

# **5MHz Forum**

**HFC2004**

John Gould, G3WKL

Chairman 5MHz Working Group

# 5MHz in the UK

- Amateur access to 5MHz channels from mid-2002 to mid-2006
- Purpose to conduct experiments in
  - Emergency comms
  - Aerials
  - Propagation
- 5MHz Working Group (5WG) formed in Nov 2002.

# 5WG Membership

J W Gould, G3WKL, Chairman

G L Adams, G3LEQ (IARU Emergency Communications Region 1  
Coordinator)

L W Barclay, G3HTF

P Gaskell, G4MWO (RSGB RCVS National Coordinator)

P Martinez, G3PLX

G Mossop, G0DUB (RAYNET representative)

C Thomas, G3PSM (Board Member, RSGB Spectrum Forum  
Manager, RSGB HF Manager)

M Wood, G7VRT (Cadet Representative & Liaison)

G Williams, G4FKH (RSGB Propagation Studies Committee)

# 5WG Remit

To deal with all matters concerning the temporary 5 MHz spot frequencies allocated to the Amateur Radio Service within the United Kingdom on a Notice of Variation basis.

The Group will formulate and monitor experiments and communications exercises in line with the terms of the Notice of Variation, and at periods to be agreed, report relevant findings to the Primary User via the Radiocommunications Agency.

# 5WG achievements

- Coordinated scientific and emergency comms activities, reporting twice to RSGB Board, RA/Ofcom and MoD.
- Assess and make recommendations to Ofcom re NoV applications.
- Liaised and support given to individuals on their own experiments.
- Defined and coordinated a centrally run task, termed the “5MHz Experiment”
  - Commissioned and setup GB3RAL, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2004
  - Commissioned and now close to installing GB3WES and GB3ORK
  - Setup “consolidated log database” & publicised initial findings in RadCom Sept 2003

# 5MHz Expt: Overview

- An data collection task run by the 5WG to allow later analysis
- Data is restricted to certain broad categories to keep the number of variables down
- A strict reporting format is specified
- Goals:
  - Creation of an empirical equation for 5MHz propagation
  - Creation of a large database that anyone can subsequently analyse to research things that might include
    - Effects of different categories of aerial type
    - Long-term noise-floor changes

# 5MHz Expt: Log database

- 5701 separate entries
- All paper and e-mailed logs included, apart from
  - 7 with some data errors
  - 10 paper logs
- 360 different calls in the log
  - 79 stations logged more that 10 times
  - 11 stations logged more that 50 times
- Current issues
  - Data cleanup, e.g. typing & logging errors
  - Missing data, e.g. QTH Locator data

# Non-NoV UK amateur activity

- 124 callsigns logged on the database
  - Errors in logging?
  - Errors in the NoV database?
  - 108 appear only once
  - 18 appear at least twice
  - 3 appear 3 times
  - 2 appear 4 times
  - 1 appears 5 times
  - 1 appears 13 times.

# Top Stations reported

G3ENI	275	G3JFS	38
G3ZUN	221	G3SET	37
G3ENO	134	G3LEQ	35
G3GHS	104	G3KTH	33
G3DVK	94	G3BPM	33
G0HNW	83	GI4VIV	32
GW0VMZ	61	G3PLX	31
G0MRL	57	G0DUB	30
G0UOO	51	MM1RAH	28
G5BM	51	G4KUJ	26
G8ABB	49		
G3JKD	43		
M0AFJ	40		

# GB3RAL

- 2122 separate reports

# Top Stations reporting

2E0RGO / M3RGO	1672	
G3ZUN		363
G3ENI		355
G8ABB		258
G4FKH		250
G3BPM		231
G3JNB		191
G3DVK		166
G8SAU		166
G0WTV		160
G3NPF		140
G3SET		137