HISTORY OF AMATEUR RADIO AND CITIZEN SCIENCE

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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.
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.

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
- **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!

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Further reading: Radio Society of Great Britain Centenary: 100 Years Working for Amateur Radio by Elaine Richards G4LMF

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