



## Radio Society of Great Britain

### City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB

At the Bristol Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, Redland Green, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HF

December **No** meeting : 28Mhz **On Air** night .

Monday December 30th 28.525Mhz USB 1930hrs

#### Chairman's Christmas Greetings

We are at that time of year again when we look back over the last 12 months and say where did that year go ? I'm sure it's an age thing, the older you are the quicker time flies; in a few years' time some clever physicist will prove this to be true and that Einstein predicted it in his general theory of relativity.

Anyway I digress; looking back over the year we have had another cracking good one; membership is steadily increasing and some of our members travel considerable distances to attend our meetings. The quality of the lecture program remains astonishingly high with many varied topics being covered, this being entirely due to the unstinting hard work of our secretary G3TKF. He makes the chairman's job very easy indeed.

On the financial front we are mainly holding our own, this being due in no small part to the stewardship of Mike Batt and Colin G3YHV who runs the raffle every month.

As many of you will know I gave notice at previous meetings of my intention to stand down as Chairman at the next AGM, having held the post these last 4 or 5 years, and had decided some new blood and new ideas were needed to keep the group moving forward. All this was before my recent health scare. So if any of you want to become Chairman get your nominations in now.

It only remains for me to wish you one and all

#### A Very Merry Christmas

And to thank you all for your kind thoughts and best wishes for my recovery.



We need a new Chairman see last page !

## Caption Competition

The picture shows a somewhat younger and less follicly challenged G3TKF in July 1969 with Skylark S 64 on a military base at Salto de Quira ,Sardinia. I was working for the European Space Research Organisation (ESRO), the payload being constructed at Filton, Bristol.

Being the junior member of the team it fell to me to do the final tests with the rocket sitting on the launch pad 30minutes or so before firing. I had to activate the sun sensors (for checking the spin rate ) with a torch ; magnetometers for checking position and alignment by waving a magnet at them (!) and the accelerometers by giving the nose cone a kick and a shake ! A whirring commutator sampled all the relevant voltages, and the data stream was transmitted around 450Mhz to the radar station about a mile away. The final arming plug (a 4 pin Jones) was in my pocket to ensure no errant pulses ignited the solid fuel motor that I was standing alongside!

The rocket achieved 280km at apogee and a similar successful experimental firing was achieved a week later.

It all seems a very long time ago now !

### Last month's captions included:

On Fireworks Night, Robin tried really hard to keep up with his new neighbours Mr and Mrs Jones. *Peter Heaven*

British engineers, given the project to build a large rocket, first design and build the world's biggest pencil to draw the plans. *Steve G3ZVW*

“What do you mean – it won't light!?”  
*Chris Stevens G3MGS*

In the early days, most of Robin's projects went up in smoke... but hopefully he has now mastered radio! *John 2E0CRI*

### But this months winner :

Recent letters in RadCom about aerial launchers gave Robin an idea for getting his quarter wave for 137kHz a bit more vertical. *Steve G0FUW*

Thanks Steve !

More captions next year ...

We need a new Chairman see last page !





Shirehampton  
A.R.C.

G4AHG

The **Bristol Post Code Award**, first activated many years ago, will be re-launched on September 1st by the Shirehampton Club .

An activity challenge !

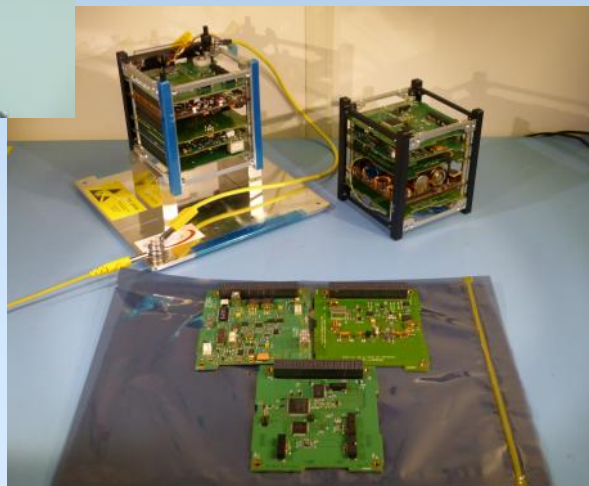
Contact as many Bristol postcodes as possible - there is a list of stations in each postcode area on their website. Check to see if **you** are in it ! More details will follow - but check out the club website for updates. <http://www.shirehampton-arc.org.uk/sarc/>

## NEWSFLASH!

The Funcube satellite was launched on Nov 21 by a Russian Dnepr rocket.

Ground stations began monitoring the telemetry system soon after launch

You can hear the satellite on 145.935Mhz (BPSK) or downlink (USB) 145.950—145.970Mhz . More details here <http://amsat-uk.org/funcube/funcube-cubesat/>



We need a new Chairman see last page !

## **Coming soon to the Bristol Group**

January 27th : Annual General Meeting and JUNK SALE

February 24th : Ian Greenshields G4FSU - 5Mhz

March 31st: Prof. Cathryn Mitchell GPS and Solar Flares

## **At the local clubs :**

Full details and more on the websites below

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

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

**Nominations are required for a new Chairperson ! He/She will be elected at the AGM - Please let any committee member have your nomination asap**  
**Any volunteers ?**

**Robin G3TKF**

RSGB Bristol Group Sec.

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<http://www.g6yb.org>

**Happy Christmas !**