

STARLITE

THE JOURNAL FOR THE STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT A.R.S.



**G6OI
G6SRS**



ISSUE: FEBRUARY 2021



G4CVK

**STOURBRIDGE & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
INCORPORATING
OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL RADIO CLUB**

MEETINGS HELD AT

**OLDSWINFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL
HEATH LANE
STOURBRIDGE
[8:00 TO 10:00 PM]**

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

**THE SOCIETY HOLDS ITS MEETINGS
EVERY MONDAY (EXCLUDING BANK HOLIDAYS)**

RSGB AFFILIATED SOCIETY

STARLITE

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Or by Email to:-

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All correspondence/enquiries should
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StARS Website URLs:-

www.g6oi.org.uk
<http://g6oi.ross-lewis.co.uk/>

StARS Facebook Page:-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stourbridge.ars/>

Forthcoming Meetings

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| February 1 st | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| February 8 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| February 15 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| February 22 nd | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| March 1 st | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| March 8 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| March 15 th | *** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021 ??? *** |
| March 22 nd | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| March 29 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| April 5 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| April 12 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| April 19 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| April 26 th | Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |
| May 3 rd | Club Net 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm |

Editor's Comment

Apology: It appears that I mis-typed Steve's new callsign last month. I should have put **M7BIN**, but with the letters V and B being next to each other on the keyboard you can guess what happened! Sorry Steve.

In the recent past, I've only received one piece of input from a Club member – Jim G4WAO – who sent a link to a sample paper for the Australian Foundation Exam. See it at <https://wia.org.au/licenses/foundation/onlineexams/foundation.php>

For those of you who don't get RadCom, an item in the February 2021 issue suggests that you should **Revalidate Your Licence**. This should be done fairly soon, due to Ofcom varying the terms of all licences for their upcoming EMF conditions. This can be done at www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your-licence .

If it has been some time since you have done this, there is additional information and guidance at <https://rsgb.org/operating/licensing-novs-visitors/uk-licensing/revalidation> .



The Editor is praying to the Amateur Radio Gods for inspiration to write for these pages.

Of course, input from the membership is always encouraged and will be gratefully received.

So please send your memories, photos, projects, general chit-chat, etc., to the Editor: g4xom@g6oi.org.uk

Home Construction talk by G0FUW and N6QW

The RSGB has made available the video of the talk on amateur radio construction given by Steve Hartley G0FUW and Pete Juliano N6QW on January 11

Despite what many people think, building your own radio equipment is still a very popular aspect of amateur radio. In fact there has never been a better time to do this with readily accessible building blocks and high spec test equipment available at bargain basement prices, or, in the case of software, absolutely free.

This presentation will cover the reasons why people homebrew radio equipment, share some ideas on how to get started and provide show some examples of homebrew gear, using hardware and software.

Watch Amateur Radio Construction with Steve Hartley, G0FUW and Pete Juliano, N6QW
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdRouTwx52g>

Other RSGB talks can be seen at
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheRSGB/videos>

RSGB Tonight @ 8 Webinars
<https://rsgb.org/webinars>

Interplanetary shock wave sparks auroras

Surprising forecasters, a shock wave buried in the solar wind hit Earth's magnetic field today, sparking rare blue auroras around the Arctic Circle.

The source of the shock *might* have been a magnificent eruption on the sun, previously expected to miss our planet.

Get the full story from Spaceweather.com

ISS contact using 40 year old computer

This lighthearted video shows a project to contact the packet radio digipeater on the International Space Station using a 1980s vintage Commodore 64 home computer. Quite apt for Expedition 64!

It's made for retro-computing fans and a general audience, and introduces hobby radio and space communications in an exciting way.

<https://youtu.be/WJVU1stPPIQ>

Ofcom: Technologies shaping communications for the future

A new Ofcom report shines a light on the innovative, emerging technologies that could shape the communications industry in the future.

Communications services and the technologies used to deliver them are constantly evolving. As the UK's communications regulator, it's vital we are aware of developments in the sectors we oversee and how they may change in the coming years – particularly as we take on new responsibilities such as regulating online harms.

So last year we put out a call for people to send us their thoughts on the emerging technologies that have the potential to transform communications in the future. We received contributions from companies, organisations and technology experts from across the world.

Today we have published a report highlighting examples of the technologies submitted to us – including analysis of how each technology would make a difference to people and businesses.

Innovative technologies to support the rollout of better mobile and broadband services; the role of satellite technology in connecting the hardest to reach areas; and exciting developments in the broadcast sector – such as enhanced, bespoke coverage of sporting events – all feature in the report. New immersive technologies allowing people to touch – and even smell – at a distance, are also highlighted.

Download the report from

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/emerging-technologies>

Further detail on these technologies is explained in a series of videos we have published alongside the report.

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/emerging-technologies/video-contributions>

TV & Movies Trivia Quiz

This 1997 movie about extraterrestrials stars Jodie Foster.

1. Arrival
2. Contact
3. ET
4. 2010

This 2017 sniper movie features a Yaesu FT-817 throughout the movie.

1. The Wall
2. Sniper
3. Shooter
4. American Sniper

This 1995 movie features Charlie Sheen as an astronomer who discovers intelligent alien life.

1. Roswell
2. Contact
3. The Arrival
4. Shadow Conspiracy

The TV show "Alf" featured CB and radios. What was Alf's last name?

1. Shumway
2. Tanner
3. Swartz
4. Melmac

Which of these movies does NOT feature a Faraday cage?

1. The Sorcerer's Apprentice
2. Pirate Radio
3. The Darkest Hour
4. Enemy Of The State

In this film featuring ham radio, the main character uses a radio to talk to his deceased father.

1. Frequency
2. Contact
3. Radio
4. Sixth Sense

This TV series about a global pandemic featured some ham radio use.

1. The Walking Dead
2. The Last Of Us
3. Jericho
4. The Last Ship

Ham radio was spotted in this 2016 Netflix film about supernatural beings.

1. Ghostbusters
2. Spectral
3. The Darkest Hour
4. 13 Ghosts

In this movie, aliens try to take over a radio telescope to call in an invasion.

1. Battleship
2. The Darkest Hour
3. The 5th Wave
4. Battle For Los Angeles

What HT was used by John McClane to talk to the bad guys in “Die Hard”?

1. Kenwood
2. Radio Shack
3. Radioddity
4. Baofeng

The answers will come next month.

Last Month's Pot Pourri Trivia Quiz - Answers

Related to unbalanced line, what do the letters RG mean?

1. Radio Guide

Who designed the Yagi antenna?

2. Yagi & Uda

True or false. Solar cycles are referred to as long or short?

1. True

What is the distance in miles around the earth at the Equator?

4. 29,901

When was Radio Shack founded?

1. 1921

What instrument did Bob Heil K9EID learn at a young age, which led to his interest in radio?

3. Organ (*He is the only non-musician in the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame*)

On New Year's Eve, which ARRL event occurs?

3. CW Straight Key Night
-

YOUR COMMITTEE



| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|
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