to a certain extent, so please don't be shy tell us what you are up to and I shall publish it!

That is my little grumble over, now onto the positive news. Danny and I have made some changes to the club website and are trying our best to update it every week or two, this is no mean feat as neither of us a IT experts or website builders, however it creates a window into our club, including useful information on training, newsletters and the latest club programme. Danny has also spent a lot of time adding scans of QSL cards we have received for previous events, Danny informs me there are many more to be added! Other positive news is the continued success of our training programme, more of which you can read about on the next page.

Finally we appear to have a little light at the end of the tunnel called Coronavirus, even though at the moment physical indoor meetings in Llanfairpg may be some months away. However with the spring soon turning into summer and hopefully some better weather we can start to think about meeting up outside for a few special events or operating days, where we shall observe best practice keep ourselves safe and healthy. Therefore this issue highlights several planned events that hopefully you shall wish to get involved with. As Danny has said earlier in this issue, these events are often organised and set up by some of our elder members and it would be nice to see some of the younger blood getting involved. Fear not if you think you do not have the required skills or knowledge, we are here to support and guide you, plus I suspect that you will have new skills and ideas you could teach the rest of us. Please do help, don't be shy!

Our weekly club nets and twice monthly club nights via Zoom continue and we have a varied and interesting programme of speakers organised. Join us, it is fun!

73 Simon Taylor MW0NWM



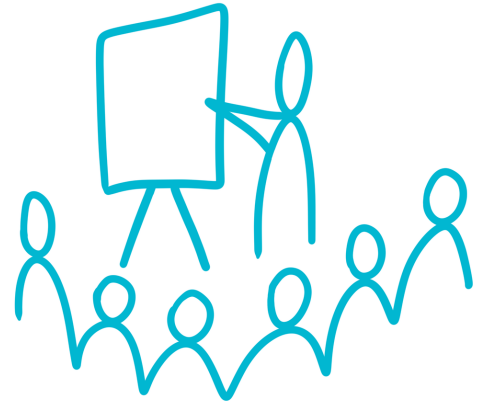
## Training Update

### Intermediate Training

The Intermediate course finished by early March after several months, many names were listed in the last issue as having passed the exam. I would not like to congratulate the following who passed the Intermediate exam in late March:

Paul Jones MW7KLJ, now 2W0HBK

James Bradley 2W0? ( sorry I cannot remember your new call.. Ed)



### Full Licence Training

In late April Mark MW0RZS began a Full Licence course, ably assisted by Simon MW0NWM and Danny GW7BZR. I hope you will join me in wishing the following members and friends of DARC the very best of luck in their endeavours:

Cath Thorley	2W0PYL
Ben Lloyd	2W0BML
Martin Francis	2W0FAF
Greg Howard	2W0TWB
Rick Garnett	2W0FSU
David Hay	2W0FNL
Anthony West	2W0MON

### Foundation Licence Training

On Friday the 7th May, Danny GW7BZR and Simon MW0NWM started our latest Foundation Licence training course. I hope you will join me in wishing both of our students the best of luck:

Gareth Roberts

Gerwyn Pritchard

Finally, planning and running these training courses takes a considerable amount of time, effort and energy. Therefore I would like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow training team members Danny GW7BZR and Mark MW0RZS. I will also mention that over many years Les MW0SEC has taught many pupils and despite having some time off for personal reasons, I think it only right and proper that we also thank him for all his hard work and success over the years; helping our wonderful hobby to grow and also promoting Dragon ARC.

## Proposed Special Events and Outdoor Activities for 2021

Whilst we are beginning to see signs of recovery from the COVID - 19 pandemic, it is too early to be 100% confident that life will be returning to 'normal' this year; however as a club we remain positive. Therefore we are creating a programme of Special Event Stations and outdoor operating events, designed for us to get together and enjoy some radio and one another's company. So what do we have planned?

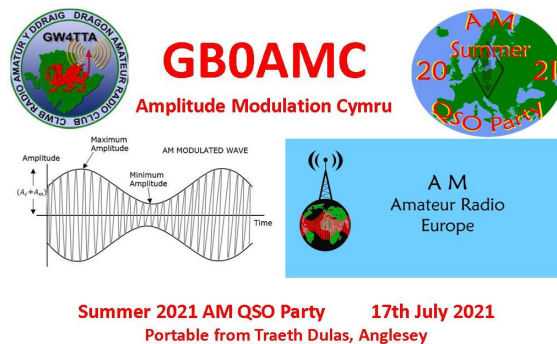


On Saturday the 12th June we plan to visit our favourite spot on Parys Mountain, near Amwlch to operate GB0VHF (Very High Frequency). The plan is to be set up by 10am with three stations for 6, 4 and 2 metres SSB and FM and will operate until 4pm.

Hopefully conditions will be kind and sporadic - e shall give us some good DX! Full details and organisation of equipment will be done via Facebook and email.

On Monday the 21st June we plan to operate portable for a couple of hours from 7pm local time, to celebrate the 'Summer Solstice'. We shall be using our club call sign GC4TTA/P. Weather permitting we shall be portable on a beach somewhere, keep your eyes open for information.

On Saturday 17th July we plan to operate GB0AMC (Amplitude Modulation Cymru), taking part in the Summer 2021 AM QSO PARTY. Currently we are suggesting being located at Traeth Dulas on Anglesey, however this venue is to be confirmed. Keep an eye on our usual communication routes for further information.





## Proposed Special Events and Outdoor Activities for 2021 ctd:



On Sunday the 8th August, we shall be operating a 2 Metre Activity Day from 10:00 - 16:00 BST. Why not join another member or two and set up a portable station, operate from your car on high ground, use your handheld from a hill top or even operate from home!

On the 21st and 22nd August we hope to be operating GB2TD (Twwyn Du) for the annual International Lighthouses and Lightships weekend. If we are permitted we hope to operate from the coastguard watch station, however if not possible we shall consider using our club caravan or gazebo. Once again due to Covid, simply keep an eye on our usual communication platforms.

**GBOCBC****Cadeirlan Bangor Cathedral**

IO73WF WAB: SH57



Saturday the 11th September we hope to be inside or in the grounds of Bangor Cathedral for the annual Churches and Chapels on the Air (CHOTA) event. We shall be using the call sign GBOCBC (Cadeirlan Bangor Cathedral), operating from 10:00 - 16:00 local time.

Finally on Saturday the 18th September we hope to be able to visit the old Marconi transmitter site at Waunfawr to operate the call sign GB2VK, commemorating the first official signal sent from the UK (Waunfawr) and received in Australia on the 22nd September 1918.



So we have plenty of events planned, but as I have said it is all down to COVID - 19 restrictions, therefore each event shall be confirmed nearer the time. However there is plenty of opportunity for us to enjoy getting together and operating portable. DO JOIN US when you can!



**We are on the web!**

**<https://www.dragonarc.org.uk/>**

**Committee for club year 2020 - 2021**

<b>Cadeirydd / Chairman</b>	Danny Shurmer	GW7BZR
<b>Is-Cadeirydd / Vice-Chairman</b>	John Parry	GW3VVC
<b>Ysgrifennydd / Secretary</b>	Simon Taylor	MW0NWM
<b>Trysorydd / Treasurer</b>	Cath Thorley	MW7CVT

**Aelodau / Members**

Kevin Thorley	MW1CFA
Karl Byast	2W0FNA
Mark Beasley	MW0RZS
Simon Keeble	2W0YMP

**Non Committee-Unofficial Roles:**

<b>Door / Subs</b>	Beth Taylor
<b>Refreshments</b>	Position vacant.
<b>QSL Manager</b>	Martin Waller MW7AUU
<b>Equipment Officer</b>	Position vacant.

All submissions for Dragon's Voice to the **Editor**, Simon Taylor MW0NWM at:

darc.secretary@gmx.co.uk

For further information about Dragon Amateur Radio Club and our training courses, please email the club secretary Simon Taylor MW0NWM at:

darc.secretary@gmx.co.uk

**The next issue of Llais Y Ddraig / The Dragon's Voice,  
No. 128 will be issued in Gorffennaf / July 2021. Please do send material for**