

HISTORY OF AMATEUR RADIO AND CITIZEN SCIENCE

DR ELIZABETH BRUTON
CURATOR OF TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING
SCIENCE MUSEUM, LONDON

elizabeth.barton@sciencemuseum.ac.uk

 @lizbruton

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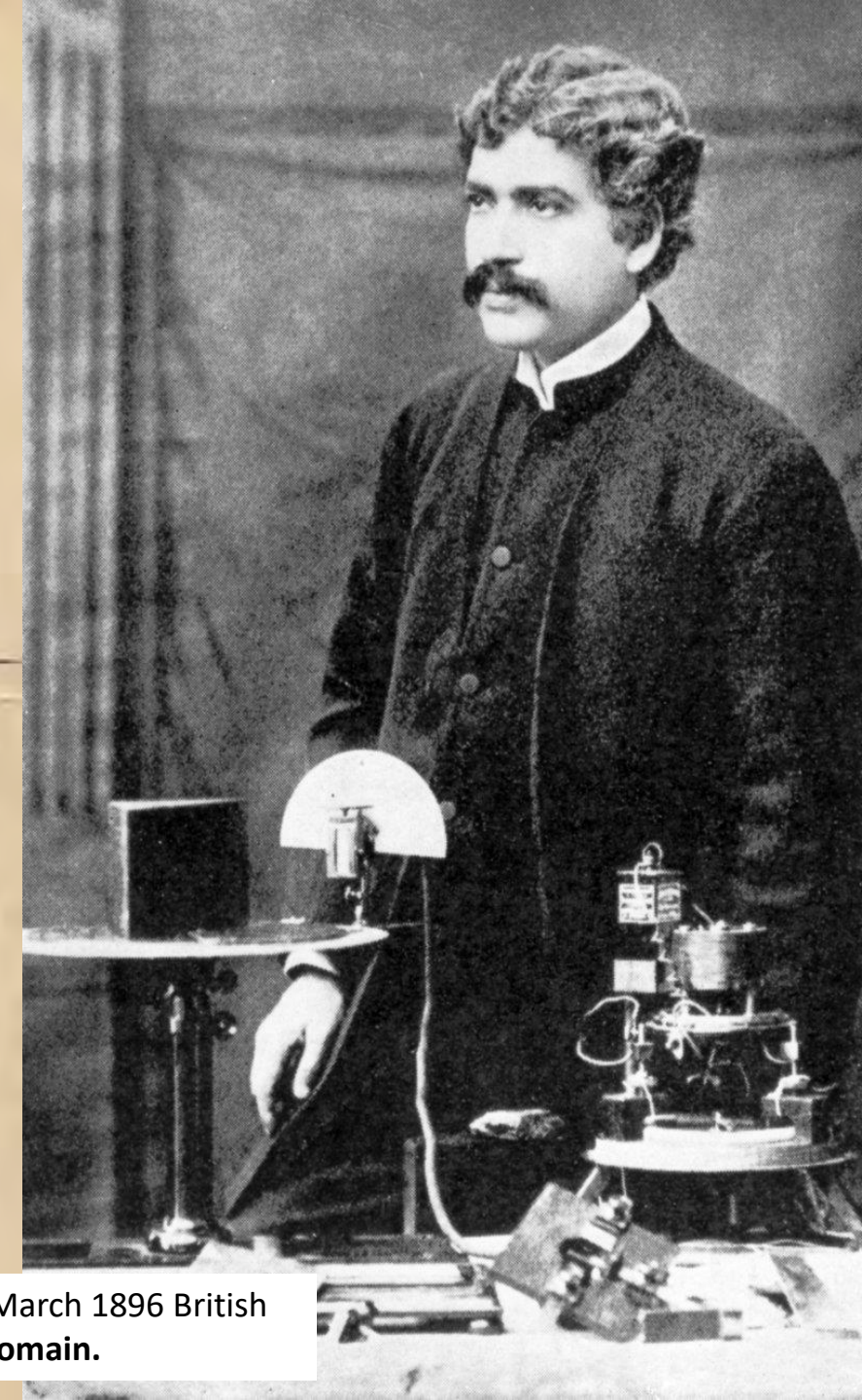
Colour photograph of a long view of the Information Age gallery showing the large Rugby Tuning Coil at the Science Museum, London. **Image courtesy of the Science Museum.**



Marconi's Coherer Receiver, by Guglielmo Marconi, English, 1896. **Image courtesy of the History of Science Museum, Oxford.**



H.C. 2082 4
 24, Southamptn Buildings,
 Chancery Lane, W.C.
 March 19th 1896.
 TELEPHONE
 No 65050.
 TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
 CARPMAEL LONDON.
 G. Marconi Esq.
 re application No 5028th
 dated 5th March 1896. for
 'Improvements in telegraphy
 and in apparatus therefor.'
 Dear Sir,
 We beg to inform you that the provisional
 Specification lodged with the above application has been
 accepted by the Comptroller of Patents and provisional
 protection has been granted.
 The complete Specification should be lodged
 within 3 months of the date of application, or this may be
 done at once, but as a general rule it is better to wait until
 towards the expiration of the term of provisional protection.



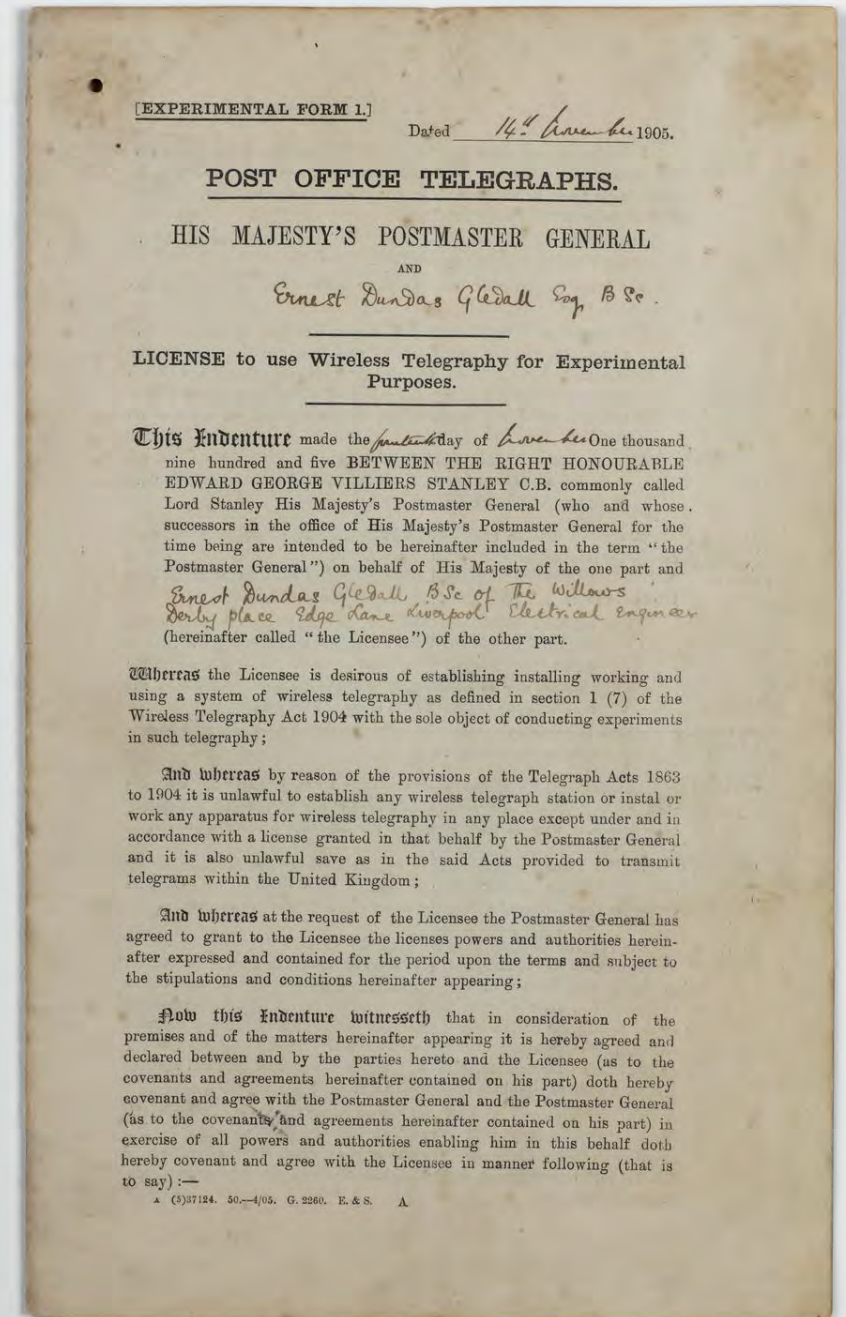
Left to right: Portrait of Guglielmo Marconi; letter relating to Marconi's March 1896 British Patent; and Jagadish Chandra Bose. **All images available in the public domain.**

UK WIRELESS LICENSING

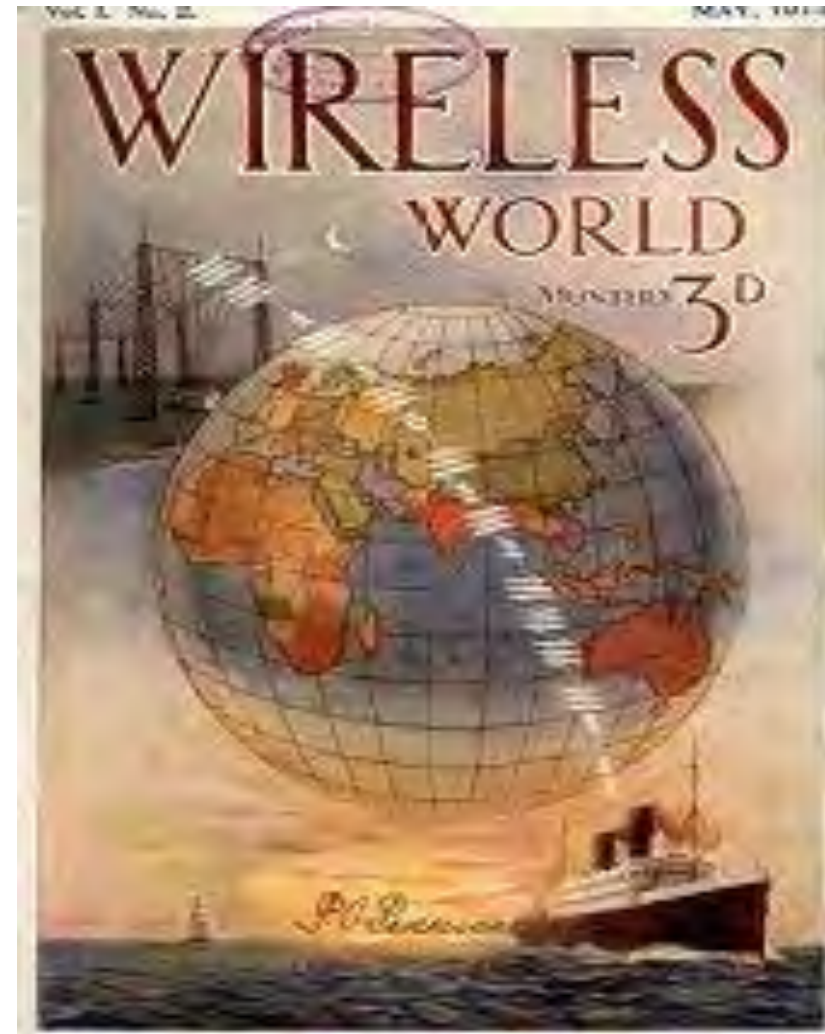
Experimental form 1 (Licence to use Wireless Telegraph for Experimental purposes) dated 14 November 1905 and made out to Ernest Dundas Gledall Esq BSc, issued by the General Post Office (GPO) on behalf of the Postmaster General, 1905.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1904 required anyone wishing to use wireless telegraphy for experimental purposes to apply for a licence from the GPO. Applicants had to provide evidence of British nationality, as well as two character references. The earliest experimenters sent and received Morse code by radio, followed later by experimenters transmitting and receiving voice transmissions.

1977-624 Experimental form 1 (Licence to use Wireless Telegraph for Experimental purposes) dated 14 November 1905. Image courtesy of Science Museum.



WIRELESS PUBLICATIONS



Left: First cover of *The Marconigraph* (1911); Right: The four-color cover of May 1913 *Wireless World*.
Both images available in the public domain.

AMATEUR WIRELESS BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR

- 5 July 1913: Establishment of London Wireless Club
- 13 September 1913: First AGM of London Wireless Club; changed name to Wireless Society of London – national not local
- Early members included: Frank Hope-Jones, A. A. Campbell-Swinton, J. Ambrose Fleming, William Duddell, W. H. Eccles, Henry Jackson, Oliver Lodge, and Sylvanus Thompson
- 1922: Foundation of RSGB

Three of the founder members: Rene Klein (seated), L F Fogarty (left), Leslie McMichael (centre) and Frank Hope-Jones (right) who became the first Chairman.
Image courtesy of RSGB

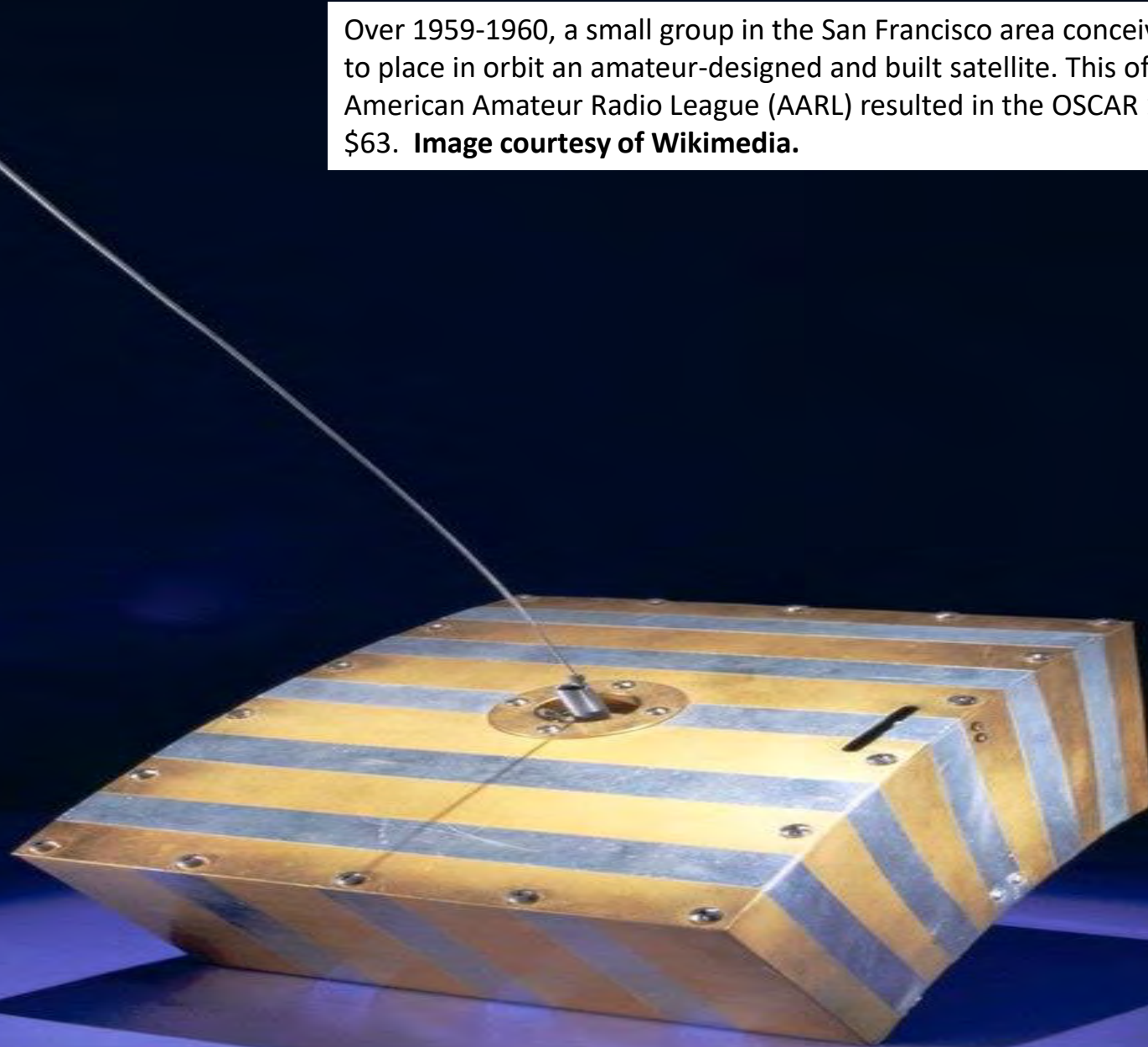




Nelly Corry in her amateur radio shack complete with QSL cards, date unknown. Image courtesy of K8CX of Paradox Design Group (PDG) via HamGallery.



Over 1959-1960, a small group in the San Francisco area conceived Project OSCAR, an effort to place in orbit an amateur-designed and built satellite. This official undertaking of the American Amateur Radio League (AARL) resulted in the OSCAR 1 satellite, built for a mere \$63. **Image courtesy of Wikimedia.**



THANK YOU!

Acknowledgements: Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB); Science Museum, and the History of Science Museum, Oxford for use of images. Bill Liles for his generous support with the development of this paper and my wife for her endless cups of tea.

Further reading: *Radio Society of Great Britain Centenary: 100 Years Working for Amateur Radio* by Elaine Richards G4LFM

elizabeth.bruton@sciencemuseum.ac.uk



@lizbruton

1981-1482 'Popular Wireless' magazine, no. 1 vol. 1, 3rd June 1922, published by Amalgamated Press Limited, England, 1922. **Image courtesy of the Science Museum.**

