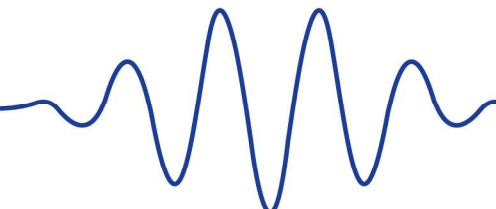




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

September 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

Board welcomes two new Directors

When Paul Nichols, MOPVN resigned as an RSGB Director in May, it created a vacancy on the Board. The Board decided that it was in the Society's interests to expand the Board to nine people to help implement the Society's strategic priorities. Under Article 37 it has co-opted Peter Bowyer, G4MJS and Peter Ransom, MOSFZ as Directors to serve until the 2025 AGM.

Peter Ransom recently passed his Full licence so that he could build and tinker with RF equipment, to add to his ongoing interest in writing amateur radio software and designing his own PCBs. He has a passion for technology and communication and has had a career that combines technical expertise with strategic vision. He hopes to use that knowledge and experience to help the Board to ensure that the Society remains relevant to the amateur radio community.

Peter Bowyer has been in and around IT all his career and currently helps organisations with their Agile development strategies. He has been licensed for 45 years, but says he is still learning new things. He's an avid contester, having served on the VHF Contests Committee, he has written a column for *RadCom* and is a past chair of the UK Six Metre Group.

The RSGB welcomes them both to the Board.

Welcome to the Regional Team!

The RSGB is delighted to announce the co-option of two Regional Representatives (RRs). Region 8, Northern Ireland, now has Peter Lowrie, MI5JYK as its RR, and Brian Woolnough, M5ADQ is the RR for Region 12, the Eastern region. They will serve in these roles until the RSGB 2025 AGM when it is expected that they will seek election to continue as Regional Representatives through the usual process.

Peter has been a member of the Regional Team previously, so comes with some experience of the type of enquiries and calls for assistance that volunteers of the Regional Team receive. Brian is a volunteer at the RSGB National Radio Centre, which brings him into contact with RSGB members and non-licensed visitors to Bletchley Park, where he is able to demonstrate amateur radio and help answer their questions.

You can see contact details for either of them, or any member of the Regional Team, on the RSGB website at rsgb.org/regions



Do you have planning experience?



The RSGB Planning Advisory Committee still needs 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, please get in touch.

Find out more about the committee at rsgb.org/pac and then email the Board Liaison for planning Len Paget, GMOONX at gm0onx@rsgb.org.uk to arrange a chat.

Schools encouraged to apply for ARISS contacts

Schools in Great Britain and Northern Ireland will soon be able to apply for an amateur radio contact with an astronaut on the International Space Station (ARISS). If the application is successful, the contacts could take place in the latter half of 2025. Application forms are available now from ariss-eu.org/index.php/school-contacts/general and the timeframe for submitting them is between 1 September and 26 October 2024.

The RSGB is encouraging schools to apply as it is a great opportunity to integrate space into the STEM curriculum and to have the excitement of their pupils speaking to an astronaut! Go to the ARISS website at ariss-eu.org to find out more and watch the RSGB's celebration video of the ten Tim Peake school contacts on the RSGB YouTube channel via rsgb.org/gb1ss-schools



Would you like to join a successful team?

There is so much happening at the RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) that it needs to expand its team of volunteers! The NRC has a fabulous set-up and you'll be given full training on using the GB3RS radio station.

You should enjoy meeting people and be able to volunteer for one or two days per month as part of a friendly and dedicated team.

NRC volunteers also enjoy numerous benefits associated with volunteering at Bletchley Park.

For more information, please email NRC Coordinator Martyn Baker, GOGMB via nrc.support@rsgb.org.uk



Do you belong to your local u3a group? Are you keen to share your passion for amateur radio with others?

As part of the RSGB's commitment to grow the hobby, we'd love to hear from RSGB members who would like to spread the word to local u3a groups. As we all know, getting involved in amateur radio provides the opportunity to gain a new interest, learn different skills and form social connections, which fits well with u3a's ethos.

Register your interest to join a Teams meeting in September (date TBC) to discuss ideas for engaging u3a groups.

Please email strategy@rsgb.org.uk if you'd like to be involved.



Remote invigilation milestone

The RSGB remote exam invigilation team was delighted that the 8,000th Foundation candidate took and passed their exam online recently. This is a significant milestone since the Society introduced remote invigilation exams in 2020. The RSGB would like to thank the dedicated remote invigilation team and sends its good wishes to all the candidates as they discover more about amateur radio!

RSGB National Coding Week Coordinator

We're delighted to announce that Nigel Thrower, G3YSW will be the RSGB's National Coding Week Coordinator this year. The RSGB took part in this national event for the first time last year and many groups had fun with the activities we supplied. You can see the activities we published last year on our website at rsgb.org/coding

This year we want to develop our involvement and Nigel will help to lead and coordinate that. This event isn't just for youngsters, so we want to encourage people of all ages and experience to take part.

We're planning to publish some new activities but if you enjoy programming or coding as part of your amateur radio activities, please get in touch! We're looking for people to share tried and trusted ideas or activities that will inspire others. We're also keen to hear from radio amateurs who could help to lead activities with groups or clubs in their area.

National Coding Week runs from 16-22 September. If you'd like to get involved, or want to find out more, please contact Nigel via ncw@rsgb.org.uk



QSL Matters

Sir George Cayley is credited with discovering the four forces of flight and receives a very small mention in the US Air Force Museum in Ohio, the home of the Wright Brothers.

Perhaps less well known in the UK is Otto Lilienthal, a German engineer and graduate of Berlin University born in 1848, and a veteran of the Franco-Prussian war. This month's fascinating 175th anniversary QSL card from club station DLOABT, sent

us on a Google voyage of discovery that we can recommend as there is much more information online.

Otto Lilienthal and his brother were members of the ASGB (the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain). In 1889 he published a seminal work entitled *Bird flight as the Basis of Aviation*. He was also an inventor holding a number of patents including those for a mining machine and children's building blocks.

Together, the brothers built and tested 18 different experimental gliders and Otto is credited with making some 2,000 glider flights before his accidental death in 1896.

UK cards

It is always pleasing to open a member's incoming package to find that they have followed the guidance by pre-sorting their cards into prefix order. Thank you to those that do this.

However, it's very common to find that cards destined for UK delivery are hidden in the stack rather than banded separately as per the rules.

This means we either have to wait until they are discovered sometime later, or spend additional time finding the G, M and 2 cards before moving on. It is not uncommon for some cards to be found later or, in some cases, missed first time around – a classic case being where there is a European or overseas prefix before the UK call and it is incorrectly filed.

Please remember to help us to help you by separating UK destination calls.

A reminder that US calls are sorted by the numbers 0 to 9 only, not prefix letter and also need to be separated.

Holiday cards

It is time once again to remind members that for membership reasons, UK cards are delivered to sub-managers based on the callsign used during the contact and not via a third party.

When on holiday or travelling, it is nice to use the regional prefix. If a home call is also provided, we will divert incoming personal cards – a case in point being /P or /M contacts made whilst on the Isle of Man and also the Channel Islands as UK stamps for collection envelopes are not valid.

Without a 'via' we cannot be certain if it is a resident or a visitor.

Richard J Constantine, G3UGF



NomCom Chair celebrates 50 years of membership

RSGB Nominations Committee Chair Bob Beebe, GU4YOX was pleasantly surprised when his wife and daughter made him a celebration cake in July to mark his 50 years of RSGB membership. Bob says "The RSGB has always been a foundation throughout my life and I am very grateful for my special cake. I didn't ask for planning permission for the tower either!"



G5RP Trophy

The G5RP Trophy is an annual award to encourage newcomers to HF DXing. The award is not limited to youngsters or the newly licensed. It is open to anyone who has recently discovered and

made significant progress in HF DXing. If you are an established HF DXer and want to recommend someone to be awarded the G5RP Trophy for 2024, now is the time to send in your nomination. Your nominee should be an up-and-coming HF DXer who has made rapid progress in the last year and has some real achievements to show, for example, a good total of new countries worked or some serious HF DXpedition activity. Please send your nominations to Ian Greenshields, G4FSU by email to hf.manager@rsgb.org.uk to arrive no later than Friday 13 September 2024.



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RadCom basics

The next edition of *RadCom Basics* will be available in September 2024. There are more topics to help newcomers and those looking to brush-up. These will include articles on:

- Operating on the 40m band with a small garden or space
- Non-resonant vertical antennas – pitfalls and benefits
- Getting out and about on the 2m band

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.

RadCom plus

The next edition of *RadCom Plus*, the online magazine for the more technically-minded radio amateur, will be published next month. There will be four articles. The first, written by RSGB Chairman Stewart Bryant, G3YSX is an introduction to using AI to write your computer software for you. Next, we have a contribution from Tony Preedy, G3LNP about how to make an efficient magnetic loop antenna. Our third article, by Andy Talbot, G4JNT dives into the interesting, but perhaps unfamiliar, mathematics behind the encoding algorithms used in digital data programs which we all use. The fourth article is the latest in the continuing series of articles by Barry Chambers, G8AGN about his pioneering experiments at 30THz.

You can read past and present issues of *RadCom Plus* at rsgb.org/radcom-plus

Why not try it now and see what's there?

RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park

Volunteer Ian, 2E0IHU was delighted to meet with Silvio, IU8BZC who was visiting the NRC in mid July. Silvio is a CW enthusiast and was thrilled to have the opportunity to make QSOs on the 20m band, from the NRC, using the Flex6600 with the SteppIR antenna. Silvio is pictured to the right with his hand on the Morse key, operating the GB3RS amateur radio station at the NRC.



Volunteers at the RSGB's NRC were pleased to welcome several groups from the Buckinghamshire Guiding Association on a busy Saturday at Bletchley Park. With over 380 visitors that day, the Girl Guides, from youngest to most senior, each took their turn to send their name in Morse code and earn themselves a certificate and a 'May the Morse be with You' sticker. The Guide Leaders were most appreciative of being donated a Snail Morse kit (designed by Trevor, G4WKJ) to take away, so Guides could continue to practise back at their respective bases.

Errata

In the 145 Alive report in the August issue of *RadCom* (pages 64 and 65) John Alexander's callsign was reported incorrectly as MOMJA. John's callsign is in fact MOXJA, not MOMJA. Sincere apologies to John, MOXJA and to Bob who is licensed as MOMJA.

Congratulations

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

50 Years

Mr S Withnell	GOAIN	Mr R Spragg	G4HPY
Mr M Wills	G3OIL	Mr R Carter	G4LYJ
Dr J Gould	G3WKL	Dr J Hollis	G8ION
Dr S Bryant	G3YSX	Mr R Pickett	G8IXM
Mr C Callicott	G4DJJ	Mr P Richardson	G8MLA
Mr M Holley	G4EHQ	Mr R Maclean	GM4HAO
Mr K Middleton	G4EJH	Mr S Cowie	GW0EZB
Dr E Warrington	G4EMW	Dr B Wedzicha	MODAF
Mr N Smith	G4EQD	Mr M Regan	RS35327
Mr M Leach	G4HGV		

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 P Amos	2E0IJE	Mr K Rowsell	M7OKR	Mr D Pratt	RS409793
Mr K Evans	2E0IYT	Mr N Belkebir	M7OQO	Mrs E Rothwell	RS409795
Mr B Sherry	2E0JHV	Mr R Morrison	M7POY	Mr G Walker	RS409796
Mr G Peck	2E0TGP	Mr P Rewcastle	M7PVR	Mr B McNeill	RS409807
Mr A Slee	2E0UMD	Mr A Walker	M7TAW	Mr C Pimblett	RS409826
Mr J Coleman	2E0UWO	Mr O Buxton	M7TTV	Mr D Allen	RS409829
Mr A Davies	2WOAPD	Mr B Wernick	M7VGM	Mr J Hogg	RS409830
Mr A Sprihal	9A7AS	Mr E Neroladakis	M7VNM	Mr N Wright	RS409831
Mr D Frasher	AD7LL	Mr R McGregor	M7WMP	Mr M Burgon	RS409835
Mr D Balan	DL2AJ	Miss C Buxton	M7WYS	Mr S McCracken	RS409844
Mrs V Garland	G1YBN	Miss M Taggart	MI7MTQ	Mr L McVeigh	RS409845
Mr M Roberts	G1YEF	Mr A Johnston	MI7PYZ	Mr D Davidson	RS409846
Mr G Ketley	G4EWR	Mr D Greig	MM7YDG	Mr S Hull	RS409868
Mr A Parkinson	G8DMP	Mr P Price	MW7PYT	Ms W Harris	RS409889
Mr D Hugman	G8JMY	Mr I Van ling	PA2IX	Mr R Cooke	RS409890
Mr M Johnson	G8UJV	Mr M Davies-Watkins	RS301539	Mr E Stockdale	RS409921
Mr D Waldmeier-Mathieu	HB9GYD	Mr G Davis	RS331252	Mr D Stoyanov	RS409928
Mr B Petithomme	K1RLP	Mr M McEachran	RS342471	Mr P Halton	RS409965
Mr P Reid	K4PKR	Mr P Heath	RS402198	Mr S Poile	RS409983
Mr J Neal	KC4CQR	Mr T Fenton	RS407624	Mr A Morrison	RS409984
Mr D Drye	KD4NC	Mr C Milne	RS408233	Mr O Cundy	RS409986
Mr K Turner	LB6ZI	Mr P Naylor	RS409524	Mr J Savory	RS409991
Mr D Stevenson	MOKRV	Mr D Mellors	RS409632	Mr J Penwarden	RS410000
Mr T Greer	MORVM	Mr R Wenham	RS409634	Mr L Walford	RS410002
Mr J Campbell	M1ARQ	Mr N Woods	RS409654	Mr T Weeks	RS410003
Mr R Dixon	M1RST	Mr T Janik	RS409668	Mr N Melton	RS410005
Mr R Wilson	M5RSW	Mr R Fulker	RS409697	Mr R Howe	RS410007
T Garnett	M7EUT	Ms R Baird	RS409698	Ms J Sheppard	RS410008
Mr P Dobson	M7EXV	Mr N Mansell	RS409705	Mr K Mayer	RS410017
Mr G Macleman	M7FND	Ms H Nurse	RS409727	Mr K Wallbanks	RS410018
Mr T Roe	M7GID	Mr R Cronin	RS409728	Mr W Beck	RS410050
Mr J Peek	M7GNE	Mr P Galea	RS409730	Mr F Kenton	RS410052
Mr B Lomax	M7GNY	Mr T Galea	RS409731	Mr S Maxwell	RS410053
Mr D Kershaw	M7GOE	Ms R Hemming	RS409754	Mr J Power	RS410056
Mr M Woods	M7GOF	Mr P Merrin	RS409756	Mr N Stosic	RS410073
Mr S Smartt	M7GOQ	Mr M Hewer	RS409758	Mr R Trillo	RS410074
Mr S Swinton	M7HME	Mr P Degg	RS409762	Mr P Cross	RS410079
Mr M Perkins	M7HVM	Mr D Attwood	RS409766	Mr A Hart	RS410080
Lord J Addis	M7JRA	Mr G Cook	RS409767	Mr G Gill	RS410083
Mr R Speirs	M7KMG	Mr S Cracknell	RS409768	Mr Z Dimitrijevic	RS410094
Mr K Hale	M7KYH	Mr K Roberts	RS409769	Mr P Wilson	VK3BZF
Mr C Clear	M7LXC	Dr P McEwan	RS409770		
Mr C Simons	M7LZR	Mr C Rogers	RS409780	Saffron Walden Amateur Radio Society	RS600042

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

Mr A Lane	2E0SDR	Mr D Forth	G1CDY	Mr G Pargeter	G7KTH	Mr P Gartland	MI7FGI
Mr S Burrows	2E0SHB	Mr I Campbell	G1DDH	Mr R Prew	G8EPQ	Mr C Barr	MI7SOA
Mr N Hook	2E0THM	Mr I Cambray	G1HIZ	Mr P Niskanen	HB9ICG	Mr M Hilliar-Mills	MW3ZHU
Mr U Koenneker	DL80BF	Mr R Levi	G3NQT	Mr G Coleman	MOYIG	Mr G Price	MW6GWP
Mr D Garland	G0DYI	Mr D Lund	G4FGM	Mr K Riding	M6KMR	Mr T Palmer	RS314594
Mr R Graham	GOESW	Mr P Mendum	G4UFI	Mr P Attwood	M6WYR	Mr D Rhodes	RS400791
Mr D Barnes	G0RIF	Mr M Jordan	G4VAO	Mr T Cundy	M7SHF		
Mr D Branch	G0UUR	Mr S Barron	G7JYF	Mr D Marshall	MIOXDM		

Railways on the air (ROTA)

Railways on the air (ROTA) weekend usually takes place every year on the weekend closest to 27 September. This date celebrates the anniversary of the first steam-powered passenger railway which took place on 27 September 1825 - the first passenger train ran on a line in the North East of England from Darlington to Stockton. Bishop Auckland Amateur Radio Club coordinates this event.

The following frequencies for the ROTA are suggested: 3.65, 7.15 and 14.25MHz.

For more information about ROTA visit rota.barac.org.uk



50 Years of G-QRP



In the October 1974 edition of *Short Wave Magazine*, there was a small item suggesting that some form of UK QRP Club should be set up. The Reverend George Dobbs, G3RJV, indicated that he "would be prepared to do the donkey-work to get the Club off the ground." He did and in September 2024

the Club celebrates its 50 year anniversary.

The anniversary will be marked at the Club's annual Convention, held in conjunction with the Telford Hamfest, over the weekend of 31 August and 1 September. There will be a Buildathon, an evening social supper, talks by some well-known QRPers and Club Sales will be there selling components, kits and books. Members will be able to claim some special anniversary freebies, but they will need to bring their membership number. A special anniversary *SPRAT* magazine is being prepared, which will bring together some of George's writings from *Shortwave Magazine* and *Practical Wireless*, and there will be a new RSGB book available showcasing the best of 50 years of *SPRAT*.

The Club has around 4,000 paid-up members and has produced two hundred editions of *SPRAT*, its quarterly journal. In addition to *SPRAT*, the Club has a YouTube channel with recordings of some excellent presentations from its annual Conventions, and a website with lots of technical information, as well as details of the Club, its awards and trophy winners and a news page.

Information on how to join the G-QRP Club can be found at ggrp.com/join.htm

You can read more about the G-QRP Club's 50th anniversary on page 42.

A very significant centenary

We sometimes forget that amateur radio operators have made great contributions to the development of radio communications over the years. Perhaps we don't see quite as much of that pioneering spirit nowadays, but back 100 years ago it was quite different.

Having been "set free" to explore the "useless short waves", amateurs found that far from being useless, they held the promise of easy long-distance communication. Distances increased until, in October 1924, the ultimate DX – fully trans-global communications – took place. That was a contact between Cecil Goyder, operating 2SZ in Mill Hill School, London, and Frank Bell on a sheep farm in South Island, New Zealand.

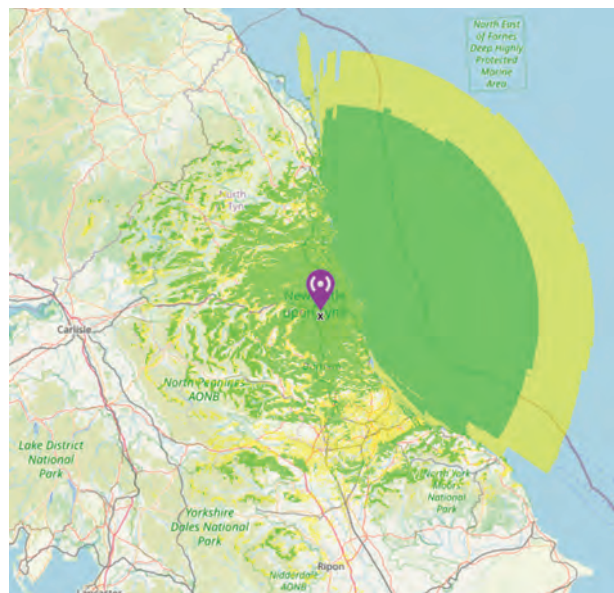
October 2024 will be the centenary of this momentous event and there will be on-air activity jointly with New Zealand, using special call signs. An article in next month's *RadCom* will carry more, including details of how the RSGB is supporting Mill Hill School, and the special awards and QSL cards available. See also www.gb2nz.com

Broadcast Engineering Museum

The Broadcast Engineering Museum near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire is new and a work in progress, so it only opens a few days each year. The next open days are coming up on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September from 11am to 4pm. The Museum contains a vast collection of historic broadcasting equipment and memorabilia, some restored and working, on display in a former RAF sergeants' mess. Free parking is available on site. For more information email contactus@becg.org.uk or visit becg.org.uk

GB3NT repeater

70cm analogue FM repeater GB3NT is now connected via Echolink, node number 225411. This is thanks to the efforts of Scott, 2E0TWX. He has provided an RF link via his gateway in Walker, Newcastle beaming directly at the repeater on Sheriff Hill, Gateshead with a 10-element 70cm Yagi antenna and Retevis transceiver.



Churches and Chapels on the Air (CHOTA)

This year the event will take place on Saturday 14 September.

If you are planning to put your church or chapel on the air, please email John, G3XYF via jhwresdell@gmail.com and he will add you to the list of participants.

The stations that have registered so far include: GB0BMC, GB0HWG, GB0LOW, GB0SJK, GB2AMC, GB2ASW, GB2HGC, GB2SCC, GB4BCC, GB4KSC, GB4SBC, GB5CCC, GB5IVE, GB5SH, GB6SBC, GB8SBC, GB8SMA and GBOPEP.



Worked All Britain Awards Group

Worked all Britain (WAB) held its 55th anniversary AGM at the J28 Radio Rally in Alfreton, thanks to the South Normanton Radio Club for making this possible.

The meeting was attended by approximately 30 members, either in person or via Zoom (numbers attending in person have dropped since the Covid-19 pandemic).

Reports were offered from all the Committee Officers, with the usual one-minute silence for SK members.

Arrangements were made to cover vacancies within the Committee in the short term as no offers had been received. If any WAB members feel that they would like to offer, contact details are on the WAB website at worked-all-britain.org.uk New members of the Committee are always welcome.

There are two PowerPoint presentations available to use by any member who would like to give a talk to a local club, and these have been used on a number of occasions. Instructions are available on the website, nets and USB element of the book package.

As WAB is now celebrating its 55th anniversary, the group had adopted an Emerald theme. This year's award certificate features an emerald and the trophy to be awarded next year will be in a similar vein.

WAB has some wonderful contest trophies. The group encourages people to give the WAB contests a try. However, as a few have gone astray in the past, you will be photographed holding the main trophy, but will take a replica home.

The newsletter is the original official mouthpiece of WAB. This has now been extended to include the website.

Following discussions, the presentation of trophies took place. Dave, G4IAR began with the award trophies. He has issued nearly 2,000 awards this year, so the scheme is still very well supported.

Following on from this, the contest trophies were awarded. Congratulations to the Pontefract and District Club for winning the President's trophy as overall club winners.

Paul, M1AIB was given a quality clock as a thank you for his two years' service as President.

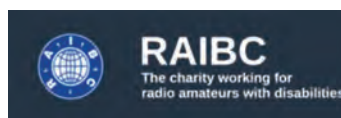
Esther, GIOAZA was awarded the Founder's trophy – a beautiful rose bowl. As she was unable to attend in person, it was offered via Zoom (which caused some amusement) and is to be delivered to her later in person.

WAB plans to attend both the Newark Hamfest in September and the RSGB Convention in October and welcomes visitors to its stands.



RAIBC

Established in 1954, RAIBC is a national society and charity dedicated to supporting radio amateurs and shortwave listeners with disabilities. The RAIBC logo is recognised throughout the amateur radio world. The club is a UK registered charity, No 802348, and is run and managed by a group of amateurs forming an elected committee.



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

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

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

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

ISWL Awards

The International Short Wave League's Awards are available to all short wave listeners and licensed amateurs. Most ISWL awards have three levels of achievement, ie Bronze, Silver and Gold. Contacts made or heard via any Internet Link, such as Echo-Link, CQ-100, or any other mode of communication via an internet connection, including stations heard via a Web SDR etc, are not valid for any ISWL awards, contests or challenges.



An example of the awards available through the ISWL is the European Award. You can obtain this by working, hearing or having verified contact/reception of different DXCC countries within the continent of Europe. In the broadcast bands, the points needed are: Bronze = 12, Silver = 15, and Gold = 18 countries. For the amateur bands it is: Bronze = 40, Silver = 50, and Gold = 60 countries.

More details are available at iswl.org.uk

First Class CW Operators' Club QSO Party

The FOC QSO Party (FOCQP), formerly known as the Bill Windle QSO Party (BWQP), is scheduled twice a year. Many members have reported that this is their favourite operating event! The idea behind the FOCQP is to offer a stress-free opportunity for members to meet and greet both other members and non-members. Each operator can make this event what they want it to be. Some go on the air for a few casual QSOs, others spend several hours on different bands and still others treat it like a mini marathon. The basic concept is to work as many stations as you can over a 24-hour period. All of the contacts made during both FOCQPs count for all the FOC awards. The exchange is: RST, name, and FOC number (non-members send RST and name).

The next FOC QSO Party will be held on Saturday 14 September.

To find out more about the First Class CW Operators' Club visit g4foc.org



The Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association (RAOTA)



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

As always, the magazine opens with reports from the President, and the Editor, followed by a section for members' opinions, news and comments. After that, there is another in the regular quiz series from Clive, GM4FZH.

Then comes the President's annual report, which includes reports from the rest of the Committee, followed by the Treasurer's report and statement of accounts.

Ian, G4EAN, RAOTA's General Secretary, has a section describing his work with the RAOTA archive, and then Robert, G4PVB gives his take on what we can do to get more youngsters involved with amateur radio.

The autumn issue also includes notes and photos of RAOTA's attendance at the J28 rally, courtesy of British Railways ARS (BRARS) allowing the sharing of its stand (quite a few RAOTA members are also members of BRARS).

Another in the long line of Morse keys made in Meccano by Alan, G4GQL is then described, ahead of Robin, G8VY giving a detailed account of how to decode shortwave meteorological data using an RTL-SDR.

A couple of pieces with intriguing titles follow that. Famous Hams and Dragons by Ray, G4OWY, and more about the 23A battery by John, G4GCL.

RAOTA will have a stand on the Friday of the National Hamfest this year, where it will be launching its latest *OT News* archive in USB format instead of CD, alongside all of its other publications. So, if you are at the Newark show on the Friday, come over to the stand and say hi.

To find out more about RAOTA's magazine and organisation, visit raota.org

Essex CW Boot Camp

The next Essex CW Boot Camp will be held on Saturday 26 October 2024. It will be held again at the 3rd Witham Scout and Guide HQ.

If you are interested in attending please email info@essexcw.org.uk You will be added to the Club's database and contacted when registration is open.

Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. So, once the forms go out, please respond quickly to avoid disappointment.

The doors will open at 8.30am for registration. The meetings begin at 9am so please be sure to arrive in plenty of time. The day finishes at approximately 4.30pm.

Securing your place will require a non-refundable payment of £10 (once registration commences).

Did you miss it last year? Don't miss it this year! Meet your CW friends face to face for a day of CW activities, coffee and cakes!



Special Interest Groups

You can read about many of the Special Interest Groups via the RSGB website.

Go to rsgb.org/main/clubs/special-interest-groups where you will find details of more than twenty 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 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.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 October 2024 is 22 August and for November 2024 it's 19 September.** 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
6 EGM and memberships
20 Club meeting

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
Disabled access, hot and cold refreshments available on site
6 Club night at The Thorntree
7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 On-air activity day
13 144MHz DF hunt, Old Pool car park, 6.30pm

Edinburgh & District ARC
Norman, GM1CNH, 07740 946 192
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net 433.525MHz, 8pm
6, 7, 8 144MHz portable operating event
10 Club meeting and social evening

Kilmarnock and Loudoun Amateur Radio Club
Secretary, GMOADX, klarcinfo@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 SSB net on ±3720kHz, 2pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Radio Q&A night via Zoom, 7.30pm
3, 17 Natter night at clubhouse, 7.30pm
10, 24 Formal meeting at clubhouse and via Zoom, 7.30pm

Livingston & District ARS
Philip Rose, GM3ZZA, gm3zza@btinternet.com
Intermediate training late August/September
3, 10, 17 Meeting, training, operating, Crofthead
Community Centre, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 16 Net 145.575MHz FM, 7.30pm
24 Talk: Amateur Radio Operating in Colombia, Crofthead, 7pm

Lothians RS
James Gentles GM4WZP, events@lothiansradiosociety.com
3 Talk: History of Hewlett Packard in Scotland.
Registration required, contact email above
4, 18 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm
11 Welcome and President's Address, Andy, GMOFMF
25 Visit to Museum of Communication, Burntisland, 7pm

Mid Lanarkshire ARS
Simon Gray, 2MOLSG, secretary@mlars.co.uk, mlars.co.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 DMR net, TG23550, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 70.425MHz FM, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, Newarthill Community Education
Centre, 7pm

Stirling and District ARS
Iain, GM5YTT, GM5YTT@outlook.com
Regular nets via club repeater GB3FE
5, 12, 19, 26 Club night, all welcome, 7pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting all welcome, 10am

West of Scotland ARS
Stuart Mackie, MM7SWM
westofscotlandars@gmail.com, wosars.club
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.475MHz FM, 9pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting at Garnethill Multicultural Centre, 8pm

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

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

Aberdeen ARS
Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651365, aars.org.uk
5 Members' junk sale, 7pm
12 CW practice 7pm, talk: A Simple Battery
Voltmeter, 7.30pm
19 CW practice 7pm, informal meeting, 7.30pm
26 CW practice 7pm, equipment surgery and on-air
evening, 7.30pm

Inverness & District ARS
Angus GM6AGC, InvernessRadioSociety@gmail.com
4, 18 On-Air
11 Meeting
25 Meeting: test Equipment for radios and antennas,
Pete, GM7JYW

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

RR: Martyn Bell, M0TEB, RR3@rsgb.org.uk
Bolton Wireless Club
Mark Bryant, M0UFC, 07831454468
2 On-air net
9 Ladybridge meeting: Fun with an Arduino Nano, Steve, G4AQB
16, 30 Online meeting
23 Ladybridge meeting: show and tell

Bury RS
Lynda, G6QA, specky@talktalk.net
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 144.550MHz, 6pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 144.550MHz FM, 8pm

Central Lancs ARC
Nonie, G3TNN, secretary.clarc@gmail.com
Net every weekday night, 145.350MHz FM, 9pm
1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 Net 1.938MHz LSB, 11am
5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27 Net 433.425MHz FM, 8pm

Furness ARS
Mike, M0MJX, info@fars.org.uk
1 Tour de Furness cycle event support
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Farmers Arms, Newton in Furness, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 The Furness Railway 9.30am
6, 13, 20, 27 DMR Net TG 23525, 7pm
11 SD27 Fox Hunt
19 Committee meeting
25 Introduction to fox hunts and ARDF presentation
28 ROTA event in Barrow park

Gilmore and North West Morse Radio Club
Heth, M6HNS, 07735 036 267
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 CW net, 144.064MHz, 2pm
1, 29 CW net 28.080MHz, 7.30pm
5 Club night, St Mary's Church Hall, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 CW Fun Hour, 7.033MHz, 7pm
8, 22 CW net 50.080MHz, 7.30pm
15 CW net 3.510MHz, 7.30pm
26 C4FM 144.925MHz, 7.30pm

Macclesfield & District RS
Greg, M0TXX, info@gx4mws.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club meeting/shack on the air

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

Oldham RC
Dave 2E00AI, secretary@oarc.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sunday Morning Net on XLX305A
(Multimode) 9.30am
2, 23 C4FM Simplex Net 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 2m FM Net 145.500MHz then QSY, 8pm
5 Video evening, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club Nights 7.30pm to 10pm
9, 30 D-Star Simplex Net 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm
14 Churches and Chapels on the Air (CHOTA)
16 2m SSB Net 144.300MHz USB (vertical) then QSY, 8pm

Stockport Radio Society
info@g8srs.co.uk
3 Radio/practical evening at Walthew House
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 145.375MHz, 2pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net via GB3MR & Webex, 7.30pm
10 Net, 51.550MHz, 7.30pm
14 Saturday at Walthew House, 10am
17 Online social event via Webex, 7pm
29 Sunday Club net, 145.375MHz, 10.30am
30 G50 Contest Group meeting, 7.30pm

South Cheshire ARS
ray@m1rek.co.uk
11, 25 Meeting, details at g6tw.co.uk

South Manchester RC
David G4MVU 07518913300, smrcc.org.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 Net 145.475MHz FM, 8pm
5 Discussion: Brickworks
12 Discussion: Work All Britain
19 Discussion: My Shack
26 Talk: Transformers

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
Jen, G8YOK, tcars.radio@gmail.com
For up-to-date event information see tcars.club
2 Practical Wireless 70MHz contest discussion
7, 8 2m Trophy & SSB NFD contests at the farm
9 New project
16 Construction Competition
22 Practical Wireless 70MHz contest at the farm
23 Video (subject TBA)
30 Natter night/club on air

Warrington ARC
Dave Roberts G8KBB, secretary@warc.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Solder Sunday at clubroom and via
Zoom, 2pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Main meetings at clubroom and by Zoom, 8pm
5 Hotspot net - P25 TG 10350 / YSF GB-WARC, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Social/coffee morning, 10am

Wirral ARS
g3nwr.co.uk
On air Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3m
3, 10, 17, 24 Natter night, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Technical night, 8pm

Wirral Peninsula ARC
Owen M70MW, wirralpeninsulaarc@outlook.com,
07449391391
4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 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
4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting and social evening, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 144.5625MHz FM, 7pm

Bishop Auckland RAC
barac.org.uk
Anyone wishing to study and/or take their exam's visit
barac.org.uk for details
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting at Stanley Crook village hall, 7.30pm

East Ardsley RS
Paul, M0XZT, m0xzt@ears.radio
3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 On-the-air and social
evening, 6.30pm

Guisborough & District ARC
Kerry Buckwell, M7KEZ, m7kez@icloud.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, The Quoit Club, 35
Northgate, Guisborough, TS14 6JP, 7.30pm

Halifax and District ARS
Andy Silman, g8rem@icloud.com, 07568 092850
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net GB3HS, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.325MHz, 7.30pm

Hornsea ARC
John, G3XYF, jhwresdell@gmail.com, hornsearc.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 1869kHz CW 8pm, SSB 8.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm
2 Autumn series SSB contest
4 Club night
7, 8 SSB Field Day at G3XYF QTH
11 Weds DF hunt & Aut Series CW
14 Churches on the Air
18 Committee meeting
26 Series Contest Data
28, 29 Railways on The Air at Fimber

Houghton-Le-Spring ARC
George Thompson, M5GHT, 0191 5488995
Morse practice, 144.700MHz FM, Mon, Wed & Fri, 8pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 North East Net, 145.450MHz FM, 7pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 SSTV net, 144.700MHz FM, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 CW net, 144.060MHz, 8.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Meeting Dubmire Royal British Legion
Club in Fencehouses, 6pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 144.260MHz USB (vert), 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.450MHz FM, 9pm
7, 14, 21, 28 North East Net on 145.450MHz FM, 7pm

Hull and District ARS
Andy, G8REM, g8rem@icloud.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net GB3HS, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.325MHz FM, 7.30pm

Otley ARS
John, G6MHR, otleyradio.org
1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Net 145.450MHz, 7pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Club night, Clifton Village Hall, 7.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 144.350MHz SSB, 7pm

Ripon & District ARS
radars-g4sjm.club
5, 12, 19, 26 Meeting at the Bunker, Ripon, 7.30pm

Wearside Electronics and ARS
g0bnk@outlook.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, Herrington 2nd Scouts, 6pm

York Radio Club
yorkradioclub.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 AM net 144.550MHz, 8.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 145.625MHz, GB3HG, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club night, 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, 10am
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Slow CW exercise 14.055MHz, 11am
4, 11, 18, 25 Club night, Barley Mow, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Open FM net 145.575MHz, 8pm

Central Radio Amateur Circle
Martin Hallard, G1TYV, radio-circle@live.co.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 Group net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Google meets, 7pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Group meeting, 12pm

Cheitenham ARA
committee@g5bk.uk

Daily Nets 145.4MHz 8.15am, GB3CG 8.20am

Dudley and District ARS

Keith, MOWYZ, keithmowyz@gmail.com

3, 10, 17, 24 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

2 AGM (members only)

7 Visit to Wooferton

16 Informal meeting

30 Test Equipment by Derron, G8VUO

Kidderminster Repeater Group

18 Natter night, Queens Head, Wolverley, 7.30pm

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568

10 AGM

24 Informal meeting

Rugby ATS

Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940

Daily net every Mon to Fri on 144.275MHz USB, 8.30am

2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30 Training and practice

CW net, 144.275MHz first USB then CW, 4.30pm

3, 10, 17, 24 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby

Scouts Hut (most Tuesdays), 8pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 1913kHz, 8pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, Boughton Leigh 12th Rugby

Scouts Hut, 2pm

Salop ARS, Shrewsbury

Les, M5LMG, salopamateurradio@gmail.com,

salopradiosociety.org

5, 19, 26 Club night/ shack on the air

12 Construction Competition

Stourbridge & District ARS

g6oi.org.uk

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting at Norton Snooker Club

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, rob2e0zap@gmail.com

2, 16 Open net starting on ±145.250MHz, 7.30pm

9, 23 Club meeting, 8pm

Telford & District ARS

1 Hamfest Sunday

4 2m ragchew 7.30pm, Committee Meeting (Webex) 8pm

11 3rd Foxhunt

18 Hamfest debrief

25 Hans Summers

Wolverhampton ARS

Andrew Atkinson, 2E0YEZ, 01902 762603,

secretary@wolverhamptonars.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Club night, 7.30pm

Wythall RC

Chris, G3YHF, 07958 395904, wythallradioclub.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.225MHz, 7pm

3, 10, 17, 24 Club nights, 7.30pm

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

RR: Simon Taylor, MW0NWM, RR6@rsgb.org.uk

01492 830872

Dragon ARC

2W0JYB, mw7mon@gmail.com,

dragonamateurradioclub.co.uk

2 Special event planning for GB2VK/CHOTA

(Gaerwen), 7pm

2, 16 Club night, Canolfan, Esgeifiog, Gaerwen, 7pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Club net on Wires X, GB3AN (86178),

GB3AR (89165)

7, 14, 21, 28 Club net on 144.320MHz SSB, 8pm

8, 15, 22, 29 Club net on 146.550MHz

9, 23, Zoom natter night

14 CHOTA Special Event Station (venue TBC)

21 GB2VK Special Event Station (Waunfawr)

North Wales ARG

nwarg.org

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, GB3OR, 8pm

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, Bryn Cadno Community

Centre, 7pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Net, GB3OR, 7pm

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RR7@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdare & District ARS

aberdareradio.club

13, 27 Meeting, Hirwaun YMCA, 6pm

Barry ARS

Steve, GW5VOG, 07900 560 080

3, 10, 17, 24 Club nights at Sully Sports and Social

Club, 7.30pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Club net 144.550MHz, 8pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Zoom meeting hosted by Glyn, GWOANA, 7pm

Cwmbran ARC

mcOyad.club

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.712.5MHz CTCSS 94.8, 600

split, 7.30pm

4, 11, 18, 25 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 Net ±7.105MHz, 10am

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 DiGi Net XLX135N, xlx.hopto.org, 8pm

3, 10, 17, 24 Net 145.375MHz, 8pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Clubhouse evening, 7pm

Rhondda ARS

John GW4BUZ, 01443 432 542. Please leave a

message if we are not in.

Meetings at Rhondda Sports Centre, Ystrad, 7 to 9pm (Tuesdays)

St Tybie ARS

Gareth, GW4JPC, gw4jpc@yahoo.co.nz

3, 10, 17, 24 Club meeting, portable cabin adj to Saron

Hall, SA18 3LN, 7pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 3.739MHz, 11am

Uskside ARC

usksidearc.newport@gmail.com

3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 145.550MHz, 7pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Club Night, Faith Church, Wern Industrial

Estate, Rogerstone, NP10 9FQ, 7pm

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

RR: Peter Lowrie, MI5JYK, RR8@rsgb.org.uk

Antrim And District ARS

secretary@adars.co.uk

7, 14, 21, 28 Club 2m 'shout-out', usually FM, 8pm

Bushvalley ARC

bushvalleyarc.org

26 Meeting, Burnfoot Community Association, 8pm

Mid Ulster ARC

muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk

Meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month, Tandragee

Golf Club. No meetings held in July/August.

West Tyrone ARC

wtarc.org.uk

11 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

18 Discussion evening, 8pm

Banbury ARS

Stephen, G8MFI, banburyars@gmail.com

Net 1445125MHz FM most evenings

4, 11, 18, 25 Club night

7 HF Field Day at Burton Dassett Hills Country Park

Chelsea Pensioners RC

Mike Hall, GB4CP, 07970724105

3, 10, 17, 24 Club net 145.375MHz, 2pm

Edgware & District RS

Steve Slater, GOPQB, g0ppqb25@gmail.com

12 Round table discussion

26 My skeds by Stephen, GOPQB

Hammersmith ARS

info@m0xhs.uk, m0xhs.uk/events

13 Online, 8pm

25 Club night William Morris School Annex, W6 8RB, 7pm

Milton Keynes ARS

Brendan, G8IXK, 07803 192604

2 Committee meeting

4, 11, 18, 25 Club net on 28.39MHz, 8pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Club coffee chat on Zoom, 10.30am

7, 8 Weekend camping: HF field day and BBQ, Heron's

Lodge Guide Centre

16 Club TCXO project: PCB Assembly

23 Radio officer on a ship in the South Atlantic by

Derrick Cooper

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 07970 885 614, G4LMW@btconnect.com

25 Solar Activity and Sunspots by Andy, G3SVD

Whitton ARC

Ian, G00FN, 07956 203 495, warg.dreamhosters.com

6, 13, 20, 27 Club night – HF/ VHF on the air

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

Bredhurst RTS

brats-qth.org/brats/homepage

4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting in shack

5, 12, 19, 26 Net via DA repeater, 8pm

Brede Steam ARS

secretary@bsars.co.uk, bsars.co.uk

7, 21 Club meeting

29 Railways on the Air, Rother Valley Railway Station

Bromley & District ARS

Andy, G4WGW, 01689 878 089

4, 11, 18, 25 Net, start 145.500MHz then QSY, 9pm

17 Morse

Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society

Glenn, G4FVL, secretary@catsradio.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net ±145.4MHz 11am,

±3.7MHz, 5pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Net ±70.425MHz, 9pm

9 Club meeting

Crawley ARC

Stewart, G3YSX, 07720 068 493, stewart@g3ysx.org.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Meeting, 11am

4, 11, 18, 25 Meeting, 8pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Meeting, 2pm

18 Short history of KW Electronics, Steve, G3ZPS

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 07739 549 822

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.350MHz, 10am

3 Net ±1.905MHz, SSB then AM, 8pm

5 Cray Valley RS Annual Construction Contest, 7.30pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Net 70.425MHz, 8pm

19 Talk by Andrew Thomas: Astronomy for a

Rainy Day, 7.30pm

Crystal Palace R&EC

cprec.org

4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, ±145.525MHz, 8pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 51.55MHz, 8pm

Farnborough & District RS

Mel, M0JMR, publicity@farnboroughradio.org.uk

For details of nets see farnboroughradio.org.uk

6, 7, 8 SSB Field Day at Club HF contesting site

7 BBQ picnic at HF contesting site

11 Construction Contest

Hastings Electronics & Radio Club

John, G0OZY, herc.hastings@gmail.com

Daily net, GB3ES, 10am

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 CW net, 144.575MHz, 8pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Portable operating, 1pm

Hog's Back ARC

Ray G4LUA, 0118 981 4174

9 Natter night

Hordean & District ARC

hdarc.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 CW net 9am ±1950kHz; SSB net

9.30am ±1950kHz; 8pm on 433.450MHz

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 SSB net ±1950kHz, 7.30pm

4, 11, 18, 25 Net 145.375MHz, 7.30pm

6 Club night and licensing training, 7pm

13 Operating from the Fort night

20 Natter night and Intermediate training

28, 29 Railways on the Air, from Ropley Station

Horsham ARC

Alister, G3ZBU, 01403 253432, harc.org.uk

Southdown ARS

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

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 1.905MHz LSB, 9.30am
2 An introduction to VarAC, Ray, G4FFY St Paul's Church, 7.45pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 3.710MHz net LSB, 9am
3, 10, 17, 24 Net 51.55MHz FM, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 28.078MHz JS8, 10am
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 70.30MHz FM, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 144.6125MHz D-Star, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 144.35MHz FM, 8pm

Trowbridge & District ARC

Shaun, G0BKU, secretary.tdarc@gmail.com
4 Talk: Amateur radio but not as you know it
18 Club on the air, activity and natter night

West Kent ARS

secretary@wkars.org.uk
For net details see wkars.org.uk
9 Practical evening at Bidborough: building baluns

5, 12, 19, 26 Net, GB3WB, 8pm

Yeovil ARC

Darren Mallinson 2E0EVU, secretary@yeovil-arc.com
Meetings at Parish Room, Abbey Manor Community Centre, Yeovil
5 Open evening, welcome to anyone interested in amateur radio
12 Half-wave Zepp aerial, G3MYM
19 Practical evening – bring in your projects
26 Mini talks

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Brion Woolnough, M5ADQ, RR12@rsgb.org.uk
Bittern DX Club
James Forbes, M7PCA, m7pca57@gmail.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Net starting on 145.500MHz, 7.30pm
26 Meeting, The Spread Eagle Pub, Erpingham, NR11 7QA

Braintree & District ARS

Geoff, G1GNQ, 01376 563370, secretary@badars.co.uk
1 Vintage radio and social weekend at Stisted
3, 17 Club net 145.375MHz FM and Zoom, 8pm
10 Evening meeting in club house and on Zoom, 8pm
24 'Digital Modes talk, Dave, M0TAZ, club house & Zoom, 8pm

Bury St Edmunds ARS

bsears.co.uk
Club nets every day of the week except Sunday
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net ±3.670MHz LSB, 9am
4 Net GB3EZ, 7.30pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Net 51.425MHz FM, 9.30am
4, 11, 18, 25 Net GB3EZ, 9.30am
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 1.960MHz LSB, 9.30am
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 70.4750MHz 9.30am
7, 14, 21, 28 Net GB3EA, 9.30am
11 BSEARS Zello Channel, 7.30pm
18 Meeting, Rougham, Talk by Jake, G1YFF about GB3EA & GB3EZ, 7pm
19 DMR Net, TG840 Phoenix Network and others, 7.30pm
25 Foundation Licence Net on GB3EZ, 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, 29 144.060 MHz CW net, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 CW net on 3542kHz from 7.30pm, GB2CW on 3555kHz from 8.15pm, slowing down at 8.30pm for new operators
3 Tabletop sale
5, 12, 19, 26 Skype CW classes, 7pm
10 Club open net, GB3DA, 8pm
17 Club Open Net, GB3ER, 8pm
24 Club Open Net, 3756kHz, 8pm

Colchester ARC

Garry, M0MGP, 07740318521, secretary@g3c0.uk
1 Open net 50.225MHz, 7pm
2 Open net 70.245MHz, 7pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Open net 433.400MHz, 7pm
3, 10, 17, 24 Open net 1.920MHz LSB, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Open net on 145.350/375MHz, 7pm
5, 12, 26 Open net 3.685MHz, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Open DX net 14.125MHz, assist 145.350MHz, 2.30pm
19 Club meeting
29 Open net 28.350MHz, 7pm

Felixstowe & District ARS

Mark Riley, M5BOP, secretary@fdars.org.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net 145.400MHz, 10am
2 Autumn Series SSB contest, Shack, 7-8.30pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Open net, GB3IH, 7.30pm
16 Rally wrap-up & RSGB DR visit, Broadway House, Iain G00ZS, 7.30pm
30 Electronic Logging and QSL, Broadway House, 7.30pm

Harlow & District ARS

Ed, G5EDW, secretary@g6ut.com, g6ut.com
3, 10, 17, 24 Technical Tuesdays, 10am
4, 11, 18, 25 Club Net 145.425MHz, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club Meeting from 8pm, visitors welcome
28, 29 GB0EOR, Railways on the Air

Harwich ARIG

harig.org.uk
11 Discussion: why I like my rig

Leiston ARC

Nigel, G0EBQ 07871 662856, nigel.flatman@yahoo.com
10 Meeting, school, Waterloo Avenue, IP16 4HE

Loughton & Epping Forest ARS

David, M0VID, secretary@lefars.org.uk
1 Field Weekend at Lambourne End (last day)
4, 11, 18, 25 Net DMR Brandmeister TG 23511, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 144.725MHz FM, 8pm
6 Meeting at All Saints House, Autumn Tabletop Sale, 8pm
13, 27 Zoom meeting, 8pm
23 Meeting at All Saints House, Data Night on the Air, 8pm

Lowestoft District & Pye ARC

Sam, M7SKW, secretary@ldparc.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 433.575MHz, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 145.475MHz, 8pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club Meeting, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 51.490MHz, 8pm

Martello Tower Group

martellotowergroup.com
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net GB3CE, 8pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, GB3CL, 8pm

South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, southessex-ars.co.uk
12 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
6 Demo: UHF digital voice multi-mode repeater GB7IX

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RR: Bob Hamby, M0HAF, RR13@rsgb.org.uk
Bolsover ARS
G4KSY, 01246 827135, Facebook page: @bolsoverars
3, 17 Club meeting, Bainbridge Hall, Bolsover, 8pm

Hinckley AR & ES

Michel Dixon, G4GHJ, hinckleyradiosociety@gmail.com
3 144MHz UK Activity Contest
4 Club meeting and prep for HF Field Day
7, 8 HF Field Day
10 432MHz UK Activity Contest
12 50MHz UK Activity Contest
18 2m/ 70cm practical evening

Kettering & District ARS

Les, 2E0MNZ, les@moylehousehold.co.uk
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Breakfast meeting, 10am
3, 10, 17, 24 Meeting, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.300MHz, 7pm

Leicester RS

Sandra Morley, G0MVC, 07930274044
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club and Zoom meeting, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Club meeting, 10am

Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam Rose, g4sto@outlook.com
3, 19 Lincolnshire Aviation Centre, East Kirkby, radio room open
4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aisthorpe, 7.30pm
5, 19 Club net GB3LM, if its off air 145.350MHz, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aisthorpe, 9.30am
12, 26 Club net GB3LS, if its off air 145.350MHz, 8pm

Loughborough & District ARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319, g1etz@aol.com
3 Talk (TBA)
10 Wymeswold portable, subject to WX
17 Video disk player
24 Practical and natter night

Nunsfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Shack Night & Club Net 145.300MHz, 8pm
6 Shack tidy night
13 Club meeting
20 TX Factor video
27 Offshore Pirate Radio Pt 1

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob Pickles, G3VCA, 07971 166250
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club Net 145.325MHz, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club Meeting at the Pyewipe, 8pm

South Derbyshire and Ashby Woulds ARG

Jacqui, 2E0JQY, sdawarg.secretary@gmail.com
3, 10, 17, 24 SSB open net, 144.225MHz, 7pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Club evening, 7pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Open net 70.425MHz, 7pm
7, 8 SSB Field Day (GXOSRC from Repton)

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, info@wvars.com
2 Club net, 145.275MHz FM, 7pm
16 Meeting, Great Bowden Village Hall, 7pm

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 1.860MHz 9.30, 144.260MHz 10.30am
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 144.260MHz USB, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm
16 Meeting, Appledore Football Clubhouse, 7.30pm

Bath and District ARC

David, G0DPW, badarc@protonmail.com
3 Social
3, 10, 17, 24 Net 70.475MHz, 7.30pm
6, 13, 20 Zoom
26 Meeting

Blackmoor Vale ARS

Keith, M0TMO, 07796 494496, www.bvars.org.uk
3, 10, 17, 24 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
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, GB3JL repeater, 8pm
4, 11, 18, 25 Lunch, The Engine House Café PL17 8EA, 1.30pm

Christchurch ARS

christchurchars.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 144.725MHz, 7pm
5 Collecting Vintage Electronics, Duncan Layne, G0AHK, 7.30pm
12, 19, 26 Natter Night, 7.30pm

Cornish Radio Amateur Club

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939, G7VOH@btinternet.com
3 Committee meeting
5 Club meeting

Flight Refuelling ARS

Gareth, G0MFR, info@frars.co.uk
1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29 Club meeting, 7pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Nets 70.400MHz 7pm, 145.3875, 8pm

Gordano ARG

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

Holsworthy ARC

qsl.net/m0omc
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, GB3DN, 7.30pm
4 Meeting, Milton Damerel Chapel

Saltash & District ARC

Mark Chanter, M0WMB, 07810 548 445
4, 11, 18, 25 Net via GB3PL, 7.30pm
14 Churches on the Air
17 Meeting, Burraton Centre, 7pm

South Bristol ARC

Andy Jenner, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471, enquiries@sbarc.co.uk
5 Briefing for Railways on the Air, 8pm
19 Zoom discussion, 8pm
28, 29 Railways on the Air, 9am/ 9.30am

Weston Super Mare RS

westonradiosociety@gmail.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting Weston Super Mare Social Club, 7.30pm

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

The Halifax and District ARS (HADARS) once again played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth operation of the Cragg Challenge 2024. This event, which includes a series of physically demanding challenges, takes place on the infamous 8km climb, renowned as the longest continuous climb in England. Popular with cyclists and walkers the terrain presents significant communication challenges due to numerous blackout areas caused by the valleys and hills, making comprehensive communication coverage difficult.

HADARS, leveraging its years of experience, rose to the challenge once more. The society has a longstanding relationship with the Cragg Challenge, having supported the event for several years. Their involvement provides HADARS members with valuable air time on the amateur radio bands, allowing them to hone their communication skills in a real-world environment.

The primary role of HADARS during the event is multifaceted. Operators provide crucial support to motorcycle marshals and the ambulance service, ensuring that help can be dispatched quickly in case of emergencies. Additionally, HADARS is responsible for keeping event organisers updated with real-time information from the entire route. This real-time data is vital for the smooth running of the event, enabling organisers to make informed decisions swiftly.

To tackle the unique communication challenges posed by the Cragg Challenge, HADARS strategically placed checkpoints along the route. These checkpoints serve as vital communication hubs, ensuring that messages can be relayed efficiently despite the difficult terrain. Moreover, HADARS operated a remote repeater station constructed by Max Townend, G4SDX at Mount Skip between Old Town and the village of Midgley. This essential station offers a commanding view of the entire course, making it a pivotal part of the communication strategy. The elevated position of Mount Skip allows for better signal propagation, thus mitigating some of the blackout issues caused by the valleys and hills.

In summary, the Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society's involvement in the Cragg Challenge 2024 was instrumental in ensuring the event ran smoothly. Its expertise in handling communication in difficult terrains, combined with their dedication to the amateur radio community, underscores the significant role HADARS plays in both local events and the broader amateur radio landscape. The society's efforts not only support the safety and coordination of the event but also provide a valuable training ground for amateur radio operators, highlighting the practical importance of this engaging hobby.



REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Even for Wythall Radio Club's hardy team, June's annual GBOBUS special event station at Transport Museum Wythall was a challenge! "Let's do this again" members said as they tidied away in 2023's balmy mid-summer weather. It seemed a good idea at the time, but they hadn't reckoned on the jet stream this year looping south and bringing some rather unseasonable weather. Despite the rain and wind, ten Club members turned out and put on a great show to celebrate International Museums on the Air weekend. Members ran two HF stations and a satellite station (including a contact with St Helena) using CW, SSB and digital modes. As usual, the Museum hosts were very hospitable and the hot drinks and food from the on-site café were a definite plus given the weather. Running two HF stations in close proximity using wire antennas on a small site has its own problems, even when operating QRP. So, members are discussing various options before next year's event.

Two weeks on from GBOBUS and the Club had glorious sunshine for a DIY foxhunt in Wythall Park (pictured). Whilst the nation dozed in front of their football screens during the early Euro games, a very different and dynamic team of 11 club members were busy making 70cm hand-held Yagi antennas from simple kits made up by Neil, G1TZC and assistant Debra. Their mission: to find the location of a very small transmitter running on milliwatts. Dogs and dog walkers alike quickly sought cover at the sight of Club members, antennas held aloft, combing the wide-open spaces of Wythall Park. In the end, the 'fox' was discovered at the foot of a tree by Derek, G1INC who returned to base triumphantly holding the trophy aloft – it was smiles all round at the end of a very enjoyable evening. Lee, GOMTN commented: "I was out of practice working out what was a reflection and how strong signals should be a particular distance from a very low-power transmitter. Great mid-summer evening entertainment!"

Attention has now turned to the Club's annual 'Plug and Play Day' in Wythall Park in the Autumn, and a possible further special event station later in the year. The Club meets every Tuesday evening and visitors are always welcome to attend, as well as at the Club's special events, the programme for which is available at wythallradioclub.co.uk



REGION 7: SOUTH WALES



My name is Melanie, MWOPYZ and I am located in Mid Wales in the Cambrian Mountains. I fast-tracked from having zero knowledge of radio to fully-licensed radio amateur in ten months. I wanted to know why my husband, Roger, MWOTSU, found the hobby so exciting and to have an understanding of what he was talking about. I started looking through his old RSGB *Foundation Licence Now!* book. He said "you should do it – you'll pass, it's easy!" So, I registered with Essex Ham on their online weekly Foundation course and studied the RSGB *Foundation Licence Now!* book. I was pleased in April 2023 when I passed.

As a Foundation licence holder I had contact with 31 different countries using 10W, the furthest being 2,780 miles into Canada. I did some portable transmitting as well from different locations using a Yaesu FT-817 and an inverted-V antenna (using an Ampro mag-mount antenna on the car roof).

Originally, I only intended to pass Foundation level, but was encouraged to carry on to Intermediate study. I used the online videos from GM6DX "Gettin' Tae Grips with the UK Intermediate Licence" and, after much studying, note taking and diagram drawing, I passed in August 2023 and took on the callsign 2W0XGH. As an Intermediate licensee using 50W I spoke to 49 different countries, the furthest being 6171 miles into Brazil, plus a great one into a QSO party in Santa Cruz, California (5244 miles) on the 10m band.

I would have stopped at Intermediate level but was encouraged by Roger's friend, Colin, M5AEH, to go for the Full examination while it was all still fresh in my memory. So I registered with OARC (Online Amateur Radio Community) on a 13-week online course which finished in December 2023. I didn't feel ready to take the exam straight away, so I did loads of revision every day – all day, every day in the two weeks before the exam using *The Full Licence Manual* from the RSGB. Although I still didn't feel ready, I booked my exam for the beginning of February 2024 and – most importantly – I passed! My country count is 47 so far, this time. I am now a total convert to the hobby. I find it interesting and exciting talking to people all over the world and of course, locally in the UK, contest weekends and collecting special callsigns. I am also taking part in CHOTA (Churches on the Air) in September this year with my local Church, St John's, Carno, Powys, Wales (special Callsign GBOSTJ) and, with the help of my husband Roger, hope to get many contacts and a few other Churches on the Air too.



REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

Recently, **Brian Webb, MI7DFV**, from Mid Ulster ARC, featured in a BBC Northern Ireland story entitled 'Amateur radio club has changed my life'. Brian, who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair, was interviewed by the BBC about the opportunities that opened up for him after joining the Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club.

You can read the story at tinyurl.com/MI7DFV-BBC

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

The weather was kind again this year and **Braintree and District ARS's** annual Antenna Clinic was well attended. It was great to see so many club members bringing along their home-brew and newly-purchased antennas to be given a thorough test by club chairman Dave, G0DEC using the club's VNA. The evening was hosted by club secretary Geoff, G1GNQ, who had put up several masts for members to use, and his large garden was festooned with masts, guys, wires, verticals and aluminium beams of all shapes and sizes! The photo shows Melvin, G0EMK mounting his vintage five-element 4m cubical quad beam on a mast for testing, ably assisted by several club members – and with an audience of several more.



The summer brought plenty of opportunity for **Felixstowe and District ARS** members to operate in different surroundings and learn new skills. Chris, G6PDE hosted a Pedestrian Direction Finding (DF) event in the museum field adjacent to the club shack, allowing members to become familiar with HF DF receivers and get a little exercise while finding the hidden transmitters.

Club members also had the opportunity in July to operate from its local beach in Felixstowe, taking advantage of the improved take-off while also enjoying the beach hut hospitality provided by Chris and Geraldine.

Alongside this, club secretary, Mark, M5BOP, wife Vicky and daughter Esther were pleased to welcome a new family member, Timothy, at the end of June.

Over 800 people attended a two-day military weekend at the Suffolk Aviation Heritage Museum site, also home to the Society's shack. Members put on demonstrations of WWI and WWII radios, celebrating the 85th Anniversary of the WAAFS, contributions made by women in the RAF, and 80years of D-Day and the role amateur radio played during the two World Wars. Sarah, 2E0ISJ (Chair of Felixstowe and District ARS) is pictured here dressed as an RAF radio operator.



The Society also held three weekends of special event stations, the D-Day 80th, and the two weekends of International Museums on The Air, logging over 100 QSOs with the club call signs GX4ZFR and GB1FOX.

Norfolk Coast ARS, will be active as GB4BCC during the Churches and Chapels on the Air event on 14 September from Beacon Community Church, Bacton, Norfolk.

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RAF Waddington ARC was proud to support the Newark Air Museum Cockpit-Fest event again this year on 22 and 23 June.

The station was set up near the Avro Vulcan XM594 as usual, operating on HF bands (SSB and CW), and 2m FM, using the call sign GBONAM. 89 QSOs were made over the weekend and the Club would like to thank the radio amateurs who took the time to contact it. Contacts have been acknowledged on QRZ.com Bob, G3VCA also managed to teach some Morse code to Air Scouts who were on site.

The Club operated from Lincolnshire Wolds Railway on Sunday 7 July commemorating the 6ZZ centenary, that readers will be familiar with from the article in the August edition of *RadCom*, using the call sign GX4LMR. Operation was on the HF bands (SSB) and 2m with voice contacts being made and SSTV pictures sent from one of the railway's trains.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

On 20 and 21 July, South Derbyshire & Ashby Woulds ARG attended the Barton Under Needwood Steam Rally and Family Festival at Needwood Rise Farm, Barton-under-Needwood, Staffordshire.

Stations were set up for HF, 2m and 4m. The weather was good and footfall past the pitch on Saturday was also good, with a fair bit of interest. One particular gentleman who came to talk to members told them that he had never seen anything like the Group's setup before, and was extremely impressed.

Sunday, however, was exceptional with the amount of people who came to visit. Icom had very kindly provided some brochures and pens to give away so the Society made up small bundles with its club details and flyers promoting the hobby. On entering the site, there was an overwhelming sense of unity, family, support and appreciation of everything that had been put on for everyone to enjoy. A fantastic series of memories were made for all who took part and members were proud of their efforts.

The Society wishes to thank everyone (including many licensed amateurs who are now thinking of returning to the hobby) for venturing away from the other excellent stalls and exhibits to come and see what it is all about.

Sterling work was delivered by everyone concerned, especially Jacqui, 2EOJQY who made all of arrangements with the rally organiser.

The Society is now looking forward to next year and has been discussing other ideas that it can bring along to this amazing event. Before that, members will be showing off the hobby at Moira Furnace for the BIWOTA event during the August bank holiday. The venue is close to members' hearts as it is literally on the club's doorstep.

Present over the weekend were: G5RJH (Chairman), G7JHW (Vice Chairman), MOTRZ (Treasurer), 2EOJQY (Secretary), 2EOMGA (operator), MOJEO (operator), GORFD with Millie the dog, M7EIN (caravanner extraordinaire) and family and friends.



With an improvement in the weather, South Normanton, Alfreton and District ARC is now very active at weekends. The Club operates most Saturdays from a high point in Derbyshire and welcome all members to come and join it. One recent field day, on 27 July, took members to the Crich Memorial (mercianregiment.co.uk/crich) which is one of the Club's favourite high points. With the permission of the wardens, members are able to operate from the car park area and 14 members turned up with an array of radios and antennas. The 2m band proved to be very successful with contacts on both FM and SSB. The conditions on HF were more of a challenge with the 20m band being the Club's most successful band.

In June, Welland Valley ARS ran special event station GB0WVR from Symington's Recreation Ground during Market Harborough Carnival. The weather was looking very ominous as members set up at 7.30am. The day started with dark clouds and some light rain but come mid-morning the clouds had passed by, the Sun was shining, and the sky was blue.

Operators ran an HF station through a cobweb antenna on top of a 30ft (9.1m) crank-up tower from around 11am to 4pm and managed to attract quite a lot of attention. Andy, GØSFJ (pictured) had mounted an oscillator inside the body of a Number 19 set and was busy encouraging anyone who passed to try their hand at CW. It seemed to work as a steady stream of interested parties were lured in and given certificates for their efforts.

As in previous years, much fun was had and the Society again managed to raise its profile in the town while also getting some good publicity for amateur radio.



Spalding & District ARS recently had the pleasure of two excellent presentations to its members.

Dave, G4IAR and Judith, G4IAQ from Worked All Britain (WAB) updated members on the background and current awards available. Given that there is a high level of Parks on the Air and Bunkers on the Air operations within the club, it was great to see the benefits of also using WAB squares. It was also pleasing that 11 members joined WAB on the night.

Andy, M1NER came along and gave members an in-depth talk on the background, operations and equipment for use with Meshtastic. Members noted that it is surprisingly cheap to get going with equipment and the talk stimulated many conversations afterwards.

The Society would like to thank all for giving their time and expertise to the club and its members. Both talks attracted around 25 members.

