



Radio Society of Great Britain



## City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB

[At the Bristol Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, Redland Green, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HF](#)

**Monday June 27th at 1930hrs**

### **Chris Rennie M0ORO “Talking Over a Light Beam”**

Using light to communicate goes back a long way - smoke signals, semaphore, heliographs, Aldis lamps. Amazingly, the first transmission of voice signals using light was in 1880, almost 25 years before the first radio telephone experiments, and now our modern interconnected world relies on signals transmitted through optical waveguides aka fibre-optic cables.

Come along on Monday and hear about amateur free-space optical communication – if you thought cm & mm waves at frequencies up to 100GHz were clever stuff try the amateur world at 470,000 GHz (470 THz).

Chris’s talk will explore optical communications and amateur optical transmitter/receiver design and then describe the results of a very wet evening’s attempt to link Painswick Beacon to Mayhill on the Hereford/Gloucestershire border.

The first trial from Painswick beacon



## Exercise Blue Ham on 5Mhz

On **18 and 19 June** the [Air Cadet Organisation](#) will be organising and running a military-style national radio exercise named **Exercise Blue Ham**.

This will be one of the many events the organisation is holding during 2016 and 2017 to mark the 75th Anniversary of its formation.

**Amateur radio operators are invited to take part with the cadets.**

The exercise will take place on the MOD 5MHz, or 60m band, and a significant part of the exercise will be on the section of the band that amateurs are authorised to use.

The Cadet stations will operate from noon on the 17th until noon on the 18th on specific frequencies within the band.



These frequencies will be published live on the internet as the exercise is in progress and amateurs are welcome to check the [exercise website](#) and call in, but only on the amateur band frequencies they are authorised to use.

More details on the site:

<http://alphacharlie.org.uk/exercise-blue-ham/>



**Colin G3YHV**, famed for his operation of vintage radio equipment, used the combination on the left for his entry into the June CW 80m Club Championships

The Geloso VFO'd TX (similar to a KW Vanguard) made him 99 QSOs in the 90min contest - even if the VFO was drifting LF slightly throughout the contest - running about 40watts .The Racal RA17L (1960 vintage) presumably was more stable !

Well done Colin for an excellent result!

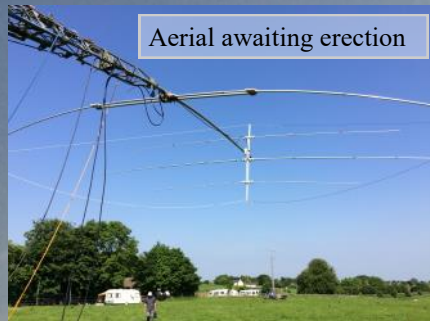
**If YOU** fancy taking part in the contests you can use ancient OR modern TX/RX! there are more details here

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/r80mcc.shtml>

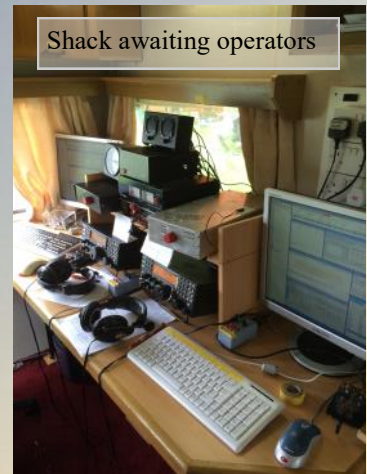


**The Bristol Group using G6YB/P** took part in CW NFD again this year. Two Elecraft transceivers, a K3 and a K3s, brought along by Roger G4BVY (last month's speaker) and Dave G4FRE worked flawlessly for the 24hour event. We got off to a slightly slow start with just a few QSOs on 28Mhz and then a steady run on 14Mhz interspaced with 7Mhz . 80 and 160 produced around 300QSOs from 2100 - 0200 . Very little DX was worked due to poor conditions and only a handful of USA contacts .The transceivers were able to work together but interlocked so only one could TX at a time . Alternating CQs on different bands was a fascinating technique which paid dividends once we got used to it . It was possible to have 2 QSOs running simultaneously interleaved without either operator being caused interference – such is the low TX phase noise and selectivity of the Elecraft radios. A 3element 3band set of dipoles on the 60ft mast (below) worked well. The oddly shaped 40m dipole below was due to the strain cable being a little too tight - whether it helped or not is still under dispute!

Total contacts were 1270 - which was similar to last year - results in a few months .....



Aerial awaiting erection



Shack awaiting operators



Chaps awaiting food



Dom & Russ busy!

## Coming soon to the Bristol Group

July : “Christmas” Party

August : Mark Stuart: “What is going on with the weather in Bristol? ”

Oct 31st : Terry Ransome: “Beagle to Mars via Kazakstan and Filton !”

**Any more ideas for talks later this year please ?**

**September and November we have no speaker !**

## At the local clubs :

Bath and District ARC <http://badarc.webs.com/>

Chepstow and District ARC <http://www.gw4lwz.org.uk/>

Chippenham & DARC <http://www.g3vre.org.uk/archive.asp>

MidSARC [www.midsarc.org.uk/](http://www.midsarc.org.uk/)

North Bristol ARC <http://www.nbarc.org.uk/>

Shirehampton <http://www.shirehampton-arc.org.uk>

South Bristol ARC <http://www.sbarc.co.uk/calendar/>

Thornbury and South Gloucs ARC <http://tsgarc.uk/>

Trowbridge and District ARC [www.tdarc.uk](http://www.tdarc.uk)

Weston Super Mare RS [www.radioclubs.net/wsmrs/](http://www.radioclubs.net/wsmrs/)

**Note recent change of address for Trowbridge ARC**

If you want to buy or sell something, let me know - Or tell us on the [Bristol RSGB Yahoo Group](#) !

I need articles for “How I started in radio” or “Things you may not know about members of the group” - If it’s publishable it can appear here!

[Robin G3TKF](#)

RSGB Bristol Group Sec.

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<http://www.g6yb.org> Don’t forget the history of the group here: [History](#)