

RADIO SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAINTHE NATIONAL SOCIETY WHICH
REPRESENTS UK RADIO AMATEURSFounded in 1913 incorporated 1926.
Limited by guarantee
Member society of the
International Amateur Radio UnionPatron: HRH Prince Philip,
Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KTMembership 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.

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the RSGB Yearbook 2007

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Light touch or no-touch?

Colin Richards, G3YCR was Head of Enforcement and Interference Policy for ten years at the Government's former Radiocommunications Agency (RA) and then for a year at Ofcom until retirement. He is a member of the Society's EMC Committee.

I believe that last month's attempt by Robert Thelen-Bartholomew to put a good spin on Ofcom's approach to spectrum enforcement was misleading in many respects.

On staff numbers, the reduction is not "about 30%". It is in fact over 50% against the only recent stable reference – before the transfer to Ofcom. By their own figures Ofcom now have just 42 technical and special (ex-Police) investigators for the whole of the UK and are cutting a further 10. The RA had 95. Robert's overall staff of over 100 compares with over 200 in RA days. The reduction has included experienced field managers, staff dealing with local licensing applications, Baldock monitoring staff and the whole EMC and forensic laboratory staff at Kenley, Surrey. This latter also led to the selling of sensitively refurbished Grade 2 listed buildings.

A targeted approach consisting of simply responding to harmful interference reports using a reduced staffing level will not deliver efficiency. It's the radio equivalent of taking Bobbies off the beat. It's not only amateur radio that is affected. Robert mentions pirate broadcasters. While these pirates are of no interest to amateurs, those of us who live in urban areas can hardly miss them when we tune for our legal broadcast station. The situation seems as bad as ever, with advertising rife, live phone-ins and at least one station offering an MSN chatline and webcam. Ofcom's published prosecution figures show little change since the RA days. Another example is the cessation of the highly successful local licensing of business radio and ending sample inspections and other enforcement activity. This has left some PMR users and dealers in despair.

It's good to hear that investment is being put into upgrading the Super Resolution DF. However, this is a long range HF system of limited use for amateur problems in the UK,

or other short range business services. More worrying is Ofcom's cancellation of the final phase of the Remote Monitoring and Direction Finding project. This was to be a highly flexible VHF/UHF system, with an HF extension. It has already delivered results for services in the UK and would have offered much more had it been completed. That and Ofcom's dispensing with the dedicated Head of Monitoring post last year place monitoring policy in a less favourable light.

Why Ofcom should be "reviewing the new EMC Directive and establishing how it is to be implemented in the UK" is unclear. It is the Government's responsibility, not

Ofcom's, and it has already been implemented in UK law through Regulations made by DBERR (ex-DTI) in December 2006. Ofcom have a statutory duty to enforce the Regulations for the protection of the radio spectrum. Perhaps Robert's words are a circumspect way of saying they are looking at how to get out of this. That would be disastrous for the spectrum, but could not happen without a change of law.

Regarding PLT, it is simply wrong to say there is limited evidence about the extent of potential interference to radio. There is a wealth of evidence, not least from research commissioned by the RA at its (now closed!) laboratory. There is also plenty internationally, including a recent NATO paper. Even Ofcom's own report, The Future of Radio, noted the incompatibility of PLT with MW broadcasting.

Ofcom know that the EMC and RTTE Regulations are unlikely to be able to control interference from PLT systems. A key reason is that they apply at the point of placing on the market or first taking into service, not in-use situations. The predictable failure of an EU Standards mandate for emission limits was discussed at Ofcom in February 2006. The conclusion was that an enforcement route was the way forward. The Society proposed that this could be met through specific Wireless Telegraphy Act Interference Regulations, which would be precautionary



and proportionate. Ofcom rejected this. They repeatedly say that “general powers” are available under the Act to carry out any necessary enforcement action. But when challenged they have not been able to point to these powers, which do not in fact exist. The spectrum therefore remains unprotected from PLT emissions.

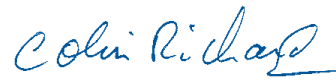
Even where the Society has complained about EMC non-compliance of PLT home networking products placed on the market we have, as Dr David Lauder notes in his column, been waiting over a year for a response.

As to the existing interference Regulations, they are very out of date. An RA project to update these was suspended during the transfer to Ofcom. So far as I am aware, it has never been resurrected.

These criticisms are not to denigrate in any way the work of the remaining Field Operations staff. They remain dedicated and professional and do a difficult and sometimes dangerous job. Nor do they apply to those others in Ofcom licensing and elsewhere who help us so much. They are, though, illustrative of Ofcom’s attitude to interference resolution and enforcement. As

non-professional users we always accept that we must take lower priority for interference cases, but we must now wonder if we will drop off the bottom altogether. Indeed one must wonder if the time will soon come when there aren’t even resources to tackle serious safety of life service problems or major events.

Light touch must not become no-touch.



Colin Richards, G3YCR

81st RSGB Annual General Meeting



The RSGB AGM will take place at the Novotel Hotel, Bristol, from 11am on Saturday 19 April. The formal calling notice and agenda are contained in the Annual Report starting on page 41. Doors open for registration at 10am and refreshments will be available. Following the AGM will be an EGM.

A buffet lunch will be available from 12.20pm, and lunch tickets will be available on the day priced at £7.50.

Awards will be presented after lunch, followed by the President’s Address. Following this is an Open Forum session with short presentations by members of the RSGB Board. On completion there will be a question and answer session.

A comprehensive RSGB bookstall will be open during registration and also over lunch. The AGM is a perfect opportunity to browse through the latest titles and buy your favourites at Members Discount prices.

Join us for Dinner!

Why not make it a full day out and join us for dinner? After the AGM there will be a dinner in celebration of Amateur Radio at the Novotel Hotel, Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6HY. Join President Colin Thomas, G3PSM, members of the Board and our Guests of Honour for a splendid social evening in the true traditions of Amateur Radio. Only 100 tickets are available, so you can be assured of very select company for this memorable evening. As well as individual bookings clubs and parties may book tables up to 10 guests. Tickets can be obtained online at www.rsgbshop.org/dinner, by telephone on 0870 904 7373 or by post from RSGB HQ. Tickets will be available until Wednesday 17 April, and cost £25 per person. Demand is always high so purchase your tickets early and you won’t be disappointed. Dress Code: Lounge suit, blazer or smart casual.

Travel and Transport

If you travel by train, you will arrive at Bristol Temple Meads Station, which is just a 5 minute walk from the Novotel Hotel.

Travel by car is fairly easy. The venue is most easily accessed from the M4 junction 19, Bristol/Swindon exit. From there take the M32 towards Bristol and follow signs for Temple Meads station. The map shows final approach information. Public car parking is available at Temple Meads station and several other local places.

Bristol International Airport is nine miles from the city centre. There is an express link from Bristol International Airport to Temple Meads Station which is approximately 30 minute at a cost of £5.00 for a single fare and £8.00 return. Further information on visiting Bristol can be found on the internet at www.visitbristol.co.uk.

Menu

Starter

Spinach and Watercress Soup
With Horseradish Quiche

Intermediate

Monkfish wrapped in Pancetta
With Celeriac mash

Main

Fillet of Beef Wellington
With Fondant Potato and Charred Asparagus

Dessert

Hot Chocolate Fondant
With White Chocolate Ice Cream

Selection of British Farmhouse Cheeses
With Apricot Chutney

A vegetarian option of the menu
is available on request



Easiest Ever Portable Antenna

SOTA beams has announced the SB270, a super light-weight beam for 2m and 70cm portable use. They say the new design makes the SB270 "the easiest-to-use portable aerial ever". In addition to adding 70cm, a new element mounting technique has been developed making it faster than ever to put this aerial together in extreme conditions. The 3-ele 2m beam gives "even better performance than the original SOTAbeam", and the 6-ele 70cm Yagi has "a very clean radiation pattern as well as a broad bandwidth allowing its use for satellite and ATV". The whole beam packs into a single slim tube, 1m long. The SB270 is sold as a complete kit including feeder, a mast and guying kit and is available at an introductory price of £79.95 + £8.50 p&p. Users of the original SOTAbeam will benefit from a trade-in deal. Details at <http://www.sotabeams.co.uk>.



SOTA Beams new dual-band portable antenna

Linear Amp UK Saved

We reported recently that Linear Amp UK was to close. However just as we went to press we were pleased to hear that the business has been transferred to another company, Elite Interfaces of Reading. Production of amplifiers continues from 1 March 2008 under the guidance of Paul Cullen, G4TKZ. Direct sales and dealer distribution will continue as before. For more information contact Elite on 0118 958 4600 or email paul.cullen@eliteinterfaces.com.

Bludners

In the February edition, we reviewed the Begali range of Morse keys. Unfortunately, we mistyped the web address at the end of the article. It should have read www.i2rtf.com. Our apologies to Piero, I2RTF for this error.

Intermediate book now on Audio

The Radio Amateur Invalid & Blind Club has just re-recorded the RSGB's Intermediate Licence – Building on the Foundation in MP3 Format. This follows Foundation Licence - Now! which was re-recorded in 2007. The recording was made by Chris, M5AGG, and Pete, G0PKS. The CD can be obtained from the RAIBC helpline 08000 141 743 or by sending a request to VI@RAIBC.org.uk. RAIBC is a charity which assists radio amateurs with disabilities. Course recordings are free to their members, but they ask for a small voluntary donation from others to cover costs.

HamCalc #96 Now Out

The latest version of HamCalc "Painless Math for Radio Amateurs" software is available as a free download at www.cq-amateur-radio.com. There are well over 350 programs, most of which contain several equations, all in one compact package (less than 3Mb) that downloads very quickly. For further information contact ve3erp@rac.ca, or simply download the latest version of HAMCALC and try it out!

W&S distribute RadarBox

Waters & Stanton PLC have taken over the distribution of AirNav System's RadarBox. RadarBox gives users the ability to track aircraft using a decoded Mode-S/ADS-B signal, thereby giving them the same data and view as an air traffic controller.

AirNav Systems are well known in the aviation market for their professional software used at airports around the world. The new RadarBox will have great appeal to enthusiasts and those who commercially have a need to know where particular aircraft are. To this end, comprehensive user filters can be invoked to limit the display to just the aircraft that interest you.

With the release of the new 2008 software, W&S have negotiated a major price reduction from £469 to £399.95. This includes the software, hardware receiver, antenna and connecting leads. In addition, accessories will be available to permit users to erect an efficient outside antenna system. RadarBox works with Windows XP or Vista. See www.wsplc.com for more information.

GMDX Convention



The 11th annual GMDX Convention and Dinner will be held at the King Robert Hotel, Whins of Milton, Stirling, on Saturday, 26 April 2008 starting at 12.30pm. Bar snacks will be available from 11.30am. The raffle Star Prize is an FT817 transceiver generously donated by Yaesu UK. Lecture topics include '3X5A' by G3SXW, 'St Barthelemy' by G3TXF and 'Engineering for DX' by GM3SEK. Full details from www.gmdx.org.uk.

Bath Builders' Success

The first Bath Buildathon took place in January with 12 amateurs building their first transceivers. Some had been licensed for years but had never built anything, whilst others were Intermediate students from the Bath radio classes. Builders travelled from as far away as Wolverhampton, East Grinstead and Southampton. The kit chosen for the Buildathon was the Walford Electronics Brendon 80m DSB transceiver which proved very popular.

Feedback from the builders was extremely positive and most are ready to do it again soon. Steve Hartley, G0FUW, who arranged the event said that it had been a huge success and that he would encourage other tutors and clubs to have a go with their own Buildathon. More information on how to organise a Buildathon is available from Steve at g0fuu@tiscali.co.uk or QTHR.



Steve Hartley, G0FUW, with Jim Farrant, MOJZR, at the test bench.



Brian Reay, G8OSN, takes the floor at February's Train the Trainers day in North Wales. Train the Trainers is a training day for tutors, or those who are thinking of becoming tutors for the various levels of licence. Many topics relating to teaching are looked at, as well as tips on how to prepare lectures and to deliver them.

Mandy's Persistence Pays Off



Mandy, now M3MJT, with her pass certificate and (left to right) John, Mike and Dennis

Mandy from Bedford is not able to get out much, but was desperate to take her licence having been an active listener for some years. Going out to attend a course at a local club and sitting the exam there was out of

the question. Through the RSGB she discovered it would be possible to take the examination in her own home provided her problems warranted it. After contacting various clubs she persuaded the Stevenage and District club to organise a course for her and a fellow sufferer.

In the event it was a collaborative exercise over several club areas, a neighbouring amateur Mike, GOOXY, from Bedford covered the theory, John, MOJMC, from the Stevenage Club organised all the paperwork and the assignments, and Dennis, 2EOJXM, from the Shefford Club acted as the chief Invigilator. She took the exam in her conservatory and passed with flying colours.

SES Risk Assessment

In these increasingly safety conscious days, it pays to take all possible precautions when running an event. Keith Hotchkiss, GOFEA, has created sample risk assessment documents for amateur radio special event stations. These are available for free download from his personal web site, www.yaesu.org.uk. The site also includes a variety of other health and safety documents.

Kempton Rally

Amongst the attractions at this year's Kempton Rally, held on 6 April, is an RSGB Book Stall and the Top Ham competition (see March RadCom). The event also features the presentation of the RSGB VHF Contest Trophies. Full details of the rally, organised by Radio Fairs, are advertised elsewhere in this edition.

Good news for visually impaired

Working with the importers Vine Antennas, Don Ward, GOMDO, has developed "talking software" for the popular range of Prosisstel rotators. This allows complete control of the rotator via the RS-232 port and a PC. It announces back headings and rotator activity through Microsoft Voice. Vine Antennas offers this software free of charge to any visually impaired operator. Note that it may only be used with the Prosisstel "D" control boxes with RS-232 output as standard. Contact Vine Antennas on 01691 831111 or email info@vinecom.co.uk for further details.

SBS-1 at Martin Lynch & Sons

Over 150 aviation enthusiasts travelled to ML&S from all over the UK to meet other and attend lectures on the SBS-1 Virtual Radar system. The SBS-1 is a Mode-S/ADS-B receiver that decodes transponder signals from aircraft. The accompanying BaseStation software displays this information on a virtual radar screen enabling real-time aircraft tracking. Both Chris Taylor (Technical Sales Director, ML&S) and David Goodman (CEO Kinetic Avionics Ltd) answered technical support issues, future developments for the Base

Station Software and much more.

The day was a real success; this is the first time users of the SBS-1 have met face to face to exchange ideas and notes. £2500 worth of brand new Windows Vista notebooks (supplied by Kinetic Avionics), MyDEL antennas and a Bearcat scanner were won by lucky winners on the day.

Anyone who buys an SBS-1 in April or May will be entered into a draw to win a notebook PC. More information is available via the 'avionics' link at www.hamradio.co.uk.

Broadcasting Guide

The new 2008 (21st) edition of Radio Stations in the United Kingdom is now available from the British DX Club. This is a comprehensive 68-page guide to BBC, commercial, community and low power AM/FM services on MW and FM, with lists in frequency order and by station name. It includes transmitter power and site details, plus contact information. It includes a section covering the Republic of Ireland. It's been two years since the last edition was published so there are numerous changes, including almost 100 new community radio stations. The price is £3.50 to UK addresses. Full details and payment methods are at www.bdx.org.uk.

Radio Mate Price Reduced

Bhi have reduced the price of their Radio Mate compact keypad for the Yaesu FT817, FT857 and FT897 to £89.95 plus £4.95 p&p. Reviewed in the February 2007 RadCom, Radio Mate lets you get the best out of your radio by making common functions quick and easy to use. It connects to the 8pin CAT interface of the radio. More information can be obtained from bhi on 0845 217 9926, or from their website www.bhinstrumentation.co.uk.

- We would like to congratulate bhi's proprietor, Graham, on passing the Foundation exam and gaining the callsign M3ZGS.

QUICK NEWS

- The Radio Society of Harrow G3EFX is able to resume tuition for Foundation licences. Details from Jim, MOUJC, jdclarke@freenet.co.uk or 020 8907 9441. #
- WACRAL, the Christian's radio association, is sending out free bookmarks. Handy for keeping places in a callbook, handbook or written logbook. There's a radio amateur's prayer on one side and the history of the code greeting '501' on the reverse. Email your postal address to G3XNX@wacral.org.

Pontefract Passes

In January's 'Club News' we reported the launch of Pontefract Junior Radio Club. The club has now borne fruit. The three young people taking their Foundation Licence exam all passed. Matthew, Jacob and Charlie will all be on the air on Saturdays when the Junior Radio Club meets from 12:30 at the Cooke Hall, Bondgate, Pontefract WF8 2LQ.

Reg, GOKMW, will be starting Morse tuition in the next few weeks and plans are in hand for a summer Intermediate course. More information on Pontefract Junior RC is available from the Pontefract Radio Club website, www.pdars.com.



Pontefract's successful candidates holding their certificates. Left to right: Reg Greenhough, G4KMW, tutor; Jacob Sowter; Charlie Mackintosh; Matthew Noakes; Chris Pearson, MOJQR, tutor.

Knitting by Morse

It isn't often that radio amateurs are asked to send knitting patterns by Morse code, but that is exactly what was required when the Waygood's Amateur Radio Club for Artists set up a radio rally style event with members of radio clubs across the North East. The event was held at Newcastle's Grainger Market and enabled club members to share their enthusiasm whilst meeting members of the public and other amateurs.

The newly formed Waygood's Club has recently had good success in getting the M3 licence for its members, and wishes to develop the creative possibilities of radio. Other plans include a regional approach to training for the examinations and closer liaison between North East clubs. With good local press and television coverage this was an excellent opportunity to spotlight amateur radio.

Building at Braintree

Braintree Radio Club (www.badars.org.uk) has started a short season of construction projects which will lead to the club construction contest in April. The committee drew up a shortlist of projects and members were able to select those that most interested them.

Club chairman Dave, GODEC, produced circuits for items such as a lead-acid battery charger, twin meter HF VSWR meter, CTCSS encoder, crystal calibrator, etc. He also compiled kits of parts and made perf-board layouts for smooth construction. Many members have limited facilities for home construction, so plenty of tools are being brought along by more experienced members. As the projects progress, various items of test equipment will be available.



Braintree club members check they have all the components for their kits

Dover Exam Successes

At a time when amateur radio is under threat from the Internet, there are no worries on the East Coast of Kent! Dover Radio Club has now run 23 Foundation courses. In the relatively short space of time since the Foundation Licence was introduced, Dover Radio Club has initiated 146 newcomers to the hobby, and their success rate is a remarkable 92%. Many of the newly qualified Foundationers are inspired to go on to the Intermediate course, and ultimately the Advanced.

Candidates have varied from schoolchildren to professionals, the oldest so far being 76 and the youngest just eight. Several were YLs, and being so close to the Continent, a few were foreign. There have been two blind candidates, and one in a wheelchair. Some travelled long distance, the furthest so far recorded coming from Dunstable, about three hours' drive away.



Dover RC's latest Foundation Course Students. Back row: left to right - David Harding, GODQI (Lead Instructor); Remy Fenn; Alex Jamieson-Colville (13); Jeffrey Townsend; Brian Joyner, G8ZYZ (Assistant Instructor); Owen Cooper; Maria Kerr; Iain Vickers; Graham Cahill, 2E1ITE (Senior Invigilator); Graham Wells; Ben Sutton, MOTUX (Assistant Invigilator); Brian Cuff, G4SAU (Assistant Instructor). Front row: left to right - James Gaskin (9), Tony Willsher.



At their AGM, Warrington Amateur Radio Club (www.warc.org.uk) appointed Mike Isherwood, G4VSS, to the newly created post of President. It was felt that the promotion of the club regionally and nationally required a club member with experience, presence and skills and there was unanimous support for Mike to be the first holder of the position.

QUICK NEWS

- South Tyneside ARS has now completed the move from its long term home at Boldon Scout Hut to St Peter's Church, York Ave, Jarrow, Tyne & Wear. The new venue offers better facilities for training and is more centrally located for public transport links. The club members would like to thank the Scouts who have been good hosts for the last 10 years. Details of the move and directions can be found at www.starsradio.co.uk.
- The inaugural meeting of the West Devon Radio Club is on 15 April, from 7pm. The event, at the Congress Hall in Plymouth, features amateur radio demonstrations, VIP visitors, an HF station and a Bring and Buy sale. Anyone attending the inaugural night will get free Associate Membership of the club for a year. Further information is at <http://westdevonradioclub.bravehost.com>.
- Norfolk Amateur Radio Club (www.norfolkamateurradio.org) celebrated three more members upgrading from 2EO to MO. Just days later, nine M3s became 2EOs, thanks to a challenging but enjoyable and successful Intermediate course during February.

G6HL back on air

An impressive-looking 50 year old home-made amateur station has been brought back to life by members of the North Norfolk Amateur Radio Group. The station was built to the highest professional standards in the 1950's by Wing Commander Ieuan Edward Hill, G6HL. He continued using it until he died in 1997. In 2000, his daughter, Rosemary Cox, donated the equipment and it has been on static display in the "Radio Hut" at the Muckleburgh Collection military museum ever since.

G6HL obtained his first radio receiving licence in 1925, and his first experimental transmitting licence in 1928. His first call was 6HL, becoming G6HL soon after when prefix letters were added to call signs to indicate the country where a station was located. Accompanying the station is an historic collection of QSL cards, dating from 1928 to 1997, recording and confirming the huge number of contacts G6HL made around the world, including many from countries with names that no longer exist.

During the museum's winter closure, Bill Ward, G4NRE and many other volunteers worked to get the station back on the air. With a lack of written instructions and the great number of often unmarked knobs, switches and sockets on the equipment, it was not an easy task but first success came on 13 December 2007 when Bill exchanged greetings on 20m with F4EIT using the Group's permanent special event call GB2MC. Further work was needed to make it fully operational and this has now been completed.

The Radio Hut at Muckleburgh is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 4 pm and most Sunday afternoons 1 to 4 pm. Bill Ward, who recently became the Group's chairman, would like to hear from any radio enthusiasts with some time to spare who might be interested in joining the Group in its interesting activities. He can be contacted by phone on 01603 487047 or by e-mail to g4nre@yahoo.com. The museum's own website is at www.muckleburgh.co.uk.



Bill Ward G4NRE operating the magnificent G6HL station at Muckleburgh

Newbury club gain Lottery funding

Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society (NADARS) has been awarded a grant of nearly £10,000 under the National Lottery Awards For All scheme. NADARS will use the money to run licence training courses, provide amateur radio awareness exhibitions and demonstrations at local events and to operate portable stations for emergency planning, demonstrations and of course for the benefit of club members.

NADARS normally meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the conference room behind the Traveller's Friend Public House at Crookham Common, between Thatcham and Brimpton. They are very pleased to welcome visitors to any meeting. For more information contact Richard Jolliffe on 01635 46241 or email G3ZGC@aol.com. The club website is at www.nadars.org.uk.



Newbury and District ARS chairman Andy, G3SVD accepts the National Lottery cheque from RSGB Board Member Don Field, G3XTT (right) while club members look on.

IMD at Sandford Mill Museum

Sandford Mill Radio Museum in Chelmsford will be celebrating International Marconi Day on Saturday 26 April. Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) will be setting up GX0MWT in the famous Writtle Hut which now housed in the museum. It was used for some of the first wireless broadcasts by 2MT in the early 1920's.

This year CARS plan to run two HF stations and a VHF station from the museum. CARS members will start operating from the Writtle Hut station on midnight Friday night through to Saturday evening. The second HF and the VHF station will be operating during museum visitor opening hours 10 am to 4 pm.

As well as the radio stations CARS will also be running a demonstration of automatic mechanical Morse transmission and reception using historic equipment from early in the last century. This demonstration run by Geoff G7KLV and Colin GOTRM is always very popular with the general public especially younger visitors.

For further information contact the secretary Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL, on 01245 469008 or by email to info2008@g0mwt.org.uk. The club web site is at www.g0mwt.org.uk.

Prof. Pillinger visits 60 year old Shefford club

To open their 60th year celebrations, the Shefford and District ARS entertained the celebrated scientist Prof Colin Pillinger of Beagle 2 fame in January. Professor Pillinger presented a light hearted overview of the history and development of space travel and of his extraordinary Beagle 2 Mars project to a large audience of members and visitors from other local clubs including Cambridge, Stevenage and Milton Keynes.

Shefford club secretary David Lloyd, G8UOD, is preparing a history of the club's past sixty years and invites all past members to contact him with their personal recollections and photos from earlier days. Reach him at davide.lloyd@ntlworld.com or call 01234 742757.



Prof. Pillinger and members of the G3B radio contest group

1 Scotland South & Western Isles

Gordon Hunter, GM3ULP, gm3ulp@rsgb.org.uk**COCKENZIE & PORT SETON ARC**

- 4 Normal Club Night
- 14 Visit to Scottish Parliament
- 19 10 pin bowling night - Megabowl Kinnaird Park
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

LOTHIANS RS

- 9 Safety in the shack by Norman Stewart GM1CNH
- 23 Outside Visit to the studios of Leith FM
Toby, MMOTSS, 07739 742 367,
www.lothiansradiosociety.com

PAISLEY (YMCA) ARC

- 2 PCs in the shack
- 16 Gordon Hunter Film Night
- 30 What is software engineering?
Jim, GM3UWX

WEST OF SCOTLAND ARS

- 4 Club night
- 11 The alternative quiz: Our in-house alternative
to the Bright Sparks
- 18 Club Night
- 25 Aerial modelling: Using computer modelling in
developing existing and new aerials by GM3ZBE
www.wosars.org

2 Scotland North & Northern Isles

Denny Morrison, GM1BAN, gm1ban@rsgb.org.uk**ABERDEEN ARS**

- 3 Junk Sale
- 10 Switched Mode Power Supplies by Tony GM4HTU
- 17 OTA
- 24 Talk by Stan GM4BKV
Lewis, GM4AJR, 01224 575 663,
www.aars.freemove.co.uk

3 North West

Kath Wilson, M1CNY, m1cny@rsgb.org.uk**BOLTON WIRELESS CLUB**

- 14 Talk on ATV with Bob M1NUS and Steve M1DOT
- 28 Talk on IRLP and Echolink with Steven 2EOCRX
and Mike M3XMC, g1oneclub@hotmail.co.uk

CHESTER & DRS

- 1 Talk by John Goldberg
- 15 Working for Cable and Wireless by Les Green
- 23 Chester club visiting for a quiz evening,
no meeting Thursday
- 29 Icom ICR1000 PC controlled radio by B Levitt
www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk

SOUTH MANCHESTER R & CC

- 4 Hearing about "Further Antarctic Adventures of
Chris and Ron" by G3UAU and G3SVW
- 11 showing a video on World War 2 aircraft
- 18 A talk on "Electronic Organs" by Dave G4UGM
- 25 A talk on "Middle East Routes - a bit further"
by Peter GOBHP

- 28 Monthly Technical Forum
Ron, G3SVW, 0161 969 3999

STOCKPORT RS

- 1 "Knot Amateur Radio 2" - the art of using rope and
knots with Steve Holgate G8YTP
- 15 SDR and 5.9 at 70mph (HF & APRS mobile) with
Chris Pomfrett MOEEG
David, M1ANT, 0161 456 7832

THORNTON CLEVELEYS ARS

- 7 Show and tell evening
- 14 Contest discussion - Dave G8KBH
- 21 Simple antennas - Peter Chapman
- 28 Moving on from a cup of tea - Ted G3WBB
Jack, G4BFH, jack.duddington@btinternet.com

WIRRAL & DARC

- 2 Natter night - The Saughall Hote
- 9 Women in Radio, Lisa MOLSA
- 16 Natter night - The Riing O'Bells, W.Kirby
- 23 Quiz with Chester and District RS
- 27 N.Wales DF Challenge (Sunday)

- 30 Natter night - The Egremont Ferry, Wallasey
Tom, G4BKF, 07050 291 850

HAMBLETON ARS

- 2 Talk by Tony, G3MAE on the 'Mini VNA Analyser'
Tim, G0TYM, 01642 711 334,
g0tym@amsat.org,
www.radioclubs.net/hambletonars

4 North East

Harold Scrivens, G0UGE, g0uge@rsgb.org.uk**HORNSEA ARC**

- 2 Activity night
- 9 Antennas for DF
- 16 80m Club SSB contest
- 23 DF Hunt
- 29 visit to RAF Fylingdales
- 30 Activity night
Sue, G6UQA, QTHR

MEXBOROUGH & DARS

- 11 Talk from M1LOU & MOALA on IRLP
- 18 Talk from our RSGB DRM Keith Johnson
Sharon, MOBOH

SHEFFIELD ARC

- 7 Video evening + UHF/VHF planning meeting
- 14 Foxhunt Pea and Pie supper
- 21 VHF/UHF Activity night + Iota planning night
- 28 Talk - G3PHO
Trevor, MOTWS

TYNE AND WEAR REPEATER GROUP

- 21 AGM
Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920,
nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk

TYNEMOUTH RADIO CLUB

- 4 Junk Sale
- 11 PC Virtualisation - Glen GOSBN
- 18 AGM
- 25 International Marconi Day - Briefing
- 26 International Marconi Day
Tony, G8YFA, tony.regnart@gmail.com

5 West Midlands

Dave Gourley, G0MJY, g0mjy@rsgb.org.uk**ALDRIDGE AND BARR BEACON ARC**

- 7 Preparation for PW 144MHz QRP contest
- 21 Photoshop master video show by Horace.
Roy Horton, G4GRM, 01922 691646,
leslie137@btinternet.com

COVENTRY ARS

- 4 Mini lectures
- 11 Committee forum
- 18 2nd round 2m DF trophy
- 25 Portable operating - review
John, G8SEQ, 02476 273 190,
johnhg8seq@ntlworld.com

GLOUCESTER AR & ES

- 7 Construction
- 14 RSGB Rep visit - Dave Gourley, G0MJY RM5
- 21 HF/Workshop
- 30 VHF Operating/Morse Practice
Anne, 2E1GKY, 01452 548478, daytime,
www.g4aym.org.uk

MIDLAND AX25 PACKET RADIO USERS GROUP

- 7 AGM at The Sir Robert Peel, Bloxwich
Miles, G4GSB, 01384 254 199,
www.maxpak.org.uk

MID-WARWICKSHIRE ARS

- 22 Used equipment and book sale
Bernard, M1AUK, 01926 420 913

SALOP ARS

- 3 Natter Night
- 10 Power Meters Project - Calibration
- 17 Malcolm G0EBD on contesting
- 24 Contest logging
www.salop-ars.org.uk

STRATFORD UPON AVON DRS

- 14 Mobile Aerial Matching by Jack, G3VYE
- 28 Kite aerials. A talk and, weather permitting, a

- demonstration by Roger Stafford, G4ROJ
Jack, G3VYE, 01926 641 988,
g3vye@onetel.com

TAMWORTH ARS

- 3 Natter Night
- 10 Construction night
- 17 Club station on air G8TRS
Colin Marks, G4ZPJ, 01827 700 893,
colin.marks2@ntlworld.com

TELFORD & DARS

- 2 Open House
Mike, G3JKX, 01952 299 677,
mjstreetg3jxx@blueyonder.co.uk

WYTHALL RC

- 1 2m Club Championship from shack
- 15 Talk on antenna modelling by Chris GOEYO
- 22 Natter night
- 29 Quiz night General Knowledge and Radio
Chris, GOEYO, 07710 412 819,
g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk,
www.wythallradioclub.co.uk

6 North Wales

Mark Harper, MW1MDH, mw1mdh@rsgb.org.uk

No listings received this month

7 South Wales

Gareth Price, GW3MPP, gw3mpp@rsgb.org.uk

No listings received this month

8 Northern Ireland

Peter Lowrie, MI5JYK, mi5jyk@rsgb.org.uk**BANGOR & DARC**

- 3 Annual constructors contest
Mike, G14XSF, 028 4277 2 383

9 London and Thames Valley

Alison Johnston, G8ROG, g8rog@rsgb.org.uk**BURNHAM BEECHES RC**

- 7 Surplus Equipment Sale
G4XDU, 01628 625 720

CHESHAM & DARS

- 2 General meeting
- 9 Night OTA
- 16 Visit to Museum of Technology
- 23 K3 Costruction Talk by Stewart G3RXQ
- 30 Dunstable boot sale planning - bring your junk
Terry, G0VFW, 01442 506 344,
terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com

COULSDON ATS

- 14 Test and Swap evening
Andy, G8JAC, g8jac@btinternet.com

HOME COUNTIES ATV CLUB

- 22 70cm digital ATV - G8ADM and G8LES
Dave, M0SAT, m0sat@gb3hv.com,
www.gb3hv.com

MAIDENHEAD & DARC

- 3 History of receivers by John Ellerton G3NCN
- 15 Natter night
John, G8RYW, 01628 628 463,
g8ryw@tesco.net

NEWBURY & DARS

- 9 Visit to Martin Lynch's shop
- 23 Number plate recognition - Andy G3CVD
Richard, G3ZGC, 01635 46241,
Richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com

RADIO SOCIETY OF HARROW

- 11 Members' Operating Experiences
- 25 SH/KM - Radios and computers
Linda, G7RJL, 020 8386 8586,
www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310

READING & DARC

- 4&5 Continuing foundation Licence course
- 5 Three towers hike, can you help?
- 10 "The Falkland Islands" by Roger GOSWC

- 16 Commencement of the Intermediate Licence
Course details from Harry Hogg g3ngx@radarc.org
- 24 Evening shopping trip to Martin Lynch's emporium
Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697

SHEFFORD & DARS

- 3 Climate change a talk by Keith M1EPK
- 5 Club dinner (Saturday)
- 10 Club SDR Construction test
- 17 Spring Junk Sale
- 24 20's H-Fi a presentation by Brian G8GHR
David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757

STEVENAGE & DARS

- 1 VHF Operating – 144MHz UK activity contest
- 8 MKARS 80m SSB XCUR – GOWAT, M1HOG
- 15 HF Operating
- 22 VHF Operating – 50MHz UK activity contest
- 29 Video night
Neil, M0ARH, 01438 217 077

SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

- 7 AGM
Ray, G4FFY, 020 8644 7589

SUTTON & CHEAM RS

- 17 Talk – Loops and other small antennas by
Professor Mike Underhill G3LHZ
John, G0BWV, 020 8644 9945,
info@scrs.org.uk

WEY VALLEY ARG

- 4 Club construction contest
- 18 World of Repeaters – Guildford Repeater Group
www.veyvalleyarg.org.uk

WHITTON ARG

- 6 Intermediate Course Starts (7 Wed Eves)
- 19 Foundation Exam
Chris, 0870 760 5082, www.warg.info

WIMBLEDON & DARS

- 11 Construction of Antennas for VHF DFing
- 25 Surplus equipment sale
Jim, M0CON, 020 8874 7456

10 South & South East

Gavin Keegan, G6DGK, g6dgk@rsbg.org.uk

CRAWLEY ARC

- 23 Best of the freeware apps by Mike GOVYN
John, G3VLH, 01342 714 402

HASTINGS E & RC

- 12 Spring auction used and surplus equipment
Gordon, 01424 431 909,
gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk

HORNDEAN & DARC

- 1 Natter night/social evening
- 22 Talk by David Clark (ex-radio officer)
on "The last voyage of the RMS Queen Mary"
Stuart, G0FYX, 023 9247 2846,
www.hdarc.co.uk

HORSHAM ARC

- 3 History of recorded sound, John G0GNA
- 17 Social - The Frog and Nightgown, Faygate
- 26 DXpedition - Le Crotoy
www.harc.org.uk

ITCHEN VALLEY ARC

- 11 Members evening
- 25 Hospital radio Paul G0TLG
Liz, M0ACL, 02380 254599

MID-SUSSEX ARS

- 4 Fox hunt Sue and Geoff
- 11 Radio Night
- 18 Radio night and Table Top Sale
- 25 Lecture
Sue, G6YPY, 01273 845 103, sue@figgerit.co.uk

SWINDON & DARC

- 3 Talk "1.3 and 10GHz Operation" - Ian G8KQW
Mike, M5CBS, 01793 826 465

TROWBRIDGE & DARC

- 2 Talk by Mike Adams M0ALW (KH0AS)
- 16 Natter night
Ian, G0GRI, 01225 864 698, E/W

WORTHING & DARC

- 2 SWR and all that by G3LDO
- 16 Round table suggestions evening
- 23 Repeaters by G4PAP
- 30 GX3WOR on the air evening
Roy, G4GPX, 01903 753 893

11 South West and Channel Islands

Pam Helliwell, G7SME, g7sme@rsbg.org.uk

CORNISH RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

- 14 AGM
- 26 International Marconi Day
Ian, 01872 561 058

GUERNSEY ARS

- 25 Choosing a SDR kit by Keith GU6EFB
Phil, GU0SUP

SOUTH BRISTOL ARC

- 2 Spring Table Top Sale G4RZY Len
- 9 Wine and Cheese evening – G4YZR Muriel
- 16 Horticultural Evening – Mrs Susan Grace
- 23 Introduction to RAYNET M3AMB Sean
- 30 OTA evening
Len, G4RZY, 01275 834 282

TAUNTON & DARC

- 2 Talk "The Quest for higher frequencies"
by Mr Peter Butcher, Editor of "Transmission Lines"
- 9 Club station OTA
- 23 Operating Club Station
- 30 Operating Club Station
William, G3WNI, 01823 666 234,
g3wni@btinternet.com

TORBAY ARS

- 4 Operating night
- 11 Natter night
- 18 Operating night
- 25 90/10 sale
Dave, G6FSP, g6fsp@tars.org.uk

WEST DEVON RADIO CLUB

- 15 Inaugural Night at the Salvation Army Congress
Hall Rooms
Mr Ritter, M0ZOL, 01752601823

YEOVIL ARC

- 3 Fun Run
- 10 QRP Convention Briefing
- 17 AGM
- 24 Station on Air
- 27 (Sunday) QRP Convention
Gary, 2E0BFJ, g.swain@tesco.net

12 East and East Anglia

Phillip Brooks, G4NZQ, g4nzq@rsbg.org.uk

BITTERN DX GROUP

- 17 GB0GFH Final Planning
Keith, G0GFQ, 01263 588 506,
keith@g0gqf.com, www.bittern-dxers.org.uk

BRAINTREE & DARS

- 7 Construction contest
- 14 Club net
- 21 How to operate HF rigs
- 28 Club net
John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947

CAMBRIDGESHIRE REPEATER GROUP

- 6 Cambridgeshire Repeater Group Annual Rally
Paul, G2PA, 01462 683 574,
g2pa@btinternet.com, www.gb3pi.org.uk

CHELMSFORD ARS

- 1 The GHz bands by Sam Jewell G4DDK
- 26 International Marconi Day at Sandford Mill
Martyn, G1EFL, 01245 469 008

COLCHESTER RADIO AMATEURS

- 17 Alan Cross G0HKG presents 'The ZL Special'
Kevan, 2E0WMM, 07766543784,
colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk

DOVER RC

- 2 AGM
- 9 Net on GB3KS - Brian G4SAU Net Control
- 16 Social evening at the Bell Public House
- 23 Operating and natter night
Brian, G4SAU, g4sau@darco.org.uk

EAST KENT RADIO SOCIETY

- 7 Operating evening
- 21 Brian M0DCO on 'Being a guide dog owner'
Paul, G3VJF, 01227 365 384,
ekrsoc@gmail.com, www.paulnic.com/ekrs

GORLESTON ARS

- 26 Lunch time meeting at the Short Blue
David, G3OEP, QTHR, 01493 662 323

HARWICH AMATEUR RADIO INTEREST GROUP

- 9 "An SDR experimental test bed" by Jonathan GODVJ
James, M0ZZO, 01255 242 746

HAVERING & DARC

- 2 Business meeting review Q1 2008
- 9 Informal evening
- 16 Rockets by Pete Barrett from HART Rockets
- 23 Informal evening
- 30 Icom 7000 review and demo with Dave MOTAZ
Dave, 2E0EBV, 07956 594 514

KING'S LYNN ARC

- 3 Club night and 2m net hosted by Huntingdon Club
- 10 Club night and 2m net hosted by KLARC
- 17 Club night and 2m net hosted by Huntingdon Club
- 24 Club night and 2m net hosted by
KLARC (G1XYZ) Club
Ray, G3RSV, ral-g3rsv@supanet.com,
www.klarc.org.uk

LEISTON ARC

- 1 Meeting at Sizewell sports and social club
- 13 Talk by Jim Bacon G3YLA on weather at Leiston
Dave, G4HUP, 01473 737 717,
g4hup@btinternet.com

LOUGHTON & EPPING FOREST ARS

- 11 Night OTA, VHF
- 25 Talk "Distributed Computing & the search for
Extraterrestrial Intelligence" by Marc G0TOC
Marc, G0TOC, 020 8502 1645,
info@lefas.org.uk

NORFOLK ARC

- 2 AGM
- 9 Atlantic crossing with HF M0EAZ & G3LDI
- 16 Informal
- 23 Practical Direction Finding G7URP
- 30 Bright Sparks/Informal
Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, 01362 691099,
narc@g0lgi.co.uk

NORTH KENT RS

- 1 Natter night and field day discussion
- 16 Frank on Trinidad
Dave, G4YIB, nkrs@crystaldave.com

SOUTH ESSEX ARS

- 9 Testing Equipment - Allan G7CDO
www.southessex.ars.btinternet.co.uk,
southessex.ars@btinternet.com

13 East Midlands

Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, g0ejq@rsbg.org.uk

DERBY & DARS

- 1 Foolish Junk Sale
- 15 Video show
- 22 Technical Topics
- 29 Night OTA
Martin, G3SZJ, 01332 556 875

EAGLE RG

- 8 Talk by Mark 2E0NCG, HF & Dxing
Terry, G0SWS, 07979 733 640

LINCOLN SHORT-WAVE CLUB

- 2 Visit to Alan Wiles Workshop
- 9 News and Views
- 12 Shack Opening Ceremony by the Bishop of Lincoln
- 16 Surplus Equipment Sale - Bobby's Bargain Buys
- 19 GB2CWP @ East Kirkby. Brigades OTA
- 23 Night OTA
- 30 Propagation M0EJL
John, G1TSL, 01526 323 153

LOUGHBOROUGH & DARC

- 1 Talk - 'Nimrod, the glory years'. Phil Green
- 8 Vintage Radio & Test Equipment
- 15 Practical evening
- 22 Open forum - Aerial design & turning aids
- 29 Video evening - Secret Wireless War
Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319

RAF WADDINGTON ARC

- 3 Natter night in the club
- 10 OTA night in the shack
- 10 Visit to Eden Camp in Yorkshire
- 17 Review of Ham Software'
- 24 80m Club Championship contest
Martin, M0MDF, 01522 752 785,
martin@farmer4.freemove.co.uk

