



BRITISH AMATEUR RADIO TELEDATA GROUP

Report To The 2018 Spectrum Forum Meeting

(London, 27th October)

BARTG's history.

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

BARTG's main activities are its HF Contests and its Awards Scheme.

BARTG also operates a "For Sale / Wanted" page on its web site with the intention of keeping datacoms equipment (most commonly RTTY) in use and out of the tip.

For much of its existence BARTG was a '*subs and magazine*' organisation; members paid subs and in return received a printed magazine and were entitled to a number of member benefits (such as discounts on BARTG's range of components). Earlier this century the printed magazine was superseded by a web site and this enabled it to offer membership sans subs.

BARTG is considering closing its membership scheme.

BARTG has nothing and does nothing that is '*members only*'. During discussions about the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) the BARTG committee formed the view that BARTG's membership scheme was no longer necessary and could be closed. An invitation for members' comments ran from mid-July to the end of September 2018.

The BARTG committee believes that this closure would not affect any BARTG member. Members would keep their BARTG number for life and would be welcome to continue to display it and/or the BARTG logo on QSL cards, callsign badges and plaques, car stickers and suchlike. The closure would in no way affect BARTG's contests or awards scheme which would continue to be run by the committee, as would the web site.

BARTG in 2019.

You will have noticed that BARTG was founded in 1959. This means that 2019 is BARTG's diamond jubilee year. The BARTG committee is planning several things to commemorate this jubilee. They will be publicised as/when plans are confirmed.

Ian Brothwell G4EAN, Secretary BARTG
1st October 2018 v2.

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