

# Minutes of CUWS AGM 2004-04-22

May 3, 2004

## 1 Present

Stavros Tsiakkouris; Philip Wise; Tim Grant; Stuart Bennett; Katerina Plati; Dominic Smith; Tim Winchcomb

## 2 Apologies for Absence

None.

## 3 Minutes of Last Meeting

Proposed Stavros, Unan.

## 4 Secretaries Report

Attached.

## 5 Treasurers Report

Most of the motion on the accounts was due to the £600 societies syndicate donation and the purchase of £600 of equipment. Overall the accounts are in good shape.

The accounts were approved. Proposed Stavros, Unan.

## 6 Matters Arising

### 6.1 M4A Call

Dominic noted that the Contest call M4A was only for club members. Since we have been contesting with the Granta contest group, they would need to be members to use the M4A call. Dominic proposed a new class of membership 'Temporary Members' that could be granted to anyone for 48 hours by a club Transmitting Member. Stavros noted that the constitution provided a clause whereby the committee can grant club membership to anyone, and that 48 hour membership would be possible under this clause. It was agreed that this was the best way to deal with this licensing constraint, and the motion was withdrawn.

#### 6.1.1 QSL Manager

Dominic is happy to succeed Kurt as QSL manager if he gets computerised logs. This shouldn't be a problem for contests, but someone will have to type in the shack log every term, which is usually only a couple of pages.

## 6.2 RSGB Contact

The soc-cuws-committee email address is currently the RSGB club contact. It is publicised in lots of places on the Internet, and so receives plenty of junk mail. Currently this tide of spam is deleted by everyone who is set to moderate this list, and it appears that some legitimate email has been getting deleted too. Martin agreed to change the RSGB club contact to his address which already gets plenty of junk mail.

## 7 Election of Committee

### 7.1 Chairman

Tim Grant M0TDG proposed Stavros seconded Martin. Elected Unopposed.

### 7.2 Secretary

Philip Wise, M0DEG proposed Stavros seconded Dominic. Elected Unopposed. It was noted that it was likely that Philip would not be in Cambridge next year, but he agreed to continue in the position while a replacement was found.

### 7.3 Treasurer

Stuart Bennett, proposed Stavros seconded Tim. Elected Unopposed.

### 7.4 President

The Club President is a post that is held for life and may be bestowed upon a member by the club from time to time. The President is the figure-head of the club, whose remit is to promote the interests of both the CUWS and Amateur Radio as a hobby. The post of president has been vacant in recent years.

Stavros proposed Martin Atherton as Club President and was seconded by Dominic. Elected Unan.

## 8 Co-opted Positions

### 8.1 QSL Manager

Dominic Smith (subject to receiving computerised logs).

### 8.2 Transmitting Secretary

Martin Atherton. Thanks go to Alan Bain who has helped in this position in recent years, but has moved away (but not very far).

## 9 Membership Fees

It was noted that CUWS membership fees are low compared with other societies. It was proposed to increase fees to £10 for a year and £20 for life. Key deposit will increase to £5. Unan.

## 10 CUWS/OURS Dinner

It was proposed to invite Maurice Wilkes to the CUWS/OURS dinner and offer to pay from club funds. The cost will be £35. Unan.

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Thanks go out to Tim Winchcomb for his hard work over the last years as Treasurer, and we wish him well next year. Thanks to Stavros for serving as chairman for the last year.

Meeting adjourned at 19:45.

## **Secretary's Report for the Year 2003-2004**

This has been a very successful year for our Society. The Committee would like to take this opportunity and sincerely thank all the members that have dedicated a lot of their free time in an effort to help our Society achieve the objectives it set almost a year ago.

Top on our priority list was recruitment of new members. Maintaining the number of active members in our Society is something that we all need to be concerned about. This year, besides our usual recruitment activities (posters around the University, induction evening, lecturers publicising CUWS in their early lectures etc) we invited RSGB's mobile station GB4FUN during the first day of Societies Fair (7/10/03). The GB4FUN van was parked on the grass opposite the entrance to the Kelsey Kerridge sports hall. Besides attracting a number of students it also helped raise public awareness of our hobby. Demonstrating amateur radio and wireless communications live at the Societies Fair was well worth the effort and this is something that should be repeated in the future. Outreach for new amateur radio operators is something we should all be striving for. If you have any recruitment suggestions that would help our Society please let us know.

### **Events**

#### *23<sup>rd</sup> January 2004*

Dominic M0BLF, gave a talk about the trip that he and Martin G3ZAY, made during June 2003 to a number of US and Canadian IOTA islands.

#### *6/7<sup>th</sup> March 2004*

During the ARRL DX SSB contest we attempted a joint contest effort with the Granta Contest Group. The increased manpower allowed us to operate two stations non-stop for the entire 48-hour duration of the contest and the 100 foot mobile tower provided by the Granta Contest Group allowed us to support a Yagi antenna for 40m and a system of three slopers for 80m. Overall, this was a very successful operation despite the poor band conditions. The benefits from this collaboration were mutual and plans are being made for similar collaborations in the future.

#### *[Attempted/Postponed]*

We had hoped for a visit to the Baldock monitoring station in February 2004 but the formation of Ofcom from the RA, Oftel, and other agencies has been a higher priority for the staff there so we will try again later. A visit to the radioastronomy site at Lords Bridge is planned for this term after being postponed in March 2004.

### **Visits**

#### *27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June 2003*

Martin G3ZAY, and Stavros M0BBB, attended Ham Radio 2003 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. This is the largest amateur radio rally in Europe.

#### *20<sup>th</sup> September 2003*

Five CUWS members – Martin G3ZAY, Stavros M0BBB, Dominic M0BLF, Tim M0TDG, and Katerina M3MYL, visited the French Clipperton DX Club Convention in Lille, France.

*31<sup>st</sup> October-2<sup>nd</sup> November 2003*

Martin G3ZAY and Dominic M0BLF went up to Manchester on Saturday 1st November for the RSGB's annual HF and IOTA Convention. Dominic gave a brief presentation on his and Martin's activity from Quebec last summer and also demonstrated the main features of the IOTA website he designed for the RSGB last year.

*30<sup>th</sup> November 2003*

Martin G3ZAY, Tim M0TDG, Katerina M3MYL, and Stavros M0BBB visited the WW2 cryptography museum at Bletchley Park.

*16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> January 2004*

Martin G3ZAY, Katerina M3MYL, and Stavros M0BBB attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Contest Club Finland meeting in Helsinki, Finland.

*15h February 2004*

Martin G3ZAY, Dominic M0BLF, Tim M0TDG, and Stavros M0BBB visited the Radiosport Communications and Computer Show at Stevenage. Sadly, this was the last Radiosport Communications from Stevenage.

*29<sup>th</sup> February*

Martin G3ZAY and Stavros M0BBB visited the Cambridge and District Radio Club annual rally near Huntingdon.

## **Contests Participation and Results**

A lot of the activity at G6UW is centred around contesting or radiosporting, as some prefer to call it. In total, we participated in 16 contests since March 2003 as detailed in the table below. Our results have been very promising and we will soon start populating the shack wall with certificates and trophies that we have been awarded. In October 2003 we applied for and received the special contest call M4A.

<b>Contest</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Results</b>
CQ WW WPX SSB	SOSB 15m HP	29/30-03-2003	1 <sup>st</sup> place UK
EU Spring Sprint SSB	SOAB HP	12-04-2003	3 <sup>rd</sup> place UK
IARU HF World Champ.	MS LP	12/13-07-2003	1 <sup>st</sup> place UK
RSGB IOTA Contest	SOAB SSB HP	19/20-07-2003	
EU Autumn Sprint SSB	SOAB HP	04-10-2003	
CQ WW DX SSB	MS HP	25/26-10-2003	Pending
RSGB Club Calls	MS	08-11-2003	1 <sup>st</sup> place UK
ARRL 10m	MS	13/14-12-2003	1 <sup>st</sup> place UK
RSGB Club Championship	SOSB 80m HP	14-01-2004	Pending
RSGB AFS SSB	2 stations	17-01-2004	Pending
ARRL DX SSB	MS HP	06/07-03-2004	Pending
RSGB Commonwealth	SOAB LP	13/14-03-2004	Pending
Russian DX SSB	SOSB 20m LP	20/21-03-2004	Pending
CQ WW WPX SSB	SOSB 15m HP	27/28-03-2004	Pending
EU Spring Sprint SSB	SOAB HP	10-04-2003	Pending
EU Spring Sprint CW	SOAB HP	17-04-2003	Pending

SO = Single Operator

SB = Single Band

MS = Multi Single (multiple operators, single transmitter)

LP = Low Power

HP = High Power

## **Dinners**

*27<sup>th</sup> February 2004*

The annual CUWS Dinner was held during Formal Hall at Sidney Sussex College. Despite the good food, this event had a poor turnout (4 members). The fact that it was scheduled on a Friday during a busy time of the year did not help.

*5<sup>th</sup> June 2004*

After a lot of planning and in coordination with the Oxford University Radio Society (OURS) a joint CUWS/OURS dinner has been planned. The dinner will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> June at Caius College. Invitations have recently been sent out to members of both societies. Please make a note of this in your calendar and try to attend. It is an event that does not happen often.

## **Foundation Course**

A Foundation course was organised during Michaelmas term (weekend 7/8 November 2003). Martin G3ZAY was the lead instructor. As a result of this course, 6 new members have passed the Foundation exam (100% pass rate). A further exam session was held in March where 4 people passed, one of whom was eligible for and has taken up CUWS membership.

## **Electronic mailing lists**

A slight adjustment has been made to CUWS mailing lists. Due to an increasing need to get in touch with the "active" CUWS members without having to abuse the mailboxes of everyone on the general CUWS mailing list, we have decided to create a new mailing list "soc-cuws-active" to accommodate this need.

## **Newsletters**

Two newsletters were distributed to our Society members, one during Michaelmas 2003 and one during Lent 2004.

## **Funding from Societies Syndicate**

We were successful in our application to the Societies Syndicate for funds to buy Dunestar band-pass filters for HF contesting. Stavros M0BBB, has built the band decoders to enable the transceivers to automatically switch the filters. This allows seamless operation of the filters. The filters have been successfully tested during the ARRL DX SSB and EU Sprint contests.

## **Shack Improvements**

All antennas and electrical cords in the shack have been properly labelled. This should eliminate all the guesswork and make the shack more welcoming to our new members.

A 4-square phased antenna array for 40m has been tested on 2 separate occasions and we are now ready to install it on a more permanent basis. We are awaiting approval from Bidwells to locate the antenna in the field opposite the shack.

## **Memberships**

*RSGB* – RadCom magazine is available to all our members and can be found in the shack.

*ARRL* – This year we decided to become members of the ARRL to give our members access to the online articles that the ARRL publishes. At the end of the year we should be receiving a CD-ROM with the 2004 issues of QST, QEX, and NCJ.

## **CUWS as an RSGB Exam Centre**

In order to hold exam sessions for the Intermediate and Advanced licences we need to register as an official exam centre. Plans are in hand to register Caius as an exam centre.