



Monday 31st March 2025 QUA, I have news for you.....

Amateur Radio Clubs on the Air (ARCOTA)

Organised by the Leicester Radio Society, the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd March 2025 was designated “Amateur Radio Clubs on the Air” weekend with the aim of encouraging members of radio clubs to come on the air to work each other as well as club stations.

Keen to join in, arrangements were made for our own callsigns to be activated with little used M5MDX leading the way. Thank you to Pete M1PTR, Bernard G3SHF, Tom M0DCG and Evan M0TJU for activating the call from their own QTHs and to Meeko M0FVD who attempted calls with G8SRS but was defeated by conditions.

ARCOTA is now an all year round activity with awards available for contacts with radio club stations and members around the UK. Please visit [LRS's dedicated page](#) for information and details as how to join in. Logs in the requested format can be sent for verification to arcota@g8srs.co.uk.

Keith's HF Report

As I write this latest HF report the SFI is 156 the A index is 15 and the K index is 4 that is pretty poor unfortunately. There has been a lot of solar activity of late accounting for this let's hope conditions improve for the WW SSB WPX contest this weekend good luck to all getting involved.

Even though conditions have been up and down recently there has still been some good DX to hunt particularly on the higher 10 and 12m bands during daylight hrs don't forget the clocks go forward this coming weekend.

Some of the better DX I have worked since the last report on SSB as follows:

Martinique on 12m 1/3

Trinidad and Tobago on 12m 5/3

Barbados on 12m 16/3

Namibia on 10m 17/3

Cayman Islands on 10m 18/3

Jamaica on 10m 18/3

Canada on 20m using only 8watts during POTA activation 20/3

St. Barthelemy on 12m 21/3

Kaliningrad on 20m 22/3

The Gambia on 12m 25/3

Falkland Islands on 12m 25/3

The Gambia on 10m 25/3

The HF ladder standings for SRS are as Follows 26/03/25:

Phone mode

1 MØJYP 80 DXCC and 167 slots

2 GØROW 56 DXCC and 130 slots

3 M7RJL 29 DXCC and 49 slots

CW mode

1 M7GKE 11 DXCC and 14 slots

2 M5KJM 11 DXCC and 11 slots

3 M0DCG 10 DXCC and 10 slots

Data mode

1 G8BCG 144 DXCC and 648 slots

2 ME0PTB 119 DXCC and 523 slots

3 PA0RNH 78 DXCC and 194 slots

If not already on the ladder, why not register it's easy see [SRS website](#) for details.

Well, that's it for this month good luck in the contest if you're entering and until next time good DX and 73s

Keith MØJYP (26th March 2025)

HF & 6 DXCC Ladder All modes 2025

Rank	Call	Name	160m	80m	60m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	Total
1	G8BCG	Peter	10	17	39	83	85	79	74	81	79	88	56	691
2	ME0PTB	Pete	0	5	21	71	68	63	76	84	58	71	11	528
3	M0UNG	Farid	2	8	0	37	25	43	42	51	32	7	1	248
4	M0JYP	Keith	0	0	2	33	0	44	24	40	31	57	1	232
5	PA0RNH	Ian	0	0	0	8	0	43	53	42	23	25	0	194
6	G0ROW	Alan	0	1	5	36	0	19	18	25	21	17	1	143
7	M7CPT	John	0	2	0	4	4	18	26	24	24	21	3	126
8	M1PTR	Pete	0	19	0	21	0	17	0	20	0	15	0	92
9	M7RJL	Ron	0	0	0	4	0	14	6	12	5	9	0	50
10	M7GKE	Adam	0	1	0	12	0	7	11	5	2	1	0	39
11	M7KVC	Tracy	0	0	0	6	0	13	1	9	3	4	0	36
12	M0TYT	Simon	0	1	0	2	0	16	5	1	0	3	0	28
13	M5KJM	Kieron	0	0	0	4	0	5	2	2	6	6	0	25
14	M0RDN	Stephen	0	3	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	5	1	21
15	M0DCG	Tom	0	10	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
			12	67	67	327	188	387	338	396	284	329	74	2469
			0%	3%	3%	13%	8%	16%	14%	16%	12%	13%	3%	100%

Scores as at 31/3/2025

An evening with the DX Commander, Callum M0MCX

Thank you to everyone who joined us online yesterday for an evening with Callum who described recent developments with his West Midlands setup.

A fascinating insight to the world of the DX Commander and to view the recording please [follow this link](#).

www.youtube.com/@g8srs



CQ WPX SSB Contest 2025

The final full weekend of March sees one of the popular events of the year take place, the CQ WPX SSB contest across the usual HF bands.

Details of the event can be found by visiting <https://www.cqwpix.com/>

As in previous years, our team of testers took part from Common Barn Farm and whilst preparations commenced some time ago, construction of the antenna field began in earnest on Monday 24th March. Our onsite correspondent Tom M0DCG reports as follows.....

Monday saw the team consisting of Kieron M5KJM, Pete M1PTR, Bernard G3SHF, Dave G0LZL and I gather at the farm to start work on the station build for the CQ WPX SSB contest this coming weekend. Weather wise we had an excellent day, warm for the time of year with bright sunshine and a light breeze.

We began with a coffee and a brief planning meeting confirming the make-up of the station. This would consist of the Worcester mast carrying the 20 Metre and 15 Metre monobanders and a 40 Metre wire dipole. Additionally, we would have the 10 Metre cubical antenna on its short mast adjacent to the trailer. Finally, in the absence of the Buxton trailer mast which awaits repair, we would instead operate a Hustler vertical covering 40, 20, 15 and 10 Metres mounted on a 10 foot pole with dropping radials. In view of the reduced scope of the station and absence of sufficient operators, it was agreed not to work night shifts.

Coffee break completed, we then began getting the Worcester mast ready first while also working on the set-up in the caravan.

By the end of the day the 20 Metre and 15 Metre monobanders, which had been badly damaged in the November gale when the Buxton mast collapsed, had been successfully remounted and back up in the air. We were relieved to see both gave good SWRs when tested.

Tomorrow, Tuesday we'll complete the work on the Worcester mast and continue with erection of the 10 Metre cube and the Hustler. By the end of today we felt we'd made good progress with the work....."

Cheers & 73s Tom M0DCG

Monday 24th March 2025

Tales from not the farm... by Stephen Armstrong ME0RDN

Well, contest season returns and CQWPX is the first of the big five I generally have a bash at. I'm lucky once again to get the opportunity to be based in Hawkshaw, so all being well, it will still be electrically quiet.

I have some housekeeping things to do on the kit that I've been putting off. This contest will see a welcome return of the IC-7100 as the rig of choice. It will be a shame to lose the waterfall of the X6100, but it's a better choice as it's a better radio.

The battery power station will be boosted to 57.6Ah and should easily give me the maximum 32h of operating time. Still planning on doing a maximum of 24 hours (managed 20 for CQWW), but it's always nice to have the headroom when the bank runs all of the peripherals as well.

As far as antennas, I'm thinking about giving two a go this time, with the trusty home brew Rybakov on the 12m pole and a half sized G5RV on the 9m pole. Not quite sure how I plan on setting them up yet, but it will be a challenge as usual. I will have just over an hour on Saturday morning.

Looking forward to to hearing the return of G5O for this contest (and I'm promising myself to log them correctly this time).

I'm not going to make it to the club tonight for work reasons, so I will be making an all important link cable up between the rig and ATU, and I plan on prepping the lights for the Rybakov. To warn against low flying model aircraft.

Anyway. I've started this thread so that if anyone is having a bash at this week's contest and wants to share their planning or plans for it, please feel free to join in - contesting for me is still experimental, but most of all it's fun.

I'll add some more as the prep goes on.

Stephen. ME0RDN (for this contest)

Monday 24th March 2025

Tuesday back to the farm.....

Tuesday saw the team of Kieron, Pete, Bernard, Dave and me back up at the farm to continue with station assembly work.

In contrast to Monday, we arrived to find fog so dense it was difficult at first to make out the antennas on the mast. Fortunately, it didn't rain so work progressed much as normal.

The Worcester mast was raised to around 50 feet and the SWRs on the antennas given a final check. All was well and work proceeded to the next stage, the assembly of the sub-mast to carry the 10 Metre cubical quad. Assembly of the quad is now well underway. Work also proceeded on the assembly of the 5-band Hustler antenna, checking the pipe dimensions, finalising the attachment of the elevated radials, attaching the guy-ropes, driving the stakes, laying out the coax etc. Attention was given to maintaining as much distance as possible between the Hustler vertical and the Worcester mast carrying the monobanders in case of interference.

Following assembly, the Hustler was raised on its 10 feet metal pole, guyed off and the wire radials extended on canes. It was then checked for resonance and SWR on the bands in question. As was expected these early SWR checks showed resonances well away from the desired frequencies, hence work is now underway adjusting radial lengths to correct discrepancies. This work will continue tomorrow (Wednesday).

Throughout the day work also continued in the caravan setting up the two Yaesu FT5000 radios and associated linear amplifiers and logging computers. We left the farm mid-afternoon satisfied the work was proceeding more or less on track....."



Cheers & 73s Tom M0DCG

Tuesday 25th March 2025

Today Wednesday saw Peter, Bernard, Kieron, Dave and me starting out on the task of completing the station preparations.

We were lucky to have yet another really nice warm sunny day, which made the field work go with a swing!

Work began with us finalising the modified guying arrangements for the 10 Metre cubical quad. A second set of guys is now in use around the halfway point on its pipe mast to give added strength, following our unfortunate experience in the gale last November. When erected, the quad made an imposing sight in the sunshine!

Work also focussed on completing the tuning of the Hustler vertical antenna for resonance on the SSB portions of the 10, 15, 20 and 40 Metre bands. Since the antenna had been fitted with a new set of radial wires these had to be trimmed to the required lengths to give acceptably low SWR values.

Finally work continued completing the setting up of the radios, linears and laptops in the caravan. During the course of this a fault was found on the field switch box feeding the antennas on the Worcester mast. Luckily, we were able to replace the faulty unit with a multiway switch at the foot of the mast to allow us manual antenna switching.

The work was completed by around 4.30pm and we left feeling good progress had been made. No further work is planned before the contest....."

Cheers & 73s Tom M0DCG

Wednesday 26th March 2025



Tales from not the farm (continued) by Stephen Armstrong ME0RDN

Evening all,

Had a good evening of prep work here at the shack.

Finally got round to finishing the link cable (that's the one with right angled PL239's) so the back of the rig is all nice and compact. I've also got the head unit and mic in a box, so it's less prone to damage.

The battery pack is all charged up ready for running and I have everything in a nice, neat pile ready for putting in the Car this weekend.

It's a Saturday morning setup for me, so that will need to be fairly quick and apparently, I need some ladders to get up the garden too. The only thing I'm really debating about is which way to run the G5RV as for this contest last year I ran it east west and got some great contacts in South America. I would be interested to hear what you all think.

Thanks for your kind words, Pete (M1PTR). I'll be listening out for G50 and G6UQ this weekend, and perhaps we can have our customary brief chat too.

Hope everyone else is making good prep work for the contest... only 27 hours to go!

Stephen. ME0RDN (for this contest :))

Thursday 28th March 2025

The weekend arrived at the farm.....



.....as previously agreed, we did not attempt to cover the two night shifts during this contest, instead focussing on running the two transceivers and linears separately using call-signs G6UQ and G50 between 0800 and 2000hrs. each day.

The operating team consisted of Evan, Bernard, Kieron, Peter, Dave and Tom, working in pairs, each covering 4-hour shifts.

As the first contest of the year from the farm, this one has been very much a learning experience for the team as we endeavoured to iron out problems with our modified set-up while also having to adapt to running our station in reduced form, with fewer antennas etc. Added to those, radio conditions were not

at their best over the weekend, however taking all the challenges into account we felt the weekend to have gone quite well.

Station dismantling will commence on Monday, after which we will continue with repairs on our Buxton mast which was damaged in the storm in November....."

Cheers & 73s Tom M0DCG

Sunday 31st March 2025

..... and finally.....

Sadly, Stephen had to sit out the contest due to a back injury sustained on the day before the event which prevented preparatory work continuing. However, we are aware other members of the society including Keith M0JYP, Ron M7RJL and Tracy M7KVC had a dabble. Results will be published in due course.

In the meantime, looking back to the later part of 2024 and the CQ WW series of contests, the combined scores from all our participants secured us 128th place in the "DX Clubs" section.

Please see below for the scores and well done Andrew M0AQM (G1D) who led the way followed by Dave G0LZL and Stephen M0RDN.

Well done all and thank you for your participation on our behalf. Hopefully G5O will enter the fray again this year.

STOCKPORT RADIO SOCIETY (2024)

Detailed scores for STOCKPORT RADIO SOCIETY in the 2024 CQ WW Contest. Click on any column header to change sort order.

Callsign	Category	Mode	Score	Operator(s)
G1D	SA LP ALL	PH	416,118	M0AQM
G0LZL	SO HP ALL	CW	188,859	
M0RDN	SO LP ALL	PH	173,818	
M0DCG	SO LP ALL	CW	44,352	
M5KJM	SA HP ALL	PH	29,250	M7RJL RON SWL TRACY
M0DCG	SO LP ALL	PH	5,056	
M0UNG	SO LP ALL	PH	4,800	
M7RJL	MULTI-ONE LOW	PH	2,700	
M1PTR	SA LP ALL	CW	2,340	
G6UQ	SA LP ALL	PH	1,776	
G3LX	SA LP 10M	PH	1,550	
Total Score			870,619	

**Club scores calculated from information in the score database. May not match what was reported in the magazine results article.*

April 2025 Programme - Summer Schedule

1st: Online Social Event by Webex **Note Change******

3rd: Club Net via GB3MR (7.30PM)

6th: 10 Metre Net - Mode & frequencies vary (10am)

7th: Committee Meeting by Webex (7.15PM)

8th: Six Metre Net 50.270MHz (7.30pm)

10th: Club Net via GB3MR (7.30PM)

12th: Saturday @ Walthew House (9.30AM)

14th: G5O Contest Group Meeting (7.15pm)

15th: Radio/Practical Evening at Walthew House (7pm) **Note Change******

17th: Club Net via GB3MR (7.30PM)

18th: Good Friday

19th/20th: SRS Boat Division @ Bugsworth Canal Basin

20th: Easter Sunday

20th: 10 Metre Net - Mode & frequencies vary (10am)

21st: Easter Monday

22nd: Radio/Practical Evening at Walthew House (7pm)

24th: Club Net via GB3MR (7.30PM)

27th: Club Net 144.275MHz SSB (10.30AM)

29th: Online Social Event by Webex



Google Calendar

www.g8srs.co.uk/calendar/



SRS On Air Nets

Thursday Weekly: 7.30pm local via GB3MR (70CMs)

2nd Tuesday: 7.30pm local 50.270MHz USB +/- QRM

1st & 3rd Sundays: 10.00am local 10 Metre Net - Mode &
Frequency vary

Last Sunday: 10.30am local 2 Metre SSB 144.275 MHz +/-

www.g8srs.co.uk/club-nets/

www.g8srs.co.uk/calendar/

Website: www.g8srs.co.uk Email: info@g8srs.co.uk



SRS Social Meetings

Summer 2025 Schedule

1st March 2025 to 31st August 2025

Walthew House

1st & 4th Tuesdays of the month (7pm to 9.30pm)

2nd Saturday of the month (10am till 4pm)

Webex Session

3rd Tuesdays of the month (7pm to 9.30pm)

<https://www.g8srs.co.uk/calendar/>

Website: www.g8srs.co.uk Email: info@g8srs.co.uk

Greek Street Bridge Replacement

From 30th March 2025 for 12 months



<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-routes/north-west/greek-street-bridge-replacement/>

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