

GB2RS NEWS

Sunday, 20th April 2025

Start

CQ, CQ, calling all radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. This is GB2RS, the news broadcasting service of the Radio Society of Great Britain. This broadcast comes to you from amateur radio station Alison G8ROG, located in Caversham Park, in the Royal County of Berkshire, Southern England in the United Kingdom.

Transmitting on 51.530 and 70.425 MHz via GB3BN, Bracknell, and the 3cm band. You can also see this bulletin via the BATC Website worldwide, using the URL www.batc.org.uk/live/GB2RS.

Good morning! It's Sunday, April 20th, 2025, and here is the GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the RSGB and intended for all radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. A full printed version is also available on the RSGB website at www.rsgb.org, where you will find links to groups and organisations that may be mentioned in this broadcast.

Main Headlines

The news headlines:

- **Take advantage of new RSGB membership benefits for 2025!.**
- **The RSGB Board has announced Directors' liaison roles.**
- **The RSGB has released a 1925 bulletin containing the original announcement of the formation of the IARU.**

Main News-1

As a new benefit, the Society has teamed up with several museums to offer RSGB members discounted entry for 2025. Members can receive between 20% and 50% off admission fees at Amberley Museum, Bawdsey Radar Museum, Internal Fire Museum of Power, PK Porthcurno Museum of Global Communications and the National Museum of Computing. So, whether you're into engines, radar, transport, computers or communications, there's sure to be something for you. To find out more, visit rsgb.org/partner-museums.

Main News-2

Following the RSGB 2025 AGM on Saturday, the 12th of April, a brief Board meeting was held. The Board elected Stewart Bryant, G3YSX to continue as Board Chair and Peter Bowyer, G4MJS to continue as Vice Chair. Both will remain in these roles until the 2026 AGM. The board liaison roles with RSGB committees, honorary officers, and areas of RSGB strategy have also been agreed upon. To find out more or to see contact details for each Board Director, go to rsgb.org/board.

Main News-3

World Amateur Radio Day was on Friday, the 18th of April. It was also on that day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris. In celebration, the RSGB has shared a T & R Bulletin 1925, which details the original announcement about the IARU's formation. This unique document has been made publicly available for all radio amateurs to enjoy. To start reading, go to rsgb.org/radcom, click on the image to enter the web app and select the 'RadCom Sample' option in the header.

Main News-4

The RSGB website has a wealth of information available to you, and the search function is a valuable tool for finding what you are looking for. However, to make things as straightforward as possible, the Society has updated the contacts page on its website. If you need to get in touch about something specific, you'll be able to find the correct contact details at a glance. Each headquarters department is listed in terms of the range of services it offers. For example, you'll see that the Sales Team can also help with club insurance, Membership Services will help with any issues logging into its online membership portal, and GB2RS news items should be sent to the RadCom Team. Whatever your query, the Team is there to help. If you need more local help, please contact your Regional Team representatives. Head over to [rsgb.org/contact](https://www.rsgb.org/contact) to find out how to get in touch.

[Main News-5](#)

Professor Gwyn Griffiths, G3ZIL is a well-known member of the RSGB Propagation Studies Committee, as well as someone involved with Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation, also known as HamSCI. In celebration of Citizen Science Month during April, the RSGB has shared Gwyn's Hamsci presentation from the RSGB 2024 Convention on its YouTube channel. In the talk, Gwyn outlines the organisation's activities, particularly during the 2023 and 2024 eclipses. Go to youtube.com/theRSGB to watch the talk now. If you'd like to find out more, join the RSGB for May's Tonight@8 webinar when Hamsci lead Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, presents 'Space weather we can do together'. Gwyn and Nathaniel recently won awards in the RSGB 2025 AGM Trophy Presentation. You can also get involved with Hamsci's preparations for meteor scatter experiments in August and December. You can find further details via hamsci.org/msqp.

[Main News-6](#)

Have you ever wondered about the origins of the smart doorbell? Although a modern phenomenon, it has a history of over 100 years. During the latest series of The Secret Genius of Modern Life, Hannah Fry explores its early origins with a device created by Leon Theremin **[THEH-RUH-MUHN]**. During the episode, radio amateur Neil, G4DBN, re-creates Leon's device. The episode will air on BBC2 at 20.00 on Wednesday, the 23rd of April. Many of you will know Neil from Season One, Episode One of the series when he re-created the Great Seal Bug. Both episodes are now available to watch via BBC iPlayer

[Main News - Rallies and Events](#)

And now for details of rallies and events

The Cambridge Repeater Group Rally is taking place on Sunday, the 27th of April at Foxton Village Hall, Hardman Road, Foxton, Cambridge, CB22 6rn. Doors open at 7.30 am for traders and 9.30 am to the general public. The entrance fee is £4. The event will include a car-boot sale, trade stands, a bring-and-buy area, catering, disabled facilities, an RSGB Bookstall and a free, marshalled car park. A cash and card burger van will open at 8 am. The venue rules state strictly no dogs except assistance dogs on the field. Go to cambridgerepeaters.net for further details and bookings.

The Dartmoor Radio Rally is taking place on Monday, the 5th of May at the Yelverton War Memorial Hall, Meavy Lane, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 6AL. Free parking is available. There will be the usual bring and buy; trader stands, and refreshments. Doors open at 10 am and admission is £3. For further details, please contact Roger by phone on 0785 408 8882, or email via 2e0rph@gmail.com.

[Main News – Special Events](#)

Now the Special Event news

The Spanish national society, URE, is on the air to mark the 100th anniversary of the IARU. Members are active on 160m to 6m until the 30th of April with ten special event stations, including

AO100IARU. Special awards will be available, as well as medals for the top participants from each continent who achieve the highest number of contacts with the stations on different bands and modes. Go to ure.es for further details.

The Portuguese national society, REP, is also activating several special callsigns as part of celebrations for the 100th anniversary of the IARU. This includes CR1IARU from the Azores, CR3IARU from Madeira and CR5IARU from mainland Portugal. Members will be active on multiple bands and modes. Look out for activity until the 24th of April. Full details can be found via tinyurl.com/CR1IARU

The Amateur Radio Society of Moldova is operating special event station ER100IARU until Wednesday, the 30th of April, in honour of the IARU Centenary. Full details can be found via qrz.com

The Kuwait Amateur Radio Society is pleased to announce its participation in the IARU centennial celebrations. Members of the Society will be operating special event station 9k100iaru until Wednesday, the 30th of April.

Ten teams of radio amateurs from around the world are commemorating 80 years since Operation Manna and Operation Chowhound. The two operations were humanitarian food drops that helped to relieve the famine in the Netherlands behind Nazi lines late in World War Two. The teams will be active between the 25th and 27th of April on HF, VHF and the DMR Brandmeister Talk Groups unique to this event. A number of the teams also welcome visitors and arrange activities at their locations. To find details of Talk Groups for this event, the teams involved, and how to collect a commemorative award, go to manna80.radio.

[Main News - DX](#)

Now the DX news

Arno, DK1HV, is active from Greenland as OX/DK1VK until Sunday, the 27th of April. He'll be QRV on 160m to 10m, mainly SSB, using wire antennas and a 100-W radio. QSL available via his home callsign.

Dom, 3D2USU is active again as 3D2AJT from Nadi [\[NAHN-DI\]](#) in the Fiji Islands until the end of April. The call sign is in memory of JH1AJT, now Silent Key. QSL via Club Log's OQRS and Logbook of The World.

[Main News - Contests](#)

Now the contest news

On Tuesday, the 22nd of April, the SHF UK Activity Contest runs from 1830 to 2130 UTC. Using all modes on 2.3 to 10GHz frequencies, the exchange is signal report, serial number and locator.

On Thursday, the 24th of April, the 80m Club Championship runs from 1900 to 2030 UTC. Using PSK63 and RTTY, the exchange is signal report and serial number.

The UK and Ireland DX CW Contest starts at 1200 UTC on Saturday, the 26th of April and ends at 1200 UTC on Sunday, the 27th of April. Using CW on the 80 to 10m bands, where contests are permitted, the exchange is signal report and serial number. UK and Ireland stations also send their district code.

The SP DX RTTY Contest starts at 1200 UTC on Saturday, the 26th of April and ends at 1200 UTC on Sunday, the 27th of April. Using RTTY on the 80 to 10m bands, where contests are permitted, the exchange is signal report and serial number. SP stations also send their province code.

Main News – ID Location

You are listening to GB2RS, the news broadcasting service of the Radio Society of Great Britain. And this broadcast comes to you from amateur radio station Alison G8ROG located in Caversham Park, in the Royal County of Berkshire, Southern England in the United Kingdom.

Main News - Propagation

Now the radio propagation report, compiled by G0KYA, G3YLA & G4BAO on Thursday, April 17th, 2025.

Last week was characterised by increased Kp index numbers and severe geomagnetic storms, peaking at G4. These drove down maximum usable frequencies and disrupted DX contacts, especially on the higher HF bands.

The solar wind speed increased from 380 kilometres per second to around 500 kilometres per second on the 15th, and plasma density was also noted. Subsequently, the Kp index peaked at 7.67 on Wednesday, the 16th, causing visible aurora alerts in the UK. This was caused by a pair of CMEs that left the Sun on Sunday the 13th of April. We had a total of 22 M-class solar flares over four days, so a CME event was inevitable.

Unsettled geomagnetic conditions are a feature on the declining side of a solar cycle, so we could unfortunately be in for many more.

According to Propquest, MUFS over a 3,000km path fell to below 18 MHz for long periods on Wednesday, the 16th, before climbing to around 21 MHz at the end of the day.

Meanwhile, the solar flux index fell from a high of 170 on Friday, the 11th of April, to a low of 148 on Wednesday, the 16th of April.

Next week, NOAA predicts that the SFI will start around 145 but could increase to 165 as the week progresses. Unsettled geomagnetic conditions are forecast for the 22nd to the 24th of April, with a predicted maximum Kp index of four.

As always, keep an eye on solarham.com for daily updates, but more importantly, get on the bands, which are a much more effective guide to HF propagation!

And now the VHF and up propagation news from G3YLA and G4BAO

The current period of unsettled weather looks likely to continue into the coming week. This does not mean rain every day, but periods of rain or showers with some intervening drier spells. These drier interludes are not dominated by high pressure, just gaps between the wetter periods, so it's unlikely to produce much significant Tropo.

There may be some rain scatter in terms of propagation, although it won't be very reliable. However, the prospects for meteor scatter are more promising with the peak of the Lyrids due on Tuesday, the 22nd of April. It is worth checking up on procedures for meteor scatter working if you've not done it before, and you may find a new part of the hobby to add to your operating schedule.

The prospects for aurora continue to be raised by an almost daily supply of aurora alerts. Continue to monitor the Kp index for signs of elevated values, where Kp is above five, for radio activity.

Early signs, such as fluttery signals on the LF and HF bands, suggest it's worth looking on the VHF bands for auroral activity.

As we move towards the new season, it is good to get into the habit of looking for Sporadic-E. The Propquest website www.propquest.co.uk shows several useful components for analysing the Es prospects. If you look at the position of the jet streams shown on the Es blog tab, these can produce favourable conditions geographically to give a hint of the right direction in which to listen. The opening season typically favours 10m or 6m.

EME path losses are now decreasing towards perigee on Sunday the 27th of April. Last Friday, the 18th of April, saw minimum Moon declination, so Moon windows will lengthen along with peak elevation. 144MHz sky noise starts this week very high but decreases to low as the week progresses.

Main Headlines Again

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- **Take advantage of new RSGB membership benefits for 2025!**
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- **The RSGB has released a 1925 bulletin containing the original announcement of the formation of the IARU.**

Main Headlines - Leaving

For those of you leaving us now for your own local news, particularly our overseas viewers and listeners, thank you for joining us until we meet next week; bye-bye for now.

This is GB2RS

(Pause).....

Local Regional News

Next, the Local Regional News for the South-East, East Anglia, South-West and South Wales

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.

Now we start with the news of local meetings and/or on-air training this week.

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society has a CW net of 144.060 MHz from 8 pm on Sundays. On Monday, there will be a CW net on 3542 kHz from 7.30 pm, followed at 8.15 pm by GB2CW slow Morse on 3555 kHz. On Thursday, CW classes will be via Skype starting at 7 pm. g0mwt.org.uk

Hastings Electronics and Radio Club holds a CW net on Monday evenings at 8 pm on 144.575 MHz. The CW net is aimed at anyone new to CW or wishing to refresh their CW skills. Non-members are welcome. Email Richard via herc.hastings@gmail.com

On Monday, Norfolk Amateur Radio Club have a GB2CW Slow Morse (15- 20 wpm) from 11 am. Monday, we also see a net on GB3NB from 7 pm. The club has a GB2CW Slow Morse (18- 20 wpm) with Phil, G4LPP, via Zoom on Tuesdays from 3 pm. Thursdays see GB2CW Slow Morse on GB3NB 145.6252 (25-30 wpm) with Malcolm, G3PDH. On Friday from 7.30 pm, they have GB2CW Beginners Slow Morse on GB3NB with Roger, G3LDI. Friday also sees the start of an SES at the 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum, Common Road IP21 4PH. Saturday, 26th of

April, an SES at Caister Lifeboat will be held from 9 am for International Marconi Day using the callsign GB0CMS. Contact Chris Danby, G0DWV, on 0160 389 8308, or email cmdanby@btinternet.com

On Wednesday, Bracknell Amateur Radio Club has a talk/presentation on the Q0-100 Expedition, by Gopan, M0XUU. Email Martin Stead, 2E0XBZ, via secretary@g4bra.org.uk

On Wednesday, Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society have a talk: 'handy hints' by Carl, G0KPE. Email Rob, G4LMW, via g4lmw@btconnect.com

On Thursday, Reading and District Amateur Radio Club has a talk entitled 'Women in Signals Intelligence' by Dr Elizabeth Bruton, via Zoom. For more information about the Club, visit radarc.org

Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club meet on Friday for a talk: 'Multi-band Antennas by Paul, M1CNK. For more information visit ivarc.org.uk or email Martyn, 2E0OGR, via secretary@ivarc.org.uk

Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society will hold a Surplus equipment sale at Starford Hall, Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill, from 7.30 pm on Friday. Email Stella Rogers, M6ZRJ, via progsec@midsussexars.org.uk or visit midsussexars.org.uk

Guernsey Amateur Radio Society has a meeting at the Bunker, Beau Sejour Leisure Centre from 7.30 pm on Friday. Upcoming on the 9th to 11th of May, the club will be operating the special event radio station, GU80LIB in celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of Guernsey at the end of World War 2. See QRZ.com for further information. Call Phil, GU0SUP, 0778 115 1747

The Jersey Amateur Radio Society clubroom is now open on Friday evenings from 8 pm. Call Mike, GJ0PDJ on 0779 771 8390

Mid-Herts RAYNET is looking for suitable volunteers to join their team to assist in the smooth running of the group and local supported events. Licensed radio amateurs, or those studying to become one, who can volunteer a few hours each month, are invited to get in touch. For more information, see www.Midhertsraynet.co.uk/JoinUs. Or email Keith Batchelor, via keithbatchelor10@gmail.com.

Nothing more is reported this week. So, whatever you are doing, look after yourself and check with the event organisers before attending. Don't forget the local, regional team is available to support you locally with up-to-date activities and support in your local area. Please visit the RSGB website at rsgb.org/regional-team and look for your local contact.

News Ending

That ends this week's GB2RS news broadcast brought to you by Alison G8ROG, from the Royal County.

News items for GB2RS should be sent to RSGB HQ as far in advance as possible.

The deadline is 10 am on Thursdays. You may contact our News Desk by phone on 0123 483 2700.

If using e-mail, please send general news items and regional news for radcom and gb2rs to: radcom@rsqb.org.uk, the RSGB retains the copyright to all the material transmitted.

Information about amateur radio, or the latest GB2RS broadcast schedule can be obtained by sending an A4-size stamped addressed envelope indicating your requirements to:

The Radio Society of Great Britain
3 Abbey Court
Fraser Road
Priory Business Park
Bedford
MK44 3WH.

Or via our website is at: www.rsgb.org.

News Closing

GB2RS is not licensed for two-way communication, but calls will be welcomed after closedown under the callsign G8ROG. So, until next Sunday, have a good week from the GB2RS news team.

Now please wait a few moments before calling in on the GB2RS News net. Give your callsign only twice and you will be called once a list has been compiled. This is GB2RS OUT.

Script End