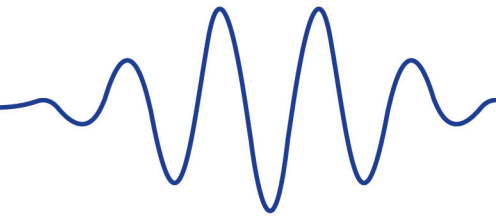




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



# Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

January 2025



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](mailto:radcom@rsgb.org.uk)  
Post your event on the RSGB website by logging in at [rsgb.org/members](http://rsgb.org/members)

## Get involved with Youngsters on the Air Month

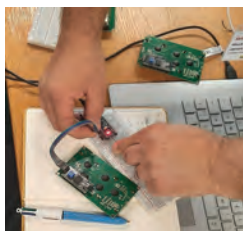
There is still time to get involved with Youngsters on the Air Month. The special call sign is active throughout December and is a fantastic opportunity to get youngsters active on the amateur bands. Do listen out for the callsign and encourage the youngsters on the air.

Whether you are part of a school, university, youth group, a club or an individual, the RSGB would love you to be involved. The Society would be delighted to see the call sign hosted every day during December and see as many youngsters on the air as possible. Be part of this goal by visiting QRZ.com and searching GB24YOTA to check availability. Operating slots aren't fixed and can be adjusted to suit your timings, so don't delay. Email Jamie, MOSDV via [yota.month@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:yota.month@rsgb.org.uk) now. Visit [rsgb.org/yota-month](http://rsgb.org/yota-month) to find out more.



## Look at the new practical events section on our website

The RSGB is keen to promote practical events for radio amateurs as a way of developing their skills and retaining their interest in amateur radio. The Society has also demonstrated that buildathons are a great way of engaging new audiences, giving people a taste of amateur radio in a fun and supportive environment. As part of its strategy, the RSGB held two workshops at the 2024 Convention to introduce individuals to radio-related usage of Micro Controller Units, or MCUs as they are often known. The Society also holds annual build-a-radio events at Bletchley Park for youngsters, with the kits provided by the Radio Communications Foundation.



To support radio amateurs to try practical skills themselves or to put on their own events, the RSGB has published a new section on its website that is dedicated to practical events. You'll find a guide to running a buildathon, detailed information from the MCU workshop as well as a short video to inspire you!

Feedback from the RSGB's events have been wholly positive with requests for similar activities around the country. Could your club host an event and perhaps even boost its numbers at the same time? Find out more at [rsgb.org/practical-events](http://rsgb.org/practical-events)

## RSGB volunteer confirmed as Chair of CEPT Frequency Management Working Group

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

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

Barry has also continued his work in CEPT on the 23cm band, following the outcomes from WRC-23.

IARU and RSGB volunteers are also starting ITU WRC-27 preparations, where further bands and topics of concern to amateur radio will be decided in 2027.

## New focus on future spectrum

The RSGB strategic priority on spectrum has taken its next steps as the Society is now formally engaged on work for the 2027 and 2031 ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences. CEPT and ITU have already held their first preparation meetings for these events, where agenda items from HF to millimetre waves are key items of concern to amateur radio.

The RSGB has introduced a new special focus page on WRC-27/31 which you can find via [rsgb.org/wrc-27](http://rsgb.org/wrc-27) This page includes topics such as 6G telecoms and satellites, wireless power, space weather, and lunar communications.

Supporting a new WRC-31 opportunity, we are also grateful to Chris Whitmarsh, G0FDZ and Roger Ray, G8CUB for a great overview on amateur innovation above 275GHz, which you can read online at [rsgb.org/terahertz](http://rsgb.org/terahertz)

In parallel, work is also ongoing associated with the prior WRC-23 outcome and current CEPT considerations of the 1.3GHz (23cm) band.



## The RSGB Awards Manager has added categories to the IARU Region 1 Award

The RSGB Awards Manager has announced that, with the support of the Board, he has added new categories of achievement to the IARU Region 1 Award. These include WARC bands only, 10MHz only, 18MHz only and 24MHz only.

The standard IARU Region 1 Award check spreadsheet should continue to be used for these categories. However, award chasers are advised to keep separate versions for each band or set of bands. There are no mode or power restrictions and there is no distinction between fixed and portable stations; you just have to be operating within the same country for all QSOs used in the application. There aren't any limitations on the start dates for the awards other than the dates for particular countries as identified in the check sheet. This reflects, for example, when a country became a member of the IARU.

The RSGB would like to thank the award chasers who contributed to the discussions about adding new categories.

To read more about the award go to [rsgb.org/awards](http://rsgb.org/awards) and choose the HF Awards option.



## Tonight@8 in 2025

The Tonight@8 live webinar programme continues with some great topics next year. On Monday 6 January we focus on GB2RS which celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2025. There will be a variety of activities to mark this milestone including awards, a special QSL card and some special events. A range of presenters will share more about these and also explain how GB2RS is compiled each week and shared across the airwaves by a band of volunteer newsreaders. In February and March, we look at basic fault finding/basic electronics and hear about an interesting DXpedition. For more information go to [rsgb.org/webinars](http://rsgb.org/webinars)



## RSGB elections – ensuring the right volunteers are in the right roles



When this edition of RadCom lands on your mat we will be the middle of December, and I will have just four months of my Presidency left. When I took up the role in April 2023, one of my main objectives was to steer the RSGB back onto a strategic course which would keep it strong and relevant into the future. At the strategic growth workshop in February, we identified the importance of having the right volunteers in the right roles. This is an opportunity to start putting that goal into action.

The RSGB needs new Board Directors and they will be required to have a variety of skills to fill the vacant positions. In my own case, I am one of the few at Board level with extensive experience in Spectrum matters and negotiating with the authorities, so that gap will need to be filled.

Outreach has been a very large part of our work over the past year, driven very ably by one Director, and this essential work must be supported and expanded. We have started to contact organisations such as u3a who have people interested in amateur radio, and there are many other like-minded organisations that we need to reach out to. This will require someone with drive and determination to develop the links, but in doing so they will also need tact and diplomacy.

This is your opportunity to be part of this vital work to keep us on track to deliver what we promised: growth of the hobby and RSGB membership, continued defence of our precious spectrum, together with a financially resilient Society. Please do have a look on the RSGB Board web page where you will see the range of areas that each Board Director oversees and the extensive menu to the right will give you an insight into the entire organisation: [rsgb.org/board](https://rsgb.org/board)

You can find the list of vacancies and more about the role of President on this page, and full information on each of the roles on our election webpage at [rsgb.org/election](https://rsgb.org/election)

I urge you to study this information carefully. We need people with the right skills and characteristics to stand for these roles and be part of the large band of volunteers who are the lifeblood of our hobby, the Society and the future of amateur radio. Being President has been both an immensely challenging but also very enjoyable experience. Can you rise to the challenge of being the next President or filling one of the other vacant roles, or do you know someone who could?

**John McCullagh MBE, G14BWM**  
RSGB President

### About being the RSGB President

There is no job description or person specification for the role of President. Each President shapes the role and activities they carry out to best match their view of the role, and by responding to requests for activities which will arise during their term as President. But there are some traits and skills which are important.

**Presentational and media skills:** The President will represent the Society and amateur radio at events as they arise during the term, so candidates should have some experience of public speaking and delivering presentations to audiences of varying sizes. The President will also be expected to speak and appear on live media at amateur radio events and to the mainstream media as opportunities to promote the hobby arise.

**Knowledge of amateur radio:** The President will need to have at least a limited knowledge of most aspects of the hobby so they can meet and relate to, for example, special interest groups. The President will need to advocate for amateur radio and so should understand and be able to articulate clearly what makes our hobby great.

**Knowledge of the RSGB:** The Society is a broad organisation and so the President needs to understand how the Society works and how the various interest groups mesh with it and amateur radio. They also need good knowledge of the services the Society provides for its members and for the wider amateur radio community. This knowledge is unlikely to be present in a candidate who has not been a volunteer for a period and an RSGB member for a longer period.

**Being a Board Director:** The President is a Board Director so some knowledge of the work of a Director is helpful but not essential. Reference can be made to the Director's candidate pack on the website for more information.

**Availability:** The President is expected to attend Board meetings (which happen monthly in person or online), RSGB events such as the Convention and AGM, as well as major amateur radio events such as the National Hamfest. Presidents also commonly attend smaller amateur radio events such as radio club rallies and meetings. Candidates will need to be able to travel and stay away as needed.

**Generally:** The role of President is well suited to someone who can relate to and talk engagingly with a wide range of people of varying backgrounds.

### Roles for election in 2025

**President:** Our current President John McCullagh, G14BWM will reach the end of his second year as President at the AGM and so will stand down. We are seeking candidates for this important role.

**Board Director:** There will be two Elected Board Director vacancies. The first is to fill a vacancy which arose during 2024. The second is because Tony Miles, MMOTMZ will reach the end of his first three-year term at the AGM and must stand down or seek re-election.

**Regional Representatives:** Eight posts are available for nominations: Region 1 (Scotland South & Western Isles); Region 4 (England North-East); Region 7 (South Wales); Region 8 (Northern Ireland); Region 9 (London & Thames Valley); Region 10 (England South & South-East); Region 11 (SW England & Channel Islands); and Region 12 (England East & East Anglia).

#### Closing date for all the vacancies is 31 January 2025

**The process:** Full details of the roles and candidate forms are on the RSGB website at [rsgb.org/election](https://rsgb.org/election)

Where there are more candidates than vacancies, a ballot will be held and we hope every RSGB member will vote.

**Not sure if this could be a role for you?** First, please read the information set out on the election web page. If you'd like an informal discussion about the Board Director or Regional Representative roles, email RSGB Company Secretary Stephen Purser, GW4SHF via [company.secretary@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:company.secretary@rsgb.org.uk)

If you'd like to find out more about the role of RSGB President, email John McCullagh, G14BWM via [president@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:president@rsgb.org.uk)

If you know someone who has the right skills, experience and characteristics for any of these roles, please encourage them to consider applying.

## RSGB HF Contests – what's new for 2025?

We have made some changes to our HF contests for 2025, outlined here. The details are available in our published rules; see the web link at the bottom of the article.

### FT4 Series

The number of sessions in this popular series will be increased to 12 (one per month), with the best nine results contributing to each entrant's final score for the year. With five bands available and lots of activity, each event will be extended to two hours, from 8pm – 10pm. The first session is on Monday 20 January.

### 1.8 MHz Contests

The two 1.8MHz contests (February and November) will be shortened to three hours each, running from 8pm until 11pm. The option of making QSOs using SSB will be introduced to the February event as this coincides with a Dutch contest that includes SSB.

### Commonwealth Contest

Following a wide-ranging review and consultation after the event in March 2024, the following changes are being made:

- The governance of the contest will be shared between a number of Commonwealth National Radio Societies, promoting the celebration of the Commonwealth that is at the heart of the event
- Participants will be encouraged to use "CC" rather than "BERU" when calling
- Scoring will be changed so that ten QSO points are awarded for QSOs with other continents and five QSO points for those with the same continent
- Entry sections will be High Power (maximum licensed power), Low Power (100W) and QRP (5W) sections, with no aerial restrictions.
- The UK & Crown Dependencies will be split into seven Commonwealth Call Areas to provide additional bonus points for stations outside the UK, in order to encourage inter-continental QSOs
- Awards will be reallocated and expanded to encourage participation – details will be published later

### Self-spotting

Self-spotting will be permitted on a trial basis in 2025, for both assisted and unassisted entrants in all RSGB HF Contests and using all modes. Some advice will be made available on how self-spotting can be achieved.

### Field Day registration

A facility for optional registration will be provided for Field Days and for the International Low Power Contest, so that entrants may have some advanced warning as to the teams likely to be taking part.

Please see the full details on the RSGB Contesting website at [rsgbcc.org/hf](http://rsgbcc.org/hf)

## RSGB Convention Chair

We've been developing the RSGB's Convention over recent years to suit the changing needs of the amateur radio community. From a face-to-face meeting it evolved into an online event when we weren't allowed to meet, then changed again into a hybrid event, bringing together the best of both for people in this country and across the world. We've also been developing the programme to include practical workshops and forums to support radio amateurs who would like a safe and accessible environment in which to try or develop their practical skills.

The RSGB General Manager has been doing the role of Convention Chair for the last three years but has now stepped back from that additional voluntary role, so the RSGB is looking for a new Convention Chair.

This role needs someone who understands the advantages of both online and in-person events and who can contribute to shaping the RSGB Conventions of the future to suit the changing amateur radio audience.

We're looking for someone who is enthusiastic, proactive, collaborative and good at working with others in a strong team. They will also need an awareness of all aspects of amateur radio, including the latest developments and what might be on the horizon, so they can contribute ideas for speakers and practical activities that will attract a range of radio amateurs.

Experience of event organisation would be useful, but the organising team includes members with significant experience in this area.

If you believe you could contribute to the development of this prestigious annual event, we would like to hear from you.

If you're interested in the role or would like to find out more, please contact the RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB via [gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk)

## RSGB Lecture Coordinator

The RSGB facilitates just over sixty lectures per year in a mixture of in-person, hybrid and remote formats. Fifty of these are at the RSGB Convention, and eleven are delivered through the livestreamed Tonight@8 webinars programme of events.

This set of presentations aims to cover a wide mix of amateur radio-related subjects, across all depths of amateur radio experience and knowledge. They are watched and admired by RSGB members and non-members across the world.

The RSGB's recent Lecture Coordinator Keith Hotchkiss, GOFEA has stepped back from the role to focus on his professional commitments, so the RSGB is looking for someone new for this volunteer role.

The Lecture Coordinator will be part of the Tonight@8 and Convention teams. They will be proactive and collaborative, bringing ideas for presentations that educate and inspire radio amateurs to try something new, learn more about interesting topics and expand their knowledge of amateur radio.

They will lead the invitation and scheduling process for Tonight@8 webinars and will contribute to the decisions about Convention presentations. They will also be the main contact with Convention presenters, inviting them to speak, updating the speaker project plan and helping to create a balanced programme.

Reporting to the Convention Chair, the Lecture Coordinator would be a member of the RSGB Convention team but would not be required to take responsibility for organising and managing other aspects of the RSGB Convention.

If you're interested in the role or would like to find out more, please contact the RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB via [gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk)



# QSL Matters

Currently there are around 650k of incoming card for UK stations each year.

The QSL bureau concentrates on the B side – business side of a QSL – often ignoring the pictorial A side. Thousands of cards arrived from IQ4 prefix Italian club stations, shortly after the summer holidays, with cards featuring the April 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Marconi's birth.

There was something odd about the A-side's black and white artistic and seemingly abstract pencil sketches. Weeks later at the final checking stage, two packs of A-side cards were laid down juxtaposed. Light bulb moment by simply moving them around, they joined up. The hunt was on to find more. Cards from nine clubs taking part in the ARI CRER event formed a full picture. We've never ever seen this before, something that may be unique and a real first. What a brilliant idea! It obviously took quite some thought and execution, but the outcome is amazing. We were bowled over and we hope you are. If you're lucky enough to have contacted all nine stations, cards to amaze your friends and family are on their way to your sub-manager. Make sure you have envelopes lodged.

For those that don't have all nine, some duplicates or one or two missing, why not play on the air, 'trading cards'?

The UK appears to be number three on the countries list for most stations worked so there's plenty around. Check your log for: IQ4AD; IQ4AX; IQ4FC; IQ4FD; IQ4FH; IQ4FJ; IQ4LH; IQ4SC; and IQ4UXJ.

More info at [www.150marconi.org](http://www.150marconi.org)

**Richard. J. Constantine, G3UGF**

**QSL Bureau Manager**

[qsl@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:qsl@rsgb.org.uk)



## Congratulations

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

### 60 Years

Mr K Orchard  
Mr R Dunham  
Mr P Collett  
Mr T Toth  
Mr G Diacon  
Mr D Earnshaw

G3TTC  
G3ZSQ  
G4LYC  
G4ORF  
G8EWT  
NR3Y

### 50 Years

Mr E Ramm  
Mr S Harms  
Mr P Given  
Mr E Morgan  
Mr R Woodman  
Mr D Campbell

DJ6UX  
DL9HAL  
G3ZDK  
G4AIU  
G4DSD  
G4ELG

Mr M Williams  
Mr F Breame  
Mr S Kirk  
Dr J Read  
Mr P Alcock

G4GRS  
G8ISI  
MOIAQ  
RS35581  
RS46057

## 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 G Barton	2E0GBN	Mr D Kirby	M7HID	Mr J Bennett	RS410446	Mr G Heath	RS411615
Mr T Wardill	2E0JJI	Mr V Sickelmore	M7HMI	Mr P Mcanena	RS410782	Mr V Barber	RS411616
Mr J Danny	DJ2515	Mr P Slade	M7HMU	Mr A Nicholson	RS410935	Mr M D'Agostino	RS411617
Mr S Parkinson	G6LAO	Mr C Perkins	M7HNG	Mr S Davis	RS411095	Mr J Newman	RS411620
Mr R Gill	G7NRD	Mr J Nicholson	M7KPN	Mr R Spence	RS411200	Mr S Hughes	RS411624
Mr P Wilkinson	G8GDS	Mr J Kotula	M7KWO	Mr G Kenyeres	RS411281	Mr A Bolton	RS411639
Mr C Berry	MOGXV	Mr S Cameron	M7NIM	Mr J Sheehan	RS411350	Mr M Hickey	RS411640
Mr C Pierce	MOKRH	Miss E King-Evans	M7NNT	Mr J Evans	RS411354	Mr G Smith	RS411641
Mr P Eachus	MOKVH	Mr C Heaysman	M7NZO	Mr S York	RS411365	Mr N Williams	RS411710
Mr P Gay	MOPCG	Mr C Newman	M7RFB	Mr D Gibson	RS411410	Mr P Dombrowski	RS411712
Mr K Primrose	MORKP	Mr R Fisher	M7RYF	Mr B Wallis	RS411417	Mr N Burrell	RS411713
Mr C Howell	MOTXB	Mr L Cornelius	M7SLC	Mr P Counsell	RS411420	Mr I Willett	RS411716
Mr P Metz	MOXXZ	Mr A Miles	M7STQ	Mr P Crowder	RS411467	Mr R Lippiatt	RS411717
Mr N Coxhead	M6VBG	Mr D Watson	M7TTN	Mr R Siddall	RS411468	Mr L Smeaton	RS411718
Mr K Smith	M7BJN	Mr M Megarry	M7YEO	Dr I Beal	RS411483	Mr H Walmsley	RS411729
Mr J Cook	M7FFG	Mr K Mc Erlean	MI7PUI	Mr M Donald	RS411485	Mr I Nieto	RS411730
Mr S Mythen	M7FTB	Mr S Greene	MI7WHD	Mr I Dimmock	RS411488	Mr N House	RS411733
Mr P Wallace	M7GLT	Dr P Wakeford	MM30LJ	Mr A Watts	RS411489	Mr A Dacko	RS411739
Mr A Ragucos	M7HAI	Mx D Diener	MM7HMA	Mr I Padgett	RS411498	Mr M Nedic	VK5MN
Mr S Navid	M7HAU	Mr M Knell	OE1OMK	Mr A Barnes	RS411512	Mr W Liporace	WC2L
Mr M Roberts	M7HCZ	Mr T Paterson	RS402048	Mr R Goddard	RS411528	Mr E Macfarlane	ZS6DIP
Mr D McIntosh	M7HEP	Dr T Overend	RS409995	Mr W Stevenson	RS411530		
Mr M Colman	M7HHT	Mr M Taylor	RS410351	Mr D Archer	RS411614		

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

Mr R Byrne	2E0BYV	Mr M Butler	G0GXZ	Mr M Perrett	G8LCE	Mr R Dunn	M6SRN
Mr T Willis	2E0CJQ	Mr D Hedley	G0OYN	Mr P Frend	G1OFZT	Mr D Pyke	M7ATX
Mr P Hill	2E0EQU	Mr C Brown	G0UNJ	Mr J Caswell	GW7HQL	Mr J Davies	M7JGB
Ms F Flintham	2E0JOT	Mr P Cox	G1CEY	Mr R Stringer	MODTG	Mr K McAuley	M1OCRQ
Mr P Robinson	2E0PRO	Mr D Kemplen	G1NSV	Dr P King	MOLNB	Mr D Kyle	M15KAW
Mr R Goswami	9Y4R	Mr K Campbell	G4NOX	Mr J Timmis	M1CMM	Mr D Wood	MMOALM
Mr D Paris	F5MNH	Mr M Hoskins	G6ZVL	Mr T Walsh	M5TAW	Mr A Cormack	RS161443
Mr M Matthews	G0BJU	Mr P White	G7ULJ	Mr B Wood	M6KXU	Mr K Dearlove	RS339269

## u3a gets a new club call sign - G5UTA (University of the Third Age)

u3a has groups throughout the UK, which offer the opportunity for those who are retired or not working full time to explore new ideas, skills and interests. Amateur radio is one of u3a's subject areas and has a new adviser, Paul, G0NDN. You can find out more or contact Paul via the u3a website at [u3a.org.uk/learning/subjects/amateur-radio](http://u3a.org.uk/learning/subjects/amateur-radio)

Originally u3a had G5TAM as its callsign. In June, it was realised that the suffix UTA had only been allocated by Ofcom for special events and therefore was not a club callsign as such. Members of Wokingham u3a Amateur Radio Group (Wu3a AR Group) applied for a club callsign on behalf of u3a. This was possible because Wu3a AR Group is a u3a group, rather than an amateur radio club.

The group has close ties to Bracknell Amateur Radio Club (BARC) and members help each other at amateur radio events. The contribution from BARC towards the cost of the G5UTA licence was welcomed.

On 25 September, which was during national u3a Week, the group operated using G5UTA for the first time from their QTH at Woosehill Community Centre. Whilst not the official log, all first-day contacts were logged on the G5UTA QRZ.com web page.

G5UTA can be used by any u3a member with a Full licence, in support of a u3a event or demonstration. You don't have to be in a local u3a amateur radio group. Contact John, G8PJC via [JohnPMcDonald@BTinternet.com](mailto:JohnPMcDonald@BTinternet.com) to get authorisation for the time and place.



## GBOMC on the air in December

The Humber Fortress DX Amateur Radio Club will once again be running the special callsign of GBOMC (Merry Christmas) from 1-26 December. It will also be livestreaming on its YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/@humberfortressdxarc](https://youtube.com/@humberfortressdxarc)

The club would like to invite everyone to call in and give them a hearty "HoHoHo" and tell them what radio equipment you would like from Santa this year!

## 145 Alive

The next in the series of the popular 145 Alive events is taking place on Sunday 26 January 2025. Ahead of the event the organisers are looking for volunteer Net Controllers to get involved and help cover as many Maidenhead squares in the UK as possible. Whether you've been a Net Controller before or not, the team would love to hear from you.

Find out more about the events by visiting the 145 Alive Facebook Group. To volunteer to become a Net Controller send your intended individual, group or club callsign and your intended location, place and Maidenhead square to [masenville@gmail.com](mailto:masenville@gmail.com)

## Winter 2025 AM QSO Party

The Amplitude Modulation Amateur Radio Society and the AM Amateur Radio Europe Facebook Group invite you to take part in the Winter 2025 AM QSO PARTY, running from 00:01UTC on Saturday 18 January until 12:00UTC on Sunday 19 January. Turn on your vintage rig, tune up your military gear, switch to the AM mode on your shiny modern transceiver or build your own AM transmitter and join them on the HF bands for friendly QSOs around Europe and far beyond on all the permitted HF bands! Full details of the event rules can be found at <https://amqsoparty.wixsite.com/mysite> or email Simon Taylor, MWONWM at [m3set@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:m3set@yahoo.co.uk) for details.

## Celebrating one hundred years of organised amateur radio in South Africa



On 20 May 2025, the South African Radio League (SARL) celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In conjunction with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SARL, the SARL Centenary Marathon QSO Party is set to kick off for a year-long operating event starting from 00:00UTC on Wednesday 1 January 2025 and ending at 23:59UTC on Wednesday 31 December 2025.

Participating amateur radio operators worldwide (including Short Wave Listeners) can accumulate points and win awards by working South African amateur radio stations.

During 2025 the SARL, with the aid of its members and associated clubs, will be on the air with a special event callsign ZS100SARL, as well as the permanent callsigns ZS6SRL and ZS9HQ and other special event callsigns. It is not necessary to exchange anything other than a signal report. The SARL Centenary Marathon QSO Party is scored by totalling the values of all eligible contacts (QSOs).

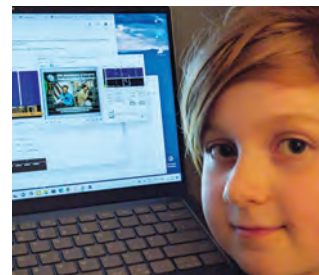
As this is an honour-based event, to be eligible for any of these awards, applications must be made using the MS Excel format check sheet to record and track progress. This check sheet will serve as the final claim form and is available from the SARL website, to be submitted by email as an attachment to [sarlcentenary@gmail.com](mailto:sarlcentenary@gmail.com) by not later than 23:59UTC on Saturday 31 January 2026.

For further details including the list of awards available, look for updates on the SARL website at [sarl.org.za](http://sarl.org.za)

## The STEAMettes receive SSTV images from the ISS

We've all seen the ISS go overhead, but how many of us have received an image sent by radio signals? That's what Audrey did. She is in Year 6 of St Peter-in-Thanel CE Junior School and is studying for her Foundation licence. How did she receive the radio waves without an amateur radio receiver? She used the receiver at Goonhilly Satellite Earth Station.

Last year, Audrey's school had an amateur radio contact with the ISS and Audrey was able to ask astronaut Jasmin Moghbeli, KI5WSL a question, so this is Audrey's second interaction with the ISS. Congratulations Audrey!



## KW Days 2025

'KW Days' is now an annual event and will be with us once again in the New Year. Many young amateurs cut their radio teeth on the KW-160 AM Topbander in the late 1950s and early 60s. The KW-Atlanta, boasting 500W pep SSB input transceiver, was the last of the line in the late 1970s, following on the heels of the famous of all 'must-have' KW2000 series transceivers.

Kent-made equipment will be on the air across the UK and overseas on the Founders Weekend of 5-6 January 2025. The GB8KW multi-operator station will again be very active from Cray Valley Radio Society's HQ in Eltham, showcasing a whole range of equipment and accessories for visitor inspection from 10am-4pm.

More GB-KW (0-9) calls will be active across the UK during January than ever before as the event's popularity grows and more equipment is once again rediscovered and restored. Such is the interest that many will be operating throughout January, calling CQ-KW on the hour/half hour when active.

The KW-Radios@groups.io is an active group of collectors and ex-employees providing help and support to those undertaking restorations. An extensive archive of manuals, circuits and associated material continues to be curated. Vintage KW, AM & CW equipment will be found on VMARS or FISTS frequencies.

Classic SSB equipment, in tribute to the famous KW77 Rx, will be using non-WARC frequencies ending in 77KHz +/- QRM. Primarily 1.877/1977 MHz, 3.77 MHz, 7.177 MHz, 14.177 and 14.277MHz. 21.277MHz and 28.377MHz +/- QRM.

## Can you help?

A Yaesu FT-8900R dual-band transceiver and microphone were removed from the original box whilst in courier transit between Nottingham and West Yorkshire recently, and the package was re-sealed. The serial number ends in 324. If you have any information that could help track down this stolen item, please contact G3UGF. His email is available at QRZ.com.

## SurreyEARS take part in construction activities

The University of Surrey Electronics and Amateur Radio Society (SurreyEARS) has had a great start to the new term. The group has been busy repairing a rotator on its satellite ground station as well as converting a satellite dish for radio astronomy.

Some members are also working on battlebots to compete in a competition next year.

The group has also been celebrating the 24 students who recently passed their Foundation licence exam, along with one who passed the Direct to Full exam.



## Pamela Rose, G4STO – Silent Key

Pam was a founding Director of National Hamfest (Lincoln) Ltd and was, additionally, Company Secretary. She was also the late Hon. Secretary of Lincoln Short Wave Club and had been a member of the Lincoln Short Wave Club since in the late 1970s. Lincoln Short Wave Club President Peter Kendall, MOEJL said that Pam's impressive legacy will be with them for many years to come.

## Telford and District Amateur Radio Society holds construction event

The Telford and District Amateur Radio Society (TDARS) recently held a construction event that proved so popular that they now plan on hosting a series of similar events. The aim of the inaugural event was to build a relatively simple kit that was accessible to all abilities and to get as many people as possible involved. The event was well attended and proved to be very successful, with all those taking part thoroughly enjoying the evening's activities.

They now are planning more events starting with the basics and progressing to the more advanced. During tasks that incorporate a new skill, such as soldering, the organisers aim to buddy up novice constructors with the more experienced so that they can learn in a more inclusive and supported way. Could your club do something like this?



## HamSCI secured funding to further the efforts of the organisation

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) recently secured funding to further the efforts of the organisation. The \$1.8 million grant was awarded to Lead HamSCI Organiser, Dr Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF by the National Science Foundation.

HamSCI is network of amateur radio operators helping to measure weather effects among the earth's ionosphere. HamSCI member, and RSGB Propagation Studies Committee associate member, Prof Gwyn Griffiths, G3ZIL recently delivered a presentation on the programme at this year's RSGB Convention.

## BIWota launches photography competition

British Inland Waterways on the Air (BIWota) has launched a photography competition, which is open to all. The winning photo(s) will be used on BIWota collateral including the BIWota banner on Facebook, BIWota award certificates (three images) and the BIWota participation certificate.

Photos can be either landscape or portrait but must contain a canal or inland waterway. The entry must have been taken in the last 12 months. The entrant must be the owner of the photograph, and permissions to publish from any people in the photograph must be obtained.

To enter, simply send in your entry to the BIWota Facebook page (Facebook.com/BIWOTA). The deadline for submissions is 31 January 2025. Full competition details are available on the BIWota Facebook page.



## Latest CDXC now online

The Autumn issue of CDXC Digest is now available to read. The quarterly Digest includes a collection of DX news, DX articles, technical articles, member and club news. CDXC members can access the newsletter online via e-digest.cdxc.org.uk



## G4FOC Bug Day

The First Class CW Operators' Club is hosting a Bug Day on 1 January 2025. The event is taking place, alongside the Mechanical Key Days, thanks to continued interest in an activity that gets operators on the air using bug keys. The event is open to both FOC members and non-members. You can find out more by going to the calendar section of the group's website at g4foc.org



## Latest RAOTA magazine out now

The winter 2024 edition of The Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association (RAOTA) magazine is now available to members. The latest edition includes an article by Tim, VK3BYP describing his 'Life in Amateur Radio', a regular 'puzzles' quiz and an article about the group's foray onto social media. Find out more via [www.raota.org](http://www.raota.org)



## Is your listing correct?

Is your Special Interest Group listed on this page or the RSGB website? Are the contact details correct? Do you still hold nets at the times and on the frequencies listed? Make sure people can contact you and get involved.

Please send any changes to [radcom@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:radcom@rsgb.org.uk) and mark the email "SIG info updates".



## Special Interest Groups

You can read about many of the Special Interest Groups on the RSGB website. Go to [rsgb.org/sig](http://rsgb.org/sig) where you'll find details of more than 20 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](http://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](http://www.BRARS.info)

Nets and magazine: see website.

#### British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association

[www.bylara.org.uk](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.raibc.org.uk). Helpline 0800 028 8660

NR Zello: RAIBC

#### Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association

MemSec@RAOTA.org [www.RAOTA.org](http://www.RAOTA.org)

Nets: see website

#### Radio Fraternity Lodge No. 8040, G5RFL

Info at [radiofraternityinfo@gmail.com](mailto:radiofraternityinfo@gmail.com)

Net 9am Sunday mornings  $\pm$ 3.757MHz

#### Radio Officers Association.

Membership: [johnchalmers994@outlook.com](mailto:johnchalmers994@outlook.com)

Website [www.radioofficers.com](http://www.radioofficers.com)

#### Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society

[www.rsars.org.uk](http://www.rsars.org.uk) for nets see website

#### RAYNET-UK

[www.raynet-uk.net](http://www.raynet-uk.net)

#### Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society

Website: [www.rafars.org](http://www.rafars.org), [membership@rafars.org](mailto:membership@rafars.org)

Nets: 11am, 7.155MHz  $\pm$  6.30pm 3.715  $\pm$  MHz

#### UK Microwave Group

<https://microwavers.org>

Focused on frequencies above 1GHz; contests,

awards and regular newsletter

#### UK Six Metre Group

[www.uksmg.org](http://www.uksmg.org)

#### World Assoc of Christian Amateurs & Listeners

Richard Paul, G7KMZ, [G7KMZ@wacral.org](mailto:G7KMZ@wacral.org)

Various nets, see [www.wacral.org](http://www.wacral.org)

#### Worked All Britain Awards Group

[www.worked-all-britain.org.uk](http://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](mailto:radcom@rsgb.org.uk)



Please send news reports to radcom@rsgb.org.uk. To get future events listed here and put on GB2RS, email details of your meetings as early as possible to radcom@RSGB.org.uk Include your club name, RSGB Region number, contact name, callsign & phone number, date and details of meeting. **Example:** Fraser Road Radio Club, Region 9, Steve, M1ACB, 01234 832 700, 29 Oct, talk on anteaater breeding, Phil, G9ABC. We normally acknowledge all submissions within 3 working days; if you don't hear from us, please phone. We don't normally include 'closed', 'TBA' or 'every Tuesday'-type entries. **The deadline for March 2025 is 17 January and for April 2025 it is 17 February.** For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am the Thursday before broadcast.

## CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

### REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

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

Ayr ARC

Derek, MM0OVD, 0742 899 4614, derek.secaarg@gmail.com

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC

Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

Disabled access, hot and cold refreshments available on site

Edinburgh & District ARC

Norman, GM1CNH, 07740 946 192

Kilmarnock & Loudoun ARC

Secretary, GMOADX, klarinfo@gmail.com

Livingston and District ARS

Philip Rose, GM3ZZA, gm3zza@btinternet.com

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.575MHz FM, 7.30pm

7, 14, 21 Training, operating, meeting,

Crofthead Community Centre, 7pm

28 Talk or presentation, Crofthead, 7pm

Lothians RS

James Gentles GM4WZP,

events@lothiansradiosociety.com

8 Video Night: Edin Cine & Video Soc. 23a Fettes Row,

Peter Dick, GM4DTH

15 Net, 144.350MHz, 8pm

22 Talk, The Moxon Beam: Theory and Demo,

Malcolm Hamilton, GM3TAL

29 Wee Bennets Night, Morningside

Mid Lanarkshire ARS

Simon Gray, 2MOLSG,

secretary@mlars.co.uk, mlars.co.uk

Stirling and District ARS

Iain, GM5YTT, GM5YTT@outlook.com

Regular nets via club repeater GB3FE

West of Scotland ARS

Stuart Mackie, MM7SWM

westofscotlandars@gmail.com, wosars.club

### REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

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

Aberdeen ARS

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

2 No meeting

9 Members' junk sale, bidding starts at 7pm

16, 23 CW practice 7pm, informal meeting from 7.30pm

30 CW practice 7pm, equipment surgery and

on-air evening from 7.30pm

Inverness & District ARS

Angus GM6AGC, InvernessRadioSociety@gmail.com

### REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

Bolton Wireless Club

Mark Bryant, M0UFC, 07831454468, boltonwireless.org.uk

6 New Year Club net

13 Ladybridge meeting: 'Beamforming Antennas'

with Dave, G4MVU

20 Online meeting

27 Ladybridge meeting: 'Gala Awards Night' plus

AGM & election of new committee

Bury RS

Lynda, G6QA, specky@talktalk.net

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 144.550MHz FM, 8pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Net 144.550MHz, 6pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, Hollins Social Club, 7.30pm

7 Looking Forward discussion

Central Lancs ARC

Nonie, G3TNN, secretary.clarc@gmail.com

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 433.425MHz FM, 8pm

Furness ARS

Mike, M0MJX, info@fars.org.uk

Gilmore and North West Morse Radio Club

Heth, M6HNS, 07735 036 267

2 Club Night, St Marys Church Hall, 7.30pm

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 40m CW Fun Hour, 7.023MHz, 9pm

5, 12, 19, 26 CW net, 144.064MHz, 2pm

5 80m CW net 3.510MHz, 7.30pm

7, 14, 21, 28, Net, 145.375MHz, 7.30pm

7, 14, 21, 28 CW Brass Bashers net, 7.023MHz, 9pm

12, 26 6m CW 50.080MHz, 7.30pm

19 CW net, 28.080MHz, 7.30pm

23 C4FM digital net, 144.925MHz, 7.30pm

Isle of Man RS

John, GD0TFG juanyd@mcb.net 07624 483246

29 The science behind the new EMF exposure

regulations, with Richard, GD8EXI at 7.30pm at

the club shack in Ballasalla

Macclesfield & District RS

Greg, M0TXX, info@gx4mws.uk

6 Shack night

13 Film: Peter I

20 Talk: off-shore pirate radio

27 Talk: semi-conductors

Merseyside ARS

Alan, G4NXG, marsradio.uk

Mid Cheshire ARS

Steve; G7DXZ, secretary@midcars.org

Club net every Tuesday, 8pm, all welcome to join in.

GB7SJ, GB3SJ, GB7DJ and GB7DZ

1 Club social night, with Apirin!

8 Technical film night

15 RadioActive preparation

22 Talk: electronic typewriters for RTTY, by Patrick, MOKLU

29 Talk: ESD by Peter, MOXPA

Oldham RC

Dave 2E0OAI, secretary@oarc.org.uk

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club nights, 7.30pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Net on XLX305A (multimode), 9.30am

6, 27 C4FM simplex net 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm

8, 15, 22, 29 FM Net 145.500MHz then QSY 8pm

10 Committee meeting, 8pm

13 D-Star simplex net, 144.6125MHz then QSY, 8pm

17 Video evening, 8pm

20 SSB Net 144.300MHz USB (vertical) then QSY, 8pm

South Cheshire ARS

ray@m1rek.co.uk g6tw.co.uk

South Manchester RC

David G4MVU 07518913300, smrcc.org.uk

2 Discussion: ISS SSTV

7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 145.475MHz FM, 8pm

9 Discussion: DSN reception

16 Discussion: 23cm band

23 Burns Night

30 Discussion: PCB manufacture

Stockport RS

info@g8srs, g8srs.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.375MHz, 2pm

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net GB3MR & Webex, 7.30pm

7 Presentation at Walthew House 7.30pm – HF

antennas for portable operation by Evan, MOTJU

11 Saturday at Walthew House, 10am

14 Six metre net, 50.270MHz, 7.30pm

21, 28 Online social event by Webex

26 Club net 144.275MHz SSB, 10.30am

Thornton Cleveleys ARS

Gen, G8YOK, tcars.radio@gmail.com

For up-to-date event information see tcars.club

Warrington ARC

Dave Roberts G8KBB, secretary@warc.org.uk

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Social/coffee morning, 10am

2 Hotspot net – P25 TG 10350 / YSF GB-WARC, 8pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Solder Sunday at clubroom and

via Zoom, 2pm

6, 13, 20, 27 Monitoring Mondays (NEW), 10am

7, 14, 21, 28 Main meetings at clubroom and

by Zoom, 8pm

Wirral ARS

g3nwr.co.uk

On air Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm

Wirral Peninsula ARC

Owen M70MW, wirralpeninsulaarc@outlook.com,

07449391391

### REGION 4: NORTH EAST

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

Barnsley & District ARC

David G4TMZ, g6aj@outlook.com

Bishop Auckland RAC

barac.org.uk

Anyone wishing to study and/or take their

exam's visit barac.org.uk for details

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting at Stanley Crook

village hall, 7.30pm

East Ardsley RS

Paul, M0XZT, m0xzt@ears.radio

2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 On-the-air and

social evening, 6.30pm

Goole R&ES

Ken, G6YYN, 01757 638539,

treverven@btinternet.com

8 Club night, Black Swan Inn, Asselby, DN14 7HE, 7.30pm

Guisborough & District ARC

Kerry Buckwell, M7KEZ, m7kez@icloud.com

Halifax and District ARS

hadars.org.uk

Hornsea ARC

John, G3XYF, jhwresdell@gmail.com,

hornseaarc.com

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm

6, 13, 20, 27, 30 Net 1869kHz CW 8pm, SSB, 8.30pm

8, 15, 22, 29 Club night

Houghton-Le-Spring ARC

George Thompson, M5GHT, 07709 987 876

Morse practice, 144.700MHz FM, Mon, Wed & Fri, 8pm

Hull and District ARS

Andy, G8REM, g8rem@icloud.com

Maltby & District ARS

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

Mexborough & District ARS

Sharon, M0BOH, huskylady44@aol.com

10 Return after Christmas break

Otley ARS

John, G6MHR, otleyradio.org

5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.450MHz, 7pm

7, 14, 21, 28 Club night, Clifton Village Hall, 7.30pm

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 144.350MHz SSB, 7pm

Ripon & District ARS

radars-g4sjm.club

Spenn Valley ARS

Malcolm, 2E0IOX, spenvalleyars@gmail.com

Wearside Electronics and ARS

g0bnk@outlook.com

York Radio Club

YRCA.co.uk

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 145.625MHz, GB3HG, 8pm

9, 16, 23, 30 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 training, 14.055MHz, 11am

4, 11, 18 Club night, Barley Mow, 7.30pm

5, 12, 19 Open FM Net 145.575MHz, 8pm

**Central Radio Amateur Circle**  
**Martin Hallard, G1TYV, radio-circle@live.co.uk**  
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Group net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm  
 4, 11, 18, 25 Google meets, 7pm  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Group meeting, 12pm

**Cheltenham ARA**  
**committee@g5bk.uk**  
 Daily Nets 145.4MHz 8.15am, GB3CG 8.20am  
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 144.350MHz, 8pm  
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 GB3GH or GB3RC, 8pm  
 6, 13, 20, 27 DMR Net on TG235292, 8pm  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Slow CW 3540kHz and up, 8pm  
 16 Meeting: Items from members' shacks

**Coventry ARS**  
**Keith Davies, G7FSC, 07988 538937**  
 3, 10, 17, 24 Club night, St Barts CV3 2DT, 8pm  
 6, 13, 20, 27 Open FM net 145.375MHz, 8pm  
 8, 15, 22, 29 Zoom, 11am  
 31 Zoom, 8pm

**Dudley and District ARS**  
**Keith, MOWYZ, keithmowyz@gmail.com**

**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  
 6 Operating on Steephholm and Flat Holm Islands by Ken, G4M0H  
 13 Construction meeting  
 20 Flowerpot antenna/ construction and testing with Mike, GOOTP

**Kidderminster Repeater Group**  
**Queens Head, Wolverley, 7.30pm**

**Malvern Hills RAC**  
**Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568**

**Midland ARS**  
**Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003**  
 1 No Meeting, Happy New Year  
 8 Club reopens, open meeting, and discussion on radio gift  
 15 Committee meeting and training classes  
 22 General meeting, shack on the air and training classes  
 29 Open meeting, planning for the year, rallies and training classes

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

**Salop ARS**  
**John, G4IRN, salopamateurradio@gmail.com, salopradiosociety.org**  
 2 Closed  
 9 Talk: 'Working Satellites' by Heather, MOHMO  
 16 UKAC shack on the air  
 23 Natter night  
 30 'Me and My Shack' by HF contester and DX'er, John, G4IRN

**Solihull ARS**  
**Roy, G4TDF, solihullradioclub@gmail.com**  
 2, 9, 23, 30 Club 2m net, 8pm  
 16 Meeting at 1<sup>st</sup> Solihull Scout HQ, 8pm

**South Birmingham RS**  
**Gemma Gordon, M6GKG, gemmagordonm6gkg@gmail.com**  
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Friday work in the shack with Roger and others  
 5, 12, 19, 26 Activities in the Attic with Bob  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Coffee morning in the shack from, visitors welcome, 10.30am

**Stourbridge & District ARS**  
**g6oi.org.uk**

**Sutton Coldfield ARS**  
**Robert Bird, rob2e0zap@gmail.com**

**Telford & District ARS**  
**Graham G7LMF, secretary@tdars.org.uk**

1 No meeting  
 8 2m ragchew 7.30pm, Committee Meeting (Webex) 8pm

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

**Wythall RC**  
**Clive, MOKNP, 07831 480645, wythallradioclub.co.uk**  
 1-31 Club on-air challenge  
 7 Social, 7.30pm then open committee, 8.30pm  
 21 Social, 7.30pm then C'mas contest results, 8.30pm  
 28 Club meeting, 7.30pm

**REGION 6: NORTH WALES**  
**RR: Simon Taylor, MWONWM, RR6@rsgb.org.uk**  
 01492 830872  
**Dragon ARC**  
**2W0JYB, mw7mon@gmail.com, dragonamateurradioclub.co.uk**

**North Wales ARG**  
**nwarg.org**

**Wrexham & Marches ARS**  
**Mark Harper, MW1MDH, mw1mdh@gmail.com**

**REGION 7: SOUTH WALES**  
**RR: Mark Stevenson, 2W0YMS, RR7@rsgb.org.uk**  
**Aberdare & District ARS**  
**aberdareradio.club**

**Barry ARS**  
**Steve, GW5VOG, 07900 560 080**  
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Zoom meeting hosted by Glyn, GWOANA, 7pm  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Club night at Sully Sports and Social Club, CF64 5SP 7.30pm  
 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net on 144.550MHz, 8pm

**Chepstow & District ARS**  
**Mike, MW7EYC, QRZ.com**

**Cwmbran ARC**  
**mc0yad.club**

**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**

**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, 31 Net 3.739MHz, 11am  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Club meeting, portable cabin adj to Saron Hall, SA18 3LN, 7pm  
 7, 14, 21, 28 GW4BVJ's Morse training night, 8.15pm

**Uskide ARS**  
**uskidearc.newport@gmail.com**

**REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND**  
**RR: Peter Lowrie, M15JYK, RR8@rsgb.org.uk**  
**Antrim And District ARS**  
**secretary@adars.co.uk**

**Bangor & District ARS**  
**Gordon McBriar, G16FZI, g16fzi@yahoo.com**  
 14 Club night, short talk and demo of FT8 SuperFox mode  
 18 TBC Annual Dinner, Bryansburn Inn

**Bushvalley ARC**  
**bushvalleyarc.org**

**Mid Ulster ARC**  
**muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk**

**West Tyrone ARC**  
**wtarc.org.uk**

**REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY**  
**RR: Ron White, G6LTT, RR9@rsgb.org.uk**  
**Aylesbury Vale RS**  
**avrs.org.uk**

**Banbury ARS**  
**Stephen, G8MFI, banburyars@gmail.com**  
 Net 1445125MHz FM most evenings  
 1, 8, 15, 22 Club night, 7pm

**Bracknell ARC**  
**Colin Ashley, MOXCA, secretary@g4bra.org.uk**

**Burnham Beeches RC**  
**Greg, G4EBY, ebytronics@gmail.com**

**Chelsea Pensioners RC**  
**Mike Hall, GB4CP, 07970724105**

**Edgware & District RS**  
**Steve Slater, G0PQB, g0pqb25@gmail.com**  
 9 AGM  
 23 Meeting: the Club's future

**Hammersmith ARS**  
**info@m0xhs.uk, m0xhs.uk/events**  
 10 Online, 8pm  
 22 Club night William Morris School Annex, W6 8RB, 7pm  
 Year planning and social  
 See website for full details

**Milton Keynes ARS**  
**Brendan, G8IXK, 07803 192604**

**Newbury & District ARS**  
**Rob, G4LMW, 07970 885 614, G4LMW@btconnect.com**  
 24 Surplus equipment and junk sale (new day and date for this month)

**Reading & District ARC**  
**radarc.org**

**Shefford & District ARS**  
**David, G8UOD on 01234 742 757**  
**or davidg8uod@virginmedia.com**  
 1, 15, 22, 29 Net GB3PI, 8pm  
 6, 13, 20, 27 Net 1.985MHz LSB, 7pm  
 9 Welcome back and planning for CQWPX RTTY  
 16 Bletchley Park People by Peter Marcham  
 23 'The inside line of Formula 1' by Steve Porter, MSc  
 30 Natter night and CW training

**Whitton ARG**  
**Ian, G00FN, 07956 203 495, warg.dreamhosters.com**  
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club night – HF/ VHF on the air

**REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST**  
**RR: Keith Bird, G4JED, RR10@rsgb.org.uk**  
**Brede Steam ARS**  
**secretary@bsars.co.uk, bsars.co.uk**

**Bredhurst RTS**  
**brats-qth.org/brats/homepage**  
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting in shack, 7pm  
 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net via DA repeater, 8pm

**Bromley & District ARS**  
**Andy, G4WGW, 01689 878 089**  
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, start 145.500MHz then QSY, 9pm  
 21 AGM and programme planning meeting

**Chippenham & District ARC**  
**Alan, G6YCG, chippenhamradio.club**  
 7 144MHz UK Activity Contest, 7.30pm  
 14 HF with Jac, M0PLS, 7.30pm  
 21 Talk by Richard (TBC)  
 28 Club chat night, 7.30pm

**Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society**  
**Glenn, G4FVL, secretary@catsradio.org.uk**  
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net ± 70.425MHz, 9pm  
 5, 12, 19, 26 Net ± 145.4MHz 11am, ± 3.7MHz, 5pm  
 13 Club meeting, see Facebook/ website

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

**Cray Valley RS**  
**Dave, G8ZZK, 07739 549 822**  
 2 NO MEETING  
 5, 12, 19, 26 Net 145.350MHz, 10am

6 Net ±1.905MHz, SSB then AM, 8pm  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 70.425MHz, 8pm  
16 Talk, Members Planning Meeting led by G8ZZK, 7.30pm

**Crystal Palace R&EC**  
cprec.org

**Dover ARC**  
Trevor G6APW, publicity@darco.online  
Meetings from 6.45pm at St Peter and Paul Church  
Hall, Minnis Lane, Dover, CT17 ORG

**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

**Hog's Back ARC**  
Ray G4LUA, 0118 981 4174

**Horndean & District ARC**  
hdarc.co.uk

**Horsham ARC**  
Alister, G3ZBU, 01403 253432, harc.org.uk

**Itchen Valley ARC**  
Martyn, 2E0OGR, secretary@ivarc.org.uk  
10 Meeting at King's Head, Hurley  
24 RF Current Measurement, Duncan, G3RQF

**Medway AR & TS**  
Colin, M7CDF, secretary@marts.org.uk, marts.org.uk  
Daily nets on 144.650MHz, 9.30am

**Mid Sussex ARS**  
Stella Rogers, M6ZRJ, progsec@midsexars.org.uk, midsexars.org.uk

**Southdown ARS**  
sars.club

**Surrey Radio Contact Club**  
John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net 28.078MHz JS8, 10am  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 70.30MHz FM, 8pm  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 144.6125MHz D-Star, 7.30pm  
Net 145.35MHz FM, 8pm  
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 1905kHz LSB, 9.30am  
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 3.710MHz LSB, 9am  
7 Short Talks, various speakers, St Paul's, 7.45pm  
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 51.55MHz FM, 8pm  
20 Chat, Fit-it, Skills, John, G8MNY, St Paul's 7.45pm

**Trowbridge & District ARC**  
Shaun, G0BKU, secretary.tdarc@gmail.com

**West Kent ARS**  
secretary@wkars.org.uk  
For net details see wkars.org.uk  
13 Planning meeting at Bidborough for year ahead

## REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

RR: 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 144.260MHz USB, 8pm  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Net 145.450MHz FM, 8pm  
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 1.860MHz 9.30, 144.260MHz 10.30am  
20 Meeting, Appledore Football Clubhouse, 7.30pm

**Bath and District ARC**  
David, G0DPW, badarc@protonmail.com

**Blackmoor Vale ARS**  
Keith, MOTMO, 07796 494496,  
keith.motmo@btinternet.com, bvvars.org.uk  
7, 21 Net 144.330MHz USB, 7.30pm  
8, 15, 22, 29 Nets, 28.360MHz 8pm, 70.425MHz, 9pm  
14, 28 Meeting, The New Remembrance Hall, SP7 0PL, 7.30pm

**Callington ARS**  
Peter, G8BCG secretary@callingtonradiosociety.org.uk  
Meets first Wednesday of the month, Callington Town Hall,  
PL17 7BD

**Christchurch ARS**  
christchurchars.org.uk  
6, 13, 20, 27 Net 144.725MHz, 7pm  
9, 16, 23, 30 Meeting, 7.30pm

**Cornish Radio Amateur Club**  
Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939, G7VOH@btinternet.com

**Flight Refuelling ARS**  
Gareth, GOMFR, info@frars.co.uk

**Gordano ARG**  
Malcolm, G4KPM 07971 431125

**Holsworthy ARC**  
qsl.net/mOomc

**Mid Somerset ARC**  
Chris Lavis, G6HIQ, christopherlavis3@gmail.com  
13 Club Meeting, Baptist Church Rooms, Shepton Mallet, 7.30pm  
27 Social Meeting, Quarter Jack, Wells, 2pm

**Saltash & District ARC**  
Mark Chanter, MOWMB, 07810 548 445  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net via GB3PL, 7.30pm  
21 Meeting, Guest Speaker: Nigel Bennetts, M7NGL,  
RSGB District Representative 'Growth and Engagement'  
Burraton Centre, 7pm

**South Bristol ARC**  
Andy Jenner, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471,  
enquiries@sbarc.co.uk

**Torbay ARS**  
Peter, G4VTO, peter.tanner@btconnect.com  
10 Demonstration of the NANO VNA  
17 Social night  
24 Remote radio  
31 Construction competition

**Weston Super Mare RS**  
westonradiosociety@gmail.com

**Yeovil ARC**  
Darren Mallinson, 2E0EVU, secretary@yeovil-arc.com  
Meetings at Parish room, Abbey Manor Community Centre,  
Yeovil, Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm  
2 No meeting  
9 Station on the air, G8YEO/G3CMH  
16 Using QRP, G3MYM  
23 Committee meeting, 2025 Rx competition discussion  
30 QRP construction techniques, MOWOB

## REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

RR: Brian Woolnough, M5ADQ, RR12@rsgb.org.uk  
Bittern DX Club  
James Forbes, M7PCA, m7pca57@gmail.com

**Braintree & District ARS**  
Geoff, G1GNQ, 01376 563370, secretary@badars.co.uk  
14 New Years Quiz night in club house and on Zoom from 8pm

**Bury St Edmunds ARS**  
bears.co.uk  
Club nets every day of the week except Sunday

**Cambridge & District ARC**  
cdarc.org.uk

**Chelmsford ARS**  
secretary@g0mw.org.uk  
For training see g0mw.org.uk/training  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Skype CW classes, 7pm  
join.skype.com/clsfkXKmlNvf  
5, 12, 19, 26 144.060MHz CW net, 8pm  
6, 13, 20, 27 On air Morse training activities –  
CW net on 3542kHz from 7.30pm, GB2CW on  
3555kHz from 8.15pm, slowing down at 8.30pm  
for new operators  
7 Practicals/skills evening  
14 Club Open Net, GB3DA (2m), 8pm  
21 Club Open Net, GB3ER (70cm), 8pm  
28 Club Open Net, 80m 3756kHz, 8pm

**Colchester ARC**  
Garry, M0MGP, 07740318521, secretary@g3c0.uk

**Felixstowe & District ARS**  
Mark Riley, M5BOP, secretary@fdars.org.uk  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net, GB3IH, 7.30pm

5, 12, 19, 26 Club net 145.400MHz, 10am  
6 QRP Operating, Broadway House, 7.30pm  
20 Buildathon project intro, shack (not Broadway House), 7pm

**Harlow & District ARS**  
Ed, G5EDW, secretary@g6ut.com, g6ut.com

**Harwich ARIG**  
harig.org.uk  
8 Show and tell, by club members

**Leiston ARC**  
Nigel, G0EBQ 07871 662856,  
nigel.flatman@yahoo.com

**Loughton & Epping Forest ARS**  
David, M0VID, secretary@lefans.org.uk  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net DMR Brandmeister TG 23511, 8pm  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 144.725MHz FM, 8pm  
10, 24 Club meeting, All Saints House, 8pm  
17, 31 Zoom meeting, 8pm

**Lowestoft District & Pye ARC**  
Sam, M7SKW, secretary@ldparc.co.uk  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net 145.475MHz, 8pm  
4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting, 7.30pm  
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 51.490MHz, 8pm  
7, 14, 21, 28 Net 433.575MHz, 8pm  
8, 22 Shack open, 7.30pm

**Martello Tower Group**  
martellotowergroup.com

**South Essex ARS**  
Terry, G1FBW, southessex-ars.co.uk

**Thames ARG**  
Andrew Atkinson, MOIXY,  
Secretary@ThamesARG.org.uk, thamesarg.org.uk

## REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RR: Bob Hambly, MOHAF, RR13@rsgb.org.uk  
Bolsover ARS  
G4KSJ, 01246 827135, Facebook page: @bolsoverars

**Kettering & District ARS**  
Les, 2E0MNZ, les@moylehousehold.co.uk  
5, 12, 19, 26 Breakfast meeting, 10am  
7, 14, 21, 28 Meeting, 7pm  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 145.300MHz, 7pm

**Leicester RS**  
Sandra Morley, G0MCV, 07930274044

**Lincoln Short-Wave Club**  
Mary, G6SWZ, 07777 690 136  
8, 15, 22, 29 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aisthorpe, 7.30pm  
4, 11, 18, 25 Club meeting BSA Village Hall Aisthorpe, 9.30am  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net GB3LM, if its off air  
145.350MHz, 8pm

**Loughborough & District ARC**  
Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319, g1etz@aol.com  
7 Welcome Back and Natter night  
14 Morse Keys, Chris, G1ETZ  
21 Morse code in the frequency domain, Peter, G6KUI  
28 Practical evening and natter night

**Northampton Radio Club**  
secretary@northamptonradioclub.co.uk

**Nunsfield House ARG**  
Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk  
3 Natter night  
6, 13, 20, 27 Shack night & club net, 145.300MHz, 8pm  
10 Committee meeting  
17 Surplus sale  
24 Video evening  
31 TBC

**RAF Waddington ARC**  
Bob Pickles, G3VCA, 07971 166250  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club meeting at the Pyewipe Inn, 8pm  
6, 13, 20, 27 Club net 145.325MHz or GB3LM, 7.30pm

**South Derbyshire and Ashby Woulds ARG**  
Jacqui, 2E0JQY, sdawarg.secretary@gmail.com

**Welland Valley ARS**  
Peter, G4XEX, info@wvars.com  
6 Net 145.275MHz, 7pm  
20 Op night

**REGION 4: NORTH EAST**

The Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society (HADARS) has been celebrating exam success. The group would like to congratulate: Tom Roe 2E0JQ, Ann Eastwood 2E0VOA, James Currie-Cathay 2E1JCC and Anna Roe M7HJY on successfully passing their Intermediate and Foundation exams.

This accomplishment reflects their hard work and commitment, along with the exceptional guidance they received during the course.

The course was expertly led by Max Townend G4SDX whose innovative teaching methods and revolutionary training materials have transformed the learning experience at HADARS. Max has dedicated significant time and energy to create these resources, which have played a vital role in the outstanding success of the recent students.

In addition to face-to-face sessions, the course also featured Sunday evening online video chats with Hardy Whiteley-Boocock G5HWB, which offer a blend of traditional and modern learning formats that helped the quartet excel in the varying levels of exams. This achievement highlights the dedication of both the students and instructors and is a wonderful testament to HADARS' commitment to fostering knowledge and expertise in the amateur radio community. Congratulations to all involved!



**REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS**

The Stafford and Districts Amateur Radio Society made a visit to the RSGB National Radio Centre in November. The group visited over a weekend and were welcomed by volunteers.

**REGION 6: NORTH WALES**

Dragon Amateur Radio Club was given the ARRL Antenna Handbook recently by Club member Stew GWOETF. Stew explains, "On a recent visit to Glasgow earlier this year Secretary of CWops Jim Talens N3JT, came bearing gifts of two ARRL handbooks. Jim kindly presented the ARRL Antenna Handbook to me during a gathering with some 'GM' members and partners at a pizza restaurant.

I decided I would donate the book to my local club, the Dragon ARC (GW4TTA), for the use of its members. It was duly presented at a club meeting on 21 October where, fittingly, the evening's topic was "Home brewing an antenna for the forthcoming 12m Challenge". The photo is of the Glasgow meet up, showing from left, GMOEUL, MMOTWX, N3JT, GM3WUX, GM4JPZ and GWOETF (CWops President). Thanks Jim!"



**REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND**

A group of radio amateurs in Northern Ireland recently took part in a Fox Hunt organised by David MI7MDT. The event took place on Sunday 20 October and was the third 2m Fox Hunt to be run.

Despite Storm Ashley, several teams entered, and the winners were Robert MI1DLB, Paul MI7FGI, and Richard 2IORGT. The next Fox Hunt is likely to take place in January 2025.



## REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

**Bracknell Amateur Radio Club (BARC)** has recently moved to a new location with improved facilities, enabling the Club to expand and introduce activities that it has not been able to offer before.

The October meeting marked the debut of one such activity - its first 'Construction Club', where members could build a prepared electronic kit from scratch. Committee Member Roy MOWTP, planned and prepared the inaugural event, as well as sourcing the parts, cases and instructions. The first project was the assembly of a Pixie 40m CW Transceiver.

Participants included both newcomers to electronics, components, and soldering, as well as more experienced radio amateurs who have already constructed their own radios and associated accessories.

The Pixie was chosen as the first project because its component list, and relatively simple construction, made it a suitable task to complete within the Club's extended three-hour meeting time. Most members brought their own soldering irons, pliers, cutters, and, most importantly, glasses or magnifying lenses. Roy had also brought along plenty of spares, just in case.

With a team of experienced members assisting, the constructors quickly learned how to identify components, their correct orientation or polarity, and solder them in the right places on the circuit board. After an hour of building, the group took a short break for a Club update and refreshments before everyone eagerly returned to their projects. While the construction club members were busy, other members enjoyed a demonstration of surface mount device soldering and de-soldering by Gareth M7GRB. Gareth also showcased his soldering microscope, which he uses for very fine work.

For members operating on Digital Mobile Radio (DMR), Colin MOXCA provided a DMR Helpdesk to assist with any radio or hotspot configuration issues. Returning to construction, three hours proved to be the exact amount of time needed to complete the project. The first Pixie transmitted CW on 7.023MHz at 9:40pm, followed quickly by two others.



**Bunkers on the Air (UKBOTA):** On 25 October, BARC members comprising Paul G4HLF, Colin MOXCA, Ray 2E0RWJ, Chris M0GRW and Austin M700B participated in a successful activation of the Arborfield ROC Bunker (Ref: B/G-0017) as part of the UKBOTA programme. This was the first time the group has used the Club callsign, G4BRA, for a UKBOTA activation. The goal was to achieve at least 25 contacts while operating near the ROC bunker. They operated primarily on the 40m HF band (SSB) using a homebrew 88ft doublet antenna and an MFJ-969 manual tuner. The radio was a Xiegu X6100 transceiver running at 10W. Whilst they encountered a minor initial hurdle with microphone gain settings on the X6100, after adjustments, the station performed flawlessly, receiving many positive signal reports (59 reports). For logging, the group experimented with the Ham2K portable logger running on a Samsung tablet. This software offers a convenient solution and integrates with popular databases like SOTA, POTA, and BOTA. Ham2K can also interface with QRZ.com, allowing for real-time lookups as you enter a callsign into the log.



Activation highlights:

- 64 Contacts in 1hr and 32mins (one duplicate QSO was removed)
- 8 DXCC Entities: England, Belgium, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Germany, France, and Wales
- 2 Bunker-to-Bunker QSOs
- 2 bands used: 40m SSB and 20m SSB

Despite less-than-ideal weather conditions, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the activation. The team maintained high enthusiasm throughout, and the experience proved valuable for all participants. They were able to manage high levels of activity by taking turns and allowing everyone a comfortable operating pace. Several pileups (multiple stations attempting to contact us simultaneously) occurred when switching bands, a first-time experience for some members. These situations provided valuable learning opportunities that will benefit future UKBOTA activations. The magic of RF communication, particularly operating HF QRP (low power) with a simple antenna, is undeniable! The group highly recommends attending future UKBOTA activities. It's a fantastic way to spend a few hours while expanding amateur radio skills.

## REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

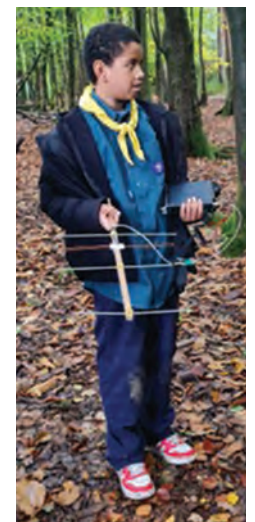
**Crawley Amateur Radio Club (CARC)** took part in Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on 19 October, helping Scouts from 1st Langley Green, 5th Crawley and 7th Crawley to get on the airwaves. CARC provided a range of activities, starting with a brief explanation about 'How it all works', including how radio waves going in a straight line can reach the other side of the world. The explanation showed that HF radio is the answer, and that it bounces off layers in the atmosphere after being transmitted from a huge antenna.

The Scouts had the opportunity to take part in several activities including making Snail Morse keys, so they could learn and practise sending messages in Morse code. The Club also got the Scouts portable in the forest with a game of hide and seek, using radio location beacons and directional antennas.

The Scouts had a go using PMR446 handheld transceivers, or "walkie talkies" as they're known by everyone outside of radio world. Using the phonetic alphabet and correct RT procedure the Scouts passed short messages.

The main objective of the day was to contact other Scout troops using amateur radio. Although atmospheric conditions weren't brilliant, and the airwaves a little bit crowded due to a couple of competitions being held, the event was a success. As well as talking to Scouts in nearby Merstham, contact was made with two stations in the Netherlands and one on Scotland, plus places in between.

A huge thanks to CARC for all their hard work. The event, as well as being great fun, helped the Scouts work towards the World Challenge Badge and the Communicator Activity Badge



**Surrey Radio Contact Club** presented G3WRR with a personalised mug. G3WRR, along with G4WGE, was recently awarded the RSGB IOTA Multi-op LP Dxpediton Trophy at this year's RSGB Convention.



**REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA**

This year **Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society (BADARS)** took part in Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) from a new location at Gosfield School near Halstead in North Essex. The new location had plenty of space to be able to put up operating tents and aerials, including an impressive end fed for the low bands. This was a good move as when the Scouts arrived in the evening, a 'we were here first' principle applied, and they started putting up their tents right underneath it. They were duly moved to an appropriate EMF distance away!

Although it rained on Saturday morning, this didn't dampen the Scouts' spirits and BADARS members were happy to see them enjoying and taking part in the activities. Three tents had been set up, which were HF, VHF/DMR and a CW challenge. All were popular but no-one wanted to miss out on receiving a certificate for sending their name sufficiently well in Morse, for 'FLDIGI' to decode it.

Operation on Sunday morning was from the school's cricket pavilion with whip aerials in view of the weather. Groups of Scouts continued to enjoy contacts with other JOTA stations on HF, DMR and D-Star, plus of course the CW challenge. It was also safer at the pavilion as other nearby Scout activities included air rifle shooting and axe throwing! Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend, despite the weather, and BADARS, Colchester North Scouts and Gosfield School are already looking forward to next year.



**REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS**



**RAF Waddington Amateur Radio Club** has had a busy Summer, with several Special Event Stations and the Club radio rally keeping members busy.

Club talks took a back seat over the summer but in October Andy MOIYE organised a fascinating talk by Nigel Limb M7FFU. Nigel spoke about his experience of life following a motorcycle accident that led to him surviving his life support being switched off. Nigel has since gained his Foundation licence, and gone on to break motorcycle speed records, despite the loss of vision and a brain injury. [Editor: you can hear Nigel on an RSGB Tonight@8 webinar - go to youtube.com/theRSGB and choose the T@8 playlist]

The Club's last radio event of the year was a commemorative station over the weekend of 9-10 November, using the Club callsign GORAF at former RAF Binbrook. Operation was on HF (mostly SSB with some CW on Sunday) and 2m FM, making contacts with 211 stations. All members of the team were present on Sunday 10 November and observed the two-minute silence at the 460 RAAF Squadron memorial, followed by a short memorial ceremony and wreath laying. As usual, the team were well fed by chef John (SWL), with extra goodies supplied by Andy MOIYE. The logistics of transporting club gear to site were expertly handled by John, Chris 2E0BMA and Bob G3VCA.



**South Normanton, Alfreton and District Amateur Radio Club (SNADARC)** took part in JOTA with the 1st Crich Scout Group. They ran HF and VHF stations alongside digital stations. Activities included Morse code training, electronics and computing, and other communications-based tasks. The Scouts really enjoyed themselves and learned a lot too, as you can see from the two photos above.

The Club believes JOTA is a really good way to expose young people to radio and, whilst it may not necessarily bring new amateurs into the hobby right now, the hope is that at a future point in their lives they may remember the fun they had. SNADARC certainly recommends the event to other clubs that would consider linking up with a local Scout Group.