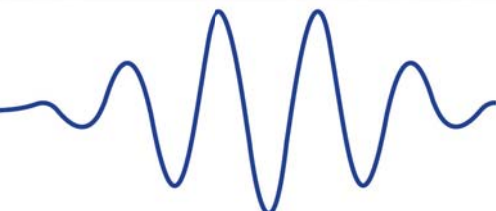




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

February 2019



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

President's review of 2018



I hope you had a great Christmas and let us all look forward to a happy, healthy and prosperous 2019.

Sitting here contemplating the last 12 months and looking forward to the next year, a few things struck me. Firstly, what a great year 2018 has been – thanks essentially to our volunteers. With only 16 members of

HQ staff, our 800-plus volunteers are the backbone of the Society. I have to admire the stoic make-up of our fantastic team of both volunteers and HQ staff – even after being lambasted by those who sit on the sidelines and criticise, often without offering any solutions or even

contemplating offering their time to put right what they see as being wrong.

The work our volunteers put in is immeasurable and using this platform I would like to thank every single one of them for what they've done and, hopefully, will continue to do. We certainly wouldn't be where we are today, as one of the most respected National Societies not just in our IARU region but in the world, save for the efforts of our many and valued volunteers.

So, to my highlights of 2018...

At April's AGM, my predecessor Nick, G3RWF painted a really thought-provoking picture of where amateur radio is today. If you haven't picked up on the underlying message, it is this: the hobby is what you want to make of it. Surely isn't that what we all find fascinating and exciting? The tools are there for us, it's up to us how many of them we want to use and how we use them.

The RSGB National Radio Centre at Bletchley Park continues to thrive and attract increasing numbers of visitors under the stewardship of Martyn Baker, G0GMB. 2018 saw over 55,000 visitors discovering the wealth of information and passion housed at the Centre. For the vast majority of visitors, this was their first experience of amateur radio. Also, by recruiting additional volunteers it has been possible to open the NRC seven days a week.

The RSGB's involvement with September's National Hamfest helped make that another great event. Being able to showcase the work of our many committees and volunteers over the two days is as important an aspect of the event as meeting those involved. Another exciting part of the Hamfest is announcing of the National winners of the Club of the Year and the presentation of the various prizes and trophies, congratulations to all the clubs, who made it through to the National finals. Our thanks to the sponsors of this competition, Waters & Stanton.

October's RSGB Convention was once again an outstanding success, testament to the lectures and presenters, as well as to the organising team. The number of delegates continues to rise and the feedback reports seem to prove that for the majority of the time the programme is hitting the spot. Thanks go to the principal sponsor, Martin Lynch & Sons for yet another year supporting this event.



As we all know the average age in our hobby is increasing, and anything we can do to bring it lower has to be a good thing. We should not lose sight of the fact that the pressures young people come under these days make it likely that, while we encourage youngsters to join the hobby, they tend to 'disappear' for a few years while they

establish themselves in society. Having said that, various successful events took place in 2018, probably the most high-profile being August's YOTA 2018 in South Africa. December brought YOTA Month 2018, which is just drawing to a close as I write these words, with many clubs and special interest stations engaging young people in amateur radio activities.

Space, in the form of satellites and communication with astronauts on the ISS, is another great way of encouraging young people to think about a STEM-related career (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Scheduled contacts with the ISS from UK schools continue, the most recent being in December at Kenilworth School. I wish to publicly thank the UK's ARISS team for all their hard work in making these events happen.



A review of the year would not be complete without a mention of the RSGB's Strategy 2022. As momentum builds, many projects and initiatives aimed at meeting our strategic priorities are either under serious consideration, or are in the planning or developmental stages with further details to be announced soon.

So that is a snapshot of 2018 – what about 2019? We will continue to drive forwards with meeting our goal for 2022, to 'have an active and thriving amateur radio community, supported by a strong, representative and influential RSGB'. Through our army of volunteers we will take the hobby forward in a positive way. If you feel you would like to play your part in shaping the future of our hobby, we would be very happy for you to join us.

Finally, as I travel up and down the country, I look forward to meeting many of you during 2019.

73

Dave Wilson, G0OBW
RSGB President

2019 Band Plans

In this edition of *RadCom* are the 2019 Band Plans. This year's update is fairly unusual in having the fewest changes in some time. This is a consequence of 2018 having no IARU Region 1 meetings. Changes that may get discussed at IARU-Vienna in April 2019 (or arising from WRC-19) will not occur until January 2020. In summary, the 2019 edition has formal changes only in 144MHz.

HF: Whilst there are no formal changes at HF, we remain concerned with ongoing reports of out-of-band operation in 5MHz, particularly by UK FT8 usage. The 5MHz band plan explicitly refers to more detailed advice online, where HF Manager Ian Greenshields, G4FSU has guidance on operating and staying legal.

VHF: As mentioned above there are several relatively small changes to the 144MHz band – removal of the old UK microwave talkback frequency, more neutral 'Digital Usage' descriptions for ETCC-managed assignments and a correction to the simplex channels numbers.

The latest band plan information including 5MHz guidance and the master Excel files can be found on the Operating section of the RSGB website at rsgb.org/bandplans – and, if you are unsure, by all means contact either hf.manager@rsgb.org.uk, vhf.manager@rsgb.org.uk or microwave.manager@rsgb.org.uk

Murray Niman, G6JYB, RSGB Spectrum Chair

Youth Team report

In November we announced the appointment of Sara McGarvey, 210SSW, as 'Youth Champion'. Given the fundamental role the RSGB youth plays in delivering many of the objectives set against Strategy 2022's Growth priority, we saw Sara's appointment as opportunity to review the activity being undertaken in that area.

As a result, we have decided to reinvigorate the group by removing the constraints of a formal committee structure. The original Youth Committee, which was formed in 2014, will now be superseded by a newly-formed 'Youth Team', headed up by Sara. With Sara as an Honorary Officer at the helm, we remove the need for a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary. Sara is free to structure the members of the RSGB's Youth Team as required for separate projects and tasks, removing the hierarchy and allowing members to take on different responsibilities dependent on their strengths and the task in hand.

Mark Jones, GOMGX will remain the Board Liaison Manager for youth, responsible for the overall strategy compliance and budgetary matters. Mark says, "by creating a Youth Team we will allow its members to get on with all the activity planned, in a proactive and creative way, without being tied to the formal structure of a committee. It will allow the members to focus on what they are good at – promoting the hobby and encouraging others to join in the fun. We will still have team meetings, output from which will be published on the RSGB website, and we will provide an annual report on the Youth Team's activities".

The RSGB's youth is fundamental to delivering a number of objectives set against the strategic priority for Growth. To this end, Sara and the Youth Team will be responsible for:

- Developing an enthusiastic and invigorated team of young amateurs who are motivated to work hard to bring amateur radio to schools, Scouts, Universities and the general public
- Running the Buildathon at the 2019 Hamfest
- Establishing links to and supporting the Scout events at Gilwell Park
- Building on existing links with other RSGB committees (TEC, RF)
- Ensuring participation in the YOTA 2019 summer event
- Running YOTA Month 2019
- Planning engagement activities for British Science Week 2019
- Establishing links with Universities via Youth Team members
- Developing new and updated promotional material
- Updating the youth-related web content
- Ensuring Youth Team members are integrated into the Regional teams and are active in their own areas, attending rallies etc.

Sara says, "it is an exciting time for the RSGB and for me as the newly-appointed Youth Champion. It is my hope that the future of amateur radio can be secured through the new and invigorated Youth Team. We aim to spark interests, develop links and motivate young people to get involved. Our hobby is so diverse that there is something for everyone. It is the task of the Youth Team to be the guiding light in attracting young people to amateur radio, to challenge perceptions and create an environment in which to foster new skills and lifelong participation."



Volunteers appointed and wanted

The RSGB is pleased to announce that Bobby Wadey, MI0RYL has been appointed to the position of RSGB Awards Manager, taking over from Chris Burbanks, G3SJJ. We would like to thank Chris for his work as the RSGB Awards Manager.

Due to two Region 9 District Representatives standing down after many years of service to the RSGB and their areas, Region 9 Regional Representative Tom O'Reilly, G0NSY is looking for volunteers to take over the positions. Stephen Richardson, M0SLP covered Bedfordshire and Larry Smith, G4OXY covered Buckinghamshire. The RSGB would like to thank them for their service to their fellow amateurs. The prime duties in this annual and renewable post will be to liaise with the clubs and individuals in that area. There are opportunities to assist others and develop your own ideas to promote interest in amateur radio with the help of a team within Region 9 (London north of the River Thames and the Home Counties). Anyone wishing to step into these roles should contact the Regional Representative Tom, G0NSY, via rr9@rsgb.org.uk

With over 55,000 visitors to the RSGB National Radio Centre at Bletchley Park in 2018, we are looking to recruit further volunteers to engage with the public and give radio demonstrations. If you're interested in becoming an NRC volunteer you should be passionate about meeting people, feel confident explaining the hobby, as well as operating the NRC's radio station, GB3RS. You should be a licensed amateur, an RSGB Member and be prepared to work a minimum of one (preferably two) days per month.

You will be joining a team of enthusiastic, friendly and dedicated volunteers and full training will be given. Travel expenses are paid to volunteers living within reasonable travelling distance and NRC volunteers enjoy numerous benefits associated with volunteering at Bletchley Park.

Please email nrc.support@rsgb.org.uk for further information.



QSL matters

From January to June a series of special event stations in Germany will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the maiden flight of the Junkers F-13 aircraft. Look out for DF13DEJU, DF13BLN, DF13BUD, DF13MUC, DF13PAR and DF13STO. The press release information confirms that all contacts will be sent a bureau card, sometime after 15 July. It looks likely that they will QSL 100%. We expect a very large influx of bureau cards later in the year. Interestingly, the information also says: "If you do not need a QSL card, let them know. This saves their time and money." The RSGB began recommending Members to advise contacts during their QSOs if they don't send or collect cards some years ago. Data and CW stations can send 'nil QSL'. It's good to see others now doing something similar. Reducing unwanted/uncollected cards not only has environmental benefits but also helps the throughput of wanted cards.

Z prefix locator: A recent caller to the bureau has advised us that the GZ locator in use by resident-only stations on the islands of the far North (Shetland etc) has now been withdrawn by Ofcom, with stations reverting to GM, 2M, MM etc.

Recycling: Although we have a 90-day recycling policy for uncollected QSL cards, many of our dedicated band of volunteer sub managers have been holding them for longer, hoping to receive collection envelopes from Members. At this time of year, we ask everyone that hasn't sent a collection envelope to their manager for 12 months to find time to do just that and without delay. Following concerns from some managers, we are advising them to recycle cards more regularly as it's unfair to ask them to store large volumes for longer. Details of your sub-manager can be found in the QSL section of the RSGB website. All a return envelope needs is your address a 2nd class stamp – and you might get a nice surprise!

Record number of visitors to RSGB National Radio Centre

The final number of visitors to the RSGB National Radio Centre in 2018 has been announced. Congratulations to Martyn Baker, G0GMB and the great volunteer team at the NRC for welcoming 55,232 people through the doors and introducing the vast majority of them to amateur radio for the first time.

Two of the recent visitors were Pam Hardenburg and her cousin Jenny (nee Robertson-Walker) Marris. Pam's Mother, Anita (nee Nugent-James) Hardenburg trained as an intelligence decoder at Bletchley Park and subsequently went on to work in Cairo and Paris as an MI6 agent. Her mother married Lt C Pullinger while serving in Cairo but was sadly widowed three weeks after their wedding. Later she worked in Paris where she met and married Lt H T Hardenburg USN – operating as an intelligence officer.

Pam and Jenny kindly donated her mother's silk escape map (issued to intelligence staff should they need to escape) that has been preserved as a family heirloom. The map, printed on both sides, covers much of Northern France, Belgium and Holland, with mountain passes and landmarks clearly illustrated. Silk was used for maps so they could be folded small and hidden discretely, and didn't crinkle or make a noise if the escaping agent was stopped and patted-down at checkpoints.



Amateur workshops

Two 'Introduction to Amateur Radio' workshops, intended to attract new interest in the hobby, were hosted at Bletchley Park and delivered by some of the RSGB's National Radio Centre (NRC) volunteers in December. The three-hour workshop consisted of an introduction of the hobby and included a number of short presentations, practical sessions and some RSGB videos available on YouTube. It was pleasing to see that three of the attendees were YLs. On this occasion, the workshops were deliberately hosted on the same weekend as the YOTA event (GB18YOTA) held at the NRC so that the participants could go on to see amateur radio in action during the afternoon. It is hoped to run similar workshops in the first quarter of this year.

RSGB Convention videos

Two more 2018 Convention videos are available on the RSGB website. Popular Convention presenter Jim Bacon, G3YLA looks at Sporadic-E and discusses whether we understand any more about this phenomenon. Roger Balister, G3KMA catches us up on all the latest news for the Island On The Air programme and announcing the new IOTA groups. To view, go to the RSGB website at www.rsgb.org/videos

New ICQ Podcast video

The ICQ Podcast is a free fortnightly amateur radio podcast covering news and technical features from around the world. A new video has been released on their YouTube channel, filmed at the NRC (and featuring Simone Wilson, Martyn Baker and Tony Duggan). See it at <https://tinyurl.com/y7tsxg5c>

The RSGB also worked with ICQ Podcast at the National Hamfest, and you can find Martin Butler's interviews with Tony Kent (Exam changes) and John Mattock (Planning advice) at <https://tinyurl.com/y7w39fyu> and <https://tinyurl.com/y9tm7vt2>

Cricket World Cup Marathon

The RSGB Contest Club, which is a special interest group within the RSGB Membership, is planning to organise an International Amateur Radio Marathon on the HF bands to celebrate the ICC Cricket World Cup that is being held in England and Wales between 30 May and 14 July.

Special UK and international callsigns will be activated on 9 HF bands and 3 VHF bands using SSB, CW & digital modes. Participants worldwide will earn award certificates based on the number of QSOs they achieve with the special stations. We are looking for volunteers who can help with the administration of the marathon plus it would be good to have an indication from those who would like to be involved in activating a Special UK callsign. Please email ContestClub@rsgbcc.org to register interest.

Nick Totterdell, G4FAL

RSGB HF Contest Committee Chair

Jack Moseley, G2CIW, Silent Key

Jack Moseley, G2CIW, passed away at the Gloucester Royal Hospital on 5 November 2018, just six days short of his 95th birthday. At the age of 14 he began his working life in his father's bike shop. His interest in radio began after reading *Practical Wireless* and he went on to build a receiver that started him on the road to amateur radio. He first began to copy DX commercial broadcast stations but it was the amateur signals that really excited his interest. He soon met local amateurs, taught himself Morse code and went on to build all his own equipment.

In early 1939 he obtained his amateur licence, 2CIW. His shack was in the garden shed but activities were cut short in September, 1939 on the outbreak of WWII, when his transmitter was confiscated – but his skill with Morse code, which included the teaching of Air Cadets, had been noted. He was approached by the authorities with a view

to his joining the Radio Security Service (RSS) and becoming a Voluntary Interceptor (VI). He readily accepted the job and, after signing the Official Secrets Act would, when not working in the bike shop or on ARP duty, sit in his shack listening for German signals. Those evening and night time activities attracted the attention of neighbours who reported Jack to the local police. This was a common problem amongst the VIs; fortunately the police were aware that VIs were not enemy spies.

It soon became clear to the authorities that it was necessary to have full time RSS stations to copy the enemy signals and in 1941/42 Hanslope Park in Buckinghamshire became the first such station. Jack joined Hanslope Park in February 1942 where he met many other VIs including my father Bill Windle, G8VG. In 1943 Jack was sent to Gibraltar, a highly secure military base, where, toward the end of the war, he and a friend operated on the bands using the call EA7AB. Shortly after his return to Hanslope in August 1945, where Betty had been working preparing Rockex encryption key tapes, she and Jack met at a dance. They were married on 12 April 1947 at Fenny Stratford, near Bletchley.

Jack was FOC member No 34 from 1955 to 2007 and for his last few years he lived, like many of us, in an apartment where his radio activity was severely limited – but he still managed to put a signal on the bands using a stealth antenna. His last entry in his log was 17 June 2018.

Jack was appointed to the rank of *Chevalier* in the *Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur* (the highest French order of merit for military and civil merits) by decree of 18 June 2018, recognising his "engagement and steadfast involvement in SIGINT activities during the Second World War ... responsible for saving countless Allied lives and played a key role in the Liberation of France ... we must never forget the heroes like you ... we owe our freedom and security to your dedication".

RIP Jack, you will be greatly missed.

Peter Windle, G8VG

Jack's funeral took place in Gloucester on 5 November 2018, attended by a representative from the French Embassy and General Poincignon, who presented Jack's son, David, with the award. David informed us, via Peter, G8VG, that the award was symbolic, in the sense that Jack received it on behalf of the Radio Security Service operators of his generation.



Congratulations

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

60 Years

Mr J W Heaviside	G3NXY
Mr R J Powell	G3OGP
Mr B D Simpson	G3PEK
Mr L S Margolis	G3UML

50 Years

Mr P Kirby	G3XUD
Mr A C Boyne	G3YVH
Mr G W Wale	G4BCG
Mr V Cracknell	G4KPZ
Mr J Ray	G8DZH
Mr S M Sherratt	G8FAK
Mr H Davidson	GI4BTG
Mr K Jones	G4AHO

The RSGB welcomes to the RSGB family the following new Members who have joined their voice to ours, helping to keep the RSGB strong.

Mr P Collier, 2W0EVS	Mr J Chollet, F1TDO	KW Electronics, M0KW	Mr R Johnston, M7LFC	Mr A Nairn, RS320746
Mr G Wilby, 2D0PEY	Miss C Whitaker, G0IPJ	Mr S Cilliers, M0LOX	Mr N Triantafyllou, M7N1C	Mr R Yarrow, RS320788
Mr G Frogley, 2E0GJF	Mr C Taylor, G0WTZ	Mr E Pestano, M0LXI	Mr P Kelly, M1OPKO	Mr R Collins, RS320859
Mr L Jordan, 2E0GZR	Mr J Crowther, G3KMM	Mr M Saunders, M30HM	Mr A Young, M0MTAI	Mr T Holt, RS320866
Mr T Hare, 2E0HTJ	Mr C Bracewell, G4HVF	Stewart Bryant RS, M5SB	Mr C Beamish, MW6GHH	Mr D Young, RS320891
Mr R Clark, 2E0NQA	Mr D Bentley, G6LKL	Mr J Smith, M6LME	Ms K Kohls, N5TLE	Mrs C Collins, RS320932
Mr R Brown, 2E0RYR	Mr D Poulet, G7NUC	Mr R Yilmaz, M6OVS	Mr E Dols, ON4ADE	Mr D Shelsher, RS320955
Mr S Lacey, 2E0WDR	Mr P Cattanach, G7RGA	Ms I Frogley, M6WPF	Mr S Edelmann, OZ6SI	Mr D Le Gresley, RS320956
Mr J Parry, 2E0XGX	Mr M Carlone, IZ2FME	Mr B Davies, M7ACK	Mr G van Loo, PA2LO	Mr J Clifford, VP8CWQ
Mr C Set, 2E0XZW	Mr J Boette, K1IWZ	Mr N Watson, M7ATT	Dr R Evans, RS315660	Mr D Reid, W6KL
Mr G Howell, 2W0GGH	Mr L Westerman, K2JVX	Mr D Shaw, M7DSH	Mr T Holden, RS319985	Mr R Lincoln, WA4DOU
Mr J Record, ADOYO	Mr J Hirschberger, KD9LLA	Mr G Hodgson, M7GBH	Mr S Leonard, RS320542	
Mr B Ryan, A12H	Mr F Nesci, KW4OL	Mr J O'Connell, M7JOC	Mr J van Gog, RS320695	

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

Mr J McKenzie, G6UCN	Mr K W Hamer, G0FSR	Dr N Shaxted, G4OGI	Mr N Parr, G6MRN	Mr J T Elgar, M6JTE
Mr M Rea, 2E0MEQ	Mr R C Hurt, G0HDS	Mr P K Short, G4WJJ	Mr H Kernohan, G1OJEV	Mr H J Kers, RS192375
Mr P R Saripo, 2E0PYG	Mr S Lexton, G1UGO	Mr D Bentley, G6LKL	Mr N Parker, M0NKL	Mr D Fant, W5SWL

BYLARA's 40th anniversary

On 29 April, BYLARA (British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association) will be 40. To celebrate the anniversary, the ladies have arranged a social get-together in Blackpool that weekend. Additionally, the NARSA group have kindly offered a room at the Norbreck Hotel, for setting up GB40BYL on Sunday 28 April. The callsign GB40BYL has been requested for the entire year and members of the committee have offered to take responsibility for activating the callsign, one month at a time. There will be two certificates on offer. The first features 12 YL spaces. The challenge will be to work as many BYLARA YLs, using MOBYL, as possible within a 12-month period. Additional awards will be issued for multiples of 12. A photograph of the YL, their own callsign and BYLARA number will feature on the certificate. The second award will be for different 40 contacts with GB40BYL. Again, additional certificates will be issued for multiples of 40. YLRL will be designing an award to run at the same time, with a callsign of their own – as an act of support. More details may be found at www.bylara.org.uk



BATC Mini Convention

British Amateur Television Club (BATC) decided to hold a number of mini-conventions in various regions of the country during 2019. The first of these is in Bristol on 31 March at SHE7 building, Braemar Crescent, Filton, Bristol BS7 0TD. These are not rallies with traders, but a technical meeting for ATV enthusiasts and those thinking of making a start in this aspect of the hobby. There will be a full day of talks and demonstrations and the opportunity to meet some of the most active ATV enthusiasts. There will also be test equipment on hand to test and align visitors' projects.

Moonraker Rewards Programme

The Moonraker Rewards Programme is designed to enable all registered retail customers the opportunity to earn and redeem free product credits known as 'Watts'. To enrol and receive Programme benefits, you will first need to create an account at www.moonraker.eu. You receive Watts on every qualifying product purchase, when you refer a new customer, if you write a product review and do certain social media activities. Please visit the website for full terms and conditions. www.moonraker.eu/rewards-programme

Nevada Open Day

In November, Nevada, in partnership with Waters & Stanton, held their first ever, combined Open Day in Portsmouth.

The large warehouse was opened to customers with a display of used and vintage radios equipment, plus pallets full of clearance items at discount prices. There were also working displays of all the latest equipment, with representatives from Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu and SDRplay, on hand to answer questions and show their latest products.

Well over 200 attendees made the trip with some travelling from as far as Manchester, Coventry and Kent. Customers all received a free hot dog or burger and hot drink. A free raffle was held for two Yaesu FT-70DE dual band digital handheld transceivers, generously donated by Yaesu UK. Icom ran special 'add on' promotions for Icom radios purchased on the day.

The Open Day was supported by the RSGB Regional team and members of RSGB staff. www.nevadaradio.co.uk



RSGB Tender

The RSGB is currently looking at improving the RSGB 'bookstalls at rallies' operation. This is currently an outsourced function that entails warehousing RSGB books and equipment, combined with a weekly pick and pack operation. Deliveries and collections are made by couriers and pallet delivery companies. We believe that this would suit an individual or company with suitable storage space (that may on occasion need to accept pallets of stock) who has experience of distribution. This exercise is being conducted by an informal tender that closes on 28 February. If you are interested or would like to know more about what is required please email sales@rsgb.org.uk for more information.



Worked All Britain Awards

In 2019, the Worked All Britain Awards Group (WAB) celebrates its Golden Jubilee. To commemorate this event, three special awards, based around the number 50 will be available, for this year only. Full details of the awards are on the WAB website, www.worked-all-britain.org.uk



ML&S annual Open Day

December 2018 saw another successful Hog Roast and Open Day at the ML&S superstore in Staines. Despite the rain, it certainly didn't keep the customers away, partly due to the waft of fresh hog roast floating up Drake Avenue as this year it was cooked on a real wood burning fire – started at 1am!

The showroom was packed by 9am and the entire event was live streamed on the MlandS.tv YouTube channel. Representatives from the RSGB Regional team and RSGB staff were there too. The hog roast was sponsored by Icom, Kenwood and Yaesu who attended along with bhi providing expert help on a wide range of amateur radio products. See www.MLandS.co.uk

5-band Yagi installation



Brigg & District ARC has installed an InnovAntennas XR5, 5-band compact HF Yagi. It has a very short boom of only 11' (3.4m) but full sized elements for each of the five HF bands between 20 and 10m. The XR5 is substantially built with large diameter centre elements and fast taper to ensure harsh weather suitability. It has a single feed point and all 5 bands can be used at once so it is ideal for SDR radios and SO2R operation. Although only installed a few short weeks, the club are enjoying their new antenna and worked 5R8UM on 17m with just 30W. www.innovantennas.com



Dave Goodwin, VE9CB, winner of the 2018 Commonwealth Contest, is seen with the miniature trophy for his Open Section win. Dave said, "Thank you very much for the miniature Rose Bowl. It arrived in the mail and now has a place of honour in my ham shack, beside other trophies and awards for my previous efforts in the Commonwealth Contest. Winning BERU in 2018 was a great thrill and one of my proudest accomplishments in my amateur radio career." Thanks to Peter Hobbs, G3LET, for sponsoring the miniatures. The 2019 Commonwealth Contest will take place on 9 and 10 March. <https://berucontest.wordpress.com/about/>



Royal Signals ARS

During 2011 the Royal Signals ARS celebrated its 50th anniversary, with special calls working members, and non-members, around the world. All who took part had a great time. In the year 2020 it is the Royal Corps of Signals Centenary and plans are in hand for similar enjoyment for RSARS members in Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Spain, USA and every part of the UK. Members when travelling usually have a rig with them and Vietnam, Jamaica, Rwanda, Kenya, Norway, Iceland, Sweden and others have been recently activated. Serving and ex-regular army personnel from any Corps or Regiment, Army reservists, Army Cadet Force – past and present, army employed civilians plus other Services attached to army units at some time are eligible to apply for RSARS membership. Check out <https://rsars.org.uk> If you are interested in membership, please contact George, G3VBE, via email to RSARSMemSec@virginmedia.com.

5MHz Newsletter

The latest edition of *The 5MHz Newsletter* is now available for free pdf download. This edition includes 5MHz news from 10 countries, features the latest number of CEPT countries on 5MHz, Exercise Blue Ham 100 and an article on Taking Care on 5357. Get it from the 'External Links' section of the RSGB 5MHz page, <http://rsgb.org/main/operating/band-plans/hf/5mhz/>

5 & 50MHz in Turkey

Turkey's telecom regulator, BTK, in a government gazette notice on 29 November 2018, released two new amateur radio allocations. The new WRC-15 60m Secondary allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5kHz with a power limit of 15W EIRP. All modes are allowed and a 6m allocation of 50 – 52MHz, all modes allowed, with a power limit of 75W.

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 March edition is 23 January and for April it's 20 February. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am Thursday before broadcast.

CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

INTERNATIONAL

Pafos Radio Club, Cyprus
Richard, 5B4AJG, 00 357 97 857 891,
5b4ajg@gmail.com www.cyhams.org
Meets 3rd Thursdays at the Hole in the Wall
Restaurant, Coral Bay, 6 for 6.30. Visitors welcome.

**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 & Camping Club,
membership@arcc.org.uk
www.aarc.org.uk

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

British Railways ARS
Ian, G4EAN, www.brars.info
Nets: Tuesday 7pm on 3.68MHz, Friday 4pm
on 3.685MHz

British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association
www.bylara.org.uk
Net Thurs, 3.688MHz±, 6.30pm. All YLs welcome.

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

CDXC – The UK DX Foundation – cdx.org.uk
For all interested in HF DX and contesting

Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association
MemSec@RAOTA.org, www.RAOTA.org
Diamond Jubilee year. Nets: see website

Worked All Britain Awards Group
www.worked-all-britain.org.uk
Nets most evenings, 3.760MHz±, time variable
with propagation. Non-members welcome.

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

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

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723
1 Club night

Lothians RS
Mike, MMOMLB,
secretary@lothiansradiosociety.com
13 Munros on the Air, James, GM4WZP
27 Club night

Mid Lanarkshire ARS
Joseph, 2MOJHY, mlarsclub@gmail.com
1, 8, 15, 22 Club night and tuition

West of Scotland (Glasgow) ARS
Jack, GM4COX, www.wosars.org.uk
1 Electric Car - DC Motors, Scott, GM4CLQ
6, 13, 20, 27 Solder Group
8, 22 Club night
15 13cm on SOTA, Andy, MMOFMF (Provisional)

Wigtownshire ARC
Bob, GM4DLG, info@gm4riv.com
7 WSPR, plus RSGB Q&A session,
Len, GMOONX
14, 21, 28 Club night

REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

RR: Andrew Burns, MMOCXA, RR2@rsgb.org.uk

Aberdeen ARS
Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651 365
7 Junk sale
14, 21 Oscillators & Buffers Part 1 & 2,
Graham Sangster
28 Construction & on the air

Dundee ARC
Martin, 2MOKAU, 0776 370 8933
5 VHF contest / club night
12 Equipment check
16-17 Thinking day OTA
19, 26 Club night Foundation training

Inverness & District ARS
John, GM00TI, 01463 791 444
6, 20 Club night
27 Club net, 8pm 145.575MHz & GB7BI slot 1

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

RR: Kath Wilson, M1CNY, RR3@rsgb.org.uk

Central Lancs ARC
Peter, G3UCA, g3uca@blueyonder.co.uk
2 Monthly club meeting, 11am
3, 10, 17, 24 Club net, 1.940MHz, 11am

Oldham Radio Club
Mike, M1CVL, 0740 276 3203
3, 17 D-Star Net – REF 14B, 9.30am
6, 13, 20, 27 2m FM Net, 8pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club night & Foundation course
10, 14 C4FM Net, FCS004-55, 9.30am
21 Antennas and propagation, Mike, 2EOMEQ
28 Construction Group

South Manchester R&CC
Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999
3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 10.15am, 3.637kHz SSB
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 8pm, around 145.575MHz FM
21 Discussion on receiver methods
28 Club quiz

Stockport Radio Society
Heather, M6HNS, 0750 690 4422
1, 8, 15, 22 Net, 7.30pm, 433.575MHz
2 Foundation course part 3 and exam
5 HF propagation essentials, Ron, G3SVW
9-10, 23-24 Intermediate course part 1&2, 3&4
12 Net, 7.30pm, 51.550MHz FM
14, 27 Net, 7.30pm, 145.375MHz FM
19, 26 Radio night/Skills night

Thornton Cleveleys ARS
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810
4 Natter night /practical/club on air
11 Whatever the weather, Stephen Musgrave
18 Project night
25 Auction

REGION 4: NORTH EAST

RR: Ian Douglas, G7MFN, RR4@rsgb.org.uk

Denby Dale RC
Darran, G0BWB, 0797 442 3227
2 Foundation class
3, 10 Club net via GB3HD, 10.30am
6 Club night

Hambleton ARS

John Earland, M6BHP, 0798 000 3293
6 Talk on operating practice on the ISS
20 Operating night

Hartlepool ARC

Stan, G7VGM, stan.g7vgm@gmail.com
1, 22 Club night/training
8 Prep for Thinking Day on the air
15 Set up TDOTA station GB0HG
16-17 TDOTA station GBOHG

Sheffield & District Wireless Society
Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 0788 406 5375,
info@sheffieldwireless.org
3 432MHz AFS Contest
6 Coax, David, G8EQD

Spen Valley ARS

Russell, G0FOI, 01274 875 038
7 Shack meeting
21 Shack meeting/on air

Tynemouth Amateur Radio Club

mail@g0nwm.com
1 Closed
8 Working amateur satellites
15 Club night

REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

RR: Martyn Vincent, G3UKV, RR5@rsgb.org.uk

Burton ARC

Rob, G6EIH, 0781 214 6333
3, 10, 17, 24 Open net, 10am, 145.575MHz
6, 13, 20, 27 Open club night
7, 14, 21, 28 Open net, 8pm, 145.575MHz

Cheltenham ARA

Derek, G3NKS, 01242 241 099
3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 8.30pm, 50.220MHz SSB
5, 12, 19, 26 Slow CW, 8pm, 3540-3550kHz
19 Lunch
21 Table top sale, 8pm, new venue: Robin's Nest,
Cheltenham FC

Coventry ARS

John, G8SEQ, 0795 877 7363
1 Construction competition
8 Basic antennas
15 Club night
22 Mini lectures

Gloucester AR&ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime
1, 8, 13, 20, 27 Club net, 7.30pm,
432.220MHz SSB
4 SDR on a shoestring, Mike, G60TP
6 Club net, 7.30pm, 145.475MHz FM
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 7.30pm, 145.475MHz,
then 80m SSB
11 Informal activities & exam night
18 Closed
25 Informal activities

Malvern Hills RAC

Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568
12 Test equipment evening
26 Informal meeting

Midland ARS

Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003
6 Open meeting, training classes
13 Committee meeting, training classes

20 General meeting, on the air, training
27 Planning for local rallies; training

Salop ARS

Eamonn, M0MEB,
salopamateurradio@gmail.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Club CW net, 144.070MHz,
4.30pm
6, 13, 20, 26, 27 Club net, GB3LH, 8.30pm
7 Committee meeting/natter night
14 Digital TV: G8VZT
21 First Aid/CPR refresher, Eamonn, M0MEB
28 Fox hunt talk

South Birmingham RS

Gemma, M6GKG,
gemmagordon.m6gkg@gmail.com
5, 12, 19, 26 Shack coffee morning, 11am,
all welcome
8, 22 Sorting rally stock for Wythall Hamfest
14, 21, 28 Training classes with Dave, G8OWL
18, 25 Open meeting

Stratford upon Avon & District RS

Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664 488
4, 18 Club net, 8pm, 145.275MHz FM
11 RSGB Regional rep, Martyn Vincent, G3UKV
25 Review of Yaesu FT-991A 'shack in a box',
Ron

Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert Bird, rob2e0zap@gmail.com
4, 18 Open net, 7.30pm, 145.250MHz, 7.30pm,
all welcome
11, 25 Club meeting
12 Open net, 7.30pm, 70.475MHz
26 DMR open net, 7.30pm, slot/local 2 GB7FW

Telford & District ARS

John, M0JZH, 0782 473 7716
6 Committee meeting
13 Bowls evening
20 HF & VHF baluns & ununs
27 Under a Fiver competition

Wythall Radio Club

Chris, G0EYO, 0771 041 2819
3 Club net, 8pm, 145.225MHz or GB3WL

REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RR: Glyn Jones, GW0ANA, RR7@rsgb.org.uk
Aberystwyth & District ARS
Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853
14 Intro to radio for Foundation candidates
28 Club net, starting on 145.500MHz

Blackwood & District ARS

Rob, MW0CVT, 0797 471 7152
28 End of the Pixie Challenge

Llanelli ARS

Steve, MW6CCG, 0787 849 4337
4 On the air night and club raffle
11 DVD night
18 Social evening
25 GB4SDD (St David's Day), junk sale, raffle

Newport ARS

Margaret, GW4SUE, 01633 665 289
7, 14, 28 Club night
21 Tetra and DMR radio systems,
Phil, GW4REX

REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

RR: Philip Hosey, M10MSO, RR8@rsgb.org.uk

Bangor & District ARS

Harry, G14JTF, 0289 042 2762
7 Early amateur equipment, N Newell, G13YMY

REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

RR: Tom O'Reilly, G0NSY, RR9@rsgb.org.uk

Aylesbury Vale RS

avrs@rakewell.com
13 Discussion evening

Burnham Beeches RC

Greg, G4EBY, ebytronics@gmail.com
3, 10, 17, 24 Club net, 10.30am,
145.500MHz
4 Club night
18 Show & Tell and Construction Award
judging

Chesham & District ARS

Terry, G0VFW, 01442 831 491
6 Using the Western HF10 antenna,
Jeremy, G3XZG
20 CW evening

Edgware & District RS

Mike, G4RNW, michael.stewart5@ntlworld.com
28 The RSGB in wartime, Steve, G0PQB

Milton Keynes ARS

Phil, G4FVZ, 0780 263 6998
11 Intro to FT8, Martyn, G0GMB; at NRC
25 Shack safety, Andy, M0GYK

Newbury & District ARS

Rob, G4LMW, 0797 088 5614
27 TJ2TT DXpedition DVD

Radio Society of Harrow

Linda, G7RJL, lcasey100@outlook.com
1 At a Distance, Colin, G1IGA
3, 10, 17, 24 Club net, noon, 1938kHz LSB
4, 11, 18, 25 Net 8.15pm, starting on
145.5MHz FM
15 High in the sky, Tony, G7ETW
24 Activities in club shack, 2-5pm

Shefford & District ARS

David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757
7 Construction winners' talk
14 Aircraft communication, Don, G4LOO
21 Apps for radio amateurs discussion
28 Background noise discussion

REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

Brede Steam ARS

Martin, M0MJU, m0nuc.bsars@gmail.com
2, 5, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 Operating at the shack,
9am-2pm
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 8.15pm, GB3ES

Bredhurst R&TS

Nicky, secretary@brats-qth.org
2 Coffee morning
7, 14 Quiz night
21, 24 Pre-rally meeting/Rainham Radio Rally
28 Rally debrief

Bromley & District ARS

Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 9pm, 145.500MHz and QSY
17 Intermediate course
21 Club meeting

Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 0773 954 9822
7 Practical introduction to meteor scatter
21 Club night

Crystal Palace R&EC

Bob, G30OU, 01737 552 170
1 AGM
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 8pm, 145.525MHz ± QRM

Darenth Valley RS

Mike, G8AXA, 0788 415 7776
13 The Sun & its effects on us, Steve, M0HRY
27 Natter night & on the air

Dorking & District RS

David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com
26 Slim Jim/J-Pole antennas, Tom, G4DFA

Dover ARC

Aaron, M0IER, 0771 465 4267
7 SDRplay presentation and demo

Farnborough & District RS

Mel, M0JMR, sec@farnboroughradio.org.uk
New venue: Boyce Building, Aldershot Army
Museum, Queens Avenue, GU11 2LG
13 Bandwidth required for LTE and 5G
27 Life from the other side

Fort Purbrook ARC

Chris, G3WIE, g3wie@fparc.org.uk
4, 11, 18, 25 Open net, 8pm, 145.275MHz
22 Test and soldering equipment, room FP-1

Hastings E&RC

Gordon, M3YXH, 01424 431 909
3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 11am, 144.575MHz
27 AGM & 'bring your mystery thing'

Hilderstone RS

Ian, 2E0DUE, secretary@g0hrs.org
14 APRS, Paul, M5AAD
16 Thinking Day on the Air
28 Natter night

Hog's Back ARC

Ray, G4LUA, 0118 981 4174
11 Natter night and CW practice
25 Annual General Meeting

Horndean & District ARC

Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846,
www.hdarc.co.uk
1 Club night
15 Sailing the Atlantic in a small boat,
Russ, G4SAQ

Mid Sussex ARS

Peter, G4AKG, 01444 239 371
1, 22 Radio night/
8 Natter night
15 Dissecting the doublet antenna, John, G8JB

Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322
1, 8, 16, 24 Net, 8pm, 145.350MHz
3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 9.30am, 1905kHz
4 Millimetric Microwaves with Chris G0FDZ
7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 8pm, 70.300MHz
18 Fix-it, move-it-on, skills, advice & chat

West Kent ARS

Keith, G4JED, 01732 446 331
11 Open meeting

The March RadCom deadline is
23 January and for April it's
20 February; get your
May news to us by 27 March.

REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

RR: Martin Sables, G7NTY, RR11@rsgb.org.uk

Exeter ARS

Ivor, G6ATJ, g6atj@hotmail.co.uk

- 5 Net, 7.45pm, GB3EX
- 12, 19, 26 Net, 7.45pm, GB3EW
- 13 Fun night, Pete, G3ZVI & Slade, 2E0SQB
- 27 Data modes best operating practice, 2E0SQB & M0IHT

Exmouth ARC

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274 172

- 6 AGM

Mid Somerset ARC

David, G8BFV, 01749 670 085

- 11 Digital modes, Dave, G3ZXX

Poldhu ARC

Keith, G0WYS, 01326 574 441

- 12 Early wireless operators, G3PLE

Riviera ARC

rivieraarc@gmail.com

- 7 SDR night
- 20 Natter night

Torbay ARS

Kerry, M0KRE, kerry@m0kre.net

- 1, 15 Club meeting
- 1, 8, 15, 22 Club net 3.663MHz, 9.15pm
- 2, 9, 16, 18, 23 Club net, 3.663MHz, 10am
- 4, 6, 11, 13, 20, 25, 27 Club net, 3.663MHz, 10.30am
- 3, 10, 17, 24 Club nets, 14.270MHz, 9.30am, 145.575MHz, 12 noon
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Club nets 1.982MHz, 8pm, 50.155MHz, 8.30pm
- 6, 13, 20, 27 Club nets 14.270MHz, 9.30am
- 8 Business meeting
- 22 AGM

South Bristol ARC

Andy, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471

- 7, 14 Quiz night/Technical topics
- 21 FT8, Steve, G0UQT
- 28 Open house and on air night

Weston Super Mare RS

Martin, G7UWI, g7uwip@googlemail.co.uk

- 4, 11, 25 Club night
- 18 Main meeting

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

RR: Peter Onion, G0DZB, RR12@rsgb.org.uk

Cambridge & District ARC

Richard, G4AWP, 0770 229 5300

- 8 History of microwave engineering, William, M0WJE
- 22 History of amateur TV + demo, Ian, G3KKD

Felixstowe & District ARS

Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com

- 4 Rig clinic
- 18 Amateur satellites, Jason, G7OCD

Harwich ARIG

Kevan, 2E0WMG, 0749 352 1049

- 13 RSGB VHF Propagation Studies video

Huntingdonshire ARS

David, M0VTG, secretary@hunts-hams.co.uk

- 13 NRC, Mervyn, G4KLE
- 28 Baldock, Jim, G4DKW

Norfolk ARC

Chris, G0DWV, 01603 898 308

- 6 DX Engineering Skype talk by Tim, K3LR
- 13 Informal + Morse in computer room
- 20 Retro technology night
- 27 Informal, Bright Sparks, Morse in computer room

Peterborough & District ARC

Alan, G8XLH, secretary@padarc.co.uk

- 1, 15 Club net, 8pm, 145.400MHz
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 1.980MHz, 8pm
- 13 Surplus equipment sale
- 27 Refurbishing an RCO (DVD)

Thames ARG

Patrick, G8JLM, 01621 855 461

- 1 Deciphering strange HF signals, Gary, M0ICG
- 8, 22 Nets: CW, 7.30pm, 144.250MHz; GB3DA, 8pm
- 15 TARGET Night

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

RR: Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, RR13@rsgb.org.uk

Loughborough & District ARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319

- 5 TX Factor video night
- 12 The other man's shack: Ian, G8SNF
- 19 Back to basics: capacitors / inductors
- 26 Practical evening

Melton Mowbray ARS

Phil, G4LWB, 01664 567 972

- 15 Club meeting

Nunsfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk

- 1, 8, 15, 22 Club night
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Shack night
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 8pm 145.325MHz

RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 0797 116 6250

- 1, 8, 15, 22 Club night
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Club net 145.325MHz 8pm

Spalding & District ARS

Graham, G8NWC, 0775 461 9701

- 17 Junk sale, 9.30, Bromley Hall

Shefford & District Amateur Radio Society celebrates 70 years in style

In 1948, a group of local amateurs gathered together in Shefford, Bedfordshire to see if they could form an amateur radio club. They included several prominent callsigns of the time such as Doc, G3JJK, Bill Western, G3TDW, Walt Bigley, G2AUA and Claude Pettifar, G2DPQ. Originally they met at the Old Wharf Building by the River Flit in North Bridge Street but later moved to the village hall, where the society has remained since.

The celebration was attended by the Town Mayor of Shefford, Councillor Paul Mackin, who gave a speech praising the club's endeavours over the decades and adding one or two of his own reminiscences. Also there was RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB (extreme right of

photo), who congratulated and saluted everyone present and, later, cut the celebratory cakes.

There have been many high-profile visitors during the existence of Shefford Radio Society. One who made a lasting impression was the late Professor Colin Pillinger, who told members of his Beagle 2 spacecraft to Mars that, unfortunately, proved unsuccessful – but not for the want of best wishes from Shefford!

What is the secret to the Society's success? Chairman Ken summed it up, saying, "We continue to invite speakers to instruct us on the widest possible aspects of our hobby and, with weekly meetings, that amounts to quite a programme! We have teams operating in the international radio

contests, we run an annual construction contest, we go out on DF events on foot or by car and we have members supporting local events such as the Shuttleworth Steam Fair. Individuals play a vital role, for example Richard Porter, G3NII, who has provided kits for club construction projects including a noise canceller, an antenna analyser, an L-C bridge, a Top Band DF RX, a data-mode interface and lately a CW keyer, each time ensuring that each kit has ALL the parts. Our archivist Brian Fairy deserves particular mention too. He has preserved an amazing collection of the club's artefacts and memorabilia and has recently compiled a book containing a short history of our club through the eyes of our members and their stories."



INTERNATIONAL

The **Pafos Radio Club** Cyprus held its Christmas party in mid December, several members turned out. As is usual the Club Secretary announced the Pafos Club Amateur of the Year Award for 2018, this went to Mike, 5B4ALJ for all the work he has done in promoting digimodes in Cyprus. The Pafos Club can be found on talk group 280.

REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

Wigtownshire ARC has been planning to hold meetings in a more central location in Dumfries & Galloway to that of its main base in Stranraer. The two largest centres of population in the County, Stranraer and Dumfries, are 70 miles apart. The venue chosen was Gatehouse-of-fleet, roughly halfway between the two, and the first such meeting was on 6 December. Ian Macdonald, GM8AVM gave his talk on *A wee history of amateur radio* to fellow members. Members from both east and west attended. The club will be holding more meetings there during this year's session.



REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre Radio Club would like to congratulate Leslie, MM6XMQ on passing the Intermediate exam in December.

Dundee ARC held its AGM and annual awards presentation in November. Colin, MM6KOJ won the SSB Quaiich for QSOs over a period and Ian, MM0HRI was presented a shield for services to amateur radio.

REGION 3: NORTH WEST

The last December meeting of **Furness ARS** was a talk and live demo of Software Defined Radio by Chris, MOTES, accompanied by Christmas nibbles. The event saw a good turnout of club members. After the talk, members were able to 'play' with the different SDRs that had been used for the demonstration to allow them to get a hand on feel for how they work. The busy year came to an end with the annual Christmas quiz by Dave, G3VUS – a general knowledge quiz for club members and their families, held at the Farmers Arms. Dave puts a lot of effort into the quiz, ensuring there is a wide range of questions to suit everyone's tastes.



Isle of Man RS would like to congratulate all three members who took and passed recent exams. Robert and Christopher passed their Foundation and Kim progressed to his Intermediate. The recent AGM was well attended and the new list of committee members and their positions is available on the club website, <https://iomars.wordpress.com>.



Castle Rushen High School has an active radio club (MTOGLK) that takes part in many radio based activities as well as training members for the amateur radio exams. The latest success is Archie, who has just passed his Advanced exam and now has the call MD000H at only 14 years old. He is proud of the fact that he got his Foundation at 12, his Intermediate at 13 and his Advanced at 14, and that he beat both his older brother and his Dad to the Full licence. Archie is hoping to get a station at home soon, until then he will be operating the school club station not only for normal QSOs but also for contests and for special events such as GB18YOTA, which the school is hosting.

In December 2018, Stockport RS held its AGM with 40 members in attendance. The new Committee would like to thank everyone who turned up and for their donations to Walthew House. Neil, M6NAE has joined the Committee in a new role of Digital Radio Co-ordinator and Nigel, MOVNL is now Station Manager. Thanks to Phil, MOXYA for his time and expertise as Station Manager and his time on the Committee. Phil will still be assisting the Committee in a technical role.



REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Cheltenham ARA held their 42nd AGM, attended by 32 members, in December. The Chair, Tony, G3YYH, reported on a successful year with many highlights including two fun Field Days, Foundation and Intermediate courses, a visit to Ben Nock's Military Wireless Museum and a good display of home-constructed equipment at the annual constructors' exhibition. The G3GWW Award for exception services to the club was awarded to Smurf, M0URF and the G3CEG Cup for notable on-the-air activities to Tony, G3SNN. The Committee for 2019 was elected: Chair, G3YYH, Secretary, G3NKS, Treasurer, G3YJE, committee members MOMVA, MONRO, MOYNG. The club now meets at the Robin's Nest at the Cheltenham Football Club.

REGION 6: NORTH WALES

On 10 October 1918, *RMS Leinster* (the mail boat), sailing between Dun Laoghaire and Holyhead, was torpedoed just off the Irish coast, resulting in the deaths of 567 passengers and crew. This was the largest ever loss of life in the Irish Sea. The centenary of this event was commemorated in October through a number of ceremonies in and around the Dun Laoghaire area. The National Maritime Museum Radio Club, EIONMMI, is based in the National Maritime Museum in Dun Laoghaire and participated in the commemoration. Two of Dragon ARC's members – John, MWOJWP and Paul, GW1PCD were in Dun Laoghaire for the commemoration and spent much of the day in the museum. Paul used the Museum's 2m station to keep his fellow club members in Wales posted on the day's events as they also had a special event station on the air.

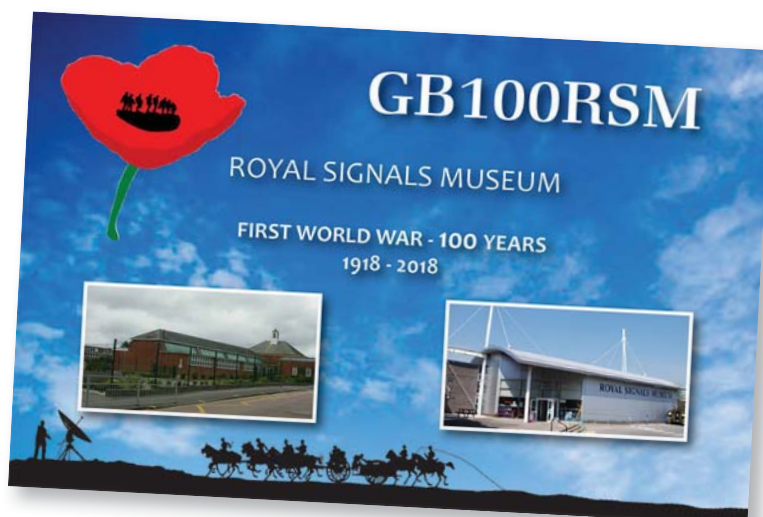
REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

Farnborough & District RS have moving their meeting venue to Aldershot Army Museum, just off Queens Avenue, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2LG. Meetings start at 7.30pm on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday. See www.farnboroughradio.org.uk

Marshall ARS meets monthly, although the day can vary month to month, at The Club House, Wood Field, Fairlight. Contact sec.m0vft@gmail.com for more information.

GB100RSM was set up at Hillview School in Bournemouth as part of the two day visit by The Royal Signal Museum team on 6 and 7 November. Hillview School is a primary school with some 650 pupils aged 5 to 11 years old. The callsign reflected the 100 year anniversary of the end of World War 1 and was part of the week's Remembrance Activities at the school. The aerials were a 40 and 20m inverted vee on a mast on top of the school hall and the rig was a TS-570, kindly loaned and operated by Ian, G3YUZ. Unfortunately the noise level of S7/S8 meant only really strong S9 signals could be heard and contacted so our apologies to all those stations that we simply could not hear in the noise. It also meant that skeds with stations in Ypres, Tyne Cott and the Somme could not be completed, much to our disappointment. Overall we managed 74 contacts in 20 countries; best DX was Russia and Malta but all the schoolchildren were able to listen and take the mic during these QSOs. Four activities were designed for the children to be 'hands on and military communication phones/handheld radios could be used while hearing about the history from Heliographs on the North West Frontier in 1897 to modern military systems. The Morse instruction and semaphore activities were very popular with all age groups and the secret codes and ciphers also created a lot of interest.

BBC Radio Solent attended and interviewed Adam Forty, the Museum assistant director, Gemma Roots, School History Lead, and a 6 year old pupil Amelia Perks. The school children are now eagerly awaiting the QSL cards from our contacts to display against a map of Europe.



REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

Cambridge & District ARC entered the RSGB DX Contest on Sunday 7 October using the club's FT-2000, a DX Commander fan vertical and 140 foot doublet. G4AWP, G0LRD and G8CRB managed to activate GX2XV for the best part of 18 hours, making 110 QSOs.

The main September meeting of Peterborough & District ARC was a talk by club member, Derek G3KHZ, on his DXpedition to Bangladesh last year. The station was set on two rare islands, Bhala Island, IOTA reference AS-140 and St Martins Island, AS-127 respectively. Derek was accompanied by SM6CVX, G4EDG, DL6KWA. Local amateurs S21ED and S21TV helped with officialdom and local arrangements as well as taking part in the DXpedition. The two islands had not been activated for many years and the callsigns used were S21ZDC, S21ED and S21TV. Derek said the DXpedition was a huge success and he is grateful to all those involved. Details of the equipment used and contacts made can be found at <http://s21iota.weebly.com/>. Derek's next DXpedition will be to Papua New Guinea in 2019.

To help budding radio amateurs in East and West Dorset, Sidmouth ARS will be holding training courses at Foundation and Intermediate Level in 2019. Amateurs requiring help with Advanced level are also invited to contact them. Every encouragement and assistance will be given and total beginners are very welcome. For further details or to register interest visit www.sidmouthars.org.uk



At the November monthly meeting of **Torbay ARS**, Tony, G6GLP presented a talk on how to get prepared for contesting, with many aspects that even some of the more experienced operators found noteworthy. Topics included the set up of the shack; such as clearing a work desk and room for the operator and logger if one. The check out of rigs, antennas and tuners for the bands and most import check the rules for things such as times, band plan, exchange and should there be other contests running what they may require if you get called. Then was the inevitable discussion on logging programs and preferences. Kerry, M0KRE described and demonstrated a piece of very clever DF equipment that can be made for under £5 all in. It took the form of a couple of PIN diodes alternately switched on and off to feed phase shifted RF to a receiver. This would produce a null when the two antenna were at 90° to the source and if in line would produce a tone. Two readings would be required from different locations to get a cross mark on a map. Many thanks to all the club members involved for a very informative evening.

REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

November was a busy month for **Peterborough & District ARC**, with two meetings plus a Foundation exam for 6 candidates, all of whom passed. Congratulations to them. Tony, G0IAG, gave a report on the many Special Events that PADARC that had taken place during 2018. He said the events had been very successful and the club had gained members and great publicity as a result. To round off 2018 PADARC members operated GB900PC until the end of the year from their home QTHs within the Peterborough district. This has been authorised by Ofcom to coincide with the continuing celebrations of the 900th anniversary of Peterborough Cathedral. At time of writing over 800 contacts have been made on voice, PSK 31 and CW. The annual Christmas party saw table magic by John Learoyd. John, a local magician and member of the Magic Circle, baffled all with his tricks and sleight of hand. A really nice Christmas Party.



Members of the **Norfolk ARC** contest team with the Horace Freeman Trophy for winning the general category of the RSGB 80m Club Championship again in 2018. The club has more than 100 members, a history dating back to the 1950s and has an active calendar of talks, events, special event stations and courses. Its activities include putting on special event radio stations to celebrate events such as Marconi's birthday and Railways on the Air, plus Bright Sparks events for youngsters who are interested in electronics.

Braintree & District ARS held their annual surplus equipment sale. Items generously brought along by members together with some SK effects, included bundles of cables and packages of components, an oscilloscope, a range of power supplies, loudspeakers, soldering irons, microphones, an antenna, various items of test equipment and a substantial winch. Dave, G0DEC worked his way up and down the tables describing the goods and Melvin, G0EMK acted as auctioneer. Those items not sold during the evening will be taken to the Canvey rally.

Next deadlines

March edition: 24 January

April edition: 21 February

Full list: tinyurl.com/RC-2019-deadlines

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

The winning entry in this year's **Lincoln SWC** construction contest for the Joe Rose Memorial Trophy was the portable 5GHz ATV transceiver made by Bob, G4PDF. The equipment was all installed in a box that was mounted to the back of the dish, then fixed to a tripod. The transceiver included a screen overlay showing his callsign and also converted a received GPS signal into a locator that is also displayed.

