



# C.A.R.S.

**COVENTRY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

Founded 1932. President Graham Wale G4BCG

Affiliated to The Radio Society of Great Britain

[www.coventryradio.org.uk](http://www.coventryradio.org.uk)



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*Founded 1932*

*President*  
*Graham Wale G4BCG*

*Radio Stations GX2ASF GX7ASF*

**Meetings are held on Fridays at 20:30**  
**St Bartholomew's Church Hall**  
**Brinklow Road, Binley,**  
**Coventry CV3 2DS**

*2021 Committee*

<b>Chairman;</b>	<b>Keith Davis</b>	<b>G7FSC</b>
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Secretary;</b>	<b>John Beech</b>	<b>G8SEQ</b>
<b>Treasurer;</b>	<b>Ivan Thomas</b>	<b>M0IRT</b>
<b>Other members;</b>	<b>Bob Nash</b>	<b>G4GEE</b>
	<b>Bryan Jackson</b>	<b>G1IUL</b>
	<b>Andrew Brookes</b>	<b>G7KXM</b>

**This handbook is for the sole use of society members. It must not be reproduced/copied in part or whole in any way, passed to another person or group without the written permission of the Committee.**

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## Contents

<b>Member Contact List</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>History of the Society</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Society Website</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Committee Duties</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Programme</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Social Events</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Awards &amp; Trophies</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Amateur Radio Licensing &amp; Tuition</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Affiliation to RSGB</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Club Call Signs</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Society Frequency &amp; Nets</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Society Equipment</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Society Constitution</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>QSLing</b>	<b>11</b>

## Member Contact List

This gives an indication of the society member to contact first if you require any help on a given topic. This list is referred to throughout the hand book.

<b>Affiliation to RSGB</b>	<b>G8SEQ</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>G8SEQ</b>
<b>Contact list</b>	<b>M0IRT</b>
<b>Direction finding 2m (Fox hunt)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>
<b>License tuition &amp; examination</b>	<b>G8SEQ</b>
<b>Membership list</b>	<b>M0IRT</b>
<b>Nets</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Portable events</b>	<b>G4GEE</b>
<b>Programme</b>	<b>G7FSC</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>G7KXM</b>
<b>Rules and Constitution</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Society call signs</b>	<b>G8SEQ</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b>M0LGW/G1IUL</b>

## **History of the Society by the late G2FTK**

**In the late 1920s the Coventry Transmitters Association was formed by a number of local radio enthusiasts including G6CI, G6YU and G5SK. Meetings were held at Liggins's Cafe in Hertford Street on an occasional basis for twelve years.**

**In 1932 some of the members of this group, including G2YS, G5GR, G5PP and G5SK decided to form a new society. Popular Wireless magazine invited all interested persons to come to its first meeting. At this well attended event it was decided that the new group should be called Coventry Short Wave Radio Society. The motto on the new club's badge was 'Orbis Voco' (I cover the world). Meetings were held in the Ragged School at the back of New Buildings (which are still there behind the "Exchange and Mart"). The society progressed and began entering National Field Day from Burton Green by the water tower. In about 1936 the society was renamed Coventry Amateur Radio Society. During the war years many members saw active service and those still in Coventry held occasional get together at the home of Les Gardener, G5GR, usually on a Sunday morning. Collections were made and parcels of food and cigarettes etc. were sent off whenever possible.**

**A recall meeting of CARS in 1945 was held in the same room as before the war (unbelievably spared in the blitz). The programme for forthcoming meetings in 1939 was still pinned to the notice board! This meeting was attended by 58 people looking out for new interests after 6 sombre years. In 1946 CARS entered the Magazine Club Contest run by the Short Wave Magazine and won the event. In five years the society collected a 1st, two 2nds and two 3rds. CARS continued to enter National Field Day from Whitley Abbey (now a school) and Stoneleigh Deer Park.**

**In the 1950s the society moved to Queens Road with the long wire antenna crossing the telephone lines, much to the concern of the GPO. With development of the ring road the society moved to several locations including St. John's rooms on the Holyhead Road, the YMCA, the RAF Club, the Territorial Army HQ, Baden Powell House and our present HQ at Binley Church Hall. Here the society has an excellent car park, permanent antennae, refectory and a place to test and construct in a small way whilst also operating the society's stations GX2ASF and GX7ASF.**

## **SOCIETY WEBSITE**

<http://www.coventryradio.org.uk>

The website contains most of the information on the activities of the society. Any suggestions for enhancement of the website will be most welcome.

## **COMMITTEE DUTIES**

The society's committee manages the society on your behalf. The future success of the society depends on it offering events and facilities that its members find interesting and beneficial. To enable this to happen, you as a society member must inform the committee of any activities or facilities you would like added or discontinued.

Remember the committee are all volunteers and receive no payment for their efforts.

At each AGM the posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and some other members become available for re-election. Without these posts being filled the society cannot continue. So even if you do not fancy a spell on the committee, it is vital to the society's future that you get involved. Nominate someone as per the society's rules, who is willing and you think is able to fill a post.

## **PROGRAMME**

The programme will consist of a mixture of talks, activity nights and outdoor events and is posted on the society's website.

The committee also endeavour to have the diary published in RadCom and included into the RSGB weekly news.

A number of guest speakers give talks on radio and non radio related subjects throughout the year. If you know of any or would like a particular talk presented at the society please inform the programme manager. Some society members will give talks (long & short). If you would like to give a short talk and want help preparing a presentation please see the programme manager.

From time to time the committee will report on matters covered at the previous committee meetings, giving members a chance to ask questions and discuss any topic relevant to Society activities.

There will be a number of outdoor events when the days become longer. These will include DF and portable activities.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

There are normally social events held during the year which give society members the chance to invite wives, husbands, children and friends along to enjoy a good social evening. Dates of these events are posted on the society's website.

### **Guy Fawkes Supper**

This event is normally held during the month of November and is a social gathering at St Bartholomew's Church Hall to which friends and relatives may be invited and also a chance for the kids to get involved. Food is available and a raffle is held at the end of the evening. despite its title no fireworks are involved.

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### **Annual Society Dinner**

This event is normally held during January each year at a local restaurant or hotel.

### **Christmas Social Evening**

This event is normally held during the month of December close to Christmas and is a gathering at a local hostelry or restaurant.

## **AWARDS & TROPHIES**

The society promotes and presents annually awards for a number of events. Details of these along with past winners can be found in the 'Resources' section of the website.

These are:-

- **G4ZMC Memorial Trophy for Portable Activity**
- **G2FDC Memorial Trophy for 2m Direction Finding**
- **G2FTK Memorial Trophy for the Society person of the year**
- **Michelle Penn Memorial for working Coventry's twin towns**
- **Alphabet Contest for working stations worked by QTH for each letter of the alphabet**

## **AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING TUITION**

**CARS is authorised by the Radio Society of Great Britain to hold examinations for the Novice, Intermediate & Advanced class of licenses.**

**The Society has members who are authorised tutors for the programmes.**

**Detailed information can be found on the society's website.**

### **AFFILIATION to the RADIO SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN (RSGB)**

**The society is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain. This provides the society with an extensive range of services. The more tangible of these being as follows,**

**Discounts on RSGB books and services  
Access to RSGB Audio visual library  
A society copy of RadCom magazine each month.**

**Society members do not have to be members of the RSGB to take advantage of the many services, for more information see contact list page 2.**

### **SPRAT magazine**

**The society normally subscribes to Sprat magazine, the journal of the GQRP club. Copies are kept for members to read or borrow.**

## **SOCIETY CALL SIGNS**

**The society holds two call signs, GX7ASF and GX2ASF. These call signs are normally activated whenever the society meets and at special events organised by the society.**

## **SOCIETY FREQUENCY**

**The society tries to use one particular frequency on 145.375 MHz for talk in to society meetings on Friday evenings and for the operation of the society's call sign during nights on the air and special events. This is dependent on no one else using it at the time, in which case one channel up or down should be the next choice. If this frequency is used regularly operators outside the society will become aware of this.**

## **SOCIETY NETS**

**The society runs net on a number of bands. Details can be found on the society's website.**

# CONSTRUCTION

## Society construction nights

Equipment construction, diagnostics and repair can be carried out by society members on any club 'Activity Night'.

## Equipment available

Equipment is available at the society to aid construction soldering irons, frequency counters, oscilloscope and various meters etc. However members are asked to check with the Secretary at least a week in advance to arrange for specific items to be made available so as to avoid disappointment on the night. Any other committee member will do this in the contacts absence. This notice is required as certain items are also available for society members to hire and use at their home QTH.

## Diagnostic equipment

Some society members are willing and able to make diagnostic equipment available at Radio Workshop nights. This includes such items as signal generators and spectrum analysers.

If you have any of this type of equipment which you would be willing to make available on Radio Workshop nights please bring it along.

## Help and guidance

A number of society members have a vast range of experience in different areas of equipment construction and repair. They are willing to assist and give guidance to other less experienced club members. If you require any help and are not sure who to talk to, contact a committee member in the first instance that will be able to direct you to the right person.



## **SOCIETY EQUIPMENT**

### **HF Station**

**Yaesu F857 HF Transceiver**  
**Alinco DX70 HF Transceiver**  
**Prowhip Vertical aerial**  
**80m/40m trapped dipole**  
**Cobweb aerial HF bands**

### **VHF Station**

**Aerial 6m/2m/70cm Colinear**

## **SOCIETY'S CONSTITUTION**

**This was approved at an A.G.M. held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013 St Bartholomew's Church Hall Brinklow Road, Coventry. A detailed document can be found on the society's website in the 'Resources' section.**

# QSLing

Obtaining QSL cards is an integral part of our hobby. Many awards require QSL cards for confirmation of contacts.

These can be obtained electronically using the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LOTW) or by the conventional paper route (QSL cards).

The RSGB bureau will process your outgoing cards if you are a member. You can receive cards from the RSGB sub manager without being a member provided that you send the sub manager a supply of suitable stamped addressed envelopes.

The RSGB bureau is pretty efficient but it isn't an instantaneous service. Remember some countries do not have much in the way of a QSL service. Other countries charge members and non-members for processing outgoing and incoming cards. Our society does not.

Some countries are enthusiastic QSLers (Germany). Others are less than enthusiastic (UK).

## QSLing for AWARDS

Make sure your outgoing cards are filled in correctly with no alterations. the ARRL will reject any card with alterations on them.

Make sure you have the following:-

- **Date indicating the format.**

Some countries use year month day, others month, date, and year as format.

Make sure your date indicates the order of the figures

- \* **Time in GMT (hard work if you are a VK)**
- \* **Mode i.e. 2 x SSB, 2 x CW**
- \* **RS(T) 59, 599**
- \* **Call sign of contact clearly written.  
Cross 7 and 0. It helps the Europeans.**
- \* **Band in MHz 1.8,3.5,7,10,14,18,21,24,28,50,70,144,432 etc**

## **SENDING CARDS to the BUREAU**

- \* **Sort your cards in country order.**
- \* **For Gs sort in call sign number order by country.**
- **Send to RSGB HQ, QSL Bureau.**

## **RECEIVING CARDS FROM the RSGB**

- \* **For your G (England) cards send envelopes to the sub manager. List can be obtained from RSGB HQ.**
- \* **If you operate in GD, GI,GJ,GM,GW or GU send envelopes to the manager in the G country OR tell your contacts to QSL via your G call.**
- \* **Send stout A4 (folded) size envelopes, addressed and stamped. Number the envelopes for your reference.**
- \* **If you operate in another country including EI make sure you tell the stations you work to QSL via home call.**
- \* **Do not badger your sub manager. He/she will send out cards quickly after they are received.**

## **DIRECT QSLing**

**This is the quickest (generally) and the most expensive route.**

### *To the Contact*

- \* **Send a suitable addressed envelope with payment for postage. Place in a lightweight envelope. Make sure the payment for postage isn't visible.**
- \* **Make sure the envelope is sealed.**

## **POSTAGE**

- \* **International Reply Coupons (IRCs) can be obtained from the post office. They have a limited life and are expensive.**
- \* **\$1 US bills. These can be purchased from American Express & Thomas Cook over the counter. They charge commission. Save your money and buy say in \$20 amounts. These notes are valuable currency on world-wide basis.**
- \* **For correspondence with the USA try and obtain US postage stamps from people travelling to the states.**

**Give them a supply of readies and they may find a post office and buy you a supply of stamps. Currently it costs the US hams around 60c for an airmail stamp.**

## **SOURCES of QSL MANAGERS**

**Many DX stations use QSL managers to handle their cards. In big DX operations like 9M0C, web sites exist on which you can check whether or not your QSO was logged.**

### **\* CALL BOOKS**

**The RSGB call book will give G and EI stations.**

**The International Call Book has two parts, North and America and the rest.**

**All of these items can be obtained from RSGB.**

**There are CD-ROM versions of these call books.**

### **\* RADCOM & QST**

**Regular information is obtainable from both magazines.**

### **• USEFUL WEB SITES**

**Logbook of the World can be found on <http://www.arrrl.org>**

**A very comprehensive web site is <http://www.qrz.com>**

**This is full of useful DX information, QSL routes.**

**The EQSL, <http://www.eQSL.cc>, is another useful site. It enables you to send and receive QSL cards**