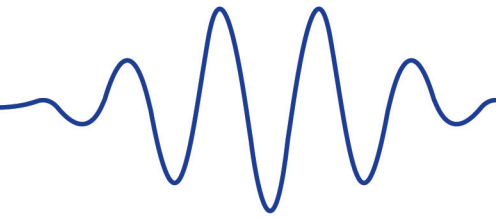




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

February 2024



The newsletter is sent to affiliated clubs every month
It contains RSGB Matters, News and Around Your Region from RadCom
Send details of your club news and events to radcom@rsgb.org.uk
Post your event on the RSGB website by logging in at rsgb.org/members

President's New Year message



RSGB President
John McCullagh,
GI4BWM at WRC23.

The RSGB continues to offer a range of high-quality online resources. Our Tonight@8 live webinar programme is for the whole amateur radio community but in the coming months we will be releasing Convention presentations and other videos just for RSGB members as a membership benefit.

We'll also be giving help and support to radio amateurs to understand and implement the licence changes that are arising as a result of the Ofcom proposals.

British Science Week is in March and the RSGB will again be supporting this great national initiative. The theme this year is Time, so we are creating amateur radio activities that can be done in schools as part of the STEM curriculum, and in other young people's groups and clubs. There'll be more on this in future communications but if you've got some great ideas on this theme, do get in touch.

As you will recall, when we raised our subscription charges last year, we indicated that another, smaller, price rise was likely given that costs were still high, particularly for paper and printing. At a recent Board meeting, regrettably we had to take a decision to increase the cost of membership by £7 from 1 May 2024. This means that a member who pays by Direct Debit will pay £5.67 per month, which is an increase of 58p.

To give members even greater value for their membership, in the very near future we are going to launch a fully featured electronic version of *RadCom*, together with access to the full archive of past copies. This will be a new benefit available to all members and we know that it is something that many members have been looking forward to.

As we move into 2024 and the actions supporting our strategic priorities unfold, members will see further benefits highlighted and new activities happening.

I have been an RSGB member for over 50 years. I will continue to support the Society through membership, and I hope that as members together, we can ensure the growth of amateur radio in the future.

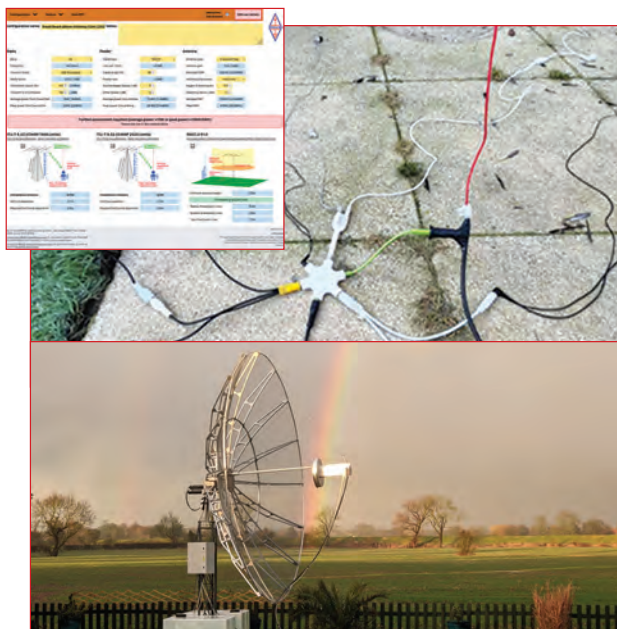
RSGB President, John McCullagh, GI4BWM

RSGB Construction Competition

The RSGB recognises the importance of construction as a key element of amateur radio, whether that is using traditional construction skills or is a software or systems engineering project.

To enable members across the country, and even the world, to enter, entries will again be judged over the internet rather than in person.

The judges will be considering entries in six categories: Beginners; Construction Excellence; Innovation; Antennas; Most creative and/or elegant PCB Design; and Software and Systems. Special recognition will be given to entries submitted by radio amateurs under the age of 24, and to those who have just gained their Foundation licence. A cash prize will be awarded for the winner of each section, with a bonus for the overall winner, who will also be declared the winner of the Pat Hawker, G3VA Award. Deadline for entries is 1 March 2024. To find out more, including how to enter, see the full details on our website at rsgb.org/construction-competition This web page includes a link to a Tonight@8 presentation in which previous winners discuss their experiences of the Competition.



ESRG publishes draft syllabus changes

Following its consultation on proposed changes to the Amateur Radio Licence, Ofcom has recently published the *General notice of proposal to vary amateur radio licences*. Adoption of the proposed licence variations will necessitate changes to the examination syllabus. Ofcom are inviting "representations" from licensees and other stakeholders and expect to publish their final decision on the changes in February 2024, with the licence changes coming into effect after the end of the first quarter of 2024.

The timescale for putting the licence changes into effect is such that the Examinations and Syllabus Review Group has been working on the revised syllabus, v1.6, in parallel with the Ofcom consultation. For the benefit of tutors, we are now releasing the current drafts of the sections 1 and 7 of syllabus v1.6. These are the only sections of the syllabus that will change compared to v1.5 in current use. This preliminary work is based on the assumption that all the licence changes proposed in the General notice will be adopted. You can see the draft sections on the RSGB website.

We should point out that this is unlikely to be the final draft. It is possible there could be further changes after Ofcom has considered any representations. We are providing this draft as a 'heads-up' to tutors of the direction of travel and the scale of changes that are likely.

While this is not intended to be a consultation on essential syllabus changes, we welcome any comments from tutors. Please send these to esrg.chair@rsgb.org.uk and esc.chair@rsgb.org.uk

Examination Standards Committee Chair, Prof. Tony Kent, G8PBH and
ESRG Chair, Andrew Lenton, G8UUG

RSGB ESC annual report published

The RSGB Examinations Standards Committee has published its annual report, covering the operation of the amateur radio exams during the calendar year of 2022. You can read the report on the RSGB website. Go to rsgb.org/esc and click on Minutes, Papers and Reports in the righthand list.

New Nominations Committee Chair

The RSGB Board is delighted to announce that Bob Beebe, GU4YOX has been appointed as the new Nominations Committee Chair. The Board would like to thank Stephen Purser, GW4SHF for his work in this role over a number of years, and it is pleased that he will continue in his other role as Company Secretary.

You can find out more about the Nominations Committee on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/nomcom and you can email Bob via nominations.chair@rsgb.org.uk

Youth Country Representatives needed!

Could you be one of our new volunteer Youth Country Representatives?

The RSGB is looking for four licensed radio amateurs to help raise the profile of wireless communication amongst young people.

Initially, we're looking for RSGB members based in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to engage young people in the hobby. This will support both the growth of amateur radio and membership of the Society, two of the RSGB Board's strategic priorities.

You can hold any level of amateur radio licence, but you will need to be aged 26 or above, to be able to support young people in this role.

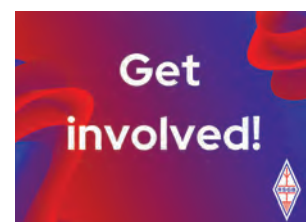


What would I be doing?

As a Youth Country Representative, you would represent the RSGB at externally organised events, as well as being involved in the planning and delivery of outreach events for young people. These could be in settings such as schools, universities, youth clubs, Scouts, Guides and Cadets. You will also have the opportunity to be involved in national and international initiatives such as British Science Week and YOTA Month.

You will work closely with the other Youth Country Representatives and the RSGB Youth Champion to generate and share plans.

You will be the point of contact for young people in your area who are interested in wireless communication.



What experience do I need to have?

You'll need experience in:

- Organising and running small-scale events
- Motivating others
- Working with young people in any setting
- Ideally, you'll have previous volunteering experience

You'll also need:

- Great communication skills
- Plenty of ideas and enthusiasm, with a drive to get things done
- To be a team player with the ability to work independently
- To be willing to travel on occasion (expenses will be paid)
- To be able to attend monthly online meetings, plus October's RSGB Convention in Milton Keynes

What will I gain from volunteering in this role?

- Satisfaction in sharing your passion for amateur radio with young people, ensuring they have fun, make new friends and improve their STEM skills, whether for school or for their career
- The knowledge that you are helping to grow amateur radio and inspire future generations

How can I find out more?

If you're interested in getting involved, or would like more information on these roles, we'd love to hear from you! Please email RSGB Board Director, Ben Lloyd, GW4BML at: gw4bml@rsgb.org.uk

Deadline

Friday 16 February 2024 (but we will fill the roles before that date, if enough volunteers apply)

More great RSGB 2023 Convention presentations to watch

Over the last month we've shared four more Convention presentations on our YouTube channel on a range of amateur radio topics. Three of them highlight either work done by RSGB volunteers to support RSGB members, or services that the RSGB provides.

The 23cm video is three presentations in one. RSGB Microwave Manager Barry Lewis, G4SJH talks about amateur/RNSS coexistence in the 23cm band, then John Worsnop, G4BAO considers how the possible RNSS changes will affect narrow band DX operation and EME. Finally, Dave Crump, G8GKQ looks at the future of ATV in the 23cm band. These presentations were given before the WRC23 conference, and final arrangements will depend on the WRC23 outcome.

The UK Meteor Beacon project is now in its second phase, and both phases have been supported by the RSGB Legacy Fund. At the RSGB 2023 Convention, Brian Coleman, G4NNS outlined the plan for the second phase. A network of receivers will be developed, streaming their data via a central server for detailed study of individual meteor events. This is a co-operation between the 'worlds' of amateur radio and astronomy. The RSGB Legacy Fund supports a wide range of amateur radio projects. You can find out more and download an application form on the RSGB website at [rsgb.org/legacy](https://www.rsgb.org/legacy)

In his presentation, David Lauder, GOSNO, outlines the RSGB EMC Committee investigations into sources of RF electrical interference from recent developments in electronic equipment, including electric vehicle charging.

Finally, Nobby Styles, GOVJG describes the challenging and hazardous DXpedition to Europe's rarest IOTA, Rockall Island.

Go to [youtube.com/theRSGB](https://www.youtube.com/theRSGB) to view these presentations and remember to subscribe to the channel – you'll be notified when new videos are released so you won't miss out!

QSL Matters

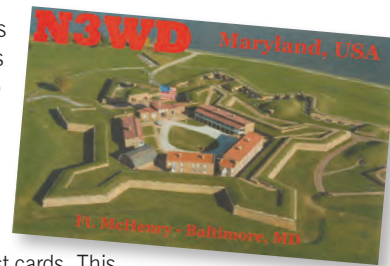
What's your idea of an American fort? Is it a high-tech military base or just the memory of a town where a wooden stockade once stood in the days of the old west? An FT8 QSL card from Maryland local Bill, N3WD caught our attention recently as it depicted a rather different kind of fort.

The solid Bastian design of Fort McHenry, named after George Washington's Secretary of War, overlooks Baltimore harbour and stands on the site of an earlier construction – the aptly named, Ft Wheatstone.

After the burning of Washington DC in August 1814, the British turned their attention to Baltimore and its harbour. During the night of 13 September 1814, 1,000 defenders, outnumbered 5 to 1, stood firm against a land invasion and massive sea offensive from rockets and bombs by the then most powerful navy in the world. When morning came, the massive 9.14m x 12.8m American flag still flew above Fort McHenry. This is the origin of the US national anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner. The fort played roles in the War of Independence, the US Civil War and right up to WWII. Today it's a museum hosting many events and the only place in America permitted to fly its massive flag of just 15 stars and stripes.

This card, and others like it, prove beyond question that there's much more to QSL cards than a simple data exchange. All the more reason to collect yours. Thanks Bill.

Diverting cards: over three years now, many will have seen notes on cards asking them to stop using vias and to "always collect from the callsign used during the contact". In 2024, and by necessity, we'll be following the long-standing conditions of use more closely by not diverting most cards. This is in order to re-value and protect membership/affiliation whilst significantly reducing processing time and cost.



For clarity, personal calls, club, contest, GB and special-prefix cards are officially not subject to any divers.

Additionally, it's the responsibility of managers acting for others, or a club, to lodge envelopes and collect the cards from the correct sub-manager. Doing it this way, and insisting on member numbers on envelopes, makes it much easier to track and deter any abuse of the system.

The only acceptable vias remain as they have always been:

- The member's callsign active in another regional prefix eg travel or holidays
- A member's overseas callsign, directed back to their own UK call

Richard J Constantine, G3UGF

Could you be an RSGB District Representative?

If you live in Region 11 you could support your local amateur radio community by becoming an RSGB District Representative. DR111 covers Cornwall and the Scillies, whilst DR114 focuses on Dorset. If you would like to find out more, please contact the Region 11 Regional Representative, Andrew Jenner, G7KNA. There are also District Representatives vacancies in Region 3 and Region 10 – find out more on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/volunteers

Martyn Vincent, G3UKV, Silent Key



Martyn was District Representative 53 for Shropshire, North Worcestershire and West Birmingham, previously the Regional Representative for Region 5 and also a previous member of the Nominations Committee. Martyn was also a well very respected member of the microwave and contesting communities. Our thoughts are with Martyn's family and friends.

Rick Hewett, MOLEP sent in this personal tribute to Martyn: I was very sad to hear the news of Martyn's passing. He has, for many years, been the operator behind a regular Thursday morning GB2CW broadcast on 80m, and made over 800 such broadcasts, the last of which was on 28 December 2023. Unusually, his broadcast format was a mixed-mode one, with CW transmissions interspersed with an SSB read-back of the text just sent and advice about learning and using Morse code. This very accessible format was particularly helpful for me when I was struggling to learn Morse code. After the broadcast he'd take calls using his own callsign, and I welcomed this chance to chat afterwards, too. Sometimes conversation would drift away from amateur radio onto other topics of interest to him, like restoration work on the canal network. This is just one small facet of his contribution to amateur radio in the UK, but it too will be missed.

Mick Senior, G4EFO, Silent Key



It is with much sadness that we have to report the sudden passing of Mick Senior, G4EFO on Wednesday 27 December 2023, aged 73 (just one day before his 74th birthday).

Mick was a West Sussex firefighter who retired early from the service but kept himself busy with his small business installing domestic and professional antenna systems all over the south of England until a few years ago. But even in his early seventies he could still be found on a ladder or roof somewhere installing antennas and satellite dishes for family and friends. He obtained his first licence, G8EFO, in the early 1970s, and then a few years later became G4EFO. Mick joined Horsham Amateur Radio Club (HARC) some fifty years ago, becoming one of the club characters – always there to offer support and advice, and often followed up by several beers!

In the 1980s, Mick became an integral part of the Sussex Repeater Group helping out with the early 2m and 70cm repeaters in the Brighton area. He then moved his attention to the north of the county running 2m and 70cm repeaters in the Horsham and Crawley areas.

His interest in repeaters led him to become a member of the RSGB Repeater Committee, offering support and advice to would-be repeater keepers all over the country (during which time he worked on a part-time basis for Microwave Modules). After the RSGB Repeater Committee, Mick became the RSGB Region 10 Manager for several years, helping to support all of the local radio clubs in the area.

Mick loved travel, visiting family and friends in Germany, and trips to amateur radio rallies in Europe. Friedrichshafen was a firm favourite of his for many years, where members of the Horsham and Crawley radio clubs would join him.

Apart from ham radio, Mick could always be found helping out in his local community, being very supportive of local charities and organisations. He was the Worshipful Master of the Radio Fraternity Lodge No 8040 in 2006 and 2007, as well as several other Sussex Lodges.

In later life, Mick had great pleasure 'becoming Santa' at Christmas time visiting many schools and charities to raise funds for disadvantaged children – and yes, the beard was real, being grown especially for the season.

Mick was one of life's remarkable characters. He was generous, caring, and a lovable friend who will be sorely missed by all. He lived respected and died regretted. My condolences go out to Julie and his sons Dan, Matt and James.

Chairman of Horsham Amateur Radio Club, Adrian Boyd, G4LRP

RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park

Volunteers were pleased to welcome several members from Peterborough and District ARC to the NRC in mid-November. Seen in the photo are Alan, G8XLH with Tracey, M5ATR and Nora from Slovakia holding the callsigns MONUR and OM10W along with NRC Volunteer Brian, G4BIP.



On the final day before Bletchley Park closed for the International AI Summit, NRC Volunteers were delighted to welcome Brian, EI8IU visiting from Shannon Basin Radio Club, EI2SBC. Brian spent several hours in the NRC chatting with volunteer Mervyn, G4KLE whilst making QSOs on the 40m band with local EI stations from home.

Volunteers were pleased to welcome Blue, VK2CBN to the NRC on a damp November morning. On a chance visit to Bletchley Park on his final day in the UK, Blue was delighted to come across the NRC (not being previously aware of its existence) and have the opportunity to sit and chat with the volunteers. In Elderslie Australia, Blue owns the Four Seasons Observatory, where he and his wife Sandee promote science through astronomy.

Interested in contacting the ISS?

The RSGB's Learning Team is keen to adapt the ARISS-USA's SPARKI project to promote amateur radio communications in the UK. While the aim of the project is to encourage schools in the USA to apply for a radio contact with the ISS, here in the UK we intend to develop a resource that will demonstrate analogue and digital radio communications. It can be used with scout groups to obtain their communicator badge, with schools to enhance the science curriculum, and with STEM clubs and even community groups such as the u3a. The aim is introduce the public to the world of radio. If a school decides to apply for an ISS contact, or if someone is inspired to study for their licence, that would be great. It might even lead to someone having a career involving radio communications. We have already enlisted the help of Nigel Thrower, G3YSW and John Hislop, G7OHO. If you would like to become involved, contact RSGB Director Dave Wilson via MOOBW@rsgb.org

The ARISS Radio Kit Handbook is available at ariss-usa.org under 'education resources' and 'lesson plans'.

Would you like to help run the RSGB?

The Society's year starts and ends at the AGM in April and we are seeking members who would like to be considered for an elected or nominated role within the Society. You can read more about what it's like to take up an elected position, and find details of vacancies, on page 52 of this issue of *RadCom*.

Congratulations

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

60 Years

Dr I White GM3SEK
Mr S Cherry G3SJK

50 Years

Dr B Austin G0GSF
Mr M Appleby G3ZNU
Mr D Griffiths G4DMG
Mr D Warwick G4EEV
Mr J Pepper G4EPA
Mr D Wood G4KAE
Mr I Gordon G8IFT
Mr J Donnithorne G8MKX
Mr P Tucker G14DWZ
Mr M Bond GM4HYR
Mr W Robson GM8II0
Mr M Bover GW8KCY

The RSGB welcomes to the RSGB family the following new Members who have joined their voice to ours, helping to keep the RSGB strong.

Mr C Faulkner	2E0FCP	Mr B Roberts	MOTXE	Mr M Kaufman	N3AR	Mr T Van kleeft	RS406838
Mr J Walker	2E0GWL	Mr F Ng	MOUNG	Mr J Langdon	N5CQ	Ms P Lester	RS406848
Mr C Lundregan	2E0IUF	Mr K Jones	MOUVK	Mr F Etzler	N8WXQ	Mr M Torrens	RS406852
Mr J Keegan	2E1DZV	Mrs D Ng	M1ENG	Mr R Van Zele	ON5RZ	Mr P Hollyer	RS406878
Mr G Allen	2E1EYY	Mr J Root	M5GSK	Mr J Schuur	RS209079	Mr J Villamizar Duque	RS406914
Mr B Dempster	2MOODE	Mr A Santer	M6NXW	Mr S Murray	RS211315	Mr P Templeman	RS406933
Mr J Russ	AB4KA	Mr J Middleton	M7COO	Mr J Sheppard	RS339845	Mr R Scott	RS406934
Mr E Domenici	AC4ZY	Mr D Reed	M7DDN	Mr C Leaver	RS404434	Mr T Lamb	RS406959
Mr J Slagmolen	DL9ZAM	Mr P Freeman	M7FDJ	Mx M Johnson	RS404441	Mr A Mcdonald	RS406960
Mr S Carter	G0GPT	Mr A Ponting	M7FEO	Mr M Brown	RS406184	Mr D Blake	RS406973
Mr A Whitwam	G0TLP	Mr L Forchini	M7FEQ	Mr P Sanders	RS406385	Mr D Blake	RS406973
Mr D Gryta	G1DTG	Mr A Beecroft	M7FFL	Mr S Cockcroft	RS406520	Mr C Dalby	RS406992
Mr S Walker	G3EFB	Mr A Martin	M7FFW	Mr A Lovelace	RS406577	Mr R Hillyard	RS407006
Mr J Stratton	G4AHM	Mr D Trigg	M7FGV	Mr D Wiltshire	RS406614	Mr P Manfred	RS407019
Mr P Emmerton	G4IOV	Mr D Roberts	M7ILM	Mr D Wilde	RS406649	Dr R Munro	RS407026
Mr I Abiks	G6ATJ	Mr J Crowe	M7MMD	Mr M Viney	RS406651	Mr D Smith	RS407030
Mr I Bennett	G6HJJ	Mr J Jones	M7NDB	Mr G Loader	RS406681	Mr D Glover	RS407033
Mr J Pepper	G6ZSQ	Mr D Southall	M7UGZ	Mrs N Mansell	RS406729	Mr M Burke	RS407034
Mr R Southwood	GW7GNF	Mr D Bayley	M7XCB	Mr G Roberts	RS406756	Mr H Taylor	RS407046
Mr D Ball	GW7ONS	Mr M Embleton	M7YME	Mrs S Roberts	RS406757	Mr R Annett	RS407054
Mr G Worth	K1GKW	Mr D Kinnear	MM0ISH	Mr M Lawrence	RS406759	Mr E Thompson	RS407057
Mr J Idelson	K1IR	Mr C Aitken	MM0WIC	Mr T Gregory	RS406762	Mr D Heddle	RS407138
Mr D Fearn	K3KW	Mr J Marnoch	MM7FFK	Mr H Salbol	RS406783	Mr B McBride	RS407141
Mr D Thomas	KE8LBJ	Mr P Blythe	MWOPSH	Mr R Rudd	RS406784	Mr J White	RSB4257
Mr S Hall	MOCUF	Mr S Williams	MW7NEF	Mr J Green	RS406810	S Anderson	W1EMI
Mr F Gabele	MOKME	Mr L Bluss	MW7SFL	Mr D Gallacher	RS406836	Mr P Wagenvoort	ZL3PW

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

Rejoiners		Mr J Wilkinson	G0SDY	Mr D Stolting	GMOSEF	Mr L Smith	M7LMZ
Mr S Preston	2E0BHY	Mr C Dadd	G1HZN	Dr B Allen	MOBZE	Mr D Burt	MWOXRT
Mr M Bennett-Blacklock		Mr P Wharton	G1PCW	Mr P Martin	MOKDX	Mr D Parry-Williams	MW1EPI
2E0ESC		Mr D Brain	G3XMC	Mr S Hughes	MOVGP	Mr R Sjolholm	OH2NZT
Mr D Hook	2E0JIT	Mr M Porter	G4TJK	Mr A Fishwick	M1CGI	Mr A King	RS331034
Mr J Leighton	2E0YDX	Mr E Holme	G4YYB	Mr D Vayalabrone	M6HJY	Mr A Thompson	RS331649
Mr R Kerby	GOCHK	Mr A Fairclough	G6AD	Mr D Ebbs	M6PDN	Mr G Davidson	RS33988
Mr R Buckwell	GOMBV	Mr P Caloe	G7TVB	Mrs K Buckwell	M7KEZ	Mr C Chapman	VK3QB

Updating the amateur radio licensing framework: overview of key changes



Here are some updates from Ofcom on the proposed changes to amateur radio licensing.

What you need to know

Amateur radio licences will be changing in 2024. We [Ofcom] are maintaining the three-tier licensing structure and lifetime licensing regime but have decided to introduce changes to enable greater operating freedom for people using amateur radio while making the process of getting and using a licence simpler and more consistent.

The following paragraphs provide a high-level summary of the changes we plan to make to the amateur radio licensing framework following our recent review and consultation. The changes affect our overall licensing framework and rules on a number of areas including callsigns, technical parameters (such as power levels and when a Notice of Variation is required); and the licence format, terms, and conditions. Full detail can be found in our 2023 Statement [1] and Notice of Variation documents [2].

Timetable for implementing the changes

To implement many of our decisions we need to make changes to all existing amateur radio licences. This means that many of these decisions are subject to the outcome of the statutory processes for varying existing licences. We have therefore decided to start the statutory process to vary all amateur radio licences by publishing a General Notice [3] which sets out the proposed licence variations. Licensees can provide representations on these proposed changes by 5pm on 22 January 2024. Ofcom will consider all representations that have been provided after this date and decide whether to go ahead with our proposals. We may decide to vary the licences in accordance with our proposal, or with some modifications.

We will publish our decisions on the Ofcom website no later than February 2024 and vary the standard licences used for new licences at this point. The new rules will also apply for all licensees from this time, meaning all licensees may operate under the new terms and conditions applicable to their licence class. We will issue new licence documents to all current licensees. As there are around 70,000 amateur radio licensees, you may not receive your new licence immediately but, following the variation update, you may operate under the new rules as set out in the

new terms and conditions booklet, which will be published on the website.

Phase 1 changes – new callsign rules and greater flexibility

We plan for the new terms and conditions and following changes to come into effect when we have completed the licence variation process. This is planned for February 2024. Under our new policies, and subject to the licence variation consultation and decision process, we plan to introduce the following changes:

Callsigns and suffixes

- The use of Regional Secondary Locators (RSLs) will become optional, removing the mandatory requirements for RSLs from the licence. If you wish to continue using one, you are able to do so, and they remain a valid callsign format. For licensees using a '2' format callsign, it will remain mandatory to insert an RSL.
- If you are a Foundation or Full licensee, you will be able to use the RSL 'E' in your callsign if operating in England, if you wish.
- You will no longer be required to apply for an NoV to your licence if you wish to use a 'special' RSL, when designated by Ofcom.
- We will amend the licence so licensees can use any suffix, so long as the station remains identifiable. It's important to note that suffixes fall under the Wireless Telegraphy (Content of Transmissions) Regulations [4].
- New applicants will only be allowed to hold one personal licence (excluding any Club licence).

Power levels and airborne use

- Foundation licensees will be able to transmit at 25W PEP and Intermediate licensees at 100W PEP, in bands where the Full licence currently permits operation at 400W PEP. Full licensees will be able to transmit at 1000W PEP in bands where amateur radio has a primary allocation.
- All licensees will be able to transmit airborne in primary amateur radio bands. There is a maximum power limit of 500mW EIRP.

Enabling more flexibility within the licence

- Many Notices of Variation (NoV) will be embedded into the licence terms and conditions, so a NoV will not be needed for some activities which currently

require a NoV. This includes the deployment of some beacons, repeaters, and gateways as detailed below.

- As a licensee you will be able to allow unlicensed individuals to use your radio equipment under direct supervision. You will remain responsible for ensuring they comply with your licence conditions.
- The rules on remote and unattended operation will be updated. As well as this, Foundation and Intermediate licensees will be able to use the internet for remote control operation.
- For most repeaters, beacons and gateways you will no longer require an NoV (powers over 25W will still require an NoV). Licensees will have to carry out an interference assessment to prove that they have minimised the risk of interference to other users. For powers above 5W, a callsign must be obtained from the RSGB. *See also Note 1, p.13.
- A new Data Station mode of operation will be introduced. This is to allow the authorisation of a wide variety of other data systems, mainly machine-to-machine operations. This provision will permit the following types of operation under the licence: APRS, UIView/Packet, data/trunk links, and RF mesh networks.
- As a Foundation licensee, you will be able to build your own equipment and access the 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands. There is a maximum transmit power of 2W in these bands.
- We will align various terms and conditions with other licences that Ofcom issues, simplifying many of the conditions, removing unnecessary complexity and making them clearer. We will also remove several provisions from the licence that are not required for spectrum management purposes.

Phase 2: Changes to new Intermediate callsigns, SES rules and restrictions on the number of callsigns an individual may hold will be implemented later in 2024

We plan for these changes, which require modification to our licensing platform (or some other Ofcom action) to be implemented in 2024. Should the timings change, we will provide an update.

- We will cease issuing the '2' series of callsigns for Intermediate licensees and will instead issue 'M8' and 'M9' callsigns. Existing holders of '2' series callsigns will be able to transfer their callsign to the new M8 and M9 format at the same time. Although we will encourage this,

this will be voluntary. For those who continue using a '2' format callsign, you will have to continue to input an RSL into your callsign.

- Simplified the rules around Special Event Stations will be introduced, enabling a more flexible authorisation. We plan to fully automate the process, resulting in a quicker response for licensees.
- We will place restrictions upon the number of callsigns an individual can hold. For personal licences, this will be limited to one in line with our decision to only allow radio amateurs to hold only one personal licence.
- For Full (Club) licences, you will be able to start applying for additional callsigns (up to 5).

Phase 3: New licensing platform required

We plan for these changes to be implemented later in the 2024/2025 financial year, unless otherwise stated. We will provide updates should this change.

- For existing licensees, once we have implemented the new licensing platform, we will look to revoke any lower-class, or duplicate, licences in phase 3. When you progress to the next licence class, your previous licence will be revoked. If you already hold multiple licences, you can either surrender them now or Ofcom will contact you at a later date to do so.
- We will be updating our mechanisms for online revalidation as part of our Licensing Platform Evolution.
- As a licensee, in the future you will be able to change your callsign periodically. This will be limited to once every five years to

maintain identification of a station.

- From the time the new licensing platform is launched, new applicants will be able to choose from any available callsign when applying for a licence on the online portal. We will also allow the re-issue of old callsigns after a five-year 'cooling-off' period at this time.

References

- [1] <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/updates-amateur-radio-licensing-framework>
- [2] <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your-licence/radiocommunication-licences/amateur-radio/amateur-radio-info/licensing-updates>
- [3] <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your-licence/radiocommunication-licences/amateur-radio/amateur-radio-info/licensing-updates>
- [4] <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1988/47/made>

Summary

On 11 December 2023, we [Ofcom] published a statement setting out our decision to proceed with updating the amateur radio licensing framework to better meet the needs of today and tomorrow's radio amateurs. This decision followed our June 2023 consultation, which attracted nearly 1500 responses, and we made some changes to our plans in light of comments received. The planned changes aim to provide greater operating freedom for radio amateurs, while making the rules as clear as possible by simplifying and removing any unnecessary restrictions.

This is the first step in updating the regulatory framework. In order to implement many of the decisions set out in the statement we must vary all amateur radio licences. We have published a General Notice which sets out the proposals for this. As set out under the process set out in the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006, licensees will have an opportunity to make representations regarding the licence variation. It is important to note that this process is not re-opening the policy consultation process but does allow radio amateurs to provide representations on these proposed changes by 22 January 2024.

After considering any representations received, we will publish our final decision within one month of the closure date for representations. This will explain whether we have decided to vary all amateur radio licence classes to include the updated licence conditions. The changes will come into effect from when we publish our decision, and we will take a staggered approach. At the same time, we would replace the Amateur TLC with the Amateur Conditions Booklet. We will then begin contacting licensees to provide them with their new licence document. Due to the volume of licences this process may take some weeks to complete.

The changes, if we proceed with making them, will be implemented in three phases::

Phase 1 (Licence variation required)
– proposed implementation by end of February 2024

- Allow third party supervised operation
- RSL use optional and allow wider use of 'E' for England
- Special RSL notification
- Callsign suffix provisions
- Increased transmit power
- Foundation and Intermediate use of the internet for remote control links
- Incorporating beacon, gateway, data and repeater NoVs into the licence
- Allowing Foundation licensees to build their own equipment, and access 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands
- Permit low power airborne use
- Update and alignment of the licence terms and conditions

Phase 2 (Licensing platform modification or other Ofcom action required) - we plan for this to be in 2024

- New Intermediate M8 and M9 callsign prefix
- Restriction on the number of callsigns
- Liberalisation of the use of the Special Event Station NoV

Phase 3 (new licensing platform required)
– we plan for this to be later in the 2024/25 financial year

- Improvements to the online revalidation process
- Holding of a single personal licence and revocation of lower licence as a licensee progresses
- Choice of wider range of unused amateur callsigns via the online portal
- Ability to change callsign periodically

Further information on the proposed changes and the General Notice can be found via the [ofcom.org.uk](https://www.ofcom.org.uk) website and [rsgb.org/licence-review](https://www.rsgb.org/licence-review)

*Note 1: Frequency Coordination Notice & Procedures

A key change resulting from the Ofcom consultation is a new document that will be referenced by the licence called "Coordination Notice & Procedures". It will replace Schedule-2 of the licence for several bands, as well as radiuses around designated key locations.

Within this, Ofcom states: "Licensees wishing to deploy a repeater in 430-440MHz or 1240-1325MHz will need to obtain a clearance approval from Ofcom as they will need to be coordinated Primary Users such as MoD and CAA before any transmissions may begin." This is similar to the current process managed by RSGB-ETCC.

At present there is no exemption for low power (<5W ERP) systems. However, this an area of ongoing discussion.

A SOTA proposal!

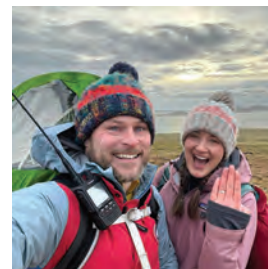
RSGB Director, and prolific SOTA (Summits on the Air) activator, Ben Lloyd, GW4BML proposed to his partner Martha, MW3MBL during a SOTA expedition in the Outer Hebrides.

Ben and Martha were activating Beinn a'Charnain (GM/SI-203) on Pabbay Island when Ben popped the question. They were accompanied by their young daughter Lyra, who often rides to the summits in a harness on Ben's rucksack. Ben is, of course, a well-known and respected SOTA activator who has achieved the coveted Mountain Goat status and achieved widespread media recognition through his feature appearance on BBC's Countryfile, and the RSGB's Tonight@8 webinars.

The good news is that Martha said "yes"!

The SOTA Management Team, and the whole SOTA fraternity, sends its congratulations and best wishes to Ben, Martha, and Lyra.

For more information about SOTA, please visit sota.org.uk



Iberian MicroMeet 2024

The Iberian microwave meeting 2024 will be held on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 February 2024. It covers radio communications experimentation techniques, EME and amateur DSN. It starts with a Guided Tour of European Space Agency (ESA) Madrid Facilities and keynote speech by Alberto Martos, a former NASA engineer. On Saturday, there will be a number of presentations covering instrumentation and measurements, amateur DSN and radioastronomy, plus a flea market, poster sessions, workshops, and live demonstrations. The contributor's list reads like a who's who of microwaves on the Iberian Peninsula and includes Iban Cardona, EB3FRN; José Soler, EA3HMJ; Luis Cupido, CT1DMK; and Daniel Estévez, EA4GPZ.

MicroMeet 2024 will be held at Fray Luis de León Convention Center, Paseo de la Alameda, 39 Guadarrama, Madrid Colabora URE SC Sierra de Guadarrama. For more information and registration visit micromeet.org

Advancing the Art of CW

CWops is pleased to announce that it is now accepting nominations for this prestigious award for the year 2024.

The purpose of the award is to recognise individuals, groups, or organisations that have made the greatest contribution(s) toward advancing the art or practice of radio communications by Morse code.

Criteria: candidates for the award may be one or more of the following:

- Authors of publications related to CW
- CW recruiters, trainers, mentors, coaches and instructors
- Public advocates of CW
- Organisers of CW activities
- Designers and inventors who advance the art or practice of CW
- Other contributors to the art or practice of CW

The award is *not* limited to amateur radio operators or their organisations.

Nominations may be made by anybody (not limited to CWops members) and should be emailed to awards@cwops.org with a copy to secretary@cwops.org. An email confirmation will be sent acknowledging receipt of each nomination. In order to be considered, a nomination should be received by 10 March 2024 and include:

- A detailed explanation supporting nominee qualifications according to the above criteria
- Name(s) and callsign(s) (if applicable) of nominee(s) and contact information including their postal address(es), email address(es), and telephone number(s)
- Name, telephone number, email address, and callsign (if applicable) of the person submitting the nomination



Cray Valley Radio Society Foundation course



Cray Valley Radio Society will be running a two-day Foundation course on 16 and 23 March 2024. This is for any Foundation candidates who prefer face-to-face tuition with a paper exam at the end. The Society is located in Eltham, South East London. To apply online, follow the training tab at cvrs.org

There are still a few places remaining on the course.

The history of two-way radio

In the hands of executive producer Mark Abrams, WA6DPB, producer/director Keith Salmon and co-producer and drone photographer Mark Lidikay, KE6TMM, the fascinating story of two-way radio technology comes to life. Their film *The History of Two-Way Radios* presents an engaging narrative on the progression of radio systems, from the simplicity of original designs to the complexities of modern networked trunking.

The team dedicated over two years to the film's production, grappling with how to present the material entertainingly. The film introduces fascinating characters, including Sasquatch, early developers who pioneered two-way radio technology, and modern technicians and engineers who persistently advance two-way radio communication.

Viewers are guided through the technological principles of radio systems, they encounter key historical moments, and gain insights into the capabilities and operations of modern communication systems. The film's success includes winning a Silver Dolphin Award at the Cannes Corporate Media and TV Film Festival. For more information, visit mra-raycom.com/film

GB4IMD

This year marks 150 years since the birth of Guglielmo Marconi in 1874. The Cornish Radio Amateur Club will be organising International Marconi Day this year on 27 April. For more information and updates, visit the GB4IMD Facebook page.

If you register as an official station but are unable to continue closer to the time, please let us know so we can update our records.

We will be updating the website over the coming weeks so, if you have already registered or if you are about to, please be patient with us it will be done as soon as we can.

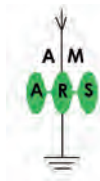
Thank you to all those who have already registered. This is always a great event and over the years you have all shown us fantastic support. We hope this year will be even bigger and better than before. Please join us once again – it is greatly appreciated.

Steve, G7VOH

International Marconi Day Organiser / Chairman Cornish Radio Amateur Club



Amplitude Modulation ARS



The Amplitude Modulation Amateur Radio Society (AMARS) is sponsoring a fun and relaxed activity contest to promote the use of the AM mode and the use of homebrew equipment as much as possible. Use of vintage or modern AM-capable equipment is of course completely acceptable.

The Activity contest is open to all and stations outside the UK are welcome to participate. It will take place on Saturday 24 February 2024 between 1600UTC and 2000UTC. The objective is to accumulate a good score using only Amplitude Modulation transmission. There will be two sections – Section A: using up to and including 10W, and Section B using more than 10W of power. There will be a plaque awarded to the winners of each section and certificates will be awarded for first, second and third places in both sections.

More information (including rules and scoring template) will be published in due course on the am-ars.org website and on the G5AMS QRZ.com page.

In the meantime, anyone wishing to have early sight of the rules can obtain a copy from the AMARS secretary via email at secretary@am-ars.org

FISTS Ladder

Calling all CW enthusiasts... no matter how good or how bad you think you are, join in with the FISTS Ladder sessions! The Ladder is a monthly activity with two, two-hour sessions on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. As with all FISTS Europe activities, it is a relaxed and sociable activity.



QSOs must start between 1400 and 1559UTC, and 1800 and 1959UTC on the second and fourth Sundays only.

The following rules apply only if you are sending in an entry:

- You can use any amateur radio band in your licence except for 12m, 17m, 30m, 60m, and bands lower in frequency than the 160m band.
- Keep at least 1kHz away from QRP centre of activity frequencies unless running QRP (for 80m, 40m, and 20m these are 3.560, 7.030, and 14.060MHz).
- After you finish a QSO on 3.558 or 7.028MHz, unless you replied to a CQ or tail-ended a QSO, you must QSY by at least 500Hz for a minimum of ten minutes.

Send in your entry after the last session in a month. Entries must be received no later than the 7th of the following month and must include your callsign, name, and email address (if you have one).

The free FISTS Log Converter program at <https://fists.co.uk/flc.html> for Windows is recommended for creating and submitting logs quickly and easily.

The email address for questions and entries is logs@fists.co.uk

Full details of this and all FISTS activities can be found on fists.co.uk

RAIBC



Established in 1954, RAIBC is a national society and charity dedicated to supporting radio amateurs and shortwave listeners with disabilities. The RAIBC logo is recognised throughout the amateur radio world. The

club is a UK registered charity, No 802348, and is run and managed by a group of amateurs forming an elected committee.

The services provided by RAIBC include the recording and distribution of audio literature for radio amateurs and listeners. In addition, manuals for various radios are available in audio format along with the Foundation, Intermediate and Full licence course materials. RAIBC also loans transceivers and receivers to qualifying members. Where necessary, these are adapted to suit their needs, for example by the use of voice chips.

Through its collective experience, RAIBC is able to provide advice and a fresh way of looking at radio for individuals who find themselves disabled. It encourages people to remain on the air and suggests new ways of operating to cope with their difficulties.

RAIBC does its best to provide whatever assistance it can to disabled amateurs. They have a small network of supporters, but their remit is to provide accessible equipment and put members needing assistance in contact with local radio clubs who are more than willing to help or advise.

RAIBC is funded primarily through donations of equipment that are sold at rallies and online. The funds that are raised enable RAIBC to provide the best and most suitable equipment to its members. RAIBC is also given financial donations and is often remembered in radio amateurs' wills. All such generous donations are gratefully received. For more information visit raibc.org.uk

NATIONAL CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS

AMSAT-UK

<http://amsat-uk.org>

Open net every Sunday, 10am \pm 3.780MHz and at 10.30am using QO-100 on 10489.780MHz

Blind Veterans UK Amateur Radio Society

Details at MXOSBV on QRZ.com.

Nets Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, \pm 3.715MHz

British Amateur Radio Teledata Group

Datacoms contests and awards www.BARTG.org.uk

British Amateur Television Club

Supporting all aspects of Amateur Television <https://batc.org.uk/>

British Railways ARS

Membership@BRARS.info www.BRARS.info

Nets and magazine: see website.

British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association

www.bylara.org.uk

Net Thursday, \pm 3.688MHz, 6.30pm.

CDXC – The UK DX Foundation

For all interested in HF DX and contesting cdxc.org.uk

Essex CW Amateur Radio Club

<https://essexcw.uk/>

Encouraging the use of Morse Code on the amateur bands

FISTS CW Club

<https://fists.co.uk/>

Supports the use, preservation and education of Morse code

GMDX Group

<https://www.gmdx.org.uk/>

The promotion of DX & other competitive amateur radio activity in Scotland & beyond.

G-QRP Club

Dedicated to low power radio communications. <http://www.gqrp.com/>

International Police ARC, G4IPA

www.facebook.com/groups/ipaamateurradio

Sunday night net 2000hrs 3.770MHz

Club is open to all serving and retired Police Officers and Police Staff

RAIBC

The charity working for radio amateurs with disabilities

Join online at www.raibc.org.uk. Helpline 0800 028 8660

NR Zello: RAIBC

Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association

MemSec@RAOTA.org www.RAOTA.org

Nets: see website

Radio Fraternity Lodge No. 8040, G5RFL

Info at radiofraternityinfo@gmail.com

Net 9am Sunday mornings +or- 3.757MHz

Radio Officers Association.

Membership: johnchalmers994@outlook.com

Website www.radioofficers.com

Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society

www.rsars.org.uk for nets see website

RAYNET-UK

www.raynet-uk.net

Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society

Website: www.rafars.org, membership@rafars.org

Nets: 11am, 7.155MHz +/- 6.30pm 3.715 +/- MHz

UK Microwave Group

<https://microwavers.org>

Focused on frequencies above 1GHz; contests,

awards and regular newsletter

UK Six Metre Group

www.uksmg.org

World Assoc of Christian Amateurs & Listeners

Richard Paul, G7KMZ, G7KMZ@wacral.org

Various nets, see www.wacral.org

Worked All Britain Awards Group

www.worked-all-britain.org.uk

Nets most evenings, \pm 3.760MHz and \pm 7.160MHz, time variable

If you would like your Special Interest Group to be listed here, send the information to radcom@rsgb.org.uk

Please send news reports to radcom@rsgb.org.uk. To get future events listed here and put on GB2RS, email details of your meetings as early as possible to radcom@RSGB.org.uk Include your club name, RSGB Region number, contact name, callsign & phone number, date and details of meeting. **Example:** Fraser Road Radio Club, Region 9, Steve, M1ACB, 01234 832 700, 29 Oct, talk on anteaater breeding, Phil, G9ABC. We normally acknowledge all submissions within 3 working days; if you don't hear from us, please phone. We don't normally include 'closed', 'TBA' or 'every Tuesday'-type entries. **The deadline for March 2024 is 21 January and for April 2024 it's 19 February.** For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am the Thursday before broadcast.

CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

RR: Anthony Miles, MM0TMZ, RR1@rsgb.org.uk

Ayr ARG
Derek, MM0OVD, 0742 899 4614,
derek.secaarg@gmail.com
9, 23 Meeting Prestwick Community Centre,
7.30pm

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
2 Club Night, Thorntree Inn, 7pm
13 Radio check night at RBL

Edinburgh & District ARC
Norman, GM1CNH, 07740 946 192
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net 433.525MHz, 8pm
17 Club meeting and social evening

Kilmarnock & Loudon ARC
Secretary, GMOADX, klarcinfo@gmail.com
4, 11, 18, 25 SSB net on 3720kHz 2pm, quiz
145.475MHz, check in 7.45pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Radio Q&A night on Zoom, 7.30pm
6, 20 Natter Night at Clubhouse, 7.30pm
13, 27 Formal Meeting at Clubhouse & on Zoom,
7.30pm

Lothians RS
James Gentles, GM4WZP,
events@lothiansradiosociety.com
7, 21 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm
14 Understanding baluns, Brian, GM8BJF
28 Story of Voyager 1 & 2, John, GM8OTI and
James, GM4WZP

Mid Lanarkshire ARS
Simon Gray, 2MOLSG,
secretary@mlars.co.uk, mlars.co.uk
7, 14, 21, 28 DMR net, TG23550, 8pm

Stirling and District ARS
Iain, GM5YTT, GM5YTT@outlook.com
Regular nets via club repeater GB3FE
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night, all welcome, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting all welcome, 10am

West of Scotland ARS
Pat, 2M1CKE,
westofscotlandars@gmail.com, wosars.club
Meets at Garnethill Multicultural Centre, G3 6RE
2, 9, 16, 23 Club night, 8pm

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

RR: Jim Campbell, 2M0IAQ, RR2@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdeen ARS
Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651365, aars.org.uk
1 Members' Junk Sale, 7pm start
8 CW practice 7pm, The First 40 Years of
AARS (video), 7.30pm
15 CW practice 7pm, informal meeting, 7.30pm
22 CW practice 7pm, the new amateur radio
licence, 7.30pm
29 Equipment surgery and on-air evening, 7.30pm

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

Martyn Bell, M0TEB, RR3@rsgb.org.uk

Bolton Wireless Club
Mark Bryant, M0UFC, 07831454468
5 Net 2m FM, 7.30pm
12 Ladybridge meeting: The Repair Shop, Part 5,
Steve, G4AQB
19 Online meeting, 7.30pm
26 Ladybridge meeting: Show & Tell,
Mark, M0UFC as MC

Chester & District RS
Bruce Sutherland, M0CVP, 01244 343 825,
chesterdars.org.uk
6 Ham Radio Deluxe vs DX Labs
13 Committee meeting
20 The Other Man's Shack

Furness ARS

Mike, MOMJX, info@fars.org.uk
7, 21 Club net DMR TG23525
2, 9, 16, 23 Club net 145.325MHz FM
14 Club project: build session
28 Club project: test

Gilmore and North West Morse Radio Club

Heth, M6HNS, 07735 036 267
1 AGM, St Mary's Hall, 7.30pm
4 CW net 3.510MHz, 7.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 CW net, 144.064MHz, 3pm
11, 25 CW net 50.080MHz, 7.30pm
18 CW net 28.080MHz, 7.30pm
22 C4FM 144.925MHz, 7.30pm

Macclesfield & District RS

Greg, MOTXX, info@gx4mws.uk
5 Shack on the air
12 Antenna build night: doublet
19 Shack maintenance
26 RSGB FT4 contest

Merseyside ARS

Alan, G4NXG info@marsradio.uk
5 DX video presentation
19 Weak signal operation

Stockport Radio Society

info@g8srs.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club Net via GB3MR & Webex,
7.30pm
6 Presentation at Walthew House: The Ukraine
Relief Amateur Radio Project with Richard,
G4HGI, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club Net, 145.375MHz, 2pm
10 Saturday at Walthew House, 10am
12 G50 Contest Group Meeting, 7.30pm
20 Online social event by Webex, 7pm
24, 25 TAS Memorabilia Fair, Manchester Airport,
10am
25 Sunday club net 145.375MHz, 10.30am
27 6m net on 51.550MHz, 7.30pm

Quantum AR & TS

Derek, G7LFC, info@quantumtech.club
1 Brickworks, antenna building
3 Breakfast club
15 Project and on-air evening
29 Evening meal

South Manchester RCC

Dave, G4MVU 07518913300, smrcc.org.uk
1 Discussion: WRC23 Implications
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.475MHz FM, 8pm
8 Discussion: Construction Contest
15 Discussion: Multipsk software
22 Talk: Tracking animals
29 Discussion: Digital chat room

Thornton Cleveleys ARS

Jen, G8YOK, tcars.radio@gmail.com
5 Projects night
12 Talk by Dave, G8SNR
19 Natter night and club on the air
26 Repairing Welsh clock, G3WBB

Warrington ARC

Dave Roberts G8KBB, secretary@warc.org.uk
1 Hotspot net - P25 TG 10350/YSF GB-WARC, 8pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Social/coffee morning, 10am
4, 11, 18, 25 Solder Sunday, clubroom and
Zoom, 2pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meetings, clubroom and Zoom, 8pm

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

RR: Ian Bowman, G7ESY, RR4@rsgb.org.uk

Bishop Auckland RAC
barac.org.uk
Anyone wishing to study and/or take their
exam's visit barac.org.uk for details.
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meet at Stanley Crook Hall, 7.30pm

Durham & District ARS

Michael, G7TWX, 07826924192
3, 10, 17, 24 Net 145.425MHz, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 50.575MHz, 7pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Net 70.375MHz, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting, 6pm

Hornsea ARC

John, G3XYF,
jhwresdell@gmail.com, hornsearc.com
2, 9, 16, 23 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 1896KHz CW 8pm,
SSB 8.30pm
7 Meeting on Zoom
14 80m CC data contest at Club
21 Meeting on Zoom
28 Club Committee meeting

Hull and District ARS

Andy, G8REM, g8rem@icloud.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net G3AMW, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net GB3HS, 7.30pm

Maltby & District ARS

info@maltbyradio.org.uk, maltbyradio.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23 Club Night, 6pm
11 Net, 145.225MHz, 7pm
17 POTa activation day

Otley ARS

John, G6MHR, otleyradio.org
2, 9, 16, 23 Net 144.350MHz SSB, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 145.450MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night, Clifton Village Hall,
7.30pm

Ripon & District ARS

radars-g4sjm.club
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meeting at The Bunker, 7.30pm

Sheffield & District Wireless Society

David Hayes, M0GDY,
david4001@protonmail.com
28 Introduction to Astrophotography,
Danny, M0SDB

Spen Valley ARS

Malcolm, 2E0IOX, spenvalleyars@gmail.com
1, 15 Club nights, 8pm
8, 22, 29 Net nights 145.450MHz FM, 8pm

Wearside Electronics and ARS

radio@wears.org.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, Herrington 2nd Scouts, 6pm

York Radio Club

yorkradioclub.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night
6, 13, 20, 27 AM net 144.550MHz, 8.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 145.625MHz, GB3HG, 8pm

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

RR: Neil Yorke, M0NKE, RR5@rsgb.org.uk

Burton ARC,

Barry Hardy, M0ISZ, 01283 540570
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open FM net, 145.575MHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Open FM net 145.575MHz, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 Slow CW exercise 14.055MHz 11am
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night Barley Mow, 7.30pm

Cheltenham ARA

committee@g5bk.uk
Daily nets 145.4MHz 8.10am, GB3CG 8.20am
2, 9, 16, 23 Net GB3RC on RU69, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 50.22MHz, 8.30am
6, 13, 20, 27 Slow CW 3540kHz and up, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm
15 Tabletop sale

Dudley and District ARS

Keith, M0WYZ, keithm0wyz@gmail.com
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, 59 Vale St, DY3 3XF, 6pm

Gloucester AR&ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
Daily net 145.575MHz FM, 3.30pm
See g4aym.org.uk for details of nets
5 VarAC with Mike, G4WNC, 7.30pm
19 Informal meeting, DH Village Hall, 7.30pm

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.350MHz FM, 8pm
13 How DV works, Andy, MOXZS, 7.30pm
27 Informal meeting, 7.30pm

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003
7 Open meeting, shack on the air and training classes
14 Short committee meeting and training classes, 7.15pm
21 General meeting, construction projects and training classes
28 Open meeting, fund raising, rally visits and training classes

Rugby ATS

Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940
Daily net every Mon to Fri on 144.275MHz USB, 8.30am
1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29 Training and practice CW net, 144.275MHz first USB then CW, 4.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23 Net, 1913kHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut, 2pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut, 8pm

Salop ARS, Shrewsbury

Les, M5LMG, salopamateurradio@gmail.com, salopradiosociety.org
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meeting (check website for details)

South Birmingham RS

Gemma Gordon, M6GKG, gemmagordonm6gkg@gmail.com
2, 16, 23 Activities in the shack with Roger and Bob
4, 11, 18, 25 Work in the attic with Bob and others
6, 13, 20, 27 Coffee morning in the shack, visitors welcome, 10.30am

Stourbridge & District ARS

John, M1EJG, 01562 700513, www.g6oi.org.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting at Norton Snooker Club

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, rob2e0zap@gmail.com
5, 19 Open net starting on ±145.250MHz, 7.30pm
12, 26 Club meeting, 8pm

Stafford & District ARS

Nigel, M7ANJ, 07730 161723
Meetings at Wildwood Community Centre, station usually on the air
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Talks, presentations, demonstrations, workshops, training

Telford & District ARS

John, M0JZH, m0jzh@yahoo.co.uk
7 Committee meeting & 2m ragchew, 8pm
14 Under a fiver competition
21 Surplus sale
28 Prof Ian Morison, GODMU 'The Story of Jodrell Bank', Webex

Wolverhampton ARS

Andrew Atkinson, 2EOYEZ, 01902 762603, secretary@wolverhamptonars.co.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 Club night, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm

Wythall RC

Chris, G3YHF, 0795 839 5904, wythallradioclub.co.uk
6 Demo of Neil, G1TZC's QO-100 setup

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

RR: Liz Cabban, GW0ETU, RR6@rsgb.org.uk
01492 830872
Dragon ARC
2W0JYB, mw7mon@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net GB3AN and Wires-X Room 86178, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club Net 145.550MHz, 7pm
5, 19 Meeting Canolfan Esceifiog, Gaerwen, 7pm
12, 26 Zoom night, 7pm
13, 20, 27 Club meeting

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RR: Brian Jones, GW6ZYI, RR7@rsgb.org.uk
Aberdare & District ARS
aberdareradio.club
2, 16 Meeting, Hirwaun YMCA, 6pm

Barry ARS

Steve, 2W0VOG, 07900 560 080
Club nights at Sully Sports and Social Club CF64 5SP, 7.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23 Zoom meeting hosted by Glyn, GWOANA, 7pm
6 Planning and new licence conditions
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 144.550MHz, 8pm
13, 20, 27 Natter nights

Cwmbran ARC

Gareth, MW6GVR, clubsec@post.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.712.5MHz CTCSS 94.8, GWOANA, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, Henllys Village Hall, Cwmbran, 7pm

Highfields ARC

johnathon hodson, MW6HDV, mw6hdv@gmail.com
Rhiwbina Recreation Club Lon Y Dail, Cardiff CF14 6EA. The club has access for disabled visitors. Nets are on GB3WB from 9.30pm to 10.30pm most nights of the week.
6, 13, 20, 27 Club meeting, 7pm

Newport ARS

gw4ezw.org.uk/contact-us
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Clubhouse evenings
4, 11, 18, 25 HF Net, ±7.100MHz, 10am
6, 13, 20, 27 VHF Net, 145.375MHz, 8pm

North Wales ARG

nwarg.org
2, 9, 16, 23 Net, GB3OR, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, GB3OR, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, Bryn Cadno Community Centre, 7pm

Rhondda ARS

John GW4BUZ, 01443 432 542. Please leave a message if we are not in.
Meetings at Rhondda Sports Centre, Ystrad, 7 to 9pm (Tuesdays)

St Tybie ARS

Gareth, GW4JPC, gw4jpc@yahoo.co.nz
2, 9, 16, 23 Net 3.739MHz, 11am
5, 12, 19, 26 Club meeting, Portacabin adj to Saron Hall, SA18 3LN, 7pm

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

Micheal Na bPob, M10HOZ RR8@rsgb.org.uk
Bangor & District ARS
Gordon McBriar, G16FZI, g16fzi@yahoo.com
19 Annual meeting at The Bryansburn Inn

Bushvalley ARC

bushvalleyarc.org
29 Meeting, Services Club, Roemill Road, Limavady, 8pm

Mid Ulster ARC

muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Net GB3WT, 7.30pm

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

RR: Ron White, G6LTT, RR9@rsgb.org.uk
Bracknell ARC
Colin, MOXCA, 0770 651 2505
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, GB3BN, 5pm

Burnham Beeches RC

Greg, G4EBY, ebytronics@gmail.com
4, 11, 18, 25 Club Net 10.30am 145.500MHz, QSY 145.275MHz

Chesham & District ARS

Malcolm, G3ZNU, 01494 890 840
7, 24 Net, GB3TU, 8pm
14 Informal meeting, Golden Eagle pub, Ashley Green, 8pm
28 Formal meeting Ashley Green Memorial Hall, 8pm

Edgware & District RS

Steve Slater, G0PQB, g0pqb25@gmail.com
8 Ofcom licence changes
22 Making use of contests

Milton Keynes ARS

Brendan, G8IXK, 07803 192 604
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net on 28.4MHz, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23 Club coffee chat on Zoom, 10:30am

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 07970 885 614, G4LMW@btconnect.com
28 Data Modes in Contesting by Phill, G6EES

Reading & District ARC

Tom, MOLTE, tom@m0lte.uk
1 Construction evening, 8pm
8 Radio photography competition, 8pm
22 Zoom talk by John, G4IRN on remote stations, 8pm
29 Top band net on ±1850kHz LSB, 8pm

Shefford & District ARS

David, G8UOD, davidg8uod@virginmedia.com
1 Construction contest
8, 22 Natter night and CW training
15 Construction winners talk
29 Aspidistra: a talk by David, G8UOD

Whitton ARG

Ian, G0OFN, 0795 620 3495, warg.dreamhosters.com
2, 9, 16, 23 Club Night, HF/VHF on the air, 8pm

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

RR: Keith Bird, G4JED, RR10@rsgb.org.uk
Bromley & District ARS
Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, start 145.500MHz then QSY, 9pm

Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society

Glenn, G4FVL, secretary@catsradio.org.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Net ±145.4MHz 11am, ±3.7MHz 5pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net ±70.425MHz, 9pm
12 Club meeting. See website: catsradio.org.uk

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 07739 549 822
1 Talk by Mark, MODXR on WRTC 2026
15 transceiver preferences

Crystal Palace R&E

Damien, 2EOEUI, 07900 242 541
3, 10, 17, 24 Club net, 51.55MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, ±145.525MHz, 8pm

Dover Amateur Radio Club

darconline
8 Drawing to part - Using a cheap CNC
15 Natter night
22 PCBs from circuit to order
29 Operating in the club shack

Farnborough & District RS

Mel, M0JMR, publicity@farnboroughradio.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23 Net, 144.675MHz FM, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net via GB3FN, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 1.995MHz LSB, 8pm

Fort Purbrook ARC

Chris, G3WIE, secretary@fparc.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net 145.275MHz 7.30pm, QSY GB3SH 8pm
9 Practical Evening, Deverell Hall, 7pm
23 Club meeting FP-1, short talks, 7pm

Hastings E&RC

Vince, G1FBH, herc.hastings@gmail.com
Daily net, 144.575MHz, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 CW net, 144.575MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Portable operating

Hog's Back ARC

Ray, G4LUA, 0118 981 4174, hogback-arc.org.uk
12 Natter night
26 AGM

Horndean & District ARC

hdarc.co.uk
2, 16 Club night and Intermediate training, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 CW net 9am ±1950kHz; SSB net 9.30am ±1950kHz; 8pm on 433.450MHz
5, 12, 19, 26 SSB net ±1950kHz, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 145.375MHz, 7.30pm

Horsham ARC
Alister, G3ZBU, 01403 253432, harc.org.uk
 1 New Licence, Station set up and EMC, by Adrian, G4LRP
 15 Social at the Selsey Arms, Coolham

Isle of Wight RS
iwors.org
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, GB3IW, 8pm
 2, 9, 16, 23 Meeting at Haylands Farm Ryde
 6, 13, 20, 27 Net with Fort Purbrook, GB3IW, 7.30pm

Itchen Valley ARC
Chris, G7LWV, secretary@ivarc.org.uk
 9 Wi-Fi connection for Nano VNA, 8pm
 23 February, Club meeting, 8pm

North Kent RS
Andy, G8MLQ, 0772 332 1005
 6 Natter night, 8pm
 20 Talk on military aviation by Ian, G7PHD, 8pm

Southdown ARS
Tom, 2E0ONX, sars.club
 2 Monthly Meeting at Old Town Community Centre, Eastbourne, 8pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Café meeting 12.15pm, net GB3ZX, 2pm

Surrey Radio Contact Club
John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 70.30MHz FM, 8pm
 2, 9, 16, 23 Nets, 144.6125MHz DV, 7.30pm, 145.35MHz FM, 8pm
 4, 11, 18, 15 Net, 1.905MHz LSB, 9.30am
 5 New Licence conditions presentation and discussion, St Pauls, 7.45pm
 5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 3.710MHz LSB, 9am
 6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 51.55MHz FM, 8pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 28.078 JS8, 10am
 19 Chat, Fix-it & Skills, John, G8MNY, St Pauls, 7.45pm

Trowbridge & District ARC
Shaun, G0BKU, secretary.tdarc@gmail.com
 7 Club meeting and talk by Adrian, G4JBH entitled 'Stop It', 8pm
 21 On-air activity and natter night

West Kent ARS
Phil, G3MGQ, secretary@wkars.org.uk
 Daily net, 145.575MHz FM, 9am
 4, 11, 18, 25 Net 28.730MHz, 11am
 5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net 51.51MHz, 8pm
 12 Morse and Morse keys, Dave, G4OTV & Malcolm, G4FWG

Worthing & District ARC
Barbara Gale, secretary@wadarc.org.uk
 6 Talk by Chris, MOVUE Will on toroids
 13 Remote operation of Flex & IC-9700
 20 Club store sort out
 27 Club program

REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

Andrew Jenner, G7KNA, RR11@rsgb.org.uk

Appledore & District ARC
John, G3JKL, secretary@adarc.co.uk
 Weekday nets from 4pm on 145.450MHz on Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. Wed at 4pm via GB3DN Net via GB3DN, 11am on Mon, Wed and Fri, 11am
 2, 9, 16, 23 Net via GB3DN at 11am & Net 145.450MHz, 8pm
 4, 11, 18, 25 Net 9.30am on 1.860MHz, Net 144.260MHz at 10.30am
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net via GB3DN at 11am & Net 144.260MHz, 8pm
 19 Meeting, 7.30pm

Callington ARS
Peter, G8BCG
secretary@callingtonradiosociety.org.uk
 Meets first Wednesday of the month, Callington Town Hall, PL17 7BD
 5, 12, 19, 26 Net, GB3JL repeater, 8pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Lunch, The Engine House Café PL17 8EA, 1.30pm

Gordano ARG
Malcolm, G4KPM 07971 431125
 28 Meeting, The Ship, 310 Down Road, Portishead, 8pm

Mid Somerset ARC
Chris, G6HIQ, christopherlavis3@gmail.com
 12 Club meeting Baptist Church Rooms, Shepton Mallet, 7.30pm
 26 Social Meeting at the Quarter Jack, Wells, 2pm

Poole Radio Society
Charles Riley, G4JQX, secretary@g4prs.org.uk
 1 Introduction to contests
 8 Construction corner
 15 Using an oscilloscope

Riviera ARC
Steve Crask G7AHP, stevecrask@yahoo.com
 1, 15 Meeting, Precinct Centre Torquay, 7.20pm
 4, 11, 18, 25 Nets 29.150MHz 11am, 51.490MHz 11.30am
 7, 14, 21, 28 Nets 70.475MHz FM 7.20pm, 145.425FM, 8pm

Saltash & District ARC
Mark Chanter, M0WMB, 07810 548 445
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net via GB3PL, 7.30pm
 20 Meeting, Burraton Centre, 7pm

Thornbury & South Gloucestershire ARC
Terry, M0TJX, secretary@tsgarc.org.uk, tsgarc.uk
 Club Daily Net GB3ZB, 10.30am
 7, 14, 21, 28 Social, 7.30pm
 2, 9, 16, 23 Net 145.450MHz, 8pm

Torbay ARS
Kerry, M0KRE, 07725 999973, sec@m0kre.net
 2, 9, 16, 23 Club meeting, 7.30pm, Net 3.663MHz 9.15pm
 3, 10, 17, 24 Net 3.663MHz, 10am
 4, 11, 18, 25 Nets 14.270MHz 9.30am, 145.575MHz, 12pm
 5, 12, 19, 26 Nets 3.663MHz 10.30am, 1.982MHz 8pm, 50.155MHz 8.30pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Nets 14.270MHz 9.30am, 3.663MHz 10.30am, GB3TR 7pm
 11 Business meeting, 7.30pm
 25 Guest Speaker, 7.30pm

Yeovil ARC
Darren Mallinson, 2E0EVU, 07973 663 135, secretary@yeovil-arc.com
 Meetings at Parish Room, Abbey Manor Community Centre, Yeovil
 1 2-element beam antennas, G3MYM
 8 Amateur radio club makes transistor history February 1954
 15 Simple fishing pole HF antenna club discussion
 22 Practical evening
 29 Club project, Quantock

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

RR: David De La Haye, M0MBD, RR12@rsgb.org.uk

Braintree & District ARS
Geoff, G1GNQ, 01376 563370, secretary@badars.co.uk
 6, 20 Club net 145.375MHz FM from 8pm all welcome
 27 Slim Jim construction evening, 8pm

Bury St Edmonds ARS
bsears.co.uk
 Club nets every day of the week except Sunday

Chelmsford ARS
secretary@g0mwt.org.uk
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Skype CW classes, 7pm
 4, 11, 18, 25 144.060MHz CW net, 8pm
 5, 12, 19, 26 CW net on 3542kHz from 7.30pm, GB2CW on 3555kHz from 8.15pm, slowing down at 8.30pm for new operators
 6 Meeting
 13 Club Open Net, GB3DA, 8pm
 20 Club Open Net, GB3ER, 8pm
 27 Club Open Net, 80m 3756kHz, 8pm

Felixstowe & District ARS
Mark Riley, M5BOP, m5bop@hisimage.co.uk
 4, 11, 18, 25 Sunday net 145.400MHz, 10am
 5 Driving the Club HF rig, Broadway House, 7.30pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 FM Open Net GB3IH, 7.30pm
 19 An evening with RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB, 7.30pm Broadway House

Harlow & District ARS
Ed, G5EDW, secretary@g6ut.com, g6ut.com
 2, 9, 16, 23 Meeting, visitors and new members welcome, 8pm
 6, 13, 20, 27 Technical Tuesdays, visitors welcome
 7, 14, 21 28 Net 145.425 MHz, 7.30pm

Leiston ARC
Nigel, G0EBQ 07871 662856, nigel.flatman@yahoo.com
 13 Meeting, School, Waterloo Avenue, IP16 4HE

Loughton & Epping Forest ARS
David, M0VID, secretary@lefars.org.uk
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 144.725 MHz FM, 8pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net DMR Brandmeister TG 23511, 8pm
 9, 23 Meeting at All Saints House
 16 Zoom meeting, 8pm

Lowestoft District & Pye ARC
Sam, M7SKW, secretary@ldparc.co.uk
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting, 7.30pm
 2, 9, 16, 23 Net 51.490MHz, 8pm
 4, 11, 18, 25 Net 433.575MHz, 8pm
 6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.475MHz, 8pm
 12, 26 Shack open, 7.30pm

South Essex ARS
Terry, G1FBW, southessex-ars.co.uk
 8 Meeting, St Michaels church, SS2UW, 7.30pm

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RR: Bob Hambly, M0HAF, RR13@rsgb.org.uk

Bolsover ARS
G4KSY, 01246 827135, Facebook page: @bolsoverars
 6, 20 Meeting, Bainbridge Hall, Bolsover, 8pm

Hinckley AR & ES
Michel Dixon, G4GHJ, hinckleyradiosociety@gmail.com
 6 RSGB 144MHz UK Activity Contest
 14 Social night at the clubhouse
 8 RSGB 50MHz UK Activity Contest
 28 Talk on Rockall Expedition by Nobby, G0VJG

Kettering & District ARS
Les, 2E0MNZ, les@moylehousehold.co.uk
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 7pm, 145.300MHz
 4, 11, 18, 25 Breakfast meeting, 10am
 6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, 7pm

Loughborough & District ARC
Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319, g1etz@aol.com
 6 Natter night or TX Factor video
 13 Vintage computers, bring something along
 20 Raspberry pie and amateur radio with Tim, M0ZRR
 27 Open forum – 10m band

Nunsfield House ARG
Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk
 2 AGM
 5, 12, 19, 26 Shack night & club net, 145.300MHz, 8pm
 9 Surplus sale
 16 The History of CB Radio Part 2
 23 Frequency Modulation

RAF Waddington ARC
Chris Price, 2E0BMA, 07579 775 717, g0raf.co.uk
 2, 9, 16, 23 Club Meeting at the Pyewipe, 8pm
 5, 12, 19, 26 Club Net 145.325MHz, 7.30pm
 7, 14, 21, 28 CW practice, 144.085MHz, 8pm

South Derbyshire and Ashby Woulds ARG
Richard Harlow, sdawarg.contests@gmail.com
 7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting 7-9pm, net 145.4125MHz

South Normanton, Alfreton & District ARC
Alan, M0OLT, secretary@snadarc.com
 5 Technical night
 6, 13, 20, 27 Club net ±145.450MHz, 7pm
 12 Natter night
 19 Junk sale
 26 Natter night

Welland Valley ARS
Peter, G4XEX, info@wvars.com
 5 Club net, 145.275MHz FM, 7pm
 19 Club meeting, Great Bowden Village Hall, 7pm

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

At Dundee ARC, membership has remained stable with new members joining and sadly some members passing. The Club continues to meet during term time at the Dundee and Angus College on the Kingsway and has access to its electronics labs for construction evenings and a classroom for meetings and theory. This year the Club participated in the annual SOS event, operating from near the Coastguard building in Montrose. Members also had an overnight stand at the Glamis Extravaganza, at Glamis Castle, which allowed them to show the public what they do. Individual club members continue to take part in competitions and events and the Club's bi-weekly nets still run on GB3AG on a Wednesday and Sunday. The Club also has a YSF reflector (#60253 GB Dundee ARC) set up for those who want to talk but are not in range of the repeater. More details about the Club can be found at dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk



REGION 3: NORTH WEST

Bury RS (BRS) members have voted to award the Peter Smith G2DPL Memorial Award for 2024 to Alan Drury, G4FZP for the second consecutive year.

The award is made in memory of Peter Smith, G2DPL who became a Silent Key in March 2019. Peter was a long-time BRS member, as well as being NARSA's treasurer for many years.

The trophy is awarded each year to a member who has made a significant contribution to the Society during the previous twelve months. This 2024 award recognises Alan's continued efforts in helping to deliver a regular and varied programme of activities, which has helped BRS to retain and grow its membership following the pandemic. A few of Alan's many talks in 2023 included 'Beacons and Propagation Aids', 'Restoring Vintage Gear, Tips and Tricks', and 'Introduction to APRS'.

Lynda Jopson, G6QA, BRS Chairman, commented "Once again during 2023, Alan devoted much personal time to organising activities, as well as presenting many of them himself. Our members were delighted to have the opportunity to show their appreciation for his devotion to our Society." The photograph shows Lynda presenting Alan with the trophy at the Society's Christmas party.

The trophy consists of a valve mounted on a hardwood base. The valve, a Phillips QB4-1100 which was manufactured in France, was kindly donated by BRS Committee member Laurence, G4KLT. It is a power tetrode, used in AM and FM transmitters from the top of HF to low VHF. Used in a single sideband transmitter at 110MHz, with 4,000V on the anode, it can generate 650W.

The base of the trophy was crafted by Peter, G0GPH, from Meranti hardwood which came from pews sold by a Methodist church.



Keith, MOJYP in the 'hot seat' at G50
Photo by GOROW.



Steve, G3OAG's Linear Amplifier
Photo by GORXA.

October saw Stockport RS contesters back at the hilltop farm for the SSB leg of the CQ WW DX contest with an enjoyable time being had by all. Pictured is Keith, MOJYP who was mentored by Evan, MOTJU during an afternoon. Back in Stockport, some members used the weekend to bolster their logbooks and club league table scores by joining in the fun from home with many success stories being told.

In November, at a Saturday gathering, members enjoyed a tabletop sale plus some culinary delights supplied by Neil, M6NAE and Bill, MOWBS. This spurred the idea of a breakfast club which opened its doors in December with the Society's 'dynamic duo' serving up a tasty full English breakfast. In the 'Repair Shop' were Tom, MODCG and Phil, MOHNJ successfully bringing back to life a linear amplifier (pictured) previously owned by Steve, G3OAG (SK). Whilst, in the shack, club callsign G3LX once again hit the airwaves thanks to Evan, Keith and a group of onlookers.

A few days before, at the Society's AGM, it was 'all change' for the committee with Chair of nearly ten years, Tony, MOSAV standing down. Nigel, GORXA a former occupant of the office, took on the role. Tony isn't retiring just yet though as he'll be taking up the vacant position of Vice Chair. However, moving to the back benches is Kieron, M5KJM to be replaced by Andrew, M7USL. We welcome Andrew to the top table and thank Kieron for his years of service.

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

The Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society's (HADARS) year-end event was nothing short of excellent. The night was marked by notable achievements, camaraderie, and engaging activities.

First and foremost, congratulations to Richard, G3UGF who is the highest scoring member in the RSGB 80m CC, the *Practical Wireless* 144MHz QRP Contest and the *Practical Wireless* 70MHz Contest. Mark Gilchrist, MOTMR won the Contest League with his results from the RSGB FM Activity Contest series. Dean Baker, G4DBI obtained the highest score in the CQ WW CW Contest. Gregg Norris, MOWRE obtained the highest score in the CQ WW SSB Contest, and Matthew Hardy, M7EUP won the HADARS Foundation award for construction and experimentation showcasing the Society's breadth of talent.

The choice of pie and peas for the menu was not only an excellent decision but was very well received by attendees, contributing to the warm and communal atmosphere of the evening. It's clear that careful thought was put into making sure the culinary aspect of the event was enjoyable for everyone.

The amateur radio-themed quiz was a hit, providing an interactive and entertaining element to the night. The fact that it was very popular indicates that it successfully



engaged the attendees and added to the overall enjoyment of the event. Additionally, the inclusion of raffle prizes heightened the excitement of the evening, giving attendees an extra reason to celebrate. The variety of prizes won likely contributed to the festive atmosphere. In summary, the HADARS year-end event was a well-rounded and successful affair. The combination of outstanding achievements, delectable food, engaging activities, and the thrill of winning prizes made it a memorable night and a fitting conclusion to the year. The Society can certainly look back on this event with pride and positive anticipation for the year ahead.

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

In a live linkup with RT Systems, members of **Maltby & District ARS** took part in an interactive experience and learned about RT Systems software, and how their support differs from other vendors. This was followed by a question-and-answer session facilitated by Karin from RT Systems.

Members said that they enjoyed the presentation and question-and-answer session and had learned a lot about the Software. The Society thanks Karin from RT Systems for facilitating the session.

RT Systems has been at the forefront of amateur radio programming software since 1995 when it introduced its first radio programming software for the Yaesu FT-11.

Each of their programming software releases has an easy-to-use interface.

RT Systems Inc is located in LaGrange, Georgia, USA.



REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Wythall RC meets every Tuesday, with the first Tuesday of the month dedicated to an activity evening. In October, Clive, 2E0IKN and Chris, G3YHF gave a talk on SOTA, POTA and WWFF schemes and their experiences operating from summits in the Lake District and Sussex. This highlighted the attraction of combining the great outdoors with amateur radio. Several members also had a go at sending messages through the International Space Station's digipeater from home, with eventual success despite the pile-ups each ISS pass generates on 145.825MHz. The following month members had an on-the-air night using the Club's 240ft doublet and TS590 HF radio – however, it took some members a while to remember which buttons to press to transmit a CW signal! The Club also welcomed three new members: Alan, G6VXN; Martin, M7XFD; and John, G7PIR. They have been making good use of the Club's repeater GB3WL, including trying out the C4FM mode. At the Club's AGM later that month, the current officers and committee were elected for another year, with Chris, G3YHF as Chairperson; Ian, MOIDR as treasurer and Clive, 2E0IKN as secretary. Members also had a productive discussion about the future of Wythall Hamfest, which has been in abeyance since 2020 – it was agreed to undertake a feasibility study for a scaled-down version in 2025. A last-minute change of programme for the Club's activity evening at the start of December didn't faze Ian, MOLQY, who stepped in to provide a thorough introduction to, and demonstration of, FT8 for several new members and three visitors from the Sutton Coldfield Radio Society. There was still animated discussion at 10pm, two hours after the session started. Members hope to reschedule the originally planned demonstration of working repeaters around the world using a handheld and All-Star node for early in 2024. The Club's pre-Christmas gathering brought together members old and new, all anticipating the annual Christmas Contest that runs between 26 and 31 December. The Club's programme of activities for 2023/24 is now available on its website, and visitors are welcome any Tuesday.



Midland ARS held its Christmas party on Wednesday 13 December at its club headquarters. Members reported that there was plenty to eat and that lots of fun was had.



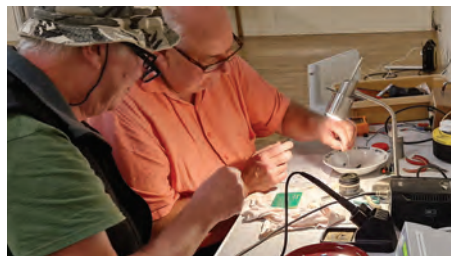
REGION 6: NORTH WALES

North Wales ARG (NWARD) has been enjoying its many varied events and club nights. The Group's weekly nets run through GB30R and have proved to play a major role in communicating to amateur radio enthusiasts, within its exceptionally wide, range thanks to the repeaters position on the Summit Café Complex on the Great Orme, Llandudno.

A lot of maintenance has been carried out on both GB30R and GB30G over the past few months as major construction work is being conducted at the Café Complex. This resulted in the repositioning of the repeater cabinets on the roof area, so various electrical wiring and coaxial cabling had to be re-routed. Thanks to Ted, MW6ADF and his crew, the maintenance work has been completed safely and efficiently.

As the club's membership is still growing, the committee decided that the Group was due a more modern premises to meet at. Now NWARD is very fortunate to get together at a new venue which boasts a far more cosy and adaptable premises, and a very welcoming management.

The first meeting and get together was on Monday 4 December and club members were very excited with the facilities at the new venue – especially its location, high up in Colwyn Heights which will provide far greater opportunities for radio communication.



The club calendar for 2024 is being planned, consisting of event stations, DX days, social entertainment events and quest speakers for weekly club nights that provide members with an insight into various amateur radio-related topics. A soldering workshop, that took place during a club night, is pictured.

A regular tutorial session was set up thanks to Peter Roberts, GW4UWD and Grover Cleveland, MW/K7TP for learning Morse code. This will continue throughout the 2024 year.

The annual Christmas party was held at the Llandudno Royal British Legion and once again members enjoyed festive party music, a buffet spread and the NWARD Raffle draw.

As the club venue now has better equipped facilities, more project building, audio/visual presentations and joint activities with fellow amateurs will occur more frequently, especially in the winter months. NWARD welcomes any visitors who might like to join in with the hobby.

NWARD would love to hear from any amateur who is in reach of the club or via the UHF repeater GB30R, where they can be assured of a friendly QSO with any local operator who happens to be monitoring.

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

Recently, Highfield ARC held its traditional Christmas Curry Night. During the event stories were told, and plans made for the coming year. Members would like to thank Kevin Nicolas, MWOKXN for his talk on SOTA earlier in the year. The event was greeted with much enthusiasm, and several members of the Club, are now building up a score, mainly as chasers, but the Club does have a few budding Mountain Goats coming up through the ranks.



Also during evening, Levent Tedik, MWOYHX was awarded with an Honorable Lifetime Membership (pictured). Also pictured are RSGB District 72 Representative Darren Jenkins, MWOMPD, and RSRB Region 7 Representative Brian Jones, GW6ZYI. Levent is Leaving Wales and is off to pastures new. Levent will be a member for many years and will be missed. He is pictured here holding his Honorable Lifetime Membership certificate.

The Club looks forward to the 2024 year and has a programme of events which will be open to members of the public.

For more information, visit facebook.com/groups/highfields.arc or email memsecharc@gmail.com

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Braintree and District ARS may be a small club but it has very active and capable members. Following on from Howard, G6LXK sharing his passion for restoring classic Hallicrafter receivers, the club had David, G8LHD walking members through his design and build of an omnidirectional antenna for the 10m band. His motivation for constructing the antenna was that he didn't want to miss out on the sunspot cycle fun and had neither a rotator nor space for a beam and didn't know where to point a dipole! That was followed by Mike, G8DJO talking about his restoration of a wartime classic, the much loved and ubiquitous Wireless Set 19 Mark 3. The story behind this amazing radio was fascinating and members were astonished to see, and hear, a wide-band HF transceiver, a VHF transceiver and an amplified intercom system – all in one mobile box. As you can imagine, components are packed tightly together and built like the tanks they were often fitted into, with component leads wrapped tightly round solder tags. After many fingers were burnt and bruised, Mike invested in an electric vacuum pump desoldering iron and now feels it is an essential shack tool! The photo shows Mike's restored WS19, and its accessories, which he uses on the amateur bands regularly.



South Essex ARS has changed its meeting venue. It now meets on the second Thursday of the month at St Michael's Church, St Michael's Road, Daws Heath, SS72UW.



For more information visit southessex-ars.co.uk

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RAF Waddington ARC ran its final Special Event Station (SES) for 2023 over the weekend of 17-19 November, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Royal Air Force receiving its first Typhoon on 18 December 2003. RAF Coningsby is perhaps the RAF station most associated with the Typhoon. In the past, it had its own amateur radio club – now unable to meet there following the loss of its premises on base. However, past members of the Club wanted to recognise the anniversary and obtained permission from Ofcom to re-activate the Club's original callsign, G3LQS, the plan being to put the callsign on the air at various locations during November and December.

As several members of RAF Waddington ARC were also members of the RAF Coningsby Amateur Radio Club, the Club elected to put the callsign GX3LQS/P on the air for 17-19 November, running the SES at the Club's usual Airfields on the Air location at the former RAF Binbrook. Running an SES outdoors in a tent in mid-November might have been challenging, but the weather was (mostly) benign, with above-average temperatures for the time of year and dry, sunny weather for the usual Friday setup. Heavy rain and driving winds on Friday night, that somehow made their way into the tent, did mean a little time had to be spent drying some kit on Saturday morning!

For the first time, three stations were operating: 2m FM, plus CW, FT8, and SSB on HF (where computer logging was used). A total of 359 contacts were made over the three days, details of which have been uploaded to esql.cc, hamlog.online and QRZ.com

Thanks are due to chef John, assisted by Chris, 2E0BMA, who (as usual) kept the SES team well fed and watered throughout the weekend. Thanks also to Ray, the landowner of the SES site. Because of the adverse weather forecast, the decision was made to close down a little earlier than would normally be the case, and this seems to have been a wise decision as everything was safely packed away before the rain started ten minutes later.

The SES season being over, the Club held its usual Christmas Dinner event at the Pyewipe Inn on 14 December, where a good time was had by all.

Following tradition, a raffle was held at this event, with members bringing suitable raffle prizes, and the proceeds going into Club funds.



South Normanton, Alfreton & District ARC wishes to congratulate Aaron, M3FYM on his progression to 2EOTSV and Dave, 2EOYCF on obtaining MOXMF (from new member with no radio background to Full licence in under a year). This is a total of seven new callsigns at the Club this year. Most of these were from the eleven new members.

Sadly, two members of the Club recently became Silent Keys.

February is the time details are released for the Junction 28 Radio Rally. This will be on Sunday 9 June. Prices are again £12 per table and £4 admission. Canny Components has already booked its tables. Visit snadarc.com, or email J28Rally@snadarc.com, for more information.

