



Radio Society of Great Britain



## City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB

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

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday Jan 30th 1930hrs

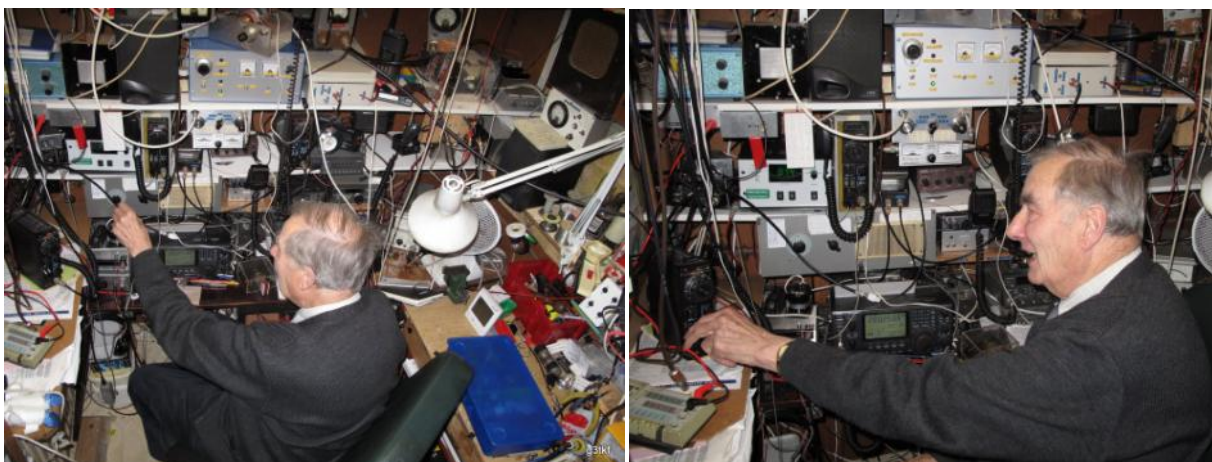
All the usual reports from the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer - this year there will be an interesting difference in the latter's report !

Would you like to see any changes to the group in 2012?

This is your chance to make any comments about improving the group and letting us know what YOU would like . Do try to get along !

Following the evening's business (hopefully not too long), Roy Emery G3FYX will give us a short talk and demonstration on his activities on 48Ghz and below !

Roy recently won an award for a DX contact on 48Ghz; find out how he did it !



Roy checking on some 10Ghz beacons

**Don't forget - at the AGM all memberships can be renewed .**

**For more information click [here](#) where you can download a membership form, and either post it or bring it along to a meeting - a bargain at only £10 !**

**If you have not "joined" us yet , speak to Ron [G4GTD](#) at a meeting , or email him for details of membership to the group [ron.ford@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ron.ford@blueyonder.co.uk)**

**Members can use the RSGB Bristol Yahoo Group. It is available for use to all paid up members and is a useful source for buying , selling , asking for advice or just announcing what you are doing !**

### **USA Amateurs peak at 700,000**

As the third quarter of 2011 came to a close, ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, began calculating the number of licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US, as well as the number of new licensees. "At the end of September, I saw that the number of hams in the US was high," she said. "When I started comparing that number with other years, I found that it was an all-time high." For the first time, there are more than 700,000 radio amateurs in the US.

"When looking at the three current license classes -- Technician, General and Amateur Extra -- these numbers are impressive," Somma explained. "The number of Technicians peaked in March 2011 at 342,572, while in September 2011, we saw both Generals and Extras peak at 159,861 and 125,661, respectively. As new Technicians earn their Amateur Radio licenses, and current Technician licensees move on to General and Generals upgrade to Extra, this can cause up-and-down fluctuations for these totals."

In the past 40 years, the number of Amateur Radio operators in the US has grown at a remarkable rate:

December 1971: 285,000

December 1981: 433,000

December 1991: 494,000

December 2001: 683,000

September 2011: 700,221

**As a rough comparison according to Wikipedia there are about 60,000 calls currently in the UK, so we are actually doing pretty well ! Who said the hobby was dying ?**

Thanks to QST

### Chairman's Memorable Year

In the last newsletter I suggested members might like to mention to us their memorable year, with regard to radio I should hasten to add, well here goes with mine.

1963 was my radio memorable year. I had played around with building crystal sets and when I could afford it from my pocket money I used to buy Practical Wireless, Camm's Comics. In the November of that year they published the blue print of "The Beginners Short Wave Two". By FG Rayer, you all remember him. It used a 954 acorn valve and a 12AT7 with Eddystone plug in coils. This I decided was for me, I scrimped and saved with the pocket money, made many trips to Pitts of Picton St. and eventually I built it and it didn't work but after much perseverance I got it going and so my introduction to short wave listening began, and not long after, I realised I was listening to ordinary people talking to each other about every subject under the sun, but the weather did seem to figure large even then. That was my introduction to amateur radio, a hobby that has served me well ever since and a hobby I still enjoy to this day. Oh and by the way , it was only recently after listening to G3YHV giving his talk about the Paraset that I realised that my Beginners Short Wave Two was a direct copy of that radio with one or two minor embellishments. **Dave G4NKT**

### Local Clubs Why not support them and try to make a meeting or two ?

Blackmore Vale <http://www.radioclubs.net/bvars/events.php>

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

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

MidSARC <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/>

Thornbury and South Gloucs ARC <http://www.tsgarc.ham-radio-op.net>

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

Don't forget—if you see anything of interest to the group, or have anything for sale or wanted, drop me an email for inclusion in the next newsletter.

73 - Hope to see you at the AGM !

[Robin G3TKF](#)

**RSGB Bristol Group Hon.Sec.**

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