

# GB2RS NEWS

Sunday 6th December 2009

## The news headlines

- RSGB election voting closes 10 December
- Date set for start of National Amateur Radio Centre construction
- Commemorating a century since Braun and Marconi won Nobel Prize

Members of the RSGB are reminded that voting for the 2009 elections closes at 12 noon on 10 December. An electronic voting system run by the Electoral Reform Society is available as well as the traditional postal method. There are four Board places to be filled and Region 8 also has an election for the Regional Representative position. Full details of all the candidates and how to vote are in the December *RadCom* and on the RSGB website at [www.rsgb.org](http://www.rsgb.org).

RSGB General Manager Peter Kirby, G0TWW has announced the start date for building work at the new National Amateur Radio Centre. The work will commence at Bletchley Park on 11 January 2010. Subject to favourable progress, the work is expected to finish in June of the same year. Further details of progress will be announced on GB2RS and in *RadCom* in due course.

On 10 December 1909 both Braun and Marconi were given the Nobel Prize for physics for their efforts in wireless communication. Long wave transmitter DDH47 of National Weather Service at Pinneberg in Germany will conduct a special broadcast from 9 December, 2300UTC until 10 December 0100UTC on 147.3kHz using 20kW. Special slow Morse code transmissions will take place at the former silence periods of the maritime radio service, 15 to 18 past each hour and 45 to 48 minutes past each hour. Using QRS3, which is one dot in 3 seconds, the names of famous wireless pioneers will be transmitted. Reception reports from distant places are welcome. Amateurs may contact DL0PFB on the HF amateur bands. For further information, check out their website at [www.mmqtc-award.org](http://www.mmqtc-award.org).

The Interim Meeting of the IARU Region 1 HF Committee and the VHF, UHF and Microwave Committee will take place over the period 19 to 21 February 2010 in Vienna, Austria. The IARU Region 1 website now has the full set of both HF and VHF stroke microwave papers for the meeting from the various National Societies including the RSGB. Check out [www.iaru-r1.org](http://www.iaru-r1.org) for details.

Belgian full licence amateurs are now allowed to operate on 69.950MHz on a secondary basis with 10 watts EIRP and a maximum bandwidth of 10kHz.

Once again Santa's own amateur radio station OH9SCL will be active from Santa Claus Land in the Arctic Circle, during the month of December. Activity will be on 160 through to 10m using CW, SSB and the digital modes. Among Santa's helpers will be operators Raimo, OH3BHL, Erkki, OH9KL, Kimmo, OH9MDV, Juha, OH9MM and Aaro, OH9RJ. The QSL address is on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com) under OH9SCL. A special Santa Claus Land award is available.

The Widnes and Runcorn ARC are running an Advanced examination course at Kingsley Parish Church Hall in Pike Lane, Kingsley, Frodsham. The course has been running for one week and is expected to run until March 2010. Any prospective candidates will be more than welcome to attend. The classes are from 7.30 to

9.30pm each Friday evening. Further details are available from course tutor Dave Bibby, G1PIX by e-mail to rdbibby@rdbibby.com or telephone 07957 907930.

On Saturday, 19 December Waters & Stanton will hold an open day at their showroom in Hockley and in Glenrothes. The event will be sponsored by Yaesu UK with Yaesu staff on hand to discuss their radios.

### **And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week**

We have received no details of any rallies taking place in December 2009. The next rallies we have details for in 2010 are the Red Rose Winter Rally and the Dover Amateur Radio Club Rally both taking place on 17 January 2010. If you would like your 2010 rally mentioned in *RadCom* and on GB2RS, please send details to radcom<at>rsgb.org..uk.

### **Now for the news of special events**

Look for special event station 5P15COP from Sjaelland Island, which is IOTA reference EU-029, to be active between 7 and 18 December. Activity is taking place during the United Nations Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. QSL via OZ5BAL, direct or by the bureau.

On 14 December the special event callsign GB1HF will be on the air in Northern Ireland to commemorate Harry Ferguson, the engineer and inventor who made the first powered flight in Ireland and invented the modern tractor.

### **And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News and other sources.**

EA1BT will be active from Martinique Island between 8 and 15 December as TO1BT. He will be active on HF bands. QSL via home call.

Lee, DS4NMJ will be active from the Korean Antarctic base King Se-Jong on King George Island, South Shetland Islands, which is IOTA reference AN-010, until 31 January 2011 as DT8A. He will be active on all bands mainly CW but also some SSB and RTTY.

Mark, AA1AC, will sign VP9/HC from Bermuda until 12 December. He will be active on the HF bands. QSL via HC direct or bureau.

XE3RR, XE3PP, XE2WK and XE3N will be active from Isla El Cerrito, which is IOTA reference NA-153, between 10 and 14 December as XF3RR

### **Now the contest news**

Today, 6 December, the RSGB 144MHz AFS Contest takes place. If you operate as a member of a club there's no need to be a member of RSGB, but the club must be affiliated. However, if you operate as an individual, you do need to be a member, although check logs from non-members are always welcome. Teams can have a maximum of five members, but there is nothing to prevent a really active and ambitious club from fielding more than one team. The contest takes place between 0900 and 1700UTC and the exchange is signal report, serial number and locator.

The 432MHz UK Activity Contest takes place on 8 December from 2000 to 2230UTC. The exchange is signal report, serial number and locator.

**Now the solar factual data for the period from the 23rd to the 29th of November, compiled on 30th of November by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.**

The solar disc was spotless every day. That's the first spotless week since the middle of October. Solar activity was very low. Solar flux levels declined from 76 units on the 23rd to 72 by the 29th. The average was 74. The 90 day solar flux average on the 29th was 73. That's one unit up on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum reporting level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet every day. The most disturbed days were the 24th and the 26th with an Ap index of 6 units. The average was 3 units. Solar wind data from the ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds vary between 320 and 470 kilometres per second. Particle densities were low except for a brief increase to 18 particles per cubic centimetre on the 24th. Bz varied between minus 7 and plus 5 nanoTeslas on the 24th with variations somewhat less on the quieter days.

And finally the solar forecast. Solar activity is expected to be at very low levels. The solar disc could be spotless on most days. Solar flux levels should be around the 70 mark, but could show a slight increase towards next weekend. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet everyday. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be round 23MHzs for the south and 20MHz for the north. Darkness hour lows are expected to be around 7MHz. Paths this week to the east coast of North America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 22MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1200 and 1700 UTC.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

**Next, the Local News:**

**Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses and website links where known.**

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your transmission.]

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## **NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST and EAST ANGLIA**

On Sunday 6 December Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 144MHz Affiliated Societies contest. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 831 491.

On Sunday 6 December Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having Sunday breakfast at Goring Cafe-Restaurant. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Monday 7 December Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a families evening. Contact Clive, G4ODM, on 01256 326050.

On Monday 7 December Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having a club social. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 7 December Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas social at Chaseley. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424 424 319.

On Monday 7 December Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a talk. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 8 December Andover Radio Amateurs Club is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Martin, M0MWS, on 0777 618 1646.

On Tuesday 8 December Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the shack. Contact Steve, on 01424 720815.

On Tuesday 8 December Harwell Amateur Radio Society is holding its AGM. Contact Malcolm, G8NRP, on 01235 524844.

On Tuesday 8 December Verulam Amateur Radio Club is having its annual Christmas bun fight. Contact Ralph, on 01923 265572.

On Wednesday 9 December Aylesbury Vale Radio Society and Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society are having a joint Christmas party. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651 or Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 831 491.

On Wednesday 9 December Dover Radio Club starts its winter project, a portable HF vertical, with Ian, G3ROO. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau<at>DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 9 December Farnborough and District Radio Society is having its annual dinner. Contact Derek, G3OFA, by email to mail<at>farnboroughradio.org.uk.

On Wednesday 9 December Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having an informal, construction and workshop evening. Contact Chris Danby, G0DWV, on 01603 419204.

On Wednesday 9 December South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having an open evening and Christmas social. Contact Norman, M0FZW, on 01268 692776.

On Wednesday 9 December Southgate Amateur Radio Club is holding its AGM. Contact David Sharp, M0XDS, by email to david.sharp1<at>tesco.net.

On Wednesday 9 December Verulam Amateur Radio Club is holding a Foundation Licence exam. Contact Ralph, on 01923 265572.

On Wednesday 9 December Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a review of the 2009 RSGB Convention by Graham, G4FNL. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 10 December Bittern DX Group is having an informal meeting at Pinewood Park Leisure Club. All are welcome. Contact Linda, G0AJJ, on 01692 404154.

On Thursday 10 December Edgware and District Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Mike, G4RNW, on 020 8950 0658.

On Thursday 10 December Lowestoft and District Pye Amateur Radio Club is having a homebrew competition and quiz night at Lowestoft Railway, Bowls and Social Club. Contact Phil, G0JSG, on 01502 585448.

On Thursday 10 December Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is holding its AGM, which will be followed by a wine and cheese party. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Thursday 10 December Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a mince pie evening. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 10 December Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having its Christmas junk sale. Members should note that the meeting is on the second Thursday of the month for this month only). Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945.

On Friday 11 December Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103.

On Friday 11 December Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas social. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

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## NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Tuesday 8 December Blackmore Vale Amateur Radio Society is having a Christmas photo quiz and JW1SYL talk. Contact Tony G0GFL, on 01258 860741.

On Tuesday 8 December West Devon Radio Club is having its Christmas party. Contact Jules Cuddy, M1AGY, on 01752 291588.

On Wednesday 9 December Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234.

On Wednesday 9 December Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a computer workshop with Garry, G7NVZ. Contact Tony, G0WMB, on 01454 417048.

On Thursday 10 December Newquay and District Amateur Radio Society is having a mince pie and sausage rolls evening. Contact Joe Bell, M6JOE, on 01726 891557.

On Thursday 10 December South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is sending Christmas greetings from the radio shack. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Thursday 10 December Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Den, M0ACM, on 07810 317750.

On Thursday 10 December Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk entitled Georges Memories by G3ICO. Contact Steve Crask, G7AHP, by email to steve<at>g7ahp.co.uk.

On Friday 11 December Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is having a sherry and mince pie evening. Contact Brian on 01752 844321.

On Sunday 13 December Blackmore Vale Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Tony G0GFL, on 01258 860741.

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## NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 7 December Gloucester Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is having talks by members on how they became interested in radio. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 7 December South Birmingham Radio Society is on the air and having an aerial inspection. Contact Don, on 0121 458 1603.

On Tuesday 8 December Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a committee meeting. Contact Richard Buckby, by email to radio<at>dadars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 8 December Eagle Radio Group is having a look back over events in 2009. Contact Terry, G0SWS, on 01507 478590.

On Tuesday 8 December Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club Photograph Competition is being judged by Val Williams. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 8 December Mid-Warwickshire Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas festivities meeting where members bring and share food and drink. Contact Bernard, M1AUK, on 01926 420 913.

On Tuesday 8 December Worcester Radio Amateurs Association Club is on the air. Contact Leslie Coyne, M3WRZ, on 01905 764320.

On Wednesday 9 December Lincoln Short-Wave Club is on the air. Contact Pam Rose, G4STO, on 01427 788356.

On Wednesday 9 December Midland Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas party. Contact Norman, G8BHE, on 01214 229 787.

On Wednesday 9 December South Notts Amateur Radio Club is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Terry, M0RIA, on the web at [www.radioclubs.net/snarc](http://www.radioclubs.net/snarc).

On Wednesday 9 December Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a competition with G3UKV. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677.

On Friday 11 December Bromsgrove and District Amateur Radio Club is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Chris, M0BQE, on 01905 776 869.

On Friday 11 December Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a cub games night. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 07958 777363.

On Friday 11 December Nunsfield House Amateur Radio Group is having its Christmas party. Contact Ken Frankcom, G3OCA, on 01332 720976.

On Friday 11 December South Birmingham Radio Society is having its Christmas party in the main hall. Contact Don, on 0121 458 1603.

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## NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 7 December Angel Of The North Amateur Radio Club is on the air and continues its Advanced Licence course. Contact Nancy Bone, G7UUR, on 0191 4770036.

On Monday 7 December Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and demo by M1ERS and M0TWS on setting up for data modes. Contact Trevor Wood, M0TWS, by email to trevorwood6<at>yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 7 December Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a natter night. Contact John Foster, 2E0EZY, on 01253 399377.

On Tuesday 8 December Chester and District Radio Society is having a committee meeting. Contact Barbara Green on 0151 339 9183.

On Tuesday 8 December Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas dinner. Contact Martin Hazel, M0ZIF, on 01524 848193.

On Tuesday 8 December Otley Amateur Radio Society is having a shack night. Contact Paul, 2E0PAK, on 07768 996370.

On Wednesday 9 December Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Richard, G7MFO. Contact Gordon MacNaught, G3W0V, on 01377 240573.

On Wednesday 9 December Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is on the air, working on the club project and practicing contest logging. Contact Peter Paul Fox, G8HAV, on 01606 553401.

On Thursday 10 December South Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having its Christmas meal. Contact Chris Wiseman, G0RDK, on 01782 773185.

On Thursday 10 December South Manchester Radio And Computer Club a is having a talk on common weaknesses of the human skeleton. Contact Ron, G3SVW, on 0161 969 3999.

On Thursday 10 December Wakefield and District Radio Society is having its Christmas party. Contact Ken, 2E0SSQ, on 07900 563117.

On Thursday 10 December Preston Amateur Radio Society is having a club night and has spaces available on its forthcoming Foundation and Intermediate courses. Contact Eric, G1WCW, on 01772 686708.

On Friday 11 December East Cleveland Amateur Radio Club is having a radio magazines evening. Contact Alistair, G4OLK, on 01642 475 671.

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## NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 8 December Livingston and District Amateur Radio Society is having an operating evening. Contact Norman, on 07740 946192.

On Wednesday 9 December Lothians Radio Society is having a Christmas curry. Contact Andy Sinclair, by email to lrs\_secretary<at>moosedata.com.

On Thursday 10 December Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663.

On Friday 11 December Kilmarnock and Loudoun Amateur Radio Club has its Bright Sparks amateur radio quiz. The quiz is open to teams from all amateur radio clubs and groups of individuals. This year, as it is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Rabbin Burns, there will be a one-off Trophy for your knowledge of Rabbin Burns as well as the Bright Sparks Trophy. Contact Graham, MM3GDC, by email to mm3gdc<at>btinternet.com.

On Saturday 12 December Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having its Christmas night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

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## NEWS FOR WALES

On Monday 7 December Dragon Amateur Radio Club is having part 2 of the transceiver home brew talk by Geoff Spencer, GW4DRR. Contact Stewart Rolfe, GW0ETF, on 01248 362229.

On Monday 7 December Llanelli Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a social evening. Contact Craig, MW0MXT, on 01269 840292.

On Tuesday 8 December Marches Amateur Radio Society is having a social evening at the Moreton Pub in Johnstown, near Wrexham. Contact Dave MW0AYM, on 01691 777242.

*[Note to all Newsreaders in Wales: please read this out. We are actively trying to increase the profile of amateur radio in the area.]*

GB2RS welcomes information from all RSGB affiliated clubs. We invite club secretaries to email details of forthcoming meetings to GB2RS@rsgb.org.uk.

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## NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Sunday 6 December Orchard County DX Club will be holding its first Christmas dinner from 1pm at the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Lurgan. Members and their families are welcome. Menus and information are on the club web site at [www.MN0OCG.co.uk](http://www.MN0OCG.co.uk).

On Saturday 12 December Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club will be holding its Christmas dinner from 1pm at the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre. This replaces the normal monthly meeting. The next formal meeting will take place on Sunday 10 January at 3pm. More information on the club web site at [www.muarc.com](http://www.muarc.com).

*[Note to all Newsreaders in NI: please read this out. We are actively trying to increase the profile of amateur radio in the area.]*

GB2RS welcomes information from all RSGB affiliated clubs. We invite club secretaries to email details of forthcoming meetings to GB2RS@rsgb.org.uk.

**And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,  
prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.**