

Dover ARC Newsletter

September 2026

Club News

As a club, we are currently assisting and encouraging several members as they prepare for their full licence. We wish them every success and hope they will achieve this by the end of the year.

We are also pleased to welcome some new members, which is encouraging news for the club.

Sunday Club Net: A reminder that our club net takes place every Sunday evening at 19:00 on GB3KS. If you can access the repeater, please feel free to join us.

August Report

August was, as always, a quiet month for the club, with the clubhouse open for informal natter meetings.

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend — 15/16 August: We operated from the Pharos at Dover Castle, mainly on 40m, with a very small team. Over the two days we made approximately 160 contacts. Saturday was the busiest day, including two pile-ups: 21 contacts in 23 minutes and 43 contacts in 42 minutes. Sunday was also busy, with more than 60 contacts made.

September Events

3 September — Club Talk and Demonstration: G6APW will give a talk and demonstration on the Buddipole portable antenna system. The Buddipole is a compromise antenna, but one with useful strengths as well as limitations. The session will hopefully include a working demonstration.

From a noisy Dover location — a courtyard surrounded by buildings — contacts have already been made with Northern Ireland and Germany. The talk will cover HF band setup, when to ignore the manual, where to find useful information, and an adaptation that includes a VHF J-pole on the same mast.

10 September — Natter night.

12 September — Churches on the Air from the clubhouse.

18 September — Natter night.

24 September — Preparation for Railways on the Air.

26 and 27 September — Railways on the Air: We will be operating from Shepherdswell EKR station for our final outside event of the year.

October

22 October — Tabletop Sale: Our tabletop sale will take place at the clubhouse from 19:00 to 21:30. As always it is open to all and tables available on the night first come first served.

Looking Ahead

Dover Hobbies Fair — 16 January: Plans are already in place for Dover Hobbies Fair, where amateur radio will be represented. A stand will support all Kent clubs, and we hope clubs will lend their support.

Marconi Day — 25 and 26 April: Planning is already under way for Marconi Day. It is hoped that Dover ARC and other clubs in the area will support the event. Last year was successful in many ways, although visitor numbers were far higher than expected and there were a few technical issues. We hope next year's event will run more smoothly, and it already looks likely to receive wider community support.