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BAA Radio Astronomy Section.

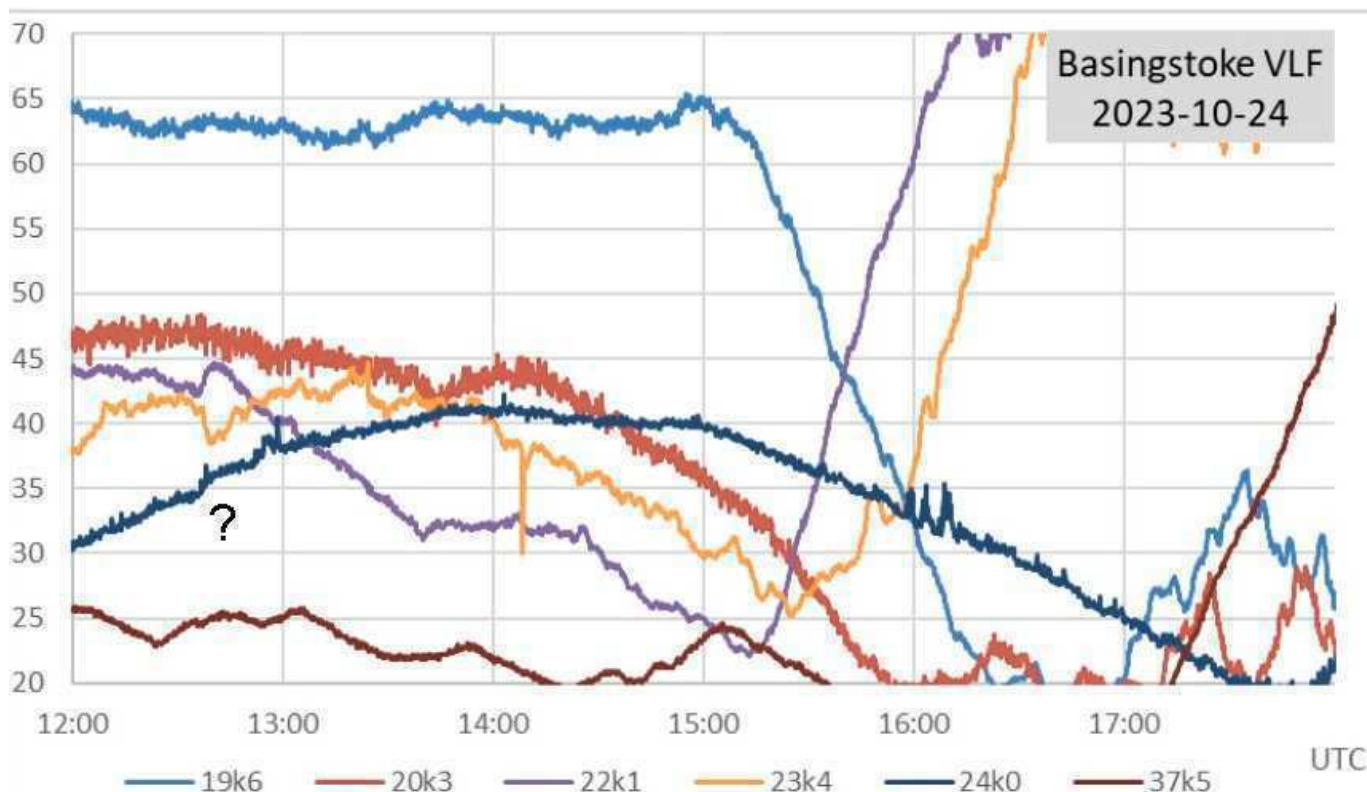
Director Paul Hearn.

RADIO SKY NEWS

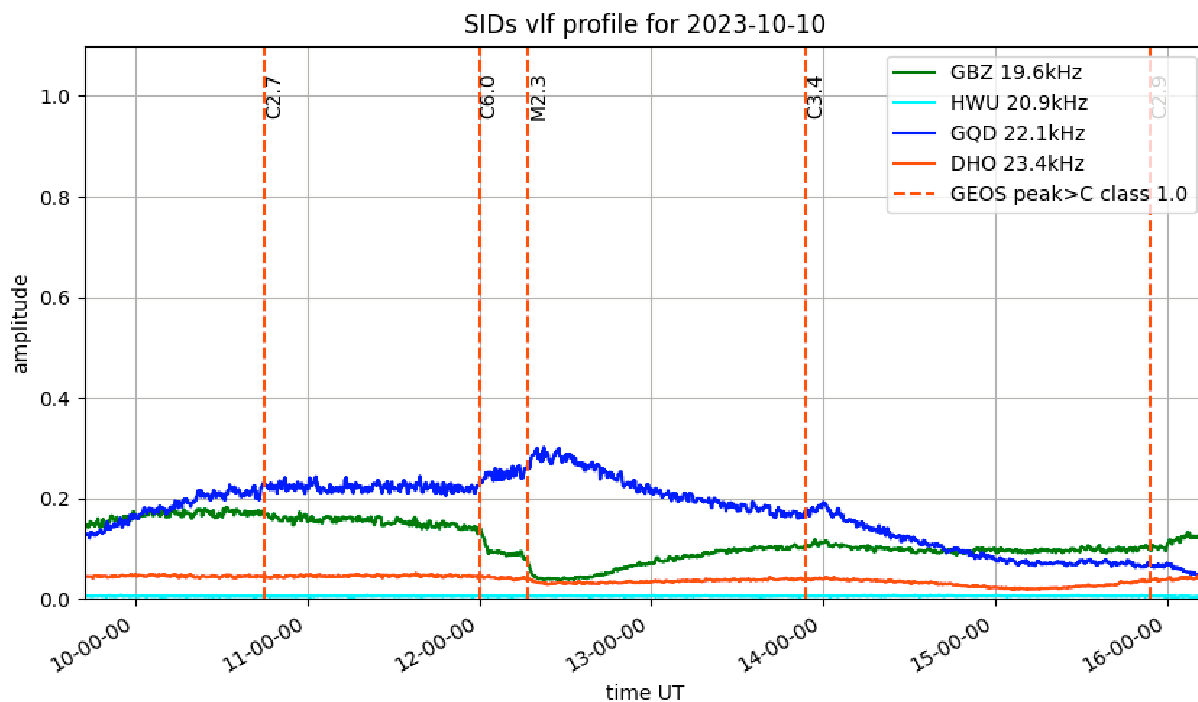
2023 OCTOBER.

VLF SID OBSERVATIONS.

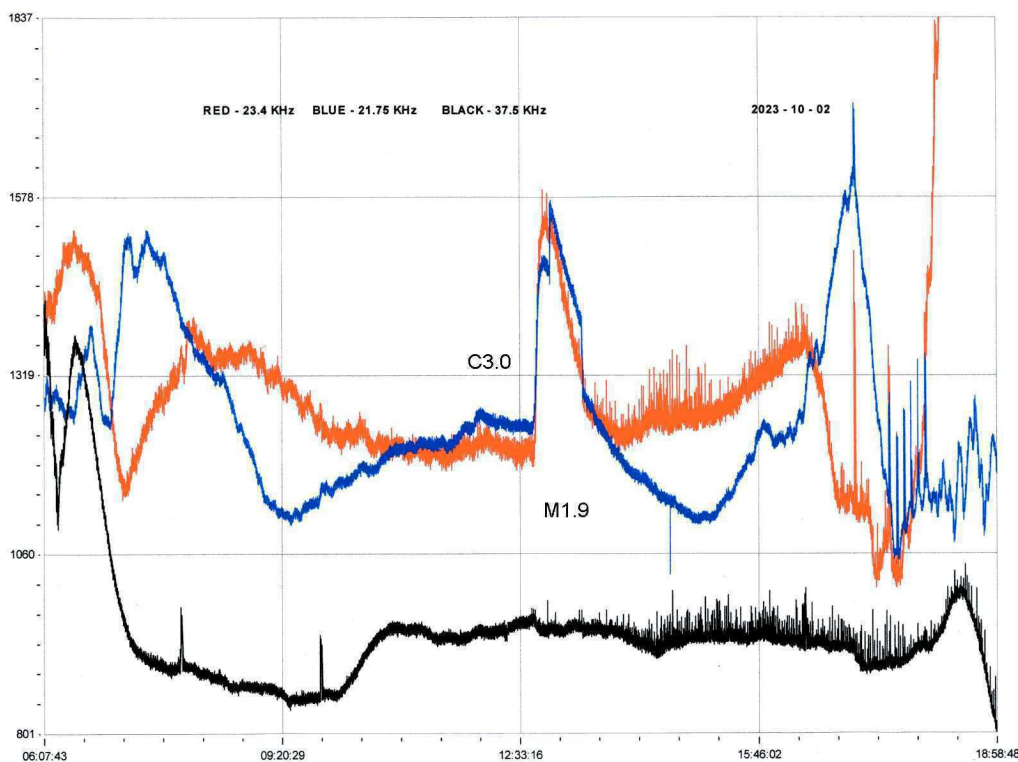
Solar flare activity in October was much lower than last month, only about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the level recorded at the peak in May. This may be an indication of a double peaked solar cycle, similar perhaps to the previous cycle. Predictions still show a peak expected in 2024 or 2025. It is also worth noting that there were some stronger flares during our night time, slightly biasing our statistics. This should even out over the longer term.



This recording from October 24th by Paul Hyde shows a rather puzzling SID-like response at 12:40 on 22.1kHz and 23.4kHz. They are good mirror images, and so probably not transmitter effects. There is also a very small rise in the 24kHz signal. The nearest flare listed in the SPWC satellite data is magnitude B8.6 at 12:26, ending before the SID starts. The rest of the day remained quiet with some small C-class flares, none of which were recorded. The recording also shows the changing sunset times over the various paths; 19.6kHz and 22.1kHz being the earliest, followed 30 minutes later by 23.4kHz, and over two hours later on the trans-Atlantic signals at 24kHz and 37.5kHz.

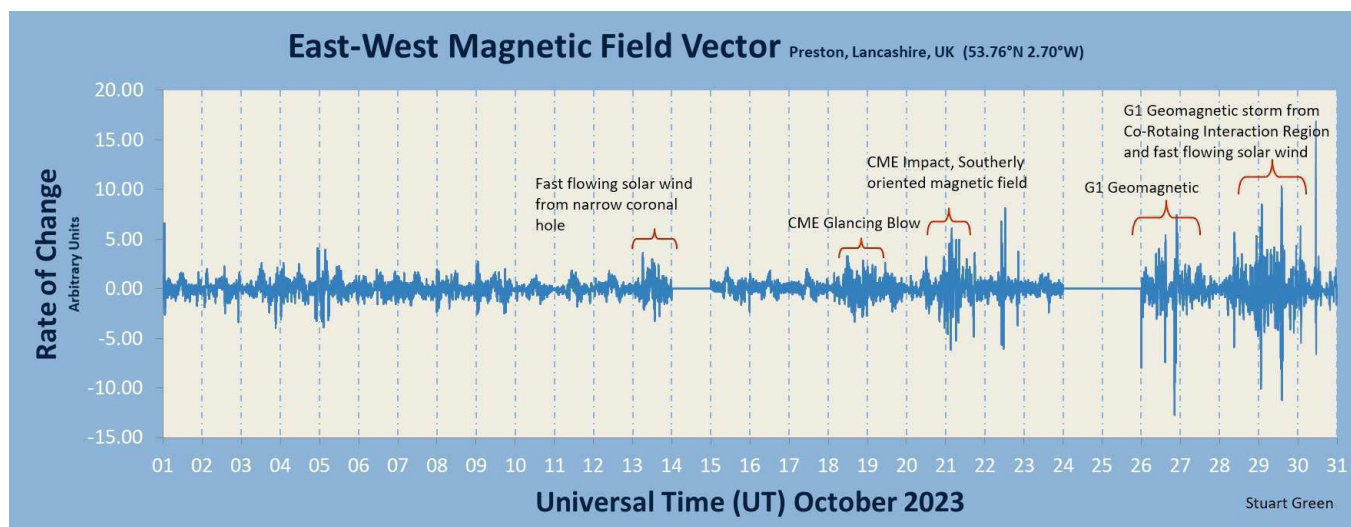


The recording by Mark Prescott from the 10th shows the stronger of the two M-class flares recorded. The M2.3 flare has interrupted the earlier C6.0 flare, giving good mirror image SIDs at 19.6kHz and 22.1kHz. 23.4kHz has remained largely unaffected, with just a very minor drop in signal level. Different active regions produced these flares, although they were less than 10 degrees apart. The later C3.4 flare is also well shown at 22.1kHz.



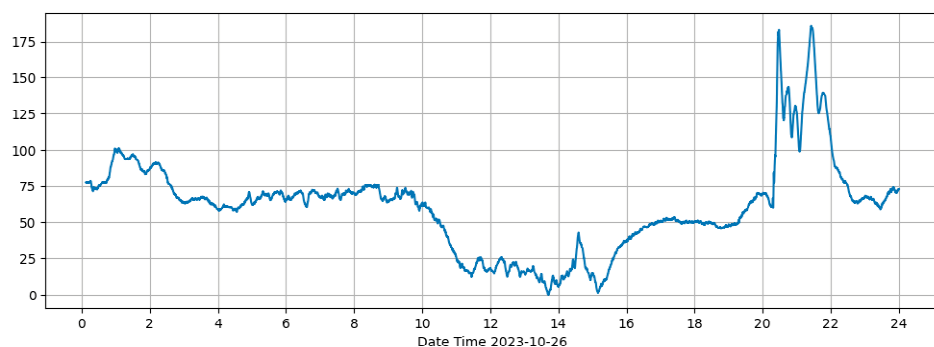
Colin Clements' recording from the 2nd shows the M1.9 flare at 23.4kHz (red) and 21.75kHz (blue) with very strong SIDs, along with the much weaker C3.0 flare. The 21.75kHz response appears to be a spike and wave type SID, although the dip is fairly weak and the following rise very sharp. Grindavik at 37.5kHz remained unaffected.

MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS.

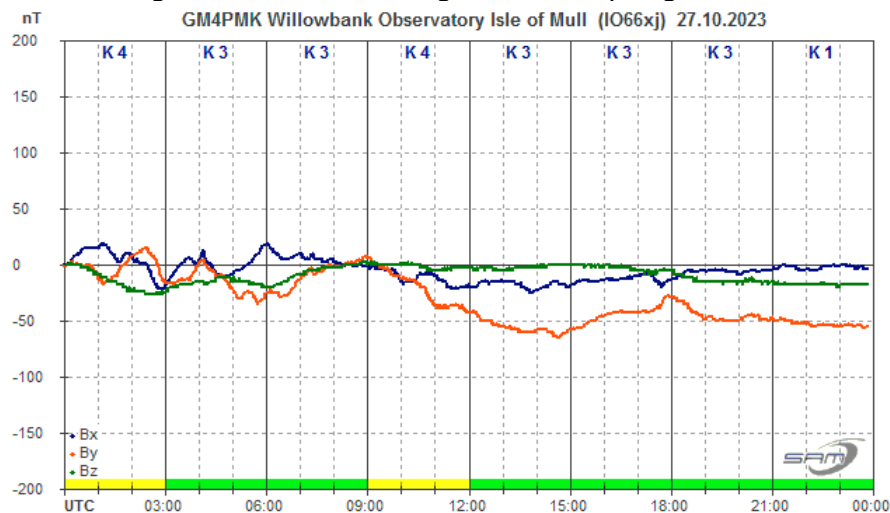


Stuart Green's monthly summary of magnetic activity shows a very quiet period to start the month, followed by increasing activity. The two gaps were due to local interference that has been removed from the data. There were CMEs associated with some of the stronger flares, but they were mostly not Earth directed, and so caused minimal disturbances. There were also some coronal holes present, resulting in some periods of high speed solar wind.

Wasbister Magnetometer (59.17N,3.06W)

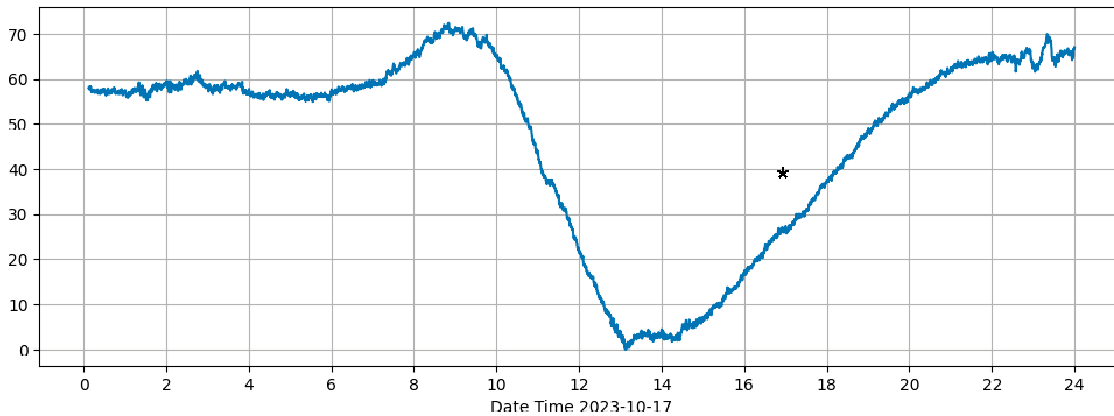


The sudden impact at about 20:30 on the 26th is shown here by Callum Potter. It was recorded by all of our observers, and appears to be a CME impact, although the source is not known. Its disturbance was very short, fading out the next morning as shown by Roger Blackwell.



The space weather web site reported an incidence of PC3 magnetic waves on the 17th. These were identified by the Lofoten observatory in Norway, showing a period from about 16:40 to 17:10 with a stable sine wave magnetic disturbance. Callum Potter has our most northerly sensor in Orkney, but did not record anything that stands out:

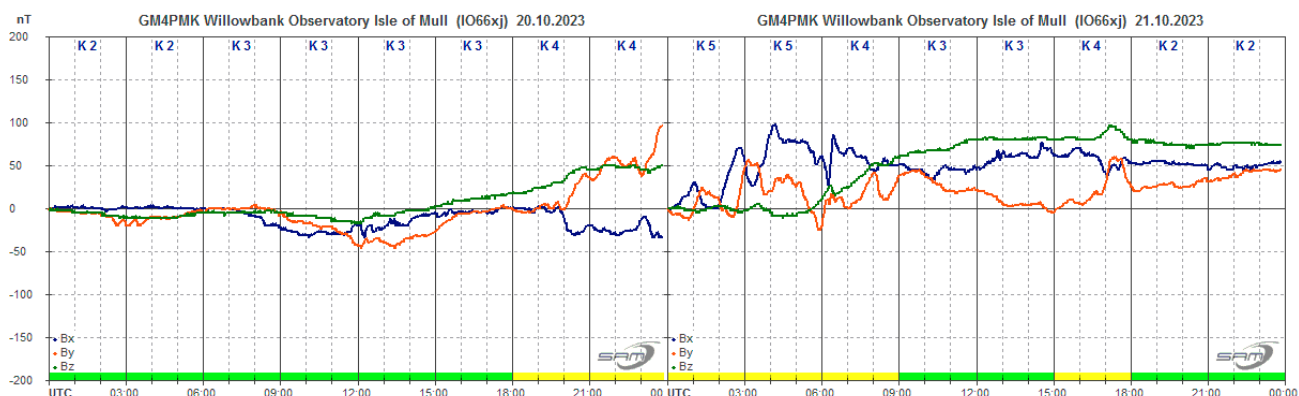
Wasbister Magnetometer (59.17N,3.06W)



I have marked the position '*' on his recording. This link is to the space weather item, showing the disturbance in greater detail:

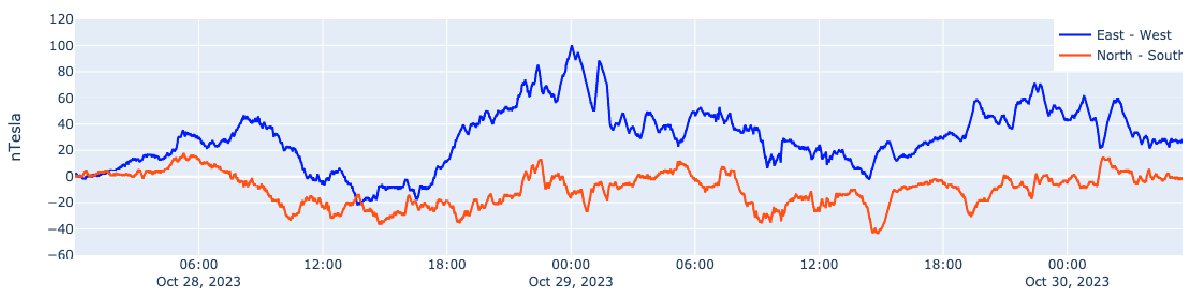
https://spaceweathergallery2.com/indiv_upload.php?upload_id=200865

These effects are usually seen during periods of very quiet solar activity.

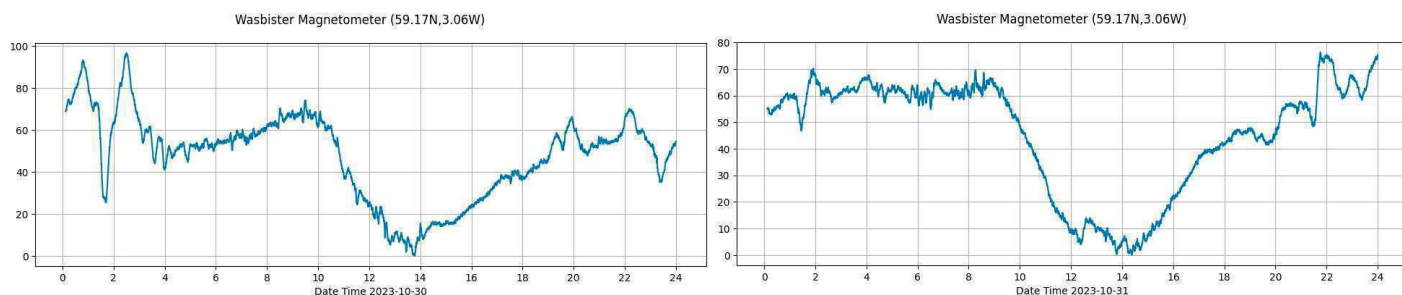


A combination of higher speed solar wind and minor CME impacts produced some moderate disturbance overnight from the 20th to 21st, shown here by Roger Blackwell.

Steining Magnetometer (50.8 North, 0.3 West)



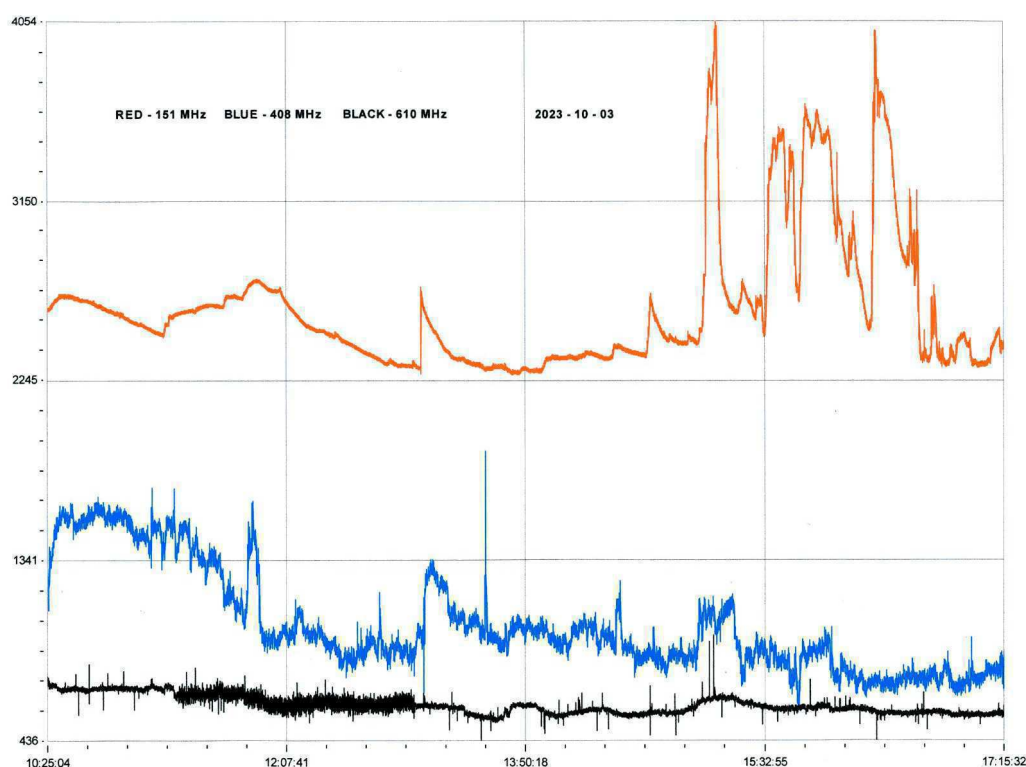
Nick Quinn's recording from the 28th / 29th shows a similar disturbance, mostly due to a faster solar wind.



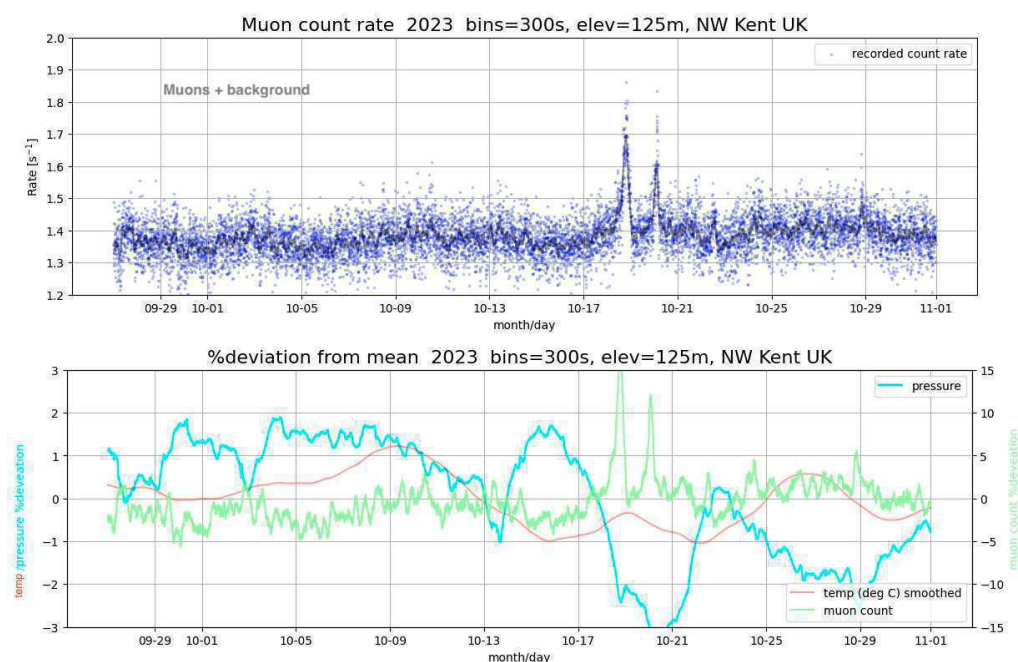
The disturbance continued to the end of the month, shown in Callum Potter's recording. While comparing these recordings, note the different location details covering the north and south of the country.

Magnetic observations received from Roger Blackwell, Colin Clements, Stuart Green, Callum Potter, Nick Quinn and John Cook.

SOLAR EMISSIONS.



With the sun much lower in the sky, Colin Clements' VHF / UHF aerials are now being shadowed by the local houses. The 151MHz system did manage to detect some emissions in the afternoon of the 3rd, probably related to the C- class flares that we recorded. The 408MHz and 610MHz systems showed much less activity due to the shadowing. Colin has been experimenting with alternative aerial designs for use in the house loft during the winter months. These are Bi-Quad designs, using wire mesh reflectors, and vertically polarised to fit inside the loft. The outdoor aerials are horizontally polarised. The 151MHz aerial was under test on the 29th, and showed some emissions from the flares on the 29th:



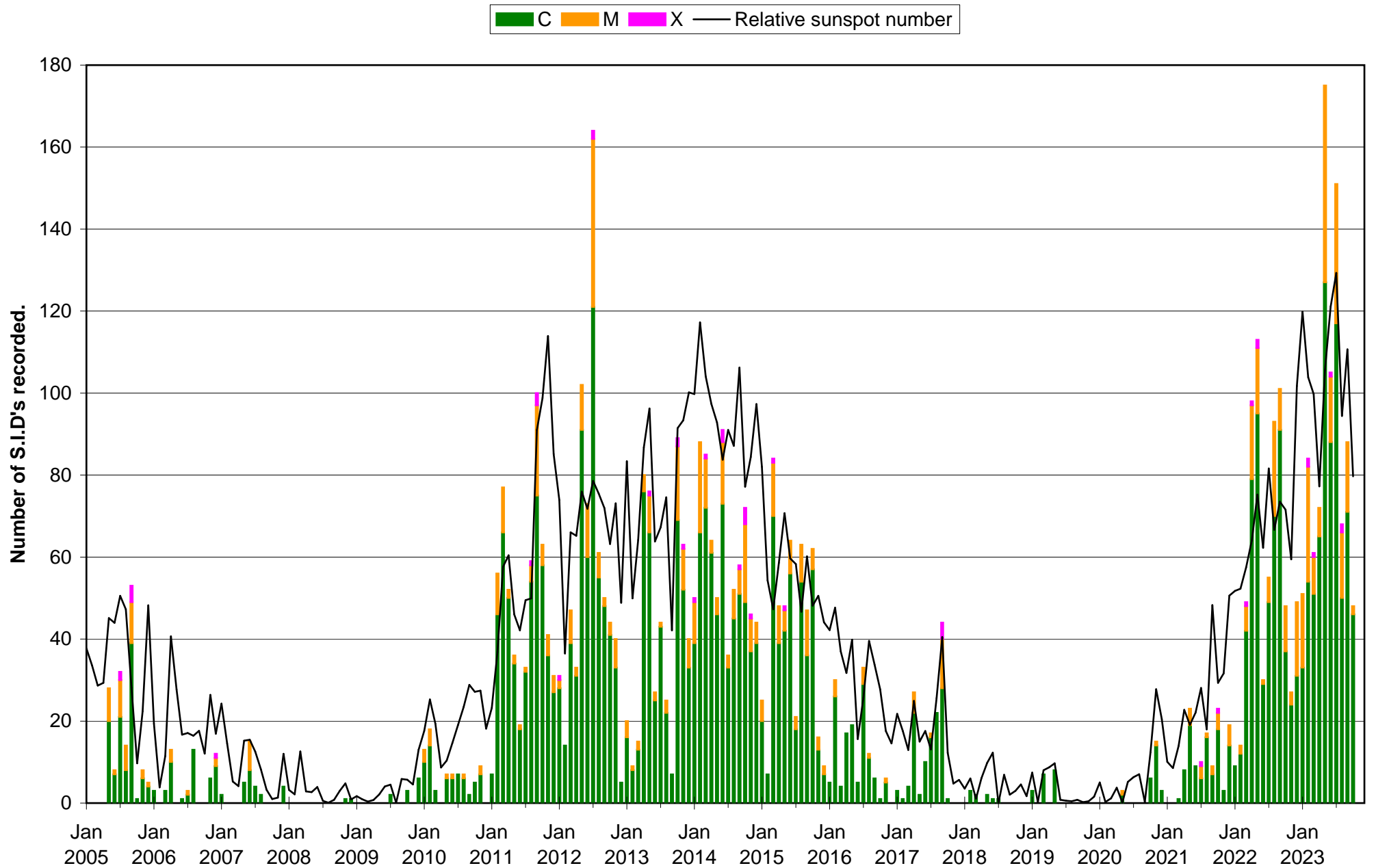
The pressure chart (light blue) also shows a strong drop during these events, so may well have affected the way that the incoming radiation reacts as it reaches our ground level sensors.

METEORS.

There were no observations of the October Orionids received. November and December are busy months for meteor activity, and so any reports will be welcome.

At the BAA AGM, John Mason, director of the meteor section, talked of a possible display of Bielid meteors in early December. This is a rarely seen shower, but there have been predictions of a good display this year. Predictions are no guarantee of course, but it would be worth a look. I believe that the predicted date was around the 3rd /4th.

VLF flare activity 2005/23



BARTELS DIAGRAM

ROTATION	KEY:	DISTURBED.	ACTIVE	SFE	B, C, M, X = FLARE MAGNITUDE.	Synodic rotation start (carrington's).
2556	F	24 25	26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 January 1 2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	
2557	F	20 21 22	2240 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 February 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15		
2558	F	16 17 18	2241 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	2021 March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		
2559	F	15 16 17	2242 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
2560	F	11 12 13	2243 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2021 May 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 27 28 29 30 31		
2561	F	8 9 10	2244 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 June 1 2 3		
2562	F	4 5 6 7	2245 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			
2563	F	2021 July 1 2 3 4	2246 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27			
2564	F	28 29 30 31	2021 August 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23			
2565	F	24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2248 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19			
2566	F	20 21 22 23 24	2249 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
2567	F	17 18 19 20 21	2250 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2021 November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		
2568	F	13 14 15 16 17	2251 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2021 December 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		
2569	F	10 11 12 13 14	2252 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2022 January 1 2 3 4 5		
2570	F	6 7 8 9 10 11	2253 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			
2571	F	2022 February 2 3 4 5 6 7	2254 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28			
2572	F	2022 March 1 2 3 4 5 6	2255 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27			
2573	F	28 29 30 31	2022 April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23			
2574	F	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2022 May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20			
2575	F	21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2258 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16			
2576	F	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	2259 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2022 July 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		
2577	F	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	2260 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2022 August 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		
2578	F	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2261 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 27 28 29 30 31	2022 September 1 2 3 4 5		
2579	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 31	2262 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 27 28 29	2022 October 1 2		
2580	F	2022 October 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	2263 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29			
2581	F	30 31	2022 November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2264 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25		
2582	F	26 27 28 29 30	2022 December 1 2 3 4	2265 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22		
2583	F	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2023 January 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18			
2584	F	19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	2267 29 30 31	2023 February 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		
2585	F	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	2268 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	2023 March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		
2586	F	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2269 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	2023 April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		
2587	F	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	2270 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2023 May 1 2 3 4 5 6		
2588	F	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	2271 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2023 June 1 2		
2589	F	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	2272 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29			
2590	F	2023 July 30 31	2273 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26			
2591	F	27 28 29 30 31	2023 August 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22			
2592	F	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2023 September 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18			
2593	F	19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2023 October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15			
2594	F	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2023 November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12			

	X-ray class	Observers	John Cook (23.4kHz/22.1kHz)				Roberto Battaiola 20.3kHz				Paul Hyde (22.1kHz/24kHz)				Mark Edwards (24.0/22.1/37.5kHz)				Colin Clements (21.75/23.4/37.5kHz)			
			Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.58m frame aerial.				Modified AAVSO receiver.				Spectrum Lab / PC 1.5m frame aerial.				Spectrum Lab / PC 2m loop aerial.				Tuned Radio Frequency receivers, 0.76m screened loop aerial.			
DAY			START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)	
1	C5.0	6	09:45	09:52	10:26	2					09:42	09:52	10:24	2	09:45	09:52	10:23	2	09:46	09:55	10:19	2
1	?	1													10:03	10:12	10:53	2+				
1	C3.6	6	11:13	11:15	11:44	1+					11:10	11:14	11:24	1-	11:13	11:18	11:34	1	11:14	11:15	12:21	2+
1	C2.9	3	14:21	14:24	14:38	1-					14:18	14:27	?	-	14:23	14:30	?	-				
1	C3.4	2									14:41	14:48	15:14	2	14:45	14:56	15:15	1+				
2	C2.9	2									09:00	09:04	09:19	1	09:02	09:08	09:19	1-				
2	C3.0	2	11:53	11:57	?	-									11:53	12:02	12:30	2				
2	M1.9	9	12:42	12:47	14:12	3	12:39	12:48	13:13	2	12:37	12:47	15:04	3+	12:41	12:50	14:02	2+	12:41	12:52	14:54	3+
3	C3.5	4	09:37	09:42	10:07	1+					09:36	09:45	10:22	2+	09:37	09:42	10:18	2				
3	C1.9	1													12:10	12:13	12:23	1-				
3	C2.3	2									15:39	15:49	?	-	15:43	15:47	15:57	1-				
3	C2.0	2									16:11	16:17	16:29	1-	16:12	16:16	16:26	1-				
3	C2.0	2									16:37	16:42	16:55	1-	16:39	16:41	16:46	1-				
3	C3.5	2									17:02	17:05	17:23	1	17:02	17:05	17:18	1-				
4	C3.0	3					09:47	09:53	09:59	1-	09:48	09:54	10:13	1	09:52	09:54	10:01	1-				
5	C3.5	2									16:27	16:32	16:54	1+	16:27	16:33	16:59	1+				
6	C3.4	3	10:59	11:06	11:31	1+					10:56	11:06	11:29	2					10:35	11:13	11:35	2+
6	C4.0	1													17:51	17:55	18:00	1-				
7	C3.5	2									08:07	08:15	08:27	1	08:07	08:18	08:39	1+				
7	C2.8	4									13:47	13:54	14:42	2+	13:50	14:00	14:24	2	13:50	13:58	14:21	1+
7	?	1													14:44	14:48	14:56	1-				
8	C3.4	7	12:39	12:44	?	-	12:38	12:42	12:45	1-	12:39	12:42	13:15	2	12:39	12:42	13:05	1+	12:39	12:46	13:56	2+
8	C2.4	2									14:08	14:12	14:25	1-	14:01	14:11	14:20	1				
8	?	1													18:04	18:08	18:20	1-				
9	C6.4	2													08:35	08:41	08:50	1-				
9	C7.6	10					11:33	11:42	12:05	1+	11:33	11:44	13:03	3	11:35	11:43	13:11	3	11:36	11:48	12:41	2+
9	?	1													13:05	13:06	13:11	1-				
9	C2.0	1													14:36	14:45	14:53	1-				
10	C2.7	3	10:39	10:42	11:05	1+					10:35	10:46	11:03	1+	10:36	10:42	10:56	1				
10	C6.0	6	11:55	12:01	?	-	11:52	12:01	12:08	1-					11:55	12:01	?	-	11:56	12:06	12:12	1-
10	M2.3	11	12:12	12:19	13:37	2+	12:10	12:19	12:32	1	12:10	12:19	?	-	12:09	12:22	13:15	2+	12:12	12:21	13:50	3
10	?	1													13:21	13:25	13:32	1-				
10	C3.4	3	13:45	13:48	13:55	1-					13:49	13:55	14:37	2+	13:51	13:55	14:11	1				
10	C2.9	1													15:49	15:55	16:07	1-				
10	C2.4	1													16:50	16:54	17:04	1-				
11	C7.2	11	09:33	09:39	09:56	1	09:31	09:39	09:46	1-	09:33	09:43	10:10	2	09:33	09:41	10:16	2	09:37	09:43	10:17	2
11	C4.9	4	14:35	14:44	15:07	1+	14:22	14:43	15:01	2	14:26	14:43	15:00	2	14:27	14:32	14:40	1-				
12	?	2									13:13	13:16	13:31	1-	13:12	13:19	13:26	1-				
14	C3.5	1													16:15	16:24	16:46	1+				
15	C3.9	1													16:28	16:35	16:45	1-				
16	C7.5	6	10:41	10:53	12:15	3					10:39	10:53	11:48	2+	10:44	10:53	?	-	10:45	10:58	13:03	3+
16	C4.9	1													11:07	11:21	11:40	2				
16	?	2													12:31	12:35	12:44	1-				
16	C9.8	4									16:02	16:10	16:26	1	16:05	16:08	16:25	1				
19	C2.7	6									13:55	14:03	14:27	1+	13:56	14:01	14:26	1+	13:56	14:06	15:38	3
20	C1.7	2									11:04	11:12	11:34	1+	11:07	11:12	11:21	1-				
24	?	1									12:37	12:40	12:55	1-								
25	C1.5	2									12:44	12:49	12:57	1-	12:46	12:50	12:58	1-				
25	C1.7	1													13:05	13:11	13:15	1-				
25	?	2									13:23	13:29	13:38	1-	13:25	13:29	13:34	1-				
26	C1.7	1									12:20	12:25	12:50	1+								
26	C4.2	6					13:24	13:28	13:33	1-	13:24	13:28	13:49	1	13:25	13:28	13:50	1				
29	C2.4	2									08:58	09:04	09:13	1-	08:59	09:03	09:08	1-				
29	C2.5	3									09:50	09:52	09:59	1-	09:50	09:52	09:58	1-				
29	C6.6	11	11:37	11:43	12:19	2	11:34	11:43	12:06	1+	11:39	11:44	12:20	2	11:38	11:43	12:07	1+	11:38	11:44	12:05	1+
29	?	2													12:29	12:38	12:55	1+	12:16	12:37	13:22	2+
29	C7.8	10	13:07	13:09	13:15	1-	13:03	13:10	13:31	1+	13:07	13:11	13:45	2	13:07	13:11	13:40	2	13:08	13:12	13:15	1-
29	C2.0	2									13:54	13:58	14:09	1-	13:56	13:58	14:11	1-				

2023 OCTOBER.

	Xray class		Steve Parkinson (Various)				Andrew Thomas (19.6kHz)				Phil Rourke (23.4kHz)				Mark Prescott (19.6kHz/22.1kHz)				John Elliott (18.3kHz)			
			Tuned radio frequency receiver, frame aerials.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.6m frame aerial.				Spectrum Lab, 0.6m frame aerial.				SpectrumLab/Starbase, Active mini-whip aerial.				Tuned radio frequency receiver, 0.5m frame aerial.			
DAY			START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)		START	PEAK	END (UT)	
1	C5.0		09:46	09:52	10:12	1+	09:46	09:55	10:18	1+												
1	?																					
1	C3.6		11:13	11:16	11:35	1	11:13	11:17	11:30	1-												
1	C2.9																					
1	C3.4																					
2	C2.9																					
2	C3.0																					
2	M1.9		12:41	12:50	13:35	2+	12:40	12:52	13:56	2+	12:42	12:50	13:57	2+	12:44	12:53	14:03	2+				
3	C3.5		09:38	09:43	10:22	2																
3	C1.9																					
3	C2.3																					
3	C2.0																					
3	C2.0																					
3	C3.5																					
4	C3.0																					
5	C3.5																					
6	C3.4																					
6	C4.0																					
7	C3.5																					
7	C2.8		13:50	13:55	14:20	1+																
7	?																					
8	C3.4		12:39	12:43	12:55	1-																
8	C2.4																					
8	?																					
9	C6.4										08:36	08:39	08:50	1-								
9	C7.6		11:34	11:45	12:40	2+	11:34	11:45	12:52	2+	11:34	11:46	12:24	2+	11:39	11:50	12:53	2+	11:35	11:45	12:30	2+
9	?																					
9	C2.0																					
10	C2.7																					
10	C6.0																					
10	M2.3		11:55	12:20	13:20	2+	11:54	12:21	13:51	3	11:57	12:05	?	-	11:59	12:03	?	-	12:10	12:20	13:50	3
10	?										?	12:20	13:18	-	12:14	12:22	13:51	3				
10	C3.4																					
10	C2.9																					
10	C2.4																					
11	C7.2		09:34	09:41	10:07	2	09:33	09:41	10:16	2	09:30	09:33	09:39	1-	09:39	09:45	10:10	1+	09:35	09:40	10:50	2+
11	C4.9																					
12	?																					
14	C3.5																					
15	C3.9																					
16	C7.5		10:41	10:55	11:53	2+													10:45	11:00	11:45	2+
16	C4.9																					
16	?		12:31	12:34	12:40	1-																
16	C9.8																		16:08	16:10	16:50	2
19	C2.7		13:55	14:01	14:12	1-									13:57	14:05	14:27	1+				
20	C1.7																					
24																						
25	C1.5																					
25	C1.7																					
25	?																					
26	C1.7																					
26	C4.2		13:24	13:28	13:38	1-									13:26	13:32	?	-				
29	C2.4																					
29	C2.5																					
29	C6.6		11:37	11:44	12:20	2	11:36	11:43	12:16	2	11:37	11:46	13:00	2+	11:43	11:46	12:19	2	11:35	11:45	12:00	1
29	?																					
29	C7.8		13:08	13:11	13:30	1	13:07	13:11	13:24	1-	13:06	13:12	14:01	2+	13:11	13:14	13:37	1+				
29	C2.0																					

2023 OCTOBER.

			Richard Coffee (19.6kHz/24kHz)	Chris Bailey	Colin Briden		
	Xray class		Spectrum Lab frame aerial.	0.55m Spectrum Lab.	Spectrum Lab 1.2m frame Aerial.		
DAY			START PEAK END (UT)	START PEAK END (UT)	START PEAK END (UT)	START PEAK END (UT)	START PEAK END (UT)
1	C5.0						
1	?						
1	C3.6						
1	C2.9						
1	C3.4						
2	C2.9						
2	C3.0						
2	M1.9						
3	C3.5						
3	C1.9						
3	C2.3						
3	C2.0						
3	C2.0						
3	C3.5						
4	C3.0						
5	C3.5						
6	C3.4						
6	C4.0						
7	C3.5						
7	C2.8						
7	?						
8	C3.4		12:39 12:46 12:50 1-				
8	C2.4						
8	?						
9	C6.4						
9	C7.6		11:30 11:46 12:02 1+				
9	?						
9	C2.0						
10	C2.7						
10	C6.0						
10	M2.3		11:53 12:14 12:45 2+				
10	?						
10	C3.4						
10	C2.9						
10	C2.4						
11	C7.2		09:37 09:41 09:54 1-				
11	C4.9						
12	?						
14	C3.5						
15	C3.9						
16	C7.5						
16	C4.9						
16	?						
16	C9.8		16:01 16:05 ? -				
19	C2.7		13:55 13:58 14:17 1				
20	C1.7						
24							
25	C1.5						
25	C1.7						
25	?						
26	C1.7						
26	C4.2		13:23 13:26 13:33 1-				
29	C2.4						
29	C2.5		09:55 09:57 10:14 1				
29	C6.6		11:38 11:41 11:55 1-				
29	?						
29	C7.8		13:04 13:16 13:20 1-				
29	C2.0						