

50MHz Contest 15th-16th May 2024

WKARS took part in the 50MHz May contest over a wet and very windy weekend. Fortunately Richard (G8CDD) had managed to get the mast assembled late on the Friday afternoon and Keith (G4JED) and a merry gang of helpers put the antenna together, assembled it onto the mast and the mast erected to vertical during the evening.



After pitching the tent it became obvious that the wind was going to be a problem. The rather small plastic guy pegs in the tent kit were steadily working themselves loose and so were replaced by four of the galvanised steel mast spikes from the second mast kit.



We decided to run the station in the six hours category; our choice of six operating hours out of the 24 hours between 15:00 on Saturday and 15:00 on Sunday.

Managing the six hours restriction was not as simple as it sounds bearing in mind the rules required us to be off air for at least an hour to be classed as not operating.

Conditions on the band were fair to good with several short intervals during which the DX rolled in, followed by periods of silence / tea breaks.

Our final score was 83 contacts for which we claimed 5,446,698 points (pre-adjudication). This compares with 60 and 2,755,947 last year.

What Next?

The club is entering VHF NFD over the weekend 6th - 7th July with stations on 6M and 2M and we need more operators. Why not come along and get involved? It doesn't matter if you have contest experience or not, there are members on hand to help get you up to speed. Any homework needed before? Yes! Get your Donald Duck ears in tune by listening around the SSB sections of your favourite band and bone up on the phonetic alphabet so it becomes second nature. (Try reading the number plates of cars as you walk / drive.)

Crundall Bunny
(RSGB A1936)

