



## INTERNATIONAL RADIO NETWORK NEWSLETTER, June 2025

### Welcome

Welcome to the June edition of the International Radio Network Newsletter. We received some great feedback following the first Newsletter published last month, and thanks to everyone who got in touch.

We now also have a link on the website [www.irn.radio](http://www.irn.radio) to the Newsletters, so you can access all our Newsletters on the website as well as on our Facebook page.

There was also a terrific response to the invitation for members to add their own content to the Newsletter, and this month we have included 3 articles. Firstly, we have an informative piece from Doug VE3XDB, on installing and setting up Teamspeak 3. We also hear from Matt IRN5569, on his journey into the radio hobby and his impressive collection of Network Radios. Finally, we will enjoy discovering more about another interest of Ron PY4VT, involving model railway, and he has a BIG surprise for us all, or should that be a small surprise? Read on, and all will be revealed.

Feel free to visit our website [www.irn.radio](http://www.irn.radio) which includes our written Mission, Aims and Objectives, which are as follows.

### Mission

The International Radio Network's mission is to promote the amateur radio hobby to those interested in radio communications. We welcome licensed and non-licensed operators, giving those with an interest the opportunity to gain experience in radio communications, theory, technology and fellowship.

The International Radio Network has been in existence for many years and has a considerable number of licensed amateur radio operators from all around the world. We also welcome unlicensed radio enthusiasts and

short wave listeners to our membership, many of which go on to achieve their own amateur radio license.

## **Purpose, Aims and Objectives**

- To provide a reliable radio Network for the use by licensed radio amateurs, offering a range of methods and modes of communication, including analogue and digital modes
- To build partnerships and connections with other amateur radio Groups and Networks
- To provide regular nets, special events and other activities that promote the use of the Network and for the benefit and enjoyment of its members and users
- To welcome unlicensed members and provide them with support to learn about the amateur radio hobby, ham radio etiquette and encourage them to apply for their own amateur radio license
- To provide unlicensed members with a reliable platform on which to communicate and experience ham radio practice, with NO RF connection
- To ensure that the Network is a safe and family-friendly place at all times, and take quick action where that is threatened in any way
- To experiment with new technologies and modes of amateur radio operating

## **Membership and Getting Connected**

If you are not already a member of the IRN, it is free and easy to do so. Just visit our website [www.irn.radio](http://www.irn.radio) and click on 'Register'. Follow the instructions and we will be delighted to include your Amateur Radio Callsign on our database, and if you are not licensed, we will give you an IRN Callsign/Number. Licensed members have full access to all our connections, and non-licensed members have access to the connections that have no RF links.

Importantly, to be 'trusted' on our Zello channels, or to be given 'talk permissions' on the Teamspeak platform, you must register using the above link on the website.

## **Nets Report**

We hold regular Nets for our members and visitors throughout the week. They include the following:

- IRN Sunday net - every Sunday, 8:00pm Eastern, 1:00am Monday UK time with regular Net Controller VE3XDB Doug.
- Friendship net - every Monday, 5:00pm Eastern, 10:00pm UK time with regular Net Controller VE6DCV Dave.
- Coffee net - every Wednesday, 5:00pm Eastern, 10:00pm UK time with regular Net Controller 11IRN610 Shorn.
- KB1 Multimode net - every Friday, 4:00pm Eastern, 9:00pm UK time with regular Net Controllers MM7HQS Helen and GM0UUB Graham.

For full details of the Nets and connections, please visit

<https://www.irn.radio/nets>

The Friday KB1 Multimode Net is only available to licensed amateur radio operators as it is linked to various analogue and digital links going out on RF repeaters, gateways, nodes and Networks around the world. The other 3 Nets are open to all to participate as there are no RF links. Those Nets do link with other groups, including ZMR, WWARG and we now have the Network Radios group (on their Channel 03) linked in for both the Monday and Wednesday Nets. We very much enjoy building links, increasing participation, and encouraging communication on a fun and family-friendly platform.

The IRN is also privileged to have exceptional 'stand-by' net Controllers to look after the Nets when the regular Net Controllers are busy, so a special thanks to them, and they are, 2W0KYH Declan, M7POV Josh, 8WAR717 Barry and GW8SZL Dave. Thanks to each and all of them, their support is very much appreciated.

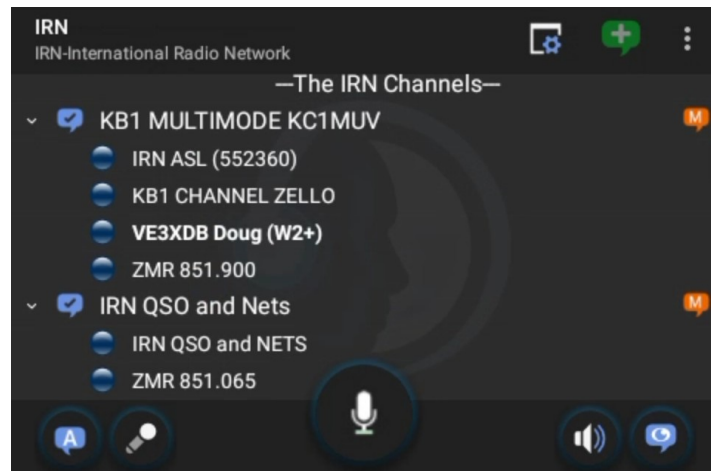
The IRN Sunday Net is temporarily being looked after by Barry 11IRN610, and due to personal circumstances, it is not being held every week. Stay tuned on the IRN Facebook page for when the Sunday Net will be taking place, and thanks to Barry for doing the Net when he is able. Thanks also to our friend, Ray N9KGC, for assisting with 'Netlogger' duties for this Net, it is very much appreciated.

### **Accessing The International Radio Network Using Teamspeak - Doug VE3XDB**

Looking at the connections page on the IRN website, the list of options may look daunting!

(<https://irn.radio/connections>). Over the next several issues of the IRN Newsletter, we'll highlight one of the many options for accessing the network. In this edition, we'll start off with one of the simplest options to setup and use, TeamSpeak3.

Of all the methods used to access the IRN, Teamspeak3 is among the simplest to set up and use. A great advantage of Teamspeak3 is that this single platform allows users to access the IRN channels which are available to licensed and unlicensed operators, subject to licensing status, of course. Unlicensed



operators may use the “IRN QSO and Nets” channel on Teamspeak3, and for licensed operators, the “KB1 Multimode” channel is also available. Regular nets are scheduled on both channels, and the schedule may be found at <https://irn.radio/nets>.

Setting up Teamspeak is well documented on the IRN website. Please see <https://irn.radio/software> and <https://irn.radio/setupteamspeak>. In summary, new users must:

1. **Download the software** - Teamspeak3 is available for download at <https://www.teamspeak3.com/teamspeak-download.php>. It is available for almost any platform, including Windows, Linux, Mac OSX, iOS and Android.
2. **Create a Teamspeak account and set up the software** - a full description of the steps required to setup an account and the software may be found on the IRN website. (<https://irn.radio/setupteamspeak>)
3. **Obtain talk rights** - in order to use the system, you must be “trusted” into the network. This is a one-time step that needs to be taken by one of the IRN admins. Since everyone is a volunteer, it may be difficult to find an admin at random times. The best time to try is just prior to one of the IRN nets.
4. **Key up and say hello!** Speaking of nets, they are one of the best ways to hear activity on the system, and a great place to introduce yourself to other members of the IRN. The current net schedule is always available at <https://irn.radio/nets>.
5. **Questions or comments?** If you have any questions or difficulty, help is not far away! Best way to contact us is using the “Contact Us” link on the IRN website (<https://irn.radio/contact>).

It really is as simple as that! If you’re not a member of the IRN, please register at <https://irn.radio/register>. We have a great community of members, and always welcome newcomers!

Next month, we’ll cover off how to access the IRN using Allstarlink. In the meantime, I hope to speak with you on the network!

Doug VE3XDB

IRN Administrator

## **Journey into the Radio Hobby - Matt IRN5569**

Matt IRN5569, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is one of our more recent members, and since joining, he has been a regular participant on our nets and a wonderful person to speak with. He has taken time to share with us his story in getting involved with radio, and thank you Matt for doing so.

Firstly, an introduction to who Matt is, so in his own words, this is Matt...

'I studied Math and Computer Science in School, I worked initially in the Aerospace field for about 5 years. Then I started teaching because I enjoy working with people, I believe one of the greatest gifts you can give someone is knowledge. I then became a teacher at a local Catholic High School and taught college in the evening. I did this for about ten years. I was then hired at a University for technology, did this for 5 years, still teaching college at night. Finally I was hired full time as a Professor in Computers and that's what I do currently. One of the reasons I was interested in amateur radio is that I wanted to communicate with the astronauts in the International Space Station. I am married 30 years with four children'

Matt tells us that he purchased a 'Talkpod N58 Plus' radio about 6 months ago and started using Linkpoon, a software app that emulates Amateur Radio without a need for a license. He met people on the radio, many of which were licensed hams, and learned a lot of the 'lingo' and other aspects of amateur radio.

Matt also tells us that he met lots of people from Europe and the US, including our good friend Ray N9KGC, and he was encouraged to get on to Zello as well and enjoy the connections that were available there. Of course, Matt then found the IRN and became a member.

During his daily QSOs with others, Matt was inspired by hearing about all the various radios and devices that people were using. So inspired was Matt, he bought 10 POC radios. (POC - Push to talk Over Cellular, commonly referred to as Network Radios).

So, Matt's impressive collection now includes the Hiraysou B8, Hiraysou Bp5, Sonim XP8, Tidradio M6plus (mobile), Luotwo DG6300, KSUN ZL20, Abree 8900 (mobile), Duraforce Pro 2, Talkpod n58 plus, and 3288T POC.

It is a fact that when we are bitten by the radio bug, you can never have too many radios or gadgets in the shack!

Matt also reports that having the recent experience he has had, he is now looking at getting his own Amateur Radio License, and we all send him our best wishes and encouragement to achieve that ambition.

### **Big surprise - Model Railway - Ron PY4VT**

We might think that to have a model railway with all the various details, including bridges, buildings, signals, terrain, and many other aspects, would require a dedicated room to accommodate it. Prepare to be surprised. Please take a look at this video, and watch to the very end to enjoy the full impact.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0s4deetfxo>

Ron PY4VT tells us – The small Baldwin "steam locomotive" was firstly designed on a 3D software program then took me about four months to be fully machined and made operational. The passenger car came next and finally the entire layout which depicts the Brazilian countryside architectural style, based on Portuguese (Portugal) tradition. All parts and features are very close to the tiny Z scale (1:220). A few other boxcars were then obtained from Micro Trains in the USA.

My Father belonged to the local railway heritage in Brazil when the British people were managing it, the reason I enjoy steam trains so much ever since my childhood. I'm now 71 and have kept this hobby still alive besides amateur radio.

Ron - PY4VT

### **Invitation for Contributions and Contact Information**

Thanks so much to Doug, Matt and Ron for their fabulous contributions this month. It is very much appreciated.

We invite all members to add content to the Newsletters, to share personal stories, technical information, equipment reviews, radio-related jokes or fun-facts, other hobbies and interests, and anything else that would be of interest to our members. For example, personal stories about what got you into the radio hobby are always interesting.

Please submit / email suggestions and information to  
[irnhamradio@gmail.com](mailto:irnhamradio@gmail.com)

You can also email us with any questions or additional comments and ideas using the above email address.

I want to thank all IRN members and everyone involved in making the IRN Network such a brilliant place to be. Our ambition will always be to build connections and encourage everyone interested in radio communications to enjoy participating and connecting with like-minded people all around the world, and have lots of fun in doing so.

**Graham M Matthews GM0UUB**  
President, International Radio Network

**IRN Admin Team**

Graham M Matthews GM0UUB - President  
Ralph Streb K8TCP  
Doug Behl VE3XDB  
Helen Matthews MM7HQS  
Bruce Lenton M0UKB  
Gareth Steele G0WUR  
Dave Phillips GW8SZL  
Gareth Jackson M6IGJ

