

journal of the Radio Society of Great Britain



Geoff Barnes, G3AOS, with members of the 1st Hale Barns (Cheshire) Group Scouts, who provided two stations: G3AOS/A operated by Geoff Barnes, and G4FXU/A operated by Roger Napper; both assisted by Martin Doig, G4CCZ, and Paul Maggs, G8NZQ. Some 150 contacts with 30 different countries were made, 20 of them with overseas Scout stations. Photo reproduced by permission of the Altrincham Guardian



### 20th JAMBOREE OF THE AIR 15-16 October 1977



Crawfordburn, Co Down, station organized by members of the Belfast RSGB Group in conjunction with Jim Butler of Scouting International. Left to right: GI4CBQ, Jim Butler, GI3MMF and GI8IHK. Photo: Brent Burnside

The 8th Ampthill & Woburn (Flitvale) Scout Troop stations at Maulden, Beds, using callsigns G4BWP and G4DRS. Left to right: Nigel Whinnett, yl Val, yl Sandra, G4BWP, Paul Teague, Scout leader Steve Hatton, Paul Rance, G4DRS, Stuart Taylor, Scott Measham, Andrew Clarke, Malcolm Whinnett. Photo: G5BOR

### AMATEUR RADIO BULK BUYING GROUP



### Season's Greetings to all our many friends

### COMPONENTS FOR THE MULTIMODE 1600 TRANSCEIVER (Oct/Nov Rad Com)

We will shortly be stocking the printed circuit board and all other components for this design. Send S.A.E. for price list of all items. Complete kit-approx £215.00

### NEW PLASTIC IC's from PLESSEY

New low cost version of the famous SL600 series communication ic's are now available. The plastic versions, designated SL1600 series, are in DIL8 or DIL14 packaging according to type.

	Met	al	Plastic		
R.F. Amplifier	SL610C	£2.45	SL1610	£1.82	
R.F. Amplifier	SL611C	£2.45	_		
R.F. Amplifier	SL612C	£2.45	SL1612	£1.82	
Limiting Amp.	SL613C	£4.23	SL1613	£2.13	
VOGAD	SL620C	£3.72			
AGC Generator	SL612C	£3.72	SL1621	£2.45	
AF VOGAD Sidetone	SL622C	£9.15			
AM/AGC/SSB	SL623C	£6.75	SL1623	£2.75	
Multimode Eet.	SL624C	£3.43	-		
A.F. Amplifier	SL630C	£2.33	-		
Double Bal. Mod.	SL640C	£4.10	SL1640	£2.13	
Receive Mixer	SL641C	£4.10	_	-	

### G3PLX RTTY VIDEO DISPLAY UNIT

Set of printed circuit boards: £14.85. Veroboards also available at £4.30 each. Set of i.c.s including programmed 74188s, £56.15; 2513; £8.50; AY5-1013, £6.25; 2102-1, £2.85; SN74188, £4,00 each or ready programmed £9.50 per pair. 7MHz Xtal; £2.85.

### OTHER RADCOM PROJECTS

Digital Frequency Counter and Timer by G3MFJ/G3KEP—March '76. 7400, 19p; 7473, 40p; 7475, 56p; 7490, 58p; 74121, 43p; 74196, £1.62; MC10116, 72p; 5V reg, £1.90; LED, 29p; 2N706, 22p; Toggle switch, 86p; 9V mains transformer, £2.00.

SSB Transceiver by G3ZVC-Sept. '74. Complete kit £78.90

2M A.M. TX/RX by G3TDZ—Jan. '73 and VHF/UHF Manual. Complete kit for Receiver, £21.80; Transmitter, £9.40; Modulator, £3.85 (does not include PCB or transformer).

Mini D.F.M. by G3XGP—June '73. Complete kit using 1MHz clock oscillator, £41.95 (plus 50p for 30MHz i.c.s.).

Stereocode Processor by G6CJ—Sept .'75. Complete kit, £16.95. Reprints of above articles, 20p plus SAE.

### 40 WATT 2m P.A. KIT

A kit for building a 40 watt r.f. power amplifier for boosting the output of 10-watt F.M. mobile transmitters. Automatic solid-state T/R switching is incorporated. Design as published in September 1976 edition of "Electronics Today International". Complete kit—£19.25 plus 65p post.

If ordering components, please add minimum of 30p for post and packing.

Cheques and P.O.s should be crossed and made payable to "A.R.B.B.G."

DEPT. 701, COMMUNICATIONS HOUSE, 20 WALLINGTON SQUARE, WALLINGTON, SURREY, SM6 RG. Tel.. 01-669 Open 9am to 6pm Mon.-Fri., 9am to 1pm Sat. Closed for lunch 12.45 to 1.45.

### 2M SYNTHESIZER for your Trio or FDK rig

This 2m frequency synthesizer has been designed for use with the Trio TR2200 and TR7200 range of transceivers. But it may be used with any transceiver which will operate with 12MHz transmit drive and 14MHz or 44MHz (synthesizer output is 22MHz) for receive, only two screened leads being necessary for the inter-connection.

Front panel controls are provided for:

Channel selection

Simplex Repeater Reverse repeater

Fine Tune

Power on off

The unit is housed in an attractive metal cabinet approximately  $7^\circ=21^\circ=5^\circ$ . Power supply requirements + 12 volt at 400mA (this is obtained via the single connection lead).

Price only £93.50 incl, VAT (Add £1.50 for ins. post).

Also model ES80/FDK for Multi-II Both models now generally available from stock

### VHF DFM with extended range now covering 10Hz to 250MHz

Model DFM 5

The updated version of the Catronics Frequency Meter with extended frequency range covering 10Hz to 250MHz. Size approx.  $81^{\circ} \times 7^{\circ} \times 3^{\circ}$ ,

- ★ Full 7 digit 0.35" amber display
- \* I.C. memory giving a "non-blinking" display.
- ★ Automatic suppressed zeros on 3 leading digits to reduce power consumption
- \* TTL and ECL ic's used to give good reliability.
- \* 10MHz master oscillator for high accuracy.
- ★ 12V (-ve earth) d.c. input and 210-260V, mains psu fitted.

Price only £148.50 incl. VAT (Add £1.50 for insured post)



Now published—the AUTUMN 1977 edition which includes articles on;

70cm FM transceiver (Part 2) Frequency Multipliers 70cm Bandpass Filter Yagl antennas 10GHz transceiver (Part 2) Linear Capacitance Meter

Send £1.15 for a copy of this edition or £4.30 for 1977 subscription VHF COMMUNICATIONS is the English language edition of the German publication UKW-BERICHTE, a quarterly amateur radio magazine especially catering for vhl/uhl/ shf technology. It is published in spring, summer, autumn and winter.

All special components required for the construction of the described equipment, such as printed circuit boards, coil formers, semiconductors and crystals, as well as complete kits, are available for despatch direct from Germany. Many of the printed circuit boards, in addition to a few selected kits, are stocked in the UK. A price list of kits and materials is available—send sae for your copy.

Orders to VHF Communications at address below.

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### **EDITORIAL PANEL**

J. P. Hawker, G3VA R. F. Stevens, G2BVN



December 1977

Volume 53 No12

### CONTENTS

- 932 A seasonal message from the President OTC
- 934 More on the Smith Chart—G. Garside, MSc, MA, CPhil, CEng, MIEE, MIERE, FRAS, G3MYT/VE3
- 940 Sporadic-E observations in 1977-R. A. Ham, FRAS
- 941 New products—Sinclair digital multimeter. Adcola unit 333
- 942 Technical topics-Pat Hawker, G3VA
- 947 4-2-70—Graham Knight, GM8FFX

Supplement RSGB publications for Christmas

- 951 Microwaves—Dain Evans, G3RPE
- 952 The vhf man's left hand—Jack Hum, G5UM Oscar news
- 953 SWL news-Bob Treacher, BRS32525
- 954 The month on the air-John Allaway, G3FKM
- 957 HF propagation study. Propagation predictions
- 958 Retirement of Mr A. O. Milne The RSGB QSL Bureau
- 959 RSGB QSL Bureau sub-managers
- 960 Council proceedings. Looking ahead
- 961 The 1977 President's Working Party. Your opinion
- 962 Obituaries
- 963 Raynet—S. W. Law, G3PAZ SSTV scene—P. Burnett, G4BLL
- 964 Contest news. Contests calendar. Mobile rallies calendar
- 965 Members' Ads

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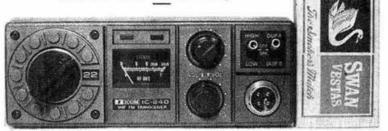
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### £185 inc VAT and delivery



# THE IC-240 STILL THE BEST CHOICE!

Are you going around in circles trying to choose which synthesized mobile to buy?

About twelve months ago there was no problem in choosing as there was only the 240 and one other which was much more expensive and difficult to tune when driving. Now its a bit different, with two others on the market—and all claiming to be the best. Before you choose just sit down and think about what you really want from a mobile. For instance, do you really want 400 channels and do you understand the complex mathematics which enables you to fit these into two megahertz of bandwidth when each channel requires some 16kHz?

How many channels do you actually need to have available? Well, there could well be up to ten repeater channels in time in the UK and in a really busy area such as London you could well need 8 simplex. Another requirement is that you want to be able to listen on the input frequency of the repeaters to check whether a simplex QSO is possible. You want to be able to do this instantly at the flick of a switch and don't want to have to do a bit of computer programming in order to tell your rig which channel the input is on.

Most important though is that you want an ABSOLUTE MINI-MUM of knob twiddling and button pressing when driving and your tone burst should work automatically as and when required. Just think how complicated it will be when the rig offering some 800 channels is required to operate on the frequency Joe has suggested: "QSY to 23" he says to you on R4 "QSY" you reply and then your problems start when you have to do the following (perhaps while also driving at 70 MPH on a busy motorway):

- 1 What frequency is S23? 145-575MHz.
- 2 Can I manage to QSY without looking at the dial for more than about \(\frac{1}{2}\) sec—NO, unless you work out in your head how many 10kHz steps you need to click the switchround. i.e. 145-575-145-000 = 575kHz = 57\(\frac{1}{2}\) steps. (You need to memorise the repeater input frequencies of course.)
- 3 Do I have to press the 5kHz button? Well, as \$23 is odd and R4 is even the answer is YES.
- 4 OHI QRX for a moment . . . Sorry officer I didn't see him as I was tuning my radio.

... so that really leaves you with a choice of two excellent rigs to choose from which both have 25kHz tuning steps and are easy to operate, providing easy channel selection and reverse repeat at the flick of a switch. No doubt the respective importers will both try to tell you theirs is best—so let us list the advantages of the IC-240:

- 1 It's solidly built and the several hundred already sold have shown an excellent reliability rate.
- 2 You can reduce switching down to an absolute minimum as you can arrange the channels exactly where you want them.
  22 is plenty when mobile and it's easy to arrange, up to 80 if you wish, for home use (you can also get up to 148MHz if you are going to the USA!) Also you can have a scanner if you wish.
- 3 It has that superb, clear and crisp modulation which is so very characteristic of ICOM.
- 4 The receivers are very sensitive—we measured  $0.1\mu V$  pd for 10dB SINAD (which for comparison is better than  $0.14\mu V$  for 12dB SINAD!)
- 5 It's cheaper in price but not in quality.

### YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH AN IC-240!

SEND FOR DETAILS OF THE NEW SUPER-SCAN ADAPTER FOR THE IC-240

### PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MAIL ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO HERNE BAY AND NOT TO AGENTS.

ALL WARRANTY AND OTHER REPAIRS FOR SETS BOUGHT FROM THANET AGENTS AND SHOPS MUST BE REFERRED TO OUR SERVICE DEPT IN HERNE BAY WHERE WE HAVE A GOOD RANGE OF TEST EQUIPMENT AND THE TECHNICAL SKILL TO USE IT. SETS FROM OTHER DEALERS MUST BE REFERRED TO THAT DEALER.

FOR DETAILS LEAVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS OR CALLSIGN ON OUR ANSAFONE (02273 63850) DURING THE EVENING WHEN CALLS ARE CHEAP

HP TERMS NOW AVAILABLE

YOUR SOLE AUTHORISED UK IMPORTER FOR ICOM

### THANET ELECTRONICS

143 Reculver Road, Beltinge, Herne Bay, Kent (02273 63859)







DAVE G4ELP

# JUST A HEAP OF WINNERS!

The ICOM range of 2 metre gear is some of the best you can buy—for quality, reliability and excellence of performance!

Add to this the oft' praised service of THANET with our well qualified technical staff and range of good test equipment and you need have no worries in buying





### FOR MOBILES

IC-240. The well tried and highly popular FM synthesized rig. If you know a friend with one you will know we have every right to boast about the excellent quality of the signal it puts out. (Perhaps that is why we have sold so many!) Now available with Super-Scan as an extra. By the way this is the same size as the SSB unit on the IC-245E.

IC-245E. The leader in multi-mode mobiles. Fully synthesized to give full band coverage in 100Hz or 5kHz steps. LED readout of frequency to the nearest kHz. FM, USB, CW, Normal or Reverse Repeat or split frequency working with any spacing, automatic tone burst etc. An excellent bit of engineering which can also serve as a base station.

### FOR PORTABLES with a decent power output and large battery capacity

IC-202. The 3W SSB portable which is tunable over all the sideband pitch and can be used, when fitted with extra crystals, to cover 144-145 and 145-8 to 146MHz. Used by many as a prime mover for something bigger because of its excellent clean signal. By far the most popular VHF SSB only set on the market. There are a lot about!

IC-215E. (£149, with 8 channels, for a limited period). The big boy in FM portables, with Rx sensitivity and transmission quality every bit as good as a base station (and better than many!) A healthy 3W of FM and sensible batteries with 4 times the capacity of those used in most other portables—so that they don't run flat on you in the middle of a QSO quite as often. Despite this and its rugged construction it is still easy to carry around. Lots of these about also!

### FOR BASE STATIONS

IC-211E. The leader of them all. Fully synthesized VFO with 7 digit LED readout to the nearest 100Hz. FM, CW, LSB, USB. There's nothing quite like it. Most would make this their choice if it wasn't for the problem that you have to pay more for the best! (With these days of inflation it isn't silly to think about HP). See October's ad for more details.

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT, AND DELIVERY IS FREE ON MAIL ORDERS FOR TRANSCEIVERS. WHY NOT POP A NOTE ON THE ANSAFONE FOR A PRETTY COLOURED BROCHURE AND DETAILS?

THANET ELECTRONICS HERNE BAY KENT 02273-63859

SHOPS

THANET NORTHERN WOMBWELL S. YORKS

### OTHER AGENTS (PHONE FIRST-All evenings only except Norfolk and Burnley)

LONDON-Terry G8BAM (01-556 9366) SCOTLAND-lan GM8DOX (078683 3223) NORFOLK—Ted G3FEW (05088 632) WALES—Tony GW3FKO (0222 702982) BURNLEY (0282 38481) MIDLANDS—Tony G8AVH (021 329 2305) NORTH WEST—Gordon G3LEQ (Knutsford (0585) 4040)

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FROM

### THANET ELECTRONICS

HERNE BAY

(0227363859)

No No No No





### SUPER-SCAN with the IC-240

TE TE TE

£265 inc. VAT

IC-240 alone £185 inc. VAT

Superscan alone £77.62 inc VAT (i.e. £69+VAT) Fitting charge £6 inc post back to you. (We would prefer to fit it ourselves)

### A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to you from Icom and Thanet

Yes—the festive season is upon us again and if you are hoping to get a new rig for Christmas you should have been working on your own particular Santa for some time now. To make your chances a little better, if its an IC-215 you would like, we are offering a limited number of sets at the special price of £149, fitted with 8 Channels.

After Christmas comes the end of the year and a time to reflect on 1977. There has certainly been a lot of change here at Thanet during the past twelve months. — We have introduced you to the new synthesized models and sold a great number. Many more people have discovered during the year just how good ICOM equipment is and the few who have had the misfortune for anything to have gone wrong have discovered what a good service we try to give you. We now have two full time engineers to check out everything we sell and some £5½k's worth of expensive test gear to enable them to do their job properly. In addition we have opened another shop in the North at Wombwell, near Barnsley.

Thank you to all those who came along to see us at the Leicester Show. It was good to see you. If you came after Friday lunchtime you will have seen one of the very early demonstration models of the new ICOM HF rig, the IC-701. ICOM went to a lot of trouble to fly this over from Osaka and we were pleased that we managed to get it through customs in time. Since the show ended we have confronted it with signal generator, spectrum analyser, power meter and scope and, most important of all, a good antenna. It really is a lovely rig to handle and performs every bit as well as we expected of a rig reared in the ICOM stables. We know that it is going to be yet another winner. The Band Pass tuning on SSB and the superb CW filter make the receiver a delight to listen to, and the built in RF speech processor provides excellent, clear modulation with plenty of punch. The synthesizer works every bit as well as that in its brother the IC-211E and it is going to make a good HF companion for this set.

We don't know exactly when there will be any for sale—hopefully in the spring—but keep your ears open and you may hear a few demonstrators being put through their paces on the air!

Many thanks for your custom during the past twelve months—May you all have many happy hours playing wireless!

### 73 AND A HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM

PAUL G3VJF

DAVE G4ELP PETER G3TPX PHIL G4CZU

FRASER G8FEZ PETE G4DYG at Herne Bay at Wombwell

GORDON G3LEQ

TERRY G8BAM TONY GW3FKO

TONY G8AVH DON G3TRK TED G3FEW

at various other spots in the UK

Congratulations to G8BBW who won the IC-215 in the raffle at the Leicester show with ticket number 142!

ICOM, from THANET

HERNE BAY (02273) 63859



## ATEUR ELECTRONICS

MAIN



ATLAS SOLE SWAN PLUS-



ISISISIS A Happy Christmas To Dou All ISISISISIS

### YOUR KEENEST BUY FOR YAESU MUSEN!



AS DIRECT IMPORTERS WE OFFER YOU...

THIS IS THE FABULOUS FT-227R THE RIG THAT LEAVES THEM ALL STANDING. Our Special Price £189 VAT included!

- LOWEST PRICES
- LARGEST RANGE
- HIGHEST STOCKS
- TOP AFTER-SALES SERVICE
- BEST DEMONSTRATION **FACILITIES**

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO CAME TO OUR STAND AT LEICESTER-IT WAS GOOD TO SEE YOU-WE HOPE YOU LIKED OUR PRICES AND WIDE RANGE INCLUDING THE EXCITING NEW MODELS FROM YAESU & SWAN-KEN PERFECT G3FIK



£2.50 FOR 25 PENCE!! 25 pence brings the latest Yaesu catalogue with our Credit Voucher for £2.50. A couple of stamps obtains the FT-227R, SWAN or ATLAS leaflets or our used equipment list.

### HOW TO REACH US (EASY PRIVATE PARKING ON OUR 70ft. FORECOURT)

FROM SOUTH AND EAST. We are located approximately two miles from Junction 5 of the M6 from which follow signposts to Birmingham, Within i mile turn right at Clock Garage and proceed towards city. After one mile look for traffic lights at Fox & Goose and immediately over the lights take minor left fork into Alum Rock Road. We are located one mile from this point.

FROM NORTH. Leave M6 at Junction 6 (Spaghetti) and follow left fork down to traffic island beneath motorway complex. Take third turning off to Lichfield, One mile further on follow A4040 to the right and within 100 yds, veer again to the right, approximately one mile further on brings you to the Fox & Goose. Turn right and see preceding direc-

FROM THE WEST AND SOUTH WEST. Follow M5 then M6 to Spaghetti Junction (see above). Alternatively, leave M5 at Junction 4 or 3 and proceed to inner ring road. Turn South on ring road and leave on A47 (East). We are located three miles from this point

Hours: 9.30-5.30 Continuous including Saturdays—Early closing Wednesday, 1 p.m.

BRANCH: AMATEUR ELECTRONICS, UK-COASTAL, CLIFTONVILLE,

KENT. KEN McINNES, G3FTE, THANET (0843) 291297. 9 a.m.-10.30 p.m. BRANCH: AMATEUR ELECTRONICS UK—SCOTLAND. 287 MAIN STREET,

WISHAW, LANARKSHIRE. GORDON McCALLUM, GM3UCI. TELEPHONE WISHAW 71382. (EVENINGS CARLUKE 70914)

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508-514 ALUM ROCK ROAD BIRMINGHAM 8 Telex 337045





### **WATERS & STANTON**

TELEPHONE HOCKLEY (03 704) 6835 (2 LINES)



### QUARTZ-16

£169 inc. vat! and 24-hour delivery (fitted 10 channels)



### A POPULAR CHOICE-WHY?

This superb transceiver is now selling faster than ever before. With FDK's reputation for quality, reliability and above all, after sales service, little wonder. (It really amazes us that some customers are kept waiting for spares when the UK importer should have them in stock.) Yery rarely do our customers have to wait for FDK spares as we have taken the elementary precaution of making sure that we have most items to hand in our workshop. It ties up capital but it also makes for a happy customer!

### NEW!

### **MULTI 800-D FM TRANSCEIVER** for versatility and safer driving

### NEW DESIGN-ADVANCED CIRCUITRY

This is the latest answer to the digital synthesized revolution by FDK. And yes, you've guessed it, FDK have come up with some pretty unique features that will make operating that little bit easier. This brand new design, based on an LSI chip driving a PLL, gives direct frequency readout on both transmit and receive.

### ALL CHANNELS-DIRECT READOUT

ALL CHANNELS—DIRECT READOUT
All channels from 144-146MHz are covered in 5kHz steps and there's no guessing
what frequency you have set the transceiver to. You get true frequency readout on both
transmit and receive. If you wish to work R4 you simply switch to "-600kHz" and dial
up "5-700". Press the transmit button and the display reads "5-100". You can instantly
monitor the repeater input channel by flipping to +600kHz and immediately the receiver. display changes to "5-100". Pressing the transmit button this time will display

### AUTOMATIC TUNING-REMOTE DISPLAY FOR SAFER DRIVING

Tuning is a new luxury not before enjoyed. There's no cranking of dials with the multi-800D. Turning the dial knob through 5 degrees either side of centre nudges the tuning up or down 5kHz. A further rotation of the dial in either direction starts the auto tuning. The further you turn the knob the faster the tuning rate up to 500kHz per second. The dial knob is spring loaded so that immediately you release it, it will spring back to the central position and tuning will stop. As an aid to the faster tuning rates an audible bleep sounds from the receiver each time a 100kHz point is passed. Finally for safer driving a remote digital displayer is available that plugs into the back of the Multi-800D so that the frequency can be viewed easily, irrespective of where the transceiver is mounted.

### COMPREHENSIVE MEMORY—IT NEVER FORGETS!

No digital display would be complete without a built-in memory and the FDK Multi-800D has something rather special. Press the memory button and you can instantly programme a second frequency and store it. At any future time you select memory, the programmed frequency will appear. And what's more, if you switch the transceiver off and disconnect it, both memory and last frequency in use will be stored ready for when you next use the transceiver. You can also use the memory to programme any other repeater shift such as 1-6MHz etc. Whenever you tune the Multi-800D it will never

### 25 WATTS OUTPUT-FULLY VARIABLE

In case you thought that we had already exhausted all the possibilities with the Multi-800D here's something else you should consider. The Multi-800D runs a full 25 watts output from 1 to 25 watts. Many of you will have seen the pre-production model at Leicester. Brief specification sheets on the Multi-800D are available together with Illustration on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope

Provisional price £239 inc VAT. Remote display £10. Delivery end of December

### The fast-selling 2m FM Transceiver Now . . . 145.50 reads "\$20"

Yes, the latest version now has a calibrated dial giving direct readout in European "S" & "R" channels

#### SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED

It covers 144-146MHz, any frequency, not just the 25kHz spots! It is easy to QSY without having to wind the channel knob all the way round. For example if you fit S20 in the priority position "A" you can immediately flip from say R7 to S20 in a second. Low power is available but only in the low power position! (In the high power position you will typically obtain 12 watts output.) Extra channels can be added simply by plugging in additional crystals, thus ensuring complete freedom of movement throughout the band and, more important, a clean spurious free transmission. Tone-burst is automatic but with the facility of switching it out so that a distant repeater can be worked without switching on the local one. A remote vio is available for complete coverage of 144-146MHz with the addition of a synthesizer available soon.-It also costs a lot less!

#### TECHNICAL POINTS

On the more technical side we can add that such things as helical filters, 10-7MHz crystal filters, 455 ceramic filters are all included in the design. The transmitter is completely protected against open circuit of high SWR and the modulation is crisp and clear. The standard frequencies fitted are S0, S20, S21, S22, S23, R3, R4, R5, R6, and R7. Included with the Quartz 16 is microphone, power cord, fuses, plugs, table stand and English manual.

FREE CREDIT (6 months) Deposit: Q-16 £43: M-11 £55: M-U11 £59. SAE for details

### TM56B AMATEUR VHF MONITOR RECEIVER



### A PLEASURE TO OWN

Tune into the exciting world of amateur radio with this advanced monitor receiver. Listen to your local amateur radio stations both fixed and mobile, direct or through the your local repeaters. From the comfort of your fireside chair, using the built-in-239 oit.

AC power supply, this receiver will open up the whole new world of VHF Amateur
Radio for you. Alternatively the necessary hardware supplied enables you to power the TM56B from your car radio battery for true mobile operation.

Little wonder that the first two shipments of these beautifully engineered receivers were sold out within weeks of the advertisements appearing. We really are amazed at their superb performance at such a low price.

### SOUND DESIGN

The design is well and truly tried and tested, and the circultry is almost identical to the receiver section of the FDK mobile transceivers. Both sensitivity and selectivity leave nothing to be desired and the auto-scan enables the popular calling channels to be continually monitored for activity.

### NO HIDDEN EXTRAS

The receiver is supplied complete with all leads, circuit diagram, crystals for channels S0, 20, 21, 22, 23, R3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 plus space for a further 5 channels, making 16 in all. An additional matching desk top aerial is also available at £2.50 extra.

£85 including delivery. Order yours today.

### **ELECTRONICS**

TELEX 897406

### MAIL ORDER





### Multi-2700 Mk II ANOTHER WINNER!

#### MULTI-2760-THE COMPLETE STATION

The FDK Multi-2700 is a front-line all-mode transceiver that incorporates every conceivable feature to ensure maximum enjoyment. In fact, apart from a mains plug and an aerial, there is little else we can sell the owner of a Multi-2700. All in all it is an unbeatable transceiver at an unbeatable price.

#### ALL MODES-ALL OCCASIONS

All modes are provided AM FM SSB and CW. For SSB operation VOX is included and for CW, fast break-in is provided with completely adjustable side tone. The 2700 can be used at home with its internal 230v AC PSU or taken out to the local high spot and run from 12v DC. This really has to be the QSO machine that you will never tire of

#### BEAUTIFUL TO OPERATE-BEAUTIFUL TO HEAR

The transmitted audio quality of the 2700 is second to none. Its crisp, clear, quality reflects the manufacturer's knowledge that a clean signal sells more products! The Optimised 16-9MHz 8-pole crystal filter gives clean SSB signals and good selectivity. On FM, direct modulation of the VCO gives smooth but penetrating audio. Typical power output is 16 watts but the flip of a switch and you have 1 watt on all modes. (An internal adjustment permits the power to be adjusted from approx 1 watt to 6 watts for driving linears or transverters.) The Multi-2700 has a built-in receiver RF pre-ampno problems here with a deaf receiver.

### **DUAL VFO CONTROL**

Until you have handled the Multi-2700 you cannot appreciate the advantages of dual vfo control. The conventional analogue VFO with its dual speed silky smooth feel, permits accurate tuning on all modes with 1kHz readout. It also covers a complete 1MHz segment at a time resulting in minimum band switching. The flip of a switch and you have full synthesized control of your transceiver. The bright LED display allows the transceiver to be immediately set to any 2 metre channel. A VXO control ensures the synthesizer can be used equally well on SSB. CW or FM. The versatility



of dual vfo control is quite amazing. For example: use the analogue vfo at the SSB end of the band and the synthesizer on the FM channels; set the synthesizer to the "sked" frequency and continue normal operation on the analogue VFO; set analogue VFO to DX frequency whilst continuing normal tuning of the adjacent frequencies on the analogue VFO-the combinations are endless. Repeater shifts are completely taken care of. The Multi-2700 has +/ - 600kHz shifts and 1-6MHz for 70cms operation.

#### ITS VERSATILITY IS ENDLESS

inter-continental contacts are possible via OSCAR. Press the OSCAR button on the front panel and you bring in the 28MHz downlink receiver converter to enable true transceive operation through the satellite. An audio SPEECH PROCESSOR can be switched in to permit extra punch, the amount of compression being adjustable to suit the operator. RIT operates on all modes and both vio's. A NOISE BLANKER is included for really excellent suppression of ignition pulses. The receiver section covers 143 to 149MHz (Tx covers 144-146MHz ± 1-6MHz shift only). Apart from the 2 existing repeater offsets one further shift may be programmed. AGC control is continuously variable, as is the VOX DELAY and ANT-VOX etc. All pre-set controls are easily reached through the top hatch of the transceiver. Separate centre zero and rx S-meters are provided. We could go on but if you have read this far perhaps it is time you sent off for the 4-page brochure giving full details of this beautiful transceiver at a really competitive price. £489 inc VAT and Securicor delivery.

WE ALSO STOCK YAESU, BELCOM, MICROWAVE MODULES, SEM, JAYBEAM, HY-GAIN, KEN, STOLLE, CDE, MINI-PRODUCTS, KATSUMI, SAGANT, BANTEX, ASP, POLAR, MOSLEY, G-WHIPS, SEIWA, etc.



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The receiver is sensitive (0-5µV for 10dB, S + N/N (SSB)) and stable with A.M., SSB and CW modes catered for. A 3 position audio filter, RF attenua-tor, dial lamp conservation switch, recorder and phone sockets are fitted. It is mains powered, but should the supply fail, or portable operation be required, 8 dry cells are automatically switched in.

FRG-7 Analogue Readout £145 + VAT SMC COUNTER £50 + VAT FRG-7 Digital Readout £199 + VAT YH55 Headphones £8 + VAT

YH55 Headphones £8 + VAT





STOP

Think carefully before investing in your new 2m multi-mode rig.

SMC PROUDLY PRESENTS A READOUT MODULE FOR THE

at the published specifications. Remember some manufacturers claim performance figures their equipment can only just reach, Yaesu write their specifications very conservatively. Look at the features:— Internal VOX, CW sidetone, crystal control facility, 600kHz and 1-6MHz shifts, auto tone burst, digital readout options, etc. Look at the spurious outputs (or try to find them if the transceiver has a P.L.O. to clear sub harmonics of oscillator chain). Look at the ergonomics, are there more controls than necessary, preselectors or variceps tuned receiver. Look inside, take off the case (or merely lift the lid); does it look like the bottom of granny's sewing box or is it modular constructed with plug in boards etc.

LISTEN to weak signals, listen to strong signals, listen to your own signal, is your PA rated to dissipate 7 times the claimed output power?

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The new FT227R uses a 'single knob' tuned digital synthesizer employing a photoelectric sensor for an optical system which eliminates both noisy, unreliable rotary switches, and crystal banks. Full coverage of 2 metres in 5kHz divisions with a  $\pm$ 600kHz shift plus a memory feature which permits recall

of any entered frequency or particular offset.

Bright, large, digital readout gives unequivocal readout of the frequency in use. The receiver offers, 0.3µV (for 20dB S+N/N) sensitivity into a ±6kHz (© 6dB) bandwidth whitst maintaining a remarkable immunity to overload and image problems. The 20W DC input transmitter features Hillow power outputs, AFP, tone burst on repeaters and an out of band inhibition trip etc



### THE FT227R NEW FROM YAESU EX-STOCK FROM SMC AT A REMARKABLE £167,50 + VAT



THE FT101E complete HF station—Ex-Stock

The FT101E, A complete mains or 12V. DC station contained in a compact 30lb, package, 260W, PIP of SSB (with in-built RF speech processor) 180W, CW and 80W or AM 10 to 160m (inc. 10MHz RX). The sensitive and selective (permeability tuned RF stages and 8 pole crystal filter) receiver offers: threshold adjustable noise blanker, switch-

(permeability tinea RF stages and a pole crystal liter) receiver others, intension adjustable literature able 25 and 100kHz calibrator, ± 5k clarifier (with separate on/off switch), etc., etc.

The VFO is stable and linear (readout to tkHz), external VFO or crystal control can be selected, with LED indicators illuminated accordingly. Carrier level is adjustable for: tune up, AM and for CW operation, whose performance with the semi break-in keying, with side tone, and the optional filter installed is of a high order. Linear and transverter provisions are made with sockets for: relay contacts, ALC output, all internal HT supplies, low level RF heater links and switches, etc., etc.

New service manual for the '101' series in stock £12.00

QTR24 World time clock, battery powered, analogue readout £13.00 (+ 8%) YD844 Desk microphone, 50Kohm impedance P.P.T. with lock and micro-switch £18.00 (+ 121%) YD846 Hand microphone, 500ohm or 50Kohm (state which) P.P.T.

£7.50 (+ 12)% £15.25 (+ 121%) FF50DX Low pass filter sharp cut off type c/w 2 PL259's

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RF Power Canability: 10-2000 watts PEP.

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Tone Oscillators: Nominally 1-3kHz and 2-3kHz.

Tone Level Output: 0-50mV rms per Tone at 50Kohm.

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Panel Controls: Intensity/Power on/off Switch; focus; vertical gain; horizontal shift; Horizontal gain; audio tone (single or 2-tone); tone level; sweep speed.

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### **TR7500**

We were delighted to see that a recent round of "It's A Blowout" contained one game which involved a contest between the owner of a TR7500 and someone who was using an FT\*7R. In case you didn't see this game, I should explain that the rigs started out set to S0 (i.e. 145-000)

this game, I should explain that the rigs started out set to \$0 (i.e. 145-000) and Neddy Boring then called out channel numbers to which the operators had to go. The start went roughly as follows: Neddy Boring—"Go to \$20". TR7500 driver turns main knob 20 steps until display reads 20. FT\*\*7R driver thinks "\$20? that's 145-500 so with a four digit display it should read 5500. I'll have to tune the main dial 55 steps to get there." Ist round to TR7500. Neddy Boring—"Down to \$19". TR7500 driver turns main knob down one click to 19. FT\*\*7R driver remembers quickly that \$19 is 145-475 so display should read 5475 but then discovers that he has to turn the main knob down three clicks to 5470 then push an auxiliary button to raise the frequency by 5kHz to 145-475—but he's getting quicker.! 2nd round to TR7500.

raise the frequency by 5kHz to 145-475—but he's getting quicker.! 2nd round to TR7500.

\*\*Neddy Boring—"Operate on R7". TR7500 driver turns knob 12 steps (from S19) until display reads 7 and sets mode switch to N (Normal repeater). Pushes "TONE" button to activate automatic tone burst. FT\*\*7R driver thinks "R7? that means 145-775 to listen to the output so turn main knob 30 steps until display shows 5775 and then turn TX offset knob to 600 to get the necessary shift". Wastes further ten minutes trying to find switch for tone burst cunningly hidden on rear panel of set (try using it in a car.!)

\*\*Neddy Boring—"Listen on the repeater input". TR7500 driver returns mode switch to S (Simplex) with the flick of a finger. FT\*\*7R driver thinks "Oh no" and turns his main channel knob 60, yes sixty steps to get to the repeater input channel. By this time, the FT\*\*7R driver is sitting back sipping gin and tonic.

\*\*Neddy Boring—"Back to normal repeater operation". TR7500 driver restores mode switch to N and carries on sipping. FT\*\*7R driver changes hands and turns his main channel knob through another 60 yes sixty steps to get back to R7.

hands and turns his main channel knob through altother of yes asty steps to get back to R7.

Neddy Boring—"Now operate reverse repeater", TR7500 driver yawns and sets his mode switch to R (Reverse repeater). FT\*\*7R driver drags himself to the rig, turns the channel knob 60 steps (yes again) to get to the repeater input frequency and then sets his offset switch to +600.

Neddy Boring—"Now to S23". TR7500 driver turns main channel switch from 7 to 23 and restores mode switch to S (Simplex). FT\*\*7R

driver starts mumbling to himself "I'm on R7 input and the display shows 5175 but I'm transmitting 600kHz up which means 145-775 and S23 is 145-575 but it's 400kHz away so I have to turn the knob 40 times but then I'll be transmitting outside the band so I have to reset the TX offset and-and-and". At this point, the attendants were called and the poor FT\*\*7R driver was carried off into the shadows. The sound of a shot shortly afterwards signalled the end of his misery—no you fool, they shot the FT\*\*7R'!

This story is not intended to be entirely for amusement. It illustrates the very real problems encountered when a piece of equipment is incorrectly designed from the operator's stand point and also shows how a recent comparison table between certain rigs was carefully-compiled so as to hide these design inadequacies.

If you are considering the purchase of a 2 metre FM mobile transceiver, read the specification carefully, but at some point, consider the use of the rig under real operational conditions and you will discover that TRIO design means good design of all aspects, and any of the happy TR7500 owners will confirm this for you.

Oh, I forget to mention that the contest was judged by his Highness Ram Jarn Butti, the Maharajah of Htuol which I believe is a backward

little community somewhere in the Far Est.

### TR7500 BASIC SPECIFICATION

144-146MHz Frequency range Channel spacing No of channels

Repeater access

RX sensitivity

25kHz (current European band plan)

80 simplex 10 repeater

10 reverse repeater

TX output 13-15 watts (High power)

I-5 watts (low power) Automatic, using TRIO 1750Hz tuning fork

oscillator

0-2 microvolts or better for 12dB SINAD LED showing correct channel number i.e. 20 = S20, 7 = R7 etc Not much bigger than a 2200GX! Method of display

Weight Not much heavier either! The very best-ask anyone. Quality

DON'T SETTLE FOR ANYTHING LESS THAN THE TR7500-£225 inc VAT.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Friends and Customers

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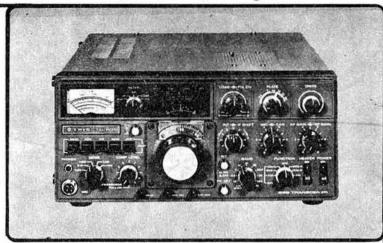
### LOWE in BIRMINGHAM 362-4 Soho Rd, Handsworth, Birmingham. 021-554 0708

### TS-820

The ultimate transceiver ... TRIO's TS-820. No matter what you own now, a move to the TS-820 is your best move. It offers a degree of quality and dependability second to none, and as the owner of this superb unit, you will have at your fingertips the combination will have at your fingertips the combination.

you will have at your fingertips the combina-tion of controls and features that, even under the toughest operating conditions, make the TS-820 the leader that it is. Unprecedented demand plus the pains-taking care TRIO lavishes on each TS-820 created an initial backlog of orders but happily we can now supply the TS-820 from stock. Once you have operated the TS-820, you will not be satisfied with anything else.

SPEECH PROCESSOR @ An HF circuit SPEECH PROCESSOR An HF circuit provides quick time constant compression using a true RF compressor as opposed to an IF clipper. Amount of compression is adjustable to the desired level by a convenient front panel control IF SHIFT The IF SHIFT control varies the IF passband without changing the receive frequency. Enables the operator to eliminate unwanted signals by moving them out of the quency. Enables the operator to eliminate unwanted signals by moving them out of the passband of the receiver. This feature alone makes the TS-820 the pacesetter that it is. PLL © The TS-820 employs the latest phase lock loop circuitry. The single conversion receiver section performance offers superb protection against unwanted cross-modulation. And now, PLL allows the frequency to remain the same when switching sidebands (USB, LSB CW) and eliminates having to receibling the performance. nates having to recalibrate each time.



Specification FREQUENCY RANGE: 1-8-30MHz MODES: USB, LSB, CW, FSK INPUT POWER: 200W PEP on SSB I60W DC on CW 100W DC on FSK

ANTENNA IMPEDANCE: 50-75 ohms CARRIER SUPPRESSION: > 40dB SIDEBAND SUPPRESSION: > 50dB SENSITIVITY: (10dB S/N)  $< 0.2\mu V$ 

SELECTIVITY: SSB 2-4kHz (-6dB)

4·4kHz (-60dB) CW 0.5kHz (optional filter)

IMAGE RATIO:> 60dB IF REJECTION: > 80dB POWER SOURCE: 120/240 Vac

50/60Hz 13.8 Vdc (optional DC converter)

WEIGHT: 16kg (35-2lb) TS820 £645 inc VAT, DGI readout £127

### The Portables

TR2200GX. Represents the very best of TRIO design. It is the latest in the line of continuous progress from the first TR2200 and maintains the TRIO tradition of top quality at a reasonable price. The TR2200GX has all the features that you could want—high power output; sensitive receiver; flexible use from internal batteries or external supplies using the power lead supplied; built in removable telescopic antenna with flexible whip available; built in metering of signal strength. transmit output metering of signal strength, transmit output and battery condition; fitted with twelve channels at low, low prices; in short, all that you could want. All operator controls are placed for maxi-

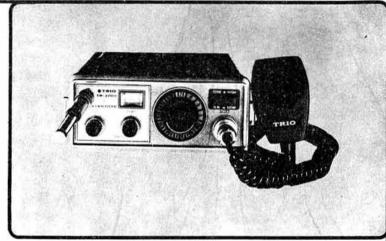
mum convenience on the top face of the rig and a protective carrying case is included in

when a protective the price.

VB2200GX. This is the matching 10 Watt mobile amplifier for the TR2200GX (and all previous models). It is self contained and of previous models are the produces well in excess of previous models). It is self contained and of very small size but produces well in excess of 10 Watts for 2 Watts of drive. It contains a regulated power supply for the TR2200GX and has positive SWR protection for the PA transistor. The amplifier may be switched out of circuit if required, but still supplies power for the TR2200GX.

TR3200. Not content with having the lead in 2 metre handy portables, TRIO have gone a step forward and produced the best 70 cm. portable rig to match.

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with five limiters to guarantee noise free performance on even the weakest signals. 12
channel capability with three channels
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TR2200GX and including a new high gain 5/8
wave antenna.

Don't forget, the following accessories are provided FREE with the TR2200GX and TR 3200

Removable antenna, carrying case, shoulder strap, battery charger, external power lead. Prices including 12½ % VAT. TR2200GX: £139 (3 channels) £169 (12 channels) VB2200GX: £45
TR3200: £182 (3 channels)
MBla: £9.70. NiCad pack: £9.72

50p in stamps will get you the full catalogue plus the antenna book

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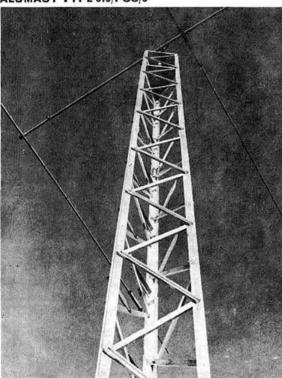
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ALUMAST TYPE 375/PSS/3



Consider these star features:

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375/PSS/1. ADDITIONAL 10' SECTIONS £37.00

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ONLY

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**EX. STOCK** 

COMPARISONS! Have you ever tried it?

Confusing, isn't II—turning from one ad to another, some giving one piece of information, others not: some showing data in one form, some in a different form. How can you decide on which 2 metre FM rig to buy?

LET US HELP YOU . . . Take as a basic requirement—10 watts FM, with a good receiver, freedom from "tunnies," and no need to spend extra later to extend flexibility. NOW READ ON ...

CHANNELS AVAILABLE BY FRO						Yaesu FT227R	Trio T R7500*	Icom IC240*	Digital H*
CHANNELS AVAILABLE BY FRO	NIPAN	EL CO	NIKO			400	80	22	400
						(800 over 4 MHz)			
FULL 4 MHz COVERAGE (144-148)	WITHO	UT MO	DIFIC	ATION	٧	YES	Apparently NOT	Apparently NOT	Receive only
FREQUENCY STEPS		4.4				5 kHz	25 kHz	25 kHz	5 kHz
TRUE FREQUENCY DISPLAY	2.0					YES	NO	NO	YES
FREQUENCY MEMORY FACILITY	***	3883	**	1000		YES	NO	NO	NO
REPEATER SHIFTS	227					YES	YES	YES	YES
TONE BURST					0.0	YES	YES	YES	EXTRA
FACTORY-FITTED HIGH/LOW PO	WER S	WITCH				YES	YES	NOT YET	YES
PRICE (including VAT) from WES	TERN			200		£180	£225	£198	£264†
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As space only permits a brief description of each of our products, please do not hesitate to contact us by post, telephone or telex for any technical details, or to request detailed data sheets for any of the products mentioned below. We have experienced sales and technical staff who will be only too pleased to assist you with any queries you may have.

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MMT144 28	Features: 10 watts RMS output power. 30dB receive gain. 2:5dB noise figure. Aerial changeover achieved by a PIN diode switch.	MMT432-28S	: 432MHz linear fransverter, Now fitted with 2MHz upshift facility for OSCAR operation. Features: 10 Watts RMS output power, 30dB receiver converter gain, 3dB noise figure.
I.F. Price	: 28-30MHz. : £88.88 incl VAT. (£79 + VAT).		Aerial changeover achieved by a PIN diode switch. : 28–30MHz. : £135 inc. VAT) (£119 + VAT).
MMC144 28 Other I.F.'s Price	: 144MHz receive converter utilising protected dual gate MOSFETS. Typical gain: 30dB. Noise figure 2-5dB. : 12-14, 14-16, 18-20, 24-26, 28-30MHz. : £20.25 inc. VAT (£18 + VAT).	7.000	: 432MHz DOUBLE CONVERSION linear transverter. Now fitted with a 1-6MHz repeater shift. Features: 10 Watts RMS output power for 10 Watts 144MHz input. 10dB receive gain.
MMC144/28L	LO: As above unit, but has an extra buffer amplifier at 115MHz for use in transverters.  Provides 5mW at 116MHz.		3dB noise figure.  Aerial changeover achieved by a PIN diode switch.  144-146MHz.
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MMA144	: Low noise preamplifier with two independent outputs. Typical gain: 18dB. Noise figure 2-5dB.	-	DIGITAL PRODUCTS
Price	ALSO AVAILABLE FOR 70 and 136MHz. : £14.63 inc. VAT. (£13 + VAT).	MMD050	Six digit 50MHz frequency counter. Frequency range: 0-45–50MHz. Input sensitivity: Better than 50mV RMS. £56,96 inc, VAT (£62 + VAT).
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MMC1296/28	<ul> <li>1296MHz receive converter utilizing a hybrid ring mixer, with a matched pair of schottky diodes driving a MOSFET I.F. amplifier. Typical gain: 25dB. Noise figure: 8.5dB.</li> </ul>	Name of the same	Combined version of MMD050 and MMD500P. £85.32 inc. VAT (£79 + VAT).
Other I.F.'s Price	: 28-30, 144-146MHz. : £31.50 inc. VAT (£28 + VAT).	MMD500P :	Divide by 10 prescaler to give 500MHz capability when used wit MMD050 or similar counter. Fully TTL compatible.
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MMC70/28	: Receive converter for 70MHz. Similar to MMC144/28.	MMC70/28LO:	Similar to MMC144/28LO. Features buffered local oscillator facility at 42MHz for transverte
Other I.F.'s Price	: 4-4·7, 14-14·7, 18-18·7, 28-28·7MHz. : £20.25 inc, VAT. (£18 + VAT).	Price :	use. £22.50 inc. VAT (£20 + VAT).
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Audio Output: 2W typical at 10% THD (5 kHz deviation). Image Rejection: —45 dB or greater.

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Band Width: 6dB at 15kHz minimum and 60dB at 30kHz.

Modulation Acceptance: 7.5 kHz minimum.

Current Consumption: 700 mA maximum squelched.

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Power Output: 10W minimum into a 50 a load.

Harmonic and Spurious Output: -70dB within 20 MHz of carrier, -45dB elsewhere. -40dB harmonics.

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Tone Encoder: 3 tones, 70 to 200 Hz, approximately ±700 kHz deviation.

Transmitter Offset: 0 (simplex), -600 kHz, +600 kHz with crystals supplied. Provision

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Current Consumption; 2.6A maximum at 13.8V.

Speaker: Built-in 2 in × 6 in speaker, jack for additional external speaker.

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Mode

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280 watts PEP (240 watts on 28MHz)

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### RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

### 35 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2AE

Telephone 01-837 8688

Founded 1913 Incorporated 1926 Member society, International Amateur Radio Union

PATRON: HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG

### The national society representing all UK radio amateurs

Membership is open to all those with an active interest in radio experimentation and communication as a hobby. Applications for membership should be made to the general manager, from whom full details of Society services may also be obtained

GENERAL MANAGER AND SECRETARY

EDITOR

G R. Jessop, CEng, MIERE, G6JP

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### RSGB NEWS BULLETIN SERVICE

The RSGB news bulletin, callsign GB2RS, is broadcast every Sunday morning on hf and vhf, giving almost complete coverage of the British Isles. Its main purpose is to provide an outlet for amateur radio news items and announcements which, by virtue of their topicality or urgency, cannot wait for the next issue of Radio Communication.

The bulletin is prepared early on Thursday morning, and news items, marked "GB2RS news" should reach RSGB HQ by first post that day (telephoned items can also be accepted until 10am). No guarantee can be given of inclusion in part or whole of any item submitted and, once broadcast, items are not usually repeated.

### SCHEDULE

Time	MHz	Location and coverage (hf) or beam heading (vhf) of station
0930	3.65	G2MI, Bromley, Kent (SE England)
1000	3.65	G8ML, Cheltenham (SW England)
	144.50	GM3UAG, Ellon, Aberdeenshire (NNW)
	144-50	G8GGK, Croydon, Surrey (NE)
1015	3.65	GI3GAL, Belfast (N Ireland)
1030	3.65	G2CVV, Derby (N Midlands)
	144.50	GM3UAG, Ellon, Aberdeenshire (SW)
	144.50	G3PWJ. Brierley Hill (NW)
1045	144-50	G8CDP, Middlesbrough (NW)
	144-50	G8GGK, Croydon, Surrey (SW)
	144.50	G3SMT, Stockport (NNW)
1100	3.65	G5VO, Bridlington (NE England)
1115	3.65	G3LEO, Knutsford (NW England)
0.000	144-50	GI3TLT, Bangor, Co Down (N)
1130	3.65	GM3TCW, Wishaw, Lanarkshire (S Scotland)
1145	3.65	GM3HGA, Aberdeen (NE Scotland)

An rtty news bulletin, callsign GB2ATG, is also transmitted every Sunday at 1200 and 1900 on 3·590MHz and at 1230 and 1245 on 144·6MHz. This bulletin carries items of interest to rtty enthusiasts.

seasonal message from the President

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



IT would appear to be a Presidential custom to look back over the past 12 months in the seasonal message. As usual we have had our problems but at least we have faced up to them and made attempts through the Presidential Working Party to improve, in a rapidly growing and influential Society, efficiency and contact with membership. It is strange that in a Society devoted to the means of communication our main effort has been to establish more efficient lines of communication with membership. It is for this reason that the Regional Representatives Conference was revived after a lapse of time. This proved to be constructive and successful. It most surely must become a regular fixture providing twoway contact between regions and Council.

The Presidential Working Party quite rightly sought the comments and criticisms of members individually and collectively. The response was good and all points have been, or are being, carefully considered, and recommendations are now coming before Council. I must, in this context, pay a personal tribute to the valuable and considerable work put in by Dain Evans and John Allaway. If any praise is to be given they are the people to receive it and deserve it.

My wife and I have managed to attend and enjoy a number of social functions in various areas, the most valuable aspect of which has been to meet informally so many individual members. It was sad that my visits to

Cheltenham, Norfolk and Northern Ireland societies had to be postponed due to my wife's unfortunate accident, and we both would like to express our appreciation for the many kind messages received. Local clubs and groups, in my view, play a vital part in co-ordinating activities and provide a vital means of activating and publicising amateur radio activity throughout Great Britain.

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On the question of publicising amateur radio we are apt to overlook this important question, and it was therefore a great privilege and pleasure to be able to visit BBC Cardiff and view the excellent film on amateur radio produced by the BBC, a copy of which has been presented to the Society. The film may shortly be featured in a programme on BBC2. We are grateful to our members who were directly involved in this invaluable venture in a professional capacity. I was also fortunate in being able to publicise the Society and Raynet in moving the Loyal Address last year at the State Opening of Parliament and in a debate on the problems of retirement (shades of

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the staff at headquarters. Doughty Street staff have endured a degree 🐧 of unfair criticism and at one period were under considerable strain, now happily removed. It must be understood they are key workers in our organization and deserve both our thanks and support.

During the coming year some changes take place. David Evans takes over as general manager and we wish him well. George Jessop has served the Society well as Council member, President and general manager; the old warrior (he will love that phrase) has still much to offer in experience and expertise which we need and no doubt will use. John Brown retires as treasurer, leaving as legacy a good financial position, and we thank him for his services. Dain "microwave" Evans takes over as President, deserving all the support we can give him.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for all the support and friendship extended to me during my period of office.

Finally may my wife and I wish all members and families, together with all our staff, a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

> George, BRS3003634 Lord Wallace of Coslany

### amateur radio news

### The President's reception

On 3 November Lord Wallace of Coslany, assisted by members of the Telecommunications Liaison Committee and the IARU Working Group, was the host at a reception in the House of Commons for officials of the Home Office and other organizations with whom the Society is in contact. Among those attending from the Home Office were: Mr J. L. Bantock, assistant under-secretary of state; Mr D. E. Baptiste, head of division; Mr A. S. McLachlan, deputy director of the Dept of Radio Technology; Mr M. Goddard, principal, and Mr C. E. Godsmark. Also present were Dr J. A. Saxton, special adviser to the Home Office; Dr F. Horner, Director of the Appleton Laboratory; Mr R. W. Cannon, director of Cable and Wireless, and Col J. D. Parker, secretary-general, International Maritime Organiza-

In his welcome to the Society's guests, Lord Wallace included the following comment on special licences:

"The Home Office has asked me to say that it is grateful for the restraint exercised this year by clubs and groups, by not pressing for special event licences with personalized

### 1978 Presidential Installation

The installation of Dr D. S. Evans, PhD, BSc, FIM, G3RPE, as 44th President of the Radio Society of Great Britain will take place on

Saturday 21 January 1978 7 for 7.30pm

Members' Dining Room, House of Commons, London SW1

Admission will be by ticket only. Tickets will be limited to two per member, and the total number available will also be limited.

Single ticket.....£2.50 Two tickets.....£4

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Applications for tickets should be addressed to: The General Manager, RSGB, 35 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2AE.

callsigns, while all amateur licences are being replaced. With two months to go, only 3,000 out of 23,000 remain to be processed.

"Therefore, I am pleased to announce that as from 1 January 1978 the Home Office will reintroduce special event licences; the first assignment will be GB3MSA for the Marconi commemorative station at Poldhu in January."

### Area representative, Grampian

In the election for a representative for the Grampian area of Region 12, Mr G. M. Grant, GM3UKG, received two votes; and Mr A. Wills, GM8KMO, received 14 votes.

### Radio Amateurs' Examination

Each year the RSGB arranges an examination centre for the RAE at University College, London. Many of the candidates travel long distances to the London centre not knowing that there may be other centres nearer. Unfortunately, the City and Guilds of London Institute is unable to provide a list of centres prior to the closing date for applications.

The Society proposes to publish a list of centres where the examination may be taken and this information will be given in the February issue of *Radio Communication*. College lecturers and instructors for the RAE are requested to send details of where the examination may be taken, together with the closing date for applications and the fee where possible. Please send the details on a postcard addressed to RSGB (Education) at Society headquarters, to arrive before the end of the year.

### Welsh Amateur Radio Convention

This year's convention held at Blackwood, Gwent, attracted 600 visitors. Among the attractions were lectures on Ariel 5, amateur radio in the Seychelles, and optic fibres; the BBC Wales amateur radio film *Another Man's Meat*; an exhibition of vintage amateur radio equipment, and a trade show. The convention was opened by the Mayor of Islwyn, and was featured in the local press.

### New callsign series

In accordance with the Radio Regulations, the ITU has allocated provisionally the callsign series P4A-P4Z to the Netherlands Antilles.

### 75th anniversary of first two-way wireless transmission between the USA and Europe

During the week 1.4-22 January 1978, special event stations on both sides of the Atlantic will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the first two-way wireless telegraph transmission between the USA and Europe. Station KM1CC will be operating from the original Marconi station location at South Wellfleet, Cape Cod, and station GB3MSA will be worked from the Poldhu Hotel with antennas on the site of Marconi's original Poldhu station, near Mullion in Cornwall.

The historic message from President Theodore Roosevelt to King Edward VII was transmitted by Marconi himself at Cape Cod, and he received the reply from King Edward sent from Poldhu.

In December 1902 Marconi had been making experimental transmissions across the Atlantic from his station at Glace Bay, Canada, and had sent messages to King Edward in England and King Victor Emanuel in Italy. The Cape Cod station also came into operation about this time and it was on 19 January 1903 that Marconi made the first transmission of wireless telegraph messages between the USA and Great Britain.

The control operator at Cape Cod, Robert J. Doherty, has obtained special approval to reproduce the famous sound of the 240Hz Marconi rotary spark gap by audio means, and will be using this to contact stations throughout the world on cw. Operation will be on all bands 1·8 to 28MHz cw, ssb, rtty and sstv.

At the Poldhu Hotel will be ex-GEC man A. H. Hammett, together with other members of the Cornish Radio Amateur Club.

It is expected that a message from President Carter will be transmitted from KM1CC during the celebration.

### Stolen equipment

The following equipment was stolen from the owner's car at Dallington, Northampton, on 13 October: Trio 3200 uhf transceiver, serial number 320094, modified with an internal NE555 automatic toneburst; Trio 2200 vhf transceiver, serial number 750179, modified with a BNC plug instead of a telescopic antenna; pair Pye PF1 Pocketphones, serial numbers unknown, the receiver having a non-standard plastic case with one half in grey plastic.

Any information to S. J. Purser, G8GHZ, or to Mereway Police Station, Northampton.



### More on the Smith Chart

by G. GARSIDE, MSc, MA, CPhil, CEng, MIEE, MIERE, FRAS, G3MYT/VE3\*

In an earlier article [1] the reader was introduced to the basic principles of the Smith Chart and its use as an impedance diagram for the solution of transmission line problems.

To regard the Smith Chart solely as an impedance diagram overlooks some of its chief merits, in particular the possibility of substituting parallel combinations of resistance and reactance for the equivalent series networks and vice-versa. In many cases it is much more convenient to work in terms of parallel networks, or to make use of answers to problems obtained by means of the chart, when these are expressed in parallel form. This, however, requires an understanding of admittance, and a main object of the present article is to familiarize the reader with the use of the chart as a highly flexible device allowing him to wander at will through impedance, admittance and transmission line territory, uninhibited not merely as explained in [1] by changes of characteristic impedance but also such obstacles as series-to-parallel substitutions.

Readers of [1] will recall that the chart is basically a piece of graph paper for plotting resistance against reactance, but differs from ordinary graph paper in the following respects:

(i) The Smith Chart is round and the axes are scaled in such a way that values of resistance and reactance, no matter how large, can be represented on a plot of finite extent. (Contrast this with a conventional graph whose axes must be extended indefinitely in order to represent larger and larger impedances.)

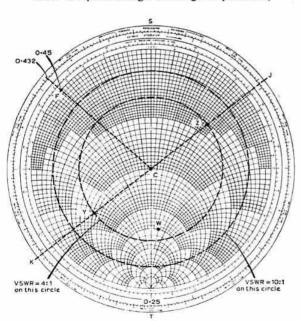


Fig 1. Smith chart showing series-parallel immittance transfer, and constant-VSWR circles

- (ii) Constant resistance lines are circles, tangential to the periphery of the chart, and with centres located on the diameter ST (Fig 1). The zero resistance circle coincides with the periphery of the chart, while the tiny circles close to the point of tangency correspond to very high values of resistance.
- (iii) Similarly, constant reactance lines are also circles, centred off the chart, and tangential to the diameter ST. Two families of circular "reactance-arcs" appear on the chart, on opposite sides of diameter ST, one applicable to inductive reactances, the other to capacitive reactances.
- The usual version of the Smith Chart is "normalized". That is, resistance and reactance scales are expressed as multiples or fractions of a reference value; this enables one set of scales to be used to solve problems associated, in particular, with transmission lines of various characteristic impedances. Thus if the circuit of Fig 2(a) has in a particular case values of  $R=150\Omega$  and  $XL=20\Omega$ , and if the chart has been taken as normalized to  $50\Omega$  (a popular coaxial line impedance) for the duration of the problem, then the circuit is represented by point W on Fig 1, lying at the intersection of the resistance circle labelled  $\frac{150}{50}=3$  with the inductive

(positive) reactance are labelled  $\frac{20}{50} = 0.4$ . Note that if

this same point W on the chart occurred during the solution of a matching problem for 600Ω twin-feeder (with the chart then normalized to  $600\Omega$ ) the represented circuit would then consist of a resistance of 600  $\times$  3 = 1,800 $\Omega$  in series with an inductive reactance of  $600 \times 0.4 = 240\Omega$ . Thus it is imperative at the outset to choose a normalizing factor (scaling factor) for the chart, and stick to it. (However, a modest amount of mental agility will enable certain useful "re-definitions" to take place even during the course of a problem-for example, the immittance transfers discussed next.) Ordinarily, the choice is simply to make the centre of the chart (which corresponds to one "unit" of pure resistance) equal to the characteristic impedance of the transmission line with which the problem is concerned. Throughout this article transmission lines are assumed to be lossless, and hence to have a purely resistive characteristic impedance; these assumptions are a valid basis for tackling most amateur problems in this field provided it is realized that coaxial cables are lossy devices and swr measurements at the transmitting end will usually be somewhat optimistic. Typically, a short-circuit at the antenna will appear as an swr of only 4.5 at the transmitter if the line loss is 2dB). Treatment of lossy lines by means of the chart is covered in the references.

### **Immittance transfers**

As indicated above, a particularly important use of the Smith Chart is for the computation of equivalent series and

<sup>\*21</sup> Albion Crescent, Bramalea, Ontario, L6T 1L3, Canada.

parallel networks. It is a fact that for every network like that of Fig 2(a), there is a network like that of Fig 3(a) which behaves (at the same frequency of interest f) in a manner indistinguishable from the circuit of 2(a). Just as the impedance of the series circuit of 2(a) (composed of resistance and reactance in series) was the natural vehicle for description of the circuit, so for the parallel circuit of Fig 3(a) the natural terminology is that of an admittance, composed of a conductance (the reciprocal of resistance) and a parallel susceptance (the reciprocal of reactance). For reasons whose explanation would require some mathematical digression, capacitive susceptance is conventionally taken as positive, while inductive susceptance is negative (the reverse of the reactance situation). As with resistance earlier, conductance is assumed positive throughout.

At this point a couple of examples may help to dispel restiveness, and to convince that series-parallel transfers have considerable utility. The way in which the chart is used to deal with admittances will also hopefully become clear during the course of the working.



Fig 2. (a) Series-configured inductive and (b) capacitive impedances

Suppose first that an antenna is measured to have the form of Fig 2(a) with values  $R=23\Omega$  and  $X_L=34\Omega$  (at the frequency of interest), and suppose the antenna is to be fed with  $75\Omega$  coaxial cable. Evidently, a very poor match would be the result (in fact the vswr will be seen later to be about 4:1). What is to be done? The golden rule is always first to obtain the other equivalent circuit representation. In this case a series circuit has been encountered; we seek the parallel version. Referring to Fig 1 the steps are:

- (i) Normalize the chart to  $75\Omega$  (because of the cable in use). Then the series-circuit representation of the antenna has resistive scale value of  $\frac{23}{75} = 0.31$  and (inductive) reactive scale value of  $\frac{34}{75} = 0.45$  and may be plotted on the chart as point Z.
- (ii) Draw the chart diameter JK passing through Z and the centre of the chart (point C).
- (iii) Measure the distance CZ and mark point Y at the same distance (CY = CZ) along diameter JK on the opposite side of C from Z.
- (iv) The chart co-ordinates of Y, with the chart re-labelled as an admittance chart, and re-normalized to the coaxial line admittance 1/75 mhos will give the component values of the equivalent parallel representation of the antenna (Fig 3(a)).

To continue the example, the chart co-ordinates of Y are 1.03 (conductance) and 1.5 (inductive susceptance) giving rise to values of  $1.03 \times \frac{1}{75}$ mhos (conductance) and  $1.5 \times \frac{1}{75}$ mhos



Fig 3. (a) Parallel-configured inductive and (b) capacitive admittances

(inductive susceptance). Now a conductance of  $\frac{1\cdot 03}{75}$  mhos is a resistance of  $\frac{75}{1\cdot 03}\Omega$  and a susceptance of  $\frac{1\cdot 5}{75}$  mhos is a reactance of  $\frac{75}{1\cdot 5}\Omega$  and so the components in Fig 3(a) are in this case a resistance of  $73\Omega$  in parallel with an inductance having reactance  $50\Omega$  at the frequency of interest. But in terms of the equivalent parallel representation, the resistive part of the antenna circuit is seen to form an excellent match to a  $75\Omega$  line. In fact, all that is necessary to secure a match is to add, in parallel with the antenna terminals, a capacitive susceptance of  $\frac{1\cdot 5}{75}$  mhos, to cancel that of the equivalent parallel inductive susceptance (in effect, the parallel coil is "tuned-out" by the addition of a parallel capacitor).

The finished circuit of Fig 4(a) will result in a flat, well-matched transmission line, delivering all of its power into the antenna. Hence the golden rule mentioned earlier—there is always the chance that the alternative circuit representation will suggest a simple matching solution. Of course the example given was "cooked" to illustrate the point, but on both 14MHz and 21MHz just such good fortune was encountered while matching the author's 3-5MHz inverted-V for these bands. (28MHz is another story!)

A second, abbreviated, example will demonstrate the reverse transfer; suppose a load admittance of the form of Fig 3(b) occurs, with values  $R'=411\Omega$  and  $X_c\cdot=667\Omega$  and is to be matched to  $300\Omega$  twin feeder. The steps are:

- (i) Normalize the chart to  $\frac{1}{300}$ mhos and plot the load admittance (conductance value  $\frac{1/411}{1/300} = 0.73$ , susceptance value  $\frac{1/667}{1/300} = 0.45$ ) as point Y (Fig 5).
- (ii) Locate the diametrically opposite point Z on Fig 5 (equidistant from the chart centre) and read off the co-ordinates of Z as 1·0 (resistive) and 0·6 (reactive). Considering these as co-ordinates on an impedance chart normalized to 300Ω then gives the equivalent circuit of Fig 2(b) with values R = 300 × 1·0Ω = 300Ω

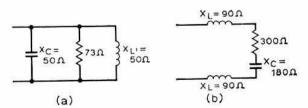


Fig 4. (a) Equivalent network resulting from the inductiveantenna matching example. (b) Equivalent network resulting from the capacitive-antenna matching example

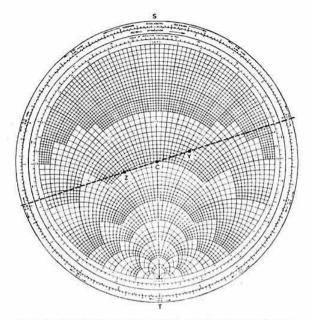


Fig 5. Smith chart showing parallel-series immittance transfer

and  $X_c = 300 \times 0.6\Omega = 180\Omega$ . Again notice that the resistive part in this circuit configuration offers a good match, and all that is necessary is to insert series inductive reactance of value  $180\Omega$  to cancel the capacitive reactance. The final matching arrangement is shown in Fig 4(b), where half the necessary inductance has been inserted in each leg, to preserve the balanced nature of this particular feeder system. Incidentally, a fast way to realize inductance values is via the use of the ARRL L/C/F Calculator [2].

### Transmission-line quantities

The particular point about the previous examples involved the possibility of a matching correction at the antenna terminals themselves (or measurement terminals if applicable). Normally, of course, another parameter must be considered, viz: a length of feeder, either because the system necessarily already possesses a certain feeder length, or because it is hoped to achieve a matching correction by the deliberate inclusion of an extra (series or shunt) section of transmission line. This leads naturally to the requirement that it must be possible to determine the input impedance (or admittance) of an arbitrary length of transmission line (of arbitrary characteristic impedance) when terminated at its output in an arbitrary load impedance. (The number of times the word "arbitrary" appears in this sentence is one indication of the complexity of the associated mathematics!) Furthermore, the one transmission-line parameter which most amateur stations will (at least claim to) be able to measure is the voltage standing wave ratio. It turns out that the input-impedance problem and the vswr value are elegantly related on the Smith Chart by virtue of the following facts:

 If a circle is drawn on a Smith Chart, with its centre coincident with that of the chart (see Fig 1) then loads corresponding to all points on such a circle (normalized in terms of the impedance or admittance of the line in use, remember) cause the same vswr if used to terminate the line. Moreover, the value of this vswr (conventionally greater than unity) occurs at the intersection of this circle with the diameter ST (on the side of centre providing a number greater than one). For example, the smaller circle of Fig 1 corresponds to all terminations producing a vswr of 4:1 while the larger indicates all terminations producing a vswr of 10:1.

(ii) Even more importantly, if a particular impedance is known to terminate a transmission line, entering its vswr circle at its (normalized) value and following the circle round the chart will indicate the impedance value present at the input to the line when the (electrical) line length corresponds to that moved through on the peripheral scale calibrated in wavelengths. For example, a  $50\Omega$  line is terminated in an impedance consisting of a resistor of  $25\Omega$  in series with an inductance having reactance of  $75\Omega$  at the frequency of interest. On Fig 6 the corresponding normalized co-ordinates are  $\frac{25}{50} = 0.5$  (resistance) and  $\frac{75}{50} = 1.5$ 

(positive reactance) plotted as point Z. The constant vswr circle centred at the chart centre and passing through point Z is constructed. The line CW has been drawn so that the angle between CW and CZ (as measured on the peripheral scale) is  $0.2\lambda$ . The movement from Z has been in a clockwise direction (corresponding, according to the labelling of the peripheral scale, to a movement (backward) away from the load towards the transmitter) and so if the load of  $25\Omega$  resistance in series with  $75\Omega$  inductive reactance were

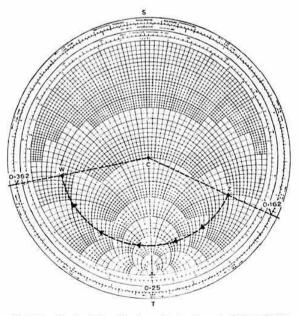


Fig 6. Smith chart showing impedance change along a transmission line

connected to a measuring instrument through  $0.2\lambda$  of cable (electrical, taking velocity factor into account) the instrument would measure  $17.5\Omega$  resistance in series with  $56\Omega$  capacitive reactance—obtained by "de-normalizing" the chart co-ordinates of point W (the new reactance being capacitive since point W now lies to the *left* of diameter ST).

A number of points on the constant vswr circle can immediately be seen to be of particular importance:

- (i) The circle crosses the diameter ST at two points. These are the (two) purely resistive loads which cause the vswr in question. Line lengths corresponding to a movement around the vswr circle from some arbitrary entry point to one of these points are those for which the arbitrary load may be made to "look like" a pure resistance. Thus on Fig 6 the line length (0·25-0·162) = 0·088λ (movement from Z round to T) makes the initial inductive load look like a pure resistance of 7 x 50 = 350Ω.
- The circle crosses the unit resistance circle at two points. These points correspond to those terminations producing the observed vswr, and which, in addition, have a series resistance term equal to the line characteristic impedance. One of the points also contains residual series inductive reactance, the other series capacitive reactance. The line length transferring from our arbitrary entry point to one of these points is often the first half of the matching solution, since all that then remains is to cancel the residual reactance by the correct application of an external reactance (which may be a physical coil or capacitor, or another section of transmission line) of the opposite sign. The manner in which these points are utilized in practice will be presented in some detail in the next section.

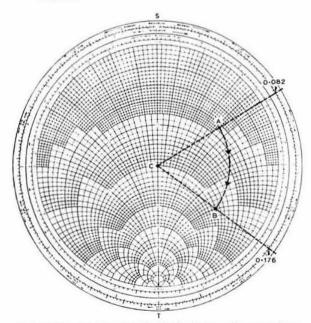
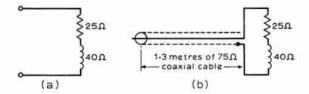


Fig 7. Smith chart construction for the beam antenna problem



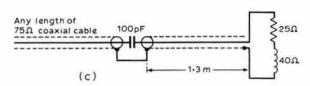


Fig 8. Stages in the beam antenna matching problem: (a) shows antenna impedance at 14·3MHz (Point A of Fig 7); in (b) cable input impedance is now 75Ω in series with 112Ω ind reactance (Point B of Fig 7)

### **Matching antennas**

Though the operations involved are admittedly awkward to describe, (as evidenced by the previous paragraph) after a little practice they are very easily and rapidly performed. (And this is definitely an area in which facility is only acquired by *doing*).

Accordingly two possible matching schemes will be described in detail for two antenna problems. The first is a hypothetical system, the second is based on the author's experience with a 3-5MHz inverted-V. The first problem has initial data produced by measurements at the antenna terminals, the second uses admittance data measured at the base of an existing feeder.

Problem 1. A close-spaced beam antenna has been constructed for the 14MHz phone band, with centre frequency of interest 14,300kHz. The impedance at the coaxial input terminals to the integral balun has been measured to be  $25\Omega$  resistance in series with  $40\Omega$  inductive reactance. Design a means of matching the antenna to  $75\Omega$  coaxial line. (Though this example is hypothetical, it is reasonable—close-spaced beams tend to have low resistive values, and the common gamma-match type of balun involves an inductive term.)

### Solution

- (i) Since the initial measurement is in terms of a series impedance combination, normalize the values to a 75Ω impedance chart. Hence the beam input impedance is plotted as <sup>25</sup>/<sub>75</sub> = 0.33 (resistive) and <sup>40</sup>/<sub>75</sub> = 0.53 (inductive) reactance (Fig 7, point A).
- (ii) Construct the constant-vswr circle, centred at the centre of the chart and passing through A as shown. (vswr ≈ 4:1).
- (iii) Moving clockwise around this circle, locate its first point of intersection with the unit-resistance circle point B on Fig 7. Observe the peripheral wavelength scale measurement of this movement as 0·176– 0·082λ (the wavelength values corresponding to lines CB and CA respectively). Hence an electrical line length of 0·094λ is indicated. For a velocity factor of 0·66,

this is a physical length of  $0.66 \times 0.094 = 0.062\lambda$  and since a wavelength at 14.3 MHz is  $\frac{300}{14.3} \text{m}$  this is a physical length of 1.3 m of  $75\Omega$  coaxial cable. Figs 8(a) and (b) show the progress so far. De-normalizing the co-ordinates of point B in Fig 7 gives the input impedance of this short section of line, viz: a resistance of  $75 \times 1 = 75\Omega$ , in series with an inductive reactance of  $75 \times 1.5 \approx 112\Omega$ .

(iv) Evidently the resistive portion of the input impedance to this matching section of line is now correct, and it only remains to cancel the reactive portion. This clearly requires the insertion of a series capacitor, having reactance equal to the residual inductive reactance at point B. From the chart the latter is  $75 \times 1.5 =$ ,  $112\Omega$ . Thus the required capacitor is  $C = \frac{1}{2\pi f Xc} \approx 100 pF$  and Fig 8(c) shows the final matched configuration. The input terminals may now be fed with any length of  $75\Omega$  coaxial cable.

Note that the matching scheme presented is by no means unique, and indeed many other systems are feasible. Readers may like to try one alternative, which involves the insertion of a step (i)(a) above to reflect point A through the centre of the chart and hence obtain an equivalent admittance representation. This leads to a shunt inductance matching system, which some may regard as more convenient.

Problem 2. A W3DZZ trapped dipole (2) is erected in the inverted-V configuration, with dimensions suitable for 3.5-MHz operation as lowest-frequency band. The antenna is centre-fed through  $50\Omega$  coaxial line via a 1:1 balun. Measured at the base of this line, at a frequency of 28.500MHz, the admittance consists of a resistance of  $15\Omega$  in parallel with a capacitive reactance of  $16\Omega$ . Devise a scheme to transform this admittance to one of  $\frac{1}{50}$  mhos for presentation to the transmitter. (This is an actual situation encountered by the author.)

### Solution

(i) Since the initial measurement is in terms of a parallel admittance combination, normalize the values to a 20mmhos chart (ie chart centre corresponds to 1 mhos = 20mmhos). Hence the input admittance at 1/15

the base of the feeder is plotted as  $\frac{1/15}{1/50} = 3.33$  (conduc-

tance) and  $\frac{1/16}{1/50} = 3.13$  (capacitive susceptance). This is point D of Fig 9.

(ii) Construct the constant-vswr circle, centred at the centre of the chart and passing through D as shown. (VSWR ≈ 6·5).

(iii) Moving clockwise around this circle, locate its first point of intersection with the unit-conductance circle—point E on Fig 9. Observe the peripheral wavelength-scale measurement of this movement as 0·309-0·225λ (corresponding to lines CE and CD). Hence an electrical line length of 0·084λ is required. The de-normalized co-ordinates of point E then indicate that the input end of this short section (the other end being attached)

to the base of the original feeder, of course) would then appear as a conductance of 20mmhos in parallel with an *inductive* susceptance (we crossed the chart diameter SCT during the 0.084) movement) of 2.2 × 20 = 44mmhos (the admittance co-ordinates of point E being 1.0 for conductance, 2.2 for susceptance).

(iv) The 20mmhos conductance would now offer a match to the  $50\Omega$  line (20mmhos line!) if a cancelling capacitive susceptance of 44mmhos were connected across the input to this matching section. The required capacitor is  $c=\frac{1}{2\pi f X_c}=\frac{1/Xc}{2\pi f}\approx 250 pF$ . Fig 10(a) shows the final matched configuration.

Note that again this is just one of a number of possible solutions. Also notice that the vswr in the existing feeder will still be 6.5:1, even though the transmitter "sees" a matched load.

### Open- and short-circuit line sections

If a length of line is terminated in either an open-circuit or a short-circuit its behaviour is special in a number of ways:

- (i) Maintaining the assumption of lossless lines, such sections cannot absorb or dissipate power; their input impedance is accordingly either purely reactive, or one of the only two possible resistive values consistent with no power dissipation—zero ohms, or infinitely many ohms.
- (ii) The input impedance of such sections is indicated on the Smith Chart just as before—merely remember to enter the chart at point S (for a short-circuited section), or point T (for an open-circuited section)—see Fig 1. The constant vswr circle then coincides with the periphery of the chart, and all values of reactance (positive and negative) are obtainable by varying the line length

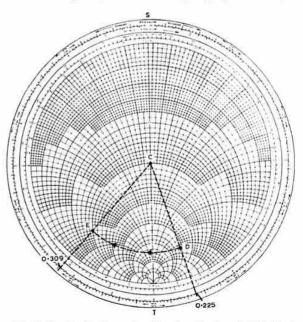


Fig 9. Smith chart construction for the inverted-V dipole problem

as indicated on the peripheral wavelength scale. A favourite utilization of such sections is to provide for the "cancelling" reactance or susceptance mentioned earlier. For example, in the solution to **Problem** 2 above, the final step required a shunt capacitor of 250pF; that is a capacitive reactance of  $22.5\Omega$  approximately on 28.5 MHz. If a high-quality, low-loss capacitor with good breakdown characteristics is not available, a further section of line can be used (a shunt, open stub). If the same type of cable is used for the stub (it need not be, of course, but its use is often more convenient mechanically) then the chart is normalized to  $50\Omega$ , and the desired normalized reactance co-ordinate is  $\frac{22.5}{50} = 0.45$ . Then, noting from

Fig 1 that the peripheral wavelength distance between T and the line CF passing through the reactance arc marked 0.45 at the periphery of the chart is 0.432- $0.250 = 0.182\lambda$  (measured clockwise), the alternative implementation shown in Fig 10(b) results for the matching solution. There is often confusion about the sign of the reactance exhibited by these stub sectionsa simple way to work out the answer is to consider very short stubs; a very short, open stub "looks like" two bits of wire side by side—clearly a capacitor; a very short, closed stub resembles a single bit of wire, ie a small inductor. This capacitive (or inductive) nature is retained (although the reactance changes as discussed) as the length is increased to  $\lambda/4$ ; thereafter the sign of the reactance reverses (and similarly for each subsequent λ/4) and open (short-)-circuit stubs become inductive (capacitive) respectively for lengths between  $\lambda/4$  and  $\lambda/2$ . In the example above, it was already known that a capacitive stub was required and so an open-stub was chosen, with entry to the chart at point T. (Note that if this had given rise to an inconveniently short piece of cable one solution to the difficulty would have been to use a short-circuit stub of length greater than  $\lambda/4$ .)

### Conclusions

The purpose of this article has been to present, in a mathematics-free format, the fundamental characteristics and uses of the Smith Chart. Use of the chart has been described merely for equivalent immittance transfers, and for the manipulation of transmission-line impedance as a function of position with respect to the load impedance, the latter topic being presented in terms of elementary antennamatching schemes, since these are of most immediate interest to a majority of amateurs. A later article will provide design and construction notes for a simple rf admittance bridge which may be used to obtain measurements of impedance/admittance permitting "entry" to the chart.

It must be pointed out that the Smith Chart is a tool of far greater versatility than could be suggested in a short article; an introductory article along similar lines, but requiring an acquaintance with j-notation is due to WIDTY [4]. Readers seeking a very readable exposé of a wide range of Smith Chart applications and capabilities (still at a very modest mathematical level) can do no better than consult the work of its originator [5] which includes a description of various "overlay" grids for use in conjunction with the basic chart; a treatment of negative-resistance charts (capable of

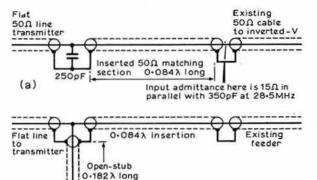


Fig 10. (a) Matching solution for the inverted-V dipole problem (b) Alternate solution for the inverted-V dipole problem using a capacitive stub

Open-circuit at this end

dealing with, for example, waveguide amplifiers); the effects of line-loss terms in the manipulations; a description of various "slide-rule-like" Smith Chart instruments, and which features an extensive bibliography. Converts to the surprising potential of this piece of "bent graph paper" will also find interesting the derived Linvill Chart dealing with rf amplifier stability and gain [6].

Other rf bridge and similar articles have appeared in the literature [7, 8, 9] and as a final recommendation from personal experience the plastic Smith Chart "slide-rule" (with a regular circular slide-rule on the reverse) available in the USA from Amphenol RF Division (Amphenol RF Calculator, at \$3) is excellent value for money, if you can get hold of one! [10]

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks are due to Warwick Gibbons, G8LPS, and Les Woolliscroft, for helpful, critical manuscript checking.

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### Sporadic-E observations in 1977

by R. A. HAM, FRAS\*

THE 1977 sporadic-E season began during the morning of 4 May and ended in grand style, 94 days later, on 5 August. This is approximately eight days less than the 1975 and 1976 seasons. During this year's season sporadic-E reflections influenced the normal paths of radio signals between 40 and 80MHz on 37 days compared with 33 days in 1976, 38 days in 1975, and 37 days in 1974.

Although there were no major disturbances prior to the start of the 1977 season there were, however, minor events which took place on 3 and 5 January, 14 February, and on 12, 16, 22 and 25 April. Throughout each period, prolonged bursts of signals from Polish broadcasting stations in the 70MHz band, and television sync-pulses from Russian transmitters in the 50MHz band, were heard simultaneously.

The author made observations daily at approximately 0800, 1230 and 1800ut, and the sporadic-E events recorded at these times are indicated by the dark squares in Fig 1 under times A, B and C respectively.

### Continental broadcasting stations

On 35 of the 37 days indicated in Fig 1 the influence of sporadic-E extended to 73MHz with signals from many eastern European broadcasting stations reflected towards the UK. Fig 2(a) shows the radio frequency distribution and

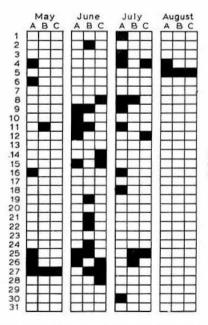


Fig 1. Monthly distribution of sporadic-E

the number of times that the signals were heard by sporadic-E. These fm signals were very strong in the UK when sporadic-E was present.

The 35 days when sporadic-E disturbed the frequency range of 65-73MHz are listed below with the comparative figures for 1974, 1975 and 1976 respectively:

	'74	'75	'76
May: 4, 6, 11, 25, 26, 27	2	10	8
June: 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 24,			
25, 26, 27, 28	13	6	5
July: 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, 25, 26, 30	5	6	10
August: 4, 5	9	7	2

As in previous years all of the Continental broadcast signals were subject to deep and sharp fading at the beginning, and shortly before the end, of each event.

### European radiotelephone stations

These two-way radiotelephone signals are obvious to the observer without knowledge of the language being used. Fig 2(b) shows the distribution of these signals heard by the author during the period. The total number of radiotelephone signals heard was 141 compared with 213 in 1976, 160 in 1975, and 178 in 1974. This year the main activity was around 40 and 44MHz.

### Electronic devices

"Electronic devices" is a general term used to describe the host of tones, teleprinters, and various beacons which appear between 40 and 50MHz when the E region is disturbed. Fig 2(c) illustrates the radio frequency distribution

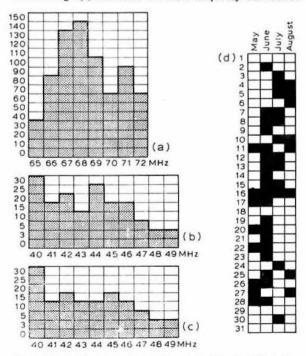


Fig 2. (a) East European fm stations heard in the UK during periods of sporadic-E. (b) European radiotelephone signals heard between May and August 1977. (c) Electronic devices heard during sporadic-E events. (d) Days on which the IBP station DL0IGI was heard

<sup>\*</sup> Faraday, Greyfriars, Storrington, Sussex.

of these signals heard during the 1977 season and shows once more that the main activity in this field is also around 40MHz.

### Major events

There were six major events during the 1977 sporadic-E season, of which three (9 and 25 June and 5 August) lasted all day; two (24 June and 8 July) occurred at midday, and one on 14 June which carried on for most of the evening. On 14 June and 5 August strong signals from 46 east European broadcast stations were received between 65 and 73MHz, but previous records were broken at midday on 8 July when the count was 63.

### 28MHz band

Sporadic-E conditions affecting the 28MHz band were identified on 47 days, Fig 2(d) (compared with 54 days in 1976 and 42 days in 1975), when strong signals were received, often for long periods, from the International Beacon

Project station DL0IGI on 28·195MHz, situated near Salzburg. During the first three months of this observation there were frequent short-skip openings on 28MHz compared with very few in the same period of 1976.

### Solar activity

The sun was more "active" during the 1977 sporadic-E season than in previous years. The author recorded 21 days of activity at 136MHz throughout May, June and July compared with only four days for the same period in 1976, and this may well account for the increase in short-skip openings on 28MHz mentioned earlier. There was, however, a complete turnabout for August when only six days produced solar radio noise at 136MHz compared with 14 days in August 1976. After continued observation the author still cannot prove any direct connection between sunspot activity and sporadic-E disturbances.

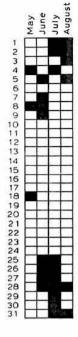


Fig 3. Monthly distribution of solar radio noise recorded by the author at 136MHz

### **NEW PRODUCTS**

### Sinclair digital multimeter

A new, high accuracy, personal digital multimeter from Sinclair Radionics is now available in the UK at less than one third the price of existing 3½-digit meters. Designated the PDM35, this hand-held unit is also competitive in price with traditional low-cost analogue meters.

Weighing only 6½oz (175gm), measuring 6in by 3in by 1½in (155 by 75 by 30mm), the PDM35 is truly portable, fitting easily into a coat pocket, brief case or tool kit. It has been designed to meet the precise requirements of the electronics engineer, field sérviceman and the hobbyist. The PDM35 incorporates all the features that an international survey of these groups highlighted as key requirements, particularly a full complement of de voltage ranges, de current ranges and resistance ranges. Sinclair reports that there was a very low demand for ac current ranges, although ac voltage measurement was considered a necessity (mainly for checking power line availability).

AC (1V-500V) and dc (1mV-1kV) voltage measurement can be made with an accuracy of one per cent of reading, as can dc current (1mA-200mA). Resistance can be measured up to  $20M\Omega$  and the resistance ranges can also be used to measure forward voltage drops of semiconductor junctions. The dcV input impedance is  $10M\Omega$  with 1mV resolution.

DC current resolution is down to the nanoamp level. Range selection is by a simple, but reliable, slide switch, easier to use than a rotary, and as fast as push buttons.

This new Sinclair instrument also features auto-polarity (which can also be used for nulling measurements) and a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -digit bright red led display angled for ease of reading. Maximum reading is  $\pm 1,999$ . Over-range is indicated by horizontal bars on most significant digits and zeroing of other digits. Power is from an internationally available alkaline or zine-carbon PP3-size transistor radio battery. For bench use there is an ac line adaptor.

The PDM35 is supplied complete with leads and test prods, operating instructions and a carrying wallet. It is obtainable from Sinclair Radionics Ltd, London Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 4HJ, at £29.95 plus £2.40 VAT and 65p p & p, a total of £33.

### Adcola unit 333

This new unit features two basic parts—a hand soldering tool and a control box to which it is connected via a plug. The control box can be linked to either an existing transformer or to a 24V 60VA ac mains source. Plug-in iron or copper bits are used, and the temperature is controlled by a dial on the control box which provides a range of 120-420 °C. There is positive earthing, a siliconized input cable and suppression to eliminate mains spiking. A full range of spares is available, if required.

The price range is from £21. Further information can be obtained from Adcola Products Ltd, Adcola House, Gauden Road, London SW4 6LH. Tel 01-353 1174.

# —— technical topics

Pat Hawker, G3VA

In any analysis of the pros and cons of modern home-construction one cannot, unfortunately, leave out of account the difficulties caused by the enormous number—it must now be in tens of thousands—of different semi-conductor device type numbers and the problem of finding out pin connections, device ratings and characteristics etc that this creates for those without immediate access to good professional libraries of device information. I admit that I cannot offer any answer to this very real problem or the related problem of identifying unmarked ex-equipment devices. It is enough to make even the most semiconductor-conscious constructor become nostalgic for the days when a small valve data book would give him all the information he was likely to need!

### The homebrewer's "code"

In Break-in, August 1977, D. Archer, ZL2BIX, takes a lighthearted but pertinent look at some of the pleasures and problems of home construction and comes up with some ideas, as the following brief extracts indicate:

"To be any good at homebrewing you need a philosophy. Don't waste your time making it look like commercial gear—that is like an artist trying to make a portrait look like a photograph!

"Don't let anyone tell you that you can't build gear as good as the commercial stuff (you probably can't, but don't let them tell you!).

"Don't be bullied into solid-state if you feel happier with valves . . . if you've got them and don't mind the bigger size, use them!

"Don't let any member of the family buy you presents of shirts, socks etc; presents should not be what you need but what you want. Leave lists of components lying about with prices and where they can be bought.

"Apart from scrounging, the easiest way to keep down costs is to buy components as a group to get quantity discounts.

"Don't be scared of integrated circuits, the only tricky thing is the printed circuit.

"Never begin construction until all the components are set out in a box and labelled.

"Don't keep your homebrew gear under cover ... every piece you build and get going should inspire others to follow." Some years ago W2LYH in QST summed it up as: "The true member of the amateur hacksaw-and-file fraternity can never be content with equipment except that which he has built himself. He is not concerned with such things as 'resale value' but only with taking whatever parts are at hand, mixing them with a few of his own ideas, and trying to create something useful."

As one of the majority of amateurs who today uses more commercial than home-made equipment, my own objective is much more modest. It is simply to keep alive at least some elements of homebrewing in every amateur station. Even where the main equipment is factory-made it is possible to think first in terms of home construction for the ancillary units. Power supplies, control systems, antenna matching units, antennas etc are all areas where a homebrew approach can be effected quickly and economically by any of us. By keeping at least a foot in the homebrewing door an amateur need not feel that he has surrendered the old traditions; the sort of thinking that still requires a real egg to be added to a cake-mix! It is easy enough to say that one can retain technical interest in factory equipment, but one learns far more from building at least some part of the station no matter how few components are involved.

### Some receiver ideas

In Electron No 6, 1977, E. J. R. Hubach, PAOFIN/OHIZAA outlines an approach to a 3.5MHz "dx-receiver" that incorporates a number of interesting ideas and a change to the type of gain-distribution normally found in a superhet receiver where most gain is concentrated in the i.f. stages. By shifting the gain into the af stages, it would appear that PAOFIN is able to take a leaf out of the direct-conversion book in order to make effective use of multi-pole audio filters to back-up the 9MHz crystal filter.

Fig 1 shows the basic outline, and the use of a 5.0 to 5.5MHz vfo in conjunction with the 9MHz i.f. suggests that the receiver could also be used very simply on 14MHz.

The front-end is shown in Fig 2. The first stage consists of two FT0601 dual-gate MOSFETS with R adjusted to provide a total drain current of around 20mA, used as a source follower directly into the MD108 double-balanced mixer. The i.f. output goes to an emitter-coupled broadband matching stage with the signal then passing through the XF9B crystal filter, and then, apparently, directly to a balanced product detector. There seems no reason why good linearity should not be achieved in this way right through to af, so permitting more rewarding use of the af filter which is a special Cauer low-pass filter for which no details are given.

It must be stressed that this article gives only an outline and is not a detailed constructional description, and indeed may at this stage represent a design exercise rather than a completed receiver; nevertheless it is an extremely interesting approach to the gain-distribution problem underlined by lan White, G3SEK, last month in connection with vhf receivers of wide dynamic range.

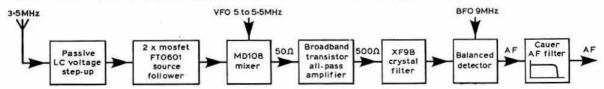


Fig 1. Block outline of PAOFIN's proposals for a 3.5MHz "dx-receiver" which would preserve signal linearity up to the af stages

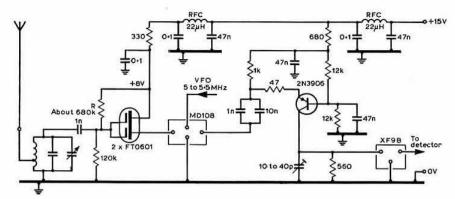


Fig 2. Front-end of the PA0FIN receiver

### Dip meter with led indicator

The need for a sensitive and relatively expensive meter with conventional dip meters can be overcome in several ways: for example TT (June 1976) provided information on a dip meter using a thermionic EM87 magic-eye tuning indicator as both oscillator and indicator. With an all-semiconductor approach E. O. F. Siefken, PEOLSD, shows in Electron, September 1977, that it is possible to use a light emitting diode as the indicator by using a voltage-doubler rf detector and dc amplifier: see Fig 3.

The unit also includes a 400Hz RC oscillator to provide a tone-modulated signal; the depth of modulation can be varied by means of the  $5k\Omega$  linear potentiometer. Resistor  $R_x$  should be chosen so that the collector potential of the RC oscillator transistor is about half of the supply voltage, which is the rather high figure of 22·5V. It is stated that with six two-terminal coils a range of 0·4 to 200MHz can be achieved; for the highest frequency range a hairpin "coil" is formed from 8cm of silvered-copper strip. The other coils are not critical and can be wound on any convenient formers and adjusted to provide overlapping ranges. The tuning capacitor is a 2-by-250pF gang.

It would of course be possible to substitute a suitable meter in place of the led; this would need to have a sensitivity of the order of 200µA or possibly about 500µA.

### Power sources and air-cells

Several recent items in TT have discussed the various forms of power source which would permit operation of radio equipment independently of mains supplies over extended

periods. Such power sources include: (1) various forms of primary cells; (2) various forms of secondary cells recharged either from a local source or from vehicles or ac mains away from the site; (3) thermo-electric generators using propane or butane gas; (4) hand and pedal generators; (5) wind generators; (6) steam or water generators; (7) diesel and petrol-electric generators; and (8) solar arrays. I have left out of this list fuel cells and nuclear (isotope) sources since they are not real possibilities for amateur operation.

An interesting article in *Radio-ZS*, August 1977, by R. T. Hubbard of the Department of Roads, draws attention to a system which has been used since 1972 for mountain-top vhf communication repeaters and which has proved very successful: Leclanché air-cells with a nicad reservoir battery.

He notes that although thermo-electric generators are widely used for this type of application and were initially used in the South African system, it was found that good access tracks are needed for fairly frequent refuelling of the unattended stations, while holding large stocks of propane gas on the remote site increases the fire hazard. He notes that it is usually mandatory to use propane rather than the less expensive butane/propane mix.

While wind generators are superficially attractive, they may prove totally unsuitable for very high sites due to high maximum wind velocities which tend to damage the speed-governing mechanisms or even wreck the entire installation. Solar powering has not yet proved a wholly reliable system in some parts of South Africa due partly to intemperate weather.

However, a system based on primary batteries, plus the

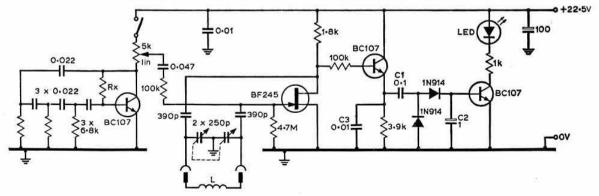


Fig 3. Dip meter using light emitting diode as indicator and incorporating RC tone oscillator with variable modulation control

use of vented nickel cadmium cells as a reservoir battery to cope with occasional heavier demands, has been found to be entirely free of major disadvantages. He claims that running costs (compared with the earlier thermo-generators) have been reduced by some 80 per cent, and the initial cost is only about 10 per cent.

In effect, primary power is provided by a bank of 12 air-depolarized cells having an electrolyte of caustic soda and a capacity of 2,000Ah. These cells are air-depolarized, rather than using manganese as in the conventional Leclanché cell. In these cells (which are not a new invention) the carbon element consists of a porous block of special construction which allows it to remain dry even when partially immersed in an electrolyte, yet permits gases generated by the action of the cell to mix freely within the pores and so cause hydrogen to combine with oxygen in the air, through the catalytic properties of the carbon. It is stated that this form of construction allows the cells to have much greater capacity and far less weight for a given output compared with cells using chemical depolarizers, and to have exceptional shelf-life.

The cell is in a black moulded case and is taken to the site before filling with water. Once the cell is connected and water added it is ready for immediate service. The cells used in this application when empty weigh about 10kg and require 5l of fresh tap water. They can supply a maximum of 1A in conditions of continuous discharge, enough for about about 5W of transmitter power. To allow higher powers to be used, a nicad battery is trickle charged via a current-dependent resistor from the air cells. With a 3A load on transmit the repeaters can operate for about three years from the bank of air cells which would then be discarded and replaced. The cost, per station, of a set of batteries is around the £80 mark in South Africa.

I remember a time when many homes in the UK used large wet Leclanché cells to operate door bells; these seemed to run for ever provided they were occasionally topped up with tap water and were used for applications where the cell had long periods of rest between use. I must admit that I have never come across the air-depolarized cells described in the South African article, and do not know who manufactures them, but clearly they would be worth considering for such applications as powering repeaters at sites without ac mains. Indeed, in South Africa the system has proved cheaper than the use of ac mains power for remote sites, and a number of repeaters that were mains-supplied have been converted. The air cell is proving more reliable and offers freedom from line surges.

In a Leclanché cell the electrical energy results from the dissolution and loss of weight of the zinc electrode but a depolarizer is needed to prevent the deposition of hydrogen on the positive plate. I seem to remember that at one time it

was (and possibly still is) part of school physics to make your own simple cells. This suggests an interesting target for the dyed-in-the-wool homebrew enthusiast: to build your own battery of sufficient efficiency to supply a low-power solidstate transceiver!

### G4CLP/VK6WA squelch adaptor

Leigh Harrison, G4CLP/VK6WA, was recently in need of a squelch arrangement for use with a much-used vintage BC348 receiver used in conjunction with a vhf converter. A problem was the lack of space, coupled with a desire not to butcher the old war-horse. The answer proved to be the circuit shown in Fig 4.

The only modification to the receiver was simply to gain access to the age line and the speaker leads, neither presenting any difficulty.

During quiescent periods the relay contacts terminate the output transformer with a suitable load resistor; when activated it switches the audio output to the loudspeaker (the relay changeover is not included in the diagram but will be readily grasped from the above explanation).

G4CLP feels that this arrangement could be attractive to anyone using a valve receiver and looking for a simple way of providing squelch by means of an add-on unit.

### RMCS compact vhf antenna

Alan Williams, G3KSU, draws attention to an information sheet issued by the National Research Development Corporation about a new compact ferrite vhf antenna, for walkietalkie transceivers or domestic portable radios, devised by R. J. Drewett of the Antennas and Propagation Research Group, Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham.

This notes that the conventional ferrite-rod antenna is considered unsuitable for use at vhf (but see the November TT for mention of the BBC "active" ferrite-rod antenna). Portable units use whip or rod antennas which have a number of disadvantages: (1) they can be inconveniently long; (2) when used without ground planes they become highly directional, sometimes requiring awkward positioning for good reception; and (3) they are vulnerable to accidental or deliberate damage.

The RMCS antenna consists basically of a ferrite rod on to which a wire is wound in groups of turns in alternately a left-hand and right-hand sense (see Fig 5) so that it forms a  $\lambda/4$  resonator. The antenna is tuned to the required frequency by winding excess turns and then successively clipping them off from the open-circuit end. Similar antennas, it is stated, can be made with dielectric or with conducting cores.

An antenna using a ferrite rod 200mm long has been tested by RMCS at 79MHz (bandwidth 5MHz) with a portable transceiver, and a 130mm antenna with similar

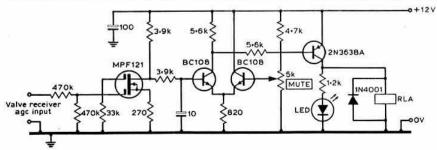


Fig 4. The VK6WA/G4CLP add-on squelch arrangement which can be readily used with most valve receivers. The relay RLA acts to change over the audio output of the receiver from a dummy load to the loudspeaker

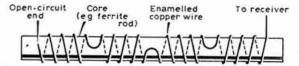


Fig 5. Basic design of the compact 3/4 vhf antenna developed at the Royal Military College of Science

bandwidth has been used for broadcast reception at 94MHz. In laboratory conditions with a large ground plane (eg vehicle roof) the gain of the RMCS antenna is markedly less than that of a whip antenna at the same frequency. However, in tests without the ground plane the performance of the compact antenna approaches that of a whip antenna except that it is less directional.

The performance, it is stated, is influenced both by wire geometry and the shape, size and material of the central rod.

The shortened helical-wound vhf/hf antenna is of course well-established but I have not previously seen reference to the idea of reversing the sense of the windings every few turns, and the idea might well prove worth investigating for amateur applications. The antenna is the subject of a patent application and the purpose of the NRDC information sheet was to bring it to the notice of manufacturers with a view to licensing agreements.

### Miniature mains power unit

It has been calculated that it is around 300 times cheaper to operate equipment from the mains supplies than from even the cheapest form of primary battery. It is therefore extremely useful in domestic situations to be able to substitute a miniature mains unit for a battery, particularly if the mains unit is small enough to fit into the battery space of the portable equipment. M. Faulkner in Wireless World (October 1977) provides circuit details (Fig 6) of a miniature switchedmode unit suitable for this type of application, providing 6V at up to 50mA and isolating the equipment from the mains connections. The voltage-dropping capacitor C1 together with the zener diode ZD1 and rectifying diode D1 provide about 15V across the smoothing capacitor C2. This powers the single transistor oscillator for the inverter working at about 13kHz. This frequency permits the use of a very small transformer using a pot core such as the Philips/Mullard P14/8 337. Wire size is given as 37 gauge and the primary windings are bifiliar wound. Provided that TR1 and ZD1

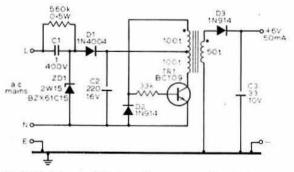


Fig 6. Miniature switched-mode power supply which can be made small enough to fit the battery compartment of portable equipment (Wireless World)

have sufficient heat-sinking, the unit should be able to withstand indefinitley open or short-circuit conditions. It would possibly be wise to check the insulation of the transformer windings before assembly. It is stated that the unit requires an earthed shield to reduce radiated switching noise, and we suspect that when used for a sensitive receiver it may be found necessary to add some additional rf filtering.

### Tape auto-keying

Since publication in the September TT of the high-sensitivity automatic keyer used by ON8FM, which requires an af input of only about 0·1V, I have heard from two old friends, both of whom do in fact use tape recorders for making automatic calls: Charles Bryant, GW3SB, and Roy Wilkins, G2ALM. Incidentally G4DUS found an error in the relay-driver transistor type number given by ON8FM. The 2N2631 is an npn device; this should be 2N1613 and the "50" capacitor is 50nF.

GW3SB was interested in the ON8FM circuit since he had used a comparable arrangement a few years ago. However, he experienced great difficulty in keeping rf out of the unit; as soon as the first symbol was transmitted there was sufficient rectified rf to keep the keying unit turned on. The use of rf chokes eventually overcame this particular problem although it was then found that it was not possible to key satisfactorily above about 20wpm, possibly due to the mechanical relay.

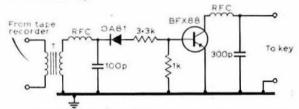


Fig 7. GW3SB's tape recorder auto-keyer is permanently connected across his morse key and needs no additional power supply

In the end he gave up using both the relay and the rather elaborate keyer in favour of the arrangement shown in Fig 7. TI is an old loudspeaker transformer connected to provide an impedance step up, and the system is used with the grid-block keying of an HW101, using an old Civic tape recorder with the internal speaker silenced (the HW101 has its own side-tone). The unit is left permanently connected in parallel with the morse key. One advantage is that no power supply is needed for the keyer, although this might be lost with a small cassette recorder since an additional stage of amplification might be needed. While the BFX88 has proved a suitable transistor with the HW101, when using any other rig it would be advisable to check the voltage across the key with the key up, and the current flowing with the key down.

G2ALM is currently using cassette recorder auto-keying for fixed station and as part of a control system that helps him become one of the relatively-few British amateurs using cw' for hf mobile operation (and very effectively too as I discovered in recent contact with G2ALM/M on 3·5MHz). He also uses quite a simple transistor amplifier arrangement in conjunction with a sensitive reed relay, taking the af output from the loudspeaker socket of the recorder rather than the usual low-level socket. The whole system fits into a convenient control system with remote switching of the

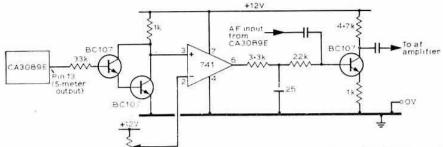


Fig 8. G4EMW's improved squelch arrangement used with a receiver based on a CA3089E intergrated circuit

recorder etc. At an early stage of development he ran into the unexpected problem that his reed relay was fast enough to follow the rectified af note, resulting in A2 mcw transmission. This was cured by connecting a suitably high-value capacitor across the reed relay winding.

### Thank you, Mr Morse

In introducing the September TT notes on morse keys and keyers I was careful not to suggest to anyone that they should feel obliged to use cw, but only to emphasize that considerable pleasure can result from so doing. Alan Williams, G3KSU, adds some further ways in which cw adds to his enjoyment of the hobby. He writes:

"Although I am no expert, cw is a mode which gives me great pleasure. I can make contact (and even converse after a fashion) with people of all races—neither of us knowing the other's language—something quite impossible on phone. Not only that, but it is often quicker—just listen to someone trying to get a callsign over with a mouthful of phonetics!

"I do not know what communication advantage cw has over ssb, but I would think 20 to 30dB, taking into account the reduced bandwidth (say 100Hz), full 'modulation' (100 per cent compared with, say, 50 per cent allowing for heavy rf peak clipping) and the mode itself ('digital' versus 'analogue').

"Sufficient to say that I recently worked all USA call areas and 25 states in one week using just 2W input to a bent indoor ground-plane antenna on 21MHz cw. Not only does cw get through, but with power levels of this order what is tvi?"

Like many others, G3KSU has been suffering from that confounded Russian woodpecker and wonders if someone could come up with an audio add-on box which would kill the pulses? One can of course clip them very effectively with the unit shown in the November TT (Fig 4) but the duty cycle of the pulses after passing through selective filters is such that this does not really overcome the problem—and one would imagine that this would apply to most forms of noise blanking.

### Improving squelch with a CA3089E receiver

The CA3089E integrated circuit forms a popular "heart" for amateur fm receivers, and Mike Warrington, G4EMW, feels that other readers may be interested to learn how he achieved more effective squelching than proved possible using the in-built squelch facility of the device itself. With the ic alone he found the squelch action rather too like a volume control.

His "external" circuit is shown in Fig 9 and operates as follows:

With a signal present the current output from pin 13 of the CA3089E causes the voltage at pin 3 of the 741 op-amp to fall below that at pin 2 (set by the squelch control potentiometer), causing the output of the 741 at pin 6 to fall to around 1.5V. In this condition the third transistor is normally biased and acts as a low gain (approximately five) af amplifier, allowing the af signal from the CA3089E to pass through to the main af amplifier.

With no signal present the current output from pin 13 falls, causing the voltage at pin 3 of the 741 to rise above that at pin 2. As a result the output voltage at pin 6 of the 741 rises to around 10V. As a result the third transistor is now saturated and the af signal from the CA3089E can no longer reach the main af amplifier.

The  $25\mu$ F capacitor is included to prevent audio from being switched on and off rapidly by any noise spikes, etc.

### Up-rating an electronic keyer

A problem sometimes encountered when attempting to use a modern electronic keyer (or indeed a tape auto-keyer) with an older-style transmitter is that a relatively high current may need to be controlled. Mike Lonneke, WOAAD, in QST (August 1977) suggests the use of the simple transistor arrangement shown in Fig 8. This enables him to use an electronic keyer having a maximum handling capacity of 35mA to key his DX100. Battery drain is given as only 1mA.

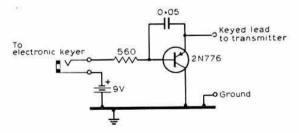


Fig 9. W0AAD uses this transistor arrangement to cater for keying currents too great for his electronic keyer

### Tailpiece

A low-cost 1-500MHz double-balanced mixer package, type SBL1, has been introduced by Mini-Circuits Laboratory (UK agents Dale Electronics, Dale House, Wharf Road, Frimley Green, Camberley, Surrey). In quantity the USA price is only \$3.95 per unit in quantities of 10-49; \$2.95 in quantities of 500 or over.

### 4-2-70

### Graham Knight, GM8FFX\*

### Beacons

The East German beacon DM0VHF on 144-990MHz in QTH locator FN28f is now running 10W output to a pair of big-wheel omni-directional antennas. The beaconkeeper is Rudolf Luebeck, DM2BGB, Obotritenring 123,27 Schwerin DDR, who would appreciate any reception reports.

The Cyprus beacon 5B4CY on 144·139MHz has been heard in Greece, Malta and Sicily. F1 keying is used and a 40W transmitter feeds a six-over-six slot-fed Yagi firing north-west from a sea-coast site at Coral Bay on the western part of the island. The QTH locator for the beacon is QU12b and all reception reports will be acknowledged by a special QSL card. The beaconkeeper is 5B4AZ, Post Office Box 1267, Limassol, Cyprus.

The French beacon FX3VHF at Lannion on 50·100MHz uses 70W to a stack of two 5-el beams. All reports on reception of this beacon should go direct to F8SH, Serge Canivenc, 6 Rue Pont Hele, Kervoalan, 22 Perros-Guirec, France. Costa Rica already has the TI2NA beacon on 50·080MHz and further 50MHz beacons are being planned by Jimmy Bruzon, ZB2BL, for Gibraltar, and by Jacky Bouvier, FY7AS, for French Guiana. FY7AS is already well known for his moonbounce achievements and his station is located at the French space centre at Kourou which is an ideal site for a further 50MHz beacon.

The Lerwick beacon, GB3LER, in QTH locator ZU65f, which only came back into service on 30 August, has already been heard in 11 countries. The two 8-el Yagis which fire the signals north-east and south simultaneously seem to be working well as many stations have sent reports of reception both by tropo and via the aurora. It is certainly proving to be an exceptionally good auroral indicator as the separate auroral report details in depth.

Mike Dormer, G3DAH, is the first British station to receive a special QSL card confirming reception of FX0THF, from beaconkeeper F2UP. The beacon is still on 144·741-MHz but is expected to move to 144·895MHz soon. FX0THF is a good indicator of 144MHz conditions to the south and it has recently been copied at S4 as far north as Cleveland.

The GB3NEE beacon on 144-130MHz is presently being used as the test bed for a new amplifier for GB3TW. G4BDE is building an rtty identification unit which will enable the beacon to be used by teleprinter enthusiasts. The existing frequency shift keyed callsign will be retained interspersed with the new rtty identification.

### Fast-scan television on 144MHz

At the recent Lancaster Convention Grant Dixon, G8CGK, gave a most impressive demonstration of transmitting television pictures on 144MHz. He showed his home-constructed digital converter which changes slow-scan signals back to 625 lines for display on a standard television set. The digital converter uses a multiplicity of integrated

circuits accommodated on plug-in panels to make up the necessary 64K memory. Grant's demonstration drew gasps of astonishment from the large audience when he switched in the converter and transformed what had been a small fading picture on a long persistence slow-scan monitor into an excellent-quality large-screen 625-line picture.

G8CGK played a recording of John Logie Baird's "phonovision" signal which occupied 10kHz on the medium wave, and compared this piece of television history with the sound of modern amateur slow-scan signals. He showed first-class pictures recorded during 144MHz contacts made from his home at Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire with other television amateurs. The most outstanding pictures were those exchanged during a 144MHz QSO with F1BUU in Bordeaux.

Grant was recently invited to demonstrate his pictures at Lynx Electronics, where he impressed the professionals with the contacts recorded on his video tape recorder—a standard £16 Philips cassette!

### Malvern Hills to QSY

The GB3MH repeater which is located on the Malvern Hills, Worcestershire, has been operating on R7 since December 1974. The Mid-Severn Valley Repeater Group has requested a change of frequency to avoid co-channel interference with the Crystal Palace Repeater GB3LO and with the West Wales repeater GB3WW. The VHF Committee and its Repeater Working Group have agreed in principle to a change of frequency to R3.

GB3MS is the callsign assigned to the Mid-Severn Valley Group's new RB0 Phase 2 repeater which is located on the same 900ft asl site as GB3MH. Two uhf ground-plane antennas separated by 10ft are located just below the vhf repeater antenna. GB3MS is already proving popular with the locals and a scramble is now on for RB0 crystals.

### Repeater groups of the month

Last month 4-2-70 featured the UK FM Group Western which is responsible for a total of six repeaters. This month three smaller groups are featured, all of them licensed under Phase 2 and having their repeaters on the air.

On 13 October GB3SV on RB0 became the first of the new Phase 2 repeaters to become fully operational. It is located at Bishop's Stortford, serving the Stort Valley, and runs 25W erp from a vertically-polarized collinear antenna. The chairman of the group, G3DNQ, reports that G8JUQ, G3WMM and G3XSE are the operators mainly responsible for putting GB3SV on the air so promptly after the new licences were issued. The group is also extremely grateful to Jeremy Royle, G8ACN, of amateur television fame, for the supply of the American cavity filters. GB3SV has no time-out, uses IARU tone access and is available 24 hours a day. Many operators using the repeater are travelling on the M11 motorway which at present terminates at Bishop's Stortford. Soon the motorway will be extended to carry traffic from London to Cambridge, and a large increase in the usage of GB3SV is anticipated from motorists who will be passing through the Stort Valley and able to access the repeater for part of their

The GB3LE RB4 repeater came on the air on 14 October and is located at Markfield, 12km west of Leicester. The use of a hexalator and eight cavity filters allows a single Jaybeam stacked-dipole antenna to be used for both transmission and

<sup>·</sup> PO Box 49, Aberdeen AB9 8JA.

reception. The repeater antenna is 740ft asl and serves the community in Leicestershire; linking operators from Loughborough to Melton Mowbray with Leicester. GB3LE had a great deal of use at the end of October from amateurs visiting the Leicester exhibition. Visitors travelling home to the north from Leicester found that soon after leaving the GB3LE area they were able to work stations via the new Nottingham 432MHz repeater GB3NM. The chairman of the group is Jack Bennett, G3PVG; and the secretary is Geoff Dover, G4AFJ, who is willing to provide further information on GB3LE.

Nottingham repeater GB3NM on RB6 is located at Mapperly, three miles north-east of Nottingham's city centre, and was commissioned by a team comprising Ron Dawes, G3SEN; Doug Bell, G3RWP; Alan Jesson and another listener, Ken Abbott. GB3NM is on 24 hours a day and uses separate vertical dipole antennas for transmission and reception. An interesting feature is that afc has been incorporated into the repeater receiver; it is able to pull in signals which can be up to 5kHz off frequency and retransmit them without the usual resultant distortion. Mike Barker, G8CAC, of 21 Greenwood Avenue, Nottingham, is the secretary and contact man for this group which had more than 50 different stations using its repeater in the first week of operation.

### International VHF Convention 1978

The 1978 RSGB International VHF Convention will be a one-day event at the Winning Post Hotel, Whitton, Twickenham, on Saturday 25 February. A comprehensive programme of lectures is being arranged for the afternoon and these will take place in the Whitton School which is adjacent to the hotel.

A first-class trade exhibition of components and accessories will take place in the hotel—just the place to get that 4CX250B valve base or those elusive RB0 crystals. The emphasis of this event will be on home construction, and to this end there will be a special exhibition of homebrew vhf equipment. The convention organizer, Geoff Stone, G3FZL, says: "These displays have in the past shown some equipment of almost professional standards but this year we hope to include items made with the use of ordinary facilities. There is a need to show that the average amateur, with no special tools or test equipment, can produce home constructed vhf gear at a fraction of the cost of equivalent commercial items."

Informality will be the keynote of the evening entertainment, which will include a buffet meal and music provided by both a band and a disco. Prizes are already being donated for the evening raffle—the winner of the tv game should be kept off the vhf bands for at least a week. Some overseas visitors have already booked their travel tickets to attend what will truly be an International VHF Convention. Full details of the programme and ticket arrangements will be published in *Radio Communication* next month.

### Data on 144MHz

Peter Le Fevre, G8AWZ, is one of the ever-growing number of stations sending data on 144MHz. Using home-built equipment, he has already had contacts with eight German stations. The basic circuit is a message generating display kit as described in last year's ETI Magazine. Peter has modified the kit by adding a line cursur and doubling the lines from eight to 16. Line stepping has been incorporated so

### **REAL DX 1977**

70MHz G3DAH—GM3ZBE 670km 144MHz GW4CQT—UW6MA 3,100km 432MHz GD8EXI—OE3HJW 1,560km

that writing is always done on the bottom line. The keyboard is a converted Honeywell unit and the complete project took three months to construct. G8AWZ is well sited on the coast of Norfolk and is QRV on 144-600MHz looking for more dx contacts.

Jack Pennell, G3EFP, in Pinner, joins the vhf operators mentioned in 4-2-70 in October who are using video display units in conjunction with 6-800 microprocessors. He recently received two programs for his microprocessor—they were sent to him by G3PLX in Hampshire on 144MHz. The transmission of the programs took just 45s at 110 bauds. The result was that G3EFP's microprocessor was instantly programmed to handle rtty, to send morse code on a keyboard, and to receive cw on the vdu. The two programs received off-air on 144MHz ran first time.

The transmission of data on vhf is attracting more and more attention. Will we all soon be exchanging programs instead of QSL cards?

### **Auroral reports**

This is the time of year for good auroral openings and there have certainly been plenty during the last few months. During September and October there were 13 auroral events logged at Aberdeen in a single 38-day period. For those who keep auroral calendars these events occurred on 11, 13, 19, 21, 22 and 26 September and on 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19 October. Although it is not the rule that auroral events repeat, it is worthwhile keeping a calendar to indicate the possibility of a repeat after an approximate 27-day interval. This can vary by a day and is due to the sun's rotational period relative to the earth. As can be seen from the above dates, four of the October events are repeats of September auroral openings. By the time this is read there may well have been further repeats. To assist in the forecasting of auroral openings the GB2RS news bulletin frequently carries reports of solar flares and magnetic disturbances, and it also gives the dates of any auroral events which have taken place in the preceding seven days.

It is interesting to listen in Aberdeen to GB3LER on 144-965MHz, as it can be heard direct 24 hours a day. At this time of the year it is worthwhile leaving the beam slightly more to the north-east, at about 40°, as GB3LER is proving to be an exceptionally good auroral indicator. On some of the dates given above the only auroral signals to be heard were from the GB3LER beacon. On all 13 openings GB3LER was the first auroral signal to be heard at Aberdeen. If the event is a weak affair probably only GB3LER will be heard. Frequently its auroral appearance indicates that a major event is about to occur, and as the GB3LER signal gets stronger other beacons can soon be heard: SK4MPI on 144-960MHz is usually the next to go auroral. If the Swedish beacon gets above S4, DL0PR will also be heard via the aurora. These are the first three beacons to be

### STOP PRESS-NEW VHF MANAGER

At its meeting on 19 November, Council appointed lan White, G3SEK, as the Society's vhf manager.

### RSGB REPEATER STATUS

Callsign	QTH	Channel	Status	Information	Callsign	QTH	Channel	Status	Information
GB3AR	North Wales	R*	P	G3LEQ	GB3MR	Cheshire	RB4	0	G3LEQ
<b>GB3AT</b>	North London	R1	LR	G4DCP	GB3MS	Malvern Hills	RB0	0	G2AFD
GB3AV	Aylesbury	RB2	L	G4BKS	GB3NA	Barnsley	R3	0	G3WQA
<b>GB3AW</b>	Ashmansworth, Berks	RB10	L	G4EEE	GB3NB	Tacolneston, Norfolk	R*	P	G8GTZ
GB3BC	Mid Glamorgan	R6	0	GW3GHC	GB3NC	Cornwall	R5	0	G3XC
GB3BD	Bedford	RB4	0	G8FMG	GB3NH	Northampton	RB14	L	G8GHZ
GB3BF	Bedford	23cms	AP	G8FMG	GB3NI	Northern Ireland	R5	AP	GI3TLT
<b>GB3BK</b>	Upper Basildon	RB6	0	G4CCC	GB3NK	Chelsfield, Kent	RB4	0	G8GGP
GB3BM	Birmingham	R5	0	GBAMD	GB3NM	Nottingham	RB6	0	G4AFJ
GB3BN	Bracknell	RB0	L	G8JWD	GB3NR	Norwich	RB0	AP	G4ABB
GB3BR	Brighton	RB6	0	G8HVV	GB3NS	Banstead, Surrey	RB10	0	G8CUX
GB3BS	Bristol	RB10	L	G8BIR	GB3NT	Newcastle Upon Tyne	RB0	L	G4DOB
GB3CB	West Midlands	RB14	0	G8IMN	GB3NX	East Grinstead	RB2	L	G8HVV
GB3CE	Wivenhoe, Essex	RB14	0	G8GNF	GB3OX	Oxford	RB4	L	G4DED
GB3CF	Leicester	R*	LR	G8CAC	GB3PB	Peterborough	RB10	L	GSIXT
GB3CH	East Cornwall	RB2	L	G8EWV	GB3PF	Lancashire	RB6	AP	G4BLH
GB3CI	Corby, Northamptonshire	RB2	o	GBAMG	GB3PH	Portsdown Hill, Hants	RB2	0	GSGNB
GB3CK	Ashford, Kent	RB0	Ľ	G3XDV	GB3PI	Hertfordshire	R6	o	G3SZY
GB3CR	Mold, Clwyd	RB6	ō	G3LEQ	GB3PO	Suffolk	R3	o	G3ZNU
GB3CS	Central Scotland	R6	ŏ	GM3SNO	GB3PR	Perth	R*	AP	GM4DQJ
GB3CV	Coventry	SHF	P	GSIAM	GB3PT	Hertfordshire	RTTY	P	G8MEI .
G83DM	Boston, Lines	RB*	AP	G3NNQ	GB3PY	Cambridge	RB14	0	G8IGS
GB3DT	Wimbourne, Dorset	RB0	Ĉ'	GSAAY	GB3RC	(Portable emergency)	R*	P	G8EIA
GB3DY	Derbyshire	RB10	ō	G3ZYC	GB3RF	Burnley	R7	0	G3RXH
GB3ED	Edinburgh	RB14	L	GM8ARV	GB3RR	(Emergency portable)	R*	AP	G3WXZ
GB3EK	Margate	RB2	ō	G3XDV	GB3SD	Weymouth	RB14	0	G3EGV
GB3ER		RB10	ŏ	G4CUE			R*	AP	GSART
GB3EX	Danbury, Essex	RB0	AP		GB3SE	Caldbeck, Cumbria		P	
	Exeter, Devon	RB2	AP	G8GRF	GB3SF	Sheffield University	Linear	0	G3RKL
GB3FC	Lancashire			G4BLH	GB3SN	Hampshire	R5		G8CKN
GB3FR	Lincolnshire	R*	P P	G3NNQ	GB35P	Pembroke	RB4	L	GW4CBR
GB3GA	Abingdon	UHF		G4DPA	GB3SR	South Sussex	R*	AP	G8HVV
GB3GL	Glasgow	RB14	0	GM8HBU	GB3ST	Stoke-on-Trent	RB2	O	G3LEQ
GB3GN	Aberdeen	R7	L	GM3HAT	GB3SU	Buxton	70MHz		G3RKL
GB3HH	Buxton, Derbyshire	R4	L	G3RKL	GB3SV	Bishop's Stortford	RB0	0	G3DNQ
GB3HR	Bushey Heath, Herts	RB14	0	G8BBE	GB3SY	Barnsley	RB6	AP	G3TPX
GB3HS	Lincolnshire	R.	P	G3KOC	GB3TV	Luton	TV	P	G4ENS
GB3HU	Hull	RB10	0	G8IWA	GB3TR	Torquay	R4	P	G3UIQ
GB31H	Ipswich	RB4	0	G8CJL	GB3TS	Middlesbrough	RB14	L	G8DKU
GB3KR	Dover	R4	0	G3XDV	GB3TW	Tyne & Wear	R5	0	G4DOB
<b>GB3KL</b>	King's Lynn, Norfolk	RB4	AP	G4ABB	<b>GB3UL</b>	Northern Ireland	RB2	AP	GI3TLT
GB3LE	Leicester	RB4	0	G8CAC	GB3US	Sheffield	RB0	L	G3WXI
GB3LH	Shrewsbury	RB4	0	G3UQH	GB3VH	Bath	23cm	AP	G3VEH
GB3LI	Liverpool	RB10	0	G3LEQ	GB3WH	Abingdon, Oxfordshire	R*	P	G4DPA
GB3LL	North Wales	RB4	0	G3LEQ	GB3WS	Sudbury, Suffolk	RB6	0	G4FZZ
GB3LO	London	R7	0	G4EVA	GB3WW	West Wales	R7	0	GW3VPL
GB3LR	North Wales	2 70	P	G3LEO	GB3WY	West Yorkshire	RB10	L	G3UGF
GB3LT	Luton	RB10	0	G4ENS	GB3YL	Great Yarmouth, Norfolk	RB14	AP	G4ABB
GB3LV	Hertfordshire	RB2	0	G4DCP	GB3YS	Yeovil	RB2	AP	G8KME
GB3LW	Central London	RB6	o	G8DWP		1,331,11	177.77.75 I		
GB3MA	Central Manchester	RB4	L	G3LEO	AP-RSGR	awaiting proposal.			
GB3MC	Manchester	23cm	P	G3LEQ		posal received.			
GB3ME	Rugby	RB6	o	G8DLX		but not yet operational			
GB3MF	Manchester	SHF	TV	G3LEQ		refused by Home Office.			
GB3MH	Malvern Hills	R7	o	G2AFD		sion proposal.			
GB3MK	Milton Keynes	RB0	L	GRIJS	O-fully op				
GB3ML	Blackhill	RB10	Ö	GM8HBU					
GB3MP	North Wales	R6	0		Channel	number to be designated.			
3 DOWN	HOLLI WHOS	No	9	G3LEQ					

heard at Aberdeen, and if the event continues to build up GB3GI(144·137MHz), GB3DM(144·130MHz), GB3VHF (144·150MHz), OZ7IGY(144·930MHz) and LA4VHF(144·890MHz) will also put in an appearance in that order.

There has been speculation in the past as to whether the polarization of signals changed when returned from the auroral curtain. It has been noted at GM8FFX that horizontally-transmitted beacon signals are always received best on a horizontal antenna. Auroral notes can be heard best on the vertical signals transmitted by repeaters if received on a vertical beam antenna. At no time has any change of polarization been observed on any auroral signals.

During the weaker 144MHz events there was not much activity as only GM stations were able to work via the aurora. Slightly stronger events have had stations like GM8LHE, GI8KIA and GW8CFQ all with S9a signals. Eric Price, G3KPU, in Doncaster, noticed GB3LER with an auroral note first and then went on to work GM8DMZ and GM8EYB, both of whom are in XP square. Derrick Dance, GM4CXP, near Peebles, was on cw for most of the events; he has now been in 42 auroras and worked 10 countries on the key in one October event alone. Dennis

Boniface, G4DSC, is another to make use of cw's undoubted advantage during auroral openings to work many LA stations, and SM0DJW in QTH square IS10d. EI9Q, Dick Madigan in Waterford, was a much sought after signal in the openings with many stations wanting to work square WM65d.

The best of the 13 events took place on 18 October; GM4DSZ first noticed the aurora at 2130gmt and Julian Broadhurst, G8LIC, reports it faded at 0216gmt. A very large number of European stations took part in this major event: Simon Freeman, G3LQR, in Suffolk, worked LA2PT, LA6HL and SM5FVH in QTH square IT25c; and LA6HL, GI8KIA, LA2PT, GM4BYF and GM4CXP could all be heard working strings of stations on 144MHz during this event. The best dx was worked by George Szymanski, GM4COK, located in Edinburgh, using 100W of cw to a 14-el Parabeam 80ft above the ground. He worked SM5CPD (IT70h), SM3AKW(IW30e), SM3FGL(IV53g), SM5FVH, SM3COL(IW06f), SM5AGM(JT42j) and many Norwegian stations in OTH squares ET, FT, CS and CU; top of his dx list being OH3PF located north-east of Helsinki in QTH square LV39f.

### Tropo reports

Several excellent tropo openings occurred towards the end of October on 144MHz. John Barrett, G8NUV, in Sheffield, used 10W to a vertical dipole to work PE1AUX and DF2EX on fm. On ssb John Hays, G3BDQ, near Hastings, used an IC202 and a 6-40 amplifier to work nine East German stations, nine in Czechoslovakia, SP6FUN(IL53c), SP9KDE (JK55c) and OE2CAL/P. G3BDQ found conditions the best since 1958. Alistair Simpson, GM8NCM, in Kirkcaldy, used 10W from an FT221R to work 80 Continental stations, including DC0TP(FN05f), DC8BB(EL24c), DM2DTN (GK07c), and over 1,500km to OE3WBA/P3 in QTH locator HH25a. John Aitken, in the far north on Orkney, worked his share of the Continental dx; his best contact being OK1KEP near Prague.

During the openings on 432MHz John Quarmby, G3XDY, at Ipswich, worked DM2BCD(GM05g), DK5AJA(FL33b), OE3XUA(HH10b), SM0FFS(JT51f) and SK6AB in FR30c. John Tye, G4BYV, in Norfolk, worked DJ7FM/M (EI51b), SM5DWC at a distance of 1,250km, and heard SM1BSA in JR22e at 0930 on 18 October. Simon Freeman, G3LQR, spent some time on 432MHz before going to 1,296MHz and worked DM2AKL(GL), OE3XUA(HH), OK1AIY/P(HK), OK1XW/P(HK), and his first Polish station on the band—SP9FG in JJ square. On 26 October G8IXN, in Cornwall, worked SM7HAE in QTH locator GP56b.

Richard Baker, GD8EXI, contacted more than 40 Continental stations from his location at Port Erin(XO77h) including OE3HJW/3 in HH17f at a distance of 1,560km. This may be a new British record and it is certainly the best dx worked on 432MHz this year.

### The grapevine

UW6MA, located near the Black Sea, is looking for more meteor scatter skeds after his successful contact with GW4CQT... G3NSM was back on the air again (after getting his latest book published) just in time to catch the big 432MHz openings... Lots of interest at Leicester in Microwave Modules' solid-state 100W output 432MHz linear... Several letters received from Class B operators who would like to be able to transmit a tone at the end of

A special meeting of the Leicester VHF Group was held on 21 October to celebrate Jack Hum'ss by years of amateur radio. The photographs, by Deryk Wills, G3XKX, show a general view of the gathering and Jack Hum with his wife, Grace. Jack is holding the certificate of the award which reads: "The Supreme Award to Jack Hum, G5UM, for his unique 50 years of service and dedication to the true spirit of amateur radio"

transmissions like many European countries allow . . . There are thoughts of a vhf repeater for Fort William . . . Edinburgh & DARC wonder if a 432MHz beacon in Edinburgh would be appreciated by the band of interest—contact GM8MJV . . . The VHF Committee recommends 145·250 MHz for those sending slow morse on fm.

### Late news

A strong auroral event on 27 October was followed by three weaker events on 28, 29 and 30 October. SM7BAE heard an unidentified G3 station via moonbounce on 144MHz on 5 November—this was probably from the G3PIA group who were calling a K5 station who was Q5 in Oxford via eme. The antennas on FX3VHF, the 50·1MHz beacon, have been changed to beam south and on 26 October signals were copied at G3DAO. On 27 October the 50MHz signals peaked to S6 at ZE2JV in Salisbury, Rhodesia. A Forestry Commission worker was convicted at Corven Magistrates Court for jamming GB3MP from Denbigh Moors in north Wales. Full details of all these items next month.

### **Finally**

One year has now passed since 1 started writing the 4-2-70 pages in Radio Communication. Special thanks are due to the correspondents who have written the 658 letters received during the last 12 months at PO Box 49 Aberdeen. It is impossible to acknowledge them all individually but their help in preparing the 4-2-70 pages is greatly appreciated.







### OTS

The latest news on the future of this satellite is that the replacement is now due to be launched in April. As noted earlier, this geostationary satellite is expected to provide a useful permanent beacon on a frequency close enough to 10GHz to be useful for aligning equipment, as well as for propagation studies.

### Local disaster

Nearer home, G3WDG had a fire in his /A station in Bristol and lost all his 10GHz equipment except for a large dish, a klystron and the odd flange. The most grievous loss was that of a complete twt amplifier which was destined to boost the beacon GB3IOW, and this comes at a time when these devices are proving so useful, as is noted below. He also lost his 144 and 432MHz equipment as well as car batteries and an EC10 receiver. A few days after the event, he moved his /A QTH to Oxford—a coincidence, not a consequence.

### Operating news

Harold Meerza, BRS34348, (Chatham) provides some interesting observations on a rather unusual opening on 1,296-MHz on 11 September. While propagation conditions are often good to the east, it is rare for them to be good to the west at the same time. However, on that day he copied G3AUS in Devon, G8ACE in Winchester, G6XM in Wiltshire and PA0EZ, all at S9. His best dx was PE0MVJ (DM62f) who was S5 when working G3JXN. GB3AND, rarely heard, was S2-3 on that day. He also reports that on 19 September GB3DD increased in strength from its usual just above the noise to S6 for an hour, and could be heard on any beam heading or with the psu to the preamplifier switched off. His receiver uses a DJIEE preamplifier feeding a G3WDG/G3LTF interdigital filter on the input of a Microwave Modules converter, with the antenna a G3JVL loop-Yagi.

During the period 14-18 October dx was also available, and G4BYV passes on the information that *some* of the dx G3LQR worked was QN5GF (CK), DL7YCA (GM), DK2UO (DL), DF1EQ (DL), DJ3ZU (DL), DC6BUA (EK), DC6SJ/P, (EK) and DC7HM (GM), G3LQR was also heard by SM0DFP (ET). His best dx was a contact with OK1KIR/P in GK on 16 October, which must be something of a first. The distance involved must be in the region of 1,000km. G4BYV himself worked ON5GF (CK), DJ6MB (DK), DJ5BV (DK), DC3QS (DM), DC8BB (EM), DF8QK (DM), DK0SF (FL) and DC6MV (DK), which is a most respectable score by any account.

G8ARH (Surrey) says that he, G8BCO and G4DDK are all building narrow-band equipment for 5.7GHz. This should

provide a useful stimulus to activity on this band. He is also building ssb transverters for 1.3 and 2.3GHz.

D. Williams, G3JAG, writes that he is now operational on 10GHz with a Gunn oscillator transmitter, a receiver also using a Gunn oscillator and built around a directional coupler, and an 18in dish as antenna. He has a good portable site which is line-of-sight from Cumbria to N Wales and the Isle of Man, and also good to the south-east, and he is interested in making contacts. His address is: 30 Skelgate, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria LA15 8BD.

G3JVL (Hayling Is) reports more results at home using the flyswatter (periscope) antenna, the general design of which was described in the August Radio Communication. He uses a reflector 31 by 45in made from 24g perforated mild-steel sheet. This is mounted 35ft agl with the feed (a dish 17in diameter) set 16ft below. Using the data given in the article, the overall gain of the system should be a most respectable 32dB, and this is equivalent in gain to a dish 2ft in diameter with zero feeder loss. The best dx so far? With a narrow-band 6W transmitter, a 132km contact over the very non-optical path from Hayling Is (3m asl) to G3WDG in Bristol—immediately before the fire. The s:n ratio was about 10dB in a 2kHz bandwidth, which implies that in principle a much smaller transmitter could have been used.

What appears to be a record contact for New Zealand took place on 17 July over a 58km path between Cape Rodney, North Auckland, to One Tree Hill which is in the centre of Auckland. ZL1BPW, ZL1TFS, ZL1TKZ and ZL1TUV were the stations involved.

14BER recently had his first super-refraction contactover a 113km path. This is perhaps the start of an effort which could produce some remarkable dx—conditions in the Mediterranean should be ideal for this mode of propagation. He also reports that the current Italian record now is 280km. This was set by 14CHY/6 and 14TTZ/6 at one end, and 14BTU/3 at the other, over a presumably optical path between sites 1,700m asl. Their equipment used Gunn oscillators with horns as the antenna—and it was raining.

These new records provide an excuse to attempt to make for the first time a table of national records at this frequency. These are obviously incomplete and probably inaccurate, but nevertheless seem worth airing.

UK	521km	Czechoslovakia	210km
USA	426	France	184
Holland	306	Australia	150
Italy	280	Belgium	90
Switzerland	230	New Zealand	58

G4DDK (Staffs) has sent in a list (and a map) of the 10GHz contacts he has made this year, mostly during the cumulative contests. Of the 21 contacts recorded, the average length is 82km, seven exceeded 100km, and two exceeded the Microwave Award distance of 150km. A remarkable feature of these efforts is that the contacts were made entirely over land paths, mainly along the Wales/England border. The cumulative contests generated much activity which is currently being summarized.

W1CF of Microwave Associates reports that so far over 500 "Gunnplexers" have been sold in 20 countries, which one would hope implies a fair amount of 10GHz activity. Data on both speech and tv circuitry for use with these devices will be passed on when it becomes available in the near future. A version of the "Rocloc" stabilizing system which was first applied to klystrons has also been developed.

<sup>• 4</sup> Upper Sales, Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HPI 2AJ.

### The vhf man's left hand

by JACK HUM, G5UM\*

INOUESTIONABLY the most important document in the radio amateur's station is THE LICENCE. Next in importance comes THE LOG. Each deserves the distinction of the capital letters.

Third in importance is THE CALL BOOK, the vhf man's left hand (his right hand holds microphone, morse key or pen for making that "...indelible entry...at the time of sending or receiving"). Yet it is a strange circumstance that a substantial number of vhf people have not yet come to realize the very practical value which THE CALL BOOK holds for him (and her) more than for any other category of operator.

This fact was recognized when the first edition of the RSGB Amateur Radio Call Book was published all those years ago in the autumn of 1951 (its cover price 3s 6d!). The foreword emphasized that "... the Council of the Radio Society of Great Britain hope that it will meet a real need especially among VHF workers (the author's italics, but their capital letters for very high frequency!) and others who regularly make inter-British Isles contacts".

The statement is as true today as it was 26 years ago. Without the Call Book the vhf/uhf operator cannot know whether a weak signal just audible above the noise is a distant one within his beam lobe or a nearer one sitting in a null. A quick look at the Call Book will tell him whether and where to turn the antenna. If he is one of the increasing number using non-directional (generally vertical) antennas, identification of the position of a distant station will tell him if the other man is likely to be workable with the erp available.

There is one reservation to be made to the above observations: between one edition of the Call Book and the next an increasing number of new licensees inevitably becomes "ex-directory" as the year progresses. The need always to announce one's location if one is not QTHR ("My QTH is correct in the current RSGB Call Book") should be selfevident: the other man listening then has the needed information to tell him where to direct his beam. Anyway, it is common courtesy always to state one's location during the course of a CQ call and at intervals when a contact has been set up. There is always the chance that the other man may not have the Call Book at his left hand!

Three documents, then, should be present at all times at the vhf user's operating position: the log, the Call Book, and a simple index from which previous QSO information may be retrieved. All three documents should be kept together during active operating sessions: the value of all of them is reduced by the absence of any one of them.

By way of a final nostalgic flashback it might be mentioned that the first (1951) edition of the RSGB Amateur Radio Call Book carried 40 pages of callsigns, that the "3H --" block had just been completed, and that the Class B licence was still more than a dozen years away. By 1972 the publication had increased in size to the extent that square-back binding became necessary, and by 1977 there were no fewer than 164 pages of callsigns, of which some 40 were Class B vhf-only. Any member who holds a complete set of all the Call Books from then until now has a concise history of the development of amateur radio in these islands.

And what of 1978? See for yourself when you get your copy of the latest edition of the RSGB Amateur Radio Call Book. If you are not in it, remember always to identify yourself when you are on the air!

### oscar news

Schedule changes for Oscar 7

With effect from 1 January 1978 the spacecraft will be commanded to two days on Mode B followed by one day on Mode A; 1 and 2 January will be Mode B, with 3 January on Mode A and so on. If through the use of high power, or other cause, the transponder changes modes it will not be recommanded on that day. It is understood that the W6PAJ orbital calendars will show the revised schedule which is intended to ensure long life for Oscar 7.

Satellite band plan

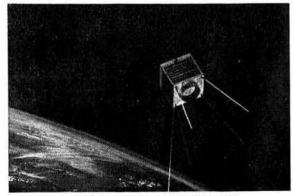
Also effective 1 January 1978 is a new simplified band plan intended to apply to all present and future spacecraft, ie Oscar 7, A-O-D and the Soviet RS series. The downlink passband will be divided into three areas-the lowest frequency third will be for cw stations, the centre third for mixed-mode operation and highest third for ssb stations. This pattern conforms to terrestrial usage of amateur bands and is simple to follow.

### Soviet RS series

Latest information indicates that the first satellite is now unlikely to be launched before 1978. Directly the orbital parameters have been confirmed, predictions and revised Oscalator tracks will be available.

### AMSAT-UK

Enquiries regarding membership of AMSAT-UK should be sent to G4EZN, QTHR, enclosing an sase.



Artist's impression of A-O-D in orbit

<sup>\*27</sup> Ingarsby Lane, Houghton on the Hill, Leicester LE7 9JJ.

### swl news

Bob Treacher, BRS32525 \*

### RSGB 7 and 21/28MHz contests

The improvement in conditions should obviously have increased swl participation in both these events. In the 7MHz phone contest there seemed to be slightly more G participation, and indeed the number of European stations willing to swop numbers certainly increased. Conditions during the 24-hour contest were good, with ample dx signals on the band after midnight for those taking part seriously. Several Gs had a great deal of pleasure working into Central and South America with apparent ease. Many, however, seemed to prefer their beds to 7MHz dxing, and G activity through the night was poor. During the Sunday morning everyone seemed to find it hard going, with very few new stations being noted. This contest, from a listener's point of view, is an ideal way of collecting those rare 7MHz dx countries, and it also provides the opportunity to log the majority of the European continent.

The 21/28MHz phone contest on the previous weekend was highlighted by superb conditions on 21MHz to both the USA and Japan. Every call area of both these countries was audible at the writer's QTH. By comparison, 28MHz was disappointing; the day before the contest the band was wide open to the Far East but, alas, conditions just did not prevail long enough. However, W6s and W7s were audible on 28MHz at around 1540 to provide several useful multipliers. If you missed this year's events, why not make a resolution to "have a go" next year?

### OSL Bureau

After many years service to swLs and transmitting amateurs alike, Arthur Milne, G2MI, has retired from his job as QSL Bureau manager. On behalf of all listeners who have sent Arthur cards to despatch to foreign parts, I would like to send him a very big "thank you". Mr E. G. Allen, G3DRN, has now taken on the job, so all outgoing cards should be sent to him at 30 Bodnant Gardens, London SW20 0UD.

Our QSL sub-manager, Dave Borne, G4CYW, has asked me to pass his 73 to everyone for Christmas and the festive season. He hopes everyone is pleased with the service he provides, and he is always pleased to hear from any of his "clients", pointing out that most people are just numbers to him.

### The mailbag

Neville Spry, BRS17567, has been right back through his logs to the early 'fifties and has updated his all-time list with dramatic results, as will be seen when the list is next published. Neville's QSL return is now 305 out of 317, helped by recent confirmation from Palmyra and Kingman Reef. ZL1AA/K on Kermadec Is has been heard on 14MHz operating split frequency. The 28MHz band was in exceptional shape during October, with some very good openings

### 392 Rochester Way, Eltham, London SE9 6LH.

### 1977 HF Countries Table

Station	10	15	20	40	80	160	Tot	al Mode	
BRS35608	103	165	187	160	102	36	753	cw	
BRS17567	102	181	236	71	119	5	714	ssb	
BRS38876	54	133	174	100	115	41	617	ssb/cw	
BRS35454	91	146	201	66	95	17	616	ssb/cw	
BRS32286	84	146	173	57	110	4	574	ssb	
BRS35943	63	129	188	77	101	10	568	ssb	
A8841	68	145	219	48	69	0	549	ssb/cw	
ARS37223	5	140	163	57	83	15	463	ssb	
BRS38356	67	128	153	44	69	0	461	ssb	
BRS25901	33	84	173	66	76	13	445	ssb	
A9191	39	112	156	32	50	0	389	ssb/cw	
ARS39015	43	121	135	40	46	2	387	ssb/cw	
BRS37583	31	76	108	43	53	4	315	ssb	
BRS37782	38	79	109	26	52	5	309	ssb	
BRS37884	24	46	76	36	70	2	254	ssb	
A9107	21	40	109	13	30	1	214	ssb	
ARS37790	0	46	84	26	24	2	182	ssb	
ARS38280	19	48	65	16	26	. 1	175	ssb	
A8837	24	43	74	17	11	0	169	ssb	
BRS20185	12	50	78	11	9	0	160	ssb	
BRS36910	20	40	76	3	8	3	150	ssb	
A9199	21	41	47	17	11	2	139	ssb	
BRS37587	2	16	32	23	55	4	132	ssb	
BRS38934	17	15	38	11	24	1	106	ssb	
A9098	5	11	48	14	20	3	101	ssb	
BRS38940	2	13	69	2	2	1	89	ssb	

to W6/7 and the Far East. Some of the countries reported on the band include: 8P6, HI, FM7, KZ5, A2, 9Y4, A4, YK, KG6, VS6 and CR9.

Dave Sharred, ex A8312 and BRS38876, will obviously be reporting to *Month on the Air* instead of this page, but after he has completed his time at Manchester Polytechnic. Deryk, G3XKX, reports that the late G3NKC was Dave's uncle. After G3NKC's death Deryk urged Dave to reactivate the call when he obtained his ticket.

Crosbie Rodgers, BRS32286, tells us that the Dumfries & Galloway ARC is one year old now and has 28 regular members plus a few who drop in to club meetings from outlying districts. Crosbie, as secretary of the club, has arranged frequent visits to the Maryport and Carlisle clubs.

Robert Maskill, BRS35454, comments on improved hf conditions, and his main aim during the winter is to improve his all-time figures on 7MHz. It can be a very worthwhile band with much dx to be heard if your shack has a decent amateur bands receiver. Robert suggests that "Equipment used" should be added to the countries table so that those chasing the leaders can see what they are up against. I do not think we have the space at the moment but perhaps we can include this type of information in the 1978 table.

Robert Small, A8841, reports receiving the JY1 QSL card stemming from his father's QSO. Robert has been very active and has provided a list of exotic Pacific dx heard on 14MHz; with sunspots improving the hf bands, conditions will now be much better than this time last year—or that is the theory anyway!

Two new correspondents this time—John Holmes, BRS38934, who has an FRG7, and John Wilkinson, BRS-39015, who owns an Eddystone 740. Both put first-time entries into the countries list. Letters are acknowledged from A9107 and BRSs37583, 36910, 37782 and 38280.

### Increased space

Following the decision to increase the size of *Radio Communication* by 16 pages in alternate issues, an additional six pages per year have been allocated to *SWL news*. This means a whole page every month in future, and news, comment and table scores for the February issues should reach your scribe by 30 December.

### the month on the air

- John Allaway, G3FKM\*

THIS month's MOTA is the first for many years that does not show the address of the Society's QSL Bureau as "via G2MI . . . etc." After nearly 40 years, during which millions of QSLs have passed through his hands, Arthur Milne has decided that it is time to begin the slow process of passing along the task to a successor. Mere statistics of the G2MI efforts would be most impressive, but surely the most impressive of all is that there is probably no amateur in the British Isles who has never received a card sorted by Arthur! As one who has received more than his fair share this way, G3FKM would like to say a very sincere "thank you" on behalf of all British amateurs for a job incredibly well done. May G2MI continue to have many more years of happiness collecting his own cards via G3DRN!

Christmas and the New Year is once again imminent and your scribe would like to wish all readers a very happy and peaceful festive season and a successful New Year, at the same time saying "thank you" for all their support during 1977.

### News from overseas

Bob and Christine Halsey, G8JMC and G8MUM, are now in Iran and have the callsigns EP2PI and EP2PY respectively. They operate on 14 and 21MHz, mostly between 1400 and 1600, and will be active using rtty when a printer can be obtained. Bob points out that the Iranian OSL bureau has closed down as the APO number in New York is no longer available; as a result, cards being sent via the bureau are being returned to their senders. Other active expatriate British EP2s are Alex, EP2IK (GW3IRK); Gary, EP2GL (G3FBB); Brian, EP2MZ (G8KFR); Alfred, EP2TW (G3PGG); and Max, G4ALX, who is in the process of getting a licence.

In a most interesting letter to your scribe, Sanna Keita, ORS39103, writes from Banjul in Gambia to say that he expects to receive his C5 licence in the near future. He is looking forward to the formation of a Gambian radio society. Nic Smit, ORS37627, who lives in Amsterdam, has now become PA3ACL and hopes to be heard on the hf bands in the New Year.

Bob Weston, G8BXU, has written to say that he was ZD8RW between 13 July 1972 and 16 December 1976. Since then the call has been re-issued to an American on the island. Bob's wife Anne also held the call ZD8AW, and QSLs for contacts with either can be supplied-either via the bureau or direct to the address in "QTH Corner".

Robin Francis, G3RWU/VP5TI/VP5RF, is now resident in Moroni, Republic of Comoro. He will be there for two years and hopes to obtain a D6 call which he intends to use on all bands 1.8 to 28MHz. His address is BP 15, Moroni, Grand Comori, Republique de Comoro.

Sanna Keita, ORS39103. of Gambia

### DX news

Stations in Portugal are being allowed to use CT50 prefixes until the end of the year. This is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Rede dos Emissores Portugeses and it seems that

they use the 50 in addition to their normal number-eg CT50/1AA.

New licensees in Japan are now being allocated JK prefixes in some areas.

There seems to be considerable activity from the VP8 area just now. There is a net of VP8 stations which is often to be found on 14,120kHz at 2000. Those looking for a contact with S Orkney might like to know that a list of those wanting to contact VP8PL is sometimes taken by GM3ITN between 1700 and 1800 on 14,197kHz. This is then passed to VP8PL at about 1900 on 14,127-14,130kHz. VP8PL has also been heard and worked on 21,160kHz at 1900.

Jim Smith, P29JS, operates from 0600 to 0800 and again from 1200 to 1400. His frequencies are given as 3,502/5, 7,002/5, 14,002/5, 21,002/5, 7,085, 14,195 and 21,300kHz, but he has also been worked on 28MHz during recent openings. He hopes to visit the Solomon Is.

Two Japanese amateurs working at a television station in Uganda have applied for 5X5 licences, TR8MFB and TR8-UCV are currently active from Gabon-the former works for Gulf Oil and is mostly to be found at weekends on 14MHz ssb. The latter is also on at weekends, seeming to favour the period 1000 to 1500, and he also likes 28MHz.

Henri, F6EAY (ex-FL8BH), should be on Crozet Is by now and may operate from FB8WE from 1 January. Following this he may go on to the other French Indian Ocean territories FB8X and FB8Z. W4LZZ will probably act as his QSL manager.

A South African radio operator should have arrived on Tristan da Cunha in early November, together with the first batch of civilians going back to the island following the volcanic activity of a few years ago. He will keep schedules with S African stations and also ZS2M1.

Not much activity is heard from Malagasy at the present time, but 5R8AL is reported to be found fairly regularly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 1600 and 1700 in the 14,105-14,120kHz slot.

JT0JDT is a new station in Mongolia. He is running 50W to a Windom antenna but hopes to have a 2-el quad. He has been heard after 0400 on 14,215kHz.

WA4WTG recently visited a fellow amateur and discovered thousands of QSL cards destined for TT8AC SV0DB and SV0WT, and going back to 1974, which had not been answered! He is trying to clear the backlog. WIYY (Jim Simon, 2463 Stone Drive, Ann Arbor, Mich, 48105, USA) has received no logs from FM7AQ for more than a year. He does, however, have logs for TU2DQ contacts from 1971 to 1973, and for FL8DS for 12 July 1972 only. WA4-WTG has logs for FY7AE/TJ1BF (for 1972 only), 4X4NJ, 4X4UF, 4X4VB, 4Z4DX, 8P6AH, 8P6BN, 8P6CP, 8P0A and VP2LJ.

VP8OA now QSLs via G4FIY (see "QTH Corner") as do VP9IR, ZB2DN and ZD8RR. N0RR (formerly WB6-LTJ) assumed the duties of QSL manager for AP5HQ from 17 October—he also has QSLs for past FK0DX, FW0AA, and FW0DX contacts.

Harald Lofhede, SM6CSB, will be in Equatorial Guinea until the end of the year. He is working on an ITU contract and has applied for a 3C licence. His equipment will only operate in the transceive mode, but if he does get permission to use it he has plans to obtain more gear.

SM0AGD made over 2,500 QSOs from Bangladesh before moving on to Pakistan. He will go on from there to several locations in the Middle East, and he may appear on the air from some of them during the next few weeks.

F6BBJ has told G3RCA that he will visit FR7/G, FH0BKZ, etc, starting this month. He will not be going to Clipperton Is as previously rumoured. The new crew for FB8W was due to leave on 15 November—current FB8WE activity is very erratic and when they arrive there should be a considerable improvement. G3RCA also says that P29JS reports that Kazu, ex-ZK2AR/A35AF, has serious domestic problems and is not QSLing. Jim is trying to get JA1KSO to take over the task, and cards for his own visit to VR4 (see earlier paragraph) will be dealt with by F6CYL. The holder of the re-issued VK9NI call will be on Norfolk Is for two years.

The address given for C5AR in the Call Book is incorrect please QSL only via G3LQP. He will be back in the UK at Christmas.

### **Dxpeditions**

VE3FXT was expected to be G3WNE early in November, and then to operate from 4U1ITU for a few days before going on to 7P8BE where he expected to be on the air from 18 November to 1 December. As already mentioned in a previous MOTA, he should then be ready to open up from the new Bantustan homeland called Bophuthatswana on 6 December. This operation should be assisted by up to 12 other operators and it will be for 24 hours daily on all bands 1-8 to 28MHz. An attempt will be made to go on the air from Malawi around Christmas as 7Q7PV.

Meredith and Ted Henry returned to Los Angeles in mid-October. Their round-the-world trip had given them great pleasure and they made 6,200 contacts from their stops as KC6/DX1TH, 9M8TH, HS1WR, S88TH and EA7VU/EA9—most were made from S88TH (3,200 on 14, 21 and 28MHz). QSLs should start to go out in November.

Jacky, 3B8DA, hopes to go to Rodriguez Is as 3B9DA this month. This time he should have a beam with him.

In the item last month on "GM3WBB"s tour, the callsign should have read GM3WBZ.

### Welcome

The following overseas amateurs joined the Society during October: F5JX, LA7DU, OZ1DJF, PA0VVH, SM4IJM, VK4AAB, VK4ZEM, VK7NGH, WB2KTM, WA6OZF, K7RVS, ZS6ASO and 7X4MD.



Neville Jackson, G3IAD

### SSTV

Congratulations to Neville Jackson, G3IAD, who has been issued with the first European CQ DX Award on two-way sstv. He now has a double first—he received the first British SSTV WAS in December 1975. The latter was number 18. G31AD has been on sstv for three-a-and-half-years and has a rotary V-shaped dipole at 40ft. The first station in the world to obtain the CQ DX Award for 100 countries was W8YEK—Neville's is number two.

### Top band news

G3YMC reports that there were several openings into New Zealand during the first two weeks in October at our sunrise time. Contact was made with ZL3GQ on the 4th, and G3CWI also worked ZL3GQ on the 9th. A rather dubious ZL3NC was around on the 24th, but his signal strength at a time before the true peak of conditions caused raised eyebrows. G3CWI's contact was RST579 both ways, and G3YMC's RST 459 out/559 in. The annual tests to Japan started during November and a very weak JA3ONB may have been heard on 3 November. Japanese amateurs use 1,907·5 to 1,912·5kHz—an area very prone to interference from local UK phone. It would be very much appreciated if band users could try to avoid these frequencies between 2100 and 2215 until mid-January—and also to believe that there could be JAs around when asked to QSY!

### KM1CC

During the week of 14 to 22 January 1978 a special station using the callsign KM1CC will be on the air from Cape Cod, Mass, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the first two-way radio-telegraphic transmission between the USA and Europe by Guglielmo Marconi in 1903. It will operate from the original Marconi station location in South Wellfleet, and will be sponsored by the Barnstable Radio Club of Cape Cod. Operation will be on 1·8 to 28MHz using cw, ssb, rtty and sstv. A 144MHz fm and 70MHz ssb station will also be on the air. The FCC has given special permission for the use of A2 transmissions on all bands and the famous sound of the 240Hz Marconi rotary spark gap 1903 station will be reproduced for cw contacts. QSLs should be sent to the address in "OTH Corner".

### OTH CORNER

CW0A	via RCU QSL Bureau, Box 37, Montevideo, Uruguay.	at le
EP2PI	R. Halsey, 16 Normanton Way, Histon, Cambs (or via RSGB).	
EP2PY	Mrs C. Halsey, 16 Normanton Way, Histon, Cambs, (or via RSGB).	sumn
GJSCCX	DK6AS, A. Soechting, August-Bierweg 1, D-3180, Wolfsburg, W Germany,	out a
GJSCEE	DK6AJ, J. Duske, Finkenweg 1, D-3180, Wolfsburgl-Wendschott, W	were
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Germany.	also l
HHSHR )	(Phone OSOs) KALITE 2201 Cassis Pd. Jacksonvilla Fig. 32221 IISA	

HHSRB (CW QSOs) WORT, 1045 Le Brun Drive, Jacksonville, Fla, 32205, USA.
HHSTW USA.

R. Bestick US Embassy Bandos, APO San Francisco, Cal. 96346.

HSIALC R. Bostick, US Embassy, Bangkok, APO, San Francisco, Cal, 96346, USA.
HSIALD HB9AZW, P. Jung, Kappenbuehtweg 14, CH-8049 Zurich, Switzer-

IKSOARI ARI OSL Bureau, Via Scarlatti 31, I-20124 Milano, Italy.

KM1CC W1GAY, Duncan Kreamer, Main St, Vineyard Haven, Mass, 02568, USA.

S79S W6SP, J. W. Browning, 25 Parsons Lane, Los Altos, Cal, 94022, USA.

S79WHW Box 491, Mahe, Seychelles.

TR8MFB WB4IWW, D. McCluskey, 604 19th Court South, Birmingham, Ala,

TRAUCV BP 4110, Libreville, Gabon.

VP80A G4FIY, R. Rafferty, 6 The Grove, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

XF1JJ XE1VW, J. Ramirez, Saratoga 375, Col. Hipodromo, Miguel Hidalgo, Mexico 10, DF, Mexico.
YJBKC ZLIBAB, W. G. Cooper, 41-A Kelvin Rd, Papakura, New Zealand.

YJRKC
ZLIBAB, W. G. Cooper, 41-A Kelvin Rq, Papakura, New Zealand.
R. Weston, 52 Fishweir Fields, Bradpole, Bridgort, Dorset DT63HF.
ZLIAA/K
ZLIBAK, Mrs M. Lister, PO Box 230508, Hunters Corner, Papatoetoe,
New Zealand.
A. F. Cresswell, ZK1DR, PO Box 127, Rarotonga, Cook Is.

RSGB QSL Bureau, G3DRN, 30 Bodnant Gardens, London, SW20 0UD

### Contests

### The ARRL 28MHz Contest

1200 10 December to 2359 11 December.

Stations in the 50 US states and Canada send RS/T and their state or province. Others send RS/T and a serial contact number starting from 001. Stations not land based send their ITU region. Each completed contact is worth two points; four if with a USA novice or technician. The multiplier is determined by the US states, Canadian provinces, DXCC countries and ITU zones (for non-land based stations only) worked. Note that W and VE do not count separately as countries. It is suggested that 28,000 to 28,100kHz and 28,500 to 28,600kHz be used for cw and ssb respectively, and that novices and a.m. stations should be sought in the 28,100 to 28,150kHz and 28,800 to 29,000kHz sections respectively. Contacts via Oscar are permitted. Certificates will be awarded to the highest scoring single operator in each DXCC country-multi-operator awards will be made if there are three or more entries from a country. Note that the same station may be worked on both cw and phone, but that cross-band contacts are not allowed. Logs should be posted before 19 January to ARRL Communications Dept, 10 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, Conn. 06111, USA.

#### The Spanish DX Contest

2000 3 December to 2000 4 December (Phone). 2000 10 December to 2000 11 December (CW);

Unfortunately details of this contest were received too late for them to be published in this column early enough for readers to see them before the phone section took place. It covers all bands 3.5 to 28MHz for single-operator entrants only. Exchanges consist of RST and serial QSO number, starting from 001. Contacts with Spanish stations count one point and the multiplier is the total of EA call areas worked on each band added together. Certificates will be sent to the

top scorers in each country—provided that they have scored at least 100 points. Logs should be accompanied by a summary sheet showing details of how the score was worked out and a signed declaration that rules and regulations were observed. Name and address in block letters should also be included and logs must be postmarked no later than 15 February and posted to: URE International Contest, PO Box 220, Madrid, Spain.

### AGCW-DL Contest

0900-1200 1 January.

CW only—3,500-3,600kHz, 7,000-7,040kHz and 14,000-14,100kHz. (Preferred QRGs 3,560, 7,030 and 14,060kHz). Classes for different maximum input (a) 500W, (b) 100W, (c) 10W, and (d) listeners. Full rules may be obtained from Noel Phelps, BRS35608, Fair Haven, Station Road, Patney, Devizes, Wilts, SN10 3RD.

In the 1977 Bermuda Contest UK scores were as follows: G4CNY (93,355 points), G3VPW (78,045), G3ZBA (43,200), G4DSE (32,690) and G6CJ (29,900). N American top scorer was VE3KZ with 68,146 points, and leading VP9 was VP9IG with 679,470. G4CNY and VE3KZ were in Bermuda to receive their winner's certificates when this was being written.

### **Awards**

A very suitable Christmas present for those interested in awards would be a copy of the Society's publication Amateur Radio Awards. This contains full details of all the world's major certificates and answers many of the queries which arrive on the writer's desk!

### **Band reports**

Conditions on the hf bands during the past few months have been much better than they were at this time last year, and in a letter to your scribe G8KG says that close observation of the 21 and 28MHz bands during the past three months suggests that solar activity is rising quite a bit more rapidly than the official forecasts. It could be that the present steep rise will only lead to a temporary peak of the type which characterized Cycle 20 (see G8KG's article in the July 1976 issue of Radio Communication). If, on the other hand, it is sustained, we should be seeing three-monthly mean numbers in the region of 50 by the end of the year. Readers are advised to treat the official propagation forecasts as being somewhat pessimistic and to expect the hpf values in the HF Propagation Study tables to be reached or exceeded on a significant number of days in the month.

Undoubtedly 28MHz has been the "star turn" during the period under review. All continents have been worked, and several readers have increased their 1977 countries total to well over 100—G4DYO has now reached 142. October is always a peak in 28MHz conditions and it is important to continue to use the band—1.9MHz of empty space is not a good argument for more frequencies!

Many thanks to the following for supplying information for this section: G2s, CDT, DHV, HKU, G3HB, G5JL, G6GH, G3CWI, GM3LYY, G3RCA, G4s EHQ, EZT, G14GDV, G8MFS, SP3AGE, BRSs 17567, 25429, 31301, 38356 and A8713.

Stations listed in italics were using cw, the others ssb.

1:8MHz. 0000 EA8CR. 0300 HH5TW, VE1AXT, 0400 N4IN/3. 0500 CY3IXE, W1HT, W1MX, W4NV. 0600 HH5TW, WB5NBC, K8JK, W7FS, W9HT, ZL3GQ. 0700 ZL3GQ. 2000 OH0RJ, 4U1ITU. 2200 HB0BH A, ZB2A.

3:5MHz. 0300 OH9TH/SU (QSL to OH9RJ), 0600 FO8EX, ZL1YL/K,

7MHz. 0000 EA9FC, JA7BA. 0800 HH5RB. 2000 KA6ML, OD5LX.

2200 CN8CC, VP9HO, 2300 4J6AM.

14MHz. 0700 P29JS, ZL1YL/K. 0800 BV2B, C21NI, CR9AJ, FK8s, 14MHZ. 0100 P29JS, ZLIYLIK. 0800 BV2B, C21NI, CR9AJ, FK8s, AI, CC, CD and KAA, KC4AAA, KX6BU, TT8HV, VRACF, VRADN, YJ8RD, ZK1DR, 5W1AN. 0900 FB8WA, HS1WR, JAs KC6BS, KL7s, VK0CC, VK0KH, 3D2DM. 1000 KG6SL, P29CC, VK9NI. 1100 Z72IV. ZL1AA/K. 1300 HM0U, YJ8KW. 1400 VS6HJ. 1500 DU8JJ. FP8AP, J28BA, VS5MM. 1600 CR9AJ, FB8ZL, KL7BZO, W6/W7s, 3B8DA. 1700 5R8AL. 1800 FO8DO, KL7HMD, PJ9CG (QSL to K1JX), 9X5RG (QSL to DK3MO). 2100 HH2MC, HH5TW, KC4AAA, VP8PJ. 2200 VK6JJ, VP2SQ. 2300 HK0CLS.

21MHz. 0800 FK8CR, JAs, SU1CR, ZLs. 0900 JD1ALC. 1000 P29JS. 1100 FK8s, HH5RB, VP2VDH (QSL to K6SDR). 1300 FR7BE, HS1WR, HZ1HZ, KG6JIR, YB0ACP. 1400 HK0BKX, M1D, ZE2PL. 1500 VP1AJ, VP9DX, W6/W7s. 1600 S79R, 4A1U (XE1AV). 1700 C5AAC, VC9UM, 3D6NP. 1800 CE0AE, W6/7s, ZL1YL/K. 2000

OX3AP, ZD8JAM, 9Q5AL.

OX3AP, ZD8JAM, 9Q5AL.

28MHz. 0600 UI8FFF. 0700 VK6RL. 0800 UI8s, UL7s, VU2DK. 0900

JAs, VK6s. 1000 OH9TH/SU, VK8CC/M, OE2WSL/YK. 1100 CXs,

EA9FH, FR7BE, 6W8FA, 9G1JX. 1200 J28AY, JY3ZH, PJ9CG,

SU1CR, VP8NO. 1300 FG7AS, HD1DX, VP2s MSA and MUU,

YB0ACK. 1400 A4XGY, CEEEZ, FM0FC, HH5HR, OA8CG,

YB2SV, 6W8MM (QSL to WA1SQB), 9L1SL/A. 1500 C5ABK,

HP1XWA, VP8s, VP9AD, 3D6BE. 1600 CEs, CW0A, HCs, HIs, Ws,

W6/7s, W7HYW (Wyo), W7KW (Ariz). 1700 A2CBW, VP2GAH,

VP8s NO, NX and PG. 1800 CPs, FM7s, HC2EY, PJ2FR, S79R,

W7AO. 1900 HC1G7. W7AO. 1900 HC1GZ.

Very many thanks to all correspondents, and especially to the authors of the following for information: DX'press (PA0TO), CQ Magazine (WIWY), the ExKG Radio Club Magazine (W3HQO), DX News Sheet (Geoff Watts), RSZ Newsletter (9J2KL), Long Skip (VEIAL/3), and the West Coast DX Bulletin (WA6AUD).

Please send all items for January issue to reach G3FKM no later than 5 December, and for February by 7 January.

### HF PROPAGATION STUDY

GMT	= 00	02	04	06	08	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Sydney (1)	157	145	147	135	161	247	219	176	161	206	200	173	157
Teheran	136	131	121	229	338	365	348	310	211	166	139	130	136
Vancouver	100	110	119	114	114	116	122	135	188	169	126	106	100
Wellington (s)	112	108	107	93	181	274	285	213	133	103	86	97	112
Wellington (I)	167	161	161	139	239	228	173	168	181	225	206	181	167

For information on the use of this table, see page 284, Radio Communication April 1976. Please send reports to Mr J. Spurling, G4AQI, 15 Tibbs Hill Road, Abbots Langley, Watford, Herts WD5 0EE.

### Propagation predictions

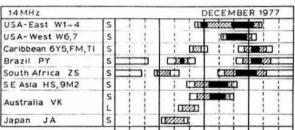
Experience shows that during December conditions are worse than during the two previous months due to shorter days and low F2 frequencies. The present rising sunspot activity will compensate for this, however, so conditions on 28MHz will only be slightly worse than in the previous months.

Traffic with all continents will be possible on 21 MHz but the early sunset will mean that the band will close for dx about 1830gmt.

The 14MHz band will remain open for dx until about 2030gmt; the most favourable time for WAC on this band being between 0700 and 1200gmt. Some dx will be possible via the indirect path (where the longer part of the path lies in darkness), and before noon traffic with South America, east Asia and Australia should be possible in this way, and with western North America in the late afternoon. Under exceptional circumstances traffic with Central America, South-East Asia and eastern North America will be possible around midday.

There are no noticeable changes on 7 and 3.5MHz compared with last month, but distances covered will vary from day to day.

The provisional sunspot number for October 1977 was 41-3 with solar activity evenly distributed throughout the month. Predicted smoothed sunspot numbers from the Swiss Federal Observatory for February, March and April are 45, 48 and 50 respectively.



Time (GMT) 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24

21 MHz		DECEMBER 1977					
USA-East W1-4	S	1			E		
USA-West W6,7	s	!	1	1 1	1 020	1 1	
Caribbean 6Y5,FM,TI	S	- 1	1	1 100		<b>ф</b> ; ;	
Brazil PY	s	;	1	1 (2)	_	4	
South Africa ZS	S	;	1	2		1 : :	
S E Asia HS,9M2	S	:	1 0	1 1/0	20 !	1 1	
Australia VK	S	- 1	1	1 17/0	21(	1 !	
Japan JA	S	:	1	<b>□</b> ;	1 :	1 1	

00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24

28MHz	28MHz				DECEMBER 1977						
USA-East W1-4	s	1	!			<b>5</b> T		1			
Caribbean 6Y5,FM,TI	S	1	:	1 1	17777	<b>2</b> ;□	1	!			
Brazil PY	s	;	:	1 CE	nymy)	222	1	1			
South Africa ZS	s	1	1		mana.	220	1	1			
S E Asia HS,9M2	s	;	!	VIIII	201		:	1			
Australia VK	S	!	1	CYMM	a :	1	- ;	1			

Short path 1-5 days

7777777 6 - 20 days

Long path

Openings on more than 20 days in the month

# Retirement of ARTHUR MILNE, G2MI

Champion sorter and doyen of QSL bureau managers

There are many facets to our hobby but very few amateurs have not experienced pleasure from obtaining QSL confirmation of radio contacts.

In the old days photographs of amateur radio stations nearly always included impressive displays of QSL wallpaper, whereas nowadays the shack walls are usually adorned with framed operating awards. One man has been primarily instrumental in making this possible.

At the end of this year G2MI and his wife, relinquish responsibility for the RSGB QSL Bureau after 38 years. During that very long period it is estimated that close on 50,000,000 (yes 50 million!) QSL cards have passed through their hands.

Until his retirement from the Post Office a few years ago G2MI somehow managed to cope with his mammoth task largely, one suspects, by severely reducing his time on the air. Even since his retirement his personal activities have been limited by the number of hours he has had to spend every day sorting cards.

Now G2MI is really retiring and in thanking him for so many years of devoted service to amateurs, not just in the UK but around the world, all his friends will want to wish him many happy years of operating after the completion of a job very well done.

Thank you, from us all.

**G3AAE** 

### THE RSGB QSL BUREAU

The purpose of the RSGB QSL Bureau is to facilitate the exchange of QSL cards between RSGB members and other radio amateurs.

Most national radio societies operate a QSL bureau for the benefit of their members. Some make an extra charge for this service, while others, of which RSGB is one, provide it free as a service to their members.

Use of the bureau is not claimed to be the quickest way to exchange cards but it is the cheapest, especially in these days of high postal charges.

### **HOW THE QSL BUREAU OPERATES**

Cards for distribution via the bureau should be despatched only to the QSL Bureau Manager at the address shown opposite. There is no limit to the number of cards which may be sent at any one time.

When the cards arrive at the bureau those destined for abroad are sorted into countries, tied into bundles and despatched in bulk to the appropriate overseas QSL bureaux, most of which are operated by member societies of the International Amateur Radio Union.

Cards for despatch to stations within the UK are sorted into one of the following groups:

G2	G4BAA-BZZ
G3 and 4 two-letter and	G4CAA-CZZ
G5 calls	G4DAA-DZZ
G6 and G8 calls	G4EAA-EZZ
G3AAA-DZZ	G4FAA-FZZ
G3EAA-HZZ	G4GAA-HZZ
G3IAA-KZZ	GB series
G3LAA-NZZ	GD
G3OAA-PZZ	GI
G3RAA-TZZ	GJ
G3UAA-VZZ	GM
G3WAA-XZZ	GU
G3YAA-ZZZ	GW
G4AAA-AZZ	BRS and A numbers

Each of these groups is in the charge of a sub-manager whose task it is to associate the cards which reach him from the QSL Bureau Manager with the envelopes which he holds in file.

### Sending cards through the bureau

- [1] Print the callsign of the person to whom the card is addressed clearly and in large letters on both sides of the card so that it may be seen at a glance.
- [2] Sort UK cards into the appropriate groups, USA cards into call areas (viz K1/W1, K2/W2, etc), and all other cards into countries. The cards so sorted should not be tied separately or spaced with paper markers, or put into separate envelopes.
- [3] Pack all the cards the same way up.
- [4] Pack the cards securely; the use of flimsy envelopes may result in cards breaking loose in transit.
- [5] Weigh all packets carefully before despatch in order to ensure that adequate postage is prepaid.
- [6] Choose QSL cards which do not exceed normal postcard dimensions, viz 5½in by 3½in. Large cards invariably have to be folded, while small cards are difficult to handle. As packets going abroad are sent by printed paper post, large cards render the packets unstable.
- [7] If the station has a QSL manager, it helps to put this on the card, ie via

### Collecting cards from the bureau

- (1) Supply your QSL Bureau sub-manager with stamped self-addressed envelopes of suitable size and strong material. The addresses of sub-managers are published, with any amendments, from time to time in Radio Communication and in the annual RSGB Amateur Radio Call Book. Amendments are also broadcast over GB2RS.
- (2) Print your callsign, BRS or A number in the TOP LEFT HAND CORNER of each envelope.

Envelopes are normally returned when the weight for which postage has been paid has been reached; those who wish to collect cards at less frequent intervals should mark the envelope "wait 6" etc. Envelopes should be numbered and "Last envelope" marked on one so that the recipient automatically knows when to renew the supply. Envelopes stamped with higher value postage stamps are not sent until the appropriate postage weight of cards has accumulated. Make sure the envelopes you send will accommodate a large postcard. (5) The facilities of the RSGB QSL Bureau are available both to transmitting and receiving members of the Society. Listeners are reminded, however, that their reports should contain sufficient information to be of genuine value to the transmitting amateurs concerned. Reception reports relating to short-wave broadcasting stations cannot be accepted.

### **GENERAL NOTES**

 Licensed UK amateurs who are non-members of the RSGB may send stamped addressed envelopes to their sub-manager for collection of their cards, but they may not send cards for distribution.

(2) Cards for amateurs who have neglected to send envelopes are retained for three months, after which the cards are destroyed. Amateurs who do not wish to collect cards should notify the QSL Bureau accordingly.

(3) Overseas members of RSGB in countries where there is no QSL service operated by the IARU member society for that country, may send their cards to the RSGB QSL Bureau for distribution.

(4) Overseas amateurs who are not members of the RSGB may send cards addressed to UK stations only direct to RSGB OSL Bureau. All QSL cards and correspondence relating to the RSGB QSL Bureau should be sent to the QSL Bureau Manager at the address below and not to RSGB headquarters.

Adhesive address labels are available free of charge on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

Envelopes for the collection of cards and correspondence concerning incoming cards should be sent to the appropriate sub-manager.

> QSL Bureau Manager Mr E. G. Allen, G3DRN, 30 Bodnant Gardens, London SW20 0UD.

The RSGB QSL Bureau is available as a FREE service to all members.

Help the bureau by observing these simple rules.

### RSGB QSL BUREAU SUB-MANAGERS

(At 1 November 1977)

G2:	J. W. Russell, G2ZR, 55 Holcombe Close, Bathampton, Bath BA2 6UP.	G4BAA-BZZ:	R. F. Rawlings, G3WBV, 74 The Lindens Fieldway, New Addington, Surrey CR0 9EL.
G3 and G4 two-letter calls, G5 calls:	Mrs C. Pope, G4CMM, 136 Ridgeway Drive, Bromley, Kent BR1 5DD.	G4CAA-CZZ:	P. Jobson, G3HLF, 41 The Avenue, Graves- end, Kent DA11 0NA.
G6 calls; G8 calls:	calls; G8 calls: Mr and Mrs A. J. Mathews, G6QM, 62 Ashlands Road, Hesters Way, Cheltenham GL51		D. Buckley, G3VLX, 16 Wood Ride, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent BR5 1PX.
2011000000	ODE.	G4EAA-EZZ:	P. C. Barry, BRS22730, 32 Rutland Avenue, Sidcup, Kent DA15 9DZ.
G3AAA-DZZ:	C. A. Bradbury, BRS1066, 13 Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham GL51 5BT.	G4FAA-FZZ:	Mrs A. R. Burchmore, G8LXK, 49 School Lane, Horton Kirby, Dartford, Kent DA4 9DQ.
G3EAA-HZZ:	S. L. Newport, G4DEV, 101 Elibank Road, Eltham, London SE9 1QJ.	G4GAA-HZZ:	B. R. George, G3ZOH, 43 Magnolia Drive, Biggin Hill, Kent.
G3IAA-KZZ:	P. Lumb, G3IRM, 14 Linton Gardens, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2DZ.	GB:	C. Turner, G8NL, 56 Sunny Bower, Totting- ton, Bury, Lancs BL8 3HL.
G3LAA-NZZ:	C. A. P. Henderson, G4FAM, 76c The Avenue, Beckenham, Kent BR3 2ES.	GD:	W. P. Waid, GD3GQX, 1 Mount William, Summer Hill, Douglas, Isle of Man.
G3OAA-PZZ:	J. H. Brazzill, G3WP, 43 Forest Drive, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2TT.	GI:	R. P. Parsons, GI3HXV, 45 Erinvale Avenue, Belfast BT10 0FP.
G3RAA-TZZ:	Mrs C. Pope, G4CMM, 136 Ridgeway Drive, Bromley, Kent BR1 5DD.	GJ:	L. D. Woolf, GJ8AAZ, 57 Elizabeth Avenue, St Brelades, Jersey, Cl.
G3UAA-VZZ:	M. Newton, G3UKW, 2 Marlowe Court, Gar- forth, Leeds, LS25 1PR.	GM:	D. R. Macadie, GM6MD, 11 Marchmont Road, Ayr KA7 2SB.
G3WAA-XZZ:	F. G. Rylands, G2VF, 39 Parkside Avenue, Millbrook, Southampton, Hants SO1 9AF.	GU:	W. E. Butt, GU2FZC, "Meo Voto", Green Lanes, St Peter Port, Guernsey, CI.
G3YAA-ZZZ:	H. R. Boutle, G2CLP, 14 Queen's Drive, Bedford.	GW:	J. L. Reid, GW3ANU, 28 Waterston Road, Cardiff CF4 2SS.
G4AAA-AZZ:	C. Johnson, BRS31379, 118 Harvest Road, Smethwick, Warley B67 6NG.	BRS and A numbers:	D. Borne, G4CYW, "Roughways", Chub Tor, Yelverton, Devon PL20 6HY.

## —— council — proceedings —

### A brief report of the Council meeting held on 23 September 1977

Present: Lord Wallace (President, in the Chair), Dr E. J. Allaway, Messrs D. J. Andrews, J. Anthony, P. Balestrini, J. Bazley, J. O. Brown, Dr D. S. Evans, Messrs W. F. McGonigle, B. O'Brien, C. H. Parsons, D. M. Pratt, W. A. Scarr, R. F. Stevens, G. M. C. Stone, D. M. Thomas, (members of Council), G. R. Jessop (general manager/secretary), Mrs H. M. Allin (minutes secretary).

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs A. M. Allan,

C. J. Thomas and A. W. Hutchinson.

#### **QSL Bureau**

Dr Allaway reported on this question. The possibility of housing the bureau at HQ was not thought to be practical financially. The committee had interviewed Mr E. G. Allen, G3DRN, for the post of QSL Bureau manager. After discussion it was agreed that Messrs Brown and Stone would report on the suitability of the arrangements proposed by G3DRN.

Financial report

Mr Brown spoke of the excellent results for the year ended 30 June 1977 (published in the November issue), and approved the figures subject to adjudication by the auditors.

Mr Brown then reported that the accounts for July and August 1977 were substantially very good, with a surplus of £4,000. The cost of Radio Communication was over £1,000 less than budgeted.

#### HO repor

Mr Jessop said there was an urgent need for someone to assist with routine queries and to eventually become general manager, and he wondered if the general manager/secretary's work should in fact be segregated. Membership queries were not being dealt with satisfactorily at present and Mr E. W. Yeomanson, G3IIR, who had been acting general manager during Mr Jessop's recent holiday, had spent much of his time sorting out such problems.

It was agreed that Mr Yeomanson should be thanked for relieving

Mr Jessop.

Mr Stevens referred to the Articles of Association which were at present printed in five sections. These were now in the process of being amalgamated to form one document and Council's agreement was required before proceeding. Any amendment would take several months to be approved by the Registrar of Companies. After some discussion it was agreed to have 1,000 copies printed now.

### Membership and representation

It was resolved:

(i) to waive the subscriptions of seven members;

(ii) to accept reduced subscriptions from 24 members;(iii) to grant life membership to Mr B. A. Pope, G3UEW,

(iv) to grant affiliation to: Brighton & District Radio Society; Edbro Radio Club, Bolton, Lancs; Ormskirk Radio Club; Pye (Lowestoft) Amateur Radio Club; North Bristol Amateur Radio Club; Winchester Amateur Radio Club.

(v) to approve the appointment of Mr I. McKechnie, GM8DOX, as

regional representative for Region 14:

(vi) to approve the appointment of the following area representatives: Messrs M. S. Appleby, G3ZNU, Ipswich; R. S. Hewes, G3TDR, SW area of Region 7; G. Lancefield, G3DWQ, Preston; J. Korndorffer, G2DMR, NW area of Region 7; A. Thorne, G3ART, S and W Cumbria; C. C. Walker, G3VTS, Cheltenham.

#### President, 1978

Mr Brown proposed that Dr D. S. Evans be President of the Society for 1978. This was seconded and agreed unanimously.

Honorary treasurer

Mr Brown had notified his intention to withdraw from this office at the end of the present year.

Dr Allaway proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Brown for his services. This was endorsed by all present.

### Regional Representatives Conference

Much discussion took place on the timetable and agenda for the above, which had been prepared by the M & R Committee. There was some concern at the restricted agenda and limited time.

Mr O'Brien felt that if the cost was kept down, these conferences could be held more often.

### 1977 President's Working Party

Dr Evans spoke of the possibility of electing extra vice-presidents with a view to their taking on extra responsibilities and possibly forming a committee, together with the President, immediate past-president and treasurer.

Dr Evans raised the question of swl representation on Council. Mr Bazley thought it dangerous to single out the swls as they were not the only group without representation on Council. After much discussion Mr Stevens suggested that the idea be aired in Radio Communication to try to provoke the nomination of an swl member for election to Council.

Dr Evans asked Council to consider a proposal from the HF Contests Committee that an HF Committee be formed. Mr Andrews said that it was felt there was not enough representation in the various uses of hf and a proposal had been sent to the President's Working Party, which would draw up the terms of reference, for the appointment of an hf manager. These proposals were unanimously approved by Council.

#### RAE syllabus

Mr Pratt spoke of the Education Committee's concern at the exclusion of valves and thermionic emission from the RAE syllabus, and said he had written to Mr R. J. Hughes, G3GVV, chairman of the RAE Advisory Committee. Mr Scarr agreed that it was a most serious matter and he would also write to Mr Hughes. It was agreed that Mr Pratt should again write to Mr Hughes expressing the views of Council.

### Committee minutes

Council received the minutes of the following committee meetings: Raynet (14.5.77, 2.7.77 and 3.9.77); Repeater Working Group (21.5.77); Mobile & Exhibition (31.7.77, 12.5.77 and 13.9.77)—the tentative date for the 1978 RSGB National Rally was noted as 8 August; Telecommunications Liaison Committee (9.6.77 and 4.8.77); Propagation Studies Committee (13.6.77 and 22.8.77); HF Contests Committee (16.6.77 and 18.7.77); Finance & Staff (23.6.77, 11.8.77 and 18.8.77)—at the 23 June meeting it was agreed to draw £1,500 of the 6% Lambda debentures before the AGM; VHF Contests (23.6.77 and 28.7.77)—a recommendation that the vhf trophies be presented, but not retained by the recipients, at the VHF Convention, was agreed; Education (2.7.77); Interference (8.7.77); Technical & Publications (13.7.77); Membership & Representation (14.7.77); VHF (16.7.77 and 20.8.77)—Dr Evans spoke of the recommendation to form a separate Microwave Committee; terms of reference would be provided for the next meeting.

Mr Stone spoke of the VHF Committee's recommendation that a limited number of traders in components and accessories be invited to attend the VHF Convention. The emphasis was to be on home-construction and it was felt that it would be valuable to have such traders present. Mr Stone stressed that it was not planned to be a trade show of "black boxes". Much discussion ensued and the recommendation was approved by a majority decision.

#### Trophies

Recommendations that Mr A. Slater, G3FXB be awarded the ROTAB Trophy, and Mr G. Peck, BRS15402, the Founders Trophy, were approved. There was no recommendation for the Calcutta Key.

Council also approved the recommendation of the Technical and Publications Committee that the Norman Keith Adams Prize be awarded to Mr F. M. Smith, G8KG; the Courtenay Price Trophy to Mr J. P. Martinez, G3PLX; the Wortley-Talbot Trophy to Mr J. A. Hardcastle, G3JIR; and the Ostermeyer Trophy to Mr N. Davies, G8IBR.

### Looking ahead

21 January—RSGB Presidential Installation, House of Commons, London SW1.

25 February—International VHF Convention, "Winning Post", Whitton, Middlesex.

2 April—Northern Radio Societies Association Convention and Exhibition, Belle Vue, Manchester. Details from G8BCG or G4BVE.

# The 1977 President's Working Party

The following is a brief summary of a second batch of letters received by the working party. Some of the points made have already been expressed in the earlier summary given in the August issue of Radio Communication, but others are new; in some cases prompted by the first summary. What perhaps does not come over is the nature of individual contributions. These range from a few hundred words to a detailed analysis which takes up 16 pages of typescript. Some of the ideas expressed have already influenced Society policy, and many more will in time have an effect. A report will be produced in due course.

#### Council

Stagnation within Council ... Council appears to be self-perpetuating ... Lack of sufficient details on which members can judge performance of elected member ... Council to include chairmen of major committees, hf, whf and microwave managers, telecomms liaison officer, development officer, as well as existing members ... Election to Council does not always seem fair ... Election system based on affiliated club or RSGB group electing delegates to appoint RRs who in turn would appoint zonal members ... Council to be made up only of zonal members, two from each

Representative system

Newly-licensed non-club members often have little idea of form of representative system—an information sheet should be supplied ... A proportion of committee members to be elected on a regional basis ... Would welcome guidelines on duties as RR ... RRs are in unique position to improve the image of the Society and neutralize the "London-based" fallacy. More care required in their election, and more support ... Societies such as Royal Signals, Royal Navy and the Bedfast Club have no RR to send their club news to ... Representatives appointed in terms of their interests rather than for areas ... More ordinary regional meetings ... Present regional and zonal boundaries to be re-examined to take account of shifts of population ... Regional administrator more appropriate title than RR ... Copies of non-confidential Council and committee minutes to be circulated ... Representative system adequate, but names of ARs should be included in the "Club News" section of *Radio Communication*.

Club-Society links

Club-Society links, rather than AR/RR links, should be the main link between HQ and membership.

Member-Society relationships

More democratic generation of Society policy than is presently afforded by the unelected committees on which the Society relies ... Members feel that their opinions are never sought on matters of fundamental importance ... Difficulty of members influencing policy at AGM ... Tougher action on members convicted of indictable offence ... Few members know how to get on committees ... HQ staff changes should be explained to members ... Long-service certificate for unbroken Society membership ... Family membership needs to be reviewed ... While members felt that the Society was gaining in strength, it lacked "bite" when acting on behalf of members.

### Provincialization

HQ moved to a more central location ... A proportion of committee members to be elected from regions ... Delay to Radio Communication in outlying areas ... AGM to be held in provinces.

General organization and administration of Society

Members at loss to know whether or not an enquiry is being dealt with or has even been received . . . Amateurs on the whole dislike letter writing, so any letter implies that he is concerned . . . Separate business activities from hobby . . . Breakdown of organization by frequency rather than function . . . Designation of hf, vhf and microwave managers with particular responsibility for international affairs . . need for R & D manager to ensure that valuable technical and scientific work done by amateurs is not lost . . . Delay in supply of books of up to several months . . . "If they cannot be bothered to answer my letter, I cannot be bothered to write my subscription cheque" . . . HQ closed at the time working people want to call . . .

Why are certain individuals on several committees? Lack of volunteers?... Why the need to send in wrappers... Written communication with HQ much better.

### Member services

Use of QTHR most irritating: not all can afford each new call book as published ... Call book could include "Does not QSL" where appropriate.

Relationships with outside bodies

Importance of Society reflecting the proper image of today's amateur radio enthusiast to the general machinery of Government and involved outsiders... Lack of information on how WARC 79 is likely to affect amateurs—compared with that given in QST etc... Convert Class B to Novice (with 5wpm morse) with limited period to up-grade to Class A... More details of negotiations between the Society and Home Office.

#### Contests

All contests, not just Society ones, should be listed in contests calendar... Persuade ARRL to reduce their long contests to one whole weekend, or better still to 24h each, to improve outlook of non-contesters... Should be necessary only for club to be affiliated—not each operator.

### **Publications**

More articles for beginners including quick-start and sure-fire items ... Articles in Radio Communication too technical and too few on hf ... Too few for newcomers ... Radio Communication lacks "human" touch ... More feeling in obituaries ... Books to be fully referenced ... Radio Communication on tape for blind members? ... A number of members would be prepared to pay more for a larger magazine.

Letters were received from: G3CMH, sec Yeovil ARC; G8BNE, RR Region 16; G3WVJ, president, Echelford ARS; G4AVV, member; G3UIQ, sec, Torbay ARS; G4BBA, RR Region 5; G5HD, RR Region 17; G3IDG, member; G3YWO, sec, Cray Valley RS; G4EOL, chairman, Norfolk ARC; G3VPE, RR Region 3; GM3YOR, RR Region 13, sec Glenrothes DARC; G4AVV, Crystal Palace DRC.

## your opinion

### "HAM SPIRIT"

The Editor

Radio Communication

Sir—While I realize that you do not purport to agree with the views expressed in "Your Opinion", I had not realized that it had sunk to such a bad taste level of personal character attacks as those aimed at me by G2CYV in the September issue.

They hardly reflect the true ham spirit he glibly talks of.

I trust you will be sufficiently fair minded as to print this letter.
M. K. Dunn, G3KTL.

The Editor

Radio Communication

Sir—I am very active on 80m, cw and ssb, but I prefer cw: no trouble at all in reading any country by this model But you know, the 80m band is very busy and the noise level is very high, and also every morning we have some British stations using a.m. and fm in the cw band. My QTH here is 20km NE of Paris, and I receive those stations very strongly. To those stations I said that is cw band, only for cw; but they laugh at me!

Also in France cw operators have the same problem because of about 40 stations in south part of France using a.m. in the exclusive cw band. French authority is not interested by this problem in spite of many infractions from those operators. Is the British Government anxious by those problems? I hope it is more authoritative than ours!

By the way, what is the "Ham spirit"? Where is the "Ham spirit in 1977?"

S. Vantalon, F6BWF

### THE NEW RAE

The Editor

Radio Communication

Sir-The article on the new RAE in your September issue lists some of the reasons for the introduction of multiple choice questions. The disadvantages were not discussed. One is the danger of exposing the candidate to the wrong answer, which he may select and from then onwards believe to be true. Another is the implication that the stated answer is complete, eg poor frequency stability of an amateur transmitter can result in operation outside the amateur bands; however, it can also cause other problems.

In connection with the syllabus, transistor theory must be included but to drop valves is ill-advised. About the only adjustments on the modern transmitter are in connection with drive and tuning of the pa valve(s) and it is these which are responsible for a large proportion of cases of bad transmissions.

By reduction in the syllabus relating to basic electricity and magnetism the extent of self-training and scope for technical investigation will be reduced. There is no case for this.

R. A. Bastow, G3BAC

The Editor

Radio Communication

Sir-The item by Mr R. J. Hughes in respect of multiple-choice questions for the City and Guilds No 765 is of considerable importance to those who have not passed it. Many experienced amateurs compare each successive paper with the one they took. Due to the time lapse, and their experience, they generally feel that the examination is too easy now, and that guesswork will succeed in future.

My experience as a full-time lecturer in further education is that the multiple-choice method is as effective as any other. This method when used as part of other electrical examinations produces results which relate to the performance of students over a three-year period.

The technique used by City and Guilds demands only four choices. One of these is exclusively correct, so it is not possible to have a "none of these" or "any of these" choice. Care is taken to avoid ambiguity, therefore no confusion can arise between questions which of necessity must be somewhat alike.

Multiple choice examples taken from amateur radio examination papers from other countries are not, in my opinion, as precise as those to be used here. Since I have set some of the questions discretion is necessary, examination of the circuit diagrams used in RSGB publications making an analysis of the function of each component would be relevant. When numerical examples are used. it is usually unnecessary to evaluate completely. The distractors will exhibit the common errors made by students.

If any modified, simplified licence becomes available for persons wishing to communicate for recreational purposes (eg mountain climbers, small boats on inland lakes) then a multiple choice examination could be designed to satisfy limited requirements.

This could be compared to the driving test with HGV, PSV, IAM, and Police tests.

Since the multiple-choice method will save time and money in the marking of scripts, I feel that a simple practical test relevant to the licence should be conducted, say within 12 months of receiving the first licence.

F. A. Fear, TEng, (CEI), MITE, G8CVR

### ANTENNA POLARIZATION

The Editor

Radio Communication

Sir-The time must surely have arrived for amateurs to agree upon a common plane of polarization for vhf operation on 144 and 432 MHz. It seems unnecessary to have two antennas, one vertically polarized for fm operation, the other horizontally for ssb and cw

Multi-mode mobile operation can be very frustrating, having to change antennas every time one changes mode. I would imagine that most amateurs agree that one common plane of polarization

would be desirable. The problem would be in which one to use.

No doubt there are theorists who can prove that in specific situations one is better than the other; but if one plane of polarization had had overwhelming advantages over the other we would all be using it by now. It seems that history not technology has produced the current situation. Which then should we opt for? From the practical point of view vertical polarization would seem to win.

First, because mobile antennas would be unobtrusive, omnidirectional and could have gain, unlike the unaesthetic halo antenna whose appearance gives it attraction to small boys with itchy fingers. Second the vertical's omnidirectional characteristic with gain is difficult to obtain with horizontally-polarized antennas. Set against these advantages the beamwidths of horizontal multielement arrays may be subject to criticism.

The idea of converting repeaters to omnidirectional horizontal polarization appears a daunting task, unlike converting beacons to omnidirectional vertical polarization.

Mobile operation is here to stay and probably all non-amateur mobile operation throughout the world uses vertical polarization.

Perhaps the RSGB may care to sound out their European counterparts and see how they feel about standardization. In the meantime I will continue to put out fruitless CQs on ssb when mobile, using my vertical antenna.

G. W. Ilbury, G3MMW

### obituaries

The Society records with regret the deaths of the following radio amateurs:

Rev Fr J. Ford, G3SXF

John Ford, who died recently, was, for a long time, an invalid in St Angela's Convent, Clifton, Bristol. He was, however, able to maintain contact with old friends through a transceiver supplied by their generous donations.

Mr R. B. Forge, G3FRG Mr Forge, who died on 25 October aged 54, was a life member of the RSGB. At one time he was morse instructor for the ATC, and was one of the first stations in the Worthing area to obtain permission to use 432MHz. At his local club he gave much encouragement to younger members.

Mr F. W. Hennig, G3GSW

Frank Hennig, who died on 21 July, was well known as a BBC personality both at home, in radio and television, and overseas as presenter of World Radio Club.

Mr E. Hubbard, G5OX
Eric Hubbard, "OXO", died on 18 October in his mid-seventies. He
was active on vhf for many years and had just started again on
3-5MHz. A life member of the RSGB, he was first licensed in 1922 when he worked on 440 and 200m.

Mr J. E. Maxwell, GI3ML

Teddy Maxwell, who died on 11 October aged 70, was a well-known Ulster amateur, active on vhf and hf. He was a lecturer in radio subjects at the College of Technology, Belfast, until his retirement.

Mr R. Radford, G2IM

Reg Radford, who died on 5 October aged 78, was one of the Society's oldest members. After active service in the Royal Navy, during the first world war, he joined 2LO-BBC and remained with the BBC until his retirement from a senior position in Broadcasting House. He was a past-chairman of the Edgware & District Radio Society; a past-president of the BBC Amateur Radio Club, and a member of RNARS and ARRL. Active only on cw, he took part in many contests and field days, and also lectured on home construction, antennas and "old times".

Mr J. Stonier, G3SAY

Jack Stonier, who died on 11 July, was a very active member on the 144MHz and hf bands.

Mr K. Viljoen, ZE4JP

Kenneth Viljoen, and his wife Ann, who died on 1 October during a terrorist ambush in Rhodesia, were both well-known members of the Mashonaland branch of the Radio Society of Rhodesia.

The Society has also been informed of the deaths of: Mr W. Butler, G3PCB, and Mr T. A. T. Davies, G2ALL.

## raynet

S.W. Law, G3PAZ \*

Season's greetings to all of our 2,000 members and may 1978, the Raynet 25-year jubilee, be the greatest since radio amateurs proved their usefulness to the community in that memorable year of 1953.

#### Committee matters

Members of the Raynet Committee and their ladies met for the annual dinner at the Mount Pleasant Hotel on Friday 25 November, and on the following day, the last Raynet Committee meeting of the year was held at the nearby RSGB HQ. Despite the great deal of work to be settled, members declared the successive events an all-round success from all points of view.

It was noted from the minutes of the 3 September meeting that several group controllers had inadvertently been omitted from the July controllers list; this will be rectified in the next list. The matter of the scope of the present Raynet insurance was also raised and this is now to be given close attention by certain well-qualified persons.

Applications for Raynet lectures continue and will be dealt with at the earliest possible date. The Raynet stand at the Woburn RSGB rally was a very satisfactory effort, with four committee members in attendance. The visitors book on the stand was signed by 63 people, and many enquiries were dealt with during the show. It has been suggested that a Raynet controllers' symposium might be held in 1978, and comments and suggestions are invited from those interested.

Confirmation has been given for the appointment of a sector controller (airports) for Surrey. This is, of course, an obvious requirement in view of the special risks in that area due to increased traffic. A proposal has been put forward that a Raynet Association be formed, somewhat on the lines of the existing body in Kent. Once again, any suggestions or comments will be welcomed by the Raynet Committee.

#### Group news

The Raynet Trophy for 1976 has been awarded to Mr G. Lear, G2HPG, in recognition of his outstanding work performed to create interest in Raynet during the last year and resulting in the formation of the large and efficient W Glamorgan group (of which G2HPG is controller). A certificate of merit is also to be awarded to the Anglia Raynet Group for sustained efficient operations in the best spirit of service to the community. Avon Raynet had special permission to operate during the royal visit to the County of Stafford Jubilee and also in Portsmouth on the occasion of Navy Day. In Dorset, G3ZDQ is still in business as organizer for the county and would be delighted to be overwhelmed with applications for membership; as would G3IMI for Harrow Weald, G8KHB for Hull, G3AWY for the Portsmouth area, and G3PQH for the Torbay area. Norfolk and NE Suffolk did a great job at the Royal Norfolk Show but are sorry to lose their area controller for the central area, G3PCB. The post has now been taken over by G3SEM.

SE London pulled a real surprise exercise with "Matchstick"—nobody knew where it was to be until the organizers literally dropped a matchstick on a map of the area and started the callout! As it happened the location was Norbury, but it could have been anywhere; just as real emergencies come out of the blue. Someone asked recently how they could find the incident officer at a disaster. Answer—look for a bright tabard (waistcoat) on a police officer and read the large legend on the back! There is no reason why Raynet personnel should not wear an orange tabard with a suitable insignia on the back, and the matter has already been discussed in committee. As always, we welcome comments.

Many reports must be held over for lack of space, but we will continue to include as many as possible in 1978. Keep up the good work.

Hon Registrations Secretary: Mrs L. A. Crane, "Greta Woods", Bromley Road, Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex.

\* 130 Alexandra Road. Croydon, Surrey CR0 6EW.

### sstv scene

P. Burnett, G4BLL\* -

Digital scan conversion for both transmission and reception of sstv continues to command the number one position in the slow scan "top twenty", with, or so it would appear, nearly every American sstv station using the Robot 400. This particular commercial unit also continues to gain ground in this country with nine now in use on the bands.

Robot owners may be interested to know that a colour conversion kind (pcb and technical details) should now be available from Don Miller, W9NTP, Waldron, Indiana, 46182, USA.



Don Miller, W9NTP, photographed during colour demonstration at this year's Dayton Convention. (Photo: W2DD)

The WB9LVI converter has been undergoing some "facelifts", with improved performance being achieved by the use of a matched pair of diodes (CR3 and 4 in the two-phase clock-driver circuit) with a forward resistance of around  $40\Omega$ . WB9LVI is working on modifications to provide 256 pixels per line and 64 grey shades. Exciting news leaked into the grapevine that W3LY and a colleague are "deeply involved" in the development of "limited motion" capability for the WB9LVI converter—more news of this (hopefully) next time.

Those readers who noted the remarks in the last column regarding correct lighting for camera work may be interested in a suggestion recently demonstrated over the air by G3IAD. This involved the use of red illumination which replaced the usual tungsten lighting. The pictures transmitted exhibited excellent contrast, but no direct comparison between the two methods of lighting was possible at the time. Later experiments carried out by the writer in conjunction with G3UEU to compare both modes of illumination produced no definite conclusions. It is thought that an apparent improvement in picture quality may be evident when using red lighting simply due to the generally lower, but probably more acceptable to the camera, level of illumination. It is well known, for example, that "bright spot" reflections can seriously degrade picture quality, especially with "automatic" cameras. Can anyone throw any further light on this subject?

Staying with G3IAD, he worked a new station, EP2MT, for a 100 countries now confirmed—congratulations, Neville—who's next in the sstv countries worked stakes, we wonder?

A new ssty "bible" and a must for every slow-scanner's book shelf is *The Complete Handbook of Slow-Scan TV* by Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, now available from RSGB Publications (Sales). Eight chapters include: Understanding ssty Gear, Digital Scan Converters and SSTV Satellite Communications.

Thanks to all readers who took the trouble to write, especially G3KRC (sorry Keith, unable to use the photographs due to lack of space), swl Simon Robinson and W2DD.

Please keep the sstv information rolling in; deadline for the next issue is the last week in January.

<sup>\* 319</sup> Leeds Road, Nelson, Lancs BB9 8RW.

### contest news

### RSGB HF Contests Championship 1977-8 rules

- 1. RSGB hf contest general rules do not apply.
- 2. No entries for the championship are required.
- 3. The championship will be decided on the basis of RSGB hf single-operator contests held between 1 October 1977 and 31 July 1978
- 4. Points will be awarded to the leading 10 UK stations in the results published in Radio Communication as follows:

Contest		Position								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21/28MHz Telephony	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	15	10	5
7MHz CW	70	60	50	40	30	25	20	15	10	5
7MHz Telephony	70	60	50	40	30	25	20	15	10	5
2nd 1·8MHz	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	0
1st 1·8MHz	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	0
Commonwealth	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10
Low Power	30	25	20	15	10	0	0	0	0	0
R Round-up CW	60	50	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5
R Round-up Phone	60	50	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5
Summer 1.8MHz	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	0

- 5. Points gained by stations using the same callsign entering two or more of the 10 individual contests will be totalled and a table published in Radio Communication.
- 6. Club stations. To be eligible for inclusion, a club station must be operated by the same single operator during each contest. In the event of a club station meriting an award, the award will be made to the operator concerned and not to the club.
- 7. Awards. The winner will receive the G2QT trophy. A certificate will be awarded to the runner-up.

### Affiliated Societies Team Contest 1978 rules

There is no significant change to the rules for this year's event-the timing remains 1300-1700gmt. Entrants are invited to forward comments on the rules and the contest with their logs.

- 1. The general rules for RSGB hf contests published in the January 1977 issue of Radio Communication will apply.
- 2. When. 1300-1700gmt, Sunday 15 January 1978.
- 3. The Affiliated Societies Team Contest is a competition between teams of stations, each team representing an RSGB affiliated society. Each such society is encouraged to enter as many stations as it can, but its placing will be determined by the aggregate scores of the five highest scoring stations in its team.

  4 (a) Eligible entrants. Each operator must be a member of the
- society he represents, but need not be a member of the RSGB.
- (b) Each station may be single- or multi-operator, but no operator may use more than one callsign during the contest period.
- (c) All stations representing a society must be operated within 25 miles of the normal society meeting place.
  - (d) No station may represent more than one society.
- (e) A society may enter more than one team. In the case of a society with national coverage, eg RNARS, each team may define a different society meeting place, but this should be a place of recognizable significance, eg a naval base. For all purposes other than the indication of affiliation each such team entry will be considered to be entirely separate.
- 5. Contacts. CW (Al) only in the band 3,510-3,590kHz.
- 6. Exchanges. RST, serial number commencing with 001, and "AFS". Stations active during the contest but not submitting an entry are requested not to send "AFS".
- 7. Scoring. Five points for each contact; plus five points for each "AFS" received subject to confirmation by corresponding log entry. 8. Logs. Column 5 to be headed "AFS received"
- 9. Entries. (a) Each individual entry shall conform to the general rules. All such entries from one society are to be sent in one package to: RSGB HF Contests Committee, c/o D. Thom, G3NKS, 37 Whittington Road, Benhall, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 6DB (packages underpaid and bearing postage-due stamps are liable to be returned to the sender).
- (b) Each package must include a declaration signed by an officer of the society that each entrant is a member of that society.

- (c) Packages must be postmarked not later than 30 January 1978.
- 10. (a) An individual entry will be invalid if more than 20 per cent of the points claimed are for contacts with members of the entrant's own team.
- (b) If it is clear that an entrant has deliberately failed to send "AFS" to certain stations, then the entry will be disqualified and the points claimed by his team for contacts with that entrant will be
- 11. Awards. (a) The Edgware Trophy will be awarded to the leading affiliated society.
- (b) A certificate of merit will be awarded to the station having the highest individual score.

### RAFARS Members Contest

1300-1800gmt, 29 January,

Modes: ssb, a.m., fm, cv

Bands and points: 3.5MHz (2), 14MHz (3), 144MHz (5).

Contest call: "CQ RAF".

1978 15 January

22 January

4-5 March

19 March

1 April

2 April

9 April

6-7 May

7 May

21 May

27-28 May

17-18 June

24-25 June

13 August

3-4 June

1-2 July

16 July

30 July

22-23 April

11-12 March

QSOs to be numbered, commencing with 001.

Check lists from HQ RAFARS. Lists to be submitted by 25 February.

Books to value of £10 to the winner.

### Contests calendar

**Affiliated Societies** 70MHz CW 11-12 February First 1-8MHz 144/432MHz and SWL Commonwealth 70MHz Open 1,296MHz Open 432MHz Open and SWL Low Power 144MHz CW 432/1,296/2,304MHz Region Round-up CW Region Round-up SSB 144MHz Portable HF NFD Microwave Summer 1-8MHz VHF NFD and SWL 3.5MHz FD 144MHz ORP 70MHz Open and SWL 2-3 September SSR FD

2-3 September 144MHz Open and SWL October-November 432MHz Cumulative

7-8 October 432/1,296/2,304MHz 14-15 October 21/28MHz 21-22 October 7MHz SSB 22 October 70MHz Fixed 4-5 November 7MHz CW 4-5 November 144MHz CW 11-12 November 2nd 1·8MHz 3 December 144MHz Fixed

### Mobile rallies calendar

19 March 1978-White Rose Mobile Rally, Lawnswood School, Leeds. Details from G4DZI.

14 May 1978-East Suffolk Wireless Revival, near Ipswich. Details from G4EVN.

10 June 1978-Scottish Amateur Radio Mobile Rally, The Palace of Arts, Bellahoustoun Park, Glasgow. Details from GM4FDM. 11 June 1978-Elvaston Castle Mobile Rally. Details later.

17 June 1978-RNARS Mobile Rally, HMS Mercury. Details from G4DIU, tel Havant 79464.

25 June 1978—Longleat Mobile Rally. Details from G4FRG. 16 July 1978—Hornsea ARS Mobile Rally, Hornsea School, Hornsea,

North Humberside. Details from G8KFK.

23 July 1978-Cornish Mobile Rally, Truro. Details from G3NKE, tel Camborne 712419.

### members' ads

These subsidized flat-rate advertisements are accepted as a service to members of RSGB. They must be submitted on the Members' Ads order form printed in alternate issues of Radio Communication, or on a postcard similarly laid out. Each must be accompanied by a recent Radio Communication wrapper addressed to the advertiser, as proof of membership, and a remittance by postal order or cheque (stamps not accepted) for 75p for 40 words or less. Excess words must be paid for at the same rate of 75p for 40 words or less. They will not be acknowledged. Those not clearly worded or punctuated will be returned. No correspondence concerning this service can be entered into.

The closing date for each issue is the 1st of the preceding month, but no guarantee of inclusion in a specific issue can be given. Valid advertisements not published in the issue following receipt will be held over until the next issue.

Trade or business advertisements, even from members, will not be accepted for Members' Ads but should be submitted as classifled or display advertisements in the usual way. Traders who are members must enclose a signed declaration that the items for sale or wanted are part of, or intended for, their own personal amateur station.

The RSGB reserves the right to refuse advertisements, and accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions or for the quality of goods offered for sale. Advertisements may be edited or abbreviated as necessary.

### Post to: MEMBERS' ADS, RSGB, 88 BROOMFIELD ROAD, CHELMSFORD, ESSEX CM1 1SS.

Do not post to RSGB HQ or Advertising Representative.

#### FOR SALE

R1294 microwave rx, £15. Strip chart recorder, £15. R1392 rx, £5. TF144 sig gen, £10. TF517 sig gen, £5. Furzehill xtal calibrator, 1MHz xtal, £3. VHF sig gen, type 253, £4. Buyer collects. G8BFP, QTHR. Tel 061 794 3706.

FRG7, as new, nine months old, manual etc, audio filter kit, £140, carriage extra. Wanted: JR500S, unmarked mint cond, manual. G3FK, QTHR. Tel Breamure 436.

Drake R4C rx, fitted noise blanker, 1.5kHz cw filter, additional xtals, offers. G4CHP, QTHR. Tel Swainsthorpe 470365.

HW101 plus HP23B, set spare valves, mint, £200, no offers. 1M-4100 counter, 500MHz pre-scaler kit, £50. HD1250, £20. BLY53A, £1.50. Birketts low-noise tranny, £1.50. 23cm loop antenna, £10. 4-el quad loop for two, £6. 14-el long Yagi for 70cm, £5. UR67, FHJ-4, callers only, QQVO7-50, £2. QQVO3-20, £1. QQVO3-10, £1. QQVO2-6, £1.50. E180-F, 50p. Valves, new, mostly Mullard. Bargains, call or sae list. G3ZYL, QTHR. Tel Bracknell 22169, weekends.

Heathkit HW32A, 20m, ssb, tx/rx, HP23B mains psu, Trio SP5DS spkr, GH-12A mic, new pa tubes fitted, manuals, cables, all mint, £70 ono. G3XOU, QTHR.

Unusual offer of late G2IM. Nearly brand-new, KW2000E and KW 107, mic, cost £500 from makers trade price, used twice, original boxes, one of the last of the lot, best offer over £400. G4KD. Tel 01-959 3528, (could be seen at RSGB).

Trio 7200G, 10ch fitted, £125. ICS, RAE courses, £15 both, plus carriage. Baker. Tel 0245 69034.

Pye F27 tx, AM10 rx, 144MHz base stn, 6ch, no xtals, fm, toneburst, 30W rf, in 19in rack, all wkg cond, £40 ono. Heathkit Mohican with 144MHz conv, matching 10W a.m. tx, all 12V, wkg, will split, £40 ono. Will deliver locally. G8BDM, QTHR.

Tower 30ft in 10ft sections, climbing steps, int tube mount, AR22 rotor, TA33JR 3-el beam, Sony 9in tv rx mains/batt, needs att. Offers. Foster, G3VOF, QTHR. Tel Ingrebourne 73366.

Yaesu FL50B, £65. FR50B, £65. Pye Cambridge, 3ch fm, £25 ono. Wanted: FT200 or KW2000. G4ADE. 53 Denbrook Avenue, Tong, Bradford, West Yorks. Tel Bradford (0274) 682363.

Racal RA17 Mk2, RA117E, HRO plus coils, 45ft mast, T4188 tx, Marconi aircraft tx, 2m transverter, AS whip, G-whip, Advance sig gen, coaxial relays, Eddystone 898 drive, meters, components, spares etc. Enquiries and callers welcome, Tel West Drayton 43694, after 6pm.

Trio 7200G, 5 simplex, 5 repeater ch, mint cond, hardly used, boxed, all accessories, £140 ono. G8GUH, 5 Worksop Road, Swallownest, Sheffield, S31 0WA. Tel Gerry O'Hara, Rotherham 62966, 9-5pm.

Magnum 144/28 transverter, good cond, Microwave Modules receive converter, £85 ono. El9D, QTHR. Tel 01(Dublin) 860635.

T/recorder, suit cw, £10. Bug key, £10. Chan 10 antennas (for rods), £1. Stab psu 185V 750mA, £10. Various pot, mains trans. £4. React/res bridge, lab type, maybe collectors item, £10, 75V 20kVA trans, £10. Advance sig gen, 30MHz, £25. Grampian pa amp, 15W, £20. Plus postage, packing. G3JES, Bolton, 168 Downs Road, Canterbury, Tel 51441, evenings.

TS520 Trio, cw filter, spkr, £350. Trio lp filter, £10. Liner 2, little used, £110. Heath electronic keyer HD1410, £28. HM102, swr. power meter, £25. Both as new. Unused XF9A filter, both xtals. G3UCE. Tel Heysham 51760.

Ex-swl disposal. 40kHz-31MHz, 358X Eddystone, 27-8-143MHz uhf Hallicrafter, a.m., ssb, cw, fm, £70 ono. Can separate. Rayer, Longdon Heath, Upton-on-Severn, Worcs. Tel Upton-on-Severn

Recording tape, super quality in magnetic tape, 11in dia bulk reel, contains more than enough to fill four 7in reets, in plastic case, locking lid, £2.65 incl post and packing, G3AZI, QTHR.

Drake R4C rx, exc cond, £330. Drake Ip filter, £12. Magnum Four, 4m transverter, £90 ono. Microwave Modules 4m converter 28MHz i.f., £14. G4CNY, QTHR. Tel 0432 3237, evenings.

Two Creed 7E t/printers, £25 ea. Two Applied Communications Corporation, USA, telephone terminal units for above, £30 ea. G8DUF, QTHR. Tel 0704 76241.

FT221, KW2000, ac/psu, SR4ZA 2m tx/rx, Eddystone S640, all exc cond. Offers. G3OMK, QTHR. Tel 0509 61778.

Mint cond stn, FT277/FT101B cooling fan, makers' box, £339. 18AVT/WB, £39. 2m Europa B, £69. 10XY, twin feeder, 6-way polarization switch box, £20. KW 50Ω dummy load SO239, £10. KW E-Zee match, £15. GW4DTV. Tel Prestatyn 88358.

Trio JR599 custom special rx, 160-2m, all modes, a.m., ssb, cw filters, £150. G8DDW, QTHR. Tel 01-858 3921.

2200GX, fitted 12ch, two antennas, nicads, vfo-30G, 15W pa, switchable preamp, £200. Pocketphones, on 433 2MHz, less batteries, £25. AM25B Hi-band Vanguard, £15. MC1496L double-balanced mixers, 10 for £6. Wanted: Thruline elements. G3TGF, QTHR. Tel Orpington 26802

KW Vespa Mk2, pu, mic, handbook, circuit diagrams, £65. Homebrew self-contained 50W phone/cw tx, £12. Wanted: small scope b/w 6MHz, u/s one acceptable if comp. G3HOH, QTHR. Tel Luton

Pair Pye Pocketphones, nicads (9V, 18V), xtals for RB6, £24. Bi-fix cooker, rotary spit, infra-red grill, new, £19 (worth £40 plus). 15 Chapel Fields, Swinford, Leics, LE17 6BS.

Eddystone EC10 Mk2 rx, vgc, £110. Mosley Mustang Mk2, 3-el beam, 2kW traps, £30. Homebrew twin-paddle electronic keyer, £15. GM4FEO, QTHR. Tel Helensburgh 2539, after 6pm.

FR50B rx, 10 to 80m, vgc, handbook, £75. Buyer collects. Dunham, 5 King Street, Wimblington, March, Cambs. Tel 0354 740660, eveninas.

Standard C828 2m 12ch fm tx/rx, 1W/10W, as new, used mainly as base stn, ASP antenna, gutter mount, £160, G4AJG, QTHR. Tel 01-505 7207.

Heathkit HW12, £50. Or exch for HW32 or good rx. G3TEP, 17 York Crescent, Alnwick, Northumberland,

"Rad Comms", 1974-76, SWM 1973-76. PW 1974-76, £2 per year. Rad Constructor 1975, £1.50. Odd PE, Elektor, 20p. Buyers collect. G8KLI, QTHR. Tel 427 4678 (B'ham).

G4ZU 3-el beam, £10. 2m converter, 6CW4 front end, 28/30 i.f., £5. Valves 6/12V metal, valve rectifiers, 50p ea plus p/p. Ask I may have it. Bantex 2m whip, magnetic mount, 4m whip, £5 the two. G3OSH. Tel Ilminster 3349.

JR310, spkr, manual, £70. AR88D, fitted S-meter, Viceroy Mk4, extra half-lattice filter, manual, tog £100, separate, £45 and £65. TD2 trapped dipole 80/40, £17. Buyers collect. G4DAZ, QTHR. Tel 0234 870296, after 6pm.

FR400S DX, four filters, manual, mint, in carton, £185. NATO marine morse key, vernier gap adjustment, superb, brand-new, original packing, £22.. W/spaced split stator differential, 250pF each section, all brass, brand-new, £9. CD523S manual, £3. Wanted: SP600/JX. G3GUU, QTHR.

Pye car radio, 9 band, mw 200-500m, sw 3·1-18MHz, £15. Boot mtg FM10D, less rf bd, 4 pa coils, £5. Comdel rf speech processor, £20. Two 6V/1Ah lead-acid batteries, £2 ea. G4AKD. Tel Cambridge 46107

Like new, Yaesu twins FL400 tx, FR400 rx, original cartons, perf, sacrifice, £495, G3LMH, QTHR. Tel 0962 881644.

Liner 2, mint cond, forced sale, £100 ono. TW communicator, top

band, 12V, £30 ono. G8HSF, QTHR. Tel 061-795 8133.

FT2FB fitted R4-R7, 144-48, S0, S20-23, immac, £145, Wanted: TS7200. G3ION, QTHR. Tel Southampton (0703) 769706.

2m, 8 over 8, £8. 2m 8-el, £4. Brand-new UM3 mod tx, £5. Carriage extra. Wanted: gen cov rx, cw filter for FT101B, FL2100B linear. GW8CMA, QTHR. Tel 0792 27496, after 6.30pm.

6ch, 12V Ledex switch (only), ex Cambridge, £2. 50yd 75Ω coaxial cable T3278, unused, overbuy, £6 plus post. RF ammeters, 5A, 8A, used, £1.50 each plus post. Valves 866A, 807, 6L6G, 815, QQZQ4-15, QQV03-20A, (ptfe bases), 5CPI and base, unused, G2BPC, QTHR Astronomical telescope 70mm dia refractor, three interchangeable eye pieces, giving 100, 40 and 25 times magnification, small finder

telescope attached, moon and sun filters (sunspot counting), tripod, other accessories, £32. G3TCK, QTHR. Tel Telford 505255. JVC 3060UK ty/radio/cass, as new, in box. Exch for 70cm tx/rx, Multi-U11 IC30, C430. G8BHD, QTHR. Tel Swanley 68091.

Automatic noughts and crosses machine, contains 29 PO relays, thousands of contact points, uniselector, three int psus, ind lamps, push buttons etc, clear perspex case to see works, £20. Buyer collects, very heavy. G3XFM, QTHR.

IC22A, 12ch fitted toneburst, accessories, £130. Buyer pays transport. Not now mobile. G4FKL. Tel Sunderland 73350.

SB10U ssb adaptor for Heathkit DX100, comp with handbook, £20. Radio Communication, RSGB Bulletin, 1960-76 comp except for two issues, odd issues 1954-9, £2 per year, plus carr. QST comp 1947-9 and 1951-9, £3 per year plus carr. ARRL Handbook 1953 and 1956, Radio Communication Handbook 3rd edn, £2.50 ea plus carr. Wanted Handbooks and info on Elliott VM1020AD vhf tx/rx and Cossor 1035 Mk3 oscilloscope. G3CWW, QTHR. Tel 0484 842330.

Low voltage psu, sig gen mw/lw, cr substit boxes, Tradipper gdo original box, 4W audio amps, valve supply psu, 35 xtals, 60 valves, 4m rf amp valved with psu, 35m uhf coaxial new. Sae lists. Rose Cottage, Coalport, Salop.

Rotators: Stolle 2010/220, unused, £32. Stolle 3001/220, good cond, cable, £20. Stolle 2010/220, older but reliable, cable, £15. G3XJS, QTHR. Tel Holmer Green (04947) 2344.

Tandberg series 15 two-track reel-to-reel tape recorder, three speeds: 12, 32, 71 ips, dust cover, reels of tape. G4EMW, QTHR. Tel Halifax (0422) 60279.

Creed 7E teleprinter, control box, psu, box of rolls, £35. Maslen BRS36106, "Broome Knowe", Dulnain Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey, Scotland, Tel Dulnain Bridge 254.

Liner 2, 144·100, 144-560 preamp, mic, mobile mount, £115. Trio 9R59D, £15. Microwave Modules, 2m converter, £10. Datong processor, £15. Jaybeam 8-el, 2m, £10. CDE AR20XL rotator, comp, 30tt

mast, control cable etc, £35. G3ZCC, QTHR.

Mains trans, oil filled, many types, £2 ea. HC6U, HC18U xtals, 3:233MHz to 45MHz, £1 each. Valves 6263A, 6264A, 2C42, 2C46, 4X150D, 829s, with bases, £2 ea. RF meters, many types. Wanted: rx, type 208, 3 or 4-el 4m antenna. G4CXG, QTHR. Tel

0428 51394. Trio JR310 rx, good cond, handbook, 10AZ filter, calibrator, £75 ono. Heathkit HW7, good cond, handbook, audio filter, £35 ono. Eddystone dial 898, used, unmarked, £8. Johnston. Tel 0247 878851,

evenings.

2m thick film pa module, Mullard 437 BGY, 150mW in, variable up to 18W out, 13·8V supply, new, £18. Codar AT5, mains psu, offers. N. Booker, 7 Howard Close, Tewkesbury, Glos GL20 8QT.

HW32 (Yrx, 20m, Heathkit, £30 or offers. Two oscilloscopes, wkg, circuits, one homebrew, other ex-RAF, £50 or offers. You could not

even buy the components for that! G4GLM, 63 The Drive, Edgware, Middx, HA8 8PS. Tel 01-958 5113.

BC221 M psu charts, manual, phones, recently checked with dfm, vgc, £25. Pair 1132s, one wkg 88-108MHz, other faulty but comp, £5 pair. Class D wavemeter, manual, £7. MFJ audio cw filter, £10. G4ELW, QTHR.

Hy-Gain, 12AVQ, new, £25. BC221D, as new, £15. Valves: 6146, £3; G78, £5; new, boxed. Medco low-pass filter, 75Ω, 2kW, new, £6. Mains trans, 475-0-475V, 450mA, £5. Other shack items. G3SEF. Tel Cheslyn Hay 415369.

Back issues PW; Jan, June, Nov 1967, Feb, Oct, Dec 1966, Mar, Apr, May, July, Aug 1968, 35p ea incl postage. Robin Bayley, A9203, 8 Field Lane, Kemberton, Nr Shifnal, Salop TF11 9LR.

Wavemeter, range 160 to 220MHz, five valves, and 5MHz xtal, wooden case, full instructions, circuit, comp, £5. Griffiths, 172 Robin Hood Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 0LD. Tel 021-777 5374.

Codar AT5, comp, ac psu, mic etc, circuit diagram, mint cond, £40. Europa, 2m transverter, comp, ext ant c/o relay, little used, mint cond, £50 ono. G6XD, QTHR. Tel Teignmouth 2611.

Going QRT. FT101B, very clean, no faults, £300. FL1000 linear, £60. IC22A 12ch, R7 and R5 inputs, £120. 18AVT, approx 100ft RG8U, £25. PSU, o/p 12V 10A, OK for IC22A, £20. Bantex 1). with mag mount, slight damage, £8. G3YJD. Tel Watford 45133.

18 AVT/WB 80-10m vertical, £34. Buyer collects please. Tel Barrow-in-Furness (0229) 42336.

Drake 2B rx, 2BQ Q mult, £180. Vespa Mk2, ac psu, £75. KW Vanguard, £15. Shure mics; 444T, £15; 401 A, £4. Nombrex sig gen 31, £10. Class D, £7. AEC SWR50, £6. RSGB Handbook, fourth edn. £3. G3WWF, QTHR (for late G3ZWX). Tel Leeds 825519.

FT101 Mk2, exc cond, ssb, a.m., cw, full 160m-10m, cw filter, fan, 12V dc integral psu, ideal base or mobile rig, £310. G4FTT. Tel Byfleet (09323) 44103, after 6,30pm or weekends.

Trio JR310, 160-10, SP5DS, LS, vgc, £65. MARC NR56 2m rx, 144-146, £38. Heathkit HW30 2m tx/rx, no xtal, £18. Prefer buyer collects, or carr extra. P. Barker, 11 Dipton Gardens, Tunstall Estate, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear SR3 1AN. Tel Sunderland 226883.

B40 rx, vgc, manual, £20 ono. 80V commercial stabilized psu, gauss meter, test-set unit, recently re-calibrated standard voltmeter 0-160V, relays 12V 1250Ω, two and four pin c/o, 'scope tube (5FP7). Offers. G4FNL, 38 Highbank, Brighton. Tel 0273 555526.

Datong FL1 filter, mint, £35. 10XY 2m ant, phasing harness, £15. ARX-2 Ringo Ranger 144MHz, pair National pa valves, 6146 type, new, £7. G3ZCK, QTHR. Tel 0232 56221, ext 36, 9 to 5pm.

SB101, SB640, SB600, HP23, £225. SB301, cw filter, £110. SB200, £215, HP13A, £35, TR2200G, 10ch, homebrew 10W amp, mounting

bracket, £120. G3AAM, QTHR. Tel 021-422 4113.

TR2200GX, fitted S20, S22, R7, comp with nicads, accessories, brand-new, original packing, three months old, £120. Trio JR500S and SP5D, good cond, £40. Wanted: KW2000, FT200 or similar tx/rx. G4FYG. Tel Tonbridge 359291.

IC225 synthesized 144-146MHz 2m fm, mobile or fixed, auto toneburst, £160 ono. Wanted: Sony TC377 stereo reel to reel tape deck or similar. G3YRU, QTHR. Tel 01-998 8466.

Europa solid-state 2m transverter, 28-30 i.f., £50. G4BRF, QTHR. Tel Polperro 349.

Belcom Liner 2 Mk2, vgc, comp with accessories, £120 ono. G4EMJ, QTHR. Tel 08867 685, evenings

Icom 202 cw/ssb 2m tx/rx, xtalled 144.0 to 144.8, little used, brandnew battery charger, nicads, Revco mobile ant, prefer hf, £160.

GM4EGW, QTHR. Tel 031-669 8844. FT200B, FP200B, 18 months old, perf cond, £250 ono. G4BQV, QTHR. Tel Horndean (0705) 592629.

TS500, PS500, 80-10m, 180 p.e.p., ssb-a.m., exc cond, (KW E-Zee match), £175. G3MJH, QTHR. Tel Windsor 60189.

Yaesu FRG7, new May '77, £135. Trio MC50 dual impedance mic, wired for Yaesu equip, £18. G-whip Multimobile 71 for 10, 15, 20, with 40 90, 1500 collections when the bases £28. with 40, 80, 160m coils, three telescopic whips, two bases, £28. GM4DHJ, QTHR. Tel 041-889 9010.

Five, seven or eight track paper tape punches, electro-mechanical tape readers, £11 the pair, carr extra. G8AJZ, QTHR. Tel 0274 880452

Xtals: FT243-8650, 8125kHz, 50p ea. HC6U-33-95556MHz, 10-6910 MHz, 8704-605kHz, 5350-0kHz, 75p ea. HC6U wire ends-3579-545kHz, 75p ea. HC25U—34·025MHz, 75p ea. HC18U—4429·189kHz, 75p ea. HC6U—24·200MHz, HC18U—24·050, 72·525MHz, £1 ea. 150W rf transistor, 30MHz max, offers. G8CGK, QTHR.

Yaesu FT2FB mobile tx/rx, 10ch, fitted 144:25, 144:48, 144:60, S0, S20, S21, S22, R5, R6, R7, vgc, toneburst fitted, £120 ovno. Buyer collects or arranges carr. 31 Aldbourne Road, Burnham, Bucks. Tel Burnham 3756

Eddystone S640, £20. TCS12 rx, manual, £8. Class D wavemeter, £5. Geloso vfo 4/101, £3. RCA vvm, £5. 807 modulator, psu, £15. GEC miniscope, wobbulator, £10. Buyers collect. G3DVQ, QTHR. Tel 01-660 9471.

Liner 2, preamp, perf, £95. Wanted: HF bands linear. G3RWF, 55 Fox's Covert, Fenny Drayton, Nuneaton. Tel Atherstone 4161.

Heathkit HW17/A 2m tx/rx, fitted dual gate mosfet preamp, other modifications, new dial, Heathkit HG10B vfo, works with above, £50 ono. G8LBK, QTHR. Tel Formby 73322.

Trio TR7010, immac, extra 4ch with remote vfo, used as base stn only, comp with cradle accessories, box, £150 ono. G8KAG, QTHR. Tel Sheffield 334514. (Or G5NV, QTHR. Tel Sheffield 335481.)

Ceefax and Oracle give you Oscar predictions, amateur radio items, the latest news and much, much more. Wireless World teletext decoder, wired into modern solid-state 19" colour tv, £325. G8FKL. Tel Worksop 86849.

Going abroad, must sell. FT101B, £315. FTV250, mint, £110. MMC144/28LO, £15. MMC432/28LO, £15. Modular Electronics 432/28 tvtr, £60. MBM46, £5. All items good wkg cond. Write, P. Bacon, G3ZSS, Brackenridge, Brocton Heights, Nr Stafford ST17 0TN.

FDK Multi 2700, £420. Eddystone 840, £50. R1475 rx, 2-20MHz, £15. Codar rx T28, 160-80m, £15. Modular Electronics transistorized 2m linear, mains psu, 16W, i/p, 70W o/p, £35. Microwave Modules 23cm varactor, £22. Boxed QQV06-40, £5. S. Sherratt, 32 Springfield Way, Cranfield, Beds MK43 0JN.

AC microvoltmeter, level L type TM3B, 15µV-500V, exc cond, £70. G8FPT, QTHR. Tel Andy, 01-504 4942.

Meters: 57 assorted, most 21 in round, some square, incl 7 thermo ammeters, £25 the lot. Buyer collects or pays transport. Might suit club for re-sale to aid funds. G3RWY, QTHR.

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FRG-7, new and vgc, fine tuning, original packing, £140. Wanted: KW2000B, ac psu mic. A. R. Butler, 1a Elm Grove, Upper Hale, Farnham, Surrey. GU9 0QE. Tel Farnham 25835.

DX100U Heathkit tx, covering 160 to 10m, 150W input on cw and a.m., wkg order, clean cond, £30. G3FIE. Tel Leicester 773870.

RTTY stn: Creed 54RP and 7B, 2F reader and tuning unit, control unit covering all above, Teleprinter Handbook, rolls of paper and tape, all for £75. Going overseas. G5YD, QTHR. Tel Shanklin 3750.

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SSR-1 Drake rx, as new cond, £120 ono. Wanted: 50-100kHz coil pack, type J for HRO mx rx. G4AVE, QTHR. Tel Merstham (Surrey) 2971, evenings.

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FT101E, cw filter, mobile mount and G-whip, £390. FV101B vfo, £50. Emoto rotator, 102LBX, mast mounting bracket, £47. Osker SWR200, pwr/swr meter, £15. All as new and little used. G3KNJ. Tel Watford 44069, after 6pm.

Codar PR40 transistorized pre-selector, £6. Heathkit HW7 tx/rx, £30. Trio 9R59DS, matching spkr, £40. G3AHO, QTHR. Tel 01-684 4405

7010, as new, £140. Pye Ranger 2m a.m. tx, tunable i.f., 4-6MHz, £12. Ex-RAF 1540, 2m, £9. Heathkit RG1 rx, £12. No52 set, psu, £10. G8BCU, QTHR. Tel 061-437 4851.

Yaesu matching separates FR101, FL101 (processor), mint, view London, demonstrate, cost £721, accept first £500. OS8B/U 3in scope, £20. UHF sig gen, £6.50. Brand-new 3-500Z valves, £30. Tel 01-568 1331.

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Trio 9R59DS gen cov rx, fitted integral Sentinel 2m converter, marker oscillator, stabilizer, £55. Telford TC7 tunable i.f. 28-30MHz, bandsearcher module, £35. G4CTZ, QTHR. Tel Derby (0332) 71875. TR2200GX, eight months old, S0, S20-23, R4-7, R6R, nicads, charger, case, £140. 2N6081 pa, £12. PSU/plinth and base mic, £15. 2-el, zl, special, £3. Whole package, £160. G8FKC, QTHR. Tel Radstock 4216.

IC240, all accessories, orig packing etc, immac cond, very little used, under guarantee, £150. Gone multi-mode. Jaybeam 10Y/2m Yagi, new, unused, £10. Buyers collect. G8MES. Tel Sheffield 389229.

ZVC ssb board with QC1246AX, comp, no time to finish project, £40 ono. Saxon SA100 100W audio amp, psu, £25. HSC morse records handbook, £2. Wanted: HW32A, HW12A, HP23A, KW77, FR50B. G4CVA. Marsh Cottage, Shepherds Lane, Southwold. Tel

SB104, SB604, new unopened kits, save nearly £70 on current price, delivered Midlands or London area, £495. G3RJS. Tel 01-878 5442. Antennas: 70cm MBM46, £10; 2m 8Y, £5; Group C tv MBM46, £5; FM band 8Y, £7; (Both these brand new). 20wpm morse course, £1.50. All ono, prefer buyers collect antennas. Wanted: 4CX250 chimney. G4GED, QTHR. Tel 01-575 1454, after 6pm.

Trio TR7200G fm 2m tx/rx, fully xtalled, 10 repeaters, simplex S15 thro' S24, S32, S0, mic, mobile mount etc, going multi-mode, £195 ono. G8AUL, QTHR. Tel 0484 712719, after 6pm.

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Liner 2, pre-amp, vgc, £115. DJ9ZR 2m ssb tx, XF9A filter, vxo, 12-24V inv, £25. Pye Boot Cambridge, 6 ch, all xtalled, all accessories, £35. Various bits and pieces. Phone for details. G8FRA. Tel Coventry 415815.

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Heath RA1 rx, £25. Teletype 15, tuning unit, all supplies in neat rack, £40. Akai X1800 SD tape recorder (stereo), all speeds, plus eight

240. Akai Alsov SD tape recorder (stereo), all speeds, plus eight track, hardly used, £110. G3PBQ. Tel 021-373 2282.

Trio 2200W 2m fm pa, unused, £30 ono. Xtals: HC6U, 2020-83, (S20); 2021-527 (S22); 8058-333, 6062-5 (S20); 6064-58 (S22); 9056-017 (144-9); 9053-125 (144-85); 9087-5 (145-40), 9093-75 (145-50); 9096-87 (145-55); £1.20 ea. G2CDX, QTHR. Tel 0603 20097.

Yaesu FT75, ac psu, dc psu, vfo, £160. Trio JR500S rx, £60. KW Vanguard tx, £15. Hudson base on 4m, £7.50. Heath HW30 2m tx/rx, £15. Ex-army vhf portable, £10. Codar PR30 preselector, £2. G4AXA, QTHR. Tel 01-857 3639.

TF144G, £10. Freq meter TS69A/AP 341-1,000MHz, cal charts, £25. VTVM TF1041, £20. CT38 elect t/meter, £20. Creed 75/RP tx, psu, £35. 13A variac, £12. CV psu, 25V at 8A, £12. G4DVH, QTHR. Tel St. Helens 53018.

#### WANTED

On behalf of ex-G Canadian amateur: T and R Bulletins from about 1936 to 1939, with articles by or about late Brian Groom, GM6RG. Complete copies, or photostat copies of articles. Details and offers to G2UX, QTHR.

Plug-in modules for Redifon GR410/T as follows: ssb gen/demodulator, i.f. unit, audio unit; must be wkg, in good cond. G4JY. Tel Kinver 3467.

Surplus conversion handbook, manual for D1 Advance sig gen, manual for AT5 Codar tx, buy or copy. Mains psu for AT5. G8HCF,

Circuit or manual of early Viceroy, cw filter for TS510, good quality morse key. All replies acknowledged. ZS2GH, 87 Verwoerd Road, Uitenhage, South Africa, 6230.

£25 offered for good CR100, must be mint, unmodified, later model. For sale: five RG-240A (GU-50), £1 ea plus post. G3EGC, QTHR. Tel 0204 51502.

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Western Elms Avenue, Reading.

Matching modulator/psu for Labgear LG300 tx unit, good cond

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KW2000B or KW2000E, must be good cond, similar tx/rx considered, cash waiting. R. D. Hawke, G4FPG, Basque Close, Hastingleigh, Nr Ashford, Kent TN25 5JB. Tel Elmstead 312.

Trio TS520 tx/rx, first class cond essential. G3WEX. QTHR. Tel 021-354 4265.

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Quality morse key, heavy type, and gdo. Also 'scope and two-tone oscillator for monitoring ssb output. All letters answered. G3WXT,

SB200 linear, must be mint, prefer factory-built model. Price and details to GW3TMP, QTHR. Tel 035-287 846.

Collins mechanical filter for 75A-4 6kHz F455J-60 for a.m. reception, Collins part number 526-9091-00. All letters acknowledged.

GM4AGS, QTHR. Tel Newport-on-Tay 3113.

Two Pye Bantam fm battery packs, (battery cond unimportant). Ex-army 62 set, wkg order. Manual or circuit (or copy) of Heathkit SB10 ssb adaptor (USA version). Cheap or poor rx for young swl. G4GCB, QTHR. Tel Burscough 892416.

Telequipment D75 oscilloscope or similar modern portable with same spec, urgently needed. Exch Philips video recorder, or pay cash, your choice. 69 Vicarage Road, Watford, Herts. Tel Watford

RTTY perforator or reperf, repairable non-wkg unit considered, must be cheap. Also unpunched paper tape manual for Solartron must be cheap. Also unpunched paper tape manual for Solartron 'scope, type CD614, and valves type Z759. Details and prices to G3NPF, QTHR. Tel Horsham 66290.

FR50B, in good wkg cond. Bergius, Firbank, Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead, Argyll. Tel 0546 2738.

KW2000B, AR88LF, both good wkg cond. G5RM, QTHR.

Sony TV-306UB, mains/batt, any cond, plus raster or monitor, transistorized, not over 9in. Tel 01-648 5895.

RX, ham band or gen cov. Also tx or tx/rx, all-band; psu for R1475; 2A3 valves: vertical antenna: HC6IJ xtals. 8+MHz: wavemeter:

2A3 valves; vertical antenna; HC6U xtals, 8+MHz; wavemeter; info on Collins R278/B rx. G3HVI, 46 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

TV 70cm equipment or components, linear amplification milliwatts to watts, preferably solid-state. Circuits or details of 33/39MHz i.f. modulator and conversion to 70cm. Recent copies BATC News, for copying. Des Walsh El5CD, Ballylynch, Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary, Eire.

TX-type tuning capacitor 500pF (3kV); morse key, Air Ministry covered type (long stroke); info on Majestic 8-valve domestic radio rx C1938 (American made), mains standing model. M. Colmer, 26 Beech Avenue, Brentwood, Essex.

External vfo unit for Atlanta, G3RK, QTHR, Tel Wangford (Suffolk)

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£28,86

£50.75

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£23.00

180

**BARCLAYCARD & ACCESS FACILITIES** 

### **NEW!** TONE BURST GENERATOR TBG-2



\* Crystal controlled for dependable repeater access.

the World

\* Small size, fits any trans-ceiver, 22:54L × 12:50W × 11:60H. Just connect in the push-to-talk line 5-15V, +ve or -ve earth. 16-way DIL package may be soldered on to a PCB or simply glued into a convenient position. Supplied with full instructions. £8.00

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GRAYN We can supply a wide range for frequencies from 68-500MHz. They are constructed using a tapered copper-plated steel helix, and covered in a neoprene material, giving strength and flexibility. All are currently ex-stock. For 145MHz:-FX2200GX 11 11 11 With PL259 plug ... ... ... ... ... For modified 2200, 2200G, KP202, etc. ... FXUHE £3.85 FXBNC For Pye PF70, etc. .. €4.22 FX500 For Storno 500 series For 433MHz:-**FXUBNC** With BNC plug £2.76 £2.13 Other available, \$\lambda\ unit coming soon for 3200GX VAT EXTRA 121% SAE Enquiries and lists Post 20n 6 LOVELACE CLOSE, WEST KINGSDOWN, SEVENOAKS, KENT. TN15 6DJ 24 Hr. Answer Service 047485 2577

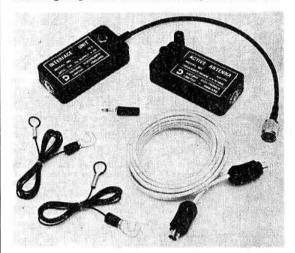
### **NEW!!** Active Receiving Antenna

MODEL AD170

### A COMPACT INDOOR ACTIVE DIPOLE FOR 60kHz TO 70MHz

Continuing our policy of constructive innovation we are proud to introduce what we think is the first broadband active dipole antenna at a price which puts it within easy reach of the Radio Amateur or short wave listener.

The Datong Active Antenna is designed for indoor mounting only but in all electrical respects it is in the



same league as the active antennas the professionals use, and for which they pay prices comparable to a complete amateur bands transceiver. The same performance advantages which make active antennas attractive to professionals make Model AD170 especially attractive to the amateur. They include:

- ★ Ultra broadband coverage from 60kHz to 70MHz.
- ★ Ideal for remote mounting (eg. loft or attic) since no tuning adjustments are required.
- ★ Only 3 metres long yet signal-to-noise ratios in the LF and HF ranges are comparable to those from much larger conventional antennas.
- ★ Uniform sensitivity over the full frequency range minimizes receiver intermodulation effects.
- ★ Balanced dipole configuration gives choice of polarization plus useful directivity and eliminates dependence on ground plane or earth connection.
- No need for expensive accessories such as antenna tuner units or matching units.

Although active antennas give lower signal strengths than large conventional antennas, received noise levels are also lower and therefore signal-to-noise ratios are comparable when used with modern sensitive receivers.

Model AD170 is supplied complete with the accessories shown in the illustration, ie. interface unit, head unit, 4 metre coaxial connecting cable (extendable if necessary), two 15 metre dipole elements, spare jack plug. A separate DC power supply is required (12V at 80mA) and this plugs into the interface box and feeds the antenna via the coaxial cable. A suitable mains power unit is our new Model MPU described below.

# NEW!! MAINS POWER UNITS MODELS MPU AND MPU/I

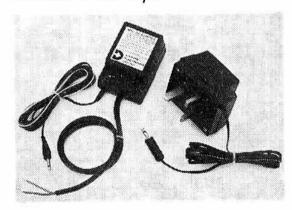
These power units are good quality mains adaptors designed and made in the UK to our specification for use with our products. They will operate Models FL1, AD170 and UC/1 from a 240 Volt AC mains supply with a minimum of fuss and a maximum of selection.

Double insulation, short circuit proof transformer, thermal cutout, and sound construction to the latest stringent safety standards take care of the safety, and a choice of fused integral 3 pin plug (specify Model MPU) or 18" mains lead (specify Model MPU/1) take away the fuss.

The output voltage is unstabilized and varies from 15.5 Volts off-load to 11 Volts at 200 mA (max.) with a 240 Volt AC supply. The units will also operate Models FL1 and AD170 (but not UC/1) from a 220 Volt mains supply.

Normally a 3.5mm jack plug is fitted (suitable for AD170). If specified at the time of ordering we can fit plugs suitable for UC/1 or FL1 at no extra charge.

PRICES (NOT INCLUDING VAT): AD170 £29.50, MPU and MPU/1 £5.50, AD170 + MPU or MPU/1 special package price £33.00, FL1 £53.00, UC/1 £105.00, RFC £40.00, RFC/M £21.50.





All prices are subject to VAT at 12½%. Prices include delivery within U.K. Our other products are available as normal. Please see previous advertisements or write for more details. More data on any product plus complete price list showing accessory leads etc., available on request.

### DATONG ELECTRONICS LIMITED

Spence Mills, Mill Lane, Bramley, Leeds LS13 3HE.

Tel: Pudsey (0532) 552461.

## ELECTRONIC

N.B. NEW **ADDRESS** 

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Cables: CRYSTAL, BIRKENHEAD, Telex: 627371

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CRYSTAL FREQUENCY RANGE USE(TX or RX) and HOLDER  OUTPUT FREQUENCY	4MHz-TX-HC6/U	6MHz-TX-HC25/U	8MHz-TX-HC6/U	10MHz-RX-HC6/U	11MHz-RX-HC6/U	12MHz-TX-HC25/U	14MHz-RX-HC25/U	18MHz-TX-HC25/U	36MHz-TX-HC6 & 25/U	44MHz-RX-HC6/U	44MHz-RX-HC25/U	48MHz-TX-HC6 & 25/U	52MHz-RX-HC25/U	72MHz-TX-HC25/U
144-030	b	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	b
144-4/433-2		ь		b	ь	C	ь	C	ь	ь	b	Ь	ь	b
144-480	b	ь	ь	b	ь	ь	b	b	ь	ь	b	ь	b	b
144-800	b	b	b	b	b	ь	b	b	ь	ь	b	b	ь	b
144-850	b	b	ь	b	b	b	b	ь	ь	ь	b	b	ь	ь
145-000/SO						8				8				C
145-050/R2T				b	b	8	b	8	ь	ь	b	b	b	b
145-075/R3T			a	b	ь		b		ь	ь	b	b	b	b
145-100/R4T				b	ь	a	b		ь	ь	ь	b	ь	ь
145-125/R5T				ь	ь		b		ь	ь	b	b	ь	ь
145-150/R6T				b	ь	8	b		ь	ь	ь	ь	ь	ь
145-176/R7T				ь	ь		b		ь	ь	b	ь	ь	Ь
145-200/R8T			8	b	ь	8	8		ь	8	a	ь		b
145-300/512	b	b	ь	b	b	ь	b	b	ь	ь	b	b	ь	b
145-850/514	b	ь	C	b	ь	ь	b	b	ь	C	C	ь	ь	ь
145-400/516	b	ь	ь	b	b	ь	b	b	ь	ь	ь	b	ь	b
145·500/S20														C
145-525/521				8	C				ь			Ь		b
145-550/522					C	a	n	8	ь			ь		b
145-575/523				a	C	a			ь		8	ь	a	b
145-600/524		8	8		C	a	a	a	ь			b		b
145-650/R2R	b	ь	ь		ь	ь		b	ь			b		b
145-675/R8R	ь	ь	b		ь	b		ь	ь			ь		b
145·700/R4R	b	ь	ь		ь	b	a	ь	ь			ь		b
145-725/R6R	b	ь	ь		ь	b		ь	ь			b		b
145-750/R6R	b	b	ь		ь	ь	8	ь	b			ь		b
145-775/R7R	b	ь	ь		ь	ь	a	ь	ь			ь	a	b
145-800/R8R			a		a				ь			ь		C
148-95		b	a		Ь	b	b	ь	Ь		b	Ь	b	b

PRICES: (a) £2.36, (b) and (c) £2.90 + VAT (H).

AVAILABILITY: (a) and (c) stock items, normally available by return (we have over 4,000 items in stock). (b) Four weeks normally but it is quite possible we could be able to supply from stock. N.B. Frequencies as listed above but in alternative holders and/or non-stock loads are available as per code (b).

ORDERING. All we require to know is (1) Output frequency, (2) Crystal frequency range, (3) The holder, and (4) Either the load capacitance (pfs) or equipment. It is not essential to give the exact frequency, though it would be of assistance to quote it if

### JAPANESE AND AMERICAN EQUIPMENTS

With the ever increasing popularity of Japanese equipments we have further expanded our range of stock crystals. We can now supply for YAESU (FT2F, FT2FT, FT2 Auto, FT224), most of the ICOM range and the TRIO-KENWOOD range. We can also

rizza, most of the ICOM range and the IRIO-RENWOOD range. We can also supply from stock cryatals for the HEATHKIT HW202 and HW17A.

YAESU FT21 CRYSTALS NOW IN STOCK, ALL AT £2.90 + VAT (H). All popular channels—For repeater use advise xtal frequency required as earlier models have different shift xtals to later FT221R. We can also supply the crystal to give NORMAL "tune to RX" working (as FT221R) For 70 cm we can supply the 1.6 MHz shift xtal for direct use with a MICROWAVE MODULES MMT432/144 which we can supply for £133.00 + VAT (H). SPECIAL OFFER! If ordered with transverter 70cm shift crystal

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We are stocking the following channels RB0 (434-80/432-00), RB2 (434-85/433-05), RB4 (434-76)/433-10), RB6 (434-75/433-15), SB6 (433-80), RB10 (434-85/432-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/433-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85/433-85), RB14 (434-85/433-85/43 ster (W15U), UHF Cambridge (U10B), Pockettone (PFI) and STORNO CQL/CQM 652 all at £2.38 plus VAT (H). For the U450. Base Station we have the TX crystals for all the above channels plus the RX crystals for SU8 and R814 also at £2.36 plus VAT (H). The RX crystals for RB2, RB4, RB5, RB10, SU18 and SU20 for use in the U450L Base Station, together with the TX and RX crystals for the remaining SU channels (SU12-433-30-RTTY, SU18-433-40 and SU22-433-55) for all the above equipments are available at £2.90 plus VAT (H) delivery as per class (b) 2m items.

### 4m CRYSTALS FOR 70.26MHz-HC6/U

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10:245MHz "ALTERNATIVE" I.F. CRYSTALS—£2.36 + VAT (H). For use in PYE and other equipments with 10:7MHz and 455kHz I.F.s to get rid of the "birdy" just above 145-0MHz, In HC6/U, HC18/IU and HC25/U.

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Please give circuit conditions (i.e. load in pf etc.) when ordering. Fundamentals
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100kHz in HC13/U, £2.95 + VAT (L).
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ANZAC MD-108 DOUBLE BALANCED MIXER 5-500MHz supplied with full details for only £5.95 plus VAT (L).

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For customers who already own FRG-7's we can supply the digital read-out £37.00 + VAT complete with installation instructions

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723 voltage reg. TO5 metal case, 2/37V out at 150mA for 5/40V in SN76660 FM quadrature detector 75p CD4001 AE quad. 2-input NOR gate for tone-burst gen. NE555 Timer for tone-burst gen, or time-out indicator 709 (To5); 741 (DIL8) Op Amps 30p each.

Rectilinear pots multiturn, preset, p.c. mtg

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L.E.D's Panel mounting, type JH5, 6-5mm hole, red: 48p, green or amber; 72p Any 5 +, less 10%

Logic probe type JH 320, £11.95. Resistor Kits. E12 series, 22Ω to 1M, 57 values, 5% carbon film, ‡W or ‡W (please state). Replenishments available

Starter pack, 5 each value (285) Mixed pack, 5 each &W + &W (570) Standard pack, 10 each (570) £5 40 Glant pack, 25 each (1425) £13 25

PL259 UHF Plugs + reducer 68p each, 5 +: 60p

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GAREX FM detector conversion ready assembled with full fitting instructions. Tailor made, easy-fit design for AM Cambridge, replaces squelch board with minimum of other modifications, £5.40, Transistor Vanguard

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CRYSTALS FOR 10 METRES: (HC25U) 28.500MHz Tx plus 28.045 MHz for Rx (455kHz I.F.) make that "C.B." w/t legitimate £4.50 pair.

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4011	.20	7409	.15	7489	1.35	74195		74L10	.35	74LS01 .3	
4012	.20	7410	.10	7490	.55		1.25				
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4025	,35	7438	.35	74126	.35	74H04	.25	74502	.55		45
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4027	.50	7441	1.15	74141	1.00	74H08	.35	74504	.35		50
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4030	.35	7443	.85	74151	.75	74H11	.25	74508	.35		65
4033	1.50	7444	.45	74153	.95	74H15	.30	74510	.35		95
4033	2.45	7445	.65	74154	1.05	74H20	.30	74511	.35		95
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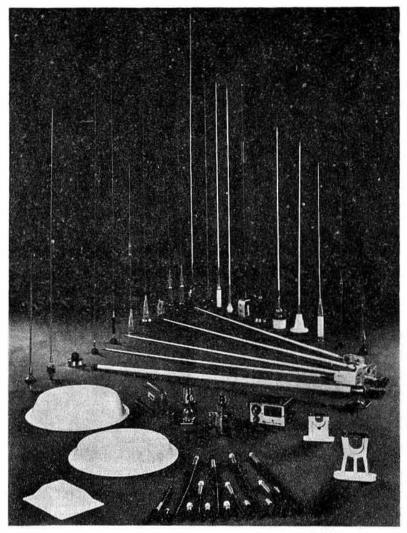
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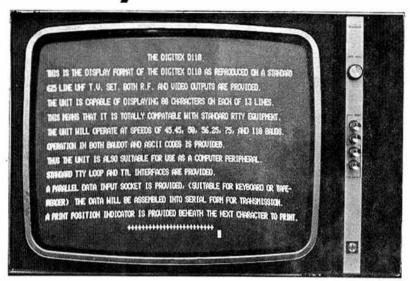
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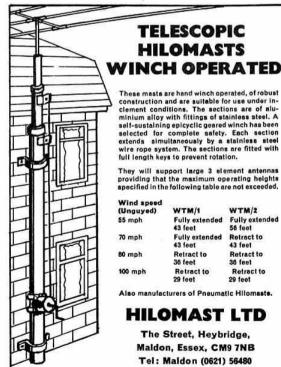
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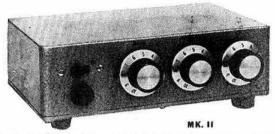
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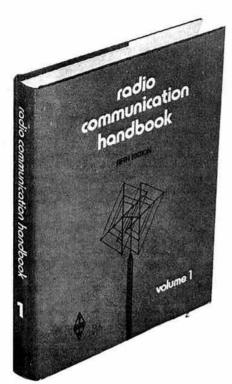
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(4th edition)

by T. G. Giles, G4CDY, and G. R. Jessop, G6JP

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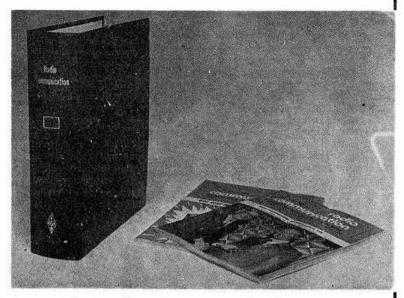
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PLASTIC SEMI-AIRSAPCED 7mm dia, 1-10pt, PLASTIC SEMI-AIRSAPCED 7mm dia. 1-10pf, 1-16pf PC mountap each, 10mm dia. 2-25pf, 6p each ten for 50p, 2-32pf ap each, all 3 pin PC mount. OXLEY AIR SPACED [\* sq. base 1-10pf, 1-15pf, 18p each ten for £1.40, 2-30pf 20p each.

TETER TRIMMERS Jackson C16 Cat. No 5640 2-10nf.

I'sq. base, temp, coef, less than + 100ppm/°C 40p each ten for £3.50, also 8mm dia. PC mount Cat No 5750 price & Info, as 5640.

ERIE TEFLON TRIMMERS "530 series" -25-1-5pf, 600vw. 1º dia. x 7/16' long solder in type P.T.F.E. insulation 10p each.

JACKSON BUTTERFLY TRIMMERS 17 + 17pf 0-050° air gap Cat. No. C713 screwdriver adjustment 50p each, few with ‡ spindle 65p each.

PLASTIC SEMI-AIRSPACED TRIMMERS 10-60pf as used in PYE WESTMINSTER PA units 15p each

VIDEO CAMERA SCAN & FOCUS COIL ASS. transistor type to suit std. 1' vidicon tube, inc. centring magnets & tube clamp, no info, new unused £6.00 each two for £11 00.

#### PLUGS SOCKETS

TT 024CC

50 ohm BNC right angle adaptors 60p. 50 ohm BNC single hole sockets cable entry type 50p each. SO239 sockets, P.T.F.E. ins 50p.

PL259 PLUGS, slightly tarnished, 30p.

SPECIAL OFFER: 50 ohm "N" plugs for UR43 co-ax 35p. 75 ohm BNC plugs 30p. 75 ohm BNC single hole sockets 30p. each

10-7MHz CRYSTAL FILTERS:

±15kHz @ 3db imp. 910 ohm (for STC 445/LOU/929 PYE Pocketione PFI) £3.00. TOYOCOM 10M-5B-1 ±7-5kHz @ 6db imp. 3k ohm

STC 445/LOU/901A ±15kHz @ 3db Imp. 2k ohm £2.50.

STC 445/LOU/909B ±7-5kHz @ 3db imp. 910 ohm as used in PYEFM Westminsters EX-EQUIP. £2.50.

±6kHz @ 3db imp. 910 ohm £4.00. ITT 024DC ±3.75kHz @ 3db imp. 910 ohm £6.00.

ITT 024DE/923L ±3.5kHz @ 3db imp. 820 ohm €6.00

ITT 044DA ±3.75kHz @ 3db imp, 3.3k ohm TOYOCOM TI4FO2-M ±3-75kHz @ 3db imp. 910 ohm

1-4MHz LSB, SSB. FILTER made by Cathodeon for

PYE SSB125T Radiotelephone £4.00. all above filters are new & unused except for 445/LQU/

909B which is EX-EQUIP. ERNEST TURNER EDGEWISE METERS small

precision type 100 microamp FSD, marked 0-100 display area 9/16" × 11", make nice "S" meter new boxed

JAPANESE TUNING METERS 1' sq. marked "mono/ stereo" special offer 45p each.
SEMICONDUCTORS

HEWLET PACKARD HP5082-3080 pin diodes 50p each

VARICAP DIODES BB105 in matched sets of 4, 90p per set. BA111 15p each.
VHF POWER TRANSISTOR SRF1117 (Motorola)

capstan type, 13v, 300 m/w input gave 21 watts output on 145MHz FM. (2) watts max output) special offer 65p each any quantity.

BF180 VHF/UHF RF amp. 20p each. BF166 VHF RF amp. 15p each (replacement for W15AM Westminster front end.)

BFY90 VHF RF amp 90p each.

ST2110 RF amp FT950MHz OK VHF Tx driver 15p each. CA3089E 16 pin DIL. FM IF amp. "S" meter, AGC. AFC. outputs OK for IF amp for 2 MTr Rx. with data sheet £2.00.

TBA641/A12 AUDIO AMP IC. gives 2 watts into 4 ohms with 9 volt supply, with data sheet £1.25. 741 OP AMPS 8 pin DIL. 35p each.

NESSS TIMERS OK for tone burst etc. 8 pin DIL. 45p. FND507 j' single digit LED numeric displays common anode with right hand decimal point, only £1.25 each.

INTEGRATOR UNITS for PYE PF1 Pocketione receivers new 75p each.

SWITCHES

MINIATURE ROTARY SWITCHES 1' dia, 3 pole 11 way make before break new 50p. 3 pole 3 way + (off position) & earthing ring) break before make, 20p each. SUB MINIATURE 2 pole 10 way (remove the stop 4 it makes 2p 12 way) 5/32' spindle 80p each.

SLIDE SWITCHES 2p CO std size three for 17p.

REVCO ; wave mobile aerials for 145MHz £7.50 + 60p post. High band 156-174MHz, same price.
MIXED FERRITE CORES 5/32" and 1" dia, coarse and

fine threads bag of 100 50p.
FERRITE RINGS \* dia, 10p. \* dia, 15p. 2\* dia, 25p. (no

gen.) 1' dia. with 6 turns wire 3p. 1' dia, with 5 turns wire 5p.

FERRITE BEADS similar to FX1115 4 for 10o. 10-7MHz IFTs, single tuned transistor type I' sq. 10p.

455-470kHz IFTs, single tuned transistor type 1" sq. 10p ELECTRONIQUES TUNING DIALS £5.50.

CRYSTAL HOLDERS HC6/U usable P.C. or chassis mount, HC25/U, HC25/U P.C. mount FT243, chassis mount all 11p each.

COILS 5mm dia, 10mm sq. base for P.C. mounting complete with core as used in PYE radiotelephones 5p

COILS IN CANS, 1" sq. x 1" high, 5p each; 10 for 40p. I.C. SOCKETS 8 pin 10p, 14 pin 15p, 15 pin 16p each.

(low profile) REED RELAYS 14 pin DIL made by ASTRALUX type 121A-3, 5 voit coil 500 ohms TTL compatible, with

normally open contacts, new 45p each ten for £3.50. 3 GANG TUNING CAPACITOR 365pf per section direct drive 75p each.

SOLDER-IN INSULATORS approx 1' dia 100 for 50p.

59 WAVERLEY ROAD, THE KENT, RUGBY, WARWICKSHIRE