



# SHEFFIELD MICROWAVE ROUND TABLE

12-13 July 2008



**Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is delighted to host the UK Microwave Group's Summer Microwave Round Table and Workshop this year.**

The club premises are ideally located for such an event, with ample parking on site, proximity to overnight accommodation and on site catering during the day. Location details are as follows:

**Sheffield Transport Sports Club  
Greenhill Main Road  
Sheffield  
S8 7RH**

The Sheffield Transport Sports Club is located 100 metres from Meadowhead roundabout, on the A61 in southern Sheffield and is an ideal location for radio at 691ft ASL. The Club has excellent disabled access and several rooms that are available for training and radio operating. Off-street parking is available and the Club can be reached by public transport - the First nos. 53, 75 or 76 buses and the Yorkshire Terrier No. 72 bus all stop near to the Sports Club. Precise location details can be found online by visiting the club's website at <http://www.sheffieldarc.org.uk> and following the "Finding Us" link from the homepage. Maps and other details will also be sent to all who register for the event.

You may wish to make a long weekend of this visit. The beautiful PEAK NATIONAL PARK is just 15 minutes drive west of the club venue. Chatsworth House (a stately home) is 30 minutes away. Sheffield and Chesterfield offer good shopping and interesting sightseeing. So bring your wife or partner and have a mini holiday!

The weekend will consist of two separate but linked activities... a **workshop** on the Saturday and a **conference** style meeting on Sunday. The **Intermediate Workshop** is aimed at those amateurs who have recently entered into the microwave region and wish to learn more about home construction, operating, setting up a station and propagation, etc. It is designed as a follow up to the UK Microwave Group's 2006-2007 series of Beginners' Workshops, the first of which was held in Sheffield in May 2006.

The conference or "Round Table" will be on the lines of UKuG's other annual events held at Martlesham, Crawley and the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories. It will include up to four lectures, an antenna test range, an all day Bring and Buy and plenty of time for meeting friends and socialising. An informal **Saturday evening dinner** may also be arranged in a local hotel, again if there is sufficient interest.

**It is essential to register for both events** so that catering and overnight accommodation can be organised accordingly. Once the organiser has your details he will supply details of overnight accommodation if you require it.

Catering during the day will consist of sandwiches, tea and coffee on sale at the Sports Club. The Club also has a licensed bar on site.

Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is also planning to hold an **Amateur Radio Boot Sale** on either Saturday or Sunday morning. This may appeal to microwavers, some of whom may like to bring surplus equipment for sale at that event. A section of the sports grounds has already been allocated for the boot sale. Full details of this will be made available as soon as the event is finalised.

At this stage **please register** your interest with the organiser, **Peter Day, G3PHO (QTHR)** at: [sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk](mailto:sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk). Peter would be grateful if you could give him a definite yes or no, to attending either or both events, **as soon as possible**. \*\*

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: If you email him between 21 April and 20 May you will not receive an immediate reply as he will be overseas for that period. He will answer all mail as soon as he returns.**

## **SATURDAY 12 JULY 2008:**

### **UK Microwave Group Workshop : Intermediate Level**

This event follows the highly successful series of beginners' workshops of the past two years and first held in Sheffield in May 2006. This event is aimed at those radio amateurs who have recently entered into the microwave area, perhaps becoming active on maybe one microwave band but who would like to learn more about construction techniques, operating and getting started on other microwave bands. It is hoped that attendees at previous beginners' workshops will find this event to be a useful follow up.

**The Workshop will begin at 10.15am and finish around 4.30pm**, with a 45 minute break for lunch.

Topics for discussions and practical demonstration include the following (note that the programme below includes time for informal questions and answers:

10.00-10.30 Welcome of arrivals followed by introduction of speakers, by Peter G3PHO  
10.30-11.10: Setting up a home microwave station, by Peter, G3PYB  
11.10-11.20: TEA/COFFEE BREAK  
11.20-12.00: Making microwave antennas, by Gordon, G0EWN  
12.00-13.00: LUNCH  
13.00-14.00: Low Cost Construction using surplus Sat TV components, by Bernie, G4HJW  
14.00-14.15: BREAK  
14.15-15.00: Backpack portable microwave operating (including SOTA) by Richard, G3CWI  
15.00-15.15 BREAK  
15.15-16.00 Basic (and not so basic!) test gear for the microwaver, by Peter G3PHO  
16.00-16.30: Open Forum and session closedown.

The speakers have considerable experience in their chosen topic. The aim is to make each session as practical as possible, leaving lots of time for questions and answer as well as demonstrations.

It is hoped to have a microwave antenna test range (for at least 10GHz) set up on the fields outside the clubrooms. This will be, of course, weather permitting!

A sandwich lunch will be available at the Sports Club.

#### **Advanced registration is essential**

To register, please email Peter Day, G3PHO at: [sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk](mailto:sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk), giving the following details in this order: (please refer to the foot of page 1!)

- Name and callsign
- Email address and telephone number (including STD)
- Which event you wish to attend (ie Saturday workshop and/or Sunday conference)
- Requirements for overnight accommodation (guest house, hotel, how many people)
- Would you like to attend a Saturday evening informal function (eg dinner a local hotel or pub)?
- Previous microwave radio experience (briefly please!)

**SUNDAY 13 JULY 2008**

## **UK MICROWAVE GROUP MICROWAVE ROUND TABLE**

### **Provisional programme:**

- 1000:            Doors open:
- 1030:            **Official welcome** and **Roll Call**, followed by time for general socialising and "horse trading" at the Bring and Buy tables
- 1130 - 1200: **Lecture 1:** DATV coding and Streamers, by Peter Blakeborough, G3PYB
- 1200 – 1300: **Lunch break**
- 1300 - 1345: **Lecture 2:** Microwave Construction on a Shoestring, by Bernie G4HJW
- 1400 - 1445: **Lecture 3:** Rainscatter ... by Richard, G3CWI
- 1445 – 1500: COFFEE/TEA BREAK
- 1500 - 1545: **Lecture 4:** TBD
- 1545 – 1630: **Open Forum** and event closedown
- All Day:        **Bring and Buy** Fleamarket (free tables!)
- Morning:       1015-1230: 10GHz microwave **antenna test range** (Weather permitting)

### **Notes:**

The antenna test range will depend on the demand for this facility. **Please indicate, when you register, if you wish to have an antenna tested.** At the time of writing it is only planned to have a 10GHz range but one or more other bands may be offered. The range will be outdoors and subject to the vagaries of the weather!

### **Registration:**

**Advanced registration is essential** as we need to inform the Sports Club two weeks in advance of expected numbers so that they can organise lunchtime catering.

If you wish to stay overnight on Saturday please indicate when you register. We hope to arrange preferential rates at a nearby hotel if numbers warrant it. **Early registration is essential** as July is wedding reception season and hotels may be fully booked well before that date!

### **When registering please supply the following details:**

- Name and **callsign**
- Email address and telephone number (including STD)
- Which event(s) you wish to attend (ie Saturday workshop and/or Sunday conference)
- Requirements for overnight accommodation (eg guest house, hotel) how many people and the maximum room rate you wish to pay.
- Would you like to attend a Saturday evening informal function (eg dinner a local hotel or pub)?
- Are you bringing a 10GHz antenna to test on the range

**73 from Peter, G3PHO ... event organiser. Email: [sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk](mailto:sheffieldmicrowaves@g3pho.org.uk)**

# OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION

We had hoped to find one accommodation location for everyone and hold a Saturday night social gathering, including dinner, there. However, at the time of compiling this information pack (late April) there have been very few indications from people who have already signed up to come that they indeed want such a function. Nevertheless, we still hope to have an informal dinner, on Saturday night, at a local hotel-cum-carvery just a mile down the road from the microwave event site. Those attending this will just have to modify their drinking habits as they will have to drive back to their chosen accommodation for the night!

There are several motels/hotels within a few miles of the event location. The driving distances to the microwave event are shown in the listings. The following are the nearest and most accessible. They are listed in order of room tariff (lowest to highest).

**It is advisable to book a room as soon as you can** as July is a very busy time with weddings, etc. **It is suggested you visit the websites of the listed hotels and motels**, from where you can check the latest tariffs and make an online booking.

You can **calculate distances** to Sheffield Microwaves by inserting the event postal code S8 7RH and that of the chosen hotel in the AA Route Finder.

**TRAVELODGE:** **Location:** Whittington Moor Chesterfield. On the A61 north towards Sheffield, Chesterfield inner ring road on the northern outskirts of town.  
Use [http://www.travelodge.co.uk/route\\_planner/](http://www.travelodge.co.uk/route_planner/)  
**Website for online booking:**  
[http://www.travelodge.co.uk/find\\_a\\_hotel/hotel.php?hotel\\_id=121](http://www.travelodge.co.uk/find_a_hotel/hotel.php?hotel_id=121)  
**Telephone number:** 0871 984 6129  
**Room Tariff:** Family room (several available) **£29.00** per night  
**Driving distance** to Sheffield Microwaves: 6.3 miles (10 minutes)

**SHEFFIELD PARK HOTEL:** **Location:** Meadowhead, Sheffield  
**Website for online booking:**  
[http://www.superbreak.com/hotels/sheffield\\_park-hotel-6745.htm](http://www.superbreak.com/hotels/sheffield_park-hotel-6745.htm)  
**Telephone number:** 0871 221 3344  
**Room Tariff:** From **£46.00** per room per night per night  
**Driving distance** to Sheffield Microwaves: Only 500 yards

**PREMIER INN:** **Location:** Chesterfield (near the Tesco roundabout)  
**Website for online booking:**  
<http://www.premierinn.com/pti/hotelInformation.do?hotelId=24048&CMP>  
**Telephone number:** 0870 197 7060  
**Room Tariff:** From **£49.00** per room per night  
**Driving distance** to Sheffield Microwaves: approx 8 miles

**SANDPIPER HOTEL:** **Location:** Sheffield Road, Sheepbridge, Sheffield  
**Website for online booking:** <http://www.sandpiperhotel.co.uk/>  
**Telephone number:** 01246 450550  
**Room Tariff:** from **£54.95** per room per night  
**Driving distance** to Sheffield Microwaves: 5 miles (8 minutes)

## Please note:

**All these hotels/motels are located south of Sheffield Microwaves and on or very near the main A61 dual carriageway road that leads directly to the event.**

## MICROWAVE EVENT ACCESS AND LOCATION DETAILS

(Sat Nav users can enter S8 7RH)



**From the South and East**, take the Chesterfield turn off (A617) from the M1 Junction 29. After 5 miles of dual carriageway, you reach Chesterfield. Turn right at the large roundabout and follow the signs for Sheffield (A61). After 7 or 8 miles the A61 brings you right up to the Meadowhead Roundabout shown in the map above. The Sheffield Amateur Radio Club site is easily seen in the sports fields on the left of the roundabout. Turn left at the roundabout and, after 150 yards enter the Sports club drive on the left.

**From the North**, come off the M1 at Junction 33 and turn right over the motorway at the slip road here. Follow the A630 dual carriageway towards Sheffield and, at the third intersection (approx 3.5 miles), take the exit left signposted A57 and A6102. As you come off at this exit do NOT take the immediate A57 left but carry on parallel to the A630 road you have just left and take the next left, A6102. This is the Sheffield Outer Ring Road. Follow this for about 4.5 miles South West, by which

time you will be on the Bochum Parkway shown on the map above. As you approach the Meadowhead Roundabout, you will see a signpost for A61 Chesterfield to the left. Ignore this and carry on across the roundabout to take the entrance driveway to the Sports Club which is very obvious to your left after the roundabout.

**From the West**, it is probably easiest to approach Sheffield via Macclesfield, Buxton and then via the A6 towards Bakewell but turning left at Ashford in the Water, just a couple of miles west of Bakewell. Follow the signs for A619 Chesterfield. The A619 will take you to Chesterfield from which you should look for the A61 to Sheffield. Following the A61 for approximately 7 miles will take you to the Meadowhead roundabout (map earlier). You access the SPORTS Club here by turning left at the roundabout and then first left into the club's driveway.

If you don't know the Sheffield area and come into the city via the A57 Snake Pass Road you will have a much more difficult time finding your way to the club. However you are welcome to try!

**One Sunday, we will have talk in facilities on 145.525MHz FM simplex and will also listen on the GB3US 70cm repeater (433.000MHz) for folk who may have lost their way!**