

RADIO SOCIETY

of Great Britain

PROPAGATION STUDIES COMMITTEE

REPORT TO THE 2011 SPECTRUM FORUM MEETING

(Sandy, 5th November 2011)

Activities

Our main activities are to undertake propagation-related studies, from LF to visible light. We operate a reflector that allows full, corresponding and associate members to share information and results with a view to having a better understanding of propagation matters.

Other work revolves around preparing propagation reports for RadCom and GB2RS, writing features on propagation matters for RadCom and other publications, and giving presentations to amateurs.

To this end PSC members were directly involved in delivering four presentations at the recent RSGB Convention. These were on 5MHz NVIS predictions, greyline propagation, understanding ionosonde data and comparing predictions with reality for the T32C Dxpediton.

Our web site is <http://www.rsgb.org/psc/>

Concerns

Our main concern is ensuring that beacon frequencies are respected and kept clear of other amateur activity. For example, the NCDXF beacon chain is monitored automatically around the world and QRM can wreck the data.

We are also concerned that beacons should be regulated wherever possible to ensure that they appear in the right segments of the band and do not cause mutual interference.

History

The Propagation Studies Committee stemmed from a suggestion made in 1957 by Dr Smith-Rose, then Director of the Radio research Station, Slough, that a small committee should be formed to attempt to correlate radio amateur observations with 'auroral, ionospheric or meteorological conditions'. This led to the formation of the Scientific Studies Committee, which was re-named the Propagation Studies Committee in 1976.

Steve Nichols, G0KYA
Chairman, Propagation Studies Committee