

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.

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Rupert Thorogood, G3KKT

Honorary Treasurer:

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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 2009.

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WebPlus: Members-only website www.rsgb.org/membersonly
Use your callsign in lower case as the user name, and your membership number (see RadCom address label) as the password.

Club Visits

Almost 50 years to the day since his last visit, the RSGB's President, Colin Thomas G3PSM, visited the Coventry Amateur Radio Society (CARS) in December. Colin was a member of



CARS in the days when he was stationed at RAF Gaydon in Warwickshire. Society members

were given an outline of the work of the RSGB and plans for WARC 2011. The President also showed some slides of his visit to 403A.

He also met CARS' new President, Peter Yardley, GOINS, who also joined the society in 1958.

In January, the President visited Reading Amateur Radio Club, with his talk, 'What has the RSGB ever done for me?'. The talk explains the various elements of amateur radio that the RSGB are involved in and the services it provides that may be less well known to the membership (and the occasional non-member too).

There was plenty of lively discussion and



lots of questions for Colin to answer on everything from power on Top Band to AM signals

and Over the Horizon radar to the 2012 Olympics. The club starts its 75th anniversary year in 2009.

Martin Lynch Open Day

In December, Martin Lynch & Sons held their annual Open Day. Despite the cold, many amateurs turned out for the day and the showroom was crowded. Also in attendance were representatives from Icom, Kenwood and



Yaesu who kindly sponsor the hog roast, which was as popular as ever. Also popular were the numerous tins of chocolate, tirelessly circulated by young Charlie (MOLSK's son), plus Martin's wife, Jenny, and son,

Henry, who were the coffee making team!

All the various radio magazines, including *RadCom*, were represented at the event, which gave us the chance to talk to Members and non-Members alike – particularly members of the Kettering ARC who were due to sit their Intermediate exam very soon. Martin said that during the day lots of Icom HF and D-Star kit changed hands. Star of the show was Dennis, Martin's new Westie!

National Science and Engineering Week



To build on the success of previous years, the Radio Society of Great Britain is again supporting the British Association for the Advancement of Science during National Science & Engineering

Week, 6 – 15 March 2009. This event is one of the world's largest celebrations of science and engineering with an estimated 3500 events and 1.4 million attendees taking part in 2008.

The RSGB would like our affiliated clubs to reach out and interest people in our hobby. If you can organise an event locally, which will interest people outside the amateur radio community, we would like to support you. Clubs can organise anything from a simple talk at the club or school visit through to some of the huge events that were run last year. The RSGB is prepared to provide, free of charge, a variety of professional leaflets, posters and presentations for you to use, however we in turn need your support to run the events. A full list of the materials available can be found on the website but it must be returned by 13 February.

The RSGB would also like to publicise your event in the pages of *RadCom* and the website, so please send details of your event both before and after it takes place.

This is an opportunity to build for the future of amateur radio whilst enhancing the hobby we currently enjoy and we shouldn't miss it. So please help us make National Science & Engineering week a success and organise an event this year.

Meeting an Astronaut

Following their contact with Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, on the International Space Station back in October, children from the Budbrooke Primary School in Warwick had the chance to meet the man in person. At a Parliamentary Space Committee reception in the House of Commons, Richard addressed the audience speaking about the highlights of space travel and what he'd learnt from the experiments in space. He explained how space travel is in the family – and introduced his father, Owen Garriott, the first astronaut to operate amateur radio from space. There was also an address by Matthew Morgan, one of the children from the Budbrooke School who praised the radio amateurs who had assisted the contact saying they were 'role models' for the pupils.

Also attending the event was Carlos Eavis, GOAKI, and Howard Long, G6LVB, on behalf on the RSGB and ARISS.



I have been licensed now since 1985 and, by the end of 1985, I was helping others who wanted to get into this great hobby by running RAE classes. The first were in Widnes and then we moved to Runcorn some four months later when it became obvious that local demand had rendered the room I had totally unsuitable. I must be doing something right as I keep getting more students each time I start a new session.

Anyway, in the early nineties the Novice licence was introduced and some of my previous students who had found the RAE too taxing took up this challenge. My own opinion of the Novice licence was that students had to do a lot of work for what was then very limited access to the amateur bands. There was Novice A and Novice B determined by whether you sat a Morse test or not. Also, you had no choice but to attend a registered course. When asked for my advice I was consistent in my opinion that so little was accessed by getting a Novice licence that the students time would be better spent studying a little harder for longer and going for the full RAE.

When it was announced that there was to be a complete rethink on the licensing structure and its new three tier system, I was among the first in the queue to offer my support and assistance. Since I had seen the decline in numbers entering the hobby first hand, both in the form of the number of courses falling and also the number of candidates, I felt that here was a possible solution. The numbers of new candidates taking up the new route demonstrates that the changes were spot on.

In the beginning, B licence holders could get a Foundation licence to operate on HF by doing the Morse assessment. We were limited to the same 10 watts as any other Foundation licence holder whilst operating thus, but we were at least on HF in an easier way than taking a Morse test. Also for a while there was the A/B licence with 100 watts for passing a 5wpm Novice style Morse test. Morse has now all but gone as a requirement and things have moved on.

So, to this new licensing structure. At our study centre, The Beacons, due mainly to the facilities that were available to us there, we were able to offer weekend courses with the exam at the end of the second day. This meant that prospective new candidates could take their course and be licensed and operating within two weeks. Compare that with the near six months minimum of the old RAE or even three months or so for the Novice and I think you will agree this was a definite improvement.

A Morse assessment instead of a test and access to the HF bands was granted. We did find that even the mention of *MORSE* had some in panic attacks, so we moved this bit to the first task on the Saturday morning. That sorted that out. A well balanced mixture of theory and assessments with some humorous bits thrown in for good measure and our successes grew. Most of this was more by accident than good planning but, it worked.

So we progressed to offering the full package from intrepid first steps over the Beacons threshold to a Full licence pass. So where is all this leading to I hear you say.

Well, when the novice was current, you passed and got a licence and found yourself with 3 watts of RF power or 5 watts DC input and some little chunks of frequency here and there but nowt where it counted, that is, 2m on VHF and/or 20m on HF. Now, along comes this new Foundation thingy and lo and behold 10 watts on every band

Our Exam System

up to and including 70cm albeit without 10m access – but even that has been addressed now. If you held a Novice licence you suddenly had nearly every band available and 50 watts of power. If not, then progressing to the Intermediate level addressed that.

With the Foundation, you do two days (our method) of hard work and play and get all mode access to all bands up to 440MHz. This is a setting up and operating licence and very little study in the construction or dangers of establishing and running an RF transmitting station is done here. You do a bit, you get a bit.

Moving to the Intermediate, four Friday evenings and a weekend timed to coincide with a set exam date and you are there. Now you have done some cutting and soldering, some mains electric bits and generally shown that you can construct.

This is a constructor's licence and you are now qualified and permitted to build your own transmitters. You do some more, you get some more.

Advance to the Full licence. Now you do all the theory again but in much more detail. Memory is unlikely to get you through this and a measure of understanding is needed. Dependant on your aptitude, anything from 15 Friday nights upwards, to get you to the next exam date. I usually work on about 22 weeks to be sure you have all the ammunition to attack the paper and you are there. There are no practical sessions required here but we do chuck some in if time allows, just to temper the tedium. Things like design and build your own antenna or power supply are favourites though they may not be quite what you expect. However, you will be qualified and licensed to design and build your own station after this and there are few, other than radio amateurs, who can legally do that. You also now know how to deal with all this RF power, where problems are likely to arise and what to do about it. This is something that you were never instructed in at the lower levels, which is a good reason for not letting you loose with such elevated power levels till now. This is a designers and experimenters licence. You are now qualified and licensed to design and build your own transmitters. (It doesn't mean you are capable, just qualified and licensed). You do a lot and you get a lot.

But what sort of a difference does more power make apart from between the operator's ears? Foundation limit is 10 watts or 10dBW. Intermediate limit is 50 watts or 17dBW and the Full limit is 400 watts or 26dBW. Consider the distant station listening to your signal. Let us assume there is a received signal strength of S5 from your station when you transmit at 10 watts. Raise this to the intermediate level of 50 watts and we have gone from 10dBW to 17dBW. The accepted signal strength ratio is 6dB per S point, so with an extra 7dB, i.e. from 10 to 17, we would expect our signal to go up from S5 to just over S6. Well that was a big change wasn't it? If we now go for it at 400 watts our increase is now 16dB, i.e. from 10dBW to 26dBW. 16 divided by 6 gives us 2.7 so our signal will be expected to increase from the original S5 to just under S8.

Now the CBers amongst you, (just like me when I was a CBer) might have expected that

going from 10 watts to 400 watts would effect a change from S5 to "banging me windows out" but as you can see, that just isn't so. Yes, there is a difference, but not necessarily of the magnitude you might have been expecting.

"But it isn't that simple" I hear you say, and you're right, it isn't. There is a lot more to it than that and that is what the next stages of learning are all about. For your efforts over a prolonged learning period you will get a much better understanding of the workings of the higher power radio waves, the unwanted interactions that can ensue and how to deal with them. This is why power levels are set where they are. Your knowledge of how to deal with unsympathetic interactions improves as you climb the ladder and until you have demonstrated your prowess by passing at the relevant examination level, it is only fair to all others using the radio spectrum that your access is suitably restrained.

Apart from the very early days when the likes of Michael Faraday and cohorts were experimenting with what eventually gave rise to amateur radio, everybody has had to do something to get a licence. You know what you have to do today, so if you want it today, do it today. In the years that I have been running radio classes of all levels I have only had one person tell me that he thought that the whole thing had been a waste of his time. He told me that just after he had picked up his failure notice.

During the time that we have been running our tuition classes and examinations we have seen a very wide array of abilities through our doors. Candidates from local to Runcorn and Widnes, North Wales, Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cumbria, Scotland, as far south as Buckinghamshire and one candidate who commuted weekly from Barbados (I kid you not). All of these people had two things in common. First, they wanted to pass at whatever level they were studying and secondly they did. We are not superhuman, neither need we be. The candidates themselves did all the work. We only showed them what to do and provided the location and sympathetic ears coupled with a bit of know-how. Over the years some 300 plus B licence upgrades (to M3?), 700 plus Foundation students, in excess of 300 Novice and Intermediate students and about 400 RAE and Advanced students have passed through our doors. There were some along the way who needed to re-sit an exam and some that I haven't included who did not pass at all, but not that many. Not everybody has the confidence to go all the way to the Advanced but it is my experience that few are incapable of achieving it. Hard work and a bit of self confidence and esteem and you are on your way.

There are plenty of people out there who are willing to help you, just go and talk to them. My classes are every Friday evening from 7:30 till 9:30 clock time in Kingsley in Cheshire and you are more than welcome. And just in case I am a bit too far for you, I'll bet there is someone else just like me, living nearer to you and all you have to do is contact them.

Dave Bibby, G1PIX

Exam Successes

Dorridge Scout Group's successful Foundation course secured its first two student passes on 23 December, the last exam of the year. Photographed holding their Pass certificates are Aidan Allen (Scout) and Emily McCormick (Guide).

Callum McCormick, M0MCX, a Cub Scout Leader and promoter of amateur radio within Scouting and Guiding said, "It's youngsters like this who will someday be leading our GB7HQ team or fighting the European contest leadership board, we're very proud of their achievements".

Dorridge Scout Group, one of the newest radio clubs in the UK, opens its doors to all local amateur operators, competing in a number of DX and Contest events throughout the calendar sometimes under their competitive flag, the Double X-ray Firm. Contact callum@mccormick.uk.com for more information.



Danny Morrison, who is eight-and-a-half, has just passed the Foundation exam and now is the proud owner of the callsign MM3YHA. Jim Moar from Castletown took him under his wing in July, and he sat and passed the exam in the Nethercliffe Hotel in Wick.

His dad, Denny Morrison, GM1BAN, has been an amateur radio enthusiast for 25 years. Danny's success has inspired his mum, Rona, to take up the challenge and she now plans to be the next in the Morrison household to sit the exam.



Kettering & District Amateur Radio Society held an Intermediate Examination in December and all six of the candidates for the passed. Tuition for amateur radio courses is available on an 'as required' basis. Anyone in the area who is interested should contact

Stephen Froggatt for further details on 01536 762523. Kettering & District Amateur Radio Society meets on Tuesday evenings at The Lilacs Public House, Church Street, Isham from 7pm. During the summer months, KDARS has a permanent Special Event Station, GB2HAM, at Harrington Aviation Museum, Northants.

Kettering & DARS: L-R: David, M3NVK, Patrick, M3XDZ, Steve, M3ZLK, Maurice, M6GMO, Lionel, M3GXS, Sam, M3XOM and Stephen G1LMN (tutor).

Cray Valley Radio Society in Eltham rounded off 2008 with a Foundation Licence Class held at the start of December. Ten candidates attended, with a wide range of ages and backgrounds between them and all passes. The youngest was Matthew Roberts, aged 10 years and three weeks. Those three weeks appear to be very important to a 10 year old; so he told the tutors! Three of the candidates were Leaders from local Scout groups as a result of Cray Valley's involvement in JOTA and helping Scouts achieve their 'Communications Badges'.

A humorous incident occurred at the very start of the first day when it was noticed that one of the teenage students was very polite and kept on calling another student 'Sir'. When asked about this, he replied "I've got to; he's my maths teacher at school!" Certainly a coincidence – neither knew that the other had any interest in amateur radio let alone that they were taking the same class!

Chris, G0FDZ and Dave, G4BUO acted as the main organisers of the course over the two day period. However, many members of Cray Valley provided either lectures or practical sessions during the classes. Richard, G8ITB and 'Smudge', G3GJW acted as Lead Instructor and Morse Appreciation tutor.

Matthew, now M6MER, is the youngest member of the Roberts family with an amateur radio licence; he joins his older sister, his mother, his father and grandmother. Other callsigns so far are Ben, M6YOU; Keith, M6KRF; Gareth, M6GAF; Christopher, M6CAF; Paul, M3YJU; Jasper, M6JDA and Alan, M6ASM.

Horndean & District ARC, Region 10 Hampshire, ran their second Foundation Licence class and exam in November. The photo shows the candidates (8 of whom passed the exam) together with the club's tutor Steve, M0RNA. Congratulations to all those who passed.

The **Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club** recently achieved 100% success with their Intermediate exam in December. The photo shows, L-R, Manu Hamblin, Nigel Berrie, Nigel Ham, Jose Barbieri and Dave Richards. A satisfied chief instructor, Paul, G0VWM, is in the front.



Photo: G4ODM

Mexborough & DARS Club have had another successful candidate obtaining their Foundation licence. Brian Allen took his Foundation exam on 12 December and was delighted – as can be seen by the photograph! He said that he cannot wait to get on the air. Well done Brian.

On the Air

There will be a series of lighthouse activations around Istanbul by TC Special Wireless Activity Team (TCSWAT) in the next few months. The dates, locations and callsigns are:

24 – 25 January, Anadolu Lighthouse, TC2ALH

21 – 22 February, Ahirkapı Burnu Lighthouse, TC1ALH

21 – 22 March, Rumeli/Turkeli Lighthouse, TC1RLH

4 – 5 April, Fenerbahçe Lighthouse, TC2FLH.

Stations contacting four of the lighthouses (or more as the activations started in December 2008) will receive the Istanbul Lighthouses On The Air Award. Details from <http://tcswat.tripod.com>.

Calling All Scouts!

More than 60 young people from all over Scotland were given a chance to participate in the annual Jamboree on the Air. Members of Kingdom ARS provided



several special radio stations to allow scouts to chat and communicate with their opposite numbers in all parts of the world. 63 young people qualified for

their Communicator badge. The radio club would like to thank Icom UK who loaned a range of equipment for the event. The Scouts all had a great time and were very happy to get a badge for their work! Cub Scout Scott Lilburn said, "We had a great time. We used short wave radio and managed to talk to people in Germany and Norway, it was really good fun."

QSL Cards

Simon Smith, 2E0VAG is the QSL Submanager for the callsign range MOBAA-MOBZZ. He's been doing this now for a couple of years and enjoys sorting and sending the cards out. The problem is that he is holding a large number of cards for callsigns that do not have envelopes and he'd really like to get these off to the stations they belong to. Any stations within this callsign range are encouraged to send envelopes to Simon or let him know that you don't collect cards. Please e-mail him at golfmk1@hotmail.co.uk.

Railway Weekend

In September, a special event station was held at Hollycombe Steam Collection using the callsign GB2HSC for Railways on the Air. Dave, G1MAL, Paul, G0DBS and Dave, G4VKC ran the station to help celebrate the first steam powered passenger railway that took place on 27 September 1825.

Radio operations were held in the original Liphook Station signal box, which was moved to Hollycombe in 1977 and was renamed Hollycombe Junction. To the amusement of visitors, the radio station was earthed using a G-clamp to the actual railway track.



New Radio

The Alinco DJ-175 VHF handheld radio is being released about now. This handheld covers 144 to 145.995MHz on both receive and transmit, giving 5W output from the supplied battery. It is equipped for almost any selective call requirement and gives full access to the UK VHF repeaters. It comes complete with battery and drop in mains charger and will sell for £129. Full details from www.nevada.co.uk.



International Marconi Day

This event, which was originally the brainchild of two members of the Cornish Radio Amateur Club (CRAC), will be held for the 22nd time on Saturday 25 April. The event, which is not a contest as such, runs from 0000UTC for 24 hours on all HF bands. Awards can be obtained and full details can be found on the IMD website www.gb4imd.org.uk or obtained from the CRAC Chairman, GOFIC whose e-mail address is ken@jtarry.freemove.co.uk

Once again, it is hoped that more than 40 registered Award Stations will take part. Award Stations are operated from sites that have a historical connection with Guglielmo Marconi during his lifetime. The Cornish Radio Amateur Club look forward to hearing you on the air on the Day.

Leicester Show Visitors



Three Swedish hams visited the Leicester Amateur Radio Show last year. They all reported how much they enjoyed the visit – as you can see from the photo. From left to right: Lennart, SM5ENX, Anders, SM5BVS and Per-Olof, SM5DEV.

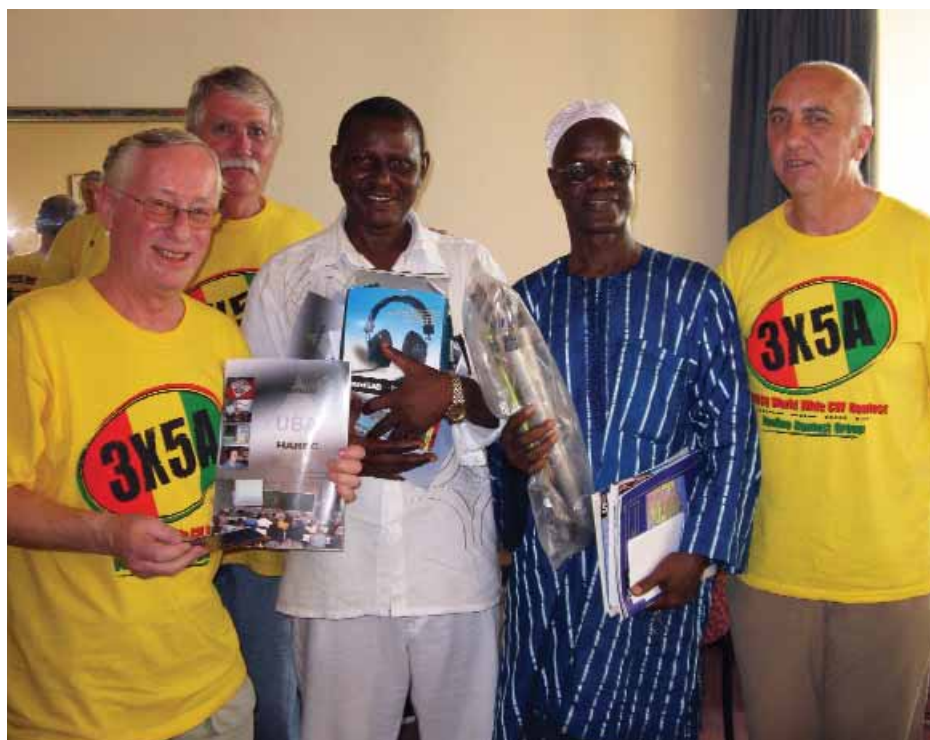
Amateur Radio in Guinea

ARGUI is the IARU-affiliated amateur radio society in the Republic of Guinea, West Africa. But there are almost no licensed amateurs. In November 2008, an 8-man contest group visited Conakry, the capital of Guinea, for the second time. They took some materials to help establish a permanent club station that already had a Kenwood TS930 transceiver in pristine condition and a microphone but little else.

With help from ML & S, they were presented with a trapped dipole for the three HF bands and coax, a Morse key,

headphones and maps for the wall in their newly established club room; as well as magazines including the beautiful French-language (REF) introduction to amateur radio. The Belgian society, UBA, provided copies of their HAREC training manual, in French, including CD for 'train the trainers'.

All these materials were presented to Mr Sow and Mr Camara, senior Directors of The National Directorate of Posts & Telecommunications of the Republic of Guinea. We wish them luck in developing amateur radio in their country.



(l to r) Roger Western, G3SXW; Vince Thompson, K5VT; Mr Camara, Mr Sow and Don Field, G3XTT. (Photo G4IRN).

RSGB Region 4

The RSGB Region 4 Club of the Year Award is an initiative that is being run by the RSGB Region 4 team to promote amateur radio. The Region 4 team are looking for RSGB affiliated clubs, groups, societies, RAYNET or a repeater group within the region, to contact them and tell them why you think your group should pick up the award. Could it be that your club does well on training for the RCF exams? Does your group excel in special event stations or contesting, public relations or charitable events? Have you started a new club? What has your group been up too since 1 March 2008?

The trophy will be awarded by the RSGB President, Colin Thomas, G3PSM at the 2009 RSGB AGM in Newcastle on 18 April. Check out the Region 4 website for full details.

Train the Trainers

An RSGB Train the Trainers session, hosted by the Sutton & Cheam Radio Society, will take place on Sunday, 8 February in Banstead, Surrey. The Train the Trainers scheme helps tutors enhance the standard of their Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced licence courses. Alan Betts, G0HIQ and Brian Reay, G8OSN will be presenting the all day course.

For more information and to register, contact Stuart Barber, G6CJR via e-mail: gb4bds@btinternet.com, or telephone 07946 688106. Demand is expected to be high, so it is important to register as soon as possible. Note: there is a nominal fee of £2 to cover refreshments and a contribution to hall hire for this session. For details of further Train the Trainers sessions, see the calendar at www.g8osn.org.uk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- The Sutton Coldfield Amateur Radio Society have a new secretary, Robert Bird (01827 288483). The club meets every 2nd and 4th Monday, except Bank Holidays. It also runs courses for the Foundation and Intermediate licence, as well as on the air nights.

- The South Essex Amateur Radio Society now meets at a new venue: South Benfleet Primary School (opposite Smiths Wood Yard), High Road, South Benfleet, Essex SS7 5HA. Contact Dave, G4UVJ on 01268 697978 or e-mail southessex.ars@btinternet.com.

- After the recent death of Thomas Sheppard, Secretary of Mexborough & DARS for many years, the reins have been passed on to Sharon Saiger, MOBOH. She will be keeping up the good work Tom had been doing.

- Lee, ZL2AL reports that the New Zealand DX Hall of Fame has been established to honour those outstanding ZL DXers who have excelled in our radio sport hobby over many years. After much deliberation, the judges were unanimous in their selection and have elected the first three ZL radio amateurs to the New Zealand DX Hall of Fame for 2009. These are Roy Jackson, ZL4BO, Ron Wright, ZL1AMO and Jock White, ZL2GX (silent key). Roy and Jock are recognised as outstanding DXers who have done much to help and encourage other New Zealand amateurs. Ron is recognised primarily for his many DXpedition operations from the Pacific area.

- A radio amateur friendly campsite is due to open in the spring in west Wales. Currently restricted to Camping & Caravan Club members, there are no problems with anyone erecting aerials and there are no neighbours to upset as well as being 750ft asl. www.welshcampsite.co.uk.

- Adrian Brinkerink, the European Radio Communications Office Deputy Director, has died in a road accident. His death is a great loss to the Office and to the entire CEPT community at both the personal and professional levels.

- Dewi Roberts, GWOABL became silent key on 22 December. For many years Dewi was the RSGB regional rep for North Wales before the present regional structure was implemented. He will however be most remembered and missed for his contribution to the training of candidates for the various radio amateur examinations, beginning with the old RAE and continuing with the 3 tiered exams of the present system until ill health forced him to give it all up recently; his successes run well into 3 figures. He was a past Chairman and faithful supporter of the Dragon Amateur Radio Club since its inception and did so much to nurture amateur radio in the North Wales area.

- The Lothians Radio Society has had to change its meeting venue. The old location is not available and so, unless otherwise advised, all meetings will take place at The Braid Hills Hotel, 134 Braid Road, Edinburgh EH10 6JD.

Repeater Donation

The Severnside Television Group operates the GB3ZZ (1.3GHz) and GB3XG (10GHz) Bristol ATV Repeaters. It also organises the West of England Radio Rally. Every year, a proportion of the rally proceeds are distributed to local clubs and repeater groups who support the rally.

The Weston Repeater Group is based in Weston-super-Mare and operates three repeaters; GB3WE (144MHz dual mode FM & D-Star DV), GB3WB (430MHz FM) and GB7WB (430MHz D-Star DV). The £100 donation they received will help to fund development of the digital repeaters by adding the Satoshi boards. These will allow the repeaters to become Internet connected and link to other repeaters using the Satoshi system.

The next West of England Radio Rally will take place on Sunday, 29 June.



Viv Green, G1IXE, Chairperson of the Severnside Television Group, presents a donation of £100 to Andy Coombes, G4SZM of the Weston Repeater Group.

D-Star Repeater

GB7HD-B is now fully operational on 439.450MHz, with a live gateway to the D-Star network. The group would like to thank to Iain Philipps, GORDI of the



RSGB/ETCC and Rod Wilkinson from Ofcom for assisting with the NoV

application. Special thanks are given to LAM Communications for the donation of the power supply and antenna and to Sunray Fascias, Huddersfield, who saved the day by loaning the scaffolding so the team could safely erect the new antenna system. The repeater is located at the Huddersfield QTH of David, G6OCD who is also acting as the keeper. Reports are welcome to qsl@gb7hd.org. The repeater website address is www.gb7hd.com or www.gb7hd.org.

Boys' Brigade Celebrates 125 Years

In October, The Boys' Brigade with the aid of Amateur Radio Clubs and licence holders celebrated the organisations 125 years of accomplishments. As part of the event, three stations were able to obtain the GB125 call signs – GB125BB for the Grimsby & District Battalion, GB125FT 1st Thurso Company and GB125NBB 4th Norwich Boys Brigade. Although none of the stations made contact with each other they were all able to contact some ex BB members who relived experiences of their time in the BB to the eager youngster who were listening.

GB125BB had contacts mainly with UK and Europe although, on the Sunday morning, they made contact with VK.

GB125NBB operators have been talking to the BB leaders about how they could continue the contact started by the special event station. A positive thing to come out of



this event is the new awareness that the BB has of what amateur radio has to offer to its members as well as the links that have been formed

between the Battalions / Companies and the radio clubs who helped them.

GB125FT only operated for a couple of hours on Saturday afternoon and the time was mainly taken up telling the BB members who called by as much about amateur radio as possible as well as giving demos of SSTV, PSK31 and CW. One of the 11 year olds was so keen he was given a copy of the Foundation book and the local tutor fully expects to get a call from him to arrange some tuition! He was there a few minutes before it officially started until after it officially finished.

Bludners

The name of the Honorary President of the Saltash & District ARC mentioned in News in Brief last month should have read John Hooper. Our apologies.

In last month's Book Review we incorrectly credited Building Successful HF Antennas to Mike Dennison instead of its true author, Peter Dodd, G3LDO. Our apologies to both gentlemen.

IC-RX7 Wins Award



The Japan Industrial Design Promotion Organisation (JIDPO) recently announced Icom's IC-RX7 Wideband Receiver as the recipient of a Good Design Award 2008. The award is Japan's only comprehensive design evaluation and commendation system. The IC-RX7 was given the award for its usability, ease of operation and its ergonomic design. One of the award's judges commented, "The IC-RX7's Graphical User Interface is very user friendly and allows smooth

access to the necessary information....its compact body and casual colouring lends itself to its image of easy operation."

Kit to Build

The Xtal Set Society has produced the ULTRA-RX1 receiver kit that tunes the ultrasonic frequency range, 35 to 45kHz, with a 10kHz wide audio bandwidth. Radio amateurs may find this kit to their liking; it's a direct conversion receiver, moving ultrasound down into the range of human hearing: 20Hz to 20kHz. The unit accepts stereo headphones or an audio recorder of 8 to 25Ω.

With various insects and creatures such as bats coming out of hibernation in a few months, this could be an interesting winter project. Signals emitted across species vary from single sine waves to chatter with a rich mix of harmonics and pulses. Sound power levels emitted range from roughly 70 to 110dB. Signals heard generally are a pattern of 'clicks'.

Orders may be placed by via the website at www.midnightscience.com. The kit costs \$69.95 or the PCB and manual only cost \$24.95 plus shipping costs. The website has full details.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Halam Rose, MOHOT would like to thank all those who provided the encouragement, help and support that enabled him to complete all three exams on the weekend of the HF Convention in October. Particular thanks go to the Examinations Team and Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club where he attended the Foundation course along with his 9 year old daughter who will be retaking her Foundation soon.

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 RadCom is the 1st of the month before the cover month (so for this February issue it was 1 January), while for GB2RS it's 10am on the Tuesday for the week of broadcast.

1 SCOTLAND SOUTH & WESTERN ISLES

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

COCKENZIE & PORT SETON ARC
Bob, GM4UYZ, 01875 811 723

- 6 Normal Club Night
- 20 Radio Check Night by John, MM0JXI

LIVINGSTON & DARS

Norman, 0131 449 7641, uk.groups.yahoo/group/ms0liv

- 3 Talk on Compact S Mode Avionics Transponder by David Stockton, GM4ZNX
- 10 Operating Evening
- 17 Club Evening
- 24 Morse Code Practice

LOTHIANS RS

Colin, GM4HWO, enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com

- 25 Power Meter Design by Dave Stockton, GM4ZNX

PAISLEY (YMCA) ARC

Bill Anderson, 2MOBZZ, 01505 613633, bill@3bis.co.uk

- 4 Practical HF & VHF installations – whilst mobile GMOFFB
- 18 Practical Morse GM0PYM

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

- 5 Junk Sale
- 12 Construction
- 19 The Elecraft E3 by Stewart, GM4AFF
- 26 On the Air

3 NORTH WEST

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

BOLTON WIRELESS CLUB

info@boltonwireless.org.uk

- 9 The GB2CI Expedition to Caldey Island by David, G4MVU
- 23 HF contesting - including the 80m Club Contests by Mike, G4VSS

CHESTER & DRS

Barbara Green, 0151 339 9183, www.chesterdars.org.uk

- 3 RAF Airborne Communications in WW2 by D Ollerhead
- 17 Surplus Sale
- 24 Radio Communications Foundation by Mark Harper, RSGB North Wales Regional Manager

MID-CHESHIRE ARS

Peter Paul Fox, G8HAV, 01606553401

- 4 A Look at the Elecraft 70cm Transverter by G8HAV
- 11 G3ZTT HF and G8ZTT VHF Stations on Air
- 18 Final Details For Setting Up Radioactive
- 25 Small Talk: Why I have a HAMBLE by G4CAX

SOUTH MANCHESTER R & CC

Ron, G3SVW, 0161 969 3999

- 6 Baluns by Ron, G3SVW

- 13 The Design of Fixed-Wing Aircraft by Roland, G8LUL
- 20 Dave's PC Clinic with G4UGM
- 23 The Monthly Technical Forum
- 27 Derek's Visit to China by G1AFI

STOCKPORT RS

David, M1ANT, 0161 456 7832

- 3 Mentor Evening & Practical – The antennas we use
- 17 How To Become A Successful Contester with Dave Sharred, G3NKC & Martin Platt, G4XUM both members of the Manx Kippers Contest Group

4 NORTH EAST

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

EAST CLEVELAND ARC

Alistair, G4OLK, 01642 475 671, alistair.mackay@talk21.com

- 6 Technical Forum
- 13 Night On The Air
- 20 Radio Magazines Evening
- 27 Night On The Air

GRIMSBY ARS

Brian Chester, G4DXB, g4dxb@gars.org.uk

- 12 Satellites on a Handheld with Stuart, MOLDN
- 20 Meal at Littlefields
- 26 G4YHP with a Video (or DVD)

HORNSEA ARC

Sue, G6UQA, 01482 668 041, www.hornseaarcs.co.uk

- 4 Club Activity Night
- 11 Structural Testing, Andy, GOVRM
- 18 EMC-Mains Interference, Bob, MOGAP
- 25 D-Star, 2nd DVD, Richard, G4YTV

NORTH WAKEFIELD RC

Jim Thornton G3YDL, events@g4nok.org

- 5 Introduction to CW for Beginners
- 12 Club Night
- 19 NWRC AGM

TYNEMOUTH RADIO CLUB

Tony, G8YFA, tony.regnart@gmail.com

- 1 Quiz Night - Tom G7VTJ
- 6 Software Defined Radio by GOSBN/GOEDK
- 8 Operating Night And Morse
- 13 Operating Night & Morse/ Foundation Course start
- 15 Pie and Peas Supper - Graham MOGAE
- 20 ARDF (Fox Hunt) Project – GOEDK
- 22 Operating Night And Morse
- 27 Operating Night and Morse
- 29 AVO8 Briefing by Glen GOSBN/Graham MOGAE

YORK RADIO CLUB

Tony Skaife G4XIV, 01904-330502, g4xiv@ntlworld.com

- 5 On The Air
- 12 Radio Exam Instruction
- 19 Morse Lessons & Radio Exam Instruction
- 26 On The Air

5 WEST MIDLANDS

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

BROMSGROVE & DARC

Chris, MOBQE, 01905 776 869, m0bqe@hotmail.com

- 6 Club Discussion
- 13 Linux Overview
- 20 Committee Meeting
- 27 Building a K2

CHELTENHAM ARA

Pat, G3IKR, 01386 792 542
6 Surplus Equipment Sale

COVENTRY ARS

John, G8SEQ, 07958 777363

- 6 No Meeting
- 13 The Work of the Woodland Trust by Elizabeth Taylor
- 20 Project Night
- 27 Radio Workshop HF/VHF/UHF Operating 6m, 4m, satellites

GLOUCESTER AR & ES

Anne, 2E1GKY, 01452 548478, daytime, www.g4aym.org.uk

- 2 PIC Basics by Cliff, G8CQZ
- 9 Operating Various Club Equipment
- 16 Mini DF Hunt
- 23 Workshop/Informal

MIDLAND ARS

Norman, G8BHE, QTHR, 01214 229 787

- 4 Committee Meeting And Contests Discussion
- 11 Laptop Computer Evening
- 18 Training Evening and Ragchew
- 25 Film Evening with Ron Swinburne, MOWSN

MID-WARWICKSHIRE ARS

Bernard, M1AUK, 01926 420 913

- 10 Meet your Fellow Members: a chance to learn about the club and its activities
- 24 Home-Brew & Amateur Construction Projects

SALOP ARS

www.salop-ars.org.uk

- 5 Natter Night
- 12 Construction Competition
- 19 Natter Night
- 26 Radio Calibration Check Evening with Ken G8DIR

SOUTH BIRMINGHAM RADIO SOCIETY

Don, 0121 458 1603

- 2 Ragchew and Contest Meeting
- 4 Rally Arrangements and Contests Review
- 6 Construction Evening
- 9 Ragchew and Contest Meeting
- 13 Construction Evening
- 16 Committee Meeting
- 20 Construction Evening
- 23 Aerials and Feeders Evening
- 27 Construction Evening

STRATFORD UPON AVON DRS

Jack, G3VYE, 01926 641 988, g3vye@onetel.com

- 12 Radio Ancient & Modern by John, G8HJS
- 26 Electrical Measurement Using a PC by Clive, G0CHO

TELFORD & DARS

Mike, G3JKX, 01952 299 677, mjstreetg3jkk@blueyonder.co.uk

- 4 Open House/On the Air/Committee (away venue)
- 11 Video evening, MOTAW (with refreshments)
- 18 Under £5 Construction Competition
- 25 Society Project

6 NORTH WALES

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

CHEPSTOW & DARS

Mike, GW3YKZ, 07825 987115
3 HF and VHF Propagation

CONWY VALLEY ARC

Wynne, GW6PMC, 01745 855 068

- 4 Past, Present and the Future of Wylfa Nuclear Power Station by Nigel Ackroyd & Kay Wilkinson

MEIRION ARS

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

- 5 Digital television by Max, MW1KDP

WREXHAM ARS

Glyn, MW0BNB www.qsl.net/wars/
3 Berlin, Radio & all That Talk
17 Quiz Night Part 2

7 SOUTH WALES

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

NO LISTING AVAILABLE.

8 NORTHERN IRELAND

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

BALLYMENA ARC

Hugh Kernohan, GI0JEV, 028 2587 1481, HKernohan@aol.com

- 13 Annual Winter Bring and Buy Sale at Ahoghill Community Centre

BANGOR & DARC

Mike, GI4XSF, 028 4277 2 383

- 5 The History of Gilnahirk by George Busby

GLENGORMLEY ELECTRONICS ARS

Peter Lowrie, MI5JYK, mi5jyk@rsqb.org.uk

- 2 The workings of the RSGB ETCC Committee by John GI4BWM

9 LONDON & THAMES VALLEY

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

AYLESBURY VALE RS

Roger, G3MEH, 01442 826 651, roger@g3meh.com

- 11 General Meeting and OTA

BURNHAM BEECHES RC

Dave, G4XDU, 01628 625 720

- 2 Visual Basic Programming by Ian, M1FHU
- 16 Antenna Design by Jeremy

COULSDON ATS

Andy, G8JAC, g8jac@btinternet.com

- 9 How to Build a Website by Steve, G3WZK

CRAY VALLEY RS

Bob, BR32525, 020 8265 7735 after 8pm

- 5 Engineering on the Radio Ships by GOUKN
- 14 Intermediate Course
- 19 Undersea Cables by G3WZK
- 21 Intermediate Course
- 28 Intermediate Course

CRYSTAL PALACE R & EC

Bob, G30OU, 01737 552 170

- 6 The History of Sound Recording by Jon Weller, GOGNA

NEWBURY & DARS

Richard, G3ZGC, 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com

- 25 First Aid for Radio Amateurs by Stuart, MORXX

READING & DARC

Pete, G8FRC, 01189 695 697

- 12 Talk by Don Field G3XTT our very own DXpeditioner!
- 26 Harwell Labs – the History to 1954 by Nick Hance MBE

SHEFFORD & DARS

David, G8UOD, 01234 742 757

- 5 To Coin a Phrase by David, G8UOD
- 12 Construction Winner Talk
- 19 VoIP Remote Control by Bryan, MOBIC
- 26 Club Project – Provisional

SURREY RADIO CONTACT CLUB

Ray, G4FFY, 020 8644 7589

- 2 Sid Morley Memorial – Master Class Using/Replacing Surface Mount Components with Gareth, G4XAT

SUTTON & CHEAM RS

John, G0BWV, 020 8644 9945,
info@scrs.org.uk

- 19 Ham Test - The First 2 Years
by Paul Gibson, MOTZO

WEY VALLEY ARG

www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk

- 6 Guildford "What and Where",
a Fun Quiz – Terry Kearns, G4GIX
20 Photonic Band Structures and
Construction of Wideband Antennas
by David Jefferies, G6GPR

WIMBLEDON & DARS

Jim, M0CON, 020 8874 7456,
www.gx3wim.org.uk

- 13 Bird Photography Then and Now
by Graham, 2E0BJX
27 Construction

10 SOUTH & SOUTH EAST

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

BREDE STEAM ARS

Steve, 0142 720815, m0nuc@aol.com

- 3 Operating from the Shack
7 At the Bunker
10 Operating from the Shack
17 Operating from the Shack
24 Operating from the Shack
31 Operating from the Shack

CRAWLEY ARC

John, G3VLH, 01342 714 002

- 25 Surplus Equipment Sale. Doors open
7.15pm, Auction starts 8pm. All
Welcome. Refreshments available

FAREHAM & DARC

Ken, M0KLS, 02392 797 240

- 11 The R 107 Transceiver by Bob, G8GZO
18 Visit to HMS Collingwood
25 The Hadron Collider
by Graham, G0UUS

HASTINGS E & RC

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

- 25 AGM

HORNDEAN & DARC

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

- 3 Natter Night/Social Evening
24 Tangmere and SOE2
by Bill Toozs-Hobson of the Military
Aviation Museum at Tangmere

HORSHAM ARC

www.harc.org.uk

- 5 Nuclear Power Generation
by John Narborough
22 Sunday Morning Fox Hunt
26 Social, Red Lyon, Slinfold

ITCHEN VALLEY ARC

Quintin, M1ENU, 023 8078799,
qq2@soton.ac.uk

- 13 RSGB DVD
27 Members' Evening on Portable
operation – (Vic, G3NVB, Bert,
G4XBZ, Martin, MONXP, John, G8IOK)

SWINDON & DARC

Den, M0ACM, 07810 317750,
www.sdarc.net

- 5 Natter Night
12 Where do we Get our Wavelengths
From by Peter Chadwick, G3RZP
19 Natter Night
26 Talk

WORTHING & DARC

Roy, G4GPX, 01903 753 893

- 4 A collection of Vintage Radio Films
from the BVWS
11 Home Made Scientific Instrumentation
by Reg Moores, G3GZT
18 The History of Nuclear Power
by John Narborough
25 GX3WOR on the Air Evening and
Discussions

**11 SOUTH WEST
& CHANNEL ISLANDS**

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

APPLEDORE & DARC

Brian Jewell, M0BRB, 01237 473251,
brian.jewell@ic24.net

- 16 Life Under the Waves [2nd part]
by G4XHk [Commander RN Retired]

BLACKMORE VALE ARS

Nick Perrin, G3NRH,
bnperrin@theiet.org,
www.radioclubs.net/bvars/

- 10 Amateur Radio is Sad by Allan, G3BSP

CORNISH RAC

Ian, 01872 561 058

- 4 Digi Modes by John, M0PCM
9 Computer Section Meeting Video
Editing by Clive, G3OCB

EXMOUTH ARC

Mike, G1GZG, 01395 274172

- 4 AGM

JERSEY ARS

Phil, M0JER, gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je

- 13 Use of an Oscilloscope
27 Photography – Equipment Demo and
some Results!

SALTASH & DARC

Brian, M0BHG, 01752 844 321

- 13 Talk By Bob Austin, Former Ships
Radio Officer

SOUTH BRISTOL ARC

Len, G4RZY, 01275 834 282

- 4 Shack Manager's Night
18 Mid Winter Table Top Sale
21 Technical matters forum with
Len, G4ZRY
25 OTA

TAUNTON & DARC

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

- 4 Building and Testing the Butternut
HV9 Vertical by Jeremy Adams
11 Operating Club Station & Morse Class
18 Video
25 Operating Club Station & Morse Class

**THORNBURY & SOUTH
GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARC**

Tony, G0WMB, 01454 417048,
tonytsarc@sky.com

- 4 Individual Talks - How We Got Into
Amateur Radio
11 On the Air Night
18 Video Night
25 On the Air Night

TORBAY ARS

Dave, G6FSP, g6fsp@tars.org.uk

- 6 Operating Night
13 Natter Night
20 Operating Night
27 Annual General Meeting

WEST DEVON RC

Jules Cuddy, M1AGY, 01752291588

- 3 Used Equipment Table-Top Sale Night
17 General Meeting and Natter Night

YEOVIL ARC

Gary, 2E0BFJ, g.swain@tesco.net

- 5 Surplus Equipment Sale
12 Home Brew QSL Cards
19 Another One of Bob's Radio Projects
by G7LNJ
26 Station on Air

12 EAST & EAST ANGLIA

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

BITTERN DX GROUP

Keith, G0GFQ, 01263 588 506,
info@bittern-dxers.org.uk,
www.bittern-dxers.org.uk

- 26 Group Event and Contest Planning

**BRAINTREE & DARS**

John, M5AJB, 01787 460 947

- 2 1st Construction Evening
16 DF Hunting by Richard, G4ICP

CAMBRIDGE & DARC

David Leary, G8JKV on 01223 355254

- 6 Constructors Contest
13 Informal Evening
20 TBA
27 Informal Evening

CHELMSFORD ARS

Martyn, G1EFL, 01245 469 008

- 3 Amateur Radio Aerials
by Tony Gilbey, G4TYG

DOVER RC

Brian, G4SAU, g4sau@darco.org.uk

- 4 Operating and Natter Night
11 Talk and Demo on PSK31 (TBC)
18 School Holiday - Net on GB3KS
25 Meet the Members

HUNTINGDONSHIRE ARS

Gerald, G8AKL, 01487 740794,
www.hunts-hams.co.uk

- 12 Informal Evening
26 Talk on RAYNET- Local, National
& International by David, G8IDL

KING'S LYNN ARC

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

- 5 Club AGM
12 Design & Construction of Lightweight
Amplifiers by Bob Whelan
19 Club Night and 2m Club Net
26 Club Night and 2m Club Net

LEISTON ARC

Dave, G4HUP, 01473 737 717,
g4hup@btinternet.com

- 3 Test Equipment Evening - Leiston High
School at 19:45

LOWESTOFT & DISTRICT PYE ARC

Charlotte, 2E0BSS, 01603 626710,
secretary@gx3jrm.org.uk

- 12 Talk from the Area RSGB Team

NORFOLK ARC

Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, 01362 691099,
narc@g0lgj.co.uk

- 4 An 80m SSB Transceiver Kit for £45
with Steve, G6ALU
11 Informal / Construction / Workshop 3
(RSGB CC)
18 Why Contest by Roger, G3LDI
25 Informal / Construction / Workshop /
Bright Sparks

SOUTH ESSEX ARS

southessex.ars@btinternet.com,
www.southessex.ars.btinternet.co.uk

- 11 SEARS Open Evening. All are Welcome

13 EAST MIDLANDS

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

EAGLE RG

Terry, G0SWS, 01507 478590

- 10 PMR Conversions by G4WEC

LOUGHBOROUGH & DARC

Chris, G1ETZ, 01509 504 319

- 3 Test Equipment, New & Old
Bring Something Along
10 Connectors by Andrew, G7SEG
17 Midget Valve Radios by Ian, G8SNF
24 Practical Evening

MELTON MOWBRAY ARS

Geoff, G3STG, 01664 480 733,
g3stg@btinternet.com

- 20 Introduction to SMD Techniques
by Roy, G7ARB

HELPLINES**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

RESPONDENTS TO ITEMS IN THE 'HELPLINES' COLUMN ARE ADVISED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, BUT TO COPY THEM AND SEND THE COPIES. THIS IS TO PROTECT YOUR (OFTEN VALUABLE) PROPERTY IN THOSE VERY FEW INSTANCES WHERE THE ORIGINALS ARE NOT RETURNED.

Members are reminded that Helplines is a free service that can be used to ask other members for help on amateur radio related matters. Requests for assistance such as trying to track down unusual or obsolete parts or manuals are always welcome. Helplines does not accept advertisements of items for sale (see Members Ads, page 88) but will consider 'free to good home' type offers. Items for inclusion can be sent by post to RSGB HQ or preferably by e-mail to radcom@rsgb.org.uk.

- Tony, G0BRQ is looking for a copy of the circuit diagram, parts list and assembly instructions for the 15W HF Linear Amplifier kit formerly distributed by Cirkit of Broxbourne under the stock number 41-00903. Tel. 01202 699834 or e-mail a.h.morris@btinternet.com.

- Bruce, M0CVP has recently acquired a Sony World Band Receiver ICF-SW100 and is in desperate need of the User Manual. Any help will be greatly appreciated and any costs reimbursed. Bruce Sutherland QTHR, on 01244 343825, e-mail bfcsmith@gotadsl.co.uk.

- G0GRI is seeking a Kenpro KR400RC control box or suggestions on source for replacement dial control motor. E-mail ian.g0gri@btinternet.com or 01225 864698 e&w.

- Peter Harding, VK4AA / VK4OD is after a point of contact so I can generate a local listing with the data as someone in the UK has prepared for TOMTOM GPS users. The file that I saw has listings of 2m and 70cm repeaters. How was the file written in which program? vk4od@optusnet.com.au

- Colwyn Beynon is trying to locate a long-lost cousin, Colin Beynon, who was an amateur radio operator for years. He last lived in the Cardiff-Penarth area and worked for the BBC operating a station not far from Penarth. He would now be retired but probably still fully involved in radio. Colwyn Beynon, 21 Ben Lomond Place Suite, 1206 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8V 2T1. E-mail crsw389@sympatico.ca

SOUTH NORMANTON & ALFRETON DARC

A J Higon, 2E1GW0, 01773 783658

- 2 Winter Fox Hunt on Foot or Skis
Depending on Weather
9 Inter Club Quiz Night
16 Junk Sale
23 Winter Project Review

SOUTH NOTTS ARC

Terry, M0RIA, www.radioclubs.net/snarc

- 4 Advanced Course: Licence Conditions
9 SNADARC Inter Club Quiz
11 Advanced Course: Operating Techniques
18 Advanced Course: Basic Electronics 1
25 Advanced Course: Basic Electronics 2

WELLAND VALLEY ARS

Simon G8PAN, 07977 266643 e-mail
swd@phasor-design.uk.com,
www.wvars.com

- 16 Operating and Test & Measurement
Evening