

Queen's Platinum Jubilee



The RSGB is joining many across the four Home Nations and three Crown Dependencies in celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, using a theme of 70.

GB70

RSGB 'Special' Special Event Stations are being activated from the four UK Home Nations and three Crown Dependencies: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

The UK regulator, Ofcom, has licensed a series of special callsigns that will be active only during June 2022, including from 2-5 June 2022, which is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend in the UK. These call signs are: GB70E, GB70M, GB70W, GB70I, GB70J, GB70U and GB70D.

Jubilee Weekend: For the Jubilee Weekend, operation will be on multiple bands and modes by one or more clubs operating from each of the seven nations/dependencies. These will be Special Event amateur stations run by teams of club members and several will be open to the public.

Situated in Windsor Home Park, within sight of Windsor Castle, GB70E will be in operation 24/7 during the Jubilee Weekend by a team of 35 from Burnham Beeches Radio Club and Cray Valley Radio Society. There will be three stations covering the HF and 6m bands, and one on 2m/70cm FM. An 80ft tower will support a 4-element SteppIR and wire antennas. There will be a 5-element Yagi for 6m and a quad for 17/12m on separate masts. The station will be open to the public from Friday 3 June to Sunday 5 June (opening times 10am to 6pm each day).

Kilmarnock and Loudoun ARC will be hosting the GB70M on 4 June, operating from the grounds of Craufurdland Castle. The station will be operational on HF, VHF and the Freestar digital network. The special event station is open to visitors who can also take advantage of the amenities at the castle, which include a



Kilmarnock and Loudoun ARC will be operating GB70M from the grounds of Craufurdland Castle.

restaurant and various outdoor activities.

Bushvalley ARC will put GB70I on the air on 3-4 June from the Ballymoney Showgrounds as part of Ballymoney Agricultural show. They will operate on the HF bands, mostly using SSB.

In Guernsey, activity will also be on 3-4 June at Beau Sejour Leisure Centre, St Peter Port, GY1 2DL. Guernsey ARS will be at the Bunker at the northern end of the car park, on the road to the Sir John Loveridge Hall. They will be monitoring the DMR repeater GB7GY (Talk Group 23515) during the event for worldwide contacts as well as GB3GU on 433.325MHz for local contacts, and 145.525MHz simplex for talk-in if needed.

Dragon ARC will be operating GB70W from 2-5 June from the historic Marconi transmitter site near Caernarfon in North West Wales. Throughout the weekend they will be operating HF using CW, SSB, digital modes and AM. They also plan to operate VHF 2m and 4m using FM and SSB.

Activation during the rest of June: After the first weekend of June, typically from Tuesday 7 June until Tuesday 28 June, these special callsigns will be available for activation by RSGB

affiliated clubs or individual RSGB Members. Each callsign has a volunteer coordinator who will be responsible for allocating operating slots in a published schedule and will collect the log files from those who have been activating the calls.

The published schedule is at the bottom of the qrz.com page for the callsign, found by entering the callsign into the QRZ.com search box.

The callsign coordinator will be keen to help you if you wish to take part, and they can be contacted, by email, using the address shown on the qrz.com page – which is in the format, typically GB70E@rsghcc.org, for England.

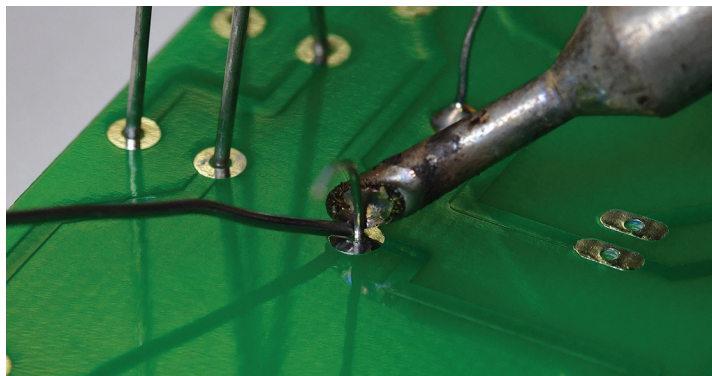
What are the rules governing activation and how can you qualify to activate or supervise others who wish to activate one of these callsigns?

You must be a Full licensee, an RSGB Member, and you must join the RSGB Contest Club to be able to operate under the terms of the licence (a very simple process that does not oblige you to take part in any contests).

Each callsign may only be activated from the Nation or Crown Dependency denoted by the suffix – for example GB70E is exclusively for England.



Dragon ARC will be operating GB70W from the historic Marconi transmitter site near Caernarfon.



Could you design and build a project with no more than 70 connections?

If your callsign or that of your group is shown on the qrz.com schedule, then you can operate.

You must use computer logging and must send your log as an ADIF file to the callsign coordinator at the end of your activation slot.

Paper QSL cards, Club Log uploads and Logbook of The World uploads will be carried out by RSGB volunteers, with Charles Wilmott, MOOXO, kindly agreeing to be the QSL manager for these activations.

QSL Cards: If you would like a QSL card for a QSO with one or more of the special callsigns, then please follow the instructions on the relevant QRZ.com page. Bureau cards will be available free of charge; cards by direct post will be subject to a postage and packing charge.

Detailed information about the GB70 SES is at www.gb70.co.uk.

Innovation 70

The aim of this activity is to stir amateur radio creativity. You will need to design and build a useful piece of equipment with no more than 70 connections, and/or a useful piece of software with no more than 70 lines of code. A selection of the most innovative entries will be published in *RadCom* and/or on the RSGB website.

Entries can be as simple or complex as you wish, but remember that neither simplicity nor complexity necessarily mean it's innovative!

[jubilee/innovation-70/](https://www.rsgb.org/jubilee/innovation-70/)

Award 70

The award scheme for the Jubilee celebrations was detailed in last month's *RadCom*, page 6. It is free to enter and will have bronze, silver and gold levels. For details of how to enter please see the RSGB website at <https://www.rsgb.org/main/activity/hm-queen-elizabeth-platinum-jubilee/award-70/>

Tournament 70

The Tournament on Saturday 11 June 2022 has three separate mini-contests that individuals may enter, each of 70 minutes duration, two on HF and one on VHF. Each mini-contest will have its own winners, but the overall event will only have one winner – the Tournament Champion. There will be a unique award for the Tournament Champion. This award is for an entrant from the UK or Crown Dependencies.

All three events will have two entry sections that will be scored independently: 100W or 10W maximum power, allowing all UK licensees an opportunity to achieve a high score.

If you are not a regular contest, please use this opportunity to take part.

Judging will be by the RSGB Technical Forum with results announced at the end of the year.

Whether you're an RSGB Member or not, you're welcome to take part.

For details of how to enter please see the RSGB website at <https://www.rsgb.org/main/activity/hm-queen-elizabeth-platinum-jubilee/innovation-70/>

Tournament rules and how to enter: The Tournament rules and instructions on how to enter are published on the RSGB Contest Committees' website at www.rsgbcc.org.

WSPR 70

This is a fun project to experiment with QRPp using just 70mW EIRP and the WSJT-X software by Joe Taylor, K1JT and his team. You won't need any special or unusual equipment and there are details of how to get involved on pages 42 and 43 of this issue. Send your experiences and results to *RadCom* and, space permitting, we will publish them, perhaps in a future article.

Q Regional Secondary Locator

Ofcom has kindly agreed that all licensed UK radio amateurs may use a special Regional Secondary Locator (RSL) – Q – during the month of June 2022 to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

Callsigns using this RSL will be prefixed, GQ, MQ or 2Q. A Notice of Variation (NoV) is required, available for use only throughout June 2022, and you can apply for it now on the RSGB website.

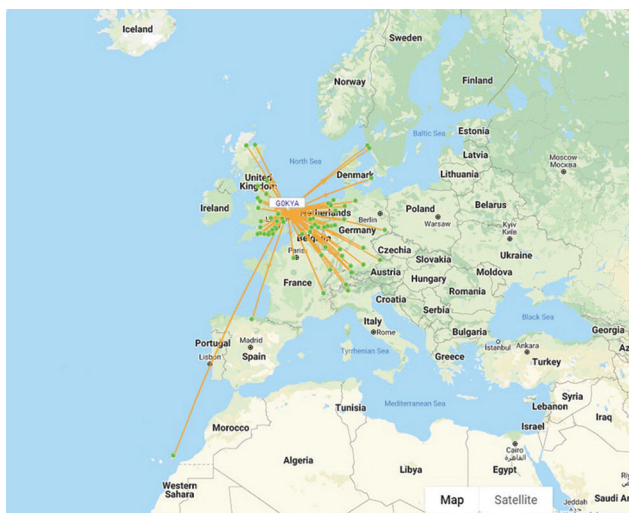
A special RSGB Jubilee QSL card design is available to Members free of charge, see page 40 of this issue.

/70 callsign suffixes

Following a request by the RSGB, Ofcom has indicated that stations wishing to retain their usual Regional Secondary Locator to identify their DXCC entity may use the suffix /70 to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We are proposing its use throughout June for those who would like to do so.

It is also permitted to use the /70 suffix with the GQ/MQ/2Q prefix if desired. We would like to thank Ofcom for its support of the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations.



How far will your 70mW signals go?

Tournament 70 Schedule:

HF CW: 0900 – 1010UTC (70 minutes, starting 10am BST)

VHF Phone and CW: 1400 – 1510UTC (70 minutes, starting 3pm BST)

HF SSB: 1900 – 2010UTC (70 minutes, starting 8pm BST)

Entrants are encouraged to use GQ, MQ or 2Q prefixes and/or the "/70" suffix and will be awarded a bonus of extra points for using either or both of these. It is anticipated that some Members will want to register to use the GB70 special event calls for this event and Tournament entrants will be awarded bonus points for making QSOs with them.

Thanks

As Jubilee Lead, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the teams and people, including both volunteers and staff, who are working hard to make these celebrations happen. The best thanks to them will be for lots of radio amateurs to take part and enjoy the activities!

Information about all RSGB Jubilee activities may be found at www.rsgb.org/jubilee. The RSGB hopes there's something for everyone to enjoy.

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www.rsgb.org/jubilee