

# GB2RS NEWS

Sunday 31st March 2013

## The news headlines:

- **AROS Deputy Controller sought**
- **Australian amateurs try to protect 13cm**
- **GJ100RSGB goes on air this week**

A vacancy exists for a Deputy Controller for the Amateur Radio Observation Service. AROS has an important role as it works behind the scenes, largely independent of the rest of the RSGB, to assist radio amateurs and others to investigate reports of licence infringements and poor operating, which might bring the hobby into disrepute. Apart from managing issues being sent into AROS, the deputy coordinator will work closely with the coordinator to support and organise any investigation carried out by the group of observers and liaises directly with Ofcom's enforcement and licensing teams. A good working knowledge of amateur radio is needed for the position, along with a discrete but objective approach to problem solving and issue resolution, and a track record of good inter-personal skills. Applications along with an appropriate CV, or expressions of interest, should be sent to the Chairman of the RSGB Spectrum Forum, John Gould, G3WKL by e-mail to [g3wkl@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:g3wkl@rsgb.org.uk) or by mail, marked Personal, to AROS, 3 Abbey Court, Fraser Road, Priory Business Park, Bedford MK44 3WH.

The Wireless Institute of Australia, which has already seen losses in its UHF and microwave amateur allocations over the years, is mounting a spirited response as it tries to protect its diminutive 13cm allocation. The WIA wishes to preserve a future for leading edge weak-signal narrowband and EME operators who have now just 2300-2302MHz remaining from their original ITU 13cm allocation. The submission is available on the WIA website <http://wia.org.au>.

G100RSGB, the special event callsign celebrating the RSGB Centenary remains in Region 11 this week. Today, 31 March, Plymouth Radio Club & Saltash will put an HF, VHF and UHF station on the air using SSB and possibly CW. On Monday, Riviera ARC will run the station on Torquay, look out in particular for the SSTV signals. 2 and 3 April sees the callsign with Poole ARS running 2m and HF bands with SSB, CW and datamodes. On Thursday the callsign moves to Wimborne with Flight Refuelling ARS running three stations from 70cm to Top Band, including 4 and 6m. On Friday Weston super mare RS will run the callsign on UHF to Top Band using CW and SSB. Then on 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> the callsign changes to GJ100RSGB when Jersey ARS run the callsign from La Moye Signal Station. Listen for their HF, VHF and UHF signals. Details of how to get your QSL card are on the website, [www.rsgb.org.uk](http://www.rsgb.org.uk)

The RSGB's Centenary AGM will take place at the IET, Savoy Place, London on the 20<sup>th</sup> April at noon. If you are intending to attend, it would be appreciated if you could let the RSGB know by filling in the very short form at [www.rsgb.org/attendagm](http://www.rsgb.org/attendagm)

The next RSGB Getting Started e-mail newsletter is due out in early April. Any RSGB Member who hasn't already signed up to receive copies should go to [www.rsgb.org/gettingstarted](http://www.rsgb.org/gettingstarted).

## **And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week**

Next weekend there are a number of rallies taking place.

The Cambridge Repeater Group Rally will be held at Foxton Village Hall, Hardman Road, Foxton, Cambridge, Cambs CB22 6RN on 7 April. Doors open at 10am and admission is £2. There will be trade stands and a Bring & Buy. More details can be obtained from M0LCM on 01223 711 840.

Also on 7 April, the Northern Amateur Radio Societies Association Exhibition will take place in the Norbreck Castle Exhibition Centre, Blackpool FY2 9AA. Doors open at 10.30am, 10.15 for disabled visitors and there will be trade stands, special interest groups a Bring & Buy and an RSGB bookstall. More information from Dave, M0OBW on 01270 761 608

Finally, on 7 April the South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Rally will be held at the Scout Activity Centre, Woodhouse Park, Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4LX. Doors open at 10am and there will be a Bring & Buy at this rally. More details from Mike, M1DPB, on 07806 310 095.

## **Now for the news of special events**

GB2RAF, the RAF Neatishead Radar Museum Permanent Special Event Station, will be on the air celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society on 1 April from 0900 to 1700UTC on 80m or 40m using SSB or CW.

GM0OBX will be running a special event call of GB1PC during April from Stirling and District Amateur Radio Society HQ to celebrate the new Police Service of Scotland. Working on all bands, full details can be found on QRZ.com. Please QSL via bureau and GM0OBX.

## **And now the DX news compiled from 425 DX News and other sources**

N7QT will be heading back to Saint Lucia to operate stroke J6 between 5 and 16 April. Activity will be on 10 through to 80m using CW, SSB and RTTY and PSK. He will also be operating field portable from the St. Lucia beaches and mountain tops. QSL as directed on the air.

Jonas, LY5A will be active as LY23A until 11 April to celebrate the 23rd anniversary of the restoration of Lithuanian independence. QSL via LY5A

Dirk, DL5DCL, will spend his holidays on Ameland which is IOTA reference EU-038 from 1 to 6 April. He will be transmitting in holiday style signing PA/DL5DCL mostly in CW on HF. QSL via DL5DCL either via the bureau, direct or OQRS.

Ela, DL1TM, and Tor, DJ4MG, will be active in SSB and PSK on the 10 to 160m bands signing OZ7TM and 5P4MGN from 1 to 18 April. They will also try to activate the callsign OU1RAEM. QSLs for OZ7TM via DL1TM, 5P4MG via DJ4MG and OU1RAEM via DF5LW

Chris, GM3WOJ, and Keith, GM4YXI, are going to visit the Cocos-Keeling Islands and plan to show up as VK9CZ in SSB/CW and some RTTY on the HF bands until 13 April. If possible they want to upload their logs to the LoTW every day. An OQRS will be installed after their return home. Please check the QSL information on their website:

## Now the contest news

On 1 April the CW leg of the 80m Club Championships will take place from 1900 to 2030UTC. The exchange is signal report and serial number.

On the afternoon of Easter Monday, 1 April, the IRTS 2m Counties Contest takes place for two hours between 1300 and 1500UTC. There are awards for non-EI stations. If you live in GI or have a good takeoff to Ireland it would be worth giving it a try. The exchange is signal report, serial number and EI and GI stations also send their county.

On 2 April, the 144MHz UK Activity Contest will take place between 1900 and 2130UTC. Using all modes the exchange is signal report, serial number and locator.

The SSB leg of RoPoCo takes place on the 80m band on 7 April from 1900 to 2030UTC. Both RoPoCos are HF Championship events, with the maximum output power limited to 100 watts. The exchange is signal report and the full postcode received.

In the 3-hour 1<sup>st</sup> 70MHz contest there are no multipliers, it's a straight race to accumulate as many kilometres worked as possible. Although Sporadic-E propagation is not beyond the realms of possibility, no long-haul DX was worked in this event last year or in 2011. Maybe this year? Running from 0900 to 1200UTC on 7 April and using all modes, the exchange is signal report, serial number and locator.

The CW/SSB leg of the SPDX Contest runs for 24 hours from 1500 on Saturday 6 April using the 1.8 to 28MHz bands. Work Polish stations only, giving them a signal report and serial number. Expect a signal report and a single-letter province code in return.

## **And now the solar factual data for the period from Friday the 22nd to Wednesday the 27th of March, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS on Thursday the 28th of March.**

Yet another week when solar activity resembled solar minimum, rather than solar maximum. All the visible sunspot regions during the period were small and simple. Several small C class solar flares took place on the 22nd when solar activity was at low levels, but the remaining days solar activity was at very low levels. Solar flux levels declined from 101 units on the 22nd to 92 by the 26th. The average was 96 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 27th was 115 units, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels declined from B3.2 units on the 22nd to B1 by the 27th. The average was B1.6 units. Geomagnetic activity was quiet everyday except for the 23rd when the Ap index increased to 11 units. The average was Ap 7 units. Solar wind data from the ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 340 kilometres per second on the 23rd to 570 by the 27th. Particle densities were moderate most days, levels were up to 32 particles per cubic centimetre during the 23rd. Bz varied between minus 10 and plus 8 nanoTeslas on the most disturbed day and between minus 4 and plus 4 nanoTeslas on the quieter days.

And finally the solar forecast for the coming week. This week the more active side of the Sun is expected to be rotating into view. Saying that, activity is only expected to be at low levels with only a small chance of solar activity increasing any higher. Solar flux levels should increase and be around the 120 mark later in the week. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet everyday. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 23MHz for the south and 20MHz for the north. Darkness hour lows should be about 10MHz. Paths this week to South Africa should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success of around 33MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 27MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1000 and 1500 hours UTC.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

## Next, the Local News:

**Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including email addresses and website links where known.**

[Note to Newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your transmission.]

## NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

Today, Sunday 31 March, Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the Wythall RC Easter Contest and the CQ WPX SSB Contest with the usual club net on 145.225MHz at 8pm. On Monday the club is taking part in the RSGB 80m Club Championships CW Contest and the April Activity Ladder begins. On Tuesday there's a Morse Class at 7.45pm followed by a Free 'n' Easy evening. On Friday it's the Friday shack social. Next Sunday, there's a club net on 145.225MHz at 8pm and the club is participating in the RoPoCo Contest. Details from Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819.

On Monday 1 April Friskney and East Lincolnshire Communications Club has a VHF SSB club net on 144.165MHz USB, vertical polarization starting at 7.30pm. Tuesday is the monthly club meeting and Wednesday there is a M3+M6 club net on GB3FR repeater starting at 8pm. On Friday there is a 6m club net on 50.730MHz starting at 8pm. Non members are welcome to all the nets and the monthly meeting. Contact the FELCC Information Line on 07554 362 020

On Monday 1 April Gloucester Amateur Radio & Electronics Society will be enjoying Bank holiday Crickley Hill operating. Next Sunday the club are taking part in the South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Rally. Full details from Anne, 2E1GKY on 01242 699595 daytime.

On Monday 1 April South Birmingham Radio Society has no meeting due to the bank holiday. Then on Tuesday, there's a Coffee morning from 11am to 1pm. On Thursday there are training classes with Dave Murphy, G8OWL and on Friday it's shack and aerial work. More information from Mick, G7RRP, 07595 696 359, g7rrp@btinternet.com

On Tuesday 2 April Lincoln Short-Wave Club is taking part in the 144MHz UK Activity Contest and on Wednesday G5FZ will be on the Air from the Shack and it's a natter night. On Thursday there's a repeater net at 8pm on 145.725MHz. On Saturday 6 April there's the Saturday Surgery at 9am and next Sunday the club is taking part in the 1<sup>st</sup> 70MHz contest. For more information contact Pam Rose, G4STO, on 01427 788 356.

On Tuesday 2 April South Notts Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Contest from home and on Wednesday it's the AGM for members only. Details from Terry, M0RIA, 01159 372 942.

On Monday 1 April Sutton Coldfield Amateur Radio Society has a 2m open net on 145.250MHz from 7 30pm, all are welcome to join in. More information from Robert Bird, by email to spirit.guide@hotmail.co.uk.

On Monday 1 April Aldridge & Barr Beacon Amateur Radio Club has no meeting due to the Easter holidays. Contact Albert, G0KFS on 01922 614 169.

On Tuesday 2 April Derby & District Amateur Radio Society has a Junk Sale. Contact Richard Buckby, by email to radio@dadars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 2 April Dudley and District Amateur Radio Society has a 2m contest night. Details from Miles Hall, G4GSB, by e-mail to g4gsb@gmx.com.

On Wednesday 3 April Midland Amateur Radio Society is holding an open meeting, the shack is on the air and training classes are taking place. Details from Norman, G8BHE, on 07808 078 003.

On Wednesday 3 April South Kesteven Amateur Radio Society is having an informal evening. Contact Nigel, M0CVO, on 01476 402 550.

On Wednesday 3 April Telford & District Amateur Radio Society is holding a committee meeting & GX3ZME will be on the air. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677.

On Friday 5 April Coventry Amateur Radio Society has a series of mini lectures. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 07958 777 363.

On Friday 5 April Hucknall Rolls Royce Amateur Radio Club has the usual club meeting starting at 8:30pm followed by a members forum. Details from Dave Wilde, G1YAI, by e-mail to treasurer@hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 6 April Rugby ATS is looking at making PCBs at home. Information from Steve, G8LYB on 01788 578940.

## **NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND**

Houghton - Le -Spring Amateur Radio Club would like to mark the passing of one of its founder members. Raymon Dresser, G0FDA became silent key on 24 March and will be missed by all at the club.

On Monday 1 April Angel of the North Amateur Radio Club has no club meeting but next Sunday the club has a coach trip to the Norbreck Rally. Contact Nancy Bone, G7UUR, on 01914 770 036 if you are interested in joining the trip on 7 April.

On Tuesday 2 April Stockport Radio Society has a talk on Inverted L aerials with Peter Day, G3PHO. Next Sunday the club will be attending the Norbreck Rally. Details from Nigel Roscoe on 07973 312 699.

On Monday 1 April Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is closed for the Easter holidays but still taking part in the 80m club contest from members homes. More information from Peter Day, G3PHO, by email to sarc@g3pho.org.uk.

On Monday 1 April Workington and District Radio and IT Group is closed for the Easter holidays. For more information get in touch with Barry Easdon, G0RZI, on 01946 812 092.

On Tuesday 2 April Chester & District Radio Society is holding the Annual General Meeting. Contact Bruce Sutherland, M0CVP on 01244 343 825.

On Wednesday 3 April Denby Dale Radio Club has a talk entitled A Journey into Fantasy by Ian, G4LUG. Details from Richard, M0RBG, on 07976 220 126.

On Thursday 4 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club has a quiz night planned. Details from Ron, G3SVW, on 01619 693 999.

On Thursday 4 April Tall Trees Contest Club has a normal club meeting. Full details from Brian Gale, G3UJE, by e-mail to baggywrinkle3@yahoo.co.uk

On Friday 5 April Tynemouth Amateur Radio Club has a talk on the SOTA station in your pocket. More information from Bob, M0KLO, by e-mail to mail@g0nwm.com.

On Sunday 7 April North Cheshire Radio Club is looking at analogue and digital modes. Details from Jill Gourley, by e-mail to jillgourle@aol.com

## **NORTHERN IRELAND**

On Saturday 6 April Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club is organising a club demonstration station from Sands Marine. Full information from Brian Burns, MI0TGO, by e-mail to [muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:muarc.secretary@yahoo.co.uk)

## **NEWS FOR SCOTLAND**

On Tuesday 2 April Livingston & District Amateur Radio Society is having a club evening. Details from Norman, GM1CNH, on 07740 946 192.

On Wednesday 3 April Lothians Radio Society is having a surplus equipment sale at St Fillans Church Hall. Contact Alan J Masson, GM3PSP, on 0131 623 4580.

On Thursday 4 April Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a Junk Sale. Contact Fred Gordon, MM0ODL, on 01975 651 365.

On Thursday 4 April Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is planning a discussion on the way ahead for the club. Details from Barry Horning, GM4TOE on 01807 580376

On Friday 5 April Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a normal club night. More information from Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

## **NEWS FOR THE SOUTH EAST and EAST ANGLIA**

Silverthorn Radio Club has moved to 56 Friday Hill East, Chingford, London E4 6JT for club meetings. For more details e-mail [secretary@silverthornradioclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@silverthornradioclub.org.uk).

On Sunday 31 March Coalhouse Fort Amateur Radio Society is putting GB1CHF on the air from 11 to 5pm for Motor Cycle Day at the fort. On Monday the club is putting GB1CHF on the air from 11am to 5pm for an event involving military vehicles. Details from Tony Reynard G7HJT, on 07976 553 345.

On Monday 1 April Farnborough & District Radio Society has 80m slow speed CW at 1pm on 3570kHz and a Top Band net on 1.995MHz at 8pm. On Wednesday there is slow speed CW at 8pm on 1.995MHz and on Friday there is a 2m Net at 8pm on 144.675MHz FM. Details from Neville, G4SPD, on 01252 404816.

On Monday 1 April Newbury & District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m Club Championships. Next Sunday it is the Intermediate course practical, revision and examination. Contact Rob, G4LMW, on 01635 862 737.

On Monday 1 April Worthing & District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the 80m Club Championships. On Wednesday there is a talk by Peter, M6PBK, Alister, G3ZBU and Merv, 2E0WVE on Steiff in Space. Next Sunday it is the monthly breakfast meeting at the Goring Café at 9am. Contact John, G8FMJ, on 01273 593 232.

On Monday 1 April Braintree & District Amateur Radio Society is looking at equipment safety testing, Part 2. For more information contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 1 April Burnham Beeches Radio Club is holding a bank holiday club contest. Contact Dave, G4XDU, on 01628 625 720.

On Monday 1 April Maidstone YMCA Amateur Radio Society is holding a club meeting. Details from Ian Hope, 2E0IJH, by e-mail [info@g3trf.org](mailto:info@g3trf.org).

On Tuesday 2 April Stevenage & District Amateur Radio Society has a talk on operating in Malta by G2BKZ/9H1KZ. Contact Martin Juhe, M0XJP, on 07973 793 770.

On Wednesday 3 April Chesham & District Amateur Radio Society has a general meeting and night on the air. More details from Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 831 491.

On Wednesday 3 April Dover Radio Club is having fun with APRS on 2m and HF with Matt, M1CMN. Details from Pete, M0PKH, peter.halloway@sky.com

On Wednesday 3 April Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is holding its AGM. Details from Chris Danby, G0DWV, on 01603 898 678.

On Wednesday 3 April Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Hailsham shack. Details from John, G3DQY, on 01424 424 319.

On Thursday 4 April Bredhurst Receiving and Transmitting Society is holding a club night. Details from Charles G4VSZ, on 07982 244 788.

On Thursday 4 April Crawley Amateur Radio Club is having a surplus equipment sale Doors open 7pm and the auction starts at 8pm. Visitors are welcome. More information from John, G3VLH, on 01342 714 402.

On Thursday 4 April Cray Valley Radio Society is holding a club meeting. Details from Malcolm Bryan, G8MCA, on 07906 433 965

On Thursday 4 April Horndean & District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter night and social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 02392 472 846

On Thursday 4 April Horsham Amateur Radio Club has a talk on the Aurora Borealis and Radio Propagation by G3LHZ. More information from Alister, G3ZBU, on 01932 242243

On Thursday 4 April Shefford & District Amateur Radio Society has a talk on an introduction to gliding by Roger Castle-Smith. More details from John Burnett, 2E0OAK, on 07860 804 793.

On Friday 5 April Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club has an evening of Morse, soldering and transmission techniques. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170

On Friday 5 April Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society has a talk on MRI by Phil, M5BTB. Details from Mike Mundy, G1TDL, on 01444 246 899

On Saturday 6 April Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is at the shack. For more information contact Steve, on 01424 720 815

On Saturday 6 April Bromley & District Amateur Radio Society continues the Intermediate Course. Details from Andy, G4WGZ, on 01689 878 089

On Saturday 6 April Loughton & Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society has a special event station at RAFARS Airfields on the Air. Contact Marc Litchman, G0TOC, on 02085 021 645.

On Saturday 6 April Reading & District Amateur Radio Club is running a Foundation Course. Details from Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697

## NEWS FOR THE SOUTH WEST

On Monday 1 April Exeter Amateur Radio Society is holding a Monday HF net on 3,675kHz at 7.45pm. On Tuesday there is a 2m net on 145.575MHz at 7.45pm and on Thursday there is a 4m net on 70.425MHz at 7pm. Contact Nick, 2E0NRJ, on 01363 775 756

On Monday 1 April Riviera Amateur Radio Club will put G100RSGB on the air. On Tuesday MX0RIV will be on air with a 2m net on 145.425MHz at 8pm on Wednesday. On Saturday GX3AH will be on the air from Haldon Moor, the site of the WW2 Haldon Aerodrome for RAFARS' Airfields on the Air event. Operation will be on 40m and 2m. Contact Alan Wyatt, G2DXU, by email to rivieraarc@gmail.com

On Wednesday 3 April Thornbury & South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is holding its AGM. On Friday there is a 2m net at 8pm. On Sunday it is the South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Rally at Woodhouse Camp Site. Contact Tony, G0WMB, on 01454 417 048

On Thursday 4 April South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is looking at Mobile HF Antennas. Next Sunday the club is attending the South Gloucestershire Rally. Details from Andrew Jenner, G7KNA, on 07838 695 471

On Monday 1 April Plymouth Radio Club is celebrating the RSGB Centenary with a special event, transmitting from the club house, situated at The Cherry Tree, Ham Drive, Plymouth, PL2 3NH. More details from Bob Griffiths, G7NHB, on 01752 343 177

On Thursday 4 April Cornish Radio Amateur Club is holding its AGM. Details from Steve, G7VOH, on 01209 844 939

On Thursday 4 April Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is putting G100RSGB on the air. More details from John, G4POF, g4pof@hotmail.com

On Thursday 4 April Saltash & District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter night and talk. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321

On Thursday 4 April Swindon & District Amateur Radio Club is having an activity night. Contact Den, M0ACM, on 07810 317 750

On Thursday 4 April Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on Simple Amateur Band Receivers by G3MYM. Details from Rodney Edwards, M0RGE, on 01935 825791

On Friday 5 April Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having a natter night with an 80m net. For more information contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk

On Friday 5 April Weston Super Mare Radio Society is putting G100RSGB on the air. Details from Paul, G3SDH, on 01761 221 206



# NEWS FOR WALES

On Monday 1 April Dragon Amateur Radio Club has an informal chat night. More information from Stewart Rolfe, GW0ETF, on 07833 620 733

On Tuesday 2 April Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society has an on the air night with GB3FG. Details from Lloyd, 2W0LLT, on 01239 711 297

On Tuesday 2 April Wrexham Amateur Radio Society is looking at Scanning the Airbands and the experience of a new licensee. Details from Frank Bailey, M1EYH, by email to [fcbailey20@btinternet.com](mailto:fcbailey20@btinternet.com)