



Radio Society of Great Britain



City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB  
At the BAWA Centre Filton Bristol BS34 7RF

Monday 30th January 1930hrs 2017

**Annual General Meeting**

There will be a Quiz prepared by G4NAQ so bring a pen/pencil with you !

**Agenda AGM 2016**

Welcome from the Chair  
Apologies for absence  
Minutes of last AGM 2016  
Matters Arising  
Chairman's Report  
Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Membership Sec's Report  
Steve Hartley Classes  
Contest Group Manager  
Election of Officers

To access the new venue : from the Filton Roundabout take Southmead Road heading towards the hospital. After appx half a mile the access is on the right and is signposted **BAWA**.

Proceed to the rear of the building; the entrance is through reception as shown.

Detailed directions on our website

<http://www.g6yb.org/cms/>





**On Jan 18th Norway** will become the first country in the world to start shutting down its national FM radio network in favour of digital radio. Norwegians have had years to prepare, but the move is still catching many off guard.

FM radio and Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) have existed side by side since 1995, but officials in Norway's Ministry of Culture have decided that the time has finally come to retire the older transmission medium.

The FM switch-off starts in Nordland, the northern part of the country. Beginning at 11:11 am local time, the FM network will be taken down in a gradual process that will take the entire calendar year. The transition from FM to DAB won't happen overnight, allowing Norwegians to adapt to the change.

Advocates of DAB say the format sounds better, and that it offers more channels at a fraction of the cost. DAB currently hosts 22 national stations in Norway, along with about 20 smaller stations. The FM spectrum can only accommodate five national stations. Also, DAB's digital nature allows listeners to catch up on missed programmes, and it's easier for authorities to broadcast emergency messages in times of crisis. DAB also makes sense in a country like Norway, with its fjords and high mountains (*really?* - Ed). It's expensive to get FM signals to such a small and scattered population.

Despite the fact that Norwegians have had years to prepare, most say the shift is premature. Apparently 66 percent of Norwegians are opposed to the shutdown.

It's estimated that 7.9 million old radios will become obsolete by the end of the year, the majority of which are found in vehicles. Converting a car radio requires an adapter that costs between 1,000 to 2,000 kroner (\$115-\$235). As the AFP rightly points out, "So while the switch to digital will reduce the cost of transmission for broadcasters, it is listeners who will pick up much of the cost of the transition."

Other countries could soon follow suit. **The UK** says it will drop the FM band once half of all radio listening is digital (the figure is currently at 35 percent), and when the DAB signal reaches 90 percent of the population. FM radio, which has been active in North America since the 1940s, [shows no sign of being replaced](#) any time soon, either in the United States or Canada. That said, a DAB-friendly infrastructure is starting to emerge. There are around [4,000 stations using HD radio technology in the United States](#), and HD radio receivers are now common fixtures in new cars.



## Non-local news !

### HOW do you stop a phone from bursting into flames?

Put a tiny fire extinguisher in the battery!

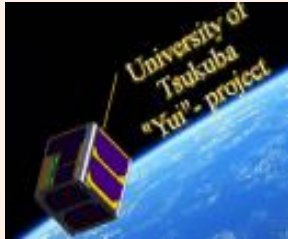


Lithium-ion batteries are used in portable devices because they are lightweight and efficient, but when they short circuit, their liquid components can vaporise and catch fire.

One way to prevent this is to add a fire-retardant chemical to the battery's electrolyte liquid – but this hinders its performance.

[Yi Cui](#) and team at Stanford University in California have enclosed the fire-retardant in a thin polymer capsule. It is only released into the electrolyte if the battery overheats and the polymer shell melts. When tested in burning battery liquid, the capsules extinguished the blaze in less than half a second .

(*Science Advances*, [doi.org/bw9c](https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.1234567)).



**Several CubeSats carrying amateur radio** payloads were placed into orbit on 16 January from the International Space Station.

Satellites carrying amateur radio payloads included ITF-2 (Imagine The Future !) with a downlink of 437.525MHz, Waseda-Sat-3, with downlinks of CW and FM telemetry on 437.29MHz, AOBA-Velox-3, with downlinks of GMSK telemetry on 437.225MHz and TuPOD that will transmit AFSK on 437.200MHz.

<http://rsgb.org/main/blog/news/>

## Tennamast for sale £250

35ft tilt-over galvanised mast to include 12ft extension pole and head unit.

Self supporting from concrete block. It has withstood many high winds without incident. The mast is mounted in a ground socket, so easily removed.

Good condition.

Contact [G3TKF](#) for full details



## Club news from around the nearer clubs

[Bath and District](#) The recent Morse evening keyed by **John G4OTJ** was a big success; 6 of the club members are pursuing it further. More on their website.

[MidSARC](#) **Tuesday 14th Feb** their next meeting has **Graham G3TCT** giving a talk on the relocated and refurbished 23cms beacon GB3USK (IO87VC) that was until recently located on Dundry .

[North Bristol](#) no info for 2017 at this time (24th Jan) but check their website

[Shirehampton](#) **Friday 3rd Feb** Engineering guru **Ken M0KMI** is giving a talk. Two weeks later on **Friday 17th Feb** All-round guru **Colin G3YHV** is talking on the AR88 and the HRO, two amazing receivers. Heavy stuff !

[South Bristol](#) led by **Andy G7KNA** Open House on **26th January** and then on **2nd Feb** a talk on DF-ing

[Thornbury and South Gloucestershire ARC](#) has a net every **Friday evening** which always starts on the calling channel 145.500 (really annoying if you are mobile, guys! ) and then moves off to 145.450

[Trowbridge ARC](#) are having a talk on **1st Feb** by the TX factor operations man **Nick Bennett 2E0FGQ** with other members of the video crew.

[Weston Super Mare club](#) (Established 1923!) on **Mon 20th Feb** are having a talk by either **G4DPH** or **Matt G4RKY**- if the latter I guess repeaters will be involved !

**There seems to be a LOT happening in the South West region !**

**When people say the hobby is not expanding take a look at some of the websites above !**

Feb 27th: **Prof Chris Budd** (Bath University) G4NBG “Big Data”

Mar 27th: **Paul Heiney** (Writer and Presenter) M0HWV “Talking wires in the sky”

Apr 24th: **tbc**

**Any ideas for talks ? Please contact the Secretary.**

**At the local clubs :**

Full details and more on the websites below:

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

**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.g4wsm.club](http://www.g4wsm.club)

**After nearly 9 years as Secretary of the Bristol Group I am handing in my notice and letting someone else take over. I shall still be around helping to book some hopefully interesting speakers.**

**Thanks for your encouragement over the years.**

**I have enjoyed the job (mostly!)**

**73**

**[Robin G3TKF](#)**

**RSGB Bristol Group Sec.**

**<http://www.g6yb.org> The history of the group is here: [History](#)**