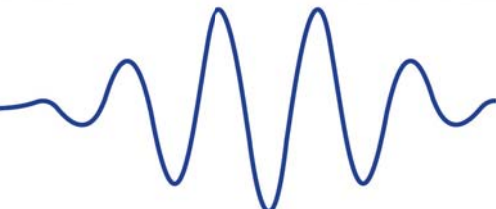




Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



# Affiliated Clubs Newsletter

July 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)

## The RSGB Board – stronger strategy links and responsibilities

The RSGB's Strategy 2022 has been in place for a year now and is already affecting various aspects of what we do. With major changes to the Board we now have three new Directors, including a new Chair, and we also have a new President. There has also been a major rethinking of the Volunteer Leadership Team. Taken together it seemed a good opportunity for the Board to reflect on how its own organisation could be improved to deliver the Society's strategic priorities. These priorities are:



- **Growth** – grow and develop amateur radio
- **Participation** – support and encourage active participation in amateur radio
- **Research** – promote active involvement in research and technical development
- **Diversity** – encourage and respect the full range of amateur radio activities, in all its diversity
- **Membership** – increase the proportion of radio amateurs who are members of the RSGB
- **Recognition** – support, encourage and recognise our volunteers and staff
- **Organisation** – ensure that the RSGB is an effective, efficient and flexible organisation that works with and listens to our members, clubs and special interest groups to meet the changing needs of the amateur radio community.

This is an ambitious list but you might notice that these priorities depend on one another. For example, **Growth**, **Participation** and **Diversity** overlap in various ways. Membership depends at least in part on having people who **Participate** in amateur radio; it benefits from **Recognition** and also requires the RSGB to be well-organised at all levels.

The Board believes that the best way to ensure progress in all the priorities is to have one Board member take the lead for each priority. This ensures that decisions taken by the Board will have been reviewed for their full strategic potential. The aim is to encourage thinking that goes beyond our continuing roles as Board Liaison Members for Committees. It will allow us to create initiatives which target certain priorities in a more imaginative way. For example, the Training and Education Committee and the Youth Committee recently cooperated to have a presence at the UK Maker Faire 2018. This directly addresses **Participation** and **Diversity** but also feeds in to **Growth**. In future, each Board member will be able to look at any initiative to see what we can improve to get the most benefit for their Strategy priority.

The Society already carries out and supports a wide range of activities that fit within its Strategic priorities. However, the Board will now have a better overview of all of these and, together, will be able to offer a more joined-up approach to achieving the Society's goals. If the Board decided to launch a new project to boost the growth and development of amateur radio, it could approach this in a different way, precisely because there is an established amateur radio community. For example, the RSGB Convention includes lots of talks covering aspects of amateur radio that you may not yet have tried. As a result, many attendees will be inspired to try something new. This is **Diversity** in action but, with additional support, it could also allow the new experience of those delegates to feed into the clubs. This would address **Participation** and, by encouraging more people to train and join, also addresses **Growth**.

### Board Directors and the strategic priorities they lead:

- Ian Shepherd, G4EVK: Recognition
- Len Paget, G00NX: Diversity
- Simone Wilson, M0BOX: Membership
- Mark Jones, G0MGX: Growth
- Philip Willis, M0PHI: Organisation
- Stewart Bryant, G3YSX: Research
- Keith Haynes, G3WRO: Participation

***“ensures that decisions taken by the Board will have been reviewed for their full strategic potential”***

If we foster initiatives which bring together the expertise of a mix of our Committees, our Honorary Officers and our Regional Teams, while ensuring that what we do specifically addresses some of our Strategic Priorities, then the very substantial effort of all of our volunteers will be amplified for the future benefit of amateur radio as a whole.

Philip Willis, M0PHI, RSGB Board Director

## RSGB Amateur Radio Observation Service

Recently the RSGB's Amateur Radio Observation Service (AROS) has received reports of people using 2m FM to exchange work-related messages. Typically these are people who drive some sort of a vehicle contacting their offices. These all appear to be in the south of England. In some cases they are straightforward intruders, but in others what appear to be legitimate amateur radio callsigns have been heard. Clause 1 of the Amateur Licence specifically prohibits usage for “commercial purposes of any kind”. In this respect our licence is much more restrictive than, for example, CB, PMR446, or any form of commercial PMR.

Another common theme in reports received by AROS is stations failing to identify clearly with their callsigns. The onus is on the licensee to ensure that their station can be identified quickly if, for example, a technical fault is resulting in interference to an important service. So the full callsign should be given, not just the suffix, clearly and distinctly, preferably using phonetics on voice modes. The recommended phonetic alphabet is given in note (b) of the licence.

Separately, we have received a letter from John, G0KRR, who believes his callsign has been pirated “for some considerable time”. He asks us to spread the word that although he is still interested in our hobby he has not transmitted for at least fifteen years.

## Four new Regional Managers

We're delighted to welcome

John Pritchard, MW0JWP

(previously DRM 112) as RM6;

Keith Bird, G4JED

(previously DRM106) as RM10;

Martin Sables, G7NTY

(previously DRM112) as RM11, and

Peter Onion, G0DZB

(previously DRM123) as RM 12.

Our thanks go to Ceri Jones, 2W0LJC, Mick Senior, G4EFO, Pam Helliwell, G7SME and Keith Haynes, G3WRO who supported radio amateurs in these regions for many years.



## Legacy funds in action

RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB dropped into the ASRA Radio Rally in Glasgow on his way back from the Camb-Hams G3PYE/P DXpedition to Islay. At the rally he met David Searle from CQ Scotland, who was running a Buildathon with Mid Lanarkshire ARS. The RSGB Legacy Fund has supported CQ Scotland's innovative construction-led initiatives to draw young people to technology and amateur radio and it was great to see this in action at the Rally. The Buildathon also used soldering equipment funded by the RSGB Legacy Fund. The Legacy Committee is always looking for interesting projects which develop amateur radio and make it more accessible. There are guidelines and an application form online at [www.rsgb.org/legacy-committee](http://www.rsgb.org/legacy-committee)



## RSGB Board roles



Each RSGB Board Director provides a liaison function between the Board and the various aspects of the Society's work. From this year, each Board Director

will also take the lead for one of the Society's Strategic priorities: Growth, Participation, Research, Diversity, Membership, Recognition and Organisation. This ensures that decisions taken by the Board will have been reviewed for their full strategic potential. The areas have now been confirmed for the new Board – you can see the list on our website at [www.rsgb.org/board](http://www.rsgb.org/board)

Board Director Philip Willis, MOPHI explains more about the Board Directors' strategic roles in this month's Strategy Editorial on P6.

## NRC welcomes club visits

The RSGB's National Radio Centre Coordinator Martyn Baker, G0GMB gave an introductory talk about the NRC to the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Club, MKARC. This was followed by an 'open door' session where the club members went to look at the facilities and operate the NRC station, GB3RS. The evening was enjoyed by all and, surprisingly, despite the close proximity, many of MKARC's members hadn't previously been to the NRC. Martyn hopes that this will be the first of a series of 'club visits' to the NRC. If your club is interested in arranging a visit, please email Martyn via [martyn.baker@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:martyn.baker@rsgb.org.uk)



Photo courtesy of Andy Roberts, M0GYK.

## Latest RSGB 2017 Convention presentation released

Software Defined Radio is not new but improvements in design and cost reductions mean that it is rapidly becoming mainstream technology for discerning radio amateurs. SDR is as much a disruptive technology as were the advent of semiconductors or synthesisers. It is said that in five years it will no longer be possible to buy a new radio that is not SDR. In his presentation "SDR – the station of the future", John Linford, G3WGV looks at what SDR offers us as radio amateurs and what our stations might look like in a few years' time. The presentation is available in our online video portal at [www.rsgb.org/video](http://www.rsgb.org/video)

### RSGB Privacy Policy

We have updated our Privacy Policy in line with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) that came into force on Friday, 25 May. You can find it on our website at [www.rsgb.org/privacy-policy](http://www.rsgb.org/privacy-policy)

## Calcutta Key presented at Dayton

RSGB Board member Stewart Bryant, G3YSX is seen here awarding a glass trophy representing the RSGB Calcutta Key to Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, who was representing the Dayton Amateur Radio Association. The presentation was in recognition of DARA's efforts in running Hamvention for so many years and making it the premier amateur radio event in the world. Stewart said: "The Calcutta Key is one of the top RSGB awards and is presented each year to a person or organisation in recognition of outstanding work associated with international friendship through amateur radio. This year it is awarded to the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, who, every year since 1952 have sponsored and organised the Dayton Hamvention. As you all know, this event brings in amateurs from across the world and welcomes participants in every aspect of amateur radio."



## RSGB at Friedrichshafen

RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB said, "It was a busy Ham Radio 2018 event in Friedrichshafen and we welcomed members, visitors and other



National Societies from around the world to the RSGB stand. RSGB representatives attended IARU briefings and ICQ Podcast interviewed Board Chair, Ian Shepherd, G4EVK and Youth Committee Chair, Mike Jones, 2EOMLJ."

Following the very successful Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) 2017 held in the UK that brought together 80 young people from 26 countries, IARU Region 1 YOTA 2018 will be held in South Africa. The YOTA flag was handed over from the UK to South Africa at Ham Radio 2018 in Friedrichshafen and, in doing so, marked the official opening of YOTA 2018. This year's YOTA will see participants taking place in a train-the-trainer event designed to show them how to create events for young radio amateurs in their own country.



## QSL Matters

When did you last check your information at QRZ.com? Is your callsign accessible and the contact information correct? It would be a great help to our volunteer team if all QSLing Members would re-visit their web presence, ensure that their contact information and email address are current and their QSL preferences made clear. It only takes a moment to check. While you're at it, why not check some of the other online callbooks at the same time? None of these are run by the RSGB so we're unable to influence them in any way.

The Brazilian QSL Bureau has a new address for all cards in the ranges PP-PY and ZV-ZZ. It is now Liga de Amadores Brasileiros de Radio Emissão – LABRE SP, PO Box 79.473, CEP: 03089-970 São Paulo – SP, BRAZIL.

There are often changes to international QSL bureau information so it's a good idea to download a complete list of available bureaux at least once a year, as not all locations are covered worldwide. You'll find the list at [www.iaru.org/qsL-bureaus.html](http://www.iaru.org/qsL-bureaus.html)

### Congratulations

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

<b>70 Years</b>	Mr L Miller, G3YEQ
Stoke-on-Trent ARS, G3GBU	Mr D Smith, G4DAX
	Mr MN Fagg, G4DDY
	Mr W J Brooks, G4DTT
	Mr R Waterman, G4KRW
<b>60 Years</b>	Mr G Peck, G4OIG
Mr J R Shewan, G3UZB	Mr DR Tanswell, G6LAU
	J A Shepherd, G8BQA
<b>50 Years</b>	Mr D F Gray, GJ3XOJ
Mr J Tourmier, G3INZ	Mr D J Long, RS30485
Mr H V Ashford, G3WGY	Mr W Grant, RS30501
Mr A S Flather, G3XMK	

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 Krysiak, 2E0IWO	Mr P Marinaccio, K1PJR	Mr M L Love, KG5MDL	Mr A Cowan, MM6VPM	Mr L Black, RS317931
Mr B Fitchett, 2E0WEI	Ms A Slack, K2EZ	Mr M Ostrowski, K18IK	Mr J Toole, N1RU	Mr L Jones, RS317938
Mr R Scott, 2E1AQT	Mr R Schwartz, K8HEF	Mr J Novak, KK4QYM	Mr R Weidman, N3OAW	Mr D Franchino, RS317959
Mr P OHara, 2M0IPO	Mr S Lubbers, K8LX	Mr M Gunderson, KK6BXQ	Mr K Nason, N4XL	Mr P Dopson, VE3H2Q
Mr O Bostrom, AB1TT	Mr W Mathews, K8NQ	Mr G Davis, KK6YO	Mr S Rainey, N6MVX	Mr T Mauroids, VE3ODH
Mr A L Yessel, AB3CE	Mr E Abel, K8RCT	Mr B Spangler, KN4ETD	Mr M Schlesinger, N6NNI	Mr K Clarke, VE7BC
Mr M Crownover, AB5EB	Mr M Kosta, K8VCP	Ms D Gordon, KN7NUR	Mr B Fitchew, N6VOH	Mr J Orleff, W0FAA
Mr J Wilson, AC8NT	Mr R Terrell, K9BCT	Mr H Saethre, LA9LT	Mr R Shaddick, N7BU	Mr S Goldsmith, W1HS
Mr B Slovick, AD0HI	Mr D Gahimer, K9ZCE	Mr T Witherspoon, MOCYI	Mr M Lunati, N7OEI	Mr P Erickson, W1PJE
Ms L MacLennan, AF1R	Mr J Bowers, KAOSER	Mr A Mills, MOIKU	Mr N Young, N8IJN	Mr S Seidel, W2FCC
Mr R Gully, AK3Q	Ms A Rothcock, KB1PYV	Mr L Dettman, M0INM	Mr P Andrews, N8NYI	Mr W Gromen, W3WEG
Mr P Robinson, G0SDM	Mr J Hein, KB36MD	Dr K J Singh, M0IOV	Mr W Hannon, N8PW	Mr D Lynch, W4DBL
Mr P Devlin, G1SMP	Mr M Durket, KB6VN	Mr P Johnson, M1BCV	Mr M Blake, N9KLM	Mr J Perkins, W4SWV
Mr K Dearing, G3XVX	Mr K Stanelle, KB9SNE	Mr C Wilkinson, M6KZB	Mr T Gahimer, N9WQO	Mr H Patterson, W5VY
Mr D Madden, G4ZPI	Mr D Robbins, KC2MB	Mr A Bent, M6KZD	Mr W Whitfield, RS317091	Mr D Seckel, W8GWI
Mr A Godbold, G6GIR	Mr J Shannon, KC4WZB	Mr S Kembrey, M6LPX	Mr R Young, RS317192	Mr D Suffel, W8HFJ
Mr G Cooke, G6LFT	Mr D Tracy, KC9RH	Mr R Phillips, M6NJJ	Mr D Munster, RS317215	Mr R St John, W8RSJ
Mr D Hall, G8CLT	Mr J Wright, KC9WOM	Mr P Austin, M6NLT	Mr A Brown, RS317227	Mr T Ryan, W8SAI
Mr G Newstead, G8EKG	Ms S Sims, KD0ODN	Mr P McGee, M6NXL	Mr R Wilson, RS317262	Mr A Conn, W8XY
Mr D McKinney, G14MXW	Mr M Ladd, KD2KOG	Mrs J Rayner, M6OEY	Mr L Rowe, RS317263	Mr M Lea, W9MRL
Mr H Mattinson, GM1CUC	Mr R Anderson, KD87YO	Mr H Peare, M6OFK	Mr A Lucas, RS317305	Dr L Plumb, WA2TZY
Mr S Gruber, HB9FXL	Mr D Casler, KE0OG	Mr I Holden, M6OHD	Mr D Marshall, RS317318	Mr M Mackey, WA3MMM
Mr B Borsert, HB9QO	Mr M Newhall, KE8CEI	Mr J Holley, M6OHT	Mr M Groetz, RS317372	Mr V Klein, WA4THR
Mr R Meneghini, IK3TCH	Mr W Hill, KE8GGH	Mr Z Mansell, M6OJV	Ms J Greer, RS317630	Mr R Phillips, WA9MTH
Mr R Blocksome, KODAS	Mr R Ohrenberg, KE8GWX	Mr G Grace, M6RYT	Mr G Broadhead, RS317791	Mr C Agosti, WD8AXA
Mr D Buhrman, KODSP	Mr D Calloway, KE8IZY	Mr S Peare, M6UGF	Mr B Taylor, RS317806	Mr R Landers, W1OT
Mr P Stephenson, KOPWS	Mr J Pandzik, KE9PK	Mr E Burford, M6XEB	Mr G Meadows, RS317808	Mr R Metcalf, WR9V
Mr J Lenahan, KORW	Mr D Wilson, KF7Z	Mr J Walker, M6XLE	Mr A Tyrrell, RS317810	Mr T Graf, WV8TG
	Mr J W Nollenberger, KG0AJ	Mr N Irving, M6XNI	Mr M Burden, RS317874	Mr J M Vazquez, XE1EFQ
	Mr A Wicks, KG4ZSM	Ms S Rogers, M6ZRJ	Mr C McConnochie, RS317926	

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

Mr K A Jones, 2E0AWO	Mr M Grindrod, G4EDY	Dr D R Kirkby, G8WRB	Mr K Seibert, KS8J	Mr M Edwards, M10GJN
Mr J Cahill, EI6BT	Mr C Moulding, G4HYG	Mr E Smith, GW4VTG	Mr D Gibbs, KT3E	Mr S Harvey, MM0HUF
Mr S Jeffery, G0LAP	Mr I K Weston, G4UAQ	Mr B Blain, K1BG	Mr P Hayes, M0PIT	Mr T Thomas, MW3VJN
Mr K Pay, G1EGE	Mr J T Allsopp, G4YDM	Mr J D Murray, K1NSS	Mr M Lewis, M0XMX	Mr B Steffey, NY9H
Mr P Bruce, G1FJH	Mr C Shroff, G6FZR	Mr J Huggins, K8HUG	Mr C O'Broin, M0ZCO	Mr O Frederiksen, OY1OF
Mr D A Keable, G1ICA	Mr N H Deacon, G7KMK	Mr B Knapp, K9MHZ	Mr D Willson, M3ITK	Mr J Checketts, RS195522
Mr C Jeffery, G3JLK	Mr J Batten, G8BIJ	Mr W J Deegan, K9XT	Mr J Mckie, M6MKM	Mr R Kreuter, WA3ENK



## 1000<sup>th</sup> Altberg SOTA activation

The 631m ASL summit of Altberg, in Switzerland, Summits on the Air (SOTA) reference HB/ZH-015, was activated for the 1000<sup>th</sup> time on 22 March 2018 by Juerg Allemann, HB9BAB. Over 960 of the thousand activations were by Juerg himself!

The only other SOTA summit in the world to be into four figures is The Cloud, G/SP-015, in North West England on the Cheshire/Staffordshire border. This has been activated for SOTA over 1450 times, with Tom Read, M1EYP responsible for over 1000 of those.

See [www.sota.org.uk](http://www.sota.org.uk) for further information about the SOTA amateur radio awards programme.

## RSGB at the Palace

RSGB General Manager Steve Thomas, M1ACB, HQ PA Joy Burrells, M6LRM, RSGB former Chairman Graham Murchie, G4FSG and his wife Jenny (not pictured) were invited to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday the 5th of June.

Blessed by good weather, they mingled with other guests and saw their hosts, His Royal Highness Prince Charles, Prince of Wales KG, Her Royal Highness Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, GCVO and Her Royal Highness Anne, Princess Royal, KG.



## NARSA Rally at Blackpool

The weather was kind to those travelling from far and wide to the Northern Amateur Radio Societies Association (NARSA) rally back in April. The myriad traders and private stalls, club stands and other points of interest were all in the main hall this year. One club exhibitor was the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society, VMARS, staffed by club volunteers. They displayed many items including an AN-GRC-9 with LV-80 linear amplifier, a WS19HP, WS18 and WS88 plus an early American tube tester. The highlight was a homebrewed QRO VFO-controlled AM transmitter by Bronek, MODAF, who went on to win the Constructors' Contest. *[There are more reports on the rally in Around Your Region – Ed].*



Members of VMARS and visitors gather at their NARSA rally stand.

## Special Event news

GB5RC will be run by the Martello Tower group from the Radio Caroline ship MV Ross Revenge from 3 to 5 August. More details, including how to visit, are on page 91.

The Norwegian Radio Relay Liga has been issued special call **LM90NRRL** for its 90th anniversary, valid for the whole of 2018.

This call is available for one week at a time to local radio clubs or individuals representing their club.

Durham and District Amateur Radio Society is participating from Durham as a bonus station, **GB13COL**, for the 13 Colonies special event. Activity will be continuous (24h) from 1300UTC on Sunday July 1 to 0400UTC on Sunday the 8th, primarily on HF SSB, CW and digital, plus local activity on VHF/UHF.

### News in Brief

SOTA-LINK is an experimental 'back-channel' to support SOTA activations. Devised and developed by Richard, G3HGI, it uses WIRES-X room 44050, which is connected to the Macclesfield System Fusion gateway MB6SO (144.8375MHz) and linked to the Brandmeister DMR server TG973, thus allowing access via DMR. Other modes may be added in the future. SOTA-LINK contacts are not valid for SOTA awards, but they can help set up contacts and aid safety.

Graham, G8NWC (RSGB DRM135 for Lincolnshire) and Andrew, G8BYB, Lead Trainer for Spalding DARS gave a presentation on amateur radio to the U3A. An audience of 150 was taken through the various aspects of the hobby including how to listen, how to get a licence, and the various bands and modes. Most were surprised at our hobby's diversity and the ISS provided a big focal point.

Nick Peckett, G4KUX was interviewed by his local paper about his amateur radio activities. The article shows our hobby in a very good light and can be seen on his Facebook page or [tinyurl.com/G4KUX-paper](http://tinyurl.com/G4KUX-paper)

The FT8 Digital Mode Club (FT8DMC) was founded last July by Jo, OE4VIE and Hannes, OE1SGU/OE3SGU. It has grown to almost 5300 club members and there are over 7000 people on the Facebook group. The club runs an extensive programme of over 30 awards and so far over 28,000 have been given. All the awards are sent as PDF/JPG and are available free via UltimateAAC (see [www.epc-mc.eu](http://www.epc-mc.eu)) using electronic log uploads (eg in ADIF format). Only contacts made in FT8 count for these awards. More information is at [www.ft8dmc.eu](http://www.ft8dmc.eu)

This edition of *RadCom* is more feature- and picture-led than usual because a key member of the editing staff is seriously ill. This has also had an impact on GB2RS and amateur radio technical support from HQ. We wish them a speedy and complete recovery. In addition to getting invaluable help from a number of other RSGB staff (and even former *RadCom* Editors) we have now recruited a part-time temporary assistant who should help us provide a nearer-to-normal service whilst our colleague is poorly.

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 August issue is 20 June and for September it's 20 Aug. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am Thursday on the week of broadcast.

## CLUB EVENTS CALENDAR

### INTERNATIONAL

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

**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,**  
Rallies July: Elvaston Castle & Newstead Abbey

### REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

RM: Anthony Miles, MM0TMZ, RM1@rsgb.org.uk

**Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC**  
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723, www.cpsarc.com  
7-8 VHF field day  
28-29 RSGB IOTA Contest from Tiree

**Livingston and District Amateur Radio Society**  
Cathie, 2MODIB, 01506 433 846  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Operating

### REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES

RM: Andrew Burns, MM0CXA, RM2@rsgb.org.uk

**Dundee ARC**  
Martin, 2MOKAU, 0776 370 8933  
3 VHF contest & practical evening  
7-8 VHF NFD  
10, 13, 14 Operating MB18FIFA  
17 Equipment prep session  
19-22 Operating GB2BAJ  
24, 31 Club night

**Inverness & District ARS**  
John, GM00TI, 01463 791 444  
4 Club net, 145.575MHz & GB3BI, 8pm  
11, 25 Club night & CW training

### REGION 3: NORTH WEST

RM: Kath Wilson, M1CNY, RM3@rsgb.org.uk

**Bolton Wireless Club**  
boltonwireless@gmail.com  
9 Club meeting and talk  
23 RSGB video, Selecting a VHF/UHF Radio,  
Alwyn Seeds, G8DOH

**Chester & DRS**  
Bruce, M0CVP, 01244 343 825,  
www.chesterdars.org.uk  
3 UKAC contest  
10 Committee meeting  
17 Annual review of the society's assets  
24 ZS6BKW Mk2 & use of Smith charts  
31 Pie and pint night

**Morecambe Bay ARS**  
Mark, MONOM, 07917 653 012  
3 RSGB VHF 2m contest basics  
10 Social evening  
17 How accurate is your multimeter?  
Mark, M0FUC

24 Social evening  
31 Logging tools and techniques

**Oldham Radio Club**  
Mike, M1CVL, 0740 276 3203,  
m1cvl@burwood.myzen.co.uk  
1, 15, 29 C4FM net, FCS004-55, 9.30am  
4, 11, 18, 25 2m FM net, 8pm  
5 Construction comp & Intermediate course  
8, 22 D-Star net – REF 14B  
12, 19 Club night & Intermediate course  
22 RAF 100 years SES with Royton ATC  
26 Construction & Intermediate course

**South Manchester R&CC**  
Ron, G3SVW, 01619 693 999  
5 Aerial and propagation clinic, G3SVW  
12 Discovery of the neutron, G8RSI  
19 Basic aerial construction  
26 History of valves, G8ZCJ

**Stockport Radio Society**  
Heather, M6HNS, 07506 904 422,  
info@g8srs.co.uk  
3 Society night  
6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 2pm, 433.525MHz FM  
6 Rally prep night  
7 Rally  
8 SES at AVRO Air Fair  
10 Net, 7.30pm, 51.550MHz FM  
12, 25 Net, 7.30pm, 145.375MHz FM  
17 Radio night  
24 Skills Night  
28-29 IOTA Contest + 24hr CW SSB contest

**Thornton Cleveleys ARS**  
John, G4FRK, 01253 862 810  
2 Natter night and practical evening  
7-8 VHF National Field Day  
9 Fox hunt  
16 Railway signalling, Mike, 2EOMKH  
18 Committee meeting  
23 Top Band antenna project  
30 Auction, run by Mike, G4EZM

**Warrington Amateur Radio Club**  
Jeff, G1DYN, secretary@warc.org.uk  
31 Club night

### REGION 4: NORTH EAST

RM: Ian Douglas, G7MFM, RM4@rsgb.org.uk

**Angel of the North ARC**  
Nancy, G7UUR, 01914 770 036,  
nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk  
2 Training, on the air  
16 Talk  
23, 30 On the air

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

**Denby Dale RC**  
Darran, G0BWB, 0797 442 3227,  
g0bwb@g0bwb.com  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, GB3HD, 10.30am  
4, 18 Club night  
28-29 IOTA contest from Holy Island

**Hornsea ARC**  
Gordon, G3W0V, 01377 240 573  
4 Talk by M1ASR

11 RSGB Club Contest & video night  
16 G3GBH Cup quiz at SARS  
18 Fox hunt with G4YTV  
25 Administrative prep for IOTA contest  
28-29 IOTA contest

**Ripon & DARS**  
David, G3UNA, 01423 860 778,  
d.cutter@ntlworld.com  
5, 12, 29, 26 Club night

**Sheffield & District Wireless Society**  
Krystyna, 2E0KSH, 0788 406 5375,  
info@sheffieldwireless.org  
4 Getting going on FT8, Bill, G4ZVB  
7-8 G5TO/P, Wharcliffe Est., VHF NFD  
11, 25 Social & training night  
18 Portable evening

**Sheffield ARC**  
David, G6DCT, littlewood20@btinternet.com  
2, 16, 30 Club night  
9, 23 Shack night operating GX3RCM

**Spenn Valley ARS**  
Russell, G0FOI, 01274 875 038  
5, 19 Shack meeting  
19 On the air night

**York Radio Club**  
www.yorkradioclub.uk,  
contactus@yorkradioclub.uk  
1 Breakfast meeting, 10am  
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 8pm, 145.450MHz  
5, 12, 29, 26 Club night, 8pm

### REGION 5: WEST MIDLANDS

RM: Martyn Vincent, G3UKV, RM5@rsgb.org.uk

**Bromsgrove & DARC**  
John, G40JS, 0788 9678 303  
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night

**Coventry ARS**  
John, G8SEQ, 0795 877 7363  
6 Reflections on Victor 5 visit  
13 Castles on the Air, Kenilworth Castle  
20 G2FDC 2m DF Trophy 3rd round  
27 Video night

**Malvern Hills RAC**  
Dave, G4IDF, 01905 351 568  
10 Talk on the Salop Repeater Network, by  
Dave, G4VZO  
24 Informal meeting

**Mid-Warwickshire ARS**  
midwarwicks@gmail.com  
10 DF experiments, MOJDB  
24 Technical topics

**Rugby ATS**  
Steve, G8LYB, 01788 578 940,  
stephen@tompsett.net  
3, 10, 17 UKAC, CW practice, training,  
operation, projects  
6 VHF NFD setup  
7-8 VHF NFD  
14 On the air, projects, NFD post mortem  
21 On the air, projects, committee meeting  
21 Barbecue, on the air, projects  
24, 31 On air, CW practice, training, projects



## Salop ARS

salopamateurradio@gmail.com  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Club CW net, 4.30pm, 144.070MHz  
4, 11, 18, 25 Club net, 8.30pm, GB3LH  
5 Prep for NFD  
7-8 VHF NFD at Long Mountain site  
12 Natter night  
19 Pedestrian fox hunt  
26 Shack night, G3SRT on the air

## Solihull Amateur Radio Society

Roger Hancock, G4BBT, 0121 743 7277  
5, 12, 26 Net, 8pm, 145.450MHz  
19 Club night

## Stratford upon Avon & District RS

Clive, G0CHO, 01608 664 488, cousbey@theiet.org  
23 Construction competition

## Sutton Coldfield ARS

Robert, rob2e0zap@gmail.com  
2, 16, 30 Open net, on 145.250MHz, 7.30pm  
9, 23 Club meeting  
10 Open net, 70.475MHz, 7.30pm  
14 Club call on the air for demo at Middleton Village Fete, 1pm  
24 DMR open net, slot/local 2 gb7fw, 7.30pm

## Telford & DARS

John, M0JZH, 0782 473 7716, m0jzh@yahoo.co.uk  
4 VHF NFD prep  
7-8 G3ZME/p for VHF NFD, I082NN  
11 Committee meeting, GX3ZME OTA

## REGION 6: NORTH WALES

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

### North Wales Radio Society

Liz, GWOETU, 0776 019 0355  
5 General meeting  
12 Technical Topic  
19 Discussion night  
26 Talk on 'The Hum' by Dr Chris Barnes

### Porthmadog and District ARS

Peter, GWODFK, 0773 177 1319  
19 Treasure hunt

### Wrexham ARS

Eifion, wrexham.ars@gmail.com  
3 Fox hunt  
7-8 VHF National Field Day  
17 FT8 & JT64, Mark Harper, MW1MDH

## REGION 7: SOUTH WALES

RM: Glyn Jones, GW0ANA, RM7@rsgb.org.uk

### Aberystwyth & DARS

Ray, GW7AGG, 01970 611 853, ray@clocktower.go-plus.net  
12 Barbecue, HF on the air  
26 Club net, starting on 145.500MHz

### Carmarthen ARS

Andy, GW0JLX, 0776 828 2880  
17 NITROX scuba diving, Andy, GW0JLX

### Cleddau Amateur Radio Society

Heinz, MW0ECY, 0774 804 7008  
2, 23 Barbecue at new venue, Patrick Hill  
16 Financial meeting

## Llanelli ARS

Steve, MW6CCG, 0787 849 4337, williams-stein12@sky.com  
2, 23 Social evening  
9 On the air & raffle  
16 DVD night  
30 Junk sale & raffle

## REGION 8: NORTHERN IRELAND

RM: Philip Hosey, M10MSO, RM8@rsgb.org.uk

### Bangor & DARS

Harry, G14JTF, 0289 042 2762  
7 Rally

## REGION 9: LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

### Aylesbury Vale RS

avrs@rakewell.com  
11 Discussion evening

### Hammersmith ARS

m0xhs@outlook.com  
5, 19 Club net, 8pm, GB3LW  
6, 27 Club night and on the air  
13 Nicolai Telsa, Brian, G3YKB  
27 Polish radio in WWII, Peter, G3YXZ

### Harwell ARS

John, G6LNU, 01235 223 250, john.g6lnu@virginmedia.com  
12 DF hunt

### Milton Keynes ARS

Phil, G4FVZ, 0780 263 6998  
9 RSGB update, Steve Thomas, RSGB GM.  
Other clubs welcome  
16 Discussion: ham radio websites

### Newbury & DARS

Rob, G4LMW, 0797 088 5614, g4lmw@btconnect.com  
21 Summer barbecue

### Radio Society of Harrow

Linda, G7RJL, lcasey100@outlook.com  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Club net, 1938kHz LSB, noon  
5, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 145.500MHz, 8.15pm  
6 Club night in the shack, 8pm  
20 Chinese handhelds & their history, Steve, G4WWK  
29 Outdoor event, Old Redding CP, 2-5pm

### Reading & DARC

Laurence, G2DD, 0758 470 6625, lozdjames@gmail.com  
12 Construction show & tell evening  
26 Investigating test equipment, 8pm

### Shefford & District ARS

David, G8UOD 01234 742 757, daveid.lloyd@ntlworld.com  
5 Public safety comms, Steve, G3ZPS  
13 IARU contest setup  
14 IARU contest  
15 IARU contest & takedown

### Silverthorn Radio Club

Robbie, M0HVC, 0742 913 1105, m0hvc@protonmail.com  
6, 13, 20, 27 Club night, 7.30pm

### Southgate ARC

Keith, G8RPA, g8rpa@arrl.net  
12 SpOTA

### Whitton Amateur Radio Group

Ian, G0OFN, 0776 565 7542  
6 RSGB Understanding Propagation video  
13, 20 Club night, HF / VHF on the air  
27 Prep for IOTA, social meeting in bar

## REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

RM: Michael Senior, G4EFO, RM10@rsgb.org.uk

### Bromley & DARS

Andy, G4WGZ, 01689 878 089  
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 145.500MHz and QSY, 9pm  
17 Show and Tell evening  
31 Club meal

### Chippenham & District ARC

secretary@g3vre.org.uk  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Intermediate training, club meeting  
29 CHIPPENHAM & DARC rally, electronics fair & car boot sale

### Crawley ARC

Richard, G3ZIV, 01342 843 545  
25 Communications on the QE2, Duncan Brooker

### Cray Valley RS

Dave, G8ZZK, 0773 954 9822  
5 Beginning SOTA, Richard Perzyna, G8ITB  
19 Minquies IOTA expedition & natter night

### Crystal Palace R&EC

Bob, G300U, 01737 552 170, g300u@aol.com  
4, 11, 18, 25 Net, 8pm, 145.525MHz ± QRM  
6 Compact VHF/UHF antennas, Bob, G300U and Damien, 2E0EUI

### Dorking & DRS

David, M6DJB, djb.abraxas@btinternet.com  
24 South Downs evening

### Farnborough & DRS

sec@farnboroughradio.org.uk  
11 Debrief from VHF NFD, natter night  
25 Talk by Derek, G3HEJ

### Folkestone Repeater Group

admin@folkestonerepeatergroup.org.uk  
4 Radio scanning talk

### Fort Purbrook ARC

Chris, G3WIE, g3wie@fparc.org.uk  
1 Fort Purbrook Family Fun Day demo  
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open net, 8pm, 144.275MHz  
7-8 HF operating & VHF NFD

### Hastings E&RC

Gordon, 01424 431 909  
1, 8 Net, 144.575MHz, 11am  
25 Bring & Buy, 7.30pm, Taplin Centre

### Hilderstone R&EC

Ian, 2E0DUE, secretary@g0hrs.org  
7-8 RSGB VHF NFD  
12 Club night  
26 Talk

### Hordean & DARC

Stuart, G0FYX, 02392 472 846, www.hdarc.co.uk  
6 Natter night  
20 Club night

### Mid-Sussex ARS

Peter, G4AKG, 01444 239 371  
6 Radio night & prep for VHF NFD  
13 Chairman's barbecue  
20 Radio night table top sale  
27 Treasure hunt / walking fox hunt

### North Kent Radio Society

Stephen, G8JZT, secretary@nkr.info, 0798 575 3370  
3 Natter night & club station on the air  
17 Talk by guest speaker

## Surrey Radio Contact Club

John, G3MCX, 020 8688 3322

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Net, 1905kHz, 9.30am
- 2 Annual barbecue
- 5, 12, 29, 26 Net, 70.300MHz, 8pm
- 6, 13, 20, 27 Net, 145.350MHz, 8pm
- 16 Chat and Fix-it, John, G8MNY

## Trowbridge & DARC

Ian, G0GRI, 01225 864 698, secretary@tdrac.uk

- 4 Building a simple beam antenna, G3ZXX, 7.45pm, admittance £2

## REGION 11: SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

RM: Pam Helliwell, G7SME, RM11@rsgb.org.uk

### Blackmoor Vale ARS

Keith, M0TMO, 01747 851 260

- 3, 10, 24, 31 Club evening
- 10 HF Propagation video

### Bristol RSGB Group

John, G4DVB, johnthomas@blueyonder.co.uk

- 30 Annual dinner

### Callington ARS

John, G4PBN, 01822 835 834, lumley85-cars@yahoo.co.uk

- 4 Club night

### Cornish Radio Amateur Club

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844 939, G7VOH@btinternet.com

- 4 Committee meeting
- 5 Main meeting
- 19 Social evening

### Exmouth Amateur Radio Club

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274 172

- 4 Digital, datamodes & computers pt 3
- 18 FM, D-Star, Fusion & DMR talk & demo

### Gordano Amateur Radio Group

Malcolm, G4KPM, mal@g4kpm.co.uk

- 25 Club night

### Mid Somerset ARC

David, 01749 670 085, info@midsarc.org.uk

- 9 EME, Brian, G4NNS
- 30 Afternoon social meeting

### North Bristol ARC

Mat, G7FBD, g7fbd@gb3bs.com

- 6 Sea Walls field ops evening
- 13 Spacecraft talk by Dennis
- 20 Relax, chat & operating
- 27 Video evening

### South Bristol ARC

Andrew, G7KNA, 0783 869 5471

- 5 Committee meeting, contact activation team
- 7-8 G4WAW/P for VHF NFD
- 9 Decommissioning NFD site
- 12 VHF NFD debrief
- 19 Summer BBQ
- 26 Open house and on air night

### Torbay ARS

John, G4VUD@tars.org.uk

- 6, 20 Club night
- 13 Club night, Business meeting
- 27 Colossus, Don, G4NNP

### Weston Super Mare RS

Martin, G7UWI, 01934 613 094, g7uwip@googlemail.co.uk

- 2, 9, 23, 30 Construction, Morse tuition, operating

## Yeovil ARC

Rodney, MORGE, 01935 825 791, rodney.edwards@uwclub.net

- 5 Direct conversion receivers, G3MYM
- 6, 20 Construction & on-air, Sparkford
- 12 Barbecue at Ham Hill
- 19 Morse practice, G3MYM
- 21 Coffee morning & tabletop sale, Sparkford
- 26 Problem solving and committee

## REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

RM: Keith Haynes, G3WRO, RM12@rsgb.org.uk

### Braintree & DARS

Edwin, GOLPO, 01376 324 031

- 3, 17, 31 Club net, 8pm, 145.375MHz
- 10 Construction contest
- 24 Aerial clinic evening

### Cambridge & DARC

Richard, G4AWP, 0770 229 5300

- 13 Summer Social, Foxton Village Hall

### Essex Ham

Pete, MOPSX, news@essexham.co.uk

- 1 Online Foundation course
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net on GB3DA, 8pm
- 7 Essex YL Net on GB3DA, 8pm

### Felixstowe & DARS

Paul, G4YQC, pjw@btinternet.com

- 11 Natter night
- 25 Felixstowe Beach operation

### Huntingdonshire ARS

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

- 12 Natter night
- 26 Talking to birds, Andy Dunham, G6OHM

### Loughton & Epping Forest ARS

Dave, M0MBD, 0798 016 5172, pro@lefars.org.uk

- 5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 144.725MHz, 8pm

### Lowestoft & District PYE ARC

secretary@ldparc.co.uk

- 5, 9, 19, 23, 26 Club evening, informal and operating
- 5 Sorting out weeds around the mound
- 12 Quarterly business meeting; film

### Norfolk ARC

Chris, GODWV, 01603 898 308, cmdanby@btinternet.com

- 4 WSPRlite & DXplorer.net, Richard Newstead, Sotabeams
- 11 Informal
- 18 Trophy fox hunt
- 25 Informal + Bright Sparks

### Peterborough & DARC

Alan, secretary@padarc.co.uk

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Net, 1.980MHz, 8pm
- 6, 17 Net, 145.400MHz, 8pm
- 7-8 Weekend radio camp

- 11 Natter night, planning Museums on the Air
- 25 Beam antenna design, Andy, MOPXY

## South Essex ARS

Terry, G1FBW, 07986 070 040

- 11 Log 40m software, Terry Genes, G4POP
- 22 Castle Point Show, Waterside, Canvey I

## Thurrock Acorns ARC

Gordon, MOWJL, acorns@taarc.co.uk

- 3 2m SSTV open net, RNLI SOS Month starts 5, 11, 12, 19, 26 club net, 7.30pm, 145.500MHz
- 17 Investigation of fatal collisions, Nigel, MOICH. Members only. NB: some may find this talk distressing

## REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS

Regional Manager: Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ

RM13@rsgb.org.uk

### Kettering & District ARS

Ed, MOTZX@yahoo.com

- 5, 12, 19, 26 Net, 7pm, 145.300MHz FM

### Lincoln Short-Wave Club

Pam, G4STO, 01427 788 356, pamelagrose@tiscali.co.uk

- 1 GB2CWP, East Kirkby Squadron Reunion, 10am, NAAFI
- 4 Nibble & natter night
- 5 Club net, GB3LM, 8pm
- 7 Surgery & open shack, 9.30am, VHF NFD
- 8 VHF National Field Day
- 11 10-minute talks by members
- 12, 26 Club net, 145.375 8pm
- 14 Mentoring & open shack, 9.30am, Boultham Summer Fair
- 16 Committee meeting
- 18 Formal meeting
- 19 Club net, GB3LS, 8pm
- 20 Induction & open shack, 9.30am
- 25 Club talk, 8.15pm
- 28 Open shack

### Nunsfield House ARG

Paul, G1SGZ, pr@nharg.org.uk

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Shack night
- 5, 12, 19, 26 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
- 6 Watching TX Factor
- 13 Animal photography, Ken, G3OCA
- 20 Tesla technology, Derek Woodroffe
- 27 Club & shack night, projects evening

### RAF Waddington ARC

Bob, G3VCA, 0797 116 6250

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Club net, 145.325MHz, 8pm
- 8, 13, 20, 27 Club night

### Welland Valley ARS

Peter, G4XEX, 01858 432 105, g4xex@fsmail.net

- 4 Club net, 8pm, 145.275MHz, PSK
- 16 DF Hunt in Welland Valley





**INTERNATIONAL**

Members of the Marconi Amateur Radio Circle in Malta have transformed their HQ into a place where all radio hams can come along & use the premises. The office and shack have been revamped and an extra floor has been put into the generous roof space. It contains, among other things, a sleeping area where one can rest while the others are DXing! There is still work to be done but we've made a great place for local and visiting amateurs. The club building has no mains electricity so we've installed solar pannels and a little wind turbine. We use a generator when we need more power, for example in the 2017 RSGB 80th Anniversary CW Contest, where we came 2nd in the Multi Operator Section. Thanks to Peter, G3TJE, Dave, G4CXQ and David, G3RXP gave us a helping hand during their holidays. Along with Field Days, barbecues and other social activities we had a Scout camp at the shack. We had ham visitors from many countries including the UK, Germany, Poland and Belgium, some making return visits. We are generously sponsored by EAntennas from Spain and would like to thank Rodrigo for donating a 3Bmox 10/15/20m 7-ele beam. Once it's up we'll take some photos. Meanwhile, why not visit our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/marcm1t/](http://www.facebook.com/marcm1t/), where you will be made most welcome, or drop in if you visit Malta!

**REGION 1: SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES**

Wigtownshire Amateur Radio Club held a 'Video Exploration' night on Thursday 19 April. Ian Macdonald, GM8AVM gave a talk on the various cameras available, ranging from mobile phones to professional video cameras. Members were invited to film an interview between Club Secretary Ian White, GM3SEK and Richard Hopkins, MM1BHO on their first encounters with amateur radio. It was a most enjoyable evening, and one that will certainly be repeated, not least because the interview was edited down to a DVD that will be screened at the club later in the year.



Photo by Nadine White, MMOWNW.

**REGION 2: SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES**



The Dundee club were actively taking part in the RNLI SOS week at the start and end of May. Thanks to all we talked to.

**REGION 3: NORTH WEST**

East Lancs Radio Club won the Club Stand competition at the recent NARSA rally. The club partnered with Retevis, a Chinese manufacturer of radio equipment, who also sponsored our raffle prizes. The new Ailunce HD1 DMR hand-held graciously donated by Retevis was won by Bill Harper, G4NVN. From left to right we see Brian Harper (Equipment Officer), M1CEM, Michael Hodgkinson (Treasurer), G4HCC, Neil Mooney (Chairman), MONFI, Peter Martin (Secretary), MONWI and Roger Padmore (Vice Chairman), G4MLB.



South Manchester Club also had an impressive stand at the NARSA rally in Blackpool.

Furness Amateur Radio Society moved its traditional January RNLI SOS event to the entire month of May. Members activated GB5LBC from Barrow Lifeboat Station for two weekends. The first weekend saw 109 QSOs, reaching 16 countries and three other lifeboat stations. Poor conditions on the second weekend allowed fewer than 50 QSOs on the Saturday, but did yield some /MM stations including a Tall Ship from Bergen that was located just off Shetland. The second Sunday brought the total tally to 213 QSOs. Mid-May brought Mills on the Air, for which we activated GB2GW at Gleaston Water Mill and made 80 QSOs, including 18 other MOTA stations. The club nights were well attended and included a very entertaining and informative talk by Mark, MONOM on SOTA. A portable evening on Birkrigg Common was well attended and included a 5.6GHz ATV sked so members could "see what all the fuss is about". Some 2-way ATV QSOs were made. Thanks to club members who took part and/or supported all events.

**REGION 4: NORTH EAST**

John Nowell, G4FUO gave a talk on practical HF antenna to members of York Radio Club. He covered different aspects of how to construct wire antenna, the difference between a balun and unun, plus comments on different types of antenna analyser. This was followed by a good question and answer session, when John was able to answer members' queries. Well done John: it was a great night. The club prides itself on being very proactive and has a variety of different activities planned for established and new members.



**REGION 7: SOUTH WALES**

Western Valleys RAYNET had a successful day of mast erecting (left), leaving them prepared for any call outs in the urban hills. They said that the fabulous weather was on their side.



## REGION 10: SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

On the 19th of May the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, Cllr Julia Soyke (see photo, right), was a special guest at a gala dinner held at the Spa Hotel in Tunbridge Wells, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of **West Kent Amateur Radio Society**. John Gould, G3WKL was also present and gave an address following that from the Mayor, recalling his earlier days and having been a member of the West Kent ARS back in the 60s. The current Society was formed in 1948, after the war, and a key figure who became President at the inaugural meeting – and remained in that post for 21 years – was Bert Allen MBE, G2UJ, who lived in Tunbridge Wells. Bert was a very active radio operator, designer and builder of radio equipment and wrote many technical articles for the RSGB magazine. Other founding members at that inaugural meeting in 1948 included Laurie King, G4IB and Frank Barnard, G4FB, both of whom were very active in directing the society's activities in the early years. Our current monthly meetings take place from 8pm at Bidborough Village Hall on the 2nd Monday. Full details are at [www.wkars.org.uk](http://www.wkars.org.uk)



**Chertsey Radio Club** ran the very special event callsign GR9HAM from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th May to celebrate the wedding of Harry and Meghan. The two-man effort of James, MOJFP and Bob, M6FLT managed 105 contacts on Saturday evening using 20 and 40m HF and one contact via the SO-50 satellite. They also used DMR on the Friday. They also gave away some points in the Sunday 2m SSB contest.

## REGION 11: ENGLAND SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLES

G4LZD was licenced in the early 1980s but went QRT in 1986. He had no intention of returning to the hobby until, by chance, in June 2017, he met up with old pal G4VHL, who had also been QRT until he returned around 2012. G4VHL persuaded G4LZD to come back to the hobby. They met each Friday with G3WCB, who had been a low-profile amateur in Dartmouth. Hence was born the very informal West Dart Radio Group. G3WGN, 2E0BXR and G4CST also joined; the group started meeting in a local garden centre with café facilities. They were all also members of Torbay Amateur Radio Society and were soon joined by a few more from that club for a chat and refreshments. At one of these meetings G4VHL brought along an old QSL card of G3JEV, the Dartmouth and District Amateur Radio Society, which had been active in the 1950s but folded in the 60s. In March the club persuaded G4LZD to apply to Ofcom to re-activate the callsign, with help from G3WCB and G4VHL. Ofcom were very helpful and re-issued the call, which first went on the air on 24 April 2018 via the group net on 28.400MHz SSB. This will become regular; more activity is being planned. All this came about as a result of one slight by chance encounter between two old amateur friends, both of whom had spent time QRT.

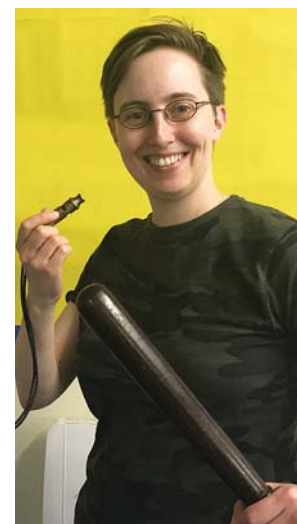


Riviera Amateur Radio Club in Torbay, Devon operated their annual special event station GB4LBW in support of SOS Radio Week, highlighting the work of the RNLI and the maritime emergency services. Husband and wife team Debbie, M6IXR and Phill, 2E0WZP (left) ran the HF and VHF stations respectively. They love to take part in special event station working. Also operating was Roy, M6XDV, who thrives on pile-ups. Getting Foundation licensees on the mic is a priority for Riviera ARC as nerves can stop otherwise keen new hams from enjoying the bands. Special events are a great way to capture the spirit of amateur radio and break the inertia of those first few contacts. The club provides Foundation and Intermediate training and exams.

Thornbury & South Gloucestershire ARC meets every Wednesday from 7.30pm at the Chantry in Thornbury. At a recent meeting most of the club members were involved in building R3500D direction finding units ready for trials to be held later in the year, whilst at the far end of the club room three or four were carrying out beacon tests ready for those field trials.

## REGION 12: EAST & EAST ANGLIA

The gorgeous warm May weather drew a large group of **Essex Hams** out for another impromptu field day at Galleywood Common. Several stations were active, running voice, data and, for the first time, FT8. As with most of the Essex Ham events, training and skills development is key, with people trying out new kit. The Essex Ham team was also active for the Royal Wedding weekend, running field days in Shoeburyness and Galleywood. The event gave members the chance to use the "R" NoV, and also to take part in the RSGB 144MHz contest. Andrew and Carl, two candidates working towards their first licence with Essex Ham's online course, also had the opportunity to get hands-on ahead of their exams. Andrew also had the chance to test a Raspberry Pi running FT8 using a homebrew data interface.



Amateur radio is all about communication, and at the May meeting of South Essex ARS the subject of emergency services comms was discussed. Presented by Steve Shorley, G3ZPS, the talk covered comms for the police, starting with rattles and whistles, right up to today's 4G-based emergency comms.

The photo shows Laura, M6LHT with a traditional police whistle and truncheon.



Peterborough and District ARC's April ended with an EGM for constitutional updates followed by the AGM, where Ron Smith, G4DXW, announced he was standing down after being Chairman for 41 years. A new Chairman, Tony, GOIAG was duly elected. After the formalities were completed, Ron was presented with the Frank Brisley Cup. Frank was one of the founders of PADARC and initiated the cup for members who had, in the eyes of the committee, done the most to help the club.

Following a well-attended AGM, the Loughton and Epping Forest ARS executive committee was elected back *en masse* except for the secretary Marc, who stepped down for health reasons after many years of sterling service. Marc will still be co-opted by the committee with special responsibilities for organising LEFARS training dates and exams. The Secretary's post has been filled by Dave Priest, MOVID. The month also saw an impromptu presentation on SDR by John Ray, D8DZH, Dave De La Haye, MOMBD and Dave 'Taz' Cutts, MOTAZ during a show & tell evening. Many members expressed an interest in the club putting on a 'clinic' to help people get set up with software and drivers to make their SDRs work! John, G8DZH and Dave, MOMBD gave a presentation detailing their excursion to the Netherlands for the Dutch Nation Hamfest at Rosmalen. The May Day bank holiday weekend saw the club at the Royal Gunpowder Mills for the VE Day event. John Mulye, GOVEH dusted off the extensive collection of military radios and vintage equipment whilst the permanent NOV GB2RGM was put to use, even if the poor condition of the bands meant there was hardly any business to be had.

The Martello Tower Group will once again be running special event station GB5RC from the Radio Caroline ship the *MV Ross Revenge* over the long weekend 3 to 5 August. Six boat trips have been organised out to visit the ship for a tour including studios, the transmitter room and so on, three trips each on Saturday and Sunday. Up to 11 visitors can be carried and the £275 cost is shared by participants, so a group of 11 would pay £25 each. Sailing times are 1.30, 4 and 6.30pm and each round trip is around 2½ hours from Mersey Island in Essex. The Group can't take individual bookings but clubs are invited to get together and share a trip, which must be paid in advance and is on a first come first served basis. Details are available from Paul, GOHWC on 0781 060 7766.



At the May meeting of Thames Amateur Radio Group, Mark MOIEO, gave a presentation on amateur satellites. He showed how mounting VHF and UHF antennas on a rod and tripod overcomes the limitation of only have two hands when needing to hold multiple bits of kit for the uplink and downlink. The wooden plinth in the middle is where the receiving radio is clipped. Mark's talk included a live demo on satellite tracking, accessing pass information from the AMSAT website, followed by a live demonstration of receiving a satellite communication from John, MOJRW in the car park. The next step is a Satellite field day at Hadleigh Country Park to attract club members and members of the public.



Dave, G6KWA on the mic at Willingham Smock Windmill.

Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club activated Willingham Smock Windmill as GBOCMW over the weekend of 12-13 May. The club's new tent was well tested with a downpour on Saturday afternoon, but dry weather prevailed on Sunday. SSB contacts were made, mainly on 80m, with 15 other Mills around the country, plus one in Holland. The club's remote station G2XV was also activated, but suffered technical problems on Saturday, resolved on Sunday allowing contacts as far afield as Moscow. It is thought that this is the 19th year the club has activated Willingham Smock Windmill and remains very grateful to the mill owner and his wife for their hospitality as well as the cream teas they provided.

REGION 13: EAST MIDLANDS



The winner of this year's construction competition at Spalding DARS was Nick, G4BMS (left) with his superbly constructed valve regenerative receiver for 160m. Much thought went into its design and construction; his attention to detail was a big talking point after the results were announced. This year's entries highlighted the fact that home construction is still undertaken by many people.

RAF Waddington ARC has a tradition where members bring cake to the club when they have had a recent birthday. With over 70 members and only 52 weeks in the year a lot of cake is eaten! The photo on the right shows Ben, MOORY, presenting his 'radio cake' to the club.

