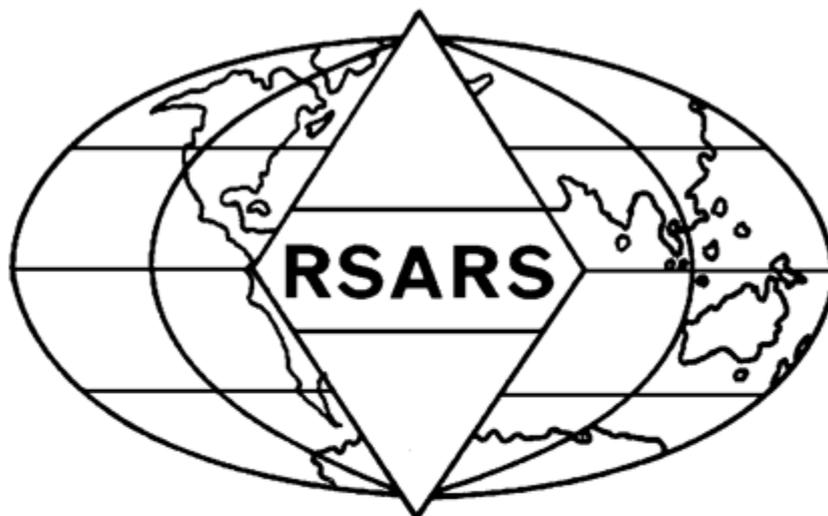


# MERCURY



THE  
ROYAL SIGNALS  
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
JOURNAL

NUMBER 73



NOVEMBER 1982

## ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

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Applications for membership and general correspondence on RSARS matters should always be sent to: The General Secretary, HQ RSARS, Trade Training School, 8th Signal Regiment, Vimy Barracks, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. DL9 3PS.

Society fees are currently: Annual UK Members £3, Annual Overseas Members £5, Life Members (after 5 years consecutive annual membership) £25. Affiliated Clubs £3. Membership fees are due on 2nd January each year. MERCURY will NOT be forwarded after the Spring Edition if membership fees are not paid. Members who have not paid annual fees will be removed from the membership list on 30th April.

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# MERCURY

## EDITORIAL

In sliding into the hot seat so recently vacated by that stalwart G3DPS it is noted that this Edition is, fortuitously, number 73, for it is "kind regards" that I extend to all Members, especially those 530 of whom have contacted me and QSL'd me to enable me to obtain the Gold Supreme Award and thus find time to tackle the Editor's job.

Clichés immediately spring to mind of new brooms sweeping clean and pleasing some of the people all of the time etc., but it is up to you the membership to submit to me articles for editing and publishing. "To edit" is defined as "to prepare (text) for publication by checking and improving its accuracy, clarity etc." and this I am willing to spend hours doing if only you would submit articles to me.

A "new look" is intended in some respects with the inclusion of a Computer Section and some emphasis on new members and the current serving members without detracting from the attention paid to long-standing members and their continued efforts in the Society's activities.

I welcome alongside me G3TAN as General Secretary and G3UAA as Awards & Contests Manager and we propose working as a team to produce for you the type of "Mercury" you will enjoy reading but with a slightly different look.

RICHARD WINTERS  
G3NVK

CHANGES IN THE SOCIETY RULES REGARDING MEMBERSHIP  
AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

At the Council Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting 1982 the Council of RSARS agreed to a change in the Society Rules with regard to:- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY.

Subsequent to the AGM the Council agreed to INCREASE THE SUBSCRIPTION RATE to Society Members, mainly due to the several increases in postal charges which the Society has had to absorb during the past two years.

These changes are promulgated as follows :

Society Rules dated August 1980 should be amended to read as follows:

" Rule 3 MEMBERSHIP

3b. Associate Membership: Associate Membership may be granted to the following who are not normally entitled to Full Membership:

- (1) Any servicing member of the British Army and/or TA.
- (2) Any servicing member of the Army Cadet Force, Combined Cadet Force or University Officers Training Corps.
- (3) Any servicing member of a Commonwealth Signals Corps.
- (4) Any civilian fully and/or wholly employed by a Royal Signals Unit.
- (5) Any servicing member of a NATO Army Signal Corps who has been attached to or worked in close liaison with Royal Signals subject to approval of Council."

" Rule 5 SUBSCRIPTIONS .

5. The current subscriptions are:

- a. Life Member £25. A Full Member may apply for Life Membership after a minimum of five years unbroken membership. Applications will be subject to Council approval.
- b. UK Full, Associate and Affiliated Member £3.
- c. Overseas Members of all grades £5 Sterling "

These changes are effective as follows:

Membership

3rd July 1982

Subscriptions

1st January 1983.

It is important for all members to understand that the change in Associate Membership does not in any way affect any current Associate Members status. The change only applies to those amateurs who apply for membership of the Society after 3rd July 1982.

D.T. LLEWELLYN  
GENERAL SECRETARY.



WELCOME - where we extend the hand of radio friendship to a few now not so new Members.

The inclusion of this column is dictated by the Rules of the Society Rule 18(c) "Including in each Edition any membership changes since the previous edition" Unfortunately limitations of space and the numbers of new Members joining the Society lately have resulted in a "back log" to the extent that we commence this issue with Member number 1581 and current new Members are appearing with numbers in the early 1900's.

RSARS 1581. Flying Officer James Allan Smith, 42 Fourth Avenue, Trenton, Ontario. VE3GI. James was first licensed in 1946 under the call of VE3BCV having learned his CW in the Royal Canadian Air Force and radio whilst a prisoner of war in Germany. His other interests include early Canadian aviation and photography and historical writing.

RSARS 1582. James Godfrey Quinn hails from 22 Hiropi Street, Newtown, Wellington and holds the call ZL2WB. National Service 1954-56 brought James into the Corps at Catterick as an OWL with later service in Tripoli, Tobruk and Malta. James is hopeful of working Catterick members especially "it brings back memories" he says.

RSARS 1583. Lionel Morley-Taylor of 70 Totterdown Lane, Bleadon Hill, Weston super Mare runs his station under the call of G3NET when he is not vintage motor cycling, fishing, caravanning and looking at wild life. Quite a change from his days with two stripes in the RAMC and RA during the war.

RSARS 1584. Ronald George Lavis of 116 Frome Road, Odd Down, Bath has held the callsign G8DX since 1936 and served with the Corps from June 1942 to June 1946 SCU 3. He is a keen fly fisherman, indulges in model engineering and has his hands into antique clock repairing whilst listening to classical music.

RSARS 1585. Brian Howard Whitehead of Old Swinford Hospital School, Stourbridge was very pleased to get his ticket in 1980 and operates under G8XPQ when his duties of I/C School Signals section permit, if he is not off sailing and canoeing.

RSARS 1586. Shaun Adrian Smith of 12 West Parade, Warminster, Wilts. first saw amateur radio being demonstrated by G2FIX at Salisbury and is hopeful of gaining his G4 ticket ere long. Clashing with his radio interests is his French horn and piano playing since he is a Bandsman.

RSARS 1587. Francis P.S. Faith of 17 Middleton Road, London NW11 is another serving member who spends his time jogging, weight training and pot-holing - he gives no details of radio interests but let's welcome him to the fold and encourage him to work for his ticket.

RSARS 1588. Thomas Roderick Howells of 26 Meol Ffynnon, Loughor, Swansea comes as No.23399166 or GW8OSM as you find him, but gives no further details.

RSARS 1589. James D.C. Savage is at Salmons Bridge Farm, Petworth, West Sussex and is interested in contacting other ex-members of the CCF/ACF National Radio Network. (Mike Buckley please note. Ed.).

RSARS 1590. Maxwell David Stark of 8 Bardia Avenue, Victoria, Australia should find the Overseas Nets of interest with his callsign of VK3APZ. Maxwell was in Royal Australian Signals from 1957 to 1964 and runs an FT101 with a TH3JR beam.

RSARS 1591. Frank Donald Martin is GW8XRH and hails from 25 Monmouth Road, Borrass Park, Wrexham, Clwyd. An ex-RE corporal, Frank asks for advice on CW learning and is anxious to obtain his GW4 call - he will have to give up his Golf, Squash and Camping and get down to it.

RSARS 1592. Joseph Stanley Owens of 51 Borrowdale Road, Bebington, Wirral transferred from RAOC to the Royal Military Police in 1951 and served with the Gurkhas till demob in 1952. He operates G4GUM with the additional attraction of /P VE6 from time to time. Another golfer, he says he plays badly.

RSARS 1593. Noel Butler is to be heard as GI4KHZ from 8 Inverwood Court, Sydenham, Belfast. Noel is a keen CW man, which is not surprising to learn when we discover that he is the son of GI3JEX. Welcome to the fold Noel.

RSARS 1594. Harold Kay of 24 Church Avenue, Dacre Banks comes to us via the Royal Navy and is to be heard as G4KIC. Following his RN service from 1943 to 1960 Harold was with 24 Signal Regiment, School of Signals and ACF/CCF matters. He also found time to operate the RN Club Station at HMS Ganges. (Perhaps he should contact G3NVK's daughter who is a budding WRNS admiral !!)

RSARS 1595. Ernest Harry Butcher was at one time D2CF but is now to be found as G3CUH from 315 Dorset Avenue, Great Baddow, Chelmsford. Interference from TV says Ernest has curtailed his HF activities and he is now mainly on 4m, 2m and 70cm when not indulging in archery.

RSARS 1596. William Stevenson is another whose main interest is HF CW as he pounds out G4KKI from 10 Crompton Street, Swinton, Manchester. A service career stretching from Junior Leaders Regiment in 1964 via BAOR, Catterick, Sharjah and other exotic places is now at an end and he is now in reserve he says.

RSARS 1597. Anthony W.S. Clements enlisted in October 1953 at Catterick and became an OWL then disappeared to Korea, Egypt, Cyprus, North Africa doubtless pursuing his 35mm photographics until he got the magic piece of paper with G4KDZ writ large on it.

RSARS 1598. Colin David Colbeck is a family man, a gardener and a photographer but still finds time to run his station G4IER from Barn House, Mulberry Garth, Thorp Arch, Wetherby, W. Yorkshire. Having obtained his AIII Radio Mechanics flash at Catterick he swanned off to Hong Kong and Kowloon with the inevitable 19, 62 and 52 sets of that era plus, as he says, "much battery charging".

RSARS 1599. Robert George Anderson is ex-REME, has the call G8WRR and writes to join us from 36 Sycamore Close, Canvey Island. Possibly by now he has mastered the Morse and reached his goal of a G4 callsign, if operating through OSCAR has allowed him the time.

RSARS 1600. Ron Wallace, G4KNB creates another landmark in the history of the Society with that number. 32 Ayres Road, Old Trafford, Manchester houses this ex OWL Cpl who is another of our anglers who also couples photography as facets of their leisure time.

RSARS 1601. Another Overseas member joins us from 9/40 Empress St., Hurstville, New South Wales and identifies himself as VK2DPI. Captain Joseph Adam Ackerman. A long career in Signals from 1929 to retirement in 1958 was rewarded with the Efficiency Medal and First Clasp. Joe collects matchbox labels and obtains relaxation from outdoor lawn bowls.

RSARS 1602. Eric Williams of 34 Arborn Drive, Upton Wirral, Merseyside when not sailing or fell walking is to be heard on all bands as G4JZR. Eric was a Company Clerk with the 22nd Cheshire Regiment and is keen on contacting service establishments overseas.

RSARS 1603. Any members of the 54/ 11 intake at Oxford who are now in amateur radio should please look out for G4KFB of 3b Derwent Road, Southall, Middlesex as Michael Laurenc Bird will be keen to talk to them.

RSARS 1604. D2BO was the call in Berlin in 1945 but now we sign as G3BEY from 66 Station Road South, Belton, Great Yarmouth where Ronald Mailey is keen to hook up with past members of 3rd Div Signals Bulford, 6th Guards Independent Tank Brigade. 5th Guards Brigade Berlin and other Units in which he served.

RSARS 1605. G4IYK is not to be heard very often but you will hear DA1CY. Stuart Dixon is with 1 Armoured Div. Engineer Regiment in BFPO 48. He lists his hobbies as his XYL (88 to her from us all), Car work and home building. Stuart is hoping to be on RTTY soon.

RSARS 1606. Reg Lock signs G4JZU from 36 Orchard Road, Barnstaple, Devon and knows Celle, Germany very well having been a Regimental Signaller there. Devon of course gives him a wonderful opportunity to go walking, which he lists as a keen interest.

RSARS 1607. When we heard from Terence Burbidge at 89 Kennet Road, Tidworth he was awaiting his G6 callsign. Terence has seen recent service in Belize and Zimbabwe and hopes soon to start a Unit Radio Club.

RSARS 1608. No callsign identifies Stuart Cox of 15 Henthorn Road, Clithero but he is a member of the British Amateur Electronics Club and is much involved in radio repairs and the more strenuous football and squash.

RSARS 1609. From Perry Roberts' application form we learn that he is at 3 Elsham Walk, Gainsborough, a signalman who fences and swims.

RSARS 1610. G3VPH is at 137 The Hatherley, Fryerns, Basildon, Essex. Ex-corporal Samuel McCarlie, REME is studying the code but is involved in home computers (the new column should interest you Sam, Ed.) and is another of our sporting enthusiasts with the racquet.

RSARS 1611. Squash and Tennis seem the favourite topic of Steven Prior who joins from 102 Reede Road, Dagenham, Essex but he tells us nothing of his amateur radio aspirations.

RSARS 1612. Were you with Royal Signals at Catterick 1936/38, India 1938/44, Caen, Lille, Cologne, Dusseldorf etc. up to 1946, if so you may have met G4CQC alias Jim Calder of 59 Queens Crescent, Gorleston, Gt. Yarmouth. Jim imbibes his home-made wines after resting in the shack from his gardening labours.

RSARS 1613. Mark Callaghan, a Signalman of 1 Sqn. 8th Signal Regiment Catterick, is so involved in his training that he forgot to tell us anything except that on his application form. Write again Mark and we'll re-introduce you at a later date.

RSARS 1614. Ever heard VK3KT, VKØKT or VK3NQ, then you've heard our new Member from 54 Rennison Street, Parkdale, Victoria. Japan and the Antarctic have also seen George Heinrichs during his extended service with various Royal Australian Signal Regiments.

RSARS 1615. Yet another VK call to register - VK5APB of PO Box 553, Berri, South Australia. Peter Blades has served in the UK but of necessity preserves the secrecy of those days but tells us he is currently working at the Moomba Gasfields on a 14-day work/14-day rest cycle.

RSARS 1616. Jim Pestell is heard on the 80m nets so often you must by now know all about him. Operating as G3BPB from 374 Dysart Road, Grantham is restricted to when he is not at his favourite Old Time or Sequence Dancing events or reminiscing about his days at Hanslope Park, Bletchley as 2393147 Royal Signals.

RSARS 1617. Another 8th Signals, Catterick Signalman Nicholas Ridings omits to fill in his details but is nonetheless very welcome as a new member.

RSARS 1618. Hello G3IKX, got the name Roger Hall and the QTH 135 Hadham Road, Bishops Stortford. Roger holds his late father's call and served 1957-59 ending up as an X2 at Catterick. His endeavour is to prevent children becoming delinquent, house collapsing, garden returning to jungle, family business going into liquidation and wife leaving in disgust.

RSARS 1619. Roderick Ashman, RSGB listens from 44 Conan Doyle Walk, Swindon, Wilts. but also goes off loco spotting and fishing. He was a member of the 48th South Midland Signal Squadron TAVR for quite some time.

RSARS 1620. Who, attending the 80m nets, has not heard of DJØSS, Eddi puts a very good signal to us from Hauptstrasse 23, 3101, Oldau, West Germany and is at present the County Communications Officer of Celle Fire Brigade. Eddi signs as G4HCW when in the UK at New Marske, near Redcar, Cleveland.

RSARS 1621. David Barrett of 52 Amphill Road, Aigburth, Liverpool tells us that his father, G4AMX, permits him to do lots of short-wave listening when he is not fishing or reading his favourite science subjects. David joined up in August 1980 and is currently a Signalman.

RSARS 1622. VK4VFO is another who saw service at Catterick but is happy now chasing European members from 138 Webb Street, Mount Isa, Queensland. Michael Hastings is the name to remember if you were at 7 TR, 1 TR or 4 TR August 1957 to April 1958.

RSARS 1623. If you want to talk car racing or soccer then look out for Leslie Harper signing VK7NHA from 6 Kathryn Court, Launceston - the one in Tasmania. Les is still a Pl. Sgt. of a special group out there.

RSARS 1624. Not quite the BBC calling but John J. Davies. G3LJD from "Wayfarers", 273 Down Road, Portishead, Bristol. Another Catterick-ite but also seeing service in Rawalpindi and Waziristan Signals. Talk to the BBC Clubs and they will know John.

RSARS 1625. Catterick's 41 Bedford Close houses Sergeant Dave Gillatt. An RAMC type he has been in Aden, Osnabruck, Hong Kong and Hannover and is now serving his last months at the Military Hospital and hopes for a retirement to Richmond when he will take up his RAE studies seriously.

RSARS 1626. Peter Johnson listens to our nets from Station Road, Stallingborough, Grimsby and is an ex resident of Vimy Lines. Peter remembers his 1949 days there with interest and is hoping to take up an RAE course shortly.

RSARS 1627. Although Alan Walker's membership came through in December 1980 we have yet to learn if he passed the RAE. He studied from 4A Winston Drive, Eaton Langbaugh, Cleveland and was with the Corps from 1956 to 1958 at Catterick and Ripon.

RSARS 1628. To the top of the pile has just come another familiar call G3DVL - oft controller and very frequent and active participant of all nets is Frank Harrop of 15 Keymer Road, Hollingbury, Brighton who shows RA, RAOC, and REME in his service details and photography as his other hobby.

RSARS 1629. An air of rarity in the call A4XIH but better known perhaps as G3KER, G8RTR and A4XCA to boot is Arthur White whose home base is 7 Lawn Lane, Sutton, Cambs. Another 7TR, 2TR and 3TR 1952-54 type he indulges in D.I.Y. around the house and car when not involved in DX pile-ups.

RSARS 1630. Another Devon man, 34 Barn Park in the delightful Buckfastleigh (I've just had 8 days yomping the Moor. Ed.) home of Bill Roberts who puts out a big signal as G3GZQ. Bill has a host of activities and a long service record but wants to contact G2FCI, G3FUT, G3HER or others who were at Catterick during WW2. Keen on sea fishing and photography, Bill also concocts home beer and wines.

RSARS 1631. Bob Pearson is G4FHU and dabbles in computing and astronomy. He resided at Vimy Lines in 1946 but is now found at 8 Gillian Crescent, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex.

RSARS 1632. G4KPJ is at 32 De-Hague Road, Norwich, goes under the name of Bernard Yallop and was first at Catterick and then in Malaya for his two years National Service. He is interested in railway steam engines.

RSARS 1633. Catterick and Korea know George Evans and we know him as G4IQK at 14 Beach Priory Gardens, Southport, Merseyside. He is a photographer and traveller and would like to afford to collect antiques.

RSARS 1634. Yet another Catterick man, a golfer, astronomer and photographer, is Alan Martindale, G3MYA of 1 Dinsdale Road, Leiston, Suffolk. Home-brewers of rigs will find Alan agog to talk to them.

RSARS 1635. Pilot Officer Thomas Walter of Reading School, Erleigh Road, Reading has been granted Associate Membership and is keen on the 80m net activity as well as Commonwealth under his call of G4KWL. He is also a member of the Reading School CCF.

RSARS 1636. Bob Ehrler is well known to us by now for his CW operating as W2AG from 30 Linden Street, Malverne, New York. His ambitions after excellent success since his Spark Gap days include getting a CW contact with 3D6BP. He enjoys oggling pretty girls on Jones Beach.

THE FULLY ANAGRAMMATIC CROSSWORD-----

G3NVK/0138

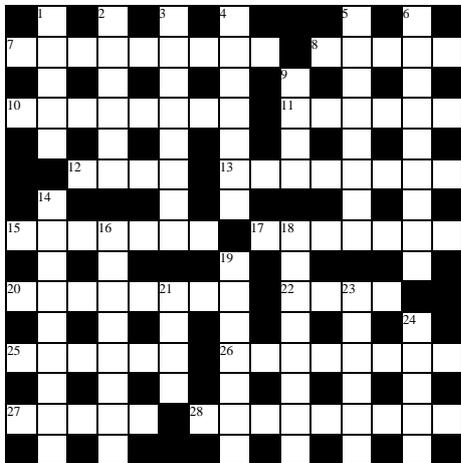
(A volunteer is worth 10 pressed men, so they say, so we are happy to record that Dick wrote in and volunteered to compile the following crossword for your edification and entertainment. If you found it interesting drop Dick a line - he can probably be talked into doing another for us.

Across

- 7. This noisy reveller will terrorise the neighbourhood. (9)
- 8. Revel in turning on a fulcrum to exert pressure. (5)
- 10. Violated the carpenter's joint. (8)
- 11. Basset is of this class (6)
- 12. Dean of S. Yemen. (4)
- 13. Strinkle small bells. (8)
- 15. Rigor Mortis is one for corpses. (7)
- 17. He will appear in end of term chorals. (7)
- 20. Hatches used for old-time roofing. (8)
- 22. Lime runs a long way. (4)

Down

- 1. Booms out from the sex adverts. (5)
- 2. Dances upward. (6)
- 3. Pertains to putting on another coat. (8)
- 4. Irately faces the truth. (7)
- 5. The girasole for the Muslim harem. (8)
- 6. Ascertain the denominationalist. (9)
- 9. Powdered bone for hard wood. (4)
- 14. Cart-horse for music lovers. (9)
- 16. Estoric exclusive circles. (8)
- 18. Demoniac laughter maker. (8)
- 19. Allay with sausage. (7)
- 21. Heal to become robust. (4)



This space donated free of charge to give you somewhere to work out your anagrams!

## CONTEST NEWS DOWN-UNDER

VK4XY/1546

First let me say thank-you to all participants in our first Xmas DX Contest held in 1981 and particularly to those who sent in an entry or a check log. The aim of the Contest was to establish contact between Overseas members and I am sure we did that. One station is reported as having worked 16 new members.

I must apologise for the lack of advance publicity of the event. It was only 16 days from the time the idea of the Contest was conceived to the starting day. This year we intend a further Christmas Contest and the details are set out below.

The results were:-

Participating stations by call areas:

VK	GM	GW	G	DJ	VE	ZL	ZS	W	9H	PA	C6
15	3	5	64	5	5	2	2	3	1	1	1

Section A - Transmitting CW. This was won by Les. VE3QE with a total of 260 points gained on 4 bands, narrowly beating Alf, G3UAA who had 176 points.

Section B - Transmitting Any mode. This was again won by VE3QE with a grand total of 317 points, followed by G2WQ who gained 251 points.

Section C - Transmitting SSB. This time VK2NLE came to the top with 119 points followed by who else but VE3QE with 111 points.

As you see, VE3QE nearly managed to scoop the pool in all sections and was only beaten at the post by his namesake VK2NLE. He followed band openings and managed to work a total of 21 stations that do not appear in any other log. He operated every day with a daily average of 16 contacts. Congratulations to both Les and Les - a very fine effort.

## VK RSARS XMAS DX CONTEST 1982

AIM The aim of the Contest is to encourage contacts between Overseas RSARS members.

SPONSOR VK/ZL Chapter RSARS.

TIME The period of the Contest will be from 0001 GMT 18 DEC 1982 to 2359 GMT 26 DEC 1982.

BANDS All HF bands may be used but NOTE: Contest contacts are NOT encouraged on the 30m band.

TROPHY A Trophy is offered to the winner of each section in each division.

DIVISIONS There will be 2 divisions in the Contest.

1. Stations located within Zone 14.

2. Stations located outside Zone 14.

Each division will have 2 sections.

(a) Transmitting Any Mode.

(b) Transmitting SSB only.

A contestant may enter for section (a) OR (b) but not both, within his division.

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD An encouragement award will be presented to the entrant whose score is closest to  $\frac{1}{3}$  the highest score in the Contest.

VK RSARS XMAS DX CONTEST 1982 - continued.

SCORING

A Contest QSO must be as follow:

- (a) For division 1 entrants - outside Zone 14
- (b) For division 2 entrants - outside the entrants own call area
- (c) Only one contact per band per mode per day will be allowed for scoring purposes
- (d) For a scoring contact the following must be exchanged: Report, Name, QTH, RSARS Number. No assistance is allowed.
- (e) Score 1 point for transmitting SSB  
Score 2 points for transmitting CW

ENTRIES

Only financial members of the RSARS are eligible to enter. The decision of the Contest Manager (VK4XY) must be accepted as final. Entrants must operate within the terms of their licence.

LOGS

Logs to be legibly set out showing the section entered, the total points scored and submitted to VK4XY by 31st January 1983.

VK4XY:

George Down,  
57 Gearside Street,  
Everton Park,  
BRISBANE,  
Queensland, 4053      Australia.

+++++

WEST LONDON 2-METRE RSARS NET.

G3VIR/224

Up to the 7th October 1982 the newly formed West London RSARS 2-metre net has met with mixed fortunes. The net attendance has gone from 1 on one occasion to 12 on another occasion. In the first few weeks the net suffered the problem of not being able to command the Channel. This has now been overcome by yours truly operating static-mobile from the top of Richmond Hill.

Although the net was originally called the West London Net it probably now needs a new name since we have had stations calling in from Portsmouth, Reading, St. Albans and Brockenhurst.

Thanks must go to Nick, G3PEC and the other stations that have helped to get the net going.

Gentlemen: the seed has been sown: it's now up to you. We are waiting to hear from you, not by letter but by being on S13 (145-325 mHz.) on Wednesdays at 2000 hours local time.

Stations calling into the net are:

Members: G2AIH, G3BBK, G3GXW, G3PEC, G3PJB, G3VIR, G4JOO, G4KFB, G8TK. (Note: not one Class B member!)

Non-members: G3SED, G4ELY, G4OQN, G6DUF, G6IGA, G6JCP, G6KYG, G6LFQ, G8SVK. (Note: nearly all Class B!)

## THE GRAPEVINE

THE OWL has flown to no-one-knows-where and this new column is in his memory and comprises a series of disconnected jottings and gleanings from undisclosed sources and no accuracy is guaranteed and all libel suits will be strenuously defended.

Merv, G4KLE reports a change of address to Hong Kong Gurkha Signal Squadron BFPO 1 and waits patiently for his VS6 callsign. His brother is a member of 45 Commando Royal Marines and recently had a trip to the Falklands. GW3KYA contacted VP8QE (now famous, Ed.) and passed a QSP that Merv's brother was ok, the latter having noticed the antenna as he entered Port Stanley and asked for VP8QE to pass the message.

Leonard/1283 attended the AGM and was disappointed to find that all the bell tents and muddy fields at Catterick had gone - kind of dispels an illusion - he says, an illusion he has held for 40 years.

Rumour has it that one of our -middle-aged members who lives some 140 miles from HQ is walking to the next AGM and hoping to be sponsored by members for funds for the Royal Signals Benevolent Society.

En route to the AGM from Sydney via the QTH of VE3QE Les, VK2NLE required some photos of Niagara Falls - 3QE arranged for the water to be turned on to achieve this.

About 1 a.m. G8NY decided to close down and retire but found himself incarcerated and unable to rouse the XYL who by then was sound asleep upstairs having inadvertently locked G8NY in the pantry cum shack which he uses. A station was raised in Walthamstow who kindly 'phoned the relevant number and obtained our hero's release. At least he wouldn't have starved!!

Fred/WA8PCT/234 recently made a trip to England and obtained the reciprocal call of G5DYW. He visited HQ and met G4DBY who showed Fred and his XYL around. Fred also visited G5YN and made a tape for playing back to the Chappawa Amateur Radio Club.

VK2AV has kindly donated through G3NVK several historic items to the Royal Signals Museum. Any members who wish to donate other items may do so to Major A.G. Harfield, Royal Signals Museum, Blandford Camp, Dorset.

Several Overseas members complain of late surface delivery of "Mercury". The last issue weighed 0.20kg and airmail for South Africa, Hong Kong, USA and Canada would cost £2.92p per copy and for Australia £3.14p and it is regretted therefore that surface mail will continue to be used.

By the time this appears in print Peter, G4JBM will have had wedding bells (YL Jackie) and reports are that she is a "pretty lass" and that among others, G3WRY and XYL were present. We wish them both every happiness and a long marriage.

G3VIR is now back in the UK and is seeking to form a 2m London Net. The net is intended on Wednesdays at 2000 local time on S14. Already G3PEC, G4KFB and G4JUO have been active in this net.

VS5AM is not on the air at the moment - the station aerial was removed because it was interfering with the helicopter operations but they are trying to organise an alternative antenna and get going again soon. G3WZS/781 is off to Somerset, Bermuda from where we hope to hear and work him. He recently obtained a B.Ed. degree and will be teaching Physics and Science. We hope he gets a Bermuda call-sign soon.

Anyone with details of Eddystone 840A receiver please write to G3YBP at Cherryford Country House, Martinhoe, Parracombe, North Devon.

VHF enthusiasts listen for GW3KJW/648 from a QTH 700 asl at Rhiw, near Pwllheli, QRA XM17J. Congrats on your retirement from the Police after 25 years Pat.

G3OAZ, 243 Paddock Road, Basingstoke complains of slow QSLing by members - don't we all Ed. John has for sale a 12ATV HF vertical for £15, A G-whip multimobile 3 band self-selecting antenna complete for £50, a LAR HF omni Match for £40 and a Marconi Kestrel Marine Rx (requires 12v D.C. 500 m/a) covering 200 Kc/s to 4.5 M/cs for £25.

THE GRAPEVINE - continued.

G5YN soldiers on - daily with his "old and bold" 1000 net, joining in RAFARS nets and of course our own RSARS Sunday morning nets, when not sailing his dinghy accompanied by G2BQ. Evan recently took some "spy" equipment of the late G2CX down to Blandford.

The Society learns with regret the passing of G6RC on 2nd August 1982 at the age of 81 years. Reg will be sadly missed and our sympathies are extended to his family.

Mr. Jim Bacon, G3YLA (non member) the BBC Meteorologist says in his potted autobiography to the Lincoln Hamfest Programme "I like my work but it is full of pressures".

The organiser of the recent mass Marathon is quoted as saying we want people from all walks of life to take part.

The Coroner said I view this exhumation with grave concern.

Heard in Parliament - Why is there only one Monopolies Commission?

21 MHz: We're located about 15 miles north of Sydney which is about 12 miles to the south of us.

Briggs, an electrician, was arrested when the facts came to light.

An upholsterer failed to furnish the police with details of his whereabouts.

The President of the Gourmet's Association said in Rome today that Italian coffee is thick, black and tastes of chicory and is not everybody's cup of tea.

VU2MD/767 bemoans his lack of G contacts lately. From 21st October he will be on most days around 14050 kHz from 1200 to 1330 GMT and after 1700 GMT until the band fades.

Those of you who have been lucky enough to work G5RV will already have his card but reproduced below is his card listing at a quick count some 61 licences held!!.

82 Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, W. Sussex, England.

# G5RV

G3NWK QSO on 23 vi. 82. at 0853 GMT 3.7 MHz 4J3e RST/ 59.  
LOUIS VARNEY G5RV FO7 RSARS795 RAOTA RSGB ARRL. Ex 2ARV (1927)  
- VP4RV - VP5RV - VP6RV - VP7RV - PJ5AA - PJ5CA - PX1RV - EP2RV - ON8RV -  
9Y4RV - 8P6DF - VK9LV - YJ8RV - FO0RV - CX5RV - PY1ZAR - TU4AJ - E12VPL -  
G5RV/GC - Gi - GM - GW - F7 - PA0 - il - iT1 - LA - SM - OZ - DL - CT1 - EA8 -  
VP9 - W2 - VE3 - XE1 - TG9 - YS - Ti2 - HP1 - YV5 - HK3 - HC1 - OA4 - CE3 - LU -  
9G1 - 5N2 - 5Z4 - 9J2 - 5U7 - XT2 - OD5 - VS6 - VK2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - ZP5 Tks. QSL. 73  
*Louis*

PUZZLE' G3NWK the Superintendent Registrar of Melton Mowbray had 3 weddings last Saturday morning. All involved were aged 24 or over but none over the age of 30. Charles was older than Bernard and Frances was 2 years older than Elsie. Archie's older sister Deirdre was the only Bride to marry a groom younger than she was. The combined age of girl and boy was the same in the case of each couple. Pair them off.

Gordon.VK2UGS has been heard quite a lot this summer operating from HMS Belfast GB2RN as well as shacks of various members.

G3MAY has moved from London to Darvel, Ayrshire. His new QTH was at one time owned by Baron Donington of Donington Park Leicestershire fame. Do we conclude that next years Amateur Radio Show will be chez-Bert?

## JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

By G3WKM/261

Recently the long-suffering, but not silent, XYL answered the telephone and I overheard her say "Hang on, Jack is playing with his beanstalk".

"The beanstalk", I suppose, is a fairly apt description of my home-built 10-metre high telescopic mast.

The story behind it all should interest that fine body of amateurs who don't have bottomless pockets and are prepared to use their wits to keep the cost of the hobby within reason.

Over the years I have built, modified and enjoyed the results of cheap Tx and Rx. My philosophy is now to buy the transceiver and build everything else. Neither my constructional abilities or my time can cope with equipment that would be up to the standard of anything like a modern transceiver. My shack now has a complete homebrew line up of SWR/Power Meter (GW3ASW design), LP filter, ATU (Z-match) G5RV antenna, balun and a rebuilt Mosley Mustang 3-element 3-band beam. The antenna system being supported on the "beanstalk". I looked at the idea of building a rotator for the beam - use of washing machine gear-boxes was considered, a few locals have produced working devices; my engineering facilities at home are limited to an electric drill and a "Workmate" bench so I broke my own rule and bought the rotator and its multicore cable, new.

The Mustang beam had been the pride of G4RS until a Winter storm brought it to the ground. I first met it in a loose bundle at the 1981 AGM at Catterick, described in the junk sale "as seen". A count of traps suggested that there might be enough bits to rebuild the antenna to something like its former glory but I couldn't make my mind up. On the return journey to Melton Mowbray with Dick, G3NVK I was still chuntering to myself and the further we got from Catterick the more convinced I was that I had missed a bargain. Sufficient to say that the following week-end I was off to Catterick and returned with bits stuck out of the back of the car, the XYL with bits dangerously close to her right ear, two junior ops complaining bitterly of the lack of space and the draught from the open tail gate.

We laid the beam out in the garden, they are enormous at that distance, and did a check of what was damaged or missing. This was the good news - one length of dural tubing, all the insulated supports and a couple of U-bolts made up the spares order to Mosley. The rebuild was a simple matter and checking with a GD proved all was well adjusted to cover the middle of the 21 MHz band and the complete antenna together with a 9-element Tonna and a Colinear for 2 metres were mounted on the rotator. The whole thing was clamped to a 30-foot assembly and erected beside the house with brackets and rope guys.

Mechanically it was a bit untidy, but this was only a temporary arrangement. Electrically it was a great success; contact was soon established with Sydney, Hamilton and Long Clawson.

The restless spirit was soon considering a more permanent arrangement and pondering such things as greater height, baluns and even better reports from afar. Whilst contemplating such delights I received a letter from the local Council Planning Department - "It has been brought to our notice.... etc." "Please remove the unauthorised erection or apply for planning permission". It was a relief to find that I hadn't been shopped by a neighbour; a member of the planning department had spotted it and made some enquiries. I had a chat with the planners who were very co-operative, went away, drew some sketches and took my application along with £20. The proposed mast was a fixed affair 10 Metres high. A few weeks later a letter arrived telling me that planning permission was refused on "undue intrusion into the visual amenity of the residential district" but a further application for a smaller, lower installation similar to domestic VHF radio might be considered.

The aerial was still up and in regular use, I hadn't been told to take it down! I had another chat with the planning officer and showed him pictures in RadCom and adverts for commercial designs. How about if I made it telescopic and lowered it when not in use? I could not make the beam any smaller but if it were below the apex of the house when not operating would this satisfy the amenity aspect? Well, a modified application, no further charge, was acceptable and after a total of 6 months of discussion, planning permission was granted.

## JACK AND THE BEANSTALK - Continued.

I made use of the RSGB planning guide which gave me a lot of help but I was fortunate in dealing with some very helpful people in the planning department of our local Council.

The design of the telescopic tower followed true amateur practice. I found some 50 metres of second-hand light angle at my local metal dealer (scrap yard, usually the haunt of car repair bargains). Most of the material was in 2 or 3 metre lengths and had once formed some sort of conveyor system with the 30mm x 30mm x 6mm angle forming the rails. Laid close by, in the open, were a number of lengths of 25mm x 5mm strip - about 60 metres in total. Having got the material I could now work out how best to use it.

The basic idea came out as a tri-angular structure, using angle for the main verticals and strip for the diagonal bracing. Using available lengths to minimise cutting, four sections were prepared. These consisted of two outer sections 3½ metres and 2½ metres long which, bolted together formed the fixed, lower part of the tower and two inner sections 3 metres and 2½ metres to be bolted together to form the sliding part. Mounted on the top of the sliding section was a top section carrying two bearings, the top thrust bearing using a clutch release bearing from a scrap car. The rotator was mounted inside the upper section isolated from vertical and horizontal loads by the two bearings. At the base, a large hinge provided for erection from the horizontal where a base was set into a 60cm cube of concrete below ground level.

In the bottom section, a winch was built to take a 5mm wire rope, arranged over pulleys to give a 2:1 mechanical advantage. A simple ratchet was incorporated in the winch by using the device more normally seen in the straining wire along the top of a fence.

The price of the real thing could be as much as £400 when the base and bits and pieces are taken into account. The breakdown of expenditure is given as a guide, a lot of luck and a smooth tongue must not be underestimated:

Second-hand angle iron 50m	25.00
Second-hand strip 6m	10.00
Second-hand 2 sturdy pulleys	6.50
New 5mm winch rope 18m at 53p per metre	9.54
New 12mm nuts and bolts 16 off	4.00
New large gate hinges 2 off	2.00
Second-hand heavy angle for base 2m	2.00
Pack of welding rods	6.00
Cement 50kg	3.50
All in aggregate 250 kg	5.00
Paint - Bondaprimer 250 mL	2.00
Grey top coat 500 mL	6.00
Lubrication for erection team at 2 pints each	<u>6.00</u>

TOTAL OUTLAY - approx.

£87.50

Construction started during the Spring Bank Holiday in early June. A member of my RAE class is an experienced welder and offered to help as he could see that my idea of learning to weld as I went along could end in disaster!

In the week evenings, plus weekends, the bulk of the work was completed on the basic sections. Eddie, the welder, called it a "knife and fork" job as we designed as we went along, cutting and welding always with the general idea floating along in front.

Hacksawing pieces to length kept me busy, with Paul, my son, (G6AEA) acting as welder's mate and chief humper. The electric welding gear was connected direct into the fuse box in place of the electric cooker this was to minimise volt drop on long extension leads from the house ring main. It was an education to watch the electricity meter whilst welding was in progress. A complete pack of over 200 welding rods was used.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK - Continued.

Simple jigs were used to maintain an approximate dimension as work progressed but using light angle gave some difficulty due to distortion during the welding. The final result was cleaned, primed and top coated in silver-grey. This has proved to be a good colour as it makes the whole thing look smaller and blends with the sky quite effectively.

About the third week in August the voices of G3NVK and G3STG (a concrete expert, how useful) were heard to say "You'll never get it up before 1st September". This was my dead-line for returning to work so a big effort of final assembly lead to completion on 31st August. There are the usual little jobs still to complete, like strapping the tower back to the house for storm safety but the system works.

As the beam was down for a few days it was a good opportunity to do an annual inspection and install a home-made balun from a recent RadCom design. Early tests indicated a good match and the ATU is not used for 21.2 MHz. The system had a memorable start as the first G - VK contact was made on the beam by VK2DGS, Gordon, when he visited Leicestershire in mid September.

As a final word, credit must go to the local amateurs who gave help, it certainly couldn't have been a one-man job:

- G6LKJ Eddie                      Welding and metal work
- G6AEA Paul (my son)        Assistant to welder, Chief climber.
- G4PKY Ray                        Erection team and photographer.
- G3NVK Dick (138)            Advice and encouragement
- G3STG Geoff                    Concrete expert and encouragement
- Philip (my other son) and Brian Concrete mixing.

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21st ANNIVERSARY CONTEST & ANNIVERSARY CERTIFICATES

Ray, G3EKL handed over the Awards and Contests seat to Alf, G3UAA at the AGM but it made sense for him to look after the 21st Anniversary claims as they were already rolling in before the AGM. So here is Ray's Report:

The Anniversary Certificate requiring 25 contacts with Society members on 7 mHz. or higher was a cinch. It certainly livened up 40 metres here in G and there was a greater amount of 2-metre activity in the Catterick area also! In all 56 certificates have been claimed and are being certified and despatched. A list of claimants will appear later.

The 21st Anniversary Contest was not so good. Ionospheric disturbances this past few months have been intolerable and I could not have hit a worse time to try and get a contest rolling, although I didn't have much choice in the date as it was all signed and settled when the Society was formally born in 1961. Operating during the day from G4RS I found 40 metres dead for G working with miserably weak European stations, whilst 20, 15 and 10 were as dead as the proverbial dodo. Couple that with a degree of unhappiness on 80 metres during the UK evening and the net result has been two claims and four check logs. I have dutifully waited until the end of August hoping that the postman might produce some more bids but no luck. So the results are:-

- 1. Zone 14 Winner        G3NVK                      Member 138        61 points
- 2. Outside Zone 14      No claimant
- 3. SWL Winner            H. Driffield              Member 1098

Back to sleep again.

P.S. For the record, these Anniversary competitions were advertised in two Editions of MERCURY - No. 70 and 71.

## AWARDS AND CONTESTS

### G3UAA/454

High levels of activity during Europe's extremely cold winter 1981/82 have meant an equally high level of claimants for Awards during my first months of office. For those members who have difficulty in raising the necessary QSL cards perhaps the following callsigns might be persuaded to part with their QSL-card secrets when next you meet them on the air:

AM Class One Europe		GM4LLD	Overseas CW 100	N2DAN
CW 50	GM4LLD	Overseas AM 100	N2DAN	
VHF 20 sticker	DJØSS	Special Award Plaque	N2DAN	
Special Europe No.39 -		DJØSS	AM Basic Europe	G3YSZ
AM First Class	G4LOQ	AM Europe 350 & 400	G3PJB	
Overseas CW 25/50	VE3QE	Special Europe 100 Silver Clasp	G3PJB	
Overseas Special 100		CW Europe 50	G3PJB	
and Bronze Clasp	VE3QE	VHF Europe 20	G3PJB	
WAC RSARS No. 19	VE3QE			
WAC RSARS No. 18	GM3VM	AM Europe 250 sticker	G3DVL	
WAC RSARS No. 20	G2WQ	CW Europe 50 sticker	G3DVL	
WAC RSARS No. 21	VE3AX	AM Europe Basic 25	G4NJV	
WAC RSARS No. 22	W2AG	Overseas AM 250	VKZNL	
		(The first ever from Overseas)		
Overseas Special No.8		VK4XY	CW Basic 25	G3TPN

As many of you will have read, the 1982 VHF Contest was a non-starter, and will return only if there appears to be enough interest in the event. Not being at all conversant with the happenings and level of activity on the VHF bands I have extracted the following facts from the RSARS files. Since the formulation of the Awards & Contests Rules in 1969 only 34 stations have claimed the basic 12-confirmed certificate VHF. Looking at the callsigns alongside, 30 and above claims, the following emerges:-

G3YSK	Winchester	100 confirmed	11/72 to 11/78
G3EKL	Catterick	70	04/73 to 01/82
G3ADZ	Rugby	50	05/79 to 02/82
G3DBU	Harrogate	50	06/80 to 06/82
G4EMX	Catterick	40	06/79 to 06/80
G3NVK	Melton Mowbray	40	07/80 to 11/81
G3VSA	Manchester	30	12/73 to 10/75
G3MKR	Macclesfield	30	11/77 to 12/81
G8VFW	Catterick	30	05/80 to 11/80

One should not read too much into this small sample but it does I feel indicate the low level of RSARS activity on VHF. How many contacts were due to pre-arranged skeds rather than chance encounters cannot be ascertained from QSL card information but if active VHF members would like to comment on how activity on the higher frequencies could be both encouraged and increased, I should be pleased to hear from them.

It would appear that the central sector of England has the advantage of location, and from G3YSK's score, perhaps other member stations in the south of England should count their QSL cards and submit a basic claim!

Overseas activity remains high and my sincere thanks go to stations who are stimulating interest in the Society. VK, ZS, W and VE members are fairly easy to find at present but for those stations chasing WAC RSARS I would hasten to add that Asia and South America have probably become harder to acquire now than at any time since the Award came into being.

## AWARDS AND CONTESTS - Contd.

As I write, 9V1VF is still active but the outstanding signal from VS6JW is surely missed now that he is back in the UK signing G4LRG. From VS5GA (non-member) I learn that Chris Hart, RSARS 1495 VS5CH is not very active. However during the Scout Jamboree on the Air period it will pay our members to check in with the Brunei Scout station for Chris could very well be the operator in the chair.

Through the efforts of Roy, ZS5YY, the frequency of 21290 KHz has been well worth checking from 1500Z onwards during most weekends. Contests apart (is there any weekend without them?) ZS5YY, ZS3MS, ZS6BKW and ZS5FT have been both heard and worked from the UK and VE.

Whilst 21130 KHz and 21170 KHz carry the bulk of the overseas RSARS traffic, 14065 KHz is not without its regulars like W2AG, N2DAN, VE3AX, VE3QE, WA8TGA, W9RRT, KA3CSR and the "Lone Ranger" VE6IH from Alberta.

I have received a request to nominate a CW frequency on 40 metres from several overseas members and it should be noted that 7015 KHz has been chosen as the spot most likely, to avoid the BCI and other weird noises peculiar to that band.

One activity I should like to develop during my term of office is the immediate advance circulation of RSARS activity. If you can assist with advance notice of a trip, a special station, a QSO party etc. please QSP the details through any UK RSARS station and it will invariably reach my ears within 24 hours. LEICESTER 875241 is also available to those a little nearer to me. Dick, G3NVK, the new MERCURY editor, will no doubt be equally keen to glean similar information - (MELTON MOWBRAY 63369). News of UK special event activities concerning RSARS operators seems to circulate very well judging by the flurry of activity sparked off by the GD3AHD/A expedition to the cow sheds at Balladoole Farm, two miles north of Ramsey, Isle of Man, during September this year.

One final request before moving on to Award claim procedures, could members using the overseas frequencies use the space plus or minus 10 KHz from the main calling QRG rather than assembling in one rather congested area? This request will be especially applicable during the VK/ZL RSARS activity period during December (details elsewhere in this issue).

For those members about to make a claim for any of the Society Awards may I remind you of the following:

- a) Make out your check lists in duplicate and in membership order
- b) When QSL cards are forwarded to support a claim please ensure sufficient postage or IRCs are included to cover the cost of returned cards
- c) Make your claim sheet as large as possible, say 100 stations per A4 size sheet. Small claims are welcome but if at all possible update earlier claims so that a claim for 500 is not made using 20 small pieces of paper each listing only 25 calls. If updating a previous claim indicate how you have amalgamated earlier sheets for easier reference and then show any additions of recent date clearly.

Lastly, for interest, at the time of writing it costs 16.5p to post certificates within the UK. Overseas, the same certificate may well cost 65p, take four weeks to arrive. As a rough guide on UK parcel rates, recent trophy packages to the USA and Canada have cost around £1-75p each seamailed, and taken 4+ weeks to arrive. VK2NLE paid considerably more than the above to have his AM 250 barometer airmailed to Sydney, justified perhaps for this particular trophy but the postage airmail normally would exceed the price of the trophy.

## AWARDS LADDERS as at 02/10/82

<u>CW ONLY</u>	<u>Target:</u>	<u>300 Plaque</u>	<u>OVERSEAS CW ONLY</u>
G3UAA	300	ZL1AXM	100
G3YSK	150	N2DAN	100
G2KK (Now ZL1AXM)		150	VK4XY 75
G3NT	150	VS6JW	50 (now G4LRG)
G3ADZ	150	VE3QE	50

AWARDS LADDERS as at 02/10/82 – Cont.

<u>CW ONLY</u>	<u>Target: 300 Plaque</u>
G3YBT	100
G3XSN	100
G8VG (resigned)	100
GW3XHJ	100
G3NVK	100
G2WQ	100
G3BWX	100
G3NOB	100
G3DPS	100
G3RFI	100

<u>OVERSEAS CW ONLY</u>	
ZL4IJ	20
K2JFJ	12 (archived)
9H1BX	12 (now G4AJI)
VK6PG	12

WORKED ALL CONTINENTS

No.	
1	G3NVK
2	G3NKO
3	G3YSK
4	G3UAA
5	G3DBU
6	GW3ASW
7	GW3XHJ
8	G3NT
9	G3NOB
10	G3ADZ
11	VK2NLE
12	VK4XY
13	GM4LLD
14	G5GH
15	G4ICC
16	G4HLC
17	G4DBR
18	GM3VVM
19	VE3QE
20	G2WQ
21	VE3AX
22	W2AG

LE TOUQUET TROPHY

1975	G3NVK
1976	G3UAA
1977	G3NVK
1978	G3NVK
1979	G3UAA
1979/80	G3UAA
1980/81	G3UAA
1981/82	G3UAA

559 TROPHY

1972/73	G3NVK		
1973/74	G3NVK		
	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>CW</u>
1974/75	G3ALI	G3WMZ	G3UAA
1975/76	G3UAA	G4DBR	G3ALI
1976/77	G3UAA	G3PJB	GM3PIP
1977/78	G3NVK	G3UAA	G3UAA
1978/79	G3UAA	G3NVK	G3NVK
1979/80	G3NVK	G4ETG	G3UAA
1980/81	G3UAA	G3NOB	G3UAA
1981/82	G3UAA	G3NOB	G3UAA

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AWARDS & CONTESTS: A BIT MORE from G3EKL

I mentioned in MERCURY No.70 (11/81) that I was a little weak on geography!! To pin things down more tightly and to allow more scope to the WAC Award I'll accept "South America" as any member station operating in South America and north to the Tropic of Cancer.

1981/82 559 Contest - results show even higher scores. The logs received all commented on increased activity, including the working of new members for the first time. Also the enjoyment received from the friendly rivalry in the various contest legs; a pleasant change from the vicious frequency-grabbing sometimes experienced in larger contests.

The results are:-

559 Trophy	Overall Winner	G3UAA	Member 454
Le Touquet	CW Section Leader	G3UAA	Member 454
559 Contest	SSB Section Leader	G3NOB	Member 613
559 Contest	SWL Winner	No claimant.]	

The various scores producing these results are:

CALLSIGN	TOTAL	MEMBER	CW	SSB MULTIPLIER	POINTS
G3UAA	0454	<u>49</u>	89	125	<u>263</u>
G3NOB	0613	44	<u>95</u>	115	254
G3NVK	0138	44	89	95	228
G3PJB	0508	41	66	90	197
G3ADZ	0039	30	52	55	137
G4GLL	1292	45	50	70	165
G4DBR	0443	24	52	75	157

Other logs were received but they reported activity on less than four legs so I've not included them in the table. Please do not get the impression that we do not need the smaller logs - these are very useful for cross checking the leaders totals! As you can see, the winners run pretty well neck-and-neck.

G3UAA's set-up was an FT101E into a variety of antennas. Alf started with half-wave dipoles wound around his roof space. Then, despite the severe wx he managed to erect both dipoles outside for the last two legs.

G3NOB operated a TS180S into a trapped dipole - Rita commented on peculiar conditions during the 40-metre leg in January but otherwise did very well with the maximum SSB scores for a 559 Contest to date.

Our congratulations to you both and perhaps G3NVK will be able to offer better opposition once he has bought his new TS830S.

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RSARS COMPUTER SECTION (Contact G3TAN)

ZX SPECTRUM

I make no apologies for devoting much of this edition to the ZX SPECTRUM from Uncle Clive Sinclair. We publish a super morse sending program from Gordon Parkin, G3UVY, and hopefully we include a user report on SPECTRUM.

We have conflicting reports from users and it could be that the gremlins which affected early ZX81 machines have had a go at Clives new winner. Paul Newman. G4INP, who published the SARUG Newsletter, (SINCLAIR AMATEUR RADIO USER GROUP) had a full burn out of his SPECTRUM after only six hours. The fault also took out his printer. Other owner operators report bad video, heat problems, loss of ROM and keyboard failure. On the other hand three people I know who own SPECTRUMs have nothing but praise for their machines.

Clive is receiving up to 1000 orders A DAY for SPECTRUM. With what the consumer magazines say about the machine having only about £48 worth of components and the retail price running at £200 plus for the full version, Clive seems to have another world wide hit. Lets hope that it lives up to its early rave reviews. We would like your own reports as and when you want to submit them.

POSSIBLE DEMISE OF SARUG UK

Many of you will have seen the first six issues of the SARUG newsletter, published by Paul Newman, G4INP. Paul has had hundreds of people asking for information from him, but very few input information to him. This is obviously damaging, and unless he receives support from his subscribers he will have to cease publication. The USA group has had to stop because the response has been in the thousands and the only way they can answer them is to go commercial and print a SARUG magazine. Paul cannot do this. He approached the RSGB to have them print a column for computers and their response was typical: 'We feel that the column should be for Amateur Radio Information' and of course they turned him down. Perhaps if they stopped and thought that Amateurs in their thousands are buying small computers for use in Amateur Radio, it might strike them that they could have turned down a potential winner. But then dinosaurs think like that. Help out Paul if you can. Anything of interest will help him to keep a marvellous little news sheet going.

## ZX 81

I had a pile of replies to my request on the whiteout with the 16K RAM. Most of them centred around contact cleaning and taping the RAM to the main case. I know many people who have bought an external keyboard for the machine and this goes a long way towards solving problems which are associated with the touch pad keyboard supplied. I have mounted everything on a sheet of quarter inch ply-board and even with my heavy hand on the keys, nothing vibrates or wobbles, and whiteouts are a thing of the past.

A little circuit is reproduced elsewhere which allows the use of an LED to assist those who still use the touch-pad keyboard. As you press the key the LED blinks if a positive entry has been made. Helps the non typist who has to continually look at his keyboard to know that what he has pressed has actually gone in! Thanks Paul Walker G4DBY.

See also the amended programme submitted by Andrew Stone for morse. He has cleared away a lot of space wasting and reduced it to a good loop. Thank you Andrew. Nice to see that you are now the youngest member of RSARS!!

## BOOKS

If you really want to get a good book on BASIC then I can most strongly recommend the NEC publication '30 HOUR BASIC'. There is a version for both BBC MICRO and for ZX 81. Very good value at most good bookshops at £5.50. Jack Cooper tells us that a good SPECTRUM book is 'EASY PROGRAMMING FOR THE SPECTRUM' By Ian Stewart and Robin Jones. Shiva Publishing Co., 41 Church Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. CW5 5RQ. £5.95 Nett.

## SOFTWARE

Be careful how you buy software by post. There are some real hairy organisations loose in the home micro world. Beware of: Firms who use answering machines during normal hours, firms with the same addresses, as many of these are fly by night accommodation addresses, and firms who debit your credit card before you have the goods. It is part of the system that your account should not be debited for interest purposes until you have received the goods.

A good tape for random logging is the Sinclair NOTEPAD tape. This gives you a single callsign retrieval, not listings, but it is well adapted to your logging requirement. This is not an amateur radio tape you adapt it to your own usage.

## INPUT

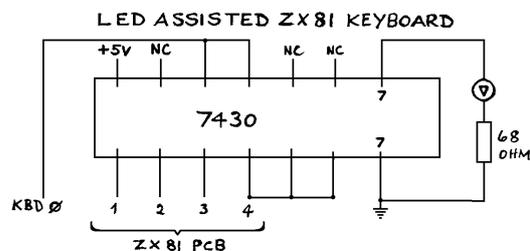
Keep the information coming. User reports, snippets, circuits, programmes. 73 G3TAN QRV

---

From ANDREW STONE(AAC HARROGATE) : Please amend my morse programme as follows: DEETE LINES 2195,2100 to 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2147, 2129, 2131, 1233, 2135, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2154, 2156, 2159, 2012, 2047 2048.

SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:   900 LET N\$=""  
                                  910 FOR T = 1 TO LEN D\$  
                                  920 LET N\$ = N\$ TO "D"  
                                  930 NEXT T  
                                  3000 GOSUB 1000

Andrew says that the morse is available at a 10v level from the SAVE socket, and needs an interface to the TX. Reports on this to us at Catterick. And of course to Andrew.



SPECTRUM MORSE PROGRAMME  
By Gordon Parkin, G3UVY

```
1  REM SPECTRUM MORSE PROGRAMME
2  REM Gordon Parkin G/UVY
3  REM *****
10 DIM L(36)
20 DATA 66, 129, 133, 97, 32, 132, 99,
    128, 64, 142, 101, 130, 67, 65, 103,
    134, 139, 98, 96, 33, 100, 136, 102,
    137, 141, 131, 191, 190, 188, 184, 176,
    160, 161, 163, 167, 175
30 FOR K=1 TO 36
40 READ L9K0
50 NEXT K
60 LET S=15: LET I=15: LET L=20:
    LET T=1000: LET C$=LETTERS:
    LET G$="RANDOM"
70 PRINT ";MORSE": PRINT
80 GOSUB 550
90 PRINT "If you wish to change
    any of ": PRINT "these, type S,
    I,W,T,C or G": PRINT "followed
    By the new number": PRINT : PRINT
    "when you are ready to start":
    PRINT TAB 12;"Type R": PRINT :
    PRINT "Note:": :PRINT FLASH 1 ;
    "LETTER": : PRINT "inputs must be
    in upper case":PRINT
100 IF INKEY$=,." THEN GO TO 100
110 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 110
120 LET A$=INKEY$
130 IF A$="R" THEN GO TO 220
140 IF A$="S" THEN INPUT FLASH
    1; "SPEED  ";S
150 IF A$="I" THEN INPUT FLASH      NB: AT LINE 150 - I MUST NOT
    1; "INTERVAL  ";I                BE GREATER THAN 19
160 IF A$="W" THEN INPUT FLASH
    1;"No. OF WORDS  ";L
170 IF A$="T" THEN INPUT FLASH
    1;"TONE  ";T
180 IF A$="C" THEN INPUT FLASH
    1;"Type Letters ,Numbers or Both
    ";C$
190 IF A$="G" THEN INPUT FLASH
    1;"Type 5 or Random  ";G$
200 CLS
210 GO TO 80
220 CLS
230 IF C$(1)="L" THEN LET P=1:
    LET Q=26
```

(Continued overleaf. Note at Line 90 between 'in' and 'upper' please type in the two spaces - this is not an error)

(Spectrum Morse Programme continued)

```
240 IF C$(1)="N" THEN LET P=27:
    LET Q=10
250 IF C$(1)="B" THEN LET P=1:
    LET Q=36
260 IF G$(1)="5" THEN LET D=5:
    LET E=Ø
270 IF G$(1)="R" THEN LET D=1:
    LET E=6
275 IF I>S THEN LET I=S
280 GO SUB 550
290 LET B=17.312*LN (T/255)
300 BEEP 2,B
310 PAUSE 100
320 FOR X=1 TO L
330 FOR Y=1 TO D+INT (RND*E)
340 LET R=P+INT (RND*Q)
350 LET N=L(R)
360 IF R<27 THEN PRINT CHR$ (R+64);
370 IF R>26 THEN PRINT CHR$ (R+21);
380 FOR K=1 TO INT N/32
390 LET U=N+Ø.5
400 LET N=INT (N/2)
410 BEEP (U-2*N)*2.4/5,B
420 PAUSE (60/S)-2
430 NEXT K
440 PAUSE 120/I-2
445 IF INKEY$<>" " THEN GO TO 500
450 NEXT Y
460 PRINT " ";
470 PAUSE 240/I-2
480 NEXT X
490 RANDOMISE
500 PRINT
505 IF INKEY$<>" " THEN GO TO 505
510 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "press
    any key to repeat"
520 IF INKEY$=" " THEN GO TO 520
530 CLS
540 GO TO 80
550 PRINT "MORSE SPEED","(S)="
    ;S: PRINT "INTERVAL SPEED","(I)="
    ;I: PRINT "No. OF WORDS","(W)="
    ;L: PRINT "Tone (Hz)","(T)=";
    T: PRINT "CHARACTER TYPE"," ©="
    ;C$: PRINT "Chars. per grp. ","(G)
    = ";G$: PRINT : PRINT
560 RETURN
```

END OF PROGRAMME LISTING

NB: This programme has also been published in the  
SINCLAIR AMATEUR RADIO USERS GROUP (SARUG) NEWSLETTER

## SOMEWHERE IN G-LAND

G4ETG/963

In 1979 a notice appeared from Royal Signals Manning and Records to all Royal Signals Units for a volunteer Radio Amateur to operate an Amateur Station for the Royal Signals Demonstration Team at Catterick.

RULE ONE : Never volunteer.

RULE TWO: If you ignore Rule One make absolutely sure you know what you are letting yourself in for.

Typically, G4ETG ignored Rule One, thinks he has applied Rule Two after a visit to the Team at Catterick and finds he is posted after a pleasant 11 months in Maidstone to "the holiday camp of the north".

Thanks to Kit, G4EMX, equipment had been obtained and the station of G3SIG/P was to consist of a TS520SE, with digital readout, a remote VFO, loudspeaker and Shure 444 microphone. Antennas would be no problem as I could use the G8KW trap dipole that had served me well in Maidstone.

I arrived in Catterick on 1st May 1980 but not due to start work until the 14th. Popping into the office a couple of days after arriving somebody suggested that I'd better design a display stand so it could be built before we set out on the road on the 14th. Then I discovered how well I had applied Rule Two. You've guessed it, I might just as well have ignored it as well as Rule 1. The likelihood of seeing Catterick between May and September would be about nil as the team travelled England, Scotland and Wales.

Although this article is about G3SIG/P it may be of interest to members to know a little about the Demonstration Team and how G3SIG/P came about. The Royal Signals Demonstration Team comprises The White Helmets, The Regimental Recruiting Team for N.E. England and Quicksilver. Quicksilver is the Corps Mobile Communication Display and Recruiting Team.

Now, as some of you know, for several years G4RS has provided a station at the Richmond Meet. On one such occasion G4EMX was visited by the OC of the Royal Signals Demonstration Team who, having spoken to him, decided that an amateur station would be ideal as a means of providing live HF communications (Thank?? Kit).

The 14th May 1980, display complete, off we went for my first summer season as the operator of G3SIG/P hopefully a callsign that would become well known not only amongst the membership of RSARS but of the amateur fraternity in general by the time my two years with the team had been completed. (My posting order said 2 years - I am ever optimistic).

We travelled the length and breadth of the country with our major show being the Aldershot Army Display when, instead of operating as G3SIG/P, the call GB2AAD was used by myself on HF with G8UDM, Clive, using the call on 2-metres. Our most northerly show was in Edinburgh and most southerly on the Hoe at Plymouth.

During the winter I was employed designing and building some new electronic displays and having a redesigned stand built for G3SIG/P.

The 1981 tour started on the 13th May, according to the log book, with a practice set-up in Catterick and our first show was on Mitcham Common on the 16th. Yet again one of the first calls in the book is G5GH who I think has worked me from every show site over the last 3 years, and I believe practically every day the station has been active Chas's callsign makes an appearance.

It would be impossible to mention all members who have worked G3SIG over the period I have been operating but I feel overseas members deserve a little space. To VK2NLE and VK4XY, Les and George, who have managed to winkle out a very weak and watery signal on 15 metres emanating from G3SIG/P somewhere in UK my sincere thanks. Always using an inferior antenna system, as orientation in the right direction never seems possible because of the positioning of our display in relation to others on the site, if I could hear Les or George it was guaranteed that a call to either would produce a reply usually to the delight of my audience.

SOMEWHERE IN G-LAND

1982 found me on the road again in May (hang-one, my posting said 2 years. Oh well. Rule Two again), originally with a trip to GI planned, but due to other commitments I was unable to go, so SIG only managed GM and GW prefixes during my stay. (Persistent requests for a recruiting trip to the Channel Islands always seem to fall on deaf ears).

Aldershot Army Display was again the main event during the year and Double Pole Switch appearing with smiling face was a welcome sight on a very wet day. It was very pleasant to meet John, VS6JW, who was working next door having just returned to the UK.

To mention all those who have visited over the last three years would use up too much space in MERCURY and also read like a Who's Who of RSARS but my thanks to them all for showing the face behind the microphone and giving me a break from Joe Public. (Which reminds me thanks Joe for the excellent evening's entertainment when I was at Harrow - Has WRY still got the photos?).

And as a final thought:

Any Class A licensed Amateur who fancies 2 to 3 years operating an amateur station, is a serving member of Royal Signals and thinks he would be suited to the job ..... Apply Rule One!!

Seriously though, the job is definitely vacant and by the time you read this I should have a posting and I look forward to meeting you all again from G4ETG under whatever disguised callsign I may be using.

+++++

THE YOUNGER SIDE OF JIMMY

From Major Mike Crane, RSARS 1429, G4IUU

" We would like to report to you from Ouston.

Where? Well, certainly not in Texas, more like in Northumberland. In fact, Ouston, previously RAF Ouston (opened in 1941) is the home of the Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Signals (26th) and is situated some 12 miles West of Newcastle and a few miles North of Hadrians Wall.

The training course for Junior Soldiers is 35 weeks and during that time they are encouraged to take up one of the many hobbies run here. The Radio Hobby combines two aspects of radio; Radio Construction and, an Introduction to Amateur Radio. The hobby operates on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6 to 7 p.m.

The construction side begins with an introduction to basic components, some very basic radio theory and on to construction, on a breadboard, of a simple medium wave receiver. Everything is kept quite simple and there is no attempt to produce Radio Technicians.

On the Amateur Radio scene the main theme is to develop interest in the subject and to encourage lads to take up the hobby when they reach Catterick. Participation in station activities by the juniors is severely limited; there is only G4IUU and a G8 who is busy trying for his 12 wpm morse. However, it is a good form of 'background activity' and the interest shown is very encouraging. Incidentally, the station operated by your scribe is based around an aged FT DX 400 and dipoles for 15 and 80 metres. Sadly, my participation on RSARS nets has been very haphazard but I will try to put that right. You see, its these long evenings, the gardening and the boat I'm building in the back garden....."

Mike commands a squadron at Ouston. Recently the regiment has started receiving boys who will eventually be trained as Technicians, Radio Telegraphists and Data Telegraphists. These trades were previously the preserve of the Apprentices Collage at Harrogate. It will be very interesting to see if the boys pick up a liking for amateur radio, and we might be lucky in the future to start getting memberships from both of our Junior Tradesmen organisations. It can only be good news for RSARS. (Ed)

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Our CCF representative is Captain Mike Buckley, Cadet Training Centre, Mitcham Road Barracks, Croydon, Surrey. CR0 3RU.

Our latest CCF member is BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL, under 2Lt Jackson. Welcome aboard. (AFF 060)

"Every man thinks meanly of himself for not having been a soldier, or not having been at sea". (Doctor Samuel Johnson. 10 April 1778).

PART ONE:                    WAR-TIME ARMY.

The first time I heard the Morse Code used operationally was on a Thursday night in Huddersfield High Street, in 1942. My squad-mate from the Operators' Training Battalion was conducting a reconnaissance of shop doorways. He soon made contact - with two buxom lasses, who proved friendly.

Jacko and I had reached that stage in our operator Wireless and Line, BIII, training when every last morsel of the English language had to be translated into the Morse Code; when the very birds on their telegraph-poles chirped 'copy' at us. We lived in a welter of dots and dashes, so I was not surprised when my mate commenced his signalling to me.

With his Ronald Colman moustache and rakish forage-cap. Jacko was sure enough of himself to tap out his highest hopes and lowest intentions concerning the girls, on the blacked-out fish-shop window-pane - with the only penny we possessed between us. I, no maiden's prayer man in the deepest of black-outs, skulked hopefully a pace or two away. Jacko parleyed the girls George Raft fashion, at the same time as he rattled the penny.

His was a pretty torrid message.

"Steady on, Jacko," I thought. "Oh, I say. That's putting it a bit blunt!".

But still, with mounting speed and passion, his rapping resounded along the High Street. His speed of sending passed well beyond my range.

WHAM! - Jacko's cap went flying out into the gutter. One of the young ladies had used her break-in facility! Her voice, reminiscent of Gracie Fields, rose high in the fish-shop doorway. She wasn't singing "Sallie". I cut and ran, boots striking sparks from the pavement. Jacko came pounding after me.

"Gorblimey!" he panted, clutching his jaw. "How the devil was I to know she'd got her Morse badge in the flaming Girl Guides?" We should have known, Jacko and I. The Yorkshire lassies of that era, warm and friendly as you like, were about as permissive as novice nuns during Lent. Our vows of celibacy, as implicit as the vows of poverty in the oath we had both sworn on enlistment as bandboys in an infantry battalion before the War, would remain unbroken for the time being.

But to be routed by an ex-Girl Guide! We tramped glumly back to the mill that houses our training unit; 'Stalag 5' the conscripts called it. For a couple of ex-infantrymen like us, it was 'Liberty Hall'.

From that evening's encounter I resolved to get my Morse speed up to a point beyond the ken of Baden-Powell and his followers. After all, was it not a sacred trust.....?

....."Oh aye," the wizened corporal had said. "Right brainy boogers, them Royal Corps of Signals youths", indicating the earphoned occupants of the gin-palaces. We were the Umpteenth Battalion of a not-very-famous North Midlands Regiment, strung out in files along the road over the Lincoln Wolds. A lordly divisional headquarters was passing by, its command vehicles smothering us with dust.

"For t'likes o' them", he continued, in his not-very-famous North Midlands accent, "Morse code is what our rifles is to us right sacred, like." I had pricked up my ears at this.

The Morse code, eh? Sacred as our rifles, eh? I hefted my Lee Enfield further up on my aching shoulder and stumbled out of step. Blowed if I had much reverence for the damned thing! It was the chief cause of my almost continuous Jankers. Low in the pecking order at the boiling-out vats after firing-practice, I never could get the tepid, greasy brew to clean out my rifle-barrel properly. It wasn't just my rifle, either. In an institution where all that glittered was gold, I shone with all the brilliance of a 'B' Coy thunder-box. Somehow my internal clock was set permanently thirty minutes in arrears of British Army Mean Time. And me a regular soldier!

OF MORSE AND MEN - Contd.

But this Morse code lark, - I didn't know a dot from a dash, though I sensed that spit-and-polish didn't figure too much in it. Right sacred, eh? I became suddenly pious. Maybe I could get a seat alongside one of them brainy boogers in their comfortable gin-palaces. I'd give my rifle, my bayonet and my regimental cap-badge for the chance.....

The fortunes of the British Army reached their lowest ebb. Tobruk fell, then Singapore. My chance had come.....

Of a sudden every man in the battalion was given matrix and I.Q. tests. Losses in the Royal Signals were to be made good from the ranks of the infantry. Those with mental reflexes superior to those of a Bengal muck-buffalo were sought. The tests revealed ten such in our lot. I was one of them.

A Morse aptitude test on a 78 r.p.m. gramophone-record followed. I, the disciple, warmed to it.

Eventually I found myself standing before a captain of Royal Signals. He eyed me doubtfully. My B.D. tunic was badly grease-spotted from excessive Jankers. Somebody had swiped my cap-badge that very morning. His gaze dropped to my test-papers and his face cleared a little.

"You did very well in the tests," he said. "And you got every group right in the Morse discrimination." I blushed.

"You're a regular, I see - got your first-class in education as a boy. Tell me, how would you like to be a wireless operator?"

I almost swooned.

"ug-SAH!" I croaked, in the manner required of a private of the Umpteenth Friar Tuck's when addressing an Officer.

The captain winced.

"Would...you...like...a...transfer...to...the...Royal...Corps...of...Signals?" he asked me, very slowly and avoiding words of more than two syllables.

I played it cool.

"Oh-sir-please-sir-yessir-please-sir" I drawled, barely resisting the urge to sink to my knees in a smart and soldier-like manner.

And I was in!

I was, however, never to ride in any gin-palaces during my war service. In fact, I was to march more miles by far, and to breath much deeper of the reek of cordite, in the Royal Signals, than ever I did as a pukkha infantryman. And all the time carrying the old Lee Enfield.....

At Stalag 5-cum-Liberty Hall, Jacko and I duly passed out as OWLs, BIII, but never did take on any more Girl Guides. The months we spent there were most pleasant. The conscript strength of the battalion was drawn from a good cross-section of the general public and in the main they were as decent a bunch of men as could be found on the face of the Earth. After the Borstal traditions of the previous unit, to be with Royal Signals men was altogether uplifting. My outlook was broadened. In that old mill were assembled ex-stockbrokers, ex-dockers, an ex-bank manager or two, lay-preachers, ex-publicans, ex-weavers and one lance-corporal instructor who was to become Member of Parliament for a London constituency in the landslide General Election of 1945. Not even the uppity bandsmen of my pre-war battalion could provide such intellectual stimulus. Uniting us all was a devotion to the sacred Morse code.

I was now past my nineteenth birthday. It was "Good-bye Dolly Gray" time.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Hi-de-hi!" we roared as our Union Castle troopship drew abeam of the P.O. Strath liner. "Ho-de-ho!" came back the tumultuous reply. Standing packed on the boat-deck, we were convulsed by our own drollery. Weren't we the boys though - bound round the Cape for India!

From somewhere near the Liver Building a signal-lamp blinked urgently in our direction. Not one of us could rend its message. Could it be that damned Girl Guide again?

\* \* \* \* \*

## OF MORSE AND MEN - Contd.

The Morse code did not figure very large during my early months in India. I found myself in an idyllic camp in the Himalayan foot-hills above Dehra Dun, with a newly-formed Corps Signals unit girding its loins for New Delhi. In 'C' Section, to my dismay, I discovered that I would be condemned to everlasting signal office duties. Only a wretched Fullerphone would be available to assuage my yearning to operate wireless sets. Moreover, during the voyage out my internal clock had slipped even further behind B.A.M.T. and I was breaking all records at Jankers.

In that sequestered spot, on the road to Shangri-la, the news of Pearl Harbour and Singapore had not yet got through. Daily routine was of the peacetime, cantonment order. There were nappy-wallahs to shave us, durzhi-wallahs for sartorial excellence, flying-dobhis to starch us and char-wallahs and bearers and bhistis. But their combined services could neither get me on parade in time, nor make me presentable when I got there. To each one of them, I could only confess: "You're a better man than I am, Gungha Din!"

It was a time of pre-dawn reveilles and post-tiffin siestas. Late for the reveilles! I had to forgo the siestas. Hard labour in the cook-house was my lot. My Morse was getting rusty. Something had to give.

Now it seems to me that it is not so much the flower of England's youth who are placed nearest the enemy in time of war, as its rankest weeds, like me. Put another way, in the Army's system of circulating currency, the bad pennies always roll forwards. Commanding officers called upon to supply reinforcements for some doubtful enterprise, show that they are eminently human. They send their worst and retain their best.

My much sought-after posting came through, and no Janker-wallah ever skipped more happily out of the frying-pan and into the fire.

Down the G.I.P. Railway I went in F.S.M.O., to Jhansi on the sweltering plain. Near there, on the banks of the River Betwa, I joined what was left of the 77th Indian Infantry Brigade, Orde Wingate's very own, recently returned from the forests of Burma and their foray behind Japanese lines. We were to go in for the second round - but not yet. .

From all the odd corners of India Command there came to 77 Brigade Signals a motley crowd of military beatniks. Their common factor was that all were Morse-happy. This was their redeeming, selected feature, apparently. A soul-brother, I set myself to learn my trade from these unkempt experts.

The long-range penetration column training was arduous, with a full big-pack carried over every long mile of the scorched terrain. The mules, burdened with all our radio gear, gazed pityingly upon us. In body-weight proportion they had the better deal. Yet in no way were we an elite. Few were volunteers. We were in fact the pig's ear from which a silk purse was to be fashioned. A kind of pre-industrial blitheness came over us. Inspired by the sagas of the old 77 Brigade survivors, we sensed great adventure ahead. I suppose the prevailing mood was: "Now, God be thanked Who has matched us with His hour." But to have said as much would have earned a boot up the backside.

Five other brigades joined us to make up 3rd Indian Infantry Division. The press was yet to dub us 'Chindits'. The complex communications organisation worked splendidly. It was maintained entirely by wireless-telegraphy, with the roving columns and their WS.22 detachments working back to the big BC.61Os at Rear Brigade. My own particular force within the brigade used the B.2 suitcase set (contained in its original suitcase) for the rear link, and the 76 Tx & R109 Rx combination for the outstations of our extra-clandestine future operations.

The enciphered traffic load was enormous, so that we got far less sleep than our infantry comrades. There was a great deal of extra physical activity for us too, with 'barbary' mules to be unloaded and reloaded for each radio schedule during halts on the march. Never the less, I enjoyed every moment of the night watches - the mules champing and breaking wind, the stars bright above and the static crackling merrily. It was grand to be doing a worthwhile job after all that Himalayan Jankers. And the char. The brigade motto was: "When in doubt, brew up" That lovely, cloying Johnnie Gurkha tea pure nectar by dawn's early light on the plains of Central India. I have

OF MORSE AND MEN - Contd.

remained in doubt ever since, and brew up every hour, on the hour. Most ex-India hands do, I suspect.

There were lulls in our training when column detachments would withdraw to Bde. H.Q., among the Hindu shrines on the salubrious banks of the Betwa. For recreation I swam a lot and tried my hand at fishing. The shaven-headed Johnnie Gurkhas were hauling in great, fat fish with every cast. I fished for four whole days. All I caught was malaria.

I got out of the B.M.H. in time for the big move eastwards. To our joy, we found on arrival in the Assam concentration-area, that we were to be lifted a fair way into Burma by gliders. To our sorrow, our particular force suffered its first casualties. One of the gliders crashed on a night exercise and seven of our South Staffords commando platoon were killed. There was an eerie sequel to the tragedy. Just prior to being called out for take-off the lads had been playing two schools of 'Pontoon' by candle-light in our basha. There, after their deaths, seven hands of cards lay mute, face-down, and the candles had burned lower by more than the time our comrades had had remaining to them. The symbolism of it sobered us all. We let those candles burn themselves out. Soon, thereafter, we were launched into Burma.

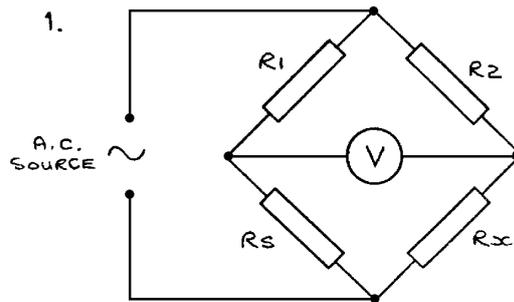
TO BE CONTINUED

+++++

THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE.

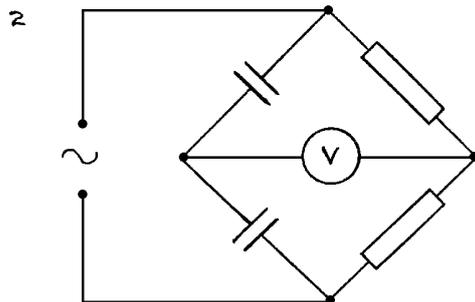
G4CGT/833

The Noise Bridge is developed from the Wheatstone Bridge (see figure 1) which is universally used in laboratory work.



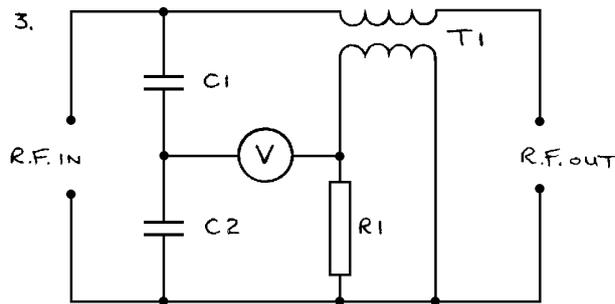
If R1 and R2 are equal, the Bridge will balance when Rx equals R3. This is true whether Rx is an actual resistor or the input resistance of a perfectly matched transmission line provided R3 is chosen to equal the characteristic impedance of the line.

Useful for measuring both transmission lines and "lumped constant" components. Combinations of resistance and capacitance are often used in one or more arms. (See figure 2).



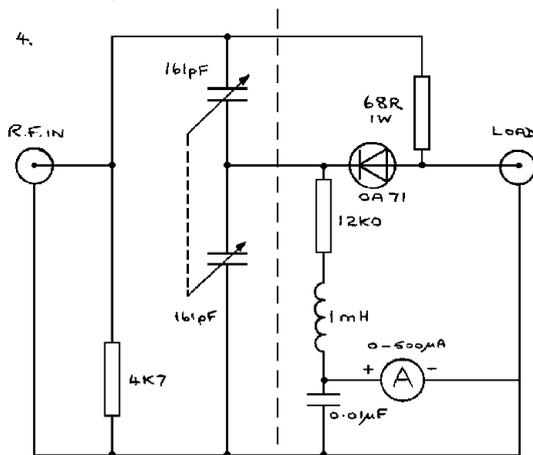
THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE - Contd.

See figure 3 - the SWR Bridge for use in transmission lines.



The circuit is often calibrated in power rather than voltage. Makes use of the mutual inductance between the primary and the secondary of T1 to establish a balancing circuit. C1 and C2 form a voltage divider in which the voltage across C2 is in the same phase as the voltage at that point on the transmission line. The relative phase of the voltage across R1 is determined by the phase of the current in the line. If a pure resistance equal to the design impedance of the bridge is connected to the "RF out" terminals the voltage across R1 and C2 will be out of phase and the voltmeter reading will be minimum. If the amplitudes of the two voltages are also equal (they are made so by bridge adjustment) the voltmeter will read zero. Any other value of resistance or impedance connected to the "RF out" terminals will result in a finite voltmeter reading. When used in a transmission line the reading is proportional to the reflected voltage. To measure the incident voltage the secondary terminals of T1 can be reversed.

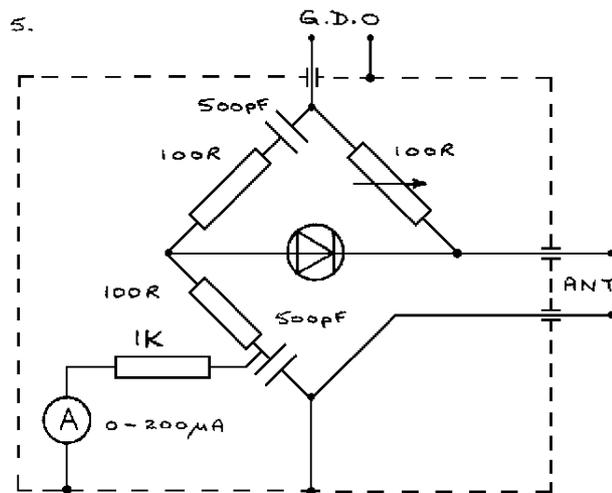
For co-axial lines - see figure 4.



The impedance bridge incorporates a "differential" capacitor to obtain an adjustable ratio when a resistive load of unknown value is connected to the load terminals. The C1/C2 ratio may be varied to attain a balance as indicated by a null reading. The capacitor settings can be calibrated in terms of resistance at the "Load" so the unknown load can be read off. The useful range of the bridge is 5 - 400 Ohms. The calibration is such that the percentage accuracy of reading is approximately constant at all parts of the scale. The mid-scale range 50 to 75 Ohms corresponds to the characteristic impedance  $Z_0$  of co-axial cable. Calibration can be carried out using non-inductive resistors as loads, preferably in the 80 metre band.

## THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE - Contd.

The Radio-Frequency Bridge - see diagram 5.



From these circuits the noise bridge was developed. W2AEF first built a small unit which was easily attached to the feed point of the aerial. (Commercial units and fixed-impedance bridges (SWR) are not usually suited to "active" measurements). Using a somewhat modified Wheatstone Bridge driven by a grid-dip meter which he called the "Antennascope" he was able to make most kinds of antenna measurements. This instrument is not too easy to use. The GDO has to be set to the frequency as the bridge and the null indicator are untuned. The accuracy of the frequency should be to within 20 KHz of the frequency of interest. To achieve this at the aerial feed point is not always practicable.

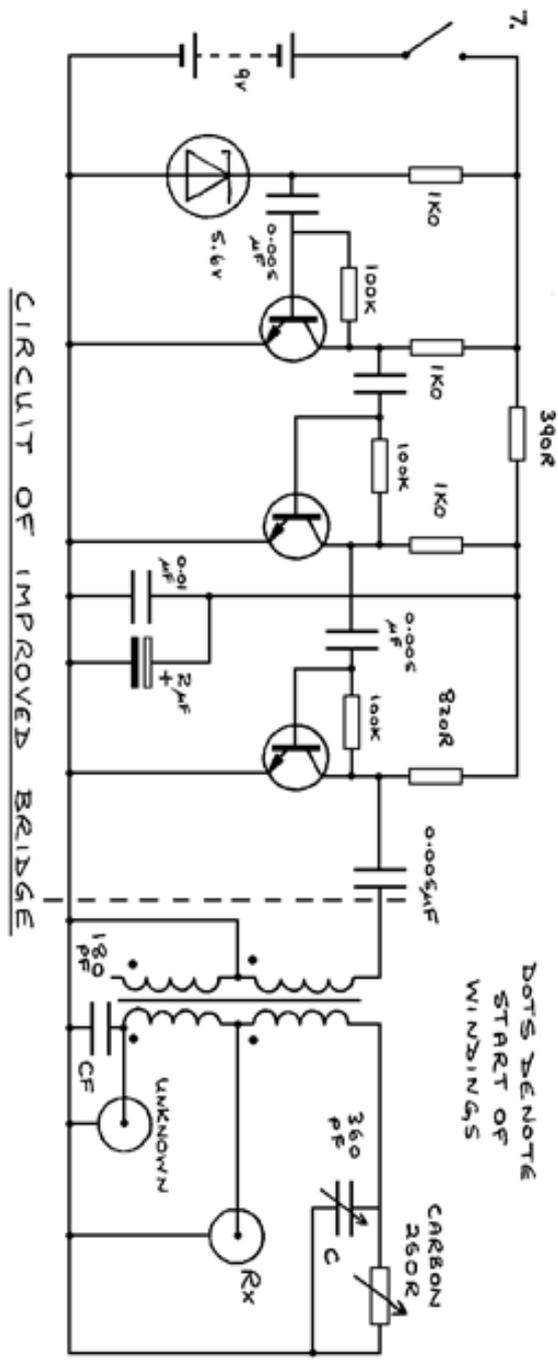
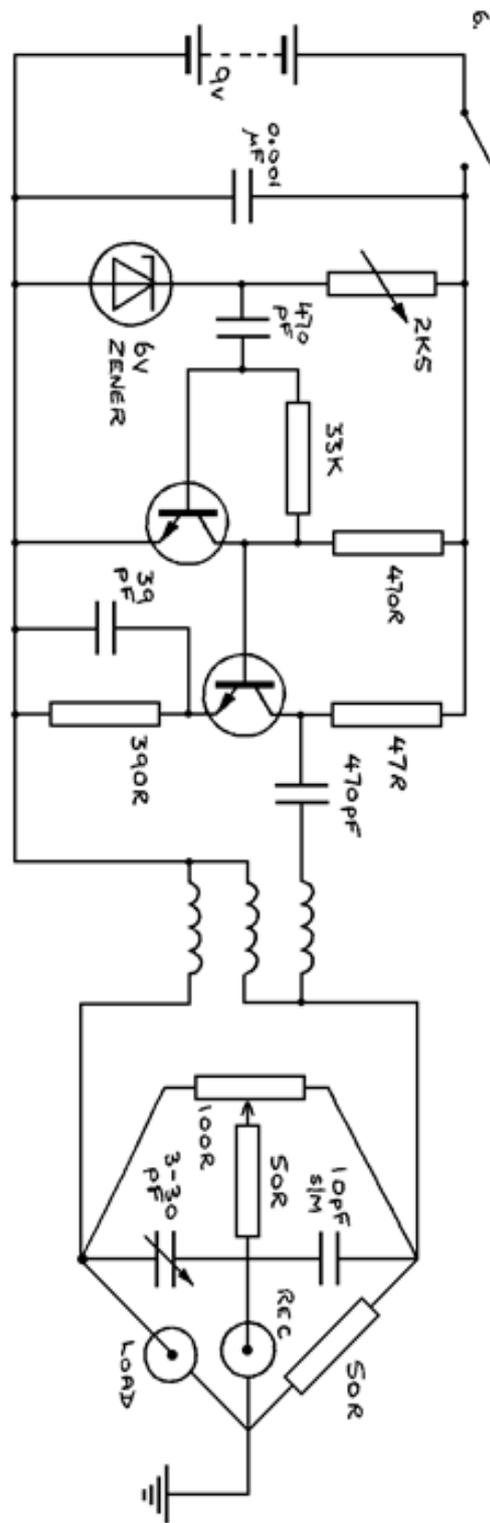
G8TS modified the unit by replacing the bridge indicator with a small transistor t.r.f. receiver and fitted a thermionic noise diode in place of the GDO. This was a rather cumbersome type of unit but experiments in the USA lead to a noise bridge using a semi-conductor diode operating in an unstable mode creating "white noise" and being amplified to feed a toroidal transformer having a flat response combined with unbalance to balance over a wide frequency range (easily 3.5 MHz to 30 MHz with extension to 200 MHz possible). See figure 6.

In 1970 WB2EGZ described his design in "Ham Radio" magazine. The zener diode is used to drive two untuned transistor noise amplifiers which are coupled through a wideband balun to the bridge circuit. The null detector used is a standard communication receiver, The Omega noise bridge was one of the first commercial noise bridges to use the balun as a bridge.

Operation: The bridge is connected to the receiver via co-ax. The load (aerial or component under test) is connected to the bridge. Impedance dial is set to 50 ohms. The receiver is then tuned for a null or a reduction in noise. The impedance dial is then adjusted for the deepest null possible which means the bridge is in balance.

This was satisfactory so far as it went, but reactive components could not be measured.

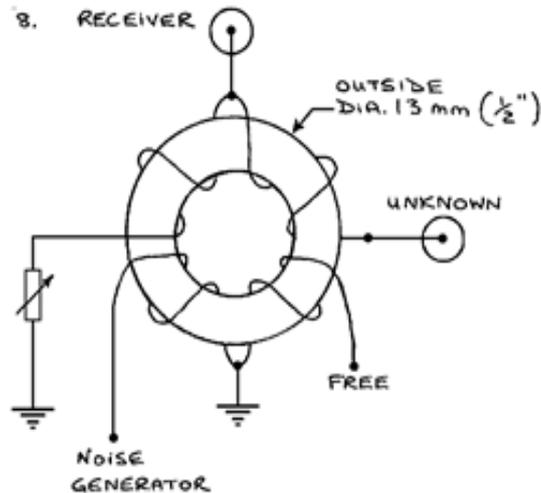
See figure 7 - In 1973 an article in "Ham Radio" described a unit to measure both resistive and reactive components. Further improvements have followed and it is now possible to construct a very efficient noise bridge at home. Calibration is possible to a very accurate degree and comparison with a "Boonton Radio Rx Meter" (a highly respected laboratory quality instrument) which also measures the R-C parallel equivalent representation of an RF impedance was shown to bear out the accuracy by W6BXI and W6NKU in their excellent article in "Ham Radio Magazine" February 1977.



CIRCUIT OF IMPROVED BRIDGE

THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE - Contd.

The improvements made to the commercial type noise bridge:- (fig.8)

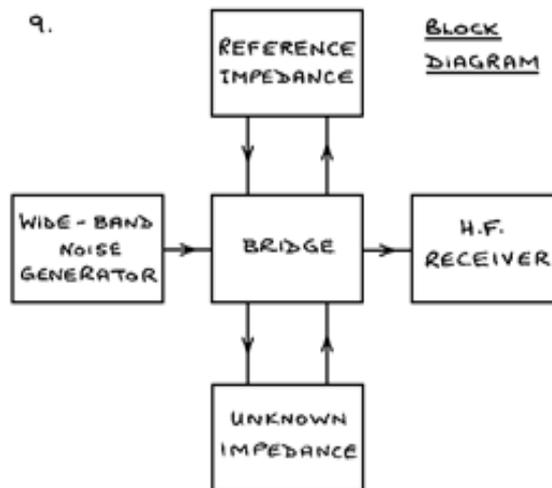


1. A quadrifilar winding on the core. The additional winding serves to balance the primary to secondary circuit capacitive coupling.
2. Isolating the toroid and screening with electrostatic grounded screen.
3. Carefully grounding the amplifier and bridge circuits to avoid earth loops.
4. Balance the bridge circuit after assembly.

The recommended core is T50-2 Amidon. 14 turns per winding No. 28 S.W.G. enamelled copper. It is suggested that the four wires are twisted at 3 turns per inch after duly sleeving the ends with coloured sleeves.

Construction of the noise generator is not critical. Any of the BC108 - ZN706 type of transistor is satisfactory and a 2N706 can be used as a diode in lieu of a zener.

Figure 9 - The noise-bridge includes five major elements, three of which are internal to the instrument.



The heart of the instrument is the bridge section, which is excited by a broad-spectrum noise source. The unknown impedance and reference impedance form separate legs of the bridge section. The reference impedance is varied until it equals the unknown impedance. When this occurs, the bridge is nulled and the output of the high-frequency receiver goes to a minimum. The bridge may be used to measure complex impedances.

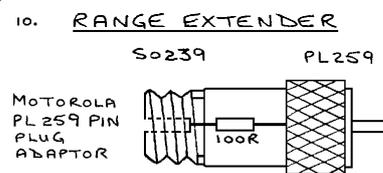
## THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE - Contd.

Wide band noise is injected into two legs of the bridge in equal quantities via the core transformer. With the unknown impedance connected and the detector (receiver) set to the desired frequency R and C are adjusted for the deepest obtainable null. When this null is obtained the value of the unknown impedance is equal to the parallel combination of R and C in order to permit measurements of both positive and negative values of parallel capacitance. The zero value of the C dial is set with the variable capacitor approximately half-meshed. The bridge is balanced by placing a fixed capacitor, equal to one half the value of the variable capacitor, across the "unknown" terminal. This forces the bridge to balance with a purely resistive load when the half meshed C is equal to the fixed capacitor CF.

The advantages of the noise bridge are:-

- (a) The frequency at which the measurement is taken is determined by the detector (receiver)
- (b) Measurements of inductive reactance do not require an accurate variable inductance (difficult to build in practice).
- (c) Very little power is required from the noise source generator because the detector is sensitive.

Range extension: figure 10.



Since the reactance ( $Z$ ) of a fixed capacitor is frequency dependent the range of the bridge is a function of frequency. YA1GJM and K2BT recommend using a larger capacitor (variable) and building the instrument so that fixed capacitance could be added in parallel to either the reference or the unknown sides of the bridge. This is limited by the required size of the fixed capacitance; e.g. to measure any point on a 2:1 SWR circle at 3.5 mHz (Smiths Chart) requires the addition of 510pf to the bridge. Extending the requirements to a 5:1 SWR circle requires up to 2010pf fixed C. The alternative is the addition of 100 ohm resistor in series with the unknown. This extends the range to a 5:1 SWR circle at 3.5 mHz.

Construction: This is relatively easy. A small box means a component arrangement which minimises lead length. PCB or perforated board are equally acceptable for the noise generator. The potentiometer is carbon linear. Shielding is essential. The battery and electronics must be external to the bridge circuit. Short leads are a must and single-point grounding should be achieved. Layout should be such that the primary winding connections are accessible for calibration purposes.

Initial checkout: Connect unit leaving unknown unterminated. There should be ample noise from 3.5 mHz to 30 mHz - at least S9 signal. Connect 100 ohm carbon resistor to "unknown" connector (extender shorted can be used). Put receiver on 3.5 mHz range. It should be possible to obtain a deep null although it may be necessary to switch to "Slow AGC" or reduce RF Gain. The capacitor dial should be close to mid-range and the resistance should be about 40% of its travel.

The resistance dial can be calibrated using an accurate ohm-meter by connecting the meter across either co-ax connector and marking every 10 ohms. The capacitance dial can be calibrated using a capacitance meter. If no meter available 1 - 100 ohm resistor and several accurate capacitors 10pf to 180pf should be used.

Null the instrument at 80 meters with 100 ohms res. on unknown connector. This should be mid-range of variable capacitor. Add small values of capacitance across the 100 ohm load, reset the null by balancing the bridge and marking the dial accordingly. Now remove CF the fixed capacitor from inside of unit. Add capacitance till null is obtained at centre scale. "0" on capacitance dial. Then remove small values of capacitance in steps marking dial each time. Label full scale capacitance clockwise "CL".

THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION & USE OF THE NOISE BRIDGE - Contd.

TEST: Restore circuit by replacing CF (removed for calibration purposes). Balance bridge at 3.5 mHz with "C", at zero, and 100 ohm load. Now move to 30 mHz. If the readings are the same at 30 mHz as 3.5 mHz the unit is satisfactory. If the "R" dial reads higher and "C" reads on the CL side (inductive) the bridge needs additional series inductance. To obtain this solder a short length of tinned wire to "unknown" terminal and connect the bridge winding (removed from unknown terminal) to the end of the wire. Re-balance the bridge. Possibly the errors are reversed, i.e. "R" too low and "C" on capacitance side - in this case slide the balun winding along the tinned wire, try again till readings are the same at 3.5 mHz and 30 mHz.

Should it be that at 30 mHz the first readings are opposite to those stated the bridge has too much inductance on the unknown side. Rather than try to add inductance, reverse the balun transformer primary winding then proceed as described.

Having built and calibrated the unit here are some of its uses:

1. Antenna measurement
2. Tuning transmatch
3. Winding a balun for antenna
4. Check power meters
5. Check dummy load
6. Inductances of RF coils
7. Adjustment  $\square$  wave line
8. Adjustment  $\square$  wave line
9. Convenient means of determining input matching for receivers and convertors
10. Adjustment of Pi networks
11. Wideband noise source for alignment of receivers
12. Measurements of characteristic Z of transmission line.
13. Crystal measurement: connect to "unknown", set R to full clockwise, tune for sudden peak in noise. Receiver shows fundamental frequency. Amount of noise indicates activity.

If used to measure antenna impedance from shack it is essential that the co-axial feed is 1/2 wavelength or multiple at test frequency.

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The Author and the Editor thank Ken, G3WKM/261 for circuit diagrams and drawings accompanying this article.

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HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN ? 

Observant readers of MERCURY will have noticed the absence of the platoon of 73/88th Foot and Mouth (Webb's Own) from our pages in this issue.

During the changeover of Editorial Offices one member of the platoon defaulted and disappeared. The remainder have been sent with a number of MP's in search of him.

The absconder is located within the pages of this issue. Can you write to or inform the Editor on the air of his whereabouts, and what station he is now operating from?

If we are successful in finding him the platoon will reassemble and appear in these columns again.

\*\*\*\*\*

DJØSS/1620

Well, one of the most important stories must be that Kit DA2WN/G4EMX/0404 will be leaving BAOR in November for civvy street. I cannot let Kit leave the scene without saying a big thank you to him and of course to his good lady for all their help whilst they have been over here in Germany, one of the major landmarks must be the formation of the Celle & District Amateur Radio Club (C&DARC), which, without Kit's enthusiasm and tenacity would probably never have got off the ground: once again thank you Kit, Ellie, Jason and Kelly. The best wishes for your future life in GM-land.

We also wish goodbye to Tony DA4DM/G8UGV/1402 - the best of luck to you and Carol on your forthcoming marriage: best wishes to you both on your future posting (how's the CW coming on? Hint, Hint) .

We welcome to BAOR John DL/GW4HHD/1393 who is at present haunting the Gross-stadt of Berlin: hope you get your TVI problems sorted out. Hopefully your DA callsign will come through soon, as that monstrosity of a callsign you are using at the moment is really a mouthful.

Congratulations to Steve Andrews RSARS 1796 on passing the May 1982 RAE: hope the callsign comes soon Steve.

What has happened to the "20 metres Euro-natter Net" on Sundays is a question I have often been asked. Well, during the Summer months we have seen very changeable and weird conditions on the HF bands with SID's, Ionospheric Storms etc. Hopefully things will settle down by the time you read this. If interest exists I will be QRV on Sundays at 1130Z (that's GMT for those who didn't know) on 14175 plus or minus the QRM. Possibly some other DAs and DJØs will join in on this side with some of the regular Gs and perhaps ZC4s and other European members. Anybody interested?

For those of you over here who have still got time to spare after the Euro-natter Net or who cannot get onto 20 metres what about starting "DAs Sunday dinner hour" again? Members to assemble around 3740 plus or minus the QRM at 1230Z for a short ragchew among ourselves and possible a couple of QRS CW QSOs. Who's interested?

Now to our DA4s and of course others who are interested in 2 metres. I would be pleased to hear from anybody seeking 2 metre contacts. Your scribe is normally QRV on 144.825 MHz (local Celle and District RSARS calling channel) but can put 40 watts SSB/CW into a 10 element Yagi if necessary. I would be interested in arranging skeds, my locator being EM3Øj. If interested please ring me on 05143-1673 after 1830 local time or contact me on 80 metres.

That's all for now so vy 73 es cu sn.

\*\*\*\*\*

Eddi asks if this CQ BAOR could become a regular feature of MERCURY - certainly Eddi if you provide the copy!! - Ed.

\*\*\*\*\*

LATE NEWS FROM VK2VVV/1527:

Ken writes to apologise for not being on 21 MHz lately. Evidently "someone stole my 4-element duo band yagi from the roof of the house. It's very hard to believe but I assure you that it is true. Luckily for me the Insurance paid up and I have a tri-band Yagi ready to erect in the near future".

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## THE CELLE & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (C&DARC)

DA2WN/404

(or how Amateur Radio can cause ulcers!)

### DJØSS/1620

Start another Amateur Radio Club. "Had enough of them" said G4EMX when the question was floating back in early 1981. What with DA2YV at RAF Gutersloh with Barry Jenkins G4CZJ 74/77 and of course HQ Station with Ray Webb's size 15's G3EKL 78/80 - "No, this tour I will just sit back and enjoy the LOA despite a 27% cut.

Having said that, in 1981 4EMX and 4HWC otherwise known as the "Celle Twins" sat down and formulated the idea of forming a local British Amateur Radio Club. Now came the problems. Who wants a Club and who would be entitled to membership: should the members come from the Regiment Kit was serving with, from the rest of the garrison or from within the Divisional Area. Also, the security problems of belonging to an EW Regiment, the only one in the British Army today, would have to be resolved. Likewise the problems that can be imposed by Cheltenham and other departments.

One of the prime enquiries came from the then CO, Lt. Col. Bill Robins who wanted more hobby facilities on camp, the reason being that the regiment is not directly in Celle but in Scheuen - yes, Scheuen, still non-the-wiser unless you were part of the liberation in 1945. Scheuen is a few miles from Celle, therefore the single soldiers have some way to go to pursue their outside interests especially if they have no car. No civilian bus service at that time, a taxi fare of 20 DM (= £5), also in 1981 we could not receive BFBS television on camp.

So the "twins" got their heads together and asked who in the regiment would be interested in an Amateur Radio Club. About seven expressed interest, also the following RSARS members lived within a 50 km radius and showed interest: DJØBU, DA1NV, DA1CY and DA4DM. So how did we sort out who was entitled to membership? If only members of 14 Signal Regiment were to be allowed to join, it would mean Kit on his own and this would not do as Kit likes to delegate (like a good SNCO). It was decided that membership would have to be open to servicemen from the Celle Station Area and also to members of the RSARS serving and working in BAOR. As soon as the Club was formed it was decided that annual subscriptions would be 10DM (= £2.50) and all members of the new Club would be invited to join Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society - good for funds and a boost to the numbers of serving members in RSARS.

Now where do we put the club and what about security? These two problems took 8 months to sort out and a great deal of persuasion. No one was prepared to make a decision. "Amateur Radio. Talking to other countries; Ys, YUs, UAs, SPs, but you can't. You must not." Try explaining what Amateur Radio is about (not easy). Either Officers had not heard of RSARS or, if they did not know enough about Amateur Radio, they were actually frightened of what could happen, especially those who remember F/Sgt. Britten in 1968. Although they did not actually say as much, they made excuses, gave you the run around. No one could make a decision (nothing new). It was not until a new 2 i/c arrived, Major James Budd. He cut the tape, understood what we wanted to do and gave the green light.

After looking around in camp we found three rooms above the single's accommodation of Block 168, ideal as a club venue. This was in March 1981. In September we were still looking! "The Club would have to be outside the camp" was still the word. Education Centre? But that was in Celle. So it was suggested by the CO to use the attic of the Sergeants Mess Annex. The attic being over a block of four flats, three being occupied by officers and their families from units stationed in Hohne. (That is what they now call Belsen - Ed.) . So the Sergeants Mess annex was earmarked. The RSM is President of the Sergeants Mess; CO tells the RSM that the Amateur Radio Club is to have the attic. "Yes Sir!" RSM tells Hall "You can move into the attic but keep the noise down!" Great!! A room at long last, not a large one but a room of our own.

On the equipment side we were rather lucky. Major Ray Webb, G3EKL had transferred a Swan Cygnet from the 3CIO books, a Nuffield Trust item. Old, not exactly working, Norway saw to that,

but at least a rig. Eddi realigned it. New valves were put in and we could have been on the air but for problems still to come. Also Major Bill Legge OC 3 Sqn. had written to friends at the Royal Signals Research Establishment at Malvern to ask about equipment; they in turn spoke to Racal at Windsor. In May 1981 a "new" RA17 arrived with a presentation plaque on it "To the ARC of 14 Sig. Regt. from Racal". Two other RA17s were located, they just happened to be lying in a store. So equipment was there. Throw in a couple of 6-foot GS tables and six chairs, a bit of old carpet and some wiring by Eddi.

The Celle Station Amateur Radio Club was born. Still no licence but a Club; now we are into October 1981. There we were, a Club with equipment, a room 10' x 5', a small membership, so next apply to RSARS for Affiliated Membership, also to JSB Rheindahlen for a licence. This came in January 1982 with the callsign DA2CL (no, not DA2 Celle Loonies). This was just right for the single soldiers returning from Christmas leave. But we forgot about "Catch 22" (read the book!). Well. "Catch 22" always meets one now and then and 1982 was to be no different from any other year.

In early January the adjutant calls for Hall and states that a Major living in the block of flats above which we were, had complained about all the noise and people going into the attic. The complaint had gone via the estate warden (no, not Ron Ford, I think he's retired!! but Dave Owen a WOI in the RGJ!) to the SSO who wanted to know why we were in the attic. Well, says I, the CO and the RSM put us there, I assume they cleared it first. Much back-peddling by RHQ (the CO went on leave), the adjutant visited the club room with the RSM and the estate warden and the Troop OC Captain Steve Andrews. (Never had so many people interested in Amateur Radio at one time). Anyway the club was closed, keys handed in to RHQ, move the club is the order. SSO is not happy, 14 Sig. Regt. embarrassed (not the first time!). So ask again "Where do we put the Club?" SSM 3 says that there are three rooms above Block 168 "you can have them". (Funny. we asked for those from the outset or maybe I was dreaming). So Eddi took out the wiring he had put in the attic and spent a week of spare time rewiring the new rooms, power and aerial outlets had to be installed. (Boots on, Boots off!) now he knows what it is like in the Royal Signals!?

We also got some more tables, chairs and Ellie, my wife, bought cups and started a brew kit and found an old fridge for soft drinks, an old three-piece suite and dining table for the natter area. Bookcase from Tom Hicks DJØBU/527, cash donation from Ron Ford DA1FR/227 and we also found, yes found, another RA17, this time lying in a garage. (QM (Tech) swears he knew it was there all the time!). We put up an antenna for 80 metres and were back in business, this time with three rooms. At last DA2CL was on the air.

Up comes the next problem. We cannot use "Celle Station" as a name because SSO demands his permission to use "Celle Station" in the title, so the newly appointed (press-ganged) O i/c, yes. you've guessed, OC Radio Troop, Capt. Steve Andrews RSARS 1796 suggests "Celle and District Amateur Radio Club". Face saving all round!

The membership increases but due to the exercise season in April things have been quiet.

As I now have days to do I shall now let the intellectual one or the "twins" give you some other details. As I depart, the new station manager will be Cpl. Steve Hughes RSARS 1809 and the licence DA2CL will be held by Eddi until a serving club member gains a full licence.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now that Kit has handed me the pen after his tale of how everything started and got un-started I will try to give an account of the club's activities (who said what activities?).

As has already been explained, we are in the fortunate position of having three adjoining rooms, the first of which fulfils two functions, namely SWL room with three RA17s connected to a long-wire antenna and a small 2 metre receiver kindly donated by G3JPJ/1724 and also a natter area with brew facilities, fridge and bookcase for our slowly expanding library. The middle room is the shack which houses the Swan Cygnet HF transceiver and a 2 metre multimode station on loan from Dave DA1NW/1436 (thanks Dave, did you want it back?).

As far as aerals are concerned there is still much work to be done but then Rome wasn't built in 7 days was it. At the moment we have two dipoles supported by 27' masts, the first dipole "throws" RF at the UK and consists of two inverted Vees using one feeder, this gets us on to 80m and 20m. The second dipole fires in the direction of VK for 15 metres. Hopefully we will be able to improve the HF aerial system in the not-too-distant future but, for reasons which will become clear shortly, priority must be given to the 2 metre system which at the moment is only a lash-up vertical 0db omni, but an 8 element Yagi, kindly donated by Ron G3XUG/1488, is waiting until club funds can provide a suitable rotator to be erected on the roof.

The third room is a classroom where we have been trying to start classes for the RAE, a difficult undertaking when exercises and callouts mean that there are invariably different members missing on different weeks, something we had obviously anticipated but hopefully this will soon improve as rumour has it that other units within Celle station have asked about RAE classes. This should mean that we will be offered better facilities for instruction, i.e. education centre. I will then probably be able to run proper night classes independent of the Tuesday club nights.

Nevertheless we have already had one success. Congratulations to Steve Andrews who has just heard that he has passed the May 1982 RAE.

Another problem that faces us, although we are trying to sort matters out, is that the Home Office, as far as I know, will not accept anything other than the Post Office Morse Test for those wishing to upgrade to a G4 call. But how do we get the Post Office out to BAOR? This is the reason why priority must be given to the 2 metre Station because newly-licensed members will at first only hold the German DA4 equivalent of the UK Class B licence and unlike regulations in the UK the Federal German Authorities do not permit a G6/G8 or DA4 to operate on the HF bands under supervision. I hope that next time I put pen to paper I will be able to report that the Morse test problem has been solved.

Because of this situation it means that only Kit and yours truly are permitted to put DA2CL on the HF bands at the moment. Tuesday club nights get rather busy when you try to get DA2CL on the air for the benefit of those after RSARS AFF Ø59, instruct for the RAE and try and be sociable at the same time. Still, we get by and now you know why DA2CL is not always on parade!

I would like to end by saying a big "Thank you" to all concerned in ironing out the problems and to all members who have so generously donated equipment, furniture and cash and to all those members who have wished us well.

\* \* \* \* \*

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THE PRESIDENT AND ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL WISH ALL MEMBERS  
OF RSARS AND THEIR FAMILIES A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A  
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 1983.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MEMBERS INFORMATION SHEETS

### REVISED INFORMATION

The attached sheets contain revised information for your use. Our rules, some prices and some minor details of Awards and Contests have all been amended recently.

The information in the rules, paragraph 5b and c, i.e. effective from 1st January 1983. Between now and then subscriptions remain at the current rates of £3(overseas) and £2 UK and Affiliated.

Please note the two new frequencies used in RSARS activities. You are reminded of the antenna and power limitations in force on the 18 and 24 MHz allocations (UK)

### MANAGEMENT ADDRESSES

All correspondence on RSARS general matters, membership and HQ RSARS matters should be addressed as follows:

The General Secretary  
HQ RSARS  
Trade Training School  
8th Signal Regiment  
Vimy Barracks  
CATTERICK GARRISON  
North Yorkshire  
DL9 3PS

Ranks, names, home addresses and telephone numbers are not normally printed in Mercury, with respect to serving members. This is for personal security reasons. Licensed serving members can be contacted QTHR. Non Licensed serving members can be contacted through HQ RSARS.

Membership lists listing callsign and RSARS number can be obtained from the Stores Manager, G3DBU. Membership printouts are not available outside RSARS Council and specifically authorised members. HQ RSARS will not provide names and addresses to anyone without the prior permission of the member concerned.

The ACF/CCF representative is:

H.J. Buckley,  
Signal Wing  
South West London Army Cadet Force  
Cadet Training Centre  
Mitcham Road Barracks  
Croydon  
Surrey CR0 3RU

### FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

This information will normally be published annually, or after a major change in prices or policy.

### AWARDS AND CONTESTS RULES

These are available FREE from the Stores Manager (16½p SAE 12x8)

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In May 1952 the 1st Army Wireless Reserve Squadron, Cadre, Royal Signals was formed and Major Dennis Haylock G3ADZ appointed Officer Commanding with a mandate to recruit personnel mainly from radio amateurs.

In 1954 the first proposal for the formation of any Army Amateur Radio Society, a society having both amateur status and, as with the United States Military Amateur Radio Station, official recognition as an emergency military network, was put forward by Brigadier Eric Cole (G2EC), then CSO Southern Command. The proposal was very favourably received, but because of G2ECs posting overseas he was unable to supervise and monitor the Society's organisation and the proposal was not proceeded with.

By 1955 an Army Wireless Reserve Amateur Radio Society had been formed, a biannual newsheet BROADCAST issued to members and unit exercises and camps were arranged to ensure that GB3AWR operated in various "rare" UK countries.

In 1956, G2EC became Honorary Vice President of AWRARS which had extended its membership to a number of Army Personnel who were not members of the Squadron. In the same year the unit became 2 Press Communications Signal Squadron and went to Suez where MD5ADZ and other "UK calls" were briefly activated.

By 1959 the Squadron had been renamed 404 Signal Squadron AER and the question of affiliation between Army amateur radio clubs, many which existed in the TA and AER, was being actively pursued.

In 1960 G2EC when Director of Telecommunications asked Major General Whistler the Signal Officer in Chief, to carry out a survey within the Corps, the results of which indicated that there was sufficient support to justify the formation of a Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society.

On 23 June 1961 at Blandford where 404 Signal Squadron AER was at camp, a meeting was held of War Office, Command and Unit representatives under the chairmanship of G2EC and RSARS was formally established. By August 1961 the Rules and the 1st edition of Mercury were sent to nearly 100 individuals and club members and to all Army Command HQ and Royal Signals units world wide. HQ RSARS was established at Catterick Camp and the Catterick Club G3CIO, which had been in existence since 1947, became the HQ station.

At the 1985 AGM, when the Royal Signals membership had reached nearly 400, it was agreed to extend Society membership to all serving personnel of the Active and Reserve Army and the Associate Membership class was introduced.

During 1987 the callsign G4RS was issued to the Society and by 1974 the 1000th membership number had been issued.

On 1st January 1978 HQ RSARS and the HQ Station G4RS was transferred to 8th Signal Regiment, Vimy Barracks, Catterick Garrison.

## RULES FOR THE ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

1. The Society shall be known as The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, (abbreviated title RSARS).

### PURPOSE AND OBJECTS

2. The purpose and objects of the Society shall be :
  - a. To promote and foster all aspects of Amateur Radio within the Corps and amongst Society members in order to encourage recruiting of radio trades to the Regular and Reserve Army.
  - b. To assist and advise upon the formation and running of Unit Amateur Radio Clubs and to give Society members all possible information, advice and assistance towards passing the necessary examinations to qualify for the Amateur Radio Transmitting Licence.
  - c. To encourage members to take part in Amateur Radio activities and all forms of experimental radio and electronic work, particularly where they affect the work of the Corps.
  - d. To provide a central Secretariat to maintain up-to-date membership records.
  - e. To inform members of Society matters by publication of the magazine MERCURY and such other correspondence as may be considered necessary.
  - f. To establish and maintain a Headquarters Amateur Radio Station.
  - g. To deal with publicity and exhibitions and to be represented at any Amateur Radio Meetings that may be considered necessary by the Council.
  - h. To raise, maintain and account for, such funds as may be necessary to ensure the proper working of the Society.

### MEMBERSHIP

3. The Society may provide the following classes of membership:
  - a. Full Membership shall be granted to any serving or retired member of Royal Signals including Royal Signals TA.
  - b. Associate Membership may be granted to the following who are not normally entitled to Full Membership:
    - (1) Any serving member of the British Army and/or TA.
    - (2) Any serving member of the Army Cadet Force, Combined Cadet Force or University Officers Training Corps.
    - (3) Any serving member of a Commonwealth Signal Corps.
    - (4) Any civilian fully and/or wholly employed by a Royal Signals Unit.
    - (5) Any serving member of a NATO Army Signal Corps who has been attached to, or worked in close liaison with, Royal Signals subject to the approval of Council.
  - c. Affiliated Membership may be granted to the following:
    - (1) Any Royal Signals Amateur Radio Club of the Regular Army or TA.
    - (2) Any Amateur Radio Club in the British Army, Regular or TA.
    - (3) Any Amateur Radio Club or Signals Unit of the ACF, CCF or UOTC.
    - (4) Any Amateur Radio Club in a Commonwealth Army Signal Corps.
  - d. Honorary Life Membership may be granted to any person who, in the opinion of the Council, has rendered outstanding service to the Society. Such membership shall carry the privileges of Full or Associate Membership (as appropriate) but will be free of all membership subscriptions.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

4. Membership subscriptions shall be determined by Council and will be set at a level to ensure satisfactory operation of the Society.
5. The current subscriptions are:
  - a. Life Member. £25. A Full Member may apply for Life Membership after a minimum of Five years unbroken membership. Applications will be subject to Council approval.
  - b. UK Full, Associate and Affiliated Member. £3.
  - c. Overseas Members of all grades. £5 Sterling.
6. Annual subscriptions shall be paid when joining the Society and thereafter on 1st January. Annual subscriptions may be paid by Bankers Order for which forms are supplied by Headquarters. Payment in advance is not permitted.
7. Overseas members paying by cheque are expected to pay bank charges incurred. Any excess allowance received will be refunded or credited only if so requested by the member, otherwise the excess will be accounted for as a donation.
8. The Council may waive the subscriptions of severely disabled persons after five years unbroken membership where it is considered the payment of subscriptions may cause hardship.

## TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

9. A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Society if he has not paid his Annual Subscription by the last day of March. All membership privileges shall cease on the last day of the following April. A member renewing his annual subscription after the last day of March shall be treated in all respects as a new member.
10. Any member may resign from the Society at any time by notifying the General Secretary in writing.
11. The Council reserves the right to refuse, or to terminate membership at any time.

## OFFICES OF COUNCIL

12. The Council shall be responsible for policy and the supervision of the running of the Society and its activities, and will comprise the following officers:
  - a. The President who will be nominated by the Signal Officer-in-Chief (Army).
  - b. The Vice President. Major-General E. S. Cole, CB CBE G2EC.
  - c. Chairman who will be the Commanding Officer of the Royal Signals unit tasked by the Signals Officer-in-Chief (Army) to be responsible for the HQ Station and staff.
  - d. Life Honorary Vice President. The Council is empowered to appoint by invitation to this office, any member who has rendered exceptional service to the Society or to whom the Society wishes to give some special recognition.
  - e. The General Secretary who will normally be serving in Royal Signals and in the same location as the HQ Station.
  - f. The Treasurer who will normally be serving in Royal Signals and in the same location as the HQ Station.
  - g. The Editor of MERCURY.
  - h. The HQ Station Manager who will normally be serving in Royal Signals and must be a licensed amateur.
  - i. The Awards and Contests Manager.
  - j. The QSL Bureau Manager.

- k. The Two Representatives of Non-Serving Members who will be appointed by Council for a four-year period, alternating every two years.
13. With the exception of the Chairman and Treasurer, Council members must hold Life or Full Membership status.
14. The Council shall meet at least once a year, preceding the AGM, and at any other time considered necessary.

Any member of Council may request a meeting by approaching the Chairman in writing with details of the necessity.

A quorum will exist if five or more Council members are present at a Council meeting. Should any Council member hold more than one office, he will be entitled to one vote only.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES - OFFICERS OF COUNCIL

15. The General Secretary is responsible to the Chairman for the efficient day-to-day running of the Society and will:
- a. Deal with all incoming correspondence and where appropriate, distribute for necessary action to his assistant(s), if appointed, and to any other members of Council concerned.
  - b. Deal with applications for membership in accordance with the rules and where necessary, refer to Council for approval.
  - c. Maintain a detailed master record of members.
  - d. Inform the appropriate members of Council of changes in membership as they occur.
  - e. Maintain a stock of Society goods and deal with orders
  - f. Deal with publicity for the Society.
  - g. Liaise with the Commander, Training Group Royal Signals, (or his nominated representative(s)), on all Society business as it affects the Training Group.
  - h. Organise and administer the Annual General Meeting.
  - j. Assist any Council member as required.
16. If the circumstances necessitate or permit, he may be assisted with these duties in which case he will mutually agree the division of duties with the person(s) concerned, but will retain the overall responsibility.

#### The Treasurer

17. The Treasurer is responsible for:
- a. Maintaining the Society accounts in accordance with 'Service Funds', Accounting and Audit Procedures (W.O. Code No 60450).
  - b. The acceptance of all membership fees, donations and monies from stock sales from the General Secretary.
  - c. The payment of all monies received into the Society Bank Account. The Treasurer shall not hold more than £50 in cash at any one time.
  - d. The payment of all bills on behalf of the Society. Bills over £50 will be paid only after authorisation by three Council members. All cheques must be countersigned by a nominated member of Council.
  - e. The presentation of accounts for audit and the forwarding of the completed AF B1514 to the General Secretary.
  - f. The production of the Balance Sheet and Statement of Account together with a General Report for presentation at the AGM.

- g. Informing the General Secretary and the Editor of MERCURY of all members who have paid their membership subscriptions by Bankers Order.

#### The Editor MERCURY

- 18. The Editor of MERCURY is responsible for:
  - a. The preparation, publication and distribution of MERCURY, three times a year within any policy guidelines laid down by Council.
  - b. Dealing with any correspondence addressed to the Editor of MERCURY either directly or by forwarding it to the Council member concerned for necessary action.
  - c. Including in each edition any membership changes since the previous edition.

#### The HQ Station Manager

- 19. The HQ Station Manager will hold the HQ Station (G4RS) or any other Amateur Transmitting Licences issued to the Society and is responsible for:
  - a. The day-to-day running of the HQ Station, or any other special event station, including its operation within the terms of the Licence. QSL activity, cleanliness, serviceability and maintenance.
  - b. Any HQ station property when used for special events, displays and exhibitions which have been approved by the President or Council.
  - c. The disposition and accounting for any property, stores and equipment purchased by or made available to the Society.
  - d. Preparing the property book(s) for audit and in conjunction with the General Secretary agreeing the depreciation rates for and the current value of all items of property. (These values are to be agreed by Council before presentation for audit).
  - e. Informing the Council of any item of property that requires major repair or replacement as and when necessary.

#### The Awards and Contests Manager

- 20. The Awards and Contests Manager is responsible for organising and running all Society Award Schemes and Contests, details of which shall be published in MERCURY from time to time.

#### The QSL Bureau Manager

- 21. The QSL Bureau Manager is responsible for the efficient running of the RSARS QSL Bureau, including acceptance and delivery of members QSL cards.
- 22. The QSL Bureau Manager shall not be responsible for:
  - a. The delivery of cards held for members unless such members lodge at the Bureau, stamped addressed envelopes of sufficient size.
  - b. QSL cards held on members behalf for longer than six months. Cards which have been held for more than six months will be returned to the originating member where possible or will be destroyed.
- 23. Neither the Society nor the RSARS QSL Bureau Manager can accept responsibility for QSL cards mislaid or lost in the post.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL AND OTHER MEETINGS

- 24. The Annual General Meeting shall be held on a date and at a place to be decided by the Council. The General Secretary shall issue notice of the AGM to members as early as possible.
- 25. Copies of the agenda and the latest audited accounts shall be available to members attending the AGM.

26. The Agenda shall include reports by the General Secretary and Treasurer and such other Council members as considered necessary. Changes in Council members will be confirmed at the AGM.
27. Extraordinary and Other Meetings shall be held as and when considered necessary.

#### AGM - NOMINATIONS, PROPOSITIONS AND VOTING

28. Propositions and proposals may be submitted in writing at any time to the General Secretary, but must reach him not later than one month prior to the date of the AGM. Propositions so submitted must be signed by the proposer and a seconder, who must be fully paid-up members of the Society.
29. At the AGM the Council may decide not to ratify any decision resulting from a vote taken by the members present, but to refer the matter under consideration to all members. In the latter case ALL aspects of the matter, both FOR and AGAINST, shall be outlined in MERCURY and members asked to complete a Postal Ballot Slip.
30. All classes of membership shall be entitled to ONE vote only. This includes Affiliated Clubs who are responsible for ascertaining from their own members how this one vote shall be cast.
31. The Council is not bound to ratify any or all decision resulting from any Vote or Postal Ballot. However, it is unlikely that Council will veto members decisions unless they are not in the best interests of the Society, the Corps or the Army.

#### AFFILIATION

32. The Society shall apply for affiliation to the Radio Society of Great Britain, The official Amateur Radio organisation in Great Britain.

#### SOCIETY RULES

33. The Chairman and the Council are the only authority empowered to alter the rules of the Society.

#### CONDUCT

34. The Society and its members shall, at all times, conduct their affairs in such a manner that discredit is not brought upon members, the Society, the Corps or Amateur Radio.
35. RESERVED.

## ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY REGULAR NETS

UK net times are UK CLOCK times. Overseas nets are in GMT. All nets are plus or minus the QRM. Have a good look around the QRG.

If a net is not clearly marked as a CONTROLLED NET then it is in all cases a 'natter net' DO NOT call CQ on a CONTROLLED NET frequency, the Control Station will call you in. DO NOT tune your transmitter up on the working net frequency, it is bad manners, bad procedure and outside your licence regulations.

### LF NETS SSB

MONDAY 1300 7075 or 3740 KHz

TUESDAY 1900 3740 KHz CONTROLLED NET: CONTROLLER: G3WRY

THURSDAY 1900 3740 KHz CONTROLLED NET: CONTROLLER: G3WRY

SATURDAY 1100 7075 or 3720 KHz

SUNDAY 1100 7075 or 3720 KHz

### LF NETS CW

WEDNESDAY 1930 Primary 3565 KHz CONTROLLED NET: CONTROLLER: G3KLX  
Secondary 3526 KHz " "

"

Primary 1823 KHz CONTROLLED NET: CONTROLLER: G3GZG

### HF NETS

DAILY 1230 21170 KHz

1500 21290 KHz

When conditions permit, members are encouraged to use the following HF frequencies in addition to those above:

10113, 14065, 14175, 18075, 21130, 21175,  
24900, 28065, 28450

### OTHER FREQUENCIES AND MODES

RTTY 3590 and 14090 KHz. Use 170 Hz shift and 45.5 Bauds.

SLOW SCAN TV Please notify details to HQ RSARS for publication.

### VHF

70.22 and 144.22 MHz Please notify locally arranged nets for publication in MERCURY. In EAST MIDLANDS AREA please listen on channel S14 (145.35 MHz) each WEDNESDAY at 2000 Hours.

### ACTIVITY SUNDAY

Activity Sunday is the Sunday of the second full weekend in every month. Please make an extra effort to contact our Overseas members. Use listed frequencies and call on the hour when propagation is suitable.

### SLOW MORSE TRANSMISSIONS FROM G4RS

G4RS transmits slow morse for training purposes and in association with the RSGB on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1900 to 2000 Hours on 3565 KHz and 145.525 (Channel S21). Radiation is omni-directional.

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NB. It is illegal to add RSARS on to the end of your callsign. (UK regulations) ALL MODES PLEASE CALL 'CQ RSARS'. ALWAYS BOOK INTO AND OUT OF A CONTROLLED NET.

RSARS MEMBERS SUPPLIES

The following points should be noted when ordering supplies:

1. PRINT name, address RSARS number, callsign CLEARLY
2. Telephone orders will be accepted but goods will not be despatched until payment is received.
3. Please make all cheques/PO/MO payable to THE ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. NOT to any individual.
4. When ordering QSL cards-please state which type is required, either VERTICAL or HORIZONTAL. Where no preference is stated VERTICAL cards will be despatched.
5. Please state colour when ordering ties.
6. All orders MUST BE SENT TO THE STORES MANAGER AS FOLLOWS:

W T E BEVAN, G3DBU,  
10 HILLTOP CRESCENT,  
HARROGATE,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE. TELEPHONE : HARROGATE 509059

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MEMBERSHIP LIST: Shows all members callsigns. Free for large SAE. 1000 Grammes postage rate(SIXTEEN AND A HALF PENCE)

AWARDS AND CONTESTS RULES: Free for large SAE. 100 Grammes postage rate (SIXTEEN AND A HALF PENCE)

HEADED NOTEPAPER: Notepaper headed 'ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY' and 'MEMBERS CORRESPONDENCE' in blue with space for callsign, RSARS Number etc.

BASIC QSL CARDS: Standard post card size, two varieties, HORIZONTAL or VERTICAL.

Printing allows for:

A SWL report OR Acknowledgement for a SWL report OR

A QSL for a contact on CW, AM, SSB, FM, RTTY or SLOW SCAN TV

Card description: HORIZONTAL: On one side - a figure of 'MERCURY' on the left, the remaining 2/3rds carrying QSL information. Reverse side is blank. Printed BLACK on WHITE.

VERTICAL: A figure of 'MERCURY' and the wording, 'MEMBER STATION' and ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY on the front and the QSL information on the reverse. Printed BLUE on WHITE card.

PLAIN BADGES: Standard diamond shaped badges in Light Blue Dark Blue and Green enamel, with 'RSARS' lettering across centre. This is a flat badge, with no pin on the reverse.

CALL SIGN LAPEL BADGES: As above but with lapel pin and containing scroll which can take members callsign, RSARS number, etc. Maximum of 6 letters/figures/spaces

RSARS TIES: A crimplene/terylene tie in Dark Blue or Green or Wine. A quality tie produced by a leading manufacturer. Alternate angular rows of figure of Mercury and RSARS Diamond.

RSARS STATION LOG BOOKS: 40 pages, 1000 entries, with all normal columns plus an extra unnumbered/unheaded column for recording RSARS number, WAB Area, DOK etc.

RSARS MOBILE LOGBOOKS: Handy pocket size with one side of page blank.

RSARS DYMO BADGES: Pin fixing, double or single row white plastic frames, allowing fixing of Dymo tape with 16 letters/figures/spaces per row. Tape available in a variety of colours. Can be printed for XYL, YL, Junior OP etc.

WINDSCREEN STICKERS: Adhesive clear backing carries RSARS diamond in Light Blue, Dark Blue and Green with 'RSARS' across centre.

OVERPRINTED QSLs: These are either of the Basic QSLs overprinted in Red, Blue, Black or Green. Overprint shows member's RSARS number, Callsign (or BRS number etc.) Name and address. Minimum order quantity 500

GREAT CIRCLE BEARING AND DISTANCE CHART: These charts are computer produced and are based on a members EXACT QTH. Member must supply the Latitude and Longitude of their QTH (in Degrees and Minutes ONLY. NOT map references). Charts are then produced showing the Town/City name, Country and Latitude. The bearing distance from members QTH in Nautical miles and kilometres. The bearing with respect to True North from the member's QTH to the distant QTH and vice-versa. There are over 1800 locations on the chart.

STORES DELIVERY: Delivery is by return except for QSL cards which can take up to three months, and Great Circle Bearing Charts which take about a fortnight.

MEMBERS SUPPLIES MUST BE ORDERED FROM THE STORES MANAGER

RSARS STORES MANAGER.  
W.T.E. BEVAN, G3DBU,  
10 HILLTOP CRESCENT,  
HARROGATE,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE.

RSARS STORES PRICE LIST

EFFECTIVE 1 DECEMBER 82

	<u>Price</u>	<u>UK/BFPO</u>	<u>Price</u>
		<u>Postage</u>	<u>+ P &amp; P</u>
	£ p	£ p	£ p
100 Sheets of Headed Notepaper	1 50	70	2 20
500 Sheets of Headed Notepaper	5 00	1 80	6 80
100 Index Cards	50	70	1 20
250 Index Cards	1 20	1 40	2 60
500 Index Cards	2 30	1 80	4 10
1000 Index Cards	4 00	2 10	6 10
100 Basic QSL cards	1 30	70	2 00
250 Basic QSL cards	2 75	1 25	4 00
500 Basic QSL cards	5 20	1 80	7 00
1000 Basic QSL cards	8 90	2 10	11 00
500 Overprinted QSL cards	9 20	1 80	11 00
1000 Overprinted QSL cards	14 90	2 10	17 00
1 Flat RSARS Badge (enamelled, no pin)	65	25	90
1 Call-sign Lapel Badge Blank (Enamelled with pin on reverse)	1 00	25	1 25
1 Call-sign Lapel Badge - with Callsign (Enamelled with pin on reverse)	1 50	25	1 75
1 RSARS Tie	3 25	25	3 50
1 RSARS Station Log Book	60	25	85
3 RSARS Station Log Books	1 65	70	2 35
5 RSARS Station Log Books	2 60	95	3 55
1 RSARS Mobile (Pocket size) Log Book	30	25	55
3 RSARS Mobile (Pocket size) Log Books	80	70	1 50
5 RSARS Mobile (Pocket size) Log Books	1 40	90	2 50
1 RSARS Dymo Badge (1 Row)	25	25	50
1 RSARS Dymo Badge (2 Row)	40	25	65
1 RSARS Windscreen Sticker	35	25	60
2 RSARS Windscreen Stickers	60	25	85
Great Circle Bearing/Distance Chart	1 50	1 00	2 50

RSARS AWARDS AND CONTEST RULES FREE FOR 16½ PENCE STAMP AND 12x8 ENVELOPE

MEMBERSHIP CALL-SIGN LIST FREE FOR 16½ PENCE STAMP AND 12x8 ENVELOPE

PLEASE NOTE POSTAL RATES ARE NOT OVERSEAS RATES

Members supplies MUST be ordered from the RSARS STORES MANAGER.

Cheques/PO/MO should be made payable to ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, and NOT to any individual.

RSARS STORES MANAGER.  
W.T.E. BEVAN, G3DBU,  
10 HILLTOP CRESCENT,  
HARROGATE,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE.

# NOTICEBOARD

NB1 Price lists, members supplies, net information and the most recent copy of the RSARS rules are published as a ten page loose compilation to this issue of Mercury. Future copies of Mercury will only include this information if it has changed a great deal and needs general amendments.

NB2 NOTICEBOARD carries small items. Sales and Wants can appear here too. Paul Walker, G4DBY, has the following for sale: TR2300 2M FM with 2 x Nicad batteries and Nicad charger. 10 Watt Linear Amp. 8 ele Yagi, 5/8 whip, Slim Jim, Car Mic, Rubber Duck. The Nicad charger doubles as an AC psu. The lot £200.

NB3 Best example this year of how NOT to write to us: We kid you not, the envelope is preserved here in the office: "RSARS, G3YSK, J Button. Vimy 38, Catterick, GR 181966, WAB SE19". What a grand job the postal people do! It must have driven the post code computer insane. Moral there somewhere.

NB4 No opportunity to get at you all before January 1st, but have a Merry Xmas, a Happy New Year, and then send us your nice bright new subscription because it is due January 1st, and of course they have gone up to £3 for UK members and £5 for Overseas. Our membership computer works all night to put you into the archive if you aren't in the kitty by April 30th.

NB5 If you would like to help out with the ACF/CCF Signals side, they could use your experience in many areas around the UK. Give Mike Buckley a buzz at the Mitcham Road Barracks address in your loose insert.

NB6 Mike Crane, G4IUU, at Ouston is picking up some C13 equipment for his boys to run on the National Cadet Net (NATNET). See what you can do to get your local Cadets on the air.

NB7 GW6HAW. D.K. EGAN, writes to say that he was with 15th and 18th Airborne or Air Formation Signals 1943/47. He is not RSARS (but will soon be with us!) although he is a Life Member of the Association. Contact him at 4, Hazel Grove, Long Meadow, Dinas Powis, CF6 4TE, Mid Glamorgan.

NB8 TOP BAND CW NET CONTROL is now Norman Chadwick, G3GZG. He is a volunteer, so treat him nice! They are a dying breed.

NB9 Postage on Membership Lists from Bill the Stores, G3DBU, is SIXTEEN AND A HALF PENCE, NOT repeat NOT 15½p!! Please order your stores from Bill direct.

NB10 Thanks to Danny Kay, Jim Briggs and the lads at Harrogate for keeping a Headquarters callsign on the air during lunch breaks on 40 Metres. If you haven't worked G4RS/A from Harrogate, then have a listen around 40 between 1230 and 1400 most days.

NB11 After the Leicester show, G4RS should have some new traps to put together an all bands (including the new allocations) trap dipole and that will give us full frequency coverage for both static and nomad stations during the year as /A.

NB12 Recently retyped and with minor amendments done, the Awards and Contests Rules can be obtained from G3DBU. They are NOT as one member recently said on the air 'the new rules'. We simply ran out of copies and the rules were retyped. 16½p stamp brings you yours.

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**! SUBS DUE JAN 1st !**