

RSARS RALLY REPORTS No. 71

South Gloucester Amateur Radio Rally at Fernhill, Nr Bristol

7th April 2013

The South Gloucester Amateur Radio Rally was held at the Scout Activity Centre, Woodhouse Park, Fernhill, North West of Bristol. The weather was very cold to start with, but warmed up later. I left Plymouth with the car temperature at 0.0degrees at 0430hrs, and it didn't start to move upwards until I was way north of Bridgewater.

The Rally was held in a field in a number of tents, and around the canteen/dining hall area, where I was rather out on a limb on the far end of the canteen area. I took with me my mannequin dressed in combat jacket and steel helmet with a PRC320 on its back and Union Jack on the antenna, and a Soviet Army man pack receiver as a crowd-puller.

The radios were certainly a crowd-puller, but nobody was buying much. I sold a Polo-shirt and Tie to a prospective new Member, and signed up two new Members, who were issued with application forms. They were Andy Jones, late of the Royal Signals, and David Jones, (no relation), late of the Royal Engineers.



Tony – G4BCX Flying the Flag at the RSARS Stall

Some 393 people attended as visitors, with 40 table traders and 8 car-boot traders taking part in the rally.

Due to my location, I felt that I was rather away from it all, the Bring and Buy and canteen next to me attracting far more attention. I did, however, meet an RSARS Member who had originally asked me to come as they hadn't had an RSARS Rep. in attendance for some time. All in all, a pleasant day with some good conversations. I notice that quite a few younger ex-Servicemen are in no hurry to join Clubs and Societies, preferring to go their own way for the moment.

It is worth pointing out that the rally organisers stated that they would donate the table fee of £7 to "Help for Heroes"



Tony with PRC320 on display.

Tony – G4BCX