

2015 MARCH

			John Cook (23.4kHz/22.1kHz)				Roberto Battaiola (20.3kHz)				Paul Hyde (22.1/23.4kHz)				Bob Middlefell (22.1kHz)				Mark Edwards (20.9/24.0/18.3kHz)			
	Xray class	Observers	Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.58m frame aerial.				Modified AAVSO receiver.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.96m frame aerial.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.5m frame aerial.				Spectrum Lab / PC 2m loop aerial.			
DAY			START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)	
1	C6.8	5	15:55	16:02	16:30	2					15:56	16:06	16:17	1					15:55	16:09	16:36	2
2	?	2					07:42	07:47	07:57	1-									07:45	07:49	07:58	1-
2	?	3					08:35	08:42	08:49	1-	08:40	08:43	08:50	1-					08:39	08:44	08:52	1-
2	C3.2	3	09:14	09:17	09:22	1-					09:13	09:17	09:26	1-					09:14	09:16	09:23	1-
2	M1.1	7	09:37	09:49	10:24	2+	09:38	09:48	10:24	2+	09:39	09:49	?	-					09:45	09:48	09:54	1-
2	C5.5	4	10:29	10:35	11:08	2					10:28	10:35	?	-					10:30	10:37	?	-
2	?	1																	10:41	10:47	11:06	1
2	?	4	11:24	11:29	11:38	1-					11:24	11:30	?	-					11:25	11:28	11:33	1-
2	?	3	11:57	12:01	12:12	1-					11:57	12:01	12:12	1-					11:57	12:02	12:10	1-
2	C3.4	5	13:00	13:09	13:30	1+					13:01	13:09	13:28	1+					13:00	13:10	13:21	1
2	C2.1	4	14:09	14:13	14:33	1					14:09	14:13	14:28	1					14:11	14:13	14:19	1-
2	M3.7	6	15:10	15:27	16:22	2+					15:07	15:29	16:12	2+					15:12	15:30	16:00	2+
3	C1.1	4					08:48	08:53	09:00	1-	08:51	08:55	09:04	1-					08:50	08:55	09:07	1-
3	C4.0	7	13:24	13:36	14:09	2					13:24	13:36	14:33	2+					13:23	13:37	14:21	2+
4	?	1																	10:14	10:21	?	-
4	C2.8	1																	10:26	10:40	10:56	1+
4	C1.1	1																	13:39	13:46	13:57	1-
5	C3.5	5	09:36	09:47	10:09	2					09:31	09:48	10:10	2					09:36	09:47	10:05	1+
5	M1.2	1																	18:03	18:10	18:29	1+
6	M1.5	1	08:14	08:18	08:35	1																
6	C2.5	2									15:06	15:09	15:24	1-					15:06	15:10	15:15	1-
6	?	1																	15:27	15:28	15:31	1-
6	C2.6	2									15:50	15:53	16:15	1					15:50	15:53	15:59	1-
6	C2.7	1																	16:02	16:06	16:14	1-
6	?	1																	16:20	16:22	16:25	1-
7	?	2																	14:08	14:28	?	-
7	?	1																	14:44	14:50	15:16	1+
8	C2.5	1																				
9	C4.0	5	10:05	10:10	10:42	2					10:06	10:09	10:40	2					10:06	10:14	10:27	1
9	C1.1	2	11:16	11:18	11:28	1-					11:17	11:19	11:27	1-								
9	M4.5	8	14:25	14:35	16:20	3	14:24	14:32	15:15	2+	14:25	14:32	15:24	2+					14:26	14:35	15:26	2+
9	C9.1	2																	17:40	17:44	17:51	1-
10	C2.7	2					07:22	07:26	07:32	1-									07:24	07:28	07:32	1-
10	C1.5	2									08:50	08:52	09:03	1-					08:51	08:52	08:59	1-
10	C1.0	1																	13:09	13:11	13:20	1-
10	B9.7	1																	13:52	13:53	13:58	1-
10	?	1																	14:50	14:53	14:57	1-
10	?	1																	14:59	15:02	15:09	1-
10	?	1																	15:16	15:18	15:23	1-
10	C1.2	1																	15:30	15:31	15:36	1-
10	?	1																	16:36	16:38	16:41	1-
10	C1.1	1																	17:18	17:21	17:22	1-
10	?	1																	17:30	17:35	17:40	1-
11	M1.8	2									07:13	07:18	?	-					07:16	07:19	?	-
11	?	1																	07:26	07:30	07:38	1-
11	M2.6	5	07:49	07:58	08:20	1+	07:52	07:57	08:09	1-	?	07:58	08:30	-					07:44	07:58	08:27	2
11	C1.8	4	09:23	09:26	09:35	1-					09:23	09:27	09:44	1					09:23	09:26	09:34	1-
11	C5.8	7	11:22	11:32	12:37	2+					11:21	11:32	12:58	3					11:23	11:35	?	-
11	?	1																	11:38	11:42	?	-
11	?	1																	11:58	11:59	?	-
11	?	1																	12:06	12:10	12:19	1-
11	?	1																	12:25	12:27	12:29	1-
11	C2.3	6	13:12	13:15	13:34	1					13:07	13:18	13:33	1+					13:10	13:19	13:34	1
11	?	1																	12:54	13:57	14:01	2+
11	C2.0	5	14:36	14:40	14:48	1-					14:35	14:41	15:02	1+					14:34	14:41	?	-
11	?	1																	14:49	14:49	14:57	1-
11	C1.7	2									15:17	15:25	15:41	1					15:17	15:23	15:39	1
11	X2.1	5	16:15	16:23	17:20	2+					16:14	16:18	?	-					16:15	16:20	17:34	2+
11	M1.0	1																	18:49	18:53	19:07	1-
12	C4.3	2	08:08	08:11	08:28	1					08:07	08:16	08:46	2								
12	C8.4	6	09:05	09:14	10:08	2+					09:00	09:15	10:33	3					09:07	09:16	?	-
12	?	1																	09:31	09:37	10:21	2+
12	M1.6	7	11:41	11:52	13:06	2+	11:35	11:49	12:08	2	11:40	11:51	12:53	2+					11:40	11:50	?	-
12	M1.4	2																	12:11	12:16	13:01	2+
12	M4.2	8	14:02	14:10	15:16	2+	13:48	14:08	14:32	2	13:45	14:06	15:22	3					13:53	14:09	14:47	2+
13	C6.9	5	07:34	07:39	07:52	1-	07:31	07:38	07:52	1	07:32	07:36	?	-					07:35	07:39	07:52	1-
13	?	1																	10:54	10:58	11:07	1-
13	?	1																	11:16	11:34	12:14	2+
14	C1.3	2									07:56	08:03	08:25	1+					07:59	08:03	08:06	1-
14	C2.1	2	08:12	08:21	08:30	1-													08:12	08:25	08:33	1
14	C2.6	6	11:50	11:55	12:02	1-					11:46	11:57	12:36	2+					11:52	11:57	12:06	1-
14	?	2																	12:15	12:20	12:29	1-
14	C1.7	6	13:24	13:26	13:35	1-					13:24	13:27	13:46	1					13:24	13:28	13:41	1-
14	B7.3	1																	15:21	15:23	15:26	1-
14	C5.3	1																	18:43	18:47	18:53	1-
15	M1.0	8	09:36	09:41	11:04	3	09:36	09:41	09:51	1-	09:37	09:42	?	-					09:37	09:48	10:07	1+
15	C1.3	4									10:18	10:24	10:33	1-					10:19	10:22	10:32	1-
15	?	1																	11:34	11:51	?	-
15	C6.8	8	11:43	12:01	13:58	3+	11:37	12:03	12:21	2	11:33	12:04	12:50	2+					11:53	12:02	12:40	2+
15	C2.4	3									13:05	13:08	13:13	1-					13:06	13:09	13:14	1-
15	C1.2	2									14:04	14:07	14:15	1-					14:05	14:06	14:14	1-
15	B8.7	1																	08:19	08:25	08:31	1-
16	C1.8	3									09:41	09:46	10:12	1+					09:42	09:47	?	-
16	C1.9	2	09:44	09:46	?	-													09:49	09:55	10:10	1
16	M1.6	8	10:41	11:02	12:07	3	10:38	11:01	11:40	2+	10:41	10:57	11:58									

2015 MARCH

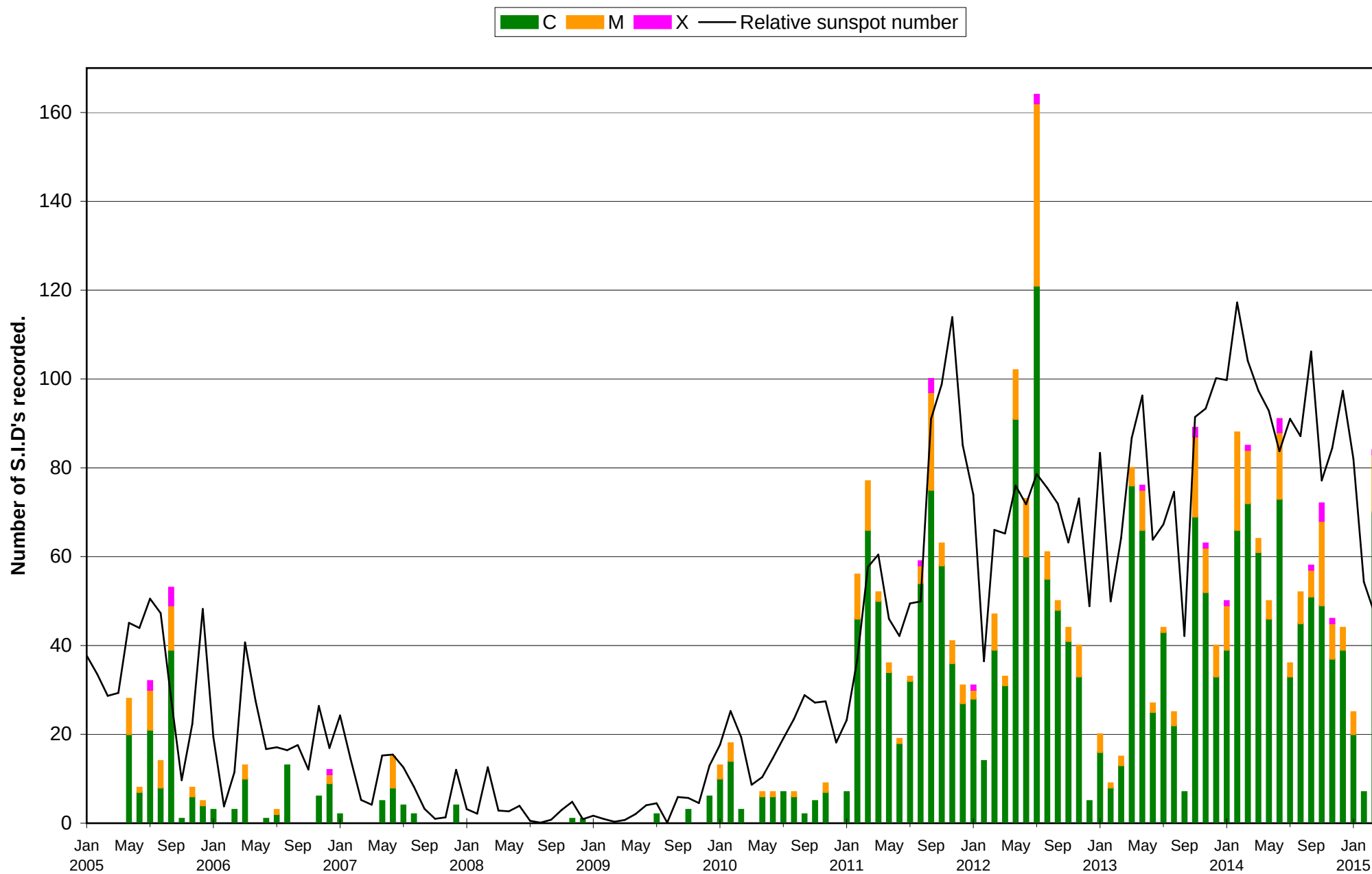
				Colin Clements (23.4kHz/22.1kHz)				Steve Parkinson (Various)				John Elliott (18.3kHz)				John Wardle (19.6/23.4kHz)				Richard Kaye (Various)			
				AAVSO receiver, 0.76m screened loop aerial.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, frame aeralis.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.5m frame aerial.				PC soundcard, 0.7m frame aerial.				Pre-amplifier + PC software receiver.			
DAY				START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)	
1	C6.8							15:58	16:05	16:25	1+					15:57	16:08	16:30	2				
2	?																						
2	?																						
2	C3.2																						
2	M1.1			09:38	09:48	10:23	2	09:39	09:50	?	-					09:39	09:51	10:26	2+				
2	C5.5							10:28	10:35	10:58	1+												
2	?																						
2	?							11:25	11:31	12:14	2+												
2	?																						
2	C3.4							12:49	13:08	13:25	2					12:57	13:10	13:32	2				
2	C2.1							14:09	14:13	14:26	1-												
2	M3.7			15:12	15:27	15:50	2	15:11	15:29	16:10	2+					15:13	15:31	16:03	2+				
3	C1.1			08:48	08:52	09:06	1-																
3	C4.0			13:23	13:33	14:03	2	13:25	13:34	14:09	2	13:30	13:36	14:15	2	13:25	13:38	14:27	2+				
4	?																						
4	C2.8																						
4	C1.1																						
5	C3.5							09:40	09:47	10:10	1+					09:39	09:50	10:11	1+				
5	M1.2																						
6	M1.5																						
6	C2.5																						
6	?																						
6	C2.6																						
6	C2.7																						
6	?																						
7	?			14:09	14:24	15:01	2+																
7	?																						
8	C2.5							09:13	09:25	09:37	1												
9	C4.0			10:02	10:12	10:39	2									10:04	10:09	10:40	2				
9	C1.1																						
9	M4.5			14:20	14:32	15:20	2+	14:26	14:35	15:40	2+	14:30	14:34	15:15	2	14:25	14:36	15:23	2+				
9	C9.1															17:40	17:46	17:57	1-				
10	C2.7																						
10	C1.5																						
10	C1.0																						
10	B9.7																						
10	?																						
10	?																						
10	?																						
10	C1.2																						
10	?																						
10	C1.1																						
10	?																						
11	M1.8																						
11	?																						
11	M2.6															07:47	08:00	08:25	2				
11	C1.8															09:24	09:29	09:38	1-				
11	C5.8			11:05	11:31	12:59	3	11:24	11:33	12:20	2+	11:20	11:40	13:00	3	11:23	11:34	12:48	2+				
11	?																						
11	?																						
11	?																						
11	?																						
11	C2.3			13:06	13:17	13:36	1+	13:08	13:18	13:35	1+					13:08	13:19	13:30	1				
11	?																						
11	C2.0							14:33	14:40	14:52	1					14:32	14:42	14:54	1				
11	?																						
11	C1.7																						
11	X2.1							16:15	16:25	?	-					16:14	16:24	17:12	2+				
11	M1.0																						
12	C4.3																						
12	C8.4			09:06	09:12	09:27	1	09:03	09:14	10:10	2+					09:06	09:17	10:19	2+				
12	?																						
12	M1.6			11:37	11:50	13:17	3	11:41	11:52	13:15	3					11:40	11:54	12:26	2+				
12	M1.4															12:09	12:17	12:57	2+				
12	M4.2			13:43	14:08	15:07	2+	13:52	14:10	15:00	2+	13:50	14:05	15:00	2+	13:51	14:12	14:57	2+				
13	C6.9															07:30	07:39	07:50	1				
13	?																						
13	?																						
14	C1.3																						

BAA Radio Astronomy Group.

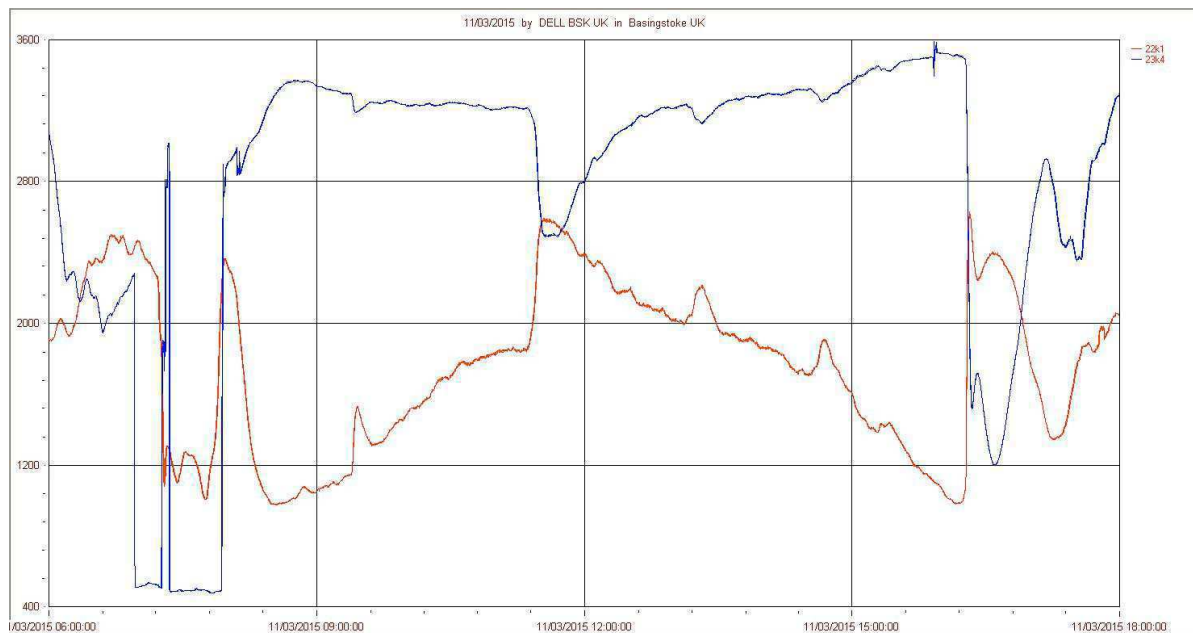
2015 MARCH

[illegible]

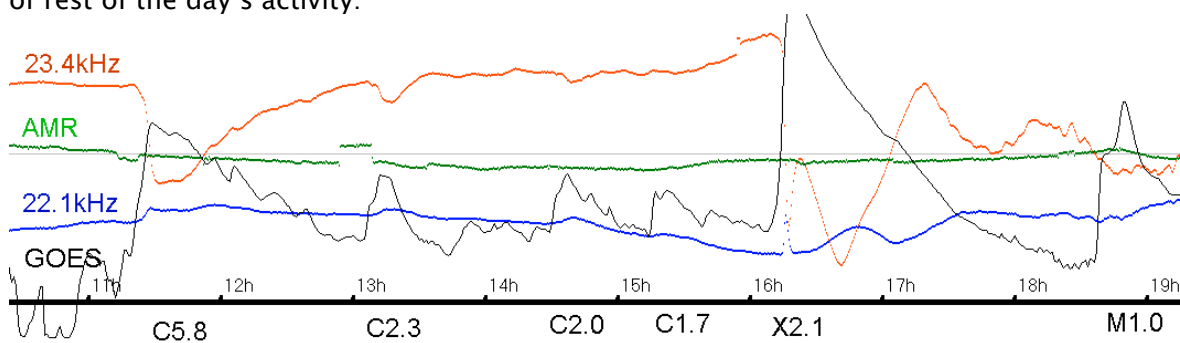
VLF flare activity 2005/15.



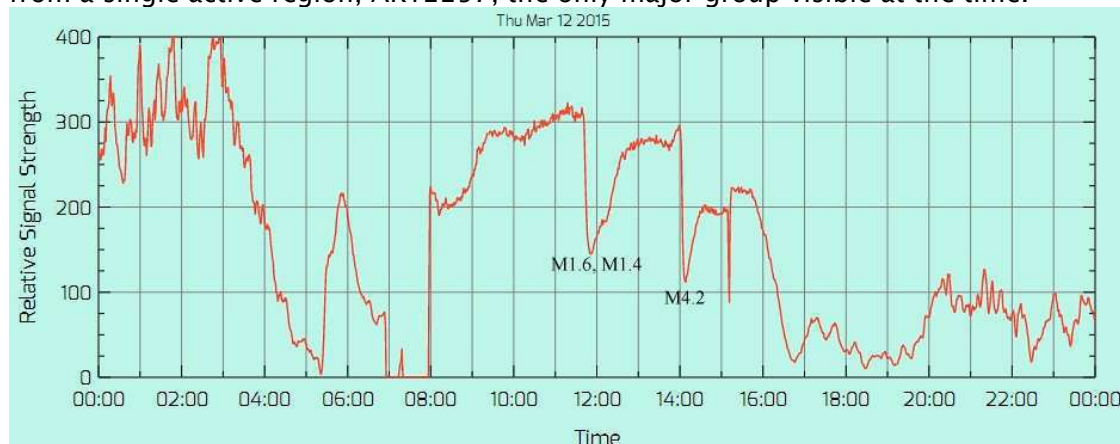
After two months of low solar activity to start the year, March saw a dramatic increase in flares as well as possibly the most active magnetic storm of the current solar cycle. There is a single X-class flare in the SWPC record, on March 11th, and luckily it was suitably timed for us to record as a SID.



This chart by Paul Hyde shows 22.1kHz in red and 23.4kHz in blue. The X2.1 flare can be clearly seen starting at 16:15UT with a very sharp edge to the SID. Recovery lasts well into the local sunset. The earlier C5.8 flare can also be seen, peaking at 11:32UT. My own recording, below, includes the GOES X-ray data to show some of rest of the day's activity:

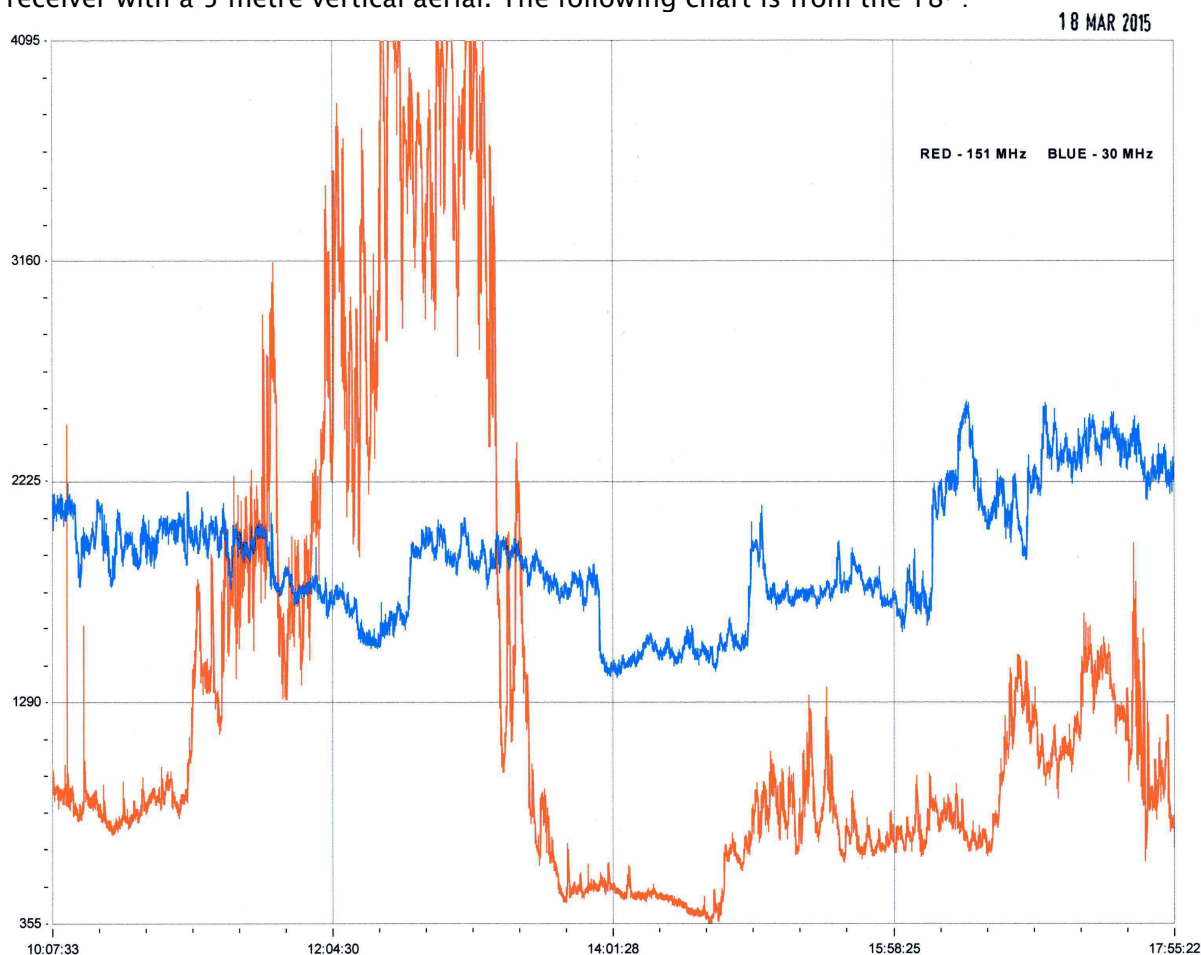


The C5.8 flare had a very slow decay, including a number of small secondary peaks. All of this activity was from a single active region, AR12297, the only major group visible at the time.



The chart at the bottom of the last page is from Peter Meadows, and shows more activity from AR12297 on the 12th. This was dominated by three M-class flares, the first two merging into a single SID for most observers. Optical timings suggest that there were indeed three separate flares, although the X-ray flux from the first (M1.6) was still decaying when the second (M1.4) occurred.

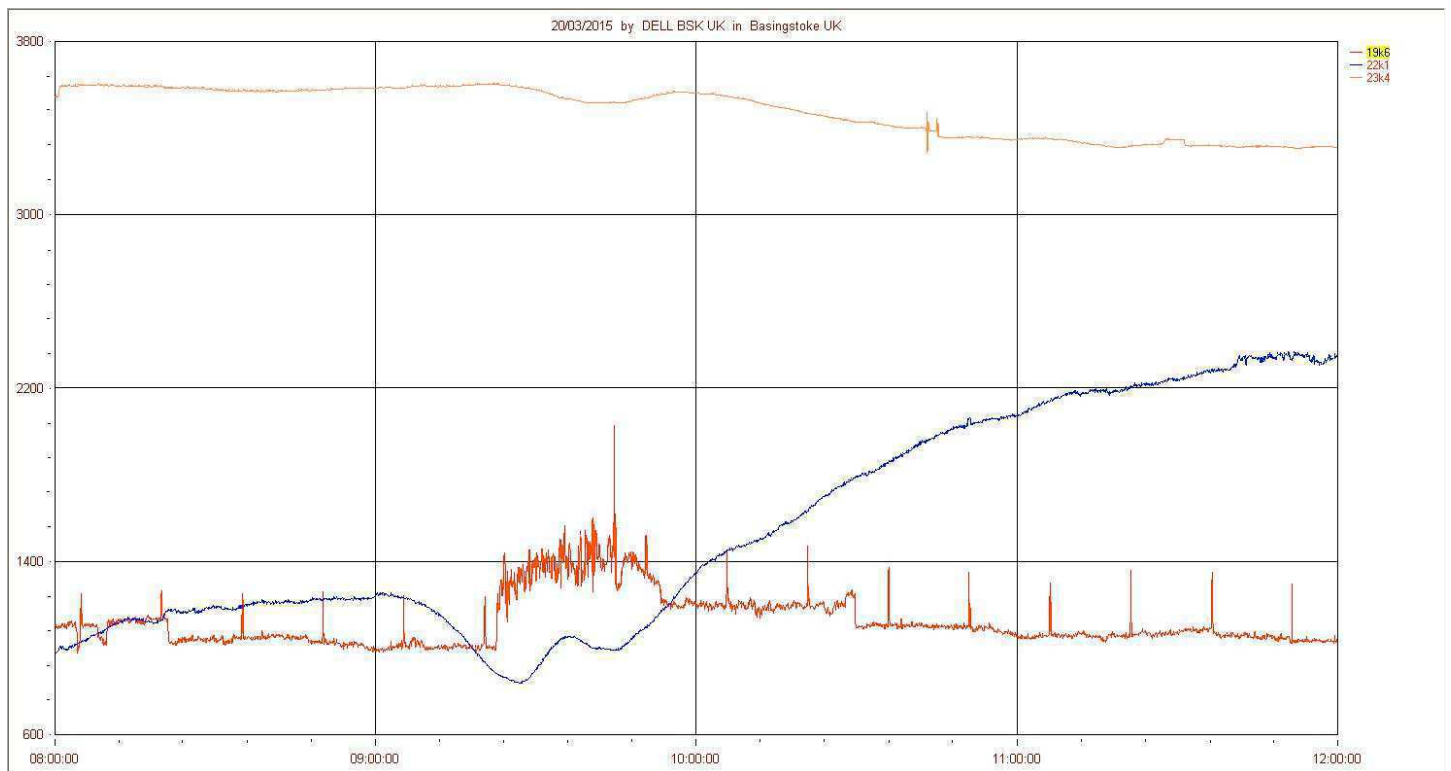
Colin Clements has continued to improve his 151MHz radiometer, and has now added a 30MHz receiver with a 5 metre vertical aerial. The following chart is from the 18th:



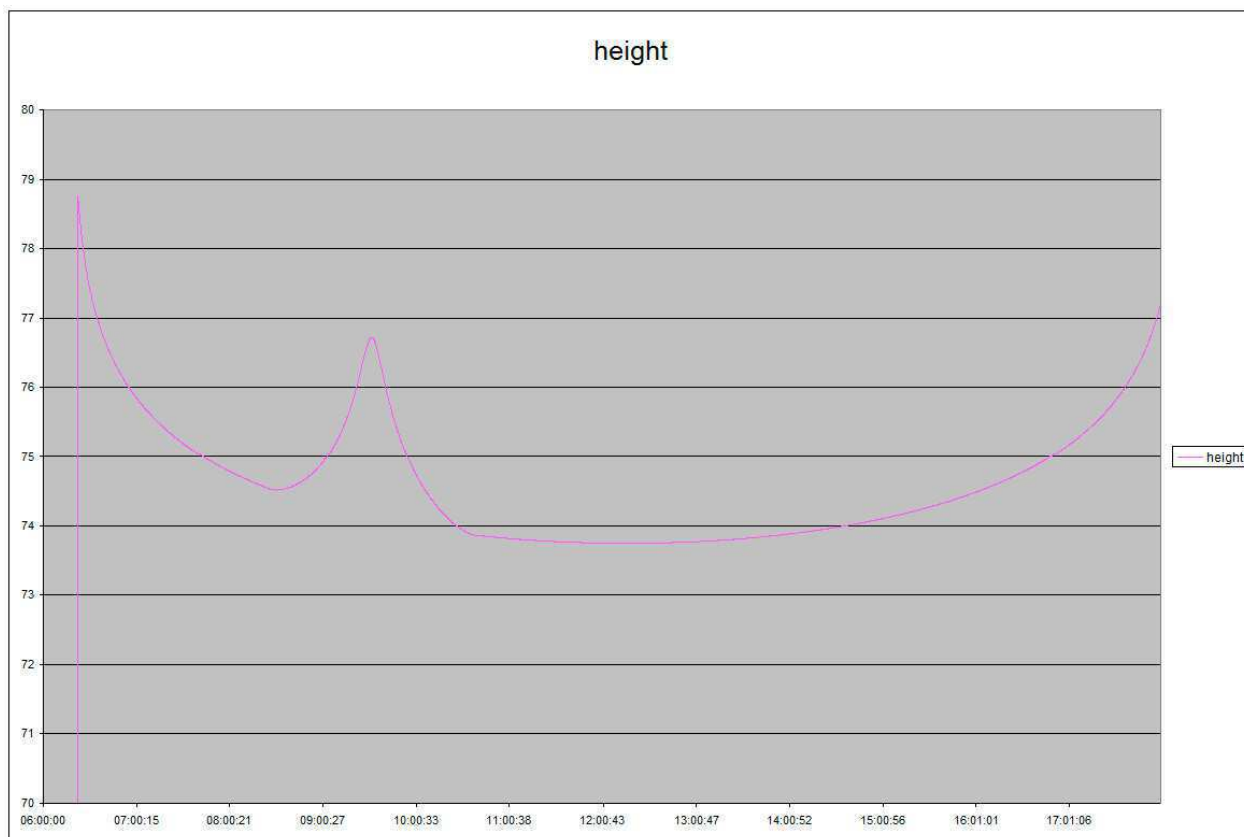
Most of the flares on the 18th were of modest magnitude, although there is a strong increase at 151MHz from about 11:00 to 13:00 (red trace). The 30MHz trace (blue) does not show the same effect. The C3.5 and C7.6 flares after 16:00 show a much smaller 151MHz signal, but there may also be a weak correlation with the 30MHz signal. The radio output from flares is not directly related to the X-ray magnitude, and this is shown in Colin's other recordings through the month. In particular the M1.6 flare on the 16th produced very minor 151Mhz signals, whilst the minor flares on the 19th produced a major 151MHz disturbance.

The highlight for March was of course the solar eclipse on the 20th. The weather was not very co-operative in many parts of the UK, but here in the midlands it was very favourable. Changes in temperature and light quality were very noticeable during the maximum phase. Many radio observations have been received, and work is in progress to produce a full report for the journal, as well as our ragazine.

Solar activity was much lower by the 20th, with just a single active region visible. This resulted in recordings undisturbed by SIDs. The chart on the next page is by Paul Hyde, and shows 19.6kHz in red, 22.1kHz in blue and 23.4kHz in yellow:

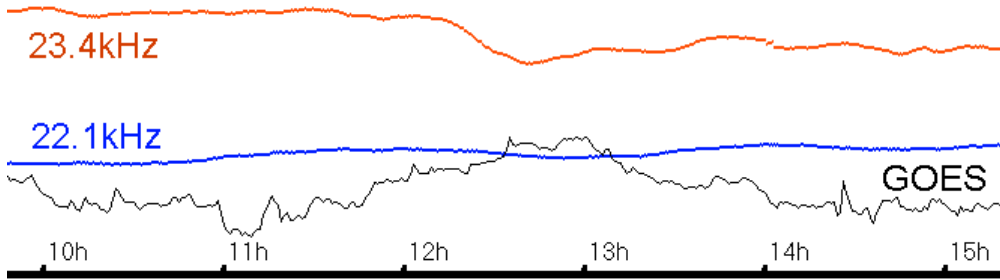


All of these paths were entirely within the partial eclipse area, but they still show a clear effect. The double dip at 22.1kHz was reported by several observers, and is very noticeable in Paul's recording. The 23.4kHz path is much further to the east, and so the dip is delayed in time relative to the others.



This graph is the D-region reflection height at 22.1kHz, modelled by Mark Edwards. A 2–3km rise in altitude is seen during the eclipse, based on the received signal amplitude. This reflection point is of course well south of the path of totality.

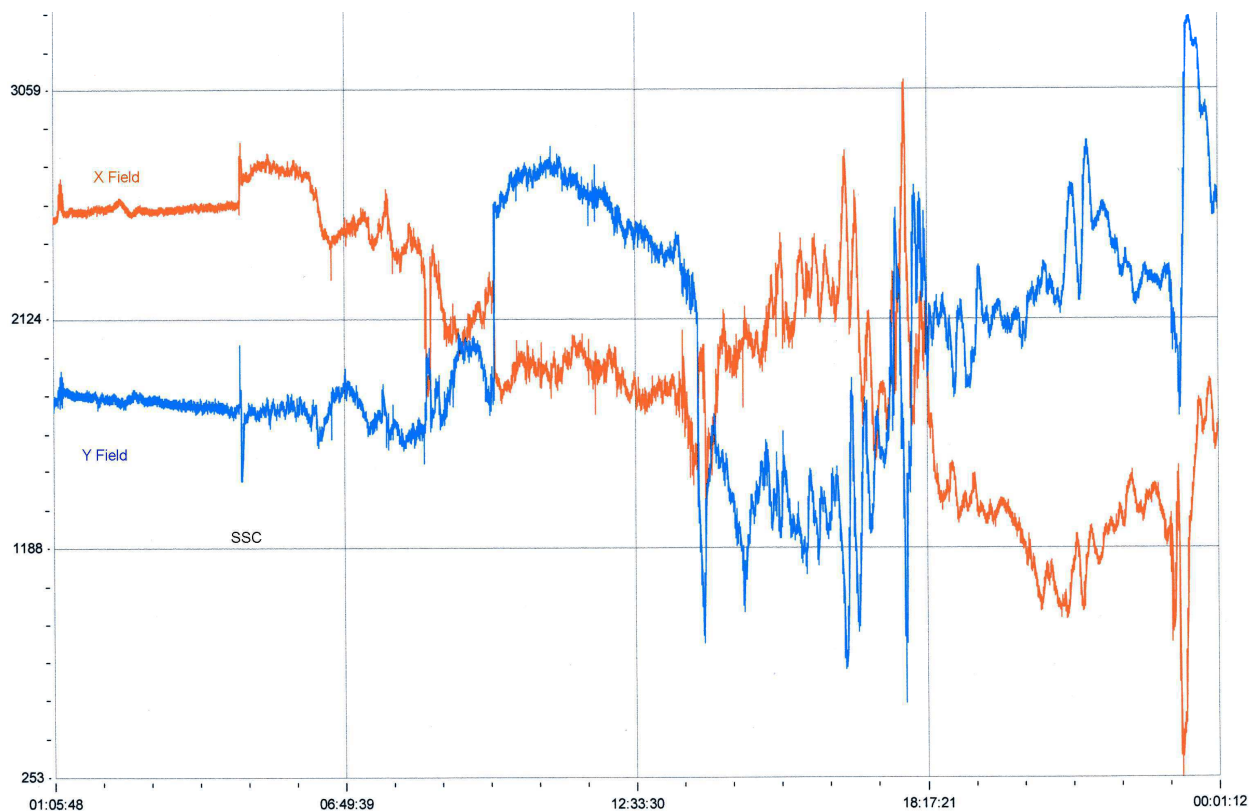
The C2.1 flare at 12:27 on the 19th was a very slow event, as can be seen in the GOES X-ray flux:



A very slow rise begins shortly after 11UT, flattening off for nearly 30 minutes from 12:30. The decay lasts until 14UT. The 23.4kHz SID is simply a slow dip, more like the eclipse response. The same active region was responsible for this flare as well as the X2.1 and various M-class flares already illustrated. The earlier flare on the 19th is not listed by SWPC as GOES15 was in eclipse at the time.

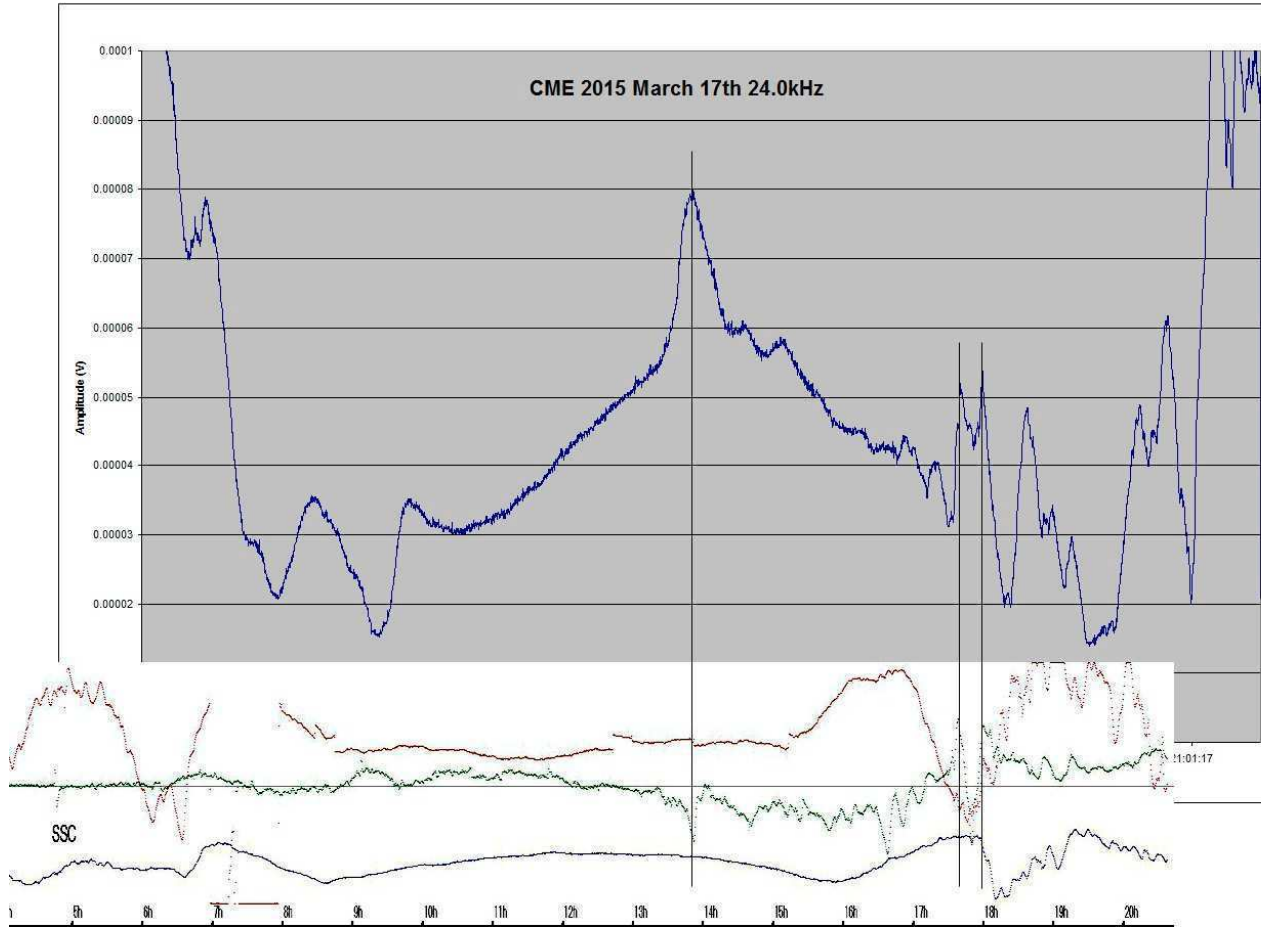
MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS.

The X2.1 flare on the 11th produced a small SFE shown in my chart at the start of this summary. There was also a CME detected in satellite images although it was not aimed towards the Earth and had little magnetic effect. A much larger storm was produced by a combination of filament eruption and C-class flares early in the morning of the 15th. This caused a very well defined SSC at 04:45UT on the 17th followed by some very active storm conditions lasting into the early hours of the 18th, as illustrated in this recording by Colin Clements:



There is some local interference at 09:47 but the scale of this storm is clear, particularly around 17–19UT and again close to midnight. Aurora were reported from several European countries as well as large parts of North America.

Mark Edwards reported an unusual VLF response during this storm:



Aligned above my own recording is Mark's NAA 24kHz signal showing a very distinct rise at 13:52, coincident with the first sharp dip in the magnetometer (green trace). The same magnetic feature is also present on Colin's chart on the previous page. Two further peaks are indicated at 17:40 and 18:00UT, which have matching magnetic and VLF features. The sunset dip expected around 19:00 is also very disturbed when compared to recordings on quiet days. A report by the Solar-Terrestrial Centre of Excellence (STCE) in Belgium indicates that a substantial increase in the atmospheric vertical total electron count occurred in mid and northern European latitudes at the time of this CME impact. Although the measurement was at 4 degrees east, a long way from the 24kHz reflection point in mid-Atlantic, it may well be related to this recording.

Another SFE was recorded at 14:35 on the 9th from the M4.5 flare. No CME seems to have been generated, and the magnetosphere remained mostly quiet over the next few days with only minor disturbances. Most of the remaining activity shown in the Bartels diagram was from coronal hole effects.

Magnetic observations received from Roger Blackwell, Colin Clements, Gonzalo Vargas and John Cook.

Observations to jacook@jacook.plus.com

ROTATION	KEY:		DISTURBED.		ACTIVE		SFE	B, C, M, X = FLARE MAGNITUDE.										Synodic rotation start (carrington's).											
2440				2012 June																				2125					
	F	28 BB	29 C	30 CCCC	31 C	1 C	2 C	3 M	4 CC	5 CCM	6 CCCC	7 CCMCMCMCMC	8 M	9 CCCC	10 CCCC	11 CMCC	12 CCCM	13 CC	14 C	15 CC	16 C	17 CC	18 CC	19 CC	20 CC	21 C	22 C	23 C	
2441				2012 July																				2126					
	F	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
2442				2012 August																				2127					
	F	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
2443				2012 September																				2128					
	F	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
2444				2012 October																				2129					
	F	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
2445				2012 November																				2130					
	F	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	
2446				2012 December																				2131					
	F	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
2447				2013 January																				2132					
	F	2131	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2448				2013 February																				2133					
	F	2132	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2449				2013 March																				2134					
	F	2133	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
2450				2013 April																				2135					
	F	2134	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2451				2013 May																				2136					
	F	2135	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2452				2013 June																				2137					
	F	2136	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2453				2013 July																				2138					
	F	2137	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2454				2013 August																				2139					
	F	2138	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
2455				2013 September																				2140					
	F	2139	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
2456				2013 October																				2141					
	F	2140	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2457				2013 November																				2142					
	F	2141	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2458				2013 December																				2143					
	F	2142	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
2459				2014 January																				2144					
	F	2143	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
2460				2014 February																				2145					
	F	2144	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2461				2014 March																				2146					
	F	2145	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2462				2014 April																				2147					
	F	2146	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2463				2014 May																				2148					
	F	2147	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
2464				2014 June																				2149					
	F	2148	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
2465				2014 July																				2150					
	F	2149	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2466				2014 August																				2151					
	F	2150	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
2467				2014 September																				2152					
	F	2151	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
2468				2014 October																				2153					
	F	2152	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
2469				2014 November																				2154					
	F	2153	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2470				2014 December																				2155					
	F	2154	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2471				2015 January																				2156					
	F	2155	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2472				2015 February																				2157					
	F	2156	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
2473				2015 March																				2158					
	F	2157	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2474				2015 April																				2159					
	F	2158	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2475				2015 May																				2160					
	F	2159	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2476				2015 June																				2161					
	F	2160	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2477				2015 July																				2162					
	F	2161	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
2478				2015 August																				2163					
	F	2162	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15