



BRITISH AMATEUR RADIO TELEDATA GROUP

www.bartg.org.uk

REPORT TO THE 2013 SPECTRUM FORUM MEETING

(Sandy, 2nd November 2013)

CONCERNS

Our main **concern** continues to be the **harmonisation of the 40m band**. We appreciate that this is an ongoing process that may take several years to complete. We are pleased with the progress made on harmonisation in the **Region 2 bandplan for 40m**.

This comment comes from John GW4SKA:

All the new developments in amateur radio modes are digital. They all need their own band segments as they are not compatible. We need a lot more space for these modes, not just a few KHz, and this space should be clearly defined as being for digital modes only. A 25KHz or even 50KHz slot would not be unreasonable if amateur datacomms is to continue to advance (and not much else has happened on HF in the last 50 years).

With regard to the **2013 Region 2 bandplan for 40m** John writes:

It looks a complete fudge to me, defining very little. What is the point of a band plan that allows all modes in 80% or more of a band? CW, the most efficient, lowest bandwidth mode, can still go anywhere it likes. This is a big problem in the data mode areas where CW should be kept out.

7040 is the lowest freq for digital modes which is fine as long as we can spread up, but any suggestion that all digital modes should be housed in a 10KHz slot 7040-7050 is unworkable. There is a big danger that the newer digital modes which have defined calling spots will push RTTY out or at the very least cause a lot of conflict.

Half empty or half full? Let's look at it another way. Digital modes can be used almost anywhere on 40 and 80. That's great. So can all the other modes. That's great too.

WHY HAVE A BAND PLAN?

If you haven't heard of BARTG, or are uncertain of what we do, here is some information for you:

BARTG - HISTORY

BARTG was founded in 1959 to **promote, encourage and support** the use of **RTTY within amateur radio**. Our experience of datacoms is predominantly in the HF bands.

BARTG - ACTIVITIES

Our main activities are:

- Our **HF RTTY CONTESTS** (Sprint contest in January, RTTY contest in March and Sprint 75 contest in April and September)
- Our **AWARDS SCHEME** (Quarter Century Award, PSK31 Award, Africa Award, North American Award, South American Award, European Award, Asian Award, Oceania award and Golden Jubilee award)