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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, I must thank all of you who attended the ZOOM virtual 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 whether it is face-to face or virtual ZOOM and join in. I feel we have so much to offer. Anyway, I will keep dreaming.

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 Day 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 have been

approached by one or two to run the event over the whole week in the sense you can submit a log for the whole seven days. I will certainly investigate it but when it will start that I do not know yet as I will have to rewrite my existing recording spreadsheet to adapt to the change and immediately it could take a while.... 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 never managed. 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 2021 aims!!!!

On the teaching front it is all over the place due to the Community Centre closure and organised training dates unable to take place. I have started and running the training session of the 2020/2021 training year using ZOOM and so far, it seems to be working. I have already run 5 Foundation Courses and hoping to start one on the 20th February if anyone is interested. At present I am running an Intermediate Course. It is a class of 5 candidates. The issue with all

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the online training is getting the candidate to book his or her exam especially if they want to move to the next level so that holds up setting dates aside for the next level. I am planning to run a Full Licence Course after the next Foundation Course so hopefully all those who are doing the Intermediate will have passed so they can do it. To be honest I am just having to be very flexible. Having said that I already have 3 people who want to do it so there will be a Full Licence Course soon. I am not sure if I will take a sabbatical this year, I will just have to assess things as we go along. If you 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 would normally start this month with another of John MM0JXI's Radio Check Nights, but it is not going ahead due to the Covid restrictions. Hopefully, we can run this later in the year when, hopefully we are back to normal, fingers crossed, etc.

## Activity Day Report

### **January Activity Day – “YOUR” selected date between 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021 00:00 to 23:59**

This was our first of 2021 where you can select your date to operate during the one-week selected period..... so reports below on who or who did not manage to take part.

### **Activity Day Rules and updated log sheet for 2021 have now changed:**

#### **Can be found using the following link:**

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

Look under Activity Days for the Downloadable files then you are all ready for the 2021 Activity Days. The 2021 files are as follows.

2021-ACTIVITY-DAY-LOGSHEET-V1.23

2021 New Monthly Activity Day Rules V5

#### **Apologies first:**

#### **Reports:**

##### **Bob GM4UYZ**

The first activity of the year and I decided to do Data after being on a CW contest the weekend before. 99.9% of the QSO's were on DATA, predominantly FT4 and some FT8 plus 3 QSO's on SSB. Quite chuffed with

Still other events to get confirmation on and I will announce them as and when we are able to run any. For full up to date events please read the Events Column or even go onto the website and you will find them all in the calendar area. Is there anyone out there who could give say an hour's presentation via ZOOM? If you can get back in touch with me direct.

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

myself by working YV5JLO in Venezuela plus a couple of other USA eastern board QSO's. Hopefully, a start that band conditions are improving. Anyway, still had some fun and enjoyed my operating today.

##### **Andy MM0GYG**

I have been enjoying the occasional QRS CW contact but have found the bands to be ropy of late, so I reverted to FT8 for the activity day.

##### **Jim MM0DXH**

"Activity day coincided with one of the contests again, one I had never entered before which was the Hungarian DX contest. Rules were simple and everyone could work everyone. I managed 174 QSOs all on CW and over two days (one of the days not being in the activity week). Best DX was Japan for me, 9124kms. On the activity day, our longest distance was just over 8000kms to Scotty W7SW in Sun City Arizona.

##### **Bob MM0LBF**

Not a lot this month; been getting used to PSK31.

##### **Craig MM0NBW**

Not a great start to the year from a personal perspective, so I only managed to get some FT8 done while "working" and all on 20 metres. Conditions for data modes (and probably CW) were decent, but signal reports were extremely low – typically -15 to -20 dB, so there would have been no chance of making any of the good distance QSO's I got if trying SSB. First up was

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BH8NSC at 8699 km, followed later with a couple of east coast VK stations, furthest being VK1HX at 16885 km. Like all good fishing stories, the one that got away – ZL2BX in Nelson, New Zealand. We passed signal reports, but no 73, so by FT8 standards, no valid QSO. Watching the grey line move over, USA came up late morning, working down the east coast info Florida and a new DXCC for me, US Virgin Islands with KP2B. Hopefully February will be a bit quieter for me work wise and I can get back to some SSB.

#### **Tom GM8MJV**

For once an activity section with nothing above 28Mhz The Hope Contests the RSGB ran over Christmas - nice little 90 min event - all modes (different mode different day) - never saw any club members on it :- ( Played with the FT4 event, while no great score was concentrating on one band so missed multipliers etc. Stuck to 40 and it was a pleasant interlude.

Thought on Activity week - why not make it a week? See comments on people chasing DX etc. you could get choice DX on say Monday and Wednesday - which 'day' do you submit - if it were the week you could include all QSOs, choice DX and all. Just a thought

#### **Ronan MM0IVR**

Nothing spectacular this month but a few enjoyable CW QSO's with YL3JD, OK1FCA and SP6AEG at lunchtime on Friday - a bit chattier than the usual "599 73", which was good fun. A couple of sneaky SSB contacts in there too. Do not worry, I washed my hands.....

#### **Martyn MM0XXW**

Thought I would give FT8 a rest and pop onto the sideband however all logged were Flora Fauna stations so didn't have their squares info handy but better than nothing!

#### **Thomas MM0THL**

I am hoping to be able to participate more in club events. 2020 provided an opportunity to get a shack together as well as providing time to operate. It is all a bit temporary now with the Radio on a shelf in my Office and some coax running up to an Off-Centre Fed Dipole in the Attic. It is only resonant on 14MHz to 28MHz, but plans are in motion to extend this in the future as well as moving the Radio to a more permanent location.

I have been working FT8 - not everybody's cup of tea, but I have found it good for determining the reach of the signal at low power and I also wanted to see what effects I would have (if any) on any local equipment or my neighbours. So far so good in that respect! It is much like setting up WSPR only you get contacts in the log at the same time. Monday the 11th was my better

day with 12 contacts in the log in the space of a couple of hours whilst doing other things. I initially started out using 20W for my first couple of contacts because I forgot to turn it down from the previous day when I was trying to work a distant station and experimenting with increasing the power. But I have found that 10W is generally returning good results now.

Never fear, I do plan on running non-data modes too!

#### **James MM0LQF**

In terms of updates this month, not as much radio as I would have liked, I have been remarkably busy with other things.

#### **Pete MM0INE**

Just a couple this time for Jan 15 - one on 20m and one on 17m. I also worked FG4SO in Guadeloupe on the 12th (thanks to my personal DX spotter, MM0DXC) but you are forcing me to pick one day :) (Looking at possible changes to this 1 day but I have a tremendous amount to do to record everything...a background task for young Bob GM4UYZ)

#### **Colwyn MM0YCJ**

After the virtual CPSARC club night last Friday I decided I had better up my game and get out to radio from somewhere during the first activity week of 2021. I was disappointed to miss the December 2020 slot because of the Covid-19 lockdown as I had been lucky enough to participate in the other 11 months, but "it is what it is," to quote a somewhat deranged USA past president; I hope, as I write this report!

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January had a favourable weather forecast and I packed the radio with all the rest of my hillwalking gear for a splendid day from Ninemileburn. Just complying with the "around 5 miles" distance we could travel from our local authority for essential exercise. The day was still, sunny but cold and the prospect of stopping for even a short period to use the radio was not entertained by my better half. So, although we had splendid essential exercise, the radio stayed safely, deep in my rucksack.

However, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January the tables were turned; I was allowed out alone to enjoy my essential exercise feral day. As forecast, it was a frosty morning, but rain (or sleet) was promised by the afternoon. Arriving at a quiet Swanston car park, after a hearty, and leisurely Covid-19 breakfast (as has become the norm), I decided to try to climb up a small crag on the north face of Caerketton Hill. There had been a light fall of snow covering the frosted grass giving a bright appearance to the entire Pentlands. Leaving the car park at 09:30 hours my approach was up through the conservation village of Swanston, across the speckled fairway of the golf course then up to the north face of

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Caerketton. The crag has three buttresses/ridges with two gullies, or cleughs separating the three ridges. It dominates the approach in an intimidating way, but being The Pentlands there are small established footpaths to help.



I arrived at the base of the righthand (western looking from below) buttress where there was a wide shelf on the path to comfortably stand to unpack my ice axes, pack away my telescopic walking poles and put-on boot crampons.



Suitably equipped I started to climb at around 10:00 hours. The route is called Scone Ridge, I have no idea why and the only internet comment I found was that the Kings of Scotland previously stayed at Scone

Palace, but then moved to Edinburgh? There had been an enthusiastic individual up the route before me earlier in the day, so it was a simple task to follow the track of the prior mountaineer. The snow was soft and of no help when climbing, and for most of the ascent I did not need to use the ice axes. Just brush the snow off and climb the rocks underneath. The climb is short, but it was fun, felt safe, good to get out, refreshing and very essential exercise. I was on the summit of Caerketton hill by 11:00 and had good views east, over Edinburgh and East Lothian.



The photo shows my ice tools hanging on the summit fence as foreground for Arthurs Seat, North Berwick law and Cockenzie and Port Seton.

The wind was light on the summit of Caerketton hill and after packing away my climbing gear and helmet, I rigged my rucksack antenna and clipped my old Yaesu VX7 to the chest strap of my rucksack. Allermuir hill is a short undulating walk east and I shortly arrived there after about 20 minutes. The Pentlands were noticeably quiet that morning with fewer people than I had seen for many weeks. I was out doing my Covid-19 essential exercise and my radio shack was mobile.

The summit of Allermuir (Maidenhead locator IO85jv) has a fence junction, stile, kissing gate, a direction indicator, and an Ordnance Survey Triangulation station as summit furniture. The view south onto the Moorfoot Hills was super, but clouds were gathering to the west. It was calm enough that I was able to stand by the summit at the trig pillar and call CQ on 2metres frequency modulation mode. At 11:18hours GM1CNH (Norman), home QTH IO85iw (7Km away) responded to my 'calling all stations' request. This was not the first time we have spoken, me on Allermuir, GM1CNH at home. Shortly afterwards at 11:23 MM3IIG (Mark)

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came on air. Mark has done a few SOTA transmissions and we discussed our post-Covid plans. Then at 11:32 two stalwarts Ken and Christine (GM0AXY and GM4YMM) responded from IO85jw, just 5Km away. I am tempted to submit a claim for the shortest QSO but realise that other CPSARC members would perhaps log even shorter QSOs. I had tried to message GM4UYZ, and assume that at 11:30, he was still in bed or something!

GM7NZI, Ray at IO75tv, 73Kms was next followed by Steve (MM0XPZ) all the way over in Port Glasgow (IO75pw) and at 94Km my longest FM QSO of the day. On my way back to the calling frequency I heard a couple of stations and was shortly able to request a transmission break, which they kindly granted at 11:48. GM0WRR (John) in south Glasgow (IO75vt) 63Km west confirmed that they already had rain. His contact was another SOTA stalwart GM4COX (Jack) in South Lanarkshire (IO85br) 46Km away and logged at 11:49 hours. This was 11 minutes before noon and the snow was starting to gently fall from the greying sky and a chilly wind was also coming.

The activity day finished with a welcome walk back down the east slope of Allermuir Hill with the wind behind me. So, my first radio activity in 2021.

**Summary**

DATA is the winning mode this month with 303 QSO's. Next best was CW with 95 QSO's. Out of the 303 QSO's being made: CW = 95, SSB = 11, Data = 189, FM = 8, AM = 0.

Best HF DX on DATA was by Craig MM0NBW working VK1HX on 14Mhz at 16885kms into Australia best CW QSO's this month was by Jim MM0DXH working W7SW at 8023kms into the USA and on SSB the best DX was by Pete MM0INE working KA2ABA on 18MHz at 5374Kms into the USA.

Nice to see a mixture FT4 and FT8 being used on DATA. QSO's to report on VHF and UHF and upwards was on FM by Colwyn MM0YCJ/P out in the Pentlands working MM0XPZ 94kms away.

A nice turnout out this month with a total of 12 people taking part. With this Coronavirus still about it gives you a great opportunity to play at radio. Keep it up folks..... Thanks to everyone for your log they are so much appreciated.

The next Activity Day is any day starting on the week beginning the 14<sup>th</sup> and ending on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021 the second for 2021. Remember to use the new

recording spreadsheet for your logs **2021-ACTIVITY-DAY-LOGSHEET-V1.23.xlsx** (updated on 16/6/2020) which can be downloaded from the website.

Summary of who did what:

Total QSO's = 303 where: CW = 95, SSB = 11, Data = 189, FM = 8, AM = 0

- Bob GM4UYZ* DATA: 45 x 20M  
SSB: 3 x 20M
- Colwyn MM0YCJ* FM: 8 x 2M
- Andy MM0GYG* DATA: 17 x 30M
- Jim MM0DXH* CW: 2 x 40M, 84 x 20M
- Bob MM0LBF* DATA: 2 x 20M  
CW: 4 x 20M
- Craig MM0NBW* DATA: 46 x 20M
- Tom GM8MJV* DATA: 24 x 40M
- Ronan MM0IVR* CW: 1 x 40M, 4 x 20M  
SSB: 2 x 40M
- Martyn MM0XXW* DATA: 1 x 40M  
SSB: 4 x 40M
- Thomas MM0THL* DATA: 12 x 20M
- Pete MM0INE* SSB: 1 x 20M, 1 x 17M
- James MM0LQF* DATA: 32 x 40M

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR THE 2021 ACTIVITY WEEKS**

<b>MONTH 2021</b>	<b>ACTIVITY WEEK</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>9th to 15th May 2021</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>13th to 19th June 2021</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>11th to 17th July 2021</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>8th to 14th August 2021</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>5th to 11th September</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>10th to 16th October</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>7th to 13th November</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>12th to 18th December</b>

Thanks for taking part in the activity day week and I hope you will continue to do so in 2021. The dates for the 2021 are now set, see the above table so would love to see many more on as well so why not make it your 2021 target., there is nothing else to do with the Coronavirus restrictions in place.

Bob GM4UYZ

# HF Propagation Prediction

## Summary

Best chance of DX –Australia, Asia and Americas using CW/Data on 40, 30 and 20 metres during most periods.

Best SSB phone DX – 40 meters during darkness and 20 metres during daylight Asia, Africa and Americas.

Best inter G SSB phone QSO's are, as expected on 80 metres throughout the 24 hours. Some possible on 20 and 40 metres.

There are no SSB QSO windows predicted for central or western USA/Canada. CW/Data for USA on 20 metres late afternoon may be possible. Although actual conditions have been better than predicted.

10 metres is again predicted to be closed but conditions earlier in the year proved otherwise, with some good DX openings at times on this band. The better than predicted conditions for 10 metres likely to be associated with increasing solar activity and the transition into Solar Cycle 25.

## Long Term Solar Summary – January 2020

Solar Cycle 25 has officially started. Cycle 24 reached minimum in December 2019 and peaked in April 2014 with a peak average of 82 sunspots. Solar Cycle 25 is predicted to have a slow start and anticipated to reach maximum between 2023 and 2026. Consensus is that it will peak in July 2025 (plus/minus 8 months).

Solar Cycle 25 is predicted to have a slow start and anticipated to reach maximum between 2023 and 2026.

Consensus is that it will peak in July 2025 (plus/minus 8 months). Cycle 25 is predicted to be similar to Cycle 24 with a weak peak activity – 95 to 130 sunspots, which is below average of 140 to 220 sunspots.

## Sunspots and Propagation

Frequencies above 15 MHz (17 metres amateur band and shorter) will open sporadically. 40m is more likely to stay open all night, and should produce good dx at most times, best DX is likely to be on 20 metres at all times. As solar activity picks up, this will lead to more D layer absorption, weakening 160, 80 and to some extent 40 through daylight hours.

*Usual caveats apply; This information is a broad summary from a number of sources using models based on historical and predicted data using ideal antennas with some allowances made for location, QRM and QRN. Band conditions fluctuate constantly and may improve or deteriorate at any time. Predictions are short-path propagation.*

*SSB predictions are based on combined path reliability (REL) and S/N ratio predictions above 65%. CW/Data combined REL and S/N ratio above 35%. Modelled on 100W SSB – Dipole at 15 ft. Your equipment may be more or less efficient than the model which will negatively or positively impact real results.*

*Unpredicted QSO's are always possible, so use this information as a guide only, in conjunction with DX Cluster spots and your own ears!*

Modelled on 100W SSB – Dipole at 15 ft. All times UTC.

## 80 Metres - 3.5 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	SSB QSO's Inter G, Ireland and Northern/Central Europe and Baltics. Possible SSB to Western Russia and Eastern Canada. CW/Data modes may be possible to North Africa, eastern Canada, eastern USA and Arctic Circle.
07:00 – 17:00	SSB QSO's limited to a couple of hundred miles. CW/Data modes may reach Northern Europe, picking up around 15:00.
17:00 – 23:00	SSB conditions build with good inter G and Northern Europe, Baltics and eastern Canada. CW/Data modes possibly extending out to Eastern North America and Greenland and European Russia towards midnight.

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#### 40 metres - 7 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	SSB QSO's in Northern Europe, North Africa, Baltics and European Russia. Eastern Canada and Central America possible. CW/Data modes may be possible to, South and Central America and eastern USA.
07:00 – 17:00	SSB possible to Central America in the early to mid morning, but reducing to Europe and inter G as the day progresses. CW/Data modes possible into north Africa, south America and Asiatic Russia, and USA.
17:00 – 23:00	Early evening sees SSB in Europe, north Africa, Eastern Canada, European Russia and inter G, building westwards as the evening progresses. CW/Data modes to North and South America, north Africa, India, central and eastern Asia towards midnight.

#### 30 Metres - 10 MHz – CW & Data only

00:00 – 07:00	CW/Data modes good to southern Europe, Central and South Africa, central and south America.
07:00 – 17:00	CW and Data modes good throughout Europe, North Africa and Central America and east Asia.
17:00 – 23:00	CW/Data modes good through Europe and Africa. Possibility of western Australia early in the period. Moving westwards, south America possible from around 21:00

#### 20 Metres - 14 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	Band closed to poor until around 07:00, with CW/Data possible into eastern Europe, Arabian Peninsula and Africa. SSB restricted to Europe and north/central Africa around the same time.
07:00 – 17:00	SSB good into central and southern Europe, Greenland and Baltic states, North/Central Africa and South America. SSB may be possible into east Asia and USA late afternoon. CW/Data modes into Africa and south and central America, Australia, Asia, Japan, China, India, Western Australia and USA.
17:00 – 23:00	Early evening sees SSB in Europe, Africa, Arabian peninsula Asia, moving westwards to South America until around 20:00. Early evening also sees CW/Data possible to east Asia, Africa and south America. Diminishes around 20:00

#### 17 Metres - 18 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	Band closed until around 07:00 with CW/Data possible to South west Africa.
07:00 – 17:00	SSB possible to southern Europe, South America and South Africa. CW Data modes possible to Australia, Indonesia, India and Antarctica until around mid-day
17:00 – 23:00	SSB possible to southern Europe, South America and South Africa

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#### 15 Metres - 21 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	Poor conditions - Band effectively closed.
07:00 – 17:00	SSB to Greenland, Europe, Africa and South Atlantic/South America and western Australia diminishing as the day goes on.
17:00 – 23:00	SSB possible to South America until around 20:00 when band closes.

#### 12 Metres - 24 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	Poor conditions - Band closed.
07:00 – 17:00	Poor conditions – possible SSB, CW/data to South Africa, Australia and Europe from around 10:00 and South America from around 15:00.
17:00 – 23:00	Poor conditions – Band closes around 19:00

#### 10 Metres - 28 MHz

00:00 – 07:00	Poor conditions - Band closed.
07:00 – 17:00	Poor conditions - Band closed.
17:00 – 23:00	Poor conditions - Band closed.

Data from

Prop Charts

<http://infotechcomms.net/propcharts>

VOACAP Online

<http://www.voacap.com/hf/>

ITURHFProp

<http://www.predtest.uk/index.html>

Solar Cycle

[https://www.weather.gov/news/190504-sun-activity-in-solar-cycle?](https://www.weather.gov/news/190504-sun-activity-in-solar-cycle?fbclid=IwAR1rG9yCltKzY8xnQzDbvms66ErvmjTLIGwcYoFBndv_C_Dae2soy1osQE8)

[fbclid=IwAR1rG9yCltKzY8xnQzDbvms66ErvmjTLIGwcYoFBndv\\_C\\_Dae2soy1osQE8](https://www.weather.gov/news/190504-sun-activity-in-solar-cycle?fbclid=IwAR1rG9yCltKzY8xnQzDbvms66ErvmjTLIGwcYoFBndv_C_Dae2soy1osQE8)

Sunspot Watch

<http://prop.hfradio.org/>



# HAVE WE MADE DXCC YET AT THE CLUB?

I was asked the question very recently, "Do you think we have made DXCC at the club?" Interesting question I thought so I decided to investigate our logs. As most of you know that all the club calls, MM0CPS, GM2T, GB2LBN, GB2MOF, GB2NMM and any others that we may have had are all a variation on my licence, hence the reason I am very strict to ensure that logs are kept, any way I diverge away from the topic. The fact that we have the callsigns then by our licensing conditions we must keep a copy of the logs, I have separate paper and computer logs, one for the Special Events, etc and one for our contest activities.

For the computer log I use the program Winlog32 and I import the ADIF files produced by the logging programs that we use i.e. WinTest, etc, into it. The beauty of using a computer log it makes looking at statistics very easy indeed so producing our DXCC status was very easy to do.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS, ETC (to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021)**

Callsigns Used: GB2MOF, GB2LBN, MM0CPS, GB2NMM and others.  
Number of QSO's in the log: 47401

### **ALL BANDS / ALL MODES DXCC**

**Confirmed** Countries: 116 **WE HAVE DXCC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**  
**Worked** but not Confirmed: 166

The tables below show how many countries we have worked or confirmed on each band.

Band	1.8	3.5	7.0	14	18	21	24	28	50	70	144	432
<b>Conf</b>	7	37	57	114	25	69	0	31	2	0	1	0
<b>Wkd</b>	8	6	19	38	14	31	4	13	1	0	2	0

## **CONTESTS (to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021)**

Callsigns Used: MM0CPS, GM2T  
Number of QSO's in the log: 155060

### **ALL BANDS / ALL MODES DXCC**

**Confirmed** Countries: 201 **WE HAVE DXCC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**  
**Worked** but not Confirmed: 251

Band	1.8	3.5	7.0	14	18	21	24	28	50	70	144	432
<b>Conf</b>	68	99	121	172	0	172	0	151	42	6	19	5
<b>Wkd</b>	79	121	158	222	0	218	0	191	67	8	29	10

So yes, we have gained our DXCC on our contesting and on our special events There are more countries confirmed on the contesting side but to be honest it is much to what I would expect as during contests you do tend to work some rare countries, whilst when we are doing special events the operating practice is about enjoying the contacts. We have even achieved DXCC on some individual bands as well on the contest statistics.

I hope that answers the question that I was asked, and I certainly enjoyed investigating the answer as it does make interesting reading.

Bob GM4UYZ

# 2020 ITALIAN TROPHIES RESULTS

## History

As many know Bob GM4IKT a club stalwart since the club was founded back in 1984 died on 26 June 2017. One of Bob's requests was to put up a trophy in his memory with the emphasis on newbies (Licenced over the last 3 years) so to that end the "BOB PURVES GM4IKT TROPHY" has been created. For everyone else "The ITALIAN TROPHY" has been created. Below is just a recap of the rules for each of the trophies. Full rules (BOB PURVES GM4IKT and ITALIAN Trophy Rules -2019 V2.0.docx) can be downloaded from the club's website download section. <http://cpsarc.com/downloads/>

## Rules for Trophy 1 - "BOB PURVES GM4IKT TROPHY"

Note: For the 2020 entry those who received their Foundation Licence in the following years – 2017, 2018 & 2019 can enter this section.

For Licensees that have obtained their Foundation licence in the last three years although at the time of taking part they may have obtained their Intermediate or Full Licence. The list will be extracted from the data that I keep for the club's training program and will be from 00:00 on the 1st January (year 1) to 23:59 on the 31st December (year 3).

List control: After year 1 has passed the names that were from Year 1 list (oldest) will drop off and those from the latest year will be added. The names dropped off will fall into the category for all other Amateurs. – see planned table.

The aim is to encourage the new licensee to get on the air and make some QSO's.

Contact as many Italian Prefixes on as many bands as possible – Range from 1.8MHz up to 1296MHz

The Modes can be CW, SSB, FM, AM, or DATA (All Types)

Enter all your information into the Logging Spreadsheet (2021 -ITALIAN AREAS Tracking V11.xlsx) which can be found in the Club's Download Section <http://>

[cpsarc.com/downloads/](http://cpsarc.com/downloads/)

The trophy will be presented annually

All completed spreadsheets to be sent to [Bob.gm4uyz@talktalk.net](mailto:Bob.gm4uyz@talktalk.net) by the 10th January of each year to allow the Trophy result to be obtained

## Rules for Trophy 2 – Called the "ITALIAN TROPHY"

This section is open to all licensees

Aim is to encourage operating to get on the air and make some QSO's plus offering a challenge along the way.

Contact as many Italian Prefixes on as many bands as possible – Range from 1.8MHz up to 1296MHz

The Modes can be CW, SSB, FM, AM, or DATA (All Types)

Enter all your information into the Logging Spreadsheet (Example how to fill it shown below)

The trophy will be presented annually

All completed spreadsheets to be sent to [Bob.gm4uyz@talktalk.net](mailto:Bob.gm4uyz@talktalk.net) by the 10th January of each year to allow the Trophy result to be obtained

## Results

The 2020 entry year was the second year that this has been running. The only person who took part in the 2019 entry year was myself, must admit I was a bit disappointed as this small competition was in memory of Bob so was hoping for a greater participation for the 2020 entry.

The results are as follows: (Position is taken from the number of Italian Prefix Area Callsigns worked)

\*\* Sadly, due to the Coronavirus restrictions it is not possible to present the trophies at present. If the restrictions are removed later in the year arrangements will be made to present the trophies at a physical meeting i.e. Club Meeting"

## New Licences within 3 Years - BOB PURVES GM4IKT TROPHY

-	Name	Callsign	Worked	Confirmed	CW	SSB	DATA	FM	AM
1	James Bennet	MM0LQF	41	34	0	1	40	0	0
2	Ronan Cantwell	MM0IVR	25	0	14	9	2	0	0
3	Craig Snedden	MM0NBW	15	0	0	12	3	0	0

There were three entrants with James MM0LQF being the leading entrant and thus is the winner of the BOB PURVES GM4IKT TROPHY

Thanks to all for your entries and to James congratulations.

(Continued from page 10)

### Open to All Licensees - ITALIAN TROPHY

	Name	Callsign	Worked	Confirmed	CW	SSB	DATA	FM	AM
1	Martyn Whyte	MM0XXW	65	0	0	0	65	0	0
2	Jim Hume	MM0DXH	35	23	25	10	0	0	0
3	Bob Glasgow	GM4UYZ	23	17	3	9	11	0	0

The winner for the ITALIAN TROPHY for 2020 is Martyn MM0XXW. Congratulations Martyn for the entry and winning and also thanks to the others for taking part.

The 2021 challenge has now started for 2021. It started on the 1/1/2021 and will end at 23:59 on the 31/12/2021. The new Foundation Licensees (2018,2019,2020) that fall into the 2021 BOB PURVES GM4IKT TROPHY will all have been emailed inviting them to take part. Everybody else is eligible to submit an entry into the ITALIAN TROPHY Section.

I hope more people will enter for 2021 in memory of Bob GM4IKT, so I look forward to receiving your spreadsheet by the 10th January 2022  
Good Luck...

Bob GM4UYZ

## 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](mailto:patricia.bewsey@gmail.com)

Note: the shop at Fenton Barns is now closed

# BATTLE OF BRITAIN 80TH ANNIVERSARY 2020

MMOLBF



In support of the nationwide commemoration of the Battle of Britain in 1940; the Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders Branch of the RAF Association put out a suggestion to its members and supporters.



This to take the form a 'Personal Challenge' to be undertaken during or as near to Battle of Britain Week as possible – the challenge could be anything that the individual felt would be a challenge to themselves and appropriate to mark the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain itself.

As Past Branch Chairman and now Life Vice President of the Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders Branch of RAFA (as well as an ex RAF Telegraphist); I decided (with great deliberation and thought) that I would forego a 'half-

marathon', could do a swim in the River Forth or even an ascent of Ben Lomond; and decided that my challenge would relate to our hobby of Amateur Radio.

To mark this special 80th anniversary I challenged myself to 'log 80 two-way QSO's, utilising all my available modes; with the intention of completing the challenge during BofB Week. However; "circumstances beyond my control" as they say got in the way, HF conditions included. Therefore during the period 9 – 22 September 2020 (but only using 7 days during this time) I completed the challenge as follows:

Total QSO's = 80

Countries contacted = 30 (see list below)

Continents contacted = 6 (Europe / Asia / Africa / Australasia / North America/South America)

Modes used = 7 (FT8/FT4, DMR, Echo Link, VHF, HF CW, HF SSB)

Countries Contacted

Lithuania/Bulgaria/Romania/Montenegro/Ukraine/Croatia/England/Scotland/Wales/ Northern Ireland/Sweden/Netherlands/Canada/USA/Germany/South Africa/Belgium/ Poland/Spain/Indonesia/Hungary/Italy/Australia/New Zealand/Switzerland/Norway/ Slovenia/Denmark/Malaysia/Trinidad and Tobago

I have to say it was an interesting project and one that has resulted in some wider interest with the general public, within the RAF Association; also some donations towards the work of the RAF Association. It even made the pages (page 90 to be correct) of the January 2021 issue of RADCOM.

Why and How RADCOM you may ask? Good questions; but simply due to me responding to a request in the last issue of RADCOM, looking for activities of note within the RSGB Regions – to be truthful, I didn't expect it to be published; but there you go.... always worth a punt.

I thank all who contributed to this challenge in some way;

73's Bob Bertram MMOLBF

# 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.....

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS SOME CONTESTS MAY NOT HAPPEN OR COULD BE RESTRICTED IN NATURE i.e. NO MULTI-MULTI STATIONS \*\***

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

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

## February 2021

RSGB 80M CC – SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 2
UKEICC 80M – SSB	2000Z-2100Z, Feb 3
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
European Union DX Contest	1200Z, Feb 6 to 1200Z, Feb 7
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1200Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2359Z, Feb 6
FYBO Winter QRP Sprint	1400Z-2359Z, Feb 6
AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 6
British Columbia QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
North American Sprint, CW	2300Z, Feb 6 to 0300Z, Feb 7
RSGB 432MHz AFS	0900Z-1300Z, Feb 7
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 12
RSGB 80M CC – DATA	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 10
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 14
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 13 to 1000Z, Feb 14
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 13
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 13 to 1200Z, Feb 14
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 14
KCJ Topband Contest	1200Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 14
RSGB 1 <sup>st</sup> 1.8Mhz Contest	1900Z-2300Z, Feb 13
PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Feb 14
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Feb 15
RSGB FT4 Contest	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 15
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 17
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 20 to 2359Z, Feb 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Feb 21 to 0100Z, Feb 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Feb 24
UKEICC 80M – CW	2000Z-2100Z, Feb 24
RSGB 80M CC - CW	2000Z-2130Z, Feb 25
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 26 to 2200Z, Feb 28
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 27 to 1800Z, Feb 28
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 27 to 1300Z, Feb 28
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28
RSGB 70MHz Cumulatives #1	1000Z-1000Z, Feb 28
High Speed Club CW Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Feb 28
North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 28 to 0059Z, Mar 1

# Test Your Knowledge

1. **Which one of the following frequencies would be affected by harmonics from a transmitter operating on 10.10MHz**
  - a. 1.01MHz
  - b. 10.20MHz
  - c. 30.30MHz
  - d. 50.51MHz
  
2. **Harmonics present at the output of an HF transmitter are normally reduced by fitting a**
  - a. Low Pass Filter
  - b. High Pass Filter
  - c. Band Pass Filter
  - d. Band Stop Filter
  
3. **The function of the demodulator stage in a radio receiver is to**
  - a. Indicate the presence of harmonics
  - b. Select the required signal
  - c. Extract the audio frequencies from the carrier
  - d. Change RF into AF when a CW signal is received
  
4. **The intermediate frequency of a receiver is 500Khz. The local oscillator is running at 5MHz. The frequency of the signal received will be**
  - a. 500KHz
  - b. 4.5MHz
  - c. 5MHz
  - d. 6MHz
  
5. **Which control on a transceiver is used to alter the note of Morse Code signals?**
  - a. A power output control
  - b. A squelch control
  - c. A BFO (Beat frequency oscillator)
  - d. A microphone gain control
  
6. **In a single sideband transmitter the carrier is removed by the**
  - a. RF Oscillator
  - b. Balanced Modulator
  - c. Sideband Filter
  - d. RF Power Amplifier
  
7. **When an audio signal is mixed with a radio frequency signal, new frequencies are produced called**
  - a. Intermodulation products
  - b. Frequency modulation
  - c. Carriers
  - d. Sidebands
  
8. **Harmonic frequencies are**
  - a. Multiples of the chosen frequency
  - b. Not multiples of the chosen frequency
  - c. Half and one third of the chosen frequency
  - d. Not related to the fundamental frequency
  
9. **A fast rise and fall of the transmitted RF envelope of a CW transmitter may result in**
  - a. Chirp
  - b. Poor frequency stability
  - c. Reduced output power
  - d. Excessive bandwidth
  
10. **A product detector is used to**
  - a. Recover the audio from a SSB transmission
  - b. Indicate the received signal strength
  - c. Recover the audio from a FM transmission
  - d. Produce an amplitude modulated signal

# Clublog Table

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6 DXCC Slots	Range
1	MM0DXH	0	0	0	2	0	53	0	16	0	1	0	54 72 18 yrs
2	MM0GZZ	0	0	0	28	1	14	22	0	0	0	0	45 65 13 yrs
3	GM4UYZ	0	5	0	8	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	41 48 41 yrs
4	MM0XXW	0	0	0	21	9	16	0	5	9	5	0	35 65 15 yrs
5	M0RNR	0	13	9	6	1	8	5	4	0	1	0	35 47 22 yrs
6	MM0NBW	1	0	0	5	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	25 27 4 yrs
7	MM0GYG	0	1	0	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	18 19 12 yrs
8	GM8MJV	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	17 19 43 yrs

The Clublog Tables have resumed for 2021.

The first few entries show that Jim MM0DXH takes an early lead with 54 DXCC with Duncan MM0GZZ and Bob GM4UYZ close on his heels.

Please take the time to submit your log to Clublog and join the CPSARC club to have your activity show up in the tables

John MM0JXI

# Club Events

5 February 2021	Club Night via Zoom
14-20 February 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
5 March 2021	Club Night (TBC)
14-20 March 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
2 April 2021	Club Night (TBC)
11-17 April 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
24/25 April 2021	Blackpool Rally (cancelled)
7 May 2021	Club Night
9-15 May 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
14 May 2021	1st 144MHz DF Hunt
4 June 2021	Club Night
13-19 June 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
19/20 June 2021	Museums on the Air
2 July 2021	Club Night
3/4 July 2021	VHF Field Day
11-17 July 2021	Activity Day (pick any day that week)
24/25 July 2021	RSGB IOTA Contest

All Club in-person activities are under review due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, keep an eye on the website and facebook group for up to date information.

Answers from February 2021 newsletter "Test Your Knowledge":  
1C, 2A, 3C, 4B, 5C, 6B, 7D, 8A, 9D, 10A