

## RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY WHICH  
REPRESENTS UK RADIO AMATEURS

Founded in 1913 incorporated 1926.

Limited by guarantee  
Member society of the  
International Amateur Radio Union

**Patron:** HRH Prince Philip,  
Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT

Membership is open to all those with an active interest in radio experimentation and communication as a hobby. Applications for membership should be made to the Subscriptions Department from which full details of Society services may also be obtained.

**General Manager:**

Peter Kirby, FCMI, MISM, GOTWW

**Honorary Company Secretary:**

Rupert Thorogood, G3KKT

**Honorary Treasurer:**

Dr R Dingle, G0OCB

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Colin Thomas, G3PSM (until 31 December 2009)

Dave Wilson, MOOBW (from 1 January 2010)

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D Field, G3XTT

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A Vinters, G0WFG

D V Wilson, MOOBW

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D Morrison, GM1BAN - Region 2

K A Wilson, M1CNY - Region 3

H Scrivens, G0UGE - Region 4

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J Sneddon, MW0EQL - Region 7

P Lowrie, M15JYK - Region 8

A Johnston, G8ROG - Region 9

G Keegan, G6DGK - Region 10

P Helliwell, G7SME - Region 11

P Brooks, G4NZQ - Region 12

J Stevenson, G0EJQ - Region 13

Details of the Society's volunteer officers can be found in the RSGB Yearbook and on the RSGB website.

The above details were correct at the time of printing, 7 December 2009, and do not take into account the result of the Board & Regional Elections that closed on 10 December 2009.

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Website: www.rsgb.org

Members Area: www.rsgb.org/membersonly

Log-in using your callsign in lower case as the user name, and your membership number (see RadCom address label) as the password.

The online RadCom can now be found at  
www.rsgb.org/radcom.

# The Challenges Ahead



First, I would like to say thank you. What an honour it will be to serve you as President of the RSGB for the next two years. When I joined the Society in 1994 I never expected I'd end up as President.

I'm sure that every presidential term has had its challenges since the formation of the Society almost 100 years ago. My term has many ahead. Three immediately spring to mind: Bletchley Park, Membership and PLA/PLT.

**BLETCHLEY PARK.** As you know, the move from Potters Bar to Bedford went extremely well but there is still one outstanding element of that move that needs to be concluded. It was always, and it still is the plan to have a presence at Bletchley Park. The synergy with the history of the site and the footfall through BP make it the ideal place for the public face of the Society. For various reasons, not least delays in planning permission, the project has not moved on as intended. I'm pleased to say that things are now moving and work will commence in January 2010 – with the idea being to be complete by June 2010. We will, of course, keep you advised of progress with regular updates in RadCom and via GB2RS news. I look forward to meeting many of you there at the official opening.

**MEMBERSHIP.** This is also a challenge, not least because of the pressure that we are all feeling on our disposable income. We need to retain current members and, at the same time, find innovative ways to encourage non members to recognise the benefits that membership gives – not least in supporting the National Society to defend our Spectrum. In addition to our individual Portfolios, I believe that the Board should take a strategic view, looking at the bigger picture. We need to distinguish between strategy for the Society and that for developing amateur radio in the UK. The two are undoubtedly linked, but we must recognise that our first duty is to the Society. With that in mind my predecessor Colin Thomas, G3PSM recently initiated a small Strategy team and invited a number of people who are at the cutting edge of radio development to join. The thought is that looking at things from a different perspective they will come up with ideas to bring to the Board. The important thing is that it will stir up the little grey cells and provide us with ideas as to how to move forward. Likewise if you have any ideas, we're always interested as to how you feel the hobby needs to develop. Please don't be shy in coming forward.

**PLA/PLT.** Those two challenges are undoubtedly difficult enough but the third challenge is probably the most difficult in which to achieve success. This is the threat to the radio spectrum from PLA/PLT devices.

The Society recently announced that we are seeking legal opinion with regards to Ofcom's interpretation of the various acts and directives that cover PLA/PLT and the threat that they pose. We have been prompted to do this by reports and complaints from members and non-members of interference to amateur radio operation from PLA devices and our own investigations have shown that this interference almost makes operating on the lower HF bands impossible. We are also conscious that other 'wireless' devices are coming along that could also affect the bands, including Smart metering and Smart grid. By 2020 all homes in the UK will be fitted with Smart meters that will monitor energy usage. We as radio amateurs need to ensure that we are given a level playing field to protect the spectrum that we enjoy. First and foremost the Radio Society of Great Britain is a representative body and it is in this role that we raise this legal challenge on behalf of the UK amateur radio community.

Any legal challenge is costly and the RSGB cannot fight this alone. We need the support and financial help not only from our members but also the amateur radio community as a whole.

**SPECTRUM DEFENCE FUND.** To this end, with this 'Editorial' I am announcing and establishing a 'Spectrum Defence Fund'. This fund will be used in the first instance to challenge Ofcom at law as described above. This may take the form of a judicial review but we will be advised by our lawyers on the direction to take.

I will be quite open with you: the cost of a judicial review to challenge Ofcom and their interpretation of the EMC directive will be in excess of £75,000, and we are not guaranteed success. But, we do feel that now is the time to stand up and be counted and make it known that we, as a community, are not prepared to accept any level of interference from non-compliant devices. We are looking to our administration (Ofcom) to protect our interests, which it is their statutory duty. As I mentioned there are other challenges ahead and the fund will be used only to protect the Spectrum when and where we need to do so. This is a long term project and all monies donated will be 'ring fenced' for these actions alone.

If every radio amateur in the UK pledged £10 to the Spectrum Defence Fund we could quickly raise in the region of £400-500K but if only 10,000 amateurs pledge £5 we would fall woefully short of what we believe is a realistic figure to fight the challenges ahead. Please help the RSGB in this most important area.

We realise that it would be impossible to remove from the market the devices that

currently cause interference. This is an expectation too far. Neither are we likely to see rapid results. What we want to achieve is for Ofcom to recognise that they do have a statutory duty to protect the amateur radio community alongside their duties to commercial stakeholders.

**CONCLUSION.** Thanks again for allowing me the privilege of being your President for the next two years. I look forward to exciting times ahead and working with the Board to meet the challenges. I will meet as many of you as I can at rallies, club visits and so on. I can't promise that everything we do as a Board will please everyone, but it'll be done for one reason only – to promote our great hobby and move it forward on a positive footing deep into the 21st century.

Dave Wilson, MO0BW



If you wish to donate to the 'Spectrum Defence Fund' could you please make cheques payable to 'The Spectrum Defence

Fund' and send them to Spectrum Defence, RSGB, 3 Abbey Court, Fraser Road, Priory Business Park, Bedford, MK44 3WH.

The 'Spectrum Defence Fund' is a secure and independently audited fund, the proceeds of which will only be used in defence of the radio spectrum.



## Welcome

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.

2E0BFM	Mr A S Knights	G0TEV	Mr J A Mullin	GW0UXJ	Mr A N Burns	M1EAK	Mr C R Day	N2ADR	Mr J C Ahlstrom
2E0BMY	Mr A F Farrar	G0TUO	Mr M J W Brough	GW0WTT	Mr P D Clark	M3EHA	Mr T Williams	N6KZB	Mr M A Burton
2E0BNX	Mr JH Newman	G0UDC	Mr J Mortimer	GW4TAU	Mr E G Davies	M3EPP	Mr J R Billsborough	OH1EB	J Kulkki
2E0CBA	Mr P Humphries	G0WUY	Mr A Williamson	GW7BXY	Mr K Williams	M3RAU	Mr T Rowlands	OH2BUF	Mr M Leikola
2E0DAL	Mr D Stringer	G1DEO	Mr B Davies	I8RAR	Mr A Ramundo	M3SOJ	Mrs S Farrar	OZ7MHZ	Mr A A Briggs
2E0TOG	Mr B Whelan	G1DIR	Mr A Wilkinson	IK4MTG	Mr F Magrone	M3YZC	Mr D Matheson	RA3AMP	Mr D Gavrushev
2E0WKV	Mr K J Dale	G3MQR	Mr D J Robinson	K5MOG	Mr R H Foll	M5AXA	Mr I Bassett	RS204005	Mr M Ponsford
2E0YQF	Mr M Lugg	G4AQB	Mr S MacDonald	KF5BUL	Mr W W Barrett	M6ALK	Mr A Kent	RS204571	Mr L G Mann
2HOHJS	Mr J Smith	G4GQP	Mr R Foote	LA6MV	Mr H Skram	M6CGT	Mr C Bolton	RS204626	Mrs L M Kingaby
2W0IJL	Mr K M Smith	G4HFT	Mr S J Richards	LA8PDA	Mr O J Selle	M6EDE	Mr E Wood	RS204636	Mr M Bradley
2W1AOD	Mr D E Wanklyn	G4RQZ	Mr P Burgin	MOAAS	Mr J Whittaker	M6ETC	Mr P Hayes	RS204767	Mr MJ Mowbrey
AA1AH	Miss K Garrison	G4VMN	Mr M J Alexander	MOBCE	Mr A Johnstone	M6JDR	Mr J Robson	RS204818	Mr P McFadden
AA6B	Mr P R Bauer	G4XEE	Mr D Bate	MOBIZ	Mr M Thomas	M6LAG	Miss L Burgess	RS204819	Mr P J Hayward
AB9SM	Mr L L Hacker	G6AXH	Mr P Brothers	MOCNY	Mr S B Hayes	M6SOA	Mr D Sewruk	RS204841	Mr R Skingley
AE5V	Mr E B Scott II MD	G6GWX	Mr C Hore	MODED	Mr C D Frizell	M6ZBD	Mr I Painter	RS92010	Mr C P Knight
DL7JOM	Mr O Matthaei	G6VQU	Mr P A Piedad	MODEL	Mr A M Lindley	MIGALL	Mr A Armstrong	VE7YC	Mr A Stunden
EB3BRJ	Mr M E Cividino	G6ZTL	Mr B Rogers	MOEGL	Mr W Dunne	MMODSM	Mr D S McNeill	VK4XRS	Mr R J Sargeant
GOAXJ	Mr RCI McCluskey	G7DSL	Mr D M Terrett	MOGPI	Mr A D Norrie	MM6GGB	Mr G Blues	W1UP	Mr R W Wiitala
GOJKM	Mr P J Renvoize	G7III	Mr IRP Young	MORXW	Mr R Wells	MU3EYU	Mr G M Williams	W4ZST	Mr R S Lear
GOLVH	Mr J Wimpenny	G7SQC	Mr P Young	MOTLN	Mr S Moissejev	MW0ICO	Mr P Jones	W50PB	Mr S J Dzirik
GOOZU	Mr D Millan	G7WEM	Mr T D Hewitt	MOYIJ	Mr G C S Chesters	MW3WZZ	Mr S J Bobby	WB6NAM	Mr M M Koffel
GOSDM	Mr P J Robinson	G8VG	Mr A P W Windle OBE	MOZLI	Mr D Challis	MW3YNA	M D Seagrave	WB8BER	Mr W E Goodwin
GOSEW	Mr K A Green	G8ELZ	Mr O Cathcart	M1AYM	Mr R Shanks	MW3YZB	Mr C A Wilkinson	WDOERJ	Mr D R Hugerford

GSOCOD Dunoon & Cowal Amateur Radio Club  
GONLR North Lancashire RAYNET Group

G7FCR Fylde Coast RAYNET Group  
MQORVR Ribble Valley RAYNET Group

## 21st Foundation Course

The Chelmsford ARS will be holding their 21st Foundation evening course starting 14 January. Thanks to the work of the CARS training team, over 170 newcomers have successfully obtained their amateur licence. The club has been very fortunate in having so many members willing to assist in the training in a variety of roles from teaching, acting as out-stations and ensuring there was always tea and coffee available. To find out more about CARS courses speak to Clive Ward, G1EUC on 01245 224577 or e-mail training2010@g0mwt.org.uk. www.g0mwt.org.uk/training.



Candidates and tutors at 20th CARS Foundation course.

## Waterproofing

Contralube770 is a synthetic hydrocarbon grease for the protection of contact areas/surfaces. Primarily an electrical contact grease, it can be used for many different jobs including cables outside. We have several amateurs testing this on their cables and we'll report back in a couple of months. More details at [www.contralube.com](http://www.contralube.com).

## MKARS Success

Following the recent Foundation course classes at Milton Keynes ARS, there was a 100% result with 14 passes from 14 entrants. So far in this current year the club has had 39 passes at Foundation level, 17 passes at Intermediate level and two passes at Advanced level. The club is currently running an Advanced course with 10 students and is beginning Foundation and Intermediate courses in January. The photograph shows the successful candidates in the recent Foundation exam.



## Exam Success

The most recent batch of Intermediate candidates to pass at GM6NX in Stirling are to be congratulated. Front row, l-r: John, father and son team Myles and Duncan, Alex and Michael. The range in ages shows clearly that it is a hobby for all ages and that a new generation is ready to evolve. Thanks to Jim, GM4VGR and Wullie, GMNOMZB who held the exam (pictured in the back row).



## GMOFRC

In the summer, Falkirk & DARS activated Torwood Castle with the club call GMOFRC. The castle, built in 1566, is located close to the A9, 8 miles north-west of Falkirk. This was the first opportunity for the club to use their new Acom 1000 linear amplifier, acquired as part of the recent lottery grant to improve the HF special event station.

The club encourages its newly licensed members to partake in these activities, giving them experience in operating a first class HF station. On this occasion, the majority of the operating was done by members with MM3, MM6 and 2M0 calls, with several more experienced members on hand to help when needed – and very little help was needed!

As the activation coincided with VHF NFD, equipment for 2m and 6m was assembled and advantage taken of the opening on the Saturday gave them 30 QSOs – not bad for this location. In addition to the expected GM and G stations several EA and CT calls were also worked.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

- Lincoln Short Wave Club is celebrating Australia Day on 24 January with a Big Australian Breakfast and a Special Event Station at the Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln. Further details from Pam Rose, G4STO, on 01427 788356 or e-mail [pamelagrose@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pamelagrose@tiscali.co.uk).

## GB75XX

GB75XX was operated by the Bromsgrove & DARC for 30 days from mid-October to mid-November. The event was to celebrate the first transmissions from the BBC Station at Droitwich, 75 years ago. The two main masts at 700ft high are the originals erected in 1934. The station's original call sign was 5XX, the call having moved with the transmitter equipment from Daventry. Many people will have seen the masts, as they are easily visible by Junction 5 of the motorway M5 in north Worcestershire. The club had particular success on 80m, 40m and 20m. Modes were mainly CW and SSB but there was also FM operation on the 2m band. Around 2000 QSOs were made to countries across the world.

Roy, G6NYG worked hard organising the call sign, with a lot of help from Arqiva, Ofcom, RSGB, the BBC and BBC engineer Simon, GWONVN in particular. Many club members operated the station including G6OPY, G4AHK, G3KWK, G3LRF, M0BQE, G4OJS, G4LRL and GWONVN.

A Yaesu FT1000MP feeding 100W to a doublet at 50ft was used mainly for SSB on 40 and 20m. For some of the SSB, but most of the CW, an Icom 756 Pro and a Ten Tec Orion II were used, both feeding a three element beam at about 40ft. VHF operation used a Standard 2m multimode transceiver running 25W to a collinear at 40ft.



Operator Roy, G6NYG with the Yaesu.

## Intermediate Passes

Cockenzie & Port Seton ARC recently held another successful Intermediate course. The photograph shows l-r: Gary, M0OFZV Assistant Invigilator, Barry, M03ZFK, Adrian, M03YPQ, Robin, M03SRF, Stevie, M03YPN, Bob, G44UYZ Instructor, Martyn, M03XXW, Graham, M03ZFW, Brian, M03WZB, Cambell, M0MODXC Lead Invigilator.



## Scout Training

Recently, two of the Wakefield District Scout Leaders passed their Foundation examination with the Wakefield & DRS. The leaders decided to take the exam after a Scout Night Hike last year when CB radio was used (along with amateur radio support from the Wakefield & District). The CB radios unfortunately failed, but amateur radio managed to keep communications going. The District Commissioner (himself a licensed amateur) immediately made arrangements for the training of several scout leaders, of which these were the first two.



In the photo, l-r, the successful candidates are Nick, M6NJF and Brian, M6BNC. The lead instructor was Dave, G4CLI ably assisted by assistant instructors Darryl, 2E0DJB and Steve, 2E0SLT.

## SOS Week

SOS Radio Week is an opportunity to show off amateur radio to the public. The event starts at 0000 on 23 January and finishes at 2359 on 31 January. This includes the RNLI's own SOS fund raising day on 29 January. For the nine days, amateur radio operators all over the country will be raising money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). Individuals and clubs will be raising sponsorship money in the run-up to the event and then having a great time during it contacting other stations around the world. Some will operate for a few hours, others will operate for a day or two and sometimes a club manages to operate throughout SOS Week. To operate under the banner of SOS Radio Week you simply need to register for free at [www.sosradioweek.org.uk](http://www.sosradioweek.org.uk).

## Pencoe Results

Pencoe Amateur Radio Club had two Intermediate exam successes in Paul Kyte and Alan Jones and a Foundation pass too with Tyrone Lawrence (right).



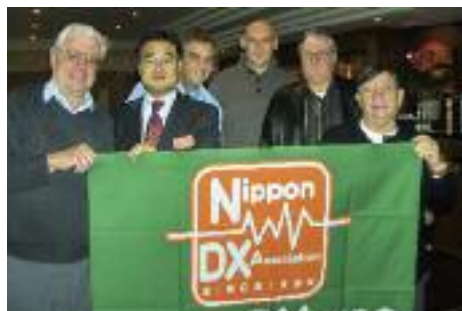
## JOTA

Many North Devon Scouts girls and boys – and their parents – attended a demonstration of the wonders of amateur radio and were able to talk under guidance of the qualified operators of Appledore & DARC of North Devon, to amateurs in Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Germany, Holland, Wales, Poland and, of course, the UK. The thrill of these contacts could be seen on their faces. Morse code keys and the use of Morse code was also demonstrated by the A&DARC and proved to be a great attraction to the scouts who showed immediate skills in sending and receiving of the code.



## Visiting Delegate

Recently world leaders and bankers met in St. Andrews for the G20 conference to discuss the current financial crisis. One of the delegates at the conference was Yoshihiro 'Skip' Sugimoto, JE2HCJ who works for the Bank of Japan in Tokyo and Manhattan. As this was his first visit to Scotland he was keen to meet local radio amateurs. He contacted the Dundee ARC to see if they could help. A group of club members arranged to meet Skip at his hotel. Naturally the conversation centred on radio, in particular the differing UK and Japanese licence conditions and operating procedures, and of course about operating portable. He chatted at some length with Paul, MM6BKC, the newest licensed member, as Skip was interested in what attracted him to the hobby. The longest licensed member Tom, GM3NHQ was also there and the discussion moved on to how amateur radio had changed over the years. After the meeting Skip was given QSL cards from the club and its members and in return he presented the club with a banner from the Nippon DX Association, which will now take pride of place in the club's shack.



Skip presenting the banner to club with members looking on l-r Tom, GM3NHQ, Jim, MM0DXD, Paul, MM6BKC, Stewart, GM4ZFS and club president Ally, MMODRA.

## Lottery Award

Aberdare & DARS have recently received a grant from Awards for All Wales of £5000. The application was made to provide training facilities, materials, equipment and projects for students wishing to undertake a course leading to a Radio Communications Foundation, Intermediate or Advanced accredited examination. To assist in the delivery of this training, the Club will be purchasing two new HF transceivers, a laptop and various other training aids including books and the relevant software to provide PowerPoint presentations. Existing and new members will also benefit with money being spent on equipment to upgrade the existing station to facilitate reception and transmission of additional modes.

The Society would like to express their thanks to Interlink and in particular Mr Phil Barrett for their help towards our successful application. It has already helped five people through the Foundation licence whose ages ranged from 14 to 65 and there are currently two more students preparing for their Foundation exam. The club website is [www.radioclubs.net/aadars](http://www.radioclubs.net/aadars).



## 25 years of TDOTA

To celebrate 75 years of Guiding in 1985, some licensed Guiders from UK, Canada and Australia arranged a Thinking Day On The Air event to enable members speak to each other across the world. The event has continued through waxing and waning sunspot cycles and will celebrate 25 years of TDOTA during the centenary of Guiding in 2010. Ofcom has granted Girlguiding UK stations the very special prefix of GG100, so listen out during 2010, and particularly during TDOTA weekend, 20/21 February. More information and a list of stations are on the website [www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk](http://www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk). Also on the site are previous years' reports, an information pack, as well as a participation certificate and details of a badge to celebrate 25 years of TDOTA. Contact Liz, MOACL, QTHR or e-mail [liz@guides-on-the-air.co.uk](mailto:liz@guides-on-the-air.co.uk) if you need any further information.

## GB7HQ 2010

On 10/11 July, the UK Headquarters team will again be taking part in the IARU HF World Championships. In 2010 this contest coincides with the WRTC event in Russia, where two team members Andy, G4PIQ and Dave, G4BUO will be representing the UK. This year, the UK Headquarters team has been expanded with new operators from contest clubs and will be operating from several new locations around the UK. The team needs your help – by working the UK HQ station on as many of the 12 band/mode slots as possible you, your friends and your club will be eligible for several new trophies and existing award certificates. More details will be published nearer the time in the June issue of *RadCom*.



Chris G3SVL operating 160m SSB from the GOKPW station in Suffolk.

## North Wales Rally

The 23rd North Wales Radio Rally was officially opened by the RSGB President elect, Dave Wilson, MOOBW. This year they welcomed some new traders and had many familiar faces return achieving a good mix of traders selling new rigs and equipment, aerials, components, computer hardware and software and much more. There were also many items of vintage radio equipment & military kit. The RSGB were in attendance as were many local clubs selling surplus equipment and the Bring & Buy was busy all over the weekend.

Attendance was significantly up on last year despite inclement weather on the Sunday. The organisers find John Bright School an ideal venue with ample parking and the halls all on one level. The catering was supplied by the outsourced school caterers – but it was nothing like school dinners used to be!

It was thanks to the hard work and support of all North Wales RS members and friends that it happened and was a success. The rally will be back on the weekend of 30 & 31 October 2010.



## The Cavity Magnetron

The Defence Electronics History Society, IET and IEEE are hosting a two-day conference at Bournemouth University on 19–20 April 2010 to celebrate 70 years since the development of the high-power cavity magnetron by Randall and Boot at Birmingham University. This historic development led to the introduction of microwave radar, which played a key role in the Second World War.

The purpose of the conference is to review how the magnetron evolved from work carried out in many countries from the mid-1930s. Later, post-war developments will also be covered in the conference. To give the subject its international perspective, in addition to speakers from the UK, there will be speakers from Germany, France, The Netherlands, Japan, the Czech Republic, Russia and the USA.

The conference will also feature an exhibition of historic artefacts and there will be a visit to the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford. In order to attract the maximum number of delegates, the registration fee has been kept to £80 (with a reduced fee of £65 for members of the DEHS, IET and IEEE). This fee includes a hot lunch on each of the two days. For more information visit the conference website at [www.cavmag2010.org.uk](http://www.cavmag2010.org.uk) or e-mail the conference chairman, Keith Thrower, at [kthrower@theiet.org](mailto:kthrower@theiet.org).

## Intermediate Success

At the recent Intermediate course and exam held by the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club at Helston Community College all seven candidates were successful. The tutor was Keith, GOWYS.



L-R. Mike, M3UML, Roy, M3WOY, Sid, M3XUE, Mark, M6MAP, Jason, M3XZI, Mike, M6SRM, and Dave, M6SUV.

## GB2AD

The Mid Ulster ARC ran a special event callsign, GB2AD, on 11 November to commemorate Armistice Day. A number of members set up the station that morning at Brownlow House, Lurgan, which had been chosen as it had been used during both world wars, first as a Battalion HQ during WWI and as American HQ in WWII, with Eisenhower reportedly having stayed two days before the D-day landings.

The callsign was active on a number of HF bands, 2m, CW and PSK with a very busy day full of contacts, despite the setback of a swine flu outbreak amongst some members who were unable to attend. All contacts will receive a specially designed QSL card that was sponsored by the Royal British Legion Portadown Branch and Mervyn Harrison Tiling in Portadown.

The club wishes to thank all those who supported the day, its members and Brownlow House for opening its doors. The club hopes that this will become an annual event.



### NEWS IN BRIEF

- Shefford & District Amateur Radio Society now has a new website: [www.sadars.co.uk](http://www.sadars.co.uk).
- GB3ET went live on 19 November from its new location near the Hannington TV transmitter north of Basingstoke on RB13 with 433.325MHz output, 434.925MHz input and either 1750Hz toneburst or 71.9Hz CTCSS access. The main service areas are Basingstoke, Fleet, Newbury, Thatcham and Reading. The repeater keeper is Noel Matthews, G8GTZ who can be e-mailed at [g8gtz1@googlemail.com](mailto:g8gtz1@googlemail.com).
- A frequency source achieving fast switching and very low phase noise won best paper award at the November ARMMS Conference. In total fifteen papers were presented over two days. The next meeting is at Oxford on 19 and 20 April. You can download the papers from the Conference at [www.armms.org](http://www.armms.org).
- Aylesbury Vale RS have a new meeting place, the function room at The Doghouse Inn, Broughton Crossing, Broughton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5AR. They meet at 8pm on the second Wednesday in the month.

## Presentation by G4FKH

Gwyn Williams, G4FKH, who produces the RSGB HF predictions, gave an outstanding presentation to the Chelmsford ARS on the Flex-5000A software defined transceiver. He spoke to a packed audience and illustrated the benefits of software defined radios. His demonstration of a live CW contact during the presentation was particularly impressive. Gwyn has also been very active in promoting the use of Morse code among Chelmsford amateurs, a number of whom have taken up the mode.



## GB4RNLI

The Scarborough Special Events Group will be on the air as GB4RNLI for the RNLI SOS week commencing 23 January. The QSL card shows the Scarborough Mersey class all-weather lifeboat and the D class inshore lifeboat exercising in the South Bay with HMS Explorer, an Archer class P2000 coastal training craft and a rescue helicopter from RAF Leconfield. QSL via the bureau or direct to club call G0000.



## New Improved Radio Mate

The new improved bhi Radio Mate compact keypad for the Yaesu FT-817, FT-857, FT-897 now comes with extra features. There are now 40 memories, 20 pre-programmed and 20 filled with random frequencies and a direct frequency nudge function that allows you to fine tune the frequency on your radio directly from the keypad in steps of ±10Hz, 100Hz, 1kHz, 10kHz, 100kHz and 1MHz. Pressing the Dir, Mod or Mem buttons exits the frequency nudge mode. More details at [www.bhi-ltd.com](http://www.bhi-ltd.com).

## Wainwrights Award

Phil, G4OBK has become the first amateur to claim an award under the Wainwrights On The Air scheme. On 11 November, after a walk that started in Patterdale and took in Helvellyn and Striding Edge via several Wainwright summits, Phil contacted G4BLH, GOTDM, G4WHA/M and G1OHH from Birkhouse Moor, LDW-078, to complete activations of all the summits in Alfred Wainwright's Guide to the Eastern Fells and become eligible to claim an award.

Phil's next target is to activate all the Far Eastern Fells. His intention is to become the first amateur to make contacts from all 214 Wainwright fells in the Lake District. Wainwrights On The Air was set up in March 2009 by Julian Moss, G4ILO. For more information see the WOTA website, [www.wota.org.uk](http://www.wota.org.uk).



## JOTA 2009

The JOTA 2009 station GB2RUN at the Runway's End Scout Activity Centre was hailed a success by organisers from the Hog's Back ARC. Assisted by equipment on loan from Mad Jack's ARS Contest Group and Linear Amp (UK) courtesy of HBARC member Paul Cullen, G4KTZ, a continuous stream of worldwide contacts kept the visitors enrapt.

Frank Heritage, MOAEU, Odiham Scouts District Commissioner and HBARC member explained, "In my 27 years of involvement in JOTA this has been by far the most successful station, with 70 scout stations contacted on air, and 265 contacts in total over 52 countries. Our tribander at 100ft with 400W out gave us great HF signals all over the world, which was a thrill for our visiting scouts and their families." Scout Jack, 2E0SKZ is seen here running a lengthy pile-up of Californian stations.



## Advance Upgrade

Mexborough & DARS has had two more successful candidates that have upgraded to the Advanced level. Pictured left is Kev, MOKVM, and on the right Chris, MOKCW. Congratulations from all at Mexborough & DARS.



### NEWS IN BRIEF

- Paul Millington, 2E0PTM was elected to the position of Group Controller by the members of Mid Thames RAYNET at the Annual General Meeting. He was not replaced in the position of Deputy Controller, which remains a vacant post. Please use [midthamesraynet@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:midthamesraynet@yahoo.co.uk) for all e-mail correspondence relating to the Mid Thames RAYNET Group.

- Castles And Stately Homes On The Air have launched a new website for Northern Ireland, [www.cashota-ni.org](http://www.cashota-ni.org). All information and details of historical sites and how to activate them can be found here, including activation forms for those amateurs that wish to have a go gaining the award. Information can also be obtained from The Northern Ireland Representative, Bobby, 2I0ULL on 0774 7019 438. Gilford Castle will be activated on 22 January from 10pm on various HF bands and PSK by Bobby, 2I0ULL.

- Aberdare & District ARS will be putting on a Special Event Station again this year to celebrate the Nos Galan Races which are held every New Years Eve at Mountain Ash near Aberdare. The callsign this year will be GB0NG and will be active throughout the month of December. At last year's event, which was the 50th Anniversary of the event, the callsign GB5ONG was used and over 1000 contacts were made all over the World. More details can be found at [www.radioclubs.net/aadars](http://www.radioclubs.net/aadars).

- In the Contest Supplement in December *RadCom*, the Camb Hams caption should have read G4ERO rather than G3ERO. Our apologies to both callsigns.

- The photograph and report on the PLC Meeting in Manchester was supplied by Stewart, G3PMJ. Our apologies for missing this from the report.

## Premier Inn Course

Widnes and Runcorn ARC have concluded another successful Foundation course. The course, organised by lead instructor and RSGB President-elect Dave Wilson, MOOBW, was held over two days at The Premier Inn, Manchester Airport. Premier Inn's Duty Manager Helen Giddings offered the use of the hotel's conference facilities free of charge in an effort to support The Widnes and Runcorn ARC, which was much appreciated by all.

In total, 11 students studied hard and 10 out of 10 registered students passed the Foundation exam on Sunday afternoon. This achievement was not only due to the hard work of the students but also to the dedication of the instructors and assistants. These included, Dave, MOOBW, Dave, G1PIX, Albert, G3ZHE, Roland, G0GZI, Steve, MOSJR and Kevin, MOXDJ.



## Intermediate Course Planned

Newbury & DARS is in its 8th year of providing courses and examinations on behalf of the RSGB at its exam centre in Newtown near Newbury, Berkshire. Some 370 licences have been obtained by people not only from Berkshire but from places as far a field as Jersey, Carmarthanshire, Cornwall and the Lake District through the efforts of the exam team.

Altogether, 19 Foundation and 8 Intermediate courses and exams have been held as well as 4 Advanced exams. This has involved some 291 Foundation, 75 Intermediate and 16 Advanced candidates. Several members of NADARS help regularly with the courses, including Tom, G4TPH who runs the Intermediate construction and practicals. Thorough preparation by the tutors has led to pass rates over 96%.

NADARS has already planned its 9th Intermediate Course to run early in 2010. More details about NADARS and its training can be found at [www.nadars.org.uk](http://www.nadars.org.uk) or by e-mailing [courses@nadars.org.uk](mailto:courses@nadars.org.uk).



Richard, G3ZGC shows the location of the UK 2m repeaters in a lecture to the Foundation candidates.

## Young Recruit

The Elderslie ARS believe that they may have the youngest Foundation licensee in Scotland. Stephanie (nicknamed 'bear'), aged 7, now holds the Foundation call MM6BER. After receiving her licence, she did some operating from the Gleniffer Braes while she was out with her family having a barbeque. Eddie, 2MOEDY, Dennis, MMODNX and Alan, GM1SXX talked with her on 2m, later moving to 20m. Initially a little bit mic shy she was soon chatting about her experiences at school and how much fun she was having.



## Thank You

Darren, MOPRV, Derek, MORFY, Warren, MOWLS and Jim, MOJJK would like to thank Sutton & Cheam RC, especially their team of enthusiastic instructors, Martin, M1MRB, Paul, MOTZO and Tim, 2EOTTA with whose help and dedication brought them through from Foundation to Advanced inside 10 months.

Derek says, "We all came into radio from very different backgrounds and for different reasons, such as military radio restoration, propagation and ex-CB interests. Now we have all had QSOs around the world, built QRP transceivers and designed our own antenna systems to suit our particular interests and restricted locations. The learning doesn't stop with an Advanced ticket, like a new language there's no substitute for gaining experience other than getting on the air and just doing it".



### NEWS IN BRIEF

- The team of five GB2RS Newsreaders in NW England have been given transceivers for 2m, 4m and 6m for use in transmitting the news. The radios have come from Graham, G1PYA, a regular listener to GB2RS. The five newsreaders – G4GSY, GOMRL, GONAJ, M1NTO and MOHDE – would like to record their very great thanks to Graham for this valuable gift, which is so clearly in the traditional spirit of amateur radio.
- It is with deep regret that Meirion ARS have to announce the passing of Bert Cooper, GW1ZBE. Bert was an honorary member of MARS after supporting the club for over 25 years and will be fondly remembered as a true gentleman in every sense of the word. Condolences go to his family in Dolgellau. MARS and the RSGB were represented at Bert's funeral by Max Heron, MW1KDP and thanks go to him for his attendance.
- MOCVO Antennas has changed its website URL to [www.m0cvoantennas.co.uk](http://www.m0cvoantennas.co.uk). They will still be offering the same products for radio amateurs - antennas for HF, VHF and UHF, portable and fixed station use.

## Four Foundation Licences

Tamworth ARS held a Foundation Course in October the successful candidates were Don, Matthew, (son of tutor Ian, G6IYS) Steve and Becky. Steve is Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts in Tamworth and is hoping to encourage scouts in the district to become licensed now that he is. The next Foundation course starts on 16 January. A few spaces are available; details can be had from Bob, G1BCZ.



# GB4FUN in Northern Ireland

By Maurice Lynch



Pictured outside the GB4FUN Communications centre are year 8 students from Thornhill College, Derry with Science Teacher Martin Johnston and WELB Multimedia Support Officer, Philip Hosey.



Bryan McKinley, St John's High School, Dromore and his Year 12 classmates make contact with other radio operators around the globe at the GB4FUN 'Communications in Space' roadshow.



Nichole Nethery, Year 11 student Omagh Academy GS, Omagh is pictured demonstrating the 'Hat Cam' to her classmates, a communications device that transmits a signal from a mobile transmitter back to a terminal inside the vehicle at the 'Communications in Space' roadshow, held in the Technology Education Centre, Omagh.

We were delighted to welcome back the GB4FUN module to Northern Ireland for a second time. The new unit is a really worthwhile improvement on the previous model, in that it is more spacious and capable of handling an average class size with some comfort. The module is large enough to deliver talks and allow pupil interaction but also compact enough to park up at all the schools with minimal fuss and disruption. The mobility is also important and the fact that we were able to visit four centres, with only a short period of time required to dismantle and rebuild the module, was a huge plus. The design has been carefully thought out and it worked very well for the groups we were working with.

We decided, from an early stage of the planning, to ensure that the module would visit a significant number of schools and impact on as many pupils as possible. We choose four strategic locations across the Western Education and Library Board (WELB). The WELB in Northern Ireland is the local authority for the provision of education, library and youth services in the Council areas of Omagh, Fermanagh, Derry, Strabane and Limavady.

The largest population of students is in the Derry district and so we agreed to use two city locations and Thornhill College and Lisneal College were chosen. Omagh and Enniskillen were selected as the other venues further south in the Board. An online calendar was made available three weeks prior to the event and other schools were invited to bring groups along, for a one hour session, to attend the training. The host school generally took up the first and last slots in the day, to facilitate the transportation of pupils from the other locations. A number of schools in this district had previously availed of the training and what was particularly noticeable and welcomed was the uptake amongst girls. Science and Technology are strong in this region, this is evidenced by the fact there four Specialist schools in the immediate area.

The sessions themselves were extremely well received by both pupils and staff. The range of issues addressed through the talk and demonstration included:

- That radio communication is an area of study within Science
- Pupils were given a brief history of early communication including the work of Morse and Vale

- The increasing importance of voice transmission
- Demonstration on slow scan imagery
- A demonstration of the 'Hat Cam' Images
- HF Propagation – UHF/VHF
- Satellite space communication
- An explanation and demonstration of the various modes of transmission including a live link up to some far-off location which the pupils found fascinating
- The role of radio signals in remote control, research and military applications.

RSGB Amateur Radio Manager Carlos, GOAKI is knowledgeable and experienced in this particular field but his strength for me remains his ability to take a high level and complex subject like this and enthuse pupils by giving them a genuine understanding of how the technology works. His presentations are well planned and suited to the audience. He is a fantastic communicator and extremely enthusiastic. In Northern Ireland we all have a huge respect for Carlos and he will always be welcome to visit.

This has proved to be a really excellent visit and a large number of pupils (around 1000) received a really worthwhile experience. At the start of a year where we are trying to raise the profile of the STEM agenda, this visit has been the perfect introduction.

## The GB4FUN Project

The RSGB is looking to recruit five 2-person teams to deliver high quality presentations to schools and organisations across the United Kingdom using the GB4FUN mobile classroom. The teams would be based in the South West, North of England, the Midlands, Wales and Scotland. Experience in towing caravans and trailers would be of benefit but is not essential. Experience in giving presentations would be of benefit but is not essential.

The RSGB is also looking to recruit two delivery drivers for the GB4FUN project. Based in the Bedford/Milton Keynes, their role will be to deliver the GB4FUN mobile classroom to the GB4FUN presentation teams based across the United Kingdom. Candidates must be willing to undertake full training, which will include a CRB check and the Caravan Club Motoring and Driving Course. They must also undertake to meet all booking commitments within their area of operations, which may mean several days away from home.

These are voluntary roles but the RSGB will pay travelling expenses and subsistence. Candidates must be fit and active and have a clean driving licence. These positions would suit active, fit early retirees who are experienced radio amateurs and technically adept.

If you are interested please e-mail GM.Dept@rsgb.org.uk enclosing a CV of your professional and amateur radio experience.

Getting listed here and on GB2RS is easy. E-mail details of your meetings as early as possible to GB2RS@RSGB.org.uk and we'll do the rest. We need to know your club name, RSGB Region number, contact name & phone number, date of meeting and detail of meeting. Example: South Bristol ARS, Region 11, Len, G4RZY, 01275 834 282, 29 October, On the Air. It's that simple. The deadline for the February RadCom is 23 December and for the March edition it's 1 February. For GB2RS, the deadline is 10am on the Tuesday for the week of broadcast.

**1 SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES**

REGIONAL REP: GORDON HUNTER, GM3ULP, GM3ULP@RSGB.ORG.UK

**AYR ARG**

Charlie, MMOGNS, 01563 551704, cgnstewart@hotmail.com  
3 HF operating  
6 Use of meters  
17 Visiting talk  
20 Project construction

**LIVINGSTON & DARS**

Norman, 07740 946192, uk.groups.yahoo/group/ms0liv  
5, 19 Club evening  
12 Operating evening  
26 Morse Code practice

**LOTHIANS RS**

Andy Sinclair, Irs\_secretary@moosedata.com  
11, 25, 27 Talk  
13 Video evening by Peter, GM4DTH

**PAISLEY (YMCA) ARC**

Bill Anderson, 2MOBZZ, 01505 613633, bill@3bis.co.uk  
10, 13, 24, 27 Training

**2 SCOTLAND NORTH & NORTHERN ISLES**

REGIONAL REP: DENNY MORRISON, GM1BAN, GM1BAN@RSGB.ORG.UK

**ABERDEEN ARS**

Lewis, GM4AJR, 01224 575 663, www.aars.freeserve.co.uk  
7 Junk sale

**GLENROTHES & DRC**

Dave Francis, 01383 823878, or www.gdarc.org.uk  
6 First meeting of New Year  
13, 20 Glass jewellery by Lillian followed by bread tasting

**MORAY FIRTH ARS**

Jim, MMOSMD, 01340 820 134, nicol123@btinternet.com  
7 Quiz night

**3 NORTH WEST**

REGIONAL REP: KATH WILSON, M1CNY, M1CNY@RSGB.ORG.UK

**CHESTER & DRS**

Barbara Green on 0151 339 9183, www.chesterdars.org.uk  
5 AGM  
19 Construction contestants  
26 Radio operating & club archives

**SOUTH CHESHIRE ARS**

Chris Wiseman, GORDK, 01782 773185  
7, 21 No meeting, net on S14  
14 Grand shack tidy up  
28 EGM to fine-tune Constitution

**SOUTH MANCHESTER R & CC**

Ron, G3SVW, 0161 969 3999  
7 AIM antenna analyser by Bill, G4SVR

14 Quiz by John, G6ISA  
21 Open night  
22 Annual dinner  
25 Technical Forum  
28 Analogue computers by Dave, G4UGM

**THORNTON CLEVELYS ARS**

John Foster, 2E0EZY, 01253 399377  
4 No Meeting  
11 Natter Night  
18 Planning permission Ken, G3RFH  
25 Air radio by Mick, G4EZM

**4 NORTH EAST**

REGIONAL REP: HAROLD SCRIVENS, GOUGE, GOUGE@RSGB.ORG.UK

**ANGEL OF THE NORTH ARC**

Nancy, G7UUR, 0191 477 0036, nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk  
4 OTA, Morse class. Advanced course continues  
11 E-mail clinic by Dr Steve Townsley  
18, 25 OTA, Advanced course continues

**HORNSEA ARC**

Gordon MacNaught, G3WOV, 01377 240573  
6 CW training and more  
13 Magazine night  
20 Annual dinner  
27 T1154 transmitter by Ken, G4KCF

**OTLEY ARS**

Paul, 2EOPAK, 07768 996370, m6wat@pekae.co.uk  
5, 19 Shack night  
12 Members presentation  
26 50MHz UKAC + tech chatter (Village Hall)

**SHEFFIELD ARC**

Trevor Wood, M0TWS, trevorwood6@yahoo.co.uk  
4 Social night & subs renewal  
11 Using computers in the shack, Peter, G3PHO  
18 SSTV by Trevor, M0TWS  
25 Intro to Sport Radio by Peter, G3PHO

**WAKEFIELD & DRS**

Ken, 2E0SSQ, 07900 563117  
7 First meeting of New Year

**5 WEST MIDLANDS**

REGIONAL REP: TREVOR BAILEY, M0KMB, M0KMB@RSGB.ORG.UK

**BROMSGROVE & DARC**

Chris, MOBQE, 01905 776 869, m0bqe@hotmail.com  
8 Special event review  
15 Committee meeting  
22 Remote operation - discussion  
29 Project night

**CHELTENHAM ARA**

Derek Thom, G3NKS, 01242 241099, g3nks@blueyonder.co.uk  
21 Video evening at NEW VENUE, Brizen Youth Centre

**COVENTRY ARS**

John, G8SEQ, 07958 777363  
1 2m DF 10am, no eve. meeting  
8 Bring your Christmas presents  
15 Annual dinner

22 Video night  
29 Quiz night

**GLOUCESTER AR & ES**

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01452 548478, daytime, www.g4aym.org.uk  
4 Talk on D-Star by Simon Collings of CARA  
11 Operating club equipment  
18 DF hunt  
25 Informal evening

**MIDLAND ARS**

Norman, G8BHE, QTHR, 01214 229 787  
6 General meeting, training classes  
13 OTA & training classes  
20 Laptop computer evening  
27 Planning evening & training classes

**SOUTH BIRMINGHAM RADIO SOCIETY**

Don, 0121 458 1603  
1 No meeting  
4, 25 OTA  
6 Hot spuds & Christmas leftovers  
8, 15, 22 Construction evening  
11 Contest planning  
18 Committee meeting  
29 Rally planning evening

**SUTTON COLDFIELD ARS**

Robert Bird, spirit.guide@hotmail.co.uk  
11 First meeting of the New Year

**TELFORD & DARS**

Mike, G3JKX, 01952 299 677, mjstreetg3jkk@blueyonder.co.uk  
1 9am New Year's Day net 144.6MHz±  
6 Open house / HF OTA / committee  
13 Transceiver functions explained  
20 Share a circuit! Bring your favourite  
27 Make a DF antenna for 2m

**6 NORTH WALES**

REGIONAL REP: MARK HARPER, MW1MDH, MW1MDH@RSGB.ORG.UK

**DRAGON ARC**

Stewart Rolfe, GW0ETF, 01248 362229  
4 Discussion night & prep for RSGB AFS Contests  
18 Video evening

**MEIRION ARS**

John, MW0VTK, 07868 738016, meirionars.multiply.com  
14 AGM

**PORTHMADOG & DARS**

Glyn, MW5CAD, 01286 830078  
21 Natter Night, 8pm start

**7 SOUTH WALES**

REGIONAL REP: JIMMY SNEDDON, MW0EQL, MW0EQL@RSGB.ORG.UK

**SWANSEA ARS**

Nick Lewis, MW0JGE, 01792 402035  
21 Joint meeting with IET. Amateur radio is out of this world by Ken Eaton, GW1FKY

**8 NORTHERN IRELAND**

REGIONAL REP: PETER LOWRIE, MI5JYK, MI5JYK@RSGB.ORG.UK

**BANGOR & DARC**

Mike, GI4XSF, 028 4277 2383  
7 Annual quiz

**9 LONDON & THAMES VALLEY**

REGIONAL REP: ALISON JOHNSTON, G8ROG, G8ROG@RSGB.ORG.UK

**AYLESBURY VALE RS**

Roger, G3MEH, 01442 826 651  
13 Annual dinner

**COULSDON ATS**

Andy, G8JAC, g8jac@btinternet.com  
11 Annual dinner at the Rubbing House.

**CRYSTAL PALACE R & EC**

Bob, G300U, 01737 552 170  
8 EGM & history of power supplies pt. 2

**DORKING & DRS**

Garth, G3NPC, 01737 359472, garth@swansons.org.uk  
26 AGM and British Vintage Wireless Society video

**EDGWARE & DRS**

Mike, G4RNW, 020 8950 0658, michael.stewart5@ntlworld.com  
14 AGM  
27 Pay your subs

**MILTON KEYNES ARS**

www.mkars.org.uk  
4, 18 Shack open night  
11 New Year Quiz Night  
25 General chat night

**NEWBURY & DARS**

Richard, G3ZGC, 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com  
27 Surplus equipment sale

**RADIO SOCIETY OF HARROW**

Linda, G7RJJ, 020 8386 8586, www.g3efx.org.uk  
8 Round table discussion  
22 LEDs: humble indicators to shining beacons

**READING & DARC**

Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697  
14 HV power distribution to railways by Richard, G0FFL  
28 Cinema sound systems by Graham Creasy

**SHEFFORD & DARS**

David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757, www.sadars.co.uk  
7 Welcome back  
14 Club project  
21 Construction contest  
28 Holy Island DXpedition

**SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB**

Ray, G4FFY, 020 8644 7589  
4 Club talk  
18 Fix-it and natter night

**SUTTON & CHEAM RS**

John, G0BWW, 020 8644 9945, info@scrs.org.uk  
21 D-Star by Chris Howard, M6HUD

**WEY VALLEY ARG**

www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk  
1, 15 Club night

**WIMBLEDON & DARS**

Jim, MOCON, 020 8874 7456,  
www.gx3wim.org.uk

- 8 Your Christmas & New Year activities
- 29 Bletchley Park & the Gunpowder mills by Len Stuart

**10 SOUTH & SOUTH EAST**

REGIONAL REP: GAVIN KEEGAN,  
G6DGK, G6DGK@RSGB.ORG.UK

**ANDOVER RAC**

Martin, MOMWS, 07776181646,  
www.arac.co.uk

- 19 Why SDR? talk

**FARNBOROUGH & DRS**

Derek, G3OFA,  
mail@farnboroughradio.org.uk,  
www.farnboroughradio.org.uk,

- 13 EMC by G3KND
- 27 Imaging technology by Julian, 2EOXPJ

**HASTINGS E & RC**

Gordon, 01424 431 909,  
gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk  
www.herc.uk.net

- 24 Club lunch
- 27 Old radios
- 27 D-Star

**HORNDEAN & DARC**

Stuart, G0FYX, 023 9247 2846,  
www.hdarc.co.uk

- 5 Natter night / social evening
- 26 Quiz evening (other clubs invited, teams of 4)

**HORSHAM ARC**

www.harc.org.uk

- 7 Goubau Lines and Small Aerials by Mike, G3LHZ
- 21 Social

**LYMINGTON ARS**

Keith, MOLCC,  
m0lccandg8mzf@googlemail.com

- 1 No meeting

**MID-SUSSEX ARS**

Sue, G6YPY, 01273 845 103,  
sue@figgerit.co.uk

- 1 Closed
- 8, 15 Radio night
- 22 5MHz & NVIS, Chris Saunders
- 29 Radio night and table top sale

**SOUTHDOWN ARS**

John, G3DQY, 01424 424 319

- 4 AGM at Chaseley
- 6 Operating at Hailsham shack
- 7, 21 Natter Night
- 14 Development of the Morse key by Dennis, G3LLZ
- 28 Talk

**WORTHING & DARC**

Roy, G4GPX, 01903 753 893

- 6 Planning radio operating in 2010
- 13 Fixing Things - adhesives, solders and brazing by Norman, MOEBI
- 20 Club dinner at Sussex Potter
- 27 GX3WOR OTA & discussions

**11 SOUTH WEST & CHANNEL ISLANDS**

REGIONAL REP: PAM HELLIWELL,  
G7SME, G7SME@RSGB.ORG.UK

**APPLEDORE & DARC**

Brian Jewell, MOBRB,  
01237 473251

- 18 SSTV Talk

**BLACKMORE VALE ARS**

Tony GOGFL, 01258 860741

- 5 VHF evening in the club shack
- 12 The Magnetron by Chuck, GOMDK
- 19 HF evening in the shack
- 26 Radio discussion

**CORNISH RADIO AMATEUR CLUB**

Steve, G7VOH, 01209 844939,  
g7voh@btinternet.com

- 4 Committee meeting
- 6 Main meeting
- 11 Computer Section meeting

**EXMOUTH ARC**

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274172

- 6 FSTV and SSTV demo
- 20 Operating & mystery night

**SOUTH BRISTOL ARC**

Len, G4RZY, 01275 834 282

- 7 Computers & broadband by Luke, M3VHV
- 14 Club archives with Muriel, G4YZR
- 21 Echolink operation by David, G7PKJ
- 28 OTA

**TAUNTON & DARC**

William, G3WNI, 01823 666 234,  
g3wni@btinternet.com

- 6 Debate on RSGB AFS contest led by Peter, GOEYR
- 13, 27 Operating club station & Morse class
- 20 DX operating experiences by Rob, GOWSC & Kelvin, MOAID

**THORNBURY & SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARC**

Tony, GOWMB, 01454 417048,  
tonytsgarc@sky.com

- 6 Slide show on Egypt by Stan, GORYM
- 13, 27 OTA
- 20 Video night

**YEOVIL ARC**

Steve Crask, G7AHP,  
steve@g7ahp.co.uk

- 7 Committee meeting & OTA
- 14 Test equipment by Bob, G7LNJ
- 21 Junk sale
- 28 PICs by Steve, G7AHP

**12 EAST & EAST ANGLIA**

REGIONAL REP: PHILLIP BROOKS,  
G4NZQ, G4NZQ@RSGB.ORG.UK

**BARKING R&ES**

Bill Chewter, billchewter@lineone.net

- 28 Talk by Mark Francis of Waters and Stanton

**BITTERN DX GROUP**

Linda, G0AJJ, 01692 404154,  
secretary@bittern-dxers.org.uk

- 14 Informal - all welcome.
- 28 Major event planning & training

**CHELMSFORD ARS**

Martyn, G1EFL, 01245 469 008,  
www.g0mwf.org.uk

- 5 East London Line talk by Mark, MOIEO
- 12, 19, 26 Club net night
- 13 Committee meeting - Danbury
- 14 Foundation Course starts

**DOVER RC**

Brian, G4SAU,  
g4sau@darco.org.uk

- 6 Natter & operating evening
- 13 Gadget Night - Show off your Christmas gadgets!
- 17 Dover Radio Rally



- 20 Natter and operating night, committee meeting
- 27 Radio scanning presentation by Matt, M1CMN

**KING'S LYNN ARC**

Ray, G3RSV,  
ral-g3rsv@supanet.com,  
www.klarc.org.uk

- 7, 14, 21, 28 Club night and 2m club net

**LOWESTOFT & DISTRICT PYE ARC**

Phil, G0JSG, 01502585448,  
phillip.holden@virgin.net

- 7, 21, 28 Club night at shack
- 14 Annual dinner at the Trowel & Hammer

**NORFOLK ARC**

Chris Danby, G0DWV,  
01603 419204,  
cmdanby@btinternet.com

- 6 RTTY contesting for beginners by Roger, G3LDI
- 13 Informal / construction / workshop
- 20 Propagation by Pat Gowen, G3IOR
- 27 Informal / construction / workshop / Bright Sparks

**PETERBOROUGH & DARC**

David Howlett, M0VTG,  
padarc@tesco.net

- 27 AGM

**SOUTH ESSEX ARS**

Norman, M0FZW,  
01268 692776,  
secretary@southessex-ars.co.uk

- 13 Canvey Rally final planning & preparation

**13 EAST MIDLANDS**

REGIONAL REP: JIM STEVENSON,  
G0EJQ, G0EJQ@RSGB.ORG.UK

**EAGLE RG**

Terry, G0SWS, 01507 478590

- 12 Best HF aerial for my small garden?

**LINCOLN SW CLUB**

Pam Rose, G4STO,  
01427 788356,  
pamelagrose@tiscali.co.uk

- 6, 20 Shack activity & natter night
- 13 AGM - Village Hall
- 24 Big Australian Breakfast SES at the Lawn, Lincoln
- 27 Aerials that work and some that don't by Bill, G3XZF

**LOUGHBOROUGH & DARC**

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319

- 5 Practical evening and welcome back
- 12 Bring along something Bakelite
- 19 Video evening 'Space'
- 25 Bring a Morse keys

**SOUTH NOTTS ARC**

Terry, MORIA,  
www.radioclubs.net/snarc

- 5 2m Contest
- 6 Knots and hitches by MOBWW
- 13 AGM (members only)
- 20 RAYNET talk
- 27 Moon watch plus pie & peas

**HELPLINES****IMPORTANT NOTICE**

RESPONDENTS ARE ADVISED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, BUT TO COPY THEM AND SEND THE COPIES.

*Helplines is a free service that can be used to ask other members for help on amateur radio related matters. Items for inclusion can be sent by post to RSGB HQ or preferably by e-mail to radcom@rs.gb.org.uk.*

- Can anyone help me find the original OZ7BO electronic keyer circuit. This used a 6SN7 double triode with two GPO Type 3000 relays. I think it was published in the RSGB magazine a good many years ago, say 1950. I have a very old fashioned home brew TX using all valves on 500kHz, bit of an archive job, and would like to use a matching electronic keyer. Would be happy to purchase any reprint available with that information. John Tuke, GM3BST, QTHR.

- Wanted any help - maintenance/ user information on the Redifon Mel DU600 unit. Has anyone this available and if so, all expenses will be met. G3GKI, QTHR or e-mail v.kershaw@btinternet.com.

- Can any one help out? I'm looking for circuit or manual for a Heathkit service oscilloscope model OS2. If you can help I'm in the call book and I'm happy to pay any costs - MOBRE.

- I am trying to find out something about the amateur radio and related activity of CHL Askham, G6TT, who lived in Liverpool from about 1920 until his death in 1986. During World War 1 he served in the Royal Flying Corps in France as a Wireless Operator. In 1933 Colin Henry Littlewood Askham was a co-founder and the first Vice-President of the British Interplanetary Society, which was set up in Liverpool and then transferred its headquarters to London. In the first issue of the British Interplanetary Society Journal, in 1934, a pen-portrait said that "He is known all over the world as G6TT, and at the moment is engaged in a series of experiments with ultra-short wireless waves." One of his international contacts was a George S Felber, WA1X, in New York.

Colin also gave his name to Littlewoods Pools, and worked with the Pools company and Littlewoods Mail Order as the PA to John Moores until he retired. In the 1950s he was a Director of Everton Football Club.

I was told that there was reference to him in an issue of the *Radio Bygones* Magazine, possibly in 1999, but I have not been able to obtain a copy in any form. I would be pleased to receive any information about Colin Askham. Thank you, Professor Martyn Roebuck, martynroebuck@mac.com (Edinburgh).