

FAQ

Is it expensive? - Not necessarily. A simple hand held radio can be bought for as little as £25.



Do I need to learn Morse? – Only if you want to as it's no longer needed for the licence.

So I need a licence? – Yes although you can operate a radio under supervision of someone who is already licenced.

Do I have to go to classes? – Only if you want to. Training is available online and help is always available from local radio clubs where you will be made most welcome.

Do I need to take the exam at a school/college – No, it can be taken online at home.

Is the exam difficult and very technical? There are 3 levels of licence – Foundation, Intermediate and Full. The foundation licence does require some electrical/electronic knowledge but as before, help and training is available to all.

Is it similar to CB radio? – In some respects although instead of having a 'Handle' you have a callsign (the club callsign is G8SRS).

Who can I talk to on air? – Any other radio amateur anywhere in the world.

Is it open to all? – Absolutely no barriers.

Amateur radio is governed in the UK by OFCOM whilst the RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) represents the members. A host of useful information is available on their web site:

<https://rsgb.org>

From their 'Getting Started' page:



Amateur radio is a popular technical hobby and volunteer public service that uses designated radio frequencies for non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, and emergency communications.

As a radio amateur you are able to transmit radio signals on a number of frequency bands allocated specifically to the radio amateurs which they make use of in a number of ways:

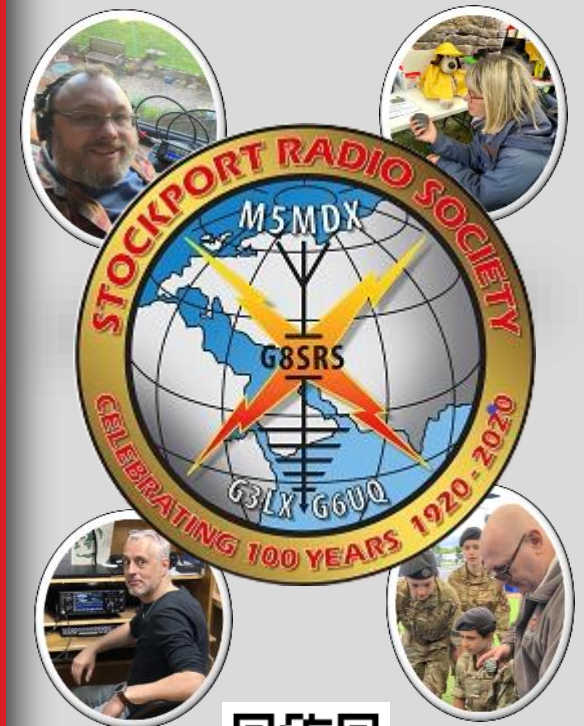
- Contacting people all over the world by radio which often leads to developing international friendships
- Competing in international competitions to test how effective your equipment is, and how good you are as an operator
- Technical experimentation — many of the leaps forward in radio technology have been initiated by radio amateurs
- Communication through amateur space satellites or with the International Space Station (which carries an amateur radio station)
- Providing communications at times of emergencies and undertaking exercises to ensure you keep the capability to do so.

There is no better way to explore the fascinating world of radio communications than by becoming a radio amateur.

Stockport Radio Society

The Amateur Radio Community With Vision

What is amateur radio?



WWW.G8SRS.CO.UK



What do we do?

- **Global Communication:** Amateur (ham) radio allows you to reach people across different parts of the world, overcoming geographical barriers.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** In times of disaster, when other forms of communication may fail, ham radio operators often step in to assist with emergency communication efforts.
- **Technical Exploration:** It provides a practical platform for exploring electronics, physics, and radio technology.

Community: The ham radio community is welcoming and diverse, offering a wealth of knowledge for newcomers.



- **How did it start?**

The history of ham radio reaches back over a century, starting with Marconi's first experiments as an "amateur" radio operator in 1895. His work led to the first successful wireless message across the Atlantic, received at Signal Hill in Newfoundland.

This event marked the beginning of using radio waves for communication far beyond what anyone had thought possible.



Today, there are thousands of amateur radio clubs around the world. These groups continue to explore and expand what can be done with ham radio, keeping alive a tradition that has been significant since its early days.

Stockport Radio Society is one of the oldest radio societies in the UK (even older than the BBC).

Originally formed as Stockport Wireless Society by a group of local radio enthusiasts, we celebrated our 100th anniversary in 2020.

We are based at Walthew House on Shaw Heath offering a focal point for local radio enthusiasts to come together to share their experiences of the hobby, have fun and offer assistance to others



Our mascot goes on the air

Stockport Radio Society

Walthew House,
112 Shaw Heath,
Stockport
SK2 6QS



Phone: 07598 892795

Email: info@g8srs.co.uk