



MERCURY

**THE JOURNAL
OF THE
ROYAL SIGNALS
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

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EDITORIAL

Hello to you all and a warm welcome to the twenty-fifth edition of the "Mercury". This particular number has been delayed by a few weeks but is carrying a full report of the 1968 Annual General meeting which you can find at the rear.

It is also carrying a postal referendum for you to answer with regard to the Society Awards Scheme, whether or not you would be interested in a Society tie and whether or not the AGM would be better held on the Saturday of the RSGB Exhibition week instead of the Friday.

It is always a disappointment when somebody leaves an organisation and I am particularly sorry to see G12DZG, Walter Caughey, resign as the Society Awards Manager. Walter spawned the idea of the present scheme, nurtured it and guided it through to what has proved to be a unique amateur radio award. Thank you Walter for your efforts and patience and I hope we shall have the pleasure of hearing you on the bands once you have more time to yourself.

In the last editorial I asked for help with the overprinting of Society QSL cards. I am delighted to say that G3WRY has come up trumps and kindly taken the job on. On behalf of our members (and particularly myself) thank you Tony.

It was extremely pleasant to see some seventy of our members during the RSGB Communications Exhibition in London. Although the Society did not have a "live" show this year, we had a small window in the Royal Signals stand manned by a few of our more active members. Which leads me on to the AGM. Without a doubt Saturday is THE day at the Exhibition, and it may well be that members would prefer that the AGM be held on Saturday instead of the Friday of the Exhibition week. After all, the AGM is YOUR chance to tell the Society officers what they are doing wrong and make any suggestions or alterations in the running of the Society. We have averaged around thirty-five members since the meeting has been held during the Exhibition week (which is double the other two Service Societies by the way) but I am sure there are more of you who would attend on a different day. Far better to air your personal views at the AGM than on Eighty!!

And that is about all for this time - the Winter edition of "Mercury" will be in the post around Christmas; when you get it is a debatable point!! But from your officers on the inside cover as well as, Les G3VYZ, the compliments of the season to you all and all you wish yourselves in 1969.

73 and good DX

G3EKL

ANOTHER TRIP TO LUXEMBOURG

(By Dave Llewellyn - DL5XE - 268)

Nobody ever saw so many Llewellyns in one place at the same time before. but SEVEN of them set off for the sunny south on the 5th of June, determined to have a good family holiday. It was still light when we crossed into Luxembourg and found our first camp site. I don't know how many of you have tried putting up a HUGE frame tent. which you have never seen before, with no diagram and five harmonics saying things like; "does this blue bit go with the red bit Daddy" and, "Daddy, all those pegs you stick in the ground, our David has taken them all out" Anyway, with the help of a couple of Dutchmen, their wives and children and my wife and tribe, we finally got the d... thing up, had dinner and slept the sleep of the weary ones.

Next morning found me negotiating with the camp site owner for power for the rig, but, as last year (see October '87 Mercury - Ed) he didn't want to know. I wasn't too worried as there are a lot of camp sites around the area and so we set off for a look around the City of Luxembourg.

Luxembourg is a very pretty city, and for those who like to see them, the parks, gardens, old buildings and monuments abound. The shopping areas are packed with tiny shops, olde worlde stores, and great modern supermarkets. One of the pleasant points about the streets is that there is a distinct lack of huge blocks of flats, so common in many cities nowadays. Traffic control is very good, and we hardly ever saw a traffic cop and only one traffic jam experienced in a week is good going!

This first visit to the city proved profitable in many ways. On the way back along the main route, and just before the Radio Luxembourg transmitters, I saw a QUAD ANTENNA! Ha Ha says I, if thats on 208 metres, I am a raving lunatic! A knock on the door brought a smiling, middle aged Roy Biltgen, LX1RB, who invited the whole family into his lovely home. There we met his charming wife and two children, and while the ladies nattered, the hams retired to the shack to have a looksee! Ray has been licensed for many years and has moved with the times in the shack. His first operation was in the attic with homebrew CW rigs, and now he operates a nice selection of National and Sommerkamp gear, with a three-band quad and a W3DZZ dipole. The shack and workshop are a sight for sore eyes, with every tool and bit of equipment racked around the room. A full range of test gear, metal working equipment and the usual display of QSL cards completed a very nice shack indeed.

LX1RB turned out to be the chief technician at Radio Luxembourg transmitters and in short time he had arranged not only a visit for me to the transmitter, but also chatted up the nearby camp site owner, and laid it all on for us to move in, set up the tent and rig and have a really wonderful holiday.

The visit to Radio Luxembourg was one of the highlights of our trip and it was made the more interesting in that Ray took me around during one of his shift periods so enabling me to spend a lot of time looking into every nook and cranny. It may be of interest here to explain what goes on there. The main Luxembourg transmission is beamed to Paris in the French language with about forty million listeners. There are three main masts each 250 metres high arranged in a phased vertical system, each mast is fed with a different power rating so that one, two or three masts can be fed at the same time. The powers dealt with are 600. 300 and 250 KWatts so that any combination of power up to and including 1150 KW is available. Housed in the same building are the 49 metre short wave transmitters whose broadcasts originate from the studios, some ten miles away in Luxembourg City, and are in German and Dutch during the day, and in English at night.

With modulation transformers as big as my Volkswagen bus, and a PA coil with windings nine inches in diameter, and fifteen feet high. I felt somewhat like the people of Lilliput must have felt looking at Gullivers pocket watch!

A very interesting portion of the visit was being able to look at the original transmitter used in the 1930s. Now somewhat stripped for components, it is housed on the TOP floor of the building, and had an output of around 150 KW when in use, the last time being in 1955. This transmitter has been handled by some varied hands. It was used as the original pirate station (Luxembourg was one of the first pirates on the air!) in the 1930s, by the Germans during the war, and by the Americans who passed their service traffic on it to New York in the late 1940s. LX1RB knows every nut and bolt in the place, having worked there since 1945, and he took me into cellars, attics and feeder rooms, all jam packed with enormous bits of kit. A most interesting visit.

Meanwhile, back at the campsite! Power in the form of a varying voltage of anything between 190 and 250 volts was run into the tent, and the KW2000 was coaxed into operation on fifteen metres CW. Then the fifteen metre coil slug fell out! A quick trip to LX1RB and we fitted a new one. The voltage dropped to 150 and we awaited the local supply and its pleasure!! Change the tapplings to 200 and wait for the right time, now call CQ back comes a YV1 In South America - we are 579!! The voltage leaps up to 250 and there is a cloud of smoke and that terribly extensive stench of burning tranny (you must know it!) So it is decided to put a toggle switch on the PSU's and to hell with the tapping jumpers!! And so it went on.

But as this was a family holiday(?) and not a ham radio trip, I was content to work only in the evenings for a couple of hours. This was better anyway as the mains supply was more constant in the later hours. The bands went as they nearly always do and lots of QSO's were made with lots of boys eager to work into LX, although there are some seventy licensed operators there, many of them active.

We said goodbye to Ray Biltgen on the 13th, and so ended my second trip to Luxembourg in 12 months.

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A SNIPPET OF LIFE IN 9M2 LAND

On July 7th '68 whilst 9M2NF was in QSO with G3ONU. Dennis suddenly vanished. "Blown up his linear", thought '3ONU "shouldn't push it so damn hard. Better wait for him to come up QRP."

Some thirty minutes later Dennis' familiar voice was heard again and he explained that his absence had not been due to normal troubles, i.e. power failure, equipment faulting or even XYL QRM. He had heard and caught two prowlers outside his QTH and the delay was due to the fact that he had had to wait all that time for the police to arrive!!

Won't life be dull for him when he leaves K.L. at the end of the year!!

("Subject to the exigencies of the Service" Dennis will be leaving 9M2 land in December, spending a few months in G land and then QSYing to Germany once again where I'm sure we'll soon be hearing his dulcet tones once more, with or without an American accent!!)

SOME OF OUR MEMBERS WRITE TO SAY

The following correspondence has resulted from a letter published in the RSGB "Radio Communication" of last June.

In order to give as full a picture as possible, the original letter is reproduced below.

From: G.S. Symons. G3DSS, Major, Royal Signals (Retd). Pimperne, Blandford Forum, Dorset.

Listening on 80m over the past few weeks I have been surprised to hear charges levelled against the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society. The two main complaints seem to be that the RSARS should be "The Army Amateur Radio Society" and not "belong" to the Royal Signals, and that the RSARS award scheme is restricted to members of the Society.

Taking the first point, to my knowledge attempts to form an Army Amateur Radio Society were being made in 1952, and had started much earlier. Because of the failure of these attempts G2EC founded the RSARS in face of considerable indifference and evasion from the Establishment. It was the Society's policy to accept as members anyone who claimed a loose connection with any Branch or Arm of the Army. I think this is still the case and among the membership there are certainly many non-Royal Signals serving soldiers.

The talkative gentlemen can only be objecting to the inclusion of "Royal Signals" In the Society's title, This was a "means to the end" at the time of formation, and is a monument to the efforts of G2EC, if nothing else. Anyone else who can get round the Ministry of Defence in this way will certainly have my heartiest congratulations.

In the matter of awards, this surely is a matter for the members of the Society. The RSARS awards are intended to stimulate activity among its own members, not to wallpaper radio shacks in general. The running expenses of the Society come from members subscriptions, and the organisation from voluntary spare time effort, and with these considerations in mind the membership voted when the awards scheme commenced, that it should be for members only.

It is very easy to knock organisations these days. How much more difficult it is to take constructive action. I shall watch the talkers' efforts with interest.

From: Capt. J.G. Barber RE

Dear OM,

A certain amount of correspondence has appeared in the RSGB Bulletin on the subject of RSARS but I feel that your columns are a more proper place to thrash out an internal matter.

I have met many members of your Society which I think is excellently run and produces just the right atmosphere to keep members interested. On several occasions I have been approached about becoming a member of your Society and have had the advantages of it explained to me. However I am a Sapper (and proud of it) and feel that it is time an Army Amateur Radio Society was formed. For a long time the other Services have had their own societies so why cannot the Army pull together as a team rather than as individuals? If the MOD will not recognise the scheme why can't the School of Signals sponsor it themselves?

In your March editorial you stated that the Society has two sources of income ---- members subscriptions and QSL cards. I know that the former would be increased (if only by one) if the

name of the Society was altered and QSL cards reprinted to encompass the Army and not just the Royal Signals fraternity. On the Royal Engineers net we can now muster about twelve licensed amateurs and we have at least another fifteen who are awaiting RAE results or will be taking the exam in December.

Would it not be possible to alter the name of your Society and reprint the QSL cards so that under Royal Signals sponsorship the Army could benefit? I hasten to add that this is a personal opinion and not necessarily that of my superiors!!

In spite of all this I enclose 10/- for affiliation of the RSME Amateur Radio Club to your Society.

73

Jim (G3TTJ)

And still on the subjects of the Awards Scheme and subscriptions

J. Hewitt.G3SGH R.S.A.R.S. 151
114 Canterbury Road.
Kennington.
Ashford, Kent.
6th July, 1968

Dear OM.

May I add my little bit of R.F. to that of G2ANG by saying I second the motion to increase the subscription charge but would go one step further by adding an amendment to delete the "two years" (if its worth having, its worth paying for-within reason of course) and to have some contact with the service in which I spent ten memorable years and to which in many personal ways I shall always be indebted, is well worth ten measly bob.

I am really looking forward to the day when it will be possible for me to meet some of the "old'uns" perhaps at Blandford or the AGM in London. My present occupation as a Sub Officer in the Kent Fire Brigade stationed at Ashford keeps me pretty well tied up (twenty three years this March) - I had better switch off before I am accused of b.....g my load; I believe a more refined expression is used now-a-days such as "shooting a line".

As far as the letter from G3IDG is concerned here again I must endorse his thoughts on QSL returns. But what can one do short of crawling through to the other end and threatening to join the ends of his antenna together. If the other bloke does not want to QSL, nothing in this wide world will make him. On the other hand, it's no good trying to regiment people these days to do things that they don't want to do. Leave well alone I say, if the other chap has a conscience, then eventually he'll spark - until then, the QSO remains unconfirmed!!

Good luck to Mercury

73

G3SGH 151

Hong Kong
18 August 1968

Dear OM.

A rather belated comment on Iain Scott's letter concerning RSARS DX contacts, which appeared in last December's Mercury'.

I agree that a DX contact ought to carry a bonus. If a G/G contact carries 1 point, a G/DX QSO should surely be worth 2.

I don't agree that a number of DX contacts be made a condition of application for the award. Some of our members would not venture on the DX bands if you paid them and, having endured the rat-race for several months now. I can't say that I blame them!

Isn't the answer to have two awards, one for DX contacts only?

On the subject of subscriptions I endorse G2ANG's view that subscriptions of ten shillings and £5 are not excessive. Could this be discussed at the forthcoming AGM?

73
VS6AA

**A CHEAP HIGH PERFORMANCE SSB RECEIVER
BY
G3JXL - 259**

(Here is another series of articles by the author of the transistor stereo amplifier. The previous series caused one or two of our members a little heartache because they felt that stereophony was hardly amateur radio. Perhaps this will be more to their liking.

Of one thing you can be sure - the receiver to be described will hold its own with commercial receivers in the three figure bracket and yet is truthfully an amateur constructed equipment. You can also be sure that the finished article will work - the prototype is in regular use at the writer's QTH - Ed).

In some twenty-five years of professional experience the writer has had the good fortune to use, repair and spec. test a wide variety of communication receivers and during the same time has had the opportunity of seeing a good many receivers used by amateurs. Some of these were very good indeed whilst some left the writer envious of the patience and skill of their owners. If you are in a position to part with a couple of hundred pounds or so without even noticing the loss, then this article is not for you. You pay your money and take your choice; If you choose wisely you will have a good receiver and then you can settle down to become a good operator. Fortunately for the good of our hobby the average radio amateur does not fall into this category. He finds that as far as finance is concerned his hobby doesn't come very near the top in the list of priorities (income tax heads the writer's list!!) and in consequence the receiver is either "ex-government surplus" or one of the cheaper receivers turned out for the amateur market (and the latter are not all that cheap either). There is another way out and that is a "Homebrew".

Many good designs have appeared in various magazines and by far and away the best of these is the design by G2DAF. However many amateurs don't feel too happy about undertaking a fairly large building job either through lack of confidence and/or experience or sheer lack of spare time.

It was with all this in mind that the writer felt he would like to see how quickly and cheaply a receiver could be produced which would have a satisfactory performance. Because the amateur is only interested in limited frequency bands it is possible to "produce" a receiver with a very good specification, a minimum of work and only a small financial outlay.

A list was made of the actual requirements for an amateur SSB receiver and this was studied in the light of what was available. The following is a list of what is considered by the writer as being important:

1. Maximum sensitivity and signal to noise ratio.
2. High order of adjacent channel selectivity with as good as possible IF response.
3. High stability and freedom from drift.
4. Very good bandspread.
5. Sideband switching
8. Fast attack/slow decay AVC characteristic, as well as normal AVC.
7. Crystal calibrator which will comply with GPO licensing regulations avoiding the necessity of having additional frequency measurement equipment.
8. Sufficiently light that a Serviceman can carry it with him on posting. (By air - not MFO)
9. Freedom from spurious responses (IF breakthrough and image)
10. Freedom from cross-modulation (Yes - I know it isn't possible!!)
11. Coverage of all HF Bands.
12. Easy to build with a minimum of technical skill and equipment).

Let us examine these requirements in turn and evaluate the difficulties.

1. **Maximum Sensitivity and Signal-to-Noise Ratio.**

No difficulty here at all - just a question of sufficient stages and some amplification at signal frequency before mixing. It is without doubt that it is in the first mixing stages that receiver noise is produced. (See also para 10)

2. **High Order of Adjacent Channel Selectivity.**

Until recently this was a major problem. Now, with the advent of the cheap Japanese mechanical filter, we have no problem at all. The Kokusai Filter type MF 455 10K is the answer and will cut out all the fiddling and difficulty of manufacture and alignment of three half-lattice filters. The price of these filters is not high (less than ten pounds) and their use makes a very simple IF strip which has an excellent shape factor. The 6 dB points on the writer's IF response curve are 2.5 KHz and the 60 db points less than 5 KHz in bandwidth.

3. **High Stability and freedom from Drift.**

This is best achieved by means of a double superhet. It is much easier to get a low frequency oscillator stable than a higher frequency one. By using a tuneable IF with a fairly low frequency and a crystal controlled front end we only need to get one variable frequency oscillator stable - if we make a good job of this then we get the same order of frequency stability on the higher frequency bands as well and by using crystal carrier insertion oscillators we avoid drift in the de-

modulator stage. Most "ex-Service" type communication receivers are reasonably stable on the lower frequency bands and so for our tuneable IF we can use a cheap "ex-Service" type receiver.

4. Very Good Bandspread.

This is difficult, particularly in view of the latter sentences of the previous paragraph. Not many "ex-Service" type receivers have good bandspread due to the fact that they are general coverage receivers. There is one exception to this, the HRO, or RI06 which was designed pre-war as an amateur receiver and has both general coverage and bandspread facilities.

Tuning mechanisms and tuning drive assemblies can make or mar a receiver and they can also be very expensive. If they are calibrated for general coverage then it is very difficult to recalibrate them for the amateur bands and still have a reasonable appearance. The HRO tuning dial is, in the writer's opinion, one of the very best. It is normally completely free of "back-lash" and has a high order of reset accuracy. It is calibrated from 0 to 500 and so has no re-scaling problems at all.

Any one who has used these dials professionally will vouch for the fact that they are easy to use, such that an operator can easily and accurately retune to a set frequency by means of the dial alone. (Ask some of the war-time intercept operators what they think of the HRO tuning dial).

Being scaled from 0 to 500 it is very useful if we have a 500 Khz coverage of each band. With near linear tuning this gives us 1KHz per division - be it at 160 metres or 10 metres. Moving up or down in frequency a few hundred Hertz or a few Khz is no problem at all and after a little use, the operator knows the frequency corresponding to the dial numbers on his favourite band without any conscious effort at all.

These receivers were turned out in great numbers during the last war.

5. Sideband Switching.

This is a fairly simple matter with a double superhet using a mechanical filter. Crystals ground to the -30 dB points on the IF response, with frequency correction in the tuned IF look after this. The writer obtained surplus FT 243 crystals and edge-ground them to frequency. If the reader doesn't fancy this, crystals can be purchased exactly on frequency with the mechanical filter for an extra four pounds or so. Alternatively a commercial switched carrier insertion oscillator is sold by "Electroniques" quite cheaply which will do in lieu of crystals.

Incidentally this arrangement of crystal C.I.O. does away with the very worst feature of the HRO - the BFO on/off switch combined with the BFO pitch control. On the original HRO this was fine for CW but with SSB and "press-to-talk" it is a menace.

6. Fast -Attack/Slow-decay AVC

This is provided as well as normal AVC in an extremely simple manner by using semi-conductor diodes and a gating circuit.

7. Crystal Calibrator.

A 1 Mhz plus 100 Khz semi-conductor unit is built into the receiver to provide this facility.

8. Lightness.

The HRO is a small and reasonably light receiver. It is a nuisance that the loudspeaker, a full set of coils and a supply unit make up a far bulkier and heavier load than the receiver itself. In the writer's design the coils are not used, nor is the normal power supply. A power supply is built into the loudspeaker case making one small although fairly heavy unit. The receiver itself is entirely self contained and can be carried with light luggage whilst the PSU and loudspeaker unit can be sent by some other method or provided locally on a temporary basis.

9. Freedom from IF breakthrough and Image.

The design is a double superhet on the higher frequency bands and so no great problems arise from this source. Spurious responses will be discussed later in more detail.

10. Freedom from Cross-Modulation

This is perhaps the biggest problem in any communication receiver. It is certainly not easy to avoid. However the receiver to be described suffers as little from this source of interference as many really good receivers and a great deal less than a number which are expensive and so considered to be good.

Many people believe that cross-modulation is brought about in the RF section. In the writer's opinion and experience this is not so. Cross-modulation is caused by two signals arriving at a grid and "mixing", giving rise to new frequencies. To get this "mixing" some non-linearity must be present and the writer doesn't believe that a signal from an aerial is large enough at the grid of an RF amplifier to find non-linearity, even in a variable-mu valve. It follows then that cross-modulation takes place in the mixer stage where conditions are ideal for it. This is where the double superhet is inclined to fall down with two mixers to produce noise and cross-modulation, the second one invariably handling a very large signal; absolutely ideal conditions for mixing as the greater the grid swing, the greater the non-linearity.

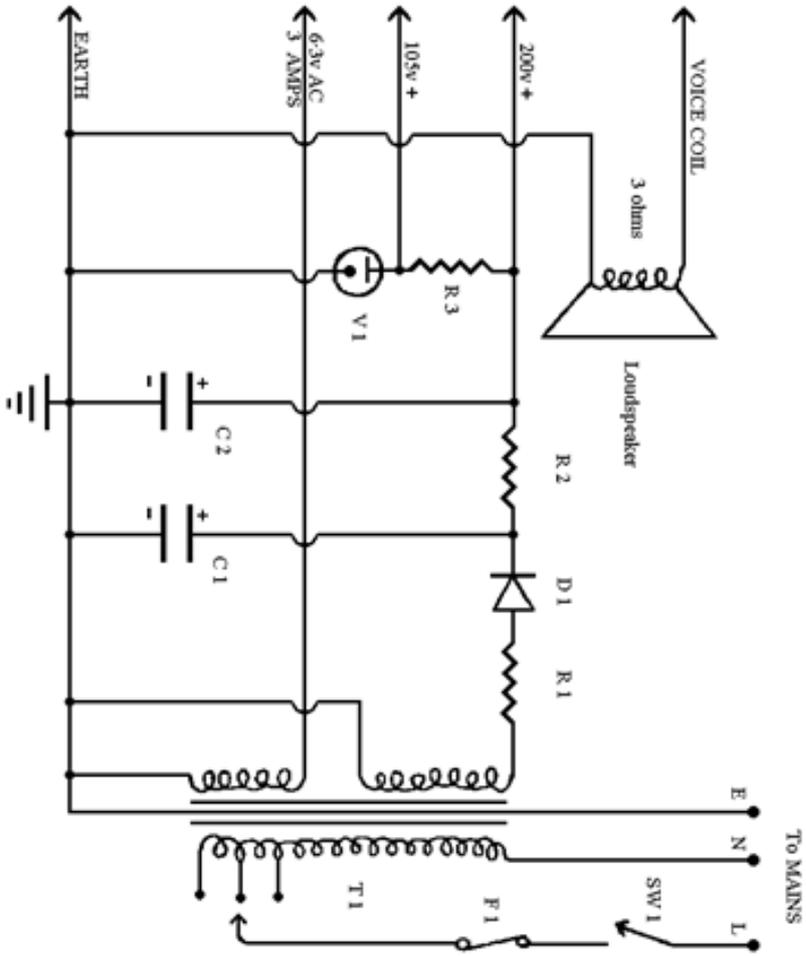
In the modified HRO to be described, precautions are taken to avoid cross-modulation so far as is possible. On 80 metres the receiver operates as a single superhet with two tuned stages in front of the mixer, but the gain of these two RF stages is limited so that the mixer does not handle a large signal and the design of the mixer is such that the minimum of cross-modulation occurs.

11. Coverage of all HF Bands.

The writer is also of the opinion that the majority of amateurs will require coverage from Top Band through to Fifteen metres with limited coverage on Ten metres. If complete coverage of Ten is required then a slight complication of the front end is necessary - whether this is really worth the effort can be decided by the builder, as the modification will be fully described.

The HRO lends itself very well to the coverage of all amateur bands (except Ten) by the use of an 80 metre bandspread coil. However the writer assumes that the 80 metre bandspread coil unit is not to hand and full details for the production of the coils to cover 3.5 Mhz to 4 Mhz will be given.

The basic requirement for this receiver is a scrap or faulty HRO of any type and one scrap HRO coil of any coverage. (The power supply unit and loud-speaker are not essential). These two items can be purchased very cheaply indeed and are advertised from time to time in various publications. (at least one commercial undertaking advertises bare HRO's with no coil units for about five pounds. A colleague of the writer recently managed to hit the jack-pot. G3CDM was inclined to disagree with the writer on the availability of old HRO's, particularly if an amateur lived in a remote area away from the "surplus" shops and a large amateur population. '3CDH made a few enquiries and located a scrap HRO in his own village which he obtained merely for the price of collection, admittedly this was really a scrap one but it still provided the basis for the receiver to be described. Another friend of the writer located a complete working HRO and after a few enquiries also obtained it as a gift. During early August whilst eavesdropping on Eighty, the writer heard a GW say that he had an HRO in new condition complete with all bandspread coils which had been given to him along with a load of other components. Rest assured, a determined "look around" will soon produce an HRO of some sort or another for a very small expenditure and it was on this surmise that the HRO was taken as the basis for the job in hand.



CIRCUIT DIAGRAM OF POWER SUPPLY AND SPEAKER UNIT

- D1 BY100 Mullard silicon rectifier
- C1/C2 60 = 100 MF 275v DC working
- SW1 Any 3 amp fuse
- F1 10 ohms 1 watt
- R1 500 ohms 10 watt
- R2 2 K ohms 10 watt
- R3 Mains On/off switch S.P. 5 amp
- SW1 VR 105 voltage regulator valve
- V1 Mains Xformer- 210/250/250v
Primary,
6.3v 3 amps
secondary,
250v 100 ma
secondary.
- T1

12. Easy to Build

The writer has long since decided that one of the most tedious and time consuming tasks in building a new receiver is the mechanical work involved. (This is based on producing some fifteen receivers, some from scratch, some re-builds.) The production of tuning drives and scales is also quite expensive. The use of an old HRO does much to remove the tedium from the job and as already stated it is small, light and has perhaps the best dial in the business (Obviously not an Eddystone lover!! - Ed).

So much for the various points. Many ideas and designs have come up since the war on the re-building or re-vamping of HROs and that is why it was felt necessary in the previous paragraphs to give the reasons for turning out yet another. In all the previous articles that can be recalled the underlying aim was to carefully modify and improve an existing good receiver. In this design that isn't so, we merely make use of a good cabinet, dial, tuning capacitor, "S" meter etc. as a basis for a new receiver with a different kind of performance altogether. In fact, it isn't even necessary to start off with an HRO. At least one colleague of the writer intends to use the modifications on a completely different old commercial receiver. A little ingenuity and any old receiver can be re-built along the same lines with perhaps a little more trouble with the dial arrangements.

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

It is envisaged that this project may be tackled in one of two ways:

- a. A partial re-build of a working HRO involving the minimum of change to produce results more in keeping with the trend for use of SSB.
- b. A complete re-build of a scrap HRO.

In the case of "a" then the degree of modification can be decided by the owner in the light of his own requirements. The very minimum may be done or sufficient to comply with all the twelve points previously mentioned.

If "b" is being undertaken then a start can be made by obtaining the HRO; carefully checking the tuning mechanism for backlash-free operation, examining the coil contacts and making good where necessary and then completely stripping all wiring, valve holders, IF transformers, crystal filter and any other components that are left on the chassis. Clean up the cabinet, S meter, dial and chassis, then make up the power supply unit and loudspeaker unit in any speaker cabinet you may have to hand.

A suitable diagram follows, but it is not necessary to slavishly follow this circuit. The PSU may be built from any components to hand in the junk box so long as it will provide the correct supply voltages. The writer utilised components from a scrap broadcast receiver for C1, C2, R1 and T1. In any case all the items are easily obtainable from "Radiospares" or surplus radio component dealers.

In the next edition of "Mercury" all modifications will be carefully given to cover either "a" or "b".

SUBSCRIPTIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Subscriptions are gratefully acknowledged from the following members between 1st June and 31st August '68.

34, 94, 151, 169, 193, 221, 236, 244, 252, 272, 297, 307, 309, 406, 413, 419, 456, 467, 535, 557, AFF 43.

FROM THE EDITORS POSTBAG

G3VGN 434 I'm quite sure that many of our members will have known you from days gone by, when you were operating from 4th Armoured Brigade Signals as D2GN (yes D2 not DL2!!) in Luneburg. Never managed to make Germany then, I was prancing around in PK1 land wondering why the SWB 8 for which I was responsible arced so viciously when I tried to operate CW on 20 metres into a 6 meg delta (the old man never did find out why that particular "M" section used so many coupling coil contacts!!) But I'm wandering again. Bill works for RCA and has kindly offered to assist any member who may want info on RCA products. If you're in this category, then send your query with a sae to:

W. EASTON,
Engineering Control and co-ordination 302-43.
R.C.A.G.B. Ltd.,
RAF Fylingdalcs,
Pickering, Yorks. (Tele: Pickering 2391 Ext. 462)

G3VGN is mainly a constructor, but manages to get on the air occasionally on sideband with a Viceroy aided and abetted with a homebrew "afterburner" and on the rare occasions that the moon shines green, has a bash at CW. (What the devil do you drink Bill - Ed) Right now he is Chairman of the Fylingdales Radio Club and should any members be hanging about the North Yorkshire area Bill will be delighted to have an "eyeball", his work tele number is above and his home QTH is Whitby 2332.

G2HKU 295 Welcome to the Society Ted and I'm quite sure some of our members will be after you once they realise that you are the only active amateur on the Isle of Sheppey. This counts towards the IOTA Award for those who are interested. Ted is a TV engineer with the Islands Radio Relay group.

G3IDG 24 Pseed to hear from you again Alan and to see that you enjoyed the VS5RCS article - I was delighted to be able to get that in the Summer "Mercury". Thank you also for the suggestion for the 30th Anniversary of the Corps - duly noted. Sorry you are still finding the QSL card game such heavy going, hope you soon make the Class 11 Award old man.

G3SGH 151 Most of your letter appears elsewhere OM, but I must thank you for your postcard of Lavernock Point. Very pretty indeed and I hope that your mighty "Trans/receiver Two Two - that latest release of an extremely recent R/T set" gave you no trouble! Just how do these advertisers get away with it I do not know John, that beast is at least 25 years old!!

G3RUS 122 Good to see your familiar hand once again Les and particularly pseed to hear that you have at last managed to hear the HQ station on CW - and even work it!! How the devil the HQ op managed to decipher your Baghdad morse I don't know. but when I questioned him just what you sounded like, he gave a perfect imitation of your fist!! Seriously Les, mni tks for your help since I took over the ruins and you'll find '4RS on the bottom end of the bands much more these days.

53 Hope you have settled OK in 9V1 land and not found it too hot. I'm looking forward to hearing you with your own call from that neck of the woods - takes me back a few years!! Good luck in your new posting.

- G3JVD 190** Your screeds are very interesting Wilf - tks vy much. Hope you are enjoying the Society QSOs and that your health is no worse. You have quite a gathering in that part of the world with G3VGN, G8ANQ, G3UTI, G3NVQ and of course the Catterick gang led by 2HNL - have a go at Alec and see if he'll organise an Easby Abbey tea party.
- G5UP 401** I have a feeling John that you will think that I had forgotten about your query, but I didn't have the pleasure of meeting Eric until the last "Old Comrades" weekend. Your query raised a good laugh and '2EC agreed that it was not normal practice to issue such a call. However he assured me that it was quite legit and added that it came about due to some excellent liaison work between himself and the licensing authorities!!! I wonder how many of the members can better your old number - 2307488 - any offers?
- G3OAZ 62** Tks for your new QTH John and also for your letter. Sorry to hear that you lost all your old logs and records whilst QSYing but I see that you are quickly working your way up the ladder again, with most of your Class 1 Award contacts collared. Yes, there are some lucky ones amongst the fraternity - but very few manage to get away for such trips as VQ9JW. Your views on QSLs are similar to G3SGH - it seems quite common throughout John and I don't think you have been singled out!!
 John asks that if any members with whom he has had the pleasure of serving during his seventeen years in the Corps would care to drop him a line, have a QSO or preferably an "eyeball", then he would be delighted.
- G3IV 272** Very good of you to send such a bouquet OM. Tks also for the forward subs. I am often accused of using abbreviations that fox people - but you have me on the hop this time! What the devil is "SCU3" pse?
- 116** Not much point in putting your G call down Jim!! Good luck in 9V1 land (quite a gathering of the clans out there) and OK about your QSL cards. Jim asks me to assure everybody, yes everybody, that he has QSLed 100% from DL5XH and that his long suffering XYL will do the same for him when he gets weaving in Singapore.
- VE3GFX/5H3 196** This may well be wishful thinking on Doug's part, but he is certainly hoping to be squirting RF all ways with that call!! We have yet to hear him at G4RS but that could be for a variety of reasons. Hope the harmonic is progressing steadily old son and, perhaps a little early, but a safe journey back to VE land for Xmas.
- G3WBL 124** Tks for your letter and also for the HF Field Day contest contact Keith - we could have done with a few more!! Glad the KW 2000 A was of use and I'm sure you enjoyed yourself.
- G3HBE 252** Very sorry to hear of your illness Maurice - hope you have recovered by now and are once again able to enjoy the hobby. Your number will doubtless make some shudder!!
- 309** What a surprise to hear from you again Jim. Very psd to welcome you back to the fold and hope that you soon settle to your new environment in South Africa. If you are with South African Posts and Telegraphs it should not be too long before you are able to get a ZS ticket. Look forward to hearing you if you can make it. Meanwhile the very best of luck out there and hope you manage to keep in touch through the medium of the "Mercury"

- VS6AA 282** Tks for your numerous epistles Maurice. For the benefit of the less fortunate members of the Society I think the best thing to do is to offer suitable extracts. "Until the FL-400 arrives I've borrowed an FT DX-100 and I've bought a 12AVQ from VS6DR, who imports antennas by the cart-load. He asked me if I'd like one of his TH6-DX's with Ham-M rotator, but I just didn't happen to have £103 with me at the time, so I had to say no. But I'm still trying to radiate a signal that can be heard in G." --" I'm thinking hard about the Corps Golden Jubilee. RSARS wise, and will no doubt come up with some ridiculous suggestions. The first one that comes to mind is a special QSL card, horizontally polarised!" (The Far East is always reputed to be different), but to carry on - "I really thought I was going to work last Sunday (28th July). One of the locals, VS6DR (the guy who cooked the steaks during NFD), held open house for all the VS6's and their XYL's. In best W5 style he announced it as a "Ham-O-rama" but it actually turned out to be a "Mexi-Ham-O-rama" - that's a "Ham-O-rama" with tequila and chilli-con-carne. This guy has the sort of QTH you dream about; way up on the top of the Peak, on the top storey of a skyscraper block. He runs the Drake 4-line with a 6 element Thunderbird on the roof. I got up there just before 1000Z and fired up on 21030. I eventually heard you about 1025 at RST 239! I don't think I could have copied a report from you so I didn't flog it. But if you didn't hear me from that QTH then you'll never hear me from my own place, 1500 feet down the hill. Not to worry, condx can only get better!!" Actually Maurice, I DID hear you at 559 but I flogged on and hopefully kept looking back on 21030 for quite some time, but no joy - not surprising really if you were stuck into chilli-con-carne!!
- MP4BHA 590** Your letters have been very welcome and thoroughly enjoyed by the other HQ Station members, Peter. Delighted to hear you with your own call and only hope you manage to find time to take the RAE when you return later this year!! Sorry about the difference of opinions in the local club - this sort of thing often crops up but usually soon blows over. The bands have not been terribly kind in your direction but I've heard you and I'm sure quite a few of our members will have done so as well. Hope the QSL cards were to your satisfaction.
- GW2OP 15** Very psed to hear that the items you have purchased proved useful. I agree that 3780 has turned out to be very rough - I am usually listening even if I don't radiate!! So watch for a further change in the "Activity" section.
- A question for the rest of our readers. George asks "I am living in a National Park area where aerial towers and the like are not allowed. I am NOT using a Joystick. How do I manage to get mostly S9 reports all over the country on 3.6 Mc/s under these circumstances?"
- 9M2DQ 300** Thank you for your interesting letter James. I have followed up your suggestions! As for the query about when you joined the Society and so when you were eligible for the Awards scheme; as from July 1st '68 - OK? So your list is all in order.
- 261** Well Kay, I was delighted to get your article but I'm afraid that things would hardly stretch to your suggestion of "Kays Kolumn"!! Still it is good to know that you have such an active interest and look forward to the day, not too far away, when you will have your own ticket and we shall hear the dulcet tones of another XYL from the north Yorkshire area. (Have you met Jean G3JZP)
- 515** Tnx for your change of QTH and also subs (too late for inclusion in the check list up to 31st August). Hope you manage to get active whilst in 21 - try contacting DL5XR or DL2ZN with the RAF Club Station in Rheindahlen. Good luck.

DL5XR 61 Your picture in the August "Bull" (with apologies to the RSGB) made me realise that you were not as inactive as I had rudely thought!! Your welcome letter together with a description of the Club Station at Rheindahlen (DL2ZN) made very interesting reading.

For the benefit for our members Johnny holds the club licence at DL2ZN and the gear there runs something like this. A Viceroy, a three-element Mosley beam atop of an eighty foot lattice mast and also an 8 over 8 two metre beam. This is powered by a hundred and fifty watts from an 1131 transmitter. 2 metre QSO's are very welcome indeed. Very nice too.

We do have a member at Verden John, DL5YS, No. 92, but I expect I'm teaching my grandmother to suck eggs!!

DL5XE 268 Numerous letters from Dave keep me informed as to what to expect from DL land. Right now, as can be seen from an article elsewhere in this issue, Dave should be on the move again but unfortunately the Club station at Lippstadt, DL5XQ, is temporarily off the air as there are now only two licensed amateurs in the area, Dave and Terry, DL5YS. (Cant say I've yet had the pleasure of working Terry yet - does he radiate Dave?)

Dave himself is on Twenty most evenings around 14020 and has a 14AVQ for Forty thru' 15. CW is the mode. So if you want another DL, then have a look around and I'm sure you'll enjoy the QSO. Tks for all your efforts over there Dave, and I hope things don't get too bad for you.

G3RWT 293 Tks for your letter Nick and the good news that you will soon be adding to the DX RF from 5Z4 land. We do not hear much of 5Z4IR from Nairobi - lets hope you manage to find time to radiate on the HF bands!! Looking forward to hearing from you again as and when you get your new call - Your new QTH sounds ideal - "teaching at a secondary school about 95 miles North of Nairobi near a tea factory on the Southern slopes of the Aberdares". The very best of luck Nick.

9V1OS 432 A quickie from Les Dicker (via VS6AA) to the effect that Les ought to be operating from VR2 land for six weeks from the end of October - so by the looks of it throughout November we should have a member station once more as a bit of useful DX!! Unfortunately the call is not known at the time of writing. Bands to be worked will be Ten, Fifteen and Twenty, mainly CW and Les will be running his Drake 4-line to a beam for Ten and Fifteen and a dipole for Twenty.

ZC4HS 142 Another pleasant surprise - very pleased to welcome you Harry and hope that you get as much enjoyment from amateur radio as I know you have had from motor cycling. It is an excellent hobby which knows no bounds. You mention that you have known Dennis, 9M2NF, some years - some of us don't like to shout too loud about that!! But seriously, it is grand to have another ZC4 in the fold particularly as Roli, ZC4RB, has recently left your area after an extremely active spell out there.

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YOUR HQ STATION WENT /P

It all started some time in April when the Field Secretary asked for volunteers (you, you and you!!) for N.F.D. Various reasons were offered for not being available; Roy ('3IBB) was sweating on HNC; John ('3UDU) was busy learning how to be an operator (not CW !!); John ('3WGN) was due a QSY to DL5; Stan ('3DSS) was away sailing and '3EKL had his dog to exercise.

So it was agreed that NFD was out, but (if the Field Secretary could "con" somebody into doing the organising) G4RS would have a bash at the new fangled "High Power Field Day".

Roy (G3IBB) agreed to take control, and duly went to ground muttering things like, aerals. masts, kettles, keys, lazy secretary etc. etc. A fortnight before the Contest he produced two large lists of items required; gave one to Les, G3VYZ (Station operator) and the other to G3EKL and said "Get cracking". (The Field Secretary had obviously underestimated G3IBB's admin capability!!).

Nearer the day, the required bits and pieces were collected together and on the Saturday afternoon at 1400, half a dozen members appeared at the RV and commenced erecting the tent, a couple of masts to carry the trapped dipole and other vital items required for the contest. Whilst this was proceeding the Station mascot (Field Secretary's hound) succeeded in catching a rabbit which '3IBB8 earmarked for the pot (later cancelled - it was "myxamatosised") and by half past four all was finished and the KW 2000 A was "fired up" on all bands. Everything seemed fine, beautiful side tone, a spot of bother with the various automatic keys which were to hand, but the rig seemed to load OK and the technically minded toyed with the auto keyers. This left the Field Secretary out in the cold and just as well as the mascot reappeared plastered in cow manure (just what do dogs find so endearing about this?). So Ray departed, complete with hound and aroma!!

John, ever practical, decided to work somebody, put out a CQ and got a 587 report. As it was from UA, he decided to try again but once more a bad tone report. A hasty pow-wow and it was decided that one of the doubler capacitors in the P.S.U. was suspect. With about half an hour to go before the contest (and no replacement capacitor), John agreed to get his own P.S.U.; this proved OK and was used throughout the contest.

Come zero hour and G3DSS was ready for the "off". Scoring was brisk and all bands were scoured, 80, thro' 15, looking particularly for /P calls. The other competing stations were soon heard and reports quickly exchanged.

As the evening worn on, two things helped to highlight the contest. First looking over 20 metres about 1735Z, we all heard VS5AA (282). This was really something as Maurice had been keeping his R.F. very much to himself since reaching VS6 land but, despite numerous calls, no QSO. The other incident was when a /P station was heard with very dubious morse potential, and on being "collared" turned out to be some CCF lads (quite officially licensed) running portable about a mile away. For a while we thought we had bagged a pirate!!

And so on through the night when John, G3UDU, kept vigil. Scoring dropped, but didn't stop and as dawn broke, conditions improved and frantic searching winkled out reluctant UK5's, DJ's and even VK's.

Roy, G3IBB and Les, G3VYZ came on for the remainder of the day and tried various tactics to improve the score, until, with a mighty flourish, 1700 Z arrived and it was all over

Within half an hour everything was stowed away and the field was back to normal (almost!!)
The station was manned by:

G3DSS (9)
G3IBB (37)
G3UDU (378)
G3VYZ (173)

with help from G3HDD(589) who turned up for a stint on Saturday evening, and G3EKL(46) who hovered around most of the twenty four hours.

The station was visited by G3WJQ (our "pirate" suspect) and the local game-keeper (who was enquiring about stray dogs in the area!!).

We had a teetotal tent, although there was plenty of coffee and the kettle caused a degree of consternation, making the generator cough badly. But even so, our worse tone report was T8 (and that from Allan Herridge, G3IDG (24), though it was corrected after a little thought!!)

Our sincere thanks to the members who gave us valuable fixed station points (G2IO, G2KK, G2OB, G3AJ, G3IDG, G3IOI, G3SGH, G3V1S, G3WBL, G3WCP, G3WRY, and G6ZY) and particularly to GM3VZP/P and ZC4SS/P for a very useful six points each.

A few statistics (can be made to prove anything!)

Eqpt:	KW 2000 A
Antenna:	Trapped dipole
Bands used:	80, 40, 20 and 15 metres
Contacts made:	204
Points claimed:	717
Members involved:	6
There average age:	37 (Phew)
Weather:	**_!_!!
Result:	Who cares - we enjoyed ourselves!!

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NATIONAL FIELD DAY - 1968

Even though the HQ Station did not manage to get weaving in this years NFD, the Society was well represented by the Lowland Royal Signals ARS (AFF 36). Their Club Station entering in the "Two Stations" section of the contest with the calls GM3TLR and GM3VIO, scored 1074 points and were 14th in the overall placings and outright leader in GM land, being the winners of the Scottish NFD Trophy.

It all started from a suggestion by Tom Craze, GM3VNN, and as a result permission was obtained to mount the station in an unoccupied barracks. Winston Barracks in Lanark. The actual site spread over parts of the assault course, the riding school (complete with jumps) and the thirty yard range, which was utilised to provide feeding facilities.

The site was ideal from all points of view, the ground being reasonably flat which was a pleasant change from the location which the Club had used the previous year. Four 36 foot masts were used per station and they all went up like clockwork. Indeed the mast erectors, although somewhat high powered, were willing to take anybody on by the end of the weekend!!

Antennas used were dipoles and inverted V's for Top band, Eighty and Forty metres; a trapped dipole for Twenty which was changed to an inverted Vee during the contest; a half wave dipole and also a three half wave dipole for Fifteen with a further trapped dipole for Ten. This last band offered no contacts.

The stations were manned by:

GM2FKG	Jim Keen	Club
President		
GM3BCD	Tommy Simpson	
GM3UMW	Alec Gartshore	Guest operator
GM3VNN	Tom Craze	
GM3VIO	George Currie	

with more than able assistance from

GM3NKO	Ron Ford
GM3VVM	Harry Graham
	Rabbie Burns (the RSM, not the poet!!)

and numerous budding SWL's from the Radio Troop who came along to assist with logging, general chores and what have you. It was extremely fortunate that radio training that particular weekend was concentrated in the Winston Barrack area!!

The equipment used for GM3TLR was Ron Ford's KW 2000 and for GM3VIO was George Currie's KW 2000A. Both had been suitably modified to operate within the Contest input regulations. How convenient that the 2E26 just fits the bill!! The use of transceivers for each station was an enormous advantage but both of them would have been even better had "Q" Multipliers or "Selectojects" been available to improve the selectivity somewhat.

The weather was extremely kind, in fact it could have been quite truthfully described as excellent and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Meanwhile further East Maurice Caplan (282) was enjoying himself also. "We set up on the tip of a peninsular on the Kowloon side with a good take-off towards Europe. By a strange coincidence one of our radio troops was having an exercise in the same area at the same time, and as luck would have it they happened to have a spare generator, three tents and an aerial mast, which they kindly loaned to us!!

Unfortunately conditions were poor. We worked 25 G NFD stations (including GM3TLR/P) and about 75 DJ and HB9 portables - and Walter, GI2DZG! The weather could have been better; we had three inches of rain during the twenty four hours and on the Saturday night we were invaded by hordes of blood-sucking mosquitoes. Still, it wasn't all that bad. The food was superb. VS6DR, an expatriate W6, was in charge of cooking (catering would be the better word) and laid on such delicacies as charcoal-broiled steaks, roast prime rib of beef and grilled eggs and bacon. We also had twenty-five cases of "Tiger", which didn't do us any harm".

(Just as well G4RS didn't compete - we could never have equalled that sort of catering - Ed).

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SLOW MORSE TRANSMISSIONS

For the benefit of any of our SWL's who want some more slow morse transmissions, there are two transmissions a week from Blandford in addition to those already being done by G4RS. Commencing 1st October.



G8PG G5YN ????? G3EJF G3ADZ

G3FGN ??? G3NJM G3DSS G2EC G3FDU

The inaugural meeting of the Society - May 1961, held in Blandford.

THE VS5RCS GANG



Jack Cooper
9M2XX

Mike Heinen
VS5MH

Dennis Bowden
9M2NF

Maurice Caplan
VS5AA



Jack Cooper
9M2XX (90)



The easy way to get
the SWR right

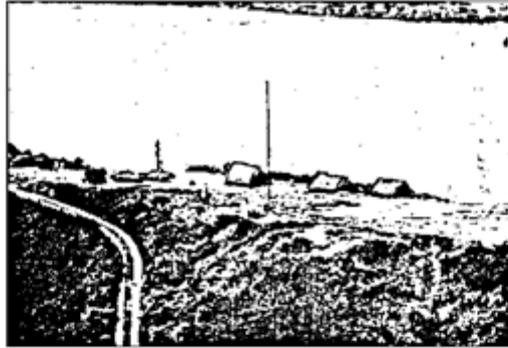


Dennis Bowden
9M2NF (85)



Maurice Caplan - VS6AA (282)

SOME VIEWS OF VS6AJ/P



The site complete with generator!!



Inside the "shack" - searching for G's



Preparing the beam - too many chiefs?

HQ STATION VISITORS

At the end of June, actually on the June Activity morning, Don Bradshaw, G3TKI (328) complete with XYL, a two canine friends, Kim and Fred, called in to say hello. It wasn't long before the kettle was weaving and after a pleasant hour, suitably refreshed and (I hope impressed) Don was again on his way towards the West Country.

A few weeks later Bill Nicoll, G3KWN, (463) at present located at Colchester, bowled in to see just how the HQ staff operated. Unfortunately time was at a premium and apart from a good look around, Bill did not have time to get down to the pros and cons of the SB 101. He is hoping to start a Signals Club station in the Colchester area as soon as possible.

Finally, but by no means least, in the first week of September, whilst Blandford was still settling down after the Autumn Bank holiday, a VW bus rolled up complete with two very bright harmonics, a well organised interior (for "hamming" of course!!) and the owner/driver Dave Llewellyn, DL5XE(268). Dave also stayed a couple of hours, but unfortunately the harmonics called and he had to QSY to the local beach. Dave was operating on Two as G3TAN/P whilst over here for a few well earned weeks holiday.

Very nice to see you all at Blandford and thank you for taking the trouble to call in and see what G4RS looks like.

Some info about Amateur Activity In MP4 Land from MP4BHA - 590

A few lines about the current licence holders in MP4 land as at the beginning of September '68.

- MP4BEU Alex - Very active on 10 and 80 metres
- MP4BGE Mac - Active on 10 and 20 and hopes to be on Forty before very long.
- MP4BGU Terry - Active on 10 and 40 metres, very keen CW man.
- MP4BBW Ian - Active on Ten and Twenty about 0200Z daily, frequency around 14100 and 14200.
- MP4BCC Bob - Reasonably active on Ten and Twenty but mostly working States-side.
- MP4BHA Peter - Active on whose ever rig he can get on!! Ten, Fifteen and Twenty mainly. Hopes to be on FSK by end of September.
- MP4BG X Greg - Very active on Ten and Eighty. hopes to work VHF (Two metres) into Europe in the immediate future. (BFBS Cyprus received quite frequently in Band II).
- MP4BHC Nick - A keen practical man operating on Ten, Twenty and Eighty.
- MP4TCE - RAF Club station operating from RAF Sharjah on Ten and Twenty only. This is because the Sheik will only allow operation on these two bands. NB. - No other station is authorised to operate from MP4T area.
- MP4MBB - Active on HF bands only from Muscat and Oman.
- MP4MAY Harry - Same as MP4MBB.
- MP4MBC - RAF Club Station active from RAF Masirah which is an island off the mainland in the Arabian Sea (21 degrees North, 59 degrees East.) The club is very active on all HF bands.

**ON THE AWARDS FRONT
BY
G12DZG (5)**

As those of you who attended the AGM will know, I have decided to relinquish the post of Awards Manager of the Society.

Having originated the idea of an awards scheme in 1965, I think that the time is opportune to hand over the reins to someone else and Ron Cox, G3VIS, has kindly offered to do so. Ron, therefore, will be the Society's new Awards Manager as from 1st January, 1969, Ray Webb having prevailed upon me to act until the end of December this year.

I think it is fair to say that the Class I Award was unique in the awards sphere. Indeed I do not know of any other Society or organisation in the amateur radio field that issues such an attractive and worthwhile award without a great expenditure of effort to attain it. Those lucky recipients of the Class I have been unstinting in their praise.

As this is the last time that I shall write this feature, I should like to thank those of you who were thoughtful enough to include return postage with your claims --- all other postage expenses, with the exception of those incurred in the sending of plaques by the firm who makes them, were borne by me at no cost to Society funds, and will continue to be borne, as necessary, until my resignation takes effect.

My thanks are also due to Ray Webb, G3EKL and Des Barry, G30NU for their kind help. This goes, too, for Johnny Hodgkins, G3EJF who was Field Secretary at the inception of the present awards scheme.

Lastly, it has been a pleasure to deal with your claims and any that may arise within the next few months and also to be able to give some of you a point towards your own claim. I hope to continue giving points in the future both on CW and SSB.

Vy 73 es GUDHUNTING
de
W.E. CAUGHEY.

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RSARS AWARDS LIST

CLASS 1		CLASS11	
No 18 G. Gibson (53)	No 28 G3EMO	No 35 G3EKL	No 45 G2HNL
19 G3WXX	29 GW2OP	36 ?	46 G3XHJ
20 G4QD	30 G2AVR	37 G3XBA	47 G3MKR
21 G3XBA	31 G2HNL	38 G2UZ	48 GM3VIO
22 G3EKL	32 G3SIQ	39 G3S1Q	49 G2AYG
25 9M2NF	33 G3VNX	40 G3XBR	50 G3WRY & /A
24 G6VQ	34 G3TUM	41 G3TUM	51 G3SGH
25 G2UZ	35 GM3VIO, GM3VIO/P	42 G3UUG	
26 G3VIS	36 G3XHJ	43 G30FV etc.	
27 G3CIO		44 G2IO	

SCORE BOARDS

G8VG	183 worked	177 confirmed
Member 491	107	102
G3POY	77	70
Member 53	60	58
G2AYQ	36	31
G12DZG	74	66

AWARDS PROFILES

R.G. TITTERINGTON - G3ORY (106)

Holder of Class I Award No.15, Bob Titterington, after five years service in his school cadet force, enlisted in Liverpool University OTC in October, 1960. Two months later he received his "ticket".

Posted in December, 1961 to 42(Lancs) Signal Regiment (TA) he stayed there for four years and helped Harry Ward, G3EMO, run 3 Squadron Amateur Radio Club - G3PMZ.

Moving to the Midlands early in 1966, Bob found himself posted to 48 (SM) Signal Regiment (TA) and following the reorganisation of the Reserve Army is now with an AVR unit at Rugby. The regiment has an amateur radio club G3VZQ, and G3RPJ is also in the same squadron as Bob.

Bob, who is a lecturer at a technical college in Leicester on the electric engineering side, operates mainly on 1.8 Mhz CW with occasional excursions to 3.5 Mhz. Due to demands on his time, G3ORY does not operate as much as he would like but on holidays he does manage to get active /A from Lowestoft where he has a full sized top-band dipole permanently erected.

D. WEBBER - G3LHJ (359)

Derrick took up interest in the hobby back in 1945 at the ripe old age of 14! Four years later his father became G3GDW and a lot of CW operating by Derrick got his fist up to 20-25 WPM. Called up for National Service in 1952, Derrick considers that the two years he spent with the Corps were most enjoyable in that he was able to do the job he really enjoyed. After the initial 12 weeks training Derrick was posted to Cyprus where he obtained the call ZC4LW. Using a home brewed tx consisting of a single 807 with a 20 metre dipole erected one end to the tent pole-the other to the NAAFI flag pole, and with an AR77 rx, some enjoyable QSOs were made, especially those with his father, G3GDW.

In 1956 Derrick took the RAE and passed. He enjoys contest operating but operates all modes and present rig is all home brewed except for the HF antenna and some other items. Derrick is a member of various amateur radio clubs and societies and is an avid certificate hunter, especially for the difficult ones, his best being the Empire DX Award. He is employed by the South Western Gas Board as a trouble shooter on central heating appliances and systems.

G. GIBSON - RSARS 53

Serving with the Corps, L/Corporal Gibson enlisted in the ranks in 1953 as radio operator. Shortly after he was sent to DL and returned to England earlier this year. Early in 1967 Gordon became interested in amateur radio and was swotting hard for the RAE.... hope you will be successful OM. Other interests radio control aircraft, archery and cycling.

D.A. BOWDEN - 9M2NF (85)

Dennis enlisted in the Boys Training Company, Royal Signals, in 1942 where he trained as an OWL B III, E.S. A III and an I.M. A III before converting to Radio Tech A III. He became a Foreman of Signals in 1952 and was commissioned TOT in 1963. Tours have been made to the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, BAOR, Malaysia, with intervening spells in the U.K.

Whilst in Germany in 1961 some lads in Dennis' Squadron wanted tuition for the RAE. On checking-out the necessary information, Dennis was bitten by the "bug" and took the RAE and the morse test and became G3PNF but used the call DL2AB when in Germany. Has used SSB from the start but was QRT from 1963 to 1966 except for running the club station at Harrogate under the call G3HKR.

Main interest is SSB DX and has worked 252 with 231 confirmed using the 9M2NF call, which he obtained in October, 1966.

Operated as VS5RCS for 4 days this year and says of amateur radio: "I work with the stuff all day ... why do it in spare time?" Confesses to being more interested in trials motor-cycling, ski-ing, philately, photography, etc.

Dennis is due to return to UK in December for end of tour leave and is due a new appointment at the end of March next. VS5 perhaps?

C.V. STEAD - G2UZ (464)

Clarence as can be gathered from the call is an 'old-timer' and served from 1915 to 1918 in France as an instrument mechanic with RE Signals attached to Second Corps.

Towards the end of Clarence's war he had a good deal of experience with communication equipment and the introduction of radio (CW) fired his enthusiasm which he still maintains.

H.E. SMITH - G3POY (534)

Joining at Catterick in 1943, Harry trained as a wireless operator at 1 OTB and proceeded via 76 Div Signals at Worstead to Mhow STC in central India and then was posted to 33 Corps Signals at Kabaw Valley, Burma.

Following the liberation of Burma, G3POY was stationed in Rangoon with the 12th Army and the 'S' L of C Signals at Pegu.

On being demobilised at Aldershot in 1947, Harry went on a teacher training course and first encountered G2UX. He is now head of the Science Department at Wrotham Secondary School in Kent where he runs a radio club and a station on HF bands. Regular skeds are made with G2UX at his school station in Norfolk (G3GTD).

Harry was licensed in 1961 and says that he has yet to contact anyone he met in R. Signals.

Uses a KW 2000A on HF bands, converted Pye gear on 2 metres and a homebuilt rig on top-band. Prefers operating to building and CW to RT.

Married, with two children, his other hobbies include campanology, photography and camping in remote places (harder to find each year!) and working portable from them-usually with greater success than with those 19 sets in Wensleydale a quarter of a century ago!

J.T. WORRALL - G3XBA (225)

John's interest in the hobby began when he was shown the 20th Signal Regiment's club station. ZC4TJ in Cyprus in 1962. Following the posting of Bill Kitchen who ran the station and the run down of the regiment, John took over and eventually became 5B4JW. When he moved to BOAR he became DL2AH and was very active and obtained a number of awards. Presently he is located at Barnard Castle where, due to TVI, his operating time is curtailed. Rig used is Swan 500 and Hygain TH3 Mk II.

G. COURTENEY-PRICE - GW2OP (15)

George is one of the few who has been commissioned in all three services. He signed on the dotted line quite a long time ago and was awarded his T.D. in 1928 when the qualifying period was 21 years.

He was technical lecturer and instructor to the Officers class at Northern Command Signal School in 1916 and, having served with various units during World War I, he eventually retired from the 48th (South Midland) Divisional Signal Company in 1930. He then raised the R.N.W.A.R. in the West of England but had to give this up on being posted to Pembroke Dock in 1934.

During World War 2 he served with R.A.F.V.R.. finally retiring from the Sunderland Flying Boat Base at Pembroke Dock in 1953.

His call was originally G2OP of Cheltenham (1921). He was a very early member of RSGB and was made their Area Representative for S.W. England in 1927. It was then known as the T and R Section of RSGB. Later he became District Representative, now known as Regional Representative. In 1933 he became a member of Council of RSGB and in 1934 he was elected a Vice-President of the Society.

George is now County Controller of the West Wales Counties of RAEN to which he attaches much importance since the running down of the Civil Defence and Territorial Army.

R.A. WEBB - G3EKL (46)

Ray "nipped" in "F" Company in July '39 where he was inculcated with the trade of OS and OWK. Changing to Radio Mechanic as soon as he joined the ranks, he began to get the urge and was eventually cornered by G8RF in the YMCA at Kemmel Lines, Catterick and persuaded to become BRS 10,001. From there a QSY to the Far East and a year as PK1RW (1946) followed by a spell as VS1BA (47/48) and then back to G where the current call was prised out of the GPO.

Mid '49 saw Ray in VS6 land as VS6BA but this only lasted six months and he was quickly returned to UK, where he made rude noises on Eighty and Two, mainly in the Worcester/Droitwich area. A further move to the Middle East in '52 found him as SU1BA (highly illegal) for a couple of years, followed by two years as ZC4BA and then back to Catterick for a further four years. Here activity was mainly Top and Eighty off duty whilst his main interest during working hours was VHF - AN/TRC, C41 etc.

Yet another QSY took him out to DL land in 1960, on the same draft as Ron Ford (227) and although the call DL2BK was issued, Ray did not have much time to use it.

Commissioned as a Quartermaster in 1963 he was sent to Donnington for three years during which time he managed to win the 'phonic contest in February '65 and then a move to Blandford where he was "conned" by G3RUS and G3IBB in taking over Society reins.

Hobbies - (RSARS permitting) model railways and the odd noggin.

**A LAMENT
BY
THE CAVEMAN OF INGLETON**

Once upon a time decades ago, there dwelt in the land a tribe, who in order to communicate one with another developed a language which consisted of Grunts, Whistles and Chirps. But as time went by some of these people developed another method of communication and learnt to speak as we speak now.

And so it came to pass, those who spake as we speak desireth to leave those who spake in Whistles, Grunts and Chirps, and it was agreed that these two communities should separate and dwell in different parts of the land. The Grunts, Whistles and Chirps to take up their abode on the lower ground in the long grass, while those who spake as we speak should dwell on higher ground.

And peace was upon the land whilst this situation existed, but as they became more and more populous and space in which to live was limited, they began to invade each others territory and great strife was upon us.

Now those who spake as we speak found a new way of speaking which sounded as of many ducks quacking and could only be understood by few, and these strange speaking people who we call the Quacks, considering themselves to be Somewhat Superior Bureaucrats, went to dwell on the highest part of the land.

So now there dwells these three communities. Those who spoke in Whistles, Grunts and Chirps, or lower class, those who spake as us or Middle Class, and the Upper Class of Quacks.

And peace was once more upon the land.

As in all nations, there dwells amongst us those who desireth to "Keep up with the Jones", so thereof there were some did learneth the language of the Quacks that they may qualify to live upon the higher ground and went to dwell thereon.

But the Quacks having established their own community did not take lightly unto the intruders and would not speak unto them nor did they welcome them into their fold.

So these intruders upon the higher ground, finding themselves without friends, thereupon, desired to return to the middle slopes, but now being unable to converse in the language of the Middle Class, again found themselves without friends.

But they insisted that they make themselves heard, even if not understood, and there was a great noise in the air, as of the sounding of Brass Cymbals, Trumpets and Drums. And the noise over the land was like unto Babel and there was great strife.

So endeth this lament, being taken from the eightieth Book of Job (from wherein one obtains one's patience) Verses thirty-five to thirty-eight.

00000-----00000

SUBSCRIPTIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Subscriptions are gratefully acknowledged from the following members between 1st June and 30th Sept. '68.

34, 94, 151, 169, 193, 221, 236, 244, 252, 272, 297, 307, 309,
406, 413, 419, 456, 467, 515, 535, AFF 43.

ADDITIONS / AMENDMENTS TO MEMBER LIST BETWEEN 1 JUNE AND 31 AUGUST 1968

DELETE ALL REFERENCE TO:- 51, 54, 69, 100, 123, 201, 208, 235, 242, 243, 245, 246, 260, 261, 262, 274, 276, 280, 281, 286 287, 298, 300, 308, 310, 316, 321, 322, 333, 423.

INSERT OR AMEND:-

No.	CALLSIGN	NAME	ADDRESS
36		<u>T. Richardson</u>	47 Cleveland Road, Catterick Camp, Yorks
51	GM3PIP	P.I. Park	"Kranji", South Stret, Mintlaw, Aberdeenshire.
53		G. Gibson	249 Signal Squadron. c/o G.P.O. Singapore
54	VP9MI	G.S. Milne	c/o Bermuda Telephone Co. Ltd., Cedar Avenue, Hamilton, Bermuda.
62	G3OAZ	<u>J. Akehurst</u>	97 Royal Sussex Crescent, Eastbourne, Sussex.
69	G3VSF	A. Shaw	9 Acacia Road, Bournville, Birmingham, 30
77	G3IUH	Major P.S. Harris	64 Branksome Hill Road, Colledge Town, Camberley, Surrey.
91	G3NZY	R. Shelley	6 St. Georges Place, York.
92	DL5YS	Sgt. Brown-Greaves	1 Div & Signal Regiment, B.F.P.O. 32.
98	GW3GHC	T.J. Brooke	"Pentire", Castleton, Cardiff, CF3 8UR
99	G3KPQ	S/Sgt W. Graham	37th Signal Regiment, T.A. Centre, Norfield Common, Bristol, 7.
121	G3TUM	J.M. Stuart	10 Stewards Close, Epping, Essex.
149	G3RWM	R.W. Martin	76 St. Pauls Crescent, Coleshill, Birmingham, Warwicks.
164	G3OEK	A.E. Knevett	42 Sandycroft Road, Churchdown, Cheltenham Road East, Glos.
169	G3TBP	<u>D.C. Pocock</u>	8th Signal Regiment, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
173	G3VYZ	L.W. Thompson	c/o HQ Station, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset.
201	G3BGR	S. Percival	"Casa-Mia", 33 Arden Road, Norton Road, Worcester.
208	G2FAS	S. Chambers	116 Coulston Road, Bowerham, Lancs.
211		Sig. C.L. Mayman	30th Signal Regiment, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset.
224	G3VIR	R. Brade	14A Roman Way, Hale Road, Farnham, Surrey.
515		Sgt. C. Payne	'A' Troop, 21 Signal Regiment, c/o RAF Comcen, HQ RAFG, B.F.P.O. 40

No.	CALLSIGN	NAME	ADDRESS
232	G3XHJ	W. Robins on	15 Infirmary Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
233	G3VZP	L/Cpl R. T. Morrison	12 Walls View Road, Wareham, Dorset.
235	G6ZY	Capt. S. Ingram	39 Montpelier Square, London, S.W.7.
242	G3RPJ	I.A. Cobbold	5 Avenue Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Waricks.
243	G3WBA	I. Currell	16 Coleridge Vale Road South, Clevedon, Somerset.
245	5N2NAS	G. Rose	c/o G3VIS, C46 Willow Avenue, Catterick Camp, Yorks
246		P. Ford '329	Alpha Troop, 12 Inf Bde HQ & Sig Sqn., B.F.P.O. 36
260	G8RF	J. Raby	38 Broadway, Codsall, Wolverhampton, Staffs.
261		Kay D. Hitchen	18 Kemmel Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
262	GW3MSY	A.C. Davies	"Clytha", Danycraig Drive, Llantrisant, Pontychnm, Glams.
274	G3ENE	J. Wadham	"Loders", St. Saviours Hill, Polruan-by-Fowey, Cornwall.
276		F. Atkinson	161 Admitt Road, Northampton, Northants.
281	G3BSW	H. Crisp	9A Woodlands Ride, South Ascot, Berks.
282	G3NWQ	Capt. M. Caplan	HQ Land Forces, Hong Kong, B.F.P.O. 1.
286		L/Cpl D. Hitchen	18 Kemmel Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
287	G2CDN	R.J. Toby	13 Wood Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex.
293		P.N. Henwood	Chinga Secondary School, P.O. Box 448, Nyeri, Kenya.
295	G2HKU	E.H. Trowell	"Hamlyn", Saxon Avenue, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, Kent.
309	G3FPC	D. Stephenson	Crown Flats, Watling Street, Stretton, Staffs.
316	G2WQ	A. Brown	10 Glebelands Road, Prestwich, Manchester.
321	G3HS	D. Boffin	"Moaman", Woolstona, Nr. Faringdon, Berks.
322	G2DRT	F. Rose	"Uplands", 84 Cock Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks.
333	GM3SZK	J.D. Clark	39 Castle Street, Johnshaven, By Montrose, Angus.
378	G3UDU	Sgt. J.E. Walker	18 Central Park, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset.
410	G3PNM	Lt. P.D. Smith	School of Signals, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset.
413	G3RRG	P.C. Taylor	9 Firs Close, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, Worcs.
423	DL5XG	WO 11 R. Wakeman	3 R.H.A. BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE, 41
442	G3VIS	Sgt. R.W. Cox	"Heatherlea", 12 Linton Rise, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
452	G3WHZ	Cpl Jarrett	13 Thorney Hill Park, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
456	G3VBE	Cpl F.G. Miles	29B Wilbury Gardens, Hove, BN3 GHQ, Sussex.
466		WO (F of S) B.W. Thomas	9th Signal Regiment, British Forces Post Office, 53
470	G3WNG	Capt. (TOT) J.R. Grigsby	225 Signal Squadron, British Forces Post Office, 53
AFF 3	G3XRE	Amateur Radio Club	Royal School of Mil Eng., Signal Wing, RSME, Chattenden Barracks, Rochester, Kent.
AFF 45	9M2RH	Amateur Radio Club	Terendak Camp, c/o G.P.O., Malacca.

REPORT ON THE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. for 1968 was opened at 1630 hrs by the Society Vice-President, Major General E.S. Cole (G2EC), who apologised for the absence of the President, Brigadier Brindley, regrettably detained on business.

The meeting was held at the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, with thirty-three members in attendance.

They were:-

Chairman	Major General E.S. Cole	G2EC	1
HQ Secretary	Major D. Barry	G3ONU	76
Field Secretary/Treasurer	Capt. R. Webb	G3EKL	46
Southern - Strategic Command rep	Lt Col Sir E. Nepean (Bart)	G5YN	40
Scottish Command rep	Capt. T. Craze	GM3VNN	210
Northern Command rep	Major L. Beaumont	G3RUS	122
Royal Signals Records rep	Lt Col N. Bower	G5HZ	23
Comdt School of Signals rep	Cpl Thompson	G3VYZ	173
10 Signal Regiment rep	Mr. S. Fella		
RMA Sandhurst rep	S/Sgt Bell	G5PM	AFF12
HQ Training Brigade rep	Sgt R. Cox	G3VIS	442
36(E) Signal Regiment (V) rep	Capt. F. Christian	G8BOF	350
Self	Capt. I. Scott	G3SYW	183
	Mr. T. Uwins	G3VNX	526
	Mr. E. Chambers	G2FYT	478
	Capt. M. Greaves	G3WEO	446
	O/C A. Sugdon	G3UNC	459
	Mr. G. Miles	G3UHE	456
	Mr. B. Watling	G3RNL	580
	L/Cpl G. Gibson		53
	Mr. E. Andrews	G3JAP	594
	Mr. R. Lee	G3VYF	527
	Mr. D. French	G3HSE	352
	Mr. R. Lock	G3PHK	144
	Mr. A. Spray	G2AVR	341
	S/Sgt J. Worrall	G3XBA	225
	Mr. D. Jarrett	G3WHZ	452
	Mr. J. Hewitt	G3SGH	151
	Mr. V. Tomlin	G3GJH	554
	Mr. F. Grant	G3FTV	367
	Mr. R. McDonald	G3DCZ	325
	O/C R. Dixon		263
	Mr. J. Mathews	G6LL	393

1. **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

It is a great pleasure to me to have been asked by your President to chair this year's A.G.M. I welcome you all to the meeting and hope that it will be of use to the Society.

I have received letters of good wishes and apologies for absence from Col Clinch DL5XR, John Hodgkin G3EJF and Walter Caughey GI2DZG.

Since the last A.G.M. the Society has -

- (a) Received Corps recognition by a generous grant of £200 from Corps funds which has enabled the HQ Station to purchase needed equipment and as a result the Society can make short loans of equipment to authorised expeditions .
- (b) Stabilised the membership at about 550, over half being life members and the effect of this will be discussed after the Treasurer's report.
- (c) Given assistance to two expeditions by meeting the expense of QSL cards for:-
 - (1) VQ9JW - Sgt John Walker who accompanied the Royal Society Expedition to Aldabra from Aug. 67 - Mar 68.
 - (2) VS5RCS - Capt. Dennis Bowden who activated Brunei for four days in May/June. 68. Full details have been published in the Wire, Mercury and Amateur Radio Magazines on both sides of the Atlantic.
- (d) Seen a tremendous increase in numbers applying for the Class II and I Awards. Whilst this is most gratifying the expense involved gives rise to concern and this will be discussed in detail under ITEM 7.
- (e) Mercury, the Society Journal, appears to meet approval but I would stress that it depends upon the members to provide articles if it is to continue at its present high standard.

I will now ask Major Barry to deal with the last A.G.M. minutes.

2. **MINUTES OF THE 1967 A.G.M.**

There were no points arising from the 1967 A.G.M. and it was proposed by Capt. Greaves and seconded by Major Beaumont that they be accepted as true record - CARRIED.

3. **ELECTION/CONFIRMATION OF OFFICE**

The HQ Secretary post had been filled by Major D. Barry during the preceding twelve months, vice Lt Col Martinsen.

There were no objections to this.

4. (a) **FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Since the last A.G.M. the Society membership has dropped overall by some sixty members and now stands at 534. Don't get the impression that many members are dissatisfied with the Society. On the contrary, numerous letters received prove that the interested members are more than satisfied. I say interested deliberately, as I feel that the rather drastic pruning I have attempted over the year has produced a more keen and virile membership. At least I would like to think so.

We still have members serving (and active) in ten overseas countries and the occasional foray by some of our members into even more exotic call sign areas allows a fair amount of DX hunting for those who enjoy it.

As requested at the last A.G.M. slow morse transmissions are being made twice a week from your HQ Station G4RS. These transmissions seem well patronised and reports have been received from all over the country. The HQ Station operator, Les, G3VYZ, has been responsible for this service. Also, as the result of requests, G4RS has been operating much more on CW than A3A.

As a result of the Corps Committee grant a Heathkit SB 101 was purchased and this has allowed a transceiver to be loaned to members for DX and unusual operations. Since February this year, it has been used in 5A4 land by G3WBL (124), in the more remote areas of GM land, by G5PM (AFF Club 12) and again by G5PM for the Sandhurst Horse show. If transport arrangements can be completed it will be going out to MB4P later this month.

Your HQ Station is acting as host station to the "International Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air" later this month and, operating as GB4RS, will be heard on all bands (this will not be a call for the Awards Scheme). Earlier this year, G3CIO and the Catterick Amateurs kindly held the fort as GB3RCS over the Old Comrades Week-end.

There have been suggestions that the Society run it's own QSL Bureau for members. Should anyone wish to take this on (purely for members) then perhaps they would be good enough to drop me a line. Regrettably the HQ Station Staff (EKL and VYZ) can't cope!

Attempts to find a permanent resting place for G4RS have so far proved unsuccessful. One building offered at Blandford was declared unsafe, but another one at present being negotiated for will have a life of about ten years if successful.

Finally a reminder to you all that the Corps Fiftieth Anniversary is drawing close. I have already asked for suggestions as to how the Society can assist at these celebrations, but I have only received two suggestions so far and would like some more ideas.

(b) **MATTERS ARISING**

- (i) The RMA Sandhurst rep wishes to thank the Society for the two loans of the transceiver, and in particular asked that a vote of thanks be passed to O.C.61 Signal Squadron (City of Edinburgh) (T & A.V.R) who was extremely helpful in assisting with the GM expeditions mounted by G5PM.
- (ii) G3WBL had also written to the Field Secretary expressing his thanks for the equipment loan whilst in Libya.

5. (a) **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Balance Sheet for the last twelve months shows a loss of £11,116/6/0. This figure includes a property revaluation of £11,000 (the Marconi D11 cabin) which has been removed from the account to prevent showing a false figure.

The actual excess of expenditure over income during the year was £116/6/0 and this has been incurred by the purchase of property (now an asset), additional expenditure on the "Mercury", high insurance, higher postage expenses, QSL card donations to our two DX-peditions and a direct loss of £81 on the Awards Scheme. (The audited Statement of Accounts is opposite).

I warned you all last year that the Awards Scheme would be expensive and a drain of £81 odd is a substantial sum that the Society can ill afford.

As mentioned earlier and as the result of a direct drive to sort out the dead wood in the Society, membership fell to 450 of the 600 on the books at the last A.G.M. Of our current membership only 289 are Annual Members, i.e. only 289 will be paying annual subscriptions in 1969, some £72. This, together with profit from the sale of QSL cards, should make our income for the coming year about £100, which cannot meet our present commitments. To make ends meet I am left with cutting back on Mercury" and/or the Awards Scheme or increasing the Society income by some means or other. I do not consider it feasible to increase the cost of the QSL cards, but am willing to sell the plain Society card in lots of 100 if need be. (the price would be ten shillings including postage).

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT AS AT 31st AUGUST 1968

The Society had the following assets as at:-

Expenditure was:-

	31 August 67	31 August 68
Cash in Hand		14. 11. 1
Cash at Bank	376. 9. 2	309. 11. 6
Property	11,291. 6. 1	550. 11. 0
Stock	19. 0. 11	21. 9. 2
Total	<u>£11,686. 16. 2</u>	<u>£ 896. 2. 9</u>

Income was:-

	Sept. 66/67	Sept. 67/68
Subscriptions	156. 8. 6	293. 7. 8
Sale of Stock	194. 8. 1	135. 13. 10
Corps Committee donations		200. 0. 0
Members donations		4. 15. 0
Unused Cheques		2. 6
	<u>£350. 16. 7</u>	<u>£633. 19. 0</u>

Loss over year 1967/68 £11,116. 6. 0

Certified the above statement is a true extract from the audited Society Accounts
17th. Septemder. 1968.

	Sept 66/67	Sept 67/68
Property transfer to G3CIO	204. 9. 10	
Stock transfer to G3CIO	43. 8. 10	
Property & Stock Write Off	41. 2. 5	
Insurances	7. 8. 9	39. 9. 0
Stationery	1. 13. 0	1. 10. 0
Postage & Overprinting	44. 18. 5	88. 9. 11
"Mercury" Articles	17. 0. 0	36. 0. 0
HQ Station QSL Cards	7. 9. 8	5. 5. 0
Donations to G3CIO	75. 0. 0	
Donations to 14th Sig Regt	20. 0. 0	
Awards Scheme	4. 5. 0	81. 9. 3
Licence Fees	8. 0. 0	6. 0. 0
RSGB affiliation fee	1. 7. 0	1. 1. 0
RSGB, SWM & PW Subs	3. 16. 0	
Purchase of Stock (QSL's & Paper)	61. 17. 9	135. 10. 8
Property Depreciation	117. 18. 2	23. 15. 11
Property Revaluation		11,000. 0. 0
Property Purchase		283. 0. 10
HQ Station Maintenance		6. 17. 6
QSL Cards (VQ9JW & VS5RCS)		29. 5. 0
Wreath		3. 3. 0
Advertising (1967 Exhibition)		3. 1. 11
	<u>£659. 14. 10</u>	<u>£11,750. 5. 0</u>

 } Society
 } Auditor

(b) **MATTERS ARISING**

G3WEO suggested that the "Mercury" should be paid for, but this was not agreed.

It was explained by G2EC that two items were preventing us from paying our way -

(a) Mercury - Postage and Articles - £80 approx.

(b) Awards Scheme

- £80 approx.

Discounting the Awards Scheme which would be dealt with later - there is still a deficiency mainly caused by postage and article fees. Any increase in life membership decreases annual income. Whilst we do not wish to make a profit, we must balance the books.

After discussion it was agreed that it would be necessary to increase the membership subscription.

- (a) GM3VNN proposed and G3VNX seconded that the Life Membership fee be increased to £5 - CARRIED
- (b) G3XBA proposed and G3RUS seconded that the Annual Membership fee be increased to 10/- a year - CARRIED, with one dissension.
- (c) There would be no change to the affiliated Club fee, and the new subscriptions would be effective from 1st January 1969 - CARRIED.
- (d) A view was expressed that if any life member felt inclined to contribute a further £3 it would be gratefully accepted but that life membership subscriptions were not to be made retrospective.
- (e) It was proposed by G3SYW and seconded by G3RUS that the 1967/68 Balance Sheet be adopted and that the Society auditors be thanked for their work - CARRIED.

6. **JOINT SERVICE EXPEDITION TO GREENLAND MAR - SEP 69**

The Chairman stated that all CSOs etc. in UK and BAOR had been circulated regarding DCI 153/68. If an R.S.A.R.S. member were nominated and selected to go on this Expedition he would receive all support possible from the Society for the Amateur Radio side of the Expedition. (HQ Sec Note - It is understood that Sgt R Cox G3VIS may be nominated by HQ Training Brigade).

7. **THE AWARDS SCHEME**

- (a) The Chairman stated that he had received Walter Caughey's (GI2DZG) resignation with regret. Walter had run the Awards Scheme since its inception and he considered the Society should offer Walter an Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his services. This was unanimously agreed by all present.
- (b) The Chairman then stated that the cost of the Awards Scheme was proving to be more than the Society could afford, and this was due to the interest that members were showing. This was gratifying but clearly the Award Scheme would have to be revised. Briefly there were two choices open:-

Members to pay for the awards, or as far as European members were concerned, to raise the number of qualifying QSL cards required.

Considerable discussion ensued lasting over an hour, the majority of those present contributing views.

Among the points raised were the following:-

- (i) The Award Scheme, if extended to all Amateurs, would help to subsidise the Award Scheme for members .
- (ii) The main expense at present was for the plaque at £2. 10s. 0d. each. Current certificates were 2/2d each - but - this price was for 200 purchased some three years ago. The next certificates would be more expensive.
- (iii) If the Awards Scheme were open to all Amateurs the plaque would not be available to non R.S.A.R.S. members.

(c) Two alternatives were finally proposed:-

SCHEME 'A'. - three certificates (based upon the present Class II Award)
Third Class - 25 QSLs required
Second Class - 50 QSLs required
First Class - 100 QSLs required
Each application requires 5/0 or 8 x IRC or \$1 US

SCHEME 'B'. - One certificate (based upon the current Class II Award).
Certificate - 50 QSLs - thereafter stickers would be awarded for every 50 additional QSLs. Certificate application would be 5/0 or 8 x IRC or \$1 US. Each sticker would be at half this rate .

(d) Either scheme would be free to R.S.A.R.S. members. Plaques would not be available to non-members and would only be available to R.S.A.R.S. members on repayment. Plaques would be available at the 100 QSL point with SCHEME 'A', and the 50 QSL point on SCHEME 'B'.

(e) The members present were equally divided between the proposals and some members were not in favour of the awards being available to non-members.

(f) It was therefore decided that as this was an important matter all members of the Society should be given a chance to express their opinion, and therefore a ballot slip would be inserted in Mercury. Members would return the slip to the Field Secretary by 30 Nov. 68.

(g) A Committee would then meet to count the votes, determine the new Scheme and draw-up the necessary rules.

(h) The current Award Scheme will terminate on 31 Dec. 68. All QSL cards up to and inclusive of 31 Dec. 68 will count for the present Award Scheme.

(j) A new Award Scheme will commence with effect from 1 Jan 69, and details will be published in the winter edition of Mercury".

HQ Secretary's NOTE

The Ballot paper is in this MERCURY.
If not received by 30 Nov. 68, it is assumed you are not interested in having a say in the Society's affairs.
Don't complain afterwards if you do not vote

8. ARMY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

G3RUS spoke asking why the Society could not become the Army Amateur Radio Society.

The chairman stated that this had been fully investigated before and that no one body would be prepared to sponsor or support it.

Therefore R. Signals would have to continue to sponsor the Society and it would have to remain in the Corps hands if we were to get financial support from the Corps.

However note was taken of the suggestion, and the rules for membership had been redrafted to cater for other than Corps members.

9. REVISION OF MEMBERSHIP RULES

The HQ Secretary introduced the proposed redraft of the rules covering membership. He explained that in fact the A.G.M. of 1966 had already agreed to extend membership to all serving soldiers. The proposed redraft included all approved changes, and this new revision included all personnel serving with or employed by a R Signals unit - regular or T.& A.V.R. members of the CCF/ACF and University O.T.C. were also included.

. The proposed redraft is as follows:-

5. MEMBERSHIP

The Society shall provide for the following classes of membership:-

- a. Ordinary Membership shall be granted to any serving or retired member of Royal Signals including Royal Signals T. & A.V.R.
- b. Associated Membership shall be granted to the following who are not eligible for ordinary membership:-
 - (1) Any serving or retired member of the British Army and T. & A.V.R.
 - (2) Any person serving with, or employed by, a Royal Signals Unit.
 - (3) Any serving or retired member of the Commonwealth Signal Corps.
 - (4) Any member of the CCF/ACF and University O.T.C.
- c. Affiliated Membership shall be granted to:-
 - (1) Any Royal Signals Amateur Radio Club, Regular and T. & A.V.R.
 - (2) Any Amateur Radio Club in the British Army Regular and T. & A.V.R.
 - (3) Any Amateur Radio Club in the Commonwealth Signal Corps.
 - (4) Any Amateur Radio Club of the CCF/ACF and University O.T.C.
- d. Honorary Life Membership may be granted to such persons, who, in the opinion of the Council of the Society, have rendered outstanding service to the Society. Such membership shall carry the full privileges of Ordinary Membership but will be free of all subscriptions and dues.”

It was proposed by G3VIS and seconded by GM3VNN that the revised rules be adopted.

The meeting agreed unanimously.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) BAOR. The HQ Secretary informed the meeting of the contents of a letter received from Col Clinch, BOAR Command rep, who had hoped to get to the meeting.

Clearly the BOAR members are being well looked after.

(b) BAOR. DL5YT had raised the question of a grant from the Society to meet the cost of the WARSIG Award.

It was decided to leave this in abeyance until someone had won the Award particularly in view of the Society finances at the present.

(c) HQ SECRETARY AFTER NOTE. It is understood that there might be a demand for a R.S.A.R.S. Tie. Before investigating this will members indicate on their ballot form if they would be prepared to purchase a DARK BLUE TERYLENE TIE WITH a suitable motif. If sufficient numbers can be ordered the cost would be about £1 - £1. 5s. 0d. each.

11. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1840 hrs

ACTIVITY PERIODS

The usual activity periods for the quarter are shown below. It seems that since a fixed time and frequency frame has been laid down for the HQ station that some of our members are following a similar system. To cater for the changes in propagation, certain alterations have been made to the schedule. G4RS will be adhering to the following timetable on the Activity Days, all times GMT

0900 hrs 7010; 0930 hrs 14020; 1000 hrs 21030 until 1100 hrs
1300 hrs 7050; 1330 hrs 14180; 1400 hrs 14020
1430 hrs 21380 until 1600 hrs

As usual, G4RS will be running slow morse xmissions each Tuesday and Thursday evening at 2000 GMT on 1865 Khz. Speeds vary between 8 and 15 wpm.

The Signals net will be on the same evenings commencing at 1900 Z on 3780 plus or minus 5.

Almost forgot - Activity days:

27th October 24th November 29th December 28th January '69