

"All use of radio transmitters in petrol stations is potentially hazardous. The Code of Practice for Citizen's Band radio (available free at Post Offices) specifically draws attention to this. The use of high power transmitters such as a CB set coupled to an illegal 'burner' adds considerably to the risk of causing an electric spark close to the filling nozzle. An explosion could occur in some circumstances.

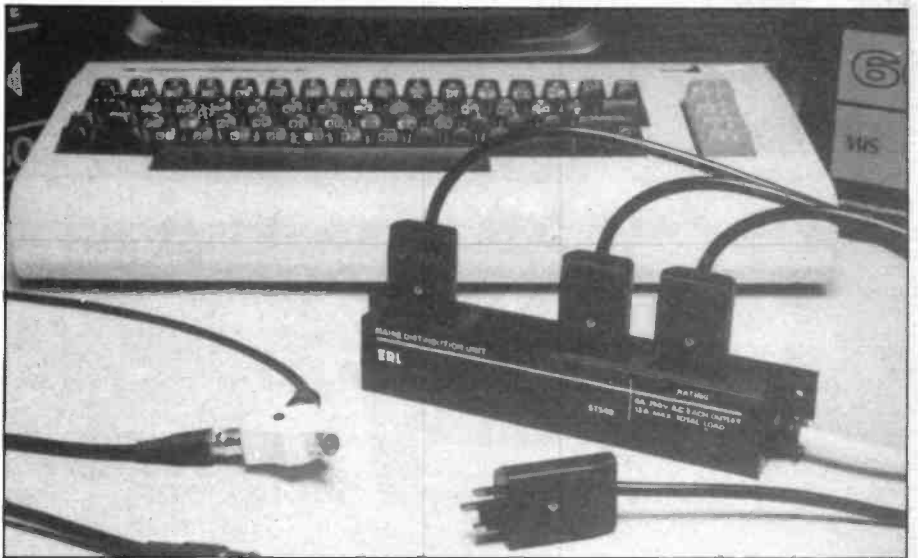
"The public are warned always to switch off transmitting equipment when entering a filling station forecourt and never to use CB 'burners' in a vehicle which is being filled with petrol.

"The use of a CB set with a 'burner' is in any case illegal because of the interference it causes to domestic radio and TV reception and to the emergency services; offenders may be imprisoned for up to three months and fined up to £1,000. The sale and possession of burners may be made illegal following the passage of the Telecommunications Bill at present before Parliament."

Don't say we didn't warn you.

## A HRT First?

At the recent Breadboard electronics exhibition, Ham Radio Today ran a special event station, and we'll be giving further details of this in a forthcoming article in the next issue (giving ourselves a chance to recover first!). However, in the space of the three day conference, we made 200 contacts on VHF and HF. So far as we know, we are the first UK amateur radio magazine to run a special event station.



This new multiplug mains unit from ERL keeps the shack tidy

## ZX Spectrum RTTY

Scarab Systems of 39, Stafford Street, Gillingham Kent, have recently introduced a new version of the SP-RTTY program written for the Sinclair Spectrum (48K version). The program features a type-head buffer, split screen operation (so that you can compile answers while still in the receive mode), seven memories with up to 255 characters each, and more. You can buy it either as a cassette tape with a bare PCB for the electronics, which costs £17.50, or as a cassette plus PCB and components for £29.10, or as a ready-assembled board with cassette for £37.50.

If you've already built the earlier version of the same system, you can get an update program for £7.50. Scarab also do a morse tutor program and a QTH locator program pack. They can be reached at the address above, or on 0634-570441.

## STOP PRESS!

*Trevor Butler, G6LPZ, reports that Dr Owen Garriot has been quite active on 2m FM from the space shuttle, Columbia, with his Motorola hand-held transceiver. However, as far as UK amateurs are concerned, it seems that making contact has proved somewhat difficult!*

*The first report of reception comes from a station in Jersey who heard W5LFL's signals on the morning of Friday 2nd December from his mobile set-up whilst travelling across the island. A desperate attempt to get home to his base station ensued - radio contact being possible for only a period of 6/7 minutes - but despite some nifty driving, his efforts were in vain.*

*On the morning of Sunday 4th December, Dr Garriot was scheduled to be on-air and it was expected that there would be a good signal in the UK, particularly in the South East, one of the passes being directly over Croydon. Unfortunately, in the event both passes occurred during one of W5LFL's sleep periods.*

*Many people have been replying to Dr Garriot's transmissions on his transmit frequency and causing severe interference. In an effort to cut down on the immense QRM generated by the interest in the shuttle, Angus McKenzie, G3OSS, erected a halo antenna 3m above his lawn. With this antenna, he was able to copy Dr Garriot's transmissions on the 4th at 1523 UTC for some 15 seconds and pass a recording over to BBC news.*

**G HAM 'Breadboard '83'**  
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**GB4 RADIO TODAY**

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TO RADIO	DATE	GMT	MODE	MHz	RST
G8CHQ	26/11/83	1530	FM	145.5	59+