

GB2RS NEWS

Sunday, 11th May 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, May 11th, 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:

- **The RSGB EMC Committee has updated leaflets on mains wiring and earthing requirements.**
- **Last chance to apply and be part of the RSGB team at YOTA in Paris.**
- **Help the RSGB celebrate International Women in Engineering Day.**

Main News-1

The EMC Committee has updated the RSGB EMC leaflets on mains wiring and earthing requirements to reflect the latest version of "Part P" of the Building Regulations for England and Wales. Part P deals with electrical safety in domestic homes. There are two leaflets, a basic version and an advanced version, both of which are available for download from the RSGB website. Go to rsgb.org/emc and select 'EMC Leaflets' from the menu located on the right-hand side. Choose the "EMC Leaflet 7: Earthing and the radio amateur" links. You will also find many other resources on the same webpage that will help you address a wide range of EMC problems.

Main News-2

Time is running out to apply and be part of the RSGB team going to France for this year's Youngsters-On-The-Air Summer Camp. The camp takes place between August 18th and 25th near Paris and is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for young RSGB members to represent their country and their national society. If you are aged between 16 and 25 and are passionate about amateur radio, then the RSGB would love to hear from you. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 16th. Don't delay, apply now by going to rsgb.org/yota-camp

Main News-3

The RSGB is celebrating International Women in Engineering Day on June 23. The day celebrates the remarkable achievements of women engineers worldwide. We know that amateur radio is an excellent foundation for careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. This year, the Society would love to share stories of how amateur radio has helped female engineers in their careers, as well as being an enjoyable part of their lives. If you are a woman working in any engineering sector, or know someone who is, the RSGB would like your help to inspire future generations of girls and young women. It doesn't matter whether you are established in your

career, just starting out or even still studying. Stories, along with a photo, should be sent to comms@rsgb.org.uk by May 26th. This event contributes to the RSGB's Growth strategic priority by helping to reach new audiences.

Main News-4

Don't forget that the next RSGB Tonight@8 webinar is tomorrow, Monday, May 12th. Dr Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF and RSGB Propagation Studies Committee member, Gwyn Griffiths, G3ZIL, will present "Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation: Space Weather We Can Do Together". The talk will cover some of the key findings of recent HamSCI research, what's next for the organisation, as well as how you can take part. The webinar will be livestreamed on the Society's YouTube channel and special BATC channel, allowing you to watch and ask questions live. Find out more by going to rsgb.org/webinars.

Main News - Rallies and Events

And now for details of rallies and events

The Barry Amateur Radio Society Rally is on Saturday, the 17th of May at Sully Sports and Social Club, South Road, Sully CF64 5sp. There is a large free car park on site. Admission is £3. Doors open to traders at 8:00 a.m. and to the public from 9:30 a.m. Traders and exhibitors can call Nigel, GW1CUQ, on 0292 089 2580 for further information. For general enquiries, please ring Steve, GW5VOG, on 0790 056 0080, or email via s.cawsey@sky.com

The Dunstable Downs Radio Club will be holding its Annual National Amateur Radio Car Boot Sale at the usual venue, Stockwood Park in Luton, on Sunday, the 18th of May. Excluding a break due to Covid-19, this is the 40th consecutive year the event has been held. For further information, go to ddrcbootsale.org.

Main News – Special Events

Now the Special Event news

Special event station GB0SAR is active until May 30th to support SOS Radio Week. The station will primarily operate using FT4 on the 20m band, but you may also catch it on other HF bands using phone. For more information, visit [Qrz.com](https://www.qrz.com)

The Humber Fortress DX Amateur Radio Club will be operating a special callsign, GB0MMH, to raise awareness of men's mental health. Other special call signs will also be active. The station will be active throughout the weekends of May 17th and 18th, and June 21st and 22nd. Please listen out for the operators and give them a call. Your support will help to raise awareness of the vital issue of men's mental health. If you would like further information, please contact secretary@hfdcarc.com.

Main News - DX

Now the DX news

Roberto, IW7DEC will be active as PJ2/IW7DEC from Curacao **[KYOOR-UH-SOW]**, IOTA reference SA-099, until Wednesday, the 14th of May. He'll be active on 40m to 20m, FT8 and SSB. QSL available via his home call and Logbook of the World.

A team of five Italian operators is active in the Republic of Kosovo until Saturday, May 17. The operators will be active as Z68TT on CW, SSB and RTTY, and as Z68ZZ on FT8. QSL is available via OQRS and Logbook of the World.

Main News - Contests

Now the contest news

Today, Sunday, May 11th, the UK Microwave Group Millimetre-wave Contest started at 0900 and ends at 1700 UTC. Using all modes on 24, 47 and 76 GHz frequencies, the exchange is your signal report, serial number and locator.

Also today, the 70MHz CW Contest started at 0900, and ends at 1200 UTC. Using CW on the 4m band, the exchange is signal report, serial number and locator. UK stations also send their postcode.

Tomorrow, Monday, the 12th of May, the 80m Club Championship will run from 1900 to 2030 UTC. Using SSB on the 80m band, the exchange is signal report and serial number.

On Tuesday, May 13th, the 432MHz FM Activity Contest will run from 1800 to 1855 UTC. Using FM on the 70cm band, the exchange consists of a signal report, serial number, and locator.

Also on Tuesday, the 13th of May, the 432MHz UK Activity Contest runs from 1900 to 2130 UTC. Using all modes on the 70cm band, the exchange consists of a signal report, serial number, and locator.

On Wednesday, the 14th of May, the 432MHz FT8 Activity Four-Hour Contest runs from 1700 to 2100 UTC. Using FT8 on the 70cm band, the exchange consists of your report and a four-character locator.

Also on Wednesday, May 14th, the 432 MHz FT8 Activity Two-Hour Contest will run from 1900 to 2100 UTC. Using FT8 on the 70cm band, the exchange is your report and four-character locator. Stations entering the four-hour contest may also enter the two-hour contest.

On Thursday, May 15th, the 70MHz UK Activity Contest will run from 1900 to 2130 UTC. Using all modes on the 4m band, the exchange is your signal report, serial number and locator.

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, May 8th 2025.

Active region 4079 turned out not to be as bad as we had predicted. The sunspot was large, about ten times the width of our Earth, so we expected it to be more active. Regions 4081 and 4082 produced the majority of the flare activity last week.

Two filament eruptions also occurred within a two-hour period. The first event began at 16:20 UTC on May 6 in the southern hemisphere and was responsible for a plasma wave across the Sun's surface.

The second filament eruption began in the northern hemisphere around 17:50 UTC to the northeast of AR 4079. A large amount of plasma was flung to the north. The filament eruptions on Tuesday, May 6, did produce coronal mass ejections, but an Earth-directed component was not apparent. So, we dodged a bullet!

The solar wind speed remained high for most of last week, which didn't help propagation. It did help to push the Kp index to five across the weekend of May 3rd and 4th. Things were more settled later in the week. On Thursday, May 8th, the solar wind speed was down to around 500 kilometres per second, and the Kp index was three. However, MUFS over a 3,000 km path were still down at about 20 MHz.

An Earth-facing coronal hole may add to the solar wind this weekend, the 10th and 11th of May. It appears that summer HF propagation is taking effect, with lower MUFS during the day but higher ones at night.

Next week, NOAA predicts that the SFI will be in the range 155 to 165. Settled geomagnetic conditions are forecast for the beginning of this coming week; however, unsettled geomagnetic conditions are expected from May 16th to May 19th. At that point, we could see the Kp index rise to five again, coupled with poorer propagation and reduced MUFS.

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

Tropo has been a key propagation mode over the past couple of weeks, but variations in the location and timing of these conditions have occurred.

Sometimes this will be due to increased moisture below the temperature inversion, so although the cloudier areas have been cool, they have probably done better for Tropo.

This is due to the improved quality of the inversion, which performs better when there is a significant moisture contrast across it, as is often found with these layers of cloud.

Otherwise, we find that the better conditions are driven by night-time cooling, forming a low inversion near the ground which tends to disperse during the morning as the Sun warms it away. This should still be beneficial for the 70cm UK Activity Contest on Tuesday, the 13th of May, over eastern areas, but perhaps less so farther west.

Good conditions are expected to last into next week, although not everywhere. The main change will see an area of showery rain, possibly thundery, moving north into western Britain this weekend, and perhaps affecting some central regions early next week. This raises the prospect of some GHz band rain scatter in the west.

The Eta Aquariids meteor shower peaked last week. In the decaying tail of activity, together with other lesser showers, this should keep an enhanced meteor input for the coming week.

The Sporadic-E season typically runs from May to mid-September, and the daily jet stream blogs have started on www.propquest.co.uk.

As usual, the primary season offers two periods of activity, one in the morning and the second from late afternoon to the evening. Remember, Es is not guaranteed, as it depends on many factors; however, jet streams can help, and these are indicated on the website maps. Use the map clusters to identify where any activity is starting on 10m and then track it in frequency through the lower VHF bands.

EME path losses are at their maximum but are expected to fall after apogee on Friday, the 9th of May. Moon declination is negative, reaching a minimum this coming Thursday, so we'll have very short Moon windows and low peak elevation. 144MHz sky noise is currently moderate but is expected to increase to high by next Friday.

[Main Headlines Again](#)

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- **Help the RSGB celebrate International Women in Engineering Day.**

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.

Today, Guernsey Amateur Radio Society continues the final day of its special event radio station, GU80LIB, in celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of Guernsey at the end of World War 2. Everyone is welcome. See QRZ.com for further information. Or call Phil, GU0SUP, on 0778 115 1747

On Tuesday, the 20th of May, Bromley and District Amateur Radio Society has a 'Nuts and bolts' evening. Contact Steve M0PEL on 0745 277 7908, or email M0PEL@gmail.com.

The Crawley Amateur Radio Club will be holding a foxhunt on Wednesday, May 21st. Non-members are welcome, and admission will be free. The activity will take place from 8 pm at Hut 18, Tilgate Recreational Centre, Tilgate Forest, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 5ph. For more information, contact Stewart, G3YSX, on 0772 006 8493.

The Darenth Valley Radio Society meets this Wednesday, with a talk by Mike, G8AXA, on Weather Satellite Reception. Email Phil, M0IMA, via m0ima@btinternet.com

Fareham & District Amateur Radio Club will have a talk entitled 'The end of the line' by Dave, G7CFR, on Wednesday. Contact Andrew, G0AMS, on 0132 922 1937 or email af.sinclair@btinternet.com

Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club meets every Wednesday from 7.30 pm at The Chantry, Thornbury. This Wednesday, May 14th, Peter G4OST will give a talk entitled "Nets and Contesting" at 8 pm. For more details, see the club's website and Facebook pages, or email the Secretary, Terry, via secretary@tsgarc.uk

On Thursdays, Yeovil Amateur Radio Club have a meeting at the Parish Room, Abbey Manor Community Centre, Yeovil from 7.30 pm. This Thursday sees a talk about SDRs and Digital Filtering by Simon Rundle. Visit the website at Yeovil-arc.com. For more information, email Darren, 2E0EVU, via secretary@yeovil-arc.com

The Shirehampton Amateur Radio Club has a talk scheduled to start at 8 pm on Friday. Entitled 'Raspberry Pi Projects,' given by G4NAQ. Contact Colin, G3YHV, on 0117 982 3822 or email secretary@shirehampton-arc.org.uk

The Harlow and District Amateur Radio Society gives advanced notice that they will be holding a two-day foundation training course at their QTH on June 14th and 15th at Mark Hall Barn. Details and joining instructions are available on the website g6ut.com. or email secretary@g6ut.com

Mendip Repeater Group is pleased to announce that GB3WR, located on the Mendip Hills, is now back on the air. For more information, visit gb3wr.uk.

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@rsgb.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