



# MERCURY

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

NUMBER 35

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1971

**ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

(Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain)

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**RSARS/RAIBC STAMP SECTION**

Please send all used or unused  
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Mr. A. Herridge, G3IDG, RSARS 024,  
96, George Street,  
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**HEADQUARTERS STATION CALLSIGNS**

NORMAL ..... G4RS  
SPECIAL EVENT STATION .... GB3RCS  
OTHERS AS DETAILED WHEN KNOWN.

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(G2EC)

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WO II (F of S) W.F. Graham G3KPQ  
C/O, Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society,  
School of Signals,  
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C/O. (ADDRESS AS FOR GEN. SEC.)

**CCF/ACE SECTION MANAGER**

Mr. I Jolly, RSARS 605, G8E00  
Oakmere,  
68 Liverpool Road,  
Chester.

**MEMBERS SUPPLIES**

FROM THE GEN. SEC. AT HQ.

**HQ LOCATION**

1<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Survey - Sheet 179  
GRID REF. 921 091

**ACTIVITY DAYS**

G4RS OPERATES ON 3720 kHz ( $\pm 2$  kHz)  
Every Tuesday and Thursday evening,  
Commencing at 1900 hrs. GMT. The last  
Sunday in each month is also an Activity day.

**HEADQUARTERS STATION W.A.B. AREA**

ST 90

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Annual fee: 10/- (50np)  
Life membership: Five Pounds.

MERCURY WILL NORMALLY BE PUBLISHED QUARTERLY, AT THE FOLLOWING PERIODS.

SPRING EDITION ..... APRIL ..... SUMMER EDITION ..... JULY

AUTUMN EDITION ..... OCTOBER ..... WINTER EDITION ..... JANUARY

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT EDITION TO REACH THE EDITOR BEFORE 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPT. 1971. THANK YOU.

FROM: THE GENERAL SECRETARY,  
ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY,  
SCHOOL OF SIGNALS,  
BLANDFORD CAMP,  
DORSET



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SPRING NEWS LETTER

MAY 1971

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### PUBLICATION OF MERCURY

It is rather unusual for the society to publish a news letter, but in this case I am sure you will agree it is justified because as you already know there will be no Spring edition of Mercury. Two factors are responsible for this situation:

Firstly, the postal strike stopped the flow of information and since information is the lifeblood of the kind of magazine we put out, Ray Vasper the editor, consulted myself and others at HQ Station. On the basis of what we had to hand and what information we could expect to receive, through the resumed postal service, we advised against going to press. Another factor was the amount of paper which was available for publication. We got the impression, without being told officially, that stocks were running low due to another strike situation!

With a bit of luck we should be back to normal soon, as Ray is hard at work producing the Summer edition, which you should have to hand about the middle of June (1971). In the meantime I am faced with the problem of producing and circulating a programme setting out the activities we hope to pursue as a society, during the coming summer. The need to inform everyone in good time has led to the production of this newsletter which it is hoped will reach you all early enough to allow planning ahead.

We have a number of interesting and varied activities which can be persued from the comfort of the 'shack' or alternatively from the car or caravan, either working mobile or "eyeball QSOing" as the times and different locations throughout the country permit. We shall be at Blandford, Catterick Camp, Longleat House and Scarborough. All the details will be found overleaf.....

NB Just to show that we proof read our material, for the mis-spelt "persued" read "followed".

### BIRTHDAY ACTIVITY WEEKEND.

**19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>** Did you know that the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society is 10 years old in June? Col. Barry/G3ONU wrote in to remind us, and as a celebration he suggested a "bumper activity weekend". We hope you will join in. G4RS will be operating from Blandford Camp using all the following modes: CW/SSB/RTTY both 45.5 and 50 baud operation, from 160 metres thro 2 metres. No 4 Metre operation however. Details to follow.

### THE OLD COMRADES WEEKEND.

**26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>** This will take place as usual at that well known venue Catterick Camp. The station will operate under the callsign GB3RSC (Royal Signals Catterick) it will be manned by G3VIS, Ron Cox, G3EJF John Hodgkins, G3RUS Les Beaumont, G3XSN Bert Donn, G3WRY Tony Tabberer, etc. etc. Dave French, G3HSE, our QSL manager will be there and Maurice Caplan, DA2YW is trying to put in an appearance. G4RS will be giving moral support from Longleat.

### LONGLEAT MOBILE RALLY

This year we have decided to join this very popular family affair. The callsign has not yet been decided, but the chances are we shall work G4RS/A. The intention is to take two HF mobile (professional) equipments with us capable of working all modes including 45.5 and 50 baud RTTY. All are welcome at the RSARS stand. The rally organisers are the City and County of Bristol RSGB Group, at Longleat Park, Nr. Warminster, Wiltshire. Start 1000 hours. The roadsigns to the park are labelled "Lion reserve" and easily identifiable.

Talk - in stations, will operate on 1.942 MHz, 70.425 MHz, and 144.350 MHz. There will also be: Trade shows, RSGB bookstall, Junk sale, and Refreshments.

If you wish to camp or caravan overnight on the Saturday you must make an advance booking. I will do this for you if I am notified by the return of the attached proforma.

### SCARBOROUGH MOBILIE RALLY.

The Scarborough Amateur Radio Society organises this event, which is popular with a number of our members. The General Secretary has extended a cordial invitation to our members residing in the North to participate. The place: Scarborough Signal Training Centre, Burniston Barracks, Scarborough, Yorks. Bring and Buy stall, Refreshments, and no doubt lengthy eyeball QSOs .

## OPEN DAY AT G4RS

**18<sup>th</sup> JULY.** An open day at Blandford, at some time during the summer, has become an annual event. Last year we were visited by members during the Corps Bi-centenary celebrations, On that occasion, as on all previous occasions, visitors were taken on a tour of the Museum etc. We were recently asked "Can we go round the Museum yet again?" the answer is no, not this year. There are two main reasons for this, one is that we can no longer find a guide capable of remaining awake throughout the entire museum tour, and in the second place we are showing off the new station located in it's smart new building. We will also be taken on a tour of the professional equipment in the building.

I had hoped to arrange a couple of lectures, but I am unable to finalise the programme. The final details, however, will appear in the June Mercury. If you do decide to attend could you please let me know as soon as possible after you receive your Mercury to help us on the problem of numbers. Refreshments will be available.

## LATE NEWS. THE AGM IS TO BE HELD DURING THE AFTERNOON.

Start: 1200 hours

Finish: 1700 hours.

## 900<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF RICHMOND CASTLE

Signallers have been around Richmond for the last 900 years, we know for sure. One cannot run a respectable castle without them.

Down the centuries various forms of signalling have been used, each one a product of the technology of that particular age. They also discovered ways of discouraging unwanted callers by pouring such commodities as boiling lead or burning oil down upon their unsuspecting heads. Perhaps we are being unkind to say that this was practised at Richmond, they were far too civilised in the North. So the blame for such disagreeable behaviour must rest with Normans and other itinerant Southern Nits. No? Oh well it was worth a try anyway, the whole point is, that in order to celebrate 900 years of history, the Catterick group, led by our contest manager Ron Cox, G3VIS/RSARS 442, are joining in by setting up a special station which will be active over a period of 28 days from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August until Saturday 18 th September. The callsign will be GB3CC or GB3RCA.

Ron has designed a special QSL card to mark the occasion. It is appropriate that 'Jimmy' will be printed on the card as a symbol of the Corps long association with the town.

## A GENTLE REMINDER

Everybody seems to have a hand in our pockets nowadays, removing our hard earned lolly. HI. In this day and age a 50p annual subscription to the society is not much, is it? Well if you have inadvertently overlooked your renewal this time, you are about to receive your last Mercury! (Ve haf vays of making you pay!). In any case we are always glad if you do fill in the attached proforma and send it off to us whilst you are thinking about it. All the best and 73 from



WO II (FOS) Graham, MBE Gen. Sec.

10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITY WEEKEND 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> JUNE

How many Royal Signals amateur radio stations can you work during the weekend between 1000 hours GMT on Saturday to 1800 hours GMT on Sunday.

You will be awarded one point for every UK station worked, 2 points for continentals, 5 points for stations located in the Near East, Middle East and Far East, and a bumper 10 points for stations in VK, ZL, VE and Wland.

The station with the largest number of points gained in QSO will be awarded a prize, so also will the SWL with the maximum number of QSOs logged. Please submit your check sheets to the Gen. Sec. Laid out in the following form:

Time.	Stn worked.	RSARS No.	Points.

SWLs change col. 2 to "stns heard".

SCHEDULE OF OPERATION FROM G4RS/GB3RCS. HQ STATION BLANDFORD CAMP

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June

<u>Time (GMT)</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Approx. freq.</u>	<u>Mode.</u>	<u>Antenna</u>
1000 - 1200	40m	7050 kHz.	SSB voice	Dipole
1200 - 1400	40m	7010 kHz.	CW	"
1400 - 1600	15m 20m	21180 kHz. ) 14180 kHz. )	SSB voice	3 Element beam
1600 - 1700	15m 20m	21030 kHz. ) 14020 kHz. )	CW	" "
1700 - 1800	80m	3580 kHz.	RTT 50 baud	Dipole
1800 - 1900	20m	14090 kHz.	RTT 45.5 baud	3 Element beam
1900 - 2000	80m	3540 kHz.	CW	Dipole
2000 - 2100	2m	145.41 mHz 144.04 mHz	SSB/CW CW	10 Element beam (1 <sup>st</sup> 20 min pointing N.) (2 <sup>nd</sup> 20 min pointing W.) (3 <sup>rd</sup> 20 min pointing E.)
2100 - 2230	80m	3720 kHz.	SSB voice	Dipole
2230 - 2330	20m	14280 kHz.	SSB voice	3 El. beam pointing at VE & W
2330 on.	160m		SSB/CW	Sloping dipole

SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE SCHEDULE.

<u>Time (GMT)</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Approx. freq.</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Antenna</u>
0900 - 1000	40 m	7010 kHz	CW	Dipole
1000 - 1200	40 m	7050 kHz	SSB voice	"
1200 - 1230	80 m	3540 kHz	CW	"
1230 - 1400	80 m	3720 kHz	SSB voice	"
1400 -1600	15 m 20 m	21180 kHz ) 14180 kHz )	SSB voice	3 Element beam
1600 -1700	2 m	145-41 mHz	SSB voice	10 El. sched. as for Saturday
1700 -1800	80 m	3720	SSB voice	Dipole

Close down from 1800 hours.

Please post your entries on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> July, addressed to the General Secretary. Winners will be announced in the Autumn edition of Mercury.

Prizes will be a RSARS Tie, and a lapel badge with your callsign/SWL number engraved on the scroll, alternatively you can choose other items in stock up to the same value.

GUD LUCK

73

G4RS



ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

\*\*\*\*\*MEMBERS SUPPLIES\*\*\*\*\*

- Members Notepaper - Approximately 6 1/2" x 8" good quality notepaper, headed "ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, "Members Correspondence" and a figure of Mercury in Blue. Also space for Call-sign and Membership Number. New series, but no increase in price.
- Members QSL cards - THESE ARE A BETTER QUALITY CARD AT THE OLD PRICE. All cards have a "Jimmy" with "Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society" and "Member Station" on the front and printed details on the reverse permitting the card to be used as a) a QSL for a QSO, b) a SWL report and c) to acknowledge a SWL report. This is the basic card which can be overprinted with your membership number, call-sign, name and address etc., in RED, BLACK, GREEN or BLUE at a small extra charge. Minimum order quantities: Basic = 100, Overprinted = 500.
- Members Lapel Badges - In light blue, dark blue and green, with "RSARS" initials in black. All brooch fitting. Plain at 12p or with your call-sign or membership number on an attached scroll - 37p.
- RSARS Ties - In good quality Crimplene and Terylene, dark blue, with alternate angular rows of "Jimmy" and RSARS badge. Manufactured by a leading London Colour House at £1.28p post free.
- Log Books - By N.W. Electronics. Good quality white paper, with over 100 pages. "Q" Codes, Reporting systems etc. 37p post free.

ORDER FORM.

To: General Secretary  
R.S.A.R.S.  
School of Signals,  
Blandford Camp,  
Blandford Forum,  
Dorset.

From : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_/\_\_\_/19\_\_\_

Call-sign : \_\_\_\_\_

RSARS No. : \_\_\_\_\_

Please supply the following goods :-

			£	s	d
_____	Sheets of Members headed Notepaper	@ 42p per 100	_____	_____	_____
_____	Basic QSL cards	@ 50p per 100	_____	_____	_____
_____	Basic QSL cards	@ £1.88p per 500	_____	_____	_____
_____	Overprinted QSL cards in (Colour) _____	@ £2.63p per 500	_____	_____	_____
_____	Plain lapel badge(s)	@ 12p each	_____	_____	_____
_____	Call-sign lapel badge(s) (_____)	@ 38p each	_____	_____	_____
_____	Society Tie(s)	@ £1.28p each	_____	_____	_____
_____	Log Book(s)	@ 38p each	_____	_____	_____
_____	1970 Annual Subscription	@ 50p	_____	_____	_____

Total : \_\_\_\_\_

Note : All prices post free. Overprint colours RED, BLUE, BLACK, GREEN. I enclose Cheque/Money Order/Postal Order/Cash to cover total cost. Please cross Cheques and Postal Orders and Register cash.

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_