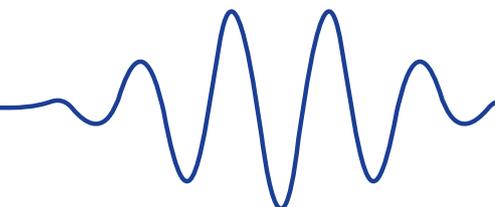




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015

This is the regular monthly Club Newsletter, sent to all affiliated clubs and societies. It contains the RSGB Matters and Around Your Region sections of *RadCom*, including all the club news and calendar information.

To include your club news into the 'Around Your Region' section, please e-mail the details to radcom@RSGB.org.uk.

To get future events listed in *RadCom* and broadcast on GB2RS, e-mail details as early as possible to radcom@RSGB.org.uk.

We need to know your club name, RSGB Region number, contact name & phone number, date of meeting and details of the event. Example: Fraser Road Radio Club, Region 9, Graham, GONBI, 01234 832 700, 29 Oct, On the Air.

The deadline for the November issue is 21 September. Future deadlines are always in the red box at the start of the Around Your Region section.

It is important that your club's details on the Membership database are up to date. You can update them yourself by logging onto the RSGB Club Services Portal at www.rsgb.org using your club callsign and Membership number.

New-look *RadCom* coming

– are your photos good enough?

As part of the forthcoming re-design of *RadCom* we are starting to implement **minimum quality standards for Around Your Region photographs**. Submitted images must be at least 1024x768 pixels, in sharp focus and must be adequately lit. Preference will be given to interesting images of club activities.

RSGB AGM 2016

Please note that the venue for the 2016 AGM will be the Glasgow City Hotel, 36 Cambridge Street, Glasgow G2 3HN. A number of Board, Director and Regional Manager positions (including that of President) will be advertised in the January 2016 *RadCom*.

Full details of the AGM will be published in the April 2016 *RadCom*.

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 voluntary activity and give an insight into the roles that individual volunteers play that demonstrates the breadth and scope of voluntary endeavour.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT John Gould, G3WKL, RSGB President

Whilst it is a great honour to be RSGB President representing the Society to key organisations both nationally and internationally, it is the interface with enthusiasts and their achievements that makes the job of President so rewarding.

It's been a fascinating 18 months. My Presidency started with an ADRF International event that was followed by the ARRL Centennial celebrations and the 2014 IARU Region 1 General Conference. My face appears frequently in *RadCom* as I recognise the splendid

achievements by many of our Members through presentations of awards from the RSGB as well as on behalf of the IARU and the ARRL magazine *CQ*.

Our main sponsors Martin Lynch & Sons, for the Convention, and Waters & Stanton, for Club of the Year (CoTY), deserve special mention. These events highlight the very best of amateur radio, and through CoTY the achievements of local clubs in reaching out to the general public, as well as encouraging youngsters and those in



new areas such as the Hackspace community into amateur radio.

There is also the unplanned. I took interest in addressing the issue of the annual 1½ tonnes of unwanted QSL cards and spoke about the need for responsible QSLing at this year's AGM. More recently I have presided over a review of RSGB contesting. I was encouraged by the attention to detail

amongst those in the review group and delighted that some of the outcomes have already been detailed and put to wider consultation.

Passionate about amateur radio, I am keen to develop the support that the RSGB gives to its Members, as well as promote this to others.

One can only improve what we have if one is prepared to get involved so my thanks goes to the thousand or so dedicated volunteers and the relatively small, but hard-working, staff at HQ.

Construction Competition

The deadline for entering the RSGB's Construction Competition has been extended until 30 September. **If you have previously registered, please re-register your entry** as a software glitch has caused entries before 8 September to go unacknowledged.

You just need to register your entry by the 30th as judging takes place at the RSGB Convention in October.

There are four classes you can enter, either as an individual or a group. If you've entered a club construction competition or undertaken a club project this year, please think about submitting that in this year's competition. Projects large or small are welcome. You don't have to design your own project: kits are welcome too.

Details, and the entry form, are online at www.rsgb.org/construction-competition

Proposed contest rule changes

The Supplemental 2015 White Paper on proposed contest rules changes is now available on the RSGB Contest Committee website at www.rsgbcc.org/supp_whitepaper2015.pdf. This document gives details of the proposed new scoring system for the UK Activity Contest series and a proposal to permit the use of Machine Generated Modes (MGM) in most VHF/UHF contests.

These two rule change were suggested at the President's Review of Contesting Workshop held in July 2015. Comments on these proposals are invited. Instructions on how to submit your response to these proposals are contained within the document.

President's Review of Contesting

Part of the President's Review of Contesting considered the internal structure of the Contest Committee. One of the recommendations was that two new posts (HF Representative and VHF Representative) be created on the Contest Committee to give a focus to the broader strategic issues surrounding HF and V/UHF contests. The people that fill these posts will be responsible for leading the development of ideas and rules for existing and new contests, for setting the objectives for RSGB contests and for recommending changes to the RSGB contest calendar if the contest objectives are not being met.

The RSGB Board and Contest Committee is pleased to announce that Nick Totterdell, G4FAL and Andy Cook, G4PIQ have agreed to join the Contest Committee as the HF Representative and VHF Representative respectively.

146 – 147MHz

Ofcom has kindly agreed that UK radio amateurs can continue to have access to 146-147MHz after the end of October when the current NoVs expire. Existing (and any new) users will need to apply for a new NoV. Details will be on the RSGB website and in the next edition of *RadCom*.

Harold Rose plate

The Harold Rose plate is awarded for an outstanding contribution to 50MHz and is normally presented at the RSGB AGM. This year it was awarded to Sergio Roca, IKOFTA but he was unable to attend the AGM in London. The RSGB Chairman had the opportunity to present Sergio with the trophy at the UK Six Metre Group AGM in Farnborough. The photo shows Chris Deacon, G4IFX, chairman of UKSMG, Sergio Roca, IKOFTA and the RSGB Chairman, Graham Murchie, G4FSG.



YOTA month

Following the success of last year's event, applications to host a Special Event Station for Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) month in December are now open. The RSGB Youth Committee has managed to secure the callsign G15YOTA (and its regional variations) for use in December, thanks to Ofcom's continued support.

The aim of the month long event is to promote amateur radio to younger audiences and to encourage them to get on the air. Special event stations will be active from countries all over the world, with each Special Event Station identifiable by its YOTA suffix. An award scheme also exists to encourage amateurs to work as many YOTA stations as possible throughout the event in December.

If your club or organisation would like to host the G15YOTA callsign in December, the only requirement is that the station is operated by young people (<26 years old) and a full licence holder is able to hold the NoV and supervise the station at all times. Applications close on 30 September and allocations will be made by 16 October. However, it is recommended to apply as soon as possible to secure your preferred date of operation.

To apply, send an e-mail to YOTA@rsgb.org.uk or for more information on YOTA month, visit www.ham-yota.com/december-yota-month/

ARISS and Tim Peake

Later this year, astronaut Tim Peake will join the International Space Station (ISS) for six months. During his time in orbit he will have contact with up to ten schools via amateur radio. These schools have been chosen by the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Society will be working closely with them and their local clubs before, during and after the contacts.

However, the RSGB would like to share this opportunity with other schools, universities and young people's organisations. If you'd like to be part of a team that develops activities and talks focused on using amateur radio to contact space, please let us know. Email gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk and put 'ARISS project' as your email subject title.

Apologies

Marcus, MMOZIF, Region 1 Regional Manager, would like to apologise to both Sterling & DARS and Cockenzie & Port Seaton ARC. Due to an administrative error, the title of 2014 Region 1 Club of the Year was awarded in error. The trophy will be re-engraved and presented to Stirling & DARS, who were the actual winners for 2014. Good luck to all Region 1 clubs for the 2015 competition.

JOTA 2015

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) takes place from 16 to 18 October. The RSGB would like to support any clubs or groups who will be taking part and the Youth Committee are keen to visit as many events as possible. Please let us know if you're planning a JOTA event – send us your details via the form on the website at www.rsgb.org/jota

Amateur Radio Survey

Five years ago a comprehensive online survey of amateur radio in the UK was conducted to inform the development of a Vision and Strategy for the Society. The Vision was published in the November 2011 edition of *RadCom* and the outline Strategy published the following year. Whilst some of the Strategy has been successfully delivered and a number of other aspects are being actively worked upon it is timely to update our Strategy.

We plan to launch a new online survey to coincide with the National Hamfest and then it will run until the end of the year. Details of how to access the survey will be carried on GB2RS and our website nearer to the time

Exams Change

It is fast approaching 1 October when the new UK licence rules will be examined. The RSGB has now published updates to the Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced training books that are now available on the 'Extras' webpages under 'Publications' on the RSGB website (<http://rsgb.org/main/publications-archives/books-extra/>).

The revised Exam Reference Data Booklets and sample exam papers will soon be available. These should enable anyone preparing for an exam after 1 October to have the current rules clear in their mind. The old licence conditions will continue to be examined until the end of September. If anyone has any questions about these changes, please contact Philip Willis, MOPHI, chair of the RSGB Training & Education Committee, via tec.chair@rsgb.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following Members whom our records show as having reached 80, 60 or 50 years' continuous Membership of the RSGB.

80 years

Mr V J Flowers G8QM

60 years

Mr D G Alexander G3KLH

Mr J H Reisert W1JR

50 years

Mr B T Davis G3UJB

Mr R M M Heath G3UJV

Mr M Hibbitt G3ULN

Mr B E Ellis G3VXF

Mr K R Punshon G4APJ

Mr K Hancock G4KIY

Mr S Birkill G8AKQ

Mr P P le Boutillier GU3UOQ

QSL Matters

In 2010 the RSGB QSL bureau asked all Members to move to using the international standard sized QSL card (140 x 90mm, 3g). There has been a reduction of around 10% in large or odd size cards, yet overall they remain at about 20-25% of the total outgoing cards. We receive very few oversize cards from overseas and keeping to a standard size and weight really speeds up the sorting process. The photo shows 100,000 QSL cards packed for sending to overseas bureau – 30% of this shipment was going to the German QSL bureau.

Shipping is charged on a combination of weight and volume, and oversize cards significantly reduces the number of cards in a package. When you have your next batch of cards printed, please keep them to 140 x 90mm and 3g.

M3 & M6 MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS. Sub Manager Roy, MORRV has been unable to confirm Membership for some 30 M3 and M6 callsigns, for whom he holds collection envelopes without Membership numbers. Tracing them is difficult because those callsign holders will have upgraded their licence but their previous Foundation callsign no longer appears on the Membership database. Please remember, everyone should list all their calls on the RSGB database and lodge separate envelopes with each callsign sub manager, (no diverts please) proudly displaying their Membership number, top left, below the callsign.

RETIRING. M1 sub manager Martin Wheal, 2EOMWW is retiring this month as he and his XYL are downsizing. Our thanks and best wishes go to both of them and we are pleased to advise that Roy, MORRV, is adding M1 to his M3-M6 workload – see website for details.

NOTE. The V73H DXpedition to the Marshall Islands is strictly QSL direct only, please don't send cards for them to the RSGB bureau.



RadCom Plus

The next *RadCom Plus* will be available to Members only during September. This issue has articles on

- a loop automatic antenna tuning system that will operate across the 80, 60, 40, 30 and 20m bands with a VSWR of less than 1.5 and achievable in less than 1 second
- a high quality and highly resilient remote antenna switch capable of switching two transceivers to six different antennas, all via a simple two wire connection that can even be connected with any polarity
- the WSJT weak signal data mode gets 'hacked' to provide highly accurate position reporting capabilities by encoding latitude and longitude data in a novel way
- digital technology meets analogue video with an impressive PAL vectorscope implemented using a relatively inexpensive field programmable gate array
- an HF multimode beacon that covers multiple bands and even includes a fully automatic ATU

Sign up to receive notification when the next issue is available by logging on to your Membership Services profile and click on the *RadCom Plus* 'sign up' icon.

Alan Boswell, G3NOQ, SK

Alan Boswell, G3NOQ was one of the RSGB's most respected Members. Until his death on 5 August 2015 he was an active member of the *RadCom* Technical Panel. He had particular skill in vetting articles on antenna matters. Alan was a delegate at many IEE (now IET) conferences. He recently collaborated with GOGSF and ZS6BIM on an article on small loops that was published in the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine in August 2014.

Alan's passing will leave a huge void in the professional antenna community, where he was very highly regarded. He will also be sadly missed by the amateur community in general and the Technical Panel in particular.

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 J Bookham, 2E0JLB | Mr J M Robertson, K5JMR | Mr K Fletcher, M6KNS | Mr D Langford, RS305357 | Mr J Haynes, RS305553 |
| Mr D Harris, 2E0MVT | Mr D Bly, K7DTB | Mr K Blatch, M6Lfq | Mr L Morgan, RS305358 | Mr D Finlay, RS305586 |
| Mr P Harper, 2E0PDZ | Mr P Tucker, M0DPK | Mr S Smith, M6MPU | Mr J Winstone, RS305359 | Mr P Woodfin, RS305588 |
| Mr R Paster, 2E0RTP | Mr D Irving, M0HRZ | Mr B Dowley, M6NCI | Mr M Roper, RS305387 | Mr R Finlay, RS305589 |
| Mr B Goodall, 2E0VRM | Mr J Welch, M6EKE | Mr G Jordan, M6OTM | Mr D Parkes, RS305398 | Mr J Barrett, RS305591 |
| Mr D Speirs, 2M0DOI | Mr O Wilson, M6EUB | Mr B Woollett, M6XBW | Mr A Bowles, RS305421 | Mr D Laczko, RS305642 |
| Mr M Blanes, EA4GFJ | Mr K Wells, M6FDH | Mr W Lewis, MW6RKF | Mr W Bruen, RS305434 | Mr J Pluquet, RS305643 |
| Mr D Mercer, G1TPA | Mr S Saville, M6FFM | Mr K Bailey, N7CCB | Mr A Naylor, RS305438 | Mr S Gibson, RS305648 |
| Mr M Tegerdine, G6SIC | Mr S Lancrick, M6FPA | Mr A B Beardsley, RS156806 | Miss J Barke, RS305447 | Mr G Jung, SO3AK |
| Mr A Clarke, G7CST | Mr D Yates, M6FQI | Mr A Gibbins, RS215570 | Mr A Baker, RS305472 | Mr T White, VK2AAA |
| Mr J Tillin, G8GJC | Mr M Dorrington, M6FSF | Mr D Ovsienko, RS304739 | Mr J M Jimenez Sevilla, RS305473 | Mr L S Nagurney, WA3EEC |
| Mr R Russell, G14JLF | Mr J Hammond, M6GUA | Mr G Paton, RS305146 | Mr A Pattison-Turner, RS305491 | Mr R Bigger, ZL1WN |
| Mr L Landers, GM5CGA | Mr G Wynne, M6GWN | Mr A Stansfield, RS305148 | | |
| Mr G Robinson, GW7BFP | Ms H Pascall, M6HBP | Mr M Stevens, RS305344 | | |

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

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mr D H S Sherwin, 2E0DHS | Mr J A Frearson, G3OVK | Mr J S W Taylor, G6YQW | Mr J Clarey, M0CGR | Mr A C Underwood, RS211702 |
| Mr J Jefferies, 2E0HUR | Mr P Webster, G3ZTV | Mr A H Mutimer, G6YYU | Dr D Westland, M0DJW | Mr A Gunnarsson, SMOGWX |
| Mr A W Sharp, G0JIA | Mr L C Bennett, G4HLN | Mr P Stainton, G6ZRV | Mr A H Watts, M0MZX | Mr B Karlsson, SM5AOE |
| Mr J A Barlow, G0LBW | Mr B R Dawson, G4OQZ | Mr A P Nelson, G8KVN | Mr M J Seaward, M0SMJ | Mr S Hersh, WA9KJE |
| Mr D E Self, G0TKV | Mr P Bradbury, G4SCY | Mr J G Doherty, G14AXV | Dr D Lloyds, MW3YDR | |
| Mr W T Grierson, G1RSL | Mr M Bounds, G6DAC | Mr N Utting, GJ7LJJ | Mr J Winskill, RS115018 | |
| Mr G Moser, G3HMR | Mr C Smith, G6NJM | Mr V Landini, I5ECW | Mr W J Corscadden, RS196742 | |
| | Mr G Branagan, G6PKV | Mr R H Arey, M0APY | | |

Half Year Commentary 2015

Unaudited Income & Expenditure Account for the six months ended 30 June 2015

| | 30-Jun-15 | 30-Jun-15 | 30-Jun-14 | 30-Jun-14 |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Income | | | | |
| Subscriptions | 423,578 | | 420,828 | |
| <i>RadCom</i> Advertising | <u>92,124</u> | 515,702 | <u>79,929</u> | 500,757 |
| Books and Products for Resale | | 123,577 | | 125,283 |
| Sponsorship | | 2,500 | | 2,500 |
| Other Services - inc Examination Services | | <u>65,898</u> | | <u>63,163</u> |
| Total Income | | <u><u>707,677</u></u> | | <u><u>691,703</u></u> |
| Contribution from Subscriptions, <i>RadCom</i>, Publication and Services | | | | |
| Subscriptions net of <i>RadCom</i> Publication Costs | 323,561 | | 312,238 | |
| Amateur Radio Costs, net of Income, Sponsorship & Exams | <u>(20,987)</u> | | <u>(28,352)</u> | |
| | | 302,574 | | 283,886 |
| Books and Products for Resale | | 33,362 | | 34,309 |
| Other Services net of expenses | | <u>1,777</u> | | <u>3,589</u> |
| Total Contribution from Activities | | <u><u>337,713</u></u> | | <u><u>321,784</u></u> |
| Less Non Activity Specific Overheads | | | | |
| Commercial Costs | (88,474) | | (72,369) | |
| Bletchley Park | (16,943) | | (18,414) | |
| Administration | (191,046) | | (177,082) | |
| Office Costs | (40,583) | | (39,215) | |
| Landlord Costs | <u>(9,319)</u> | | <u>(9,875)</u> | |
| Total Non Activity Specific Overheads | | <u><u>(346,365)</u></u> | | <u><u>(316,955)</u></u> |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Activities | | <u><u>(8,652)</u></u> | | <u><u>4,829</u></u> |
| Interest Income | | 2,720 | | 3,543 |
| Disposal of Fixed Assets | | 11,805 | | 0 |
| Spectrum Defence Fund donations | | 19 | | (1,981) |
| Legacies | | <u>(8,637)</u> | | <u>(1,188)</u> |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) | | <u><u>(2,745)</u></u> | | <u><u>5,203</u></u> |

The result for the six months ending 30 June 2015 was a deficit of £2,745, (2014 surplus of £5,203). This includes a surplus of £11,805 on the disposal of fixed assets.

Income for the half year to 30 June 2015 amounted to £707,677 (2014 - £691,703). The increase primarily reflected additional advertising revenues.

Operating costs for the half year to 30 June 2015 amounted to £346,365 (2014 - £316,955). The increase arose primarily

from expenditure on a specific campaign to increase membership numbers and a number of other initiatives.

Non-operating expenditure of £8,637 was incurred to provide test equipment for calibrated measurements for the ElectroMagnetic Compatibility committee. This expenditure was funded from the Society's Legacy Fund.

In line with its financial objectives, the Society expects to report a roughly break-even result at the end of the year.

Earthing and the radio amateur

The EMC Committee is currently revising the advice leaflet *EMC07 – Earthing and the Radio Amateur*. During the discussions it was felt it would be useful to know how many Society members are also current registered electricians. If you are a Part P electrician registered with NICEIC, NAPIT, ELECSA or any of the other recognised bodies you are invited to submit your details to the RSGB Company Secretary via email to G3KKT@RSGB.org.uk or john@askwoodhouse.com

Special Events

OT4CLM. ON4CLM goes on the air each year to commemorate the Canadian Liberation March, a 33km march that the Canadian troops did coming from the town of Hoofdplaat in Holland to liberate the town of Knokke in 1944. This is the 34th time that this commemoration has taken to the air and the organisers have been granted a special prefix of OT. The event takes place from 15 October to 14 November. See www.ot4clm.eu

GB5HDS. On 16 to 18 October, Harlow and District ARS will be active with GB5HDS for Harlow District Scouts from their club house. Local Scouts, Cubs and Guides are invited to attend. Details from Mike, G7OBS, QRZ.com

GBOPSG. GBOPSG will again be active as a JOTA station for the 3rd Prestatyn Scout Group (16 to 18 October) from the Jubilee Community Centre, Prestatyn. Contact with other Scout groups as well as all amateurs welcome.

Hall of Fame

The RSGB President, John Gould, G3WKL, received the CQ DX Hall of Fame plaque in Dayton on behalf of Michael Wells, G7VJR. John was able to present the plaque to Michael at the recent CDXC Summer Social. Michael, G7VJR is founder of Club Log, an online DXpedition log-hosting tool that has changed the face of DXpedition operating by, among other things, allowing operators to upload their logs while their DXpedition is still in progress, permitting amateurs around the world to know if they are in the log on a given band or mode.

Photo: G3TXF



Radio Meteor Science Workshop

Meteor scatter provides radio amateurs with an opportunity for working some serious DX, but what about understanding the background to this phenomenon? Many people are familiar with the 'pings' received from distant radio transmitters (such as the GRAVES space radar system at 143.05MHz) after their reflection from meteor trails, but there is quite a lot of science that can be done through observing these signals. On 31 October, the Radio Astronomy Group and Meteor Section of the British Astronomical Association will be holding a one-day workshop at Northampton Natural History Society to show what is possible through observing meteor scatter, to help beginners set up a meteor observing system, and to help existing meteor observers develop their activities. The keynote speaker will be Jean-Louis Rault, F6AGR who is President of the Radioastronomy Commission of the Société Astronomique de France and the Radio Commission Officer of the International Meteor Organisation. He will talk about the areas of meteor science where radio is offering valuable data, what can be done using amateur-level equipment and the scope for professional-amateur collaborations. Other talks will cover the practical aspects of setting up a meteor observing system and how to process your observations. The workshop is open to all, with tickets at £8 for BAA members and £12 for non-members. Pre-booking is essential as places are limited. Contact Paul, G4CSD on 01256 470 135 or via e-mail to g4csd@yahoo.co.uk for further information.

Changes at ML&S

After opening the doors at ML&S for the last 25 years at 9 o'clock, Martin has changed the opening times to 8.30am through to 5pm Monday to Friday. Saturday stays the same, 9am to 4.30pm.

The introduction of the .uk domain makes it even easier to find the Martin Lynch & Sons website. Access is by clicking Hamradio.uk (or MLandS.uk).



Youth Contesting Program

In 2015, a new IARU Region 1 Youth Contesting Program was created where young members are invited to take part in a contest from so-called 'Top Gun' stations. These young amateurs will learn how to operate the contest station, improve their contest skills and will aim for the best results together as a team. From the UK, Dan McGraw, MOWUT has been selected to take part in the CQWW RTTY contest on 25 and 26 September from the 4O3A contest station in Montenegro. www.ham-yota.com/youth-contesting-program

5MHz news

Following representations from the Hungarian national society, the Hungarian telecoms regulator has been issuing temporary permits for operation in the band 5.350 – 5.450MHz on a Secondary basis for propagation research. The permits are valid for three months and can be re-applied for at the conclusion of the period. All modes are permitted with a maximum power of 100W currently in a nominal maximum bandwidth of 3kHz.

Codebreaking in WW1

The Road to Bletchley Park is a new exhibit at Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes that looks at the pioneering achievements of those who waged a secret war and how they paved the way for the Codebreakers of World War Two. The story of signals intelligence in WW1 is a crucial one, because a large number of those involved went on to work with the newly formed Government Code and Cypher School (GC&CS) in 1919, which then relocated to Bletchley Park in 1939.

BRARS AGM

The British Railways Amateur Radio Society is holding its AGM on 10 October at the Brunswick Inn in Derby, which is easy to reach by train, bus and car. The room is available from 12 noon for meet and greet, meals and chat. The AGM will commence at 1pm. All members of BRARS are welcome to attend this meeting and participate fully in it. Anyone who would like to know more about BRARS is also welcome to attend. Membership is open to everyone who has an interest in both amateur radio and railways.



Missing pieces

G4CLD had a table at the recent Flight Refuelling amateur radio rally in Dorset. He sold a Mandol vertical antenna at the end of the rally, but unfortunately the buyer left the top section behind. Without this the antenna will not work. If this is your antenna, please contact G4CLD via the details on QRZ.com.

Robin Hood Award

The Phoenix Amateur Radio Club, based around Nottingham, has just launched the Robin Hood Award for those who make contact with fixed or portable radio stations at places associated with the legendary character. It is also available to amateurs who operate these radio stations. There are dozens of places in Britain claiming an association with Robin Hood, not just in Nottinghamshire, south Yorkshire or east Derbyshire, and there are some in other parts of the world too. Read about the award at <https://sites.google.com/site/robinhoodaward/>

GB3NC

The Mid Cornwall Beacon and Repeater Group have been shortlisted for a grant from M&S Energy to fit solar panels on their site. This will reduce the electricity bills for the six beacons and five repeaters that run from their site. The award will go to the group with the most votes, so they are asking everyone to support them. There is a voting link on their website www.gb3nc.org.uk or search for GB3NC using your favourite search engine. You have to register with your email address and receive an email from M&S to vote. Voting is open until 30 September.

RAOTA

The Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association aims to keep alive the traditions and spirit of amateur radio. Anyone with an active involvement in amateur radio (whether as a licensee or as a listener) is welcome to become a member of RAOTA either as a Full member (those with 25 years or more active involvement) or as an Associate member (for those with less than 25 years). RAOTA's magazine - *OTNews* - is published four times a year and issue 115 has recently been published. There's an article about John L Reinartz, 1XAM / 1QP (who was at the USA end of the first amateur trans-Atlantic QSO back in 1923), preceded by an article about balanced transformers and followed by an article about the design of traps for use in trap dipoles, amongst others in that issue. See www.RAOTA.org

In the Press

RSGB Member Adrian Lane, 2E0SDR made contact with an ISS astronaut and they chatted for 50 seconds before the station moved out of range. He made the call using an Icom IC-2730 VHF/UHF dual band mobile transceiver. It was reported on BBC Radio 4 and in a number of major national newspapers (he did thirteen Skype interviews in two days!). You can read more about his experience at www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/howaboutthat/11786461/Radio-ham-talks-to-space-station-from-garden-shed.html

Holly Thomas, aged ten, was interviewed by the Welsh media after gaining her Foundation licence. She is believed to be one of the youngest Welsh people to achieve the licence, and is a great example of all the young operators who are now enjoying amateur radio.

See www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-west-wales-33793881

Kevin Wood, G7BCS, Chair of Farnborough and District Radio Society, was interviewed in July by James Cannon on BBC Radio Surrey.

Get Surrey printed a two page spread about the 50th Anniversary on Farnborough and District Radio Society and the G50FRS radio station.

IOTA NA-138

Ernest, W4EG lives on Amelia Island (IOTA NA-138) and presently operating mobile. He has permission to install a tower, which should improve the operating conditions as he will have 6 to 160m available. He is happy to schedule a contact; please get in touch via email to w4eg@hotmail.com

Australian news

The WIA have updated the VHF/UHF band plans. You can read the details at www.wia.org.au/members/bandplans/data/ Changes include a move of their narrowband segment at 3.4GHz to circumvent loss of spectrum to LTE, with EME moving down to ~3398MHz (as they have an allocation that goes lower than ours), implementation of the new 144MHz satellite segment and various local changes for their 2m and 70cm usage, especially repeaters.

GB3LEU

The Leicestershire Repeater Group is pleased to announce that the new UHF beacon, GB3LEU, near Markfield, Leicestershire (IO92IQ) became operational in August on 432.490MHz. It identifies in Morse as well as JT65. Reports and comments are very welcome

to the Beacon Keeper Geoff, G3TQF, via the website www.leicestershirerepeatergroup.org.uk LRG are indebted to the RSGB Emerging Technology Coordinating Committee for licensing and the Propagation Studies Committee for supply of the beacon synthesiser and PIC identifier PCB.



W&S licensees

Recently four of the junior staff at Waters & Stanton Ltd spent two days with volunteers from Thames Amateur Group for intensive training for the Foundation Course. This was arranged via Mark Sanderson, MOEIO and other club members. All four passed and are now eagerly awaiting their new licenses. The photo shows the employees Aaron Russell, Dan Cole, Kris Wise and Dan Thomas with the two other successful candidates.



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 November issue is 21 September and for December it's 19 October. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am on the Thursday of the week of broadcast.

INTERNATIONAL

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

NATIONAL

Amateur Radio Caravan and Camping Club
membership@arcc.org.uk, www.arcc.org.uk
Weekly net every Tuesday and Thursday
3.770 at 8pm. Meet this month: Swinford,
Lutterworth

AMSAT-UK
http://amsat-uk.org/
Weekly net every Sunday 10am, 3.780MHz,
sometimes QSY to 40m (~7.1) due to condx

British Amateur Radio Teledata Group
bartg@bartg.org.uk, www.bartg.org.uk
Membership is open to anyone interested in
amateur radio datacoms. Datacoms contests
and awards organised.

British Railways Amateur Radio Society
John, MOZAA, MOZAA@BRARS.info,
www.BRARS.info
10 AGM The AGM will be held in the
Brunswick Inn in Derby, which is easy to
reach by train, bus and car. Meet and greet,
meals and chat starts at 12 noon and the
AGM will commence at 1pm.

Civil Service Amateur Radio Society
Weekly net every Tuesday, 8pm, 3.763MHz

Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association
MemSec@RAOTA.org, www.RAOTA.org
Membership is open to anyone active in
amateur radio. Maintaining the traditions and
spirit of amateur radio. Nets on Wednesday
3.763MHz at 1000, 1.963MHz at 2100,
Thursday 7.163MHz at 1100, 3.763MHz at
1930 and Sunday 3.763MHz at 1000.

Travelling Wave Contest Group
secretary@twcg.org.uk, www.twcg.org.uk
Friendly contest group for those who want to
be involved with contesting, but who don't
have a local club or whose club isn't active in
contestng, from anywhere in the UK.

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

REGIONAL MANAGER: MARCUS HAZEL-MCGOWN,
MMOZIF, RM1@RSGB.ORG.UK

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
2 Club night
14 On-air activity day
24-25 CQWW SSB Contest

Kilmarnock & Loudoun ARC
Graham, MM3GDC, mm3gdc@btinternet.com
13, 27 Club meeting

Lothians RS
Mike, MM0MLB,
secretary@lothiansradiosociety.com
14 Surplus equipment sale
28 Changing mobile phone networks,
Gavin, GMOGAV

Stirling & DARS
Myles, MM0MYL, 07890 477 516
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 7pm operating,
presentations & training
4, 11, 18, 25 Construction, training, projects
and operating, 10.30am-late afternoon

West of Scotland ARS (Glasgow)
James, 2MOUOS, 2m0uos@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club night

August saw another successful rally for **Lorn Radio Amateurs** at Crianlarich. Some new traders provided interest for a record number of amateurs attending and some have already booked tables for next year. The club would like to thank the faithful traders who come every year and hope to see them all next year.



REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

REGIONAL MANAGER: DENNY MORRISON,
GM1BAN, RM2@RSGB.ORG.UK

Aberdeen ARS
Fred, MM0ODL, 01975 651 365
1 Junk sale
8 Video night
15 Visit to Coastguard HQ
22 AGM
29 Construction & on the air

Dundee ARC has enjoyed a good summer in spite of indifferent radio conditions. The photo is of the eight successful exam candidates, (from left to right): Michael, MM6MNY, Jon, 2MODOL, Darren, 2MORRS, Martin, 2MORTO, Denis, 2MODOI, Mark, MMOLWS, Sam and Gabriel, MM0MOZ. The club congratulates these members on their achievement and looks forward to hearing them on the bands. The club took part in the International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend, with operators Martin, 2MOKAU, Mark, MM6BJJ, Mark, MMOLWS and Paul, GMOBKC. These and other members are also going to be active in the SSB Field Day, where they will be operating GS4AAF/P from Monikie, and in an activation of the Ailsa Craig, EU-123. In late September, the club will return to the winter quarters at the Dundee and Angus College campus on the Kingsway, Dundee. More Foundation and Intermediate exam classes will



be organised by Andy, MM0CXA, and several people have expressed interest. A former member, Christoph, DK5CF, who was on holiday in the area with his family recently re-visited the club and enjoyed some S050 operation.

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

Bolton Wireless Club
boltonwireless@gmail.com
12 Verticals inland and by the sea, MOUFC
26 Optical/nanowave communications,
Gordon, GOEWN

Chester & DRS
Bruce, M0CVP, 01244 343 825
6 Radar, Brian, G0GSF
13 Committee meeting
20 Club video on mast erection and an
introduction to VOACAP, Keith, GWOOKT

Chorley & DARS
Sammi, M6SXI, M6SXI.sr@gmail.com
3 Bunkers on the Air at Brindle Bunker

South Manchester R&CC
Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999
1 Survey of members' aerials, Ron, G3SVW
8 Morse practice sessions
15 Computer clinic, Dave, G4UGM
22 Royal and Merchant Navy Morse operating,
Alan, 2EORDV & Peter, G3XGE
26 Technical forum
29 Advanced course tuition review

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810
5 Natter night
12 AGM
19 Chairman's report
26 Video night

In July, members from **Furness ARS** met to operate GX4ARF from a portable location near the beach on Walney Island, Barrow in Furness. Club members set up a 7MHz dipole on a 10m fishing pole mast (as seen in the photograph) and an Icom IC-706 mk2 G. Powered by a secondhand 12V 26Ah battery, a full 100W was run for 90 minutes without even a dip in the levels from the battery. 20 leisurely QSOs were made by Chris, M0KPW and Dave, G3VUS, including Shetland, Greenwich, the Isle of White, Nottingham, Cornwall, the Netherlands and Ireland to name a few. About 15 club members were present and the weather allowed for a great evening of radio.



Furness ARS also held an outdoor 'On Air' evening on Birkrigg Common (I084KD) near Ulverston, Cumbria. Members brought along their own equipment including an IC-706 Mk IIG and FT-857 along with a 20m fishing pole vertical and 40m inverted V. For VHF various handhelds were used. Reasonably pleasant weather and band conditions were enjoyed, with 20m QSOs into Europe with Far East heard but unfortunately not worked. On 40m, 50 watts into the inverted V resulted in a good crop of inter G stations, including MXOLTC at the Sidmouth Observatory. A few members used some of the club's 80m ARDF receivers to successfully test out the beacon that had been built by Ken, MOKOH.

John, MOPEK is becoming more of a familiar sight at rallies and radio events these days and, with his array of military vehicles and vintage radio equipment, he's a hard man to miss. His interest in amateur radio started at the age of 12, when he built his first crystal set, at 15, he acquired a military radio – an R209 receiver – and it was this, allied to an avid fascination for military vehicles, which was to see him spend close to 40 years of his leisure time chasing facets of both hobbies. John currently owns a WS19 set and several other military radio sets, including some from Larkspur range, and virtually all of the Clansman range. He also boasts a variety of Bundeswehr SEM range handheld and vehicle receivers and, unsurprisingly, is a member of the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society. His most recent outing was at the Stockport RS Rally, where he displayed a 1952 Humber.



August saw the first Rochdale & DARS fox hunt. Competitors met outside the Owd Betts pub, Edenfield, with Eddie, G7DNM being this year's fox. The time waiting for the event to start was put to good use discussing tactics and checking out the various setups being used. These included everything from shop bought antennas to a number of homemade offerings, including a tape measure Yagi. Whilst the fox wasn't caught on this occasion, a few did get quite close. Lewis,



M3HHY and Roy, MOLEX were eventually declared the winners, as it was felt they got the closest. The photo shows, left to right, Lewis, M3HHY and Roy, MOLEX holding the certificate that was presented by Eddie, G7DNM (the fox).

After a prolonged period of dormancy, **Newton-le-Willows ARC** has reformed. Whilst the members always kept in touch via radio and social media, they were always on the lookout for new premises that would allow the club to continue training the next generation of radio amateur. Events in the pipeline include rallies, special event stations, DXpeditions and a Christmas meal. Anyone interested in joining the club that meets on Tuesdays the Newton Boys and Girls Club, WA12 9AB, should visit www.nlwarc.co.uk.

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

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

Angel of the North ARC

Nancy, G7UUR, 01914 770 036

- 5 Worked All Britain demo, Geoff, G7GJU
- 12 On the air & JOTA planning
- 17 JOTA at West Denton
- 19 Rally planning
- 23 Rally setup
- 25 Fog on the Tyne Rally
- 26 On the air; rally round-up

Denby Dale RC

Darran, G0BWB, 07974 423 227

- 3-4 WAB HF Contest 1900-1900UTC
- 7 Surplus auction sale
- 14, 28 Club net, 7.30pm, ±145.575MHz
- 16-18 JOTA
- 21 AGM, 8pm, Pie Hall

Halifax & DARS

Martin, M0GQB, 01422 341 317

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net with W Yorks RAFARS, 145.350MHz, 7pm
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.400MHz, 7.30pm

Hornsea ARC

Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573

- 4 Hornsea Rally

Mexborough & DARS

Darrell, G0FUO, 07887 423 221

- 2 Advanced class
- 6 Foundation class
- 9 New committee members introduced
- 13 On the air
- 16 Discussion for next year's events
- 20 Debrief of GB50PR 50yrs celebrations
- 23 Christmas events preparations
- 27 Feedback of special events activated
- 30 Halloween party pie and pea supper

Ripon & DARS

David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night

Sheffield & District Wireless Society

Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 07884 065 375

- 7 Transformers, John, M6JIJ

Sheffield ARC

David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com

- 5, 19 Club night
- 12 Simple HF receivers, David, G6DCT
- 26 Shack night operating MORCU

Members of **Mexborough & DARS** would like to congratulate Jozef, M6JIF and Kevin, M6KEP on passing the Foundation exam. Other activities this month included a maritime mobile radio station on the vessel *Yorkshire Belle* and a land station at Bridlington. Operators would like to thank all those who worked the two club calls and helped make the day a success. Sadly Darrell, G0FUO had to cancel the operation of GB4IYD in August.



Liam, 2E0LDQ (left) and Gerald, 2E0GWE have passed the Intermediate exam at **Bishop Auckland RAC**. Congratulations from all the members and best of luck with the Full licence. If anyone nearby is interested in taking the amateur exams, more details can be found at <http://barac.org.uk/>



David, M6JJA is proudly showing off his Foundation certificate at Wearside EARS. He has started studying for his Intermediate and this club wish him well with his studies.

Wearside EARS also enjoyed a cottage pie night including a visitor from Australia. Pictured in the shack (left to right) are Eric, G1SLP, **Jonathon, VK6JON**, Carol, 2E0HPI and Barry GOSCI. A good night was had by all.



Finally, **Wearside EARS** operated GB4SAS for Sunderland Air Show, operating next to the lifeboat station. Present were members of **Houghton-le-spring, Durham, Bishop Auckland, and Stockton** radio clubs, and a fantastic day was had. Money collected was handed to the Sunderland Lifeboat who received a call out whilst the operators were on site. Thanks to all who attended or called in to the station and big thank you to the lifeboat station for supplying the outdoor equipment.



DEADLINES

The next deadline is 21
September

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

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

Bromsgrove & DARC

Dave, M6DKT, 07584 025 156
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club night
7, 14, 21, 28 Data night

Central Radio Amateur Circle

Martin, G1TYV, 07948 027 994
1, 17 Group meeting

Coventry ARS

John, G8SEQ, 07958 777 363
2 Talk – Ordianansis [sic]
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 8pm, 145.375MHz
FM and/or 7.16MHz ± QRM
9 AGM
16 Video night
23 Radio workshop
30 No meeting

Dudley and District ARS

Carl, M0ZCR, m0zcr@live.co.uk
6 UKAC 2m, on the air
13 On the air & natter night
20 Club social, open discussion
27 MORSD on the air

Gloucester AR&ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 Club net,
7.30pm starting on 145.500MHz
5 Islands in the Bristol Channel, Neil Clarke
12 Operating in the shack
19 General discussions
26 Informal meeting

Hereford ARS

Rod, M0JLA, 01432 356 079
2 Application of digital techniques to
amateur radios, Derek, G3WAG
24-25 Foundation course and exam

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
13 D-Star & Fusion, G8XYJ and G4OYX

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 07808 078 003
7 Open meeting, shack on the air, classes
14 Committee meeting and training classes
21 AGM, 7.30pm
28 General meeting, shack open, classes

Mid-Warwickshire ARS

Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465
13 Homebrew and construction
27 Programme planning for 2016

Nuneaton & District ARC

Neil, 2E0NEI, info@ndarc.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 145.475MHz, 9.30pm
2 Out & about social
6 2m UKAC
16 Buildathon for beginners

Salop ARS

salopamateurradio@gmail.com
1 Natter night and committee meeting
7, 14, 21, 28 CW net, 4.30pm,
144.070MHz; club net 8.30pm, GB3LH
8 Shack night and G3SRT on the air
15 Natter night and pre AGM meeting
22 AGM
29 Natter night and talk

South Birmingham RS

Gemma, M6GKG,
gemmagordon.m6gkg@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Training classes, G8OWL
5 Committee meeting, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Coffee morning in the shack,
11am-1 pm, visitors welcome
9 Review of field days and equipment

19 Dismantling equipment
26 Work in the shack and ragchew
30 AGM preparation

Stratford Upon Avon & DRS Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664 488

12 Prepare for CQWW, practical evening
26 RSGB video – Understanding HF
Propagation

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, spirit.guide@hotmail.co.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 50.135MHz SSB, 8.30pm
5, 19 Net, 145.250MHz, 7.30pm
12, 26 Club meeting
13 Net, 70.475MHz FM, 7.30pm

Telford & DARS

John, M0JZH, 07824 737 716
7 Committee meeting and GX3ZME OTA HF
14 Winter project ideas
21 Surplus radio gear auction
28 Halloween social – soup and a roll

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

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

Dragon ARC

Stewart, GW0ETF, 07833 620 733
5 Club matters
19 Marconi – his life and achievements,
GW8NZN

North Wales Radio Society

Ceri, 2W0LJC, 2w0ljc@mail.com
1 On air using homebrew loops
8 Natter night
15 First transmission of BBC,
Martin, GW4CQZ
22 Technical topics
29 Quiz

Congratulations to **Wrexham ARC** members Chris, who is now MOPZC, Tony, now MOTPA, Rob, now 2W0JNL and George who has passed his Intermediate exam. The club would like to thank Mike, GW6NIP and his examination team on the 100% success rate so far.

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

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

Aberystwyth & DARS

Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853
8 AGM

Llanelli ARS

Craig, MW0MXT, 01269 845 773
5 Social evening
12 On air night & club raffle
19 Social evening & DVD night
26 Junk sale & club raffle

10-year-old Holly Thomas, MW6HTT, from Swansea has just gained her Foundation licence



at Llanelli ARS and is now enjoying her time on the air. At 10 years old she is currently one of the youngest amateurs in Wales and appears to have developed a passion for the airwaves from her father. Speaking about her hobby, Holly said, "I look forward to making new friends all around the world, it's a great hobby and everybody should get involved."

Llanelli ARS would also like to congratulate the other candidates who passed their Foundation exams in July. Pictured left to right in the back row are Ray, MW6RKF; Martin, MW6FQD and Foundation course tutor, Ray, GW4PUC. Front row, Ivor, MW6IB and again Holly, MW6HTT.



REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

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

In July, **Ballymena ARC** had a talk and films about the Mercy Ships from Arie, PA3A and Marian, PD1AEG. The *Africa Mercy* is a hospital ship that docked in the port of Point Noire in the Congo and is manned by voluntary doctors, nurses and support groups. The ship goes to the poorest parts of Africa for ten months of the year and they perform life changing operations. A team of four, Arie, PA3A, his XYL Marian, PD1AEG, Ad, PA8AD and his XYL Angelina, PA8AN spent the first week on board ship adding GPS location services to the fleet of thirty vehicles that are used to bring the patients to the ship. They then rented two shacks and set up their DXpedition station. Using TN2MS they made nearly 29,000 contacts including one to club member, Merv MI0TMW, who instigated a collection for the Mercy Ship.



Bangor & DARS held a rally in July that was exceptionally busy and well attended. There was a well stocked Bring & Buy section, a demo of high definition drone photography and a most welcome RSGB presence. The organisers say thanks to all who attended and in particular to all those



dedicated members, caterers and traders, special thanks to the Carndonagh ARC (Ireland's most northerly club). They made the 100+ mile round trip from County Donegal to set up their stall.

Bushvalley ARC would like to congratulate recent exam candidates (left to right) Sharon MI6MOI, Alistair, MI6FQG, Ian the instructor, (back row), Paul the instructor, John, John and Sam the club secretary.



REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

Bracknell ARC

Andy, M0HAK, andy@m0hak.co.uk
7, 21, 28 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm
14 Getting started in amateur television

Burnham Beeches RC

Dave, G4XDU, 01628 625 720
19 Club construction project 1

Harwell ARS

Malcolm, G8NRP, 01235 524 844
13 First Responders demonstration

Newbury & DARS

Rob, G4LMW, 01635 862 737
28 Radio Caroline, Alison, G8ROG

Reading & DARC

Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697
8 Software decoding of digital modes, G2DD
22 Junk sale

Shefford & District ARS

Paul, G1GSN, 0787 668 5827
1 Disco fever – a talk and practical demonstration, Steve, MODYR
8 Preparation for CQWW
15 Autumn junk sale
22 Restoring juke box amplifiers, Andy Barter
24-25 CQWW
29 The Royal Signals, David, G8UOD

Southgate ARC

K Mendum, G8RPA, g8rpa@arrl.net
14 Planning meeting for 2016
17-18 JOTA

Verulam ARC

Peter, G4HSO, g3v@btinternet.com
8 Social with GB3VH repeater group, 7.30pm, Rose and Crown, Sandridge
20 Surplus equipment auction



REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

Brede Steam ARS

Dan, M0HOW, 01424 882 008et
7, 14, 21, 28 At the shack

Bromley & DARS

Andy, G4WGG, 01689 878 089
20 Informal social at The George
25 Foundation course day 2 of 2

Coulsdon ATS

Mike Bukley, M1CCF, 020 8654 2582
12 Dead bug construction, Bob, G300U

Crawley ARC

John, G3VLH, 01342 714 402
21 Using the MiniVNA Tiny, Mike, G3LHZ

Cray Valley RS

Richard, G7GLW, 07831 715 797
1 Backyard EME, Paul, G4DCV
15 Top Band from GM in 1969, Fred, G3SVK

Crystal Palace R&EC

Bob, G300U, 01737 552 170
2 Computation techniques and modelling, Dr Nathan Brown

Dorking & DRS

David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com
27 The specification and choice of passive components, Bob, G300U

Eastbourne E&RC

Peter, g4urt@btinternet.com,
12 Radio and computer control talk
26 Electronic kits testing

Hastings E&RC

Gordon, 01424 431 909
31 Auction of surplus equipment, 1.30pm

Hilderstone R&EC

Lyne, hilderstoneclub@gmail.com
4 GB2WSW at Monkton Nature Reserve
8 Teacher training on radio communications
18 JOTA
22 Talk by George, G3NIR

Horndean & DARC

Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846
1 Natter night/social evening
15 AGM

Horsham ARC

Adrian, G4LRP, 07714 664 957
1 Junk sale
15 Social at The Black Horse Inn, Nuthurst

Itchen Valley ARC

Quintin, M1ENU, 023 8078 7799
2, 16, 30 Net on 145.525 MHz 8pm
16-18 JOTA
23 Pre-auction forum

Mid-Sussex ARS

Sue, G6YPY, 01273 845 103
2 Radio night
19 Radio night and table top sale
23 AGM
30 Surplus equipment sale

Southdown ARS

Andy, M6GND 01323 486 924
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 BHRS 12.30pm
144.300SSB/145.500FM/51.600FM
5 Junk sale
5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29 9.50BST
145.275MHz FM, 10am 7.035MHz CW,
7 Hailsham Shack 10am, various bands CW
7, 14, 21, 28 Morning net, 145.275MHz
FM, Cafe meet 12.30pm; BHRS 2.30pm
144.300MHz SSB, 145.500MHz FM,
51.600MHz FM

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 1905kHz, 9.30am
5 Surplus equipment sale
19 Chat and fix-it, John, G8MNY

Sutton & Cheam RS

John, G0BWW, 020 8644 9945
17 Road trip to Friedrichshafen, Martin,
M1MRB and Chris, MOTCH

Wimbledon & DARS

Kim, G6JXA, 07812 735 507
30 AGM

Worthing & DARC

Gordon, 2E0GTG, 07801 599 470
4 Sunday breakfast, 9am
14 Discussion evening
21 Breaking Bad, Jonathan, G1EXG
28 AGM + G3WOR on the air

Hastings E&RC supported the 10th Essex Living History Group's annual WW1 spectacular with GB2WWI at Batemans, Rudyard Kipling's home in August. This year's event was to commemorate the death of his only son, John, 100 years ago at Loos-en-Guelle during the Battle of Arras. The station complemented the display of genuine WW1 radio equipment, including an aircraft spark transmitter and matching ground trench set, and a game to send a secret message by Morse code using the Caesar letter shift cipher, which proved very popular with kids who received a commemorative certificate.



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLANDS

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

Appledore & DARC

Alan, M6CCH, 01237 422 833
19 Open meeting – speaker to be confirmed

Bristol RSGB Group

Robin, G3TKF, robin@g3tkf.co.uk
26 Chat night

Exeter ARS

Nick, MONRJ, 01363 775 756
5, 19 HF net, 3.675MHz, 7.45pm
6 Repeater net, GB3EX, 7.45pm
12 Club Open Evening with Skip, MOTCH
13, 20, 27 Club net, 145.575MHz, 7.45pm
26 PCB manufacture and repair, MOHRJ

Exmouth ARC

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274 172
7 SSTV & FSTV, G0UIL and M0THJ
21 Build any kind of receiver with bits and pieces

North Bristol ARC

Mat, G7FBD, g7fd@gb3bs.co.uk
2 Cruising around the world, Dick, GOXAY
9, 23 Operating, training, relax and chat
16 QSLing, Phil, G3SWH
30 Bring and Buy

Plymouth Radio Club
David, 2EODTC, d.beck123@btinternet.com
13 Rally preparation night

Riviera ARC
rivieraarc@gmail.com
1, 15 Club night
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 145.425MHz, 8pm

Saltash & DARC
Mark, MOWMB, 01752 215 546
2 Annual junk sale in lower hall
15 HF operating

South Bristol ARC
Andrew, G7KNA, 07838 695 471
1 Baluns
8 Committee meeting
15 Calendar for 2016
22 AGM
29 Open house and on the air night

Thornbury & South Gloucestershire ARC
tsarc@gmail.com
7 JOTA planning
9, 23, 30 Club net, starting at 8pm on 145.500MHz
14, 28 On the air
16-18 JOTA
21 Project

Torbay ARS
Dave, G6FSP, g6fsp@tars.org.uk
2, 16, 23 Club night
9 Club night and business meeting
30 Club night with monthly speaker

Weston Super Mare RS
Paul, G3SDH, g3sdh@btinternet.com
5, 12, 26 Natter night
19 Photographic history of Weston RS

Yeovil ARC
Rodney, M0RGE, 01935 825 791
1 Mini talks
8 Greyline propagation, G3MYM
22 Morse practice, G3MYM
24 Tiger Moth 80th birthday special event
29 On the air and problem solving

A small group of members from the **Plymouth Radio Club** visited the Caradon Hill Transmitting Station, the mainstay of all the Freeview television channels, DAB and FM radio broadcasts to over 180,000 homes in parts of Devon and Cornwall. The group were shown around the site, viewing the main transmitter hall and getting a first-hand insight to some of the programmes being transmitted via the 777 foot high aerial mast that dominates the surrounding skyline. Following the tour of the complex, members stood to have their photographs taken beneath the towering mast and aerials. The visit was arranged by Robert, 2E0ITN in conjunction with Arqiva, the company who operate and maintain the site and transmission equipment.



Stan, GORYM joined **Thornbury and South Gloucester Amateur Radio Club** in September 1987, having recently passed the RAE. In those days they met in the upstairs hall of the United Reformed Church with a variety of radios and could have several activities happening at once from operating to nattering and computers to CW. There were about 40 members in the late 80s and into the mid 90s that gradually dwindled to about 12 to 14 right up to 2008. Sadly, after refurbishment the hall became useless for radio activities with aluminium-clad insulation boards in the roof, a highly gloss laminate floor and shiny gloss walls. In August 2009 they moved to the Tudor Room in the Community Association premises, this just worked with 10 members but was not ideal. Over a period of time VHF and HF antennas were installed and, as numbers grew, they moved to the larger Buckingham Room. The club wanted their own shack and recently they spoke to staff about a convenient store room next door to the Buckingham Room. Unfortunately this was being used by local Girl Guides but Stan finally made contact and was able to take over the rental agreement when the Guides moved out. The club went on to refurbish the room – an effort that took two members about six days. Finally, the furniture was moved in ready for operation, the chairman rerouted the antenna feed points into the shack and all was ready for operation. It only remains to box in the cables in the hallway where they pass across the ceiling. In July the first contacts were made from the new shack and there are now some 27 paid up members all anticipating their use of the shack. Those responsible for bringing this project to fruition are Stan, GORYM, Richard, 2E0RES and Paul, M0ZMB (who provided the furniture and moved the antennas) and John, M0HFH for transporting the furniture.



REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

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

Braintree & DARS
John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947
5 JOTA planning / TX factor
19 Surplus equipment sale

Cambridge & DARC
David, M0ZEB, 01353 778 093
9 Starting EZNEC HF antenna modelling,
David, GOLRD

Chelmsford ARS
secretary@g0mwrt.org.uk
6 AGM
19 Skills workshop at Danbury Village Hall

Colchester Radio Amateurs
Stefan M0XLB, 07771 616 676
15 AGM

Felixstowe & DARS
Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com
11 Classic vehicles SES
12 Supper
26 Worked All FDARS competition

Malc A Williams, GOEGA
malc.williams@gOega.co.uk
GB2CW Morse class broadcast starts 10 and 11 October and continue every weekend until 8 November on 145.625MHz from 8pm, covering Norwich, Ipswich, Lowestoft, Great Yarmouth and surrounding areas

Norfolk ARC
Chris, GODWV, 01603 898 678
7 RF power measurement, Dave, G3PEN
14 Informal; Morse in the back room
21 Table top sale
28 Informal, Bright Sparks, Morse

Norfolk Coast ARS
Steve, G3PND, info@norfolkcoastamateurs.co.uk
1 Constructing an earth current meter
8 Rebuilding the G6HL station
15 Preparing for JOTA
22 Sporadic-E

South Essex ARS
Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040
13 Radio amateur awards, Carl, G3PEM
17 GB2CIS JOTA with 1st Canvey Island Scouts at St Anns Church

Thames ARG
Mark, M0IEO, 07940 579 116
17-18 JOTA/JOTI, Southend Estuary Scouts

In August, members of **South Essex ARS** commemorated the 71st anniversary of the downing to two B17s in 1944 just off Canvey Island. The MP for Castle Point, Rebecca Harris unveiled a



mural and was invited by SEARS to send her first amateur radio guest message, followed by Canvey Island Councillor Ray Howard. The SEARS team operated GB2HB on HF and VHF using voice, data, PSK31 and DMR from the Island Yacht Club. The photo shows potential new radio amateur, Iryna, sending a guest message.

Close to 50 amateurs and radio enthusiasts from Essex, Hertfordshire, South London and Kent met for the August Essex Skills Night. Featured for the first time was a new £10 datamodes interface kit from Ham Goodies. Two guest HF antennas were on display – an MFJ vertical resembling a top-loaded chimney brush brought by Peter, G0DZB and a broadband HF antenna (pictured here) created by Andy, G7TKK, based on the tetrahedral antenna designed by Alan, G3NOQ (SK).



Thurrock Acorns ARC returned to the Essex Wildlife Trust at their Mucking location. During the day, designed to appeal to young people, the radio club spoke to stations both in Essex and Kent as well as stations on the continent. Visitors also had the opportunity to use the Morse key where they could send a simple message. The picture shows youngsters sending their message in Morse to Chris, GOEKN who was busy writing it down.



Braintree & DARS held an HF operating night. With Railways on the Air and JOTA not far away, it's always a good idea to brush the dust off the club equipment ready for these special events. The 30ft fibre glass mast was set up as a suspension point for a homebrew Carolina Windom style multi band aerial. Melvin, GOEMK built the aerial for about ten pounds using recycled bits and pieces, plus some new items. It was plugged into the club's IC-746 and tuned well on most bands. The editor of the club magazine, *BARSCOM*, presented an award to Edwin, GOIPO. The Harold King award is for the series of articles in the club magazine about Edwin's grandfather's experiences as a First World War RFC/RAF pilot in Afghanistan.



A team of five **Bittern DX Group** members set up a special event station for Trunch Village Society Open Gardens and Scarecrow Day. Trunch is a small village of about 1000 people 17 miles north of Norwich, locator JO02QU. The club's participation in the event was mainly to promote the hobby and spend time with visitors to the station. Band conditions were very poor and, as is often the case with these sorts of public events, there were occasions when there was a high level of noise from some of the local stalls who were using electrical devices. They operated SSB on HF and Adam, 2E00WX set up his radio to demonstrate APRS. Despite a lack of DX, band conditions improved and they managed to work quite a few European stations on 40m.



Norfolk Coast ARS has been building a club station with equipment donated to the society, including an AMP linear amplifier. The completion of the station coincided with receiving a new club call, MONCA. The photo shows the station being operated by Reg, 2E0WBW and Alan, 2E0DMI.



Essex CW Group visited Thurrock Acorns ARC with an update on the organisation. It was set up 2009 and intended for people who had a passion for communicating via Morse code within Essex. However it was not long before other people from further afield joined the group with people around the world now part of the membership. Jonathan, GODVJ gave some tips about how to learn Morse and set up a Morse key. He talked about overseas stations, especially Russian stations, who can be a challenge as they have some characters that don't exist in the UK. The photo shows Simon, M1GGY concentrating as he sends some Morse using a straight key.



The photo shows the attendees at the recent **Peterborough & DARC 40th anniversary** celebrations in July. Front row (L to R) George, G4FKG, Ron, G4DXW (Chairman), Dave, G3RED and Stuart, G8AQP. Middle row RSGB Regional Manager Steve, M1ACB, RSGB Chairman Graham, G4FSG and Deputy Regional Manager Colin, G8TMV, Alan, G8XLH (Secretary) Tracey, M5ATR (Treasurer) Trevor, G1FWU. Back row Eddy, M6FPU, Kevin, M6FDH, David, M0VTG, Jeff, M0AOG. At the time of the photo, Ron was



the only original founder member present, but four are still with the club. The fourth Essex Ham Foundation Online course has started with 30 students. Heather, M6HBP took the exam with Colchester Radio Amateurs and says the course gave her bite size pieces to

study whilst doing a full-time job. Andy took his Foundation exam at Thames ARG and passed, only getting one question wrong. He says he can't wait to get his licence. The Foundation Online courses are free and use a mix of video, text and online tests in a virtual classroom, allowing students to learn at their own pace. Details are online at www.hamtrain.co.uk

In the second outing of August, a group of **Essex Hams** spent the day out on the banks of the Thames playing radio and having fun. Peter, GODZB packed his shack into the panniers of his bike, set up his 10 metre pole and worked Europe CW from the back of his portable shack. Laura, M6LHT was able to try out her Slim Jim antenna that she made at the Danbury Skills Night and made contact with Sandford Mill Museum. Dorothy, MOLMR worked a selection of lighthouses on 40m, whilst others enjoyed the views (and the tea). The photo shows Rob, 2E0LMX, Trevor, M5AKA, Laura, M6LHT, Richard, M0CLZ and Peter, GODZB.



Eighteen months ago, **Essex DX Group** discussed the idea of whether an M6 licence holder could do moon bounce with their limited power level of 10 watts and simple equipment. After a few calculations and discussions the answer came back as yes it would be possible. The search started to find as much information as possible to help with this challenge. The internet is a great place to find information and, after a lot of searching, they came across Dennis, W5RZ who had completed QSOs off the moon on very low power and simple antenna setups. An email was sent to ask for advice and since that first email Dennis has been with them all the way. Antennas had to be built and two QSO partners of W5RZ offered their help – Dan, HB9Q and Bernd, DL7APV.

The first attempt was with Dan on 10 watts using a 19 element DK7ZB antenna but with no success. A second attempt, this time using 40W and a 16-ele YU7XL oblong, resulted in a contact with UA3PTW. Encouraged by this, another new single 8.2A 23-ele Yagi was built: this resulted in a 40 watt contact with Bernd and Ned, LZ1DX.

Work started on antennas that could go in most small back gardens and they turned to



Boban, YU7XL for help with his design. He came back with a design for a 12 element LFA oblong hybrid and four of these were constructed just in time for the Dubus 70cm championships in August. Contest day arrived and the first test for this new antenna was a contact with OK1DFC at 40 watts, next was UA3PTW and then finally Dan. In the early hours of Sunday they managed a 10 watt contact with UA3PTW after 15 minutes of trying.

Two presenters of the TX Factor show, Bob, G0FGX and Nick, 2E0FGQ visited **Chelmsford ARS** to interview members of the training team. The interviews will feature in TX Factor episode 9, planned for release on 3 September. The CARS training PowerPoint slides are available for free download from <http://g0mwt.org.uk/training> and have been used by trainers across the UK and even overseas. The photo shows (l-r) Nick, 2E0FGQ, Clive, G1EUC, Chris, G0IPU, Bob, G0FGX, Murray, G6JYB and Pete, M0PSX.



Chelmsford ARS joined the Museum of Power on their Family Fun Day in July. They put some hands-on, radio-related activities that included a DF hunt, radio controlled cars with remote viewing, electronic kit, Morse keys, the Morse Mouse game, Morse keys demonstration and a HF/VHF station to pass greetings messages using GXOMWT. Unfortunately, the weather was not at its best so the DF hunt and radio controlled cars with remote viewing were not used. The radio station made a few contacts, mostly on HF with a few on VHF. The Morse Mouse game by Charlie, M0PZT was popular with both younger visitors and older ones alike. Many thanks to all who helped in this very successful event.



The **Chelmsford ARS** annual constructor's competition was the first to feature a running commentary, with Essex Ham blogging live to the internet from the Oaklands Museum. Among the entries were a 10m-144MHz transverter, MKARS80 80m transceiver kit, a valve audio amplifier, discone antenna, portable operation wire antenna extender



and a centre-loaded HF whip antenna for mobile operating. Following a vote, Charlie, M0PZT won 1st prize for *PZTLog*, a powerful logging app that he has built from the ground up and released free to the amateur radio community. You can download the *PZTLog* amateur radio logging software for Windows from www.m0pzt.com/pztlog/

Braintree & DARS continued its 40th anniversary celebrations with a visit to Bletchley Park. A group explored the museum with the restored huts and exhibits creating a fantastic atmosphere of the wartime working of the site.



No visit to Bletchley Park would be complete without calling in at the National Radio Centre, with its historical exhibits and working radio station the members were well entertained. To completely take in Bletchley Park, one visit is not enough so many will be going back.

Bittern DX Group took part in VHF Field Day from East Rising Farm, Trimmingham. After a very stormy wet night with plenty of lightning and thunder during the early hours the group were relieved to find that the 70cm mast and antenna with preamp that had been erected the previous evening, was still intact and functioning. The 70cm station was first to be erected and fully tested, with the 2m station up and running shortly after. There was a small problem with the 6m beam that needed one of the sleeve inserts replaced before being coupled together and some adjustments were also necessary on the rotator housing on the mast. Alec, G3YOA soon put his soldering iron to good use and with the combined effort of Alan, G0TPH, Balders, M0HET, Iain, G4SGX, Parsley, M6FBE and Dave, M0BGR, the 6m station was soon connected and ready for testing. The photo shows Sunday breakfast (L to R) Neil, G3RIR, Steve, G7VRK, Linda, G0AJJ, Adam, 2E00WX.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

Derby & DARS
Richard, radio@dadars.org.uk
6 Junk sale
13 Committee meeting

Lincoln Short-Wave Club Pam, G4STO, 01427 788 356

1 Club net, GB3LM, 8pm
3 Hamfest clean up
6, 13, 20, 27 UK Club Contests
7 National Hamfest Debrief
8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
10, 24 Saturday surgery + G5FZ on the air
17, 31 Shack activities + G6COL on the air
19 Committee meeting
21 Formal meeting
28 Used equipment sale

Melton Mowbray ARS
Brian, M0YBX, 07772 659 622
16 Digital modulation

Nunfield House ARG
Ken, G3OCA, 01332 720 976
2 *Photoshop*, Mark Hall
9, 16 Show & tell
23 On the air
30 Surplus sale

RAF Waddington ARC
Bob, G3VCA, 07971 166 250
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm

South Kesteven ARS
Andrew, M0NRD, 07969 062 859
7 Social/informal meeting
14, 28 Club net, 145.525MHz, 8pm
17-18 JOTA station for 1st Foston Scouts
21 DMR talk and demo by Sean, 2E0ENN; low cost SDR receivers, Andrew, M0NRD

Spalding & DARS
Graham, G8NWC, 01775 760 832
16 Construction contest

Welland Valley ARS
Peter, G4XEX, 01858 432 105
5 Club net on 145.275MHz
19 Operating night, HF digital

In July **South Kesteven ARS** members Konrad, 2E0KVF and Stewart, M0SDM held a Foundation practical session for the 47F Grantham Squadron Air Training Corps. Three cadets and one member of staff successfully completed the practical assessments. Konrad is a Civilian Instructor in the ATC and is a RSGB registered assessor. Hopefully this will be the first of many collaborations between the two organisations. Stewart, M0SDM can be seen instructing the cadets in the operation of the radio equipment. In August Arthur, M0GUU gave a presentation at South Kesteven ARS on Global Navigation Satellite Systems. He has been involved in the development of navigation systems from the early days and gave a very informative and interesting talk on the theory and practise of the satellite navigation systems such as GPS and GLONASS that everyone now takes for granted.

