2005/2006 season of the club

Welcome to the 2005/2006 season of the club.

Firstly a thank you to Ernie GM0EZP for putting this newsletter together. The newsletter can only survive however if YOU, the members start feeding information and articles back to Ernie.

Club Programme

The club programme is not just a matter of the committee arranging things for a Friday night, but should include input from the members. So if you have a talk that you want to give, or have a specific item that you want included (radio related if possible), speak to the committee and we will do our best to get something arranged.

Club Shack & Contests etc.

The new shack is in operation and we should make the most of it. My excuse is that I am still rebuilding my house from the inside out and most weekends are taken up with joinery work or plumbing.

Training

The club has finished its first year of RAE training courses since I joined about 12 years ago. In the past twelve months we have had; **5** passes at Foundation level: **5** passes at Intermediate level: **1** pass at Advanced level plus 1 waiting for a result. In the next couple of months I hope that the total of passes at advanced level will increase to 5.

There have also been a few enquiries from prospective members about training. Time will tell if these lead to an increase in club membership.

RADCOM

The monthly copy of RADCOM from the RSGB to the club will be stopping in the near future. This is part of a review of what the affiliated clubs get from their membership.

The benefits in the future will include;

A monthly newsletter to each club.

Public liability insurance cover.

A copy of the RSGB yearbook.

That's all for now, remember it's YOUR club, let the committee know what YOU want to do.

Regards,

Alex

GM7OAW

3rd Annual BBQ

The 3rd annual WOSARS BBQ was again held at Alan's qth in Clydebank. Well attended as usual and blessed with dry weather if a little windy. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day and it was nice to see some youngsters at this family event

A full report will be in the next edition of the Wag.

A popular club activity
SSB Field Day

Field Day is a 24hr SSB contest with entrants setting up and operating portable stations. The original concept of the contest was to test your clubs ability to set up a portable radio station that could be used in the event of a natural disaster or other such occurrence.

It is a fun weekend so come along and take part for a few hours, or just come and show your support for this club event.

Date: 3 / 4 September 2005 **Time:** 1300 - 1300UTC **Bands:** 3.5, 7, 14, and 21, 28MHz **Mode:** SSB **Exchange:** RS + Serial Number.
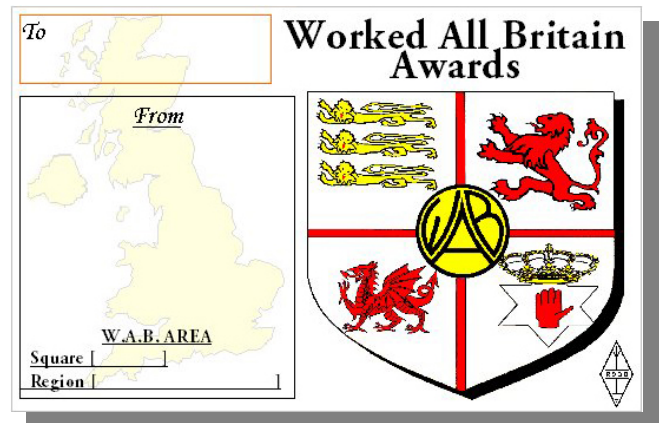
Scoring: For contacts with: Fixed stations in IARU Region 1: 2 points Stations outside IARU Region 1: 3 Points must not be claimed for contacts made by a competing station with members of its own group. **Multiplier:** One for each DXCC Country worked on each band.

Rare WAB Square to be activated

Kevin Haworth, M0TNX, and Keith Radford, G3SZU, are planning to activate an extremely rare Worked All Britain square – SD35 – near the village of Knott End On Sea in Lancashire on 10 October this year.
They believe that this will be only the third time that the square has been activated. The reason the square is so rarely activated is that it lies within Morecambe Bay and is therefore under water for much of the year. Kevin and Keith plan to be active from the square from 1400 to 2100UTC on the 20/40/80/160m bands on both phone and CW.

GB2OWM

Orkney Wireless Museum will be operating a station - GB2OWM – from its premises in Kirkwall between 1 and 7 September as part of the 15th Orkney Science Festival. Operation will be primarily on HF SSB

The International Space Station

The International Space Station, still under construction, is permanently manned by teams of astronauts, many of whom have an amateur radio licence.

Radio amateur societies from the ISS partner countries, in the USA, Canada, Russia, Europe and Japan, have set up ARISS, a volunteering working group devoted to develop and put into operation the on-board amateur radio station. ARISS-Europe is the European branch of ARISS.

The amateur radio station onboard the ISS comprises several units. The initial unit, a handheld VHF transceiver, is located in the Functional Cargo Block, the Zarya. The phase 2 unit is located in the Service Module, the Zvesda. This is a multiband and multimode station.

The onboard ARISS station offers a permanent space platform to the worldwide amateur radio community. Several operational modes are automated and used by ground stations without crew care. Cosmonauts and astronauts also use the station to contact ground bound amateur radio stations in their free time.

ARISS-Europe circulates a News Bulletin by means of a subscribers list. Interested parties are invited to subscribe to this free service.

Some F,A,Q,s

What kinds of radios does ARISS use on the ISS?
The ISS Ham radios are Ericsson MP-X handheld radios, and a KenwoodD-700. More equipment for HF may be shipped to the station later next year.

What are the voice frequencies used to contact the space station?
We have programmed numerous channels in the radios. Two of these channels on the 2 meter radio support voice operations (145.80 down/144.49 for regions 2 &3 & 145.80 down/145.20 for region 1). It was necessary to use two uplinks due to region-to-region restrictions on uplink frequencies.

What is the difference between regions 1, 2 and 3?
ITU region 1 is Europe, Middle East, Africa, and North Asia.
ITU region 2 is North and South America, Caribbean, Greenland.
ITU region 3 is South Asia, Australia New Zealand, and Oceania.

What does ARISS use for Packet Hardware control?
The computer that was being used for the packet system was an IBM ThinkPad A22P that Mark Shuttleworth left on-board the ISS after his flight. The power supply for this unit has failed and we are making preparations to have the computer replaced

There are two primary ways to use the packet system---unproto operations and using the Packet Mailbox System (PMS). Given that only one person can use the Packet Mailbox System at a time, remember that unproto mode allows more to participate in the use of the packet system than the Mailbox System. I realize that many of you would like to get an e-mail from an astronaut. We understand that. But when you have thousands trying to connect up to the Mailbox and only one can connect and send their message, this can sometimes lead to frustrations by others on the ground. The most important thing to remember....if you use the PMS, keep your messages short and pre-developed. Other things to consider: Be surprised when the ISS crew responds to your message because they are quite busy up there. Please don't resend the same message to the crew if they haven't responded to your first message. Also, please don't put the crew in a bad position by asking them to set up a schedule with you. This would be unfair to all the hams and school children around the world. We want all to participate, not just a select few. Stick with unproto ops whenever possible to maximize the packet throughput and send short PMS messages only on occasion.

Call signs in Use
The following call signs are available for use on the ISS:
Russian call signs
RS0ISS RZ3DZR
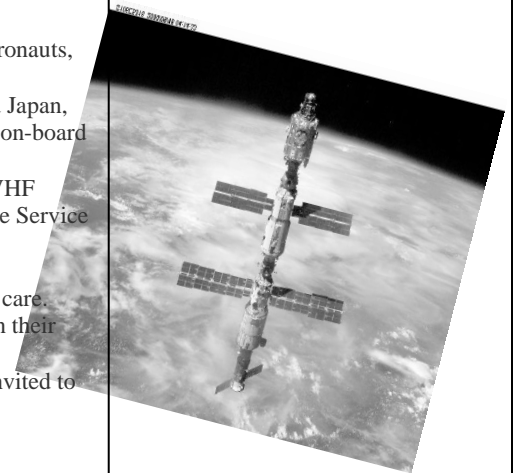**USA call sign**
NA1SS
Frequencies in use
The following frequencies are currently used for ARISS general QSO's
Voice and Packet Downlink: 145.80 (Worldwide)
Voice Uplink: 144.49 for Regions 2 and 3 (The Americas, and the Pacific)
Voice Uplink: 145.20 for Region 1 (Europe, Central Asia and Africa)
Packet Uplink: 145.99 (Worldwide)

Kenwood D-700
As used in the space station

I DON`T BELIEVE IT!

Blair can mouth EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION and Government Ministers insist that no `Dumming Down` is taking place but, take a look at these GCSE answers recently published by a group of Educationists !

Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydrauilcs. They lived in the Sarah Dessert and travelled by Camelot. The climate of Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.

The Bible i.e. full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible,Guinessis, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, asked"Am I my brother's son?"

Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. He died before he reached Canada.

Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines.

The Geeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Geeks also had myths. A myth is a female moth.

Actually, Homer was not written by Homer but by nother man of that name.

Socrates was a famous Geek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock. After his death, his career suffered a dramatic decline.

In the Olympic games Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits, and threw the Java. Eventually, the Romans conquered the Greeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in one place for very long.

GM8MRW (To be continued.....)

What's On in September?
Every Friday nightclub night.
3rd & 4th September RSGB SSB Field Day.
30th September & 1st October Leicester Amateur Radio Show.

Next Month

15 OCTOBER **Jaycee Open Day** – Glenrothes Shop, 01592 756 962.
23 OCTOBER **GALASHIELS & DARS Annual Open Day & Rally** – The Volunteer Hall, St John's Street, Galashiels. 10.45 / 11am.