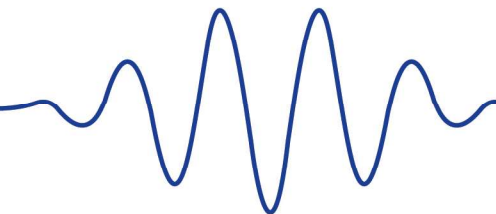




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

August 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

RSGB Convention

Proudly Sponsored by



11-13 October

A feast of amateur radio

This year the RSGB Convention will take place between 11 and 13 October at Kents Hill Park in Milton Keynes. This is the place to be if you are interested in everything and anything to do with amateur radio – there truly is something here for everyone.

We're delighted that, once again, the event will be sponsored by Martin Lynch & Sons.

We are pleased that AMSAT will be holding its Colloquium during the Convention again this year.

Engaging presentations and practical activities

The RSGB Convention is renowned for assembling a unique collection of entertaining, intriguing and thought-provoking speakers. Following last month's request for ideas, we are delighted to announce that we already have the beginnings of a fabulous line-up of speakers, organised into three streams: Getting Started (aimed at those who want to try something new), Operating and Technical.

To give you a taste of the presentations confirmed so far...

Chair of the Propagation Studies Committee Steve Nichols, GOKYA will be talking about Solar Cycle 25 and comparing how predictions he made

three years ago stack up against reality. Continuing the propagation theme, if you are interested in Sporadic-E then Chris Deacon, G4IFX's talk is one that you won't want to miss.

John Hislop, G7OHO will be delivering a presentation about building radios with the Raspberry Pi Pico. This is sure to be popular as more and more amateurs use these devices to improve their experience of the hobby.

Building on his popular presentation about PCBs at last year's Convention, John Linford, G3WGV will talk about PCBs, getting to grips with surface mount technology and the challenges it poses for radio amateurs.

In addition to a full programme of speakers, interactive activities are planned to encourage attendees to get hands-on and experience different facets of the hobby.

Special Interest Groups

One of the most interesting aspects of the Convention is the selection of special interest groups that attend. They are all so full of enthusiasm for their own areas that it is difficult to leave the Convention without being inspired to pursue different areas of amateur radio.

Visit the RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park

If you are planning to arrive on Friday, why not take in all that the NRC has to offer? It will be open from 9.30am to 5pm. We have also arranged a private tour of Bletchley Park for Convention attendees on the Friday afternoon. Remember to download your entry voucher at rsgb.org/bpvoucher

The social side

We often hear reports that the chance to meet and chat to other amateurs at the Convention is invaluable. Remember to book your tickets soon so that you secure your chance to catch up with your existing amateur radio friends and have the opportunity to make new acquaintances.

Your Convention, your way

We are changing the ticketing arrangements for this year to give visitors maximum flexibility. You will now be able to buy all parts of the Convention separately and choose hotel arrangements that suit you. Bookings will open shortly at rsgb.org/convention

RSGB Convention

Proudly Sponsored by



With presentations, forums, special interest groups and practical activities plus plenty of retail opportunities and places to meet over a cuppa or an evening drink, the RSGB Convention has something for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you whether you're a Convention regular or it's your first time. Save the date! Bookings open in July.



11-13 OCTOBER 2024
www.rsgb.org/convention

The RSGB at Ham Radio 2024 Friedrichshafen

More than 11,300 attendees from 58 different countries attended the event between 28 and 30 June 2024. For three days, more than 380 participants showcased the wide-ranging world of amateur radio, with 150 commercial exhibitors and international associations as well as 230 flea market exhibitors.

The RSGB was pleased to attend the event and used the opportunity to talk to the wider amateur radio community, attend international meetings, liaise with other national societies as well as raise awareness

of our work to support amateur radio in the UK and around the world. It was great to see so many radio amateurs from the UK attending the event.

As ever, the bookstall was a hit with visitors, some of whom are pictured here choosing from the latest selection of titles.

During the event, RSGB President John McCullagh, G14BWM; Board Chair Stewart Bryant, G3YSX; Spectrum Forum Chair Murray Niman, G6JYB; and General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB were interviewed by ICQ podcast. Discussion topics included spectrum defence, the RSGB's Strategic Priorities and the importance of international liaison. The episode containing the interviews will soon be available at icqpodcast.com

The Society looks forward to attending the event in Friedrichshafen again next year.



Murray Niman, G6JYB honoured as RSGB Life Vice President

In the June 2024 issue of *RadCom* (page 32) we reported that Murray Niman, G6JYB received a Life Vice President award at the RSGB's online AGM on 13 April 2024.

Whilst at the Ham Radio Friedrichshafen event this year, RSGB President John McCullagh, G14BWM (seen on the right) and RSGB Board Chair Stewart Bryant, G3YSX caught up with Murray to make the presentation in person (pictured).

You can read more about Murray's work as Chair of the Spectrum Forum via rsgb.org/spectrum-forum



Could you be the RSGB Company Secretary?

The RSGB is looking to recruit an RSGB Member to be the Society's Company Secretary. This volunteer position plays a key role in the Society's governance and provides vital support in running Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM).



For full information on the role, please go to rsgb.org/volunteers

Stephen Purser, GW4SHF took on the role temporarily after the previous Company Secretary stepped down. The Board is grateful to Stephen for stepping in at short notice last year and is keen to find a good candidate to take the role forward.

If you feel you have the necessary skills to fulfil this important role, would like more information or to discuss what is required, please email gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk in the first instance. The Board Chair will then contact you for a chat.

If you email to apply for the position, please include a current CV.

In line with all volunteer roles, the Board welcomes applications from people with diverse backgrounds.

Have you tried the updated RSGB Discovery Scheme?

Now called the Discovery Logbook, there are fewer requirements, an easy-to-follow programme and exciting links with external organisations such as Parks on the Air and Worked All Britain. There are also some great RSGB Awards to work towards if you'd like to include those in your own programme of activities.



As a relatively new radio amateur, Jim, ME7HEF had found that the sheer breadth of the hobby made it a little difficult to know where to start. The Discovery Scheme gave him a simple structure to try various aspects of amateur radio and he's really enjoyed it.

Read more about Jim's experience on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/your-stories and follow the links to find out how you could try something new using the Discovery Logbook.

Take part in our British Science Week Time-related challenge:

As part of our British Science Week (BSW) activities in March, a challenge was launched to tie in with the theme of 'Time'. The activity is open to individuals or groups of all ages, with entries in the following categories:

- Under 18, or still in school
- Under 21, or an undergraduate up to the age of 23
- No age restriction

The task is to use readily available components, material or other resources and provide a method of either measuring the frequency of a radio frequency source or signal or providing a time reference to a radio operator or radio system. The winner of each group will win a prize of £150.

Deadline for entries is 1 September. Email queries to RSGB BSW Coordinator Ian Neal, MOKEO at bsw@rsgb.org.uk or find out more online: rsgb.org/bsw

RSGB representative goes to YOTA summer camp in Prague

We're pleased to announce that Rhys Williams, M0WGY / AJ6XD will represent the RSGB, and the UK, at this summer's Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) camp.

The event, organised by the IARU Region 1 Youth Working Group together with the Czech Radio Club, will be held between 16 and 23 August 2024 in Prague, Czechia.

Meet Rhys

"I've found a lot of joy in the building aspect of amateur radio. I've learned to solder and have built a 40m CW transceiver to talk to people all across Europe! I also really enjoy contesting with my university club. My furthest QSO is Vanuatu (nearly 10,000 miles). In 2022, I went to Dayton Hamvention with my dad Alun, M0WQE and my uncle Roland AE6VL, which kindled my love of home brew radio.

I'm currently studying Aerospace Engineering at Cambridge University and am going on to do a PhD in Engineering at Oxford University from September. I spent a year in America as part of my undergraduate degree and, whilst I was living there, I passed my US amateur radio exams.

I'm really looking forward to representing the RSGB at YOTA in Prague this summer, so look out for my daily updates and come along to my presentation at the Convention. See you there!"



Rhys Williams M0WGY / AJ6XD will represent the RSGB at YOTA in Prague.

QSL Matters

It's a fact that QSL cards can say much more than a signal report and add to the whole experience of making a connection with a fellow amateur. This month's unique and inventive card most certainly does that.

At first glance, you might think that this QSL card is just a Monopoly board. A closer look reveals that it's actually a very clever and humorous look at the life story of DL2ART and his journey into amateur radio.

Art's card chronicles many things from his birth to almost the present day. Other milestones that are mentioned include his first car, marriage, family and his own web agency business. What really made us smile was the jail square that chronicles his army service as a staff sergeant in the Signals, with the legend 'Just passing through'.

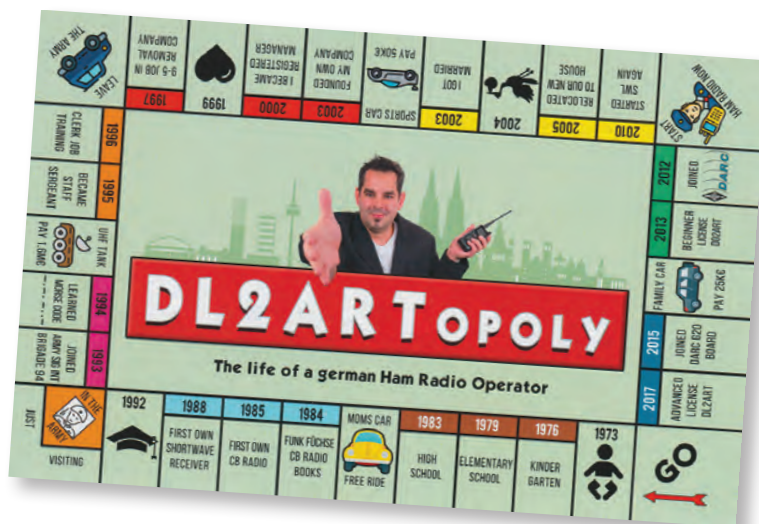
The board shows that, although Art learned Morse in 1993, life, work and family got in the way of him taking up amateur radio until around 2010.

Take a look at his QRZ.com page and click on the link to Funkwell.com You'll discover that he's certainly made up for lost time. Art is a YouTube reviewer.

If you speak German – in fact, even if you don't – you'll be amazed.

All in all, this is a fascinating and unique perspective on Art's life – perhaps something to consider when designing your own card.

There's virtually no limit to what, with a little imagination, a QSL card can say about you.



Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker Group

This month we would like to give credit to Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker Group.

Clubs, contest groups and special events are amongst the biggest generators of QSL cards both outgoing and incoming. Sadly, far too many groups fail to provide accurate/correct QSL information online or during the event, making extra work for the Bureau and leading to cards being delayed or not collected.

This group activates three GB callsigns plus their own. They can frequently be heard operating under their RSGB affiliated club calls, MOSNB or MXOSNB.

Visit any of their callsigns at QRZ.com and click on the link next to the QSL info tab. You'll be redirected to the Group's QSL info page on its website which gives a complete, easy-to-follow list of available options. This is a great example of responsible QSLing – well done! Please do take a look and maybe replicate their example at your club.

D-Day

The bands were busy for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings with several GB stations active plus some in Europe too. A quick check on a few heard/worked stations reveals that there are currently no QRZ.com entries for some. However, it was pleasing to discover one GB station linking QSL requests to a direct, online email portal. This is another example of good practice as it avoids cards being wasted by blanket QSLing – plus it's eco-friendly and is labour- and cost-saving in many other ways... something to think about.

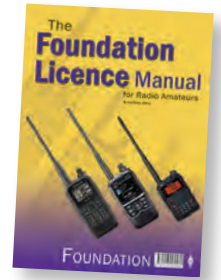
Richard J Constantine, G3UGF

Updated licence exam manuals released

We're pleased to announce that we've released updated training manuals for the Foundation, Intermediate and Full licence exams. These now reflect changes to the syllabus due to the new licence conditions.

The RSGB will start examining to version 1.6 of the syllabus from 1 September 2024 and these manuals will help tutors and students to prepare for those exams.

There isn't a single manual for the Direct to Full exam, but you can buy a bundle of all three licence level manuals for a discounted price. The training manuals are available from the RSGB via rsgb.org/shop and you can read more about them on page 79 of this issue of *RadCom*.



Examinations Standards Committee (ESC) annual report

The ESC has published its annual report, relating to activities in 2023. Key messages arising from the report:

1. Whilst in 2023 there were fewer candidates across all licence levels, the number of people taking exams so far in 2024 has increased significantly
2. Preparations are being made to release the bank of questions for the Full licence exam. It has long been recognised that a review of the question bank, particularly at Full level, is well overdue and has been delayed multiple times by things such as the need to revise the syllabus for EMF and the new licence changes. Reviewing the question bank is the next priority of the ESC and the ESRG (Exams and Syllabus Review Group) and will begin on 1 September when Syllabus 1.6 is up and running. The ESC/ESRG believes it is better that this review is conducted before the bank is published as this should reduce the workload on the community and the exams teams in making and responding to queries on questions that may be withdrawn. They are hoping to release the questions in January 2025

Direct to Full exam syllabus update

The new amateur radio licence has now been in effect for a few months. Changes to the licence conditions have necessitated revision to the examination syllabus. We are pleased to release v2.0 of the Direct to Full syllabus including these revisions. Compared to the version in current use, the only section that has seen major changes is Section 1: Licensing and station identification. Section 2: Operating practices and procedures, has seen some minor changes, eg with regard to suffixes. We will begin examining to v2.0 of the syllabus on 1 October 2024. We will not be taking any bookings for Direct to Full examinations to take place in September.

ESC Chair, Prof. Tony Kent, G8PBH

Regional Team Facebook pages

Facebook pages were created last year by the Regional Team for each of the RSGB regions, and each has a focus on regional amateur radio communities. These 13 pages are moderated by members of the RSGB Regional Team.

Whilst the pages share a similar style, they are very different in content. Selected posts are created by the RSGB moderators to maintain some news content from the RSGB that will be of interest to amateurs in that region. The main content comes from clubs, individual licensees and also event organisers in those regions.

The Regional Team would like to encourage you to use these pages to ask for help about any aspect of amateur radio or to share amateur radio news. Whether you're an individual or a club, make use of this resource!

You can find the pages on Facebook – go to facebook.com/groups/rsgbregion1 or substitute the region number for your local region.

RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park

Feedback

Following his recent visit to the NRC, Bob Kennedy, N0DQD wrote in to say: "It was nice meeting you during my visit to the RSGB National Radio Centre last week. I've stopped by numerous times during our travels abroad and enjoyed every visit. I've been very impressed with the displays and think it represents a great view of amateur radio, no matter where you're from. I would also like to thank Derek, MOYAW and Guy, MOGUY for their hospitality, conversations and knowledge. You've got a good crew of volunteers there. Many thanks to you and the RSGB.

It was a real pleasure chatting with your team during my visits. I'll be returning for another visit in late Summer."



Visitors

The NRC volunteers welcomed 1,211 visitors through the doors during the Bletchley Park 1940s weekend. Despite a somewhat uncharacteristically gusty and wet June weekend, volunteers and visitors enjoyed a very successful event. Helping to support the occasion, the RSGB National Radio Centre hosted the WWII Special Operations Executive clandestine radio station, GB1SOE which attracted a lot of visitor interest, operating CW on

the 40m band. Thanks go to John, G4JGG; Peter, M0PJD; Chris, G7BED; and Mervyn, G4KLE for putting on the station. Also active over the weekend, volunteers were busy operating the NRC's permanent demonstration station GB3RS on the air making QSOs as part of the Museums on the Air weekend, inviting visitors to pass greetings messages, or if appropriate, run the QSO themselves under supervision.

Brian, G4BIP and David, M0NMI, who are both volunteers at the NRC, were pleased to welcome more than 20 students from Scared Heart of Mary Girls School. The girls took great interest in learning about modern radio communication and especially being able to pass greetings messages using the NRC's FT5000 on the 40m band and also via the QO-100 geostationary satellite. It was particularly pleasing to know that one of the girls is already studying for her radio badge through Air Cadets and hopes to encourage her local group to organise a private evening visit to the NRC.



DARC recognises key IARU volunteers at Ham Radio Friedrichshafen

The international reception event at Ham Radio Friedrichshafen saw key IARU volunteers being recognised with special gold medal awards by Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC), for those who had made major contributions to defend and promote amateur spectrum. The DARC awards were presented by DARC Chairman, Christian Entsfellner, DL3MBG. The following amateurs were recognised:

- Barry Lewis, G4SJH, RSGB Microwave Manager (pictured top left)
- Dave Court, EI3IO (pictured top right)
- Ole Garpestad, LA2RR (pictured bottom left)
- Hans Blondeel Timmermann, PB2T (pictured bottom right)

Their collective efforts, over years of volunteer time, have covered a series of amateur bands from 136 and 472kHz, 5MHz, and 50MHz harmonisation – and, most recently, ongoing efforts for the 23cm band.



International Dog Day 2024

Many radio amateurs have dogs who are an important part of their lives.

International Dog Day is celebrated annually on 26 August. For several years now this special day has been marked by the appearance on the amateur bands of special event station call signs.

It began with Hanz, YL3JD on the air with YL1DOG. By the summer of 2023 the number taking part had grown. Chris,

G5VZ says "Here in UK I put on GB0DOG. After a brief chat about the event David, G4YVM bagged the GB4DOG callsign. 2024 is looking to be the biggest year yet with European stations again taking part and several American operators joining in too."

Caryn, KD2GUT is coordinating a US team, activating K2D on both CW and SSB.

GB0DOG will be QRV on HF bands from 29 July until International Dog Day on 26 August. The original YL1DOG station is scheduled to operate during all of August and September. Hanz will also be participating in contests using the special callsign.

International Dog Day is a reminder that we can all encourage the care and well-being of dogs everywhere and promote the adoption of dogs.

Here in the UK, there are many local dog rescue resources. Also, there are larger national charities such as The Dogs Trust, RSPCA and Blue Cross, to name just three in a very incomplete list. Here, G5VZ is promoting The Dogs Trust whose training schools benefit so many dogs.

A full list of participating stations, and their special call signs, can be found on the YL1DOG page at QRZ.com coordinated by Hanz, YL3JD.

Earlier in the same month, Cat Day is now marked on 8 August. This year there are also some cat special event station operations, including YL1CAT operated by Yevgeniy, YL2TD; GB4CAT operated by Ed, MOMNG; and GB9CAT by Simon, G0FOZ.

For more information visit dogdayradio.org

IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Newsletter



The May 2024 edition of the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Newsletter is now available. The newsletter contains details of intrusions into the amateur bands and you can access it via tinyurl.com/IARUMAY24

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW)

ILLW is usually held on the third full weekend in August. This year the event will run from 0001UTC on 17 August to 2400UTC on 18 August (48 hours). The event usually attracts more than 500 lighthouse

entries located in over 40 countries. It is one of the most popular international amateur radio events in existence probably because there are very few rules and it is not the usual contest-type event. It is also free and there are no prizes for contacting large numbers of other stations.

You can read more about the event at illw.net



Bath Based Distance Learning – update

The Bath Based Distance Learning (BBDL) team is busy enrolling students into its pre-course classroom for the forthcoming course for the Full Licence exam.

The team has received a number of enquiries about whether the course is suitable for the Direct to Full exam. The course content focuses on the Full level syllabus items, which are only a part of the Direct to Full syllabus; learners are expected to know the Foundation and Intermediate material already.

Parallel study is possible, but the BBDL Full Licence course alone would not be sufficient to ensure a pass in a Direct to Full exam.

Anyone wanting details of the BBDL course should email Steve, G0FUW, using g0fuw@bdbl.org.uk

RAF Signals Museum in Henlow closes

It has finally happened. Our work for nearly 25 years is over, well almost! There will not be any more open days and the only visitors will be those who are taking away items of our display, a display which took us 25 years, of course, to put together. It was a sad day, certainly for the team, Alf Fisher, Colin Hinson, Paul Edwards, Bob Parsons, Nick Gilder and myself, Dave Thompson. We have worked together now for up to 25 years, although not everyone has been with us all that time. During our journey we have lost other members of the team. Sadly no longer with us, but not forgotten, are Vic, Mike, Roy and many others who came and went and contributed to our work.

Mainly we have been well supported by our visitors and those from all over the world who enquired, looking for advice about how to get old equipment working. We have spent many hours of research in our 'backroom', helping people. It was not always just about sorting out the many problems the visitors brought with them on open days, it was also about dealing with all the enquiries from just about anywhere! We have all enjoyed that aspect of our work and I suspect we will still get enquiries until our own 'signals' fade away!

We are mostly in retirement but some of us are former RAF Technicians. Others are MoD specialists. Between us we had the required knowledge. In addition, Alf Fisher, G3WSD and I are fully-licensed amateur radio operators so we could legally operate some of our equipment for demonstration purposes.

Our last three or four open days were amazing and the number of visitors was very high. Visitors remained enthusiastic despite our imminent closure, even bringing in equipment and asking for help. On the last day there was a visit from a voluntary Army band, The Band of the Royal Yeomanry, and this was the best day ever! A big thankyou to members of Shefford and District Amateur Radio Club who came and put our GB4SMH amateur station on the air to communicate with other groups all over Europe, and probably further, while taking part in the 80th anniversary D-Day commemorations.

Finally, we need to thank our visitors. Some were regulars, others were first-timers on open days but they always enjoyed their visits. Donations were regular from visitors but there was no entry charge and money we did spend went on books and spare parts. Much of the surplus went to RAF and local charities.

Thanks everyone, it's been a pleasure to get to know you all.

Dave Thompson, G3OXG



British Inland Waterways on the Air (BIWOTA)



British Inland Waterways on the Air is back for its 11th year, from 24 to 26 August 2024.

The event is open to all amateurs who are boaters, cyclists, walkers and other users of the canals, rivers, towpaths and riverbanks. Many clubs and individual amateurs on or near the UK inland waterways obtain Special Event Station (SES) call signs. Others operate mobile or portable using their own call signs. Many more like to contact the BIWOTA stations. It is also a good chance for Worked All Britain enthusiasts to get some rare squares.

The primary bands will be 40m (7MHz) and 2m (144MHz SSB and FM) but all bands will be acceptable.

The aim of the event is to bring together radio amateurs who regularly use the waterways to celebrate our hobby and raise awareness of the UK waterways.

Registration for the event is now open at nharg.org.uk/biwota

For updates and discussion about the event visit facebook.com/BIWOTA

Denmark celebrates 60 years of IOTA

Danish Amateur Radio Experimenters are activating special call signs 5P60IOTA/x, 5Q60IOTA/x and OZ60IOTA for IOTA's 60th anniversary.

All island call signs will have a suffix that shows which IOTA group they are transmitting from. There will also be an activity calendar where it is possible to see which stations are active and which island the activity takes place from. You can find the calendar at supersaas.dk/schedule/EDR/OZ60IOTA

All amateur radio bands, including WARC bands, can be used with CW, SSB, RTTY and several digital modes.

A diploma for contacts and SWL reports with special event stations achieved during the period 1 July to 31 August 2024 will be available.

A plaque will be awarded to the radio amateur who achieves the highest number of contacts in each of the three modes and who has had contact with all three special event station call signs.

Special QSL cards can be ordered via Clublog's QQRS and sent via the agency or directly.

All logs will be uploaded to Clublog and Logbook of the World.



TX Factor 30th anniversary

TX Factor has marked its 30th anniversary by releasing two new episodes in quick succession.

The first looks at how radio technology has advanced since Marconi conducted some of his

early transmissions. The episode includes the first of a two-part feature on operating via the QO-100 geostationary satellite with a look at the hardware and software needed to achieve your first QSO at home or out mobile. Bob, G0FGX reviews the FTM-500D which is the latest mobile transceiver from Yaesu and demonstrates the many advanced features of this versatile FM and digital rig. There is a visit to Sidmouth Amateur Radio Society which secured a derelict former sports social club from the local council and turned it into a community hub and the club's new QTH.

The second episode looks at the IC-R15 communications receiver, the latest offering from Icom. Bob, G0FGX and Mike, G1IAR discuss how best to configure the Anytone BT-01 bluetooth microphone with the Anytone AT-D578, which will be a boon for mobile operating. Finally, there is the second part of the feature on operating via the QO-100 satellite with the Groundstation 2 from DX Patrol.

Watch these interesting episodes on the TX Factor website at txfactor.co.uk or on its YouTube channel. Don't miss out on the TX Factor free-to-enter draw with a chance to win three RSGB publications.



Changes to four-year planning rule

The four-year planning rule has offered a degree of protection for antennas and masts that have been erected without planning permission. Under this rule, any installations which had been installed and unchanged for four years or more were protected against planning enforcement action. However, as of 25 April 2024, this rule ceased to exist in its current form in England under changes introduced under the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023. The rule has been replaced by a more stringent ten-year period for the exemption from enforcement for residential dwellings. This change does not affect Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland where the four-year rule will continue to apply. Any installation that was substantially completed prior to the introduction of the Act will still be subject to the four-year rule meaning, for most radio amateurs, the ten-year rule will not apply until the 24th of April 2028. For more information on planning matters visit rsgb.org/planning

The Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association (RAOTA)



The Summer 2024 edition of RAOTA's quarterly magazine *OTNews* will be with members soon.

The magazine opens with reports from the President, and the Editor, followed by some words from the RAOTA Membership Secretary. Then comes the regular section for members comments.

That is followed by an article about the attraction of modern technology, and the potential downsides.

Next up is an extract from the very first edition of *OTNews* that appeared 40 years ago. The Editor's comments from way back then are still relevant today.

G8VVY follows up his previous articles on SDR dongles to detail how he monitors NOAA weather satellites using an RTL-SDR and the WXtoIMG software.

We tend to think that all USA amateurs use huge antennas, but that myth is dispelled by AJ8B describing the erection of his first beam. It is a modest hex beam, but his

existing wire antennas and trap vertical have already produced results that are anything but modest. WAZ and 310 countries for DXCC, without a beam, is going some.

Local noise on the 80m band has plagued many of us, but G8BPU describes how he found a way to reduce his.

A follow-up to the 'QTR' article by G3ZPF a while ago relates to NASA's proposal for a time system for use by lunar colonies. Time on the Moon runs differently to our own, and even atomic clocks are affected.

Among the other articles is another of the quizzes set by GM4FZH, and another extract from the book written by G4JZS, who is the official biographer of Gerald Marcuse, G2NM.

We intend to have a stand at the Newark Hamfest again this year, where we will be launching our latest *OT News* archive in USB format instead of CD, alongside all our other publications.

To find out more about *OTNews* and RAOTA, visit raota.org

New SOTA Mountain Goats

The GW SOTA S2S and hog roast event took place in Powys on Saturday 8 June 2024 and was organised by prolific SOTA activator and RSGB Board Director Ben Lloyd, GW4BML. It was attended by over 60 SOTA enthusiasts, the majority of whom had been activating hills in the Mid Wales (GW/MW), North Wales (GW/NW) and Welsh Borders (G/WB) regions that morning.

At the event, participants were able to celebrate and congratulate two new Mountain Goats who had both reached the 1000 activator points threshold on their activations earlier that day. Gillian Sandell, MOOVW collected her 1000th point on Callow Hill (G/WB-015, Shropshire, 340m ASL), the very same summit on which she began her SOTA journey six years earlier. Dave Pegler, MOJKS reached Mountain Goat status on Cadair Berwyn (GW/NW-012, 832m ASL), just three years after discovering SOTA via a YouTube video. Dave had been left extremely unwell following Covid coupled with pre-existing chronic asthma, and identified SOTA as his route to recovery. Dave, MOJKS and Gillian, MOOVW are pictured here.

Read more about the GW SOTA S2S and hog roast event on page 70.



The Amplitude Modulation Amateur Radio Society

The Amplitude Modulation Amateur Radio Society (AMARS) will be at this year's Newark Hamfest (27 and 28 September). During the show, the Society hopes to operate an AM station radiating on a number of bands using the callsign G5AMS. If you have an interest in all things AM, or would like to chat with members of the Society and find out what it does, you are welcome to visit the stand. You can find out more by visiting am-ars.org or by searching for 'Amplitude Modulation ARS – Events' on Facebook.



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 MX0SBV 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

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 September 2024 is 18 July and for October 2024 it's 22 August.** 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

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
Disabled access, hot and cold refreshments available on site
2 Club night at The Thorntree
9 Mini rally, Community Centre, Port Seton, 6pm
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 On-air activity day
17, 18 GB2LBN for ILLW

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

Kilmarnock and Loudoun Amateur Radio Club
Secretary, GMOADX, kiarinfo@gmail.com
All members please note no formal meetings during July & August
4, 11, 18, 25 SSB net, ±3720kHz, 2pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Radio Q&A night on Zoom, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Natter night at clubhouse, 7.30pm
24 KLARC Stall and demo, Irvine Mary Mass Festival

Livingston & District ARS
Philip Rose, GM3ZZA, gm3zza@btinternet.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.575MHz FM, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20 Meeting, training, operating, Crofthead Community Centre, 7pm
25, 26 GB0FW operation at The Falkirk Wheel
27 Remote operation demonstration, Crofthead, 7pm

Mid Lanarkshire ARS
Simon Gray, 2M0LSG, secretary@mlars.co.uk, mlars.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 70.425MHz FM, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, Newarthill Community Education Centre, 7pm
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
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club meeting all welcome, 10am

West of Scotland ARS
Stuart Mackie, MM7SWM
westofscotlandars@gmail.com, wosars.club
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting at Garnethill Multicultural Centre, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.475MHz FM, 9pm

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
8 CW practice 7pm, informal meeting from 7.30pm
15 CW practice 7pm, informal meeting from 7.30pm
17, 18 Portable operation at Todhead Lighthouse (for ILLW)
22 Fox hunt (direction finding) evening, 7pm
29 CW practice 7pm, equipment surgery and on-air evening 7.30pm

Inverness & District ARS
Angus GM6AGC, InvernessRadioSociety@gmail.com
7, 21 On air
14 Meeting
17, 18 Lighthouse weekend
28 Meeting: operating from club shack

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

Bolton Wireless Club
Mark Bryant, M0UFC, 07831454468
5, 26 On-air net
12 Outdoor event – see boltonwireless.org.uk
19 Online meeting

Bury RS
Lynda, G6QA, specky@talktalk.net
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 144.550MHz FM, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 144.550MHz, 6pm

Central Lancs ARC
Nonie, G3TNN, secretary.clarc@gmail.com
Net every weekday night, 145.350MHz FM, 9pm
1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30 Net 433.425MHz FM, 8pm
3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31 Net 1.938MHz LSB, 11am

Furness ARS
Mike, M0MJX, info@fars.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 DMR Net TG 23525, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Farmers Arms, Newton in Furness, 8pm

7, 14, 21, 28 The Furness Railway, 9.30am
14 ARDF in Sea Wood
24 British Waterways OTA, Ulverston Canal Foot
27 Committee meeting
28 Outdoor operations on Walney island

Gilmore and North West Morse Radio Club
Heth, M6HNS, 07735 036 267
1 Club night, St Mary's Church Hall, 7.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 CW Fun Hour, 7.033MHz, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 CW net, 144.064MHz, 2pm
10 CW net 28.080MHz, 7.30pm
11, 25 CW net 50.080MHz, 7.30pm
18 CW net 3.510MHz, 7.30pm
22 C4FM 144.925MHz, 7.30pm

Macclesfield & District RS
Greg, M0TXX, info@gx4mws.uk
5, 12, 19, 26 Club meeting/shack on the air

Merseyside ARS
Alan, G4NXG info@marsradio.uk
5, 19 Club night, Mel Inn, 7.30pm

Oldham RC
Dave 2E00AI, secretary@oarc.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club nights, 7.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net on XLX305A (multimode), 9.30am
5, 26 2m SSB Net 144.300MHz USB (vertical) then QSY, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 2m FM net 145.500MHz then QSY, 8pm
12 C4FM Simplex Net 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm
15 Club AGM, 8pm
19 D-Star simplex Net 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm

Stockport Radio Society
info@g8srs.co.uk
1 Club net via GB3MR and Webex, 7.30pm
5 G50 Contest Group meeting, 7.15pm
6 Presentation evening at Walthew House & Webex.
IC-705 by Evan M0TJU, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 145.375MHz, 2pm
8, 15, 22, 29 Club net via GB3MR & Webex, 7.30pm
10 Saturday at Walthew House, 10am
13 Net, 51.550MHz, 7.30pm
20 Online social event via Webex, 7pm
24, 25, 26 British Waterways on the Air from Bugsworth Basin
25 Sunday club net, 145.375MHz, 10.30am
27 Radio/practical evening at Walthew House, 7pm

South Cheshire ARS
ray@m1rek.co.uk
14, 28 Meeting, details at g6tw.co.uk

South Manchester RC
David G4MVU 07518913300, smrcc.org.uk
1 Discussion: web SDR
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.475MHz FM, 8pm
8 Discussion: RF amplifiers
15 Discussion: 3D Printers
22 Discussion: internet access
29 Talk: adaptive antennas

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
Jen, G8YOK, tcars.radio@gmail.com
5 Talk by Dave, G4AKC & Steve, G4NVF on 'pedestrian mobile'
12 British Inland Waterways on the Air special event discussion
19 Auction
26 Bank Holiday, no meeting, BIWOTA special event

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 at clubroom and via Zoom, 2pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Main meetings at clubroom and by Zoom, 8pm

Wirral ARS
g3nwr.co.uk
On air Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Natter night, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Technical night, 8pm

Wirral Peninsula ARC
Owen M70MW, wirralpeninsulaarc@outlook.com, 07449391391
2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 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 Net, 144.5625MHz FM, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting and social evening, 7pm

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 Meeting at Stanley Crook village hall, 7.30pm

East Ardsley RS
Paul, M0XZT, m0xzt@ears.radio
1, 4 GBOYDS Yorkshire Day SES at HQ
6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 On-the-air and social evening, 6.30pm

Guisborough & District ARC
Kerry Buckwell, M7KEZ, m7kez@icloud.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, The Ace Club, Guisborough, TS14 6QE, 7.30pm

Hornsea ARC
John, G3XYF, jhwresdell@gmail.com, hornsearc.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 1869kHz CW 8pm, SSB 8.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night

Houghton-Le-Spring ARC
George Thompson, M5GHT, 0191 5488995
Morse practice, 144.700MHz FM, Mon, Wed & Fri, 8pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 144.260MHz USB (vert), 7pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.450MHz FM, 9pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 North East Net, 145.450MHz FM, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 North East Net on 50.575MHz FM, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 SSV net, 144.700MHz FM, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 CW net, 144.060MHz, 8.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting Dubmire Royal British Legion Club in Fencehouses, 6pm

Hull and District ARS
Andy, G8REM, g8rem@icloud.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.325MHz FM, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net GB3HS, 7.30pm

Maltby & District ARS
Paul, M0PJA, maltbyradio.org.uk, info@maltbyradio.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club night, 6pm
3 Maltby Summer Show
18 Club net, on Club DMR Talk Group

Mexborough & District ARS
Sharon, M0BOH, huskylady44@aol.com
3 Conisborough Library amateur radio demonstration

Otley ARS
John, G6MHR, otleyradio.org
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 144.350MHz SSB, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 145.450MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night, Clifton Village Hall, 7.30pm

Spn Valley ARS
Malcolm, 2E0IOX, spenvalleyars@gmail.com
1, 15 Club night, 8pm

Wearside Electronics and ARS
g0bnk@outlook.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, Herrington 2nd Scouts, 6pm

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

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

RR: Mark Savage, M0XIC, 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 speed CW exercise 14.055MHz, 11am
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night, Barley Mow, 7.30pm

Central Radio Amateur Circle
Martin Hallard, G1TYV, radio-circle@live.co.uk
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Group meeting, 12pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Group net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Google meets, 7pm

Cheltenham ARA
committee@g5bk.uk
Daily Nets 145.4MHz 8.15am, GB3CG 8.20am

Dudley and District ARS
Keith, M0WYK, keithm0wyk@gmail.com
6, 13, 20, 27 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 and events
5 Saul Junction Canal Club picnic, usual times
26 Crickley operating 1-4pm

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
13, 27 Meeting

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003
7 Open meeting and ragchew with training classes
14 General meeting, shack on the air and training classes
21 Open meeting, sorting items for Telford Hamfest training classes
28 General meeting, Telford rally stand items on Sunday, helpers needed

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, 30 Net, 1913kHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut, 2pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby Scouts Hut (most Tuesdays), 8pm
18 Rally Princethorpe College, Princethorpe, Rugby, CV23 9PY.

Salop ARS, Shrewsbury

Les, M5LMG, salopamateurradio@gmail.com, salopradiosociety.org
1 Club night shack on the air
8 Junk sale auction
15 Fox hunt
22 Logging Software, talk by John, G4IRN
29 BBQ hosted by Wayne, M5WJF

South Birmingham RS

Gemma Gordon, M6GKG, gemmagordonm6gkg@gmail.com
2, 16, 30 Activities in the shack with Roger and Bob
6, 13, 20, 27 Coffee morning in shack from 11am, visitors welcome
11, 18 Work in the attic with Bob and others
31 Loading vehicle for stand at Telford rally

Stourbridge & District ARS

g6oi.org.uk
5, 12, 26 Meeting at Norton Snooker Club
19 On the air at Norton Community Centre

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, rob2e0zap@gmail.com
5, 19 Open net starting on $\pm 145.250\text{MHz}$, 7.30pm
12, 26 Club meeting, 8pm

Telford & District ARS

7 Committee meeting from 7.30pm start (Webex)+2m ragchew, 7.30pm
14 Hamfest jobs
21 ISWL Talk
28 Hamfest, final preparation
31 Hamfest, set-up Saturday

Wolverhampton ARS

Andrew Atkinson, 2EOYEZ, 01902 762603, secretary@wolverhamptonars.co.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Club Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night, 7.30pm

Wythall RC

Chris, G3YHF, 07958 395904, wythallradioclub.co.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 145.225MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club nights, 7.30pm

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

RR: Simon Taylor, MWONWM, RR6@rsgb.org.uk

01492 830872

Dragon ARC

2WOJYB, mw7mon@gmail.com, dragonamateurradioclub.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net on Wires X, GB3AN (86178), GB3AR (89165)
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club net on 144.320MHz SSB, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net on 146.550MHz
5, 19 Club night Canolfan, Esgeifiog, Gaerwen, 7pm
5 Portable antenna 'shoutout'
12, 26 Zoom natter night
17, 18 GB2TD International Lightships and Lighthouses on the Air from Penmon
19, DF hunt

Holy Island ARC

Cath Thorley, GW4CVT, MWOKBN@aol.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net night, 145.300MHz, 7pm
14, 28 Club night, Boathouse Hotel, Holyhead, 7pm
17, 18 Lighthouses on the Air, Holyhead Breakwater

North Wales ARG

nwarg.org
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, GB3OR, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, GB3OR, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting, Bryn Cadno Community Centre, 7pm

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RR7@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdare & District ARS
aberdareradio.club
2, 16 Meeting, Hirwaun YMCA, 6pm

Barry ARS

Steve, GW5VOG, 07900 560 080
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Zoom meeting hosted by Glyn, GWOANA, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club nights at Sully Sports and Social Club, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net 144.550MHz, 8pm

Cwmbran ARC

mcOyad.club
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.712.5MHz CTCSS 94.8, 600 split, 7.30pm
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.

Newport ARS

gw4ezw.org.uk/contact-us
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Clubhouse evening, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, $\pm 7.105\text{MHz}$, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 DiGi Net, XLX135N, xlx.hopto.org, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 145.375MHz, 8pm

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, 30 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
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 145.550MHz, 7pm

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

RR8@rsgb.org.uk

Antrim And District ARS

secretary@adars.co.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 Club 2m 'shout-out', usually FM, 8pm
8 POTA from Killylone Reservoir, 7.30pm

Bushvalley ARC

bushvalleyarc.org
29 Meeting, Burnfoot Community Association, 8pm

Mid Ulster ARC

muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk
Meets on the second Sunday of each month, Tandreege Golf Club. No meetings held in July/August.

West Tyrone ARC

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

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

Aylesbury Vale RS
avrs.org.uk
21 Visit to RAF Halton museum (daytime)

Banbury ARS

Stephen, G8MFI, banburyars@gmail.com
Net 144.5125MHz FM most evenings
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night

Burnham Beeches RC

Greg, G4EBY, ebytronics@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Intermediate Course, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net 145.500 QSY 145.275MHz, 10.30am
5 Patch lead construction, 8pm
19 Pub Night, The Pineapple, Dorney, 8pm

Chelsea Pensioners RC

Mike Hall, GB4CP, 07970724105
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net 145.375MHz, 2pm

Edgware & District RS

Steve Slater, G0PQB, g0ppb25@gmail.com
22 Underground map talk by Stephen, G0PQB

Milton Keynes ARS

Brendan, G8IXK, 07803 192604
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club coffee chat on Zoom, 10.30am
5 Committee meeting
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net on 28.39MHz, 8pm
12 Rally and HF field day planning
25 MKARS Rally, Heron's Lodge Guide Centre, MK8 9AA

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 07970 885 614, G4LMW@btconnect.com
28 General Q&A, including the Ofcom licence changes

Whitton ARG

Ian, G00FN, 07956 203 495, warg.dreamhosters.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Social meeting, Whitton Community Centre, 8pm

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

RR: Keith Bird, G4JED, RR10@rsgb.org.uk

Basingstoke ARC

Tom, 2E0TIS, basingstokearcsec@gmail.com
5, 12, 26 Club Net via GB3BA, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club Net 145.4MHz, 8pm
19 Club Meeting, talks, presentations, Mays Bounty, Basingstoke

Brede Steam ARS

secretary@bsars.co.uk
3 lighthouses on the air, 17th Dungeness lifeboat station
Bromley & District ARS
Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, start 145.500MHz then QSY, 9pm
20 Barbecue and on air

Chippenham & District ARC

Alan, G6YCG, chippenhamradio.club
6, 20, 27 Club night
13 Talk by Dave, G3ZX: why the dipole is not always best

Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society

Glenn, G4FVL, secretary@catsradio.org.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Net $\pm 145.4\text{MHz}$ 11am, $\pm 3.7\text{MHz}$, 5pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net $\pm 70.425\text{MHz}$, 9pm
12 Club meeting

Crawley ARC

Stewart, G3YSX, 07720 068 493, stewart@g3ysx.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, 2pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Meeting, 11am
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, 8pm

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 07739 549 822
1 'How to Automate your home' by Justin Cockett, G8Ytz, 7.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 70.425MHz, 8pm
3 Annual BBQ, venue TBC, 3 to 7.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 145.350MHz, 10am
5 Net $\pm 1.905\text{MHz}$, SSB then AM, 8pm
15 'An outdoor demonstration of 160m DF' by Colin, G4CDM, 7.30pm

Crystal Palace R&EC

Damen, 2EOEUI, 07900 242 541
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club net, 51.55MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, $\pm 145.525\text{MHz}$, 8pm

Dover ARC

Trevor, G6APW, Publicity@darconline
1, 8, 15 Club night, 7pm

Farnborough & District RS

Mel, MOJMR, publicity@farnboroughradio.org.uk
For details of nets see farnboroughradio.org.uk

Hastings Electronics & Radio Club

John, G0OZY, herc.hastings@gmail.com
Daily net, GB3ES, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 CW net, 144.575MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Portable operating, 1pm

Hog's Back ARC

Ray G4LUA, 0118 981 4174
12 Natter night

Hordean & District ARC

hdarc.co.uk
2 Club night and licensing training, 7pm
2, 16 Meeting at Deverell Hall, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 CW net 9am $\pm 1950\text{kHz}$; SSB net 9.30am $\pm 1950\text{kHz}$; 8pm on 433.450MHz
5, 12, 19, 26 SSB net $\pm 1950\text{kHz}$, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 145.375MHz, 7.30pm
9 Operating from the Fort night
19 Natter night and Intermediate training

Horsham ARC

Alister, G3ZBU, 01403 253432, harc.org.uk
1 Talk by G3ZBU

15 Social at Star Inn, Rusper

Itchen Valley ARC

Martyn, 2E0OGR, secretary@ivar.org.uk
9, 23 Club meeting, 8pm

Medway AR & TS

Colin, M7CDF, secretary@marts.org.uk, marts.org.uk
Daily nets on 144.650MHz, 9.30am
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, Tunbury Hall,
Catkin Close, 7.30pm

Mid Sussex ARS

Stella Rogers, M6ZRJ, progsec@midssussexars.org.uk, midssussexars.org.uk
2 DF, Cyprus Road carpark, 7.15pm
9 Baluns and traps with Phil, G4UDU, Millfield Suite, 7.30pm
23 Making a balun or trap, G4UDU, Millfield Suite, 7.30pm
30 Testing your balun or trap, meet at Millfield Suite.
Then testing your new balun or trap out in Car park, 7.30pm

Southdown ARS

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

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 70.30MHz FM, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 144.6125MHz D-Star 7.30pm,
145.35MHz FM, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 1905kHz LSB 9.30am
5, On Air, St. Pauls Church, 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 28.078MHz JS8 10am
19, Chat, Fix-it, Skills, John G8MNY, 7.45pm

West Kent ARS

secretary@wkars.org.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 28.730MHz, 11am
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 51.510MHz FM then QSY, 8pm
12 Club social evening at Bidborough

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
7, 14, 21, 28 Net via GB3DN at 11am &
Net 144.260MHz, 8pm
19 Meeting, Appledore Football Clubhouse, 7.30pm

Bath and District ARC

David, G0DPW, badarc@protonmail.com
1, 8, 15, 29 Zoom
6 Social
13, 27 Net GB3PC, 7.30pm
20 Net 70.475MHz, 7.30pm
22 Meeting

Blackmoor Vale ARS

Keith, MOTMO, 07796 494496, www.bvars.org.uk
6, 13, 20, 27 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
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, GB3JL repeater, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Lunch, The Engine House Café PL17 8EA, 1.30pm

Cornish Radio Amateur Club

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

Flight Refuelling ARS

Gareth, G0MFR, info@frars.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Nets 70.400MHz 7pm, 145.3875, 8pm
4, 7, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28 Club meeting, 7pm
7, 10, 14, 21, 28 EME activity, 1pm
11 Hamfest, 10am

Gordano ARG

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

Holsworthy ARC

qsl.net/m0omc
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, GB3DN, 7.30pm
7 Meeting, Milton Damerel Chapel

Mid Somerset ARC

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

Saltash & District ARC

Mark Chanter, M0WMB, 07810 548 445
7, 14, 21, 28 Net via GB3PL (145.7625MHz), 7.30pm
20 Meeting, Burraton Centre, 7pm

South Bristol ARC

Andy Jenner, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471, enquiries@sbarc.co.uk
1 ILLW briefing, 8pm
15 Zoom discussion, 8pm
17, 18 ILLW, 9am

Torbay ARS

Peter, G4VTO, petertanner@btconnect.com
2, 9, 23, 30 Social night
16 'Sewerage' by South West Water (TBC)
25 TARS annual rally

Trowbridge & District ARC

Shaun, G0BKU, secretary.tdarc@gmail.com
7 Club meeting
21 Club on air, activity and natter night

Weston Super Mare RS

westonradiosociety@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, GB3WB, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 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, Yeovil
1 Helium balloon and kite antenna
8 Radio at Ham Hill, Norton car park, 6.30pm
15 How Valves Work with G3MYM
22 Construction contest
29 Practical evening and committee meeting

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

RR12@rsgb.org.uk

Braintree & District ARS

Geoff, G1GNQ, 01376 563370, secretary@badars.co.uk
3, 4 Club summer camp at Southey Green
6, 20 Club net 145.375MHz FM, all welcome, 8pm
13 Remote operation demo and discussion in
clubhouse, 8pm
27 Video evening from club archives in clubhouse, 8pm
31 Vintage radio and social weekend at Stisted

Bury St Edmunds ARS

bsears.co.uk
Club nets every day of the week except Sunday
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 1.960MHz LSB, 9.30am
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 70.4750MHz 9.30am
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net GB3EA, 9.30am
5, 12, 19, 26 Net \pm 3.670MHz LSB, 9am
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 51.425MHz FM, 9.30am
7, 14, 21, 28 Net GB3EZ 9.30am, GB3EZ, 7.30pm
14 BSEARS Zello Channel, 7.30pm
15 DMR Net, TG840 Phoenix Network and others
21 Meeting, Rougham 7pm
28 Foundation Licence net on GB3EZ, 7.30pm

Chelmsford ARS

secretary@g0mwt.org.uk
For training see g0mwt.org.uk/training
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 Social: Indian meal
13 Club open net, GB3DA, 8pm
20 Club open net, GB3ER, 8pm
27 Club open net, 3756kHz, 8pm

Colchester RAC

Garry, M0MGP, 07740318521, secretary@g3c0.uk
1, 8, 22, 29 Open net 3.685MHz, 7pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open DX net on 14.125MHz with
assist on 145.350MHz local, 2.30pm
4 Open net 50.225MHz, 7pm
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
7, 14, 21, 28 Open net on 145.350/375MHz, 7pm
22 Club members social
25 Open net 28.350MHz, 7pm

Felixstowe & District ARS

Mark Riley, M5BOP, secretary@fdars.org.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net 145.400MHz, 8pm
5 Radio car boot, shack car park, Chris, G6PDE, 6.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Open net, GB3IH, 7.30pm
19 Practical antennas, shack, Brian, 2E0BCM, 7pm

Harlow & District ARS

Ed, G5EDW, secretary@g6ut.com, g6ut.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club Meeting from 8pm,
visitors welcome
3, 4 GBOWAO Airfields on the Air
6, 13, 20, 27 Technical Tuesdays, visitors welcome
7, 14, 21, 28 Club Net 145.425MHz, 7.30pm
17 Harlow Museum open day, G6UT

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 144.725MHz FM, 8pm
2, 16 Zoom meeting, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net DMR Brandmeister TG 23511, 8pm
9 Meeting at All Saints House, technical night & DMR clinic, 8pm
23 Meeting at All Saints House, HF night on the Air, 8pm
30, 31 Field Weekend at Lambourne End (and 1 September)

Lowestoft District & Pye ARC

Sam, M7SKW, secretary@ldparc.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club Meeting, 7.30pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 51.490MHz, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 433.575MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 145.475MHz, 8pm

Martello Tower Group

martellotowergroup.com
4, 11, 18, 25 Net GB3CE, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, GB3CL, 8pm

South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, southessex-ars.co.uk
8 Meeting, St Michaels church, SS72UW, 7.30pm

Thames ARG

Andrew Atkinson, M0IXY, Secretary@ThamesARG.org.uk, thamesarg.org.uk
Nets: VHF, 2nd and 4th Friday; DMR, 3rd Friday
2 face-to-face training, Jubilee Hall, Canvey, SS8 9RA
18 Vulcan 'Classic Jets' TARG stand, Southend Airport

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

Bolsover ARS

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

Hinckley AR & ES

Michel Dixon, G4GHJ, hinckleyradiosociety@gmail.com
6 144MHz UK Activity Contest
7 Meeting, Burbage Infants School
8 50MHz UK Activity Contest
13 432MHz UK Activity Contest
21 Foxhunt, 7pm

Kettering & District ARS

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

Leicester RS

Sandra Morley, G0MCV, 07930274044
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 Club and Zoom meeting, 7.30pm

Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam Rose, g4sto@outlook.com
1, 15, 29 Club net GB3LS, if its off air 145.350MHz, 8pm
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aistorpe, 9.30am
6, 15 Lincolnshire Aviation Centre, East Kirby, radio room open
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aistorpe, 7.30pm
8, 22 Club net GB3LM, if its off air 145.350MHz, 8pm

Loughborough & District ARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319, g1etz@aol.com
6 Wymeswold portable, subject to WX
13 Open Forum – Safety and operating procedures
20 Wymeswold portable, subject to WX
27 Practical and natter night

Nunsfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk
2 Intermediate syllabus, part 9
5, 12, 19, 26 Shack night & club net 145.300MHz, 8pm
9 Shack feeder management
16 Committee meeting
23 BIWOTA prep/natter night
30 TBA

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob Pickles, G3VCA, 07971 166250
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club meeting at the Pwyepie, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net 145.325MHz, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 CW practice, 144.085MHz, 8pm

South Derbyshire and Ashby Wolds ARG

Jacqui, 2E0JQY, sdawarg.secretary@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open net 70.425MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 27 SSB open net, 144.225MHz, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club evening, 7pm
24, 25, 26 BiWota (GX0SRC from Moira Furnace)

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4EXX, info@wvars.com
3, 4 GB4WVR Operation Market Harborough
5 Club net, 145.275MHz FM, 7pm

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

On 25 and 26 August, as part of the BIWOTA (British Inland Waterways on the Air) event, Livingston and District ARS will be running an exhibition station at the Falkirk Wheel, hosted by Scottish Canals.

The Society requested and received special callsign GB0FW for use over the weekend. Members will operate three HF stations (CW, Phone and SSTV) and a VHF station (FM or DMR) from a site overlooking the canal basin. Members will also maintain a listening post by the visitor centre at the Wheel and offer visitors the opportunity to talk over the air, as per the new licence conditions. The team will be operating while the Wheel is open (9.45am to 6pm) and will welcome any amateurs to come by to chat or even the chance to operate a station with an SES callsign.

For further information on the Falkirk Wheel visit tinyurl.com/FalkirkWheel2024

More information on Livingston and District ARS can be found at ladars.org.uk



Ayr Amateur Radio Group, set up a station for Castles on the Air on 26 May 2024 at Dundonald Castle in Ayrshire (pictured above). The bands were not very good, but operators managed several contacts, mainly in Europe and the UK. The operators were Dennis, GM3YDN; Roy, GM4VKI; Keith, MM0TCP; Marcus, GM4LVW; Andy, GM0XAV; Derek, MM0OVD; and Tony, GM6BAO.



Congratulations to David Greig, MM7YDG (pictured above) who recently passed his Foundation exam at the age of 10 years old with the Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC. This was a fantastic effort and achievement from David. Club members would all like offer him a very warm welcome to amateur radio and the enjoyment that it offers.

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

At **Halifax & District ARS**, Chris, MORSE, accompanied by his wife Natalie, delivered a captivating and comprehensive talk on Summits on the Air (SOTA). SOTA is an increasingly-popular activity among amateur radio enthusiasts, involving the operation of portable radio stations from mountain summits. Chris began by explaining the basics of SOTA, detailing what qualifies a summit and the scoring system, which is based on the peak's height above sea level. Points are awarded for summits ranging from 500m to 900m, making the activity both challenging and rewarding. Many thanks to Chris and Natalie for an informative and engaging presentation which was well received by Hadars members.

Dean Baker, G4DBI

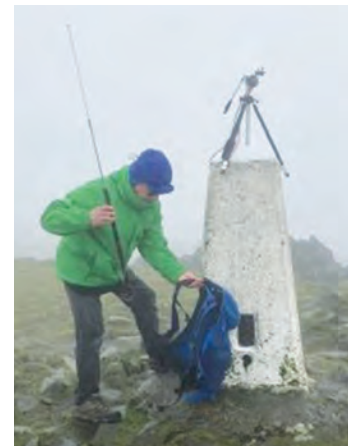
Hornsea ARC and Scarborough ARS have an annual quiz to compete for the G3GBH trophy. This year it was Scarborough ARS's turn to host it and Hornsea ARC won. G3GBH was the late Harry Jones and was a member of both clubs up to him becoming SK in 1979. His family donated the trophy in Harry's memory. It provides a nice link between the two clubs. The evening was rounded off with a tasty supper.

Like many other amateur radio clubs and societies, **Maltby and District ARS** set up stands at local events. The one pictured here was organised by one of Rotherham Council's Neighbourhood Team, with the aim of getting local groups and people together. At times, due to the noise made by other events on the field, it was difficult to carry out voice communications. Operators had many visitors and shared their interesting hobby with many people.



REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

For **Wythall Radio Club's** SOTA day in early May, intrepid members Clive, MOKNP and John, M6KET braved low cloud and wind to activate Titterstone Clee (G/WB-004). They were rewarded with instant contacts around the West Midlands on the 2m band using FM and Clive's Yaesu FT-70D handhand radio. John is usually to be found using CW but instead, the team worked on the 40m band using SSB. This was challenging on the FT-817 and vertical antenna. Despite hearing stations in Belgium and Germany, they only worked GM4ZMK in Glasgow but were very pleased to complete with him using the 817's QRP power. The brave Dxpeditors then made a safe descent to Clee village for some well-earned sustenance.



Many members were active on the 2 and 40m bands during the Club's regular Easter contest organised by Lee, GOMTN. At the results evening in mid-April, Chris, GOEYO was presented with the David Dawkes GOICJ shield for winning the all-band/all-mode section. Kevin, 2EONCO triumphed again in the 2m/70cm FM section and retains the G6ZDQ Shield for another year. Martin, M7FXD was awarded a certificate for being the leading Foundation licence operator. This may be his only opportunity as he is shortly to take the Intermediate exam, tutored via the Bath Based Distance Learning scheme by club member Chris, GOEYO.

Continuing our 'first Tuesday of the month' schedule of organised events, in May we had a Q and A session organised by John, 2E0XET. With nine members attending in person and five Zooming in online, members had a lively hour and a half discussion. Questions were collected in advance and then, rather than having a panel, all members were invited to offer their views. Topics included: RFI from security cameras and solar panel inverters, the effects of low impedance, the outlook for propagation (Tim, MOURX provided a detailed prognosis), and setting-up software for fox and hounds on FT8. Neil, G1TQC is about to build a new workshop in his garden, and so the session closed with members offering suggestions as to what he should have in an ideal workshop.

The Club meets every Tuesday evening and visitors are always welcome to social evenings and special events, details of which are available at wythallradioclub.co.uk

REGION 6: NORTH WALES & REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

Wales Digital Radio Group (WDRG) was again in Blackpool for the NARSA, Northern Amateur Radio Societies Association Exhibition (Blackpool Rally) at the Norbreck Hotel. Simon, MW0GSR; Chris, MW7CCS; Antonio, M6DQB; Christian, M7EMH; Barry, 2E0PXW; Justin, 2E0UFS; Derek, G7LFC; and Endaf, N6UTC/ME1BQO were there showing some of the range of digital modes and how to connect to them with live setups to their XLX reflector, XLX042, which can be accessed via DStar, DMR and Yaesu Wires X. They all link together, enabling different systems to connect and communicate seamlessly.

During their stay, Endaf, who had made the trip from his home in the USA, was able to demonstrate satellite communication using a Yaesu FT5 and an Arrow antenna outside the hotel, which was not only good for the team but also demonstrated that contacts with basic equipment can work extremely well. Endaf made several contacts during his stay.

The team was also invited to the RNLI lifeboat station on Saturday for a tour and a look at all the equipment there. Members were able to ask questions about the work the RNLI does in preparation for the Group's coming event at Llanbedr, Gwynedd (Shell Island).

While most of the team was busy setting up its table, in the conference hall on Saturday afternoon, Chris held his usual Saturday Ragchew net on XLX042 from within the RNLI Lifeboat Station on the Central Promenade, just south of Blackpool Tower, which is home to an Atlantic 85 and 2 D-class lifeboats. Chris had again this year organised permission to set up and operate from the lifeboat station in preparation for the Group's next event, SOS Radio Week, which was about to start on 1 May. During the net, all three rescue craft were deployed to an emergency which Chris was able to narrate and livestream via the WDRG Facebook page.

The team was also awarded a trophy at the rally which has given everyone a real buzz. It was an achievement that none of them was expecting. The Group thanks everyone who stopped by the WDRG stand and all that attended the rally.



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

One Friday evening in early November of 1964, 14 individuals assembled at the Toc H Hall in Saltash for the first official meeting of **Saltash and District ARC**. Filled with enthusiasm by a planned field trip to Goonhilly Earth Station, and inspired by the display of equipment brought along by an already licensed member, the Club got off to a strong start.

60 years later, on a warm Saturday in June, nine current members (including one founding member) assembled at St Ive Church to put on a special event station with the callsign GB6OSC, kicking off a season of celebrations to mark this milestone. There was a cake, a commemorative QSL card and a surplus of delicious pasties.

The day prior, the current chair, MOWMB, and secretary, 2E0INQ, had climbed the Church's tower, from which was suspended a dipole and an end-fed long wire. It's a fantastic rural location, high up, with views out to the transmitters on Caradon Hill, and Kit Hill in the distance, and very little QRM. On the day, Club members settled themselves at the back of the church with MOWMB's Yaesu FT-DX 5000. Unfortunately, conditions were poor, particularly on the 40m band. Operators left with 50 contacts in the log, including other special events stations in the UK and contacts as far away as Croatia, Israel and USA.

It was a day of reminiscing for all, but also a day of reflection. Much has changed in the last 60 years, and the hobby has evolved hugely since those early days. Much also remains the same. The club still plays a vital role. The Covid-19 pandemic and reducing numbers meant that there was a time when its survival was uncertain, even doubtful. Hard work and dedication by members prevented failure. Despite the ever-present pull of social media and the internet, it is actually real-world interactions that have driven the Club forward. The current Chairman's tirelessness and dedication, regular contact between members on the weekly net, attendance at rallies, community events and an enthusiastic membership who use meetings to inspire and educate are still, 60 years on, the things that have pulled the Club through. Membership is expanding again, the club is more active than it has been for some time and there is much to be excited about. Here's to another 60 years!

The black and white shows the Club's founding members in 1964. Current Club members (G3SPI, M0BHG, G0FSD, 2E0TZR, 2E0EQB, MOWMB, M7CET, 2E0INQ and G3XLZ) can be seen in the colour photograph.



Taunton and District ARC provided an exhibition station at Steam on the Levels, a popular annual exhibition of steam-powered vehicles, pumps, classic cars, vintage tractors etc held over the weekend of 18 and 19 May near Westonzoyleland in Somerset.

The club erected a large gazebo and a Windom antenna. The other equipment on display included: a Kenwood TS590SG, RSP1A used as a panadaptor for SSB and CW, a Yaesu FT-991A for FT8, an exhibition of home-brewed equipment and also completed kits (Kanga etc).

Visitors enjoyed the hands-on demonstrations of Doppler radar using a HB100 module feeding an oscilloscope and a short-range CW radio link using two BBC Micro:bit computers (Microsoft MakeCode block code). Also on show was a traditional Morse key with an audio oscillator.

On the second day there was a demonstration of QO-100 reception displayed on a laptop.

Over the weekend, several SSB and CW contacts were made on both the 20 and 40m bands as well as FT8 contacts on the 20, 10 and 6m bands.

Visitors to the station included several lapsed amateurs (members hope that they re-kindled their interest!), people familiar with CB but not amateur radio, and members of the public who were just curious (possibly attracted by the monitors and audio). At times, the team was very busy.

The team remarked that it was interesting to note the interest in CW from people of all ages.



REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Thames ARG (TARG) has had a busy summer already but there is more to come, including training. Here is a summary of the Group's summer activities, both past and future:

6 June: TARG was at North Weald Airport for a field day to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Two callsigns were operated: GBODDY (HF) and GBODDE (VHF). Members welcomed a small number of visitors. Among those who dropped by was the Secretary of sister Club Loughton and Epping Forest ARS – leading to a promising discussion about potential shared events and meetings in the future.

16 June: members attended an open day at the Vulcan Restoration Trust, in which some TARG members are involved. The day was a chance for the public, in large numbers, to visit the Vulcan on Father's Day at London Southend Airport. TARG operated from close to the Vulcan, and from military vehicles also on the site, using special event callsign GB0VR, only possible by special permission of the Vulcan Restoration Trust – a benefit of some TARG members being involved. Part of the event was Oscar, 2E1HWE running a Freestar session which, as Freestar does, pulled in contacts for the log.

6 July: TARG had a field day at Slough Fort on the Isle of Grain in Kent. Members went South of the Thames after great work by two Kent-based TARG members who do a lot of radio work out and about and know this site well. Operators used special event callsign GBOSLF. TARG members, and visitors from both North and South, got to "do real radio" with help and tuition on operating safely and successfully in the field, on VHF, HF, via satellite and using digital modes. Slough Fort is next to high footfall locations including a caravan park, so members also talked to the public about amateur radio.

18 August: members are back with the Vulcan, supporting the VRT's Classic Jets Day. TARG has a promotional stall – promotional of the hobby, and of the Club and the part it plays in continuing to showcase it.

Last but not least: Covid-19 and changed licence conditions meant training took a back seat. However, several people approached the Group having gained a licence online and needing to get hands on, or prepare for exams. TARG now offers as-need-arises, face-to-face training, with online mentoring. The Group's Secretary can provide information and is keen to provide support after an exam, particularly focusing on how to translate theory into practical radio.

The image shows Vice Chair John, MOLFX and Secretary Andrew, MOIXY operating from North Weald.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

At its AGM on 18 May 2024, members of Lincoln Short Wave Club elected a new President, Peter Kendall, MOEJL. Peter replaces John Birkett, G8OPP who was President from 1979 until his death in April 2022.

Peter has been an active member of the Club for almost 25 years, served on the committee and was Chairman for five years.

Peter says he has benefitted greatly from the fellowship, support and expertise offered by so many of the Club's members, past and present and it is very encouraging to see it continuing, despite the recent Covid restrictions and other setbacks affecting key members of the Club. Peter says he will do his best as President to ensure Lincoln Short Wave Club is promoted in the best interests of all members, as it rightly deserves.

RAF Waddington ARC returned to the International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) for the weekend of 25 and 26 May to run a special event station using the callsign GB6IBC as part of the 50s and 60s weekend at the IBCC. The club operated on HF using SSB and FT8 and, for the first time ever, a few SSTV contacts were made. QSOs on 2m FM brought the total number of contacts to 211. The Club would like to thank those stations who contacted it. Logs have been uploaded to QRZ.com and eQSL.

In early June, members once again enjoyed the Club barbecue, held as usual outside the Pyewipe shack. Guests were treated to very nice burgers and sausages, cooked as usual by the Club's talented chefs John, SWL and Chris, 2EOBMA together with extra goodies provided by Andy, MOIYE.

Members of South Derbyshire and Ashby Wouds ARG visited the Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centre SDDC, on the evening on 6 June 2024 to commemorate the D-Day landings in Normandy 80 years ago in June 1944.

A host of local dignitaries and local residents attended the event that included a beacon lighting at 9.15pm, coinciding with other beacons being lit across the UK.

From 7 to 9.30pm, members activated special callsign GB800 (Golf Bravo Eight Operation Overlord). Despite conditions not being the best, operators worked hard and made contacts including the USA and Italy on 20m SSB; Italy on 40m FT8 and with special event station GB6DD (Golf Bravo Six D-Day).

Operating conditions were one ICOM 705 running at 5W to an Alex Loop and another running at 10W to a 5.6m vertical antenna. The weather was sunny but, as the evening went on, it became very cold.

Members look forward to a similar event for the 80th anniversary of VE day next year.

Members thank MONXD and G7JHW for their enthusiasm and dedication to the event and for representing the Group.



South Normanton Alfreton & District ARC has had a very busy few weeks putting in place the final pieces for the Junction 28 Radio Rally which is held in Alfreton, Derbyshire.

It is one of the bigger rallies and is all indoors, so the weather doesn't pose a problem. The day went off very smoothly with a record number of tables sold and a record number of visitors through the door. Members had to turn away bookings for over 15 additional tables as the leisure centre just couldn't supply any more.

8 June 2025 has already been reserved for the next rally and, although the organisers are not taking bookings just yet, they encourage traders to reserve their space as soon as possible.

In addition to the rally, the Club held a very successful field day to commemorate D-Day using the callsign GB1DD. Despite poor propagation, the team made non-stop contacts on both VHF and HF.

Field days have been interrupted this year due to poor weather conditions, but members hope to be operating every weekend as the summer progresses.

