



## In this issue

- 1 Editorial
- 2 January Activity Day
- 4 Club Attire
- 5 Radio Test Night
- 6 Training Courses 2019/20
- 8 GMDX Convention
- 9 Clublog Tables
- 10 RSGB Club of the Year entry
- 12 Contests
- 13 Test Your Knowledge
- 14 Club Events

Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain and holds the call signs MM0CPS and GM2T which are used for our special event and contest entries.

The Club was formed by Bob Glasgow BEM GM4UYZ in 1984, to help the local amateurs get to know each other.

Far from being just a local club we have members regularly attending from the Borders, Dumfries, Strathclyde, Fife and Newcastle.

The Club meets on the first Friday of every month in the lounge of the Thorntree Inn on the old Cockenzie High Street from 7pm till late.

## Editorial

Welcome to our monthly newsletter and I hope you enjoy the read!!! We are now into the month of February already, where did January disappear too, and already we are beginning to see the nights getting longer and the dreary dark nights of winter starting to fade away, thank goodness says!!!!

First of all I must thank all of you who turned up for the January Club Night. I do have a dream in that I would love to see all those who have promised to come along, those who have gone by the wayside come back to club night and join in. I feel we have so much to offer. Anyway, I will keep dreaming.

Some sad news. Liz 2M1GLD sadly lost her brother on New Year's Day. It goes without saying that our deepest sympathies go out to Liz and her family

January was its normal quiet month as far as the club goes and to be honest, I use it as definite rest period before everything kicks off again for the year. I have managed to tidy up some of the club background stuff that I do so pleased with that. Our first Activity Night of the year took place and thanks to everyone who took part. I have continued with the same format as has been used over the last few years in that you can pick your day to operate within

the selected week as it certainly offers better flexibility. It would be great to see more doing it even if you only make one QSO as at least you came on. I took part in the RSGB 40M & 80M AFS CW making a few QSOs. I had also planned taking part in the RSGB 40M & 80M SSB contest but due to delivering training I didn't manage. Why not make it an aim this year to take part in more contests from home. If I remember rightly I think most of the Activity Day weeks contains a contest that you could take part in. Anyway, it was nice to get back on the air from home and it is something I must do more of this year. One of my 2019 aims!!!!

On the teaching front we will have started our training session of the 2018/2019 training year with the Full (Advanced) Course. It is a class of 10 candidates. Their exam is on Saturday 23rd February, so I am sure you will go along with me and wish them all the best. I am running a Foundation Course immediately after this and this will be my last up until September as I need a sabbatical. I have now published the dates for the 2019/2020 Training Year. There are changes to how long the courses run as this is due to the new syllabuses so hopefully, I have gauged it correctly. We will see as they say. If you

*(Continued on page 2)*



(Continued from page 1)

know of anyone who is interested will you ask them to get in contact with me direct and I will get all their required details.

The events program for the year starts this month with another of John MM0JXI's Radio Check Nights on the 15th February. The radio check night has certainly been well attended in the past years and has been very fruitful to the extent it has found faulty radios so why not bring along what you have and give it a MOT. THIS REALLY IS A WORTHWHILE EVENT so I hope you will all take advantage of it. In March we are having another construction night, the kits are a PSU (10 Kits) and Clock (10 Kits) so hopefully on the night you can choose the one you wish to build. Lastly it has now been confirmed

## January Activity Day

**January Activity Day – "YOUR" selected date between 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 00:00 to 23:59**

This is our first of 2019 where you can select your date to operate during the one-week selected period..... so reports below on who or who didn't take part

**Activity Day Rules and updated log sheet for 2019 Can be found using the following link:**

<http://cpsarc.com/downloads/>

Look under Activity Days and the files are:  
2019 Monthly Activity Day Rules  
2019 Activity Day Logsheet v1.8 **(new for 2019 Logs)**

### **Apologies first:**

**Andy MM0GYG**

Didn't manage to get on this time. January lurgy affecting me and my family.

### **Reports:**

**Bob GM4UYZ**

I had been on the air on the Saturday in the RSGB AFS 80/40M CW Contest and had 90 QSO's but sadly they didn't count. The day after, the Sunday was on again and decided to do some FT8 QSO's on 80M and 40M. Nothing startling but at least I managed to get on for the activity week.

that we will once again be taking part in Museums Weekend in June (21st to 23rd) from the Museum of Flight. This is, in my opinion, is fantastic news.

On all our events I hope that you will all try to attend as many as you can throughout the year. For full up to date events please read the Events Column or even go onto the web-site and you will find them all in the calendar area.

I think that is about it for this month, I am sure there was something else but I cannot think what it is, sign of old age or whatever. Anyway enjoy the newsletter.

Bob GM4UYZ

**Geoff GM0LOD**

Herewith is my contribution for January. Nothing exciting but a trawl of the South of England.

When is the band going to improve? When we moved to Cousland, almost five years ago, I was amazed at the low noise levels of about S1-2 on both 40m and 80m. I then had noise of S9 on 80m for over 3 years and about six months ago this disappeared and I'm back to S1-2. Unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be much traffic at the times when I am playing radio. Keep trying, onward and upward!

**Martyn MM0XXW**

Well first of the year has yielded 35 contacts in 10DXCC in 25 squares!

I would normally be saying that the longest distance was Japan, and it was, but I had several contacts that morning from Japan that it was hard to pick from them as they were all perfectly readable!

The only disappointment for me was being spotted by a ZL on 30m but no attempt at contact however we live to fight another day!

So, let's see what February brings, watch this space!

**Craig 2M0NBW**

Didn't get on the air until late in the day on Saturday. Conditions were pretty poor and only a couple of very weak stations heard on 40 metres. After a few calls managed an SSB QSO with IV3WTJ near Venice. Tried a few more without success, then moved over to FT8 and again only a couple of responses before I packed in. Hopefully next time conditions will be a bit better.

*(Continued from page 2)*

### **Gordon MM0GPZ**

As you know, I don't need much of an excuse to get on air, but I like to put in a log sometimes. Nice to work you in the AFS a week past Saturday and hope to see you in some of these contests more often now you have loads of time on your hands :-). I've been on most days at least for a little while during Dec/Jan. This month has been interesting with a great VHF tropo opening over the UK into northern EU for GM's. I managed to work a few DL's, several F stations and a few EA also all on 2m from home. Most was on FT8 which I don't like normally but it makes more sense on 2m but still not my cup of tea.

### **Bob MM0LFB**

Only one day available last week Bob. But better than nothing.

### **Lon WA6AEE**

Greetings from Tampa. I've included my log for the last few weeks including Activity Week

### **Colwyn OE/MM0YCJ/P**

The first activity week of 2019 and I almost didn't get on air. At New Year we spent an excellent few days up in Torridon on the west coast of Scotland. I had all the portable radio kit ready to use on the first day of the activity week; Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January. However, a succession of flu, colds and general debilitation meant an early retreat home to recuperate in warm and dry conditions, so Sunday activity was binned.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 I had climbed up GM/NS-073 (Beinn a'Mhuinidh) near Kinlochewe and had managed to make 1 FM and 7 SSB contacts in lovely weather. Next day on 3<sup>rd</sup> January we climbed GM/WS-116 (Ruadh-stac Beag) with another radio ham MM0DHY (Adrian) in pretty atrocious weather. Again, we made 7 QSOs, the first on 144MHz, Ray in Piperhill near Inverness (MM3PIL) who highlighted us on the SOTA cluster, and we made a further 6 SSB contacts on 7MHz.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> I was busy with an oil change of the rear haldex differential of the car; the garden, trip to Birmingham and then we flew out to Munich on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> leaving Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> as the only day free to get on air. However, there was so much snow that many ski resorts were closed!!! The safety people at the ski resorts were busy just trying to keep the street of the towns safe from falling snow, and collapsing roofs and trees

We left Munich quite early on the Saturday and despite an indifferent weather forecast headed south to the Tirol in Austria. The huge fall of snow meant that the risk of an avalanche was serious and there was so much

snow on the trees that they had suspended all forestry operations in Bavaria; a small number of people had been killed, and a few cars damaged by falling trees. We decided to go skiing in the Brixental to a popular resort called Soll. There is a ski lift goes to the summit of Hohe Salve (1828m), Summit code: OE/TI-517. Locator: JN67cl. Latitude: 47.465 Longitude: 12.2044.

So, access to the top of the hill was easy and while the others went for an early lunch, I braved the strong winds and snow on a deserted viewing deck. There was a stack of chairs and tables under a tarpaulin that provided some shelter from the blizzard and no one was going to ski across and trash the antenna today.

I strung up the resonant inverted-V dipole for 14MHz (about 10-metre-long) with the centre held up by a 3.2 metre avalanche probe (for locating buried skiers!) One end was attached to a snow fence for a closed run, and the second end was tied to the corner of the viewing platform.

The RG 174 co-ax feeder was blown almost horizontally and I hunkered down under a bivouac shelter after catching the end with the BNC plug. The foam chair mat proved to be inadequate in these snowy circumstances, but I fired up the Elecraft KX2, tuned the antenna and started calling on 40 metres SSB. I am not sure how long I called CQ, but it was Saturday and the number of loud and close Italian stations prevented any contacts. I was at maximum power, 10 watts, and added nothing to my Italian Trophy score!

With limited time and cold conditions in the temporary radio shack I switched to 20m and started calling on 14.285MHz, a sort of unofficial calling frequency for Summits on the Air (SOTA). Almost immediately a Ukrainian station responded (UX3IT) some 1850km distant. I think he added me to the SOTA cluster as I heard a relatively local (75km) Austrian station (OE7HPI), then a Norwegian station (LA5WNA) 1578km away. A fourth station was Esther (G1OAZA) a regular SOTA contact from Northern Ireland and the fifth station was in Finland (OH6KSX). Then the band went dead again. As I had spent so much time on 7MHz it was time to pack up and meet the others. Then we went skiing. There had been so much snow that the skiing was excellent.

### **Summary**

This month DATA is the winning mode this month. DATA FT8 is still being the predominant Data mode. No VHF/UHF QSO's this month. Regarding modes being worked then out of the 83 QSO's made: CW = 15, SSB = 12, Data = 56, FM = 0. Best DX on DATA was by Martyn MM0XXW working JA5BGA on 10Mhz at 9237kms into

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)

Japan, CW Gordon MM0GPZ working K5DG on 7MHz at 7847Kms into USA and on SSB Gordon MM0GPZ working PY2JJ on 7MHz at 9530Kms into Brazil.

No VHF or UHF and upwards QSO's to report this month.

The next Activity Day is any day starting on the week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> and ending on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019 the second one for 2019.

Summary of who did what:

Total QSO's = 89 where: 16 = CW, 17 = SSB, 56 = DA-TA, 0 = FM

<i>Bob GM4UYZ</i>	<i>DATA: 11 x 40M</i>
<i>Geoff GM0LOD</i>	<i>SSB: 3 x 40M</i>
<i>Martyn MM0XXW</i>	<i>DATA: 25 x 30M, 10 x 17M</i>
<i>Colwyn MM0YCJ</i>	<i>SSB: 5 x 20M</i>
<i>Craig 2M0NBW</i>	<i>SSB: 1 x 40M</i>
	<i>DATA: 3 x 40M</i>
<i>Gordon MM0GPZ</i>	<i>SSB: 1x 80M, 2 x 40M</i>
	<i>CW: 15 x 40M</i>
<i>Bob MM0LBF</i>	<i>DATA: 2 x 30M, 1 x 20M, 4 x 17M</i>
<i>Lon WA6AEE</i>	<i>CW: 1 x 20M</i>
	<i>SSB: 5 x 20M</i>

Thanks for taking part during the 2018 Activity Days and I hope you will continue in 2019. The dates for 2019 are now set, see the above table so would love to see many more on as well so why not make it your 2019 target.

Bob GM4UYZ

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR THE 2019 ACTIVITY WEEKS**

<b>MONTH 2019</b>	<b>ACTIVITY WEEK</b>
February	10th to 16th February
March	10th to 16 <sup>th</sup> March
April	7th to 13th April
May	5th to 11th May
June	9th to 15th June
July	7th to 13th July
August	4th to 10th August
September	8th to 14th September
October	6th to 12th October
November	10th to 16th November
December	8th to 14th December

## Club Attire

The club has a design for Club T-shirts, Polo-shirts, Sweat-Shirts, Fleeces and Jackets and all of these can be obtained from Patricia Bewsey Designs

When making an order please quote 'Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club' to ensure that the Club Logo will be placed on the required garments.

Cost will depend on garment and should cover the garment and logo, call sign addition will be extra.

If you wish to add your call sign to the logo then please ask at the time of the order.

Order from:

PATRICIA BEWSEY DESIGNS,

Tel/Fax: 01620 850788

Mobile: 07970 920431

Email: patricia.bewsey@gmail.com

Note: the shop at Fenton Barns is now closed



# Radio Test Night

Friday - 15th February @ 19:00

John MM0JXI is running his annual Radio Check Night on the above date in Resources Room 1 in the Community Centre. John has some sophisticated test gear available to carry out this role (Marconi 2955 test set, Rhode & Schwarz FSH3 Spectrum Analyser, Bird ThruLine 43 RF Power meter)

A great opportunity to everyone to bring along their radios and give them an annual MOT. It is certainly worthwhile as over the years it has found some faulty radios.

There is a small cost of £2/head to cover the hire of the room at the Community Centre.

I hope you will make a real effort to attend this worthwhile event.

We will have a 12V power supply and mains sockets. Please bring power leads and a microphone and any non-standard RF connectors (we can handle PL259, N, BNC, TNC, SMA) HF to 1GHz up to 400W but you need to know how to reduce the power for testing.

See you on the 15<sup>th</sup> February then.

Bob GM4UYZ



# Training courses to spring 2020

If you are interested or you know of anyone who is interested in the following courses can you contact me and also get them to contact me so I can get everyone registered, etc.....

There is a fair amount of paperwork involved so the earlier I am contacted the better, plus fees paid allows me to purchase all the course material and confirm room bookings for the courses.

This year a change to the number of weeks for each course due to the new syllabuses starting the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

**Note: Fees could change if RSGB Exam Fees or Community Centre Fees are raised.**

**2019 – 2020 Fees may change depending on the Community Centre Fees**

Bob GM4UYZ

[gm4uyz@cpsarc.com](mailto:gm4uyz@cpsarc.com)

Tel: 01875 811723 / 07795100164

## **FOUNDATION COURSES 2019**

### **Course 1: Resources Room 1**

Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October Exam at 12:00

**Closing Date for Course Fees (£60): 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019**

### **Course 2: Resources Room 1**

Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December Exam at 12:00

**Closing Date for Course Fees (£60): 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019**

## **INTERMEDIATE COURSES 2019 and 2020**

### **Course 1: Resources Room 1**

Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	09:00 – 16:00	Resource Room 1

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November Exam at 12:00

## Course 2: Resources Room 1

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February Exam at 12:00

**Closing Date for Course Fees (£80): 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

## FULL (ADVANCED) COURSES 2020

### Course 1: Resources Room 1

**Closing Date for Course Fees (£85): 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	09:00 - 16:00	Resource Room 1
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>EXAM DATE 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (12:00)</b>	<b>09:00 - 16:00</b>	Resource Room 1

## ADVANCED COURSES SELF-STUDY

If anyone self-study's for the Advance Licence Exam then they can sit the exam at the club's RSGB Registered Centre. We will book the venue, administer the examination paperwork and invigilate the exam.

See below for exam dates and the fees must be with the RSGB one month before the exam date.

Fees for the self study exam are as follows:

RSGB Exam Fees £37.50 (RSGB Member and Non-Member) Plus Room Hire Fees as required

**Exams are now on demand to the RSGB**

# GMDX Convention

The GMDX Convention 2019 is on Saturday April 6th at the King Robert Hotel in Stirling. We hope you will support us by attending Scotland's only DX Convention of the year. Details of booking and payment are shown below, alternatively, you can go to the web site [www.gmdx.org.uk](http://www.gmdx.org.uk) where you will find PayPal buttons on the Convention page.

We trust you can join us for the DX Dinner in the evening this is a highly enjoyable occasion. The dinner is one of the few social events bringing people of similar interests in Amateur Radio together from throughout Scotland and elsewhere.

If you plan to attend the Dinner please book as soon as you can, spouses and partners are, of course very welcome.

73 Rob GM3YTS

## PROGRAMME

The GMDX Committee is pleased to announce that the above convention will be held at the King Robert Hotel, Whins of Milton, Stirling, on Saturday, 6th April 2019. Bar snacks will be available from 12.00 noon.

Programme (timings are approximate)

10.30-11.00	Registration for AGM
11.00-11.30	GMDX AGM
13.00-13.30	Convention Registration and Welcome
13.30-14.15	A35EU Tonga by Tom GM4FDM
14.15-15.00	VHF DXing for HF Dxers by Martin GM8IEM and Ian GM3SEK
15.00-15.30	Coffee
15.30-16.15	EL2EL/4 Liberia Telengbe Island by Jonathan MM0OKG and Col MM0NDX
16.15-16.50	A44A Oman CQWW CW trip by Don G3XTT
16.50-17.30	T31EU Kanton Island by Ronald PA3EWP
17.30	Convention Close and raffle draw
20.00	DX Dinner
22.00	Hotel Bar

Card Checking available for DXCC, WAZ, WAS, IOSA and RSGB awards.

Non Members are very welcome

The cost of the afternoon's convention is £10 for members £15 for non-members which includes tea or coffee and biscuits, whilst the dinner is priced at £26 per person. Dinner includes some wine.

We would be grateful if you could book early to give us an idea of numbers – a booking form is shown below. Booking your dinner tickets is particularly important as numbers are limited.

The King Robert has given us a special rate for convention delegates – this is £70 B&B for a double room and £49 B&B for a single room. In the event that all single rooms are taken, the rate for single occupancy of a twin room is £49. If you would like to stay at the hotel please contact them directly and you must mention that you are attending the GMDX Convention to get the special rates and the pre-reserved rooms. We suggest you arrange your accommodation as early as possible to avoid disappointment. The King Robert Hotel telephone number is 01786 811666.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## BOOKING FORM

Please clearly state your callsign for reference on all bookings

Pre-book by completing this form and returning it with your remittance to Sheree Ferguson, 19 Leighton Avenue, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0EB. Please make cheques out to "GMDX Group".

Please make cheques out to GMDX Group

Note you can book and pay by PayPal (please add £2 if paying by PayPal) to gmdxgroup@gmail.com

Or

online banking to

Name and callsign
DX Convention tickets Members £10 Non-Members £15
DX Dinner tickets £26
Total remittance enclosed

Royal Bank of Scotland

Branch Dunblane

Sort Code 83-18-09

account 00211009

account name GMDX Group

If using any of the above payment methods please clearly state your callsign for reference

## Clublog Tables 2019

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC	Slots
1	MM0GPZ	0	23	0	58	13	34	7	0	0	0	0	<b>93</b>	135
2	MM0XXW	0	2	0	26	26	8	10	2	0	0	0	<b>36</b>	74
3	MM2N	0	17	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>29</b>	43
4	2M0NBW	0	0	0	0	0	7	16	0	0	0	0	<b>21</b>	23
5	GM4UYZ	0	3	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>9</b>	11
6	GM8MJV	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	1	<b>8</b>	8
7	MM0GZZ	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>	1

# RSGB National Club of the Year 2018

## COCKENZIE & PORT SETON ENTRY

*This year the RSGB set a new set of criteria on what it wanted to be seen in a club's entry and these are as follows, From the criteria we chose 1 - Growth, 3 Participation and 7 Recognition :*

*Choose three of the RSGB's strategic goals below that best suit your affiliated group, demonstrating how your activities over the last 12 months have supported the RSGB 2022 Strategy. Use the space below each question to expand on your answer.*

*1. Growth - What actions has your group taken to promote its activities and of what amateur radio has to offer. What has your group done to support the personal development of your members, regarding experiences of diverse radio activities and licence progression?*

CPSARC promotes amateur radio primarily by training new licensees, and then by encouraging participation in a variety of activities to retain those members and encourage their further development. For example, of the 345 people trained by the club to date, 57% of those attaining Foundation level go on to attain Intermediate Level licenses. Of the Intermediates, 42% of them go on to reach the advanced license level qualification.

Personal development is not limited to those new licensees though, and a range of technical talks and demonstrations are arranged through the year examining newer technology or re-visiting older. Examples include the talk on  $\mu$ BITX transceivers, and the operations of a maritime mobile station.

*2. Spectrum – What steps has your group taken to investigate and reduce the level of the ever rising noise floor. What mitigating steps has your group taken to combat sources of noise. Has your group promoted proposals for an allocation of spectrum for innovative use?*

*3. Participation – What on-air activities i.e. nets/contests did your group organise or regularly participate in. What activities has your group run to encourage members and other radio amateurs to participate in, i.e. ARDF, Special Event Stations. Has your group participated in delivering training and mentoring of candidates, how was this achieved, at what levels and how often?*

CSPARC believes that a range of activities is essential to promoting participation, as the hobby is a diverse one, and over-reliance on any one activity would have narrow appeal. The club is active in contesting and uses this as a strong means of developing operating techniques. While more competitive success might be gained by limiting participation to the more skilled operators, a concerted effort is made to involve Foundation and Intermediate licensees, and those newly qualified to take part in contesting. Contests such as the RSGB IOTA, the CQWW SSB, 6m Trophy and others are notable club entries.

Special events are another means of generating participation, and the annual events including a SE at the Museum of Flight, and the International Lighthouse weekend allow the operation of a seriously well-equipped station for those who lack these facilities for themselves.

Club training is perhaps the strongest activity that not only raises people's qualification level, but also brings in many new members. 2018 saw 21 sit and pass the Foundation exam, 10 sit and pass the Intermediate, and 7 sit and 5 pass the Advanced license. For 23 years the club has run training courses, with 345 people being trained. Membership of the national society is encouraged.

Direction-finding contests have proved a good means of members increasing their knowledge of directional antenna design and operating to solve problems using DF techniques.

Identity with the club is important, and to that end, a range of club embroidered attire is available for members.

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

At least one construction project is arranged each year, and while that is using new components and to a design, this building and experimenting activity spills over into the rest of the year with an active exchange of components via the annual junk sale. A bring and buy type event, with fund raising for a charity, money raised for the British Heart Foundation, the chosen charity, has now topped £16,879 since 1993, with £214 added this year. This annual event also involves and is attended by members of other clubs from near and far. This is reciprocated, with Club members joining together to visit such as the Blackpool rally, the Crianlarich and Galashiels events of a similar nature, and the Scottish Convention, as well as the GMDX Convention.

Sometimes club activity is intended to bring a wider participation beyond the licensed member, and such activities as a dinner, and the visit to the "Secret Bunker" in Edinburgh have served well in this respect with other friends and family becoming involved.

*4. Research – What activities has your group organised to introduce new technology concepts to members, and has your group used opportunities to share new technology with academic and professional radio, electronics and computing communities. Have your group undertaken any research study involving new technology?*

*5. Diversity – What has your group done to encourage members to experiment and use new modes of wireless communication. What opportunities has your group had with external groups to demonstrate less traditional modes. What use has your group made of the additional spectrum at 4m and 2m?*

*6. Membership – What promotions have your group run to increase membership numbers, and what actions has your group taken to promote the RSGB at group meetings and events. Does your group encourage members to join the RSGB, how?*

*7. Recognition – What means of recognition has your group used to encourage members, and to celebrate success and recognise contributions of goodwill and time given by individuals or as teams?*

Recognition of achievement is essential to promote active membership, and to retain those members and their enthusiasm. To that end the club has various trophies to award annually for specific achievements and designed to encourage participation. For example, the "Left handed Capacitor" Trophy is award to the member licensed for less than a year who achieves the highest QSO count in club events. The "Hybster Trophy" is awarded for the winning 2m DF team annually.

This year a new trophy is being inaugurated (in commemoration of a member who died during 2017), with an event for newer licensees to work all Italian prefixes.

Sometimes recognition doesn't need to be in trophies, and merely announcing achievements is effective. The Club's website ([www.cpsarc.com](http://www.cpsarc.com)) and monthly newsletter (<https://issuu.com/cpsarc>) helps in this, assisted by the Facebook page where achievements can be highlighted. It has been found that noting the activity of others spurs on members to do the same, better it, or to add to the activity or knowledge.

*8. Organisation – How do you evaluate the effectiveness of your committee at listening to your members. What process does your group have to regularly review changing needs of members?*

Other information: Please add anything which you think may be significant to your application which is not covered in the above categories.

I would like to thank Geoff MM5AHO and John MM0JXI for their efforts in putting our entry together.

Bob GM4UYZ

# CONTEST CALENDAR

For anyone interested in contesting there is something for everyone. Contesting is not just about winning although that is the aim; it is about taking part, having some fun, honing your operating skills, helping you understand propagation and It is also a good opportunity to test out your station at home to see how it is performing.

Happy Contesting.....

Extracts are from the RSGB Radio Sport VHF & HF contest and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

(<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php>)

## February 2019

Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 2 to 2400Z, Feb 3
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 2 to 2359Z, Feb 3
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1200Z, Feb 2 to 2359Z, Feb 3
Black Sea Cup International	1200Z, Feb 2 to 1159Z, Feb 3
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 2
FYBO Winter QRP Sprint	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 2
British Columbia QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 2 to 2400Z, Feb 3
AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 2
FISTS Winter Slow Speed Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 2
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 3
RSGB 432MHz AFS	0900Z-1300Z, Feb 3
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 5
RSGB 80M CC SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 4
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2400Z, Feb 10
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 9 to 1000Z, Feb 10
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 9
KCJ Topband Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 9
RSGB 1 <sup>st</sup> 1.8MHz Contest	1900Z-2300Z, Feb 9
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Feb 11
RSGB 80M CC DATA	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 13
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 11 to 2359Z, Feb 15
PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Feb 14
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 16 to 2400Z, Feb 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 18
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 20
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 22 to 2159Z, Feb 24
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 23 to 1800Z, Feb 24
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 23 to 1300Z, Feb 24
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 23 to 0600Z, Feb 24
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 24
RSGB 70MHz Cumulatives #1	1000Z-1200Z, Feb 24
North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 24 to 0100Z, Feb 25
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Feb 27
RSGB 80M CC CW	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 4

## CONTESTS ACTIVE DURING CPSARC ACTIVITY WEEK

VHF - UHF	January to December Monthly VHF/UHF Contests 2019
144MHz FMAC	1900-1955 (Local) Every 1st Tuesday
144MHz MGMAC	1900-1955 (Local) Every 1st Tuesday
144MHz UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 1st Tuesday
432MHz FMAC	1900-1955 (Local) Every 2nd Tuesday
432MHz UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 2nd Tuesday
50MHz MGMAC	1900-1955 (Local) Every 2nd Thursday
50MHz UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 2nd Thursday
70MHz UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 3rd Thursday
1.3GHz UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 3rd Tuesday
SHF UKAC	2000-2230 (Local) Every 4th Tuesday (Jan-Nov Only)

# Test Your Knowledge

1. **Signals from a transmitter working on 3.56MHz are reported as causing interference over the whole of the FM broadcast radio band. This is probably caused by a harmonic of the RF signal getting into the**
  - a. RF Amplifier
  - b. 10.7 MHz IF amplifier
  - c. AF amplifier
  - d. Power supply
  
2. **Masthead pre-amplifiers intended to improve TV broadcast reception are often**
  - a. Narrow Band devices
  - b. Wide Band devices
  - c. Pre-tuned to VHF bands
  - d. Pre-tuned to UHF bands
  
3. **Unwanted RF can cause problems in semiconductor equipment by**
  - a. Overheating the components
  - b. Reducing the gain
  - c. Overloading the power supply
  - d. Rectification at PN junctions
  
4. **A ferrite ring can minimise breakthrough onto speaker leads of audio equipment by**
  - a. Reducing the current carrying capacity of the leads
  - b. Screening the leads from radio waves
  - c. Improving the insulation of the leads
  - d. Increasing the inductance of the leads
  
5. **Breakthrough on one particular frequency is best cured by which of the following?**
  - a. Balun
  - b. Ferrite Bead or beads
  - c. Low-pass filter
  - d. Notch filter
  
6. **At a distance from a transmitter the power flux density (p.f.d) is  $1\text{W/m}^2$  and the field strength (f.s) is approximately  $20\text{V/m}$ . At twice that distance the p.f.d. is**
  - a.  $0.5\text{W/m}^2$  and f.s. is  $10\text{V/m}$
  - b.  $0.25\text{W/m}^2$  and f.s. is  $10\text{V/m}$
  - c.  $0.5\text{W/m}^2$  and f.s. is  $5\text{V/m}$
  - d.  $0.25\text{W/m}^2$  and f.s. is  $5\text{V/m}$
  
7. **Powering a transmitter in a car, via the cigarette lighter socket is**
  - a. A simple and safe solution for a temporary installations
  - b. Acceptable if the current required will not exceed about 5A
  - c. Ill advised because the lighter socket is intended for intermittent use
  - d. Ill advised because of the risk of RF entering the car electronics
  
8. **When there is an EMC problem due to lack of immunity in the TV receiver, and no fault is attributable to the amateur station, it is the responsibility of the**
  - a. RSGB
  - b. Amateur licence holder
  - c. TV owner
  - d. Broadcast authority
  
9. **UK TV broadcast stations use the frequency band**
  - a. 455 – 500KHz
  - b. 33 – 40MHz
  - c. 470 – 854MHz
  - d. 1240 – 1260MHz
  
10. **If an FM transmission causes the picture of a TV receiver to disappear,, this form of breakthrough is called**
  - a. Under deviation
  - b. Cross-modulation
  - c. Image
  - d. Blocking



# Club Events

1 February	Club Night
10-16 February	On-Air Activity Day
15 February	Radio Test Night
1 March	Club Night
10-16 March	On-Air Activity Day
15 March	Construction Night
5 April	Club Night
7-13 April	On-Air Activity Day
3 May	Club Night
5-11 May	On-Air Activity Day
10 May	1st 144MHz DF Hunt
26 May	Port Seton Gala Day (to be confirmed)
7 June	Club Night
9 June	Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP Contest
9-15 June	Summer solstice On-Air Activity Day
23/24 June	Museums on the Air GM2MOF
5 July	Club Night
6/7 July	VHF Field Day
7-13 July	On-Air Activity Day
27/28 July	RSGB IOTA Contest from the Island of Tiree GM2T
2 August	Club Night
9 August	26th Annual Mini Rally
4-10 August	On-Air Activity Day
17/18 August	Lighthouses Weekend (to be confirmed)
6 September	Club Night
8-14 September	On-Air Activity Day
20 September	2nd 144MHz DF Hunt
4 October	Club Night
6-12 October	On-Air Activity Day
26/27 October	CQWW SSB Contest GM2T