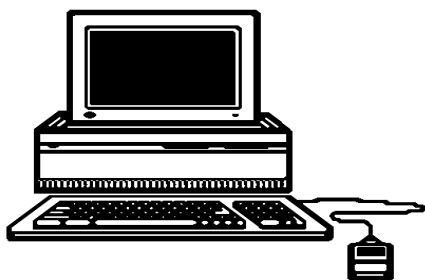


# DIGICOM

The Newsletter of MAXPAK,  
The Midlands Packet User Group

DC66

April / May 2003



## Node/BBS News

Correct 16th April 2003

### GB7MAX/BLOX Node

The BBS, now using WinFBB continues to perform satisfactorily. The direct Telnet access on Port 6300 had to be withdrawn due to it causing the BBS and windows to lock up. This problem is currently under investigation. The Xrouter Node continues to work well. Telnet access to BLOX on Port 2323 is still very much available and is working well.

Contact Chris, G0CNG, sysop for further information or access password authorisation.

### GB7PMB

There is currently a problem with the 2m Collinear antenna, resulting in a poor signal on 144.950 MHz. We hope to repair this ASAP.

Telnet access is available to GB7PMB's hostname: gb7pmb.ath.cx Port 2323

### GB7WV NODES

All nodes and the UI digipeater are working OK

### DY and PP NODES

These nodes are working OK

Any feedback should be sent to Chris  
G0CNG@GB7MAX

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### 2003 MEMBER'S MEETINGS

It was overwhelmingly decided at the AGM that it would be appropriate to move the monthly Member's Meetings from Perton to Bloxwich.

The new venue will be the **Sir Robert Peel Public House**, located on the main A4124 Bell Lane adjacent to the Lichfield Road / Broad Lane Junction and traffic lights (opposite the old Tildesley Ford Garage).  
**A to Z Reference: Square 7G, Page 25.**

Due to the May Day Bank Holiday, May's meeting will be on **MONDAY 19th May at 20.00 hrs.**

The next meetings, all at the Sir Robert Peel at 20.00 hrs are:

**Monday June 2nd**

**Monday 7th July**

**Monday 4th August.**

Please put these dates in your diary.

## CHAIRMAN'S JOTTINGS

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Greetings to all Members.

This issue has been deliberately delayed to allow the 2003 AGM to be reported on fully.

Thank you to all those who attended a successful AGM on 7th April. It is good to see some new blood on this year's Committee.

A warm welcome to our new Treasurer, Albert, G0KFS, who will doubtless keep tabs on my spending (!), to David M0DCM, our new Maxpak Web Master (please have a look at the new look Web Site) and to Barry, G0OJR, our new Digicom Editor who will take over this function from me after this issue.

I will continue to Email and Post digicoms so any queries or problems should be directed to me via packet, email or telephone.

I will continue to serve as Membership Secretary as well as Chairman, so Membership enquires should continue to be directed to me also.

Miles G4GSB continues to serve as Secretary and Bob, G8KHV as Technical Manager.

Tony G7BUG remains a Committee Member as Sysop of GB7PMB.

The major decision taken at the AGM as you will have seen on Page 1 is the moving of our Monthly Meetings to Bloxwich with effect from May's meeting. Please note this Meeting is on the 19th May due to the Bank Holiday. We will meet at the **Sir Robert Peel Public House**, located on the main A4124 Bell Lane adjacent to the Lichfield Road / Broad Lane Junction / traffic lights (opposite the old Tildesley Ford Garage). **A to Z Reference: Square 7G, Page 25**

The Committee hope that this change of Meeting venue will meet with your approval and will save the club a considerable sum annually in Room Hire at the Perton Centre. Also there will of course be full bar facilities, sadly missed at the Perton Centre when it's Bar closed.

It was decided to retain our pattern of meeting on the first Monday of each month at 20.00 hrs except when that Monday is a Bank Holiday when the meeting will be moved to the second Monday. Please note the exception to this rule on the 19th May. This date was requested by those at the AGM due to various other commitments in May.

I will close by taking this opportunity to wish all Members a very Happy Easter Break and look forward to meeting some of you at our first Meeting at the Sir Robert Peel on Monday 19th May.

We will be attending the Aldridge Rally on Sunday 27th April and also Drayton Manor rally on Sunday 18th May.

73's until the next issue  
Chris Roberts, G0CNG  
Chairman.

[www.maxpakgb.org.uk](http://www.maxpakgb.org.uk)

# **MINUTES OF MAXPAK A.G.M. HELD ON** **7th APRIL 2003 AT PERTON CENTRE**

Present: G0CNG, G4GSB, G4EHT, M0DCM, G0OJR, M0EDT, G3TIN, M0LRD, G7VBJ, G6KUI and G0KFS.

Apologies: G7BUG, G8KHV, G7PHQ and G4VYA.

The A.G.M. started at 20:15

1. **MINUTES FROM LAST YEARS A.G.M.**

- The minutes of the 2002 A.G.M. were read by G4GSB, proposed as a true record by G0OJR and seconded by M0DCM.
- They were unanimously accepted by all present.

2. **Matters Arising.** Non-registered.

3. **CHAIRMANS REPORT.** The chairman reported:

- I have looked through the last 12 months of DIGICOM and see that we have had a good year on the whole.
- Last year SPUG was wound up due to the death of Don, G3UQH. I attended their final meeting, where they wanted GB7PMB to continue to be active, and operated by G7BUG. You will see from the accounts report, that we have bought a lot of SPUG's equipment, some has been used to set up GB7PMB, and the rest will be used to set-up further nodes, and replacements.
- We had a good talk by Roger, G3ZFR, in May, on TCP/IP. I also attended the packet conference last April, which was very successful.
- We attended the Telford rally at Cosford. Some of our visitors felt we were stuck at the back, but we welcomed friends old and new. (Secretary's note: the best part was watching Chris keying his 2 metre rig, disrupting the loud CD player opposite, and watching the vendor keep checking his connections to his speakers!).
- In October, I stopped using BPQ and am now running X-Router. This program is used around the world, and has the facility to connect to broadband Internet. I believe that it will never replace radio, but will assist in quicker forwarding.
- This year we will trim back on our rallies, but we will attend Aldridge, Drayton and Telford.
- The Chairman's report was proposed by G0KFS and seconded by M0DCM.

4. **PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.**

- The accounts were presented by G0CNG, who said that at first it looks like we made a loss, but we have purchased a lot of good equipment from SPUG.
- The insurance has gone up from £52 to £115 as we now have all our equipment insured for £3000.
- We have not sold any modems this last year, probably due to the fact that almost everyone who wants one has one. The Committee has therefore decided to reduce prices in order to try and promote some more sales.
- G0KFS noted that with the Equipment purchases removed, we made a profit.
- M0LRD queried that as we have 65 members, why have we only had £425 in subscriptions, instead of £650. G0CNG said he would investigate, and send an answer to all members, but it was possibly due to his late sending out of subscription renewals. (Editor: See Footnote on page 5).
- The accounts were proposed by G4GSB and seconded by G0OJR.

5. **SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR.**

- It was accepted by all that we leave the subscription at £10, this would encourage members to stay, and may attract new members.
- This was proposed by G4EHT and seconded by G0KFS.

6. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

- G0CNG said he was willing to be chairman for another year.
- He was proposed by G0OJR and seconded by G4GSB.
- G0KFS voted thanks to G0CNG for being chairman, treasurer, editor and sysop for the last 12 months.
- All members accepted this.

7. **ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

- G4GSB was willing to be secretary for another year.
- He was proposed by MODCM and seconded by M0LRD

8. **ELECTION OF TREASURER**

- G0KFS was proposed by M0LRD and seconded by MODCM.

9. **ELECTION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

- G7BUG was proposed in his absence (and with his approval) as GB7PMB sysop by M0DCM and seconded by G4GSB
- MODCM was proposed as web site manager by G6KUI and seconded by G0OJR.
- G8KHV was proposed in his absence (and with his approval) as technical manager by M0LRD and seconded by G3TIN.
- G0OJR was proposed as newsletter editor by G6KUI and seconded by M0DCM.
- G0KFS proposed that we send a letter of thanks to Joe, G4VYA. All approved this. G4GSB to compose the letter.
- G4GSB proposed that G4VYA was made a life member of Maxpak. This was seconded by M0DCM and heartily and unanimously accepted by all.

10. **VOTE ON CLUB VENUE CHANGE.**

- G0CNG proposed that items 10 to 12 were taken as one issue.
- It was agreed after a good discussion that the meeting be moved from the Perton centre to a licensed premises in the Bloxwich area, to be announced in Digicom. This would save the group £132 room hire.
- It was agreed to leave the day to the first Monday in the month, at a 20:00 start.
- It was also proposed that the meeting venue be reviewed in 12 months time.
- The first few meetings would be natter nights, until we had chance to view the full layout, and see if having guest speakers was feasible.

11. **A.O.B.** None.

The AGM finished at 21:25

## Maxpak Income and Expenditure; 1st April 02 to 7th April 03

### INCOME CATEGORIES

Donations	£101.75
Equipment Sales	£37.50
Maxpak Publications Sales	£0.75
Membership Fees	£425.00
Printed Circuit Boards	£11.00
Postage Received	£7.00
Software Disk Sales	£9.00

**TOTAL INCOME**            **£592.00**

### EXPENSE CATEGORIES

Digicom Printing	£19.84
*Equipment Purchase	£500.00*
ARIS Insurance	£115.50
Node Site Fees (WV & DY)	£65.00
Postage Stamps & Delivery	£25.87
Rally Fees	£41.00
Perton Room Hire	£132.00
RSGB Membership	£40.50
Visiting Speaker Expenses	£10.00

**TOTAL EXPENSE**            **£949.71**

\* See below

Current Account Balance 7th April 2003	£ 666.91
Deposit Account Balance 7th April 2003	£ 3883.94
Undeposited Funds        7th April 2003	£ 30.00

Accounts maintained and prepared by  
C.J. Roberts, G0CNG, Acting treasurer.  
Accounts audited by E.J. Roberts, G7PHQ

### Breakdown of Equipment Purchased

1x Storno CQM5664 70cms Transceiver	£ 5.00
2x 70cm Synthesized transceivers (@£25 each)	£ 50.00
1x TM531 23cms Transceiver (Ex SPUG)	£ 75.00
5x Tiny 2 TNC's (Ex SPUG)	£150.00
1x AKD 4m Transceiver (Ex SPUG)	£ 60.00
1x AKD 6m Transceiver (Ex SPUG)	£ 60.00
1x SPIRIT 2 TNC (Ex G1LOA)	£100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£500.00</b>

### FOOTNOTE

The 2002-03 Membership Income of £425 was queried by M0LRD who stated that it should be £650 on account of Maxpak having 65 Members. As promised, I have investigated and found that due to my being behind at the time of the AGM, in sending out membership renewals due to pressure of work, about 23 Renewals were either waiting to be emailed out to members or had been send but nothing received back. I delete members off our records three months after their renewal date if they have not renewed by then.

Chris G0CNG Acting Treasurer

**DUE TO SHORTAGE OF SPACE THE REMAINDER OF M0DCM'S RADIO  
LAN ARTICLE IS CARRIED OVER TO THE NEXT ISSUE**

# **MAXPAK modems price list for 2003**

**Specially reduced prices**  
**Prices include P & P**

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**MAX-01 1200 baud PACKET MODEM**  
Baycom type modem (3 IC's), PCB, circuit diagram & parts list plus all the components required to populate the PCB.

**Members price** £15.00  
**Non members price** £20.00  
Ready built and tested modems available  
£5.00 extra

**PRE DRILLED AND PUNCHED CASE  
including installation kit etc.**

**Members price** £5.00  
**Non members price** £6.00

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**MAX-02 1200 & 9600 baud MODEM.**  
This unit is available and comes complete with, PCB, all the components required to populate the PCB, full construction details and agw software on 3.5" floppy disk. FOC

**Members prices**

Kit including PCB/power kit £30.00  
Pre drilled case £ 5.00  
Ready made and tested modems are available  
for £10.00 extra.  
agw software on 3.5" floppy disk. FOC

**Non members prices**

Kit including PCB/power kit £40.00  
Pre drilled case £ 7.00  
Ready made and tested modems are available  
for £10.00 extra.  
agw software on 3.5" floppy disk. FOC

The MAX-01 has been tested with,  
Windows 3.1x, Windows95, Windows98  
and Windows ME

The MAX-02 will **NOT** work with Win 3.1x  
but has been tested with,  
Windows95, Windows98  
and Windows ME

# **MAXPAK who's who**

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## **2002 - 2003 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **Chairman and Membership Secretary**

Chris G0CNG QTHR or @ GB7MAX  
chris.g0cng@nasuwt.net  
Tel: 01922 494680

### **Secretary**

Miles G4GSB @ GB7MAX  
milesclifford@aol.com  
Tel: 01952 585447

### **Treasurer**

Albert G0KFS @ GB7MAX  
g0kfs@speed-mail.co.uk  
Tel: 01922 409705

### **SysOp GB7MAX, GB7WV, MB7UV & GB7DY nodes**

Chris G0CNG  
Details as above

### **Technical Manager**

Bob G8KHV QTHR  
g8khv@lichfieldtechnology.co.uk  
Tel: 01543 257500

### **Webmaster @ maxpakgb.org.uk**

David M0DCM @ GB7MAX  
m0dcm@blueyonder.co.uk  
Tel: 01902 635244

### **Digicom editor**

Barry G00JR @ GB7MAX

### **Sysop, GB7PMB / SALOP/SALOP1 Nodes**

Tony G7BUG @ GB7PMB  
g7bug@blueyonder.co.uk  
Tel: 01952 820471

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### **Hon SysOp GB7PP nodes**

Mick G1DKI QTHR or @ GB7MAX  
Tel: 01902 756051

**All sales items available from Chris  
G0CNG, QTHR as above.**