



YOTA 2017

Bulletin #1



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Please read all of the Bulletin; it contains **IMPORTANT** information about the YOTA camp!

WELCOME ON BOARD

Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) started in 2011 in Romania. Florin Predescu, YO9CNU, invited about 10 European youth teams to gather together in the beautiful place of Campina. This was the early beginning of YOTA. Within a few years, YOTA has grown exponentially. YOTA has been to The Netherlands, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Italy and Austria. We are happy to say that, since the conference in Varna-Bulgaria 2014, YOTA is officially part of the International Amateur Radio Region 1 and is part-funded by IARU R1 budget. The inviting society and supporters also fund the YOTA camps.

The future programmes contain all kind of amateur radio activities. However, a cultural aspect will be part of the programme. This new version of YOTA was held for the first time in Italy (ARI), with not only European teams, but also teams from Middle-East and even Africa. Last year in Austria we invited teams from Region 2 and 3 and this year a team from Japan will be in the UK with you.

We all want you to get an unforgettable time, learn a lot about amateur radio and make many new worldwide friends!

Lisa Leenders, PA2LS
Youth WG Chair of IARU R1



WELCOME TO YOTA UK 2017



We are now just a few weeks from the IARU YOTA summer camp for 2017. The Radio Society of Great Britain is extremely proud to be hosting this prestigious international event and our people have been working on the project for over a year now.

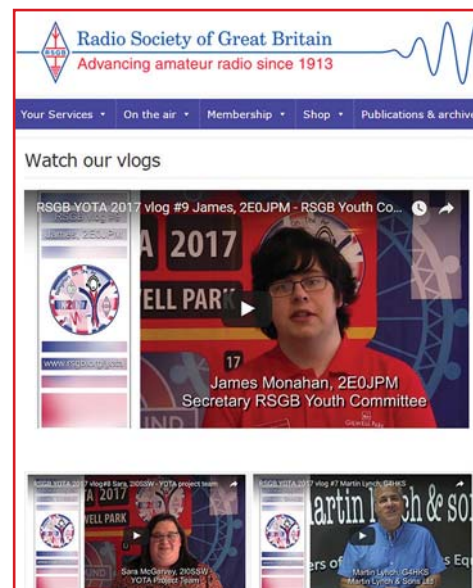
We all recognise the need to provide events for young radio amateurs, not only so you can have a good time during the camp, but also so that you can start to build up your network of contacts and help grow the amateur radio community and sustain it for the future.

This year's YOTA camp has been organised to enable 80 young people from 30 different countries to come together, forge international friendships and experience a range of amateur radio activities; antenna building, portable operation, direction finding, kit building and operating the multi-station special event station GB17YOTA. With visits to Bletchley Park, the National Radio Centre and the Science Museum in London it is certainly going to be a busy week.

I will be coming along to the event to meet you all but for now on behalf of the RSGB, our Youth Committee and the YOTA Project Team I welcome you to YOTA UK.

Nick Henwood, G3RWF
RSGB President

YOTA VIDEO BLOGS (vlogs)



Some of the people involved in YOTA 2017 have been making video blogs. You can see them and learn a bit more about us here:

www.rsgb.org/yota-vlogs

YOTA UK TEAM AT FRIEDRICHSHAFEN

Some members of the UK YOTA Team will be at the Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Exhibition, which takes place 14 to 17 July 2017. They will be there to receive the YOTA key and official YOTA flag from last year's hosts from OeVSV. If you are attending, please make your way to the RSGB Stand on Saturday at 15:30. If you have any bulk items for YOTA that you would like to be transported from Friedrichshafen to the UK, please make arrangements with Mark Allgar, M1MPA, in advance: mark.allgar@rsgb.org.uk

WHERE IS THE YOTA 2017 CAMP?

The event is taking place at Gilwell Park, Chingford, Waltham Abbey, London, E4 7QW.

The site will be ready to receive teams from 14:00 UK time on Saturday 5 August. All teams must have departed by 12:00 on Saturday 12 August.

The site is the headquarters of UK Scouting and has modern lodges as well as open camping, catering facilities and an excellent amateur radio antenna farm.

We have booked two of the lodges for the YOTA accommodation. The lodges have bedrooms, bathrooms, drying rooms for wet clothes and a large hall for activities and socialising. All of the bedrooms have bunk beds and all bedding and towels will be provided.

The shack will be located in a separate building.

Meals will be provided in a separate catering building but we plan to have non-alcoholic drinks available in the lodges at all times.

The lodges and the shack have been booked for YOTA for the whole week but there will be many Scout groups on site at the same time. Some of those will be in other lodges and some will be camping. We hope to involve some of them in our activities to show what fun can be had with amateur radio.

Find out more about Gilwell Park: www.scoutadventures.org.uk/centre/gilwell-park



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

All national teams are responsible for getting themselves to the UK. YOTA UK transport will be available to collect from some transport links close to the site (see details below).

Please can all Team Leaders inform us how your team is travelling and where/when they plan to arrive - yota@rsgb.org.uk

Travel by Road

The site is located on the north east side of London and is easily accessed from Junction 26 of the M25 motorway: <https://www.scoutadventures.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/SA%20Gilwell%20Park%20Directions%20Map.pdf>

Travel by Rail

The nearest railway station is Chingford which connects to Liverpool Street Station in London.

YOTA UK transport will be available to collect teams from Chingford Railway Station.

Travel by Air

London's Luton, Stanstead and Heathrow airports are reasonably close to Gilwell Park and YOTA UK transport will be



available to collect teams from these airports. Depending on arrival times, teams may have to wait for collection to minimise the number of return journeys. YOTA UK transport will not be available to collect teams from other UK airports.

Travel Visas

Teams from EU countries do not require any travel visas but national societies must check what requirements apply for non-EU countries.

RSGB Headquarters have experience of visitors to our annual convention and can assist if required. For example, we can provide letters confirming attendance of named individuals at YOTA UK.

Visa arrangements take some time to process so we encouraged all national societies to start working on this some time ago. It may now be too late to start the process!

Other things to think about

Food and bedding will be provided during YOTA UK. National Societies are requested to ensure that any specific dietary requirements and any special access needs are made known well in advance.

We are keen to enable as many youngsters as possible to operate on the air from the YOTA site but we need to know what amateur radio licences are held by team members and team leaders. National societies are requested to provide accurate licence and callsign information as part of the registration process. You should bring a copy of your Licence with you.

Lisa has included relevant questions in the individual registrations. Please make sure you have let us know of anything you need from us or things we should be aware of.

PAYMENT



As you already know, every attendee has to pay a sum of 50 euros (or 44 UK pounds).

We have set up an on-line payment facility here:
<https://www.rsgbshop.org/acatalog/YOTA-2017-Bookings.html>

If Team Leaders are paying on behalf of Team Members, please make sure you include their names in the box provided. Please ensure your fee has been paid before you travel!

ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

To ensure that everyone is able to experience all of the activities and excursions we have arranged for five activity streams and for all activities and excursions to be repeated five times during the week. You will be told which is your stream when you arrive and you will be given an activity plan for your week.

These are the activities and excursions we have included:

- **Opening Meeting:** on the first night Lisa, the IARU Youth Co-ordinator will welcome everyone and you will all be able to meet each other. The RSGB Youth Committee will also provide more details on the week's programme.
- **Energisers:** every morning we will get everyone ready for the day with some short activities that everyone will take part in.
- **Special Event Station:** we have planned for a five band station to be operated from morning to night. Ofcom, the UK Regulator, has agreed for the station to use the call GB17YOTA. Each activity stream will have two sessions to put Youngsters On The Air. The RSGB has arranged for an award to be made for stations working GB17YOTA so your CQ calls should be in demand!
- **Summits On The Air (SOTA):** portable operation is enjoyed by many young people and we have a father and daughter team coming in to tell you about their experiences on the hills and mountains in the UK. Following that you will all be able to build a portable antenna and take it up the nearest official summit, Wendover Woods, G/CE-005. It is not a high summit so it should be accessible for all and allow you to get a feel for operating from a summit.
- **Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF):** The Gilwell Park site is very large so we have lots of space to hide beacons to find with direction finding equipment. There will be a prize for the fastest time to find all of the hidden transmitters.
- **Radio Kit Building (Buildathon):** Hans Summers of QRP Kits has designed a super CW transceiver for us to build. It will be built for 17m (ideal for YOTA 17) but can be modified later for any other HF band. It has a digital oscillator, built-in Morse decoder and around 3W output. Hans has been working some good DX with his prototype.
- **Bletchley Park & National Radio Centre:** Bletchley Park was the home of the British code breakers and has an extremely informative museum. It is also the location of the RSGB's National Radio Centre (NRC) which has interactive displays and a very well equipped radio room.
- **London Day Trip:** We aim to spend a full day in London with a visit to the Science Museum and time to see the sights, such as Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, and the Houses of Parliament.
- **UK Radio Examinations and Practical Assessments:** We are able to offer every attendee the chance to take the UK Foundation exam during the week. There are a number of practical assessments that must be completed before you can sit the exam. These will form part of the activities during the week.



- **Baldock:** Ofcom, the UK radio regulator has invited 40 YOTA attendees to their listening station at Baldock. This is a high tech facility and the visit provides a unique opportunity to see how radio technology is used in the professional world.
- **International Space Station (ISS):** We have been lucky enough to secure a contact with the ISS and the UK ARISS team will be leading a session centred on the 10 minute window. It is also hoped to link up via HamTV so we can see the astronaut as he speaks to us. We need you to think about questions relating to ISS communications; the best ones will be chosen by the ARISS team.
- **Intercultural Evening:** This has been a tradition since the first YOTA camp. All teams are asked to bring local food and drinks from their home country. This is the chance to show your country to the participants, everyone will taste the local foods and drinks brought by you. You will get a table where you can place food/drinks and other attributes to show your host country. Make sure you bring a country flag to identify your table and prepare a short (one minute) presentation about the things you brought. This evening is one of the most requested evenings of all the participants. Give it your best!
- **Evening Games, Films, Scouting Activities:** In the evenings there will be a range of activities available. Some are being provided by the Gilwell Park site team and will be shared with Scout groups on site, some are YOTA specific.
- **Closing Ceremony and Last Night Party:** The final evening we will be presenting prizes for some of the activities and we hope you will tell us what you have enjoyed. The RSGB and IARU Region 1 Presidents have said they will be attending so they will have immediate feedback on your experience of YOTA 2017. We are then ready to party with some soft drinks, snacks and great music.



ENERGISERS!

There is one task for all teams. It is the Team Leaders' job to make sure everyone is involved: prepare energizer / ice breaking games. Every team should prepare some small games that we can play (inside or outside). The games should be easy to explain and take 10, 15 minutes max. Remember we have two large halls and lots of open ground where games could take place. Some small equipment (ball, sticks, paper/pens etc.) can be used, but please contact us in advance if you need anything. The Team Leaders will meet and decide which energisers/games are used and when.



WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

- Passport or ID card
- Travel and health insurance (obligatory!)
- Necessary medicines if needed
- Amateur Radio License (if you have one)
- Mobile Phone with a charger
- UK mains adapter(s); EU plugs will not fit UK mains sockets
- Shampoo and shower gel
- Toothbrush and paste
- Extra underwear and a lot of T-shirts (one official T-shirt will be provided to each participant)
- Sun Cream – good protection & Sunglasses (if you use)
- Cap to protect from the sun (take a look at www.ham-yota.org/shop)
- Good Sport shoes and warm clothes for SOTA activity
- Waterproof raincoat (UK summer weather is not always sunshine!)
- Your own QSL cards to share (if you have any)
- VHF/UHF Handheld radio (if you have one)
- Laptop (at least 1/team)
- Torch/headlamp
- Your national flag (at least 1/team)
- Clothes from your country (like national t-shirt)

ALCOHOL & SMOKING POLICY

- **UK law prohibits the sale of alcohol or Tobacco products to anyone under 18.**
- **With the focus on young people, the YOTA Project Team expects that all attendees respect the UK law and that those who are over 18 will drink responsibly.**
- **All buildings are no smoking areas.**
- **Team Leaders are expected to lead by example and we ask that they do not drink or smoke in the company of our younger attendees.**

ANY QUESTIONS?

If anyone has specific questions about the event or travel arrangements, please ask your questions – we want things to be clear: yota@rsgb.org.uk



LIST OF COUNTRIES TAKING PART

(Information correct as of 15 June 2017)

Prefix	Country	Number of Attendees
3V	Tunisia	2
9A	Croatia	3
DL	Germany	3
E7	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Withdrawn
EA	Spain	3
ES	Estonia	3
ET	Ethiopia	3
F	France	2
G	United Kingdom	3
HA	Hungary	3
HB9	Switzerland	1
I	Italy	3
JA	Japan	2
LA	Norway	1
LY	Lithuania	3
LZ	Bulgaria	3
OE	Austria	2
OH	Finland	3
OK	Czech Republic	3
OM	Slovakia	3
ON	Belgium	3
PA	Netherlands	3
S5	Slovenia	None listed so far
SM	Sweden	3
SP	Poland	1
YI	Iran	Withdrawn
YO	Romania	3
YT	Serbia	3
Z6	Kosova	1
ZS	South Africa	3

LIST OF CONTACTS

IARU:

- Lisa Leenders, PA2LS: lisaleenders@gmail.com

RSGB Project Team:

- yota@rsgb.org.uk or
- Steve Hartley, G0FUW: g0fuw@rsgb.org.uk

RSGB Youth Committee:

- youth@rsgb.org.uk or
- Mike Jones, 2E0MLJ: youth.chairman@rsgb.org.uk

RSGB Commercial Manager:

- Mark Allgar, M1MPA: mark.allgar@rsgb.org.uk

YOTA Event Telephone Number:

- To be confirmed.

COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Websites:

- IARU:
www.ham-yota.com/category/yota-uk-2017/
- RSGB:
www.rsgb.org/yota

Facebook

- IARU:
www.facebook.com/groups/youngstersontheair/
- RSGB:
www.facebook.com/theRSGB

Twitter

- IARU:
@hamyota #hamyota
- RSGB:
@theRSGB @theRSGByouth #yota2017

YouTube Channel

- RSGB:
www.youtube.com/theRSGB

YOTA 2017 SUPER SUPPORTERS

