GX0SCR/P RAF Kenley Airfield Sunday 11th September 2016

Caterham Radio Group (CatRad) again set-up and operated another Amateur Radio Special Event Station using their Club Event Callsign operating in the Short Wave Amateur Radio bands was demonstrated to the public. This is the third demonstration that our radio group has carried out here this year.

In addition to the CatRad Amateur Radio Demonstration Special Event Station operating on the Short Wave bands.

There was the launch of the Kenley Revival Project Kenley Airfield Friend’s Group Heritage Activities, consisted Jamaican BBQ (lovely aroma’s) 1940 Jazz Band (Excellent foot tapping Music), Tours on the Land Train pulled by Robby the engine and other local group stands.

Further information can be found on their web site www.kafg.org.uk

Royal Air Force Association’s Portcullis Club stand Wings Appeal and a marquee had lots of home made cakes.

This year we had a full size replica’s of the Hurricane and Spitfire.

Military vehicles and a scramble re-enactment.

Also the Caterham and Croydon Model Flying clubs flying their model aircraft.

This event was well supported by the members of the Public. There were lots of family and friends picnics. The event was open to the public from 12:00-17:00Hours
Now back to Amateur Radio

**Setting Up**
Friday 9 September Paul, John and Mike met onsite at the Portcullis club site at 10AM. To erect the G5RV aerial between the trees.

Agreed the location for our demonstration with KAFG’s Alan Morgan.

By 11:30 we had the aerial up and the site marked out ready for Sunday.

The replica full size Hawker Hurricane MK II DT-A and the Supermarine Spitfire ZP-A were ’parked’ in front of the Portcullis Club. Wonderful sight and a surprise to us. These are owned by Battle of Britain Experience.

**The Event Day**
Sunday 11 September
08:00AM Mike G3TWJ, John G8MNY, Kim G6JXA and Paul G4APL arrived onsite. Ken G3CQU was already on parade waiting for the others to arrive.

Erected the operating frame tent, set up the tables, chairs, equipment and display paper work, static radio equipment, Cameras and some WWII artefacts.

We were detracted for some of the time by a Hot Air Balloon to the south of the airfield.

**Equipment**
The GX0SCR/P Amateur Radio station location details
Station QTH Kenley Airfield. Locator IO91WH 167 metres ASL (above Sea Level).
WAB TQ35 GLC, DX zone 14, ITU Zone 27

Top Band (1.8MHz was 30 watts)
3.5, 7 and 14 MHz SSB IC735 400 Watts Drake L-4B Linear, Pulstar ATU G5RV wire aerial at 15 metres AGL (Above Ground Level) supported between two trees.

A local RF (Radio Frequency) proof Audio Public Address system enabled the public to listen radio contacts being monitored.

The large tent door was used as an awning on two poles which covered an area for our visitors.

**Weather**
The weather was excellent and hot, with clear blue sky for the large part of the afternoon. Temperature in the tent was 30C at times. We could not have wished for a better day.
**Visitors Meet and Greet**

Paul did not wander around the field this time. He left that to his Daughter Belynda M3BYL and Wife Ann G7BSF) who arrived midday to wander around the field and also photograph the displays.

We had many members of the public (young and old) interested and ‘dropped in’ to find out more about Amateur Radio.

John’s 1930, 1950’s Broadcast Valve receivers, Box Cameras and WWII Artefacts on display attracted a lot of interest. Bringing back memories and explaining to their grand children.

Also some families popped in and informed us that a member of their family was a Radio Amateur and now a Silent Key (SK).

John and Paul enjoyed meeting the members of the public and those that wanted to know more, about the old domestic working valve radio receivers on display and Amateur Radio.

Paul discussed Foundation Now exam training book content, flipping through page by page with members of the public.

Many found that they had most of the knowledge already. Due to their education or occupation and explaining the different Amateur Radio activities one can learn, experiment and enjoy.

Our thanks to the Public who came to look and those that dropped in to find out more about Amateur Radio,

**Operating**

09:30 - 10:20AM John and Kim operated on the SRCC (Surrey Radio Contact Club) Sunday morning Radio club net on 160metres (1.9MHz). Spoke to Radio Amateur’s G4FDN, G4XAT, M0LEX and G6DTW.

Then they joined another net on 80metres (3.7MHz) 10:20-10:30AM

On completion of their Radio Nets. Paul tuned around 21MHz 15Metre band, found a few contest stations. Not too much activity due to the poor propagation at this time of the day. So it was decided to try 20metres.

The ICOM735 and Aerial Tuning Unit, G5RV aerial were tuned up for 14MHz.

The Heritage Day had a 1940’s Jazz Band Audio Amplifiers were not ‘RF proof’.

Which required the long audio leads connected to the speakers to be coiled thus providing a choke, curing the Radio Frequency break through. Allowing our Amateur Radio station to run the full 400 watts pep on all frequency bands. We made 58 contacts with other Radio Amateurs from the following countries.
**Countries contacted**  
UK England, North Ireland, Scotland, Wales  
Republic of Ireland  
Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland

Solar propagation figures were SFI 86 A4 K1 Solar Cycle 24 in decline.

**Packing Up**  
Started the close down and packing up at 4:45PM  

At 6:00pm John, Kim and Mike drove off, and Paul had a pleasant walk home.

**Other Pictures of the Heritage Day**

- Hawker Hurricane MK II full size replica DT-A  
- Re-enactment of a war time crew waiting for call  
- Robby Land Train, tour of the air field  
- Instead the Blast Pen Bunker at the Monument  
- Busy Cake Stall  
- Busy East Surrey Bees Stall
Further information on the History of RAF Kenley Airfield can be found on the following websites
http://www.battleofbritain1940.net/0028.html
http://www.rafa-kenley.com/
http://portcullisnews.co.uk/
http://www.kafg.org.uk/
http://kenleyrevival.org
http://www.615vgs.com/
http://www.battleofbritainexperience.co.uk/

Caterham (Amateur) Radio Group
http://www.theskywaves.net/caterham_radio_group.html