

2015 Band Plans

The combination of the IARU Region 1 Conference at Varna, spectrum release and Ofcom licence changes are incorporated into the 2015 band plans on pages 36 to 41. The result is quite a contrast between relatively few changes at HF, as opposed to significant alterations in some VHF/Microwave bands.

HF. The updates for 2015 are confined to the addition of a usage note in the 472kHz band and a wider bandwidth all-modes segment in 29.0-29.1MHz that were agreed at Varna. In addition the licence notes that referred to NoVs for 472kHz and 5MHz have been changed to reflect their incorporation into the new licence and indicate that specific conditions apply.

VHF/UHF. The most noticeable feature is that 146-147MHz has been included. However IARU changes and the Ofcom-ETCC packet review also result in changes to the main 145MHz band. Several packet channels have been cleared whilst the bottom of the band is now shared with new narrowband amateur satellite downlinks.

Both 145MHz and other VHF bands see the deletion of old RTTY and FAX channels amongst others to leave more flexible room for all-modes usage. 70cm also sees some change including a more consistent designation for the 12.5kHz operation of Internet gateways. A landmark change is the removal of the UK beacon segment, reflecting the success in moving to standard IARU beacon frequencies.

MICROWAVE. The Ofcom spectrum release changes see the 2350-2390 and 3410-3475MHz ranges removed from the appropriate band plans and some of the remaining frequencies being reset to all modes. In future this may change further as new data and DATV developments become clear. The new 2300-2302MHz segment (if you have the NoV) is incorporated as a separate table. The 10GHz band also sees a clearout of old designations and updates for repeater and wideband usage. A new shaded warning zone in the bottom 10-10.125GHz section indicates where the Primary User now has increased use, having been pressured out of other spectrum.

GENERAL NOTES. These have also been updated, including the need to refer to specific Ofcom conditions and guidance for certain bands. New notes provide an explanation of MGM (Machine Generated Modes) and firm guidance regarding eSSB usage. Another new note, agreed by IARU Region 1 at Varna emphasises that all VHF WSPR frequencies in the band plans are transmitted centre frequencies and not ambiguous dial settings.

FINALLY... As we have said before, band plans are living entities and do evolve over time. Please ensure you only refer or link to the current ones on the RSGB website and remove any older ones you have locally. The band plan including the master Excel files can be found on the Operating section of the RSGB website – and if you are unsure, by all means contact the HF, VHF or microwave Spectrum Manager (via hf.manager@rsgb.org.uk, vhf.manager@rsgb.org.uk or mw.manager@rsgb.org.uk).
Murray Niman, G6JYB
RSGB Spectrum Chair

British Science Week

The annual British Science Week takes place between 13 and 22 March. This exciting ten-day programme is now only a few weeks away and here are some of the many individuals and clubs that have started planning events:

- All Saints Academy, Stoke Ferry Norfolk
- Bath ARC (taking part in the Bath Taps event with Bath University)

- Angel of the North ARC (John Gould, RSGB President, will be giving the keynote presentation at their convention)
- Kevin Richardson, GOPEK
- Silcoates School, Wakefield
- Worcester Radio Amateurs Association

There's still time to get involved, so if you need some inspiration, turn to page 83 to see what two clubs did last year.

New RSGB Director



The RSGB Board recently co-opted an additional Director. Barrie Palin, G4AHK will take a lead responsibility, amongst other areas, for the implementation of the Promotional Plan that is being formulated.

“My interest in radio/electronics started during my school years in the sixties when cycling/fishing and sports consumed my spare time as it did for many, however I needed something to keep me interested during the long dark evenings. I had always been fascinated by tuning around at home on a trusty old valve medium wave receiver which I still have and in the evenings listening to foreign radio stations from countries I only knew existed from my geography lessons and atlas books.

“The acquiring of a radio/electronics kit put me on a pathway to a hobby that would captivate me throughout my adult life in leisure and a professional career within the electrical and lighting industry.

“Looking back, the additional motivation to learn more came from having a couple of pals who were like minded; we would discuss and exchange ideas on our work in progress projects. During my school days I learned how to fix transistor radios; the dead ones were, of course, a good supply of spare parts for other projects as components were expensive for the pocket money that I had available. Local clubs were visited and a visit to a real shack from a local ham stimulated my interest further and an RAE course followed.

“My interest continues with high performance transceivers and of course SDR software developments. Making antennas work at my QTH has always been a challenge, like so many operators these days who have a small garden.”

Ofcom Consultation

On 5 January Ofcom published a consultation document on updating the Interference Regulations under the Wireless Telegraphy Act. The aim is cover any interference from modern electronic technology. The Society broadly welcomes Ofcom's proposals although exactly how they will be put into practice and how they will benefit the amateur radio community remains to be clarified. The consultation documents can be found on the Ofcom website and can be reached via tinyurl.com/GB2RS-undue. Following a meeting with Ofcom in mid January, the RSGB has published guidance on the website to help Members understand the background and implications of the proposed Regulations. All amateurs are encouraged to read the guidance and respond to Ofcom by the 16 February deadline.

Volunteer Spotlight

Hello, I'm Roy Taylor, MORRV, retired but still extremely active. I've been interested in radio for more than 30 years but only got around to taking my Foundation licence back in 2006. Since then I've progressed and been helped along the way by many fellow enthusiasts, I enjoy volunteering for RSGB as it's my way of giving something back to the hobby I love. I've been the M6 QSL sub-manager since 2011 and recently added the M3 series to my portfolio.

Yes, it can be a little frustrating when people move, don't have their details on QRZ.com, have no e-mail address or when there are stacks of cards and no envelopes lodged for me to put them in. Sometimes there's a good reason for it and I don't mind helping out and I'm always available to my users, by phone or e-mail. Please can I ask that Members let their QSL Manager know when they change their e-mail address. It really helps.

I run a very active online help forum for Foundation call holders, encouraging them to get involved share things like antenna files, pictures and ask the sort of questions that they might feel embarrassed to ask elsewhere, in the hope that I can give something back.

Moans: People who don't realise that they get cards even if they never send one, then don't collect and those that move up the licence ladder and forget that cards still arrive for up to 5 years after the QSO.

What makes me happy? Seeing my card collection rate increasing!

Oddest Experience? The guy who sent me his collection envelopes with an address on one side and the postage stamps on the back – no call, no Membership number!

Regional and Board elections final call

Elected Director John Rogers, MOJAV is standing down at the next Annual General Meeting and will not be available for re-election. Nominations are now sought for this post accompanied by 10 supporting signatures.

There will also be 5 Regional Manager vacancies for Regions 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11. In Region 3, the current RM, Kath Wilson, M1CNY is prepared to stand for re-election and in Region 11, the current occupant, Pam Helliwell, G7SME is also available for re-election. Nominations for all the Regions with vacancies are welcome accompanied by 10 supporting signatures from Members resident within the respective Region.

Paperwork can be downloaded from the RSGB website (www.rsgb.org.uk/candidatepack) or by post from RSGB HQ. Completed papers must be returned to RSGB HQ by noon on 2 February 2015.

RadCom Online

Don't forget that RSGB Members can view the latest edition of *RadCom* online at www.rsgb.org

Click on the Publications tab and then on *RadCom*. You will need your RSGB Membership Services login to view the issue. Those who use this Membership facility have commented that the page turning animation works well and if you want a closer look then the zoom facility is responsive and very clear. Navigation is smooth whether you are turning pages or zooming in to see the detail too.

If you haven't seen *RadCom* online before, why not give it a try?

Committee Spotlight

The Contest Committee (CC) has eighteen members and is responsible for defining and running all RSGB contests. A comprehensive in-house developed website is run by the CC with links to all RSGB contest rules, results (past and present) and to the log submission robot.



Adjudication is also performed using in-house developed software and could theoretically produce results totally automatically. However, the CC considers it to be essential that an adjudicator carefully validates each error identified by the software to ensure accurate results. Even with extensive validation, results are often made available within a week of the log submission closing date. The adjudication software also produces reports on the errors found in each log, which can be viewed by each entrant so that they can see where and why points were lost.

Sometimes, points are lost because the rules of the contest have not been followed. More often than not, rule infractions are the result of entrants not reading the rules rather than a deliberate attempt to circumvent them. If you want to enter a contest, please read the rules before the contest starts!

In an attempt to involve contest participants in updating contest rules, a consultation White Paper containing many potential rule changes was issued in May 2014. The reaction to this White Paper from the contesting community was very encouraging with 112 responses received and these responses have contributed to the formulation of the recently published 2015 rules.

A new White Paper will be issued around May 2015 containing suggested rule changes for 2016. If you are interested in contesting, why not sign up for the CC monthly Newsletter (www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/subscribe.pl?subtype=news) so you can receive the latest news from the CC and be notified when the 2015 consultation paper is available for download?

Ian Pawson, G0FCT, Chairman, Contest Committee

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following Members whom our records show as having reached 70, 60 or 50 years' continuous Membership of the RSGB.

70 Years

Mr P J Williams, GW3CZC

Mr J Smith, RS9475

60 Years

Mr B Alderson, G3KJX

Mr GP Rigby, G3KTJ

50 Years

Mr M J Newton, G3UKW

Mr J F Wilson, G3UUT

Mr D Dade, G3XCT

G Moda, I7SWX

Correction

The photo of the operators M6ENN and MONRD on page 48 in the January edition was wrongly attributed. It should have been the GB2FFC group. Our apologies to both groups.

Congratulations

The RSGB would like to congratulate Charles Brookson, G4GBA on being awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honour List. He is Chairman of the Network and Information Security Steering Group and received the honour for his services to telecommunications security.

G14YOTA

The Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) operation at The Priory Academy Lincoln School of Science and Technology (callsign MXOPSL) on 4 December started at 0830 and continued with only short breaks to change over operators until sign off at 1800. A total of 380 stations were worked on 40m and 20m in over 25 countries with the best DX being the east coast of the USA and Israel. The day was high energy from start to finish. All agreed that the excitement of being the station everyone wanted to contact just had to be experienced. There were highs and lows throughout. The low point was when they were called several times by a KL7 in Alaska on 20m but (despite frantic turning of the Yagi) he somehow got away. It was soon forgotten though when Peter, M6PXB managed to break through a massive pile-up on 20m to work the YOTA station in Slovakia, OM9YOTA and later when James worked HFOYOTA on 40m. The day was a huge success for the school's radio club; becoming a focus for its activities, giving youngsters the opportunity to see another 'cool' side of amateur radio and for dispelling the perception that younger people don't have a voice on the amateur radio bands. The pile-ups during the day left them in no doubt that the YOTA event has captured the imagination of the amateur radio community. The courteousness, patience and interest shown to the young operators during the contacts was a clear demonstration of how the hobby can and should be enriched by young people. They felt privileged to be a small part of sending out that message to the world. Thank you YOTA and thank you RSGB!



Annie, M6RFX on the microphone with Peter, M6PXB logging.

QSL Matters

The new Fair Usage policy, issued by the RSGB Board is now in place. Whilst most users of the bureau will notice no change, frequent users, DXpeditions, GB stations and Clubs need to be aware of the new annual allowances for sending cards included within your Membership – 15kg for each Member; 20kg for each affiliated club. There remains no limit on cards received. These limits are per Membership, regardless of how many callsigns are held: they are not an allowance per callsign.

If you have a club callsign recorded against your own Membership number, it is important that you visit the 'My Account' section on the RSGB website, or contact HQ, to ensure the club is separately listed, with all its callsigns and has its own Membership number.

The changes also include reduced limits on the number of cards to any one destination, now 1kg. All users with typically, 300+, 3g or 250, 4g cards for one address, should now send them direct to the overseas bureau and not via us.

Please read page 8 of the January *RadCom* and make sure you are up to date with the new policy (details are also on the RSGB website).

G4D & G4R. The bureau says goodbye to a number of its highly valued volunteers who help make the system tick. Tim Beaumont, MOURX has been sub manager for the G4D & G4R groups for over seven years. Tim is stepping down to concentrate on his ever growing QSLing management commitment to the DX community worldwide. The G4D group is now part of Ian Fugler, G4IYY's expanding remit, with details on the remaining callsigns coming later.

MM SERIES. Two other major supporters of the bureau are also retiring this month, both hard acts to follow. Brian Shearer, MM1HMV has been instrumental in consolidating multiple groups into one MM series, over the past 9 years. It has been a major task for which we are most grateful. Steve Gill, 2MOSGQ is now taking on this active group – see website for details.

ABBREVIATED CONTEST CALLS. Graham Morris, MOAXO, the sub manager for the single letter Contest Call series for around the last 5 years, is retiring for health reasons and we wish him well. This is a major part of our UK distribution with up to 30,000 cards per year. We are now actively seeking a new volunteer for this role, which would perhaps best suit an active contest enthusiast. If you have time, space, commitment, willingness to help others and some computer spreadsheet skills please get in touch.

Silent Keys



Dr George Brown, MW5ACN/G1VCY, passed away peacefully on the morning of 9 December 2014. An enthusiastic amateur for many years, he served the RSGB in a number of ways including as Technical Editor of *RadCom* from 2000-2006.

Born in 1941 (according to his QRZ.com page), he was originally from near Bishop Auckland and he maintained his soft Durham accent even after many years of living "down South".

He was first licensed as G1VCY but became M5ACN with the introduction of the 'Class A/B' 5WPM Morse licence.

He was the author or editor of a number of books, including *Amateur Radio Essentials*, *Radio and Electronics Cookbook* and

Practical Projects.

A quiet, reserved, even shy personality, yet despite this a gifted teacher with the ability to put across complex issues in a way that non-technical people could understand. He held Foundation classes at RSGB HQ in Potters Bar and had a 100% success rate.

George had a rare combination of talents: a thorough understanding of all technical aspects of amateur radio combined with a first-class command of the English language. He had tremendous attention to detail: no split infinitive or incorrect use of tenses would slip past George's editorial blue pen! He was also a superb proof-reader and this combination of talents meant the job of *RadCom* Technical Editor could almost have been written for him.



John Dunnington, G3LZQ became a Silent Key on 8 December 2014, passing away peacefully in his sleep. John generously served amateur radio and the Society in many ways, including as DXpedition Fund Manager. He was RSGB Awards Manager from January 2003 until very recently, when poor health obliged him to step down from his roles. John's work was recognised by the Board in 2012 with the presentation of the prestigious Founder's Trophy.

Nigel Wears MONJW, of Silcoates School ARC said, "John supported the club at Silcoates School right from the start. He donated equipment and always would ask 'How are the Silcoates

lads doing?' He saw no limits on what a school club should do and was instrumental in introducing the pupils to contesting. He was an unassuming man and much of his support and encouragement of youth work may have gone unnoticed.

"I told the pupils as soon as I found out and some of the older members have decided that our YOTA activity will be in his memory, with a mention on the QSL cards."



Club of the Year

There is still time to enter the 2014 Club of the Year competition as the closing date is 31 January 2015. The leading club in each Region will then go forward to the National competition. The top three clubs will be awarded their prizes at the 2015 AGM in London. See your local RSGB website for entry details.

UK Events Planner

The RSGB is pleased to announce it will soon be possible for clubs to post their events and activities directly onto the RSGB website where they will be displayed as markers on a map of the country. The UK events planner will be provided as part of RSGB Membership Services for affiliated clubs. More details on the RSGB website.

Thinking Day

If you are taking part in Thinking Day on the Air on 21 and 22 February please send in a report, no matter how short, to Liz, MOACL so that she can report the event in *RadCom*. Report forms will be available from Liz via email to lizowl@gmail.com or the website www.guides-on-the-air.co.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.

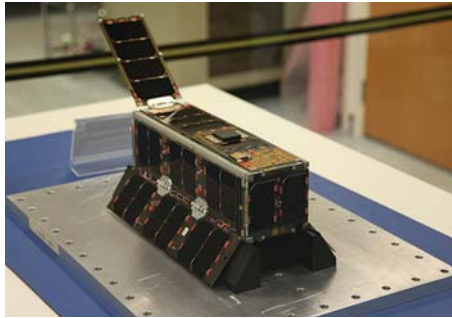
Mr N Draeger	Mr J Sansoterra, K8JRK	Master M Saunders, M6RUN	Mr D Rackham, RS301985
Mr S Woodlock, 2E0BBN	Mr G D Pratt, KA7CTG	Mrs D Bardell, M6RZO	Mr A Gaunt, RS302104
Mr M A Tinsell-Stanton, 2E0DGG	Mr G Zafiroopoulos, KJ6VU	Mr S Ibbotson, M6SJI	Mr E de Bernardi, RS302108
Mr J Pattinson, 2E0FUR	Mr R Lefrancois, KK400Q	Mr S Friend, M6TCI	Rev G Wellington, RS302131
Mr S Sawyer, 2E0NHR	Mr S Veland, LB5MA	Mr D Fletcher, M6TMF	Mr I Franklin, RS302157
Mrs C M Vincent, 2E0PCR	Mr I Lunde, LB6B	Master S Candogan, M6TUZ	Mr D Selwyn, RS302164
Mr P Metters, 2E0PEM	LRMD, LY1RMD	Mr T Crouch, M6TZR	Mrs J Brooks, RS302165
Mr D Darby, 2E0TVZ	Mr C Bloy, MODQO	Mr D Zorn, M6UDZ	Mr D McNiven, RS302250
Mr W Reeves, 2E0WBR	Mr T Zasada, MOHAQ	Mr C Easton, M6URL	Mr D Chivers, RS302259
Mr R Cross, 2I0XDR	93 Contest Group, MONTG	Dr T Varoudis, M6VAR	Mr D Walters, RS302280
Mr W Fulton, 2MOMOK	Mr S F Astbury, M0SFA	Mr K Hunt, M6WBZ	Mr D Decogan, RS302301
Mr A Tofarides, 2W0FMD	Mr C Kakoutas, MOWCK	Mr P Attwood, M6WYR	Mr G Reason, RS302308
Mr M Irizarry, AB4KJ	Mr S Harris, MOWFO	Mr P Smith, M6YPS	Mr B McKinlay, RS302327
Mr P Everitt, AF6GA	Mr S Hogan, M1SPH	Ms S McCann, MM3YGE	Mr K Nicholson, RS302414
Mr G Bonnet, F4LKG	Mr P Connelly, M3KUS	Mr C Edwards, MM3YLP	Mr B Weston, RS302419
Mr J Rogerson, G0GEQ	Mr R Edmonds, M6EOQ	Mr I Learmonth, MM6MVQ	Mr J Williamson, RS302464
Mr L Hemming, G0HOR	Mr D Levett, M6EUH	Mr S McIntosh, MM6ROT	Mr M Eversley-Gibson, RS302477
Mr P Waters, G0LRP	Mr P Thompson, M6EVM	Mr S Street, MM6ZFG	Mr P Sweeney, RS302495
Mr J Fossey, G0TUX	Mr P Jenkins, M6EWC	Mrs S Lee, MOYOG	Mr K Fisher, RS302522
Mr E O'Donnell, G1GJF	Mr A Holt, M6EXG	Mr W Brooks, MW6GUL	Mr P Sweeney, RS302588
Mr P Ingham, G6HDD	Mr S Baldwin, M6EXJ	Mr I Rogers, MW6IRR	Mr J Trotman, RS302586
Mr J Castelow, G6MHR	Mr D Harrison, M6EXQ	Mr R Hewson, MW6MMI	Mr V Afd Amstelveen, RS94826
Mr M Budd, G7JZS	Mr S Strange, M6EYP	Mr H Patrick, ON5AV	Mr G Eriksson, SM5XW
Mr R Williams, G7LND	Mr D Edmondson, M6HDE	Mr O Frederiksen, OY1OF	Mr G Charron, VE3VCF
Mr M Berry, G8BHX	Dr G Eibl-Kaye, M6IBL	Mrs G Hogan, RS183061	Mr P Stanford, VK4GXC
Mr S Hall, G8DGC	Mr R Simpson, M6KVT	Mr M Brundrit, RS212136	Dr J Burningham, W2XAB
Mr C Boon, G8FGZ	Mr M Humphries, M6MHU	Mr T Wale, RS301357	Mr B Rambo, W4WMT
Mr D Williams, G8PUO	Mr P Billingham, M6MIY	Mr M Dear, RS301834	Mr D Forster, W6AXR
Mr J Haslip, G8ZAT	Mr G Calder, M6NIF	Mr S Knapman, RS301847	Mr S Rogers, W7VI
Mr E Hawkins, GW4ZEA	Mr M Wilsher, M6OCB	Miss C Whitfield, RS301848	Mr W Yushkevich, WA1VMA
Mr K Ruehli, HB9RXB	Mr O Hopkins, M6OKH	Mr C Rafferty-Floyd, RS301935	Mr C R Plaisted, WA1ZDA
Mr D Colalto, IZ3LQN	Mr O Kelland, M6OKI	Mr M Byard, RS301942	
	Ms R Vincent, M6PUQ		

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

Mr D Martin, 2E0DKH	Mr D G Meaton, G1IKD	Mr A Barnett, G7OLH	Mr O Thomas, M0OLE
Mr A Jepson, 2E0USA	Mr J Easton, G1ILB	Mr J F Leach, G7OXK	Mr J B Lovelock, MOSOU
Miss B Wilson, 2E0YZA	Dr W Morden, G1OHL	Mr M H Mountford, G7POG	Mr G Turner, M1DHV
Mr B Jenkins, 2W0JBJ	Mr K C Chappell, G1OPG	Mr C Turner, G8IVI	Mr J D Grifferty, M1EHM
Mr M Ryall, 2W0LRE	Mr M A Smith, G1PIB	Mr D Parker, G8OMB	Mr A A Wilson, M1FBF
Mr N Powell, EI3JE	Mr J H Matthews, G3LTG	Mr W Burin, G8PDE	Mr I Bardell, M3GXX
Mr M Eastman, G0DDZ	Mr J C Outen, G3VGU	Mr A Fraser, G8PWX	Mrs V Leddington, M3SKU
Mr D Cornelius, G0LDD	Mr M Miller, G3ZZO	Mr R Collis, G8TZU	Mr P Sherratt, M3UHN
Mr A G R Grimes, G0GVZ	Mr R G Harris, G4APV	Mr F Shaw, GMOCCD	Mr A Hoyte, M6LLH
Mr A Simmonds, G0HND	Mr S Metcalfe, G4AZB	Mr W Ferguson, GM6VCV	Mr A Barter, M6ZAF
Mr G Beech, G0KBN	Mr T Keats, G4CCN	Mr J H Williams, GW1VRR	Mr D Ankers, MD1CLV
Mr A Baker-Munton, G0KPY	Mr M J Lang, G4DVK	Mr W Baker, GW4RGI	Mr C Campbell, M16CWC
Mr C A Bell, G0PXQ	Mr A Kelly, G4LVK	Mr W Moore, GW4THK	Mr G Stewart, MM0BIM
Mr W J Ford, G0TGP	Mr A W Baxter, G4SIU	Mr W J Weston, GW4VKG	Mr C Craig, MM0MRU
Mr R J Collins, G0TLC	Mr A Fry, G4XRS	Mr S A Richards, GW8LGX	Mr D Rumble, MW0JBX
Mr F Howsam, G0TLL	Mr W Whitecombe, G6SIQ	Mr D James, M0BCN	Mr Albert L White, NOTVJ
Mr S Glover, G0UFJ	Mr G Fellows, G7GHP	Mr J Bell, M0CON	Mr L G Nachif, PT9KK
Mr I Hampson, G1DFT	Mr S Harde, G7ICV	Mr P G Hawkes, M0ION	Mr V Ferme, VA3VF
Mr E Norman, G1GWV	Mr K J Hadley, G7MRP	Mr J Wiczorek, M0JWT	Mr I Robinson, ZL2ATD

FUNcube-2 Update

Limited testing of the FUNcube-2 435/145MHz linear transponder on the UKube-1 spacecraft has been undertaken during the recent holiday period. This testing has shown that the transponder is able to work effectively and that it is capable of a similar performance to the transponder already operating on FUNcube-1. AMSAT-UK and the FUNcube team have now submitted a detailed report on the testing to the UK Space Agency, who are the owners and prime operators of the UKube-1 spacecraft. It is expected that a meeting will be held with them late January or early February to plan possible future testing and operations. Details can be found at <http://amsat-uk.org/>



ML&S Move

Martin Lynch is busy getting the new HQ ready for opening during late January 2015. Not single handed of course, he counted 18 tradesmen on site



one day fitting new air conditioning, entrance doors, roller shutters, suspended ceilings, brick walls and even a new passenger lift! The new location has 6000 square feet of space, which is double the previous premises at Chertsey. An Open Day is planned for late March with a Hog Roast in November.

In the middle of all the works, Martin has become a grandfather. Rosemary Anne Lynch was born on 3 December to his eldest son, Dan, who joined the company last year. So, Martin Lynch & Sons & Granddaughter then?

Bob Heil Awarded

In December, Bob Heil received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Missouri St Louis. He was recognised by the university for his contributions to the world of broadcast, live and studio sound, and innovations to the amateur radio industry.



New repeater

LAMCO are to sponsor the installation of a Yaesu Digital Fusion Repeater that will be used to replace the equipment currently in use by GB3HS (145.650MHz) at High Hunsley. This will not affect current users of the GB3HS analogue service and the repeater will perform much as it does now but it will allow those users with Yaesu Fusion equipment to use a digital repeater. It will also support cross mode contacts. There will not be an internet connection as that functionality is still in development. Reports and comments are welcome on the Group's forum at www.eyrg.net

Space Funding

Heathland School in Hounslow, West London, recently applied for funding from UK Space Agency in the 2014 Space for All programme. They have just heard that they have been successful in their application and will shortly be spending the £567 award on a FUNcube Dongle and the installation of a low noise preamp, coax and omnidirectional antenna. They are also planning to involve students in the building of some VHF Yagi antennas as well. The schools grant application specifically focused on the educational outreach opportunities of using the UKube-1 and FUNcube-1 amateur radio spacecraft.

Congratulations to the school and to David, GOMRF who supported the proposal.

Equipment on Facebook

A new Facebook group called I Take Pictures Of Communication Equipment has been launched. It is open to all amateur radio operators, engineers plus everyone in between. Visit at www.facebook.com/groups/Itakepicturesofcommunicationequipment/

Furness Ham History

Chris, MOKPW is looking for people who have information on the history of amateur radio in the Furness area (Barrow in Furness, Dalton, Ulverston and the surrounding areas), between 1950 to 1970. He is looking for information on activities in the areas around that time, old photographs, facts, anecdotes etc to help him put together a talk about the history of radio in the area. If you live in the areas, used to live in the area, or have visited the area over the years, and have any information please contact Chris by visiting m0kpw.com or emailing furnessamateurradio@outlook.com.

Special Event Stations

PA700V will be on the air to from 6 to 8 February to commemorate Operation Veritable, the successor of Operation Market Garden. Operation Veritable is not known very well and was the battle that formed the prelude to the leap across the Rhine during WWII. Full details at www.pa2p.nl/pa700v/

The Polish Amateur Radio Society (PZK) is celebrating its 85th anniversary and the 90th anniversary of the IARU during 2015. Until 30 April, twelve special event stations will be on the air: 3Z90IARU, HF90IARU, SN90IARU, SO90IARU, SP90IARU, SQ90IARU, 3Z85PZK, HF85PZK, SN85PZK, SO85PZK, SP85PZK and SQ85PZK. Full details on available awards and operations are at <http://85.pzk.org.pl/>

HE200GE commemorates the 200th anniversary of Geneva's entrance into the Swiss Confederation. The beginnings of modern Switzerland go back to the year 1291, when the three German language Alpine forest areas signed the Federal Charter. Over the centuries more cantons allied themselves to the original three and among the last was the Republic of Geneva on 19th May 1815. HE200GE will be active on all amateur bands throughout 2015 and contacts will be valid for the Diploma of Genève. QSL via HB9AOF.



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 March edition is 26 January and for the April issue it's 22 February. 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@cyprusliving.org

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

4 Radio time, Marcus, GM4LVW

18 Surplus equipment and junk sale,
Dennis, GM3YDN

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC

Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

5, 12, 19, 26 Morse training,

6 Normal club night

11 On-air activity day

20 Radio check night, John, MM0JXI

Stirling & District ARS

John, gm0fsv@gm6nx.com

1, 8, 15, 22 10.30am till late afternoon for
construction, training, projects and
operating

West of Scotland (Glasgow) ARS

info@wosars.org.uk, www.wosars.org.uk

4, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 Construction
night & licence preparation

6 Club night with talks, quiz & raffle

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

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

Aberdeen ARS

Fred, MM0ODL, 01975 651 365

5 Junk sale

12 Question time with an expert panel

19 YOTA, Finland 2014, Adam, MM0KFX

26 Construction and on the air

Glenrothes & DRC

Tam, MM0TGB, on 0775 3526 498

4 Intro to fly fishing, Tam, MM0TGB

11 Raspberry Pi workshop

18 Foundation to Full licence, Ken, GM3YBQ

25 Practical

**The deadline for the March
Around Your Region is 26
January, so send your news
NOW!**

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

Chester & DRS

Bruce, M0CVP, 01244 343 825

3 Grand surplus equipment sale

10 Committee meeting

17 Construction competition presentations

24 An insight into the IARU, Greg, G0DUB

Fleetwood Radio Enthusiasts Group

John, M0JFE, 07940 815 659

3 Natter night

10 How to build & use a field strength meter

17 AGM at FY6 6TF

24 Morse training night

Mid-Cheshire ARS

Peter, G8HAV, 01606 553 401

4 Preparation for Radio Active Rally

11 Equipment and allocation of resources for
rally

15 Radio Active Rally, CW5 5DG

18 Rally wash up meeting

25 Committee meeting

South Manchester R&CC

Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999

2 Monday technical forum

5 Planning the Advanced training course,
Ron, G3SVW

12 An aviation trip to Japan, Derek, G1AFI

19 Tidy the shack night

26 General meeting

Thornton Cleveleys ARS

John E Rodway, G4FRK, 01253 862 810

2 Natter and on the air night

9 Video night

16 Building, Ted, G3WBB

24 Semaphore & satellite, Steve Musgrave

The **Furness Amateur Radio Society** AGM took place at the end of November, where a new committee (shown in the photo) was elected comprising Ivan, G3IZD as Chairman, Dave, G3VUS as Secretary, Chris, M0TES as Treasurer and elected members Mike, G8ALE, Chris, M0KPW, Clive, M6CVD and Jim, M0KYL.

Also in November, Furness ARS conducted a Foundation course for four candidates. Spread over Saturday and Sunday, the candidates were taught all aspects of the syllabus as well as the practical elements. The second photo shows three of the four candidates taking part in the on air practical assessment. All four candidates sat the exam on the Sunday afternoon and passed



with very good scores, one with 100%. Our congratulations go to the newly licensed Ian, Andrew, Stephen and Jon who will by now have their M6 callsigns. Club members look forward to hearing them on the air soon.



REGION 4: NORTH EAST

REGIONAL MANAGER: NIGEL FERGUSON,
G0BPK, RM4@RSGB.ORG.UK

Denby Dale RC

Darran, G0BWB, 07974 423 227

4 Frequency synthesisers, Denis Mott

11, 25 Club net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm

18 RF surgery, Davis, 2E0EDL

Halifax & DARS

Martin, M0GQB, 01422 341 317

4, 11, 18, 25 Open net, 145.400MHz,
7.30pm

10 QSL Bureau, Richard Constantine

Hornsea ARC

Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573

4 Annual dinner

11 Activities and DVD

18 Logbook of the World

25 Quadcopter regulations

Ripon & DARS

David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778

5, 12, 19, 26 Club night

Sheffield & District Wireless Society

Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 07884 065 375

4 Quiz night, with prizes, James, M6IOU

18 *Heat, Light & Electricity* video,
Marcus de Sautoy

Workshop ARS

Paul, M0PJA, 07890 626 684

1 Intermediate course starts 7.30-9pm until
10 May

5 DVB-T dongle SDR for everyone!

Paul, M0PJA

19 Introduction to datamodes Paul, M0PJA

Silcoates School held a 'Geographical awareness week' in November. The theme was food, and several pupils went on the air for greetings messages to ask about local cuisine at the school's radio club. You can find a description that the Geography teacher wrote at www.silcoates.org.uk/2014/11/national-geographic-awareness-week/ – it may come in useful to someone in the RSGB to show the benefits of the hobby to a school as a whole, in curriculum areas other than the sciences.

The annual **Bishop Auckland RAC** rally was held on 7 December at Spennymoor Leisure Centre. The RSGB bookstall was present with Regional Manager Nigel, G0BPK and Deputy Regional Manager Ian, G7MFN in attendance. Despite being almost Christmas, business was brisk, perhaps helped by the supply of sticks of RSGB rock and Pontefract cakes for anyone who visited the seasonally-decorated bookstall. It was good to be re-acquainted with Members from the top end of Region 4.



REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

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

Aldridge & Barr Beacon ARC
Albert, G0KFS, 01922 614 169
16 On the air, HF

Bromsgrove & DARC
Contact Dave, M6DKT, 07584 025 156
4, 11, 18, 25 Data night
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night

Central Radio Amateur Circle
Martin, G1TYV, 07906 905 071
3 UKAC 2m Contest, Barr Beacon, 7pm
5, 21 Group Meeting

Cheltenham ARA
Derek, G3NKS, 01242 241 099
3, 10, 17, 24 Slow CW, 8-9pm,
3540-3550kHz
17 Lunch, book with G4IGN
19 Surplus equipment sale

Coventry ARS
John, G8SEQ, 07958 777 363
2, 9, 16, 23 Club net, 145.375MHz &
7.16MHz, 8pm
6 Construction competition
13 No meeting
20 Skittles night
27 Radio workshop & equipment check

Gloucester AR&ES
Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
2 Demonstration of direction finding and
suitable antennas
8 Harwell Rally
9 VHF operating from the shack
16 No meeting
23 HF operating from the shack

Malvern Hills RAC
Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
10 The dying art of chassis bashing,
Dave, G4IDF

Mid-Warwickshire ARS
Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465
10 Video/DVD afternoon
24 Software defined radio

Nuneaton & District ARC
Neil, 2E0NEI, info@ndarc.co.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.475MHz,
9.30pm
6 Social at The Chase, Higham Lane,
Nuneaton
20 RAYNET

Rugby ATS
Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940
3 UKAC 144MHz, radio operation and
projects
7 2m antennas – some DIY ideas,
Ian, MOIJS
10 UKAC 432MHz, radio operation and
projects
14 Let's build a balun! Steve, G8LYB
17 UKAC 1296MHz, radio operation and
projects
21 Vintage electronics video, Mike, G8CTJ
24 UKAC 50MHz, radio operation and
projects
28 Practical project session, bring you current
project along

Salop ARS
salopamateurradio@gmail.com
4 Club CW net, 144.070MHz, 4.30pm;
club net, GB3LH 8.30pm
5 Natter night / committee meeting
12 Video night
19 Shack night, putting G3SRT on the air
26 Building a homebrew 3D printer,
Neil, M6TVS

Stratford Upon Avon & DRS
Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664488
9 Practical evening in shack
23 Dip into the RSGB Archives 4 (Aerials)

Telford & DARS
John M0JZH, 07824 737 716
2, 9, 16, 23 4m net around 70.425MHz,
7pm
4 GX3ZME OTA HF plus committee meeting
11 Under a Fiver night
18 Bowls night
25 Railway signalling, G6UDX

Wythall Radio Club
Chris, G0EYO, 07710 412 819
1, 8, 15 Club net, 145.225MHz or GB3WL,
8pm
2 RSGB 80m CC SSB + Foundation course
3 144MHz UK Activity Contest, Morse class,
7.45pm + Rally working party &
preparation evening, 8.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Nibbles Night in the Shack,
7.30pm
8 Club trip to Harwell Rally, 8am; RSGB
432MHz Affiliated Societies contest, 10am
9, 16, 23 Foundation course
10 Pre-rally committee meeting, Morse class,
7.45pm
11 RSGB 80m Club Championship DATA,
8pm
14 Foundation practicals, 9.30am
17, 24 Morse class, 7.45pm + Rally working
party & preparation evening, 8.30pm
22 Club net, 145.225MHz, 8pm
23 Curry night at the Monsoon, 6.30pm

**The deadlines for Around Your
Region are 26 January (for March)
and 22 February (for April), so
send your news in NOW!**

Nuneaton & District Amateur Radio Club would like to congratulate one of their first members, Dean, M6KVG who successfully passed his Foundation exam at the NDARC Exam Centre in November. The club would like to welcome Dean to the hobby and look forward to working him on the air and helping him grow and explore this fascinating hobby. The club is currently enrolling candidates for an online tutor lead Foundation course, scheduled to begin at the start of February 2015. If you would like more information or would like to enrol, please either e-mail info@ndarc.co.uk or visit www.ndarc.co.uk



Cheltenham Amateur Radio Association held its 38th AGM in December, which was attended by 36 members. The Chairman's report covered another busy and successful year with regular meetings, contests, social events and other activities. Thanks to Giles, GONXA the club was now involved in the running of training courses for all three licence levels. Membership remained buoyant at 86. The Treasurer reported that the club's finances were in a very healthy state, thanks mainly to the sale of equipment donated to the club by the widows of members who had died in the past year. The G3CEG Memorial Cup, awarded annually to a member for noteworthy on-the-air activities, went to Nick, G4WLC for his extensive portable operations. The G3GWW Award, for exceptional services to the club, went to Ron, G3SZS who recently stood down as Editor of *CARA News* after producing some 90 issues. Elected to the Committee for 2015 were Chairman Giles, GONXA, Secretary, Derek G3NKS, Treasurer, Pete G3YJE, ordinary members Christopher, MOYNG and Tony, G3YYH. The AGM was followed by a very enjoyable natter session and buffet.

The photograph below shows the Chairman with the award winners: left to right, Ron, G3SZS, Giles, GONXA, Nick, G4WLC.



Wythall Radio Club was celebrating over Christmas. Their new UHF repeater, GB3WL, got clearance from Ofcom just in time for the festive period. Fortunately, RSGB General Manager, Graham Coomber, G0NBI, happened to be making a passing visit at the time and was summarily press-ganged into doing an official switch-on! The club hope that this new 432MHz box will be well used by all amateurs across the wider Midlands. It provides better coverage of the M42 and M40 motorways on UHF than has been possible previously and even covers a large slice of Redditch. More information on GB3WL can be found at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk



Mid-Warwickshire ARS has a new website at www.mwars.club and new contact details. The phone contact remains Don, G4CYG on 01926 424 465 and the new e-mail contact is mwars@mwars.club

William Allen, a new member at Midland ARS, has passed his Intermediate exam. Congratulations from the rest of the club. The photo shows trainer Paul, M0PVN with William.



REGION 6: NORTH WALES

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

Dragon ARC
Stewart, GW0ETF, 07833 620 733
2 SOTA, GW3GUX
16 Discussion night

North Wales Radio Society
Ceri Jones, 2W0LJC, 2w0ljc@mail.com
5 General meeting
12 Technical topics
19 Holiday pile-ups in C5, Stewart, GWOETF
26 Natter night

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

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

Aberystwyth & DARS
Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853
12 WSPR and the Brendan Trophy, Simon, GWONVN
26 Club net, 145.500 then 145.550MHz

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

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

No entries received this month. Send your programme information to radcom@rsgb.org.uk

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

Burnham Beeches RC
Dave, G4XDU, 01628 625 720
2 What's in a whisper? Greg, G4EBY
16 Free radio at sea, Alison, G8ROG

Edgware & DRS
Mike, G4RNW, 02089 500 658,
www.g3asr.co.uk
12 Victorian railways talk, Vic Burgess
26 The Museum of Computing, John, G7GCK

Reading & DARC
Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697
7 Intermediate course, details
g3ngx@radarc.org
12 Radio in the First World War,
Dr Elizabeth Bruton
14, 21 Repeaters in the Thames Valley,
Baz, G8DOR
26 The Solar Orbiter, Chris Brockley-Blatt,
Mullard SSL

Southgate ARC
K Mendum, G8RPA, g8rpa@arrl.net
11 Rummage through RadCom since
July 1939

Verulam ARC
Peter, G4HSO, g3v@btinternet.com
17 AGM

The **Wey Valley ARG** pre-Christmas party attracted a large number of members, wives and friends to the group's QTH, the recently refurbished premises of Guildford Rowing Club. Masses of buffet food organised by Peter, M3OSP and a well-stocked bar, manned by Mike, G3IAF, combined to satisfy even the hungriest and



thirstiest of the partygoers. The CW interests of the group were not forgotten by James, MOVPC who baked cupcakes and then iced them with the club callsign G6XN – written in Morse!

The main entertainment, a huge raffle organised by Tony, G6ZAC saw lucky Roger, G3SXW win the top prize of a bottle of best Islay malt that Chairman Bob, G4HZV had had his eye on all night. It was generally agreed that this was one of the most successful parties the club had ever held. Grateful thanks are due to Janet, XYL of secretary Andrew, M0GJH, for doing the clearing up. Photo courtesy David, G3DJR.

The Edgware Sidebanders, comprising Godfrey, G4GLM on the electric keyboard and G4RNW on alto sax, 'entertained' the club members of **Edgware & District Radio Society** in November. It was done as an encore to the History of the Saxophone presentation. The photo was taken by Chris. See www.g3asr.co.uk



Kempton Park rally on Remembrance Sunday has become something of a tradition for the **Royal Signals ARS**. They stop at 11am and join with those on parade at the Cenotaph in London (via BBC, of course) and remember our comrades who have gone before us, so for a while it's a sad occasion. Thereafter the trading and bargaining continues with a well-filled show hall and lots of valuable spares passing through the out door into new owners' hands. Remember the 58 set? Well, one was sold, not sure what for or even if it can ever be used again as, surely, there was a battery supply problem right from the beginning? Three HROs were on sale – one went, at least. So that is it for now. We are booked into Canvey Island Rally on 1 February and Didcot on the 8th in 2015 with more shows later in the year. We can always do with more help and we could, perhaps, attend more shows and encourage more people to join RSARS.



Like many clubs, St Albans based Verulam ARC does not have enough CW operators to man a multi operator multi band 48 hour entry for CQWW CW. However, this year they did achieve this by attracting guests from as far afield as the Orkney Islands! For the third year in a row, three operator positions were enabled in their impressive hill top cabin site and antenna farm, operating all bands. Having fun and personal achievement were the priorities.

Also in December, 17 students, of which 9 are members of Verulam ARC, sat their Advanced exam after a training course run by club member Dr Roger Bleaney, MORBK.



REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

Basingstoke ARC
Peter, G0KQA, 01256 414 454
18 Construction challenge and junk sale

Crawley ARC
John, G3VLH, 01342 714 402
25 DC to light, Chris, G4ZCS

Cray Valley RS
Richard, G7GLW, 07831 715797
5, 19 Club meeting, 8pm

Crystal Palace R&EC
Bob, G300U, 01737 552 170
6 AGM and construction contest

Dareth Valley Radio Society
Mike, G8AXA, 01689 856 935
11 Natter night
25 JT65 & JT9, Mike, G8AXA

Dorking & DRS
Garth, G3NPC, 01737 359 472
Jan 27 UFOs, Leslie Baker, G8JIC
24 An introduction to the Arduino, Andrew Vine, MOGJH

Eastbourne Radio & Electronics Club
www.ereclub.org.uk
10 Talks/lectures & demonstrations
24 Practical events

Hastings E&RC
Gordon, 01424 431 909/
25 AGM followed by Bring Your Thing

Horndean & DARC
Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846
5 Natter night/social evening
19 GPS update, Hugh, M1ETU

Itchen Valley ARC
Quintin, M1ENU, 023 8078 7799
13 Google Maps, Brian, GOUKB
21-22 Thinking Day on the Air
27 Members' forum

Mid-Sussex ARS
Sue, G6YPY, 01273 845 103
6 Radio night
13 Lecture, paramedic David Davis
20 Radio night and table top sale
27 Q-codes revisited, G6YPY

Sutton & Cheam RS
John, G0BWV, 020 8644 9945
19 Talk by Chris Ridley of Icom UK

Wimbledon & DARS
Kim, G6JXA, 07812 735 507
13 On Air from WDARS HQ, G4ADM
27 Nursing in the twentieth century,
Jane Cook

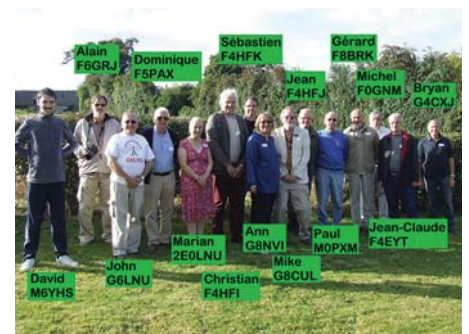
Worthing & DARC
Gordon, 2E0GTG, 07801 599 470
1 Breakfast meeting
3, 17 Advanced course
4 Home construction, Ron, G3SKI
11 Discussion evening
18 Beginners' guide to astrophotography
Part 2, Chris, M6EJK
25 G3WOR on the air evening
28 Foundation training and exam

Horndean & District ARC ran their 13th Foundation and 14th Intermediate exams in November. Training was supported with equipment bought with an Awards-for-All Lottery grant. Both Foundation candidates and the Intermediate candidate passed. The club congratulate all the successful candidates, and thank the club's Foundation tutor Simon, GOIEY and the Intermediate tutor Laurence, G8NJJ. Nigel, MONAF also assisted with both courses. The Morse assessment module was presented by Roger, 2E0KBK. HDARC training manager, Ken, G0JWL, thanked the training team for another set of excellent results. The photos show (L to R) Nigel, MONAF, Emma, M6JOT, John, M6JZX and Simon, GOIEY. Also (L to R) Nigel, MONAF, Ralph, 2E0HES, Simon GOIEY. Laurence, G8NJJ was abroad on the date of the exam.



The recent inter-club quiz that was set by the Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club Secretary, Quintin, M1ENU, was won by a team from Horndean. This result seems to balance the results as Itchen Valley have previously won Horndean's quiz.

For a number of years, Ann, G8NVI, Mike, G8CUL and David, M6YHS have been holidaying in Normandy and have had the pleasure of attending some of the Caen Radio Club events during that time. In 2013 they bought a property in Normandy (at IN98PT) and to celebrate held a BBQ in August 2014 and invited members of the Harwell Amateur Radio Society and the Caen Radio Club. At the event were 15 licensed amateurs, 7 British and 8 French, along with their XYs and a good time was had by all. The photo shows the assembled amateurs – after they had eaten the food excellently prepared by John, G6LNU and Paul, MOPXM. An account of the event was published in the October 2014 edition of the *Radio-REF* (the French version of *RadCom*), written by Dominique, F5PAX, 'Monsieur Le President' of the Caen Radio Club. Ann and Mike look forward to a repeat event in 2015!



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLANDS

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

Appledore & DARC
Alan, M6CCH, 01237 422 833
16 WSPR and web SDRs, Mike, G4KXQ

Bristol RSGB Group
Robin, G3TKF, robin@g3tkf.co.uk
23 The history of valves, Colin, G3YHV

Exeter ARS
Nick, MONRJ, 01363 775 756
2, 24 HF net, 3.675MHz, 7.45pm
3, 10, 16 2m net, 145.575MHz, 7.45pm
9 RF filters for the faint-hearted talk,
Pete, G3ZVI
23 Rise & fall of quadcopters, Ivor, G6ATJ

Mid-Somerset ARC
David, G8BFV, 01749 670085
10 Activity night

Plymouth Radio Club
David, 2E0DTC
d.beck123@btinternet.com
10 AGM

Torbay ARS
Dave, G6FSP, g6fsp@tars.org.uk
27 AGM

Yeovil ARC
Rodney, MORGE, 01935 825 791
5 Mini talks
12 SWR, G3MYM
19 Morse practice by G3MYM
26 On the air

The Foundation course at **Flight Refuelling ARS** in November was attended by three candidates from the local areas of Dorset and Hampshire and one from what could be called, for them, a DX location – Yorkshire. The young visitor Jonathan Jackson, accompanied by his father Andrew, MORCL travelled down from York to take advantage of our training weekend in Dorset, which ended on Sunday afternoon with the Foundation exam. The candidates, Tom, Jonathan, Michael and David were delighted after they were told their (provisional) pass marks, especially Jonathan. Keen as mustard throughout the weekend, he impressed us all with them ability considering he is about to turn twelve years old! In fact, he actually danced with excitement on hearing the result and gave a whoop of joy when his father presented him with a VHF handheld transceiver for doing so well. Congratulations are due to all involved for another successful course at FRARS and we look forward to welcoming many more entrants to the hobby on our weekend courses during 2015. Details at www.frars.org.uk



There is still time to enter the National Club of the Year competition (kindly sponsored by Waters & Stanton). Entries must be with your Regional Manager by 31 January. See the RSGB website for details.

After another successful year in the history of the **Plymouth Radio Club**, members celebrated with a Christmas Party. A group photograph was taken to record this special occasion.



REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

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

Braintree & DARS
John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947
2 How to DF hunt the club event

Cambridge & DARC
David, MOZEB, 01353 778 093
13 Surplus sale
27 Thermal imaging, David, GOLRD

Chelmsford ARS
secretary@g0mwt.org.uk
3 Probing the Northern Lights, Brendan Goodbody at Oaklands
5, 12, 19, 26 Training & Morse classes at Danbury Village Hall
16 Skills workshop at Danbury Village Hall

Thames ARG
Mark, M0IEO, 07940 579 116
5 SDR radio, Justin, GOKSC
21-22 Foundation course and exam

Sunday, 7 December saw **Essex RAYNET** supporting Farleigh Hospice at the annual Santa Fun Run in Chelmsford. Nearly 700 runners and walkers dressed in Santa outfits for the 4km run in central Chelmsford, with the team from Essex RAYNET providing event communications. With a relatively short area to cover a single repeater was used, allowing operators to use handheld radios to stay in touch with Control. Four teams were deployed to key checkpoints along the run, with a further team following the runners along the route. Events such as this are a great way for amateurs to use their radio skills and knowledge to help the local community, as well as to train for possible emergencies. As the team was packing up, RAYNET came to the help of a British Red Cross ambulance that lost traction on the muddy park ground, giving them a helpful push. Photos from the event are at www.sxham.uk/santa14



On 13 December, Essex-based retailer Waters & Stanton held its annual in-store Christmas Open Day. This well-attended event saw amateurs from around the county and beyond meet to catch up with old friends and pick up a bargain. Local groups also supported the event with representatives attending from the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society, the Essex CW Club, Essex Ham, the Essex Repeater Group, the South Essex Amateur Radio Society and the Thames Amateur Radio Group. Twenty members of Essex Ham attended. The photo shows Steve, G4ZUL, watched by a festive Peter, GODZB, and a short video montage from the event can be found at www.sxham.uk/wsxmas14



The **Braintree & District ARS** meeting of 3 November was an evening dedicated to understanding and using oscilloscopes. Dave, GODEC, who uses this equipment professionally, gave the presentation. He started by explaining what 'scopes can be used for from audio and deviation testing to component and equipment testing. Dave set up a miniature CCTV camera in conjunction with a large TV screen to enable us all to see the 'scopes on display being used in various test scenarios. He also showed and demonstrated some of the various ancillaries such as expansion probes etc. After a lively Q&A session and a hands-on session, Dave concluded by saying that apart from a good multimeter, an oscilloscope was the second most important bit of test kit in the constructor's shack.



The **Thames ARG** Training Team, consisting of 10 lecturers of whom 6 are RSGB Registered Assessors, has scheduled three one-weekend Foundation Training Courses in 2015. They will take place on 21/22 February, 8/9 August and 14/15 November. An Intermediate course over two consecutive weekends is scheduled for 11/12 and 18/19 April. Candidates are required to have

familiarised themselves with the course handbook and be heads down at 9am each Saturday and Sunday throughout a course. Lunch and regular refreshments are supplied by TARG's certificated catering team. At a recent Foundation course 9 candidates passed, the youngest just 10 years old and the eldest, 90. More training courses will be run according to demand.

TARG has a membership age spanning from 10 to 90 years old, a quarter of whom are female, with 7 family groups and 6 couples.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

Loughborough & DARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319
3 Taking the strain, part 2, Brian, G8BUB
10 2m club net
17 Vintage radio and test equipment evening
24 Practical evening

Melton Mowbray ARS

Brian, MOYBX, 07772 659 622
20 Antenna modelling, MOYBX

Nunsfield House ARG

Ken, G3OCA, 01332 720 976
6 AGM
13 Filters part 1
20 Filters part 2 of 2
27 Program planning meeting

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 07971 166 250
2, 9, 16, 23 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
12 The 4 Lincoln repeaters, Bob, G7AVU

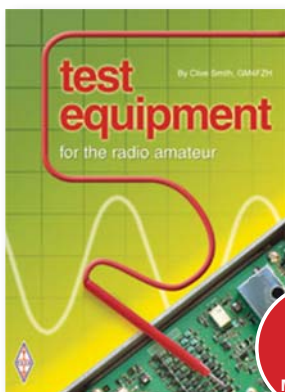
South Kesteven ARS

Nigel, MOCVO, 01476 402 550
4, 18 Informal evening

Nearly fifty members and guests of **RAF Waddington ARC** attended a delightful and entertaining evening at the Pyewipe Inn for a Christmas meal. Mercifully, the chairman Bob, G3VCA gave a very short speech. James, GOEUN as usual ran the raffle in an efficient and humorous way. Star of the evening was 12 year old Felicity Turner, daughter of Graham, M1DHV and Sandra. Felicity sang like a professional and captivated her audience. A fitting end to a very successful year.

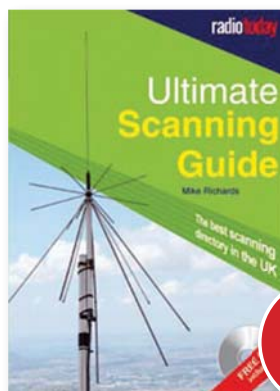


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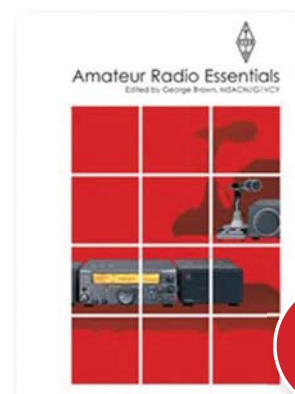
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