

# Timeslots and Talkgroups

Newsletter of DMR-UK & the Yorkshire DMR Group

April 2014

Blackpool Special

## Welcome to the 51st NARSA Exhibition



If you're reading this, you're either at the Norbreck rally, or it's been and gone. Either way, thanks for your interest in DMR—the most exciting development in amateur radio for years.

### DMR repeaters feature:

- \* Two "timeslots" within one 12.5 kHz frequency allocation
- \* Permanent network links with selectable talkgroups to allow local, area, national or international QSOs
- \* Affordable commercial quality gear
- \* Simple, straightforward digital technology

The aim of DMRUK is to promote the mode and its capabilities as widely as possible throughout the UK with the aim of maximum geographical coverage.

The good news is that since the first ever UK DMR repeater, GB77D, went live in mid-2013, the network now has six more boxes, all linked to the international DMR-MARC network. Read on to get a taste of what it's all about.

### Also in this issue:

Fundraising—support your local group and help DMR grow in the UK

Repeaters currently online

Special Event Station - the GB4DMR Roadshow

DMRUK at Nantwich

A guide to the most common DMR/TRBO terms

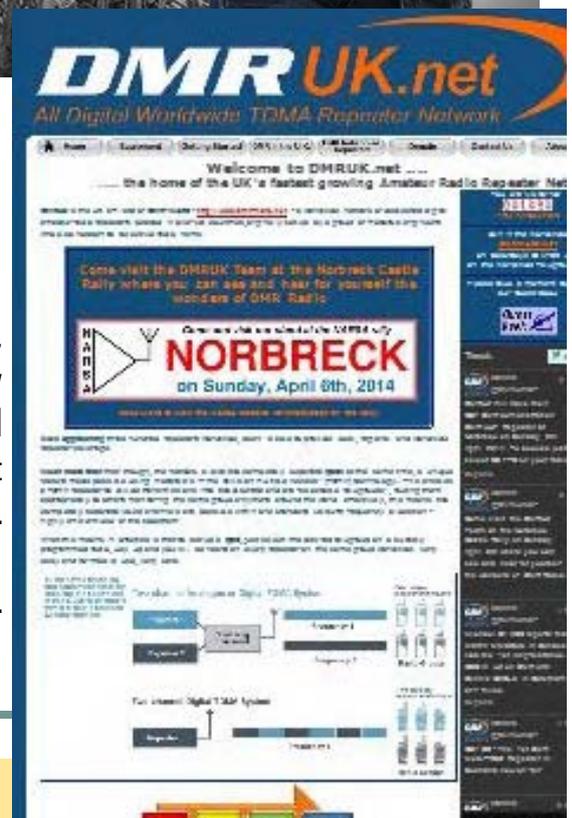
## DMRUK.net goes live



Following a complete redesign by Martin, MMODUN, DMRUK's new website is now fully up and running with all the information and news you need from the worlds fastest growing digital ham mode.

Visit us at [www.dmr.uk.net](http://www.dmr.uk.net).

GIXCC assesses another potential DMR repeater site...



## DMR terminology— a reminder

**DMR**—Digital Mobile Radio. An international digital standard for voice communication

**TDMA**—Time Division Multiple Access. A channel access protocol allowing two voice channels per 12.5kHz allocation

**Timeslot**—half of the transmitted data making up one voice channel

**Talkgroup**—self explanatory. A software routing programmed in to your radio to enable QSOs between others on the same group

**Colour-Code**—the digital equivalent of CTCSS. But in the MOTOTRBO world, a repeater will inhibit you from transmitting through it if you're on the wrong colour-code

**User ID**—the individual ID allocated to you by the network that enables you to access the worldwide DMR-MARC system

**DMR-MARC**—an international network of Motorola digital repeaters

## A continued appeal to your pocket...

Amateur repeaters of all types take commitment from their local groups to install and maintain and DMR is no different. In fact modern commercial quality equipment such as our mainly Motorola gear comes at something of a premium.

Where the DMR system differs significantly however is in the ongoing cost of maintaining server space and internet bandwidth. In the spirit of amateur radio, it would be unthinkable to deny anyone use of the system without payment. But if you do use and enjoy DMR, please consider supporting your local group with a regular donation—most repeater groups can survive happily on as little as £1 per month for membership. But if you are able to donate more than that, it will allow the DMR system to grow and be available more widely throughout the UK.

Don't forget, your repeater group has already made a major financial outlay to provide the facility. Please support them by contributing as much as you can, as often as possible. Thanks.

## DMR right here, right now...

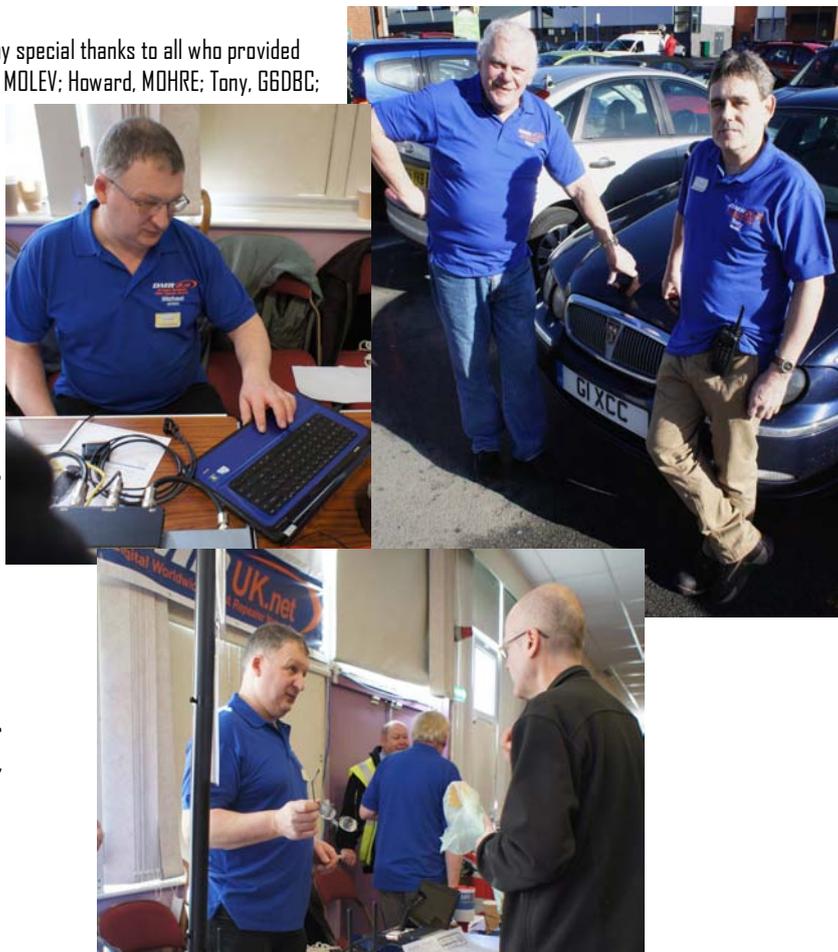
At the time of writing, there are seven live DMR repeaters, located in Wakefield, Huddersfield, Keighley, Liverpool, Broughty Ferry in Scotland, Hope Mountain in North Wales and Caterham in Surrey.

There are several other NoVs throughout the country but as the situation changes very quickly, the best source of information for new repeaters is [www.ukrepeater.net](http://www.ukrepeater.net).

DMRUK's presence at February's Nantwich rally once again stimulated great interest in the mode as well as providing an opportunity to dispel myths—and to have some healthy discussion with those who may take a little more persuasion!

It's a big hobby, amateur radio and our digital mode is never going to be for everybody. However, we feel that promoting newer technologies can only be good and the understanding of digital modes is an absolutely essential part of sustaining and stimulating ham-radio into the future. A future in which, arguably, analogue modes have become virtually absent for commercial use.

DMRUK would like to say special thanks to all who provided help at Nantwich: Mick, MOLEV; Howard, MOHRE; Tony, G6DBC; Peter, G1LDC. Tony and Peter are seen here taking a short break from promotional activities with Michael, G1XCC programming his 10,000th radio.



## GB4DMR/m

DMR-UK has received Ofcom authorisation for a Special Event Station and, subject to confirmation, will be demonstrating the DMR system with a live repeater at the following rallies and events:

6 April 2014 - 51st NARSA Exhibition, Blackpool

4 May 2014 - Dambusters' Hamfest, Coningsby, Lincs

8 June 2014 - 13th Junction 28 QRP Rally, Alfreton Leisure Centre

27 July 2014 - Horncastle Summer Rally

26 & 27 September 2014 - National Hamfest, Newark

6 October 2014 - 24th Great Northern Hamfest, Barnsley

## DMRUK at Nantwich