

Cambridge University Wireless Society



What we do

Amateur Radio is a vast and varied hobby enjoyed by 3 million people worldwide — it includes everything from building your own radio transmitter to making contact with the International Space Station



Whether you've never heard of Amateur Radio before or are already a keen operator, CUWS has something to offer:

- A large, well-equipped station
- Regular trips to exciting and unusual places (Ascension Island, Jan Mayen, Portugal, Iceland, Hebrides, USA)
- Radio-related talks and visits
- Weekly pub meets, punting, annual dinners

Getting involved

It couldn't be easier to get on the air: a simple multiple-choice test and short practical exercise are all that is required to get a licence



Next pub meet

Thursday 9 October — 8.00pm — Maypole Pub, Park Street (off Jesus Lane)

Contact Hugo — hs366@cam.ac.uk — to find out more!

www.g6uw.org

Licences

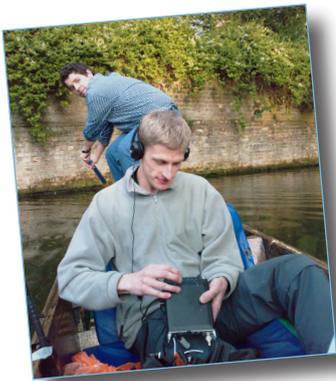
You can be a member of CUWS without ever getting an Amateur Radio licence, but the fun of the hobby is in making contact with other Amateurs across the globe. To do that, you need a transmitting licence.

There are three levels of licence — the main difference between them is the power that you are allowed to use to transmit. Everybody who is new to the hobby starts with the Foundation licence, which consists of a short practical exercise and a multiple-choice test. The lifetime licence you receive is FREE and membership of the RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) is also FREE for students aged 25 or under. To take the test costs only £20. We will provide you with a book containing all you need to know and can arrange the practical exercise and test, as well as a revision session beforehand, for almost any time that suits you.

The highest licence level is the Advanced — this requires only a multiple-choice test, which takes place on set dates throughout the year. The next opportunity is at the beginning of December so you could leave at the end of term with all three levels completed!

Trips

The society organizes frequent trips (or 'DXpeditions'), open to all members, with particular emphasis on the IOTA (Islands on the Air) and SOTA (Summits on the Air) programmes. These involve Amateur Radio operation from rare or unusual islands or mountains: Amateurs compete to collect contacts from as many locations as possible. Recent trips have included Svalbard, the Hebrides, the Monach Islands, the Faroes, Les Minquiers reef and the mountains of the Lake District, to name but a few.



Talks and visits

CUWS both hosts speakers and puts on radio-related events for local societies and schools. These include recent talks on amateur satellites, antennas and the SPEAR research station in Svalbard, as well as a series of presentations and demonstrations run by the society for the charity Engineers Without Borders. During National Science and Engineering Week we often organize visits to primary schools to promote science and technology through Amateur Radio. We also arrange excursions for members to local sites of interest such as Bletchley Park, the Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory and the Ofcom radio monitoring facility at Baldock.

Our station

The society has a very well-equipped station in west Cambridge. This is available for all members to use at any time. We have two large towers (60ft and 40ft) with antennas (including a 3-element SteppIR) for almost all the HF bands and an azimuth-elevation rotator setup which allows contacts to be made using the network of amateur satellites. Last November saw the 75th anniversary of the club's callsign G6UW, which has become famous on the air thanks to our consistently strong signals around the world.



Contests

We take part in many international Amateur Radio contests including CQ World Wide, RSGB IOTA and the IARU HF World Championship. Contests are usually held at weekends and involve contacting as many Amateurs in as many different countries as possible within either 24 or 48 hours. CUWS holds the special contest call-sign M4A, which helps to attract a lot of attention on the air.

Forthcoming events

Next Pub Meet: Thursday 9 October — 8.00pm — Maypole Pub, Park Street (off Jesus Lane)

Visits to CUWS Radio Station: Saturday 18 October, Sunday 19 October, other times by arrangement

Please contact Hugo — hs366@cam.ac.uk — if you would like to come along.