GX0SCR/P RAF Kenley Airfield 14 August 2011

Caterham Radio Group (CatRad) again set-up and operated another Amateur Radio Special Event Station on Kenley Airfield. Operating in the Amateur Radio Short Wave frequency bands. Demonstrating Amateur Radio to the public.

This year is the 71st Anniversary Commemorating Kenley's Hardest Day. The bombing of RAF Kenley Airfield on the 18 August 1940 during the Battle of Britain in World War II.

Preparation
As on previous occasions, the planning was carried out with CatRad members Ken G3CQU, Mike G3TWJ who are also members of the Kenley RAFA club and John G8MNY. With Paul G4APL and Kim G6JXA providing support.

Setting Up
Saturday morning 13 August. John, Paul and Mike arrived on site.

First thing to do was to erect the G5RV aerial up at 50 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) supported by two suitable trees. Then erect the operating tent ready for the following day.

This was all completed within two hours.

Sunday 14 August, John and Kim arrived onsite followed by Mike and Paul. Who assisted John setting up the equipment and displays of old wirelesses which provided interest to our visitors.

One technical hitch was encountered. That there was no mains power present from the normal mains supply connection point. After initial tests, a temporary 100 foot mains lead was run out and connected to a working power source. So that John could test the Amateur Radio equipment, then call into the Sunday Morning net on Top Band (160 Metres) at 08:42 GMT (9:42 AM). Kim taking over the presence on the Net. While John and Mike investigated why there was not any Mains supply available.

After tracing and testing all the connections and cables. It was found that someone since our last visit a year ago had 'pinched' the mains fuse from an internal distribution box.
Equipment
The GX0SCR/P station details

QTH (Location) RAF Kenley Airfield. IO91wh @ 171m 557 feet ASL (above Sea Level)

14 MHz SSB   SSB IC735 400 Watts Drake L-4B Linear. Pulstar ATU G5RV wire aerial at 15 metres 50 feet AGL supported by two trees.

A local RF (Radio Frequency) proof Audio Public Address system enable the public and RAFA (Kenley RAF Association Caterham Branch) members to listen to both side of the radio contacts.

The large tent door used as an awning on two poles providing shade for those visiting.

Weather
The weather was excellent, a warm 22C to 27C inside the tent. cloudy with long sunny spells,

Visitors
We had many visitors dropping in to listening to the radio contacts being relayed over the ‘Public Address’ system.

71th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain
This year’s event was a small event with Kenley RAFA members commemorating the ‘Hardest Day and reunion with the Last of the Few that were able to attend.

Operating
As mentioned above John called into the Croydon clubs Top Band net.

Paul G4APL. Took over on 14Mhz (20 Metres) at 09:45 and operated for three and half hours. Kim G6JXA took over for the next two hours, while Paul did the logging

Paul operated for the final session while John and Mike started dismantling the displays, tables and chairs then store them back in the VAN. Before Paul closed down at 15:45 UTC 4:45PM). Over 90 contacts were had with Amateur Radio stations around the UK and Europe.

Many of our received reports were 59 to +20dB with good Audio. Very strong short skip signals were heard during the period of operation.

Packing Up
John, Paul, Kim and Mike completed the packing of the equipment and tent and made our separate ways back to our homes for a well deserved rest after an excellent day.
From the 2011 logs. These have been analysed as follows

Country prefix worked by John G8MNY, Paul G4APL on 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28, 50, 145, 433MHz GX0SCR/P Station IC735 Drake PA and G5RV Aerial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Prefixes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>433MHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>144MHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>50MHz</td>
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<td>14MHz</td>
<td>2E 2I 2M CT1 DK3 DM3 F G0 GM6 I3 LA7 MI0 ON5 RV9 SM7 SQ5</td>
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<td>DL1 EI7 FI6 GM0 HB9 IN9 M10 OH2 OM2 RA6 SM5 SP9</td>
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<td>DG1 DI2 DL7 GM3 I4 N3 IN9 OH2 OM2 RA6 SM5 SP9</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.8MHz</td>
<td>G4 M0</td>
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Further information on the History of RAF Kenley Airfield can be found on
http://www.battleofbritain1940.net/0028.html
http://www.rafakenley.com/
http://www.kafg.org.uk/airfinfrastructure.htm
http://www.615vgs.com/