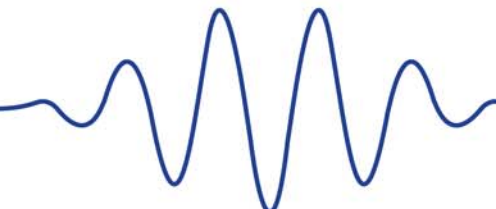




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



# Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

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

## Strategy and the Spectrum



The recent RSGB Strategic review highlighted a number of priorities including Spectrum and closely related issues of Growth, Research and Participation.

One basic fact is that without spectrum there would be no amateur radio. The RSGB Spectrum Forum is unusual in its extensive range of participants from both inside the Society and external specialist groups ([www.rsgb.org/spectrum-forum](http://www.rsgb.org/spectrum-forum)). These include experts from HF to microwave enthusiasts and collectively represent a very wide cross-section of the hobby. Overall we take a broad outlook as we recognise there are aspects around Spectrum Access, Developments, Usage and Protection. These range from frequency allocations, licensing and band plans, via new technologies and modes, to EMC, background noise and a host of Ofcom and international matters. Our annual meeting generates a large

collection of reports – the 2017 meeting proceedings have just been published and provide a snapshot on amateur radio activity, emerging trends, band plans, EMC, the recent IARU Region 1 Conference and the forthcoming World Radio Conference in 2019 (WRC-19).

Activities in 2017 included a record effort at the IARU Conference, as well as participation in CEPT preparatory meetings for WRC-19. The agenda includes the goal of 50MHz harmonisation and the innovations we plan for it whilst trying avoid the setbacks we saw with 5MHz and other threats. On the home front we also continue to facilitate innovation via a range of NoVs for additional frequencies at VHF and microwaves. At a more basic level in 2017 we released illustrated licensing guidance to assist users and trainees and plan to expand this further in 2018. With only a few Spectrum Managers, we are grateful to the wide range of groups and volunteers who work with us on all this.

**“The RSGB Spectrum Forum is unusual in its wide and extensive range of participants from specialist groups”**

Looking ahead, one of our challenges is participation levels (sometimes termed spectrum occupancy) – spectrum is a valuable resource and we need to demonstrate that we are using it actively. We keep a close eye on licence numbers and band occupancy data, as do the Regulators. The old adage of ‘use it or lose it’ applies to the spectrum we have allocated to us and the Spectrum Forum continues to look at ways to increase amateur activity, particularly at VHF, UHF and microwave.

The Society’s goal for 2022 is to continue to have an active and thriving community. The Spectrum Forum is working hard on a variety of issues throughout the year but we all have a responsibility to our hobby and the next generation. I wish you all the best for 2018 but do please keep an open mind and be prepared to support your hobby – it needs you!

Murray Niman, G6JYB

Chairman, Spectrum Forum

### ETCC Chair vacancy

The Emerging Technology Coordination Committee (ETCC) develops and enhances the UK amateur radio repeater and data communications systems and promotes the introduction and rollout of appropriate new technologies. This committee performs a key role in the enjoyment of amateur radio by large numbers of RSGB Members. After many years of service to the society as the Chair of the ETCC, John McCullagh, G14BWM, has decided that it is now time to retire from this role.

The position of Chair of the ETCC Committee is offered for an initial period of up to three years. RSGB Members who wish to be considered for appointment to this important role should write to Steve Thomas, M1ACB, General Manager via email to [gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:gm.dept@rsgb.org.uk) providing details of their amateur radio and other relevant experience.

### MX0RYC allocated once again



The RSGB Youth Committee is delighted to have the callsign MX0RYC re-allocated by Ofcom. This callsign was used during the youth DXpedition to Wales in 2015. It will be used by the Youth Committee for their outreach activities. You can follow what they do on twitter @theRSGBYouth.

## Regional and Board elections 2018

**This is the time of year when we call for volunteers to step forward for election at the RSGB's 2018 AGM.**

The 2018 AGM will take place at the Jurys Inn in Birmingham (245 Broad St, Birmingham B1 2HQ) on 21 April 2018.

As the Board Chair and past Chair outlined on page 6 of the November 2017 *RadCom*, the Society is run primarily by its Members and we need volunteers who are willing and able to give their time and enthusiasm to keep the wheels turning.

In 2018 we will be looking to appoint a new President, two elected Board Directors, two nominated Board Directors and two Regional Managers.

The vacancy for President is because Nick Henwood, G3RWF will have completed his two-year term of office.

The Board vacancies are as a result of Graham Murchie, G4FSG standing down as a Nominated Director, Sara McGarvey, 2IOSSW standing down as Elected Director and Alan Messenger, G0TLK, coming to the end of his three year terms as an Elected Director – Graham and Sara are not seeking re-election.

The following Regional Manager vacancies also arise due to the end of the current post holders completing their three year terms, or because they were co-opted into a vacancy after the last AGM;

**Region 1** – Scotland South and the Western Isles (Anthony Miles, MM0TMZ is currently co-opted and is willing to continue).

**Region 11** – South West England and the Channel Islands (Pam Helliwell, G7SME is the current RM but is not seeking re-election).

Nominations for President require 25 nominations from RSGB Members of which five must come from the RSGB Leadership Team and from at least 3 Regions. Nominations for elected Board Directors and Regional Managers require the support of 10 Members.

Nominations for the Regional Manager vacancies must come from Members who reside in the relevant Region.

Further information about the election vacancies, together with nomination forms, are available on the Election page or can be obtained by post from the General Manager at RSGB HQ (3 Abbey Court, Priory Business Park, Fraser Road, Bedford MK44 3WH).

**Candidates** need to download, complete and post their candidate forms to the Company Secretary via HQ (an email copy is also helpful).

**Nominators** – nominations can now be submitted online via the Members' section of the RSGB website at <http://rsgb.org/nominations>. Completed papers, with their supporting nominations, must be received by 2359 hours on 31 January 2018.

Nominated Directors are recommended to the Board by the Nominations Committee and approved by the Membership at the AGM. The AGM will be asked to endorse Phillip Willis, MOPHI to fill one of the two Nominated Director vacancies – Philip is current serving as a co-opted Director and the AGM will be asked to formally endorse him as a Nominated Director.

The Nominations Committee are currently looking for suitably qualified and experienced candidates to join the Board and would particularly like to see Members coming forward with marketing/promotional skills and/or those who can help to enrich the gender/ethnic diversity of the current Board.

Those elected will also help to take the Society forward to 2022 with a revised strategy, which was launched at the 2017 AGM.

Volunteers are not paid but out-of-pocket expenses are covered.

If we do not get volunteers, we will either need to reduce services or increase subscriptions to pay for additional staff.

If anyone has any questions about the elections or would like to discuss the roles, please contact the President, Nick Henwood, G3RWF for the President vacancy via email to [president@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:president@rsgb.org.uk), or Board Chair, Graham Murchie, G4FSG, for the Director vacancies, via email to [g4fsg@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:g4fsg@rsgb.org.uk), or Ian Douglas, RM4, for the Regional Manager vacancies, via [rm4@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:rm4@rsgb.org.uk). General enquires can be made to the RSGB Company Secretary Stephen Purser, GW4SHF via [company.secretary@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:company.secretary@rsgb.org.uk)

**Stephen Purser, GW4SHF**

**Company Secretary**

## AROS Coordinator vacancy

The Amateur Radio Observation Service (AROS) is the RSGB's confidential advisory and reporting service. It is intended to assist radio amateurs and others who may be affected by problems that occur within the amateur bands or that develop on other frequencies as a result of amateur transmissions.

The AROS Coordinator runs a team of volunteer observers and liaises with Ofcom's enforcement team. They also oversee Intruder Watch, the RSGB's Monitoring System.

The current coordinator, Mark Jones, GOMGX is stepping down from the role after several years' invaluable service. The RSGB is looking for a volunteer, who must be an RSGB Member, to fill the vacancy. The role requires patience and tact, as well as managing the coordination of the team of AROS volunteers.

To find out more about the role or to apply, please send details of your amateur radio experience to RSGB Board Director Philip Willis, MOPHI by email to [m0phi@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:m0phi@rsgb.org.uk)

Further information about the Amateur Radio Observation Service can be found on the RSGB's website at [www.rsgb.org/aros](http://www.rsgb.org/aros)

## New HF Champs rules

The new rules for the 2018 HF Championship are now available on the HF Contest Committee website. Starting in January, all RSGB UK & CD members are valid entrants and are entered automatically by callsign in the 10 contests listed, starting with the 80/40m AFS contests in January.

The HF Championship is not a contest in its own right, rather it requires participation in a number of HF events during the year, with the results considered together. No entry is necessary; a running score will be tabulated after each qualifying contest.

The callsign used can be yours or a Short Contest Call or club call provided you register as the operator. Note that in 2018 the AFS contests include for the first time a data mode event and will now be split into Local and General categories, and the distance range has been expanded to 50 miles from the meeting point for Local clubs. This range also now applies to the 80m monthly CC's rules.



## Arkwright Scholarships

The Arkwright Scholarships Trust has conducted its annual award of prestigious Scholarships to future leaders of the engineering profession. 425 sixth form Scholarships have been awarded this year at Ceremonies in London and Edinburgh. Arkwright Engineering Scholarships act as a beacon to the most talented STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) students in UK schools and help to ensure that high potential young people stay engaged in the engineering careers pipeline, in the critical 16 to 18 age range. The Scholarships are supported by more than 200 different sponsoring organisations: including the Radio Communications Foundation, which is a Registered Charity set up by, but independent from, the Radio Society of Great Britain. Should you wish to donate to the work of the RCF, please go to <http://commsfoundation.org/how-to-donate/>. The three Arkwright students sponsored by the RCF are:

**Tim Hare:** Tim is studying A level Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Product Design at the City of Norwich School and has demonstrated a passion for engineering, science and computing as a licenced radio amateur (callsign M6HTJ) and a keen electronics hobbyist. In addition his radio licence and connection to the Norfolk ARC allowed him the privilege of being the first to establish contact with Tim Peake during City of Norwich School's live link up with the International Space Station in 2016.

**Luke Andrews:** Luke is currently studying to A2, Maths, Further Maths, Physics, Chemistry plus an Engineering EPQ at St Paul's School, London. He has experience in software defined radio, low power WANs and Wi-Fi development kits and environments as well as RF electronics, engineering and basic antenna and propagation theory. He is keen to gain his amateur radio licence and is booked to sit his Foundation exam on 2 December.

**Martin Radulov:** Martin is studying A levels at Dartford Grammar School. He is an all-rounder who is very keen on radio engineering and shows good competence in electronics. He is considering University study at either Cambridge or Southampton looking at courses that lead to a Masters in Electronic Engineering. He passed the Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced exams in a single year and now operates as MORYM. Martin cites representing the UK at the international Youngsters on the Air event in August 2017 as one of his biggest achievements to date.



## Broadband HF noise investigations

There is a growing problem with wide spectrum HF noise radiated from phone lines carrying VDSL2 Broadband Services. Despite the mandatory requirement for VDSL2 equipment to support the protection of amateur bands (see ITU-T G.993.2) they are not notched in the UK.

Most amateurs suffering from VDSL2 interference will not be aware of it. It is a fact that the more efficient a communications system is the more it appears to be just broad spectrum white noise. This white noise masks weaker amateur HF signals.

Radiation from broadband telephone lines causes interference with other services including VDSL2 on other nearby phone lines. To combat this VDSL2 equipment uses a system called vectoring to cancel out this crosstalk and reduce data errors. Unfortunately, no such effort is made to mitigate against radiation into amateur radio antennas and Ofcom appears unwilling to intervene in this matter.

Given this unfortunate situation, some members of the RSGB EMCC have started a project, with RSGB Legacy Fund backing. The current work is to research and develop RF digital signal processing techniques that will identify the presence of VDSL RFI even among other masking signals and background noise. The first stage of this to analyse the signal to VDSL2 noise level (SVNL) has been achieved. This is currently being used to measure the files recorded and submitted by numerous RSGB Members in the VDSL survey – many thanks to all who helped.

This is another example of the RSGB's Legacy Fund being used to further amateur radio. There is Information on the RSGB website that has been updated recently, with a link to specific guidance for anyone thinking of applying (<https://thersgb.org/publications/committees/legacy/legacy-fund-guidelines.pdf>). The Legacy Committee is always pleased to receive proposals. Steve Hartley, GOFUW takes over as Legacy Committee Chair in the New Year.

## Dates for your diary – 2018 Hamfest & Convention

The National Hamfest will take place at the Newark & Nottingham Showground, Lincoln Road, Winthorpe, Newark NG24 2NY on 28 and 29 September 2018. It is organised by the Lincoln Short Wave Club in association with the RSGB.

The RSGB Convention will be held Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Timbold Drive, Milton Keynes MK7 6BZ on 12 to 14 October 2018. The Convention is, once again, sponsored by Martin Lynch and Sons, whom the RSGB would like to thank for their continued support.

## 'Breaking the mould' – clubs (or virtual clubs) for the future

'Breaking the mould' was the topic of an RSGB Convention presentation by RSGB President Nick Henwood, G3RWF, followed by a very positive discussion. It showed that there are certainly many new ideas about different ways of organising groups to excite and develop enthusiasm – more than most of us would have believed! The video of Nick's presentation is on the RSGB website at [www.rsgb.org/strategy-videos](http://www.rsgb.org/strategy-videos) and should be useful if used to promote discussion.

To take things further, it has been decided to invite those with new ideas (or a successful slant on old ones) to showcase them on a new RSGB web page. We want to provide lively information about really good ways to 'break the mould'. Initially some invitations to contribute will be sent out and others will be very welcome to contribute as things gather momentum. Please join in and help us all to learn how to do things differently.

## Convention lecture vidoes

The RSGB has just released three more RSGB Convention 2017 lectures that link with RSGB Strategy – you'll find them all on the video portal [www.rsgb.org/strategy-videos](http://www.rsgb.org/strategy-videos)

- Board Director Steve Hartley, G0FUW explains more about the Strategy itself
- President Nick Henwood, G3RWF gives a progress report on the "Breaking the mould – clubs and groups for the 21st Century" project
- Youth Committee Deputy Chair Milo Noblet, MOILO provides a summary of the successful YOTA 2017 event and a brief look at how we will be building on it.

## Silent Key

Lynne Constantine, G6CQG passed away during the night of the 19th-20th November 2017 after a long battle with cancer.

Early in her career she was the regional Post Office sales manager for Storno Radiotelephones and one of the very first people in the UK to have two phones installed in her car. In the early 1980s, together with her husband Richard, they founded, Northern Communications.

The company developed significant mail-order amateur radio business and Yaesu dealership. It was, for some time, the main importer of Cushcraft Antennas and distributed its own range of small towers, VHF/UHF antennas scanners and accessories. The company diversified into private mobile radio and expanded to become the regional installation and service centre for Vodafone, later moving into the emerging mobile telematics industry. For the last ten years Lynne was one half of the of the RSGB's QSL Bureau team and will be sadly missed.

Lynne is survived by husband Richard, G3UGF, son Matthew, 2E1BOO and daughter Emma, 2E1BVJ. The thoughts of all at the RSGB are with her family at this time.

## 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 F Pilkington	EA7FSF
Mr G Bagley	G3FHL
Mr E C Lambert	G3FKI

### 60 years

Mr H J Benjamin	G3MNB
Mr D Bemister	G3OBX
Mr R P Welch	G3OFX
Mr J Sleight	G3OJI

### 50 years

Mr P Eaton	GOMBY
Mr J M Brown	G0PIA
Mr C R Davies	G3JAU
Mr C J Squires	G3XCS
Mr D I Field	G3XTT

## RSGB Contest Committee – Hall of Fame

Over the past few years, various members of the Contest Support Committee have been involved in producing a definitive list of past winners of the contest trophies. This has required several visits to RSGB HQ to inspect the trophies (there are over 100 of them) and going through the archives of the *Bulletin* and *RadCom* (back to 1935!) to try and find information where it was missing, illegible or the trophy was not available. This information is now available at [www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/trophies.pl](http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/trophies.pl). Please visit these pages and, if you have won a trophy in the past and the information is missing or incorrect, do let us know. You can contact Jacqui, G6XSY (RSGBCC Trophy Administrator) via email to [trophies@rsgbcc.org](mailto:trophies@rsgbcc.org)

## Another licensed Arkwright student

Following a successful session on Saturday 2 December at the Cambridge Wireless Society with Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, Luke Andrews, one of this year's RCF Arkwright Trust scholars received an indicative pass for his Foundation exam. All being well this will mean the RCF is sponsoring three radio amateurs this year under the Arkwright Trust scheme: Luke, Martin Radulov, MORYM and Tim Hare, M6HTJ.

**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.**

Miss H Talbot, 2OEWF	Mr H Robertson, GM3RQQ	Mr D Richards, M6KSF	Mr H McAllister, MI6NIM	Mr N D Mantle, RS314945
Mr T Ward, 2EOHYK	Mr T Egloff, HB9FKF	Mr F Keane, M6KUQ	Mr J Downing, MI6XGZ	Mr G Norbury, RS314992
Mr K Fikri, 9M2KF	Mr L Wilkes, KOSDG	Mr T Canning, M6KXN	Mr M Hodgson, MM6KVE	RAF Halton RS, RS315026
Mr J Hoffmann, DC7IA	Mr W Overstreet, K4AJ	Mr C Wooldridge, M6KXP	Mr T Yates, MM6TFY	Mr J Sanders, RS315027
Mr J Llado Sabater, EC6PG	Mr P W Racine, KBOP	Miss O Dawkins, M6KZW	Mr V Yadh, MW6VNY	Miss S Dempster, RS315064
Mr A P Guest, GOMSP	Mr M Hooker, KD2OCZ	Mr J Bogdaniek, M6LJF	Mr R Hajdak, N8QE	Mr J Griffiths, RS315151
Mr C Rayns, GOWUS	Mr S Nafziger, KF4BY	Dr M Fox, M6LNF	Mr I Jones, RS208411	Mr D Reason, RS315153
Mr B Abell, G1SKV	Mr F Bohner, KM4UWW	Mr M Edge, M6OME	Mr A Chapman, RS212343	Mr J Homersham, RS315203
Dr M Holli, G4OPQ	Mr N Heyne, M0EDQ	Mr G Hudson, M6TYZ	Mr P Rayward, RS314152	Mr U Helin, SM0IHZ
Mr A Cartwright, G6ABF	Mr J Bednarek, MOILO	Mr E Martin, M6UYF	Suffolk RED, RS314768	Mr D Dorward, VA3DDN
Mr J Weston, G7EFN	Mr J Sheath, M0KBI	Mr P Roche, M6VBO	Mr T Stadler, RS314797	Mrs C M Comeau, VA3WTZ
Mr T White, G7KLM	Mr M Cerveny, M0KBW	Mr E Vrentzos, M6VRE	Mr R Kidwell, RS314798	Mr J Tregellas, VK5YL
Mr T Coates, G7LVO	Mr M Marshall, M1MOW	Mr L Robertson, M6XCL	Mr M Angus, RS314806	Mr R Ross, W1HJT
Mr P Hayes, G8FRJ	Mrs T Douglas, M3TNI	Mr A Downs, M6XFC	Mr B Wheare, RS314820	Mr L Ford, W6AER
Mr B Mainwaring, G8GMT	Mr C Weal, M6BGR	Mr B Watson, M6YBK	Mr V P Montague, RS314821	Mr G Schumacher, W7GGS
Mr G Beadle, G8UBF	Mr N Connor, M6CUE	Mr C Peters, M6YIT	Mr J Hughes, RS314830	Mr J G Britton, ZL3ET
Mr S Raynes, GJ7DUX	Mr A C Sirrell, M6IWD	Mrs L Scott, M3RIL	Mr M Concannon, RS314884	

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

Mr R Overy, 2EOERD	Mr P R Draycott, G00XB	Mr N Lee, G4WKY	Mr D A Rees, GW1LFN	Mr P M Denehy, M3MPT
Mr M Bennett-Blacklock, 2EOESC	Mr M A Lane, G0TMP	Mr S Wolf, G4WPD	Mr M Bromley, M0CLM	Mr A Brown, M6AFB
Mr D J Mathewson, 2EOIOG	Mr W Chadwick, G1IBS	Mr GJ Platts, G4XOF	Mr C Street, M0PGE	Mr R J Scott, M5RJS
Mrs C Mathewson, 2EOMTC	Mr J W Connor, G1OQV	Mr A R Hale, G4ZKT	Mr M C Kitt, M0WZM	Mr E Newman, N4GNO
Mr N Palin, 2EONKP	Mr D M Tucker, G1SEA	Mr J Hartnell, G6YWX	Mr K T Allen, M1EUQ	Mr J A Melcher Jr, N8JUC
Mr C Carter, 2E1FQE	Dr D Gordon-Smith, G3UUR	Mr J R F Smith, G7NTG	Mr J Degnan, M3BSQ	Mr M Hibbins, RS307360
Mr P A Woodward, 2E1PAW	Mr R Calver, G4JGX	Mr N Larsen, G7RXO	Mr A Clarke, M3DSI	Mr D G Jones, WA7ZZI
	Mr K Johnson, G4SVN	Mr D Patrick, G8KAP	Mr A G Woodsford, M3LHX	



## KW days

The annual KW Days takes place on the first weekend after the New Year – 6 and 7 January. Every year it grows in popularity as more attic, barn and shed finds of this iconic line of British made equipment, including legendary Vanguards, Viceroyes, Vespas and KW2000 series transceivers are restored. The KW company was founded on 5 January 1953 by Roly Shears, G8KW (SK). GB8KW will be operated by Cray Valley ARS and Sutherland Radio Club will be active as GB2KW in Scotland. Last year there were 50+ KW stations on the air.

The KW Yahoo group would love to hear from clubs planning similar activities in other regions of the UK and from those overseas ([https://groups.yahoo.com/group/KW\\_Radios](https://groups.yahoo.com/group/KW_Radios)).

Daytime SSB activity centres will be on 7.177 or 3.777MHz and 14.277MHz (KW77) as conditions permit. Operators are encouraged to use KW gear on other bands, so if you hear some AM on 1.977 or MCW operating on 160 or 80 metres at night, don't be surprised. AM/ CW activity will be on the VMARS net channels (see [www.vmars.org.uk](http://www.vmars.org.uk)).



The most popular transceiver of all, the KW2000B, with the very rare 2 tone SSB PEP meter. Courtesy G3UGF.

## Holiday DXpedition

Brian, GW4DVB will be operating a small holiday DXpedition in January 2018 to Palm Island (aka Prune Island) in St Vincent and the Grenadines (IOTA reference NA-025). Using the callsign J88PI he will operate from 21 to 28 January using an FT-991A with 100W into a 10m vertical on the 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m bands. QSL direct only (PO Box 20:20, Llanharan, Pontyclun, Wales CF72 9ZA). More at [www.g4dwb.co.uk/](http://www.g4dwb.co.uk/)

## Advanced Distance Learning in January

The next Advanced Distance Learning run by the Bath-based team course is due to start on 26 January, aiming for an exam in early July. The course has been running for six years now and over 500 students have passed following the distance learning. The average exam pass rate is 85% for students who have completed the course. The course is free but students must provide their own textbook, calculator and arrange their own exam when the time comes. Guidance is provided by the course team. A £30 deposit is required to secure a place on the course and the deposit is refunded to those who see the course through. Deposits from students who did not complete the course, and generous donations from students who did, have so far raised over ten thousand pounds for charities like the RCF, Wireless for the Blind and RAIBC.

Depending on the forthcoming syllabus changes this may be the last of these courses under the current arrangements.

Places are limited in number and the last three courses have been full well before the start date. So, if you are interested in joining, contact Steve, G0FUW via e-mail to [g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk)

## School talk



Glyn, GWOANA (Region 7 RM) gave a talk on Marconi and basic radio theory, ending with a live demo of radio to a small section of 11 year olds at the Welsh School in Barry. They managed a few QSOs around Europe, which really impressed the students. Glyn says he enjoyed the day and the students had fun.

## Newbury Radio Rally



Newbury and District ARS has changed the date of the 2018 Newbury Rally. It will be held at the Royal Berkshire Showground on Sunday 24 June, which is a week later than usual. Gates will open to sellers at 8am and to the public at 9am. The organisers hope the move away from Father's Day will allow yet more interested parties to attend. For further information please email [NewburyRally@nadars.org.uk](mailto:NewburyRally@nadars.org.uk) or go to [www.nadars.org.uk](http://www.nadars.org.uk)

## Scottish Microwave Roundtable



The Scottish Microwave Roundtable took place on 3 November at the Museum of Communication, Burntisland. During a break in the lectures, the judging of the entries for the GM4LBV Projects Trophy took place by John, G4BAO and Andy, MM0FMF. After much deliberation the judges chose the 13cm signal analyser by Kevin, G3AAF. More details at [www.gmroundtable.org.uk/gmrt-2017-report](http://www.gmroundtable.org.uk/gmrt-2017-report)



## Air Cadets on the air



Recently, two cadets from the 106 Air Cadet Squadron based in Grays celebrated when they passed their amateur radio exam. The cadets had been studying via the Essex Ham online training course. Once they had completed this course they then attended a training day before taking the exam in the evening. During this practical session, one cadet had quite a surprise as after she had spoken into the microphone an amateur located in America responded. The picture shows (L –R) Lt Cmdr R James (RNR) who acted as the invigilator during the exam presenting the pass certificate to Cadet Lee and Cadet Mayes is seen receiving his pass certificate from Flt Lt Mark Jones RAFVR officer commanding the 106 Squadron. Both Lt Cmdr James and Flt Lt Jones commented on how hard the cadets had worked to achieve their pass certificate and they looked forward to seeing them talking on the squadron radio station, which is currently being set up at the squadron HQ. Should anyone wish to know more about amateur radio or the Air Training Corp please contact 106.oc@aircadets.org

## Aloha from Hawaii

A birthday party took place on 8 November near Pearl Harbor and some well known KH6 DXers attended. Going from left to right around the table (anti-clockwise) the lady at the front of the photo in red is Joan, the wife of K1ER, who both live in Hawaii and John, K1ER is to the right. Leaning forward is Jim, AH6OY, then Ray, WH6ASW, Marge and Robyn Ray's wife and daughter, Lita, WH6BUJ, husband Randy, KH6IB, birthday boy Keith, KH6ZU/G3SZU/M4X, his long-suffering wife Barbara, Mary and husband Bill, KH6OO, Jim, WH6Q, Dan, KH6P and Tets, AH7C.



## Jersey Serves Fair



Peter, GJ8PVL (RSGB Deputy Regional Manager & Jersey RAYNET Controller), Nigel, GJ7LJJ and Simon, GJ4ODX recently promoted amateur radio and RAYNET at the Jersey College for Girls 'Jersey Serves' Fair that 30 local charities attended. School pupils, teachers and other charity representatives were given demonstrations of amateur radio, including voice, Morse and data, with a RAYNET slant, over a period of two days. The response was very favourable and useful connections were made with other local organisations.

## Argentina gets 60m and 630m

The Radio Club Argentino has succeeded with its petition to their local communications authorities, having gained new privileges to the 630m and 60m and the extension of existing allocations at 160m, 80m and 30m. The new allocations are the final result of efforts made by the RCA during its participation in the preparatory meetings of WRC '07, '12 and '15; and will be effective early in 2018. The new allocations are 472 – 479kHz and 5351.5 – 5366.5kHz. With extended allocations of 1800 – 2000kHz, 3500 – 4000kHz and 10100 – 10150kHz.

## Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association

The Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association (RAOTA) is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee in 2018. To commemorate this a tiered Diamond Jubilee award and a competition for authors in their magazine *OTN* has been planned. Details of both the award and the author's competition will appear on the website [www.RAOTA.org](http://www.RAOTA.org) Anyone who has an active interest in amateur radio is welcome to become either a full or associate member of RAOTA. See their website for more information.

## GHz Bands Digifest

There is an initiative to grow activity on digital modes on the bands above 1GHz. On Wednesday evening operators gather on the ON4KST chat and around 1296.165MHz to experiment with digital modes and aircraft scatter. It's not a contest, there are no rules, just a gathering to have fun. Drop a line to the GHz Bands columnist if you want to take part, via email to [john@g4bao.com](mailto:john@g4bao.com)

## Special event stations

Celebrating the valve equipment produced by KW Electronics Ltd of Dartford Kent, GB2KW will be active between 1 and 28 January. Run by members of the Sutherland & District ARC, they will be operating from near Invergordon, Scotland. GB2KW operators will be using a KW2000, a KW2000A, a KW Atlanta, a KW1000 linear and a KW Viceroy Mk.II TX / KW77 RX combination, mainly on 160m to 20m SSB, with some CW. All QSOs with GB2KW will be confirmed electronically only on Club Log and the ARRL's Logbook of The World. GB2RAF, the Permanent Special Event Station at RAF Neatishead Air Defence Radar Museum, Horning, Norfolk NR12 8YB will be off the air until 14 April. This is due to the Museum closure for its winter break.

Continued on page 17

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, On the Air. 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 February issue is 19 December and for March it's 24 January. 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 DT's Bar. Visitors and  
holidaymakers 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 and Camping Club**  
membership@arcc.org.uk, www.arcc.org.uk

**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  
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  
5 Quiz night with Charlie, MM0GNS  
19 Presentation by Jason, GM7VSB

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

**Lothians RS**  
Mike, MM0MLB,  
secretary@lothiansradiosociety.com  
10 Video evening  
24 3D printing, Neil Gillies

### REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

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

**Aberdeen ARS**  
Fred, GM3ALZ, 01975 651 365  
11 Radio discussion evening  
18 Quiz night  
25 Construction and on the air evening

**Dundee ARC**  
2M0KAU, 0776 370 8933  
1-31 MM0RDA HF SSB trophy  
9 College re-opens  
16, 23 Club night and training  
30 Talk

**Glenrothes & District RC**  
Dougie, MM6KNR, dougie@digitalmaker.co.uk  
17 AFS debrief  
24 Field day programme chat  
31 TX Factor

### REGION 3: NORTH WEST

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

**Chester & District RS**  
Bruce, M0CVP, 01244 343 825  
2 Bring and tell  
9 Committee meeting  
16, 30 Construction competition/talks on entries  
23 Surplus sale

**Macclesfield & District RS**  
Greg, M0TXX, info@gx4mws.com  
8 Shack on the air  
15 Film night  
22 Club project  
29 Club maintenance night

**Mid-Cheshire ARS**  
Peter, G8HAV, 0791 931 5547  
3 Open evening  
10 Committee meeting  
17 VHF NFD discussion  
24, 31 Radioactive/Norbreck planning

**Stockport Radio Society**  
Heather, M6HNS, 0750 690 4422  
2, 23 Radio/skills night  
5, 12, 19, 26 Net 2pm on 433.525MHz FM  
9 Net 7.30pm on 51.550MHz FM  
11, 31 Net 7.30pm on 145.375MHz FM  
16 Antenna feeders, Pete, M0PTB  
18 Committee meeting  
20-21, 27 Foundation course/exam

**Thornton Cleveleys ARS**  
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810  
8 Natter night/club on air  
15 My favourite circuit (various)  
22 Video  
29 Fusion & DMR by G4NVF & 2E0SGS

### REGION 4: NORTH EAST

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

**Angel of the North ARC**  
Nancy, G7UUR, 01914 770 036  
8 On the air, Foundation exam  
15 Training courses continue; on the air  
22 Talk  
29 On the air

**Blyth Radio Club**  
John, 2E0DCV, 0191 237 1729  
3, 10 Club night with Morse training  
17, 24 Foundation training evening  
31 Club night

**Denby Dale RC**  
Darran, G0BWB, 0797 442 3227  
3 Fish & chip/curry supper  
7, 14, 21, 28 Club net via GB3HD 10.30am  
17 RSGB Update from Ian, RM4  
31 Real ale night

**East Cleveland ARC**  
Alistair, G4OLK, 01642 475 671  
5 Discussing New Year's resolutions  
12 Want it or fling it night  
19 Bring in something interesting evening  
26 Discussing whether we are hoarders

**Sheffield & District Wireless Society**  
Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 0788 406 5375  
3 Closed  
10, 24 Training & social  
17 Awards night  
24 Technical & training  
31 Meal out

**Sheffield ARC**  
David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com  
1 Closed  
8 Shack night  
15 Club night

**Spen Valley ARS**  
Russell, G0FOI, 01274 875 038  
11 AGM  
25 Shack meeting

**Tynemouth ARC**  
www.G0NWM.com  
5 What Santa brought for Christmas  
12, 26 Club night  
19 Antennas for a small garden

### REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

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

**Bromsgrove & District ARC**  
John, G4OJS, 0788 967 8303  
5, 12, 19, 26 Club night

**Coventry ARS**  
John, G8SEQ, 0795 877 7363  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net, 8pm, 145.375MHz  
FM and/or 7.16MHz ± QRM SSB,  
1 G2FDC 2m DF Trophy, 11am  
4, 11, 18, 25 Open net, 50.175MHz SSB, 8pm  
12 Annual dinner, The Holyhead  
19 Charity quiz  
26 Video night

**Gloucester AR&ES**  
Anne, 2E1GKY, 01242 699 595 daytime  
1 No meeting  
3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 145.475MHz FM, 7.30pm  
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 145.475MHz FM, 7.30pm,  
then moving to 80m SSB  
5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 432.220MHz USB, 7.30pm  
8 London Underground platform to train CCTV,  
John Rowing  
15, 22, 29 Informal activities

**Malvern Hills RAC**  
Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club net, 145.350MHz FM, 8pm  
9 PSK 31/63 & RTTY, Roger, G4BVV  
23 Informal



### Midland ARS

**Norman, G8BHE, 0780 807 8003**

- 3 Open meeting, boys and their new toys
- 10 Committee meeting and training classes
- 17 Shack on the air, ragchew and training classes
- 24 Open meeting and planning rallies to visit
- 31 Club equipment sell or update, training classes

### Mid-Warwickshire ARS

**Don, G4CYG, 01926 424 465**

- 9 Club net on 145.275MHz
- 23 Mini talks

### Salop ARS

**salopamateurradio@gmail.com**

- 2, 9, 16, 23 Club CW net, 4.30pm 144.070MHz
- 3, 10, 17, 24 Club net, 8.30pm, GB3LH
- 4 Natter night and committee meeting
- 11, 25 Video evening
- 18 Batteries, Richard, G3VZG

### South Birmingham RS

**Gemma, M6GKG, gemmagordon.m6kg@gmail.com**

- 1 Closed
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Coffee morning in the shack, 11am to 1pm, visitors welcome
- 4, 11, 18, 25 Training classes with Dave Murphy, G8OWL
- 5, 12, 26 Work in the shack
- 8, 15 Tests on 70cm repeater
- 29 Deciding on 2018 rally visits

### Staffordshire Portable ARC

**www.m0spa.com**

- 7 SOTA activation, Walton on the Hill
- 9, 13, 23 Meeting at Bolehall Manor Club, Tamworth
- 20 Wall Roman site
- 27 Chasewater Country Park

### Stratford upon Avon & District RS

**Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664 488**

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 145.275MHz FM, 8pm

### Telford & District ARS

**John, M0JZH, 07824 737 716**

- 3 Club forum, planning for 2018
- 10 Committee meeting; GX3ZME OTA
- 17 The 'Flying-Laptop' satellite, Barry Cook
- 24 2<sup>nd</sup> winter projects evening
- 31 10 minute topics

### Wythall Radio Club

**Chris, G0EYO, 07710 412 819**

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Morse class from 7.30pm
- 2 Free and easy, 8pm
- 5, 12, 19, 26 Nibbles night in the shack, 7.30pm
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 8pm, 145.225MHz or GB3WL
- 9 Committee meeting
- 16 Results of Christmas contest
- 30 Radio astronomy

## REGION 6: NORTH WALES

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

### Dragon ARC

**John, MW0JWP, 0751 503 1025**

- 15 Antenna building by Danny, GW7BZR

### Marches ARS

**steven.bobby20@yahoo.co.uk**

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 NE Wales open net, 9pm, 145.425MHz

### North Wales Radio Society

**Liz, GW0ETU, 0776 019 0355**

- 4 General meeting
- 11 Technical topics for 2018
- 18 Night on the air
- 25 Bletchley Park, Peter, GW4UWD

### Porthmadog & District ARS

**Peter, GW0DFK, 0773 177 1319**

- 18 Repeater building by G1KDZ

### Wrexham ARS

**steven.bobby20@yahoo.co.uk**

- 3, 10, 17 Open net, 7.30pm, 145.300MHz

## REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

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

### Aberystwyth & District ARS

**Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853**

- 7 Junk sale and Buildathon
- 11 Commercial test equipment, Dave, GW7ONS
- 25 Club net, 145.500MHz then 145.550MHz

### Carmarthen ARS

**Andy, GW0JLX, 0776 828 2880**

- 2, 16 Social evening plus club on air

### Cleddau ARS

**Heinz, MW0ECY, 0774 804 7008**

- 1, 8, 15, 29 Club night
- 22 Quiz night

## REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

### Aylesbury Vale RS

**vic@rakewell.com**

- 10 Annual dinner

### Bracknell ARC

**David, M0XDF, M0XDF@alphadene.co.uk**

- 3, 17, 24, 31 Open net, 8pm, 145.375MHz
- 10 AGM

### Radio Society of Harrow

**Linda, G7RJL, lcasey100@outlook.com**

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 145.500/145.350MHz FM, 8.15pm
- 5 Test equipment, G3YXZ & G3YKB
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Club net, 1938kHz LSB, 12 noon
- 19 Magnetic loop antennas, T Brockman, G4TPH

### Reading & District ARC

**Laurence, G2DD, 0758 470 6625**

- 11 The oil and gas industry, John Turner, ex-BG Group
- 25 Magnetic loops, Rael Paster, MORTP

### Shefford & District ARS

**David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757**

- 4 Welcome back
- 11 Presentation on PowerPoint by G4YRF
- 18 Discussion on garden aerials
- 25 2018 construction contest

### Southgate ARC

**Keith, G8RPA, g8rpa@arri.net**

- 10 No meeting
- 24 Social evening at the Beautiful South

## REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

### Bredhurst Receiving & Transmitting Society

**Nicky, secretary@brats-qth.org**

- 4 Committee meeting
- 11, 25 Club night
- 18 Bring and talk

### Bromley & District ARS

**Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089**

- 3, 10, 17, 24 Net, 145.400MHz, 9pm
- 16 AGM and programme planning
- 30 Club meal

### Crawley ARC

**Richard, G3ZIY, 01342 843 545**

- 24 AGM

### Cray Valley RS

**Dave, G8ZZK, 0773 954 9822**

- 18 Planning for 2018

### Crystal Palace R&EC

**Bob, G30OU, 01737 552 170**

- 5 Video evening

### Darenth Valley Radio Society

**Mike, G8AXA, 0788 415 7776**

- 24 On the air/natter night

### Dorking & District RS

**David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com**

- 23 Ham radio yesterday, discovered today, MOSXD & G3NIW

### Fort Purbrook ARC

**Chris, G3WIE, g3wie@fparc.org.uk**

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open net, 9pm. 144.275MHz
- 26 G3CNO on the air plus review of winter projects

### Hastings E&RC

**Gordon, 01424 431 909**

- 24 On the air, operating, and chat

### Hilderstone R&EC

**Ian, 2E0DUE, secretary@g0hrs.org**

- 11, 25 Club night

### Horndean & District ARC

**Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846**

- 5 Natter night
- 19 Club night

### Mid-Sussex ARS

**Peter, G4AKG, 01444 239 371**

- 5, 12 Radio night
- 19 Meet the committee evening
- 26 Radio night and table top sale

### Southdown ARS

**John, G3DQY, 01424 424 319**

- 3 Net, 145.275MHz, 8.30am; Hailsham shack, 10.30; café, 12.30; CW net, 144.060MHz, 7pm
- 8 Update on the Bluebell Railway by David Jones
- 10, 17, 24, 31 Net, 145.275MHz, 8.30am; café, 12.30

**Next deadlines are (Feb) 19 December, (Mar) 24 January and (Apr) 21 February.**

**Surrey Radio Contact Club**  
**John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322**  
 4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 70.300MHz, 8pm  
 5, 12, 26, 29 Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm  
 7, 14, 21, 28 Net, 1905kHz, 9.30am  
 8 Construction contest  
 22 Chat and fix-it, John, G8MNY

**Worthing & District ARC**  
**Al, M0OAL, information@wadarc.org.uk**  
 3 Club tea and chat night

## REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

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

**Appledore & District ARC**  
**Alan Fisher, M6CCH, 01237 422 833**  
 15 Mini talks by members

**Blackmoor Vale ARS**  
**Keith, M0TMO, 01747 851 260**  
 9 Video: Macau XX9D  
 23 HF evening

**Bristol RSGB Group**  
**Shaun, G8VPG, 01225 873 098**  
 9 AGM

**Callington ARS**  
**John, G4PBN, 01822 835 834**  
 3 Club night

**Cornish Radio Amateur Club**  
**Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939**  
 3 Committee meeting  
 4 Main meeting  
 18 Social evening

**Mid-Somerset ARC**  
**David, G8BFV, 01749 670 085**  
 8 Looking at winter projects  
 29 Social afternoon

**Saltash & District ARC**  
**Mark, M0WMB, 0781 054 8445**  
 4 Programme review; video, Ian Dawe  
 18 Club meeting

**South Bristol ARC**  
**Andrew, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471**  
 11 Committee meeting  
 25 Open house and on air night

**Weston Super Mare RS**  
**Martin, G7UWI, 01934 613 094**  
 8, 22, 29 Construction, operating & natter night  
 15 AGM

**Yeovil ARC**  
**Rodney, M0RGE, 01935 825 791**  
 4 Quiz, compiled by G8UED  
 5, 19 Construction and on-air at Sparkford  
 11 One transistor transmitter by G3MYM  
 18 Morse practice with G3MYM  
 25 Problem solving and committee

## REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

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

**Braintree & District ARS**  
**Edwin, GOLPO, 01376 324 031**  
 2, 16 Club net, 8pm, 145.375MHz  
 9 Prep for Canvey Rally and natter night  
 23 PAC / PAT testing

**Cambridge & District ARC**  
**Richard, G4AWP, 0770 229 5300**  
 12 How to enjoy and win contests, G4AWP  
 26 AGM

**Essex Ham**  
**Pete, M0PSX, news@essexham.co.uk**  
 1 Online Foundation course  
 6, 15, 22, 29 Net on GB3DA, 8pm, chatroom  
 www.essexham.net  
 7 Essex YL net, GB3DA, 8pm

**Harwich ARIG**  
**Kevan, 2EOWMG, 07766 543784**  
 10 My other hobby: discussion evening

**Huntingdonshire ARS**  
**David, M0VTG, secretary@hunts-hams.co.uk**  
 11 Natter night  
 25 The RSGB, Steve Thomas, M1ACB

**Leiston ARC**  
**John, G4XVE, secretary@larc.org.uk**  
 9 Quiz night

**Loughton & Epping Forest ARS**  
**Dave, M0MBD, 0798 016 5172**  
 4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 144.725MHz, 8pm  
 5, 19 Club meeting  
 27-28 Foundation course and exam

**Peterborough & District ARC**  
**Alan, secretary@padarc.co.uk**  
 2, 16 Club net, 145.400MHz  
 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net on 1.980MHz  
 24 Show and tell evening

**South Essex ARS**  
**Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040**  
 9 Preparations for the 33rd Canvey Rally

**Thames ARG**  
**Patrick, G8JLM, 01621 855 461**  
 5 Starting pedestrian mobile, Nigel, M0ICH  
 12, 26 Nets: 144.250MHz CW, 7.30pm;  
 GB3DA 8pm  
 19 Practical radio projects

**Thurrock Acorns ARC**  
**Gordon, M0WJL, acorns@taarc.co.uk**  
 2 2m SSTV open net 19:30 to 20:30 GMT  
 4, 11, 18, 25 2m FM open net, 7.30pm  
 16 Club meeting

## REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

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

**Derby & District ARS**  
**radio@dadars.org.uk**  
 2 Junk sale

9 Committee meeting  
 16 Amateur radio in the digital age, Pete Watts,  
 G0FQB

**Hinckley AR&ES**  
**Bob, G8BFF, 0792 876 9767**  
 18 The work of AROS, Mark Jones

**Leicester RS**  
**Sandra, G0MCV, 0793 027 4044**  
 1 Closed  
 8 Morse class then committee meeting  
 15 Morse class then free 'n' easy evening  
 22 Radio waves from the stars, Keith, G6UBP  
 29 AGM

**Loughborough & District ARC**  
**Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319**  
 2 Natter night  
 9 Open forum on construction and safety  
 techniques  
 16 Transistors by Andrew, G7SEG  
 23 Another brush with art, Albert, G1KSC  
 30 Practical evening

**Melton Mowbray ARS**  
**Phil, G4LWB, 01664 567 972**  
 19 FT8 mania, G4LWB

**Nunsfield House ARG**  
**Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk**  
 4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm  
 5 Surplus sale and club night  
 8, 15, 22, 29 Shack night  
 12 Programme planning and club night  
 19 Shack night and committee meeting  
 26 Club night and projects update  
 29 Committee meeting

**Spalding & District ARS**  
**Graham, G8NWC, 0775 461 9701**  
 5 Club night or half-marathon around  
 Pinchbeck  
 12 Club night  
 19 AGM, 7.30pm, Pinchbeck Hub  
 26 Off-grid radio, Nick, G4BMH

**Workshop ARS**  
**0789 062 6684, info@g3rcw.org.uk**  
 4 Aircraft scatter & ON4KST  
 9, 16, 18 UKAC and FMAC  
 11 Technical night and 6m UKAC  
 23, 30 Club night  
 25 Introduction to APRS

## REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES



Dundee ARC held their annual general meeting and annual prize giving in October with new committee members being elected. Trophies were presented by Ally, M0DRA. Garry, M06KYW was awarded the Joe Kelly GM4AQM trophy for his novice construction project. Denis, 2MODOI was awarded the Mark Dougan M06DDX trophy for the most 2m QSOs over a set period in June. Finally, Martin, 2M0KAU, (in photo) received the John Martin GM4WEQ shield for services to amateur radio.



## REGION 4: NORTH EAST

At Bishop Auckland RAC, training is provided by club members Tim, MOACV and Bob, G0OCB. For any training enquiries or information, please contact the club online, via email g4ttf@yahoo.co.uk, or call Tim on 01388 832 948.

Denby Dale ARS held the bi-annual surplus sale that was well attended. In total it raised over £150 for club funds. Following the AGM, the club now has committee representatives at all licence levels. Jerry, 2E0EGS is the Museums OTA co-ordinator, Ian, M6ITH is Vice Chair and David, G0EVA took on publicity. The JOTA station (right) was run from the Bradley Wood Scout Camp. Using 80/40/20 dipoles and the DXCommander vertical antenna with the IC-7300 and the TS-590 they operated on SSB, CW, PSK and FT8. Visited by two different Scout Groups, they managed to pass greetings messages on HF. The weather was atrocious on Saturday night and the hall was invaded by Scouts who had abandoned their flooded tents to seek shelter, the weather didn't dampen their spirits and they were awake until 4.30am! There were some bleary eyes on Sunday morning.



## REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

Midland ARS new member, Ottavio Caruso, sat his Foundation exam and passed with all 26 questions answered correctly, a full house. Congratulations Ottavio, and thanks to Ron, MOWSN the chief instructor.



## REGION 6: NORTH WALES

Wrexham ARS were invited to the Brymbo Heritage's Open Day (left). Activating GB1BSW in a set of cabins (warm and with kitchen facilities) they erected a Crushcraft vertical antenna for HF and small Yagi beams for 2m, 6m and 70cm. Many visitors came in and out to have a go at using the equipment and contacts were made all around the globe with a little DX to Reching, Massachusetts and Greenland. European contacts reached far in to Eastern Russia, across to Greece, Turkey and the majority of Central Europe. Conditions were not the best at times but it didn't stop the club having an enjoyable event and social.

Shown are Paul, GWOMDQ and Eifio, 2W0ENA.



## REGION 8: NORTHERN ISLAND

Bangor & District ARS had an interesting talk from Harry Kernahan in October on the evolution of amateur radio satellites that was excellent. Then the club held a surplus equipment sale in November with a record attendance. Towards the end of the evening the tables were almost cleared of a very wide range of surplus equipment. The next meeting, on 4 January, is the popular annual quiz (no monetary prizes). All are invited.

## REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

At Verulam ARC's November meeting, Alex, MOUKR, gave an illustrated talk on his homebrew construction techniques using common, easy to obtain items, such as aluminium sheeting, pipe binders and U bolts fashioned from pre-threaded rods. The results of his efforts include loop fed arrays (LFA) for 23cm, 2m and 6m as well as a four boom array for EME. It was apparent that with a reasonable set of tools and plenty of determined experimentation it was possible to build robust antennas without having to dip too deeply into one's pocket.

Newbury & District ARS ran its annual Foundation Course over two days in November. One candidate came all the way from Scarborough because the course just involves two days of training. All 11 candidates passed. A follow-up Intermediate course is planned with tuition on 24/25 February, then the practical and exam on 24 March.

Radio Society of Harrow took part in the annual SSB NFD in September. This was the first attempt at a 24-hour event for several years and took considerable planning. It was designed to be an opportunity for newer licensees to gain contest experience in a supportive and unpressured environment and 20 operators took part. A fan dipole on 20, 40 and 80m was constructed on site and suspended between two disused telegraph poles. N1MM was used for the first time for computer logging and 239 contacts were made all over Europe. Ian, 2EOPPM set up a separate 144MHz operation using a Buddipole and a 7-element Yagi. Fortunately the weather was kind and the site was packed up an hour early to avoid the forecast rain. Thanks to Paul at the Lincolnsfields Centre, Watford and the organisers Tony, G7ETW, Linda, G7RJL, Mike, MOITI, Colin, G1IGA, Peter, G3YXZ and Ian, 2EOPPM.

Edgware & District RS a visit from Mark Haynes, MODXR and Geoff Peterson, G8SUG of JVC Kenwood. Mark (right) put on a very interesting presentation, firstly about various Kenwood/Trio models over the last 40 years or so, plus an illustrated chat about his passion for contesting. He also brought along a popular Kenwood model with a Wi-Fi capability built in, that would enable it to be used as a basis for remote control operation.



## REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

The Mid Cornwall Beacon and Repeater Group Communications Fair and AGM took place in October. The raffle was a great success and generated enough funds to pay for the hire of the hall; the Bring & Buy and subscriptions added to the group's funds. The RSGB donated a 2018 Yearbook that was won by a local radio amateur. The RSGB promotion material from HQ went down very well. It was decided to hold another Communication Fair next year, building on this success. At the Fair there was a Test your

Rig stand, a dynamic amateur television demonstration, a CW demonstration and refreshments were served by the wives of members, all adding to a very successful afternoon.

Riviera ARC will be celebrating its 6th anniversary in January. They are an active lively club that provides Foundation and Intermediate training as well as running special events. You can read more about the club at [www.rivieraARC.org.uk](http://www.rivieraARC.org.uk)



In November, Flight Refuelling ARS in Merley opened their doors to the 1st Longham Scouts for an introduction to amateur radio (left). Many of the young people who visited are preparing for their Communicator badge. The training team, Alan, MOVLT, Clive, G7SVI, Sherry, MOODE and Sue, MOPSZ along with three volunteers from the club gave a brief presentation on amateur radio. The group had tours of the VHF shack with Richard, MORHS and Dan, MOLXD, where voice communication was in use. In the HF shack, Romeo, YOORDW gave CW demonstrations, even slowing down from his usual 50wpm, this proved very popular and there were many wide eyes. Sue ran PSK31 and a couple of other data modes to demonstrate low power RF and computer technology. Clive demonstrated the use of GPredict, running on a Raspberry Pi, to track satellites and the ISS and he also covered working through satellites with a basic handheld radio and Arrow antenna. Unfortunately, the band conditions weren't in their favour but there were several contacts into Europe as well as North and South America and Canada, and local on 2m.



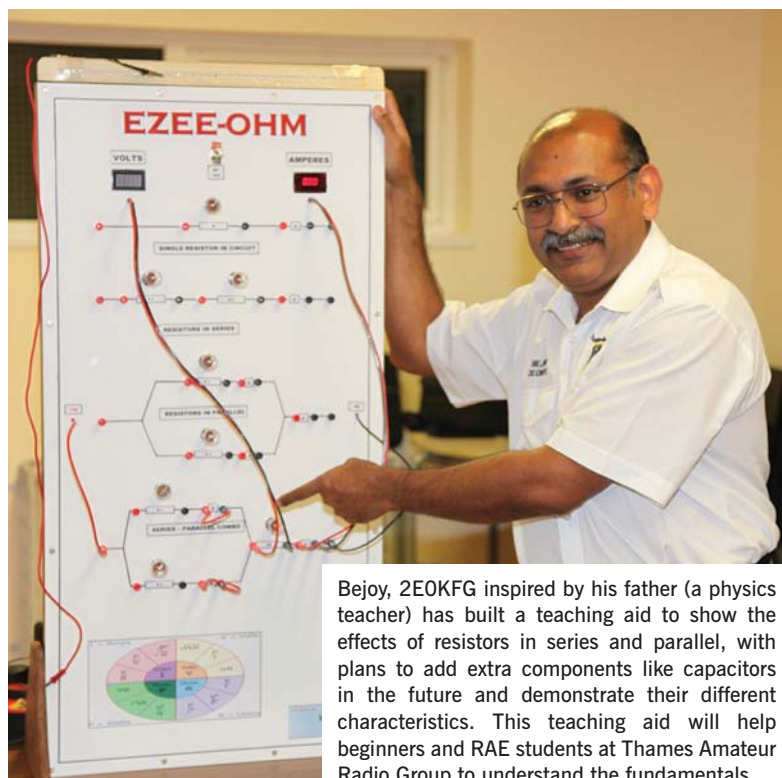
**REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA**

Loughton & Epping Forest Radio Society held an Intermediate practical assessment course and exam. Subsequently John, M6JSU received an indicative pass, Toby, M6KQB is now 2E00BY and Chris Young also completed the practical assessment and plans to sit the exam soon. The course was led by John, G8DZH who would like to thank Ron, G6LTT, Derek, M0XDC and Dave, G3ZXF for their invaluable support and assistance during the day.

Neil, MONAS gave an illustrated talk on Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) to Braintree & District ARS. He described the Tier 2 DMR standard used in amateur radio and explained that different Talk Groups (TG) encompass different groups of repeaters. A home produced video was shown demonstrating in a controlled test that when an analogue signal was scratchy a digital signal gave better audio quality. Colin, M6NCU took over to describe the range of transceivers available to the amateur fraternity, and then made a contact using a Motorola 4600 through the repeater GB7HA (keeper Neil), with an operator in Birmingham. Owen, M3OIL was on hand throughout to answer any technical queries.



Following an invitation from the 1st Woodham Ferraers Hyde Cub pack in November, Jim, 2E0RMI, Bob, G4MDB, Kristian, M0SSK and Peter, M0PSD assisted 20 Cubs in working towards their Communicator badges (above). Armed with handhelds, a Morse trainer and a Slim Jim, the team from the Chelmsford ARS set up the demonstrations. They let the enthusiastic Cubs have a try with a Morse key (sending an SOS), before sending a short greetings message through the local repeater, where Steve, G8UDD was happy to make contact with the youngsters. At the end, CARS presented the Cubs with certificate to commemorate the event. Photo courtesy Kristian, M0SSK.



Bejoy, 2E0KFG inspired by his father (a physics teacher) has built a teaching aid to show the effects of resistors in series and parallel, with plans to add extra components like capacitors in the future and demonstrate their different characteristics. This teaching aid will help beginners and RAE students at Thames Amateur Radio Group to understand the fundamentals.



Peterborough & District ARC took part in JOTA with 2nd St Peters Scouts. Using two 26ft masts with an offset multi band HF antenna and a 2m/70cm collinear, the IC-7400 was used for VHF and TS-590SG for HF. Scouts were also given a talk about communication and coached on the phonetic alphabet, Morse code and greetings messages. There was also a demonstration station set up for data transmission and a DMR set up in the second training room. Over 40 Scouts took part and more than 50 contacts were made with some coming back several times to pass their messages. The final station worked was HB9S/J, the World Scout Bureau in Geneva. Tony, G0IAG gave a talk about sending CW without a radio. He gave a brief history of how the armed forces throughout the last 150 years or more have used mirrors and lamps to send messages bringing a display of heliograph's, trench signalling and Aldis lamps and military signalling torches, mostly working.

**REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS**

Peter, M0XKF received the Harold Chadwick, G8ON Cup from Martin, M0ZMF. It is awarded to a Workshop ARS member giving outstanding service to the Society. Peter has been a long term Treasurer and then Trustee of the Society, and the club is very grateful for all Peter has done for the Society. He retired as a Trustee in 2017 and will remain a life member of Workshop ARS.