

# CatRad Kenley August 2014 Report

Edited by Paul G4APL

## GX0SCR/P RAF Kenley Airfield 17th August 2014

Caterham (Amateur) Radio Group (CatRad) as in previous years 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 74th Anniversary Commemorating Kenley's Hardest Day. The bombing of RAF Kenley Air Field 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 and Caterham RAFA club and John G8MNY. With Paul G4APL and Kim G6JXA providing support.

### Setting Up

Saturday morning 16th August. John, Mike and Ken met up on the site.

The task was to erect the G5RV aerial up at 50 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) supported by two suitable trees as per previous years.

A catapult was used to fire a fishing line with lead weight attached into the canopies of the trees. Then attach the rope to the fishing line to be used as a halyard.

The G5RV wire aerial is attached to both halyards and pulled up to the required height.

Sunday 17th August, Ken, Paul, Mike John and Kim arrived onsite at 8AM.

Commenced erecting the tent, displays and installing and connecting up the radio equipment.

This year two radio stations were set up.

On the left hand side of the tent would be the 40 Metre (7MHz) station. No signals heard on 80 Metres (3.5MHz) when we tuned around.

A long wire aerial was erected in the trees for this station

The right hand side would be 15 Metres (21MHz) after the Top band (160Metres) radio club net.

The mains power was supplied from the normal mains supply connection.

John tested the Amateur Radio equipment. Then Kim G6JXA called for the Sunday Morning net on Top Band at 08:30 GMT (9:30 AM).



**GX0SCR/P 2014 Amateur Radio Station**



**CatRad GX0SCR/P 40Metre CW Station**



**CatRad GX0SCR/P Kim G6JXA operating on 15Metres, John G8MNY logging, Mike G3TWJ**

The second station was in receive CW (morse code) mode as there were not enough operators available, due to other RAFA commitments elsewhere on the field.

### Equipment

The GX0SCR/P station details

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

21 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.

This was also used for 160Metres.



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.

7 MHz CW IC735 50 Watts Long Wire aerial at 7 metres supported by two trees.

### Weather

The weather was cloudy, a chilly breeze to very gusty winds and the odd heavy rain shower. Late afternoon warmed up a bit during the sunny spells,

### Visitors

Like last year, during the late morning and early afternoon we had many members of the public visit our tent and sat down with us to listen to the contacts.

They were surprised to hear us talking to other Radio Amateurs so far away. The radio contacts were also being relayed over the 'Public Address' system.

We had many interesting conversations with our visitors. We also explained what Amateur Radio was about, and how our radio waves travelled around the world.

They also informed us of their Interest in communications, old broadcast radios, and family members who were Radio Amateurs. Who were not longer with us, Silent Keys (SK).

### 74th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain

This year's event was again a small event with Kenley RAFA members commemorating the 'Hardest Day.

The RAFA members laid a wreath at the Kenley Airfield Memorial on behalf of those lost during WWII.

Unfortunately, The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight over Kenley Airfield consisting of a Spitfire and Hurricane and the two Lancaster's was cancelled the evening before. Due to the forecast weather conditions being too windy. The conditions would be outside their flying parameters for the safety of these vintage treasured aircraft.

### Operating

As mentioned above Kim called up the Croydon clubs Top Band net.

Paul G4APL. Started on 21MHz (15 Metres) at 11:15BST. Followed by Kim G6JXA and John G8MNY. Paul and John logging the contacts made. The station was active for six hours.

The radio conditions were excellent on 15 Metres, with a lot of fading on some of the signals (QSB). 40 contacts were logged, with Amateur Radio stations around the UK, Europe, Asia, Far East, North and South Africa, USA, South America.

**Packing Up**

John, Paul, Kim and Mike completed the packing up of the equipment, tent then made our separate ways back to our homes for a well deserved rest after an excellent day.

**Summary Countries worked****Asia**

Japan Tokyo, Osaka, Aichi Prefecture

Indonesia West Papua

Lost contact with South Korea (he could not get our callsign correctly). Which was a shame.

**Middle East**

Israel Tel Aviv

Lebanon Beirut, Tripoli,

**Europe**

Croatia

Cyprus

Czech Republic

England

Germany

Italy nr Turin

Spain Vigo (also a Special event station

AM01CBX NW Spain, commemorating the New King of Spain)

Mislata Valencia

Ukraine Donetsk

**Russia**

South Russia

West Siberia

North Caucasus's

**South Africa**

Victoria, Port Elizabeth

30Km South of Cape town (light house)

**South America**

Brazil Botucatu, Sao Paulo,

Uruguay

**North America**

USA Lexington Virginia, Central Illinois,

**Summary Amateur Radio Prefix's worked**

From the 2014 logs . These have been analysed as follows

Country prefix worked by John G8MNY, Kim G6JXA, Paul G4APL  
on 1.8, 3.5,7, 14, 21, 28, 50, 145, 433MHz GX0SCR/P Station IC735 Drake PA and G5RV Aerial

433MHz														
144Mhz														
50MHz														
21MHz	2E 4X 5B4 9A3	AM01 CX6 DO1	EA1 EA5	G3 G4	IZ1 JA2 JE3 JJ1	M6 OD5 OK2 PY2	R7 RA6 RK9 UA3 US9	WA9 YC9	ZS1 ZS2 ZS6					
14MHz														
7MHz														
3.5MHz														
1.8MHz	G	2E												

Further information on the History of RAF Kenley Airfield can be found on

<http://www.battleofbritain1940.net/0028.html>

<http://www.rafa-kenley.com/>

<http://www.kafg.org.uk/airfinfrastructure.htm>

<http://www.615vgs.com/>