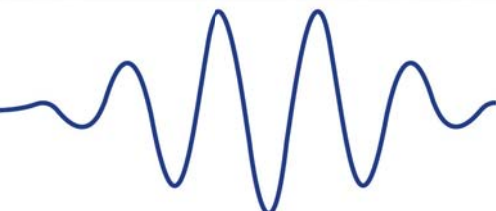




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

April 2018



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

Supporting clubs to encourage growth and participation

We know that clubs around the country are doing great things to encourage new people into amateur radio and to help current radio amateurs to develop their skills at all levels.



The Society provides a range of services to support clubs in these activities, from the administration of exams to the provision of contests and the help of the Regional team. However, it also provides other tools to enable clubs to nurture growth and participation – two of the RSGB's strategic priorities – and this month we'd like to highlight a few that are new or that clubs may be less familiar with.

Kit-building workshops: In order to encourage participation in construction activities, RSGB Legacy Committee funding has enabled the purchase of a tool kit that can be loaned to Affiliated Clubs and Groups. This new kit contains twelve sets of tools, currently transported in two roll-along suitcases, including everything you need to run your own Buildathon or Club kit-building workshop. Clubs are expected to provide the consumables, solder, kits, etc and a report of their event for *RadCom* but transport costs are being covered by the RSGB Legacy funding for the first year. Clubs will

soon be able to book the tool kit by completing an online application form – look out for announcements across our communication channels. Steve Hartley, G0FUW will be coordinating the kits initially so contact him if you'd like to find out more by email to g0fuw@rsgb.org.uk

Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) equipment: The ARDF Committee is keen to open up this aspect of 'Sport Radio' to regions where there isn't any local ARDF activity. Their RSGB equipment can be loaned to Affiliated Societies and the 3.5MHz equipment is configured to provide five transmitters in a five-minute cycle accompanied by ten receivers. A map of the area to be used is not essential but the equipment gives a realistic feel for the 'classic' ARDF format. The 144MHz equipment comprises a set of five transmitters (with rechargeable batteries) and antennas but no receivers are included. To find out more about the kit or about possible ARDF Taster Days, contact Bob Titterton, G3ORY by email to ardf.chairman@rsgb.org.uk

Expert presentations for club talks: The Society's Convention presentations offer clubs a way of bringing world-class experts to club evenings. Currently there are 30 talks in our online video portal, with many more due to be released during this year. They are a fabulous resource at your fingertips and a great way to inspire club members to try new aspects of amateur radio. Take a look at www.rsgb.org/videos

Building on this, the Propagation Studies Committee (PSC) has created two downloadable, narrated video presentations for clubs: *Understanding HF Propagation* and *Radio Propagation – VHF and higher*. Both come with notes and have the option of a Skype Q&A session with a PSC member. Over 130 clubs have seen one of the presentations and the feedback has been excellent – would your club members be interested? To book one of the presentations contact Steve Nichols, G0KYA by email to psc.chairman@rsgb.org.uk

Throughout this year we'll be creating an online resource bank for clubs. It will draw together not only the great range of tools provided by the RSGB but will also highlight innovative activities from clubs around the country that were shared during the President's review of clubs in 2017. We hope that this will help and inspire clubs as they work to encourage the growth of amateur radio in their areas.

Heather Parsons, RSGB Communications Manager

***“help and inspire clubs
as they work to
encourage the growth
of amateur radio”***

The RSGB President

A prestigious and important role but what does the President actually do... and what are the myths?

Whilst there are some core duties that every President does – being a Board Director and representing the Society at some external events being just two – each President brings something new to the role and also gains much from it. Current President Nick Henwood, G3RWF explains, “To some extent you can shape the role to suit your interests and availability but first and foremost you need to be wildly keen on amateur radio.”

Representing the Society does require a time commitment, but John Gould, G3WKL (President, 2014-2016) found that he learned a lot in the process: “The President's representational duties gave me an almost unique insight to the breadth of amateur radio. I had cause to look into areas of the hobby that I hadn't experienced before, giving me a better overall ‘helicopter’ view of where amateur radio was currently positioned and some feeling as to how it might evolve in the future.”

Hilary Clayton-Smith, G4JKS (President, 1999) adds, “I gained a far better insight into the complexities of the way the Society works and the sheer workload involved in providing a comprehensive support network for amateurs, something which is difficult to comprehend unless you are closely involved.”

Meeting radio amateurs and the general public also offers opportunities to share the excitement of amateur radio as Bob Whelan, G3PJT (President, 2002-03 and 2013/14) explains: “In the Centenary year celebrations we were able to show that amateur radio appeals to a wide audience of all ages, that it can lead to a positive social outlook which is very relevant to the 21st century environment and that for many, it has led to fulfilling career opportunities and a fun-filled challenging pastime.”

As the Society looks to the future, could you bring your skills, time and passion for amateur radio to this important role? To find out more, watch our new video where Nick talking about the President's role in our new video, www.rsgb.org/president

Our Society has open elections for its President. Unfortunately no nominations have been received for 2018-20 and the post is now being re-advertised. The closing date is midnight on 26 April. If an election is required, details will be published in the June edition of *RadCom*, available in mid-May. The current President has agreed to continue until the process is complete.

Further details and nomination forms are at www.rsgb.org/nominations or from the General Manager at RSGB HQ (RSGB, 3 Abbey Court, Priory Business Park, Fraser Road, Bedford MK44 3WH).

Calling Notice for AGM 2018

Notice is hereby given that the 91st Annual General Meeting of the Radio Society of Great Britain will be held on Saturday, 21 April 2018 at the Jurys Inn Hotel, 245 Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2HQ commencing at 12 noon for the transaction of the undermentioned business.

Agenda

- To receive and, if approved, confirm the Minutes of the 90th Annual General Meeting held on 22 April 2017 at Angel Hotel, Cardiff and circulated to Members in the April 2018 *RadCom* (see right). **[Resolution 1]**
- To receive and consider the accounts for the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017 and the reports of the Board and the Auditor that appear in the April 2018 edition of *RadCom* (see page 70, April 2018 *RadCom*).
- To appoint Auditors Sayer Vincent and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration. **[Resolution 2]**
- To elect Philip Willis, MOPHI as a Nominated Director of the RSGB to serve until the 2020 AGM (Personal statement appears on page 8, April 2018 *RadCom*) **[Resolution 3]** (see explanatory note below)
- To elect two from Mark Jones, GOMGX, James Preece, MOJFP, Michael Senior, G4EFO and Simone Joanne Wilson, MOBOX as Directors of the RSGB to serve on the Board. **[Resolution 4]** (Personal statements appear on page 22, April 2018 *RadCom*).
- To amend the Articles of Association to effect the Board's proposals to rename the Regional Managers/Regional Council Members as Regional Representatives (but retaining the arrangements for their election as at present), to transform the existing Regional Council and Leadership Team into a new body called the Volunteer Leadership Team (see explanatory note below). **[Resolution 5]**
- To amend the Articles of Association by the insertion at Article 33 of the following "If the office of President is vacant, or the elected President is indisposed and unable to fulfil the role of President, the Board shall have the power to co-opt a person it considers suitable for such a period as appears to the Board to be appropriate provided that the period shall end not later than the date of the next AGM." (See explanatory note below) **[Resolution 6]**

By order of the Board. Stephen Purser, GW4SHF, Company Secretary.

Explanatory Note to Agenda Item 4 above [Resolution 3]

The Articles require that Nominated Directors are endorsed by the Membership in a secret ballot on or before the AGM (Article 33C). Philip Willis, MOPHI was recommended to the Board as a Nominated Director by the Nominations Committee in April 2017. The Board accepted the recommendation and also decided to co-opt him as a Director under Article 37 until the 2018 AGM. He has therefore served as a co-opted Director from May 2017 until the AGM.

Explanatory Note to Agenda Item 6 above [Resolution 5]

The Board is proposing, after extensive consultations, to rename Regional Managers/Regional Council Members as Regional Representatives (but retaining the arrangements for their election as at present) and to transform the existing Regional Council and Leadership Team into a new body called the Volunteer Leadership Team.

To effect these changes requires 28 separate changes in a 12 page document. An amended version of the Articles is available at www.rsgb.org/resolution and can be downloaded. HQ will also send out a copy by email or post on request.

An article by the President Nick Henwood, G3RWF has set out the Board's reasons for recommending these changes is on page 15 April 2018 *RadCom*. They have been the subject of extensive consultation and debate within the Regional Council and the Leadership Team. The Board recommends that these changes be made.

Explanatory Note to Agenda Item 7 above [Resolution 6]

The Board was disappointed that by the closing date of 31 January 2018 no Member had been duly nominated for the role of President. The Board decided that it should:

- Immediately seek fresh nominations – details of how to seek nomination can be found at www.rsgb.org/nominations The nomination period ends at midnight on 26 April 2018
- Ask the AGM to amend the Articles of Association to allow the Board to co-opt a President in future if no candidate for election is forthcoming after due advertisement.

The Board hopes that a suitable candidate will now come forward and will serve as President until the 2020 AGM. But if not, it will try to co-opt someone until the 2019 AGM and nominations will be sought again in the January 2019 nomination round.

Abridged Minutes of the 90th Annual General Meeting of the Radio Society of Great Britain

held on 22 April 2017 at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff (These Minutes have been abridged to permit inclusion in *RadCom*. The full Minutes can be found at <http://rsgb.org/main/archive/events-archive/abridged-agm-2017/>)

Resolution 1

To receive and, if approved, confirm the Minutes of the 89th Annual General Meeting. (Approved)

Resolution 2

To appoint Auditors Sayer Vincent and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration. (Approved)

Resolution 3

To elect either David Hutchinson, G14FUM, Sara McGarvey, 2IOSSW, Mike Tubby, G8TIC or Philip Willis, MOPHI as a Director of the RSGB to serve on the Board. (Sara McGarvey, 2IOSSW elected)

Resolution 4 (Region 10 only)

To elect either Keith Bird, G4JED or Michael Senior, G4EFO as Regional Manager for Region 10 (England South & South-East). (Michael Senior, G4EFO elected)

RSGB 2018 AGM

The 91st AGM will be held in Birmingham on Saturday 21 April 2018 commencing at 12 noon. Arrangements have been made for Members who are unable to attend the AGM to cast their votes by proxy – go to www.rsgb.org/agm2018

A buffet lunch will be provided for Members who notify their attendance in advance. Please register using the form on the RSGB website at www.rsgb.org/attendagm After lunch there will be a Q&A session and two short presentations on the NRC and the volunteer structure.

The hotel is well located and close to all key transport links in Birmingham. The nearest bus stops to Jurys Inn Birmingham are Five Ways, Broad Street and Colmore Row.

To get to the hotel from the airport you can get a train from Birmingham International to Birmingham New Street. From there it is a 10-minute walk to the hotel.

Paid parking is available at the hotel's onsite car park, which has 200 parking spaces. The cost ranges between £1.50 and £14.20, depending on the length of stay. There is a height restriction of 1.7m (5ft 7" approx). Directions for those driving to the AGM are at www.jurysinns.com/hotels/birmingham/map

Philip Willis, MOPHI



Curriculum Vitae: Member Trowbridge and District ARC, RSGB City of Bristol Group, Wessex Contest Group. 2012: Advanced licence. 2014-2016: Training and Education Committee Chair. 2017 to date: Board Director. Reorganised TEC in project teams. Added a Disabilities team and, working alongside Principia Schools, a Schools Link team. Provided early input to Advanced Plus and have been involved with Ofcom negotiations. Organised "Try Something New" 2016 Convention talks. Identified the need, and successfully drove the process, to have an RSGB Equalities policy. Have recently reviewed practical progress in Equalities and Inclusivity and intend to drive more in this area. Also interested in supporting and developing a more strategic approach, especially important given both technological and demographic changes.

Personal Statement: I want people to be enthused by what radio can do, whether as a hobby or in their careers, whether actively involved or as an interested spectator. I wish to ensure amateur radio is available to all, from the very young onwards and regardless of ability. To those ends, we need an RSGB that

is flexible, inclusive and supportive, in practice as well as in aspiration; one that continues its excellent support for Members and one that is adaptable to new needs.

My previous role as Training and Education Committee Chair has enhanced my understanding of the breadth of our community. I have met fantastic tutors, schoolchildren bubbling with enthusiasm, teachers fired-up with what radio can do and volunteers keen to help others get as much out of the hobby as they do. My current role as co-opted Director has given me an excellent overview of the organisation, its challenges and successes.

I have promoted amateur radio in various ways: by recording pieces for TxFactor and the RSGB promotional videos, by helping with Buildathons for young people and by speaking at the annual conference of the Association of Science Teachers.

My background in the university sector has given me management experience, a thorough understanding of teaching and of finding good ways to work with fellow staff. I have been lucky to travel abroad from time to time and see how other cultures operate.

I would very much like to continue on the RSGB Board to use my skills to enhance all opportunities to enjoy radio and to ensure the future of amateur radio is secure.

Region 1

Region 1 received one candidate who is therefore elected unopposed.

Anthony (Tony) Miles, MMOTMZ

Personal Statement: My interest in radio stems from school days. On retirement I joined the Stirling Radio Club, and progressed through to get my "Full Ticket" 2 years ago. I'm active on both HF and VHF/UHF. I'm an RSGB assessor and RAYNET member. I'm currently the co-opted Region 1 Manager. Since being in this post I have actively helped disadvantaged radio amateurs. I'm intending to get around all the clubs in the 4,000 sq. miles of Region1. I very much uphold the RSGB as an organisation supporting all aspects of Amateur Radio and wish to continue as the Regional Manager.



RSGB Convention

Detailed planning has now started for the 2018 RSGB Convention in October. The organisers are keen to hear suggestions for talks to be given at the event. Please email any ideas to convention@rsgb.org.uk We plan the usual broad mix across the five streams with topics to cater for all tastes and at all levels. AMSAT-UK will be organising some of the lectures as the AMSAT Colloquium will be incorporated into the Convention again this year.

RSGB Innovations Working Group

The RSGB Innovations Working Group needs more help – they are creating ideas but are short of people with time and resources to work on them, shake them around and generally progress them perhaps towards possible implementation. Is that something that might interest you? If so please make contact by email to gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk

Gordon L Adams, G3LEQ, SK

Whilst he held many roles such as member of the Technical Committee, Zone A member of Council, newsreader for more than 42 years and was an active member of the RSGB's Repeater Working Group, Gordon will be perhaps best remembered for his work as GB2RS Manager and Spectrum Director. He passed away on the 4th of February 2018.

Gordon retired from his role as GB2RS Manager after 35 years looking after the 100 or so volunteer newsreaders, keeping the required paperwork in order to continue the special dispensation from Ofcom to broadcast the news within a defined remit. Many news readers will remember being recruited by Gordon.

During his time as the RSGB's Spectrum Director he was instrumental in the original negotiations with the regulator and the MoD regarding the start up of the 5MHz Experiment in the UK. He was responsible for introducing the SINPO code as a means of carrying out subjective assessments of our 5MHz voice communications.

At the 2014 RSGB AGM, following his retirement as the GB2RS Manager, he was presented with the RSGB Long Service Award.

Outside the RSGB he was a founder member of the UK FM Group (Western).



Morse Competency Scheme updated

"If you think operating Morse code is something that belongs to the past century, think again! Morse operation remains a popular mainstay of amateur radio and it continues to attract new interest."

As this quote from the website demonstrates, Morse code (or CW) continues to be a valuable part of amateur radio and it is still attracting young people across the world. However, the number of people applying for the Society's Morse Certificate of Competency has declined and it seems that the possession of a certificate to confirm one's prowess, to hang on the shack wall, might have lost some of its appeal.

In an effort to stimulate interest in the scheme, the application procedure has been updated, simplified and modernised. The biggest change is the introduction of an online facility. It has been designed around Skype, the popular free Voice Over Internet Protocol program. The online aspect is an additional option that does not replace the familiar face-to-face facility.

Proving competency consists of demonstrating the ability to send and receive, accurately, a passage of plain language and a series of random numbers. There is a selection of speeds to choose from between 5 and 30 wpm. For the receiving part of the test, to ensure accuracy of speed and spacing, the Assessors send computer generated code.

There is a dedicated team of volunteer Assessors who are all keen CW users; most of them teach as well as run the tests.

Management of the Scheme has been centralised, with one point of contact for applying for the competency test, the allocation of an Assessor, the issuing of Certificates and record keeping. We are delighted that Phillip Brooks, G4NZQ has agreed to become the new Morse Competency Project Co-ordinator.

There is no charge for applying for the Certificate of Competency, which is purely for personal satisfaction and a well-deserved sense of achievement. To find out more visit www.rsgb.org/morse

QSL Matters

First, a clarification regarding newly DXCC approved prefix, Z6, Kosovo. Whilst a national society exists, Shogata e Radio Amatoreve te Kosoves (SHRAK), at present there is no IARU recognised and listed QSL bureau for Kosovo. Members are advised to check all QSL details for Z6 online before posting any cards to the RSGB bureau.

MW-2W update. Thank you to all those who have expressed an interest in volunteering for the vacant post of MW-2W sub manager. It is hoped to make an announcement soon.

MOA-F series. Due to recent retirements it has become practical to consolidate a number of smaller M series into the standard sorting pattern. This now means that a vacancy exists for the newly created MOA-F group. If you have time, space, some basic spreadsheet skills to handle around 20k of cards per year, please email the bureau, qsl@rsgb.org.uk

Bureau volunteers verify current Membership records, sort, weigh and send cards to those providing C5 SAEs.

Congratulations

To the following Members whom our records show as having reached 70, 60 or 50 years' continuous Membership of the RSGB.

70 years

Mr E W Bettles, G3KXE
Isle of Man ARS, GT11OM
A M C Macklow-Smith
RS17058

60 years

Mr D G Pinnock, G3HVA
Mr P M Rackham, G3IRQ
Mr J D Masters, G3MBM
Mr B Vaughan, G3MCV
Mr G A Whiting, G3MMS
Mr R Trafford, G3MRT
Mr J T Leviston, G3NFB
Mr R J Lister, G8IXP
Mr A C Doty Jr, W7ACD

50 years

Dr C C Tinline, G3XHY
Mr B R Ward, G3XKH
Mr P Howarth, GM3YAC
Mr D T Sapsworth, G3YMW
Mr A J Head, G3YYP
Mr M J Atherton, G3ZAY
Mr T E Adams, G4CHD
Mr T Cottham, G4KTB
Dr W E Peel, G4URV
Mr P R Yates, G8CVY
Mr A J Scott, GM8BDX
Mr M J Murray, RS30261
Mr R I Wolfe, RS37340

The RSGB would like to welcome to the RSGB family the following new Members who have joined their voice to ours and are helping to keep the RSGB strong.

Mr J Parton, 2E0EKA	Mr J Patterson, KE4QGB	Mr M Woffindale, M6NFJ	Mr B Titmus, RS308059	Miss N Ferenc, RS316322
Mr K Toohey, 2E0KJT	Mr J Howard, KN1NX	Mr J Keogh, M6NHL	Mrs P Brown, RS315963	Mr M Gray, RS316331
Mr G Winnett, 2E0NUN	Mr L Zanonato, MOHSE	Mr J Foxall, M6NHW	Mr C Brown, RS315964	Mr R Sutherland, RS316372
Mr R Hanson, 2E0RLR	Mr M Priest, M0IEQ	Mr D Noyek, M6NOY	Mr J Priddin, RS316110	Mr P Allen, RS316384
Mrs C Staerck, 2E1EXP	Mr P Drobny, M0IJC	Mr D O'Mahony, M6OED	Mr R Grierson, RS316131	Mrs N Titmus, RS316385
Mr D Klem, AG6KG	Mr K Kostov, MOLZU	Mr S Mulligan, M6VSM	Mr D O'Brien, RS316143	Mr R Rutland, RS316386
Mr W Koesters, G4ILW	Mr M Hubbard, M0MHU	Mr S Warner, M6XHV	Mr S Blake, RS316144	Mr J Williams, RS316419
Mr S Liptrott, G0HKZ	Dr R Hunt, MORBT	Mr M M Havadtoi, M6XHX	Dr A Jolly, RS316156	Mr M Weir, VE3WDM
Mr G Watson, G0RIY	Mr L Bullen, M0VKR	Mr J Williams, M6XPR	Ms E Jolly, RS316157	Mr A Gillespie, VK3BU
Mr P Harvey, G1ZZA	Mr P McVay, M5AAD	Mr W Webb, M6XUM	Ms F Jolly, RS316158	Mr D Heathcote, VK3DRH
Mr J Dingwall, G4ILW	Mr C Barker, M6BEY	Mr M Clayton, M6YGM	Mr J N Harrison, RS316221	Mr S Lesniak, W2ZBT
Mr G Laming, G4JBD	Mrs K Gadsby, M6JOB	Mr J Heyburn, M6JVC	Mr J Ryan, RS316222	Mr J Poor, WA7GSI
Mr P McAuliffe, G4XFB	Mr S Stretton, M6JPU	Mr C van Way, N0CVV	Mr G Cole, RS316223	Mr W Simmons, WB0ROT
Mr G Smith, G6MDU	Mr W Terry, M6JVF	Mr T Salminen, OH7T	Mr N Wright, RS316311	Mr J Bonneau, WB7PAS
Mr P Hedley, G6PTT	Mr G Hepworth, M6JYR	Mr B Hansen, OZ7XD	Mr R Shelley, RS316317	Mr L Andrei, YO9INA
Mr T Ellis, G7AJG	Mr G Sandford, M6MXN	Mr S Whitfield, RS204197	Mr J Raybould, RS316320	
Mr D Willis, GW0JDW	Mr G Peters, M6MZQ	Mr A James, RS307293		
Mr J de La Torre, K1USC	Mr M Mateja, M6NCQ			

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

Mr J Berrisford, 2E0RLG	Mr A Kinson, G0KOC	Mr T Alwyn-Clark, G7JRD	Mrs J M Stirling, GMOGUU	Mr D Potter, MOVBY
Mr S J Bobby, 2W0JYN	Mr J Bowen, G1YOY	Mr M Hooper, G7UUK	Mr P Easton, GM1RCP	Mr J B Colderwood, MOZAH
Mr K Madden, EI5DPB	Mr K Mullaney, G4FIN	Mr M Nash, G8FNH	Mr D Collins, GW4YNP	Mr J Barnham, M1AMF
Mr P G Howard, G0AFN	Mr G W Cook, G4KYA	Mr D Keys, G1OLDI	Mr C Gamelin, K1RIO	Mr P J Williamson, M6EFP
Mr A Wilkie, G0BLS	Mr P K Short, G4WJJ	Mr D Robinson, GJ3YHU	Mr P Tose, M0CLN	Mr C McNaughton, M6MKF
Mr V Baillie, G0JMV	Mr P Massey, G4YCA	Mr F A Stirling, GMOGTY	Mr R Burton, MORHB	Mr S Etty, RS196356

5MHz news

Czech Republic: Following extensive discussions with the regulator, an agreement has been reached whereby Czech amateurs can access both the new WRC-15 60m Amateur Secondary Allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5kHz and their existing twelve 60m channels. The allocation is available on an individual permit basis with a maximum power of 15W EIRP, with the IARU 60m band plan recommended. The permit is valid for 5 years. The 12 existing channels are available at 100W EIRP on a Secondary basis, by individual permit valid for 1 year. In this instance only CW and SSB are permitted.

New Zealand: NZART has negotiated with the regulator and the NZ Defence Force allow limited operation by ZL amateur operators on 60m on a trial basis. Those who wish to operate on the band must complete and sign a sub-licence form that sets out the terms of operation. Operation centres on 5353kHz and 5362 to 5364kHz with a maximum output of 10dBW EIRP.

Iceland: The Icelandic telecoms regulator updated amateur radio regulations that included permitting access to the new WRC-15 60m allocation from 5351.5 to 5366.5kHz on a Secondary basis with a maximum power of 15W EIRP, but concluded the previous experimental licence privileges that had been current until the end of 2017.

Argentina: In February new Argentinean Amateur Radio Regulations came into force that include the new WRC-15 Amateur 60m Secondary Allocation of 5351.5 to 5366.5kHz with a regional maximum power limit of 25W EIRP.

Air Cadet licensees

Ten Air Cadets from across the South West Region successfully gained their Silver Comms badges with 13 gaining their Foundation Licences. Instructed by Wing Radio Officers from every Wing, they completed two modules over two weekends. On the first weekend the core module of Air Cadet Voice Procedures was covered. Cadets successfully learned all new pro-words, how to be a Net Control Station and all about how antennas work. The second module, the Foundation licence took place two weeks later. A part of the overall assessment was to learn about Morse Code, and to use it. Cadets on this course were selected from Dorset and Wiltshire, Hampshire, Thames Valley and Devon and Somerset!



Special event stations

EI100MCV will be active throughout 2018, using all bands, operating on or close to frequencies ending with 18, eg 1918kHz on 160m, 3518, 3618 and 3718kHz on 80m, etc. Using applicable modes. Further details can be found on www.QRZ.com. It is also hoped / planned to have a **GB100MCV** callsign active in October. The callsign is to mark the Centenary of the sinking of *RMS Leinster* (callsign MCV) in the Irish Sea. This was, and still is, the single largest loss of life in the Irish Sea with a total of 567 people lost, including Josephine Carr, the first Wren to die in active service.

RAOTA (the Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association) will be operating **GB600T** during 2018 as a part of its diamond jubilee celebrations. **GB600T** will be active between 14 and 22 April operated by David, G3ZPF. QSLs can be via the bureau or **EQSL**.

Event for young people

In January, **CQScotland.com** delivered an introduction to basic electronics for children from two Hamilton schools on behalf of the South Lanarkshire Council. Despite the wet weather, 28 children, 20 adults and 6 support staff attended. Photos of the event may be viewed at www.CQScotland.com and you can see they enjoyed themselves.

At the end of events like this, the group want to hand out small packs of components so the youngsters can build something with an adult at home. They are looking for donations of through-hole components so they may grow this activity and spark an interest in amateur radio and electronics by the next generation. If you or any of your club members can help, please contact **CQ Scotland.com** via email to cqscotland@gmail.com



Royal Air Force Centenary

On 1 April 2018, the Royal Air Force will be celebrating its 100th birthday. To commemorate this occasion **RAFARS** has secured the callsign **GB100RAF** for use throughout the year. The society's activities will begin on 31 March, with the HQ and the Falkland Islands stations being on the air on 1 April. **RAFARS** members will be continuing the celebrations by airing many society callsigns over the coming year, listen out for **G8FC**, **VP8RAF**, **G3RAF**, **G4RAF**, **G6RAF**, **G7RAF**, **G8RAF** and **GB1RAF**. Further information about **RAF100** activities and how society members can request the use of **RAFARS**, **SES** and **SSS** callsigns can be found at www.rafars.org

Operations Director at ML&S

After five years working in the family-owned business, Martin's eldest son, Daniel Martin Lynch, has been appointed Operations Director at Martin Lynch & Sons Ltd. Dan has been involved in sales since he left university, mostly for large British & Japanese bike manufacturers, until Martin, G4HKS managed to persuade him to join ML&S in 2013. He is responsible for logistics at the main company including responsibility for all imports, forecasting, operating procedures, maintaining company standards, web and day to day running of the business.



ML&S Training Academy Success

The ML&S Training Academy has put through hundreds of candidates for their Foundation and Intermediate sessions over the last three years. Add to that almost monthly 'sittings' for the Advanced exam, their training school is very popular. Thanks to their chief lecturer and Workshop Manager at ML&S, Steve Venner, G0TAN, the training courses go from strength to strength and is the only retail store to have a dedicated school for amateur radio on site. Saturday 17 February was no exception, with a bunch of smiling faces probably due to a 100% pass rate! For more information on the ML&S Training Academy see HamRadio.co.uk/Training

Mountain Goat

Simon, G4TJC has achieved SOTA Mountain Goat status for achieving 1000 points in the Activator section of the global amateur radio awards programme. The qualifying activation was on Rhobell Fawr GW/NW-021, 734m ASL. He was accompanied on the expedition by his friend, and existing SOTA Mountain Goat, Allan, GW4VPX.



LDG Electronics products

After many years of being LDG's biggest reseller outside the US, ML&S were delighted to be appointed global distributor of the USA's most famous manufacturer of Automatic Antenna Tuners outside USA and Canada. LDG are a manufacturer of high performance auto-tuners and accessories with excellent value for money, outstanding customer service and ground breaking R&D. Their 10:1 SWR tuning range and fast tuning are already industry standards. For more information see HamRadio.co.uk/LDG



News in Brief

MOCVO Antennas has relocated to 68 Vernon Road, Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire NG17 8ED. They are also hoping to release a new range of antennas shortly

CAT18 and the **BATC General Meeting** will be held at the Midland Air Museum on 15 & 16 September.

Many Danish radio amateurs will be active on 18 April with the special callsign **5POWARD/xx**. Contacts will be confirmed with Awards and special QSL cards. See www.qrz.com/db/5p0ward

NBC News recently produced a video on **Hawaii's** amateur radio operators and the role they could play in a national disaster. Take a look at <https://youtu.be/d009aMGmizM>

The 2018 **Scottish Braehead Radio & Electronics Rally** run by ASRA will be taking place on 20 May. The group would like to invite any trader or club interesting in having a table this year to visit the website www.asrally.com/book

Brian, GW4DVB will be operating as **J88PI** from Palm Island (aka Prune Island, NA-025) in St Vincent and the Grenadines from 21 to 29 April. He will be using a Yaesu FT-991A with 100W into a 10m vertical antenna. QSL direct only to PO Box 20:20, Llanharan, Pontyclun, Wales CF72 9ZA.

LAMCO is attending the NARSA rally at the Norbreck Castle Hotel Exhibition Centre, Queens Promenade, North Shore, Blackpool FY2 9AA on 29 April.

International Air Ambulance Week 2018 will take place between 8 and 16 September see <http://www.radio-amateur-events.org/IAW/Registration.htm>

Essex RAYNET's events in April include the 10th for the Kelvedon Park Communications Test and 22nd for the Tendring & Clacton Rally.

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 Meerkat Farming, 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 the May issue is 28 March and for June it's 25 April. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am Thursday on the week of broadcast.

CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

INTERNATIONAL

Pafos Radio Club, Cyprus
Richard, 5B4AJG, 00 357 97 857 891,
5b4ajg@gmail.com www.cyhams.org
Meets 3rd Thursday at various locations, contact
for latest information.

**International Federation of Railway Radio
Amateurs (FIRAC) www.firac.org.uk**
Nets Sun 14.320MHz at 0830UTC, Wed
21.3MHz at 1430UTC g4gnq@hotmail.co.uk

NATIONAL

Amateur Radio Caravan and Camping Club
membership@arcc.org.uk, www.arcc.org.uk
Caravan rally: Spalding and Stratford on Avon

AMSAT-UK, http://amsat-uk.org/
Open net every Sunday, 10am, 3.780MHz (±)

British Railways Amateur Radio Society
membership@brars.info, www.brars.info
Nets Tue 7pm on 3.68MHz, Fri 4pm on 3.685MHz

Civil Service Amateur Radio Society
Weekly net every Tuesday, 8pm, 3.763MHz.

CDXC – The UK DX Foundation
Welcomes all interested in HF DX and
contesting. www.cdxc.org.uk

Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association
MemSec@RAOTA.org, www.RAOTA.org
Diamond Jubilee year. Nets: Wed 3.763MHz
1000, 1.963MHz 2100 Thurs 7.163MHz,
1100, 3.763MHz 1930. Sun 3.763MHz 1000

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

Regional Manager: Anthony Miles, MM0TMZ
RM1@rsgb.org.uk

Ayr ARG
Derek, MM0OVD, 0744 793 1941
13 Open natter night
27 Yagi Antennas, Tom, GM3HNN

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
6 Club night
20 Visit to the secret bunker at Barnton Quarry

Livingston & District ARS
Cathie, 2MODIB, 01506 433 846
3, 17, 24 Training/operating
10 Talk

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

Regional Manager: Andrew Burns, MM0CXA
RM2@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdeen ARS
Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651 365
5 Junk sale
12, 19 Antenna Analyser Demo / Club Work Night
26 Construction and on the air

Dundee ARC
Martin, 2MOKAU, 0776 370 8933
3, 10 Closed

17 Club night/tuition
24 Talk

Glenrothes & District RC
Dougie, MM6KNR, dougie@digitalmaker.co.uk
4 Talk on homebrew collinears
11 Talk on Tam's shack
18 Club night
25 Fire engines and their communications

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

Regional Manager: Kath Wilson, M1CNY,
RM3@rsgb.org.uk

Bolton Wireless Club
boltonwireless@gmail.com
9, 23 Meeting and talk

Chester & District RS
Bruce, M0CVP, 01244 343 825
20/03 Radiophony, Paul, MOXPD
27/03 Update on GB7WX and DMR
3 AGM
10, 24 Committee meeting / Operating evening
17 Acronyms and abbreviations, Steve, G6FDK

Macclesfield & District RS
Greg, M0TXX, info@gx4mws.com
2 Shack on the air
9 Film night
16 ECG for beginners
23, 30 Junk sale / Fox hunt

Morecambe Bay ARS
Mark, M0NOM, 07917 653 012
3 EMI - I heard that, Stewart, G3RXQ
10, 24 Social night / planning for Blackpool Rally
17 Life & times of a Marconi engineer

South Manchester R&CC
Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999
5 Semiconductors that won't die, Ged, G8RSI
12 Hidden messages, Alan, M0HYI
19 Space weather and HF Propagation, G3SVW
26 Weather or not, Peter, G3XGE

Stockport RS
Heather, M6HNS, 07506 904 422
3, 5 Society night / Committee meeting
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 2pm, 433.525MHz FM
10 Net, 7.30pm, 51.550MHz FM
12, 25 Net, 7.30pm, 145.375MHz FM
16-20 DXpedition to SE Ireland
17, 24 Radio night/ Skills night
26 Advanced tutorial primer 1
29 NARSA rally at Norbreck, Blackpool

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810
2 Closed
9, 29 Final NARSA Rally prep / NARSA Rally
16, 23 Rig control workshop / Night on air
30 Mills on the Air presentation & prep

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

Regional Manager: Ian Douglas, G7MFN,
RM4@rsgb.org.uk

Bishop Auckland RAC
Gail, M3GBB, 0191 372 0473
5, 12, 19, 26 Club night and training

Blyth Radio Club
John, 2E0DCV, 0191 237 1729
4, 11 Morse training
18, 25 Club night

Denby Dale RC
Darran, G0BWB, 07974 423227
1, 8, 15, 22, 28 Club net, GB3HD, 10.30am
4, 15 Surplus sale / WAB contest
11, 25 Foundation course
18 WFF and portable operation, MORBG

Hornsea ARC
Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573
4 Portsdown DATV, Graham, M1ASR
11 RSGB CC 80m SSB/video
18 Fish'n'chip quiz
25 How we were, Richard, G4YTV

Hull & District ARS
Tony, G0WJK, 01430 423 837
5 HF & VHF propagation videos
15, 19, 26 Club night & on the air

Ripon & District ARS
David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778
5, 12, 19, 26 Club night

Sheffield & District Wireless Society
Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 0788 406 5375
11, 25 Training and social night

Sheffield ARC
David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com
2 Closed
9, 30 Club night
16 Construction award
23 Technical and practical hands on

Spen Valley ARS
Russell, G0FOI, 01274 875 038
5 VHF-UHF EME, Dave, G4IDR
19 Shack meeting

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Regional Manager: Martyn Vincent, G3UKV
RM5@rsgb.org.uk

Bromsgrove & District ARC
John, G4OJS, 0788 9678 303
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night

Burton ARC
Mike, M0XXM, 0785 068 5961
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.575MHz, 10am
4, 11, 18, 25 Shack night
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.575MHz, 7.30pm
24 Coffee morning at Dunelms Café

Coventry ARS
John, G8SEQ, 07958 777 363
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 8pm, 145.375MHz / 7.16MHz
5, 12, 29, 26 Open net, 8pm, 50.175MHz SSB
20 G2FDC 2m DF Trophy – 2nd round
27 Radio workshop

Dudley & District ARS
Graham 2E0GIJ, 0783 120 1407
3, 10, 17, 24 Club night

Gloucester AR&ES
Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
2, 9 Crickley operating/picnic
4, 11, 18, 25 Main net, 145.475MHz FM, 7.30pm
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 145.475MHz FM, 7.30pm,
then moving to 80m SSB
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 7.30pm, 432.220MHz USB
16, 30 Informal activities
23 Talk by Yaesu on System Fusion

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568

- 10 Beginners guide to satellite operation, G4VXE
- 24 Informal

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 07808 078 003

- 4 General meeting, ragchew & training
- 11 Committee meeting, training classes
- 15 West London Radio and Electronics Show
- 18 Open meeting, shack OTA & training
- 25 Review of social visits and rallies & training

Mid-Warwickshire ARS

Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465, mwars@gmail.com

- 10 Intermediate training, MOOAE
- 24 Technical topics/homebrew

Rugby ATS

Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940

- 3, 10, 17, 24 CW practice, training, OTA & projects
- 7, 14, 21 HF & VHF shack on the air & projects
- 3, 10, 17 UKAC
- 7 Antenna maintenance; Wonder Wand, GONZI
- 8 Hut maintenance & management meeting
- 14 Getting started in DF hunting
- 21, 28 Committee meeting / AGM

Solihull ARS

Roger, G4BBT, 0121 743 7277

- 5, 12, 26 Net, 8pm, 145.450MHz
- 19 Club night

South Birmingham RS

Gemma, M6GKG, gemmagordon.m6gkg@gmail.com

- 2 Closed
- 3, 10, 17, 24 Coffee morning, 11am, all welcome
- 5, 12, 19, 26 Training classes, Dave, G8OWL
- 6, 13 Checking equipment for May field day
- 9, 23 Sorting stock for rally sales
- 27 Getting ready for Field Day

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, ob2eOzap@gmail.com

- 2, 16, 30 Open net, 145.250MHz, 7.30pm
- 9, 23 Club meeting
- 10 Open net, 70.475MHz, 7.30pm
- 24 DMR open net, 7.30pm, slot/local 2 GB7FW

Telford & District ARS

John, MOJZH, 07824 737 716

- 4 Committee meeting and GX3ZME OTA
- 11 Worked All Britain, Dave, G4IAR
- 18 International Marconi Day prep
- 20-22 GB8MD for IMD from Tywyn
- 25 Talk by Richard, GOKXG

Wythall Radio Club

Chris, G0EYO, 07710 412 819

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.225 or GB3WL, 8pm
- 3, 10, 17, 24 Morse class
- 3, 10 Free and Easy / Open committee meeting
- 17 Aerial light show, Peter, G4LWF
- 24 2 - 22 Show

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

Regional Manager: Ceri Lloyd Jones, 2W0LJC
RM6@rsgb.org.uk

North Wales Radio Society

Liz, GWOETU, 0776 019 0355

- 5, 12 General meeting / Technical topic
- 19 Discussion on summer activities
- 26 DF hunts, Simon Tanner

Porthmadog & District ARS

Peter, GWODFK, 0773 177 1319

- 19 Quiz night

Wrexham ARS

Eifion Parry, wrexham.ars@gmail.com

- 3 SOTA presentation, Dave, GWBNZN
- 7 Show and tell night

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

Regional Manager: Glyn Jones, GW0ANA,
RM7@rsgb.org.uk

Aberystwyth & District ARS

Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853

- 12 North Dyfed RAYNET AGM, Waunfawr Hall
- 26 Club net, 145.500MHz then 145.550MHz

Carmarthen ARS

Andy, GW0JLX, 0776 828 2880

- 17 Illustrated talk on NVIS, Andy, GW0JLX

Cleddau ARS

Heinz, MW0ECY, 0774 804 7008

- 21 Marconi day ops

Llanelli ARS

Craig, MW0MXT, 0738 833 8987

- 9 AGM
- 16 On air night & club raffle
- 30 Junk sale & club raffle

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

Regional Manager: Philip Hosey, MI0MSO
RM8@rsgb.org.uk

Bangor & District ARS

Harry, GI4JTF, 0289 042 2762

- 5 Annual constructors' competition

Mid Ulster ARC

Dave, 20SJV, muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk

- 8 Talk by Philip, MI0MSO, RSGB RM 8

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

Regional Manager: Tom O'Reilly, G0NSY
RM9@rsgb.org.uk

Burnham Beeches RC

Charles, GOSKA, 01753 647 101

- 2 Closed

Edgware & District RS

Mike, G4RNW, 02089 500 658

- 12 Atlases and maps evening, Steve, GOPQB
- 26 Round table discussion on Eastcote possibilities

Hammersmith ARS

Selim, M0XTA, 0751 090 0731

- 5, 12, 19, 26 Club net on GB3LW from 8pm
- 13, 27 Club night

Milton Keynes ARS

Phil, G4FVZ, 0780 263 6998

- 9 DMR transceivers & local code plugs, MOGHZ
- 23 Having a go at RSGB VHF/UHF Contesting, G6GEI

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 0797 088 5614

- 25 Practical Wireless magazine, Don, G3XTT

Radio Society of Harrow

Linda, G7RJL, lcasey100@outlook.com

- 1, 8, 15, 21, 29 Club net, 1938kHz LSB, 12 noon
- 1, 29 Outdoor event, Old Redding car park, 2-5pm
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 145.5/145.35MHz, 8.15pm
- 6, 20 Website workshop / Bring & Buy sale

Reading & District ARC

Laurence, G2DD, 0758 470 6625

- 7-8 Three Towers hike
- 12 Spetsnaz & Soviet recon forces' radio, G4BCX
- 26 UK Six Metre Group, Chris, G4IFX of UKSMG

Shefford & District ARS

David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757

- 5, 29 Spring junk sale / Club lunch
- 12 Sir Clive Sinclair, Brian, G8GHR
- 19 Oscilloscopes, Bryan, MOBIK
- 26 Baldock Radio Station history, Jim Loughlin

Silverthorn Radio Club

Robbie, MOHVC, 0742 913 1105

- 6, 13, 20, 27 Club night, 7.30pm

Southgate ARC

Keith, G8RPA, g8rpa@arrrl.net

- 12 New Venue, The Drill Hall Enfield Portable
- Remote Operation by GORPM and GOKUX

Verulam ARC

Greg, MOPPG, 01582 413 345

- 17 Making contacts during sunspot minima, MOUKR

Whitton ARG

Ian, G0OFN, 0776 565 7542

- 6, 13, 20, 27 Club night, HF / VHF on the air
- 13 Kempton Rally prep
- 27 Presentation on contesting software, GOPZA

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

Regional Manager: Michael Senior, G4EFO
RM10@rsgb.org.uk

Bromley & District ARS

Andy, G4WGW, 01689 878 089

- 4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 145.400MHz 9pm
- 17, 24 Club night / Club meal

Chippenham & District ARC

Secretary@g0mwat.org.uk

- 3 AGM
- 10 Natter night
- 17 RSGB video – Understanding HF Propagation
- 24 RSGB video – Understanding VHF Propagation

Crawley ARC

Richard, G3ZLY, 01342 843 545

- 25 Police communications, Steve, G3ZPS

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 0773 954 9822

- 5 Heathkit Restoration, Bob, G3OOU
- 19 AGM

Crystal Palace R&EC

Bob, G3OOU, 01737 552 170,

- 4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 8pm, 145.525MHz ± QRM
- 6 Talk on British Vintage Wireless & TV Museum

Darenth Valley Radio Society

Mike, G8AXA, 0788 415 7776

- 11 Electrical regulations, Steve, 2EOISS
- 25 On the air/natter night

Dorking & District RS

David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com

- 24 The Future of Amateur Radio, Nick, G3RWF

Farnborough & District RS

sec@farnboroughradio.org.uk

- 11 Natter night
- 25 Construction night, MOXSG & G7BCS

Fort Purbrook ARC

Chris, G3WIE, g3wie@fparc.org.uk

- 2, 9, 16, 23 Open net, 8pm, 144.275MHz
- 27 Activity night & training for Field Weekends

Hastings E&RC

Gordon, 01424 431 909

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 144.575MHz, 11am
- 25 Historical Hastings, Richard Pollard
- Hilderstone R&EC

Ian, 2E0DUE, secretary@g0hrs.org

12 Natter night
26 Talk by Andy from SDRPlay

Horneade & District ARC

Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846, www.hdarc.co.uk
6, 27 Natter night / Skittles night
20 Multi-band operation, Mike, G0JMI

Mid-Sussex ARS

Peter, G4AKG, 01444 239 371
6 Surplus equipment sale
13, 30 On air night / Radio and table top sale
27 Quiz and cakes night

Southdown ARS

John, G3DQY, 01424 424 319
1, 15 Contest
2 Talk by John Vaughan
4 Net 145.275MHz 8.30am; shack 10.30am;
cafe 12.30pm; CW net 144.060MHz, 7pm
11, 18, 25 Net, 145.275MHz, 8.30am; cafe,
12.30pm; CW net 144.060MHz, 7pm

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 1905kHz, 9.30am
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 70.300MHz, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm
9, 23 AGM / Chat and fix-it, John, G8MNY

REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

Regional Manager: Pam Helliwell, G7SME
RM11@rsgb.org.uk

Appledore & District ARC

Alan, M6CCH, 01237 422 833
16 Clansman radio, Chris, G0FJY

Blackmoor Vale ARS

Keith, M0TMO, 01747 851 260
3, 17 VHF evening
10, 15 AGM / Yeovil ARC QRP Convention
24 Chinwag

Callington ARS

John, G4PBN, 01822 835 834
4 AGM and natter night

Cornish Radio Amateur Club

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939
4, 25 Committee meeting
5, 19 AGM / Social evening
21 GB4IMD for International Marconi Day

Gordano Amateur Radio Group

Malcolm, G4KPM, mal@g4kpm.co.uk
25 Club night

Newquay & District ARS

Terry, 2E0XTM, 01841 540 142
12, 26 Club night

Poldhu ARC

Keith, G0WYS, 01326 574 441
21 GB2GM for International Marconi Day

Poole Radio Society

secretary@g4prs.org.uk
5 AGM, Construction & Operating Challenge,
12, 19, 26 Activity night

South Bristol ARC

Andrew, G7KNA, 07838 695 471
5 Committee meeting
26 Open house and on air night

Torbay ARS

John, G4VUD@tars.org.uk
6, 13, 20 Club night (business meeting on 13th)
27 Presentation

Weston Super Mare RS

Martin, G7UWI, 01934 613 094
2, 9, 23, 30 Construction, Morse, operating & natter
16 Talk by police dog handler

Yeovil ARC

Rodney, M0RGE, 01935 825 791
5 60 years in amateur radio, G3IYZ
6, 20 Construction and on-air at Sparkford
12, 15 Briefing for QRP Convention / Convention
19 AGM
26 Problem solving and committee

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Regional Manager: Keith Haynes, G3WRO
RM12@rsgb.org.uk

Braintree & District ARS

Edwin, G0LPO, 01376 324 031
3, 17 Club net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
10 Talk by Essex Fire and Rescue Service
24 Sausage and mash evening

Cambridge & District ARC

Richard, G4AWP, 0770 229 5300
13 Surplus sale
27 VHF Propagation video, Q&A with John, G4BAO

Chelmsford ARS

Colin, G0TRM, secretary@g0mwt.org.uk
3 Talk on FreeDV digital voice for HF
16 Skills Night, Danbury Village Hall
21 GX0MWT, Sandford Mill

Essex Ham

Pete, M0PSX, news@essexham.co.uk
1 Online Foundation course
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net GB3DA, 8pm essexham.net
7 Essex YL Net, GB3DA, 8pm

Felixstowe & District ARS

Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com
9 AGM
14 Intermediate Exam

Harwich ARIG

Kevan, 2E0WMG, 0749 352 1049
11 My time at the BBC, Tony, 2E0FTQ

Huntingdonshire ARS

David, M0VTG, secretary@hunts-hams.co.uk
12 Natter night
26 DMR, Richard, 2E0FRQ

Leiston ARC

John, G4XVE, secretary@larc.org.uk
10 Surplus equipment sale

Loughton & Epping Forest ARS

Dave, M0MBD, 0798 016 5172
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 144.725MHz, 8pm

Lowestoft & District PYE ARC

secretary@ldparc.co.uk
5, 19, 26 Club evening
9, 23 Informal / operating evening
12 Talk / film

Norfolk ARC

Chris, G0DWV, 01603 898 308
4 AGM
11, 25 Informal / Club ideas forum
18 The Birth of Stars, Paul Money

Peterborough & District ARC

Alan Ralph, secretary@padarc.co.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 1.980MHz, 8pm
3, 17 Net, 145.400MHz, 8pm
11 Operating and natter night
25 AGM

South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040
10 Computers in amateur radio, Henry Kleyhans

Thames ARG

Patrick, G8JLM, 01621 855 461
6 Club meeting
13, 27 Net 7.30pm, 144.25MHz CW then GB3DA
20 Practical radio projects

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

Regional Manager: Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ
RM13@rsgb.org.uk

Kettering & District ARS

Ed O'Neill, M0TZX@yahoo.com
5 Net, 7pm 145.300MHz FM
10 3D printing, Adrian, 2E0ERO
12, 19 New band plans discussion
26 4m net, 7pm, 70.425MHz FM then to 6m

Leicester RS

Sandra, G0MCV, 0793 027 4044
2 Closed
9 Morse, free & easy night, committee meeting
16 Morse class then talk on data modes
23 Morse class then food night
30 Morse class 7-7.30 then RSGB lecture

Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam, G4STO, 01427 788 356
1, 28 Open shack 9.30am, GB2CWP 10am (on 1st)
4 Nibble and natter night
5, 19 Club net, GB3LM/GB3LS, 8pm
7, 14, 20 Mentoring and open shack, 9.30am
11 10 minute talks
12, 26 Club net, 145.375MHz, 8pm
16, 18 Committee meeting / Formal meeting
25 Used equipment sale, 7pm for 8, Village Hall

Loughborough & District ARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319
3 Visit to Century Theatre, Coalville, 7.30pm
10 Internet video night
17 Get stuck in, Andrew, G7SEG
24 2m EME practical, subject to WX

Melton Mowbray ARS

Phil, G4LWB, 01664 567 972
20 Codes and ciphers, David, G3YYD

Nunsfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk
2, 9, 16, 23, 20 Shack night
5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
6, 13 Projects evening / Small HF Antennas
20, 27 Club night / Programme planning

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 07971 166 250
1 GB6BK at RAF Binbrook
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night
7, 14, 21, 28 Shack extension and refurbishment

South Kesteven ARS

Andrew, M0NRD, 07969 062 859
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, GB3GR, 8pm
6, 20 Club meeting

South Normanton Alfreton & District ARC

A Lawrence, 2E0BQS, 01246 456 625
2 Closed
9, 23, 30 Natter night
16 AGM

Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, 01858 432 105
1-29 GB2FWW SES at Main Street, Great Bowden
2 Net, 8pm, 145.275MHz then 40m SSB
16 GB2FWW DMR through club links

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

CQScotland welcomed Tony, MMOTMZ Region 1 Manager at the final session on basic electronics and amateur radio for children. The objective was to build a Morse code sender and to learn a few letters. This was followed by a talk by Roy, GM4VKI on Spies and Morse Code that captured the imagination of all. Roy kindly brought several clandestine sets and explained how and where they had

been used. Tony revealed that both his father and grandfather had both used similar equipment in WW1 and WW2. An even greater surprise came from one of the parents who revealed unexpectedly, "I used to be a radio operator in the Soviet Navy and am familiar with the techniques mentioned by Roy"! Thanks to Tony and Roy for their time and support.

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

Dundee ARC saw two of the current Foundation course pass some of their practical section, by setting up both HF and VHF stations, from antennas to transmission. The stations were used later in the day when 86th Dundee Brownies came up to work Thinking Day On the Air in the Scout hall at Monikie. Six Brownies were given a briefing on radios by Ally, MMODMR. They followed that by sending their names in Morse, under the supervision of Ian and Stuart, thus gaining a certificate. Talking on 2m was the next stage with Mark, MMORYP answering the CQ calls and chatting to them. It finished with the Brownies spotting countries in the PSK contest.



REGION 4: NORTH EAST

Honorary Membership of the Northumbria ARC was awarded to Gordon, G8PNN at the club's AGM in February. Gordon is a very long standing member of the club and his efforts to support the club have been ceaseless, including in particular his fundraising activities over recent times. Stuart, G8CYW was re-elected club chairman gave his report at the AGM on a very good year for the club. Highlights included successes in all three levels of exams with more classes organised for this year. A major development was the construction of a second radio room or shack that is almost complete now. This will leave shack one for HF operation and enable VHF/UHF operation in shack two.

See more at <https://gx4aax.wordpress.com/>

Mike Watson has passed his Foundation exam at the grand age of 75 years young with 26 out of 26 questions at Wearside Electronics ARS. He has already started studying for his Intermediate licence and the club wish him all the very best.



In January, members of Houghton, Bishop Auckland, Durham and New Mask clubs visited the Locomotion Railway Museum for the Tim Peak showing. Some 6600 visitors attended the weekend and a lot of interest was shown in the video of Tim talking to a number of schools. Pictured with the capsule left to right is Ian, G7ESY, Pam Porter (from the museum), Ian, G7MFN, Paul MOTZR (front) Dudley, MOUDL and Kathleen, 2E0RRL.

Denby Dale ARS started the year with HNY special event stations. Over 6000 contacts were made using PSK, CW, FT8 and SSB. Meetings so far this year have included a demonstration of remote working using TeamViewer, the advantages and disadvantages of FT8, the RSGB's strategy for the next few years and the club entered the WAB 160m contest. The team managed to work over 50 stations, but the hard drive on the laptop collapsed before the log could be submitted resulting in the loss of the log. This is a real shame.



REGION 10: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

Five candidates achieved a 100% pass rate at Intermediate level with the help and guidance of the Torbay ARS Training Team (including Lin, MOTCF, Roger, 2E0GHR and Jeff, MOWSZ). They would like to congratulate Kerry, Nic, Che, John and David on their achievement; all of whom have only held a Foundation licence for less than a year. Kerry and Nic now plan to move straight on to the Advanced course – Nic with the Bath distance learning course and Kerry braving it on his own! Che, John and David have all opted to have a rest, take a breather and enjoy their new privileges. A notable mention should be made of Belgian operator Danny, ON4CHM who, despite being engaged in a contest, broke off from his challenge and came back to the club call and took time out not only to greet the students, but also offer encouragement and thanks to the training team for our efforts, which absolutely made their day.

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

Bittern DX has had their first meeting at the new venue at the Aylsham & District Ex-Servicemens Social Club, Aylsham, Norfolk (right). The meeting included Linda, MOAJJ, Steve, MOHET, Alec, G3YOA, Sue, 2E0TSZ, Tom, MOTE0, Adam, MOOAS, Julian, MONUX, Ian MOIWB, Richard and Peter, G6ZRV. They discussed the full calendar for taking amateur radio out to the public including Thinking Day where plenty of Guides/Brownies wanted to take their Communicators badge all in one day.

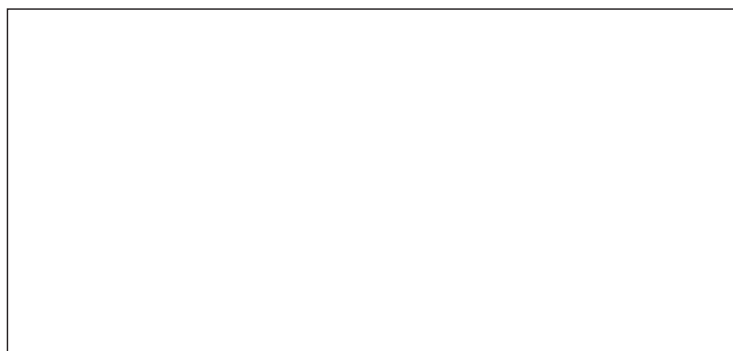


Loughton and Epping Forest ARS held its 39th Foundation course in January. Six candidates indicatively passed the exam. Congratulations to Robert Bannocks, Pablo Arias, Hristo Chakarov, Sean Robins, David Wardle and Tom Willis. The course was led by John, G0VEH with support from Marc, G0TOC, John, G1DJ1, John, G8DZH, Ron, G6LTT, Derek, M0XDC and Dave, G3ZXF.



The 33rd Canvey Rally (above) took place in February. As ever, this popular event pulled in the crowds looking for bargains or to catch up with old friends. The rally, run by South Essex ARS, was the final rally to be organised by Vic, G6BHE, who hands the baton over to a new organiser for next year's event. The highlight of the morning was the arrival of the BBC Essex Quest team who started the day's quest from our Rally. South Essex ARS made a donation from the rally proceeds to Essex RAYNET to help with their equipment upkeep.

The first Suffolk RED event of the year was a busy one, with demos of SOTA, Raspberry Pi, portable ops and 3D printing. Dorothy, M0LMR tried her hand at building her first 2m Halo antenna at the event (right), including bending the halo and testing the finished product. The Halo construction event was organised by Paul, M0KIA and Alan, M0JSA and you can find details of upcoming RED events at www.suffolkred.co.uk



The team from Essex Ham held two field days at Galleywood Common, near Chelmsford, in February. The events brought together a mix of amateurs from across the county to test radios and try out antennas ahead of what's set to be a busy 2018 of operating. Due to the chilly weather, much of the operating was done on HF from cars, attracting interest from two lapsed amateurs who are now looking to rejoin the hobby. One of the best contacts made, was with G8BBC, from the top of New Broadcasting House.





Thinking Day On The Air in February was the first event of the new year for the Bittern DX Group's Educational Outreach Project. Eight members made the journey to Saham Toney Village Hall to set up GB5WDG and give around 60 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and their adult leaders a chance to see different aspects of amateur radio. All the young people were given the chance to find the fox transmitter some 50 yards away in the Fox Hunt, shown how Morse code works and all keyed their name correctly earning a certificate, they were then allowed to talk on air to each other using PMR handsets before being introduced to VHF working, with each participant correctly conducting a meaningful QSO with a club member. HF working was generally poor but one Brownie did get a chance to have a short conversation with an amateur in Germany. They were shown the principles and techniques behind satellite working with three QSOs being conducted on AO 92 and the telemetry data from FunCube 1 including a Fitter Message greeting the members of Watton District Guiding for Thinking Day On The Air. They club is grateful to the team at AMSAT-UK for their friendly and continuing help in using FunCube 1 in demonstrations. Finally, the young people saw a demonstration of signals using light, the interruption of which demonstrated some of the challenges of that medium but was nonetheless good fun! The Bittern DX Group's ongoing Educational Outreach Project, is aimed at bringing an Amateur Radio 'experience' to the general public and was given a boost last year with a grant from the National Lottery's Awards for All fund and the RSGB's Legacy Fund.



Fred, 2E0FRE is a professional tutor, who gave Thames ARG members a presentation on First Aid. The most extreme life saving procedure is CPR, required when a casualty is not breathing. Everyone has seen this on TV but fortunately very few have done it for real. Fred used a dummy to demonstrate the technique. The process is not difficult to learn from any qualified tutor and may save a life.

The January meeting at Peterborough & DARS was themed as a 'bring along your first or favourite radio' evening. There was an interesting mix of equipment on display and the members who brought it along were asked to give a short talk. Alan, G8XLH displayed a home brew PSU and a FDK VHF/FM 25W radio that still works; Tracey, M5ATR presented her home constructed WEEKENDER kit radio along with a 10W linear amp kit; Chip, G1FJD brought along the Yaesu FT-290R along with a home made mast support and homebrew mini beam; Tony, G0IAG displayed an Icom IC-271 his first 2m multi mode base station; Scott G8EQY talked about an old commercial crystal set he rescued and returned to its former glory; there was a Heathkit communications receiver displayed by Ron, G4DXW alongside a KW Atlanta transceiver complete with remote VFO from Alistair, G4DJZ. Dave Wilson, M00BW, from the RSGB, gave a presentation about online exams. His visit was very timely because a week later PADARC ran a Foundation course. The exam was done online and worked very well. The immediate feedback was appreciated by the candidates.



REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

Members of Spalding DARS recently had a very interesting talk on Off Grid Amateur Radio by Nick, G4BMH. He spoke on the theory and requirements of the various components for a typical solar installation, highlighting the pros and cons of equipment available, many questions were answered, some members already planning small installations. Nick also spoke briefly on other methods of off grid operating, and quoted from his time living and working in Australia.



Members of Lincoln Short Wave Club (Roger, G3PVU, Steve, M5ZZZ, Alistair, M0TEF, Les, G1LQB and Peter, 2E0FGA) assembled a Hygain TH5 aerial and erected it on the club mast in February. When tested they were getting very good reports from the States and even received strong signals from Canada from the back of the beam. The club also held a quiz night with a pancake supper. The quiz was won by Les, G1LQB with 100% correct.