



NH National Hamfest



National Hamfest

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE RSGB IN ASSOCIATION WITH LINCOLN SHORT WAVE CLUB

FRIDAY 2 AND SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2009

**George Stephenson Pavilion, Newark & Nottingham Showground,
Lincoln Road, Winthorpe, Newark NG24 2NY.**

NEW EVENT. 2009 sees a new event in the Rally Calendar. The National Hamfest will be a two-day event in the Midlands, with good road and rail links to the rest of the country. Lincoln Short Wave Club members are building on their experience to host the National Hamfest in association with the Radio Society of Great Britain. The National Hamfest will be the biggest radio event of the year in the East Midlands and will be held in the George Stephenson Hall at the Newark Showground. This is a huge, well-lit exhibition hall of almost three thousand square metres of exhibition space, allowing numerous spacious stands and wide aisles giving easy wheelchair access. All the major manufacturers and retailers have already agreed to have a significant presence with displays of all the latest gear. Small traders will be made very welcome too as will the specialist traders and special interest groups who will be setting up stands both inside and outside the halls. There will also be a large flea market and car boot area that can be pre-booked by clubs or individuals.

HISTORY. Around the time of their 35th Anniversary, Lincoln Short Wave Club decided to

organise a local 'Hamfest' in Lincoln for local operators to meet up. It was a pretty small affair with a flea market and demonstrations and the local John Birkett shop being the only commercial organisation in attendance. In 1980, the Lincoln club decided to organise a Hamfest again, but this time on a bigger scale. It was decided that the Lincolnshire Showground should be approached and the club was able to secure the main Exhibition Hall. On the morning of the event, there were cars queuing at the gates to get in. Then the flow of cars steadily increased - and gone were the club's fears that no one would turn up!

That Hamfest in 1980 was opened by BBC television weatherman Jim Bacon, G3YLA, who at the time was one of the most recognisable faces on TV. From then the club has never looked back, holding a Hamfest every year. 2009 will be bigger and better than ever, with a 2-day show in association with the RSGB.

RSGB SERVICES. For the 2009 National Hamfest, the RSGB will be in the hall with a book and services stand with HQ staff and volunteers on hand. So if you have an interest in

exams, propagation, contests or want to discuss planning or interference, this is an ideal time to come along and have a chat. GB4FUN will be there too. This mobile, fully self-contained, communications centre spends time visiting schools and events up and down the country. The project is primarily aimed at supporting those studying for GCSEs and inspiring them into science-based careers and hopefully expanding the amateur community. It will be open to anyone to visit and will especially welcome young visitors.

PRIZE DRAW. There will be a Yaesu free prize draw with a VX-8 handheld to be won each day. Entry coupons will appear in *RadCom* and the National Hamfest website nearer the event. Entry is strictly limited to one entry per person and your form must be placed in the Prize Draw box that will be located in the *RadCom* booth. Forms will also be available on the day.

FOOD & DRINK. Catering facilities will be provided both inside and outside and there will be a bar inside the hall. There is extensive car parking immediately outside the venue and this will be free. Blue badge holders will be parked very close to the hall.

BOOK NOW. The dedicated website www.nationalhamfest.org.uk is the central resource for further information and where advanced bookings and ticket deals will be

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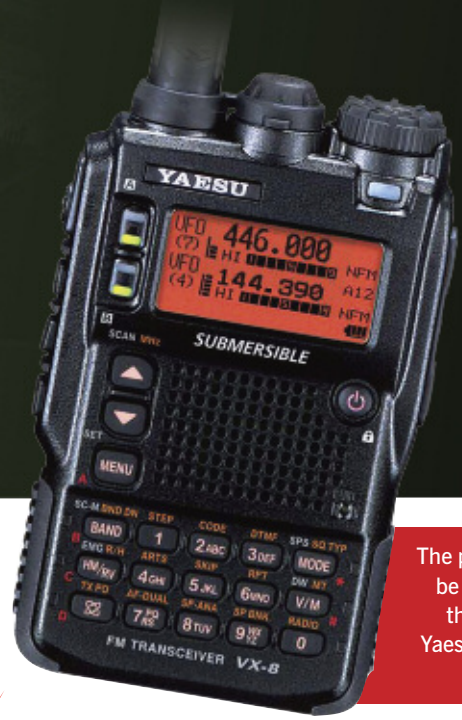
ICOM

YAESU

KENWOOD

MOONRAKER





The prize to be won in the daily Yaesu prize draw.

available. You can see some of the special deals on offer in the panel to the right of this page.

CAR BOOT EVENT. It is planned that the outside areas will also contain an amateur radio car boot event ideal for selling off those surplus items from the shack. If you would like to take a pitch in the car boot these will be able to book these online (**only**) for a fee of £7.50 for whichever day suits you. These spaces will be limited to private sellers only, with no vans allowed and trailers charged at an extra cost. You will be able to book space up to a week before the event and unfortunately you won't turn up and pay on the day (full details are available online).



ONLINE DISCOUNTED TICKETS. Those who purchase tickets in advance will be able to buy their tickets only £3.50 rather than the on the gate price of £4.50, saving £1.00. This is not the only discount: if you buy 4 tickets at the discounted price you will get an extra ticket free. So why not organise a group of friends to visit for the day? If you have a bigger group you can buy 10 tickets and get 3 more tickets free.

TRADERS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. If you would like to book space at the event or get details of special rates for amateur radio special interest groups or clubs, please call 01603 419204 or e-mail nationalhamfest@rsgb.org.uk and we will be happy to provide full details.



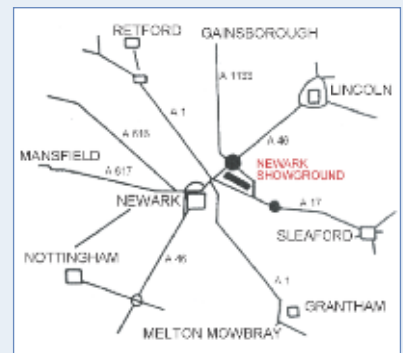
Fleamarket stalls will be available outside of the main George Stephenson Pavilion for individual amateurs to sell their goods.



Small traders and specialist suppliers will be made very welcome, alongside the major manufacturers and larger dealers.



The Vintage & Military Amateur Radio Society should have a large display outside the main hall.



TRAVEL. The Showground is situated two miles north east of the historic market town of Newark, an attractive market town situated along the river Trent. It offers a wealth of history, interesting buildings and museums. Its most famous period in history was during the Civil War in which it was a Royalist stronghold and withstood three sieges. Many reminders of that period can still be seen in the town, including its imposing 12th century castle.

By Road. The Showground is situated adjacent to the junction of the A1, A46 and A17 trunk roads, giving easy access to the country's major road networks.

By Train. East Coast Mainline Train stops at Newark Northgate station only 10 minutes from the fair. Travel by train from London in 90 minutes and the Grimsby to Nottingham line offers connections to the Midlands at Newark Castlegate Station.

By Air. The George Stephenson Exhibition Hall is one hour from Nottingham East Midlands Airport.



www.nationalhamfest.org.uk