

# Q5

## North Bristol Amateur Radio Club

August 2023 Edition

### In This Edition, Photographs Of Our Special Events

With only one or may be two events left to complete, we have photographs of our event of the century. With Points West running our story on the early evening news.

**The Avon Valley Railway 40's event.** This is one to look forwards to. This takes place on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September a week before Railways on the Air.

**ROTA** This is to take place 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. It is not known yet if we can use the AVR gazebo for this event.



**Yes Folks, We were on Points West  
1<sup>st</sup> June**

If the gazebo is not available, we could always use ours, provided there is space on the green for us. However, this would mean dismantling the station each day, as the security of our equipment on site would be our responsibility.

### Good Bye She7

Many of you will know that we are leaving SHE7. **The last meeting at SHE7 will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> August.**

### New Meeting Address First meeting 11<sup>th</sup> August.

Our temporary meeting place until our new venue is ready, will be at Filton Community. It is only about ¼ of a mile away from SHE7. From the Filton roundabout, head towards the club, you will come to a mini roundabout, take the 1st exit (turn left) follow the road to the bottom, the community centre is in front of you. It is sign posted from the A38 anyway on approach to the mini roundabout. If you have any problem finding it, phone the secretary or give a call on GB3BS. The repeater will be monitored by some club members, so give a call.



## Mills On The Air 2023

This year's Mills event went exceptionally well, with the antenna I had made for the 777 event under test. The bands were dead however, but that's another story.

On the Saturday, the antenna was set out at only 20ft high as we were worried about the weight of the pole system on the top, and the method used to secure it to the fence. We were right to be concerned as with the wind, it started to lean quite precariously. This was fixed about an hour or so later. There was however another problem that showed up a little later on.

Setting up the antenna was a bit of trial and error as it is so large, it couldn't be assembled at my home QTH. Here you see yours truly assembling the "T" piece in the centre. Mat, G7FBD (Seated) was the supervisor ably assisted by Nick, M7NCK.



Unfortunately the grass was rather long. We were told by the custodians of the mill that Woodspring Council are not doing their bit and are leaving this to others to save money. (we ran around a bit we soon flattened it)

Luckily, we had many hands to assemble the club's gazebo. This was being filmed at the time and had a few comical moments. A film of most of our events from 2018 is being edited and will be shown at a club night later in the year, so keep an eye out for this event.



The New club banner showing the invite for the public to come in to have a look and possibly have a go at operating, under instruction of course. This, by the way, is a requirement under the special event NOV. On the Sunday we did persuade a young lady to send a greeting to a German Portable station near Colone. The station was asked first if he would accept the call and graciously accepted. Back to the Antenna, to me was a bit of a disappointment. Although it was said that the bands were flat, so it was not a fair test.

I decided that this antenna would not be used for Flight 777. So it would be back to the drawing board. The main reason, was the weight on the top of the pole made it whip in the slightest bit of wind, so for safety, guy ropes would be required. A comical event, in a bit of wind the antenna would rotate, we often had to stop to untwist the twin feeder and from time to time we lost the station we were working. As there is no room for guys at the venue of flight 777, this was definitely out.

The antenna of choice for Flight 777 will now utilise both poles to support a dipole, but what type? There is an article on the construction of the chosen type in a future edition of Q5.



The Monday, being a Bank holiday the cafe would not be available, so the first day of the event would be the Tuesday.

The antenna, having been finished off at home with just a week to go, it was decided to make it a trap Dipole for 20m and 40m as that was the bands of interest.

Having offloaded everything from the two cars, we set about strapping the first pole to the steel fence post. The antenna was unrolled and we worked out where the next pole was to be strapped. In the meantime, other lads were putting up the gazebo on the grassed area.

One thing that wasn't thought about in the survey was the antenna just cleared the roof of the cafe. The coil of the dirty balun clearing by about one foot. The feed line coax then fell away and was guided over the top of the now setup gazebo. Entering from the roof to the back of the Icom 7300.

Power came from the store room along the wall of the building to the back of our setup. Orange cones were placed over the only exposed part of the cable, so you can see there was minimal trip hazard.

Here you can just see the antenna and as the antenna is pulled tight, there is minimum sag. This was a work in progress, we did make a few changes over the week. The photograph was from day 2, the antenna was moved slightly to the right to keep the balun away from the roof. This antenna should be the one that we are going to use at the Railways events in September.



As I think you will agree, we are getting a bit better over the years setting up special events. We must not lose sight that Special events are not only for us to Play Radio, but for the public to see what Radio Amateurism is all about. It is also an advert for our club. As we are open to public scrutiny, we must always be on our best behaviour.

Putting that aside, here follows a photographic account of the event. Also, an account of the event has also been published in July Radcom, the author, our very own Mat, G7FBD.



## The Event Of The Year, Flight 777



Mat, G7FBD in the background on the mic while Dave G7BYN completes the log. We used a paper log as it was not known if the mains power would be available from day to day to run the computer. A Backup of a deep cycle battery was available if mains failed to be available for running the radio (The important bit). This battery was used with great effect at the Mills on the Air event.

Note the public in the background looking on. The footfall was tremendous past the gazebo.

A photograph of the main team. At the front, From the United Reform Church was Rob, Mat, G7FBD in the middle, Rabbi Monique Mayer completes the front row.

Behind on the left is Dave G7BYN with our helper Nick, M7NCK.



The BBC camera set up for the first interview of the day. All in all they were there for about 2 ½ to 3 hrs. all that for a 3 minute segment on Points West.



Takes me back to when I was a lad, working as a Pin spotter engineer at Magnet Bowl in Bristol Filming with the Late Great Earl Brown and Hot Chocolate. (Earl was a really nice quietly spoken guy) The crew were filming from early in the morning till early evening just for a record video. Oh, the song, “You Could’ve Been a Lady” The year, 1971.



# The Event Of The Year, Flight 777

Dave G7BYN during the interview with Jonathan Holmes from the BBC. This was early in the morning and a bit chilly as we were wearing fleeces. It got really hot latter in the day. We were blessed with good weather all week, unlike the weather of the time of writing this, Rain, Rain and oh yes, more Rain.



**Our very own cheeky chappie, Rocky, M6VRL.** He is very good at finding his way into shot when I'm filming. This will be seen on our film night around Christmas time, keep an eye out on the calendar of events.

Rocky is well on his way to be a SR Nurse. He is doing so well in his exams, one day, he wants to be a doctor.

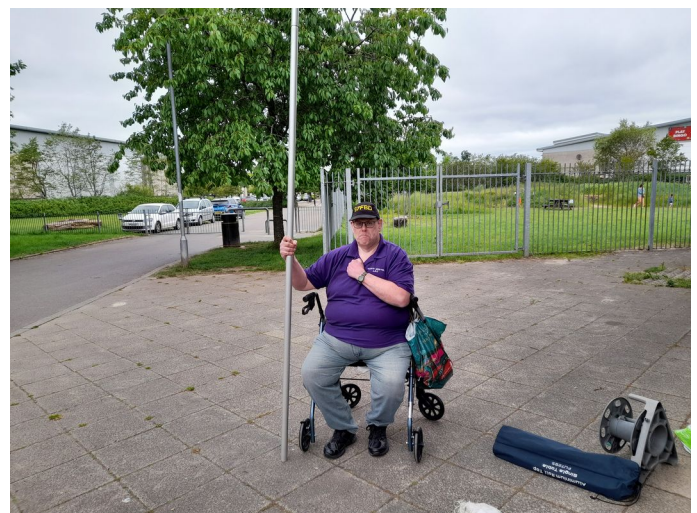
His training quickly kicked in when a young lad came into the gazebo asking for help. He gave his mother's phone number and she was summoned. Meanwhile Rocky went into nurse mode and checked him over as he was feeling nauseous. He possibly was suffering from heat stroke and dehydration. His mother collected him and thanked Rocky for his help.

We need Rocky at all of our events as our resident first aider. Well done.



A late entry to Q5. This, I found at the end of the roll of film. Mat with his New Zealand Maori pose with the antenna pole in hand. He was actually helping hold the pole before it was strapped to the fence post behind him. Well, that's the story anyway.

As the weather was mentioned earlier, you can see quite a few clouds forming, and as this picture was taken on the first day, it was a bit worrying. As each day progressed, it got hotter and hotter.



## The Event Of The Year, Flight 777

Greg, 2W1BUF Having a bit of a laugh with Mat. Greg, is from the South Bristol Amateur Radio Club. Mat and I had come across him while working at the Airfields on the air event with South Bristol ARC. Greg was the man who made the model of IBIS. The loss of this DC3 aircraft that started the event.



This is the model of the IBIS as made by Greg, Greg is sound engineer and producer for a community radio station, Guitar payer also he is a historian. Is there no end to this man's talent?

Here is Father and Son Kenny, M7MYU with Dad Andy G7KNA (Both from the SBARC)

We did try to photograph as much as we could, but unfortunately didn't photograph the setting up of the station and all of the helpers. I must admit, I was having a few sleepless nights wondering if we had enough helpers for the setting up. It turned out that my worries were unfounded as there were many guys came to help set up and pull down every day. Thanks to all the members of the two clubs that helped.



I would like to give a special shout out for a couple of non members that came to give a hand. They are **Mark G4SDR** and **John G4WOD**. They didn't have to, they just did. Not to grab the lime light but to help, true Ham Spirit.



## The Event Of The Year, Flight 777

The concentration on Mat's face can be seen here. By the way, the call sign on the top of the 7300 was 3d printed. It added to the quality of the presentation.

Mat also worked some stations of note being G8BBC Broadcasting House operator radio 4 announcer Jim Lee. Also G3FGX Bob McCready, Presenter of TX Factor and presenter on Radio Plymouth.



Mat was so in the zone, he failed to recognise any of them. Ah well "Didn't he did do well"

Below left, is myself with my camcorder making a movie of the contacts. This will be edited for our video night. The video night, around December time will include our events I had filmed from about 2018.



On the right, at the back of the gazebo are our regulars Tony, G8CKK with the "Stevie Wonder" glasses and stick. Steve, G8JUT is on his right.

We had lots of visitors over the week unfortunately, not all were photographed, or if they were, they were not sent into me at the Q5 news room.



If you have any photographs of club events, send them into the club secretary. By the way, a movie of the event and earlier events will be shown at a meeting in December. Keep an eye out on the calendar of events.

## The Event Of The Year, Flight 777



Here you see Dan, 2E0IGS from the South Bristol ARC operating with our Ian G4TAH logging for him. Dan said after his stint operating, "That was harder than digging holes in the road".

Dan was an absolutely amazing operator, and on top of that he helped at every stage of setting up and taking down the station, thank you.

Ian is a RAYNET operator and found that accurate logging a special event is not a lot different than operating in an emergency situation. Sitting under canvas with a microphone in hand or logging, it's a good way to practice our craft.

Practising our craft is what it is all about. Below is young Nick, M7NCK being shown the ropes by Mat, G7FBD. As we told him HF is a bit different than the club nets he is use to. Looking on is Tony, G8CKK (in the "Steve Wonder" glasses) and Steve, G8VPG.

Mat took Nick through the foundation exam and is there to support him though the next part of his adventure in amateur radio.

Here Nick had worked a station in the Netherlands. That was the first time he worked a station outside of the UK, so was quite rightly over the moon.

We all had a great deal of fun at the event with 420 stations worked. Mat was in his element, not having played on the HF bands for many a year. This took him back to the days working on 6m contests. I have to watch my back, as he is trying to get me to take part in a 6m contest. Will hell freeze over first. We will see.





# Fun Page



A bit of fun again. Only the third Blue Peter award ever to be issued for GB3BS Time Out. Dick did himself proud by talking for about 8 minutes about mines around Yate. Shame the timeout is 4 minutes. It is a good job we treat this as a bit of fun. Dick has been trying his best over the years not to time out.



I went to the Dr. the other day, because of all the antenna projects I have been making, he thinks I have Di-Polar syndrome.



If any of you have any cartoons you could send in to me here at the Q5 News Room, do let me have them.

They have to be clear copies as some of them do not duplicate well in the PDF format. Send them into

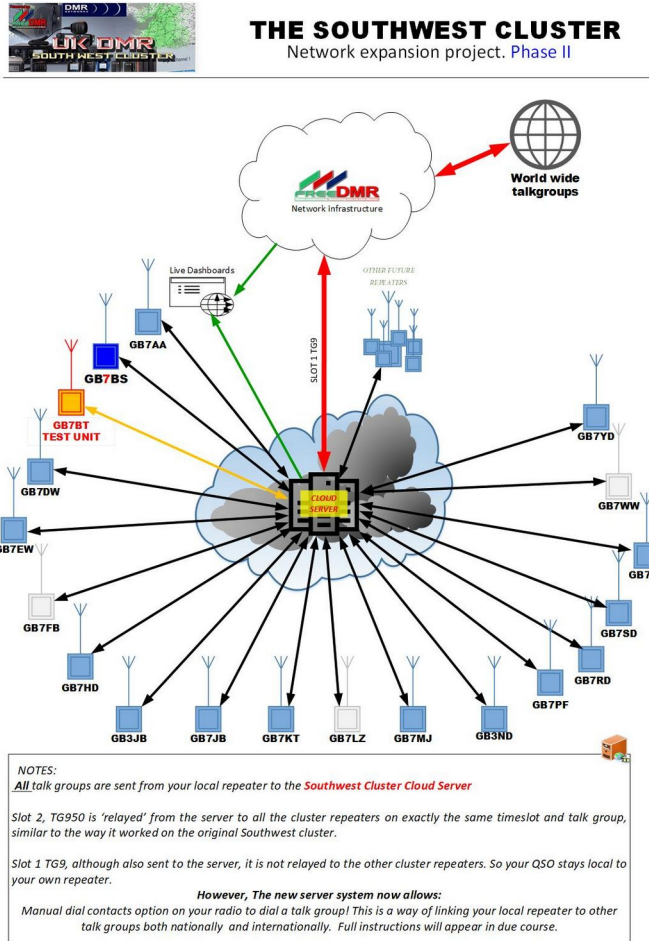
[g7byn@outlook.com](mailto:g7byn@outlook.com)

# The South West Cluster.

Today, 18 Repeaters, Tomorrow The World.

Mat has been busy, the south west cluster has been expanding once again. There is now 18 listed in the chart below. The Chippenham Club's repeater, GB7WW should, at the time this Q5 is published be up and running.

The list below was taken from the Chippenham club's web site. It gives all the settings requires to set your radio's code plug.



Mat is adding to the SWC all of the time. Probably, by the time you read this, there will be more on line.

I know that reading the Chippenham Radio Club's web site they said that WW Should be on line by the time of the Radio Rally (31<sup>st</sup> July)

For more up to date information on all of the SWC please go to the GB7BS web site.

PS

Please don't shoot me if I have the number of repeaters wrong, there are a lot of repeaters, and I'm not going to take my shoes and socks off to count more than 10

gb7bs.com

## South West Cluster Repeater List

Repeater	Location	QRA	Channel	Output Freq	Input Freq	Colour Code	Notes
GB7AA	Thornbury, Bristol	IO81RO	DVU54	439.6750	430.6750	1	
GB7BS	Bristol/Bath	IO81TK	DVU13	439.1625	430.1625	3	
GB7DW	Dunkeswell	IO80JU	RV50	145.6250	145.0250	7	Not Yet Operational
GB7EW	Exeter	IO80FR	DVU42	439.5250	430.5250	3	
GB7HD	Tavistock	IO70VO	RV55	145.6875	145.0875	3	
GB3JB	Mere	IO81VC	RV63	145.7875	145.1875	5	
GB7JB	Wincanton	IO81TB	DVU37	439.4625	430.4625	1	
GB7KT	Andover	IO91GE	DVU40	439.5000	430.5000	1	
GB7LZ	Lapford	IO80CV	RU73	430.9125	438.5125	1	
GB7MJ	Romsey	IO91GA	DVU51	439.6375	430.6375	5	
GB3ND	Holsworthy	IO70JW	DVU59	439.7375	430.7375	1	
GB7PF	Princetown	IO80AN	DVU51	439.6375	430.6375	3	
GB7RD	Yelverton	IO70XL	DVU55	439.6875	430.6875	3	
GB7SD	Weymouth	IO80SQ	DVU33	439.4125	430.4125	1	
GB7SP	Salisbury	IO91CB	DVU60	439.7500	430.7500	3	
GB7YD	Yeovil	IO80PW	DVU55	439.6875	430.6875	5	
GB7WW	Chippenham	IO81WL	DVU38	439.4750	430.4750	7	Not Yet Operational



# Calendar of Events

4<sup>th</sup> August **Good bye to SHE7 The Last Meeting at SHE7**

**Note Due to the change of venue the following portion of the calendar is to be sorted as soon as we can.**

## **The Special Events Will Still Go Ahead**

**The Address of the temporary new venue is Filton Community,  
Elm Park. BS34 7PS**

11 <sup>th</sup> August	First Meeting at Filton Community
18 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Meeting at Filton Community
25 <sup>th</sup> Aug	No Meeting Bank holiday weekend
1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	EGM at Filton Community
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Venue?</b> An email will be sent out confirming if our new venue is ready for us.
15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Prep for AVR 40's Event
16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>September Avon Valley Railway 40's Event</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	General Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>September Railways on the Air</b>

There will be an interim Q5 produced to give news on the New Venue and a more complete calendar of events. This will be published after the EGM.

A reminder for all members the EGM is 1<sup>st</sup> September. Please keep an eye out for emails leading up to this, or stay in touch with other members that are collecting their emails.

Dave G7BYN Secretary and editor of Q5.

# Club Nets & Contact Details

To spice up our nets, the Wed net will be a Technical net (If we can). If members have a problem, or just want to know how something works, ask your question here.

This came about because some participants of our nets didn't want to spend the night talking about the weather and general chit chat. They said it was boring, so wouldn't come on any net. The Chit Chat evenings will be the Sunday net. We hope this will cater for all.

**Wednesday net (This is the regular Net)** GB3BS 20:00 to 21:00

The net controller is normally G7BYN

**Sunday Evening Net** This is on **GB3BS** 20:00 to 21:00

Because of family commitments, G7BYN is not always the net controller

**Saturday Mat's DMR Net GB7BS** 20:00 to 21:00 South west cluster TS2 (950) This cluster now consists of over 10 repeaters in the SW. **Note the change of time was from the beginning of February**

Note, Your secretary has kicked Virgin Media out of his QTH, and has therefore changed email address. You can contact Dave on the following email address.

[g7byn@outlook.com](mailto:g7byn@outlook.com)

## Club Contacts

### Secretary and Q5 Editor

Dave G7BYN

Phone 07533933831

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### Chairman

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Phone 07921942922

Email [g8ymm@nbarc.co.uk](mailto:g8ymm@nbarc.co.uk)

**Next Q5 November 1st**

## Q5 Publication

Last date for articles October 24<sup>th</sup>

Publication Date 1<sup>st</sup> November

It is hoped that I will get articles sent to me from time to time. I thank all of you that have submitted items over the past couple of years. All back issues are available on the club's web site.

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