Contesting

A beginners guide.

A Few Questions.

- Why do we contest ?
- Can anyone take part ?
- Don't you have to be a member of RSGB
- Contesting is only for clubs and groups.
- I don't do HF.
- I don't take it that seriously.
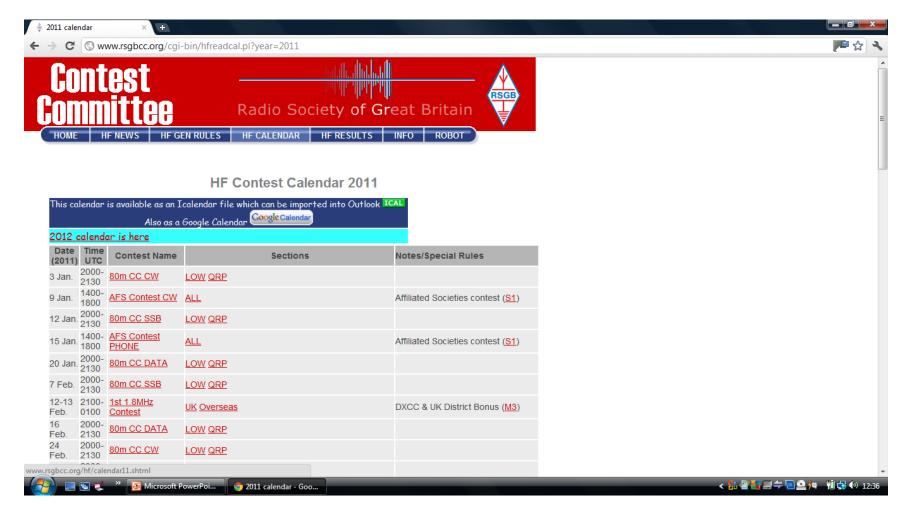- I take part sometimes but never enter my log.

Software

- SD and SDV
- Minos
- Standard electronic log
- Paper logs

Types of Contest

- Weekly Activity Nights
- 4 Hrs VHF / QRP / Portable
- 6 Hrs Single band
- 24 Hrs VHF / HF Field Day
- 48 Hrs CQWW RTTY

Contest Calendar

http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/readcal.pl

Non RSGB Contest

http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/

UK Activity Nights

- Ideal to start
- Your score contributes to the clubs score
- Can take part with others from the club
- At home, out portable
- Only takes a few hrs per weeks
- Can pick and choose what events to complete.

Activity Nights

- 144 MHz on the 1st Tuesday of the month,
- 432 MHz on the 2nd Tuesday,
- 1.3 GHz on the 3rd Tuesday,
- 50 MHz and 13cms to 3cms (2000-2200) on the 4th Tuesday,
- 70 MHz where there is a 5th Tuesday in the month.

So How Well Is H.R.C 144 MHz

Pos	Club	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
41	Mid-Lanark ARS	0	0	0	0	0	500	2,028	0	0	0	0	0	2,528
42	Simpson ARS	336	167	268	269	806	611	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,457
43	West of Scotland ARS	0	841	920	0	648	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,410
44	Worcester RAA	0	87	0	655	0	569	898	0	0	0	0	0	2,210
45	Rugby ATS	0	0	0	0	773	595	822	0	0	0	0	0	2,190
46	Colchester RA	888	929	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,867
47	International SWL	0	0	0	0	0	897	814	0	0	0	0	0	1,710
48	Clifton ARS	0	0	0	143	477	534	492	0	0	0	0	0	1,645
49	Shefford & DARS	500	400	0	222	357	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,479
50	Lothians RS	475	151	0	361	469	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,456
51	Reading & DARC	0	0	0	0	0	767	619	0	0	0	0	0	1,386
52	Stockport RS	569	714	51	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,368
53	Flight Refuelling ARS	0	881	101	0	0	0	119	0	0	0	0	0	1,101
54	Sheffield ARC	0	0	0	0	523	0	449	0	0	0	0	0	973
55	Dudley & DARS	0	365	0	0	570	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	935
56	Furness ARS	0	0	0	0	0	922	0	0	0	0	0	0	922
57	Verulam ARC	284	267	154	0	71	143	0	0	0	0	0	0	919
58	South Birmingham RS	0	190	0	160	250	0	237	0	0	0	0	0	837
59	Havering & DARC	0	111	188	0	0	534	0	0	0	0	0	0	834
60	Crawley ARC	0	0	0	0	0	0	667	0	0	0	0	0	667
61	Itchen Valley ARC	0	0	0	336	328	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	664
62	Hadley Wood CG	643	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	643
63	Northampton RC	0	0	0	538	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	538
64	Hog's Back ARC	0	423	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	423
65	Dorridge Scout Group	0	67	297	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364
66	Preston ARS	0	38	0	61	56	139	0	0	0	0	0	0	294
67	Medway ARTS	0	0	290	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	290
68	Bromsgrove & District ARC	0	0	0	0	0	78	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
69	Thornton Cleveleys ARS	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
70	Sands CG	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24

Section AL

Pos	Call Sign	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	Club
1	M1EYP	1,000	1,000	1,000	970	1,000	917	921	0	0	0	0	0	6,807	Macclesfield & DRS
2	G0BWC	833	923	944	909	944	833	816	0	0	0	0	0	6,204	Bolton Wireless Club
3	G8LZE	889	885	917	848	889	861	763	0	0	0	0	0	6,052	
4	2E0TXT	778	846	889	879	833	806	632	0	0	0	0	0	5,662	Bolton Wireless Club
5	M6OUT	722	731	722	727	750	639	579	0	0	0	0	0	4,870	Trowbridge & DARC
6	G1HSG	944	962	0	0	972	944	947	0	0	0	0	0	4,770	Bolton Wireless Club
7	M3ZPJ	556	769	639	667	639	556	342	0	0	0	0	0	4,167	Bolton Wireless Club

2011 2m UKAC - July — www.rsgbcc.org/vhf/results/11/2mukac.html

All Slides (c) Dave M0TAZ   9

432MHz

#	Club													Total
16	Bracknell ARC	770	853	905	766	954	0	0	0	0	0	0		4,254
17	Oldham RC	313	759	752	854	937	357	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,974
18	Simpson ARS	739	760	778	833	667	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,777
19	Bittern DX Group	864	0	0	688	1,124	929	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,604
20	Wythall RC	672	691	703	0	646	732	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,444
21	Poldhu ARC	746	0	797	875	0	857	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,276
22	Telford & DARS	1,075	309	338	422	308	714	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,165
23	Govt Comms ARC	522	221	500	453	0	875	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,571
24	Martello Tower Group	938	868	730	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,535
25	Lothians RS	358	59	0	599	250	742	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,008
26	Colchester RA	866	897	0	78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,841
27	Shefford & DARS	400	500	600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
28	West of Scotland ARS	0	167	200	0	333	583	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,283
29	West Kent ARS	343	324	284	0	215	89	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,255
30	Harwell ARS	0	0	0	0	556	667	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,222
31	Rugby ATS	0	0	0	766	0	446	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,212
32	Verulam ARC	200	0	300	375	222	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,097
33	Cheltenham ARA	0	0	0	0	0	935	0	0	0	0	0	0	935
34	Mid-Lanark ARS	0	0	0	0	0	903	0	0	0	0	0	0	903
35	International SWL	0	0	0	0	0	804	0	0	0	0	0	0	804
36	Havering & DARC	0	0	108	0	62	607	0	0	0	0	0	0	777
37	Coulsdon ATS	0	132	459	0	108	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	700
38	Stockport RS	0	0	614	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	660
39	Christchurch ARS	0	0	622	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	622
40	Oxford & DARS	0	0	608	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	608
41	Guernsey ARS	0	0	527	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	527
42	Strictly Contest Club	0	0	486	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	486
43	Sheffield ARC	0	0	0	406	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	406
44	North Wales Radio Society	328	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	328
45	Meirion ARS	0	0	0	297	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	297
46	Addiscombe ARC	0	294	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	294
47	Clifton ARS	0	0	0	0	0	232	0	0	0	0	0	0	232
48	Flight Refuelling ARS	119	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	193
49	Torbay ARS	0	0	0	0	0	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	167
50	Dorridge Scout Group	0	0	162	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	162
51	Horsham ARC	0	0	0	0	0	161	0	0	0	0	0	0	161
52	De Montfort University ARS	0	103	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103
53	Preston ARS	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42

OK So how do I take part.

- Taking part v entering a contest.
- What is a valid contact.
- What types of exchange are needed.
- What is the point of 599…001.
- What is the point …

What is the point…

- How often have you worked 500km on 2m.

- How about 500km on 70cm !

- Improves you operating procedure.

- Tests out your skills in speed and accuracy.

- Test out a radio / antenna.
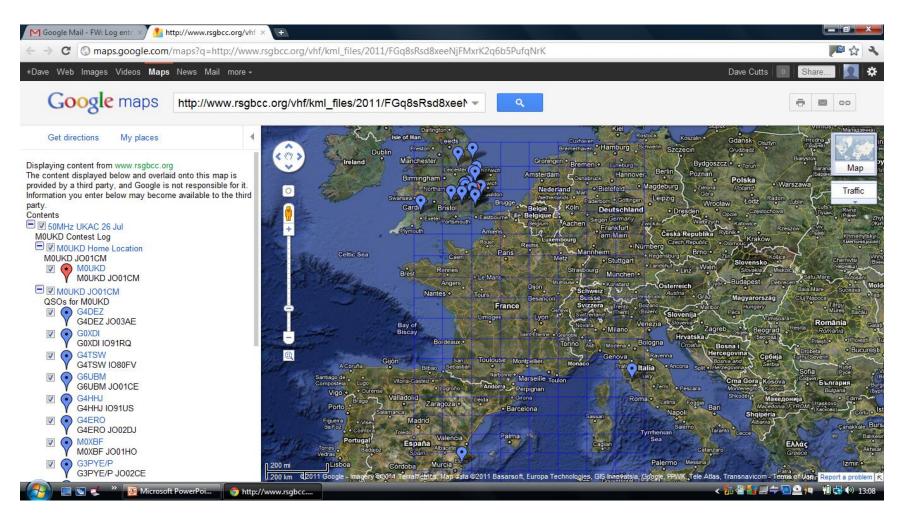
- How good is your setup compared to x

Seriously

- The transfer of information accurately and with speed under less than ideal conditions.
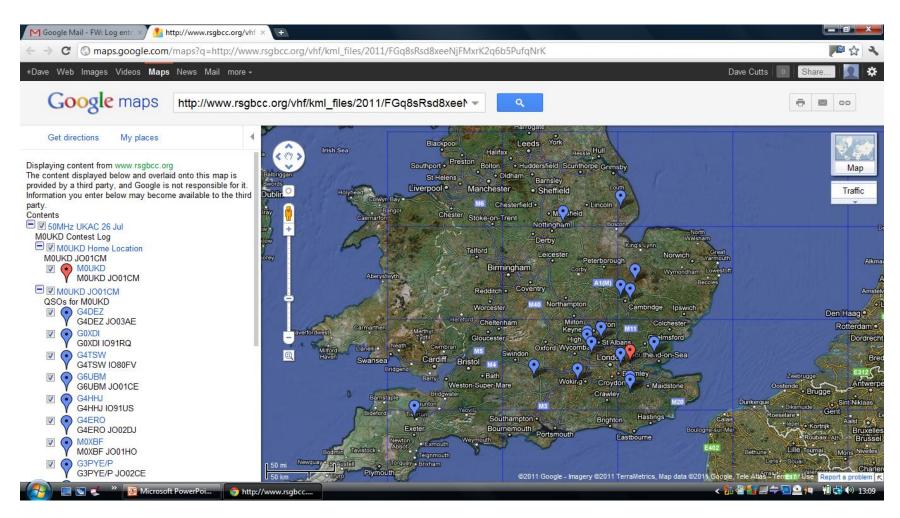
- Mobile phones and the Internet don't always work.

So I have completed a contest.

- Check the accuracy of your log.
- Enter it in good time
- Review the Google map file
- Try and make improvements next time.
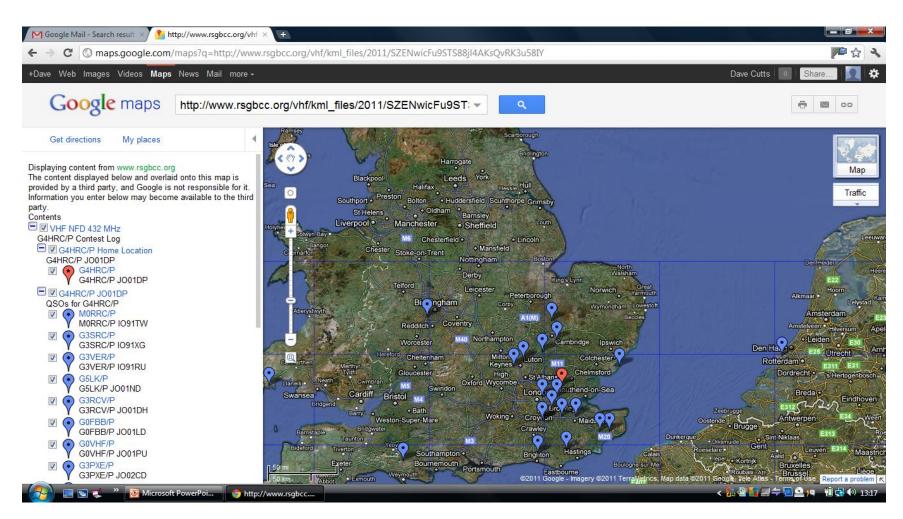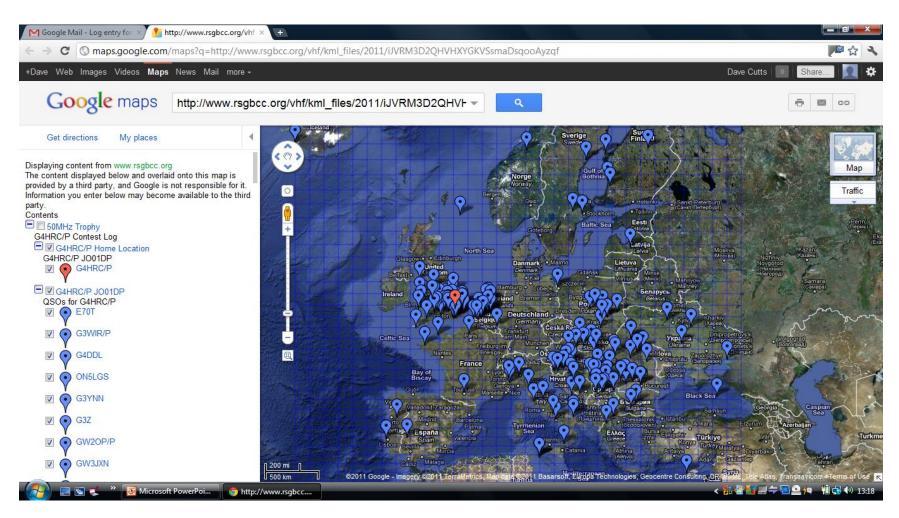- Have fun !

50 MHz Map

50 MHz Zoom

All Slides (c) Dave M0TAZ

433 MHz

All Slides (c) Dave M0TAZ

50 MHz Trophy Cup

All Slides (c) Dave M0TAZ

Links

- Minos
- http://minos.berlios.de/
- SD
- http://www.ei5di.com/
- RSGB VHF
- http://www.rsgbcc.org/vhf/
- RSGB HF
- http://www.rsgbcc.org/

Links

- RSGB Guide to entering a contest
- http://www.rsgbcc.org/vhf/howto.html
- RSGB What are contests
- http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/information/guide.shtml
- How do I fing out my locator square
- http://www.whatsmylocator.co.uk/

Remember have fun, and enjoy contesting…

If at first you don't succeed, buy an Icom.