

All correspondence and membership registrations should be sent to:

Hunters Moon, Station Road,
Newton-le-Willows, BEDALE, DL8 1SX

Emergency (24-hour) contact
line:

0141 621 2121

CHAIRMAN:

Cathy Clark G1GQJ
01844 351 461

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Phil Williams G6AQP
07973 508590

ZONE CO-ORDINATORS

Z1: Tom Hanratty G0JRT
01207 505 315

Z2: Post vacant, contact
Brian Tindill G4HVA
01677 450 387

Z3: Roger Beever G6CKR
01778 342 799

Z4: Phil Webber G8KLC
01582 841 643

Z5: Phil Williams G6AQP
07973 508590

Z6: Don Kirkwood G3YQO
01525 404 700

Z7: Chris Hampson G8RXA
01425 672 002

Z8: Kevin Snelling GW7BSC
0796 7329054

Z9: David Green M0HPV
024 7644 1838

Z10: David Hicks G6IFA
01928 727 197

Z12: Post vacant, contact
David Duff GM4UGF
01290 421 298

Z18: Post vacant, contact
David Hicks G6IFA
01928 727 197

Z22: David Duff GM4UGF
01290 421 298

Emergency Planning:

Trevor Groves G4KUJ

Finance: Brett Rider G4FLO

IST: Jim Andrews G1HUL

Publicity: Ron Cowan GM4SRL
0141 620 1000

RAY-Link: Don Kirkwood G3YQO
raylink@raynet-uk.net

Technical: Greg Mossop G0DUB

Training: Paul Farrar G8SJA

Talk-through & UK General Applications:

Ian Jackson G8RWH (Company Secretary)
5 Vivien Close, Chessington, KT9 2DE

Raynet Supplies (<http://raynet-uk.net>):

Katie Cowan GM0UIG - 0141 638 0732
85 Eastwoodmains Road, Glasgow,
G76 7HG

Membership Subscription Rate. From 1st January 2008 this is inclusive of Personal Accident Insurance cover whilst on RAYNET duties, and is £7.20 per annum (60p per month).

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION 2008

A reminder that the 16th Annual RAYNET Convention and AGM will take place on Saturday 1st November at the Aintree Race Course Conference Centre. The theme for the Convention will be RAYNET and TUNNEL Communications.

Details of the accommodation arrangements and the venue for the Saturday night dinner will be released shortly.

MORE ON GPS' & CO-ORDINATE CONVERTERS (or *Why Isn't the World Flat?*)

Following up on the piece on the last issue of RAY-Link concerning *Co-Ordinate Converters* (Issue 63, April 2008) Alan Messenger GOTLK, of South London RAYNET added some useful information, pointing out that it is essential to ensure that the GPS is set to the WGS84 datum if using latitude and longitude. Anything else will give errors in the UK, sometimes of 300m or more! Google Maps and the others use WGS84 as their base datum.

National Grid References (NGR) works on a different grid datum called OSGB36. If not converted to latitude/longitude properly that too can give errors up to around 200m.

Typically for RAYNET purposes a 2 letter plus 6 figure NGR is normally used and this is accurate only to 100m. GPS units will give a 2 letter plus 10 digit NGR which has potential accuracy of 1m, but in reality the GPS will only be accurate to within between 3 and 15 metres. True, it can be enhanced using a WAAS option in the receiver if available, which tends to be the case in the modern GPS receivers (and its matching software).

Postcode and IARU locations can be substantially adrift on the ground as they are of very coarse resolution.

Personally, write GOTLK, for detailed locating of something in an area I don't know I sometimes use a paper OS map plus a GPS to confirm the NGR of where I'm standing. A mapping GPS screen can be too small - the big map allows you to see the context. ☐

Don't Use 999!

Did you know that if you dial 999 from your mobile phone you will be routed to the network control centre of your service provider, whereas using 112 will route you to the control centre nearest to where you are located. So, the lesson is *if you are using your mobile phone to report an emergency always dial 112*.