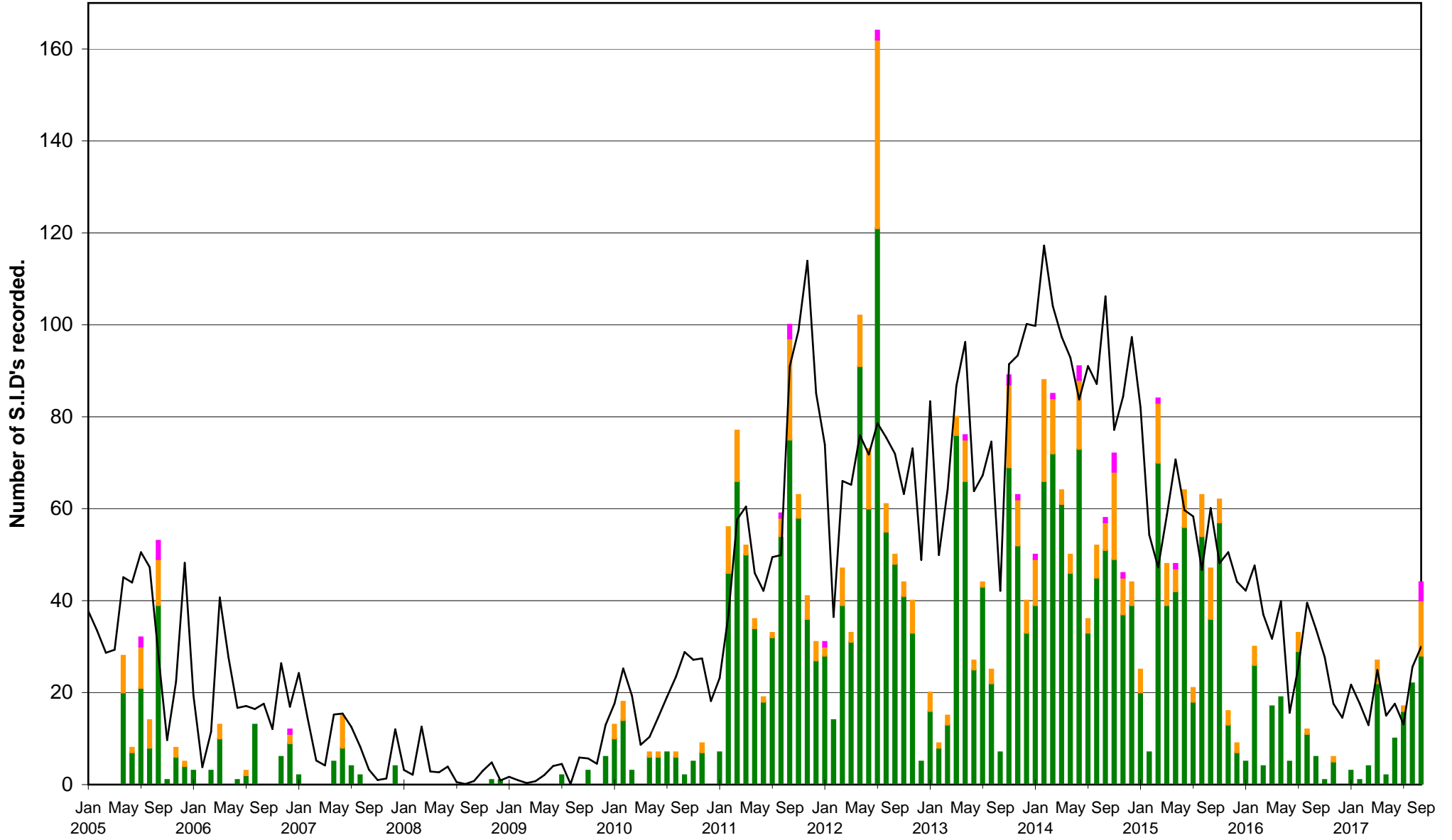
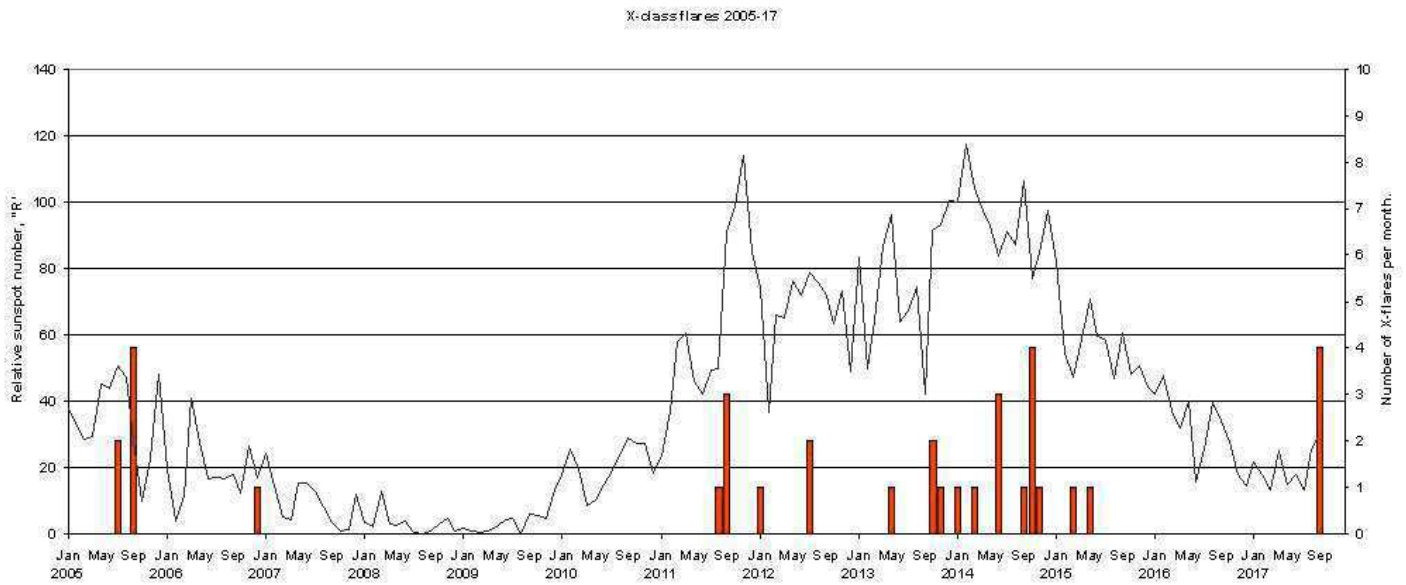


DAY	X-ray class	Observers	John Cook (23.4kHz/22.1kHz)				Roberto Battaiola (18.3kHz)			Paul Hyde (22.1kHz)				Mark Edwards (19.6/24.0/18.3kHz)				Colin Clements (23.4kHz/22.1kHz)			
			START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)	START	PEAK	END (UT)	START	PEAK	END (UT)	START	PEAK	END (UT)	START	PEAK	END (UT)
1	C2.0	5	15:35	15:39	?	-			15:35	15:40	16:18	2	15:35	15:38	16:09	2	15:30	15:35	16:35	2+	
1	C1.2	1											17:12	17:14	17:30	1-					
2	B8.5	1											11:56	12:02	12:21	1					
2	C7.7	5	15:32	15:42	?	-			15:31	15:43	16:57	3	15:31	15:42	16:34	2+	15:24	15:40	16:44	2+	
4	C2.9	2							08:11	08:21	08:44	2	08:11	08:24	08:46	2					
4	?	1											08:48	08:53	?	-					
4	*	1											09:03	09:15	09:24	1					
4	*	1											09:40	10:04	10:30	2+					
4	*	1											10:35	10:45	11:02	1+					
4	C2.4	2							11:34	11:42	?	-	11:37	11:44	?	-					
4	?	1											11:53	12:18	?	-					
4	C8.3	3							11:55	12:28	12:51	2+	12:21	12:27	?	-	11:47	12:23	12:51	2+	
4	?	2											12:52	13:12	?	-	12:51	13:12	14:08	2+	
4	*	3							14:13	14:16	14:29	1-	14:13	14:15	?	-	14:08	14:12	14:33	1	
4	?	1											14:43	14:51	15:02	1					
4	?	3							15:12	15:19	?	-	15:12	15:17	?	-	15:06	15:14	15:22	1-	
4	M1.5	4							15:28	15:33	16:07	2	15:28	15:34	16:08	2	15:22	15:28	16:34	2+	
4	*	1											16:07	16:11	16:38	1+					
4	?	1											16:15	16:19	16:25	1-					
4	C4.1	2											16:42	16:47	17:19	2	16:34	16:44	16:51	1-	
4	C6.0	1											17:22	17:36	?	-					
4	?	1											17:37	17:41	?	-					
4	M1.0	1											18:07	18:23	18:46	2					
4	M1.7	1											19:28	19:32	19:50	1					
5	M3.8	4	06:39	06:41	07:04	1			06:39	06:43	07:17	2	06:37	06:43	07:01	1					
5	?	1											07:59	08:14	08:34	2					
5	?	1											09:21	09:25	09:39	1-					
5	C5.4	5	10:15	10:18	10:35	1			10:14	10:22	11:01	2+	10:17	10:22	11:01	2	10:12	10:18	10:42	1+	
5	*	1											11:38	11:48	11:55	1-					
5	*	2											12:02	12:03	12:08	1-	12:02	12:13	12:27	1	
5	*	1											12:10	12:20	?	-					
5	C2.2	2											12:30	12:39	?	-	12:27	12:34	12:46	1	
5	C6.9	4							13:28	13:37	14:56	3	13:29	13:42	15:08	3	13:23	13:37	15:01	3	
5	*	1											14:32	14:37	15:04	1+					
5	C3.7	5	16:16	16:20	16:39	1			16:17	16:21	17:01	2	16:16	16:20	16:54	2	16:09	16:17	16:47	2	
5	C4.6	3	17:15	17:17	17:28	1-			17:14	17:18	17:40	1+	17:14	17:19	17:36	1					
5	M2.3	3	17:41	17:45	18:09	1+			17:39	17:45	18:49	2+	17:40	17:47	18:37	2+					
6	C2.7	2	07:33	07:38	?	-			07:31	07:37	07:57	1+					08:59	09:13	?	-	
6	X2.2	5	09:03	09:11	10:32	3			09:00	09:12	10:41	3					09:24	09:30	?	-	
6	?	1											11:03	11:06	11:38	2	11:01	11:10	?	-	
6	?	2											11:13	11:17	?	-					
6	X9.3	5	11:55	12:01	?	-			11:54	12:03	14:00	3+	11:53	12:01	?	-	11:49	11:52	14:24	3+	
6	?	3	14:32	14:44	14:54	1			14:33	14:46	15:18	2	14:29	14:44	?	-					
6	?	2											14:57	14:59	15:18	1					
6	M2.5	5	15:52	15:58	16:13	1			15:53	15:58	16:29	2	15:55	15:58	16:18	1	15:48	15:53	17:39	3	
6	?	1											16:29	16:39	16:52	1					
6	?	1											17:29	17:33	17:43	1-					
6	?	1											17:59	18:00	18:04	1-					
6	M1.4	2							19:21	19:32	20:01	2	19:19	19:31	20:01	2					
7	C8.2	3	06:24	06:37	06:56	1+			06:23	06:37	07:11	2+	06:23	06:29	07:10	2+					
7	?	3	07:33	07:37	07:47	1-			07:29	07:38	08:01	1+	07:34	07:38	08:04	1+					
7	C2.3	2							09:19	09:24	09:50	1+	09:19	09:24	09:49	1+					
7	?	1											09:38	09:41	09:47	1-					
7	M1.4	5	09:53	09:57	?	-			09:52	09:59	?	-	09:52	09:57	?	-	09:45	09:53	10:10	1	
7	M7.3	4	10:15	10:17	10:58	2			10:14	10:19	11:37	2+	10:15	10:18	11:28	2+	10:10	10:20	11:23	2+	
7	?	1											11:37	11:39	11:43	1-					
7	C3.0	2							12:08	12:17	12:55	2+	12:11	12:25	13:18	2+					
7	X1.3	5	14:32	14:38	15:49	2+			14:23	14:37	16:06	3	14:23	14:36	?	-	14:17	14:28	16:57	3+	
7	?	1											14:50	14:51	16:25	3					
7	?	1											17:10	17:18	17:28	1-					
7	?	1											18:07	18:17	?	-					
7	C5.2	2							18:07	18:16	18:42	2	18:26	18:31	?	-					
7	C4.5	1											18:43	18:47	?	-					
7	?	1											19:16	19:23	19:38	1					
8	C6.0	3	07:08	07:10	07:17	1-			07:07	07:11	?	-	07:08	07:09	07:16	1-					
8	M8.1	4	07:45	07:51	09:37	3			07:43	07:49	09:16	3	07:44	07:56	08:53	2+					
8	C1.6	1											10:48	10:51	?	-					
8	C1.7	3	11:24	11:27	11:45	1			11:23	11:29	11:40	1-	11:24	11:28	12:09	2					
8	?	1											11:40	11:45	12:01	1					
8	C5.9	4	12:12	12:15	12:52	2			12:12	12:15	12:33	1	12:12	12:15	?	-					
8	C1.2	1											12:25	12:40	12:59	2					
8	?	1											12:31	12:53	?	-					
8	?	1											13:36	13:42	13:48	1-					
8	?	1											13:58	14:04	14:29	1+					
8	?	1											14:21	14:23	?	-					
8	*	1											14:29	14:31	15:02	2					
8	?	1											14:38	14:43	15:08	1+					
8	?	2	15:24	15:28	?	-															

VLF flare activity 2005/17.

C M X — Relative sunspot number

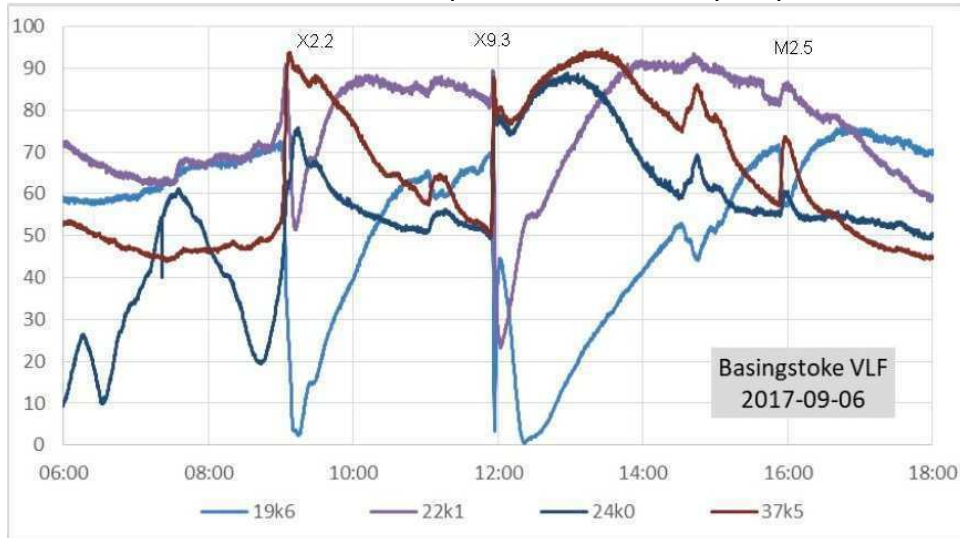




September has been a remarkable month for X-class flare activity after a gap of over two years. This chart shows the numbers recorded as SIDs, but does not indicate their magnitudes. Just before 12:00UT on September 6th we recorded an X9.3 flare, the strongest in our record since 2005 September, when the record-breaking X17 flare occurred. Subsequent events were as follows:

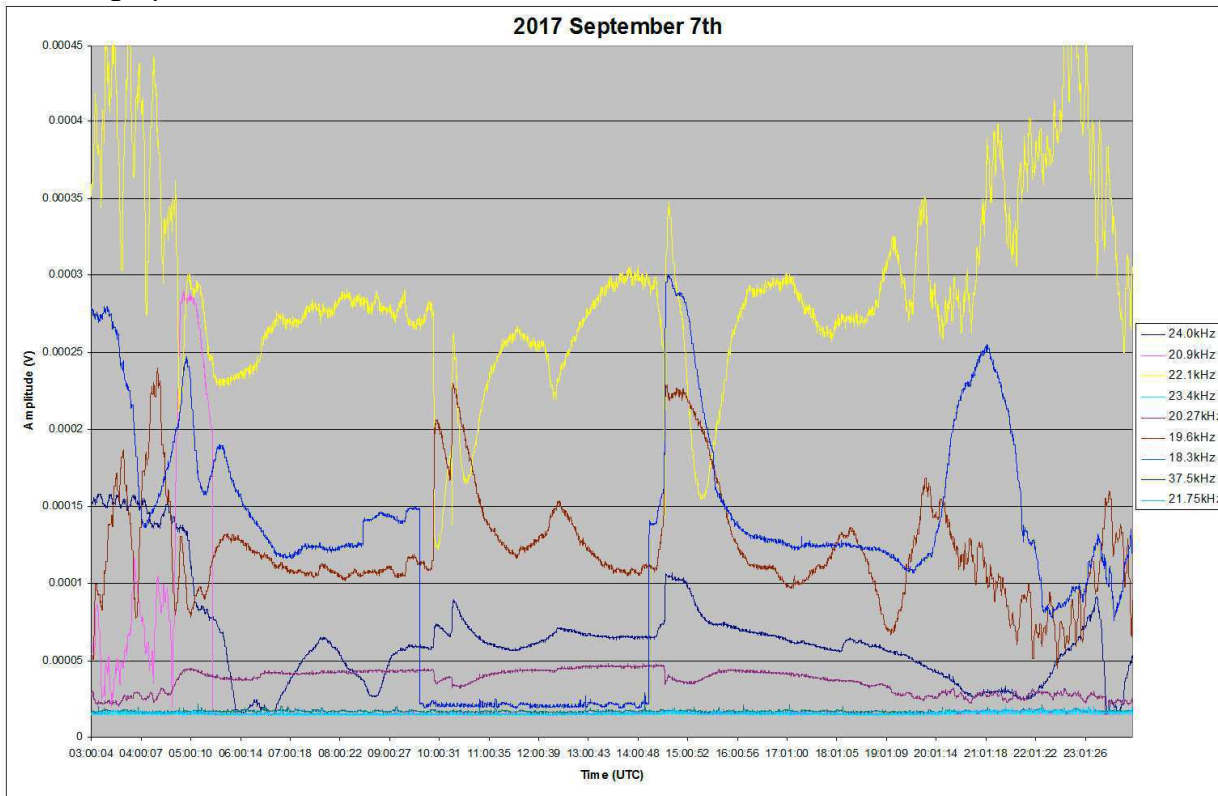
- X9.3 2017 September.
- X9.0 2006 December.
- X8.2 2017 September.
- X6.9 2011 August.
- X3.6 2005 September.

The remainder were in the range X1 to X4, mostly during the higher activity period of cycle 24. The stronger flares seem to be during the decay phase of both cycles. All of this month's activity occurred in the first two weeks, with the appearance of AR12673, a notably complex active region. Some smaller sunspots followed, but were much less complex and offered only very minor activity.



This is Paul Hyde's recording from the 6th, showing the X9.3 flare and the earlier X2.2. Both of these had multiple peaks in the X-ray flux, and so have produced complex SID patterns. The X9.3 decay lasted

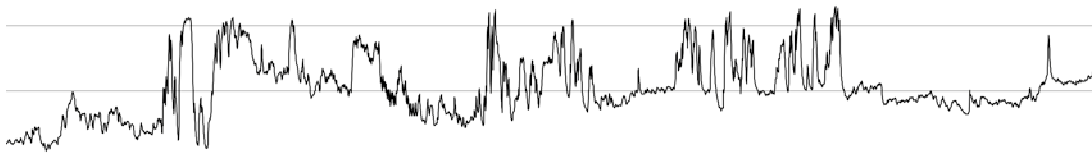
through the rest of the day with several sub-peaks that are not listed in the SWPC data. One such SID shows very clearly at 14:46 on all frequencies in Paul's recording. Activity continued into the 7th, shown in the recording by Mark Edwards:



The X1.3 flare had two peaks separated by just 12 minutes, showing clearly at 37.5kHz (blue) and 19.6kHz (brown). Its decay also lasted for the rest of the day with several other peaks shown. The chart also shows that 23.4kHz was off-air at the time. Annoyingly it was off from early on the 4th to 07UT on the 8th, thus missing the best of the activity.

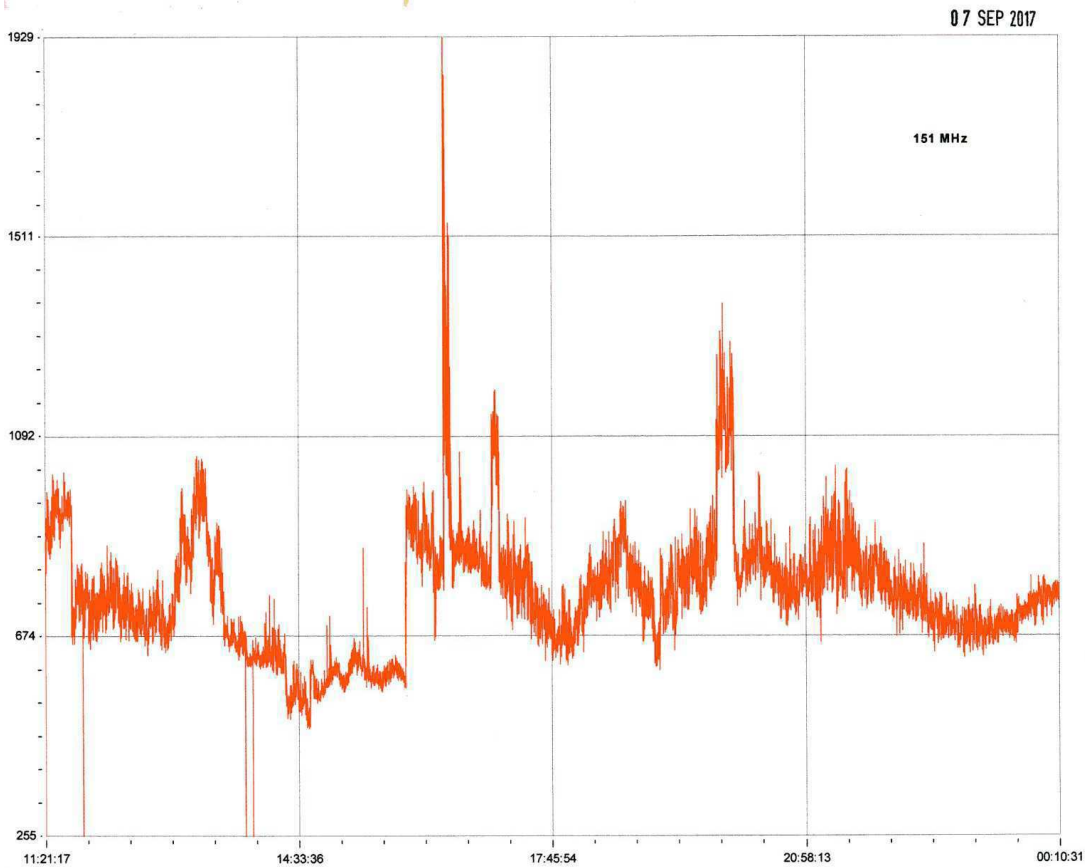
There was also HF/VHF noise associated with these events. This recording from the 6th at 38MHz was made by Colin Briden:

170906
38MHz
tc=5s p=5s

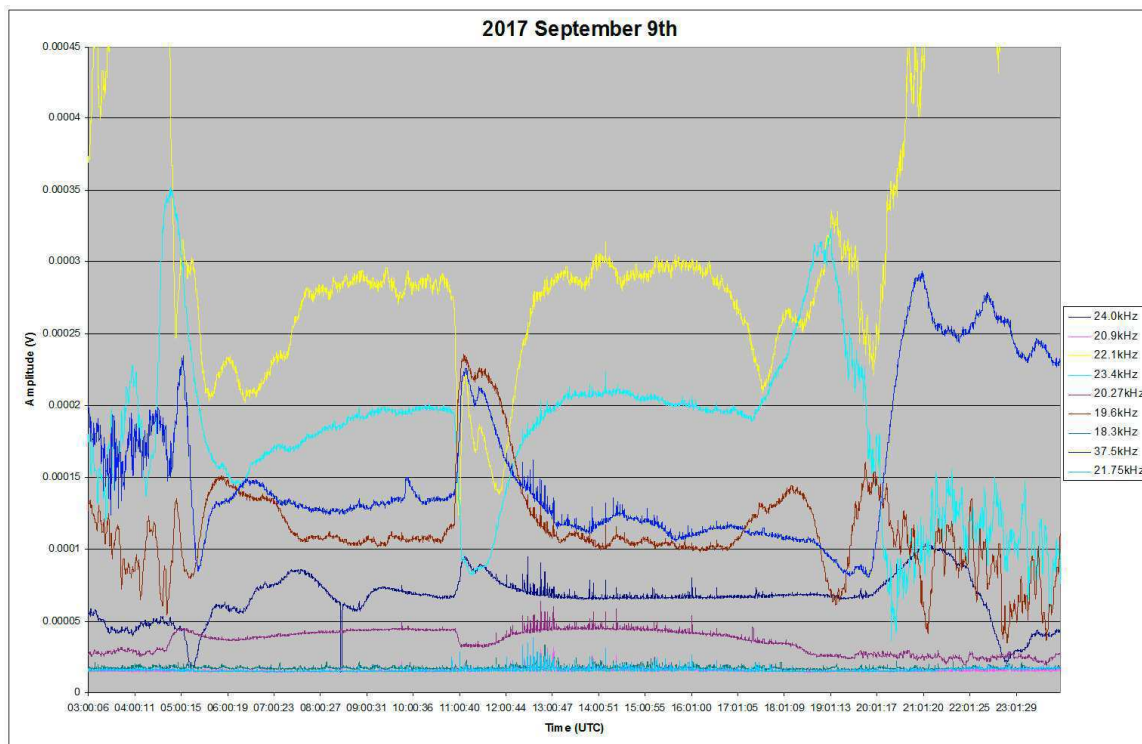


It shows a strong increase in noise starting at 11:58, co-incident with the X9.3 flare, ending at about 16:15.

Colin Clements made a recording at 151MHz on the 7th, shown on the next page:



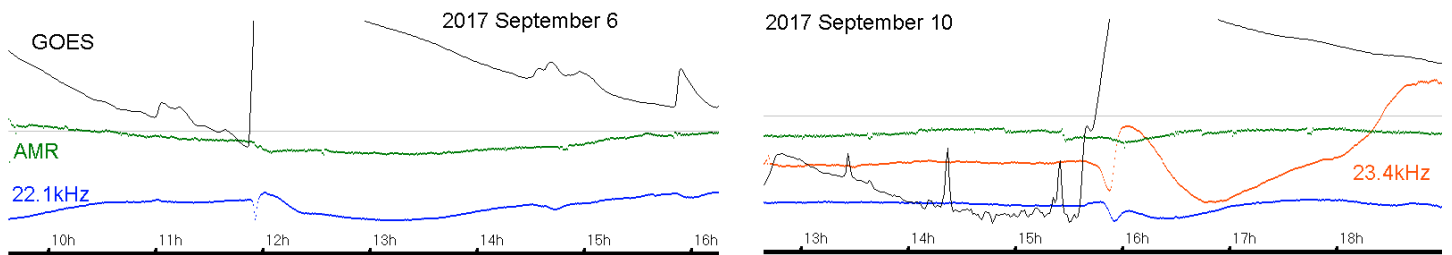
In this case, the 151MHz signal increases about an hour after the X1.3 flare was recorded.



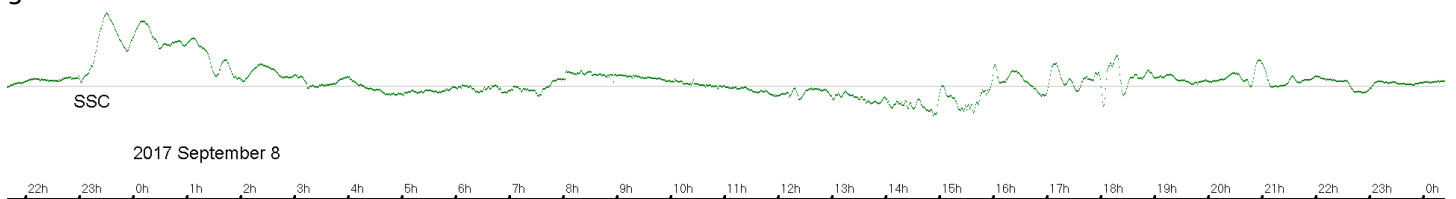
Activity continued on the 9th with an M3.7 flare just before midday, as shown in this recording by Mark Edwards. This was another multi-peaked event, showing a variety of SID shapes at different frequencies.

AR12673 was close to the limb of the visible disc by this stage, but still managed an X8.2 flare at 16:05UT on the 10th.

MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS.

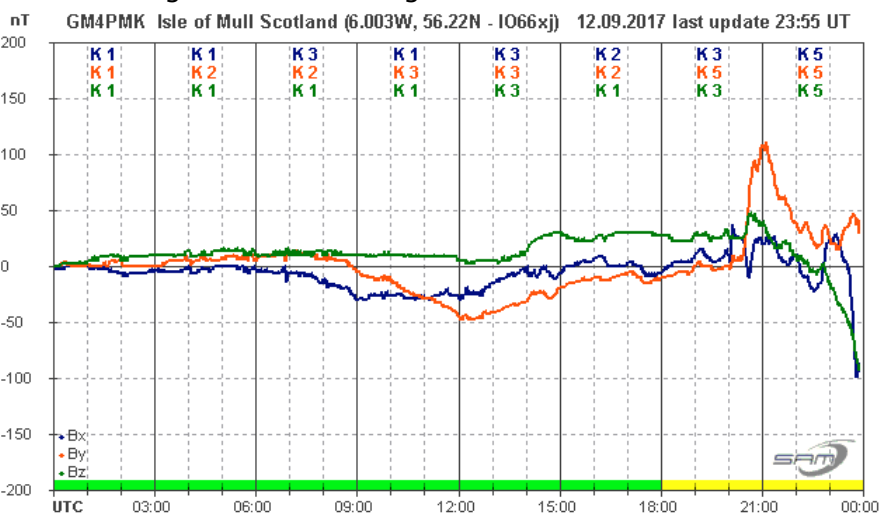


As might be expected, the two big X-class flares were accompanied by magnetic SFEs. These are shown in my own recordings, above. The magnetic disturbance is about 20nT total for the X9.3 on the 6th, and 14nT for the X8.2 on the 10th. There is a small local interference spike on the 10th at 15:30, just before the genuine SFE.

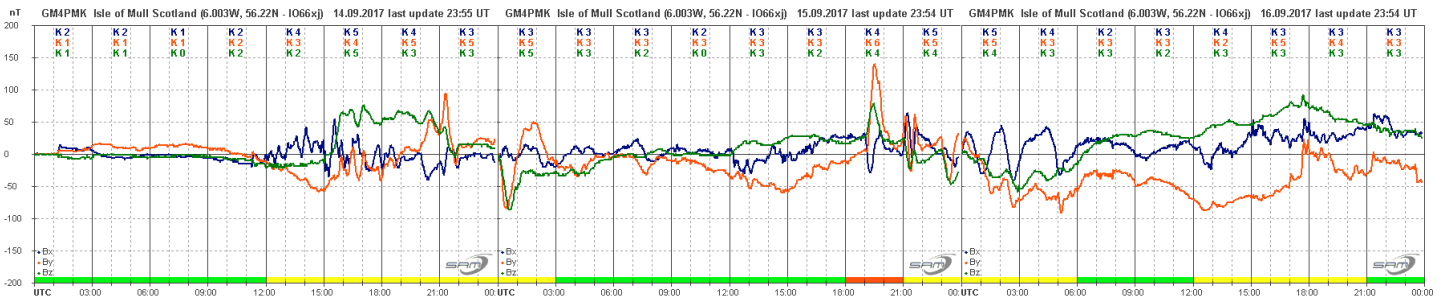


There were also a number of CMEs recorded. The first was at 23:00UT on the 7th, shown in my recording above. It was from the X9.3 flare on the 6th, giving a transit time of 35h 54m, the second fastest CME in our record. The peak disturbance on the 7th measured 200nT, with +/- 80nT measured on the 8th.

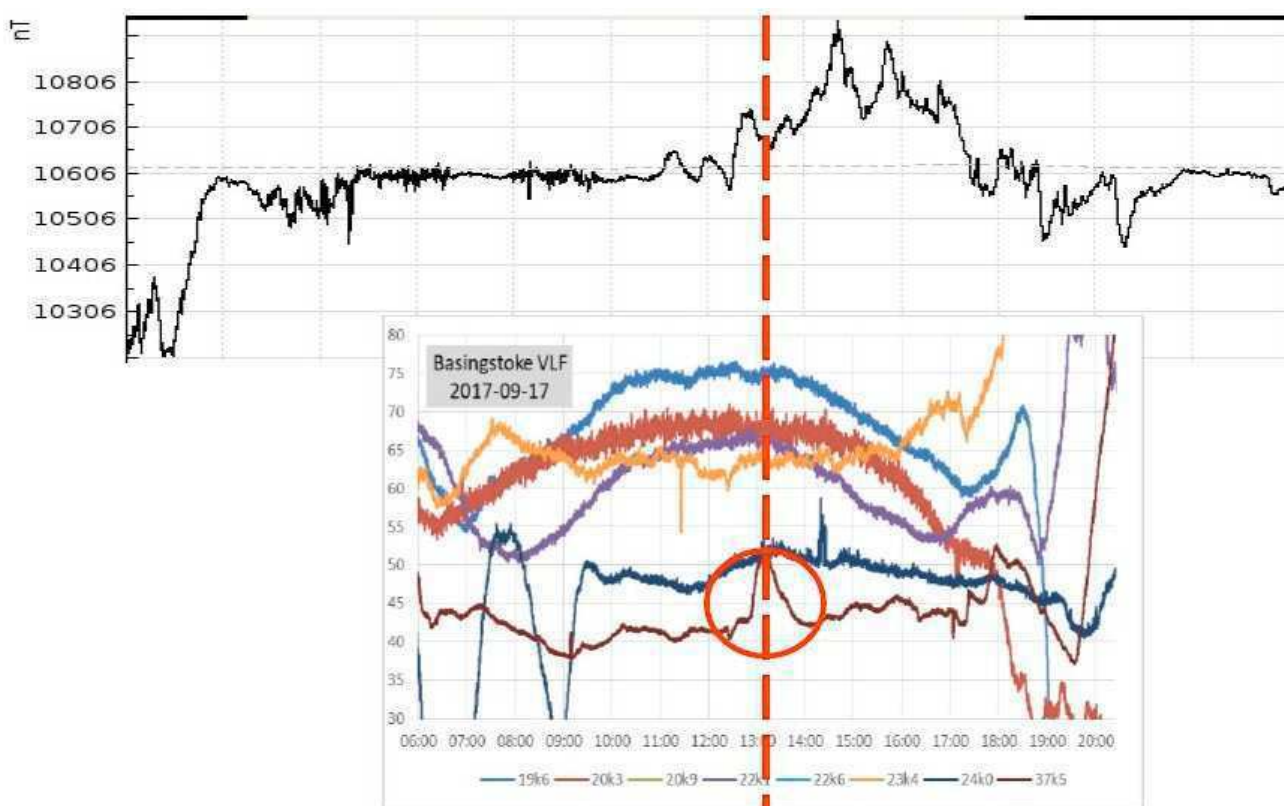
CMEs were also produced by the later large flares, but with the active region close to the limb, they were not directed towards the Earth. Disturbances were recorded however, as the CMEs combined with strong winds from active coronal holes. The X8.2 flare at 16:05 on the 10th produced a clear SSC at about 20:30 on the 12th in Roger Blackwell's magnetometer:



Using the SID peak at 16:05, this gives a transit time of 53hours 25 minutes. The disturbance from this CME was at a maximum around midnight, and settled down in the early hours of the 13th. Mark Edwards reported what appeared to be a SID at 9AM on the 13th at 22.1kHz and 19.6kHz. There was no flare activity at that time, and the magnetic disturbance was also much reduced. This is very similar to an event recorded on 2015 September 11th, illustrated in the Summary at the time. On that occasion there was a strong 150nT transient in the magnetic field that appeared to be responsible. The source of the recent event remains a mystery.



This shows activity on the 14th, 15th and 16th as recorded on the Isle of Mull by Roger Blackwell. Although AR12673 was still producing CMEs, it was facing away from us by this time. A large northern hemisphere coronal hole was producing a strong solar wind, and was responsible for this activity. It continued with some smaller disturbances over the next few days.



Kiruna magnetometer versus Grindavik VLF (37.5 kHz)
2017-09-17

Paul Hyde recorded this 37.5kHz SID possibly linked to the magnetic disturbance just after 13:00 on the 17th. Unfortunately recordings from the 14th, 15th and 16th were lost to a PC crash.

Another active period on the 27th and 28th was due to a strong coronal hole wind. Starting about 19:00 on the 27th, it had calmed a little by 07:00 on the 28th. A mild disturbance continued into the 30th.

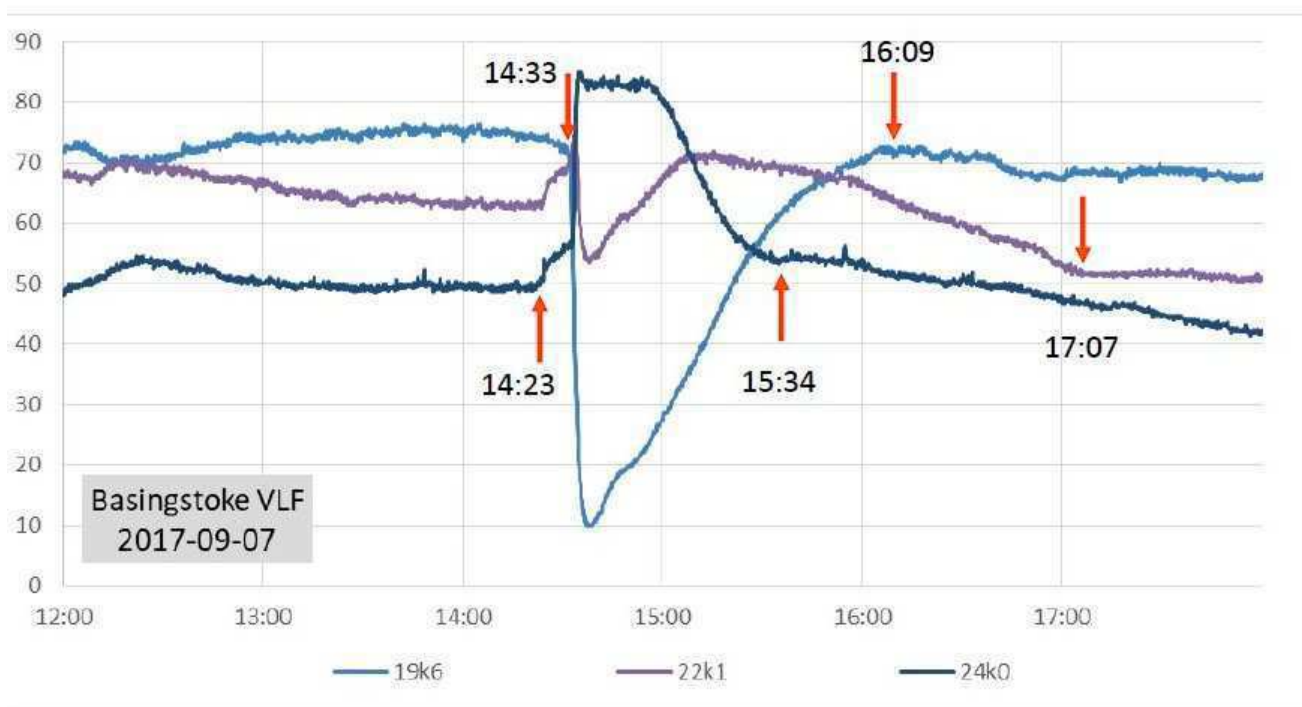
Magnetic observations received from Colin Clements, Roger Blackwell, Gonzalo Vargas and John Cook.

CME timings over the last 5 years:

1	2012	March 7	34h 41m	16	2013	May 17	63h
2	2017	September 7	35h 54m	17	2012	August 31	64h
3	2012	March 10	39h 54m	18	2014	February 25	64h 4m
4	2014	April 20	41h 56m	19	2012	November 10	66h
5	2013	March 15	47h 3m	20	2017	April 21	67h 10m
6	2012	March 5	48h 12m	21	2014	September 11	71h 17m
7	2014	September 10	49h 17m	22	2015	June 21	71h 20m
8	2012	July 12	49h 40m	23	2013	May 15	>71h
9	2014	January 7	49h 46m	24	2012	May 17	72h 48m
10	2013	May 25	52h 44m	25	2012	May 18	>84h
11	2017	September 12	53h 25m	26	2017	May 27	92h 10m
12	2015	November 4	54h 5m	27	2012	July 4	>100h
13	2014	November 7	57h 12m	28	2012	August 28	>110h
14	2012	September 27	59h 36m	29	2014	August 22	119h
15	2015	December 31	60h 24m				

SID timings.

It can sometimes be very difficult to determine precise timings for SIDs, and when several frequencies are monitored, multiple timings occur. Paul Hyde has illustrated this difficulty very nicely with the X1.3 flare on the 7th:



The peak time is consistent at all three frequencies, but there is a ten minute difference in start times shown. The largest variation is in the end time, with over an hour and half difference between 24khz (dark blue) and 22.1kHz (mauve). Each signal is 'measuring' the response of a different part of the ionosphere, and of course each observer will again monitor different parts of the ionosphere depending on their location. Where timings from multiple signals are provided, I try to be consistent in using one signal, filling in gaps with other signals when the main signal is off, or has not responded. The result is that the tables have a range of timings to any given event, with the importance rating really only applying to propagation through the part of the ionosphere being monitored. The result is that there can be a wide variation in the importance figure from one observer to another. This is only a very relative measure of the original solar flare.

