

Chairman's Ramble

Nearly the end of January, and as further evidence of climate change, (or else of a very low sense of self-preservation), we have already had one intrepid portable station in the new UKAC set of contests. In all seriousness it's great to have the club call used so early in the year as it was in the recent 23 GHz contest courtesy of Phil and Adam.

We were also able to hold a successful discussion on noise levels. The result of this was that Bryan lent his commercial-built and home-built QRM eliminator to Chris. Guess which one worked better. Congratulations Bryan. High noise level, is a problem from which many of us suffer and to some extent get used to working with. You notice the immense contrast and what you can suddenly hear, when out in the country and away from some of the more persistent noise generators. Certainly at home here, a couple of ferrite rings have helped, particularly on 80 and 20 meters.

Many thanks to all those who attended the AGM. The minutes are set out later in the newsletter. An AGM is not the most fascinating meeting of the year, so a good attendance was very encouraging. As you will see, we welcome Guy and Dave to the committee. Once again, a massive thanks to Bryan and Angie for all their hard work and support on the committee over the past few years.

We intend to return to face to face meetings in February and have arranged one of the RSGB lectures on the sunspot cycle for the 4th Wednesday, when we will hope also to be able to have members join us on Zoom. The second Wednesday will be an opportunity to start taking an inventory of the club's equipment at Ashley Green, and the nets will continue on the first and 3rd Wednesday.

Finally, our reach is greater than we think. I was recently contacted by someone trying to locate Jim G3VRY. The man explained that he worked freelance for the Imperial War Museum oral history archive and that before the first lockdown, he had recorded several sessions with Jim. He stressed that this was very valuable material. He had tried unsuccessfully to contact Jim, as he needed his consent for the material to be archived and available at the IWM. Finally a search for Jim online had lead to our newsletter in which we mentioned the antenna's Jim had donated to the club, and so he contacted me. I was able to speak to Jim's care-home and put him in touch with them direct. He has promised an article for the newsletter in due course in return, and I'll hold him to that.

Thanks again to all and I'm starting to believe that spring is on the way.

73, Jeremy.

Editor's Muse

The weather has been particularly barmy here with above average temperatures for the time of year, the same has happened to a friend in Canada where she had torrential rain in the morning and a snow blizzard just 4 hours later with temperatures from +1°C to -20°C all in a day, it's a strange world that we live in.

I've not been on the air much this month due to rearranging the shack and contacting Moonraker regarding settings to enable digital modes for the FTDX10, if any of you have settings you'd like to share, it would be helpful to others as from what I understand quite a few people have had problems getting FT8 up and running, we could post the settings in the newsletter as we come across them with a possible PDF file on the club site of the known working settings.

Air Miles has changed this month (please see page 17). It would be great to have a few more of you joining in, it doesn't have to be DX and it certainly doesn't all have to be HF, VHF and UHF are included. It would be great to map out your contacts over the year and see where you've got out to and the time of year.'ve been moving things around in the shack to accommodate the FTDX10 and as such had hoped to have my latest project, a 6-way antenna switch, finished and ready for this month's newsletter, unfortunately parts I have

Getting to know you

M6WTL/M0IHY

My first exposure to Amateur Radio was back in 1962 at boarding school, then aged 14, in Kingsgate, Broadstairs, Kent. Our school bus driver was a licensed Ham and ran a radio club every Thursday evening in one of the school outbuildings, his rig was the latest Eddystone, it cost about £35 at the time, which was a large sum of money then, I can still remember the smell of solder and waxed capacitors at the club! About this time, during the summer holiday, my father took me to visit a Ham high up on a hill in Newbury, Berkshire, it was late at night and I was allowed to talk to an American who was about to send his children off to school, this was in the days of the red telephone box so was considered very hi-tech.

Whilst at school I was awarded a “Joystick” antenna by George Partridge (G3CED) as an end of term prize. I left school in 1963, this is where I left Amateur Radio (and the “Joystick”).

Fast forward to 2016... At the age of 68 I suggested to Angie that I find something to do in my retirement, I had often spoken to her about Amateur Radio and boarding school and as we had a radio club on our doorstep (Dacorum Amateur Radio Transmitting Society, a.k.a. DARTS, unfortunately now disbanded) we joined. At one of DARTS meetings we discovered Chesham were holding a Foundation course, both Angie and I enrolled, bought the books, studied, and passed, this was mid-2016, Angie’s callsign was M6WTL and mine M6JULY.

Although Angie was happy to stay at Foundation level (remember, if she’s supervised she can do all that I can do) I continued to self study and by September was ready to sit the Intermediate exam, Burnham Beeches were holding the exam that month so we joined their club and I took the exam, my callsign was 2E0ECB.

By December of 2016 I had enrolled with the Bath Based Distance Learning group and studied for the Full Licence, I would advise anyone interested in studying for this licence to go down this route, these guys are really good. In March 2017 I sat the Full Licence exam at Martin Lynch & Son, this was their first online invigilation, I knew the result before leaving the building and had a big smile on my face driving home.

Since passing our Foundation Licences Angie and I have been members of CDARS.

Angie M6WTL
Bryan M0IHY

Ed - Check out the “Joystick” antenna on the Internet, it’s what I would term as a ‘Marmite’ antenna, you either loved it, or you hated it.

<https://www.eham.net/article/27754>

<https://ve3ips.wordpress.com/2020/08/13/the-partridge-g3vfa-joystick-antenna-its-an-antenna-on-a-stick/>

A.G.M. (2022)

Members present:

Jeremy - G3XZG
Matt - G1DTG
Malcolm - G3ZNU
Terry - G4UEM
Roger - M7RMF
Bob - G8MFH
Peter - 2E0PTH
Chris - M0IEA
Dave - G8FMC
Adam - M7SMI
James - M0JCQ
Ben - M7MAO
Graham - G0MKI
Bryan - M0IHY
Angie - M6WTL

Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Guy G0GUY and Phil M0NVS.

Minutes of previous AGM (2021) & EGM

The minutes of the 2021 AGM and the additional EGM were accepted without corrections.

Matters arising

All matters were covered by the agenda.

Chairman's report

Jeremy G3XZG reported on the year's club activities:

Club venue: We consolidated our new club HQ at Ashley Green, and moved the equipment that had been stored at the White Hill Centre into two cupboards obtained by Bryan M0IHY. Some antennas still remain at the White Hill Centre and these will need to be removed, probably needing the services of a professional antenna rigger. The new club venue is proving very satisfactory, and has also been used for some evening contests.

Members: We welcomed new members to the club, but were also saddened to have lost some local amateurs: David G8LZE who had only recently joined our contesting efforts; Geoff G3NPI who had also recently added to our contest team; Bill G4WJS who was a main developer of the WSJT programs and kept contact with the club. We were also sad to hear of the loss of Dave G8FMC's wife Jean, and passed on our condolences.

Meetings: We held face-to-face meetings at Ashley Green when permitted by COVID restrictions, and Zoom meetings when these were not permitted. We held several talks during the year, some given by members and some were RSGB videos of interest. There are a large range of videos available on the RSGB website, and we were pleased to take advantage of them, especially when face-to-face meetings were not possible. We were also visited by Chris G0WTZ from Moonraker and the Amersham & Tring Repeater Group.

Mills on the Air: We were pleased to return to Brill Windmill to run a special event station for the national Mills on the Air weekend. We erected an HF trap dipole and a VHF vertical and made many contacts over the weekend, although the high winds did make antenna work particularly difficult.

Contests: We operated in both VHF Field Day and SSB (HF) Field Day from the normal contest field at

Wigginton. Both were enjoyable events, and also gave an opportunity for newer club members to get a taste for contest operating. We also operated in a 160m and an 80m contest from Ashley Green.

Our cooperation with the Northampton Radio Club during the contest season proved very fruitful. Several of our members contributed points to NRC's Activity Contest entries, and NRC members assisted us with the AFS series of contests. We plan to continue this collaboration in 2022.

Equipment: As well as the equipment moved from the White Hill Centre, a large amount of antenna kit including feeders were donated by the new owner of the house of former member Jim Pitt G3VRY. Some was sold for club funds and some has been retained for club use.

Newsletter: Bryan M0IHY has produced the monthly newsletter and we extend our thanks to him for his work on this. Several members have contributed articles, and all are encouraged to consider what they can contribute to future editions.

Future: Hybrid meetings – face-to-face at Ashley Green with online access – are likely to become more normal for our formal meetings. Guy is thanked for pioneering this. We hope that the ongoing COVID situation will not stop us developing the club further, and are encouraged that so far we have coped with the situation well. We are also looking to make more use of the Ashley Green site for operating.

Treasurer's report

Matt G1DTG presented his report as follows:

Overview: The club started the year with a balance of £2,873.72 in the Lloyds Bank current account and a further £1,016.24 in an NS&I Savings account. It is proposed that the annual subscription remains at £25 for single membership and £30 for joint membership in 2022. Total income to the club in 2021 amounted to £695 (2020 £651), whilst total expenditure amounted to £427 (2020 £692), generating a surplus of £267 (2020 deficit of £41). The club's overall cash position at 31st December 2021 was £4,157.24.

Activity: Member subscriptions generated £415 from a total paid up membership of 21. In 2020 we had 21 paid up members. The most significant item of club expenditure was hire of the Memorial Hall which totaled £193; £154 was paid in January in respect of 2021 due to invoicing errors. Hourly hire rates for the Memorial Hall remain at £11 per hour, and the club has been able to hold occasional contests at the hall for a supplementary fee. The impact of Covid has meant that many bookings made in the earlier part of the year were deferred therefore reducing our overall hire charges.

In 2021, the Club raised a total of £260 from the sale proceeds of a Beam Antenna and Mount donated by new owners of the former home of Jim Pitt. Club volunteers were able to dismantle the equipment and arrange a buyer.

The club paid £100 to the Wickfield Trust for the use of their field at Wigginton for the both the VHF and SSB Field Day weekends. In addition the club made a £50 donation to the Amersham and Tring Repeater Group. Other items of expenditure included QSL Cards plus fuel and equipment for the two Field Days.

Banking: The club continued to bank with Lloyds Bank who provide a current account to clubs and societies free of any charges or fees. The Treasurer has online access to this account and which has makes it easier to monitor activity, and has the facility to make electronic payments without the need for statements and cheques. Members are encouraged to pay subscriptions by direct transfer as this reduces the amount of administration. The club also has a deposit account with NS&I which has a balance of £1,016.

Jeremy G3XZG said that Matt had proposed the annual membership fee remain at £25 (single) and £30 (joint family) and put it to the meeting – this was agreed.

Secretary's report

Malcolm G3ZNU reported that he had been keeping the club website up to date, and adding the newsletter when it was published each month. He has also sent in contributions to RadCom, both for the club calendar and the club round-up. RadCom is always keen to receive club news (especially including pictures) and

members are asked to consider what other news we could publicise.

Election of officers and committee for 2022

Jeremy G3XZG, Matt M1DTG and Malcolm G3ZNU are prepared to stand again for the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Jeremy asked if any other members wished to stand for these roles. There was none, and all three were elected to their respective positions.

Bryan M0IHY and Angie M6WTL have decided to step back from their committee roles for personal reasons, and Jeremy thanked them both for their service. Bryan confirmed he would still edit the club newsletter and support other club activities as currently.

Guy M0GUY has offered to serve on the committee – he was proposed by Malcolm G3ZNU and seconded by many members – his election was confirmed.

Dave G8FMC also offered to serve – he was proposed by Jeremy G3XZG and seconded by Graham G0MKI – his election was confirmed.

Any other business

Chris M0IEA asked whether the club has an inventory of its equipment. Jeremy G3XZG confirmed that, now we are established at Ashley Green, this was planned for the coming meetings. It may be that we have some surplus equipment that can be sold for club funds.

Bryan M0IHY reminded members that he is still looking for articles for the monthly newsletter, and specifically asked members to send him their brief (250 – 300 words) biographies for publication.

Malcolm G3ZNU said it would be good to see new members progress from Foundation through Intermediate to Full licences, and that the club was keen to support their progression. He agreed to circulate a note to members asking what their plans are for onward progression.

Presentation of trophies

G3CLJ CW Cup (for progress and activity on CW)

This was awarded to Chris M0IEA.

M0JCQ Rookies' trophy (new member making most progress in the year)

This was awarded to Roger M7RMF.

Dennis Kind Shield (for services to the club)

This was awarded to James M0JCQ.

A formal presentation of the trophies will be made at a future club meeting at Ashley Green.

QRM - My constant source of annoyance

My QTH is surrounded on 3 sides by overhead electricity cables and BT phone lines. I have had a 20m dipole in the loft for 5 years or so, it hasn't had a lot of use in that time because I prefer to use outdoor antennas which I put up and down as and when I need them. Recently I was informed by BT that my landline was going digital and I had no choice as will everyone else by 2025. The digital changeover went smoothly and no difference was noticed in call quality.

Recently the weather has become much colder, I was getting fed up of going outside in these conditions messing around with antennas so decided to bring the loft antenna for 20m back into use. At the same time I decided to put a 6m dipole in the loft as well for exactly the same reasons.

This 6m dipole gets regular use at the moment at least until E's begins in another month or so. The noise level on this antenna is approximately S4 or thereabouts, higher than I would like but still usable. This is not the case on 20m, the noise level on this before digital voice was around S3. Now the noise is S9+, not usable, coincidence? I think not. I spent ages going up and down into the loft trying various remedies to try and reduce this, toroid's, chokes re-routing coax all to no avail. I tried switching everything off one by one thinking it might be a rogue wall wart or lamp. Nothing I tried reduced the noise level.

During a recent Zoom club meeting I had a chat with Bryan MO1HY and he asked if I was still experiencing the problem, after a brief discussion he kindly offered to lend me 2 QRM eliminators he had, one commercial unit and the other one he had built. Two days or so later I had both the units to try.



Bryan's unit



Commercial unit

These units work using an auxiliary antenna as well as the main antenna, plenty of videos are available online showing how they work and how to connect them. I was at first sceptical if these units would have any affect on what I consider to be noise caused by VDSL and the recent digital voice changeover. However, with nothing to lose I gave them both a try. Using about 10m of speaker wire just poked into the aux socket (no plug) and the loft antenna plugged into the main ant. socket I gave each unit a proper test. The commercial unit I could not get to work at all, checked all connections, power supply etc, nothing I tried would get it to work. I nearly gave up then but thought I would give Bryan's unit a try. After checking all connections etc., I switched it on, immediately I noticed a difference, using the main ant gain up quite high and gradually turning up the aux gain I then used the phase control to get minimal noise. The difference was quite amazing, noise down from S9+ to less than S2 and I could hear signals again. Getting the minimum noise level is a bit fiddly but once I had got the hang of it very easy. Another minor niggle is the PTT, I did it manually but used mainly CW for my tests so it was not a problem. Further investigations and experiments are needed for a better way to overcome the PTT niggle but it is very usable as it stands.

I don't quite understand why the noise is so high due to the digital switchover, BT are still using copper to the premises, just using a small portion of your broadband connection for VOIP, a bit of a cheek really as they still charge you the same amount regardless. It will be interesting to see what happens in 2025 when everyone has to have digital voice, what will happen to the noise levels then? One way to reduce the noise from my own VDSL installation would be to have fibre to the premises, work is going on in nearby roads to install a fibre network and I have placed my order already. Unless the immediate neighbours and others nearby all switch to fibre I don't see the problem going away and I daresay I will still get noise from the BT droplines all around including my own because I am sure they won't remove it.

To conclude I can say that I am so pleased Bryan lent me these units, one definitely helps reduce the noise significantly. I would prefer to get rid of the noise at source but if that's not possible then this is one way to go. I will be buying or making my own unit very soon.

Chris M0IEA

Ed - Thanks Chris, that explains why I found the commercial unit to make no difference, a case of 'assuming' it should work in the first place. For those of you suffering with the same/similar problem to Chris you might find this the answer to your problems.

If I remember correctly you can use the rear socket on your rig that controls a power amplifier to drive your PTT.

Spotlight

Jeremy G3XZG

MAGNITOGORSK

QSO: UA9AEU
Name: Vic
QTH: Magnitogorsk
Date: 26 January 2022 at 12.30 20 GMT
Band: 20m, CW
RST out: 559
RST in: 559



Coat of Arms



Flag

Magnitogorsk is a city on the eastern side of the southern Ural mountains. Not far from the border with Khazakstan.

Co-ordinates: 53.23° north, 59.02° east.

Continent: Asia.

CQ Zone: 16.

Population : 416.521, (estimate 2018)

Height ASL: 370 meters (this is very precise and if its in Wikipedia must be true)

Magnitogorsk, (literally city of the magnetic mountain), has a history dating back to 1743 when a small Cossack fort was established and it came to prominence however following the "great break" of 1929, which was the start of the first Soviet 5-year plan aimed at industrialisation.

Its massive iron and steel works were built in record time under Stalin from 1933. An article in the Guardian updated in 2020, states that this record was achieved through the use of forced labour.

The mountain from which it gets its name is apparently so rich in iron that compasses will not work and birds avoid flying over it. The city is still dominated by the steelworks which are now privately owned, and roughly 10% of the population work there. Again, referring to the Guardian, the "when state-owned, it caused considerable air and water pollution, an issue which continues today and has yet to be addressed.

Magnitogorsk is 5 hours ahead of Greenwich, (two hours ahead of Moscow), and as I write this, it will be just after 6pm on the 28th January, and the weather is given as -11°C and cloudy.

More information can be found by reading the article on the Guardian website at:

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/apr/12/story-of-cities-20-the-secret-history-of-magnitogorsk-russias-steel-city>

Jeremy G3XZG

Contest collaboration NRC

Contest collaboration with Northampton Radio Club – how did it go?

Just over a year ago Dave G8FMC proposed that CDARS and NRC collaborate on certain contests through the year, so both clubs could benefit from a larger team.

Some CDARS members had participated in the VHF/UHF/SHF Activity Contests (AC) that run on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, but as a club we'd not made a big effort. NRC however are very keen on the ACs, and were looking to grow their team of dedicated contest folk.

By contrast, CDARS has always tried to enter as many of the Affiliated Societies series of contests (AFS), but NRC (as a club) was not so engaged even though several of its members were quite keen.

So we agreed a mutual cooperation for the 2021 season – and likely beyond as well.

The ACs have now concluded so we can take a look back at the results and see how well the joint team did. The AFS series still has one leg to go – the 432MHz contest in February, so we can look at those results next month.

At the end of the year, NRC came in overall 5th place in the list of Local Clubs – that's out of 44 clubs entering. On each of the bands, our placings were:

50MHz	-	4th
70MHz	-	4th
144MHz	-	2nd
432MHz	-	2nd
1296MHz	-	9th

We didn't have anyone entering the SHF legs of the contest this year (that's 13cm, 9cm, 6cm and 3cm in old money), so that took down our overall placing in the results table. When was a little frustrating was that we were actually running in third place until the last few results came in – how quickly things can change!

How does that compare with previous years? Looking back at the last five years, NRC's overall placing was:

2017	-	18th
2018	-	9th
2019	-	7th
2020	-	3rd
2021	-	5th

Hang on, you might say, how come in 2021 we went down in the placings? Well in actual fact some CDARS members had been helping NRC in 2020 as well, hence the great result that year. It's the step change from 2019 to 2020 that shows the impact that CDARS members made to NRC's result. But it's also clear looking through the details of this year's results table that things are getting more and more competitive. So other teams are getting bigger and stronger.

With the ACs, size really is important! For several years the Hereford club has won the Local Clubs section for two main reasons – they have some really good operators in plum locations in Hereford and Wales, but also they have a very big team – 32 entrants in 2021! So the more people we (and NRC) can get to contribute, the better. Unfair? Maybe, but remember these are ACTIVITY contests, intended to bump up activity on the bands, and that means the more the merrier! If you can operate in just a few of the contests it can make a difference, especially as the individual results are normalised. Give it a go, you might surprise yourself!



**RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN**



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

2E0JMQ 2E0KLX 2E0ORE G0FKW G0GGU G1MZD G3NPI G3XZG G3ZNU G4CZB
G4UEM G6TVB G7SYT G8FMC G8GNI M0IHV M0JQC M0KEA M0NVS M0UGA
M7ICK M7IRL

achieved

3rd Place in the Local Club Section of the

Overall UKAC 2020

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant.

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX



RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

2E0GUB 2E0K LX G0FKW G0GGU G0XDI G1MZD G3NPI G3XZG G3ZNU G4CZB
G6TVB G8FMC G8HLU G8LZE M0IIB M0LXV M0NV5 M3RZO M7RMF

achieved

5th in the Local Club Section of the

Overall UKAC 2021

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant.

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX



RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

2E0GUB G0XDI G1MZD G3XZG G3ZNU G4CZB G6TVB G8FMC G8LZE M7RMF

achieved

4th in the Local Section of the

50MHz UKAC 2021

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant.

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX



**RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN**



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

G1MZD G3NPI G4CZB G6TVB G8FMC G8LZE

achieved

4th in the Local Section of the

70MHz UKAC 2021

Stewart Bryant

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX



RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

2E0GUB 2E0KLX G0FKW G0GGU G0XDI G1MDG/P G1MZD G3NPI G3ZNU
G4CZB G6TVB G8FMC G8HLU G8LZE M0IIB M0LXV M3RZO M7RMF

achieved

2nd in the Local Section of the

144MHz UKAC 2021

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant.

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX



RADIO SOCIETY
of
GREAT BRITAIN



This is to certify that

Northampton RC

2E0GUB 2E0K LX G0FKW G0GGU G0XDI G1MZD G3ZNU G4CZB G6TVB G8FMC
G8LZE M0IIB M7RMF

achieved

2nd in the Local Section of the

432MHz UKAC 2021

President of the RSGB

Stewart Bryant.

Stewart Bryant, G3YSX

February

HF

Day	Date (2021)	Time UTC	Contest Name
Mon	07 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC SSB
Sat	12 Feb	1900-2300	1st 1.8MHz Contest
Wed	16 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC DATA
Thu	24 Feb	2000-2130	80m CC CW
Mon	28 Feb	2000-2130	RSGB FT4 Contest

VHF

Day	Date (2021)	Time UTC	Contest Name
Tue	01 Feb	1900-1955	144MHz FMAC
Tue	01 Feb	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC
Wed	02 Feb	1900-2100	144MHz FT8 AC
Sun	06 Feb	0900-1300	432MHz AFS
Tue	08 Feb	1900-1955	432MHz FMAC
Tue	08 Feb	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
Wed	09 Feb	1900-2100	432MHz FT8 AC
Thu	10 Feb	2000-2230	50MHz UKAC
Tue	15 Feb	2000-2230	1.3GHz UKAC
Thu	17 Feb	2000-2230	70MHz UKAC
Tue	22 Feb	1930-2230	SHF UKAC
Sun	27 Feb	1000-1200	70MHz Cumulatives #1

March

HF

Day	Date (2021)	Time UTC	Contest Name
Mon	07 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC DATA
Sat-Sun	12-13 Mar	1000-1000	Commonwealth Contest
Wed	16 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC CW
Thu	24 Mar	2000-2130	80m CC SSB
Mon	28 Mar	1900-2030	RSGB FT4 Contest

VHF

Day	Date (2021)	Time UTC	Contest Name
Tue	01 Mar	1900-1955	144MHz FMAC
Tue	01 Mar	2000-2230	144MHz UKAC
Wed	02 Mar	1900-2100	144MHz FT8 AC
Sat-Sun	05-06 Mar	1400-1400	March 144 432MHz
Tue	08 Mar	1900-1955	432MHz FMAC
Tue	08 Mar	2000-2230	432MHz UKAC
Wed	09 Mar	1900-2100	432MHz FT8 AC
Thu	10 Mar	2000-2230	50MHz UKAC
Sun	13 Mar	1000-1200	70MHz Cumulatives #2
Tue	15 Mar	2000-2230	1.3GHz UKAC
Thu	17 Mar	2000-2230	70MHz UKAC
Tue	22 Mar	1930-2230	SHF UKAC

Air Miles - new theme, new rules

The theme for 2022 will be **“We’re not the BBC, we don’t have repeats”**, this will apply to the whole year and will, hopefully, add a little more interest.

There have been occasions where the same callsign has had 2 different locators in the logs supplied, this is because different logging systems have given 4-character locators and others 6-character locators, this makes it difficult to calculate mileages as one will be against the 6-character locator whilst the other will be against the 4-character locator with ‘II’ appended. To overcome this I think the best way forward is to take just the 4 leftmost characters of the locator and append ‘II’, I could of course ask you to ensure all locators are 6-character but after looking at one particular month last year where I noted 490 log records with 4-character locators, this would just be too much of an ask of you.

So, what does this mean to you? You may contact a **callsign** as many times in a month as you like, but it must be on a different **mode** and/or **band**, any duplicates of **callsign/mode/band** in the month will be ignored. When it comes to the rolling totals for the year, any of the months valid QSO’s must not appear in the rolling total files to be added to it, i.e. if you contacted M0ABC on 20m on FT8 in January and did the same in February, whilst each entry goes toward the individual months totals only the first occurrence will appear in the rolling totals files, much the same as countries and Maidenhead squares, the entries must be unique.

An example is given below:

Monthly QSO’s

January		
M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	SSB	20m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

Duplicates, only one counts for the month

February

M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	15m
M0ABC	FT8	17m
M0ABC	SSB	20m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

All of February’s entries count for the months totals.

BUT

Those in red don’t count in the rolling totals as they already exist in January’s totals.

March

M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	FT8	30m
M0ABC	SSB	17m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

All of March’s entries count for the months totals.

BUT

Those in red don’t count in the rolling totals as they already exist in February’s totals.

Resultant monthly rolling totals

January		
M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	SSB	20m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

February

M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	15m
M0ABC	FT8	17m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	SSB	20m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

March

M0ABC	FT8	10m
M0ABC	FT8	15m
M0ABC	FT8	17m
M0ABC	FT8	20m
M0ABC	FT8	30m
M0ABC	SSB	17m
M0ABC	SSB	20m
M0IHY	SSB	40m

'Air Miles', how far have we gone? / results

Welcome Adam to Air-Miles.

So, how have we done this month?

20m is again the favoured band and CW the favoured mode.

(Running totals in red)

General

Most Miles

M7SMI		1,203,400	1,203,400	
G3XZG		85,953	85,953	
G3ZNU		2,007	2,007	

Most QSO's

M7SMI		1,057	1,057	
G3XZG		36	36	
G3ZNU		9	9	

Longest QSO

M7SMI		ZL1VAH(11428)	ZL1VAH(11428)	
G3XZG		3B9FR(6227)	3B9FR(6227)	
G3ZNU		DO2JUF(497)	DO2JUF(497)	

Shortest QSO (miles)

M7SMI		G0BLQ(28)	G0BLQ(28)	
G3ZNU		G0GFC(55)	G0GFC(55)	
G3XZG		F6GNG(394)	F6GNG(394)	

Average per QSO (miles)

G3XZG		2,387	2,387	
M7SMI		1,138	1,138	
G3ZNU		223	223	

Maidenhead Squares

M7SMI		380	380	
G3XZG		32	32	
G3ZNU		8	8	

QSO Economy Drive

High miles per Watt

M7SMI		1142.80(10)	1142.80(10)	
G3XZG		62.27(100)	62.27(100)	
G3ZNU		4.97(100)	4.97(100)	

Low miles per Watt

G3ZNU		0.55(100)	0.55(100)	
M7SMI		2.80(10)	2.80(10)	
G3XZG		3.94(100)	3.94(100)	

By Band

160m

30m

M7SMI		102	102	
G3XZG		3	3	

12m

2m

G3ZNU		6	6	
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80m

M7SMI		11	11	
G3ZNU		3	3	

20m

M7SMI		187	187	
G3XZG		18	18	

10m

70cm

60m

17m

G3XZG		4	4	
M7SMI		3	3	

6m

23cm

40m

M7SMI		735	735	
G3XZG		2	2	

15m

M7SMI		19	19	
G3XZG		9	9	

4m

'Air Miles', how far have we gone? / results

By Mode

CW

G3XZG  36 **36** 

FT8

M7SMI  1,057 **1,057** 
G3ZNU  9 **9** 

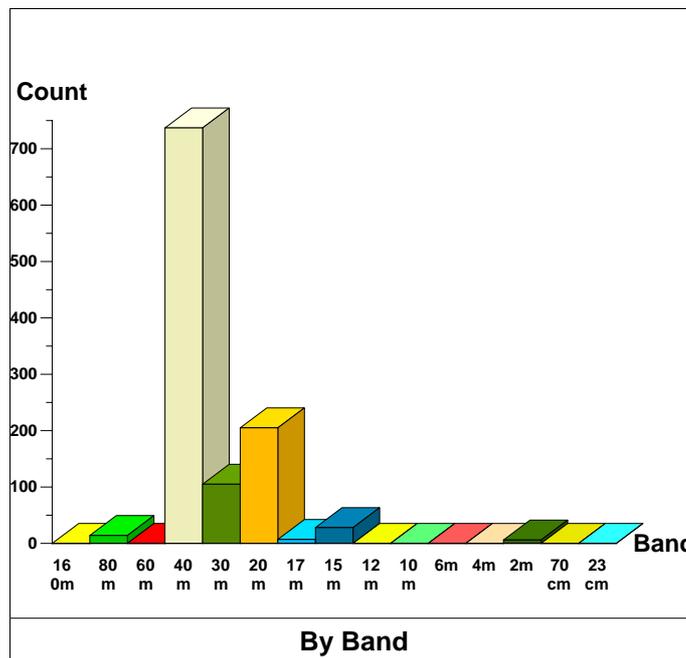
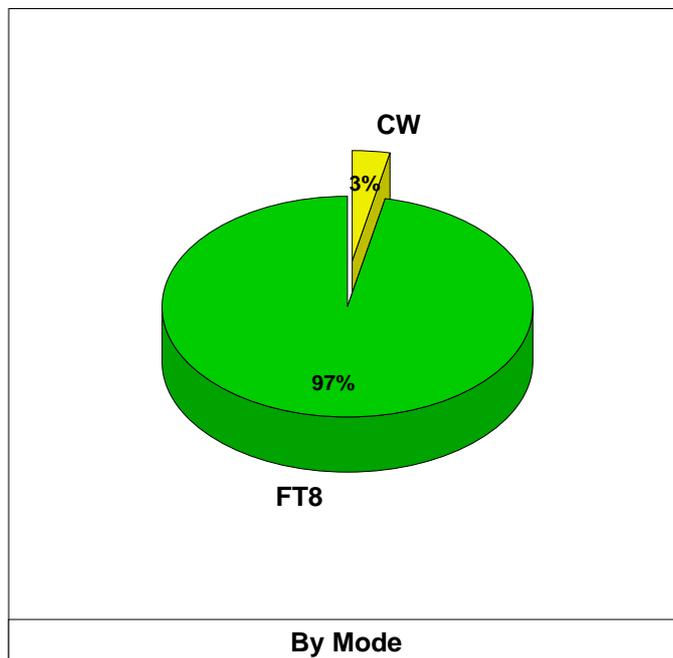
By Country

M7SMI  58 **58** 
G3XZG  16 **16** 
G3ZNU  3 **3** 

Countries visited - 60
Most visited Country - Germany - 3 times
Total Mileage - 1,291,360
Total QSO's - 1,102
Average miles per QSO - 1,171.83
Total locators visited - 399
Most visited locator - IO91 23 times

'Air Miles', September at a glance

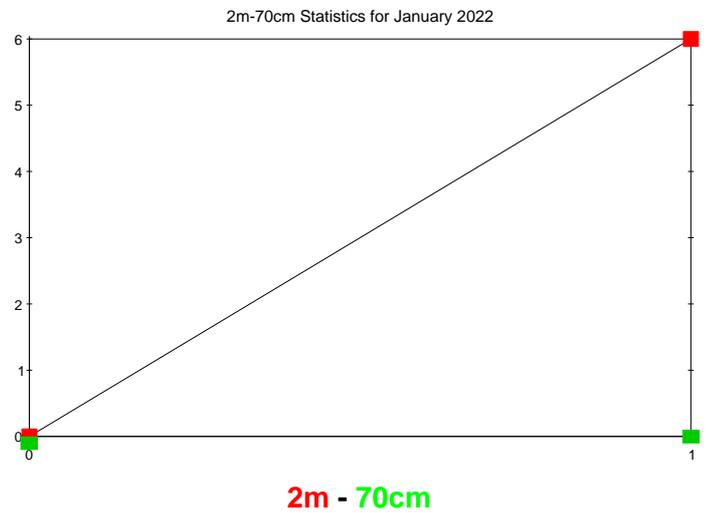
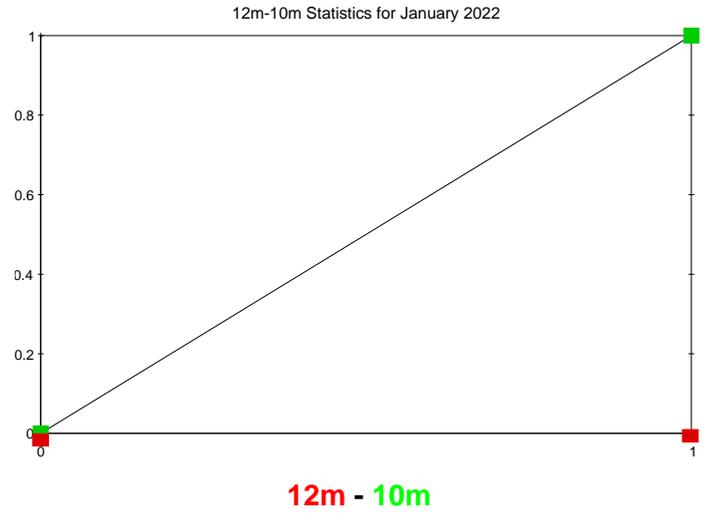
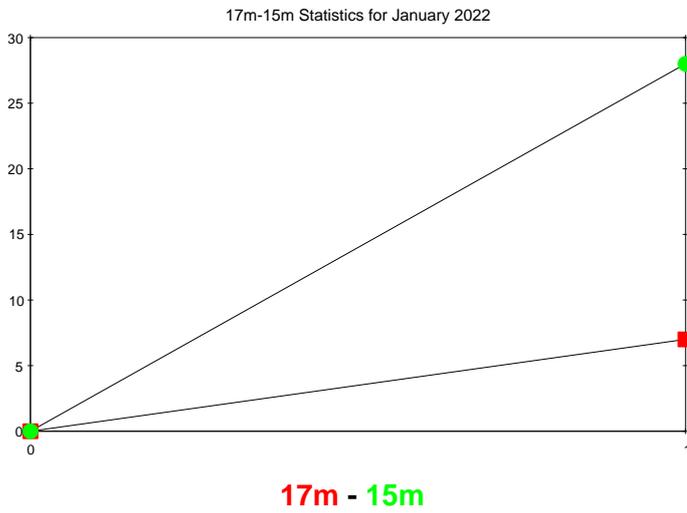
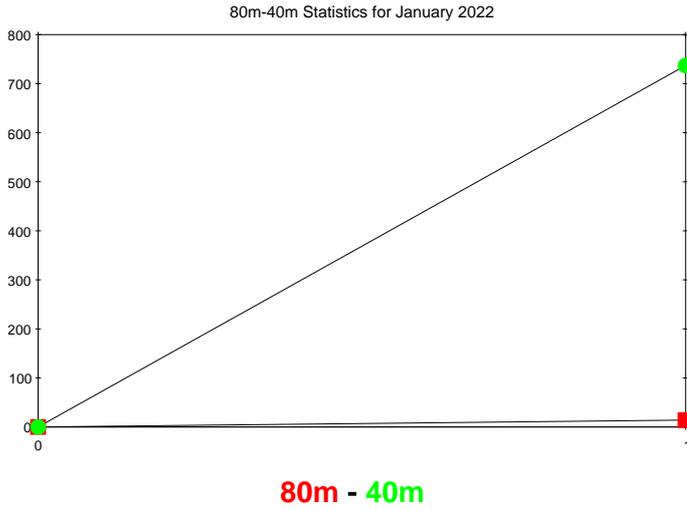
This month at a glance (accumulative)



No pretty display this month, far too crowded requiring a magnifying glass to see the results!

Spain	127	Bosnia and Herzegovina	14	Northern Ireland	2
Russia	116	Switzerland	13	Ireland	2
Germany	111	Sweden	11	Israel	2
Italy	87	Slovakia	11	Dominican Republic	2
Poland	62	Belgium	10	Japan	2
England	53	Lithuania	10	Cyprus	2
United States	52	Turkey	8	Iceland	2
Ukraine	46	Belarus	7	Unknown	2
France	40	Estonia	7	Jersey	1
Hungary	31	Norway	7	Cuba	1
Romania	30	Scotland	6	New Zealand	1
Netherlands	27	Denmark	6	Kenya	1
Croatia	26	Brazil	6	Latvia	1
Slovenia	23	Canada	5	Belize	1
Greece	23	Serbia	5	Thailand	1
Austria	18	Wales	4	Argentina	1
Bulgaria	16	Kazakhstan	3	Mauritania	1
Czech Republic	16	Luxembourg	2	Mauritius	1
Portugal	16	Indonesia	2	Saudi Arabia	1
Finland	15	Netherlands and Former Netherlands Antilles	2	Moldova	1

'Air Miles', bands by the month



Any other business