

# RSGB 2023 Convention

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**T**he RSGB 2023 Convention is an action-packed weekend of amateur radio – whether you're a Convention regular or a first-timer, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

## A fantastic weekend of amateur radio

Join us between 13 and 15 October at Kents Hill Park in Milton Keynes, for the 2023 RSGB Convention. We're delighted that the event is sponsored again this year by Martin Lynch & Sons.

The weekend includes four streams of lectures on a range of topics and includes the AMSAT-UK Colloquium which will be held during the Convention again. In addition there will be a drop-in Buildathon on Saturday, and you can chat to the Special Interest Groups and RSGB Committees over a coffee.

For the first time, the Convention will also have a clear focus on outreach and practical activities as the RSGB provides opportunities for individuals and clubs to 'have a go' and be inspired to try new things in their local areas.

In the following pages you can see a snapshot of everything that is happening during the Convention – read, be inspired and then head to our website to book your place!

## Keynote presentation

**"Life in the RF Spectrum during the last 60 years – is this a life for you?" by Colonel John Doody FBCS FCMi CIP ACIIS MIOD.**



The RF spectrum covers a wide range of everyday capabilities that affect our daily lives and it is an exciting environment that includes amateur radio. John will discuss his radio communication experiences across the frequency spectrum from VLF, LF, HF, VHF and SHF to satellite communications, from 1965 to today. He will focus on his early days in the Middle East with a paramilitary army in 1968 utilising operational HF communications in a barren desert environment; the use of LUF, OUF and MUF projections; the deployment of a range of antenna systems and then establishing an amateur radio station using military high-power HF equipment. The communications theme will be developed from those days to large military communication systems in the mid-80s, cellular radio for commercial and emergency service use in the 90s and command and control Systems in the military domain in the 21st Century.

Colonel Doody is a retired officer of the UK Royal Corps of Signals, the author of "From Stripes to Stars" and he served at GCHQ and the former Communications-Electronics



Security Group for ten years as Head of Information Assurance Customer Services. He has the unique experience of having held appointments in Defence, the Intelligence Services and Industry. John was awarded the CESG/GCHQ Directors Medal in 2003, elevated to the Infosecurity Europe Hall of Fame in 2012, and nominated "Godfather of Cyber Security 2021" at the Unsung Cyber Heroes Award Ceremony in the city of London in October 2021.

## A discussion with the RSGB Board

This year there will be a special session with the RSGB Board where the Directors will present the four strategic priorities that the Society will be focusing on until the 2024 AGM. After that you will have an opportunity to ask questions. This will be a positive and productive opportunity to discuss with the Board how the Society, and its members, can meet the challenges facing amateur radio today.

The session will be hosted by Don Beattie, G3BJ, who is the former IARU Region 1 President as well as a former president of the Radio Society of Great Britain.

## RSGB committees

The RSGB has a wealth of amateur radio expertise amongst its volunteer committees, groups and Honorary Officers. We're delighted that this year many of these will be attending the Convention and will have a stand where they can chat to you. Take this special opportunity to find out more about what they do for RSGB members, and the wider amateur radio community, and ask for their help and advice. The committees confirmed so far are: ARDF, Contest Support Committee, HF Contest, Propagation Studies and VHF Contest.



## Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

We will have our usual room full of SIGs who will give you a warm welcome and be keen to chat to you about their amateur radio area of interest. The current groups confirmed are:

AMSAT  
BATC  
BYLARA  
Chiltern DX Club  
CWops  
DXCC card checking  
IOTA Ltd

Radio Officers AR  
RAIBC  
RAYNET-UK  
UK Microwave Group  
UK Six Metre Group  
Worked all Britain  
WRTC 2026

## ICQPodcast discussion forums

We're delighted this year to bring you two forums in conjunction with ICQ Podcast. These will be longer than the usual presentation slots to give time for discussion.



## Amateur radio – someone else's problem?

Are you killing the amateur radio hobby? Have you snuffed out the light from a new member? Is amateur radio just about what you like? Should someone else fix the issue?

This forum will challenge you to take responsibility for the issues within amateur radio today. You'll discuss, debate and leave with a notepad full of ideas.

## QRM and operating standards

Newcomers are often put off by being belittled, harassed or abused, either because they are still learning, have a lower licence level, or just because they get caught up in something – and that puts them off for ever. However, we all experience QRM of one kind or another and it is something we need to work together to reduce. We'll discuss experiences, share ideas and be encouraged to engage positively with every radio amateur on the air.

# For more information and

## Trophy presentations

The main VHF and HF contest trophies will be presented on Sunday 15 October, and this is in addition to the Contest Forums later in the day. The winners of the prestigious G5RP and ROTAB trophies will be announced by the RSGB President, John McCullagh, G14BWM

## RSGB DXpedition Fund Raffle

One of the popular features of the RSGB Convention is the raffle in aid of the DXpedition Fund. This year two star prizes are the Icom IC-705 kindly donated by Icom UK and the Yaesu FT-891 kindly donated by Yaesu UK. There will also be a number of other great prizes in the draw including a copy of the new RSGB Handbook of Radio Communication. Our thanks go to the prize sponsors who make this possible

## DXCC card checking and Logbook of the World

DXCC card checking and new user registrations for Logbook of the World will be available at the RSGB Convention.

DXCC applications for card checking should be completed in advance online and payment made. The QSL cards and a printout of the completed application form are then given to the card checker on the day. Hand-filled application forms are no longer accepted.

New Logbook of the World registrants should bring a copy of their licence and proof of identity (passport or driving licence).

The team will also try and assist with any problems in using LoTW – please bring with you your LoTW username (usually your call sign) and your password, or for online DXCC application problems your ARRL username and password (which are different to LoTW).

## The social scene

On Friday evening, the ML&S Buffet takes place. It is a pre-booked ticket-only event. The bar is open from 5.30pm on both Friday and Saturday evening. During the day there is a bottle bar with light 'tuck shop' snacks available in the social area along with tea and coffee during the breaks between lectures. Tickets for a two-course lunch are available from Kents Hill on the day and these tickets must be purchased by 10.30am each day.

## Tickets

Tickets are available online and these attract a discount over those bought on the door (tickets in advance are £25 for Saturday, £20 for Sunday and £35 for the weekend). On the door these tickets will cost £30 for Saturday, £25 Sunday or £40 for the weekend. Make sure you make your online booking as soon as possible.

If you're under 21 you can attend the Convention free of charge but if you are under 16 you must also be accompanied by a responsible adult. Tickets for under 21s are issued on the door if you bring a suitable proof of age.

Visit [rsgb.org/convention](http://rsgb.org/convention) to book all elements of the Convention.

'Early-bird' discounts have been extended to 14 September 2023 for package bookings.

## Arriving on Friday?

Why not take the opportunity to visit the RSGB National Radio Centre (NRC) at Bletchley Park? The NRC will be open during the day on the Friday (and throughout the weekend) from 9.30am to 5pm. Meet the NRC volunteers who will explain the various displays and demonstrate the GB3RS station. The NRC is located at Bletchley Park Museum (Home of the Code Breakers), just a few miles from the Kents Hill Conference Centre. Admission to the NRC and Bletchley Park is free to RSGB Members by downloading the entry voucher from the RSGB website [rsgb.org/bpvoucher](http://rsgb.org/bpvoucher)

If you want time to explore the full Bletchley Park Museum, it is recommended that you allow a minimum of four hours. Bring a copy of your licence and, if there is sufficient time, you can operate the state-of-the-art GB3RS station, including JY1's recently-installed equipment.

There will be a special tour for RSGB Convention attendees at 2.30pm – no need to book, just turn up at the NRC ready for the tour.

## Interested in running a Buildathon at your club or event?

You will be able to chat to Regional Representative David De La Haye, MOMBD while you make your kit (see Buildathon info below) and he will give you advice about what you need to run a Buildathon. David will also be doing a separate presentation in Lecture Room 3, immediately before the Buildathon, in which he will explain more about the Regional Team and how its members can support you to do amateur radio outreach in your local area and run Buildathons at your club or event. Go along to pick up some tips!

## A Convention taster...

If you've never been to an RSGB Convention before or you want a reminder of everything you're looking forward to this year, take a look at our two-minute Convention promo at [rsgb.org/convention](http://rsgb.org/convention)



## Draft Programme

We've got a great programme lined up – take a look overleaf.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's RSGB Convention from 13 to 15 October!

# RSGB Convention Buildathon

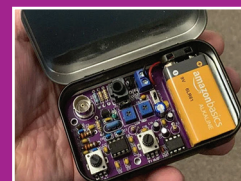
The Buildathon has always been a popular feature of the RSGB Convention and this year we are bringing it to you in a different way. The Buildathon will be run as a drop-in session from 10.30am to 5pm on the Convention Saturday.

Not only will you be able to build a kit using tools supplied by the RSGB but you will also be able to choose a time that suits you. We have partnered with Kanga Products to provide a range of kits that suits different levels of ability. You will need to pay Kanga Products on the day for the kit you choose to build.

To help you through the build will be the experienced hands of RSGB Regional Representative David De La Haye, MOMDB and Paul Webb, MOBMM of Kanga Products.

## Choose your kit

FM broadcast receiver @ £10.99  
Morse Tutor @ £16.50  
Mini ham band receiver @ £29.00  
Pocket ATU @ £45.00  
(details available online)



## Book a slot


Places at the Buildathon are limited so book a slot in advance to avoid disappointment! The £5 booking fee is refundable against the cost of the kit you choose to build. You are welcome to just turn up on the day too, but we can't guarantee there will be a place available at your chosen time.


To book your place visit [rsgb.org/buildathon](http://rsgb.org/buildathon)

**to book: [rsgb.org/convention](http://rsgb.org/convention)**

## Draft Convention programme

The following is the draft programme to give you an idea of the fantastic range of talks that are happening over the weekend. There are still aspects to finalise and changes might be made right up to the date of the Convention weekend, so please go to [rsgb.org/convention](http://rsgb.org/convention) for the latest version of the programme.

RSGB Convention 2023 - Saturday 14 October Timetable						
	Lecture Room 1 Breadth of amateur radio (Rooms G38/G35/G34) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 2 Operating / General (Room N123) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 3 Technical / General (Room N101) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 4 Practical (Room N132)	Lecture Room 5 AMSAT (Room N141) Official filming taking place	Discussion forums (Room G07) Recording taking place
Start 09.00	09.00 - 09.10 - Official Opening John McCullagh MBE, G4BWM RSGB President					
	09.15 - 10.00 - Keynote Colonel John Doody Life in the RF Spectrum during the last 60 years – is this a life for you?	09.30 - 10.15 Steve Clements, G1YBB Portable contesting	09.15 - 10.00 David De La Haye, M0MBD The RSGB Regional Team Why we should do outreach and buildathons		9.30 - 10.15 TBC Opening Address	
Coffee 10.00 - 11.00	COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE		COFFEE	
	10.30 - 11.15 Nobby Styles, G0VJG Rockall DXpedition 2023	10.45 - 11.30 John McCullagh MBE, G4BWM What did the RSGB ever do for me?	10.30 - 11.15 Oscar Wood, 2E1HWE FreeSTAR - Analogue and digital linking	10.30 - 17.00 RSGB Convention Buildathon All day drop-in session <a href="http://rsgb.org/buildathon">rsgb.org/buildathon</a>	10.45 - 11.30 Ciaran Morgan, M0XTD ARIS v2.0 The Challenges of STEAM Outreach	10.30 - 12.15 ICQPodcast Amateur radio - someone else's problem?
	11.30 - 12.15 Peter Duffett-Smith, G3XJE An automated search for radio echoes of long delay	11.45 - 12.30 Hosted by Don Beattie, G3BJ A discussion with the RSGB Board	11.30 - 12.15 Justin Cockett, G8YTZ QO-100 BATC project		11.45 - 12.30 Peter Guelzow, DB2OS 50 Years of AMSAT-DL. Past and Future Projects	
Lunch 12.15 - 13.45	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
	13.30 - 14.15 Cathy Clark, G1GGJ; Guy Plunkett, M0GUY RAYNET in the modern world	13.45 - 14.30 Tim Kirby, GW4VXE Which digital radio is right for me?	13.30 - 14.15 David Lauder, G0SNO RF electrical interference. Recent developments in electronic equipment	10.30 - 17.00 RSGB Convention Buildathon All day drop-in session <a href="http://rsgb.org/buildathon">rsgb.org/buildathon</a>	13.45 - 14.30 Graham Shirville VP0GAA / ZD9VZV QO-100 from The Southern Ocean	13.30 - 15.15 ICQPodcast QRM and operating standards
	14.30 - 15.15 Mark Haynes, M0DXR WRTC 2026 is coming to the UK	14.45 - 15.30 Martin Atherton, G3ZAY Mining ClubLog for HF propagation studies	14.30 - 15.15 John Linford, G3WGV Designing and building PCBs		14.45 - 15.30 Phil Crump, M0DNY Deep Space Network at Goonhilly	
Tea 15.15 - 16.00	Tea	Tea	Tea	Tea	Tea	
	15.45 - 16.30 Lyal Smith, G4XID; Chris Leviston, M0KPW; Simon Harris, G4WQG Taking amateur radio into schools	16.00 - 16.45 Duncan Fiskin, G3WZD; Stewart Rolfe, GW0ETF CWops 'Spreading the code'	15.45 - 16.30 Brian Coleman, G4NNS GB3MBA Beacon project. An update	10.30 - 17.00 RSGB Convention Buildathon All day drop-in session <a href="http://rsgb.org/buildathon">rsgb.org/buildathon</a>	16.00 - 16.45 TBC	
	16.45 - 17.30 Mike Richards, G4WNC VarAC Digital transmissions	17.00 - 17.45 John Warburton, G4IRN; Olof Lundberg, G0CKV WRTC 2022 as a competitor/referee	16.45 - 17.30 Remi (Lecybyl Remigiusz), M0LRH 30THz cutting edge technology		16.45 - 17.45 AMSAT UK AGM	

RSGB Convention 2023 - Sunday 15 October Timetable						
	Lecture Room 1 Breadth of amateur radio (Rooms G38/G35/G34) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 2 Operating / General (Room N123) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 3 Technical / General (Room N101) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 4 Technical (Room N132) Official filming taking place	Lecture Room 5 AMSAT (Room N141) Official filming taking place	Discussion forums (Room G07)
Start 09.15	09.15 - 10.00 HF Awards Presentation	09.15 - 10.00 Neil Smith, G4DBN The Great Seal Bug Project (as seen on BBC)			9.30 - 10.15 TBC	
Coffee 10.00 - 10.45	COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE	COFFEE	
	10.30-11.15 VHF Awards Presentation	10.30 - 11.15 Ian Evans, G10AZB and Esther Evans, G10AZA Summits on the Air (SOTA)	10.45 - 11.30 YOTA Team Youngsters on the Air - Hungary 2023	10.30 - 12.15 Barry Lewis, G4SJH; John Worsnop, G4BAO; Dave Crump, G8GKQ Moving forward on 23cm	10.45 - 11.30 David Johnson, G4DPZ CubeSat Simulator from AMSAT-NA	
	11.30 - 12.15 John Quamby, G3XDY Aircraft Scatter	11.30 - 12.15 Dr. Heather Nickalls, M0HMO Working satellites on a budget	11.45 - 12.30 David Wicks, G3YYD The development of 2Tone RTTY Software		11.45 - 12.30 Phil Crump, M0DNY Next Gen Ham TV on The ISS	11.30 - 12.45 VHF Contest Forum
Lunch 12.15 - 13.45	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
	13.30 - 14.15 Professor Simon Watts, G3XXH VHF airborne radar in WW2 – searching the seas	13.30 - 14.15 Cezar Trifu, VE3LYC Bouvet 3Y0J DXpedition	13.30 - 14.15 Richard Ranson, G3ZTB Practical use of VNAs	13.30 - 14.15 Murray Niman, G6JYB Ofcom and beyond	13.30 - 14.15 TBC	
	14.30 - 15.15 Jim Bacon, G3YLA Propagation	14.30 - 15.15 Linden Allen, M0TCF and Richard Staples Amateur radio relief for Ukraine by UK amateurs	14.30 - 15.15 David Lauder, G0SNO The work of the IARU Region 1 EMC Committee and its Noise Measurement Campaign (NMC)		14.30 - 15.15 TBC	14.00 - 15.15 HF Contest Forum
	Raffle - Lecture Room 1 15.30-16.00					



# RSGB Convention

13 to 15 October

Proudly Sponsored by

**MLS** martin lynch & sons  
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The RSGB Convention packs in a full weekend of the very best amateur radio lectures from around the world. With lecture streams, forums, special interest groups, presentations and all the usual activities, there is 'something for everyone'.

Join hundreds of others at the RSGB Convention in October for one of the best social events in amateur radio.



## BOOKINGS OPEN NOW

*Early bird pricing extended to 14 September*

[rsgb.org/convention](http://rsgb.org/convention)

