



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 31st AUGUST 1930hrs

Prof Cathryn Mitchell BSc PhD : Bath University

You may remember we had an absorbing talk last year on Cathryn's studies involving solar ejections in the polar regions.



The largest solar storm on record occurred on 1 September 1859. Known as the Carrington event, it was observed by British amateur astronomer Richard Carrington. He noticed bright white flashes on the sun and hours later came the impact on the earth. Telegraph communications failed – sparks showered around telegraph connections and fires were started. Auroras were seen widely across the earth.

Could such a solar storm happen now? What if it did - are we prepared? Do we get any warning? How would our modern world be affected?



Cathryn explores the likely impact of a modern solar storm on satellites, communications, transportation and power and describes the measures in place to mitigate the effects of such an event.

and nowThe Local GB2RS News Bulletin

A few months ago I happened to hear the GB2RS news being read on a Sunday morning on the Cheltenham and Gloucester repeater, GB3CG on 145.600Mhz .Checking with RSGB HQ if this could happen on one of the Bristol repeaters I was informed there was no reason and it would be a “good idea.” There were some historical reasons why this had not happened but I contacted John G4TRN who takes up the story

I first read the GB2RS news as a stand in for Martyn G3RFX, way back in August 2000. Much has altered since then. It has not been an easy experience especially on 80m.

At first I received the script by fax, progressing to downloading it and printing it. Now, I read it from a computer screen (much cheaper and environmentally friendly into the bargain).



Since Martyn resigned, I have been the sole reader on 70cms, alternating on 2m with Cyril G2HDR (who I have known since I was fifteen), and an occasional reader on 80m. It is very difficult to find new recruits and I welcome John Parris 2E0CRI (pictured left) to the happy band of GB2RS news readers.

Progress now beckons and, by the time you read this, the 70cm broadcast will be from GB3ZB, high up on Dundry rather than from the black hole of deepest Redland. The coverage, and hopefully the number of listeners, will be much greater.

Although I will still be reading the script, for 70cms it will not be “live” from the shack. I will be making a recording and then uploading it via broadband, to the Linux computer system controlling the repeater. Thanks to Matt G4RKY for his assistance in this project.

One gets very fussy with recorded audio. The shack is comparatively noisy so I will be working from a ‘studio’ (my living room) with a high quality microphone and a lap-top computer. The resulting file has to be converted to a format to suit the repeater’s computer and reduced in size to save upload time and storage space. I won’t bore you with the details; it was complicated at first. This is all a far cry from old fashioned amateur radio. Where would we be without WiFi!

The picture shows my set up: Zoom H2 microphone, lap-top, Icom IC32E for working GB3ZB and the essential mug of coffee. The mug on display is the GB2RS 50th anniversary special edition sent to all news readers in 2005. I used to listen to Arthur Milne G2MI in Bromley who was the very first reader, on 80m, when the service started in 1955!



John G4TRN

GB2RS News : Sunday 0930hrs via GB3ZB and then at 1030hrs 145.525Mhz

BATH AMATEUR RADIO TRAINING

FOUNDATION COURSE 2015

Starts Wed 9th Sept and ends with the exam on Wed 21st October

How does it work?

Weekly classes that take you through the official textbook (covering about 6 /7 pages a week).

Classes are in central Bath and run every Wednesday 7-9pm for six weeks.

The training is arranged around the RSGB book, *Foundation Licence Now!* The book is now in its 5th Edition and can be bought from us as part of the course, from the RSGB shop online, or from sites like Amazon, but check on the edition number!

What is the exam like?

The Foundation exam is a multiple choice paper with 26 questions based on the material covered in the course. The pass mark is 19, which is 73%. It will be marked immediately to give you an indication of whether you have passed and the formal results come out about a week later;

You should have your Licence by the end of October

If you know of anyone that might be interested in enrolling , e-mail Steve Hartley
G0FUW@tiscali.co.uk

Last month's Where and What

Only one correct answer to the question where and what is this ?

Several have said it doesn't look like the HMV "mutt" - and no it's not on the RNIB building!

It IS in fact a statue of "Nipper" the famous [HMV dog!](#)

Nipper was born in Bristol in 1884 and died in 1895.



Located at the junction of Woodland Road and Park Row on a University Building and walked past by hundreds of people every day - but you have to look up high to see it.

The winner is Martin G4EIA who has a free entry in this month's raffle.

(Thanks to Ken G3XSJ for the picture)

Anyone else got any quiz pictures ?



There will be a log search [here](#) and the log will also be uploaded to the ARRL's Log Book of the World (LoTW) and ClubLog. The web page will be updated from time to time.

Phil G3SWH , Jim G3RTE and Matt MJ0ASP will be QRV from the [Island of Cezembre EU-157](#) as **F/G6AY/P** between 16th and 19th August 2015 and plan to have two 100 watt stations with vertical antennas on 30 to 10 metres, CW only.

Cezembre is one of Europe's rarest islands in the IOTA programme, being needed by more than 60% of IOTA participants. Activity will be during daylight hours only as it is not permitted to stay on the island overnight.

QSL via G3SWH, either via OQRS (preferred), direct with SAE and adequate return postage or via the RSGB bureau. Please check the online log before requesting QSLs and note that IRCs, stamps or coins are *NOT* accepted.

Coming soon to the Bristol Group

Sept 28th : Prof Alan Nix “ 5G and beyond - A Bristol Perspective”

Oct 26th : Chat night - by popular demand

Nov 30th : Stuart Robinson GW7HPW - “The \$50 Satellite”

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/

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 <http://www.radioclubs.net/trowbridgedarc/events.php>

Any “Wanted” or “For Sales” ? Drop me an email .

[Robin G3TKF](#)

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<http://www.g6yb.org>