

VHF Report, November 2012

Firstly, we should pay tribute to Terry Stevens, G8DKS, who died unexpectedly during the summer after only serving a short period in the VHF Manager post. He had been busy getting into the role, had attended Hamradio at Friedrichshafen and was due to visit a hamfest in Vilnius to give talks about the RSGB and the Enigma machine.

Ofcom's VHF Spectrum Release 143 – 156 MHz Consultation

In collaboration with BATC and AMSAT-UK a bid for 146 – 148 MHz was put into the consultation based upon supporting innovation and creativity. The full text of the joint submission can be seen at

<http://www.rsgb.org/committees/spectrumforum/pdfs/consultations/responses/vhf-spectrum-release-v3-2.pdf>

Release of HO Spectrum

Ofcom released information in April 2012 covering a wider release of VHF spectrum than the 143 – 156 MHz covered in their recent consultation. The Society has therefore put a marker down that it would be interested in 70.5 – 71.0 MHz and 80.0 – 81.0 MHz, as this would allow both the option of extending our 40/50/60/70 MHz propagation studies beacon system at GB3RAL, as well as additional simplex capacity on 70 MHz or 10 MHz spacing with 80MHz for repeater use. Repeaters are not practicable in the existing 70 MHz allocation because of insufficient transmitter to transmitter spacing.