

- Club Meetings



G3NMD Newsletter  
Houghton-le-Spring ARC

Welcome to the Houghton-le-Spring ARC newsletter for April 2018,

## Club Meetings

**6/3/18** Another good meeting tonight, we had the TS2000 setup again to listen to the UKAC contest on 2m SSB, we heard a few local stations taking part in the contest and seemed to be doing quite well but we couldn't hear the other side of the QSOs, we aren't really setup for SSB on VHF as we just have a vertical antenna and most people use horizontal polarization, but its always nice to try and see what we can actually receive. Ray was sending some morse for Ian, Scott and Greg, other than that it was a pretty quiet night



**13/3/18** A few things going on at the club tonight, we set up the TS2000 for the FMAC contest on 70cm from 7 until 8 and the UKAC contest on 70cm SSB from 8 until 10:30, we only made a few contacts but very interesting to hear SSB being used on 70cm, maybe in the future we could make some aerial projects for times like this and see how they perform.



Ron M6WHE brought in his 3D printer for a demonstration, he bought it in kit form and built it up with help from Barry GOSCI, Greg and Ron spent a little time setting it up and then Ron set it away printing a model of a bird, I was very impressed with the quality of the printing and the finish of the completed article, Ron showed us various things he has made so far, he hasn't had it long and some impressive results already,



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Tom had his DMR setup running in the background and he was helping Ron M6YRC to program his DMR handheld

**20/3/18** A great night had by all tonight, lots of activities going on including a talk from George G4RNI about modern SWR/Power meters that claim to be able to read Peak Envelope Power (PEP) he had 2 meters one was a modern one and the other George has had for many years which had an extra PCB added to enable it to read PEP, he used the Kenwood TS2000 and both meters connected to a dummy load, the difference was quite noticeable, there was various slides with info on the subject which George has written and are available for download from the STARS website,



Greg M6LWY brought in the WolfLink compatible interface PCBs he's had made, he was still a few components short for the assembly but he managed to source most of them from Dave and ones he didn't have he was able to make up combining different values, it will get the 1<sup>st</sup> version of the board ready to test, I will report back the results after Greg has tested them,



Dave brought in a 70cm Yagi that he wasn't sure if it was tuned or not, so Scott put it on the analyser and after a little tuning of the capacitor he managed to get the SWR down to about 1.2:1,





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Reg brought in his Morse Key to put some cable and a plug on so he can use it with his IC7300, Ian MORZE was assisting him We had a visit from Nick G7EVW its been a long time since Nick has visited the club, he was made most welcome and got involved in all the projects going on, as always it nice to see visitors popping along.

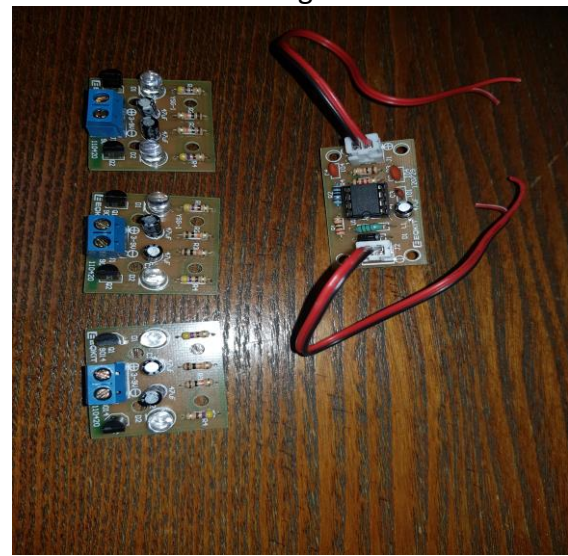
Other things going on were modifications to a Baofeng mic to stop it

‘Motorboating’,

Tom continued his Foundation Course, Ron won the meat raffle, Scott had a listen on 23cms as there was a UKAC contest on, but didn’t hear anything, maybe we could make a dedicated antenna for 23cm and might have better results, and general fun and laughs which is the norm on a Tuesday night.



**27/3/18** A little down on numbers tonight but still a good night, Phil brought in a baby monitor with a broken wire that needed fixing so Phil and Scott set away fixing it but it was to close the plug to be fixed so it was replaced with a USB plug as it was low current and 5v, Scott had some little flashing light boards for the Arduino which needed building and a buck boost 5v to 12v converter, just simple kits bought off Ebay for a couple of pound, Ian and Reg were looking at a Morse Keyer which Reg brought in and kindly donated to the club, and Tom continued his Foundation training course.



And Finally, Thanks for reading the newsletter for April 2018 from Houghton-le-Spring ARC, and if there is any radio related content from the club email details to Scott using email [MOMCN@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:MOMCN@yahoo.co.uk)