

MERCURY

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ROYAL SIGNALS
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 58

WINTER 1977

ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
(AFFILIATED TO THE RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN)

PRESIDENT : Brigadier D.H. Baynham GM, B.Sc, (Econ), G3DHB

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STATION MANAGER (HQ) : Sgt. C. Harvey, G3YBT.

STATION LIBRARIAN (HQ) : Cpl. Barry Jenkins, G4CJZ. Tel. Ext. 298.

CONTEST AND AWARDS MANAGER: Major (QM) R.A. Webb, Royal Signals, G3EKL, 3, Hillcrest, Scotton, Catterick Garrison, Yorks. DL9 3NJ.

QSL BUREAU MANAGER : Mr. J. Button, G3YSK, 13 Taplings Road, Weeke, Winchester, Hants., Tel. Winchester 64452. (Cards for members ONLY and SAEs to this address please).

SWL SECTION : Mr. G. Allis, RSARS 0481, 117 Chessington Road, West Ewell, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 9XB

ACF/CCF SECTION MANAGER: Captain M.J. Buckley, RSARS 0391, 62 Ballards Way, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 7JN.

ACF/CCF CALL-SIGN : G4CCF (Held by J.B. Jenkins, G3CZJ, 18 Valley Road, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8RH.

SOCIETY STORES MANAGER: S/Sgt R.S. Ford, Mil. Adm., M.V.E.E. Box 2, Cobham Lane, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 0EE

NON-SERVING COUNCIL MEMBER AND ASST. NET CONTROLLER : Capt. C.R. Mountjoy, GW3ASW, 'Panta Villa', 55, Aberdare Road, Cumbach, Aberdare, Glamorgan.

SECOND NON-SERVING COUNCIL MEMBER : Maj. D.W.J. Haylock, G3ADZ, 6, St. Marks Avenue, Bilton, Rugby, Warwicks., CV22 7NP.

HEADQUARTERS STATION : Normal call-sign - G4RS at Blandford Camp, or /A as necessary.

SPECIAL CALL-SIGNS : GB3RCS, as required. GB2AAD GB3AAD, The Aldershot Army Display, Rushmoor Arena, Aldershot. G4CCF with G4CZJ (See above)

BLANDFORD CAMP: Grid Reference (1" Ordnance Survey Map Sheet No.179) - 921 091.

QRA Locator : YK10e. WAB Area - ST 90.

SOCIETY FEES : £1 (One Pound Sterling) per annum (£2 w.e.f. 1 Jan 1978). Life Membership : £15 (Fifteen Pounds Sterling) (£20 w.e.f. 1 Jan 1978) after three years consecutive Annual Membership. Fees for affiliation by Clubs, etc., are the same.

Annual Membership fees become due on 1st January each year irrespective of the month in which the member joined. Members joining on or after 1st September are granted the remainder of that year FREE providing that fees for the following year are paid at the time of joining. Fees may be paid by Bankers Order (Forms free from RSARS HQ). In the event of non-payment of fees no "Mercury" after the Winter edition will normally be forwarded and the members name will be removed from the membership list on April 30th in accordance with Rule 9. The Editor reserves the right not to forward copies of "Mercury" in the event of two or more editions being returned undelivered indicating an un-notified change of address. Membership dates from the 1st of the month in which application is made, if approved by Council.

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RSARS NEWS LETTER - DECEMBER 1977

1. Owing to the pressure of work on the under-staffed Reproduction Section at the School of Signals it is not possible to reproduce another MERCURY this year. This News Letter is to bridge the gap between the Autumn issue and Spring 1978 issue which we hope to produce next April. Articles for this issue are badly required. Please let me have them by 31 January.

2. First, let me on behalf of the President and Council wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

3. The first item of news is good. We have a new Sales and Stores Manager, Ron Ford G3NKO RSARS 0227. Please send your order forms to him instead of to G3EKL as instructed in the last paragraph on Page 1 of the Autumn MERCURY. His address is:

Staff Sergeant R.S. Ford, Royal Signals,
Mil. Admin.,
MVEE,
Box 2 Chobham Lane,
Chertsey, Surrey.

His telephone number during working hours is Ascot 23366 Ext. 223.

4. In connection with awards, members have been having difficulty in contacting G4RS as required by Rule 1 of the operating award. This is due to the shortage of manpower at G4RS and the heavy workload on the few operators, Les and Barry, that we do have. To ease this problem Council have decided that G3CIO and G4CCF will count equally with G4RS for the purposes of Rule 1.

5. This leads on to nets and Dennis, G3ADZ, has asked me to publish the following notes on the LF CW Controlled Nets:

"a. In response to suggestions made at the AGM and elsewhere, members are asked to please note the following changes to the Wednesday evening nets, applied from 26 October 1977.

(1) Times. The control station on the 3.5 MHz net will close at 2115 clock time. The frequency will thereafter remain open as a non-controlled "Natter Net" for as long as there is any activity. The Top Band net will now open at 2200 and will be controlled for about one hour, or as long as reasonably required by members. The periods 2000 to 2010 and 2050 to 2100 are the times when:

(a) A nominated station on the main net will make a specific check on 3.550 MHz for callers.

(b) The main net will remain as silent as possible for QRP and QRS callers.

(2) Operating.

(a) All stations are requested, whilst nets are controlled, to operate at the comfortable speed of the slowest station on the net for the time being.

(b) QSY + or - 5 KHz if you want to natter with an individual station.

(c) When on net, Control will give priority to stations wishing to work G4RS/G3CIO/G4CCF.

(d) If Control has RSARS information for the net, in order to comply with licence regulations, this must be addressed to an individual station or stations with which contact has already been established. Other members on net will obviously copy and are asked to QSP to other member stations they may work outside the net. Such information will in future be transmitted at 2015 on 80 and 2230 on Top Band.

NB. All other information is as published in Spring 1977 MERCURY.
Comments/suggestions are always welcome."

6. As regards subscriptions the list of defaulters has been considerably reduced. To those who have sent cheques, many thanks. To those who had paid in advance or were life members, apologies for having maligned them and thanks for helping us to get our records straight. Even so there are still 160 who owe the full sub for 1977 and 8 who owe 50p. Subscriptions are also still outstanding from 15 Affiliated Clubs. Remember Rule 9!

PLEASE WILL ALL ANNUAL MEMBERS BE SIJRE TO RENEW THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS - £2.00 - ON OR AS SOON AFTER 1 JANUARY 1978 AS POSSIBLE.

7. In order to complete our records the Membership Secretary asks you to fill out the proforma at Annex A and return it to him promptly.

8. For those of you who could not get to the AGM the full proceedings will be published in the April MERCURY. They are too long for this News Letter. We were honoured by the presence of our founder, Major General E.S. Cole, CB CBE G2EC, and in addition to members of Council 41 members and 2 guests signed in and 29 members sent apologies. As usual the catering staff of the School gave us a first class lunch and tea at a most modest charge.

9. By the time you receive this Sergeant Les Thompson G3VYZ our Station Manager who was awarded the GW2OP Trophy for several years hard work in this appointment will have retired and Sergeant Colin Harvey, G3YBT No 0123, will have taken over. All the best to you Les and welcome to Colin.

10. The Treasurer was able to report a satisfactory state of affairs. Good grants from Corps funds, no expenditure on property and some reduction of stock has covered the cost of posting MERCURY this year pending the increase of subscription next year.

11. The Stores and Awards Manager reports that the movement of both stores and awards has been very slow this year. One new item of stores has been introduced, the RSARS motif as a flat badge, identical to the lapel badge but without the pin. The 559 Trophy went to G3UUA. GM3PIP led the CW section and G3PJB the Telephony section. G3NVK won the "Le Touquet" Trophy and HF Anniversary (Jubilee) contest went to GM3PIP. Last year's VHF contest went to Pat and Stan operating G3KJW. The "Most Overall Progress" for 1976 was awarded to G3YSK.

12. The QSL Manager reported a steady falling off in the number of cards passing through the Bureau; 11,000 in 1974, 10,000 in 1975, over 7,000 in 1976 and only 3,812 this year. 194 licensed members and 2 SWLs are using the Bureau. This is 50% down on previous years.

13. The Net Controller similarly reported a falling off in activity. It is generally agreed that the increase in workload aggravated by reductions in manpower leaves members with less time and energy to pursue their hobby. The Net Controller asks most earnestly for your support during the coming winter season. It is hoped that the new sunspot cycle will cause conditions to improve and encourage members to come on the air.

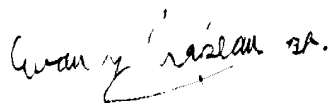
14. The LF CW Net Controller sent a special note for this letter which you will have read at paragraph 5.

15. Council were re-elected en bloc, proposed by G2TT and seconded by G6MB.

16. The AGM will be held at Catterick next year on Saturday 10 June to coincide with Old Comrades Weekend. This was proposed by G4CZJ and seconded by G2TT.

17. G3NVK is thanked for a most generous donation of £5 for the purchase of stores to be raffled free. This was won by G3BKU who, also most generously, presented it to Society funds. Thank you OM.

18. I have kept the most momentous item of news until last. Owing to an increasing shortage of manpower at Blandford, the School of Signals is finding it more and more difficult to staff HQ RSARS. The Training Brigade at Catterick is not so hard pressed and have offered to take over. It has therefore been decided that HQ RSARS and G4RS will move to Catterick in the Spring; the date for the change over will, I understand, be 1 January 1978. The Society will have returned to its old home and will be in the safe and experienced hands of those who helped to form it and build it up in its early days. We wish them every success in the future running of the Society



Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Sir Evan Y. Nepean Bt. G5YN
General Secretary Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society.

7 November 1977

Distribution to members only plus complimentary copies.

R.S.A.R.S. NETS. (LF PHONE).

MONDAY	1100 GMT	3.650 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET
MONDAY	1300 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
TUESDAY	1300 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
TUESDAY	1900 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET
WEDNESDAY	1000 A	3.650 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET
WEDNESDAY	1300 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
THURSDAY	1300 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
THURSDAY	1900 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET
FRIDAY	1300 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
SATURDAY	1000 A	7.075 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET
SUNDAY	1000 A	3.720 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	EUROPEAN NATTER NET

R.S.A.R.S. NETS. (HF PHONE).

TUESDAY	0100 GMT	14.275 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET
TUESDAY	1000 GMT	14.175 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET
WEDNESDAY	1300 GMT	14.175 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS WORLD-WIDE NET (14275 Secondary frequency)
THURSDAY	0100 GMT	14.275 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET
THURSDAY	0800 GMT	14.175 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET
SATURDAY	0100 GMT	14.275 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET
SATURDAY	0800 GMT	14.175 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET
SUNDAY	0100 GMT	14.275 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET
SUNDAY	0800 GMT	14.275 MHz	+ or -	PHONE	RSARS FAR EAST NET

OTHER RSARS PHONE FREQUENCIES.

21.375 MHz + or -, 28.575 MHz + or -. (Dependent upon bands). Call "CQ RSARS" on the hour and half-hour.

VHF PHONE.

TUESDAY	1900 A	70.22 MHz	PHONE	RSARS NATTER NET
MONDAY	1900 A	145.33 MHz	PHONE	RSARS NATTER NET
FRIDAY	1900 A	144.33 MHz	PHONE	RSARS NATTER NET

LF CW.

WEDNESDAY	1930 A	3.565 or 3.550 MHz	CW	EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET (Closing 2130GMT)
SUNDAY	1000 A	3.565 or 3.550 MHz	CW	CW EUROPEAN NATTER NET

HF CW.

FRIDAY	1900 GMT	7.025 MHz	+ or -	CW	RSARS NATTER NET
SATURDAY	1500 GMT	14.075 MHz	+ or -	CW	WORLD WIDE NATTER NET
SUNDAY	1500 GMT	21.075 MHz	+ or -	CW	WORLD WIDE NATTER NET

VHF CW.

SATURDAY	1900 A	145.33 MHz	+ or -	CW	RSARS NATTER NET
SUNDAY	1500 A	144.025 MHz	+ or -	CW	RSARS NATTER NET

LF RTTY.

SUNDAY	0900 A	3.590 MHz/QSY	RTTY	NATTER NET 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible. Avoid R.S.G.B News frequencies.
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HF RTTY.

SATURDAY	1600 GMT	14.090MHz/QSY	RTTY	NATTER NET 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible.
SUNDAY	1600 GMT	14.090MHz/QSY	RTTY	NATTER NET 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible.

Overseas members are encouraged to organise local Overseas Nets to suit local conditions/times/bands etc., and U.S.A. members are invited to arrange a 6 Metre Net. All details of local Nets/times etc., to HQ please for inclusion in 'Mercury'.

All modes. Call 'CQ RSARS' or 'CQ ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY'. During a QSO sign "GIABC de G1DEF.BT.BOTH RSARS.K" or "ONONO de G1GHI.BT.RSARS.K". DO NOT join "RSARS" to your call-sign in any way (i.e. G1JKL/RSARS). In Great Britain this is illegal under Home Office Regulations.

DO NOT WAIT FOR THE ABOVE NETS TO FORM - FILL THE NEAREST CLEAR FREQUENCY AND CALL 'CQ RSARS'. ALWAYS BOOK IN AND OUT OF RSARS NETS. PASS ALL DETAILS UNASSISTED.