

May I welcome you welcome to this edition of *RadCom Basics*. Whether you are new to this hobby or just looking to brush up on the basics, I hope it is of help.

In this edition, I would first like to draw your attention to an excellent article *Beyond Exams* in *RadCom* June edition by John Rogers, MOJAV. There's obviously been a lot of thought and work put into this programme to encourage and support both those new to our hobby and those wanting to try something new. Do have a good look through: <https://rsgb.org/main/beyond-exams-building-experience/> Even when I returned to our hobby, I found familiar areas of interest but couldn't grasp how diverse it had become. As I've mentioned before, I re-joined the RSGB and eventually started making use of the huge amount of information on the RSGB website and then in my case, on to books. Now, with *Beyond Exams* there's a path and I believe a real sense of accomplishment to be had. Give it a go. Oh, and I did note that my speciality, tinkering and experimenting had a mention.

Anyway, I sincerely hope you are keeping safe in these times and able to find a little time to spend in our hobby. Please do keep in touch with others by any means - including radio - I've even resorted to phone and email.

And now onto my continuing theme, are you making full use of RSGB services?

GB2RS News

The RSGB has provided an amazing service to us all for nearly 65 years. GB2RS was authorised to broadcast the first news bulletin in 1955 after many years of negotiations with the General Post Office. (I don't think we always appreciate how easy things are made for us today).

I remember listening to AM, yes AM GB2RS News Bulletins on 80m on Sunday mornings in the early seventies for the latest updates. *RadCom* listed the News Bulletin times and frequencies and that was it.

Now take a good look at the News Broadcast Schedule today on the RSGB website at <https://rsgb.org/main/gb2rs/gb2rs-news-broadcast-schedule/> just click on the link on the page. This amazing group of volunteers provide a service on 11 amateur bands (I think I counted them up correctly) covering a large part of the UK, but there's always room for more volunteers.

And what of the other ways of getting the GB2RS news today? (You probably have already opted in to receive the free weekly email mentioned on <https://rsgb.org/main/blog/news/gb2rs/headlines/2018/05/25/opt-in-to-gb2rs-emails/> - similar to the free subscription to receive *RadCom Basics*).

Look at the services listed and linked on the GB2RS webpage. We are spoilt, weekly Propagation News, a Podcast, and News Scripts just to name a few.

And one GB2RS media that was brought to my attention by Alison Johnston, G8ROG is the ATV news that is broadcast on many repeaters in the UK (ATV) and relayed around the world.



Main Live broadcast: Sunday mornings 9am via www.batc.org.uk/live/gb2rs

Catch Up - <http://gb2rs.apj1.co.uk/this-weeks-video-news/> on-demand

So the point is, are we making full use of this great service, all part of what we subscribe to? Value for money or what?

Having only the broadcasts years ago and that meant you could miss it, like so much today it's all too easy to take for granted. Thank those who give their time for the rest of us.....please.

If you would like to contribute short articles to RadCom Basics please get in touch with me and we can discuss what you have in mind.

My thanks and 73s

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Please note:

Abbreviations and acronyms used in *RadCom Basics* articles can be found at <https://rsgb.org/main/publications-archives/radcom/supplementary-information/abbreviations-and-acronyms/>