

CPSARC Summits on the Air (SOTA) activation 17th May 2023



Summits On The Air

18:00 hours on Wednesday 17th May 2023

North Berwick Law (GM/SS-280) is a fine SOTA peak? The peak is 178 metres high and the western car park is about 40 metres ASL. So there is a 138 metre vertical distance to climb. Meet at the North Berwick Law car park; UK Nat Grid NT553843 on the west side of the Law. To get there take the B1347 heading south out of North Berwick. About a 100 metres or so after you pass the Community Centre and High School on your right there is a sharp right hand bend in the road with a narrow road going straight ahead (left) to the carpark. There are plenty of well worn tracks to follow up to the summit. Good views all around over East Lothian and out to some of the islands in the Firth of Forth such as Bass Rock, Fidra, The Lamb, Craigeith and on a good day, out to the Isle of May. Thanks to Ken (GM0AXY) for this parking information.

The path is quite steep but there is no other option. We are in no hurry to reach the top and we certainly do not want to be breathless on arrival, so the ascent will be slow and steady. It may be muddy. I suggest boots or stout shoes for walking up North Berwick Law, a warm and waterproof jacket and hat, portable and battery-operated radio kit, something to sit on - a camping mat or even a picnic chair is ideal, but remember you have to carry it both up and down the hill. Put everything in a rucksack and use walking poles if you have them, as they can also be used to secure an antenna wire.

We plan to spend a couple of hours on top using the radios.

Everyone should bring a handie as there have been many 2 metre and 70cms activations. The antenna folk might use for the 144MHz DF Fox Hunt event the week before would be portable and easily good enough.

If any CPSARC members do not plan to climb North Berwick Law it would be good if they were on-air that evening on 2m or 70cms so we can make plenty of contacts. My own visit was on 19th May 2013 and I made 8 QSOs on 2m, 5 of them with other SOTA activators on a summit in both Scotland and one in the Lake District in England.

N. Berwick Law QSO Bands (51 activations)	
Band	QSOs
60m	114
40m	202
30m	49
20m	96
17m	2
10m	39
4m	3
2m	152
70cm	7

On the SOTA website (<https://summits.sota.org.uk/activity/GM/SS-280>) there have been 51 occasions recorded when radio hams have broadcast from the top, so it is a reliable radio summit.



If anyone has battery operated portable HF radio gear and a suitable antenna, then please bring them along and we will see how many different bands we can use during the evening.

If the weather is not fine, there is an old Second World War observation building which we can use as a radio shack to shelter from the rain or wind after setting up an HF antenna. But let us hope for

good weather and good DX.

If anyone has any questions, please get in touch; colwyn.jones@hotmail.com

See you on 17th May.

73

Colwyn (MM0YCJ)