

Sunday 8th March 2015



## 144/432MHz VHF Contest



*The Crack of Dawn  
Bob G0GVZ and the mast*

Those who took part:

|       |         |
|-------|---------|
| G6KWA | Dave    |
| G8CRB | Steve   |
| G0LRD | David   |
| G0GVZ | Bob     |
| G3TFX | Richard |
| MOGDR | Ludovic |
| MOBLP | Mike    |
| MOWEF | Chris   |
| -     | Darren  |



*An Early Start  
L-R: Steve G8CRB, David G0LRD, Bob G0GVZ*

Dave KWA was on site at 06:30, closely followed by Bob GVZ. Dave and XYL Judith had already set up the mast and aerials on Saturday afternoon, so a quick test showed that there was plenty of activity and lots of DX to be had.

*Pictures and info thanks to Dave G6KWA and David G0LRD*

Elsewhere in Cambridgeshire, other members were rising at an unaccustomed hour. David G0LRD recalled his experience: "I should have checked the cupboard containing the fold-up chairs yesterday. Instead, I discovered at 6am that the cupboard was bare, and a thorough search of the house revealed nothing. So, do I wake up my wife to enquire where they may be, or do I accept that I may be standing up all day? I risked standing all day! Luckily spare chairs were available on site. This last minute panic also caused me to forget my hat and gloves - lesson 2: these are top priority items at this time of year."



*Unaccustomed Hour  
L-R: David G0LRD, Mike MOBLP*

Meanwhile, back on site the wind, like the coffee, was strong and cold, until Darren arrived with his tent and the, by now usual, full range of refreshments. While the station got underway, Darren's excellent tent was erected around the kit and the shelter it afforded was much appreciated. Massive guy ropes and plenty of pegs were the order of the day.



*Despite the cold  
L-R: Steve G8CRB, Richard G3TFX*

Good DX on 70cm and a few DX on 2m but most activity had dropped away by mid-morning. The wind became unbearable at times so, since rain was imminent and no further contacts were to be had on either band, the decision was taken to close the station down at 13:30. It was gratifying that everyone stayed to help with packing away, despite the weather, and we finally vacated the site at 14:15.

Thanks and Well Done to all those who supported this club event in spite of the awful weather conditions.