

44th Jamboree on the Air Report 2001

It was gratifying to see that this year more UK stations took part in JOTA than last year and that the number of stations sending in a report was maintained. From these reports it is clear that stations are achieving the main purpose of JOTA - "enabling Scouts to contact other Scouts". Each year I am agreeably surprised by the number of international contacts that are made.

In addition to the Scout stations, many others call in with good wishes for a successful JOTA. All the operators seem to have links with Scouting or Guiding, either fond memories from their own youth or through other members of their family. One of the most remarkable of these contacts must be that between GB0CAW in Norfolk and the International Space Station, when Scout Leader Chris Rolph G7HXW spoke to Crew Commander Frank Culbertson KD5OPQ, who has links with Scouting.

Many stations experienced deteriorating radio conditions during the weekend caused by solar flares that had been forecast for several days. For those with clear skies an aurora borealis was observable as far south as southern England.

For many in northern Europe, Sunday was spoiled by the selfish behaviour of contestants in the German Contest. The organisers of contests might take other large events like JOTA into consideration when choosing their dates and times. After all, this event is likely to attract new, young people to Amateur Radio and it is a bad idea to spoil their first experience in this way.

On Thursday 18 October 2001, 128 stations had registered their intention of operating and were listed on the UK Radio Scouting web site. I have received 46 Station Reports and of these, 40 gave attendance figures which totalled 1238 Scouts (inc Cubs, Beavers, etc), 266 Scout Leaders and 43 Fellowship. 179 Radio Amateurs were recorded (some were members of the Scout Association). Also recorded were 126 Guides (inc. Brownies, Senior Section, etc) and 10 Guiders and 332 other visitors. If these figures are typical of all the stations, then one may assume that almost 5000 members of the Scout Association took part. Furthermore, over 500 Radio Amateurs gave up their weekend to make this Scouting event possible. Thank you.

Most of the countries taking part in Jamboree on the Air compile a National report similar to this. Each JOTA co-ordinator is asked to send a brief report to the World Scout Bureau in Geneva for the World JOTA report. This document is available as a booklet but can also be found on the WOSM web site. You may find the stations you have contacted featured.

Richard Gaskell, G0REL
UK JOTA Coordinator

The front cover is based on an idea from
Juliane Schröder of the DSPG group
St Remigius in Borken, Germany

Station Reports

GB0BSG - 1st Byfield and 1st Woodford Halse Scout Troops, Northants

This station was run on behalf of two Scout Troops and included a Scout sleepover and badgework and a variety of activities including hockey, map and compass and quiz and cooking.

GB0BWS - Bishop's Waltham Scouts

The 1st Bishop's Waltham (Gunners) Scouts ran a JOTA station for the third time together with a JOTI station. Despite poor conditions and a German contest they managed contacts in a wide variety of countries. They were delighted to contact HB9S, the World Scout Bureau in Geneva but disappointed to miss out on a Scout station in Australia in contact with New Zealand Scouts. The station also had packet radio with a number of contacts around the world via the GB7SUN node near Portsmouth.

GB0CAW - Cawston Scouts

This station were very fortunate to make contact with Frank KD5OPQ on board the International Space Station at the third try. Frank was reported to be wearing his Scouting T-shirt and the ISS crew were very keen to support JOTA. While this contact was regarded as the icing on the cake the station also had JOTA contacts in Norway, Italy, Russia, Newfoundland and the USA during the weekend.

GB0CDS/GB1CDS - Cromwell District Scouts

Cromwell District Scouts offered radio based pioneering projects and helped 15 Scouts, 20 Cubs and 18 Brownies gain Communicator badges. They had contacts with a variety of Scout stations in the UK and several abroad including LA1CI in arctic Norway.

GB0DSR - Dewerstone Scout Centre, Devon

The station at the Centre combined amateur radio with Jamboree on the Internet and the more adventurous pursuits of Rock Climbing and Hill Walking. They had Scouting contacts with several JOTA stations including Gilwell Park and Les Mitchell, the originator of JOTA.

GB0FGS - 1st Gosfield Scouts

The 1st Gosfield Scouts, assisted by members of Braintree Amateur Radio Club, had a busy weekend with plenty of contacts. Their impressive aerials made use of the football goal posts. Scouts cleared a hedge as part of their Community badge (and used the wood for their fires). The weather deteriorated over the weekend and eventually the roads were flooded so that by Sunday afternoon there was no way home for the operators who found themselves spending the night with one of the Scout leaders. They have requested dry weather for next JOTA!

GB0FSA - Barrow in Furness District

Barrow in Furness District with Furness Amateur Radio Society ran a weekend to introduce Amateur Radio to local Scouts and help them with various awards. They had a range of related activities including electronic projects, quizzes and Morse code practice and also had Scout radio contacts both within the UK and abroad.

GB0GDS - Greenock District Scouts

Greenock District Scouts ran a very successful event visited by Scouts and Cubs, Guides and Brownies who between them gained 70 of the badges relating to amateur radio and information technology. A combined JOTA/JOTI station gave the youngsters opportunities for contacts all over the world without leaving



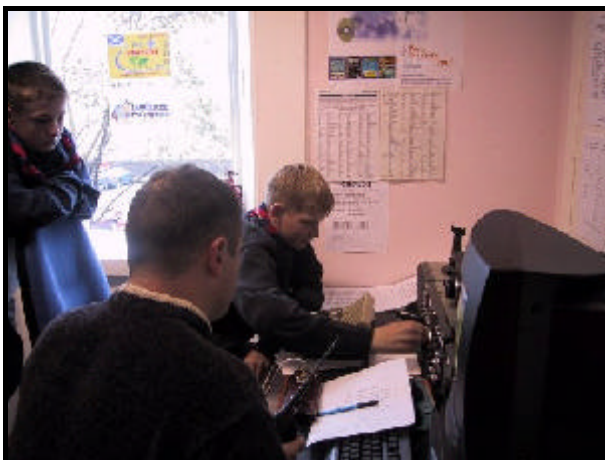
GB0BWS - Radios and computers - the best of both worlds.



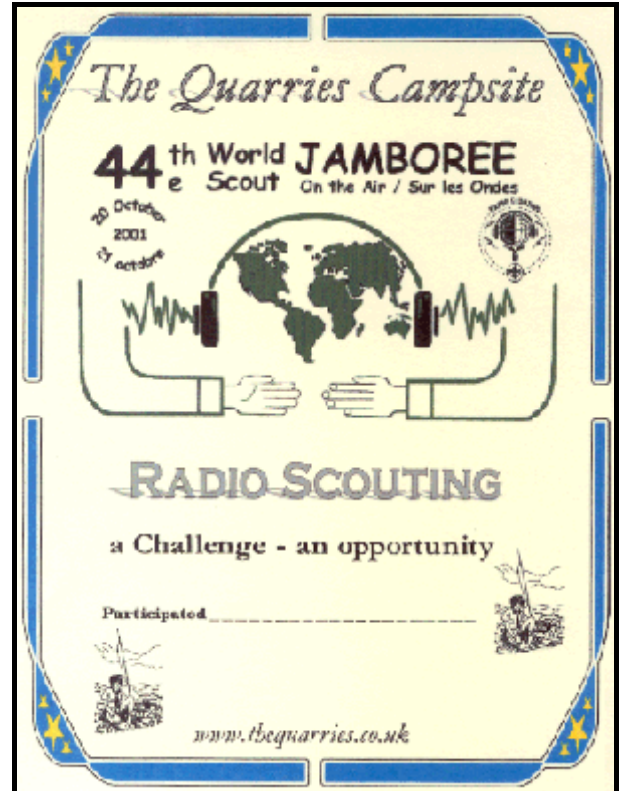
GB0CAW - Scout Leader Chris Rolph G7HXW and the Cawston Scouts at GB0CAW who made the historic contact with the International Space Station on the 20th October 2001. (Photo by Steve Nichols)



GB0CDS - Getting it down in the log.



GB0GDS - Fine tuning.



GB0MKS - Participation Certificate

home, a point emphasised in the excellent press coverage the station received.

GB0HDS - Horsham District Scouts

Horsham West and Horsham Weald Scout Districts were away from their usual QTH but managed an impressive list of contacts at home and abroad. Two of their Scouting visitors managed to contact their radio amateur aunt Esde G0AEC and uncle Ken G0ITI in Yorkshire.

GB0MKS - Milton Keynes Scouts

Milton Keynes Enigma and Milton Keynes Great Ouse Districts offered a wide variety of bands and modes at their station which operated all weekend. They were rewarded with some interesting contacts. Alan G3WNS had a contact with 9K2BI, a station where Alan helped for three years. V5TBS in Namibia called them to their surprise and they also enjoyed listening to the International Space Station.

GB0PSG - Pwllheli Scout Group

2nd Pwllheli Scout Group and Dwyfor District ran their JOTA station as the culmination of their all year round radio activity programme. They had contacts with UK JOTA stations as well as in Portugal and Sweden.

GB0SDS - Salisbury District Scouts

1st Boscombe Down, Salisbury Plain Scouts had plenty of visitors, including Les Mitchell who was very impressed by the level of activity. Helped by Andover Radio Club they had three stations as well as JOTI available and 10 badges were gained.

GB0WFS - Walton Firs Scouts

This JOTA station at Walton Firs Campsite was also host to the National Scout Air Rifle Championships. Shooting featured among the other activities available along with ball games, archery and camping. They had plenty of contacts, both within the UK and abroad and a

very large number of visitors which kept their operators busy. This station is fortunate in having many Scout members among its operators.

GB2COS - Chester Oldfield Scouts

This station started already on Friday morning arranging their aerial farm. Radio is not their only concern as they also started cooking their turkey for the following day! The range of contacts provides an excellent example of how JOTA puts Scout in contact with Scout. Their list of Scout stations worked includes South Africa, Brisbane, Italy, Canada, Sweden, USA, Brasil, St. Helena, Romania, Russia, Iceland, Portugal and Guyana where they have a link with a group in Georgetown for whom they are fundraising. There were plenty of visitors from both the Scout and Guide Associations and the Mayor of Chester was so impressed on his Official visit he returned next day for more.

GB2ESG - 7th Epsom Scout Group

7th Epsom Methodist Scout Group had visitors from all sections at their station. They offered JOTI and Morse code sessions and portable and mobile operating back to the base station. Several Scouts and Cubs gained Communicator badges and they made contacts with Scout stations in the UK and abroad.

GB2GP- Gilwell Park

Mark G7AHR was joined by a team from Itchen Valley ARC for the weekend. As a sought after station, they had contacts with sixty UK Scout stations and almost as many Scout station outside the UK. Their visitors included some Air Scouts from Deptford who may have been keen to get out of the rain, and a dozen Brownies.

GB2HDS - Halifax District Scouts

Halifax District Scouts stayed in a Hostel for a Communications theme weekend. Twenty Scouts gained Communicator badges assisted by members of Calderdale Raynet Group. They had

contacts with a variety of stations in the UK and abroad. Also on offer were indoor and outdoor games and a night hike.

GB2JAM - 1st Thurstaston Scout Group

Birkenhead District and West Wirral District combined for their JOTA station which has plenty of Scout licensed amateurs organising the event. They had plenty of UK contacts and comment that they spent a lot of time in conversation. Their contacts beyond the UK included Len VE3MYF, who was involved in the Jamboree in Edmonton and a JOTA founder. They also had a JOTI station which proved popular and an e-mail address where radio contacts were invited to e-mail photographs which worked very well.

GB2LDS - Lonsdale District Scouts

Lonsdale District Scouts put on a varied programme of radio related activities including crystal set building, oscilloscope demonstrations, Morse code games and work towards Cub Scout Communicator badge. The Scouts had a sleepover although the Saturday session did close down at 2am on Sunday morning! This station was one of the many who contacted GB0MCG the station promoting the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester.

GB2MSG - Mundesley Scout Group

1st Mundesley Air Scouts station was run by a single operator who helped Cubs gain their Communicator badge. The station had contacts in the UK but the operator would have liked a competition, preferably not involving computers, to provide another activity. As with many other stations, contests occupied the bands leaving little space for Scout QSOs.

GB2RST - Radio Scouting Team, Tolmers

The Radio Scouting team based at Tolmers camp site can boast eight Scout radio operators. With such forces at their disposal a tally of some fifty UK Scout contacts and almost as many outside

the UK is to be expected. The station was on air all weekend and on a selection of bands. They also offered kit construction.

GB2SDS - South Tyneside Scouts

South Tyneside District Scouts had visitors from most sections and had a programme which included camping and cooking and crate stacking although it does not specify if the crates were connected with a local beverage.

GB2SPX - Spixworth Scouts

Spixworth Scouts, Norwich North District station attracted more non-Scout visitors than Scouts, possibly because most of the local members already have their Communicator badge. One visitor who saw the sign and looked proved to be a Scout Leader from New Zealand who told of trips into the bush to live off the land!

GB2SSG - Salisbury Scout Groups

14th Salisbury Scout Group ran their station on Saturday as part of an activity weekend that started with a hike on Friday night, communications games on Saturday morning, JOTA on Saturday afternoon, map-reading on Sunday morning and a Pathfinder hike in the afternoon. The weather put paid to plans to sleep outside but the cooking was outdoors and counted towards the Camp Cooking badge. They had plenty of contacts with Scout stations, especially Holland and interesting contacts with a station in Kuwait and an American novice using just 15 watts.

GB2TWH - Taunton West Hatch

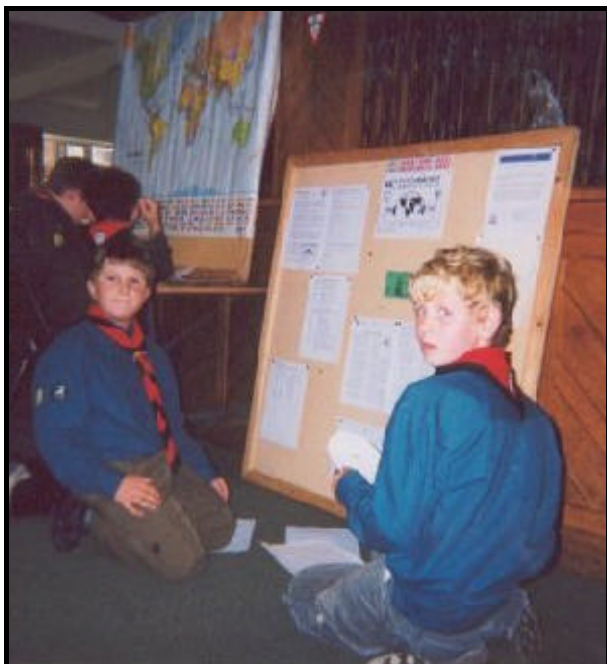
Taunton District West Hatch Cubs and Scouts operated on Sunday afternoon and their list of contacts reflects the tendency of many groups who have worked all weekend to wind down after Sunday lunch. Instead of a list of British stations they had Scout contacts with The Faeroes, Italy, Sweden, Yugoslavia and France. They also talked to a pilot fifty miles south west of Albany USA flying a mile high.



GB2COS - The Mayor of Chester was among the visitors.



GB2GP - Thamesmead Brownies visiting the station at Gilwell Park, Liz M0ACL of Itchen Valley at the mike.



GB2SSG - Scouts surprised while answering the JOTA quiz.



GB4GVS - GW4GTE and Scouts at the main shortwave transceiver.



GB4YOU - Jonathan, a member of the 4th Oxford Scouts, with Steve G0NPA.



GX0SCR - Belynda of the 9th Caterham Brownies hears the sound from the crystal set she has just made.

GB4CDS - Chelmsford District Scouts

Chelmsford District Scouts gained thirty five badges over a weekend that also included a JOTI station. They operated both days and have Novice Licence holders among their operators.

GB4CNS - Central Notts Scouts

Central Notts District were active early and late all weekend and their impressive list of contacts reflects their tenacity. They had 134 contacts in 40 countries in every corner of the World and their visitors passed plenty of messages.

GB4GVS - Goostrey Village Scouts

1st Goostrey Scouts hosted JOTA on behalf of Alderley District and had plenty of visitors. They had contacts with 43 Scout stations abroad and 31 within the UK. Situated close to the Jodrell Bank Radio telescope it might be expected that they had an interest in space but although they could hear the International Space Station they couldn't manage a contact. Also on offer were radio direction finding and Internet web site development. Seven Communicator badges were gained.

GB4HDS - Hartlepool & District Scouts

Hartlepool District Scouts had all 52 of their Cubs visiting gain their Communicator badges while one Cub was invested during JOTA. They had some nice Scout contacts both in the UK and beyond but they highlight an unusual contact with a Benedictine monastery WA5SQQ.

GB4JLC - John Lothar Centre

1st Earls Barton (Jubilee) Cubs had their JOTA station as part of their Pack Holiday so other activities such as swimming, archery and shooting were also on offer during the weekend. The operator remarked on the excellent conditions on all the bands and they had plenty of contacts across Europe and within the UK.

GB4KCS - Kent County Scouts

Kent County Scouts at Buckmore Park had nine Scouts from Medway and eight from Grove Green, Maidstone take their Communicators badge during the weekend and hope that some may be encouraged to go further with the new Foundation licence. They too suffered rain all weekend but were safely inside.

GB4KSS - Kirby Stephen Scouts

Kirkby Stephen ran their station for all sections and had a couple of Brownies among their visitors. Following preparations before the event they helped assemble the aerial and connect the transmitter. They operated on Saturday morning and made contact with the World Scout Bureau in Geneva as well as Scout stations in Denmark and the Czech Republic. They worked towards the Cub Communicator and World Friendship badges.

GB4MAR - Marlborough Scout Group

2nd Marlborough Scouts offered a variety of events including a patrol camp, a campfire, an Electronics badge course, crafts for Beaver Scouts and JOTI.

GB4WHS - Wall Heath Scouts

1st Wall Heath Scouts remarked that it was a quiet JOTA and wondered if it was possible to know when other stations were active as they could not find stations to pass messages to. They had various contacts via a Gateway link provided by G4CGB and could hear Australian stations. Scouts could stay overnight and on Saturday they could visit a local IT training centre to take part in JOTI.

GB4YOU - Youlbury Scout and Guide Amateur Radio Station, Oxford

This station planned for early starts on both days and was rewarded with some nice Scout contacts, especially in the eastern Mediterranean.

A Guide and Brownie visiting for the 4th year were joined by local Scouts who had hiked to the site for an overnight camp.

GB5AM - Appleby Magna and Measham Scout Group

Appleby Magna and Measham Scout Group attracted all ages to their weekend of radio related activities from both ends of the technological scale. On offer were crystal set building, tin can telephones, field telephones, Morse room to room, circuit testing, Satellite weather station, JOTI, word searches and quizzes.

GB5BG - Birstall Guides

Birstall Guides are regulars at JOTA and TDOTA taking advantage of the two opportunities to meet Scouts and Guides. On this occasion the station had Ranger Guide and Guider visitors and made contacts with JOTA stations in the UK, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Eire and Ohio USA as well as the World Scout Bureau in Geneva.

GB5CB - Chesham Bois

1st Chesham Bois ran a modest station as the Scout HQ was assigned to other activities. This gave the visitors plenty of time to pass and receive messages. The station was active on Saturday and they were glad not to be taking down aerials on Sunday when it poured all day.

GB5SGG - Slough Girl Guides

3rd Slough Guides had their own JOTA station and their own Guide operator, Emma 2E1HWN. Working on 2m and 6m they made several Scout contacts within the UK and also had a JOTI station.

GB6CHE - Cheshire Scouts

Cheshire County could muster plenty of Scout operators for their station and made 2m contact with the other stations active on the band in the Cheshire area. They had plenty of visitors who

could also take part in JOTI and try programming robots to follow a marked course.

GS3HAM - Morningside Scouts

60th Morningside Scouts ran a small experimental station on Saturday afternoon with some fourteen Scouts. They were rewarded with a contact with a JOTA station in Iceland TF1JAM as well as JOTA stations in England.

GX0SCR - Caterham Guides and Brownies

Caterham Guides and Brownies are lucky to have Ann G7BSF and Paul G4APL open their home and radio shack for JOTA and TDOTA. and were rewarded by an excellent day. Their very full report included details of contacts with Scout stations in South Africa, St Helena, New Zealand, Sweden and Australia. They had a packet station and a technical area where the Guides and Brownies could learn more about transmitters and receivers and how radio works.

GX3CO/P MX1COL/P - East Essex District

East Essex District used the call sign of Colchester Radio Amateurs for their station and fielded a large team of amateurs to assist the Scout and Cub visitors get on air. They comment that although the list of Scout stations may not be very long, the contacts were, with plenty of chat. Six Radio Communicator badges were completed with more to follow and four are keen to sign up for the new Foundation Licence.

G0OPZ /G7JHS - Central Yorkshire Scout Radio Fellowship

Central Yorkshire Scout Radio Fellowship were at their shack at Bramhope Camp site where a meeting of the Jamboree contingent, Thailand 2002 was also being held. These Scouts were able to taste International Scouting by contacting other Scouts around the World. Other radio activities included radio construction and Morse buzzers. This station was one of several to try PSK 31 mode and they had contacts with JOTA stations in Lisbon, Apeldoorn and Grimstad.

MN0AKU - Foyle Scouts and Cubs

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Society offered to operate a station for local Scouts and Cubs but the youngsters failed to turn up. To make life more difficult, the RSGB pack arrived on 24th and the operators could be forgiven if they had not returned a report. The Scout stations who contacted them would be very pleased to have a contact in Northern Ireland.

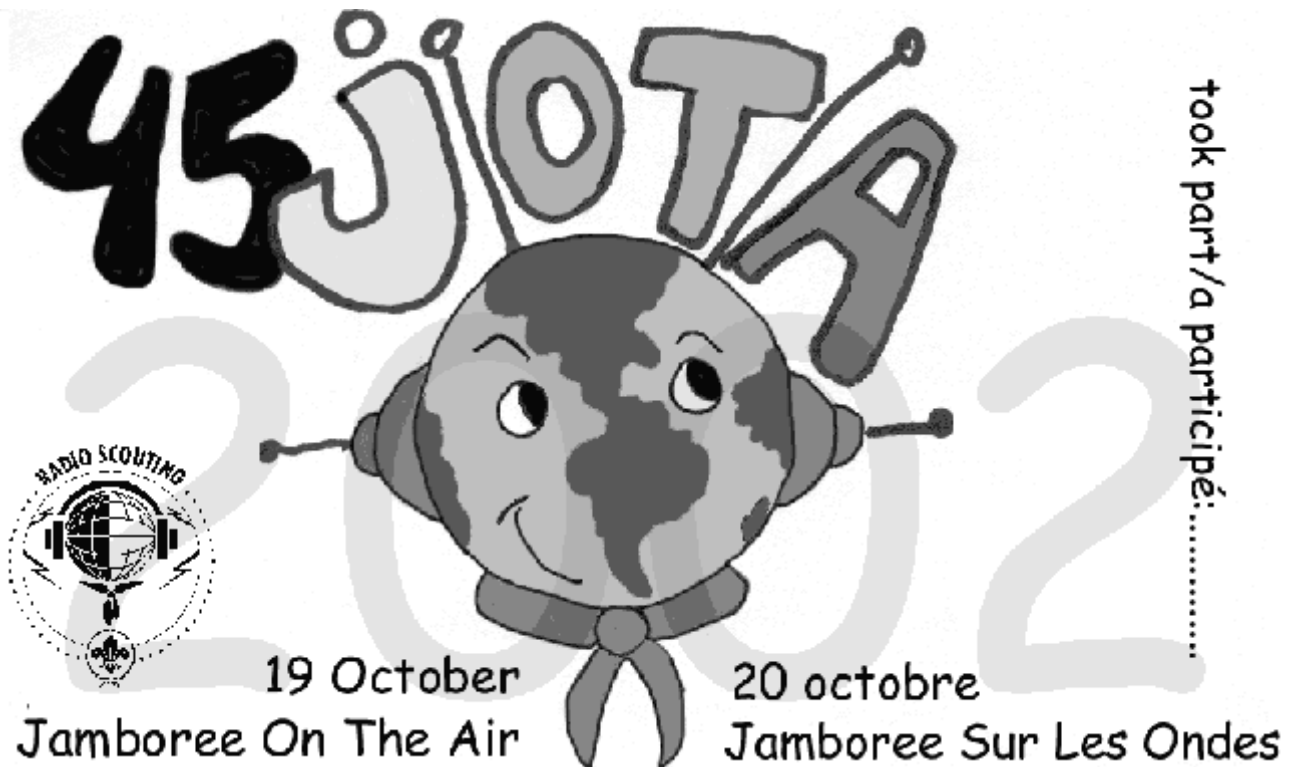
G3BHK

Les Mitchell had a busy weekend, both operating from his own QTH and as a visitor to GB0SDS. He comments that activity seems to be increasing and that Scouts are passing more interesting information. On the negative side the German contest made it very difficult for some stations to keep going and Les wonders if JOTA weekend could be made contest free.

45th Jamboree on the Air

19 - 20 October 2002

The logo for the next JOTA has been designed by Jorge Rojas and Jacobo Olave who are twelve year old Scouts of the Sagrada Familia Chilena group in Santiago, Chile.

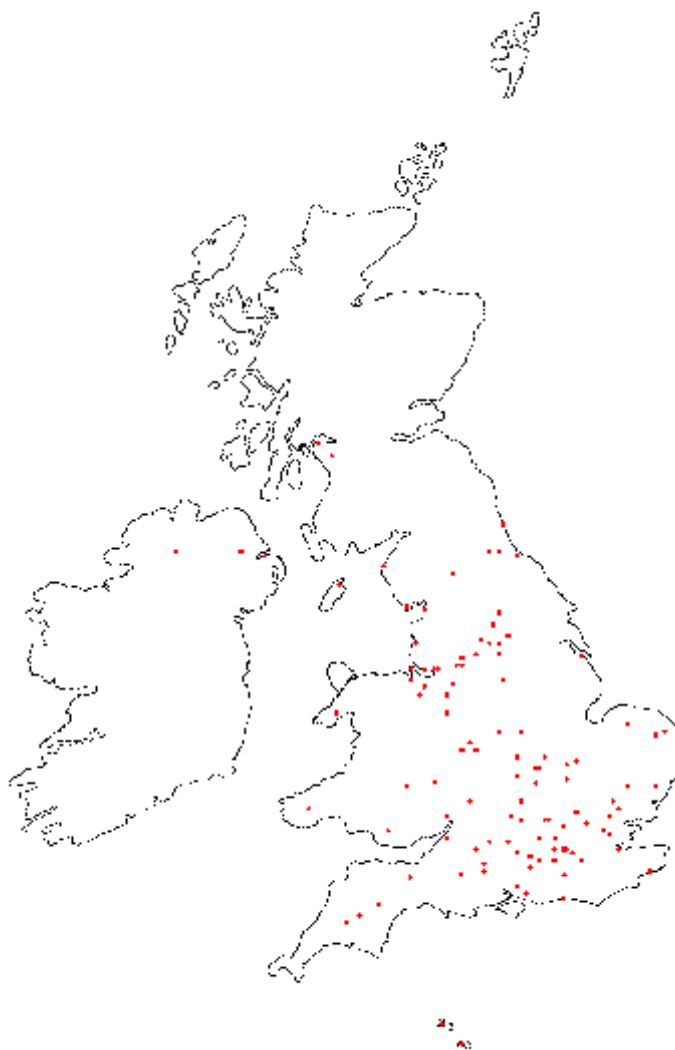


JOTA 2001 Station List

The following UK JOTA stations were notified to www.radio-scouting.org.uk by 18th October 2001.

Callsign	Location	Callsign	Location
G0OPZ	Bramhope Camp, Leeds	GB1SAS	Stanford-le-Hope, Essex
G3BHK	Zeals, Wiltshire	GB1SVS	Huntington, Chester
G4UEL	Blackwater Valley, Hampshire	GB1WSD	Wakefield, West Yorkshire
GB0BAS	Stockport, Cheshire	GB2BSA	Harrogate, North Yorkshire
GB0BDS	Pencoed, Bridgend	GB2COS	Chester
GB0BSG	Byfield, Daventry	GB2CST	Chalgrove, Oxfordshire
GB0BWS	Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire	GB2EBS	Birmingham, West Midlands
GB0CAW	Cawston, Norfolk	GB2ESG	Epsom, Surrey
GB0CDS	St Ives, Cambridgeshire	GB2FCS	Folkestone, Kent
GB0CSC	Crawfordsburn, N. Ireland	GB2GCS	New Waltham, Lincolnshire
GB0CWS	Crook, County Durham	GB2GIA	Alton, Hampshire
GB0DCS	Durham City	GB2GLO	Glossop, Derbyshire
GB0DSR	Goodameavy, Dartmoor	GB2GP	Gilwell Park Scout HQ (London)
GB0EKT	Basildon, Essex	GB2GSG	Garforth, Leeds
GB0FBS	Bilston, West Midlands	GB2HDS	Halifax, Yorkshire
GB0FGS	Braintree, Essex	GB2HS	Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire
GB0FSA	Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria	GB2JAM	Birkenhead, Wirral
GB0FSS	Guildford, Surrey	GB2LDS	Morecambe, Lancashire
GB0GDS	Gourock, Renfrewshire	GB2MSG	Mundesley, Norfolk
GB0GS	Selsey, Gloucestershire	GB2MSR	Ramsey, Isle of Man
GB0HDS	Horsham, West Sussex	GB2ODS	Odiham, Hampshire
GB0JAG	St Martins, Guernsey	GB2RST	Cuffley, Hertfordshire
GB0JSA	St Ouens, Jersey	GB2SBS	Buckden, Cambridgeshire
GB0LWL	Lap Wing Lodge, Renfrewshire	GB2SDS	South Shields, Tyne & Wear
GB0MKS	Milton Keynes	GB2SPP	Cosham, Portsmouth, Hampshire
GB0MSG	Mangotsfield, Bristol	GB2SPX	Spixworth, Norfolk
GB0OSG	Oakley, Hampshire	GB2SSG	Salisbury, Wiltshire
GB0PG	Pinkneys Green, Maidenhead	GB2SVS	Huntington, Chester
GB0PSG	Pwllheli, Gwynedd	GB2TWH	Taunton, Somerset
GB0RLS	Harrow, Middlesex	GB2WCS	Whitehaven, Cumbria
GB0SB	Bicester, Oxfordshire	GB2WDS	Wrexham, Denbeigh
GB0SDS	Amesbury, Wiltshire	GB2WRS	Whalley Range, Manchester
GB0TIM	Sheffield, South Yorkshire	GB2WSC	Chesterfield, Derbyshire
GB0WDS	Worthing, Sussex	GB2XKB	Mirfield, West Yorkshire
GB0WFS	Cobham, Surrey	GB4CDS	Chelmsford, Essex
GB0WHT	Crewe, Cheshire	GB4CHE	Warrington, Cheshire
GB1CDS	St. Ives, Cambridgeshire	GB4CNS	Nottinghamshire
GB1FO	Manchester	GB4DS	Devizes, Wiltshire
GB1GS	Selsey, Gloucestershire	GB4GIN	Northampton
GB1GSG	Garforth, Leeds	GB4GVS	Goostrey, Cheshire
GB1JLC	Kettering, Northamptonshire	GB4HDS	Hartlepool, Teesside
GB1MSG	Marden, Herefordshire	GB4HG	Stockport, Cheshire

Callsign	Location
GB4JLC	Kettering, Northamptonshire
GB4JOA	Glasbury, Powys
GB4KCS	Buckmore Park, Kent
GB4KSS	Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria
GB4LBV	Stockport, Cheshire
GB4MAR	Marlborough, Wiltshire
GB4NDS	Overstone, Northamptonshire
GB4NSS	Market Drayton, Shropshire
GB4SJS	Southport, Lancashire
GB4SST	Sandy, Bedfordshire
GB4TCS	Tedburn, Devon
GB4WDS	Martlesham Heath, Ipswich
GB4WHS	Kingswinford, West Midlands
GB4YOU	Youlbury, Oxfordshire
GB5AM	Appleby Magna, Leicestershire
GB5BG	Birstall, Leicestershire
GB5CB	Amersham, Buckinghamshire
GB5SGG	Slough, Berkshire
GB6CC	Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
GB6CHE	Warrington, Cheshire
GB6LS	Callington, Cornwall
GB8BSL	Banstead, Surrey
GB8FSS	Guildford, Surrey
GB8NDS	Overstone, Northamptonshire
GB8SAS	Ipswich, Suffolk
GB8TIS	Ipswich, Suffolk
GB8WRS	Whalley Range, Manchester
GC0HRG	Holywell, Flintshire
GN4SIW	Antrim, Northern Ireland
GW0HRG	Holywell, Flintshire
GX0OPZ	Bramhope Campsite, Leeds
GX0SCR	Caterham, Surrey
GX3CO	Witham, Essex
GX4IRC	Ipswich, Suffolk
GX4PSG	Prestwood, Buckinghamshire
GX5XV	Newbury, Berkshire
GX7JHS	Bramhope Campsite, Leeds
GX7JOA/P	Widnes, Cheshire
MM0ARG	Lapwing Lodge, Renfrewshire
MN0AKU	County Tyrone
MX0BRC	Woking, Surrey
MX0SRC	Woking, Surrey
MX1SRC	Woking, Surrey



The outline map shows the approximate location of the stations that notified the Radio Scouting website. It is interesting to note that there are several centres of dense population which are not represented.

The Foundation Licence

While this JOTA report was being prepared, the Radiocommunication Agency announced the new structure for Amateur Radio Transmitting licences in the UK. There will be three stages which progress from Foundation Licence to Intermediate Licence and then to Full Licence. As the requirements for each level get more advanced, the privileges become greater.

Although existing licence holders will be slotted into the new framework, all new applicants will start with the Foundation Licence. So it is natural that the first of the new licences to be available is the Foundation Licence. This has been set at a level that is well within the capabilities of young people of Scout and Guide age. Indeed, at the launch the Scout and Guide organisations were among those that the RA expected would help to promote the new licence.

It is said that the course of study and practical work for the Foundation Licence can be done in a weekend (including the examination) and there are many well run courses that do this successfully. Others favour a more relaxed approach and take two weekends.

It is hoped that the new licence structure and especially the new entry level requirements and privileges will encourage even more young people into the hobby than the Novice licence did ten years ago. Visitors to Amateur Radio stations who are interested in the hobby should be encouraged to consider the Foundation Licence. The RSGB maintain a register of those qualified to run courses and hold examinations and can suggest whom to contact for more local information in any area.

The course and examination should cost no more than £15 and, assuming that one passes, the licence is issued within days. Amateur Radio Transmitting licences cost £15 per annum but are free to those under 21.

More information is available from the Radio Society of Great Britain
Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3JE
Telephone: 0870 904 7373 www.rsgb.org

Radio Scouting

Radio waves do not stop at national boundaries and neither does Radio Scouting. In the years since JOTA began a network of Scouts who are interested in Amateur Radio has developed. JOTA is the largest event in which they participate, indeed, it is *the* largest annual event in the Scout calendar with around 350,000 Scouts and Guides from over 100 countries taking part. They also arrange many other activities including amateur radio stations at most major camps. For more information, start by looking at these web sites:

www.radio-scouting.org.uk for information on the UK
www.scout.org/jota for Radio Scouting world-wide