

## Tutors' Newsletter

June 2016

### Advanced Exam dates

A reminder that Advanced examinations are now available at any time and that applications should be received at the RSGB Examination Department one month in advance of the requested date. The lead time for Foundation and Intermediate examinations remains at two weeks, 10 working days.

### Practical Assessments

Guidance has now been issued on the requirements of the Practical Assessments. This guidance is effective immediately. There is no change to the syllabus requirements themselves; the aim of the guidance is to assist in achieving commonality in standard and practice between Examination Centres.

The guide is available at [thersgb.org/services/training/guidelines-for-practical-assessments](http://thersgb.org/services/training/guidelines-for-practical-assessments)

Due to the reducing number of assessors with formal Morse qualifications the need for such formal qualification has been removed but the Registered Assessor remains responsible for ensuring that the person carrying out the Morse appreciation is competent to do so.

Please note the changed wording of the Morse appreciation. The strict requirement for no residual errors in sending and receiving has been dropped in favour of sufficient accuracy for the content of the message to be understood.

### Syllabus Review

Work on the review continues in the Examination Group and the Training and Education Committee Syllabus Review Working Group. Several sections have been provisionally completed but all sections will need to be checked for continuity between sections.

Publication is anticipated in the first quarter of 2017 and coming into use 12 months later.

### Train the Trainers

These events have been very successful and much appreciated by those attending.

They are available to all RSGB members involved in training or thinking of becoming involved and there is no charge.

Places at each venue are limited so apply soon if you are interested. Further events will be announced on the RSGB Tutors Yahoo Group at

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/RSGBtutors/info>

and on the RSGB web site

<http://rsgb.org/main/clubs-training/tutor-resources-2/train-trainers-events/>

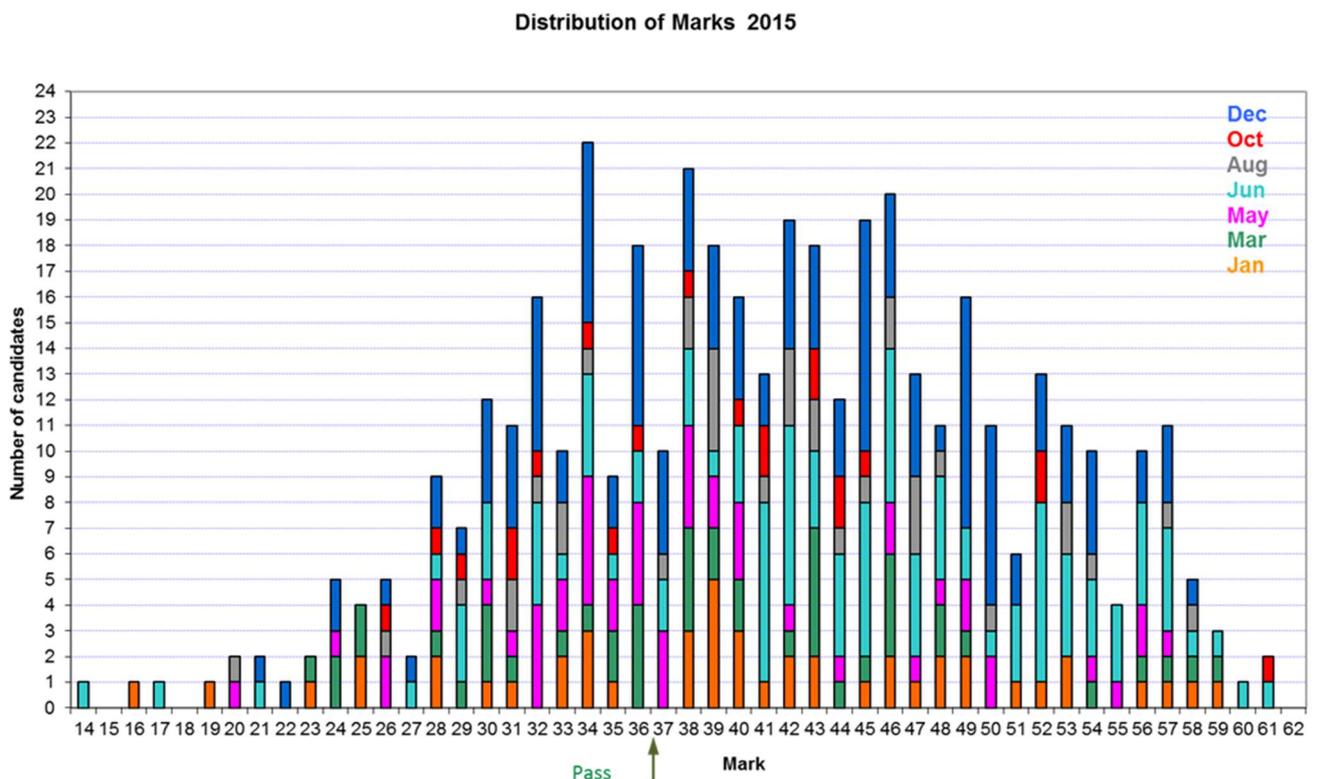
## Examinations in 2015

The EG has not produced a report on 2015, essential details are contained in the report by the Examination Standards Committee available at <http://rsgb.org/main/about-us/committees/examination-standards-committee/minutes-papers-and-reports/>

However some further information may be useful to tutors.

The chart below shows the distribution of marks at the Advanced examinations. Of course not everybody passes, especially first time, but the comparatively large number of candidates some way below the pass mark may be of concern.

That pattern is less obvious at Foundation and Intermediate but candidates attaining the lower marks are clearly not yet ready for the examination and perhaps should further their studies with their tutor before sitting the exam. Sample papers are available on the RSGB web site and other sources and experience suggests that consistently good marks on those are a reasonable indicator of success.



A brief analysis of the outcome of resit Advanced examinations has suggested that those candidates who resit almost immediately tend not to be any more successful. That also applies to those who wait about a year unless they re-take a training course. Typically best results are achieved by those who spend some 3-4 months study with tutor guidance.

## Syllabus Areas Needing Examination Items

The number of items required continues to fall thanks to your sterling efforts. Some items are still short and submission of draft items (to [exams@rsgb.org.uk](mailto:exams@rsgb.org.uk)) is very much appreciated. There is a £20 RSGB book token for ten accepted items. If you don't want this personally the club may like a small stock of training books for those unable to afford their



own. Do please read the guidance notes first.

### **Foundation**

None required but nice to have one more each in 2c6 8a5 8a6 8d1 9a6 9b1

### **Intermediate**

None required but nice to have one more in 10b1.

### **Advanced**

With the move to on-demand the bank needs to be increased in size.

Wanted: 2a1 2b1 2c1 2d1 2f1 2g1 2h1 2i1 2j1 3e2 3e3 3e5 3g1 3g2 3g3 3h2 3j3  
3k1 3l1 3m1 3p1 3p2 3p3 4d1 4e1 4f1 4f3 4h1 4h2 4h4 4h5 4h6 4i1 4j1  
4j2 4j3 4l1 4p1 4q1 4r1 5c1 5c2 5d2 5d3 7a1 7a2 7a3 7a5 7b1 7b3 7b4  
7b5 7c1 7d1 7e1 7f1 8a1 8b1 8d1 8e1 9a1 9a2 9a3 9a4 9b1 9c1 9d1  
9e1 9f1 10a1 10c1 10d1 10e1.

Nice to have is best left until we have cleared the wanted list.

Where items are shown as wanted then two items per syllabus topic will be acceptable from any one author to allow a range of authors and styles. Please do not simply change a distractor to make a different item; items on the same topic should seek to examine a different aspect of it.

All authors are warmly thanked for their inputs; it is very much appreciated.