



# The First Class CW Operators Club

## Spectrum Forum Meeting – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014

### Agenda item 7.6 FOC

1. Founded in 1938, and with its roots, history and management in the UK, The First Class CW Operators' Club (FOC) promotes good CW operating, activity, friendship and socialising via its worldwide membership of approximately 500. Members are active on all HF bands and the character of the club is best expressed in its motto: "A man should keep his friendship in constant repair" - Samuel Johnson (1755). FOC members aim to:

- a) Foster and encourage a high standard of CW operating ability and behaviour on the amateur bands.
- b) Observe the licence conditions and principles of band planning.
- c) Be considerate to other amateurs at all times.
- d) Protect the future of the hobby through being active, encouraging newcomers and supporting a national society.

2. FOC continues to support programmes aimed at improving operating practice on the HF bands and is pleased to see wide adoption of the DX and Dxpediton Codes of Conduct. The problem with poor HF operating continues, but recent dxpeditions have shown an improvement, at least on CW, so the codes of conduct seem to be working or the persistent interferers are getting bored.

3. FOC wishes to register its concern about the steadily increasing levels of domestic electrical noise and encourages the RSGB to take a robust line when negotiating this important issue, particularly in respect of PLT and Solar PV systems. We applaud the recent IARU Administrative Council initiative to tackle harmful interference to amateur radio.