

RSGB supports ISS mission

Tim Peake, the first British ESA astronaut, has issued an invitation to UK school pupils to contact him via amateur radio whilst he is in space.

Tim will launch to the International Space Station (ISS) in November of this year and will spend 6 months working and living on the ISS. UK school pupils will be able to contact him whilst he is on board the ISS via a scheduled amateur radio link-up.

The selected schools/organisations will host a direct link-up with the International Space Station during a two-day, space related STEM workshop. ARISS UK, supported by the RSGB, will provide and set up all necessary radio equipment (for example, low earth orbit satellite tracking antennas and radios) to establish a fully functional, direct radio link with the International Space Station from the school premises. In a ten-minute window when the ISS will be over the UK, an amateur

radio contact will be established with Tim, and students will be able to ask him questions about his life and work on board the ISS.

Tim will be using the amateur radio callsign GB1SS whilst he is talking to UK based schools. The RSGB will assist schools taking part in this programme by providing training courses to help at least one student obtain their Full amateur radio licence and, in partnership with ARISS, will provide all necessary technical support. For further details contact Ciaran Morgan, MOXTD, RSGB lead for ARISS and ARISS Operations via ciaran.morgan@rsgb.org.uk

WEBSEARCH

ARISS: www.ariss.org & www.ariss-eu.org

AMSAT-UK: www.amsat-uk.org

RSGB: www.rsgb.org

ARISS Tim Peake video: <https://youtu.be/>



Tim Peake during training in the Soyuz TMA simulator.

RSGB AGM

The AGM is taking place on 25 April 2015 at 12 noon in the Royal National Hotel, 38-51 Bedford Way, Russell Square, London WC1H ODG. Doors will be open from 11am until 11.45am for registration. Refreshments will be available. A Society bookstall will be open from 11am to 12 noon and again during lunch.

The proceedings will be recorded and made available on the RSGB website. The use of private audio or video recording equipment will not be permitted.

The AGM will start promptly at 12 noon and, following the formal business, various awards and trophies will be presented. This will be followed by the annual address by the RSGB President, Dr John Gould, G3WKL.

Lunch will be available from 1pm at a small charge. Please pre-register your attendance online (go to www.rsgb.org/attendagm) to help with calculating numbers.

After lunch, starting at 2pm, the President will lead an informal question and answer session. This will be followed by two further presentations. All business will be concluded by 4pm.

Technical Excellence Award

RadCom author and famous QRP'er George Dobbs, G3RJV has been awarded the Dayton Hamvention Technical Excellence Award for a lifetime of work for QRP. He has helped many amateur radio operators build their own equipment as well as writing columns in both *Practical Wireless* and *RadCom* and books on the subject (many of which are available in the RSGB shop). Congratulations George.

Other winners are Tim Duffy, K3LR who was awarded Amateur of the Year and Thomas Medlin, W5KUB who received the Special Achievement Award.



Eclipse experiments a great success

The RSGB's solar eclipse radio experiments on Friday, 20 March were deemed a great success. Many listeners in the UK using medium wave radios reported hearing a big increase in signal strengths from distant stations, such as BBC Radio Scotland on 810kHz, around 09.30—the time of maximum eclipse.

Meanwhile, licensed radio amateurs took part in a wide range of experiments on many bands, including a QSO party on 160, 80m and 40m. The use of the reverse beacon network (RBN) and Morse code meant that the received signal to noise ratios of those taking part could be automatically logged. Other stations, including some in Iceland and the Faroe Islands, used WSPR – the Weak Signal Propagation Reporter – to test propagation on paths around Europe.

All this data is now available for RSGB Members to download and analyse themselves on the RSGB's Radio Propagation Questions forum. The June issue of *RadCom* will have much of the analysis and detail of the event.

Legacy Fund proposals invited

The EMC Committee has been given an award from the RSGB Legacy Fund to enable it to procure calibrated loop antennas and a spectrum analyser. This will enable committee members to carry out calibrated measurements of interference, as part of their investigation activities. These investigations provide evidence for lobbying the regulators, suppliers and standards bodies about EMC issues. The committee is currently investigating solar PV, VDSL, wind farms and LED lighting.

The RSGB Legacy Fund exists due to the generosity of donors and the Legacy Sub-Committee, with its three trustees, works with the Board to consider proposals for its use. The scope for proposals is deliberately wide and highest priority is given to projects focused on taking our hobby forward.

If you have a proposal you would like to put before the Sub-Committee please contact Nick Henwood, G3RWF (Chairman) from whom you can get a proposal form, via e-mail to nhenwood77@gmail.com. More details are on the RSGB website.

Recognising and Encouraging Volunteers

There is no doubt that the success of the RSGB's support for amateur radio is founded on the unstinting efforts of its volunteers. The Society is its Members and, if it were not for the input from the many Members who freely give of their time and expertise, the reach of the Society would be far less. Here we highlight the work of an area of voluntary activity and also give an insight into the role that individual volunteers play that demonstrates the breadth and scope of voluntary endeavour.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Vince Shirley, GOORC



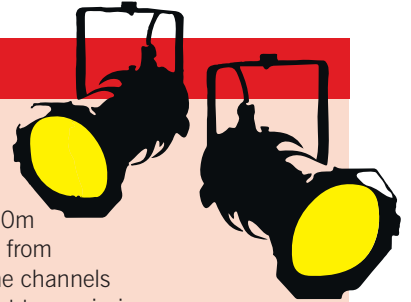
My name is Vince Shirley, GOORC and I am one of a team of Amateur Radio Observation Service volunteers, a post I undertook having spoken with the AROS staff at the National Hamfest in Newark in 2013. I had decided it was time that I put something back into the hobby having not had a formalised post within a radio club for a long time.

One of the main areas in which an AROS observer is actively employed is with repeater abuse. I am fortunate that I have excellent VHF and UHF coverage across the East Midlands, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and parts of the West Midlands from my QTH. On receiving reports of abuse from the AROS co-ordinator, our job is to use specialist software that records only when the repeater is active and thus it can be left running for long periods. These recordings

are forwarded to the AROS co-ordinator for further action.

Another area that we keep under active review is the channelised 60m band. As channel allocations vary from country to country and some of the channels are very narrow, it is important that transmissions from UK amateur stations are kept wholly within the confines of our band segments. With modern logging software it is very easy to click on a 60m DX cluster spot for a station outside of the UK and find, especially in the case of a wideband mode like SSB, that you are partially or indeed wholly outside of the UK allocation – so vigilance is necessary if we are keep our frequency allocation in this band.

I am a very active HF DXer and this post is an ideal one for me that I can work into my normal day to day radio activities and perform a useful and worthwhile contribution.



TO BECOME A RSGB VOLUNTEER E-MAIL GM.DEPT@RSGB.ORG.UK

Committee Spotlight

AMATEUR RADIO OBSERVATION SERVICE

To best tell you about AROS, first I need to tell you what AROS isn't. We are *not*:

- Radio Police
- Licensing Enforcement Officers
- Personal Dispute Councillors
- Social Workers
- Frequency/Band Plan Protectors

AROS, along with its partners, assists in maintaining good operating practices within the amateur service. The primary purpose is to monitor and discourage operating practices that might bring amateur radio into disrepute.

AROS is run and organised by the AROS Coordinator (that's me!). It is allocated a designated RSGB board member, but is run independently of the board, the General Manager and other HQ staff. All individuals involved in AROS are volunteers; there is no remuneration for any of the AROS roles and all AROS volunteers can remain anonymous. AROS receives reports and/or

complaints of bad operating practice from any source, and any communication with AROS is confidential. Once I receive an allegation, I need to identify anything that may be an interpersonal issue (eg where one amateur has perhaps taken umbrage with another) since this is not something that AROS will get involved with. If the accusations and the problem appear to be genuine, then it is my role to gather evidence to either support or refute the allegation.

Evidence gathering will often be carried out by AROS observers and this will normally be in the form of on-air recordings which they pass directly back to me.

Once evidence has been collected, AROS will normally write to the individual involved and, in the vast majority of cases, this action will resolve the problem. If the problem persists, AROS will pass over the evidence to Ofcom and their enforcement team.

In the AROS coordinator role I also attend the regular RSGB/Ofcom meetings in London and am a member of the RSGB leadership team.

Mark, GOMGX



Operating Abroad

Guidance on the Ofcom website makes it clear that, in accordance with the CEPT agreements T/R 61-01 and T/R 61-02, only the UK Amateur Full Licence is recognised as a CEPT Class 1 licence and, as such, is the only level of licence that can be used on a temporary basis in countries that are signatories to the aforementioned arrangements.

Ofcom is not responsible for licensing outside of the UK, however, and make it clear that the onus lies on the licensee

to enquire with the appropriate authority within the country that they wish to operate from to confirm the current licensing criteria.

Recent reports have been received of countries giving permission to holders of other UK licences to operate on a short term basis. In order to ensure that we are able to give Members the most up to date advice, we would like to hear from any Foundation or Intermediate licence holders who have obtained such permissions. Please contact Graham Coomber, General Manager, via e-mail to graham.coomber@rsgb.org.uk

QSL Matters

NEW CONTEST CALLS MANAGER. This month we are pleased to welcome a new volunteer for single letter Contest Calls, Shaun Imms, MOIMM. His details can now be found on the RSGB website. It was pleasing to receive more than the usual number of offers, especially from non-contesters to take on this, one of our busiest QSL groups. Our thanks go to retiring manager, Graham Morris, MOAXO and to all those who volunteered.

GB CALLS. GB Manager, Davina, MOXLT is making a plea for special event users to send her C5 envelopes bearing not

only the GB call but also the NoV holder's Membership number in the top left corner, see the *RSGB Yearbook* and web guidelines.

G4M-N. Please note, Cliff Rowe, G4MAR, sub manager for the G4M & N groups has a new e-mail address. It is now cliff1.g4mar@gmail.com

HELP. Jim Peden, G4ZIB our G3W-Z and Special Prefix Manager says "HELP - I have lots of cards for members with no envelopes and lots of envelopes for members with no cards." We're sure he's not alone. Make your QSL manager happy – please send him an envelope, you might get a surprise!

WHICH PACKAGE IS BEST? If you look at the photo, the large packet contains the most cards, plus a 50p saving just for choosing the second class postage rate compared to the smaller packet sent first class. At £2.80 for up to 2kg, it pays to save your cards, sort into prefix order and send to us less frequently. It's also much quicker for us to process that way too.



New 4m spectrum for digital experiments

Ofcom have agreed the use of 70.5MHz to 71.5MHz by radio amateurs for digital experimentation. Use will be permitted only via a Special Research Permit and further details of the application process will be published in due course.

For information, the following conditions will apply:

Access to this part of the spectrum will be authorised under a Notice of Variation, time-limited to 12 months and available to Full licence holders only.

Ofcom will retain the right to reallocate amateur radio spectrum at 70.5 – 71.5MHz should there be a demand for this part of the spectrum from Business Radio and/or other or new services. In the event of this happening, Ofcom will not consult on this decision. However, Ofcom will provide amateur radio users with 12 months' notice before such reassignment and this notice period will be publicised on the Ofcom website.

Amateur radio use of this spectrum will be permitted on a non-protection, non-interference basis. Please note that if use is shown to cause interference, the spectrum will be removed with immediate effect.

Permission will be subject to a geographical restriction and only granted for use in England, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Northern Ireland and Wales. (There is legacy use of the spectrum by the Scottish Government that precludes licensing for amateur radio).

Note that in a similar manner to 146-147MHz, international coordination is likely to be required as use must be compliant with the level published in the Harmonised Calculation Method (HCM) Agreement of +6dBuV/m.

RadCom Plus

The RSGB is preparing to launch a new online e-zine with a specific focus on technical topics. *RadCom Plus* will be free to all RSGB Members and the first issue is due to go online on 1 May. Aimed at extending the range of technical information available to Members as part of their existing subscription, it will complement and expand the existing range of publications

Amongst the topics in the first issue are building a Z-Match, examining common mode chokes in detail, Sporadic-E propagation studies and a low noise preamplifier project.

RadCom Plus will not replace the existing technical content of *RadCom*, but the online publication will allow authors and readers the freedom to explore topics in much more detail and complexity.

Club of the Year

Three clubs have been chosen from the Regional winners in the Large Club category to go forward to the finals. The result will be announced at the AGM on 25 April. The three clubs in the final are (in alphabetical order) London Hackspace, Mid Ulster ARC and Worksp ARS. The Small Club award has two clubs going forward to the finals, (in alphabetical order) Caithness ARS and St George's Academy S&ARC.

Presentations will be made at the AGM in London by a representative of Waters and Stanton, the sponsors, and the result of the final will be published in the June *RadCom*.



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CONGRATULATIONS

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

60 Years

Mr R Robson, G3KGB
Mr C A Hogg, G3NRZ
Mr J E Mulye, G0VEH

50 Years

Mr R E Tucker, G3KTC
Mr J R Hey, G3TDZ
Mr T D W Morgan, G3UAS
Mr D I Gould, G3UEG
Mr M E Deutsch, G3VJG
Mr C Trayner, G4OKW
Mr M D Collar, GM8AGM
Mr M J Rogers, ZS1RZ

RSGB President to conduct contest review

Following disquiet about the adjudication of a recent RSGB contest, the Board has asked RSGB President John Gould, G3WKL, to conduct a broad review of the key aspects of contest management. In addition the Board has asked the Contest Committee to suspend and then revisit the disputed results after the review has concluded.

The Board has considerable confidence in the Contest Committee, and is sure that together with representatives of the contest community they will rise to the challenge of ensuring that RSGB contests continue to be well respected and attract top contesters as well as new entrants.

John would like to draw together a review team of up to 20 people with a range of interests within the UK contesting community.

If you would like to be part of the review team, and have the time commitment for participating in this work, please contact John via e-mail to g3wkl@rsgb.org.uk

Find training and exams

The RSGB is pleased to announce the launch of a new service on its website. The UK Course and Exam Finder allows you to search for specific courses, or for exam centres, in your area. Please go to www.rsgb.org/find-courses and enter your town or postcode.

Richard Brett-Knowles, G3AAT



Richard Brett-Knowles, G3AAT (B-K to his many friends) died in early March at the age of 91.

Born in 1924, he was educated at Wellington School, where his abilities were recognised and, in those happy days before official obsession with health and safety prevented pupils from having any practical hands-on experience of technology at school,

he was given the freedom of the science labs out of hours and built many interesting and useful things. As a result, in 1941, he went up to take a degree in Physics at St Catharine's College, Oxford in a two year accelerated program for those whose scientific talents were urgently needed for the war effort. After passing his finals he left Oxford for Malvern in such a hurry that he did not actually receive his degree for fifty years – he received both his BA and his MA together in 1991.

During the war he worked on H2S and other airborne radar at TRE Malvern and was involved with the development of the magnetron. He knew all the great names and was scathing about the aircraft crash that killed Alan Blumlein. Towards the end of the war he learned to fly and spent time behind enemy lines in the Netherlands as a member of the RAF, researching German radar technology for TRE, for which he was decorated by the Dutch after the war.

He was licensed as G3AAT when amateur licences became available again after the war and was an enthusiastic amateur for the rest of his life. He was on the air in a local net only a few hours before the stroke that killed him.

He joined the Navy in 1946 as an instructor officer and took part in the British North Greenland Expedition (BNGE) of 1952-54 as Communications Officer with the rank of lieutenant commander, for which he was awarded, as were all the expedition members, the Polar Medal. He was licensed in Greenland by the Danish authorities as G3AAT/OX and operated as an amateur whenever possible, using his service equipment.

New sessions for Train the Trainers

Train the Trainers (TtT) sessions are available free to any RSGB Member involved with training. These events are for those with no professional background in teaching. You will learn additional skills for working with a class and find the best way to help individuals understand the material. RSGB TtT days have proved really popular and places are limited. The next Train the Trainers day is on May 9th 2015, in Norwich. At the time of going to press there were still a few places available. In order to book a place, please e-mail David, G7URP via radio@dcpmicro.com.

The previously announced RSGB Train the Trainers day in Badsworth, Yorkshire on 13 June 2015 is now open for bookings. To claim your place, please e-mail info@theradioclub.co.uk

Finally, another RSGB Train the Trainers day event will take place in Merthyr Tydfil, on Saturday 11 July. For bookings and further details please contact Jimmy, MW0EQL, via e-mail to mw0eql@google-mail.com

The RSGB's new Twitter profile



We're moving Twitter accounts! From 23 April 2015 follow @theRSGB for regular amateur radio news, images, events and Member offers. Take a look and see who won our photo competition to provide the launch profile picture.

On his return to the UK he taught physics and sailing at Dartmouth Naval College before leaving the Navy to join the Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment (ASWE), where he was involved with the Sea Slug missile and other projects. After taking early retirement he worked as an electronics consultant in the aerospace industry – several of his designs are still flying in various Airbus aircraft.

In view of his scientific and historical experiences the British Library interviewed him in 2012 as part of their "Voices of Science" project and all ten hours of interview, both audio and transcript, are available online, together with short excerpts of particular interest.

He was an enthusiastic lecturer and spoke frequently on the theory and early history of radar, and life on the Greenland icecap during the BNGE. He was a long-time member of the RSGB Technical Forum, reviewing *RadCom* articles, and lectured at at least one RSGB Convention.

B-K was an unforgettable figure, very tall, bearded, always enthusiastic and technically knowledgeable. When I started to write this obituary I was deluged with anecdotes from his many friends, some of which are now included in the obituary on the RSGB website.

I learned a lot from B-K and I believe I am a stronger person in consequence. I'm sad that I will not see him again but his personality formed part of my character and therefore will always be with me.

My thanks for contributions from Lorna Boucher, Duncan & Roslyn McMillan, Tony Purser, Richard Stockwell, GOUTY, G3RZP, G3TXF, G3ZVC (KF6C), G4EVE, K1DG, & MOKTT
James Bryant, G4CLF



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 I Sapstead, 2EOCIR	Mr N J Collins, G3SPN	Mr P Williams, M0BCL	Mr R Calleja, M6RAR	Mr D O'Dell, N4QM
Mr A Pickles, 2EOCKI	Mr J Ash, G3SZO	Mr C Slater-Walker, M0BOP	Mr M Pope, M6SCI	Mr K David, ON4AKD
Mr E Coles, 2EODIH	Mr C Harvey, G3XWM	Mr T Lorn, M0GZW	Mr T Denny, M6TCD	NVRA, PI4HLM
Mr R E Springall, 2EOERS	Mr C Railton, G3YQV	Eastbourne R&EC, M0HOS	Miss D Thomson, M6TFQ	Mr P Jarvis, RS303079
Mr F Phillips, 2EOFRE	Mr G Moore, G4DML	Mr C Warwick, M0HUZ	Mr D M Trinder, M6TTG	Mr J Adey, RS303219
Mr H Cheesman, 2EOHWC	Mr A Webster-Grinling, G4FZF	Mr D Cooper, M0MGC	Mr B B S Shephard, M6UBN	Mr C Fletcher, RS303282
Mr K Jones, 2EORTQ	Dr M Guest, G4GON	Mr N Carey, MONAW	Mr A Newbould, M6VRC	Mr A Bolster, RS303371
Mr P Miller, 2EOTWP	Mr R Chance, G4NEC	Mr J Kay, M0PEK	Mr A Wallace, M6WDR	Mr J M Swimley, RS303416
Mr A Walker, 2EOWNNW	Mr S Brown, G6UKM	Dr S Wing, M0SCX	Mr D Silkstone, M6WFM	Mr P Regan, RS303418
Mr D Swann, 2E1AII	Mr R Knight, G7CSM	Mr T Balls, M0TAR	Mr J Wraith, M6XJW	Mr W Trofimiuk, RS303495
Mr P Whittaker, 2E1FLD	Mr I Glossop, G7ILG	Mr M Rigby, M0TGW	Mr C Chappell, M6ZCC	Mr A B J Blackwel, RS303507
Mr A Wilson, 2E1HYD	Mr N Ward, G7OVM	Mr R Baxter, M0ZVF	Mr S Collins, M6ZZQ	Mr D Newman, RS303542
Mr D Rodger, 2MODJT	Mr M Brind, G7RSV	Mr P Joslin, M1BRR	Brecon & Radnor ARS, MCOHTO	Mr S Roberts, RS303545
Mr T Hawes, 2MOTIP	Mr R Holmes, G7SVQ	Mr R W Parsons, M3ECW	Mr J Jones, M10JPL	Mr F Luman, RS303553
Mr D Owen, 2WOGIA	Mr A Clark, G7VFW	Mr C Davis, M3RRL	Mr D Neill, M16IPB	Mr C Ward, RS303608
Mr A Paffey, 2WOPAN	Mr G Burchell, G7VXS	Mr S Mallinson, M3SGI	Mr R Taylor, M16TFN	Mr I Warnecke, RS303630
Marconi ARC, 9H1MRC	Mr I Hudson, G8BQT	Mr S Pye, M3YXQ	Mr I Gourlay, MM0HRL	Mr A Smith, RS303631
Mr A Rutherford, GODHI	Mr I Smith, G8JZY	Mr M J Lawrence, M6CFX	Mr T Kerby, MM0TKE	Mr A Boon, RS303646
Mr A Bassett, G0LLX	Mr A Hyde, G8VQX	Mr J Darmont, M6EIM	Mr D K Gemmell, MM3RBF	Mr A Coote, RS303651
Mr F Wilson, GOOHF	Mr D Stolling, GM0SEF	Mr S Milner, M6EKP	Mr R McDonald, MM6FCA	Mr M Simpson, RS303763
Mr G P Toop, G0ULZ	Mr C Murray, GM4EAU	Mr S Burtals, M6FCB	Mr D Bell, MM6NAB	Mr L F Bell, RS303792
Mr M Hand, GOWCI	Mr M Mead, GW3TZZ	Ms L Smith, M6FFU	Mr G Ross, MM6ULE	Mr D Davies, RS303795
Mr M Bottomley, GOWNJ	Mr R Moss, GW7UVO	Mr K Phillips, M6FGI	Mr J Painter, M03YLQ	Mr R Brown, W1XYX
Mr C Weeds, G1BZE	Mr A Ruopolo, IZ8STN	Mr D Green, M6GFG	Mr R Smith, MW3YYQ	Mr D Flack, W6DLF
Mr D Morton, G1IAD	Mr A Harpham, KBOASQ	Mr R Hodson, M6HPD	Mr R Harris, MW6FEH	Mr S Walkowski, WA2WVF
Mr M Riches, G1TXO	Mr W H Eldridge, KDOOGY	Mr I Ross, M6IMZ	Essex AR DX Group, MXOXYD	Mr T Raffaelli, WB2NHC
Mr R Harding, G1XNN	Mr L Unruh, KE6HFW	Mr J Seporaitis, M6LYT	Mr C J Shelton, N3JS	Mr B Thomas, WT4BT
Mr J Telfer, G3IGQ				Mr D Hindson, ZL2DXR

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

Mr G D Clarke, 2EODAQ	Mr D A Atkinson, G1LZL	Mr M E Zubrzycki, G4PYW	Mr J Borradaile, G8CAU	Mr T Parsons, M0TPX
Mr P M Smith, 2EOEME	Mr A H Hemming, G1MJO	Mr A F Tracey, G4PZX	Mr S A Tolputt, G8IUN	Mr W Walker, M0WTV
Mr K Rowland, 2EOFFG	Mr K B McDougall, G1NPN	Mr C R Blezard, G4RNC	Mr SJ Blew, G8JXK	Mr M Bayliff, M0WGT
Mr G Kenyon, 2EOOFF	Mr C Ladley, G1PRS	Mr Howe, G4RTJ	Mr K R Edwards, G8LPN	Mr G Elesmore, M1AJV
Mr J Berrisford, 2EORLG	Mr D Maciver, G1SJU	Mr N E Drury, G4SCO	Mr L E Steele, G8MEH	Mr F P Reilly, M1CYV
Mr A Lane, 2EOSDR	Mr A Dimmock, G1SUK	Mr D M Seddon, G4VCO	Mr R L Morley, G8PRN	Mr G Jones, M1DBF
Mr S Skirving, 2E0SIA	Mr M C Brady, G1XGN	Mr I Kirkpatrick, G4WTF	Mr C J Wood, G8PSZ	Mr M M Gifford, M1DLE
Mr J Leighton, 2EOYDX	Mr D Coate, G1YHE	Mr T Hathaway, G4WVH	Mr W Norman, G8VCQ	Mr W Mitchell, M1EBU
Mr M Breslin, 2EOZMB	Mr G G Moulds, G1YJF	Mr J G Hetherington, G4YGU	Mr P J Savage, GE7LTG	Mr M Ribton, M1ETC
Mr W G Ashley, 2E1GYN	Mr P R Oatway, G1ZKJ	Mr J P Pether, G4YKG	Mr T Valentine, GM1XHZ	Mr T Denby, M1TAD
Mr P R Cosens, 2E1MEL	Mr P Bolton, G3CVK	Mr M J Simmens, G4YQP	Mr G Martin, GM3NVQ	Mr B Wilson, M1VLS
Mr K Senior, 2E1XDJ	Mr W A Stonehouse, G3HPC	Mr K D Faichney, G4ZJE	Mr M Hall, GM3VQQ	Mr R J Palmer, M3DPQ
Mr G P Gorman, 2I0LJW	Mr B M Sandall, G3LGK	Mr D Dalton, G4ZTY	Mr R Bower, GM4DLG	Mr J Maguire, M3EEJ
Mr J Woods, 2MOEAC	Mr J R T Royle, G3NOX	Mr P Bridle, G6CHD	Mr A Sergeant, GM4HRL	Mr F Curry, M3FEC
Mr J M Rodger, 2M0FYG	Mr J R Clarke, G3OWQ	Mr R King, G6CYA	Mr K J Maxted, GM4JMU	Mr P Taylor, M3GSM
Mr M A Bernawi, 9M2IR	Mr R D Gynn, G3SBP	Mr E Myer, G6MJG	Mr A H J Catts, GU3LPV	Mr M Morse, M3MMZ
Mr H F Rolfe, GOBSF	Mr F H Mundy, G3XSZ	Mr G Richardson, G6NLX	Mr E Shipton, GW0DSJ	Mr G T Rigden, M3SNX
Dr S Browne, GOGWA	Mr E G Birks, G3XXO	Mr D C Brown, G6PRL	Mr TG Jones, GWOJAI	Mr R Dadge, M3WRM
Mr D C J Thomas, GOHAY	Mr P Smith, G3YWT	Mr O W Burgess, G6SSM	Mr D J Woolen, GW3SRF	Mr D Rasbarry, M6EDO
Mr T B Sandilands, GOHBV	Mr R P Finch, G4AJO	Dr C S Hunt, G6WVO	Mr J E Parry, GW3VVC	Mr R E Adams, M6GZE
Mr D Long, GOHWW	Mr P Spelman, G4EKD	Mr P J Willetts, G6YAK	Mr R S Johns, GW4NXD	Mr K Farrington, M6KFE
Mr H Percy, GOIBT	Mr C R Rouse, G4ESU	Mr M B Hobbs, G6YLN	Mr W Needham, GW6AMK	Mr D Jones, M6OCO
Mr T Lister, GOIEH	Mr D Cherrington, G4FIF	Mr R W Fuller, G6YQU	Mr M A Jones, GW7ODP	Mr J Grint, M6RNS
Mr S R Swinbourne, GOLJV	Mr B B Callaway, G4FIG	Mr P J Read, G6ZZE	Mr P Begali, I2RTF	Mr A Fletcher, M6ZAB
Mr N V Sheriden, GOLWG	Mr P H Vallow, G4FSK	Mr D Robinson, G7EHY	Mr B Addis, MOART	Mr N P Robinson, M13NPR
Mr G J Dunster, GOMFQ	Mr P Torrance, G4HAK	Mr P Jennings, G7FMF	Mr N Lock, MOCBF	Mr W H Wear, M15AFM
Mr P Bakrania, GOMHA	Mr A Hyde, G4ILF	Mr A Doswell, G7GQA	Mr S J Lowe, MODIL	Mr J McKechnie, MM0JMK
Mr C R J Healey, GONCS	Mr V K Tatman, G4IMH	Dr D Nelson, G7GUK	Mr J T Hinds, M0EOU	Mr S Smith, MM0SAJ
Mr D McLaren, GOOLD	Mr B Mount, G4JFX	Mr R G Johnson, G7HHK	Mr G Stockley, MOIDL	Mr G Skea, MW0GUK
Mr R Carrington, GORRZ	Mr T Bowen, G4JKQ	Mr A Murfin, G7HMZ	Mr J Bull, MOJPB	Mr A N Brown, MW0WEE
Mr P Westripp, G0SLD	Mr G S Taylor, G4JZF	Mr B F Bellamy, G7IIO	Mr K Fell, MOKRL	Mr P A Webb, MW3HCW
Mr D H Davies, GOTLT	Mr J J G Phaff, G4KDN	Mr D A Webb, G7JAK	Mr N A Smith, MOLAF	Mr R Haynes, MW6RBH
Mr R R Darwent, GOUHF	Mr P M Goodfellow, G4KUQ	Mr R A Brown, G7SYW	Mr M Hetherington, M0MWH	Mr T Kallio, OH2BBT
Mr G Skupski, GOVMA	Mr J G Wylie, G4LYX	Miss S A Dixon, G7UCL	Mr R H Reeves, M0ROJ	Mr H R Watt, RS205768
Mr I Attridge, G1BPD	Mr J Winterburn, G4NSB	Mr J R C Spriggs, G7VRI	Mr I W Swindells, MOSWZ	Mr I Ferguson, RS215450
Mr C Robson, G1COY	Mr M O Kennett, G4OVX	Mr A T Nicol, G8BXA	Mr T P A Winyard, M0TPW	Mr D Conn, VE3KL

Errata

Brian Cottrell, G3JFR joined the RSGB in 1953 and, due to an administrative error, his details were omitted from the Honour Roll in the February 2015 *RadCom*. Our apologies to

G3JFR and we acknowledge his 61 years of Membership (as at 31/12/2014). Caithness ARS was listed as winning the Region 1 small club COTY award. It should have read the Region 2 small club award; our

apologies to the club.

The callsign of Hans Berg (SK) was been entered incorrectly as DL6TJ, but was correct below his photograph as DJ6TJ. Our apologies to family and friends.

Nevada's 45th anniversary

Mike Devereux, G3SED opened his amateur radio retail shop in the centre of Portsmouth 45 years ago. Formally trading as Telecomms, the company adopted the Nevada name in 1974 as the business grew in to radio distribution. These days the company occupies two large warehouses, selling both Hobby Radio and Music & Sound Equipment with a staff of 32.

Mike has been a very active radio amateur for over 50 years, taking part in DXpeditions all over the world. He was a recent recipient of the prestigious RSGB ROTAB trophy for his outstanding DX achievements.

Over the years Nevada has sponsored many DXpeditions and always been at the forefront of amateur radio. The Nevada staff (some of whom have been with the company more than 33 years) are all experienced radio enthusiasts who have helped Mike build the business, with their knowledge helpfulness and enthusiasm.

Now the longest serving amateur radio retail emporium in the UK, Mike is looking forward to celebrating Nevada's 50th birthday before he retires!

Mike, G3SED (centre) in the early 1970s at his first RSGB Exhibition in the Royal Horticultural Halls, London.



70th Anniversary of VE Day

Members of the RNARS London Group will be operating GB70VE for Victory in Europe for all of the month of May. The station will be on the air from the Bridge Wireless Office on board *HMS Belfast*, the IWM museum ship permanently moored in the River Thames. For more information on the Group's activities see www.gb2rn.org.uk

Terry, G4POP will operate GB4VED between 1 and 28 May from The Royal Corinthian Yacht Club, Burnham on Crouch, Essex. The main activity will be on 8 to 10 May to coincide with the yacht club's VE Day anniversary events.

Happy Retirement

David Wilkins, G5HY (right) has retired from Kenwood UK. He is well-known for attending many rallies and open days for many years. All those who had the pleasure of working with David wish him a very long and happy retirement. His successor has already started with Kenwood UK – he is Mark Haynes, MODXR and he'll be taking over all David's sales and support roles for amateur radio in the UK. If you need any information or advice on any of Kenwood's products please feel free to contact him via mark.haynes@kenwood-electronics.co.uk.



Operation Dynamo

On 18 May, the paddle steamer *The Medway Queen* will be towed from Gillingham, Kent to Ramsgate harbour to take part in the 75th anniversary of the Dunkirk evacuation (Operation Dynamo). *The Medway Queen* is one of the Dunkirk Little Ships and she carried over 7000 Allied troops to safety.

Bredurst Receiving and Transmitting Society and Hilderstone Radio Club plan to operate a special event from the ship as part of the 75th commemoration event. They plan to be operating on HF from 23 to 31 May. More details on the event from Kevin, GOPEK by e-mail to avckev@btinternet.com

RMS Lusitania anniversary

The *Lusitania* (1907) was the fastest ship on the Atlantic and took the Blue Riband Award for crossing to New York in 4 days, 19 hours and 52 minutes. She left New York for Liverpool on 1 May 1915 with 1959 passengers and crew onboard. On 7 May, a single torpedo fired from the German U-boat U-20 slammed into the starboard side of the *Lusitania* off the southern coast of Ireland. The ship listed and sank in just 18 minutes. While 761 of those on board were rescued, 1198 were not so fortunate.

In Liverpool, the Radio Officers Association will operate two separate amateur radio stations with the call GB100MFA (the original callsign of the *Lusitania* was MFA) from former Bar light vessel *Planet*, now preserved in Canning Dock, Liverpool during May. The *Planet* is a unique piece of Mersey Maritime Heritage located in Canning dock next to the Albert dock Complex, Liverpool. It is open daily from 10am to 6pm.

Cass Award

The Cass Award encourages DXpedition operating excellence. While QRV from the island of Tristan da Cunha as ZD9XF in September 2014, Nigel, G3TXF worked 9,314 unique stations during the first 14 days of his one-man DXpedition, demonstrating an outstanding effort to log as many DXers as possible and setting a new Single-Operator Cass Award record. Presented annually, the Cass Award encourages DXpeditions to maximise the number of DXers worked with a \$1000 prize for the Single-Operator DXpedition that works the most unique callsigns over a two-week interval. Congratulations to Nigel, G3TXF on his achievement in winning this year's award. Club Log founder Michael, G7VJR presented Nigel with his plaque and prize at the CDXC Annual Dinner in March.

More information on the award can be found at www.cassaward.com



Mull DXpedition

Ten members of the Camb Hams are returning to Grasspoint, IO76EJ, on Mull (IOTA EU-008) from 15 to 21 May as GS3PYE/P. They will be QRV with multiple stations on HF on 3.5-28MHz SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK with dipoles and verticals and up to 400W if necessary. VHF activity will be on 50MHz, 70MHz and 144MHz, all bands QRO with sizeable antennas. Activity will be mainly using JT6m or ISCAT on 50MHz, FSK441 on 70MHz and FSK441 and JT65b (for EME) on 144MHz, but SSB and CW is also possible. Other modes by agreement. You can submit your VHF sked requests online via <http://tiny.cc/gs3pyesked>. Please QSL only via OQRS on ClubLog for direct or bureau cards. Do not send any cards direct or via the bureau. See dx.camb-hams.com for the latest info.

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 June edition is 27 April and for the July issue it's 26 May. 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

Amateur Radio Caravan and Camping Club

www.arcc.org.uk

Weekly net every Tues and Thurs, 3.770MHz at 8pm. Meets this month: Faringdon, Oxon and Rhayader, Powys. Further details by e-mail to membership@arcc.org.uk

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

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

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC

Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

- 1 Normal club night
- 8 First 144MHz DF hunt, 6.30 for 7pm
- 13 On-air activity day

Kilmarnock & Loudoun ARC

Graham, MM3GDC,
mm3gdc@btinternet.com

- 6, 19 Open for visitors
- 12, 26 Club meeting

Livingston & DARS

Cathie, 2M0DIB,
catherine_197@msn.com

- 5 Talk/presentation on power supplies
- 12, 26 Licence training, operating
- 19 Morse training and operating

Lothians RS

Alan J Masson, GM3PSP, 0131 623 4580

- 13 Film soundtrack technology by Alan, GM3PSP
- 27 DF hunt by Peter Dick, GM4DTH

Stirling & DARS

John McGowan, gm0fsv@gm6nx.com

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Construction, training, projects and operating, 10.30am to late afternoon

Ayr ARG began activating maritime navigation with its biennial *Scottish Northern Lighthouses Award Weekend* in 1993, becoming International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend in 1998. The prime drivers of the portable activation were John Forsyth, GM400U and the late Mike Dalrymple, GM4SUC. Mike GM4SUC invited participation from 'down under' and Kevin Mulcahy, VK2CE activated the Greencape Lighthouse as VK2SEA, a

few others who also joined in. Kevin volunteered to be the Oceania coordinator and in 2000 he created the ILLW website.

Each year in memory of Mike, GM6SUC AARG activates Turnberry Lighthouse UK0000 as GB2LT.

During a recent family visit to Melbourne, Tony Devine, GM6BAO met up with Kevin, VK2CE to honour him for driving and growing the ILLW for many years. He was presented an inscribed pewter traditional Quaich Scottish drinking cup from the highlands and a bottle of Glenlivet single malt aged whiskey. The engraving said, "To Kevin VK2CE with many thanks for all your work and commitment to ILLW, vy 73 de AARG". The ILLW is held on the third weekend of August, its guidelines, past-activation reports and registration online is at www.illw.net



REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

REGIONAL MANAGER: DENNY MORRISON, GM1BAN
(CO-OPTED FROM 25/4/15), RM2@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aberdeen ARS

Fred Gordon, MM00DL, 01975 651 365

- 7 Junk sale
- 14 Rig check evening
- 21 Talk on /P equipment, Norman, GM3WIJ
- 28 Construction and on the air

Dundee ARC recently ran another successful Foundation course and the following candidates passed with good marks. Pictured (from left to right) are instructor Andy, MMOCXA with candidates Mark Cook, Stephen Gilruth and Tony Barclay. They are all going to take a break from studying for a while and spend some time getting involved with club activities while they are waiting for their licences. They will be starting on their Intermediate courses as soon as they feel ready. The Dundee Training Team are currently running another Intermediate course, and four candidates are studying hard to sit their Advanced exams in June.

Recent club activities have included an operating weekend from Monikie, when a number of members gave the club call GS4AAF a good airing and several antenna projects were carried out.

A dedicated group of members, including Mark, MM6BJJ, Martin, 2M0KAU, Mark, 2MOLEW and Paul, GM0BKC have continued to activate SOTA summits of varying levels, and have honed their skills in constructing portable setups, while new member Jon, MM6MIS has been busy building up his experience with this kind of operating. Most weeks sees Martin, 2M0KAU and Mark, MM6BJJ operating portable to promote various activities such as CASHOTA, ROC Bunkers etc and they have become familiar voices on WAB nets. The club call will sometimes be heard during such activities, as well as in the WFF programme.



REGION 3: NORTH WEST

REGIONAL MANAGER: KATH WILSON, M1CNY (CO-OPTED FROM 25/4/2015), RM3@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bolton Wireless Club

boltonwireless@gmail.com

- 11 Show & tell
- 25 Closed

Stockport Radio Society

Heather Stanley, 07506 904 422

- 5, 19 Society meeting
- 14 Club net, chaired by Roy, G6RSU
- 26 Skills night with Pete, MOPTB; 2m, HF & Morse nets
- 30-31 CQWW WPX CW 48hr contest

Thornton Cleveleys ARS

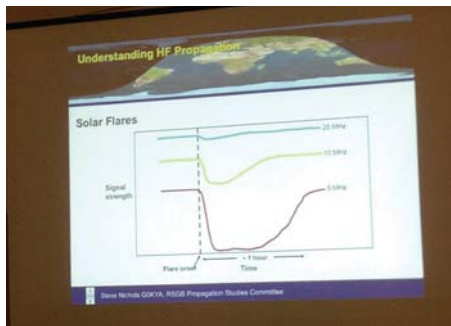
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810

- 4, 25 Closed
- 11 Practical
- 18 Fox hunt

Furness ARS were the first club to enjoy the *Understanding HF Propagation* DVD prepared by the RSGB Propagation Committee, followed by a Q&A Skype call with Steve Nichols, GOKYA. Many club members attended on the Wednesday evening in February and all found the 40 minute DVD very informative and interesting. The Q&A Skype call resulted in some very interesting questions being asked, which Steve happily answered. Furness ARS would like to thank Steve for his time and for preparing the DVD for clubs to enjoy.

Advanced notice now of a special event station taking place in June. GB125SL will commemorate 125 years since the birth of Stan Laurel (of Laurel and Hardy fame). Chris, MOKPW would like to thank Ofcom, members of the Sons of the Desert and the local MP for their support

in obtaining the special callsign. Planning is under way for the event and full details will be published in due course.



Cumbria RAYNET has already commenced their 2015 programme of Events. Events give useful information for real emergency situations and allows operators to develop their skills as well as familiarise themselves with common procedures. Working with other Groups also develops an understanding of each other's methods, which would prove to be invaluable at a time of crisis. These events include several that endure the remoteness of the Lake District Fells, including roads, footpaths and mountains. A typical example is the Fred Whitton Cycle Challenge – the ultimate cycling challenge of this country attracting nearly 2,000 entrants. A new event, The Great Lakes Run, which entails having several operators on top of some of the remote highest mountains, needs volunteers from outside the area for full coverage. Many areas within Cumbria are without mobile phone coverage at all and PMR radios suffer with inadequate reliability over the terrain. Cumbria RAYNET is always seeking assistance from other RAYNET Groups members on all their events. They are also keen to increase the membership, which is open to all licensed or otherwise and includes the fit and the feeble! There's a job for everybody with a chance to put something back into our Society. Maybe even fell walkers can put their trips to good use. If you are interested, take a look at www.cumbria-raynet.org or contact controller@cumbria-raynet.org

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

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

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

- 1 Advanced exam 7pm
- 4, 25 Closed
- 11 On the air
- 18 RAYNET by Geoff, G7GJU

Denby Dale RC Darran, G0BWB, 07974 423 227

- 1 GB2TBC The Big [Scout] Camp, Harrogate Yorkshire Showground
- 4 80m CC SSB
- 6 Rig and equipment check night
- 9-10 Mills on the Air weekend – GB2TMI and GB4WMM
- 13, 27 Club net, 7.30, 145.575MHz + 80m CC CW
- 17 WAB 7MHz contest 10–1400UTC

- 20 Introduction to Arduino by Andrew Mallinson
- 21 80m CC CW

East Cleveland ARC Alistair, G4OLK, 01642 475 671

- 1 Technical forum
- ### Halifax & DARS Martin, M0GQB, 01422 341 317
- 6, 13, 20, 27 Open net, 145.400MHz, 7.30pm
 - 12 Portable operating evening

Hornsea ARC Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573

- 6 Fox hunt
- 13 Activities and DVD
- 20 Yellowstone USA visit
- 27 Working with British Airways

Mexborough & DARS Darrell, G0FUO, 0788 742 3221

- 1 Foundation class
- 5, 8 On the air
- 12, 15 Proposed construction nights
- 19, 22 Foundation and Intermediate classes
- 26, 29 Preparation for special events

Otley ARS David, M0HLL, 01423 522 618

- 5 Foundation practical training & 2m UKAC
- 12 Foundation exam prep
- 19 Foundation practical training & tech talk by G3UNA
- 26 6m UKAC

Ripon & DARS David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778

- 7, 14, 21, 28 Club night

Sheffield & DWS Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 07884 065 375

- 6 IOTA Contest and Arran DXpedition prep meeting
- 20 Antenna forum

Sheffield ARC David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com

- 4, 25 Closed
- 11 Shack night, operating MORCU
- 18 Presentation: Robert Hart Construction Awards

Bishop Auckland RAC is a local club for radio amateurs and prospective radio amateurs alike. Members range from 14 to 70+ years and include both male and female operators and prospective operators. They meet every Thursday night at the Stanley Crook Village Hall at about 7.45pm and normally leave at around 10pm. Everyone is welcome. The club repeater GB3CD is a Yaesu DR-1 C4FM/FM Digital Repeater running full fusion: RV55 output 145.6875 input 145.0875 CTCSS J/118.8Hz. This repeater is connected to the Echolink internet linking system (node number 412936). Thanks go to Brian, G7OCK for supporting this facility. The club has a fully operational shack and members can operate radios using all bands. There is a separate area where members can be involved in radio construction, reading or just chatting. Coffee, tea and biscuits are optional extras. The club runs exams and the HQ in Stanley Crook is also an examination centre. For any training enquiries or information, please contact g4ttf@yahoo.co.uk

In March, **Houghton-le-spring ARC** ran a Foundation exam and Micky Barber passed. Congratulations from all members. Micky is pictured left with Tom, MOHYE (instructor) and David, MOOBW (RCF Quality Manager).



Wearside Electronics ARS is pleased to announce they have won the large club of the Year Award for Region 4 and are taking names for Full, Intermediate and Foundation courses. They meet on a Monday evening at the Scout HQ, Crow Lane, Sunderland SR31TE from 7pm till 10pm. The photos show some club activities, with Mark, Nick and Eric setting up a packet node and Conner making a Yagi antenna, a good night was had by all.



Otley ARS celebrated the success of its most recent Foundation course with all 4 candidates passing. Fred, M6FFL, Michael, M6FFK, Simon, M6FSA and Sacha, M6XGF are now all looking forward to getting on air as often as possible as well as supporting the next cohort of 8 new trainees just embarking on the Foundation course. OARS would like to thank Training Manager Rod, G8AQH for his dedication and commitment in supporting new entrants to the hobby.

DEADLINE

The deadline for the June
RadCom is 27 April

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

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

Aldridge & Barr Beacon ARC
Albert, G0KFS, 01922 614 169
18 On the air, HF/2m

Bromsgrove & DARC
Dave, M6DKT, 07584 025 156
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night
6, 13, 20, 27 Data night

Central Radio Amateur Circle
Martin, G1TYV, 07906 905 071
5 UKAC 2m Contest, Barr Beacon
7, 16 Group meeting
31 Black Country Radio Rally

Cheltenham ARA
Derek, G3NKS, 01242 241 099
5, 12, 19, 26 Slow CW, 8pm,
3540-3550kHz
19 Lunch, book with G3YJE
21 Spring Challenge wrap-up

Dudley & DRS
Carl, M0ZCR, m0zcr@live.co.uk
1 Advanced exam
5 2m UKAC night on the air
9-10 Mills on the Air
12 Forthcoming special events discussion
19 MORSD on air, club casual
26 Club social & open discussion
30-31 Zoos on the Air from Dudley Zoo

Gloucester AR&ES
Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
4, 25 Operating Crickley Hill 1-4pm; club net
145.550MHz 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net, 145.550MHz,
19.30
11 QSL cards, Brian, G4CIB
13 Evening visit to the SARA base at
Sharpness
18 Second DF hunt

Midland ARS
Norman, G8BHE, 07808 078 003
6 Open meeting, shack on the air and
training classes
10 BVWS Vintage Comms Fair, Warwickshire
Exhibition Centre CV31 1XN
13 Committee meeting and training classes
20 Planning social events, training classes
27 Ragchew, shack on the air and training
classes

Mid-Warwickshire ARS
Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465
12 Day out in Warwick and lunch
26 Video/DVD evening

Nuneaton & District ARC
Neil, 2E0NEI, info@ndarc.co.uk
1 Social out & about
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 2130, 145.475MHz
15 Bring & buy sale

Rugby ATS
Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940
2 Tetrodes and pentodes, Mike, G8CTJ
5, 12, 19, 26 UKAC, radio operation and
projects
9 General radio activities
16 Designing & building a valve amp,
Mike, G8CTJ
23 Vintage electronics video, Mike, G8CTJ
30 Practical project session

Salop ARS
salopamateurradio@gmail.com
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net CW 4.30pm
144.070MHz; 8.30pm GB3LH
7 Natter night / Foundation course

13 Foundation & Intermediate exams
14 Junk sale
21 Natter night
28 Fox hunt 2

South Birmingham RS
Gemma, M6GKG,
gemmagordon.m6gkg@gmail.com
1, 18 Work in the shack
4, 25 Closed
5, 12, 19, 16 Shack coffee morning,
11am-1pm, visitors welcome
7, 14, 21, 28 Training classes,
Dave Murphy, G8OWL
8, 15 Sorting out equipment for Field Day
11 Committee Meeting, 8pm
31 Black Country Radio Rally at Portway
Lifestyle Centre B69 1HE

Stratford Upon Avon & DRS
Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664 488
11 AGM & surplus sale
25 Closed

Sutton Coldfield ARS
Robert Bird, spirit.guide@hotmail.co.uk
3, 01, 17, 24, 31 Open net, 50.135MHz
SSB, 8.30pm
4, 18 Open net, 145.250MHz, 7.30pm
10 Mills on the Air, GB4NHM, New Hall Mill,
Sutton Coldfield
11, 25 Club meeting
12 Open net, 70.475MHz FM, 7.30pm

Telford & DARS
John, M0JZH, 07824 737 716
6 Committee Meeting – Club call
GX3ZME OTA HF
13 Surplus sale
17,18 Portable 6m i Little Wenlock
20 Working portable in Little Wenlock Village
Hall field
27 Aircraft communications, tbc

Wythall Radio Club
Chris, G0EYO, 07710 412 819
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Nibbles night in the shack,
7.30pm
2 RSGB 432MHz Trophy, 3pm
3, 10, 17, 14, 31 Club net 145.225MHz or
GB3WL, 8pm
4 RSGB 80m Club Championship SSB,
8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Morse class, 7.45pm
5 Free 'n' easy, 144MHz UKAC contest
12 Committee meeting, 8.30pm
13 RSGB 80m Club Championship DATA,
8pm
16-17 RSGB 144MHz contest
17 RSGB Backpackers 144MHz contest,
12 noon
19 Visit by Don Beattie, G3BJ, President,
IARU Region 1, 8.30pm
21 RSGB 80m Club Championship CW, 8pm
25 Curry night at the Monsoon, 6.30pm
26 Visit by Don Field, G3XTT, Editor of
Practical Wireless, 8.30pm
30-31 CQ WPX CW contest, all day
31 Club trip to Black Country Radio Rally,
8.30am



Wythall RC is celebrating after some record-breaking news in their latest amateur radio exam results. In March, a total of 8 candidates sat the Foundation exam and all 8 passed with flying colours! This represents the highest number of candidates passing at the same time since the club began offering training several years ago. Mat, Zach and Alastair took the club's online Foundation course and met up with Jonathon, Zaid, Dave, William and Kevin, who all studied with the club's trainers in the club facilities, to take the exam together. All eight now have their M6 callsigns and have already been heard on the air around the Midlands. From left to right are Jonathan, Dave, Zaid, Mat, Zach, William aged 13 in the front, Alastair and Kevin.

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

REGIONAL MANAGER: LIZ CABBAN, GWOETU
(CO-OPTED FROM 25/4/15), RM6@RSGB.ORG.UK

Conwy Valley ARC
Wynne, GW6PMC, 01745 855 068
6 AGM

Dragon ARC
Stewart, GWOETF, 07833 620 733
4 Discussion night
18 Surplus sale

North Wales Radio Society
Ceri, 2W0LJC, 2w0ljc@mail.com
7 General meeting
14 Technical topics
21 Low power and aerials, baluns &
earth tuners, David, G3UFO
28 Natter night

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

REGIONAL MANAGER: JIMMY SNEDDON, MW0EQL
(CO-OPTED FROM 25/4/15), RM7@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aberystwyth & DARS
Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853
14 Fox hunt
28 Club net 145.500 then 145.550MHz

Cleddau ARS
Howard, MW0HVB, 07955 433 456
4, 11, 18, 25 Club night
5, 12, 29, 26 Club net

Llanelli ARS
Craig, MW0MXT, 01269 845 773
4, 25 Closed
11 Social evening & DVD night
18 Junk sale & club raffle

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

REGIONAL MANAGER: PHILIP HOSEY, MI0MSO,
RM8@RSGB.ORG.UK

Bangor & DARC
Norman, GI3YMY, 02891 462 225

The March meeting of Bangor & DARS began with a talk on test equipment for the radio amateur. The photograph shows the speaker, Norman, GI3YMY pondering on a tricky question. Harry, GI4JTF was the invaluable visual aid controller. The May meeting will be a film and talk on World War 1 radio equipment by Richard, GI4DOH.



Bushvalley ARC members Paul, M1AIB and Robert Pickerton can be seen setting up the special event station GB8RAF on 28 and 29 March from Eglinton airfield in Northern Ireland.



- 21 Marconi's early experiments, Brian Hawes, G2KQ
- 24 Trip to HMS *Belfast*
- 28 Top Band pedestrian hunt

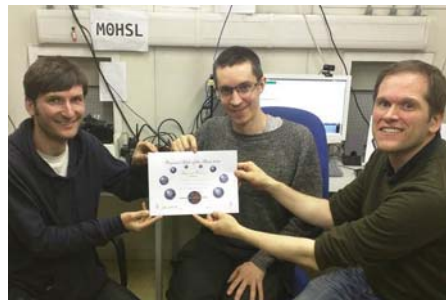
Southgate ARC

Mr K Mendum, G8RPA, g8rpa@arri.net
13 Computer Clinic by Keith G8RPA

Verulam ARC

Peter, G4HSO, g3v@btinternet.com
14 Social with GB3VH group, 7.30pm, Rose and Crown, Sandridge
19 Achieving DX contacts with vertical antennas, Roger, M0RBK

At London Hackspace radio shack they are proud to show off their RSGB club of year competition award. In the photo you can see (left to right) Paul, MOOKE, Matt, G7SII and Ryan, MORYS (photo taken by Mat, M6FTM). On top of the award, recently 8 candidates sat and passed the Intermediate exam. The RCF exam inspector, Mark, paid a visit and reviewed their procedures and was pleased with the conduct and procedures. Also shown are instructors John, G6VZM (left) and Ryan, MORYS (right) and eight amateur enthusiasts all with indicative pass marks.



Reading & DRC are pleased to announce the success of all four candidates following their Intermediate course held over 3 weekends during March. In the picture (L to R) Ian, 2E0DII, Bob, M6EJF, Stephen, M6SFU and Dorian, 2E0DOZ. The club wishes them well in their further studies toward the Advanced exam later this year. The next course will be at the Foundation level to be held over two Saturdays during June. Details at www.radarc.org/Training.htm



Verulam ARC's Chairman, David, G4HHJ gave an illustrated talk to club members in March on homemade beam antennas. The talk covered the history of the discovery of electro-magnetic waves and their successful propagation by Marconi. Different designs of antenna arrays were explained before addressing the practicalities of home construction using a wide range of materials. These include supports made from thick plastic, aluminium strengthening plates, wooden booms supporting fibreglass poles holding wire. The message was clear: 'the greater use of DIY components, the bigger sense of achievement when it works'.



REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

Bracknell ARC

Andy, M0HAK, andy@m0hak.co.uk
6, 20, 27 Club net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
13 Introduction to test gear

Burnham Beeches RC

Dave, G4XDU, 01628 625 720
4 Club 2m contest
18 Visit to Martin Lynch & Sons shop

Edgware & DRS

Mike, G4RNV, 020 8950 0658
14 Best QRP moments chat led by Steve, G0PQB
28 Constructors Cup competition

Harwell ARS

Malcolm, G8NRP, 01235 524 844
12 Show and tell evening

Newbury & DARS

Rob, G4LMW, 01635 862 737
27 AGM

Radio Society of Harrow

Linda, G7RJL, 020 8386 8586
1 Radio Northwick Park, Ben, G7VHO
4 May Day, GX3EFX at Harrow Museum
15 80 years of Radio Astronomy, Paul Hyde, G4CSD
23 F6KRK UK visit
29 GX3EFX/P at Old Reading view point

Reading & DARC

Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697
7 Martin Lynch raid at the new Emporium
14 Fighting radios of the Second World War by Tony Helm
28 The FUNcube Satellite Project by David, G0MRF

Shefford & District ARS

John Burnett, 2E0OAK, 07860 804 793
7 Closed (hall in use for election)
14 Software I have used, Ken, G4YRF, Steve, MODYR and Ian, G1JCC

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

Basingstoke ARC

Peter, G0KQA, 01256 414 454
18 WebSDR at Farnham, Noel, G8GTZ

Brede Steam ARS

Dan, M0HOW, 01424 882 008
6, 13, 20, 27 At the shack

Bromley & DARS

Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089
19 Electric cars

Coulsdon ATS

Mike, M1CCF, 020 8654 2582
11 Our new website, Steve, G3WZK

Crawley ARC

John, G3VLH, 01342 714 402
27 4-square antenna for 21MHz, Garth, G3NPC

Cray Valley RS

Richard, G7GLW, 07831 715 797
7 Datamodes for all occasions, MOTAZ
21 Crystal Palace TV mast, Guy, G0UKN

Crystal Palace R&EC

Bob, G300U, 01737 552 170
1 Electronic components – part 1

Darenth Valley Radio Society

Mike, G8AXA, 01689 856 935
13 Renovating an aeroplane, Jonathan, G6DIQ
27 Radio on the air

Dorking & DRS

David Browning, M6DJB,
djb.abraxas@btinternet.com
26 Practical evening

Eastbourne E&R

Peter, g4urt@btinternet.com
9-10 Mills on the Air
11 2m digital EME, Peter, G4URT
23-24 Castles and Stately Homes on the Air
25 Prep for Sussex Electronics Radio Fair

Hastings E&RC

Gordon, 01424 431 909
27 Demonstration of amateur radio

Hilderstone R&EC

Chrissie Turner, hilderstoneclub@gmail.com
9-10 Mills on the Air

Hordean & DARC

Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846
14 Natter night/social
(date change due to elections)
21 15-minute talks

Horsham ARC

Adrian, G4LRP, 07714 664 957
7 Antenna gain, Mike Underhill, G3LHZ
14 Social at The Fountain, Ashurst
21 Fox hunt

Itchen Valley ARC

Quintin, M1ENU, 023 8078 7799
8 Members' Forum at Otterbourne
Church rooms
22 HF Propagation (RSGB video)

Mid-Sussex ARS

Sue, G6YPY, 01273 845 103
1 Quiz and cakes night
8 Prep for Mills on the Air
9-10 Mills on the Air
15 Construction contest
22 Radio night and table top sale
29 Fox hunt

Southdown ARS

Andy, M6GND, 01323 486 924
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Beachy Head RS 12.30pm,
144.300MHz SSB, 145.500MHz FM,
51.600MHz FM
4 CW 10am 7.028MHz 12wpm
G3AGF, G3DQY, G4BJP
6, 13, 20, 27 Cafe Meet 1pm + Beachy
Head RS 2.30pm 144.300MHz SSB,
145.500MHz FM, 51.600MHz FM
6 Hailsham Shack 10.30am
7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28 10am 12wpm
CW, 7.028MHz, G3AGF, G3DQY, G4BJP
9-10 Mills on the Air, Polegate Windmill
11 Monthly club meeting, 7.30pm

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2m net, 145.350MHz FM,
9pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Top Band net, 1905kHz,
9.30am
11 Homebrew PCB design and production,
Steve, G4FYF
18 Chat and fix-it, John, G8MNY

Sutton & Cheam RS

John, G0BWV, 020 8644 9945
21 AGM & constructional contest

Swindon & DARC

Jonathan, M0ZGB, m0zgb@btinternet.com
7 What can you do with your licence? G4LDD
14 Activity night
21 Club Log, Tony, G4LDL
28 AGM

West Kent ARS

Keith, G4JED, info@wkars.org.uk
11 Practical Radio Astronomy, Paul, G4CSD

Wimbledon & DARS

Kim, G6JXA, 07812 735 507
8 Mini talks
29 On the air

Worthing & DARC

Gordon, 2E0GTG, gordon.h128@gmail.com
3 Sunday breakfast 9-10am
6 Introduction to working DX, Keith, G3VKW
10 Mills on the Air, High Salvington
13 Discussion evening
27 G3WOR on the air

The first of a series of practical amateur radio sessions with the **New Forest ARS** took place at Lymington Community Centre in March. Under the direction of Peter, M0HYT assisted by Keith, G8MZF, Richard, M0RBF and Geoff, M0ORE, 9 members constructed 145MHz vertical antennas. These were half-wave length base loaded vertical in plastic and fibreglass tubing. Once completed each was tested for bandwidth and VSWR on Geoff's analyser before being finalised. All, after minor adjustments, gave good flat responses over the whole band with a typical VSWR better than 1.3:1.

The photos show Peter and Richard discussing final adjustments to the matching coil and matching coils being wound onto the base tube.



Coulsdon ATS has a revamped website. The web address is www.catsradio.org

During the last month members of **Itchen Valley ARC** have been busy with a variety of activities from organising a Thinking Day on the Air station for 75 Brownies working on their Communicator badge to having two teams in the Commonwealth Contest. Seven members took part in the contest, fielding 2 teams: one of veterans and one of digital only operators. Of course, the veterans had by far the better scores but Team Digi made some good contacts. Actually the newer CW decoders are very good and likely to improve even more thanks to initiatives like AG1LE's machine Morse learning challenge. Given the very formulaic content of a CW contest exchange it is

very feasible to enter with just push-button CW sending and automatic reception – in fact, CW is treated just like any other data mode. The added bonus is that most contests tend to have a high proportion of entrants that used perfectly spaced computer generated CW – far better for decoders than the swing of good hand sent CW (and easier still than bad hand-sent CW!). The down side of 'CW as data' is the dependency on a complex computer based solution. In addition to the radio itself, my own set up has an external keyer, and external Softrock SDR receiver and an automatic antenna switch to switch the antenna from the SDR to the rig when transmitting. All this is, of course, driven by a complicated stack of software. The two photos show Brian, G0UKB and Emily, M0EBJ discussing the setup of GB2FOX and the second shows Brian, G0UKB operating in the Commonwealth Contest.



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLANDS

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

Bristol RSGB Group

Robin, G3TKF, robin@g3tkf.co.uk
25 Challenges predicting HF propagation,
Prof Cathryn Mitchell, Bath University

Callington ARS

John, G4PBN, 01822 835 834
6 HF radio from bits and pieces, G4EOG

Cornish Radio Amateur Club

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939
6 Committee meeting
7 Main meeting
21 Club evening

Exeter ARS

Nick, M0NRJ, 01363 775 756
4, 18 HF net, 3.675MHz, 7.45pm
5, 12, 19, 26 145.575MHz net, 7.45pm
11 VHF QRP Field Day planning, Skip,
2E0TGT, Moose Centre, 7pm

Exmouth Amateur Radio Club

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274 172
6 CW practice night
20 4m operating night, Steve, M0ZZT &
John, G8UAN

DEADLINES

The deadline for the June RadCom is 27 April and for the July edition it's 26 May. Please send your news as early as possible before the deadline.

- Plymouth Radio Club**
David, 2E0DTC,
d.beck123@btinternet.com
12 M6 help night
- Riviera ARC**
rivieraarc@gmail.com
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net, 145.425MHz, 8pm
7, 21 club night
- Saltash & DARC**
Mark, M0WMB, 01752 215 546
4 Dartmoor Radio Club Rally
7 Discussion night
21 HF operating
- South Bristol ARC**
Andrew, G7KNA, 07838 695 471
7 Mills on the Air briefing
9-10 Mills on the Air
21 Amateur TV, Shaun, G8VPG
28 Open house and on the air night
- Weston Super Mare RS**
Paul, G3SDH, g3sdh@btinternet.com
4, 11, 25 Natter night
18 RSGB video on HF propagation
- Yeovil ARC**
Rodney, M0RGE, 01935 825 791
14 Yes, but *why* does it work? G4DCH
21 Morse Practice with G3MYM
28 On the air



On 12 May, Plymouth RC is holding an M6 Help Night for new M6 licence holders. It takes place at Oak Villa Social Club, Ferndale Road, Weston Mill, Plymouth PL2 2EL. More details are online at www.plymouthradioclub.co.uk

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

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

- Braintree & DARS**
John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947
4 Mills planning / natter night
18 AGM
- Cambridge & DARC**
David, M0ZEB, 01353 778 093
8 QRSS, John, M0MTW
22 Chatteris Weather website and its technology, Ian, M0HTA
- Chelmsford ARS**
secretary@g0mwt.org.uk
5 Operating portable, Charlie Davy, MOPZT, Oaklands Museum
18 Skills workshop at Danbury Village Hall
- GB2CW Morse class**
Dr M Williams, G0EGA, 01986 782 444, evenings only
23-24 GB2CW Morse lessons start, 145.250MHz, 8pm
- Felixstowe & DARS**
Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com
10 GB2WTM at Woodbridge Tide Mill for National Mills Day
25 Closed
- Norfolk ARC**
Chris, G0DWV, 01603 898 678
6 Quadcopter talk and demo, Geoff, G4ODC
13 Informal
20 Images of the universe 2, Paul Money, astronomer
27 Repeater group, Bright Sparks, Morse in the back room
- South Essex ARS**
Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040
12 Number Stations talk by Terry, G1FBW
- Thames ARG**
Mark, M0IEO, 07940 579 116
1 Antenna building, Justin, G0KSC
1-4 Camping at Crowsheath Farm
22 TARGET night (construction for beginners)
30 Wildlife Day, Canvey West Marsh

Braintree & DARS started the month with a social event, a sausage and mash supper. The club provided the food that was prepared and cooked by committee members. Following supper the members all sat round and had a natter. The

In March, Yeovil ARC set up a display of vintage radio sets and a station on the air, organised by Bob, G8UED, at The Easter Fayre at Galhampton. The vintage display consisted of a WWII domestic utility wireless set and Lancaster bomber 1155 set, all in working order restored by Bob, G7LNI. George, G3ICO put on a station for CW and the log book shows GM4KKGK on 30m at about 1.5W, CO8LY in Cuba on 18MHz with 5W, LZ137LO in Bulgaria on 18MHz 5W, SM6NT in Sweden on 14MHz 5W, T77C in San Marino on 18MHz 5W and YL5X in Latvia on 14MHz 5W. A lot of interest was shown by the public at the event. In January two members sat the Foundation level exam and both passed with flying colours. Dave is now M6FDF and Michael is M6FCT. Congratulations to them both. If you hear them on the air please give them a call.



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main topic of conversation being the club's 40th anniversary in May. Various ideas about social events were discussed, but the main idea is to use the anniversary as a spring board to promote the hobby and the club within local schools and youth groups. This idea met with approval and will be worked on. The next meeting was all about moonbounce with a presentation by John, G4SWX. He has a wonderful remote station and using a slide show and some audio recordings showed how improvements in radio and antenna technology have made it easier for the radio amateur to work moonbounce on VHF. John has made moonbounce contacts in 110 countries using CW and data modes. Some of his contacts have been with quite modest DXpedition stations.



GB2RWM will be on the air from 10am to 4pm on 10 May for the National Mills on the air weekend from Rayleigh Windmill. Details from Dave, G4UVJ on 01268 697 978.

The 70th Anniversary of VE day is on 8 May and to commemorate it, **North Norfolk ARG** will be holding an event 'radios that helped win the war' on 9 May. This will be based on their own collection of WW2 military radios many of which will be operational – using the special call GB2VE. The event will be at East Runton village hall (near Cromer in North Norfolk). To enhance the day, other owners of WW2 radios are invited to bring them along – B2 and other spy radios would be especially welcome. As there will be limited space, it is recommended that booking of tables to is done well in advance and will be on a first come basis. Tables and entry to the event is free. For further information see www.nnarg.co.uk or e-mail secretary@nnarg.co.uk

Over the late May bank holiday weekend, GB75MQ will be active on 40 and 20m. The special event station is being put on by members of **Bredhurst R&TS** along with members of **Hilderstone R&EC**. The event commemorates the 75th anniversary of Operation Dynamo, the evacuation of allied troops from Dunkirk in May 1940. The station will be based onboard the paddle steamer *Medway Queen*, which is currently undergoing restoration by a dedicated group of volunteers. She will be towed from her berth in Gillingham Kent to Ramsgate harbour for the celebrations. She will not be able to make the trip to Dunkirk with all the other Dunkirk Little Ships but will stay moored at Ramsgate for the week. During Operation Dynamo, the *Medway Queen* made seven trips across to Dunkirk rescuing more than 7000 soldiers, more than any

other of the Little Ships earning her the title of 'Heroine of Dunkirk'. You will probably hear the young voice of 9 year old Lauren, M6HLR calling CQ as she really gets stuck in to operating on special event stations.



The first Essex 2 Metre Activity Day, organised by the **Thurrock Acorns ARC**, took place in March. The event was aimed at encouraging more use of the 2m band across the county and beyond. To support the event, the Essex Ham team gathered at Shoebury East Beach for a 2m field day. 14 locals attended, working both 2m FM and SSB, plus a little HF for good measure. A smaller team of Essex Hams operated from Galleywood, near Chelmsford. Well done to Essex Ham member Edmund, MOMNG for trekking to Firls Beacon in East Sussex to make contact with the team in Shoebury, to support both the event and 2 metres.



Some great weather in early March saw a group of over 20 people turn out for an Essex Ham field day at Shoebury East Beach. Four HF and one VHF stations were active, with members working the ARRL contest, others testing homemade Slim Jim antennas, and some conducting on-site training. Keen biker GODZB operated some CW from the Elecraft KX3 on the back of his motorbike, whilst newly-licenced Michael, M6HSH made his first QSOs with the US using 10 watts and a car mag-mount.



March saw another successful Skills Night hosted by the **Chelmsford ARS** in Danbury. With 65 people signing in, this was the second-highest attendance to date, with a good number of Foundation and Intermediate licence

holders coming along for the mix of hands-on demonstrations, practicals plus show-and-tell. March saw a session on Ls, Cs and ATUs from Peter, GODZB, *PZTLog* author Charlie, MOPZT helped with radio programming and data modes, Steve, MOSHQ covered amateur satellite operation and Carl, G3PEM talked about the RSGB's solar eclipse experiment. Construction and patch lead help was provided by Peter, MOPSD. A very busy evening, but lots of fun. The photo shows Charlie, MOPZT programming handsets.



The Essex Ham team were asked to help promote amateur radio at the Museum of Power in Maldon on 22 March. The Museum, a former water pumping station, holds various family events each year and amateur radio formed a part of their Science Sunday educational activities. A team from **Chelmsford ARS** operated HF from the site and **Essex Ham** set up a number of demonstrations aimed at complementing the HF station. On display was a promotional video explaining what amateur radio has to offer, a screen showing SSTV images received from the ISS, a waterfall showing radio signals from an SDR, Raspberry Pi, and the popular Send Your Name in Morse, written by Nick, 2EODVX. This demo was a hit with the museum's younger visitors, as well as amateurs from around the world who sent their names and callsigns in response to live updates from Science Sunday sent using Facebook and Twitter.



March saw members of the **South Essex ARS** meet to hear a talk from Vic, G6BHE detailing his experiences of navigating England's canals, followed by an update on the club's upcoming Foundation course in April/May. The club has not been involved with training since 1997 and Steve, 2E0UEH and Pete, MOPSX brought the



team up to speed on the final preparations for the course. May sees an activation of the Rayleigh Windmill for Mills On The Air, plus a talk on secret numbers stations, by SEARS Chairman Terry, G1FBW.

In March, the team from popular amateur radio TV Show, *TX Factor*, visited Region 12. Presenters Bob, G0FGX and Nick, 2E0FGQ visited Chelmsford to talk to the **Essex Repeater Group** about D-Star and find out more about the **Chelmsford ARS** training courses. Also discussed were the county's Skills Nights, and **Essex Ham's** busy Monday Night Net. Expect to see Essex featured in an upcoming episode shortly. You can find the latest episodes at www.txfactor.co.uk



March saw **Thurrock Acorns ARC's** first on the air activity day of this year. It was a new activity that is hoped would encourage amateurs on to the airwave especially newly licenced amateurs. The club station, GX4HKO, manned by Stella started calling out on the 2 metre band for any licence amateur interested in joining in on the activity at 1pm. From then on the station was operational nonstop talking to different people in the East/South of England until it closed at 4pm. People from Eastbourne, Shoeburyness and London called in as well as many people located closer. The photo shows Stella, G0EKP keeping the log book, Peter, G4FQF Simon, M1GGY and David, M5ABP. If anyone would like to know more about amateur radio please visit www.taarc.co.uk



February's Foundation Course saw all 4 candidates pass and join as members of **Thames ARG**. The group is proud that a very high percentage of its candidates join as members, several of whom have also become tutors. Foundation courses are run over one weekend and Intermediate courses over two consecutive weekends. The 10-strong tutor team can, if necessary, provide one to one training to each candidate. Recent successes have ranged from 10 to 90 years old, including those with reading difficulties. Andy, G1GKN, achieved TV fame when he was interviewed in the programme *Defenders of the Sky*, concerning WW2 Chain Home Radar. Later in March nearly 20 members braved the bitter easterly wind to spend the day at Two Tree Island, Leigh-on-Sea to activate the club callsign GX0TRG. Copious quantities of tea and bacon

rolls provided by Luke, M6LNT kept spirits high and helped make the day.



Congratulations go to four members of **Hilderstone E&RC** who passed their Foundation exam: Morgan, M6UEX, Matthew, M6LFF, Lyne, M6FFU and Ian, M6WFI. The club welcomed Paul, G1DRX back into the hobby: he is the Margate RNLi Lifeboat Operations Manager and he was inspired by the enthusiasm of club members during the SOS Radio Week event in February. At the last meeting the club enjoyed an interesting and useful talk by Erwin, G4LQI on how to build your own antenna to pick up radio signals from around the world. Erwin is a very experienced radio operator and he was pleased to pass on his knowledge to the new recruits.

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

Derby & DARS

Richard, radio@dadars.org.uk
5 Junk sale
12 Committee meeting

Derbyshire Spire Radio Club
Peter, M6DPF, 07847 806 378
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night

Leicester RS

Alex, G8FCQ, 07531 201 640
9-10 GB2WWM for Mills on the Air,
Wyomndham Windmill, LE14 2BU

Loughborough & DARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319
5 TRIO equipment night
10 Mills on air, Shephed Watermill
12 TX Factor from the internet
19 On air, 23cm from Markfield
26 Practical evening

Melton Mowbray ARS

Brian, MOYBX, 07772 659 622
15 Using DDS for VCOs etc

Nunsfield House ARG

Ken, G3OCA, 01332 720 976
1 DF Doppler, continuing the build
8 Amateur satellites, Iain Young, G7III
15 Filters part 2
22 Surplus sale
29 Getting Spectrum computer ready for eBay

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 07971 166 250
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
14 Drones and Photography by Mark Wingard

South Kesteven ARS

Andrew, MONRD, 07969 062 859
13 Informal
20 RAYNET, Alan Clark, MONLR, North
Lincolnshire RAYNET County Controller &
Jim Wheeldon, MOJHW
27 Informal

South Normanton Alfreton & DARC

A Lawrence, 2E0BQS, 0115 930 7322,
4, 25 Closed
11 Natter night
18 Junk sale

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, 01858 432 105
4 Club net on 145.275MHz
18 AGM; talk: how to use Echolink and D-Star

The photo shows the recent AGM and awards presentation at **Spalding & DARS**. (Back L-R) Ambrose, MODJA, Nick, G4BMH, Cerwyn, M6OCJ (front L-R) Graham, G8NWC, Rachel, M3DIS. Rachel is the first recipient of the new Brenda Hill award in recognition to services to the club over a number of years.



In March, Andrew, MONRD gave a demonstration to **South Kesteven ARS** on receiving high altitude balloon (HAB) telemetry and decoding of SSDV images in anticipation of the numerous balloon flights during the partial solar eclipse. Andrew and SKARS are planning an ambitious HAB flight of their own in June where they hope to send an Eggstronaut in to near space onboard the Eggexplorer-1 balloon as part of the GB2EGG special event station at the Swaton Vintage Day, which incorporates the 10th Annual World Egg Throwing Championships.

Andrew demonstrated his prototype payload comprising a Raspberry Pi, GPS receiver, transmitter and camera which will send back SSDV images during the Eggciting mission. South Kesteven ARS wish to recruit new members, so if you are interested in joining the flight crew and taking part in this and other activities visit their website www.skars.co.uk.

Andrew, MONRD was elected as the new Chairman of SKARS at an EGM in March. Nigel, MOCVO has stepped down following four years in the position, citing increasing business commitments. Nigel intends to remain an active member; Andrew and the other members wish to thank Nigel for his efforts over the years and wish him well with his business ventures. Sean Burton, SKARS secretary, successfully passed his Intermediate exam in March and now has the callsign 2E0ENN.

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