



An Introduction from the Youth Committee

Hello!

Welcome to a new project run by the RSGB's Youth Committee, a newsletter for youth members. This newsletter will be sent in monthly editions for all RSGB youth members, and all RSGB youth members have the chance to publish their stories in it.

We're running this project for several reasons. Firstly, we want to show off your achievements, no matter how big or small, and celebrate your successes. Secondly, we want to showcase the things you can do with your amateur radio licence and RSGB youth membership as a young amateur that you might not have heard of. Finally, we want to be able to talk to you, our youth members. Whether that be letting you know of an upcoming event or something new to get involved with, we hope this makes the committee more approachable and tangible for the people we represent.

We are always looking for more stories to publish. Even if your success is just making your first QSO on a handheld radio - let us know about it! To send in a story or discuss the requirements for one, just email youth.chair@rsgb.org.uk and we'll work out how to get your content published.

- Leon Shaw, M0VUF, on behalf of the RSGB Youth Committee

New RSGB Youth Logo!



The Youth Committee is very proud to announce the new RSGB Youth Logo. This is part of the RSGB's effort to increase youth branding and maximise the identity of young amateurs. The new logo will be used on a lot of our published content and even some merchandise (look out for the stickers already available to collect at events!).

What was YOTA Camp 2026 Like?

What do you get when you put more than 100 young radio amateurs from around the world together in the Austrian Alps for a week? A lot of radio, plenty of soldering and some seriously memorable adventures. YOTA Summer Camp 2026 brought together young amateurs from across Europe and beyond in Wagrain, Austria. Representing the RSGB, Tom M1TJM, Milo M9ILO, Filip M7SZW and



Henry M0KUQ packed an enormous amount into one week, exploring everything from low-power portable operation to satellite communications and emergency radio.

The camp began with hands-on construction. Participants built an 80m EFHW antenna, tape-measure UHF antennas and MeshCom devices using

LoRa. They then spent several days assembling QMX+ transceivers under the guidance of Hans Summers, G0UPL. By the end of the week, participants had working 5W multi-band radios covering 160m to 6m, ready to take home and put on the air. The radio activities weren't confined to the workshop. The team operated the special event station OE2YOTA on HF, making contacts across Europe and further afield. They also took amateur radio into some unusual locations. At Eisriesenwelt, the world's largest ice cave, the team experimented with radio propagation underground and successfully made a 70cm contact using just 300mW. Later, they operated from Hohenwerfen Castle, surrounded by spectacular views of the Austrian Alps.

The following day brought a full day of Summits on the Air. The RSGB team split between two summits and made summit-to-summit contacts using handheld radios. Seeing a pile-up develop on a handheld from the top of an Austrian mountain was a great demonstration of what can be achieved with surprisingly simple equipment. There was plenty more to try. Participants hunted hidden transmitters during an Amateur Radio Direction Finding challenge, built a WebSDR using a Raspberry Pi and SDR receiver, and learned how to track and communicate through Low Earth Orbit satellites. Emergency communications exercises demonstrated how amateur radio can be used when conventional communications are unavailable.

One of the most spectacular activities was an ARISS contact with astronaut Sophie Adenot, KJ5LTN, aboard the International Space Station. More than 100 young radio amateurs gathered to watch the ten-minute pass, waiting for the moment her voice came back from space. It was a powerful reminder that amateur radio can connect people across distances far beyond anything possible on a normal QSO. There was even an opportunity to develop Morse skills through a workshop with Willi, OE1WKL, creator of the Morserino. Every participant received a Morserino to take home and continue their CW journey.





amateur radio.

Away from the technical activities, the week included Intercultural Evening, where teams shared food, traditions and stories from their home countries. The British table was particularly popular, with Yorkshire Tea, biscuits and Welsh cakes disappearing rapidly! By the end of the week, participants had built antennas and transceivers, operated from castles, caves and mountain summits, experimented with digital modes and satellites, spoken to the ISS and learned new skills across almost every part of

For any young radio amateur considering applying for YOTA, that is perhaps the best reason to go. It isn't simply a week of sitting behind a radio. It is an opportunity to build, experiment, explore and experience amateur radio in ways that are difficult to replicate anywhere else.

If that sounds like your kind of adventure, keep an eye out for applications for YOTA 2027.

- Tom M1TJM, RSGB Team Lead for YOTA Camp 2026. YOTA Camp 2027 applications will be open in Spring 2027 - watch this space!

Participating in the RSGB DMR Youth Net



I have been participating in the RSGB DMR Youth Net since it started in September 2025. It has been a fantastic opportunity, and I have made new amateur radio friends in Europe and the UK. One of the highlights was organising a sked on the SO-50 satellite and making a successful contact in December 2025! We have also used the net to organise skeds on the HF bands which had varying degrees of success.

One of the big advantages of DMR is that it doesn't depend on band conditions so you can have a regular net. It also gave me experience in participating in a net and I'd like to try being a net control soon. We have had great fun on the Youth Net over the last year and have

tried out the messaging feature on the DMR handsets, had discussions about LoRa, Meshcore, antennas, antenna building, FM satellites, QO-100, SSTV, and building QRP radios to name a few. We also discussed any portable activities that we were planning such as Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air and Bunkers on the Air, and supported each other by making contact when possible. I even tried participating in the Youth Net/Portable when camping for a Bunkers activation! I have thoroughly enjoyed the RSGB Youth Net over the last year and am looking forward to taking part again this year.



- Written by Sam, MI9WHD. The RSGB DMR youth net takes place on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7pm UK time, on talk group 23554.

UoSARC's Day Out with Workop ARS

Back in May a group of members from the University of Sheffield Amateur Radio club visited the Workop Amateur Radio Society shack. We arrived at the shack and were shown around by some of their members seeing the different stations they had setup around the shack for VHF/UHF, FT8, HF and a remote connection back to some of the members radios at home in the main room. While there we had a few attempts making contacts on HF managing to get the Bracknell Amateur Radio Society using GB0UOR for the University of Reading centenary however propagation wasn't in our favour, but we did manage to make a few more contacts with a portable station we helped setup in the park behind the shack.



Later we talked to some people from Workop over VHF using a repeater to reach some of the members who couldn't be there that day. It was a great day finding more about what they liked about Amateur radio as well as making contacts over the air and giving us an idea of what we could do if we managed to setup a permanent shack at the university.

- Written by Isaac, M9VXN on behalf of UoSARC. Read more about the University of Sheffield Amateur radio club here: tinyurl.com/uosarc

Upcoming Youth Events

JOTA takes place 16th-18th October. Find out more at rsgb.org/jota. Are you taking part in a JOTA event this year? Make sure to email Sam McCutcheon M0UEL, the Interim Youth Champion for Scouts at youthchampion.scouts@rsgb.org.uk, and tag @theRSGB on Instagram if you share any photos of your weekend. We'd also love to hear your writeups as stories for the next newsletter, please get in touch to send your JOTA stories in!

Get involved with Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) Month! This IARU programme takes place every December and encourages young radio amateurs to get on the air. This year's event will feature special event station GB26YOTA. As it's a special event station, you will need a Full licensee on site to supervise the operators. If you're not a Full licensee, you could get together with others and have a group event – perhaps your club, school, university or youth group could take part? You can find details on how to apply to be a host at rsgb.org/yota-month. Make sure you don't miss out on being part of the team helping to make YOTA Month the best yet!