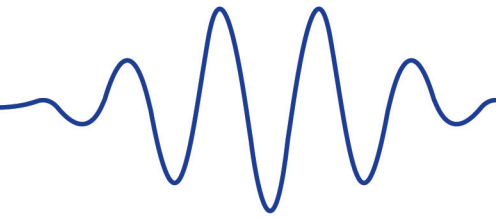




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

May 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

Chris Whitmarsh, G0FDZ receives RSGB Lifetime Achievement Award

Congratulations to Chris Whitmarsh, G0FDZ who has been presented with an RSGB Lifetime Achievement Award by RSGB President John McCullagh, GI4BWM and RSGB Board Chair Stewart Bryant, G3YSX. Chris is the only amateur in the UK to have had a two-way QSO on every single amateur band for which we are licensed.

Chris has been Vice President of Cray Valley Radio Society for over 20 years, and members of the club turned out in force to see the presentation and celebrate his achievement.



Join a friend and receive £10 cashback!

Here's a great opportunity to get even more out of your RSGB membership. If you recommend a friend who hasn't been an RSGB member during the last 12 months, you will both receive £10 cashback when they become a member paying by direct debit. Whether you're an individual RSGB member or an affiliated club, you can sign up as many friends as you like.

Membership of the RSGB gives you a range of fantastic benefits so why not encourage others to join!

Members have access to *RadCom*, exclusive online resources, RSGB award schemes and contests, as well as advice from our specialist committees. The RSGB's representation to Ofcom and its ability to defend the spectrum nationally and internationally is more powerful through strength in numbers.

Our 'Join a friend' web page has all the information you'll need to take advantage of this offer, including a link to the online form: rsgb.org/join-a-friend



RSGB Planning Advisory Committee

The RSGB Planning Advisory Committee would like additional volunteers to join its advisory panel. Volunteers deal with queries from members about problems they face in getting planning permission for masts and antennas. These enquiries can be for support in making an application to the local council or in submitting an appeal.

If you have a relevant professional background (not necessarily as a planner) or have some knowledge of how the planning system works, perhaps from your own experiences, please get in touch. The Committee Chair would be happy give you more information about what is involved and how you can help other radio amateurs.

Find out more about the committee on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/pac and then email John Mattocks, G4TEQ at pac.chairman@rsgb.org.uk to arrange a chat.



ETCC Volunteer required

After the sad loss of Bob Wilkinson, G3VVT, the Emerging Technology Co-ordinating Committee of the RSGB is looking for a volunteer to act as Regional Representative for the North of England region.

The function of ETCC is to assist amateurs seeking to operate repeaters, gateways or beacons within the United Kingdom. Under the new licence rules, amateurs who wish to do this, must demonstrate that they have taken steps to ensure no other services will be adversely effected. Also, in frequency bands which are shared with non-amateur services, there can be a need to obtain clearance from the Primary User.

The responsibilities of the volunteer will include assessment of the frequency and power level to ensure the non-interference compliance is met. This will provide a Frequency Assessment Certificate to satisfy Ofcom that interference potential has been addressed. Local knowledge of the area is very useful in this process.

The successful applicant for the ETCC position will have a broad experience of radio system engineering, analogue and digital modes, local topography, propagation theory and a helpful disposition towards applicants who may require guidance with their project.

Proven experience in land mobile and associated fields, with a practical understanding of difficulties with co-located transmitters and receivers, would be a considerable advantage.

Interested parties should, in the first instance, email etcc.chairman@rsgb.org.uk by the 30 June.



RSGB strategy updates

At the Discussion with the Board session at the RSGB Convention last year, the President John McCullagh, GI4BWM committed the Board to giving regular updates on work being done to fulfil the RSGB's strategic priorities.

Since the beginning of this year, a monthly report has been shared in RadCom and on the RSGB website. These reports have covered a range of activities and achievements involving both staff and volunteers.

The Board is committed to continuing this regular communication so look out for the updates in RadCom each month. If you've missed any this year, you can find them all on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/strategy-updates

You can read this month's report on page 21 of this issue of *RadCom*.



Booking exams to be taken from 1 May

Early in February the RSGB announced that the fees for Foundation, Intermediate and Full level examinations would increase from 1 May 2024. You can now use the online booking system to book an exam prior to 1 May at the current price or select exam dates from 1 May at the new prices.

Please ensure you make the correct date selection, as booking errors that need to be changed may incur an administration fee as outlined in the exam terms and conditions.

To book an exam, go to the Student Information section of the RSGB website and choose the option to book and pay for your exam from the righthand menu.

CEPT News

At its recent meeting, CEPT Frequency Management Working Group (WG-FM) confirmed that Barry Lewis, G4SJH (in his IARU role) would continue as Chair for a further three-year period, having first been appointed in 2019.

The meeting also noted updates to T/R 61-01 for Georgia joining the scheme, as well as editorial changes to accommodate Australian licence changes and Canadian provincial prefixes.

Barry has also continued his work in CEPT on the 23cm band, following the outcomes from WRC23. IARU and RSGB volunteers are also starting ITU WRC-27 preparations, where further bands and topics are of concern to amateur radio that will be decided in 2027.

RSGB Yearbook Editor

Following the retirement of the Yearbook editor, the RSGB is seeking to recruit an individual to take on the complex role of editing the annual *RSGB Yearbook*. This is a paid post working from home, part time, for a few months each year and is offered as a fixed-term contract. Experience with editing material from a wide range of sources, working to deadlines and keen attention to detail are expected. An understanding of DTP programs such as Adobe InDesign will be helpful along with knowledge of the breadth of amateur radio in the UK today.

If you are interested in this post, please email authors@rsgb.org with an appropriate CV or covering statement of your experience.



Hey! Are you:

- Aged 18-25?
- Passionate about all things radio?
- Ready for exciting experiences, making new friends and shaping the future of amateur radio?

Why not apply to be part of the RSGB YOTA team taking part in the YOTA Czechia summer camp this year?



Want to know more?

The 2024 Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) summer camp will be held in Prague Czechia, hosted by the Czech Radio Club. This is a chance in a lifetime for young RSGB Members to represent their country and national society.

The main theme of the week will be the train-the-trainer (TTT) programme, and participants will be working on the future of amateur radio. They will join workshops where they will gain skills to start similar amateur radio youth events when they return home.

Last year the programme included lectures about the work of the IARU, how they organise events like the YOTA camp, and lectures and practical HF direction finding, which was a specialism of the hosting radio organisation. Since there will be many nationalities involved, there will be cultural elements throughout the event including an Intercultural Evening where participants bring food and drinks from their home country to share.

Previous events have shown that all participants have an unforgettable week, where many new friendships are started. There is a photo gallery and video clips on the IARU YOTA website and you can also find out more from previous RSGB teams on the RSGB YOTA web pages.

We'd love to hear from you if you're interested in meeting other young amateurs, supporting local and regional YOTA activities, and developing ideas regarding the future of amateur radio.

Team members

We're looking for Team Members who:

- Are members of the RSGB, aged between 18 and 25
- Have not been a participant at previous YOTA camps
- Hold a current passport that enables travel to Czechia
- Be willing to pay £50 towards the cost of the trip – other costs will be covered
- Maintain a log of events attended during the camp and actively provide social media updates every day of the trip
- Attend the RSGB Convention in October and give a presentation
- Attend other RSGB Youth activities for the coming year

Team leader

We're also looking for a Team Leader who in addition to the above, must be:

- An RSGB Member, aged between 21 and 30
- Eager to organise amateur radio-related youth events on return to the UK
- Able to motivate a team of young people and support all Team members to engage as fully as possible during the camp and afterwards

After you submit your application for Team Leader, we'll arrange an interview for you with the Youth Champion.

It's time to apply!

You can either download the form on the RSGB website or contact the Youth Champion Liam Robbins, G5LDR for more information and the application form: youth.champion@rsgb.org.uk

Closing date for all applications is Friday 26 April so submit yours soon.

QSL Matters

Bird cards

Over the years we've seen many cards with birds on antennas but this one from Reinhard, DK5RK has to be in the running for the maximum number of birds on a tri-band. We counted 157 on the antenna, plus another 60 on the balustrade. Bird cards usually encourage comments about carrier pigeons. While showing this card around someone asked if it was a tweet on Twitter. The reply was that no, you only get tweets on heX beams now. Nice one.



Important

If you missed it, here is a reminder to take a look at last month's *QSL Matters* concerning the need to dovetail with the new licence changes. Remember that you must collect your cards from the callsign used during the QSO. This is not new and the only exceptions are the diverting of a regional identifier back to the same home call where it applies, or a privately-held overseas call diverted back to your home call.

We have been sending notes to regular diverters for many months, referring many to the *RSGB Yearbook* instructions. However, with the licence changes we are now applying this more stringently. If you or anyone you know is still diverting cards please advise them to deposit envelopes only for the call used and to change their QRZ.com page if necessary.

G1-G2 and G3G-L

Whilst the latest despatch round of cards to our UK sub-managers was completed on schedule by the end of March, we were asked to temporarily hold back deliveries for G1, G2 and G3G-L call holders.

The reason is that sub-manager Lindsay Pennell, G8PMA is moving house. As anyone who has moved house knows, there is always much to do and more than expected. New contact details will appear on the RSGB website as soon as he has unpacked and is ready to receive collection envelopes again.

Richard. J. Constantine, G3UGF

New RSGB District Representative

Welcome to John Alexander, MOXJA who has joined the Regional Team as the District Representative for District 53 which covers Shropshire, North Worcestershire and west Birmingham. If you're a radio amateur in that area and need some support, or you'd like to invite John to do a talk at your club, you can email him at dr53@rsgb.org.uk



RadCom basics

The next edition of *RadCom Basics* will be available in May 2024. There are more topics to help newcomers and those looking to brush-up their knowledge and skills. The May 2024 issue will include: part 2 of the guide on how to test components, the second part in the series on how to produce a clean signal, and a look at how a full-wave 40m loop antenna behaves.

To help find topics covered in previous editions, the index of *RadCom Basics* articles will be updated.

RSGB members can read previous editions of *RadCom Basics* by going to rsgb.org/radcom-basics You can register to receive notification of subsequent issues as they become available at the same address. Each edition of *RadCom Basics* explores key aspects of amateur radio in a straightforward way. *RadCom Basics* is sent as an email alert to subscribers when each edition is published. This email provides a list of contents and a link to the articles on the RSGB website.

Bob Wilkinson, G3VVT Silent Key

Bob Wilkinson, G3VVT started his interest and career in communications when he started repairing TVs and radios at a local electrical shop in Colne. Maybe this piqued his interest in amateur radio or maybe it was the other way round. He then moved to Rediffusion TV rentals, based in Keswick and Kendal, where he managed the workshop and aerial sites even at that time in the 1970s. This patch also covered Northern Ireland, so he was used to managing large geographical areas. In the early 1980s his role was threatened to become desk-based, so, as an outdoors person, he decided to move on from Rediffusion and, because of his specialist knowledge, he gained a role with Aramco in Saudi Arabia working on the early fibre optic and microwave communications across the desert oil fields. He had managed to turn his hobby into a career. He remained at Aramco as a Senior Engineer for 20 years.

Bob was an active and prominent member of the RSGB. He obtained his G3VVT callsign in 1966 and was an RSGB member well before that. Latterly he was known to many at the RSGB, where he served as the ETCC Northern England Manager for 20 years. At his time of passing, Bob was also active in several local repeater groups including the North Western in Accrington, South Lakeland and the Anglo Scottish groups.

His other interests included cycling and motorcycling as well as travel and hill walking, which brought him into contact with the North West Mountain Rescue team and their radio equipment. He was always willing to help others and Mike, M1IKE recalls that, when he had problems with his radio, Bob jumped on his Triumph Tiger Cub and rode in all weathers to help him to get things working again.

This sense of willingness to help others can be seen in his building of two repeaters, GB3LD and GB3LF, to enable many amateurs to communicate with each other in North Lancashire and South Cumbria. He kept the repeaters going come what may, even digging into his own pocket when necessary. His efforts were directly responsible for the evolution of the multi-site repeater network on the Isle of Man, thanks to his detailed knowledge of the island's topography. Bob and Mike went to many NARSA rallies to promote LD and LF and to gather donations for the repeaters.

Bob joined the Morecambe Bay ARS in the early 2000s. He played an active role in MBARS especially in the annual construction competition and annual DF hunt, which he won four times. He also gave talks to the club members to try to improve their knowledge on radio matters. He was latterly appointed club President.

Bob was still working at the age of 82, and is survived by his wife Pauline and daughter Ria. The cremation at Beetham Hall Crematorium on 4 March 2024 was attended by a large cross-section of his amateur radio friends. Bob was much respected for his knowledge and wisdom. He will be sorely missed by many.

Bob is pictured here at the GB3LD repeater.



RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park



Visitors

A private evening visit to the RSGB's NRC was organised for the 1st Granborough Scout Group in mid-March. Volunteers Paul, M7RET and Derek, MOYAW along with Martyn, GOGMB helped host the evening. After a brief introduction about the importance of wireless, and a quick insight into where radio sits in the Electromagnetic Spectrum, the Scouts divided into three groups. Three practical activities were laid out and each group moved through these in turn.

Firstly, there was an introduction to Morse code in which Scouts had time to practise using both a straight and paddle key. Next they were making SSB QSOs on the 40m band which was busy and caused quite a pile-up. Finally, the Scouts made QSOs via the QO-100 satellite system which led to a discussion about space communication. It was a hugely enjoyable evening for everyone and the Scouts gave the NRC team a five-star rating on tripadvisor.co.uk



(Left to right) Belinda, 2E00DT; Colin, G00DR; and Leanne, M0OCL, from Norwich ARC and Norfolk Scouts, visited the NRC in March. Leanne passed her Full amateur radio licence around seven years ago at the age of 15. Whilst at the NRC, Leanne managed to have a contact with HSOZQY in Thailand on the Flex Radio.

Feedback

The NRC staff were delighted to read this recently-received feedback on tripadvisor.co.uk:

"Best and most lively place in Bletchley Park. Great radio club! Fantastic place. Comprehensive display of old radio communication equipment and also new models – helping to explain radio technology. The volunteer radio amateurs are there handy to explain the hobby and technology to everyone interested. My kids were really into that: plenty of complex radios, electronics, screens, Morse keys, microphones, maps – they saw the magic! And you can make your first contact under the supervision of the staff – how exciting. Now my kids want me to teach them Morse code and get a Foundation amateur radio licence and callsigns. What's not to like! We spent hours there and the kids wanted to return there next day. Very highly recommended."

Congratulations

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

60 Years

Mr T Gonsalves	G00YJ
Mr J Boydell	G3TAX
Mr J Cree	G3TBK
Mr K Griffiths	G3WIC
Mr S Powell	G3WRA
Mr R Walker	G3XYJ
Mr J Yu	G3ZQT
Mr M Hamilton	GM3TAL

50 Years

Mr R Gutzmann	DL7LR
Mr R Powell	G0AOZ
Mr R Smith	GOVNP
Mr R Burgess	G3RXG
Mr D Dyer	G4CXQ
Mr J Pascoe	G4ELZ
Mr P Asquith	G4ENA
Mr C Asquith	G4ENB
Mr C Wordley	G4LAE
Mr J Bone	G4PXX
Mr A Brooker	G4WGW
Mr J Spriggs	G6AHV
Mr G Ashcroft	G8AKL
Mr P Minter	G8KIT
Mr R Banfield	G8LQZ
Mr S O'Sullivan	G8VPG
Mr G Winchester	GM4CUX
Mr A Salisbury	GW8KSF

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 B Goldsworthy	2E0IUP	Mr A Ryan	M7ABT	Mr C de Winton	MW7FQQ	Mr T Passey	RS408244
Mr M Roebuck	2E0BJQ	Mr W Wei	M7FJN	Mr D Hirst OBE	MW7HJD	Mr R da Silva	RS408245
Mr D Thompson	2E0DJJ	Mr O Hall	M7FOQ	Dr A McGowan	MW7KPV	Mr M Anderson	RS408249
Mr C Yoxall	2E0IUS	Mr A Jones-Turner	M7FPO	Mr G Milner	RS212785	Ms A Machado	RS408269
Mr J O'Neil	2E0LTQ	Mr J Seyforth	M7FPP	Mr G Smith	RS405845	Ms N Da Silva	RS408271
Mr M Faulkner	2E0RNF	Mr T Fletcher	M7FPT	Mr J Laura	RS406530	Mr S da Silva	RS408272
Mr D Green	2W1FUD	Mr S Gore	M7FQD	Mr P Curling	RS407380	Mr G Simmonds	RS408273
Mr R Richard	F5ZR	Mr W Crossley	M7FQP	Mr I McLean	RS407796	Mrs R Greenland	RS408274
Mr A Auker-Howlett	G0FLT	Mr B Spencer	M7FQR	Mr P Smith	RS407810	Mr P Greenland	RS408275
Mr K Alderman	G0HBL	Mr J Williams	M7FQU	Mr A Catchpole	RS407904	Mr I Valkeith	RS408301
Dr J Pelan	G3JCP	Mr G Mason	M7GML	Mr C Dabbs	RS407931	Mr D Mcmillan	RS408307
Mr N Long	G4BIN	Mr I Doutré	M7IAD	Mr J Wilson	RS407984	Mr J Lawrence	RS408309
Mr S Harrison	G4EIO	Mr J Scott	M7JSZ	Mr A John	RS408002	Mr W Davies	RS408311
Mr J Dougherty	G4FUT	Mr M Thompson	M7LAO	Mr S Micklewright	RS408025	Mr P Aldridge	RS408343
Mr I Clabon	G4FVB	Dr M Coombes	M7LBO	Dr J Paffett	RS408099	Mr D Wilson	RS408344
Mr C Greenland	G4SEZ	Mr L Kieruczenko	M7LXX	Mr C Chrissyaphes	RS408116	Mr A Mullett	RS408345
Mr S Bucklin	G6DZW	Mr J Grant	M7LXY	Mr M Houseman	RS408120	Mr R Wills	RS408375
Mr C Worby	G7NLQ	Mr M Barr	M7MBY	Mr A Davis	RS408123	Mrs F Wills	RS408376
Mr M Bailey	G7TCI	Mr C Cookson	M7NFR	Mr D Bolton	RS408124	Mr T Wills	RS408377
Mr P Strudwick	G8CDB	Mr D Morgan	M7NTE	Mr G Hadfield	RS408130	Miss Z Wills	RS408378
Mr P Dellett	G10STC	Mr C Karslake	M7PSV	Mr M Holden	RS408132	Mr P Moseley	RS408379
Mr K Hassall	GW1PND	Mr R Peica	M7RBP	Mr S Hall	RS408133	Mr M Szymkowiak	RS408413
Mr J Stoltenburg	KD9ZHF	Mr C Foord	M7RFU	Mr M Bishop-Saunders	RS408134	Mr T West	RS408415
Mr J Long	MOCXT	Mr S Clutton	M7SSG	Mr J Rose	RS408145	Mr K Hajji	RS408418
Mr H Hepworth	MOEBV	Mr S Lawrie	M7SXL	Mr S Gabriel	RS408162	Mrs B Gale	RS408432
Mr G Broadhead	MOJTT	Mr P Elcombe	M7TDT	Mr S Wainwright	RS408163	Mr A Chadwick	RS408445
Mr R Jones	MOJWU	Mr K Cook	M7TOD	Mr G Fified	RS408215	Mr C Houghton	RS408457
Mr D Lee	MOKPY	Mr G Walker	M7WVGJ	Mr A Sykes	RS408221	Dr A Hunt	RS41753
Mr T Carnegie	M1KPZ	Mr G Hussey	M7YKG	Mr T Treanor	RS408230	Mr S Wood	W1SR
Mr P Saratt	M3FVX	Mr C Kirkwood	M17KIR	Mr P Lucas	RS408241	Mr B Koch Sr	W3LU
Mr R Tasker	M3YRT	Mr R Hook	MW7FGW	Mr D Eaton	RS408242	Mr K Hayward	WB7QBK

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

Mr P Hinde	2E0BFZ	Mr D Welch	G7WBE	Dr A Forrest	M1KAZ	Mr B Kelly	M16LLS
Mr S Gibbon	2W0BUQ	Mr D Workman	GW0OHH	Mr D Bown	M3JOS	Mr S Cowie	MM7CWE
Mr D Allison	G0JQR	Mr G Hardill	MOHAJ	Mr M Mcnestry	M7GIZ		
Mr S Brown	G4ATU	Mr J Colderwood	MOZAH	Mr N Wallace	MDOFIX		

Mills on the Air Weekend 2024

National Mills Weekend 2024 will take place on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 May.

The event takes place across the UK every May with more than 300 windmills and watermills usually open to the public to celebrate our milling heritage.

The SPAB Mills section (Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) run this event every year on or around the second weekend in May, and Denby Dale Radio Society have coordinated the radio side of this event since 1996.

The event is not a contest. The idea is to have a good time and promote amateur radio while helping to preserve some of our heritage.

If you would like to take part by running a station simply approach a windmill, watermill, tidemill or even an ancient steam driven mill. Ask them if they are taking part and if they would like to have an amateur radio station, as part of their event, to help promote awareness of the mill.

Tell them about your QSL card for the event and how it could be of benefit to them. They may even provide a picture and help with the cost of printing.

For more information, to register, and to view a list of registered stations, visit ddars.net/mills.html

GB3EDN microwave beacon

The Edinburgh 23cm microwave beacon GB3EDN is back on the air after a move to a new location on the south side of Edinburgh. It has moved about 1.5km south from its previous site in the University of Edinburgh, King's Buildings Campus. The operating frequency is 1296.990MHz. It sends its callsign and QRA locator in both FSK and JT4 once per minute. The new site is about 200m higher than the previous site and it is hoped that coverage is somewhat improved. It has a clear view from northwest through to the east, giving good coverage up the east coast and across the North Sea to Scandinavia. It is also hoped that there will be better propagation to the south from the new site. More details are available via the 'Beacons' link on the Lothians Radio Society's website at lothiansradiosociety.com Spots on Beaconspot.uk will be appreciated.

National Hamfest

The National Hamfest returns on 27 and 28 September 2024.

The event will be held at George Stephenson's Hall, Newark Showground, NG24 2NY.

The behind-the-scenes build-up is already taking place to bring you a feature-packed two-day event of traders, manufacturers, clubs and exhibitors.

The nationalhamfest.org.uk website goes live on 1 May.



International Men's Mental Health month

The Humber Fortress DX Amateur Radio Club (hfdxarc.com) is once again supporting the International Men's Mental Health month and, as such, helping to raise the profile of Men's Mental Health in 2024

throughout the International amateur radio community. Club members will be operating from its headquarters at Patrington Haven, East Yorkshire throughout the weekends of 17 to 19 May and 14 to 16 June using special callsign GB0MMH across all the HF bands.

For further information please visit QRZ.com/db/GB0MMH

You might also be interest in viewing the Club's YouTube channel where the event will be streamed live. Follow the action via: youtube.com/watch?v=MP5QW8v7h24

Please listen out for the operators and give them a call. Your support will help raise the awareness of men's mental health.



Exercise Blue Ham, 5MHz (60m) band

The RAF Air Cadets are pleased to announce that they are running the ever-popular Blue Ham Radio Communications Exercise in June 2024.

The exercise will take place over the parade evenings (1900 to 2130UTC) during the week of 17 to 21 June 2024. Subject to your callsign licensing conditions, we hope that you can put some time aside to join in with the cadets and staff who will be ready to take your calls.

You can find the details of the required QSO exchange information on the Blue Ham website at: alphacharlie.org.uk/exercise-blue-ham

Exercise Logsheets and additional information are available courtesy of Gary, MØPLT on his website m0plt.me.uk and also in the files section on the UK 60 Metre (5MHz) Band Group Facebook page.

The Blue Ham Team will issue you with a Blue Ham participation certificate if you contact 20 or more special MRE callsigns over the period of the exercise. Details of how to do this are on the alphacharlie.org.uk website.

We hope to operate with many of you on-air during the exercise.

All the best from all at the Blue Ham Radio Team!



SOS Radio Week 200

SOS Radio Week is an annual event that takes place throughout the month of May to celebrate the work of the volunteers from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Independent Lifeboats and National Coastwatch Stations around the British Isles. Between them, members of these organisations save many people who are in danger along/around the thousands of miles of coastline and further out to sea. This year is the 200th anniversary of the founding of the RNLI and SOS Radio Week is being co-branded SOS Radio Week 200 for those operators who are supporting the RNLI during the event. Participants can operate from home, a public location, or a lifeboat or coastwatch station, with the appropriate authorisation from the station manager. A commemorative certificate will be available to all official stations that record their contacts on the website together with awards for the top individual and club, or group, stations on each band from 160m to 70cm. Registration for individual and group operators is now open and available via sosradioweek.org.uk



QRP conference

Those who enjoy constructing and operating with low-power devices will be interested to know that a QRP conference is taking part in Rennes in the northwest of France on 18 May 2024. The event will include lectures and demonstrations and will be an ideal opportunity for the exchange of information between likeminded amateurs. The organisers are putting together a programme of speakers and are looking for contributors on every aspect of low-power design, construction and operating. To read more about attending and contributing to the event, visit tinyurl.com/QRPCONF. You may need to set your web browser to translate the web page from French to English.

There are still a few places to fill and potential stakeholders can still come forward. There is no need to put forward a 'revolutionary' subject. Any interesting contribution for radio amateurs who may be beginners or experienced will be well received. The organisers are thinking in particular of the following areas:

- Traffic: CW, JS8Call, SOTA, IOTA activations etc
- 'Traditional' QRP: simple assemblies based on transistors or lamps, simple and efficient antennas, tuning boxes, 'Manhattan' circuits, etc
- Modern techniques: homemade SDR transmitters/receivers, microcontrollers, WSPR, etc
- 'Fablab'-style manufacturing: 3D printing, laser cutting for DIY radios, manufacturing of digitally controlled printed circuits, etc



RCF support and funding for Ofcom innovation and trial licence applications by universities

Ofcom has available innovation and trial licences (I&T licences) to enable access and use of the radio spectrum for the purposes of research and development. The RCF Trustees feel that this type of licence could potentially be of interest to universities conducting research and to develop and trial innovative wireless technologies.



The RCF will consider funding such a licence, and possibly any projects that might require this type of licence, and is encouraging universities to apply to the RCF directly (by sending an email to rcfsecretary@commsfoundation.org) so that their application for funding can be considered. Licence fees start at £50 per 12-month period.

I&T licences are totally separate from the amateur radio licensing regime and enable access to the radio spectrum without the requirement to obtain any formal qualification beforehand. The I&T licence is therefore attractive to those interested only in research and development but may be a pathway for those wishing to take up amateur radio in the future.

According to Ofcom's website, it has a duty to ensure the optimal use of radio spectrum, the scarce resource that underpins the wireless and mobile services on which many citizens, consumers and businesses depend. Under section 154(2) of the Communications Act 2003, and under section 3(2) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006, Ofcom must have regard to the desirability of promoting the efficient management and use of the part of the electromagnetic spectrum available for wireless telegraphy, the economic and other benefits that may arise from the use of wireless telegraphy, the development of innovative services, and competition in the provision of electronic communications services.

More information about innovation and trial licensing is available on the Ofcom website at tinyurl.com/IANDTLIC

Operating a transmitter under the authority of an I&T licence may also require electromagnetic fields (EMF) compliance as per Condition 7 of the Ofcom Wireless Telegraphy Conditions booklet – OfW 597 depending on the transmitted power level.

Liam's ten-day challenge

Liam Baker, M7LCB, wanted to progress from his Foundation licence. His goal was to study for and pass the exam to get his Intermediate amateur radio licence.

He purchased the study guide for the Intermediate licence and then booked his exam date with the RSGB. Ten days later the book arrived, giving him just ten more days to study and learn all that would be required to pass his Intermediate exam and gain his licence.

This is no easy task, especially when you must fit studying around other daily tasks. Liam received plenty of encouragement from his friends and members of the Maltby and District Amateur Radio Society.

Everyone at Maltby and District Amateur Radio Society is extremely pleased to announce that Liam passed his exam.

Liam's new callsign is 2E0XLB.



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. This includes magazines such as *RadCom* and *Practical Wireless*. 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 suggest 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 is 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

GQRP Club

Formed in 1974 by Rev. George Dobbs G3RJV, the GQRP Club is a non-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers to promote low-power radio (QRP). Whether you have an amateur licence or not, everyone is welcome. The Club's quarterly magazine *SPRAT* is always a fascinating read and it contains articles of varying complexity, from simple test equipment to fully functioning radio transmitters and receivers.

Every year, the GQRP Club invites amateurs to compete for various awards and trophies. To read more details about these, and the other GQRP Club activities, visit gqrp.com



Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society

Membership of The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society (RSARS) is open to anyone who has served in the Royal Signals or other Army units of the United Kingdom. There are also certain other classes of membership available

subject to confirmation by the Membership Secretary.

To see details of regular RSARS nets visit rsars.org.uk/radio-nets

You can read about many of the Special Interest Groups on the RSGB website. Go to rsgb.org/sig where you will find details of over 20 different groups.

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 June 2024 is 21 April and for July 2024 it's 20 May.** 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
3, 17, 31 Meeting Prestwick Community Centre, 7.30pm
26 Dundonald Castle activation

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC

Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

Disabled access, hot and cold refreshments available on site.
3 Club Night, Thorntree Inn, 7pm
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 On-air activity day
17 DF hunt, 'Old Pool' car park, 6.30pm
28 SOTA activation, North Berwick Law

Edinburgh & District ARC

Norman, GM1CNH, 07740 946 192

5 UHF portable operating day
6, 20, 27 Club net 433.525MHz, 8pm
11 Club meeting and social evening
17, 18, 19 144MHz portable deployment and operating weekend

Glasgow University Wireless Society

Michael Topple, GM5AUG, dr13@rsgb.org.uk
23 POTA evening

Kilmarnock and Loudoun Amateur Radio Club

Secretary, GMOADX, klarinfo@gmail.com

Daily net 145.450MHz, 1pm
5, 12, 19, 26 SSB net, 7.165MHz, 2pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Quiz on 145.475MHz check-in, 7.45 for 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Radio Q&A night on Zoom, 7.30pm
7, 21 Natter night at clubhouse, 7.30pm
14, 28 Formal meeting at clubhouse & Zoom, 7.30pm

Livingston & District ARS

Philip Rose, GM3ZZA, gm3zza@btinternet.com

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, Crofthead Community Centre, 7pm

Lothians RS

James Gentles, GM4WZP, events@lothiansradiosociety.com

1, 15 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm
8 Raynet, recent events and technology, Charlie, GM6MUZ
22 Annual 160m DF hunt
29 Wee Bennets Night, Morningside

Mid Lanarkshire ARS

Simon Gray, 2M0LSG, secretary@mlars.co.uk, mlars.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 DMR net, TG23550, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 70.425MHz FM, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Meeting, Newarthill Community Education Centre, 7pm

Stirling and District ARS

Iain, GM5YTT, GM5YTT@outlook.com

Regular nets via club repeater GB3FE
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 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
3, 10, 24, 31 Club night, 8pm
17 AGM at 21 Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RE
19 Visits to Braehead Radio Rally, Braehead Arena

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

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

Aberdeen ARS

Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651365, aars.org.uk

2 Members' Junk Sale, 7pm
9, 16 CW practice 7pm, Informal meeting from 7.30pm
23 CW practice 7pm, self and mutual inductance, 7.30pm
30 CW practice 7pm, Equipment surgery and on-air evening, 7.30pm

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

Bury RS

Lynda, G6QA, specky@talktalk.net

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 144.550MHz FM, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 144.550MHz, 6pm

Central Lancs ARC

Nonie, G3TNN, secretary.clarc@gmail.com

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 433.425MHz FM, 8pm
4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 Net 1.938MHz LSB, 11am

Gilmore and North West Morse Radio Club

Heth, M6HNS, 07735 036 267

2 Club night, St Mary's Church Hall, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 CW net, 144.064MHz, 3pm
5, 19 CW net 50.080MHz, 7.30pm
12 CW net 28.080MHz, 7.30pm
23 C4FM 144.925MHz, 7.30pm
26 CW net 3.510MHz, 7.30pm

Isle of Man ARS

iomars.im

22 Illustrated talk by Brian King: 'Discovery, salvage and restoration of King Henry VIII's battleship 'Mary Rose'.
Venue TBA.

Leyland and District ARC

Phil, 2E0DGP, ladar.club

1 Club Night
8, 22 Club and Friends Net, 145.300MHz, 7pm
11 145 Alive Event, 1-3pm
15 SOS radio evening

Macclesfield & District RS

Greg, M0TXX, Info@gx4mws.uk

6 Bank holiday activity
13 Satellite activity at South Park
20 Activation of Peak NP
27 RSGB FT4 Contest

Merseyside ARS

Alan, G4NXG info@marsradio.uk

6 May Bank Holiday – no meeting
13 General natter night

Stockport Radio Society

info@g8srs.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club Net, 145.375MHz, 2pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club Net via GB3MR & Webex, 7.30pm
6 G50 Contest Group Meeting, 7.30pm
7, 28 Radio/practical evening, Walthew House, 7pm
11 Saturday at Walthew House, 10am
14 Net, 51.550MHz, 7.30pm
21 Social event via Webex, 7pm
25, 26 CQ WPX VV Contest, Common Barn Farm
26 Net, 145.375MHz, 10.30am

South Cheshire ARS

ray@m1rek.co.uk

8, 22 Meeting, details at g6tw.co.uk

South Manchester RC

David G4MVU 07518913300, smrc.org.uk

2 EGM and AGM
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.475MHz FM, 8pm
9 Discussion: NARSA washup
16 Discussion: antenna traps
23 Discussion: antennas, buy or build?
30 2m antennas build

Quantum AR & TS

Derek, G7LFC, info@quantumtech.club

2 Controlling with Node-Red
4 Breakfast club
16 AGM
27 Mawdesley Classic Car Show
30, 31 EMF Camp

Thornton Cleveleys ARS

Jen, G8YOK, tcars.radio@gmail.com

6, 27 Bank holiday, no meeting
13 80m SSB Contest/ natter
20 Video night

Warrington ARC

Dave Roberts G8KBB, secretary@warc.org.uk

1 Hotspot net – P25 TG 10350 / YSF GB-WARC, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Social/coffee morning, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 Solder Sunday at clubroom and via Zoom, 2pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Main meetings at clubroom and by Zoom, 8pm

Wirral ARS

g3nwr.co.uk

On air Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3m
7, 14, 21, 28 Natter night, 7pm
8, 15, 22, 29 Technical night, 8pm

Wirral Peninsula ARC

Owen Williams, M70MW, wirralpeninsulaarc@outlook.com

1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31 Meeting, Unit 18
Peninsula Business Park, CH46 1DW, 7pm

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

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

Barnsley & District ARC

David G4TMZ, g6aj@outlook.com

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting, 7pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 144.5625MHz FM, 7pm

Bishop Auckland ARC

barac.org.uk

Anyone wishing to study and/or take their exam's visit
barac.org.uk for details
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting at Stanley Crook village
hall, 7.30pm

Durham & District ARS

Michael, G7TWX, 07826924192

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night meeting, 6pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 145.425MHz, 7pm
5, 12, 19 Net 50.575MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 70.375MHz, 7pm
26 Rally, 10am

East Ardsley RS

Paul, M0XZT, m0xzt@ears.radio

2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 On-the-air and
social evening, 6.30pm

Hambleton ARS

Brian, G3VGZ, 07809221422

1, 15 Meeting, Mencap Centre, Northallerton, 7.30pm

Hornsea ARC

John, G3XYF, jhwresdell@gmail.com, hornsearc.com

1 Debate on FT8
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 1869kHz CW 8pm, SSB 8.30pm
8 DF hunt
15 NFD planning
22 RSGB 80m CC data
29 Club meeting

Hull and District ARS

Andy, G8REM, g8rem@icloud.com

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net G3AMW, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net GB3HS, 7.30pm

Maltby & District ARS

info@maltbyradio.org.uk, maltbyradio.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesday morning meeting,
Thrybergh, 10am
3, 17, 24, 31 Club Night, Centenary Hall, Bateman
Road, Hellaby
7, 14, 21, 28 Online meeting, 7pm
10 Mini radio rally & open evening, 6pm
12 VHF net, DMR TG or VHF

Otley ARS

John, G6MHR, otleyradio.org

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 144.350MHz SSB, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.450MHz, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night Clifton Village Hall, 7.30pm

Spen Valley ARS

Malcolm, 2E0IOX, spenvalleyars@gmail.com

2, 16 Club night, 8pm

Wearside Electronics and ARS

g0bnk@outlook.com

6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, Herrington 2nd Scouts, 6pm

York Radio Club

yorkradioclub.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.625MHz, GB3HG, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club night
7, 14, 21, 28 AM net 144.550MHz, 8.30pm

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

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

Bromsgrove & District ARC

Alan, G4LVK, secretary@bromsgroveradioclub.co.uk

1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 Net 145.375MHz FM, 7.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Shack night

Burton ARC

Barry Hardy, M0ISZ, 01283 540570

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night Barley Mow, 7.30pm

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open FM net 145.575MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 9, 26 Open FM net 145.575MHz, 10am
6, 13, 20, 27 Slow CW exercise 14.055MHz, 11am

Central Radio Amateur Circle

Martin Hallard, G1TYV, radio-circle@live.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Google meets, 7pm
4, 18 Group meeting, 12pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Group net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
11, 25 Group, net, 145.575MHz, 12pm

Cheltenham ARA

committee@g5bk.uk
Daily Nets 145.4MHz 8.15am, GB3CG 8.20am
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net GB3RC or GB3GC, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm
4, 5 Fun Field Day weekend
7, 14, 21, 28 Slow CW 3540kHz and up, 8pm
16 Test equipment and rig programming

Dudley and District ARS

Keith, MOWYZ, keithmowyz@gmail.com
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, 59 Vale St, DY3 3XF, 6pm

Gloucester AR&ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
Daily informal get together, 145.475MHz FM, 3.30pm
See g4aym.org.uk for details of nets
6 DF Hunt and usual Bank Holiday Crickley Hill operating, 1-4pm
13 Bring and show
27 2nd DF Hunt and Bank Holiday, Crickley Hill operating, 1-4pm

Kidderminster Repeater Group

kg.club
15 EGM, Queens Head, Wolverley, 7.30pm

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 145.350MHz FM, 8pm
14 Talk by John Gillham: 'Exploiting the 30THz band'
28 Informal meeting

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003
1 Open meeting and ragchew, training classes
8 Short committee meeting, training classes
15 General meeting, shack on the air and training classes
22 Discussion possible rally visits this year, training classes
29 Open meeting, construction projects, training classes

Rugby ATS

Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940
Daily net every Mon to Fri on 144.275MHz USB, 8.30am
2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30 Training and practice CW net, 144.275MHz first USB then CW, 4.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 1913kHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut, 2pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut, 8pm

Salop ARS, Shrewsbury

Les, M5LMG, salopamateurradio@gmail.com, salopradiosociety.org
2 Easy Remote Operating, talk by G8DIR and M5LMG
9 Committee Meeting
16 Club night
23, 30 Club night, shack on the air

Solihull ARS

Roy, G4TDF, solihullradioclub@gmail.com
4, 11, 25 Club net on 2m band, 8pm
18 Rig demo night, 1st Solihull Scout HQ, 8pm

South Birmingham RS

Gemma Gordon, M6GKG, gemmagordonm6kgk@gmail.com
3, 10, 24 Activities in the shack with roger and others
5, 12, 26 Work in the attic with Bob and others
7, 14, 21, 28 Coffee morning in the shack, visitors welcome, 11am
16, 30 Clearing lock-up

Stourbridge & District ARS

g6oi.org.uk
5, 12, 26 Meeting at Norton Snooker Club
20 Severn Area Rescue Association, Norton Community Centre

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, rob2eOzap@gmail.com
6, 20 Open net starting on \pm 145.250MHz, 7.30pm
13, 27 Club meeting, 8pm

Telford & District ARS

Graham G7LMF, secretary@tdars.org.uk
1 Committee Meeting 8pm (Webex), 2m ragchew 7.30pm
8 John, MOXJA – Trip to Antarctica
15 First 2024 Foxhunt
22 Mobile towers – erection and safety
29 Marconi feedback / 6m/ NFD prep

Wolverhampton ARS

Andrew Atkinson, 2E0YEZ, 01902 762603, secretary@wolverhamptonars.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club night, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm

Wythall RC

Chris, G3YHF, 07958 395904, wythallradioclub.co.uk
7 Radio demonstration, 8.30pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Club night, 7.30pm

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

RR: Liz Cabban, GW0ETU, RR6@rsgb.org.uk

01492 830872

Dragon ARC

2W0JYB, mw7mon@gmail.com
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club net on GB3AN Wires-X room 86178
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net on 144.320MHz SSB
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net on 145.550MHz
6 Practical activities evening (Gaerwen)
13 Zoom Talk 'From V2 Rockets to The Voice', Dave, G4DYX
20 Photography Competition, David, GW6MLI (Gaerwen)
25 VHF Field Day, Parys mountain (Amlwch)
27 Zoom natter night

North Wales ARG

nwarg.org

1 SES RNLI 200 Llandudno
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, GB3OR, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, GB3OR, 8pm
6, 27 Bank holiday, no meeting
13, 20 RNLI 200 year history presentation, Tony, MW6TMQ

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RR: Brian Jones, GW6ZYI, RR7@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdare & District ARS

aberdareradio.club
10, 24 Meeting, Hirwaun YMCA, 6pm

Barry ARS

Steve, GW5VOG, 07900 560 080
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net 144.550MHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Zoom meeting hosted by Glyn, GWOANA, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club nights at Sully Sports and Social Club, 7.30pm

Cwmbran ARC

mcOyad.club
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meeting, Henllys Village Hall, Cwmbran, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.712.5MHz CTCSS 94.8, 600 split, 7.30pm

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.

Newport ARS

gw4ezw.org.uk/contact-us
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Clubhouse evening, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, \pm 3.705MHz, 10am
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
16 Kanga Rooster talk by Kevin, MW0KXN
17, 18, 19 Pubs and Clubs on the Air

Rhondda ARS

John GW4BUZ, 01443 432 542. Please leave a message if we are not in.
7 Film evening
14 Sorting faults
21 Normal club night
28 Checking the aerial

St Tybie ARS

Gareth, GW4JPC, gw4jpc@yahoo.co.nz
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 3.739MHz, 11am
6, 13, 20, 27 Club meeting, portable cabin adj to Saron Hall, SA18 3LN, 7pm,

Uskside ARC

usksidearc.newport@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club Night, St John's Ambulance Station, Lyne Road, Newport, NP20 5JG, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.550MHz, 7pm.

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

Micheal Na bPiob, M10HOZ RR8@rsgb.org.uk

Antrim And District ARS

secretary@adars.co.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Club 2m 'shout-out', usually FM, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 2m FM/SSB, 9pm
10 Club meeting and HF activity, 7.30pm

Bushvalley ARC

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

Mid Ulster ARC

muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk
12 Meeting, Tandragee Golf Club, 3pm

West Tyrone ARC

wtarc.org.uk
8 Meeting, Order of Malta Hall, Brook Street, Omagh, 7.30pm

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

RR: Ron White, G6LTT, RR9@rsgb.org.uk

Bracknell ARC

Colin, MOXCA, 0770 651 2505
1, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Nets GB3BN 5pm, GB3AL 5.30pm
8 EMP with Les, G8AMK

Burnham Beeches RC

Greg, G4EBY, ebytonics@gmail.com
3, 10, 16, 24, 31 Intermediate Course, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net 145.500, QSY 145.275MHz, 10.30am
6 Bank holiday, no meeting
10, 11, 12, 13 DX Picnic
20 Natter night, Zoom, 8pm

Edgware & District RS

Steve Slater, G0PQB, g0pqb25@gmail.com
9 Baluns with Mike, G4RNW
23 Sporadic-E on the 6m band

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 07970 885 614, G4LMW@btconnect.com
29 AGM (new date) followed by quiz with Rob, G4LMW

Shefford & District ARS

David, G8UOD, davidg8uod@virginmedia.com
2, 16 CW training and natter
30 'Working at the BBC' with Steve, G4HPE

Whitton ARG

Ian, G00FN, 0795 620 3495, warg.dreamhosters.com
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 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
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, start 145.500MHz then QSY, 9pm
21 Tabletop sale/QRP night

Chippenham & District ARC

Jenni, MOHZT, chippenhamradio.club
7, 28 Club meeting, 8pm
11 145 Alive
14 G4JBH Talk 'General Post Office', 8pm
21 HF ops with MOPLS, 8pm

Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society

Glenn, G4FVL, secretary@catsradio.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net \pm 70.425MHz, 9pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net \pm 145.4MHz 11am, \pm 3.7MHz, 5pm
13 Club meeting: AGM

Crawley ARC

Stewart, G3YSX, 07720 068 493, stewart@g3ysx.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meeting, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Meeting, 2pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, 11am

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 07739 549 822
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 70.425MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 145.350MHz, 10am

Crystal Palace R&EC

Damien, 2E0EUI, 07900 242 541
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, \pm 145.525MHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 51.55MHz, 8pm

Fareham & District ARC

fareham-darc.co.uk
1, 15 Club night
8 My Power Meter, Mike, G3YSG
22 RSGB 80m Data CC at clubhouse
29 History of Portsmouth Pt4, Andrew Negus

Farnborough & District RS

Mel, MOJMR, publicity@farnboroughradio.org.uk
For details of nets see farnboroughradio.org.uk
22 Skittles evening
27 Farnborough Donkey Derby
31 NFD and social event

Fort Purbrook ARC

Chris, G3WIE, secretary@fparc.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open net 145.275MHz 7.30pm, QSY GB3SH 8pm
10 Practical evening, Deverell Hall, 7pm
17, 18, 19 Field weekend on top of the Fort, 2m contest
31 Club meeting in room FP-1, 7pm

Hastings Electronics & Radio Club

John, G0OZY, herc.hastings@gmail.com
Daily net, GB3ES, 10am
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Portable operating, 1pm
6, 13, 20, 27 CW net, 144.575MHz, 8pm

Hilderstone RS

23 Marcel Cook, home automation.

Hog's Back ARC

Ray G4LUA, 0118 981 4174
13 Natter night

Hordean & District ARC

hdarc.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.375MHz, 7.30pm
3, 17 Club night and licensing training
5, 12, 19, 26 CW net 9am ±1950kHz; SSB net
9.30am ±1950kHz; 8pm on 433.450MHz
6, 13, 20, 27 SSB net ±1950kHz, 7.30pm
10 Operating from the Fort night

Horsham ARC

Alister, G3ZBU, 01403 253432, harc.org.uk
2 Deception as a service, Andy, G8TJQ
16 Social at the Dog and Bacon

Itchen Valley ARC

Chris, G7LWV, secretary@ivarc.org.uk

10 Club meeting, 8pm
19 Special event, Calshot Lifeboat, 10am
24 Club meeting and Brickworks activities, 8pm

Mid Sussex ARS

Stella Rogers, M6ZRJ, progsec@midsussexars.org.uk,
midsussexars.org.uk

10 Meet the Committee, 7.30pm
11 Mills on the Air, Jack and Jill, 9.30am, 4pm
17 Live report from Dayton Hamvention, Cyprus Hall, 7.30pm
24 Show and Tell, 7.30pm
31 Direction finding evening, Cyprus Road car park, 7.15pm

Southdown ARS

Tom, 2E0ONX, sars.club

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Café meeting 12.15pm, net GB3ZX, 2pm
3 Monthly Meeting at Old Town Community Centre,
Eastbourne, 8pm

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 28.078 JS8, 10am
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 70.30MHz FM, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Nets, 144.6125MHz DV, 7.30pm,
145.35MHz FM, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 1.905MHz LSB, 9.30am
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 3.710MHz LSB, 9am
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 51.55MHz FM, 8pm

West Kent ARS

secretary@wkars.org.uk

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 145.3125MHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 28.730MHz, 11am
6, 20, 27 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm
11, 12 GB2NW at Nutley for Windmills on the Air
13 UK Radio Astronomy Association at Bidborough
18, 19 2m May Contest: Field Day at Matfield

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

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net via GB3DN at 11am & Net
144.260MHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 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
20 Meeting, Appledore Football Clubhouse, 7.30pm

Blackmoor Vale ARS

Keith, MOTMO, 07796 494496, www.bvars.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Nets 28.360MHz USB 8pm,
70.425MHz FM 9pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting, The New Remembrance
Hall, SP7 OPL, 7.30pm

Callington ARS

Peter, G8BCG, secretary@callingtonradiosociety.org.uk

Meets first Wednesday of the month, Callington Town
Hall, PL17 7BD

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Lunch, The Engine House Café
PL17 8EA, 1.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, GB3JL repeater, 8pm

Cornish Radio Amateur Club

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939, G7VOH@btinternet.com
2 Club meeting

Holsworthy ARC

qsl.net/m0omc

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, GB3DN, 7.30pm
1 Meeting, Milton Damerel Chapel

Mid Somerset ARC

Chris, G6HIQ, christopherlavis3@gmail.com

11 Mills on the Air, GB0WWM
13 Club meeting, Baptist Church Rooms, Shepton Mallet, 7.30pm
27 Social Meeting at the Quarter Jack, Wells, 2pm

Poldhu ARC

Cliff, GB2GM, secretary@gb2gm.org

7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 3.715MHz SSB, 9am

Poole Radio Society

Charles Riley, G4JQX, secretary@g4prs.org.uk

2 Yaesu digital transceivers
9 Construction Corner
16 Using a VNA/MFJ259

Saltash & District ARC

Mark Chanter, M0WMB, 07810 548 445

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net via GB3PL, 7.30pm
21 Meeting, Burraton Centre, HF operating with a
portable antenna, 7pm

South Bristol ARC

Andy Jenner, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471,

enquiries@sbarc.co.uk

2 Mills on the Air briefing, 8pm
11, 12 Mills on the Air
16 Zoom discussion, 8pm

Weston Super Mare RS

g4wsm.club

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, GB3WB, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting Weston Super Mare Social Club, 7.30pm

Yeovil ARC

Darren Mallinson 2E0EVU, secretary@yeovil-arc.com

Meetings at Parish Room, Abbey Manor Community Centre
2 The Radio train experiments, G3MYM
9 An evening with Brian, M1FFP
16 Morse code evening with Rob, G3MYM
23 The story of Amateur Radio aerials, G3MYM
30 Station on air

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

7, 21 Club net 145.375MHz FM, 8pm
14 AGM, 8pm
28 'Radio at Sea' with Tim, G0JMT, 8pm

Bury St Edmonds ARS

bsears.co.uk

Club nets every day of the week except Sunday
15 Meeting, Rougham Tower Museum

Chelmsford ARS

secretary@g0mwat.org.uk

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Skype CW classes, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 144.060MHz CW net, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 CW net on 3542kHz from 7.30pm,
GB2CW on 3555kHz from 8.15pm, slowing down
at 8.30pm for new operators
7 Meeting, Gateway talk
14 Club open net, GB3DA, 8pm
21 Club open net, GB3ER, 8pm
28 Club open net, 3756kHz, 8pm

Colchester RAC

Garry, M0MGP, 07740318521, secretary@g3c0.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net on 145.350/375MHz from 7pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open net 3.685MHz, 7pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Open DX net on 14.125MHz with
assist on 145.350MHz local, 2.30pm
4 Open net 50.225MHz, 7pm
4 Club Skype meeting and presentation
5 Open net 70.425MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Open net 433.400MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Open net 1.920MHz LSB, 8pm
16 CRA club meeting
26 Open Net 28.350MHz, 7pm

Felixstowe & District ARS

Mark Riley, M5BOP, secretary@fdars.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net, GB3IH, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.400MHz, 10am
6 Bank Holiday Meet-up, Shack, 7pm
20 Bawdsey Radar, Broadway House, 7.30pm

Harlow & District ARS

Ed, G5EDW, secretary@g6ut.com, g6ut.com

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net 145.425MHz, 7.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club Meeting, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Technical Tuesdays, visitors welcome
11, 12 Mills on the Air, GB0TWM

Leiston ARC

Nigel, G0EBQ 07871 662856, nigel.flatman@yahoo.com

14 Meeting, School, Waterloo Avenue, IP16 4HE

Loughton & Epping Forest ARS

David, M0VID, secretary@lefars.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net DMR Brandmeister TG 23511, 8pm

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 144.725MHz FM, 8pm
3 Meeting at All Saints House EHFV kit Buildathon, 8pm
17 HF Night on the Air, All Saints House, 8pm
10, 24 Zoom meeting, 8pm
31 Talk: 'The advantages of going Portable',
All Saints House, 8pm

Lowestoft District & Pye ARC

Sam, M7SKW, secretary@ldparc.co.uk

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club Meeting, 7.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 51.490MHz, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 145.475MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 433.575MHz, 8pm

Martello Tower Group

martellotowergroup.com

5, 12, 19, 26 Net GB3CE, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, GB3CL, 8pm

South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, southessex-ars.co.uk

9 Meeting, St Michaels church, SS72UW, 7.30pm

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

Bolsover ARS

G4KSY, 01246 827135, Facebook page: @bolsoverars

7, 21 Meeting, Rainbridge Hall, Bolsover, 8pm

Hinckley AR & ES

Michel Dixon, G4GHJ, hinckleyradiosociety@gmail.com

1, 29 Meeting at school in Burbage
7 144MHz UK Activity Contest
9 6m UK Activity Contest
14 70cm UK Activity Contest
15 WRTC presentation
18 Activation of Cleeve Hill

Kettering & District ARS

Les, 2E0MNZ, les@moylehousehold.co.uk

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 145.300MHz, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Breakfast meeting, 10am
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, 7pm

Leicester RS

Sandra Morley, G0MCM, 07930274044

6, 13, 20, 27 Club and Zoom meeting, 7.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club meeting, 10am

Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam Rose, g4sto@outlook.com

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting BSA Village Hall
Aisthorpe, 7.30pm

2, 16, 30 Club repeater net GB3LM if its off air
145.350MHz, 8pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aisthorpe, 9.30am
7, 16 Lincolnshire Aviation Centre, East Kirkby, radio room open
9, 23 Club repeater net GB3LS if its off air 145.350MHz, 8pm
18 AGM, Village Hall Aisthorpe, 10am

Loughborough & District ARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319, g1etz@aol.com

7 Mills on the Air arrangements

14, 28 Portable operating from Wymeswold
21 The valve collection, Andrew, G7SEG

Northampton RC

secretary@northamptonradioclub.co.uk

2, 9 Grangewood Club meeting, 8pm
16 Member's Zoom meeting, 8pm
23, 30 Grangewood Club outside operations, 8pm

Nunfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk

3 RSGB Webinar: end-fed half-wave
6, 13, 20, 27 Shack night & club net, 145.300MHz, 8pm
10 Mills on the Air prep/ natter evening
31 Natter night

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob Pickles, G3VCA, 07971 166250

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 CW practice, 144.085MHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club Meeting at the Pyewipe 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club Net 145.325MHz, 7.30pm

South Derbyshire and Ashby Woulds ARG

Jacqui, 2E0JQY, sdawarg.secretary@gmail.com

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club evening, 7pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Open net 70.425MHz, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 SSB open net, 144.225MHz, 7pm

South Normanton, Alfreton & District ARC

secretary@snadarc.com

6, 27 Bank holiday, no club meeting
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, ±145.450MHz, 7pm
13 Natter night
20 Junk sale

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, info@wvvars.com

6 Club net, 145.275MHz FM, 7pm
20 Meeting, Great Bowden Village Hall, 7pm

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

Ayr Amateur Radio Group (AARG) will be activating Dundonald Castle on Sunday 26 May from 9am to 5pm to celebrate the Stewart Dynasty and to restart Scottish Castles on the Air. The postcode for the venue is KA29HD. The callsign in use will be GB5DC. All are welcome. For more information, contact GM4VKI on 01563 850976. You can also email rkavampsev@aol.com or derek.secaarg@gmail.com (AARG Club Secretary).



REGION 4: NORTH EAST

The resumption of training at **Halifax and District ARS (HADARS)** marks a significant milestone for enthusiasts in the region. Following what felt like an interminable hiatus, licence training has recommenced, heralding a new era of learning and development within our community.

Under the stewardship of Max Townend, the Society has embarked on a revitalised journey, aligning with the latest terms and conditions set forth by Ofcom. With diligence and dedication, Max has meticulously crafted comprehensive lesson plans, tailored to cater to individuals seeking to ascend from Foundation to Intermediate levels, as well as offering a refresher for seasoned Intermediate members aiming to progress to a Full licence.

The resurgence of training activities at HADARS symbolises more than just a return to routine, it signifies a renewed commitment to the craft and a beacon of hope for aspiring radio operators. By providing structured guidance and support, the Society encourages its members to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of amateur radio.

Dean Baker, G4DBI



The Society encourages its members to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of amateur radio.



At about 10.45am on the morning of Saturday 24 February, G4DAX/AM contacted various members of Scarborough ARS, including G0EBL, GOODS, G4FLM and M0JLP from motor glider G-SSWV, at about 3000ft (915m) above Pocklington in line with the new licence conditions published by Ofcom.

This may have been the first aeronautical mobile contact since the publication of the new licence regulations on the preceding Thursday.

Not having a noise cancelling microphone for the handheld transceiver, we climbed to 3000ft and then stopped the engine, and my co-owner flew whilst I made the contacts. The photograph shows the aircraft on the airfield at the Wolds Gliding Club.

Dave Smith, G4DAX

Back in February, **Maltby and District Amateur Radio Society**, started a series of morning meetups at a local Country Park. These are open to anyone interested in radio, not just members of the Society. They have proved so popular that the Society has included them as a regular weekly activity. Members chose Thrybergh Country Park near Rotherham, South Yorkshire as it was close to home and has a café.

Hull & District ARS will be running special station GBOUL from 31 May to 2 June, to celebrate over 100 years of amateur radio in Hull and to commemorate the 95th Birthday of Honorary Club Member Bernard Atkinson, GOSWO/G3JDY. Bernard continues to run the Society's Thursday net and The RAFARS net on the first Tuesday of the month. This non-contest club weekend was suggested by members Ant, 2EOJOV and Kevin, MOKVK. GBOUL will operate from Easington, East Yorkshire, grid square J003tp, WAB TA31.

For more details email MORKK@yahoo.com or G8REM@iCloud.com

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Recently, **Wythall Radio Club** held a well-attended presentation and demonstration on operating through the geostationary QO-100 satellite. Neil, G1TZC talked briefly about the development of satellite communication and the role of radio amateurs in this, and brought along his portable equipment to show how straightforward it now was to hear and access the satellite. The following week he reappeared with an even smaller 2.3GHz antenna used to control drones. The Club looks forward to seeing this in action and the upcoming GBOBUS station for International Museum Weekend in June will offer a chance to demonstrate this to the public.

In early March, the Club held a shack night which had an emphasis on HF SSB, to complement that on FT8 held previously. This gave some of the newer members, and those not used to this mode, the opportunity to participate in QSOs with stations in the UK. The contacts made included Club member Dave, GM3YXM at his QTH in Scotland on Top Band, and others around Europe on the 40m band. Deep QSB meant operators were unable to complete with an Indian station, which would have added some real DX operating to the night. The session ended with a CW QSO with Switzerland, giving participants in the session a chance to brush up on their rusty Morse!

The Society's website at wythallradioclub.co.uk is updated regularly. A particularly interesting post in early March was by Chris, G0EYO. He recounts his professional and amateur radio involvement with CW, and particularly focuses on five elderly Morse keys, including a semi-automatic Vibroplex, bought at a local auction. This fine piece of machinery has now been returned to tip-top condition.

As the weather warms, the Club will be starting to plan its SOTA and field days, giving members a chance to operate /P – always a fun activity!

RSGB District Representative 55 Leigh Preece, M5GWH, accompanied by Stafford and Districts ARS joined colleagues from Telford and District ARS at a STEM event held at a very busy Royal Air Force Museum Midlands, located in Cosford in Shropshire over the weekend of 23 and 24 March 2024. Both Societies offered the public a taste of amateur radio with demonstration stations, satellite working and advice on how to set up a simple SDR. Guests were offered the opportunity to try their hand at Morse code. This proved to be very popular with visitors of all ages. Franky and Indi-May from Rugeley are pictured sending their names on a Morse key.



REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

Rhondda ARS is organising one of its famous cheese and pickle/quizz evenings for Tuesday 23 April from 7pm onwards. Neighbouring radio clubs and amateurs are invited to this jolly evening get together. The venue is Rhondda Sports Centre, Ystrad, CF41 7SY. Please phone John on 01443 432 542 or Paul on 01443 408 067 with estimated numbers attending. The venue has good disabled access and car parking. The Society encourages various aspects of amateur radio. The photos show Rhiannon studying for her Foundation exam, and Paul working DX on FT8. Paul received signals from 6000 miles away during a club night.



Carmarthen ARS held its AGM on Tuesday 5 March 2024 and awarded Pete Watson, 2W1DIK, Vice Chairman, a 30-year long membership plaque. Pete is pictured on the left.

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

On Friday 8 March Antrim and District ARS, which is celebrating its 21st year, hosted a talk by RSGB President John McCullagh, G14BWM and RSGB Region 8 Representative Micheal Na bPiob, M10HOZ.

The talk focussed on the new licensing changes from Ofcom and the impact they have on amateur radio users. A very illuminating evening was had with interesting discussion, tea and buns.



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

Over a hundred years of amateur radio meetings have come to an end with the closure of the Bristol RSGB Group, G6YB on 29 February this year. The story is probably a familiar one, with an ageing group unable to attract younger members to whom to 'pass the baton'. When the existing secretary of the group stepped down, no replacement could be found, despite several months of trying. The other existing committee members had also been in post for a long time. Rather than fizzling out, the group has decided to formally close with a sense of pride and thankfulness for the past.



Bristol RSGB Group traces its origins back to 1913 when it was called 'The Bristol Wireless Society'. Gilbert Tonkin, a Bristol resident, was granted a licence as TBX in 1910. He had already built a receiver using a Branly Coherer and transmitting apparatus which produced a quarter-inch spark. His first contact was across his kitchen table. Tonkin later became G5RQ after WWI. The spark transmitter is still held within the group's archives.

Bristol first entered CW National Field Day in 1933 and came equal first using the call G6RB/P. Another call from that era was G6YA and in later years a combination of the calls was used to form the current Bristol Contest Group's callsign, G6YB. As G2IK/P – another old Bristol call – the group won CW Field day for three years running in 1952, 1953 and 1954. To commemorate the triple win, the Bristol Trophy, a replica of the Bristol Suspension Bridge, was donated to the RSGB and is still awarded for CW Field Day today. It was to be 1999 before the Bristol Group (as G6YB/P) won it back again!

Between the years 1998 to 2017 the G6YB group won RSGB SSB Field Day on 14 occasions and between 2008 and 2014, Islands on the Air five times (as GJ6YB) – a record probably difficult to beat!

The Longleat Mobile Rally was run by the Bristol Group for 45 years and became one of the biggest rallies in the country attracting many thousands of visitors.

The longest serving member of the Group is Roy Emery, G3FYX who was made a life-member some time ago in recognition of his service. Roy is now in his nineties and the Group was delighted that he was able to attend the final meeting, assisted by his son Jim (Roy appears in the front and centre of the photo included here). Roy has a long record of experimental work on the amateur microwave bands and as a keen CW operator.

The archives of the Group's website are being curated by the Shirehampton ARC and is accessible at g6yb.com The archives constitute an important record of amateur radio activity in the southwest of England.

At the Group's final meeting it was decided to distribute its residual assets to registered charities, with the principal beneficiary being the Radio Communications Foundation (RCF), which was set up by, but is independent of, the RSGB. Details of the RCF can be found at commsfoundation.org

Paul Roberts, G0OER, outgoing secretary, Bristol RSGB Group

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Recently, Braintree and District ARS had its first construction evening in a long time and it was a great success. The challenge was 'Make a Slim Jim antenna for a band of your choice using twin lead window line feeder'. Members had raided their junk boxes and tool boxes and brought along masses of feeders, cables, connectors, soldering irons and tools of all shapes and sizes for everyone to share. Measurements were found by using an online calculator and the Club VNA was available to test the end result. As members only had about 90 minutes construction time available, it was a scene of frenetic activity as they built and trimmed their creations. Everyone was determined to have their antennas completed and ready for use at home. There was much sharing of knowledge and skills to make that happen and antennas for the 6m, 4m, 2m, and 70cm bands were made. One member resisted the temptation to make a 13cm version! The photo shows Gary, G5TCP making final adjustments before testing.



REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) has been celebrating the life of Tony Gilbey, G4YTG (26 February 1929 to 23 February 2024). Tony was President of CARS from 2015 to 2023.

Tony's parents bought him an SX24 Hallicrafters receiver when he left technical college to start work with the GPO as a 'Youth in Training'. His family used it as the main set at home and he would listen to 'The Shaving Club' on Top band. During his two-year GPO training he was given day release to study The National Certificate in Light Current Electrical Engineering (Radio and Telephone) at Chelmsford College, where he met some Marconi apprentices. Together they built radio equipment from ex-government hardware 'recovered' from the scrap yard at Marconi, Wood Street, Chelmsford. Most of the kit was new and unused.

During his GPO training, he was sent to work with all the sections for experience of telephone fitting, exchange maintenance and 'Poles and Holes' – telephone wires and underground cable jointing, basically a lead plumbing job! Those were also the days of compulsory National Service and his call-up was delayed until he had the certificate. Immediately after came the dreaded call-up and an order to report to Royal Signals at Caterick Camp. After the initial square-bashing, Tony used the radio qualification to persuade them to assign him as a Radio Mech rather than a Tele Mech where most of the GPO employees went by default.

He started the 20-week Royal Signals course which had a test each week that you had to pass or do the week again. Tony managed to pass top of the class each week as it was the same theory as his National Certificate. He finished the course two weeks early, was placed on an instructor's course and promoted to Lance Corporal. Within weeks he was teaching regular soldiers including ones who'd failed the 20-week Radio Mech course he was on!

The unit had a fully-equipped radio club and the mechs were encouraged to spend some free time in the evenings there. They had two 70ft masts with a 280ft dipole, two 25W army transmitters on a control desk with two AR88 receivers. Anyone with a licence was allowed to operate or listen on the five or six HROs spread around the hut. Tony was made Troop Sergeant in charge of 20 instructors on the practical half of the course before he was demobbed.

On returning to the GPO, Tony asked for a job in radio and they immediately appointed him Radio and Television Interference Investigation Officer. The role included amateur inspections since licensees had to have their stations inspected annually to check the power and frequency accuracy of their transmitters (nearly all homemade in those days). He often spent his evenings listening to the very friendly amateurs he had met, inspected and signed off in his day job.

In 1960 he was moved to a new position at the Post Office London HQ within the microwave link division and he was involved in the aerials and construction of the General Post Office tower which opened in 1965. Whilst in the microwave group, Tony took his amateur licence exam and became G8ZWX with mobile gear in his car being used as he visited the microwave stations in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

His next move was to the Aerial and Structures Group, dealing with the erection of towers, dish and horn aerials for the rapidly growing UK inland microwave service. Tony was then offered the Head of Aerials and Structures post at BT. This included Overseas Services Stations, HF Aerials at Rugby with 900ft masts and Ongar, Dorchester, all the UK MF coast stations and the big dishes at Goonhilly. Tony once commented "What a job for a Radio Ham – I was able to play radio with all this expensive gear, having also by this point passed the Morse test, so I was G4YTG – and being paid as my job was my hobby!"

He was also directly involved in the design and development of the 300ft Spyrocone antenna with a company external to BT which was deployed at Rugby and used for BA's Concorde flights.

Tony's final move was to be appointed as Chief Engineer of BT Maritime Services from which he retired in 1989. He was very proudly responsible for Portishead Radio GKA and all its aerial arrays at Somerton.

Tony was a very well-liked and highly-respected member of Chelmsford ARS, serving as President between 2015 and 2023. He stood down in October 2023 due to failing health but kept in touch with the club on a regular basis until his passing in February 2024. I still recall the first time I met him the evening I passed my Foundation exam in November 2018. He asked how I'd got into the hobby and I mentioned having been a Radio Officer in the Merchant Navy in the 70s and early 80s – that was it... we spent an hour talking about GKA, Somerton and everything BT Maritime. He was a very kind man and he recently gifted me his Rugby Morse key, Katsumi EK-150 electronic key and a Racal RA-1217 receiver, all from GKA.

Tony, G4YTG – it was an honour and a pleasure to have known you.

A final word from Tony: "Rapid promotion from 'Youth in Training' to Chief Engineer in 44 Years! I enjoyed every bit of it and I try to keep up to date, but I have a certain amount of worry with these tiny three-legged fuse things called transistors."

John O'Connell, M0JOC



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

Northampton RC members have voted to award the annual President's Shield for outstanding service to the Club during 2023 to Club Chairman Chris, 2EOORE.

In the Club's 2023 Construction Competition, the task for entrants was to construct a receiver for one or more amateur bands and submitted projects were tested with the same end-fed wire antenna and in a noisy environment. Colin Hopper was awarded the Trophy for his multi-band receiver with Don, G0FQI the runner up with a single band unit. Both projects presented for testing had been made to a very high standard and involved considerable effort in the design and construction which gave the judges a hard task in deciding the winner.

Other awards for 2023 are a third-place certificate to the Club in the Local category of the RSGB UK Activity Contests and individual first place certificates to Jason, G7LII for winning three out of the four Low Power sections of the RSGB 144/432MHz MGM Activity Contests and being runner up in the fourth. Congratulations to all trophy and certificate winners.



South Normanton, Alfreton and District Amateur RC are very active at weekends during spring, summer and autumn. Winter has always been a challenge for the club until this year. The Club's regular meeting place is the Post Mill Centre in South Normanton. The venue has been kind enough to let members have the facilities on Saturdays as a trial. The club is fortunate as it has a mast at the centre and this allows it to operate on the HF and 2m bands.

Members of RAF Waddington ARC took advantage of improved weather conditions to carry out some work at the shack at the Pyewipe Inn recently. The Club's doublet antenna had previously been taken down so that it would not be damaged during other necessary works at the site. Following these, the antenna was refurbished and replaced by Bob, G3VCA and Chris, 2EOBMA. Another project that has been in progress for some time is the installation of a QO-100 station, which has reached an important milestone with the dish antenna (pictured) being bolted securely in place on the roof of the Pyewipe shack by a very capable team of club members – Andy, G0FVI; Chris, 2EOBMA; John (SWL); Nicola, 2E0NYH; and Bob, G3VCA. There is more to do, but members hope to have the QO-100 station operational soon.

