



Radio Society of Great Britain



## City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB

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

**April 29th 1930hrs: Nick Gleed GW8YJM**

### **“Electron Microscopes: their history and forensic application”**

This was going to be the November 2012 talk but Nick unfortunately could not make it.

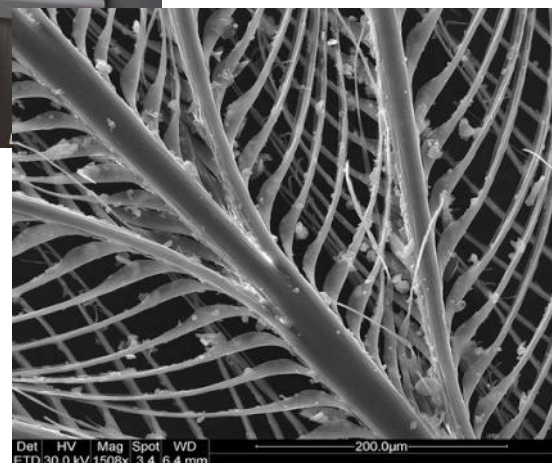
Nick will give us a short history of the development of the electron microscope. From the optical microscope of the 1590s and transmission electron microscopes of the 1930s to the modern day scanning electron microscopes. Then a look at the forensic applications of the SEM in the investigation of crimes at the nanogram level. Including fascinating studies of cases with gun shot residue and a murder involving duck feathers!



cases with gun shot residue and a murder involving duck feathers!

An example of an SEM

A BIG close up of part of a Duck feather



## Another feature from “How I started in radio”

### How it all Began: Pt.2      Geoff Plucknett G4FKA



I passed the RAE at Mid Herts College in Welwyn Garden City in December 1972 and was licensed as G8HGP on 9th March 1973. The first rig was an SCR522 (the BC624/625 pairing) modified for 144 MHz, the transmitter being pictured below.



My first QSO with that rig was on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1973 at 19:25 with Ron G3NVL in Luton. No big DX at 15 miles but the first contact all the same and bearing in mind my antenna was a wire dipole taped to the curtain rail, not a bad start. The station evolved through various transmitters and receivers and the eventual configuration of a 55w FM transmitter; a Solid State Modules converter into a Telford TC7 tuneable I/F; and an 8/8 on a 30 foot mast got out very well. Repeaters were also arriving on the scene in the early 1970s and with that FM set-up from a site over 400 feet ASL I got into many a repeater and even joined the London-based UK FM group.

In those days, mobile licences came separately and although at 16 I was too young to drive I got one anyway and eventually ended up with various portables operating /M on bikes, buses, trains and even the London Underground. Not sure it would be allowed now!

In the early days I was always what you would call a social amateur, keen on rag-chew QSOs, rallies and the local club. I was first on the Stevenage club committee at 15 and became its chairman at the ripe old age of 23. We did quite a few special event stations and the photo here shows me operating the VHF station for the local “Stevenage Day” event in 1974. (love the hair - Ed!)



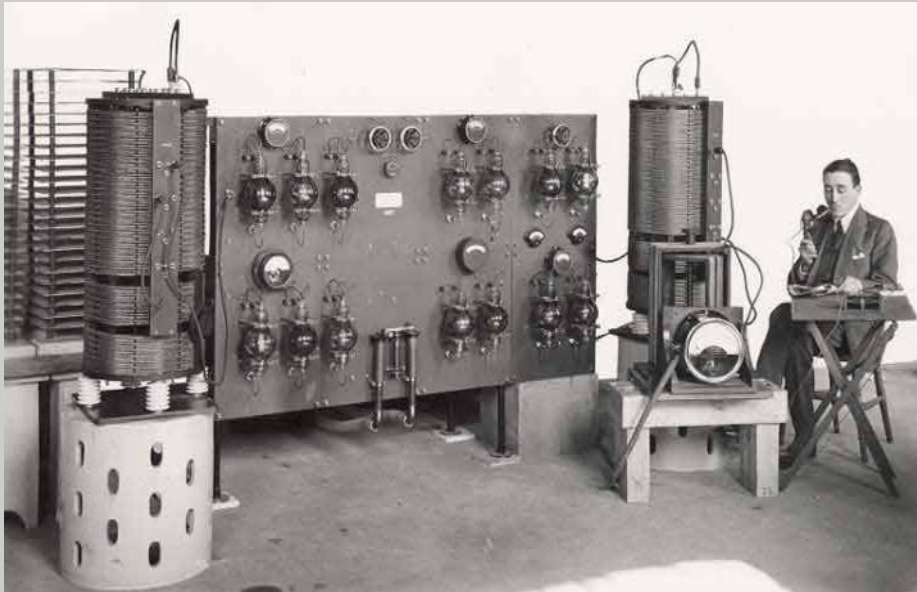
There were early signs of the contest bug that would become a major interest as I see from the log book that I made my first contest exchange less than two months after being licensed in 1973. I went on to do a bit of contesting with the Stevenage club (G3SAD) and the 3 Stevenage G8H stations (HGP, HQQ, HUB) also did a bit of VHF contesting. I still remember our little tent with a Pye Vanguard, an 8 element beam, a stove and copious beans on toast!

With university looming in 1976 and the prospect of operating its HF station in the Liverpool students union building, I decided it was about time I got a full licence so after lots of practice with Ron G4DDX and Frank G3OVT I did the morse test at the post office building at St Martin’s Le Grand in London in August 1976 and was licensed as G4FKA on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1976. Success was celebrated straight afterwards by a drink with Walt G3NYY who worked at the same office. I operated quite a bit from the University station (G3OUL) on HF and VHF and was the club chairman for two years. After graduation I moved back to Stevenage and a few of us formed the Stevenage Contest Group with the wonderful call sign G4VAT. My future in contesting was assured!

*Thanks Geoff : another “How I started “ next month*

## Caption Competition

Can you think of a suitable amusing caption for this picture?



The "winner" gets a free raffle ticket at the next meeting.

Last month's (lower picture) captions included :

" Sir Oliver and Lady Lodge peruse the instructions for their new mobile owl box " *Chris G3MGS*

"And what did you do just after your late husband put his head through the hole?" *Peter Heaven*

Go on Cecil; sing your song and see if the little birdy comes out. *Geoff G4FKA*

"The evolution of the radio interview had an inauspicious origin." *John G4TRN*

"So - Is Schroedinger's cat alive or dead?" *Harold W4ZCB*

Some really great captions this month! But the winner is ...

"We never seem to have a conversation now - we just sit and stare at the box all evening

*Graham G3TCT*

**Graham gets an entry in the raffle !**



Send me your captions ! [robin@g3tkf.co.uk](mailto:robin@g3tkf.co.uk)

## **Have you applied for an NOV for the NEW bands?**

**472 – 479Khz and 5Mhz**

**Apply on line here**

<http://www.rsgb.org/operating/novapp/nov-472-479-khz.php>

## **UKQRM**

Well worth a look. A “Public-Facing Website”. Useful for when the neighbours come knocking on the door unable to hear Band II radio or even DAB - we DO seem to get blamed for most “interference” these days!

<http://www.ukqrm.org.uk/>

## **At the local clubs**

Do try to get along to a meeting (and let me know if you would like to hear a talk given to OUR group !)

**MidSARC (Shepton Mallet) April 23rd Social at “The Dustbowl “**

**North Bristol: April 19th “D Star” G7FBD/ 26th April G3SWH - Swaziland**

**South Bristol : 25th April Open House/ 2nd May Lundy Dx-pedition**

**Shirehampton: Every Friday night**

**Full details and more on the websites below**

**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://www.tsgarc.ham-radio-op.net>

**Trowbridge and District ARC** <http://www.radioclubs.net/trowbridgedarc/events.php>



A few guessed the appx year of these snaps from last month's newsletter...

Taken by Roger G3RUJ this is probably a Longleat talk in station (1960 ish) operated by G3CHW (on the left) the other two guys unknown. The lady in the chair in the background is Gwen (XYL of G2IK) talking to MY mother (head just visible) and next to her is my father . I know this because the car in the photo is a Standard Ensign 380 DHU (my Dad's !)



On the left G3LYW in the light jacket. (Longleat early '60s) The two NFD ops Roger G3RUJ and Phil G3SWH both looking rather young !(1965ish)

[The Wessex Contest Band](#) carried out a very successful recce and test transmission session at their G100RSGB site recently:



Steve G0FUW writes:

The venue is just off the A420 at Cold Ashton; car parking is available and the 'shack' will be indoors, undercover, although not centrally heated.

There is a decent amount of space for a few antennas and very little background noise.

They are intending to have three or four stations operating from 00:01 to 23:59 on Monday 22/04/13

There will be HF and VHF, SSB, CW and data stations .

Help celebrate 100 years of the RSGB - see if you can work the group!

More information from [Steve G0FUW](#)

## Local Radio Rallies

West Radio Rally : 30th June 2013 <http://www.westrally.org.uk/>

Usual venue in Frome - contact [Shaun G8VPG](#) for more details

Amateur Radio in the Country : 15th July 2013 <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~walfor/>

at Upton Bridge Farm, Long Sutton, Somerset, TA10, 9HJ

No longer just a QRP event ! An interesting challenge for home constructors going to the rally : build a "thump free sidetone oscillator" ! (g3yhv please note!)

Further details can be had from [Tim Walford G3PCJ](#).

## IMPORTANT CHANGE TO OUR MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT

You can now pay your RSGB Bristol group £10.00 membership online.

**BUT** do remember to include details of Callsign and name.

Our account No.02520489 Sort Code 30-94-80 Lloyds Bank plc

Alternatively bring cash or a cheque along to a meeting and see Ron G4GTD

## Coming soon to the Bristol Group :

May 27th Chris Morecombe G3VEH -  - their role at the Olympics

June 24th "Christmas" Party !

July 29th Potted talks

Thanks to those who have sent me short histories of "**How I started in radio**" ... please send me a few words of how YOU started in the hobby, and attach a few pictures if possible.

73

[Robin G3TKF](#)

RSGB Bristol Group Sec.

01225 420442

<http://www.g6yb.org>