



Worksop Amateur Radio Society

NEWSLETTER

January/February 2016

Hello Members and welcome to the first newsletter of 2016.

Unfortunately, we have to start the year off with some sad news. As most of you will already know, **Roy Frettsome G4WPW** passed away on January 29th after a brave fight against cancer. To say that Roy devoted a lot of time and effort to the Club would be an understatement. He helped to build the Club, in his own words, from a club of *“elite old members (don't make a noise club) with 19 members, to what it is today – a club for everyone”*. Roy was Chairman of the Club for 14 years, only relinquishing this office in 2015 when he became ill. His knowledge and skills inspired many to take up the hobby and he will be a huge loss to the amateur radio world.

Around 20 members of the Club attended Roy's funeral on 12th February and, at the family's request, a donation in lieu of flowers has been made to Macmillan Nurses in his memory. R.I.P.



Inside this issue	Page
Membership Matters—subs, new members and the database	2
Exam and tuition news	3
Club News and Activities—Christmas Party, Monthly etiquette award	4
Special events—Children in Need, YOTA	6
Contesting Update	8
Construction competition—get your entry in!	10
RSGB and Ofcom News	11
Diary Dates	12

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership subscriptions

January means it is **membership subs renewal time** and to date **there are 24 people with subs still outstanding**. Are you one of them?

Ample notices and reminders have been given to Members via email and the Club's Facebook page—any subs that remain unpaid at the end of February means removal from the Membership list.

You can pay in cash at the Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays or via Paypal which is a new method for us which is proving popular and it certainly cuts down on the admin work. It could be useful to you if you don't get to the Club very often.

Outstanding subs should be paid **by the end of February** please.



A change to subscriptions agreed at the AGM in October 2015 affects our **junior members** – from this year they no longer have to pay any subs **BUT** they will have to pay £1.00 entry on each attendance at the club like everyone else. A junior member is anyone aged under 21 (or 25 if in full time education).

New Members

A warm welcome to the following new members who joined the Club recently: **Matt Bradbury, 2E0GMV, Paul Jones 2E0BPB, Ken Parker M6KJP, Brendan Cartwright SWL, Josh Milner SWL, David McHugh SWL, Martin Broad M6TSS, Paul Ashton SWL, Zarah Hill SWL, Natasha Morehen SWL, Tegan Garner SWL.**

Membership database

The database is just about up to date but there are 2 life members with whom we seem to have lost contact. Can you enlighten me with any information about the following:

- Mick Jordan G7NKE, last known address Tuxford
- George Turner G7OBP, last known address Rhodesia, Worksop.

Leave a message for me at the Club or email me at sueferguson89@gmail.com if you have any information.

Random facts:

- We currently have 107 members (36 Foundation, 19 Intermediate and 45 Full licencees and 7 SWLs)
- 15% of the membership is female
- 7% of the membership is aged under 26
- 28% of members are also RSGB members

Exam and Tuition News

We had 100% success in the **Intermediate** exam held in December with all seven candidates gaining a pass. Well done to (l to r): **Aidan Ascroft** (2E0LTV), **Kevin Davies** (2E0VKB), **Shaun Button** (2E0SNS), **Chris Button** (2E0ZCB), **Matt Bradbury** (2E0GMV), **John Whitworth** (2E0DXK) and **Lewis Sadler** (2E0YZV) and thanks to **Paul Archer** M0PJA, Tutor, for guiding them through the course.



The next **Intermediate** course at WARS will start in **September 2016** but, if you wish to study for your 2E0 before then, there are other Clubs in the area offering tuition and exam facilities. Have a look at the RSGB Course and Exam finder <https://thersgb.org/services/coursefinder/>

Self-study is also an option – there are lots of links to be explored on the RSGB web site <http://rsgb.org/main/clubs-training/training-resources/> which are suitable for candidates to work through the syllabus at their own pace.

Advanced course

The Maths Primer, in preparation for the Advanced course, has been taking place on Thursday evenings thanks to Steve G0EAK and Peter G4ENC and the **Advanced** course started on **Sunday, 31st January** (18:30 to 20:30 hrs) with the exam date likely to be **Friday 6th May** or **Tuesday 5th July 2016**. (This will not affect the Tuesday Social night)

Foundation Course

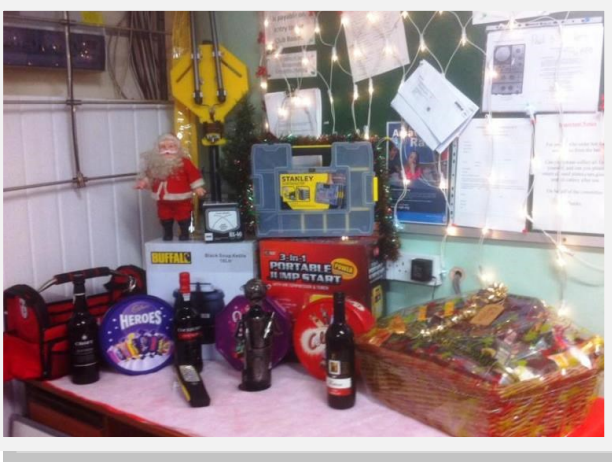
A new **Foundation** course has started on Thursday evenings with tutors Martin M0ZMF and Gary Brotherhood M0HOB. This is currently fully subscribed but if you know anyone interested in studying for their Foundation licence, please get in touch with Martin M0ZMF at the Club or anyone on the Committee



CLUB NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Christmas Party, 2015

Nearly 60 members and guests attended yet another great Christmas party and many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening: Andy, Ange, Steve and Maurice for the food and those who contributed to the excellent Raffle – I think nearly everyone went home with a prize (and in some cases more than one) from either the £1 raffle or the main raffle.



Raffle prizes

The Tote was drawn on the night and the winner of the £35 prize was Paul MOPJA



There were some marvellous Christmas jumpers in evidence too. We may have to have a 'best jumper' competition next time!



CLUB NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Post-Christmas meal

As if we hadn't eaten enough over Christmas a 32-strong group of members and partners/children met up at the Lock Keeper in Worksop on Wednesday, 30th December for a post-Christmas meal.

An excellent get-together and the food wasn't bad either! Very reasonable prices for a carvery, curry or your choice from their extensive menu.. Have a look at their menu <http://www.lockkeeperpub.co.uk/> because we'll be going again on **30th March** - all are welcome. Look out for details nearer the time on the Facebook page and on the TV screen in the Club.

Monthly Award for good radio operation

We have had three winners of our new monthly Award for exemplary radio operation and etiquette. The first winner, for November 2015, was **Ziggy Hudson G1ZIG**, for December 2015 it was **Tony Purnell M6KTP** and for January 2016 **John Whitworth 2E0 DXK**

Their reward? A framed certificate presented by Chairman Martin M0ZMF and a free meal and drink from the Bar. Congratulations guys!



Mr November 2015



Mr December 2015



Mr January 2016

Special Event—Children in Need

We're supporting



WARS once again supported the BBC Children in Need appeal by having a Special Event Station over the weekend of 13th/14th November with the call sign GB0CIN and we were active on HF, 2m, 4m, 6m, 70cm, with voice, CW and Data.

Many thanks to those who came and supported the event whether it was to make and serve refreshments, operate radios or bake cakes. I am pleased to say that we raised £205. The Club also sponsored contacts made to the tune of 10p per contact which, with over 400 contacts, will take the total to around £250.

Jack M6JMF has made a video which you can find on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNdJPOxt3cA> along with the other videos he has done for the Club



Ziggy G1ZIG operating 40m with Richard G4WZI logging.



Nail-biting stuff this PSK mode!



Martin M0ZMF and Gary M0ONI on 2m

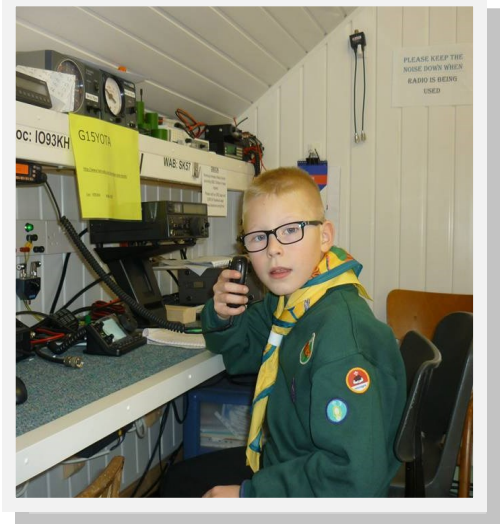
Special Event—YOTA (Youngsters on the Air)

This was our second time organising a special event for YOTA. The idea behind YOTA month is to encourage young people to get on the air. Despite radio conditions not being very good, especially HF, under the call sign G15YOTA we helped around a dozen young people aged between 8 and 24 years make contacts in the UK and into Europe .

We had visits from some Cub Scouts again and one 8-year-old, Oliver, described operating the radio as 'absolutely awesome!' His Mum, Gemma (who is also a Cub assistant leader known as Hathi) left the following message on the Club Facebook page:

“Thank you so much for all of your attention this morning.....Ollie had a fantastic time and we're looking forward to learning more, the more we come to visit you guys at G3RCW. What a lovely place to go and learn. Nice to be taught by such enthusiastic and dedicated people! Thank you once again.”

Hathi and Oliver, 4th St John's Cubs.

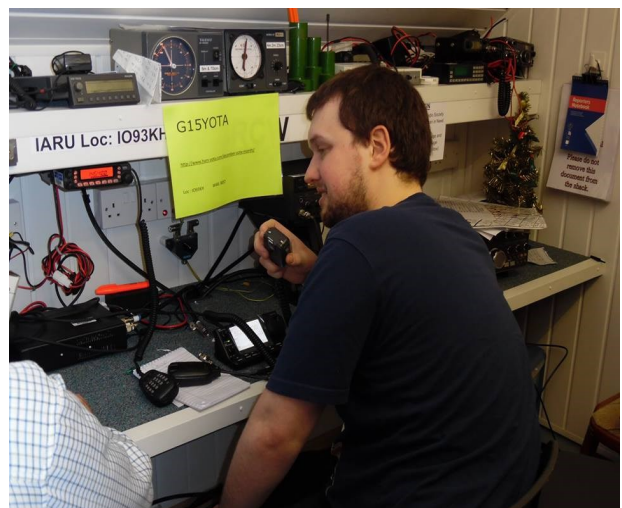


Makes it all worthwhile don't you think?

After our young visitors had left there was another burst of excitement – this time from the grown-ups! In the words of Chairman Martin M0ZMF:

“After a good day at the club hosting the YOTA event with good support from members, we had a nice finish to the evening with something that I believe has never been done from the Club before – Chris Button, Steve Hambleton, Andrea Bostock and myself working Aurora on 6 and 2 mtrs ssb and cw. This was a first for me and Chris and it was nice to see Andrea M0LLW on the radio plus Steve, G0EAK on the morse key.... that's three rare phenomena in one day! “

Chris 2E0ZCB Chris working an auroral contact on 2m shortly after the G15YOTA event



UK Affiliated Clubs VHF contests

2015 finished really well in UKAC with WARS improving in all bands. The final results are as follows:

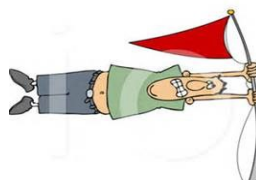
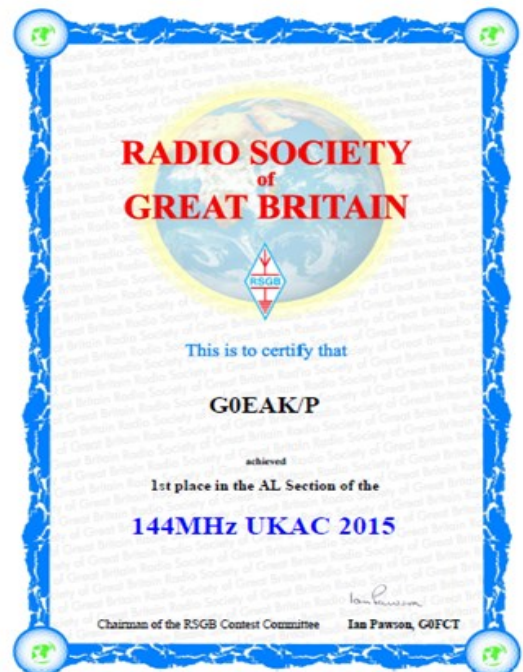
BAND	2014	2015	No. of Clubs
6m	13	10	86
4m	13	6	40
2m	17	10	117
70cm	15	11	84
23cm	20	19	60
Overall	17	11	132

During 2015 we developed a great team with 22 stations contributing scores during the year. **Alison, 2E0HUN** and **Sue, M6XAK** contributed throughout the year and towards the end of the year both **John, 2E0DXK** (previously M6JWG) and **Tony, M6KTP** started to operate portable.

Steve, G0EAK, as well as topping the points contributed to the club, achieved first place in the 2m Low Power section, receiving this certificate.

A really big thank you to everybody that helped Team WARS in whatever way they could – operating, logging, antenna building or loaning equipment to get more stations on the band.

A special thank you to Martin, M0ZMF for his antenna building, antenna mounts and cunning plans, and a special thank you *from* Martin to all the guys who go out portable each week, braving horrendous weather conditions.



illustrations of.com #1078204

Final individual scores within the Club for 2015 are as follows:

Station	6m	4m	2m	70cm	23cm	TOTAL
G0EAK	9,992	2,836	10,821	1,849	1,005	26,503
G3RCW	4,816	1,878	8,113	7,066	396	22,269
M6XAK	3,975	1,090	5,497	4,842		15,404
2E0HUN	3,675		3,162	4,932	2,506	14,275
M0PCF	5,320	1,025	972	4,006	2,732	14,055
M0JAV	1,437		4,970	1,984	905	9,296
M6JWG	1,632		1,142	2,350		5,124
M6KTP	1,414	655	1,774	916		4,759
M0PJA	1,000		1,480	527	700	3,707
M0PFO	858	172	1,396	786		3,212
G3XXN		2,399				2,399
M6OHV	237		1,046	955		2,238
M6SNS	153		1,066	450		1,669
2E0PIC	89		7		782	878
M3NMW			413			413
M6JMF				385		385
M6ZCA	128		157			285
M0USV			200			200
M6ZAB	111					111
M6TIW	96					96
M0ONI	17					17
TOTALS	34,950	10,055	42,216	31,048	9,026	127,295

UKAC 2016

Having finished 2015 in style we have started 2016 with a bang, What is very heartening is that with Steve, G0EAK, laid up for 3 weeks in January, and only competing in the 2m contest, everybody else rallied around, including members like **Ziggy** (*I hate contests*) **G1ZIG**, enticed by a new production delta beam, **Chuck** **G0PGA** on his long wire and **Dave**, **M0IKE** submitting logs for 6m – just look what it achieved! First place!



Martin's latest 3 ele delta loop for 6m. Can we tempt you?

WARS standings for January 2016

Band	2015	January 2016	Total Clubs
6m	10	1	52
4m	6	-	-
2m	10	6	70
70cm	11	7	50
23cm	19	14	36
Overall	11	8	78

Hopefully we can continue our good start to the year and if anyone else would like to join the team either from home or portable, please contact Steve G0EAK..

Construction Competition

Attention all those who like construction projects—we have a competition you might like to enter.

The WARS Shield will be presented to the member judged to have entered the best construction project based upon the following criteria:

- It must be radio related – eg antenna, receiver, transmitter, power supply etc.
- You must have constructed it yourself.
- Design
- Construction Quality
- Construction Complexity

For those people who completed their Intermediate projects these will be eligible to be submitted or any other project you have built.

The judging panel will include Fred, G3XXN and Paul, M0PJA as well as a few more. The closing date for entries is **31st March 2016** and the winner will be presented with the WARS Shield at the Open Meeting in April.

OFCOM News

Revoked Licences

The first batch of un-validated licences have been revoked by Ofcom as per their notice of intention in October 2015. 221 of these were Foundation licences, 29 were Intermediate licences and 280 were Full licences. This is only the first batch – there are 15,000 licences altogether that have not been revalidated so its likely to be a long job.

RSGB News

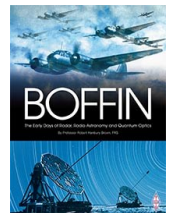
Volunteer for RSGB

Did you know that over 1,000 people volunteer for RSGB? Volunteering lets you put something back into the hobby and brings its own rewards. Here are some of the areas in which you could help:

Amateur Radio Observance Service (AROS), Exams Group, Contest Committees, EMC Committee, Propagation Studies Committee, Training and Education Committee members, Youth Committee, Regional Team members. To find out more watch the [RSGB's new Volunteering video](#) and read more about each of the areas requiring volunteers. All positions are unpaid but travel expenses are reimbursed.

RSGB Books

RSGB has announced that it has published its first book in Kindle format as well as in paper. "The Early Days of Radar and Radio Astronomy and Quantum Optics" by Prof. Robert Hanbury Brown can be purchased from the RSGB shop.



ISS Schools link

Tim Peake's next contact with a UK school will be on Friday, 26th February when City of Norwich School will play host. The 10 minute window opens at 14:34 UTC and the call sign will be GB2CNS.

If you miss that one, Powys Combined Schools is scheduled to make contact sometime between 29th February and 6th March and NASA will release details about 10 days beforehand.

Some ISS crew members make random, unscheduled amateur radio voice contacts during their breaks. The ARISS website has information on when is the best time and the frequencies in use. Earth stations can listen to the downlink frequency and transmit on the uplink frequency when the ISS is in range and crew members are on the air. Please do not transmit on the ISS downlink frequency.

<http://www.ariss.org/contact-the-iss.html>

DIARY DATES

March 2016

3rd	Talk - Contesting Hints and Tips (Steve G0EAK)
6th, 13th, 20th	Advance tuition 18:30 to 20:30
13th	Grantham ARS Radio and Electronics Rally
17th	WARS Committee meeting
17th	Talk on HF Propagation and VOA propagation revisited
18—20th	Club Camping Weekend, Misterton
30th	Meal out at The Lock Keeper, Worksop

April 2016

3rd, 10th, 17th	Advance tuition 18:20 to 20:30
7th	Talk—to be confirmed
23rd	RSGB AGM, Glasgow

May 2016

1st	Dambusters Hamfest
6th	Possible Advance Exam—to be decided
15th	Lamfest, Barnsley
27th to 30th	Club camping BH weekend, Haxey Quays

July 2016

2nd and 3rd	VHF National Field Day
5th	Possible Advanced exam if not 6 May

Please keep an eye on the TV screen at the Club and the Members Facebook group for further details