

RadCom

THE RADIO SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN'S
MEMBERS' MAGAZINE

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News and Reports

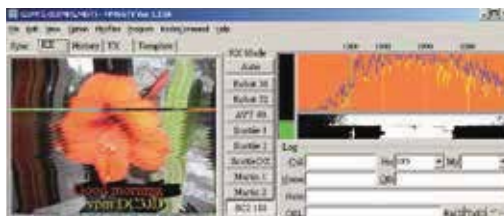
- 6 RSGB Matters**
Calling Notice for the 2015 AGM, Club of the Year winners, Board and Regional Election results, volunteer vacancies, RSGB response to Ofcom UHF consultation, Spotlight on the Planning Advisory Committee and the DRM for Suffolk, Train the Trainers news, New Joiners, Rejoiners and Congratulations
- 12 News**
All the amateur radio news
- 14 New Products**
Exiting new products we've heard about this month
- 38 Committee Reports**
Full reports on the work undertaken on behalf of RSGB Members in 2014 by the various RSGB Committees
- 60 AGM Financials and Voting**
Financial reports on RSGB activities in 2014, plus the two Resolutions for this year's AGM and how to register your vote
- 87 Around Your Region**
Club news and planned events around the country

Features

- 36 *Per ardua ad VP8***
Bob Bower, GM4DLG describes Exercise Sturdee Ham – The RAFARS DXpedition to the Falkland Islands
- 70 The Story of GB3EX**
Teamwork, trials, tribulations and triumphs of getting a new repeater on the air, described by Pete Longhurst, G3ZVI
- 71 SSTV Without Radio**
You can have fun receiving SSTV images and other modes without a radio in sight, reports Giles Read, G1MFG

Reviews

- 26 Folding Antennas Hexbeam**
David Aslin, G3WGN is impressed by a 20-10m multiband antenna for small gardens, portable and DXpedition use
- 81 Book Review**
Giles Read, G1MFG enjoys *Hart Reviews* and *My Adventures As A Spy*



SSTV & other modes on your desktop, sans radio – p71



Cover image: The QTH of Bob Macleod, VP8LP and his XYL Janet, VP8AIB on the Falkland Islands.

Photo: Bob Bower, GM4DLG.

Technical Features

- 16 Design Notes**
Andy Talbot, G4JNT looks at noise – generating it, measuring it, calibrated sources and more
- 18 Enclosures**
Klaus 'Cliff' Spies, WB9YBM shares his thoughts on enclosures for homebrew projects
- 20 Homebrew**
More on the high quality single band 10m transceiver with Eamon Skelton, EI9GQ
- 25 Data**
Andy Talbot, G4JNT reports on a new HF chat mode and methods of digging signals out of the noise
- 32 Raspberry Pi in the Shack**
In the final part of his series, Mike Richards, G4WNC reveals an improvement to the Raspberry Pi dongle server and designs a shack security system
- 58 EMC**
Draft interference regulations, PLT MIMO, fluorescent tube QRM, 4G networks, railway EMC and a wireless charging system exercise Dr David Lauder, GOSNO
- 80 The Windom**
Andy Choraffa, G3PKW clears up some myths about the off-centre fed dipole
- 86 Moving On**
Part 1 of a look at baluns with John Welsh, GONVZ

DXers DK9BDN, DJ9KH and DL6KAC drop in on the National Radio Centre en route to Brize Norton and ZD8D – p74



Regulars

- 99 Advertisers index**
- 50 Antennas**, Peter Dodd, G3LDO
- 78 GHz**, Dr John Worsnop, G4BAO
- 74 HF**, Martin Atherton, G3ZAY
- 72 LF**, Dave Pick, G3YXM
- 103 Propagation**, Gwyn Williams, G4KHF
- 52 QRP**, Rev George Dobbs, G3RJV
- 100 Members' Ads, Rallies & Events**, Silent Keys and Special Event stations
- 82 Sport Radio**, Steve White, G3ZVW
- 104 The Last Word**
- 76 VHF/UHF**, Richard Staples, G4HGI

Calling Notice for AGM 2015

NOTICE FOR AGM 2015. Notice is hereby given that the 88th Annual General Meeting of the Radio Society of Great Britain will be held on Saturday 25 April 2015 at the Royal National Hotel, 38-51 Bedford Way, Russell Square, London WC1H ODG commencing at 12 noon for the transaction of the undermentioned business.

AGENDA. Item 1. To receive and, if approved, confirm the Minutes of the 87th Annual General Meeting held at the Renaissance Hotel, Manchester on 12 April 2014 and circulated to members in the April 2015 *RadCom*. (Resolution 1)

Item 2. To receive and consider the accounts for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014 and the reports of the Board and the Auditor that appear in the April 2015 edition of *RadCom*.

Item 3. To appoint Auditors Sayer Vincent and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration. (Resolution 2)

Formal Minutes of the 87th Annual General Meeting of the Radio Society of Great Britain held on 12 April 2014 at the Renaissance Hotel, Manchester.

RESOLUTION 1: To receive and, if approved, confirm the Minutes of the 86th Annual General Meeting. Proposed by David Crowe, G4MVU. Seconded by Mike Isherwood, G4VSS. Motion carried by a show of hands.

RESOLUTION 2: To appoint Auditors Sayer Vincent and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration. Proposed by Graham Murchie, G4FSG. Seconded by Ken Hatton, G3VBA. Motion carried by a show of hands.

RESOLUTION 3: To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolution to amend the articles of association of the Company, which will be proposed as a Special Resolution, that the articles of association of the Company be amended by deleting the present article 7 and replacing it with the following new article 7:

ARTICLE 7. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. Fifty persons present in person or by proxy entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a Member or a proxy for a Member of a duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be a quorum. Proposed by Graham Murchie, G4FSG. Seconded by Ian Brothwell, G4EAN. Carried by a show of hands after discussion from Membership attending.

RESOLUTION 4: To elect either Steve Hartley, G0FUW or James Stevenson, G0EJQ as a Director of the RSGB to serve on the Board. Steve Hartley, G0FUW elected by majority.

RESOLUTION 5: Region 5 residents only to elect either Vaughan Ravenscroft, M0VRR or Martyn Vincent, G3UKV as Regional Manager for Region 5, the West Midlands. Martyn Vincent, G3UKV elected by majority.

By order of the Board, R Thorogood,
G3KKT, Honorary Company Secretary

Club of the Year Winners

The regional winners of the National Club of the Year competition, kindly sponsored by Waters & Stanton, have been chosen. Entries were judged by a Regional Manager from outside of the Region to ensure impartiality. The winner and the two runners up of the National Competition will be selected by the Board and announced at the AGM.



Region 1: Stirling & District ARS (Caithness ARS, small club award)
Region 2: Pentland Firth Radio Hams
Region 3: Wirral & DARC
Region 4: Wearside EARS (Pontefract & DARS, small club award)
Region 5: Wythall RC
Region 6: North Wales RS
Region 7: Hoover ARC
Region 8: Mid Ulster ARC
Region 9: London Hackspace RC
Region 10: Hilderstone R&EC
Region 11: Poldhu ARC (Riviera ARC, small club award)
Region 12: Essex Ham
Region 13: Worksop ARS (St George's Academy ARC, small club award)

Silent Keys

We are deeply saddened by the news of the passing of Hans Berg, DL6TJ, who died on 18 February aged 72. Hans was DARC's International Liaison Officer from 1982 until 2003. He also chaired the HF Committee of IARU Region 1 for 9 years and served in different IARU working groups. Hans received the DARC Golden Honor Pin in 1985 and the Rudolf-Horckheimer-Prize in 2004. He also was an RSGB Life Vice President.



Hans Berg, DJ6TJ

It is also with great sadness that we learned of the death of Louis van de Nadort, PA0LOU. He died in hospital after a short illness. Lou was the Chairman of IARU Region 1 for 27 years until his retirement in 2002, and a member of the IARU Administrative Council. He will be sorely missed by his many colleagues and friends in IARU and around the world.

On behalf of myself and the entire Executive Committee, I express our sincere condolences to his wife An and family. Region 1 will be represented at the funeral by Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T.

Don Beattie, G3BJ, President, IARU Region 1

Apologies

The gremlins got into the system for the Honour Roll in February's *RadCom*. Bob Bowden, G3IXZ should have been listed as 56 years Membership, to whom we apologise.

RSGB Response to Ofcom

The RSGB has prepared a response to Ofcom's call for input on a strategic review of the UHF spectrum at 420-470MHz. The full response can be found on the RSGB website at http://rsgb.org/main/files/2015/02/RSGB_UHF-Review_response.pdf

DRM Wanted

WANTED: Deputy Regional Manager for Birmingham, West Midlands and Worcester area (DRM 52). Basic IT skills and available vehicle essential, but above all, enthusiasm for amateur radio and willingness to promote the RSGB. Ideally the appointed person will live within the area they cover. For further details contact the West Midlands Regional Manager (RM 5) Martyn Vincent, G3UKV, email to via rm5@rsgb.org.uk or on 01952 255 416.

Committee Spotlight

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE. The Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) consists of a small number of amateurs willing to help fellow RSGB Members deal with planning issues.

Cases usually arrive via HQ and I will either handle them myself or allocate them out to a Committee member. A typical case starts when the local council Enforcement Officer comes to call, or leaves a card/letter through the door. This tends to happen when a neighbour becomes unhappy and calls in the council. Most amateurs work hard to keep in neighbours' good books, because careful cultivation of the neighbours tends to avoid the call to the council. Aerials are much more likely to be accepted when first mentioned over the garden fence. But some neighbours are just totally anti and no amount of cultivation will cure that, sadly.

When a case is received I tend to go through a short checklist to work out what to do next:

- 1) Is the amateur a tenant or do they live in a listed building?
- 2) Do the aerials actually need permission?
- 3) Are there any four year rule rights?
- 4) How did this come about (are there neighbour or EMC issues in the background)?

The route from here varies. In about half of referrals the council is persuaded that either 2 and/or 3 above apply (for some or all of the aerials) and a letter is received confirming no further action (at least for some of the aerials). Getting to this point is critical because it means the amateur is kept 'on air'.

For the remaining cases a planning application is needed. We will not make the application, but will advise. Once the application is submitted, HQ will send a letter of support that we will vary as needed so it suits what is intended. And we will 'hold hands' as needed to as the application proceeds. If permission is granted we will advise on the legality of any conditions; if not, advice will be given about making a revised 'free' application or on appealing.

Most amateurs tend to get something that, if not exactly what they want, at least gets them on the air. So if you have an issue with the Planners, please get in touch (sooner rather than later is much preferred).

PSC volunteer needed for VHF

The RSGB Propagation Studies Committee (PSC) is looking for an additional member to focus on studies of abnormal VHF propagation.

One of the tasks to be undertaken will be to study all information concerning exceptional contacts and reception reports in order to establish if there are patterns of linked propagation modes that might have previously been missed.

One priority in this particular area is to look at contacts where the propagation path has occurred as a result of the linking of tropospheric and ionospheric modes.

When such studies have been developed the conclusions need to be developed and initially shared and freely discussed with other members of PSC.

A further aspect of the role is to be able to communicate the results of to RSGB members and beyond via presentations and articles in *RadCom*.

A really good working knowledge of VHF propagation and communication skills are important for this role.

If you are interested please e-mail Steve Nichols, GOKYA via email to psc.chairman@rsgb.org.uk including a brief resumé of what you will bring to the role.

Volunteer Spotlight Keith Gaunt, G7CIY



My name is Keith Gaunt, G7CIY and I am the RSGB Deputy Regional Manager for Suffolk. I have been in the post since April 2014 so still fairly new in the role, however you could say it was custom made for me as you will see from my background.

I would say that I am probably one of the most well-known local amateurs and have been licensed since 1986. When I started work, one of my father's colleagues, John Rabson, G3PAL, was quite involved with

the local RAYNET group and wondered if I would be interested. I, of course, jumped at the chance becoming more involved in RAYNET and finally becoming County Controller.

I joined the South Anglia Repeater Group and very soon became the Secretary, a post I still hold, and I am also the Repeater Keeper for GB3PO and GB3IH.

I was already an active member of several radio clubs so the Regional Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB could see that I would be an ideal candidate for the post. Like the old adage, if you want a job done, ask a busy man!

As a DRM, it has now formalised a function that I was already doing to a large extent whereby I have been extending the joint relationships between local clubs and improved the interworking with the Society. The RSGB Bookstall – our own rally being the ESWR on 14 June – is another great point of contact for me and for people to join up or just to ask questions. I enjoy the friendship, knowledge and the huge amount of experience from the Members and act as a focal point of contact for many radio related enquiries, be that prospective new members, repeater use, exams, cases of interference or planning enquiries.

World Amateur Radio Day

This day is celebrated each year on 18 April in recognition of the anniversary of the founding of the IARU in Paris in 1925. Every year the event has a different theme and this year it is 'ITU & IARU: Celebrating 150 Years of Advancing the Telecommunication Art'. You will also find many member countries celebrating the 90th anniversary of the IARU with special call signs throughout the year.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following Members whom our records show as having reached 60 or 50 years' continuous Membership of the RSGB.

60 years

Mr G H Taylor, G3MDC
Dr T R Skrbic, G3TOE

50 Years

University of Surrey E&ARS, G3IGQ	Mr R A Harris, G4FFA
Mr R E McHenry, G3NSM	Mr I R G Gurton, G8ASP
Government Comm ARC, G3SSO	Mr C D Jameson, G8CDJ
Mr F L Curtis, G3SVK	Mr T G Lambert, G8EZL
Mr R W Thompson, G3TKF	Mr E K Dons, GM0AXY
Mr R D Allan, G3TQZ	Mr C B Rattray, GM3HYX
J E Harknett, G3TVH	Mr W P Wright, GM3UCH
Mr R H Stansfield, G3UAX	Mr J M Briscoe, GM8AOB
Mr M R Smart, G3UXQ	Mr D D Kaye, RS26890

Board Election Results

In this year's Board election there was one vacancy and this received one nomination and, therefore, this candidate is elected unopposed.

Alan Messenger, GOTLK *Elected unopposed as Board member*



CURRICULUM VITAE. 1989, VHF "B" licence G7GBH. 1993, HF "A" licence GOTLK. 1995 - 2006, Hon. Secretary Bromley & District ARS. 2007 - 2010, 5MHz software author. 2009, joined RSGB Amateur Radio Development Committee. 2011, RSGB Focus Group and Board Advisory Group. 2011 - 2013, RSGB Interim Board, including

building new website. 2013 - current, RSGB Training and Education Committee including Syllabus Working Group. 2013 - current, Chair Bromley & District ARS. 2014 - current, RSGB Inspire Group. Plus several speaking sessions at RSGB Convention. RCE Registered Assessor & Tutor

PERSONAL STATEMENT. I want to see an active hobby with people from all walks of life enjoying it, backed by a strong, open and transparent RSGB working for all its members and amateur radio as a whole. I believe our main need now is to boost the appeal and

public presence of amateur radio so that we can encourage more people of any age to take part and, hopefully, join the Society. My current amateur radio interests are generally HF SSB or digital modes to a simple wire antenna at home, with portable operations in kind weather. I was a member of the RSGB Interim Board where we successfully sorted out many governance and financial problems. As part of that work I redesigned the RSGB website and led it's rebuild to where it is today at the top of Google rankings, doing much of the detailed work myself. I've also been working in the Training and Education Committee, am a member of the RSGB Inspire Group, and Chair of my local club. I have some 12 years Board experience in the voluntary sector, 5 of those as Board Chair. Professionally I'm a Chartered Building Surveyor and Project Manager, responsible for a commercial property and facilities management unit for a private property company in Central London. I would like to re-join the RSGB Board and use my business, marketing and IT skills in continuing to build a 21st century RSGB on the foundations I earlier helped to lay.

Regional Elections

In this year's Regional elections there were Regional manager vacancies for five Regions (Regions 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11). In Region 11 a single nomination was received and that candidate, Pam Helliwell, G7SME, is, therefore, elected unopposed. Her CV and personal statement is shown below. No nominations were received for Regions 2, 3, 6 and 7 and the RSGB Board will look to fill these posts on a temporary basis in the near future.

Pam Helliwell, G7SME *Elected unopposed as Region 11 Regional Manager*



CURRICULUM VITAE. I passed the Radio Amateurs Exam in December 1993, I joined the Torbay Amateur Radio Society, undertaking various committee roles. I invigilate at Radio Amateurs exams and organise local exam sessions for the Full examinations. I am an active member of South Devon Raynet, becoming

controller in February 2005. Our activities include assisting local charities and community events and festivals. I also belong to BYLARA. I assist with various special event stations for the Scouts and clubs. I have been an RSGB Regional volunteer since 2003, but I am willing to stand as your Regional Manager again

for I'm sure will be another enjoyable and fulfilling three years.

PERSONAL STATEMENT. I live in Devon, which is central to the region enabling me as your Regional Manager to visit clubs and rallies throughout the region which I enjoy. The future of the hobby is being able to support all new radio amateurs; not just in clubs but to encourage different aspects of our hobby whether it's through special events stations, contests, construction or exam training. If re-elected I will continue to do my best for the region's radio amateurs; to support the work of the RSGB throughout the region, and to promote and improve public awareness of our hobby.

QSL Matters

Recently, a 2-series call holder told us about receiving an e-mail, from an unknown source, asking him to send a stamped envelope. Not knowing its origin and fearing a con trick, he deleted it. Later, he discovered that it came from the M3 call sub-manager, but as he'd never sent a QSL card with his Foundation call, he assumed that no one would ever send them to him – not so! Many stations send cards to welcome newly licenced operators. As the worldwide system has inherent delays, very often they arrive long after the call holder has moved on. Bureaux cannot automatically divert cards to users' latest callsign, so it's particularly important for all UK multiple callsign holders to maintain separate envelopes with each relevant call series sub-manager and remember to update their RSGB record.

Are you an M3 or M6 that's moved on? Sub manager Roy, MORRV is chasing callsign holders for their SAEs so please correct your contact details via the RSGB website.

LICENCE CONDITIONS. Are you complying with your licence conditions? 'Unusual' incoming cards are sometimes a sign of compliance problems. Two recent examples are:

- The Club secondary prefix (eg N or C) being attached to personal callsigns instead of the correct individual ones (eg I or W), particularly when operating portable.
- Cards for Foundation licensees with foreign prefixes attached, eg SP/M3... and EA/M6... These could be pirated calls, of course, but please remember that only Full licence holders are entitled to operate abroad under the CEPT agreement.

POSTAGE. Last month we highlighted postal costs. So remember, at £2.80 for up to 2kg, it pays to save your cards, sort them into prefix order and send to us less frequently. It's also much quicker for us to process that way.

Baseband ELF transmitters new on syllabus

Recent interest in extremely low frequency transmitters and receivers prompted some experiments at a recent Examination Committee meeting. Experimentation such as this ensures that Examination items do not string candidates along with poor descriptions of new technology.



These systems, made by Canstring Communications, use longitudinal waves and can carry a signal 10m or more, although the version shown here is the 6.75 metre version. Otherwise called the 'Chummy' after the source of the specialised transducers, these systems are very economical on power. There is a range of these available from 2 metre to 20 metre versions, with intermediate models being made by using a specially cut transmission line.

These systems are almost impossible to intercept, giving a high level of security. One spin-off is that they also seem to be immune from EMC although some feline interest has, on occasion, caused a drop in transmission. Examination items have already been developed and can be used in line with the new syllabus, commencing this month.

Train the Trainers

RSGB Train the Trainers (TtT) days are for you if you are delivering training for the amateur exams and do not already have a professional educational background. The purpose is to give you some insights in how to prepare and deliver your material, to improve the learning skills of your class and hopefully inject some fun into the experience for everyone.

It will make a big difference to your effectiveness as a teacher. TtT days are available to RSGB Members and there is no charge. Places at each venue are limited so apply soon if you are interested.

Following the extremely successful event in Tamworth, the next Train the Trainers day is on 9 May, in Norwich. In order to book a place, please e-mail David, G7URP via radio@dcpmicro.com

We are also delighted to announce that an RSGB Train the Trainers day will be held in Badsworth, Yorkshire on Saturday 13 June. To book for this location, please e-mail info@theradioclub.co.uk

Philip Willis, MOPHI
RSGB Training and Education Committee



Awards Manager

Following the sad death of John Dunnington, G3LZQ, the RSGB needs someone to 'fill his shoes' and help us take forward the prestigious RSGB Awards programme.

A small group of Members is reviewing our extensive awards programme and will shortly report to the Board. The successful applicant will take forward the agreed recommendations and be responsible for all aspects of awards management. Awards have always featured

in our history and we are looking for a Member who will ensure that this long tradition is continued and developed.



Applications by CV should reach General Manager Graham Coomber, G0NBI, via graham.coomber@rsgb.org.uk by 10 April. Board Member Stan Lee, G4XXI, welcomes informal enquiries via g4xxi@rsgb.org.uk

The RSGB would like to welcome to the RSGB family the following new Members who have joined their voice to ours and are helping to keep the RSGB strong.

Mr W Kunz, AA3FC	Dr S Powell, KG4RXW	Mr H Ilie, M6KPA	Mr J Hodder, RS303153
Mr D Bell, DJB1963	Mr S J Hartranft, KI6SUF	Mr M Burgin, M6MKQ	Mr J G Hobson, RS303178
Mr J Vollbrecht, DL4CF	Mr H Dommarsnes, LA1DGA	Mr S McGuckian, M6MKX	Mr B Horne, RS303216
Mr P Givet, F5IYJ	Mr D Gibbons, MOGIB	Mr A Rawlins, M6OTL	Miss B Broyd, RS303240
Mr G Milton, G0CUQ	Vecta Contest Group ARS,	Mr A Edge, M6YYD	Mr J Barrington-Wright,
Mr N Morley, G0HLX	MOVCT	Mr S Gore, M16SKG	RS303255
Mr D Tabberer, G0PMH	Bad Weather DX Group,	Mr A McCullough, M16TNZ	Mr C Burnett, VE4MB
Mr S Rodda, G4PEM	MOWXB	Mr P Groundwater, MM6PHG	Mr R Harrison, VE6BRH
Mr P Yarde, G8DKC	Mr H Jones, MOZAY	Mr D Chisholm, MM6YHO	Dr C Nadin, VK6ACF
Mr J Bloxham, GE8WKE	Mr M Pask, M6BEV	Mr N Paxman, RS302345	Mr R Moncur, VK7MO
Mr D Allen, G11ELP	Mr S Cave, M6BFX	Mr B Robinson, RS302997	Mr A Davenport, W2GZN
Mr C Waldron, GMONHL	Mr P J Williamson, M6EFP	Mr W Joyce, RS303040	Mr J Lanigan, WA3ERQ
Mr T Gray, HB9FUH	Mr A Hawsworth, M6EXC	Mr D Perrin, RS303063	Mr A Land, 2E0GNW
Mr H Bollhalder, HB9JND	Ms D Sykes, M6EZX	Mr K Usui, RS303070	Mr H Cracklow, 2E0HGJ
Mr S Roca, IKOFTA	Mr C Lash, M6FCK	Mr J Holt, RS303071	Mr M Rea, 2E0MEQ
Mr E Robetto, IK1MNJ	Mr K Dillow, M6KDW	Mrs D Smith, RS303081	Mr A Butkus, 2E0WUF
Mr B Venis, K0SPN	Mr R Kotan, M6KOT	Mr S Bligh-Wall, RS303090	Mr S McCormick, 2M0STV

The RSGB would like to welcome back the following Members who have rejoined the Society.

Mr A M Pratt, G0SHP	Mr A L Brown, G4GPV	Mr J V Haste, G8UVY	Mr A Shone, M5ALA
Mr B Burdis, G0WZB	Mr A Moss, G4VVT	Mr C J Fogarty, G11RSR	Mr S Symonds, M5PDL
Mr P Hodson, G1DRX	Mrs J C Cracklow, G4YMF	Mr M Wood, M0CSI	Mr A G Kinnersley, MM6EWY
Mr A Wyse, G3IWE	Mr D A Blackmore, G6LPV	Mr T Davidson, M0MTD	Mr K Valentine, MW0VKD
Mr K G King, G3RGE	Mr C Harvey, G6LVT	ACF/CCF Radio Net C, M1ACF	Mr G R Perry, MW5AAO
Mr D J Brain, G3XMC	Mr A C Wilkinson, G6RIY	Mr S Rear, M1SEM	Mr J Duerinckx, ON7HG
Mr C M Palmer, G4FMO	Mr G C Baraclough, G8DLT	Mr D Ferrow, M3DFW	Mr P Kloppenburg, VK1CPK

Radio Fraternity Lodge 50th Anniversary

The Radio Fraternity Lodge was formed in London in 1965 by one-time RSGB General Secretary John Clarricoats OBE, G6CL, with many leading radio amateurs of the day who were also freemasons. Radio Fraternity Lodge still meets (four times a year) in London in Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen St, near Covent Garden and has always been principally composed of RSGB Members. The Lodge has raised thousands of pounds for charity in its fifty years of existence. Groups such as the RCF, RAIBC and BWFB have received donations, as have many other charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Dreamflight Charity and Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

In its 50th anniversary year, the Lodge has decided to reach out to other amateur radio Freemasons and establish links with other amateur radio masonic groups, individuals or even those wanting to become Freemasons, both in the UK and internationally. The intention is to grow amateur radio activity on air and celebrate their formation fifty years ago. If you would like to get in touch, please e-mail the Lodge Secretary via radiofraternitysecretary@gmail.com

BDXC Book

The British DX Club has just finished producing the latest edition of *Radio Stations in the UK* booklet. Published every two years, this 76-page booklet is a comprehensive frequency-by-frequency guide to domestic medium wave and FM stations in the UK. It covers all BBC, commercial and community radio stations as well as the low power AM and FM stations operating with long-term restricted service licences. It also includes digital radio (DAB) multiplex and programme service details. For details e-mail the club via bdxc@bdxc.org.uk or check the website, www.bdxc.org.uk



International Space Station SSTV

Radio amateurs from Poland have created a diploma commemorating the SSTV activity from the ISS that celebrated the 80th anniversary of Gagarin's birthday. For more information contact the coordinator via email to koordynator.ariss@gmail.com. Please include SSTV3ISS, your callsign and locator in the subject line.

Marconi Day

Sandford Mill Museum is open to the public for special events during the year. On Saturday 25 April the collection will be open to the general public from 10am to 5pm to celebrate the birthday of Guglielmo Marconi, who was born on 25 April 1874. Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society will be operating a demonstration station, callsign GX0MWT, in the Marconi 2MT Writtle broadcast hut that is now housed inside the museum. On the first floor Colin Page, G0TRM and his team will be demonstrating the mechanical Morse and Morse key display with the opportunity for the youngsters to try their hand at sending Morse. The Morse punched paper tape sending and decoding process always proves to be a big hit with potential junior CW operators.

During the day there will be several presentations in the Barn on the museum site. At 2.15pm Dr Elizabeth Bruton, well known for her presentations at the RSGB Convention, will give a talk on Marconi. This includes details about the vital wartime contribution made by the Marconi Company and Marconi Company Engineers and staff employed by the British military during World War One. It will include a local element: the establishment of a signals interception station located in the Hall Street works in Chelmsford. John Bowen, G8DET will be giving three presentations titled "Saving Lives at Sea – up to and including the *RMS Lusitania*" at 11am, 1pm and 3.30pm.

The Museum is located in Sandford Mill Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6NY, and parking and admittance are free.



Anniversary callsigns

The Spanish amateur radio society, URE, has announced that their national regulator has granted to all Spanish amateur licence holders and URE's section club stations, a special prefix celebrating the 90th IARU anniversary during April 2015.

EA stations will use the AM prefix, EB stations will use the AN prefix, EC stations will use the AO prefix and '90' will be added after the call area number.

URE club stations in the mainland will share, not simultaneously, the call EG90IARU. URE club stations outside the mainland (6, 8 and 9 call areas) will share, not simultaneously, the call EH90IARU.

Farnborough Golden Jubilee

The Farnborough & District Radio Society was founded in 1965 by Jock Hulme, G3UJD (SK), Tommy Tomlinson, G3UHW, Dronz Arigho, G3NVM and Mike Hearsey, G8ATK. Back in 1965 they were in regular contact with Ken Alford, TXK, G2DX who, between the wars, had been a member of the radio society that had met at the Tumbledown Dick Public House by the Clockhouse roundabout in Farnborough. Ken was a great friend and mentor and was elected the Society's first President in 1967. F&DRS proudly retains his callsign, G2DX, for members' use.

Mike, G8ATK has produced a book on the first 25 years of the F&DRS filled with photos and text recalling past achievements and activities and there are several Jubilee events planned throughout the year, with a special event station, G50FRS, planned for July. See www.farnboroughradio.org.uk/

Round Table

Amateur Radio Round Table is a new series of W5KUB.com weekly webcasts on Tuesday nights at 8pm Central Time (0200UTC Wednesdays) at W5KUB.COM It will be an informal discussion of all aspects of ham radio with the intent of allowing viewers to watch this live webcast or be a guest via Skype or Google Hangouts.

To watch Amateur Radio Round Table, go to w5kub.com, click on Live Events and sign in. If you have a W5KUB account, use your User Name and Password. If you don't have a W5KUB account, sign in with a call or name without a password. To be a guest on Amateur Radio Round Table, send an e-mail message to tom@w5kub.com. Prior to the show, you will be provided with information needed to join the show.

New man at Kenwood

Mark Haynes, MODXR has recently been appointed as UK sales manager for amateur radio products for Kenwood Electronics UK. Mark is well known on the bands as a successful contester and can also be heard under his Personal Contest Call, G9W.

Graham Coomber, GONBI (r) congratulates Mark Haynes, MODXR on his recent appointment as Kenwood UK Sales Manager for amateur radio products.



MICRA Christian Net

The World Association of Christian Radio Amateurs and Listeners (WACRAL) has changed the timings of their UK Sunday morning Good News 80m net on 3747kHz to 7.30 to 8.30am to accommodate early church services. The ever popular 80m Wednesday evening chat net remains at 9.30pm. Just call in anytime. All denominations are welcome. For more details and information on WACRAL go to www.wacral.org

SOTA Award



One of the latest amateurs to attain Mountain Goat as an activator in the popular Summits on the Air programme will be a familiar figure to many in the amateur radio world. This is because he managed to combine his interest in SOTA whilst at the same time holding the post of IARU Region 1 President. Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T who was President up to October last year, has activated summits in no fewer than 15 different countries, spanning the globe.

Being from one of the Low Countries does present some challenges to a SOTA activator but the opportunity to travel obviously came in useful for Hans.

He says, "In October 2012 Paul, HB9DST introduced K2XYL and me to the wonderful world of Summits on the Air. In that same month I retired, which meant a bit more free time for hiking, one of my wife's favourite pastimes, and amateur radio. I have always tried to combine amateur radio with travel. So far I have been active from 80 DXCC entities. SOTA gave me a new start. When there is a chance to operate from another SOTA association I'll give it a try. Of course I am not unique in that respect and there are others who have an even higher association score.

"A great opportunity to learn more about a country is to go & activate a SOTA with a local amateur. I have fond memories of my SOTA activities in South Africa, Ireland, Macedonia, Lebanon, Romania, Poland and Australia. In all these countries I had the pleasure of having the company of a local amateur with whom I could discuss the scenery, antennas, radios etc. Experiencing the local cuisine during or after the SOTA activity is highly recommended. In recent months I got too focused on reaching 1000 activator points. It's now time for 1, 2, 4 and 6 point summits, which must be as beautiful as their higher brothers."

DU9 DXpedition

Marc Soens, (DU9)/ON5SM will be visiting the Philippines until 25 April and during his visit he will operate from Cagayan De Oro on the island Mindanao (IOTA OC-130). He has a Philippine A class permit and will operate with the call DU9/ON5SM. The equipment will be a TS-480SAT Kenwood, 300W PA, Signalink DIGImodem, G5RV aerial, 6 band Hexbeam, 10m vertical with CG3000 antenna tuner. A special QSL card for these contacts can be sent via the bureau or direct to his home address.



Andorran 35th Anniversary

Between March and May, the Union of Radio Amateurs from Andorra, URA, will organise a series of events to commemorate the 35th anniversary of URA. There will be a Diploma and special QSL cards as well as an anniversary dinner. For further information, visit www.ura.ad – there is an English version.

War Cemeteries and Memorials

Many who left the shores of Australia to serve in WWI did not return. The same happened during WWII. One of the war graves and memorials for fallen Australians is Polygon Wood in Belgium. It contains the graves of many soldiers, in fact 2,103 burials have been conducted with full honours, and 428 are identified. Work on the cemetery by Australians began at Polygon Wood soon after the Armistice was signed on 11 November 1918.

Many Australians now visit Polygon Wood, its 'Brothers in Arms' memorial and stop at the ANZAC Rest Cafe, often tracing the footsteps of family members who served in the area in WWI. To honour those at Polygon Wood, a commemorative callsign OPOPPY will be activated on 25 April, ANZAC Day, using an Icom IC-7400 feeding a Hexbeam on CW and phone.

2015 RSS Reunion

The 2015 reunion of the Radio Security Service will take place at Bletchley Park on 10 May. Registration will be from 10am and the meeting starts promptly at 10.30am. The venue for the meeting will be in a different building this year, the Teleprinter Hall. Please contact rssreunion@aol.com for further information if you wish to attend.

Please send news reports to radcom@rsgb.org.uk. To get future events listed here and put on GB2RS, e-mail details of your meetings as early as possible to radcom@RSGB.org.uk and we'll do the rest. We need to know your club name, RSGB Region number, contact name & phone number, date of meeting and detail of meeting. Example: Fraser Road Radio Club, Region 9, Graham, GONBI, 01234 832 700, 29 Oct, On the Air. It's that simple. Please note that we don't normally print 'closed', 'TBA' or 'every Tuesday'-type submissions. The deadline for the May edition is 30 March and for the June issue it's 27 April. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am on the Thursday of the week of broadcast.

INTERNATIONAL

Pafos Radio Club, Cyprus,
Richard, 5B4AJG, 00 357 97 857 891,
5b4ajg@gmail.com

NATIONAL

AMSAT-UK

<http://amsat-uk.org/>

Weekly net every Sunday 10am, 3.780MHz

Civil Service Amateur Radio Society,

Weekly net every Tuesday, 8pm, 3.763MHz

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

REGIONAL MANAGER: JASON, O'NEILL, GM7VSB,
RM1@RSGB.ORG.UK

Ayr ARG

John, GM0EPO, aargsec2014@gmail.com

1 The Hen Antenna, Dennis, GM3NIG

15 Build it yourself, Ralph, GM4SQO

29 RAFARS VP8RAF/100 DXpedition to the Falklands, Bob, GM4DLG

Border ARS

Alex, GM8BDX, 01890 830 607

10 Junk night

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC

Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

3 Normal club night

15 On-air activity day

Livingston & DARS

Cathie, MM6MSN, catherine_197@msn.com

7 Talk/presentation on coast radio stations

14, 28 Operating evening

21 Morse and operating

Lothians RS

Alan J Masson, GM3PSP, 0131 623 4580

8 Surplus equipment sale at St Fillan's Church

22 2015 DXpedition to Tonga by Chris, GM3WOJ

Stirling & DARS

John McGowan, gm0fsv@gm6nx.com

5, 12, 19, 26 10.30am till late afternoon for Construction, training, projects & operating

Glasgow and Clyde RAYNET Group will be at the Cardwell Garden Centre in Gourcock demonstrating amateur radio on the HF bands using the group callsign GMORAY on Sunday 5th April between 10am and 4pm. They will be raising the awareness of RAYNET and amateur radio through out the day.

DEADLINES

May: 30 March; June: 27 April
Send your news NOW!
E-mail radcom@rsgb.org.uk

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

REGIONAL MANAGER: BERNIE MACINTOSH,
GM4WZG, RM2@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aberdeen ARS

Fred, MM0ODL, 01975 651 365

2 Junk Sale

9 Series of 10 minute talks by club members

16 Club equipment Spring clean & check

23 Getting high in the sky, FUNcube fun, Graham, GM4OBD

30 Construction and on the air

At a recent meeting, Glenrothes & DARC awarded the Club Shield, the Chairman's Cup and the Morse Key to this year's winners. The club chairman Ken, GM3YBQ did the presenting. Gordon, GM4FEO received the Chairman's Cup for a demonstration and talk on using RTL-SDR dongles.



The club's oldest member (he's over 90) Alex, GM3VVK was presented with the club's Morse Key for his work with Doug, GM0AIR on their Morse transmissions.



Laurie, MMOLJA received the Club Shield for his secretarial work. The Club meets almost every Wednesday at the New Football Pavillion, Station Road, Thornton, Fife KY1 4AY.



Moray Firth ARS have told us that on 11

February, at 10am, a new digital System Fusion DR1 repeater, supplied by ML&S, was operational on 2m FM and C4FM from the site of GB3SS on Tor Sliagh. Favourable reports are pouring in from amateurs in the North East Scotland and the repeater keeper Ron, GM4ILS (gm4ils@hotmail.com) will continue to welcome critical comments on its performance during the coming months. See the GM3TKV QRZ.com page for further details, together several images taken at the time of installation. MFARS hope that the improved performance and enhancements will encourage users to experiment with the new dawn of digital communications. All amateurs in NE Scotland are requested to listen for GB3SS on 145.600MHz and report on the signal strength giving a time and location of reception to 2M0JVR (jvr911@yahoo.co.uk) who is collating the data.



REGION 3: NORTH WEST

REGIONAL MANAGER: KATH WILSON, M1CNY,
RM3@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bolton Wireless Club

boltonwireless@gmail.com

13, 27 Club meeting

Fleetwood Radio Enthusiasts Group

John, MOJFE, 07940 815 659

7 Natter night and prep for rally

12 Blackpool rally

14 Show and tell night

21 Club trip out

28 Morse training night

South Manchester R&CC

Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999

2 A mis-spent musical youth, Dave, G0BJK

9 Time-constant circuits, Ron, G3SVW

16 Travels of the South Manchester Club, Ron, G3SVW

23 First general meeting at the new venue

27 Technical forum

29 Advanced class

Stockport Radio Society

Heather, 07506 904 422

7 NW Repeater Group, Dave & Kath Wilson

12 Blackpool rally

16 Club net

21 SOTA, Tom Read

28 Wintest/logger 32, Peter, M1PTR + 2m, HF & Morse nets

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810
6 Closed
13 Natter night and on the air
20 Practical fox hunting
27 Table top sale

At the end of January, **Furness ARS** operated GB5LBC over the two weeks of the Lifeboat SOS event. Operating from Barrow lifeboat station on Roa Island (which was the first station on the Lancashire coast to receive a motor lifeboat over 75 years ago), the team spent time setting up the station with a 40m dipole and the club's TS-570 on the Friday. That was followed by full days of operating on both Saturdays and Sundays. The band was in good condition (but with some strong Continental QRM on some days) and a total of 625 QSOs were logged over the two weekends. There were a total of 5 Cumbria SOS stations on the air and people who worked 4 out of 5 were entitled to claim a certificate – which many people did! Thanks to all operators and members who helped over both weekends. Sponsorship also took place and with monies still coming in, FARS will present the RNLI with a cheque in due course.



Breakdown of 625 QSOs logged: 441 England, 54 Scotland, 40 Wales, 18 Northern Island, 16 Eire, 16 GB Special calls (including 8 other lifeboat stations), 14 Netherlands, 11 Germany, 5 Isle of Man, 2 France, 2 Belgium, 2 Switzerland, 2 Sweden, 1 Luxembourg and 1 Denmark.

Congratulations to John Kay from all the members of **Stockport Radio Society**. John has just passed his Advanced examination and goes from 2E0JEK to MOPEK. John is pictured with his certificate and tutors Peter, MOPTB & Tom, MODCG.



South Manchester R&CC is changing its meeting venue with effect from, and including, Thursday 23 April. The new venue is the Woodheys Club, 299 Washway Road, Sale M33 4EE. This is the A56 between Manchester and Altrincham. Formal meetings are at 8pm every Thursday and Technical Forum meetings are on Monday evenings. Enquiries to chairman@smrcc.org.uk

The Train the Trainer Course held in Tamworth on 31 January was a well presented event and a lot of work went into it by the instructors, Paul, G4DCV, David, GOEVA and Derek, GOEVA. As can be seen, the course was well attended. More courses at other locations to follow.



REGION 4: NORTH EAST

REGIONAL MANAGER: NIGEL FERGUSON,
GOBPK, RM4@RSGB.ORG.UK

Angel of the North ARC
Nancy, G7UUR, 01914 770 036

6 Closed
12 Blackpool rally
13, 27 On the air
20 Talk
27 Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced classes continue

Denby Dale RC
Darran, G0BWB, 07974 423 227

1 Electrified railways, Richard, G4GCX
6 80m CC CW
8, 22 Club net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
12 WAB DATA contest 1200–2200UTC, Brian, G0BFJ
15 Vintage radio evening + 80m CC SSB
23 80m CC Data
29 Real Ale night, 8pm, Star Inn, Lockwood HD1 3PJ

Halifax & DARS
Martin, M0GQB, 01422 341 317

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net, 145.400MHz, 7.30pm
7 Troubles with TDF, Andy Evans

Hornsea ARC
Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573

1 Club fox hunt
8 Reflow soldering SMD
15 DVD plus CW practice
22 Sounds good n° 2
29 N1MM refresh

Ripon & DARS
David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club night

Sheffield & District Wireless Society
Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 07884 065 375

1 Log40M logging software demo
15 Quiz night, James, M6IOU
29 Social evening in a local restaurant

Sheffield ARC
David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com

6 Closed
13 Shack night operating MORCU
20 Club night
27 Digimodes, PSK31, slow scan TV, Steve, M1ERS

Members of **Mexborough & DARS** would like to congratulate John Hewitt and Lee Pawson who successfully passed the Foundation exam and now hold the callsigns M6FBQ and M6XLP. Also, congratulations go to Brian, M0BGQ and Frank, M0WFR who passed the Advanced exam in January. The club is preparing to celebrate its 50th year anniversary and the committee invite

all members past and present to submit any memorabilia or documented footage to be included in a catalogue to commemorate this event. If you have any stories or documentation that you wish to be considered for inclusion please contact the PRO on 01709 898 577.



Hornsea ARC received a visit from Dr Elizabeth Bruton. She gave a very informative talk on WW1 Wireless Communications and the role played by radio amateurs at the time. The picture shows the Chairman, Tony, G0AZQ, thanking Dr Bruton for taking the time to talk to the club.

Wearside EARS attended the RNLI station at Marine Walk, Sunderland for the RNLI SOS weekend in January, raising over £200. The photo shows the members on a very cold but enjoyable day.



The club also had club member Darren Harwood pass his Foundation exam, congratulations from all club members. He is now studying for his Intermediate licence.



Bishop Auckland RAC now have a Yaesu System Fusion DR-1xe repeater, sponsored by LAMCO of Barnsley. This will upgrade GB3CD on 145.6875MHz CTCSS J/118.8Hz giving an improved

analogue and digital fusion service to County Durham, Teesside and Yorkshire. The repeater will



be operating in analogue FM mode only until the NoV for full System Fusion is granted, it can then be accessed by existing analogue users and those with new digital equipment. The repeater remains connected to Echolink (node number 412936). Thanks go to the repeater keeper Bob, G0OCB and Brian, G7OCK for the Echolink connection.

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

REGIONAL MANAGER: MARTYN VINCENT, G3UKV,
RM5@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aldridge & Barr Beacon ARC

Albert, GOKFS, 01922 614 169
20 Morse tuition
23 St George's Day special event station

Bromsgrove & DARC

Dave, M6DKT, 07584 025 156
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Data night
3, 10, 17, 24 Club night

Central Radio Amateur Circle

Martin, G1TYV, 07906 905 071
2, 18, 18 Group Meeting
7 UKAC 2m Contest, Barr Beacon, 7pm
12 Blackpool Radio Rally

Cheltenham ARA

Derek, G3NKS, 01242 241 099
7, 14, 21, 28 Slow CW, 3540-3550kHz, 8pm
16 Talks on D-Star & Rowing the Atlantic

Coventry ARS

John, G8SEQ, 07958 777 363
3 The history of Caludon Castle or Spion Kop
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net, 145.375MHz & 7.16MHz, 8pm
10 Committee forum & surplus equipment sale
17 2nd Round 2m DF Trophy
24 Project calibration night

Dudley & District ARS

Carl, M0ZCR, m0zcr@live.co.uk
7 UKAC 2m night on the air, Advanced course
14 MORSD on air, Advanced course
21 Club social, open discussion, Advanced course
28 MORSD on air, club casual, Advanced course

Gloucester AR&ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
1, 6, 8, 22, 29 Club net, 145.550MHz, 7.30pm
6 Outdoor operating, Crickley Hill, 1-4pm
13 Wildlife radio tracking, Richard, MOHNC
20 First DF hunt counting towards the DF Trophy
27 Construction competition

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
14 The Backpackers Contests, Dave, G4IDF

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 07808 078 003
1 Open meeting, on the air and training classes
8 Committee meeting and training classes
15 Planning social events, shack on the air and training classes
22 Review of rally visits and contests, training classes
29 Open meeting and training classes

Mid-Warwickshire ARS

Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465
14 Club net, 145.275MHz
28 Technical topics/homebrew

Nuneaton & District ARC

Neil, 2EONEI, info@ndarc.co.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 2130, 145.475
3 Social out & about (see website)
17 On the air & video night

Rugby ATS

Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940
4 Using triodes, Mike, G8CTJ
7, 14, 21, 28 UKAC radio operation and projects
11 Surface mount soldering, Ian, MOIJS
18 Committee meeting
25 AGM

Salop ARS

salopamateurradio@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club CW net, 4.30pm, 144.070MHz; club net, 8.30pm, GB3LH
2 Natter night / committee meeting
9 Microwaves – a new resource of intercontinental DX bands, GW4DGU
16 Natter night
23 Shack night & G3SRT on air
30 Fox hunt (clubroom closed)

South Birmingham RS

Gemma, M6GKG,
gemmagordon.m6gkg@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Training classes with G8OWL
3, 24 Shack work
6 Sorting out contest equipment and testing
7, 14, 21, 28 Coffee morning in the shack from 11am, visitors welcome
13 Review of contest results
27 Future rally visits

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, spirit.guide@hotmail.co.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Open net, 50.135MHz SSB, 8.30pm
6, 20 Open net on 145.250MHz, 7.30pm
13, 27 Club meeting
14 Open net, 70.475MHz FM, 7.30pm

Telford & DARS

John, M0JZH, 07824 737 716
1 Committee meeting, GX3ZME OTA HF
8 Oscilloscopes, G6UDX
8 Contest planning for 2015
15 RSGB presentation: WW1 Communications, G3UKV, & Marconi Day preparations
22 Arduio & Raspberry Pi, M0KZB
24-26 GB8MD Marconi Day, Tywyn
29 Transceivers show and tell
29 EME or microwaves, G1MHU

Wythall Radio Club

Chris, G0EYO, 07710 412 819
2-6 Easter Contest
3, 10, 17, 24 Nibbles night in the shack
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net 145.225 or GB3WL
5 RSGB 80m RoPoCo SSB
6, 15, 23 RSGB 80m CC
7, 14, 21, 28 Morse Class, 7.45pm
7 Free 'n' easy/144MHz UKAC Contest
12 Trip to Kempton Park Rally, 8am
14 Committee meeting
21 Easter Contest results
27 Curry night at the Monsoon, 6.30pm
28 Beginner's guide to RTTY, Lee, GOMTN

There has been another Foundation pass for Midland ARS. Joseph Redhead with is shown with tutor Steven, MOSSV after getting 24 out of 26 in his exam.



REGION 6: NORTH WALES

REGIONAL MANAGER: LIZ CABBAN, GWOETU,
RM6@RSGB.ORG.UK

Barry Amateur Radio Society

Nigel, GW1CUQ, 029 2089 2580 e/w
12 Carpathia and rescuing the Titanic survivors, GBOMPA
21 GB4MPI

Conwy Valley ARC

Wynne, GW6PMC, 01745 855 068
1 The story of the sun, David, GW8NZN

Dragon ARC

Stewart, GWOETF, 07833 620 733
6 Film and IMD planning
20 Demonstration of FlexRadio 1500 and 6300

North Wales Radio Society

Ceri, 2W0LJC, 2w0ljc@mail.com
2 General meeting
9 Technical topics
16 Natter night
23 Echolink, Tom, MWOTMH
30 AllStar, Steve, MOHOY

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

REGIONAL MANAGER: JIMMY SNEDDON,
MW0EQL, RM7@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aberystwyth & DARS

Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853
9 North Dyfed RAYNET AGM
30 Club net on 145.500 then 145.550MHz

Llanelli ARS

Craig, MWOMXT, 01269 845 773
6 Closed
13 AGM
20 Social evening & DVD night
27 Junk sale & club raffle

RAYNET Pembrokeshire recently received a lottery grant that will allow the group to update its ageing equipment and to extend its member training program. With the evolving sophistication of radio equipment and technology along with rising costs it's no longer possible for members to fully fund the demands that may be asked of the group if called upon. Previously within the county, RAYNET has supported incidents such as the Sea Empress disaster, which involved 25 RAYNET volunteers who spent three weeks providing emergency radio communications across the whole county when it was found that the mobile phone network would not work owing to the geology of the coast. The 7 new radios (2 mobile and 5 handheld) purchased with the lottery grant will help overcome this problem as it has a new digital protocol call D-Star that will allow RAYNET Pembrokeshire members to set up a local radio network in these black spots and allow operators to talk directly to the emergency services via the amateur network or the internet. RAYNET always welcomes new volunteers, amateur or non-amateur, and runs a training program for new members in emergency communications, they also offer advice and help on how to become a radio amateur. www.raynetpems.co.uk

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

REGIONAL MANAGER: PHILIP HOSEY, MIOMSO,
RM8@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bangor & DARS
Norman, G13YMY, 02891 462 225
2 Construction contest

The February meeting of **Bangor & DARS** took the form of a talk on HF aerials and how to make your own by Harry, G14JTF. It was very well received by the members. Harry has been successfully building his own HF aerials for many years.

The April meeting incorporates the annual constructors' competition and is always a great favourite. The club is now on Facebook.

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

REGIONAL MANAGER: LARRY SMITH, G4OXY,
RM9@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bracknell ARC
Andy, MOHAK, andy@mohak.co.uk
1, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
8 Club night

Burnham Beeches RC
Dave, G4XDU, 01628 625 720
4-5 DXPicnic plus 70MHz contest
6 Fox hunt
20 160/80m transmitting antennas,
John, G3PQA

Chesham & DARS
James, MOJQC, 07572 860 114
1 EA8 SOTA DXpedition from the tops
of volcanoes

GB2CW Morse class
Dr M Williams, GOEGA,
malc.williams@gOega.co.uk
18-19 GB2CW Morse class broadcast lessons
start, continuing every weekend until 17
May, on 145.250MHz, 8pm local time
and cover Norwich, Ipswich, Lowestoft,
Great Yarmouth and surrounding areas

Echelford ARS
John, G4GSC, 01784 451 898
6 CQ WW CW 2014 from Kuwait,
John, G4IRN
23 AGM

Edgware & DRS
Mike, G4RNW, 02089 500 658
9 Portable test gear evening, Steve, GOPQB
23 How I got started in amateur radio,
Steve, GOPQB

Harwell ARS
Malcolm, G8NRP, 01235 524 844
14 40 years of technology in the BBC pt 3,
Tony, G0OVA

Newbury & DARS
Rob, G4LMW, 01635 862 737
22 HF receiver design, Roger, G8NHG

Reading & DARC
Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697
9 The challenge of climate change,
Prof Sir Brian Hoskins CBE, FRS
23 Contest University, by Don, G3XTT &
Tony, G2NF

Shefford & District ARS
John Burnett, 2E0OAK, 07860 804 793
9 Sporadic-E – is it here yet?
Jim Bacon, G3YLA

19 Club lunch
23 Spring junk sale
30 Visit to Peterborough Radio

Southgate ARC
Mr K Mendum, G8RPA, g8rpa@arri.net
8 Radio Telephony over the web

Verulam ARC
Peter, G4HSO, g3v@btinternet.com
9 Social with GB3VH group. 7.30pm,
Rose and Crown, Sandridge
21 Presentations by recent
Advanced students

Reading & DARC junk sales are held twice annually, usually in the spring and autumn and continue to prove very popular. Like all the other meetings, details are published on the clubs website www.radarc.org together with the junk sale rules. The next event takes place on 26 March.



In January, **Southgate ARC** organised a meal for club members and their partners at a local restaurant, instead of the normal meeting. Sixteen people turned up and had a very good evening: a great success, a repeat is planned for later in the year.



At **Verulam ARC's** AGM in February, the club's chairman, David, G4HHJ,

presented an award to Dr Roger Bleaney, MORBK (left in picture) for his outstanding work in running training courses in recent years for licence examinations at Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced levels. Several members of the Club paid warm tribute to Roger for getting them through their examinations. The award takes the form of a mounted segment of a floor tile of the original building housing the Marconi transmitter at Poldhu, Cornwall. It is only given from time to time, at the discretion of the chairman, to a club member who has made a substantial contribution to the life of the club. The Club is currently running a 'web based' Foundation course and plans to hold an Intermediate and Advanced course thereafter.

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

REGIONAL MANAGER: MICHAEL SENIOR, G4EFO,
RM10@RSGB.ORG.UK

Basingstoke ARC
Peter, G0KQA, 01256 414 454
20 Getting started on 4m, Peter, G0KQA

Brede Steam ARS
Dan, M0HOW, 01424 882 008
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 At the shack

Bromley & DARS
Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089
21 Magnetic loop antennas

Coulsdon ATS
Steve, G3WZK, 01883 620 730
13 Club meeting

Crawley ARC
John, G3VLH, 01342 714 402
22 Surplus equipment sale

Cray Valley RS
Richard, G7GLW, 07831 715 797,
rcains@btinternet.com
2 LOG40M logging software, G4POP
16 AGM

Darenth Valley Radio Society
Mike, G8AXA, 01689 856 935
8 AGM
22 On the air

Dorking & DRS
David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com
28 Aircraft navigation and the MH370,
Olof, G0CKV

Eastbourne Electronics & Radio Club
Peter, g4urt@btinternet.com
13 Digital comms: System Fusion, MOHOW
27 Morse workshop

Hastings E&RC
Gordon, 01424 431 909
25 Auction of used surplus equipment,
1.30pm

Hilderstone R&EC
Chrissie Turner, hilderstoneclub@gmail.com
9 Activities and Intermediate training
23 Software defined radio

Hordean & DARC
Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846
2 Natter night/social evening
16 GPS – an update, Hugh, M1ETU

Horsham ARC
Adrian, G4LRP, 07714 664 957
2 Returning Concorde to the air, Jock Reid
16 Social, The Cricketers Arms,
Wisborough Green

Itchen Valley ARC
Quintin, M1ENU, 023 8078 7799
10 Modern surveying/Ordnance Survey,
Phil, MOPKB
24 Members' forum

Mid-Sussex ARS
Sue, G6PPY, 01273 845 103
10 Radio night
17 Trip to *Titanic* wreck, Rob Goldsmith
24 Radio night and table top sale

North Kent Radio Society
Dave Collings, 07941 796 476
7 Social evening, Morse tuition
21 Digital ATV, Steve Osborne

Southdown ARS
John, G3DQY, 01424 424 319
1 Operating at the Hailsham Shack
13 Talk and DVD (Sea to Sky) at the WRVS
Centre, Eastbourne

Surrey Radio Contact Club
John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
3, 10, 17, 24 2m net 145.350MHz FM,
9pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Top Band net, 1905kHz,
9.30am
13 Annual general meeting
27 Chat and fix-it, John, G8MNY

Sutton & Cheam RS
John, GOBWW, 020 8644 9945,
info@scrs.org.uk
16 Signal generator & spectrum analyser,
Bob, G300U

Swindon & DARC
Jonathan, MOZGB, m0zgb@btinternet.com
2 Club closed
9 Equipment sale
16, 30 Activity night
23 Members interests evening

Wimbledon & DARS
Kim, G6JXA, 07812 735 507
10 BBC Tatsfield Receiving station,
Alvin, G6DTW
24 Surplus equipment sale

Worthing & DARC
Gordon, 2E0GTG, 07801 599 470
1 Home construction pt 3 – Ron, G3SKI
5 Sunday breakfast, 9am
8 Discussion evening
15 LF & HF antennas, Peter, G3LDO
29 G3WOR on the air

Scouts sent a greetings message as the club was operating a special event station using GB1MLS. With the sponsorship of London Array they have been able to raise £300. The club organised its first Radio Buildathon in which the members built the RSGB Centenary PSK31 receiver. It was a very successful event with everyone completing their project. For some, it was their first time soldering but they were patiently guided by mentor and equipment officer Bob Fidler, MOZRF.



Itchen Valley ARC started the year with a visit to Horndean club for their annual inter club quiz. Itchen Valley won the trophy for the 5th year running, reversing the defeat by Horndean when they won IVARC's quiz in November. The photo shows Ken, GOJWL presenting Quintin, M1ENU with the trophy. Brian, GOUKB has worked for many hours to update the clubs website, www.ivarc.org.uk, and gave a demonstration of the new layout and features of the website at a recent meeting, despite the venue's Wi-Fi being flaky!



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLANDS

REGIONAL MANAGER: PAM HELLIWELL, G7SME,
RM11@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bristol RSGB Group
Robin, G3TKF, robin@g3tkf.co.uk
27 The future with DMR, Dave, G3ZXX

Callington ARS
John, G4PBN, 01822 835 834
1 AGM

Cornish Radio Amateur Club
Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939
1 Committee meeting
2 Main meeting and AGM
16 Club evening
25 International Marconi Day, GB4IMD

Exeter ARS
Nick, MONRJ, 01363 775 756
6, 20 HF net, 3.675MHz, 7.45pm
7, 14, 21, 28 2m net, 145.575MHz,
7.45pm
13 HF Field Day planning, Skip, 2E0TGT,
27 Raspberry Pi and Banana Pi,
Nick, MONRJ, Moose Centre, 7pm

Plymouth Radio Club
David, 2E0DTC, d.beck123@btinternet.com
14 Equipment demonstrations

Poldhu ARC
Keith, GOWYS, gowys@yahoo.co.uk
14 The *Lusitania*, David Barlow, G3PLE

Riviera ARC
rivieraarc@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2m net on 145.425MHz
at 8pm
2, 16 Club night

Farnborough & DRS celebrates its Golden Jubilee in 2015. The Society was founded in 1965 by Jock, G3UJD (SK), Tommy, G3UHW, Dronz, G3NVM and Mike, G8ATK. As part of the Jubilee celebrations the Society has introduced two awards for the Members, namely working 50 Prefixes and 50 Countries and G50FRS. The Society continues to offer, globally, the G2DX Award and the G8 Single Band Award, details of these two awards can be obtained from awards@farnboroughradio.org.uk As a memento of the Jubilee year each Member will receive a certificate commemorating the club's 50 years, with bonus points awarded to members participating in Society activities, with the emphasis on Jubilee events. Items of memorabilia will be awarded to the three members with the most points. Mike, G8ATK has produced a book on the first 25 years of the F&DRS filled with photos and text recalling past achievements and activities. This book will also be in the RSGB Library and Archives.

Chairman John Hislop, G7OHO gave a fascinating talk on Quantum Physics and Amateur Radio to the **Hilderstone Radio Club**. He demonstrated how the concept of photons can explain the photoelectric effect and light emitting diodes. Reception of radio waves can depend on diffraction which John showed using a slit and a laser. He managed to bring quantum physics, used in computers and iPhones as well as amateur radio, to a level which everyone could understand. The club enjoyed the hospitality of the Margate Lifeboat Station as part of the SOS Radio Week. They operated nearly every day of the week making many contacts in this country and abroad. Cadets from the Holy Trinity Sea

Saltash & DARC
Mark, M0WMB, 01752 215 546
2 Meeting with Dartmoor Radio Club
16 HF operating

South Bristol ARC
Andrew, G7KNA, 07838 695 471
9 Committee meeting
16 Cheese and wine evening
23 GB7BS digital repeater
30 Open house and on the air

Torbay ARS
Dave, G6FSP, g6fsp@tars.org.uk
6 No meeting
24 90/10 auction

Weston Super Mare RS
Paul, G3SDH, g3sdh@btinternet.com
6, 13, 27 Natter night
20 Surplus equipment sale

Yeovil ARC
Rodney, MORGE, 01935 825 791
2 Aerial gain, G3MYM
9 QRP briefing
12 31st QRP Convention at Digby Hall
16 Morse practice with G3MYM
23 AGM
30 On the air

Riviera ARC meets fortnightly on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays at the Acorn Community Centre, Lummaton Cross, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 8ET. The Acorn Centre has level access entry and is disabled friendly. There is ample parking on site. The club was formed with the aim of taking part in radio activities such as special event stations and 'on the air' days. Members like to help those who are new to the hobby to get involved and gain experience and to extend friendship to other amateurs, especially visitors and holidaymakers who visit the popular tourist area in which the club is based. Foundation training and exams are also available along with Morse training. A weekly 2m net is held on Wednesdays at 8pm on 145.425MHz. www.rivieraARC.org.uk

In January, a talk was given by Jenni, MOHZI and Carol, 2E1RBH about BYLARA – British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association. A video was taken of the talk and a copy was sent to Carol for future editing and transmission by them. A big thank you from all Yeovil ARC club members. BYLARA was formed in 1979 for the furtherance of YLs to communicate with each other and to promote good operating skills, friendship and understanding of all countries, religions and abilities. OM's and any others interested in the amateur radio hobby are very welcome to further the hobby in a friendly and understanding way. Further details can be found on the Facebook.com/bylara page. The photo, by MOKRP, shows Jenni, MOHZT and Carol, 2E1RBH.



Exeter ARS has completed a successful series of winter lecture evenings presented by Pete, G3ZVI and Skip, 2EOTGT. In a talk devoted to promoting the use of the 4m band, Pete brought in a wide selection of transceivers and antennas that showed how 4m was the cheapest band to become active on. In another lecture he introduced club members to RF filter design and manufacture, while managing to avoid mathematics and foreign words – the lecture being entitled Filters for the Faint-Hearted. Skip brought drama to the club with an active talk about first aid for radio amateurs. He focussed on the types of injuries that they are likely to receive such as electric shock, stroke and burns. With his extensive military training and the aid of a CPR training dummy he showed the correct techniques for recovery and resuscitation. He



urged all members to ensure their XYLs knew where the shack safety isolation switch is located in their homes. Pete also gave a graphical talk on VHF/UHF repeater design and construction, using recent examples from GB3EX nearby at Silverton, constructed by the Exeter RAYNET team. He focussed on low quiescent power consumption, ruggedness, simplicity and reliability. Pete also demonstrated his 4m Parrot simplex repeater that handles overs up to one minute long.

Plymouth Radio Club has been in existence for over 90 years. It is understood that the very first meeting took place over a radio shop in Plymouth during the 1920s. It was re-formed in 2004 and in its current form has gone from strength to strength with an ever expanding and diverse membership. Affiliated to Plymouth Radio Club, there is a highly successful training team with instruction for the exams arranged by Bob Griffiths, G7NHB and Chris Wingate, M5CJW. Training is available for the Foundation and Intermediate licence. In recent months, the club has purchased and fitted out their Radio Caravan that is to be used for various radio contests throughout the year. In addition, it is planned to take part in a number of public events taking place in the City of Plymouth.



In its 92nd year, **Weston Super Mare RS** is to have a new venture – a Radio Rally. This will take place on Sunday 17th May from 10am to 4pm. The venue is particularly interesting as it is being held at an event known as Steam on

the Levels where the Old Pumping Station at Westonzoyland, Somerset, opens its museum of steam driven water pumps, fully 'steamed up', to the public. This event is well established and has grown in size, now incorporating a classic car display, traction engines and farm memorabilia together with many working displays of local crafts. The WSMRS has operated a special event field station there for many years using the callsign GB2WZ, but this year the new rally will invite representative stands from many clubs and individuals offering surplus equipment for sale and showing their activities and interests in amateur radio. WSMRS is keen to hear from anyone interested in showing at the rally; the club co-ordinator for the rally is Mike, MOVLN and can be contacted on 01278 786 684 or by e-mail to mjones129@btinternet.com.

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

REGIONAL MANAGER: STEVE THOMAS, M1ACB,
RM12@RSGB.ORG.UK

Braintree & DARS

John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947
6 Equipment testing part 2 / natter night
20 Rig clinic, health check and fault diagnostics

Cambridge & DARC

David, MOZEB, 01353 778 093
10 The inner Solar System, Peter, MODCV
24 Constructors' evening

Chelmsford ARS

secretary@gOmwat.org.uk
2 Intermediate course at Danbury Village Hall
7 Raspberry Pi, Peter, GODZB and David Whale
20 Skills workshop at Danbury Village Hall
23 GB1STG St George's Day at Galleywood Common
25 GXOMWT at Sandford Mill for International Marconi Day

Felixstowe & DARS

Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com
13 Eagle PCB, Dave, G4HUP
18 Advanced tutorial day (pre-book by 10 April)
27 Microwave Round Table speaker

Norfolk ARC

Chris, GODWV, 01603 898 678
1 AGM and presentations
8 Global warming, propagation cooling? – Jim Bacon, G3YLA
15 Informal/Morse in the back room
22 World Radiosport Team Championship 2014, Don, G3XTT
29 Forum

South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040
14 Dip into the RSGB Archives talk

Thames ARG

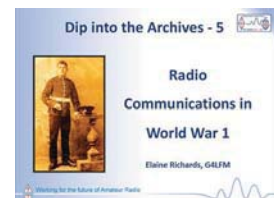
Mark, MOIEO, 07940 579 116
10 Geocaching, Derek, MOSCE
11-12 Intermediate part 1
18-19 Intermediate part 2 + Exam

February was a busy month for **Essex Ham**. On the first of the month, the team were at the very busy Canvey Rally showing a video of activities by local clubs, demonstrations of DMR, the Realtek SDR dongle and homebrew Slim Jim antennas.

On the 16th, Essex Ham's table was at the CARS Skills Night in Danbury, with a time-lapse video of the Canvey Rally, budget Windows 8.1 tablets running SDR#, and a collection of Getting Started guides. One week later, Essex Ham was in Southend-on-Sea for the Raspberry Jam. Run by the Southend Linux User Group, the event covers Raspberry Pi and Arduino projects, as well as 3D printing and robotics. Essex Ham's stand included decoding SSTV images from the ISS, PSK31 on a Raspberry Pi and APRS. All three events included Nick, 2EODVX's excellent Your Name in Morse demo, which converts visitor's names to visual and audible CW – an attention-grabber at crowded events. Finally for February, the team supported TAARC with guest messages and SSTV for the TDOTA weekend on 22 February.



February started off with the **Braintree & DARS** having a stall at the Canvey Rally. Four members of the club set up the stall and filled it with equipment, components, test gear and radio related bits and pieces. Most of the 'stock' was donated as a result of shack clearances and some silent key items. They were kept busy and, at the end of the rally, club funds had received a considerable boost. The 2nd was a club night with a presentation by Melvin, GOEMK on DF/fox hunting. Every year the Braintree Club has a fox hunt, usually using 2m or 70cm. Melvin started with a brief history of fox hunting from the Top Band days up to the present VHF/UHF band use. Melvin also produced some home made mini beams, one using pieces of steel tape as elements. Monday the 16th brought another slide presentation from the RSGB about WW 1 communications. This was downloaded from the RSGB and set up and presented by Edwin, GOLPO. This showed how early wireless and field telephone comms helped the military from both sides keep contact with their front lines.



Both sides were able to intercept each other's messages so various methods of overcoming this were tried and tested. This RSGB presentation has so much in it that pertains to our hobby, we suggest that all clubs should view and enjoy.

February saw another popular **Chelmsford ARS Skills Night** take place at Danbury Village Hall. The poor weather and local roadworks didn't deter many from making it to this month's event,

with almost 60 people in attendance. The main attraction for the evening was a demonstration by Tom, GOSBW showing his large collection of HF pedestrian mobile kit, including backpacks and lightweight wearable antennas. Tom usually operated HF on foot whilst walking along beaches, to use the water as his counterpoise. Also on offer at this month's Skills evening was programming your handset with Charlie, MOPZT, soldering and patch leads in Constructors Corner with Peter, MOPSD, plus HF antenna advice from Carl, G3PEM. Rob, MOKCP, Steve, G4ZUL and Oliver, MOWAG were busy on the Essex CW Club stand, whilst Murray, G6JYB and Clive, G1EUC were manning the Essex Repeater Group stand, offering help and advice. Jim, 2E0JTW was on hand to make callsign badges and Nick, 2E0DVX was looking after the Essex Ham stand showing a mix of Windows tablets, SDR dongles, a Raspberry Pi, a DMR handheld and the Send your message in Morse demo. Andy, G7TKK brought along a surprise bonus material demo, a Raspberry Pi in a laptop. The quiz was hosted by Clive, G1EUC including some topical questions about the upcoming World Thinking Day and the RSGB solar eclipse experiment.



Yarmouth Radio Club is located at the Bradwell Community Centre, Lord's lane, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth NR31 8NY and meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday. The club believes their existence dates back to the 1920s and they were one of the first clubs to put on the GB100CS Marconi Station special event at the Caister Lifeboat Station some 3 miles north of Great Yarmouth. The club has a small membership to date and has some dedicated club members seeing that the club carry on its involvement and its progression in amateur radio. Recently, due to the death of Tomas, GOUTH (club secretary) the chairman Tony, GOGGB has taken on all positions, on a short-term basis, with the help of David, GOACM. There has now been a new club committee formed for 2015 and new members are joining the club and they hope to be more active in the coming years.

George Smart, M1GEO attended the February Skills Night run by **Chelmsford ARS** where he discussed his latest project the Essex D-Star digital voice repeater, GB7KH. The repeater will be located at the Keveldon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker in Essex about 30km NE of central London and should provide coverage of West and Central Essex. It is based around the Icom ID-

RP4000V UHF repeater with ID-RP2C controller and Procom duplexer tuned for the output frequency of 439.6125MHz and 430.6125MHz input. George is currently trying to source 100 metres of LDF4-50 feeder: it's a long way to the antenna. He's also developing a remote control shutdown mechanism and sorting out the PC for the Icom G2 software. Alongside the Icom repeater, he is working on a backup repeater that can be used in case of problems. This is a Simoco PRF10 series UHF repeater with DVRPTR_V1 GMSK modem, and G4KLX's *ircddbgateway* and *dstarrepeater* software on a Raspberry Pi.

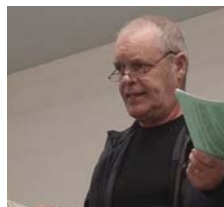
Radio amateurs from around the UK came to Canvey Island for the annual Canvey Radio Rally. This was the 30th rally organised by **South Essex ARS** and was very well attended.

Raffle prizes, donated by traders, included a tablet computer, a weather station and a Baofeng handheld. A donation from SEARS of £300 was handed over to members of the Essex Air Ambulance team by Dave, G4UVJ. A video of this year's Canvey Radio Rally, which includes a short interview with the Essex Air Ambulance Crew, can be found at www.sxham.uk/canvey15



At the monthly meeting of the **Thurrock Acorns ARC**, John Allen gave an overview of the WAB (Worked All Britain) award scheme. The scheme is designed to get amateurs out and about all over the UK, even to the remote areas of Scotland, set up a radio station and then send and receive messages from other amateurs. He explained the full rules then went on to talk about some of his expeditions to the more remote locations. He recalled his motor bike ride over a mountain, how he managed to hitch a ride in a helicopter which was visiting some remote areas in Scotland and finally how he managed to persuade a local sailor to put to sea to visit an island that was proving difficult to get to.

In April, **Chelmsford ARS** will have a presentation on the Raspberry Pi computer board by Peter, GODZB and David Whale. The talk is open to everyone. Peter, GODZB recently featured on BBC News for his discovery that a xenon flash from a camera can cause the new Raspberry Pi 2 board to reboot. His talk will cover the reason for the development of the Pi, the different versions and useful hardware features for amateur radio use. David Whale is well known in the RPi community as the co-author of the book *Adventures in Minecraft*, he is also a STEM Ambassador for Essex. He will talk about the educational side



and the use of Raspberry Pis in schools. The meeting takes place at the Oaklands Museum, Moulsham Street CM2 9AQ, doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Car parking and admittance are free and there is a raffle, visitors are most welcome.

In February, Chelmsford ARS completed another Foundation course with 9 candidates passing the exam. Whilst the Foundation exam was being marked, Clive, G1EUC introduced a short session to cover the topic of What Happens Next, which included how to apply for a licence and callsign, some of the activities worth attending and how to get started. Next up was a short demonstration of how to take part in a Net, and Andy, GOIBN gave an introduction to Morse and the courses on offer at Danbury Village Hall. CARS will be starting an Intermediate course in April and places are still available. Those interested in joining one of the courses should contact Clive, G1EUC on 01245 224 577.



The North Norfolk coast is a beautiful part of Britain, but when a gale blows straight down from the North Pole in late January it can be a very cold place! Fortunately, **Bittern DX Group** are a hardy bunch of lads and accordingly gathered at Sheringham Life Boat Station over the weekends of 24/25 January and 31 January/1 February for one of the better, if not the best, special event station the Group takes part in to support the RNLI. Organised by Ken, MOSHK, a retired deep sea fisherman, the group operated with the callsign GB5SLB on HF SSB, CW and data using two antennas. A multiband delta loop (50' each leg) with a 4:1 balun was slung over the cliff face. It is surprising how well this antenna worked considering its position! The second antenna was a fishing pole type 40' vertical erected on the cliff top. Conditions were not good on the first day, but they kept plugging away, with CW & data seeming to be the best modes. SSB was not too bad at the start of the day, but later in the morning it deteriorated and the QSO rate went down drastically. Tim, GOOOD, Peter, M3KYX and Ken stayed overnight to continue working. During the night the wind got up to a storm and at one point the waves were crashing against the side of the Lifeboat Station. Sunday's conditions were much the same as Saturday and because of the worsening weather, it was decided to close the station at 1530 and dismantle the antennas. The following weekend it was decided to erect a trapped dipole as well. The idea being

to use the trapped dipole while the delta loop was being sorted out and then compare them; all of this being on a cliff face in a very cold and stiff wind! Conditions seemed a little more favourable and as there were four competent CW operators present, it was decided to reduce SSB operations and focus on CW. This proved to be a good idea and the QSO rate rose considerably on the week before. Data also worked well again with most exotic QSO being FG4NO in Guadeloupe on 40m PSK63. They hope to have raised in excess £500 for Sheringham RNLI by a raffle, donations & sponsorship, which although slightly down on last year is still very pleasing. Over the two weekends 407 QSOs were made mainly with CW and data. Visitors to the radio station were down this year due to the bad weather in the county, hopefully next year will be better.



The annual **Canvey Radio Rally** was another resounding success. Although the organisers initially feared snow, it turned out to be a dry, bright day, albeit very cold. Over 400 people came through the door. The event was well supported by Waters and Stanton, RSGB, CARS, Essex Ham, Essex Repeater Group, Essex CW club, BDARS, TARG, VIMARS, RAIBC, Essex Air Ambulance and many more. Over 160 bacon rolls were sold, proving as popular as ever. All was made possible by the rally organiser Vic, G6BHE, a job well done.



Thames ARG was delighted to welcome Justin Johnson, GOKSC to a packed Jubilee Hall in February. He gave a brief history of SDR and how it developed into the latest 4th generation transceivers, with field programmable gate arrays and embedded microprocessors. These new SDRs have significantly raised the benchmark that all radios are judged by. He displayed various SDRs including a member's recently built Elecraft KX3. Flex Power software was screened to demonstrate

the numerous tools and options available to users of this latest technology. The meeting was left wondering when the big four manufacturers will produce equipment to compete with the KX3.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

REGIONAL MANAGER: STEVE BODEN, G4XCK,
RM13@RSGB.ORG.UK

Derby & DARS

Richard Buckby, radio@dadars.org.uk

- 7 Junk sale
- 14 Committee meeting
- 21 Ambergate Hydro, Ian Jackson
- 28 On the air

Derbyshire Spire Radio Club

Peter, M6DPF, 07847 806 378

- 10, 17, 24 Club night

Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam Rose, G4STO, 01427 788 356

- 1, 8, 15, 18, 25 Shack activities & G5FZ on the air
- 2, 16 Club repeater net via GB3LM, 8pm
- 4 Saturday brunch in the shack
- 7, 14, 21, 28 UK Club Contests
- 9, 23, 30 Club net 145.325MHz, 8pm
- 11 Saturday surgery
- 20 Committee meeting
- 22 Formal meeting
- 29 Used equipment sale, Aisthorpe Village Hall LN1 2SJ, 8.15pm

Loughborough & DARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319

- 7 Loughborough & Carillon event video
- 14 Magazines & books, new & old
- 21 On air digital operating
- 28 Practical evening

Melton Mowbray ARS

Brian, MOYBX, 07772 659 622

- 17 Constructors night

Nunsfield House ARG

Ken, G3OCA, 01332 720 976

- 3 Shack/matter night, 3D printing
- 10 Contest update, John Cater
- 17 Phasing antennas
- 24 Rural India, Ken Frankcom

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 07971 166 250

- 6, 13, 20, 27 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
- 12 Committee meeting
- 29 Visit to Whisby Energy from Waste facility at 1.30

South Kesteven ARS

Nigel, M0CVO, 01476 402 550

- 1, 15, 29 Informal

South Normanton Alfreton & DARC

A Lawrence, 2E0BQS, 0115 930 7322

- 6 Closed
- 13, 27 Club meeting
- 20 AGM, 7.30

Spalding & DARS

Graham, G8NWC, 01775 760 832

- 17 QRP operation using CW, SSB, MOTEF and GORQQ

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, 01858 432 105

- 6 Club net on 145.275 MHz
- 11 Club VHF/HF antenna erection
- 20 VHF SSB evening

Workshop ARS

Paul, M0PJA, 07890 626 684

- 9 Video presentation from the RSGB Convention, Steve, G0EAK
- 23 EMC explained by John, MOJAV

DEADLINE

The deadline for the May edition is 30 March

RAF Waddington ARC hosted a talk by Bob Fisk, G7AVU, on the four Lincoln repeaters. Bob gave an entertaining and interesting presentation on the repeaters. He detailed the conditions and bureaucracy associated with running repeaters at the top of a medieval cathedral. The number of steps and the narrowness of the stairs to the top of the cathedral must keep the repeater team fit! The event was supported by members from the Lincoln Shortwave club and Sheffield ARC. The evening finished with hot drinks and, what is becoming a tradition, cake.



Workshop ARS supported SOS Radio Week in aid of the RNLI. The Society had four radios set up in its building, operating on VHF/UHF, HF using SSB and CW, as well as datamodes (mainly PSK31 and RTTY). They operated with the aim to make as many radio contacts as possible. All contacts were logged and confirmed by QSL card or by eQSL. Money was raised in a number of ways – selling food and cakes, donations and sponsorship. The photo shows Sue, M6XAK operating the VHF/UHF station – she only passed her exam last October.



In January, **Lincoln Short Wave Club** were privileged to have club member Steve, G1PPA give a very informative talk on falconry. Steve brought along two of his birds, a Goshawk and a Peregrine x Gyr/Saker Falcon. When working, Steve's birds are fitted with small radios, occasionally giving him an opportunity to practice his DFing skills!

