

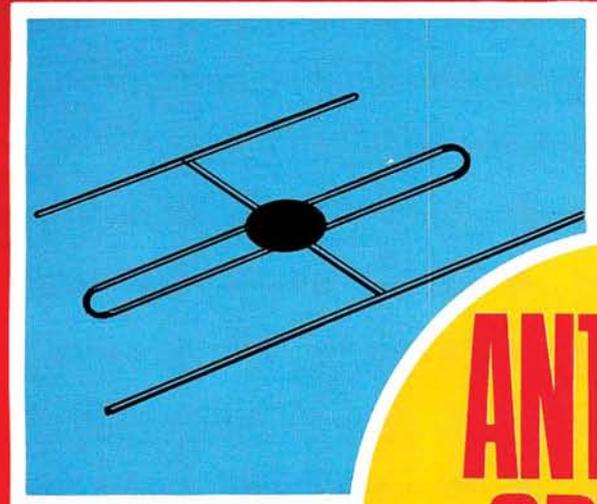
FOR THE RADIO ENTHUSIAST ...

FEBRUARY 1983

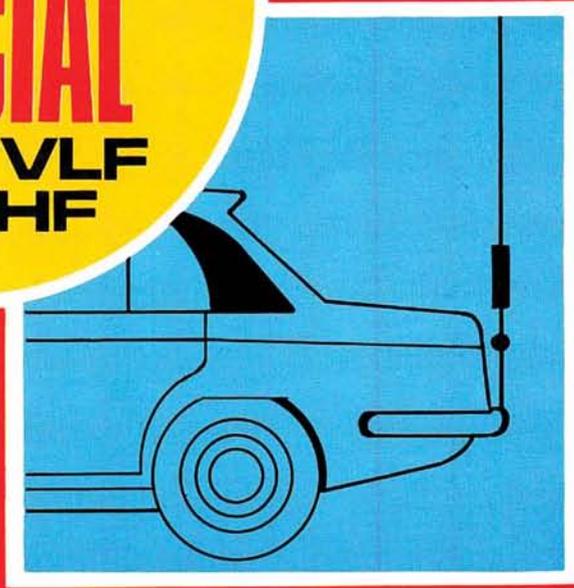
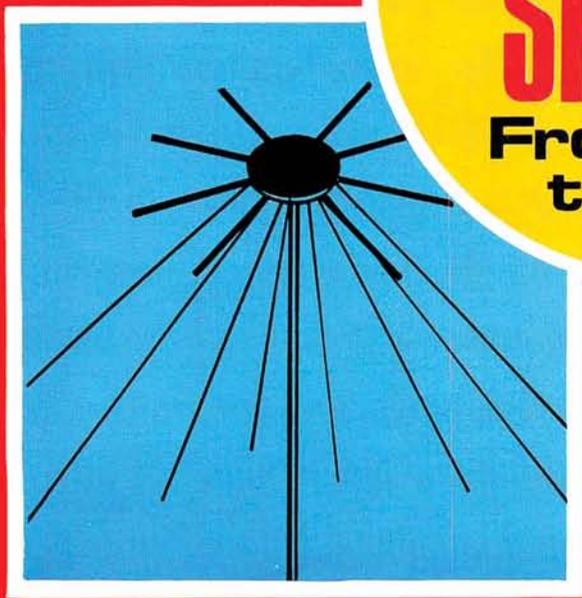
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FC902	All Band A.T.U.	135.00	(1.50)
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FT102	160-10m 9 Band Transceiver	725.00	(—)
FT707	8 Band Transceiver 200W Pep	512.00	(—)

FP707	Matching Power Supply	125.00	(5.00)
FC707	Matching A.T.U./Power Meter	85.00	(1.00)
MMB2	Mobile Mounting Bracket for FT707	16.10	(1.00)

FRG7

FRG7	General Coverage Receiver	199.00	(—)
FRG7700	200KHz-30MHz Gen. Coverage Receiver	329.00	(—)
FRG7700M	As above but with Memories	409.00	(—)
FRT7700	Antenna Tuning Unit	37.00	(1.00)
FRA7700	Active Antenna Unit	36.40	(1.00)

FT208R

FT208R	2M FM Synthesised Handheld	209.00	(—)
FT708R	70cm FM Synthesised Handheld	219.00	(—)
NC7	Base Trickle Charger	26.88	(1.30)
NC8	Base Fast/Trickle Charger	44.10	(1.50)
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FBA2	Battery Sleeve for use with NC7/8	3.05	(0.50)
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FT780R	70cm Synthesised Multimode (1.6MHz Shift)	459.00	(—)

FT290R

FT290R	2M Portable Multimode	249.00	(—)
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YH55	Headphones 8 ohm	9.90	(0.75)
YH77	Lightweight Headphones 8 ohm	9.90	(0.75)
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YM24A	Speaker/Mic 207/208/708	16.85	(0.75)
YD148	Stand Microphone Dual IMP		
	4 Pin Plug	21.10	(1.50)
YM38	As 34 but up/down Scan Buttons	24.90	(1.50)

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Multi 750E	2M Multimode Mobile	259.00	(—)
Expander	70cm Transverter for M750E	199.00	(—)

DRAE

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	6 AMP	44.95	(2.00)	24 AMP	99.00	(3.00)
VHF Wavemeter 130-450MHz		24.95	(—)			

ICOM

IC740	HF Mobile Transceiver 8 Band	699.00	(—)	£	c&p
IC720A	HF Transceiver & Gen. Cov. Receiver	883.00	(—)		
PS15	Power Supply for 720A	99.00	(3.00)		
IC251E	2M Multimode Base Station	499.00	(—)		
IC251E	2M Compact 25W Mobile	239.00	(—)		
IC290E	2M Multimode Mobile	366.00	(—)		
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IC BC25	230V AC Trickle Charger	5.00	(0.75)		
IC CP1	Car Charging Lead	3.71	(0.50)		
IC BP2	6V Nicad Pack for IC2E	29.50	(1.00)		
IC BP3	9V Nicad Pack for IC2E	20.00	(1.00)		
IC BP4	Empty Case for 6x AA Nicads	6.95	(0.75)		
IC BP5	11.5V Nicad Pack for IC2E	39.50	(1.00)		
IC DC1	12V Adaptor Pack for IC2E	9.75	(0.75)		
IC ML1	10W Booster	59.00	(1.00)		

TV INTERFERENCE AIDS

Ferrite Rings 1 1/2" dia. per pair	0.80	(0.20)
Toroid Filter TV Down Lead	2.50	(0.50)
Trio Low Pass Filter LF30A 1kW	20.00	(1.00)
Yaesu Low Pass Filter FF501DX 1kW	23.00	(1.00)
HP4A High Pass Filter TV Down Lead	5.95	(—)

ANTENNA BITS

H1-Q Balun 1:1 5kW pep (PL259 Fitting)	9.95	(0.75)
7-1MHz Traps Pair	7.95	(0.75)
T Piece Polyprop Dipole Centre	1.20	(0.30)
Polyprop Strain Insulators	0.40	(0.10)
Small Egg Insulators	0.40	(0.10)
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4mm Polyester Guy Rope (strength 400kg) per metre	0.18	(0.04)
75 ohm Twin Feeder - Light Duty-Per Metre	0.16	(0.04)
300 ohm Twin Feeder - Per Metre	0.14	(0.04)
URM67 Low Loss 50 ohm Coax-Per Metre	0.60	(0.20)
UR76 50 ohm Coax-Per Metre	0.25	(0.05)

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**TRIO
TS 930S
£1154**



Amateur band transceiver/General coverage receiver

TRIO

TS930S	New Transceiver	1154.00	(—)
TS830S	160-10m Transceiver 9 Bands	678.00	(—)
VFO230	Digital V.F.O. with Memories	231.00	(2.00)
AT230	All Band ATU/Power Meter	129.00	(2.00)
SP230	External Speaker Unit	39.00	(1.50)
DFC230	Dig. Frequency Remote Controller	145.00	(1.50)
TS430S	160-10m Transceiver	TBA	(—)
TS130S	8 Band 200W Pep Transceiver	531.00	(—)
TS130V	8 Band 20W Pep Transceiver	433.00	(—)
VFD120	External V.F.O.	93.00	(1.50)
TL120	20W PEP Linear for TS120V	159.00	(1.50)
MB100	Mobile Mount for TS130/120	17.00	(1.50)
SP120	Base Station External Speaker	25.00	(1.50)
AT130	10W Antenna Tuner	88.00	(1.50)
PS20	AC Power Supply - TS130V	54.95	(2.50)
PS30	AC Power Supply - TS130S	96.35	(5.00)
MC50	Dual Impedance Desk Microphone	29.00	(1.50)
MC35S	Fist Microphone 50K ohm IMP	14.00	(0.75)
MC30S	Fist Microphone 500 ohm IMP	14.00	(0.75)
LF30A	HF Low Pass Filter 1kW	20.00	(1.00)
TR9130	2M Synthesised Multimode	411.00	(—)
BO9A	Base Plinth for TR9130	37.00	(1.50)
TR7800	2M Synthesised FM Mobile 25W	257.00	(—)
TR7730	2M Synthesised FM Compact Mobile 25W	268.00	(—)
TR2300	2M Synthesised FM Portable	144.00	(—)
VB2300	10W Amplifier for TR2300	62.00	(1.50)
MB2	Mobile Mount for TR2300	20.00	(1.50)
TR3500	70cm Handheld	TBA	(—)
TR2500	2M FM Synthesised Handheld	220.00	(—)
ST2	Base Stand	49.45	(1.50)
SC4	Soft Case	13.00	(0.50)
MS1	Mobile Stand	30.36	(1.00)
SMC25	Speaker Mike	15.40	(1.00)
PB25	Spare Battery Pack	23.69	(1.00)
TR8400	70cm FM Synthesised Mobile	299.00	(—)
PS10	Base Station Power Supply for 8400	64.00	(2.00)
TR9500	70cm Synthesised Multimode	428.00	(—)

R2000	200KHz-30MHz Receiver	TBA	(—)
R600	Gen. Cov. Receiver	244.00	(—)
SP100	External Speaker Unit	26.90	(1.50)
HC10	Digital Station World Time Clock	64.40	(1.50)
HS5	Deluxe Headphones	21.85	(1.00)
HS4	Economy Headphones	10.80	(1.00)
SP40	Mobile External Speaker	13.57	(1.00)

TELEADAPTERS (CW & RTTY)

TASCO CWR 680	189.00	(—)
TONO 500	299.00	(—)
TONO 9000	650.00	(—)

MORSE EQUIPMENT

MK704	Squeeze Paddle	10.50	(0.75)
HK708	Up/Down Key	10.50	(0.75)
	Practise Oscillator	8.75	(0.50)
EK121	Elbug	33.00	(0.75)
EKM12A	Matching Side Tone Monitor	10.95	(0.75)
EK150	Electronic Keyer	78.00	(—)

ROTATORS

Hirschman	RO250 VHF Rotor	39.95	(2.00)
9502B	Colorator (Med. VHF)	56.95	(2.00)
KR400RC	Kenpro - inc lower clamps	110.00	(2.50)
KR600RC	Kenpro - inc lower clamps	145.00	(3.00)

DESK MICROPHONES

SHURE 444D	Dual Impedance	39.00	(1.50)
SHURE 526T Mk II	Power Microphone	53.00	(1.50)
ADONIS AM 303	Preamp Mic. Wide Imp.	29.00	(—)
ADONIS AM503	Compression Mic 1	39.00	(—)
ADONIS AM 802	Compression Mic - Meter 3 O/P	59.00	(—)

MOBILE SAFETY MICROPHONES

ADONIS AM 202S	Clip-on	21.00	(—)
ADONIS AM 202F	Swan Neck + Up/Down Buttons	33.00	(—)
ADONIS AM 202H	Head Band + Up/Down Buttons	31.00	(—)

TEST EQUIPMENT

Drae VHF Wavemeter 130-450MHz	24.95	(—)	
DM81	Trio Dip Meter	67.60	(0.75)
MMD50/500	Dig. Frequency meter (500MHz)	75.00	(—)

Co-AXIAL SWITCH

2 Way Diecast (V.H.F.) SA450	10.00	(0.75)
2 Way Diecast with N sockets	12.95	(0.75)
2 Way Toggle (V.H.F.)	5.00	(0.50)
LAR 3 Way 1kW Switch	16.95	(1.00)

HELIAL ANTENNAS

2M BNC or PL259 (state which required)	4.50	(0.50)
2M Thread for TR2300 or FT290R (state which)	4.50	(0.50)
70cm BNC or Thread	4.50	(0.50)

MICROWAVE MODULES

MMT144/28	2M Transverter for HF Rig	109.95	(—)
MMT432/28S	70cm Transverter for HF Rig	159.95	(—)
MMT432/144R	70cm Transverter for 2M Rig	184.00	(—)
MMT70/28	4M Transverter for HF Rig	119.95	(—)
MMT70/144	4M Transverter for 2M Rig	119.95	(—)
MMT1296/144	23cm Transverter for 2M Rig	184.00	(—)

MML144/30	2M 30W Linear Amp	69.95	(—)
MML144/100S	2M 100W Linear Amp (10W I/P)	139.00	(—)
MML144/100LS	2M 100W Linear Amp (3W I/P)	159.00	(—)
MML432/30	70cm 30W Linear Amp (3W I/P)	99.00	(—)
MML432/50	70cm/50W Linear Amp	109.95	(—)
MML432/100	70cm 10/100W Linear Amp	228.64	(—)
MM2001	RTTY to TV Converter	189.00	(—)
MM4000	RTTY Transceiver	269.00	(—)
MMC50/28	6M Converter to HF Rig	29.90	(—)
MMC10/28	4M Converter to HF Rig	29.90	(—)
MMC144/28	2M Converter to HF Rig	29.90	(—)
MMA432/28S	70cm Converter to HF Rig	37.90	(—)
MMA432/144S	70cm Converter to 2M Rig	37.90	(—)
MMA435/600	70cm ATV Converter	27.90	(—)
MMK1296/144	23cm Converter to 2M Rig	69.95	

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four **new** models from Trio

for the HF man, the **TS 430S**

£698.00 inc vat carriage £5.00



A new HF transceiver, taking into account the outstanding performance of the previous Trio rigs you could be forgiven for thinking that it would be impossible for them to improve on existing models and specifications. Alternatively of course, you might be of the opinion that engineers with the talents as displayed by the designers of such rigs as the TS830S, TS130V and TR2500 etc. would have no trouble in pushing forward the frontiers of transceiver technology as we know it today.

The new HF transceiver from Trio is the TS430S. Those who have seen it and the fortunate ones who have used it on the air are all agreed that here we have a major advance for the enthusiastic operator on today's busy bands. Not only does the transceiver have full amateur band coverage from 160 to 10 metres (including the three new bands) but it also incorporates a general coverage receiver (150 kHz to 30 MHz). The new transceivers features are many; USB, LSB, CW, and AM with FM available (optional FM430 board), compact size 270mm wide/96mm high/275mm deep, continuous tuning over the entire frequency range, two separate VFO's and an up/down scan mode using the optional MC42S microphone. Eight memories, each of which can be used as a separate VFO are provided and frequency scan is programmable between the two frequencies held in memory channels six and seven. Not only does the memory remember frequency but also the mode of operation, thus short wave DX and Broadcast stations can be stored alongside a SSB net channel and complete sense made as the frequencies are scanned. The by now normal Trio features are all included, IF shift, SSB and AM modes.

The TS430S, Trio's rig for today's operator.

for the SWL who deserves the best, the **R 2000**

£391.20 inc vat carriage £5.00



Now from Trio, the R2000 general coverage receiver. By taking all the superb features of the R1000 and combining them with the latest in microprocessor control Trio have, in one step, completely revised the standard by which short wave receivers are judged. Among the many features provided for the discerning listener are programmable scan, memory scan, memory retention of the mode set for a particular frequency and last, but not least, Trio have included an FM mode - why FM after all this time and our repeated comment that for a shortwave broadcast receiver FM is not really necessary. Take a look at the rear panel of the R2000: a socket marked VHF converter. Wouldn't it be superb if Trio produced a VHF converter covering from 118 to 174 MHz - then you would require FM, you would also require AM. Study the features and I am sure you will agree the Trio R2000 is the receiver for you.

Continuous Coverage from 150 KHz to 30 MHz

Use of an innovative up conversion digitally controlled PLL circuit provides maximum ease of operation and superb receiver performance. Front panel up/down band switches allow easy selection within the full coverage of the receiver. The VFO is continuously tunable throughout the full 150 KHz-30 MHz range.

Ten Memories Store Frequency, Band and Mode Data

Each of the ten memories can be tuned by the VFO, thus operating as ten built in digital VFO's. The original memory frequency can be recalled by simply pressing the appropriate memory channel key. All information on frequency, band, and mode is stored in the selected memory. The "auto M" switch allows two types of memory storage: when the "auto M" switch is off, data is memorized by pressing the "M in" switch; when the "auto M" switch is on the frequency being used at that time is automatically memorized.

Memory Scan

Scans all memory channels or may be user programmed to scan specific channels. Frequency, band and mode are automatically selected in accordance with the memory channel being scanned.

Programmable Band Scan

Scans automatically within the programmed bandwidth. Memory channels 9 and 0 establish the scan limit frequencies. The hold switch interrupts the scanning process. However, the frequency may be adjusted using the tuning knob whilst in the scan hold position.

Three Built In Filters with Narrow/Wide Selector

In the AM mode 6 KHz wide or 2.7 KHz narrow may be selected. In the SSB mode 2.7 KHz is automatically selected. In the CW mode 2.7 KHz is again chosen and if the optional YG455C filter is installed then 500 Hz in the narrow position. In the FM mode 15 KHz bandwidth is automatically selected.

Other important features are: squelch on all modes, noise blanker, a large 4 inch front mounted speaker, tone control, RF attenuator, AGC switch, high and low impedance antenna terminals, optional 13.8V DC operation, record jack and, of course, provision for a VHF converter.

All in all, a truly remarkable receiver.

and
later in the year for
the **R 2000** a
118 to 174 MHz internal
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for the VHF operator, the **TR7930** mobile transceiver

£289.80 inc vat carr £5.00



Any amateur who has used or owns a Trio TR7800 has had the finest piece of 2 metre mobile technology at his fingertips. The TR7800 had simply everything that the keen mobile operator could ever want. Of course, there were a few points which customers said could be improved on and, I must admit, we, in the majority of cases, agreed. Trio, with the introduction of the new TR7930, have taken note of this feedback of information and the result, I am sure you will agree, is as close to perfection as you will find in a rig.

The improvements are, a green floodlit LCD readout which does not disappear in strong sunlight, additional memory channels, both timed and carrier scan hold on occupied channels, selectable memory channel for the priority frequency and automatically corrected mode selection (simplex or repeater) without having to instruct the rig. The most significant change is the liquid crystal frequency readout on a green illuminated background, but closely following this must be the ability to omit specific memory channels when scanning, and the programmable scan between user designated frequencies. This gives the rig the ability to scan simplex channels only, without holding on repeaters.

The Trio TR7930. The mobile 2 metre FM rig designed with ease of operation coupled to outstanding performance.

for the UHF enthusiast, a handheld transceiver, the **TR3500**



Without a doubt one of life's great mysteries to me is why, when the two metre band is at times so busy, few people are to be found communicating on the wide open spaces of the seventy centimetre band.

I have come to the conclusion that misapprehensions exist about the band. The first being the lack of activity. From my first comments you will have gleaned the fact that seventy centimetres is not a busy band, however there are stations on, myself G8GIY, my colleagues David G4KFN and Roy G8ROR form the nucleus of a UHF group here in Matlock, there are many others like us up and down the country. Seventy centimetre repeaters abound and are a perfect means of communication, their somewhat shorter range serving well their immediate area and, please remember, in the words of that doyen of seventy centimetres Jack G5UM, "Activity breeds activity," simple but true. The second misapprehension is that the equipment is expensive. Not so, the Trio TR3500 costs only slightly more than its matching stable mate, the TR2500, and here again, with the same sensible approach which we have all come to expect from Trio, the accessories which you bought for your TR2500 are compatible with the new TR3500. The appearance, size and weight are similar to the TR2500, output power is 1.5 watts high and 300 milliwatts low, repeater shift is programmable, ten memory channels are provided and frequency scan between operator-defined limits is included. The conventional memory scan and reverse repeater facilities help to make operating a pleasure no matter how difficult the conditions. With the Trio TR3500 handheld as part of your station, you are equipped to expand your operating and begin communicating on the wide open spaces of the seventy centimetre band.

£238.50 inc vat carriage £5.00

and we now stock the superb **vibroplex** range of keys.

RING FOR DETAILS NO, THE VIBROPLEX IS NOT A MARITAL AID.

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- ★ 12 Channel memory with fine tune.
- ★ SSB (LSB/USB), CW, AM, FM.
- ★ 2.7kHz, 6kHz, 12kHz, 15kHz, @ -6dB.
- ★ 3 Selectivities on AM, squelch on FM.
- ★ Up conversion, 48MHz first IF.
- ★ 1kHz digital, plus analogue, display.
- ★ Inbuilt quartz clock/timer.
- ★ No preselector, auto selected LPF's.
- ★ Advanced noise blander fitted.
- ★ Antenna 500Ω to 1.5MHz, 50Ω to 30MHz.
- ★ 20dB pad plus continuous attenuator.
- ★ Switchable A.G.C., Variable tone.



'7700 THE ONE WITH FM!
Non memory version £335

- ★ 110 and 240V ac, 12Vdc option.
- ★ Signal meter calibrated in "S" and SIMPO.
- ★ Acc; Tuners, Converters, LPF, Memory.
- ★ FR7700; 150kHz-30MHz, Switch, etc.
- ★ FRV7700A; 118-130, 130-140, 140-150MHz.
- ★ FRV7700B; 118-130, 140-150, 50-59MHz.
- ★ FRV7700C; 140-150, 150-160, 160-170MHz.
- ★ FRV7700D; 118-130, 140-150, 70-80MHz.
- ★ FRV7700E; 118-130, 140-150, 150-160MHz.
- ★ FRV7700F; 118-130, 150-160, 170-180MHz.
- ★ FF5; 500kHz (for improved VLF reception).
- ★ MEMGR7700; 12 Channels (internal fitting).
- ★ FRA7700; Active Antenna.

COMMUNICATION RECEIVER; NRD 515 £825

Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

- ★ 30MHz to 100kHz or lower, 100Hz steps.
- ★ PLL digital VFO stability.
- ★ Backlash free, 10kHz rev, 500Hz analogue calib.
- ★ Fast tune up/down switch, dial lockout.
- ★ SSB (USB/LSB), CW, AM, RTTY.
- ★ 6 and 2.4 KHz, 600* and 300* Hz @ -6dB.
- ★ Passband tuning ±2KHz on SSB and CW.
- ★ Variable BFO on CW for preferred tone.
- ★ Modular plug in design with mother board.
- ★ High reliability - low power schottky & CMOS.
- ★ Designed for maximum ease of operation.
- ★ Noise blander. 0-10-20dB attenuator.
- ★ Small (140 x 340 x 300mm) light 7½kg, rugged.



PROFESSIONAL MONITOR

- ★ Up conversion, 70.455 MHz and 455 KHz.
- ★ No R.F. amplifier, balance U310 mixer.
- ★ Crystal filter before first IF amplifier.
- ★ Transceiver provisions; mute, trip etc.
- ★ Frequency data input/output port.
- NHD518 96 (4 x 24) channel memory unit.
- NCM515 Remote frequency keypad controller, LCD readout. Up/down step tuning, 4 channel memory.
- CQE515 Junction unit (NCM515 to NHD518).
- NVA515 External 3W speaker 130 x 140 x 200mm.
- CFL260 600Hz mechanical filter.
- CFL230 300Hz crystal filter.

TWO OR SEVENTY; FT230R, FT208R, FT708R, FT730, 2030, FT726 PLUS:-

- ★ Multimode USB, LSB, FM, CW.
- ★ 100Hz backlit LCD Frequency display.
- ★ 10 memory channels '5 year' backup.
- ★ Any TX/Rx split with dual VFO's.
- ★ Up/Down tuning from microphone.
- ★ AF output 1W @ 10% THD.
- ★ Bandwidth 2.4kHz and 14kHz @ -6dB.
- ★ LED's; 'On Air', 'Busy', m/c meter; S, PO.
- ★ 58(H) x 150(W) x 195(D) (1.3kg).



6, 2 or 70!

SMC2.0C	NiCad 2.0A/hr "C"	2.35
SMC8C	Slow Charger (220mA)	8.80
MMB11	Mobile Mount	22.25
CSC1A	Soft carrying case	3.45
FL2010	Linear Amplifier 2m 10W	59.00
FL7010	Linear Amplifier 70cms	91.00

FT290R

£265
Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

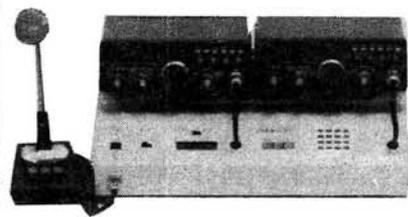
- ★ 144-146MHz (144-148) possible.
- ★ 2.5W PEP, 2.5W RMS/300mW out.
- ★ FM: 25kHz and 12.5kHz steps.
- ★ SSB: 1kHz and 100Hz steps.
- ★ ±600kHz repeater split 1750Hz burst.
- ★ Integral telescopic antenna.
- ★ Rx, 70mA, Tx; 800mA (FM maximum).

FT790R

£325
Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

- ★ 430-330MHz (440-450 alternative).
- ★ 1W PEP, 1W/250mW FM/CW out.
- ★ FM: 100kHz and 25kHz steps.
- ★ SSB: 1kHz and 100Hz steps.
- ★ 1.6MHz shift with input monitor, 1750Hz burst.
- ★ Rx; 100mA/200mA. Tx; 750mA max.
- ★ BNC Mounting ½λ flexi antenna.

- ★ USB-LSB-CW-FM (A 3j, A1, F3).
- ★ 30W PIP A3j, 10/1W out A1 F3.
- ★ Any Tx Rx split with dual VFO's.
- ★ Four easy write-in memory channels.
- ★ Memory scanning with slot display.
- ★ Up/down tuning/scanning from mic.
- ★ Priority channel on any memory slot.
- ★ Digital RIT. Advanced noise blander.
- ★ Satellite mode allows tuning on Tx.
- ★ Semi break in with side tone.
- ★ Very bright blue 100Hz digital display.
- ★ Display shows Tx & Rx freq (inc RIT).
- ★ String LED display for "S" and PO.
- ★ LED's; "On Air" Clar, Hi/Low, FM mod.
- ★ Size (Case): 8.3" D, 2.3" H, 6.9" W.



6, 2 or 70!

Ills. c/w SCI station consol and YD 148 mic.

FT480R

£369 Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

★ LOWER PRICES ★

- ★ 144-146 MHz (143.5-148.5 possible).
- ★ ±600kHz standard repeater split.
- ★ Excellent dynamic range and sensitivity.
- ★ FM; 25, 12½, 1kHz steps.
- ★ SSB; 1,000, 100, 10Hz steps.

- ★ 430-434MHz (440-445 possible).
- ★ GaAs Fet RF for incredible sensitivity.
- ★ FM; 100kHz, 25kHz, 1kHz, steps.
- ★ SSB; 1,000, 100, 10Hz steps.
- ★ FT780R 1.6 fitted 1.6MHz Shift £459 inc.

FT780R

£399 Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

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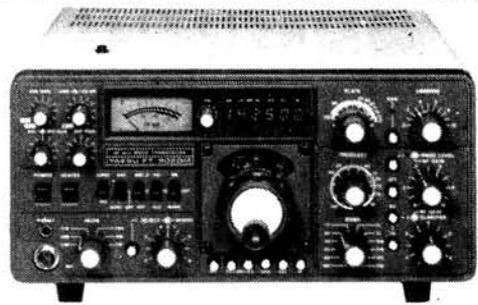


HF TRANSCEIVERS; FTONE, FT980, FT707, FT101Z & JST100 PLUS:-

- ★ 160-10 metres including new allocations.
- ★ Variable IF bandwidth 2.4kHz down to 300Hz.
- ★ Audio Peak and independent notch controls.
- ★ AM, FSK, USB, LSB, CW, FM, (Tx and Rx).
- ★ Semi-break in, inbuilt Curtis IC Keyer.
- ★ Digital plus analogue frequency displays.
- ★ VOX built-in and adjustable.
- ★ Instant write in memory channel.
- ★ Tune up button (10 sec, of full power).
- ★ Switchable AGC and RF attenuator.
- ★ 350 or 600 Hz CW, 6kHz, AM filters.
- ★ Clarifier (RIT) switchable on Tx, Rx or both.
- ★ Plug in modular, computer style constructor.
- ★ Fully adjustable RF Speech processor.
- ★ Ergonomically designed with necessary LEDs.
- ★ Incredible range of matching accessories.
- ★ Universal power supply 110-234V AC and 12V DC.

FT902DM, £185 Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.

NOW WITH CW FILTER, AM FILTER, CURTIS KEYER: INCLUDED



- ★ 1.8-3.5-7-10-14-18-21-24.5-28MHz.
- ★ All modes:- LSB, USB, CW, AM±, FM±, (±Option board).
- ★ Front end: extra high level, operates on 24V DC.
- ★ RF stage bypassable boosts dynamic range over 100 dB!
- ★ Variable bandwidth 2.7KHz→500Hz and IF Shift.
- ★ Fixed bandwidth filters, parallel or cascade configurations.
- ★ IF notch (455KHz) and independent audio peak.
- ★ Noise blanker adjustable for pulse width. (Woodpecker).
- ★ External Rx and separate Rx antenna provisions.
- ★ Three 6146B in special configuration - 40 dB IMD!
- ★ Extra product detector for checking Tx IF signal.
- ★ Dual meter, peak hold ALC system.
- ★ Mic amp with tunable audio network.
- ★ SP102:- Speaker, Hi and Lo AF filters, 12 responses!
- ★ FV102:- VFO. 10Hz steps and readout, scanning, QSY.
- ★ FC102:- ATU, 1.2KW, 20/200/1200 W FSD PEP, WQY.
- ★ FAS-14R:- 4 way remote waterproof antenna selector.

FT102, £785 Inc. VAT @ 15% + Securicor.



FREE FINANCE

COAXIAL CONNECTORS, CABLES, MASTS AND STOWERS, ANTENNAS, HF MOBILE, VHF/UHF MOBILE PLUS:-

ANTENNAS HF FIXED

HY GAIN				
12AVQ	Vertical 10-15-20M	14.0'H	£50.60	2.20
14AVQ/WB	Vertical 10-15-20-40M	18.0'H	£64.40	2.20
18AVT/WB	Vertical 10-15-20-40-80M	25.0'H	£109.25	2.20
14RMQ	Roof mount kit for above		£36.22	2.20
18V	Vertical 10-15-20-40-80M, tapped	19.0'H	£29.78	2.20
103BA	3 Ele Yagi 10 metres	17.0'LE	8.0'B	£67.85 2.20
105BA	5 Ele Yagi 10 metres	18.5'LE	24.0'B	£143.75 3.95
153BA	3 Ele Yagi 15 metres	23.0'LE	12.0'B	£90.85 2.90
155BA	5 Ele Yagi 15 metres	24.5'LE	26.0'B	£217.35 4.90
203BA	3 Ele Yagi 20 metres	35.0'LE	16.0'B	£166.75 4.90
204BA	4 Ele Yagi 20 metres	36.5'LE	26.0'B	£286.35 7.30
205BA	5 Ele Yagi 20 metres	36.5'LE	34.0'B	£362.25 9.40
402BA	2 Ele Yagi 40 metres	43.0'LE	16.0'B	£247.25 6.50
DB10/15A	3 Ele Yagi 10-15M	23.0'LE	13.0'B	£146.05 4.80
TH3JNR	3 Ele Yagi 10-15-20M	24.2'LE	12.0'B	£194.35 3.10
TH2MK3	2 Ele Yagi 10-15-20M	27.3'LE	6.0'B	£169.05 3.20
TH3MK3	3 Ele Yagi 10-15-20M	27.0'LE	14.0'B	£274.85 5.90
TH5DXX	"Thunderbird" 5 Ele	31.0'LE	18.0'B	£378.35 6.70
TH6DXX	"Thunderbird" 6 Ele	31.1'LE	24.0'B	£281.75 8.75
TH7DXX	"Thunderbird" 7 Ele	31.0'LE	20'TR	£458.85 8.75
18TD	Dipole Tape 10-80M	132'		£113.85 2.80

JAYBEAM				
VR3	Vertical 10-15-20M, DC Short 6lb	13.5'H	£46.00	2.30
TB3	3 Ele Yagi 10-15-20M PEP 14.6'TR	14.1'B	£189.75	5.40

MINI BEAM				
C4	Vertical Mini 10-15-20M	8lb	11.5'H	£54.99 2.30
HQ1	"Mini" Quad 10-15-20M	11.0'LE	4.5'B	£119.00 4.00

G4MH MINI BEAM				
	Mini Beam 10-15-20M			£82.50 4.00

SMC TRAPPED DIPOLE	10-15-20-40-80M			
SMCTD/HP	14SWG, hard drawn Cu, 1000W PEP		£40.83	2.30
SMCTD/P	Portable, Cu/Terylene, c/w 75' coax.		£52.33	2.30
SMCHPT	High Power, 1KW, 7MHz	per pair	£13.80	1.10

SMC - HS ANTENNA				
SMCHFSV	Vertical 10-15-20-40-80M	15.7'H	£40.25	2.30
SMCHFSR	Radial kit loaded	6.5'-7.3'	£29.90	2.30
SMCHFSVB	Vertical 10-18-24MHz 1KW pep	16.0'H	£47.90	2.30
SMCSY1015D20	3 ele 10-15, Dipole 20M	13.2'B	£134.95	5.00

ANTENNA ROTATORS

KR500	Kenpro, elevation Meter calb ± 90°	£90.85	Free
KR400	Kenpro bell, box as KR500	£90.85	Free
RLD3	SMC, Bell Auto control	£79.92	Free
9502B	Channel Master, offset	£56.92	Free
AR40	Channel Master, offset	£79.35	Free
KR400RC	CDE Turn and Push	£102.35	Free
Ham IV	Kenpro Round meter 360°	£228.85	Free
KR2000RC	CDE 8 × 4cm meter readout	£270.25	Free
T2X	Kenpro Heavy Duty 360° meter	£287.50	Free
H300	CDE 8 × 4cm meter readout	£451.95	Free

ROTOR ACCESSORIES			
50425	Clamps/U Bolts ST CDE AR40 etc	£4.95	1.25
50463	Clamps/U Bolts HD CDE CD45 HAM4	£7.36	1.85
51472	Mast Mount Kit ST CDE HAM4 etc.	£12.08	2.10
51467	Mast Mount Kit HD CDE T2X etc.	£24.15	2.10
9523	Support Bearing Channel Master	£14.38	1.70
KS050	Rotary Bearing 1 1/2" Kenpro	£29.32	1.40
KC065	Rotary Bearing 2" Kenpro	£18.69	1.85
KC038	Lower Mast Clamp KR400, KR600	£10.92	1.70
RC5W	5 Way AR30 AR40 KR400RC	p/m	£0.35
RC6W	6 Way KR250/400/500/600RC	p/m	£0.48
RC8W	8 Way CD45 Ham 4 T2X KR2000RC	p/m	£0.52

CARRIAGE
Carriage charges (shown after the item price) are for the mainland only (excluding post) and the rates shown are for one off of the item. Where more than one article is ordered, total freight charge is likely to be much lower than the sum of the individual charges.

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ANTENNAS VHF FIXED

JAYBEAM					
4Y/4M	Yagi 4 ele	7.5'B	7dBd	£29.90	2.20
PMH2/4M	Harness 2 way			£16.10	1.70
HO/2M	Halo head only	1' sq	±dBd	£5.98	0.70
HM/2M	Halo with 24" mast	1' sq	±dBd	£6.55	0.95
UGP/2M	Ground plane			£12.65	2.20
C5/2M	Colinear	13.1'	7.1lb 4.8dBd	£54.62	2.20
5Y/2M	Yagi 5 ele	5.2'	7.8dBd	£12.08	2.20
8Y/2M	Yagi 8 ele	9.2'	9.5dBd	£15.53	2.20
10Y/2M	Long Yagi 10 ele	14.4'	11.4dBd	£33.35	2.20
14Y/2M	Long Yagi 14 ele	17.5'	12.8dBd	£36.23	2.20
O5/2M	Yagi 5 over 5 slot	5.2'	10.6dBd	£21.85	2.20
O8/2M	Yagi 8 over 8 slot	9.2'	12.3dBd	£29.33	2.20
PBM10/2M	10 ele parabeam	12.9'	11.7dBd	£44.85	2.20
PBM14/2M	14 ele parabeam	19.5'	13.7dBd	£55.77	2.20
O4/2M	Quad 4 ele	4.9'	9.5dBd	£29.32	2.20
O6/2M	Quad 6 ele	8.7'	12.2dBd	£39.10	2.20
O8/2M	8 ele quad	11.6'	13.8dBd	£44.85	2.20
5XY/2M	Yagi 5 ele cross	5.5'	7.8dBd	£28.17	2.20
8XY/2M	Yagi 8 ele cross	9.2'	9.5dBd	£35.65	2.20
10XY/2M	Yagi 10 ele cross	11.8'	10.8dBd	£46.00	2.20
PMH2/C	Circular polarisation harness			£9.77	1.20
PMH2/M	Harness 2 way			£12.65	1.20
PMH4/2M	Harness 4 way			£28.75	1.20
X6/X12	6 ele 2, 12 ele 70	7.2'	8.5/12	£42.55	2.20

SMC-HS				
GDXA	Discone 100-440MHz			£34.90 2.20
SMCGDX1	Discone 80-480MHz 3dB _i	3.3'		£41.40 2.20
SMCGDX2	Discone 50-480MHz 3dB _i	6.2'		£47.95 2.20
SMCVHFL	Discone 65-520MHz Rx only	5.0'		£16.85 2.20
SMC	Colinear 2M 3×4λ, 7.8dB _i	14.6'		T.B.A. 2.20
SMCGP144W	Colinear 2M 2 × 4λ, 6.5dB _i	10.2'		£24.90 2.20
SMCGP2M	4λ, 2M ground plane, 3.4dB _i	4.6'		£15.70 2.20
SMCSQ144	2M Swiss Quad, Vertical polarised			£52.90 2.20
SMCGP32X	Colinear 70cm, 3×4λ, 6.8dB _i	5.6'		£25.70 1.70
SMC70N2V	Vert. 2.8dB _i 2M, 5.7dB _i 70cm	3.6'		£25.70 1.20
SMCHS770	144/432MHz Diplexer 50w max.			£13.80 1.30
SMC2HB6	6M, 2ele, HB9CV Beam			£19.95 2.20

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IC-2E £159. IC4E

and now the marine version

IC-M12



Nearly everybody has an IC-2E, the most popular amateur transceiver in the world, now there is the 70cm version which is every bit as good and takes the same accessories.

Fully synthesized – Covering 144-145.995 in 400 5KHz steps. (430-439.99 4E). **Power output** – 1.5W. **BNC antenna** output socket. **Send/Battery indicator**. **Frequency selection** – by thumbwheel switches, indicating the frequency. 5KHz switch adds 5KHz to the indicated frequency. **Duplex Simplex switch** – gives simplex or plus 600KHz or minus 600KHz transmit (1.6MHz and listen input on 4E). **Hi-Low switch** – 1.5W or 150mW. **External microphone jack**. **External speaker jack**.

The IC-4E is revolutionising 70cm!

Multimode Mobiles

IC-290E IC-490E



290E-144-146 MHz/490E-430-440 MHz. 10 W RF output on SSB, CW and FM. Standard and non-standard repeater shifts. 5 memories and priority channel.

Memory scan and band scan, controlled at front panel or microphone. Two VFO's. LED S-meter. 25KHz and 1KHz on FM – 1KHz and 100KHz tuning steps on SSB. Instant listen for repeaters.

IC-720A Possibly the best choice in HF.



One way of keeping up with rapidly advancing technology is to look at what the IC-720A offers in it's BASIC form. How many of it's competitors have two VFO's as standard, or a memory which can be recalled, even when on a different band to the one in use, and result in instant retuning AND BANDCHANGING of the transceiver? How many include really excellent general coverage receiver covering all the way from 100KHz to 30MHz? How many need no tuning or loading whatsoever? and take care of your PA, should you have a rotten antenna. How many have an automatic RIT which cancels itself when the main tuning dial is moved? How many will run full power out for long periods without overheating? How many have band data output to automatically change bands on a solid state linear AND an automatic antenna tuner unit?

The IC-720A may be just a little more expensive than some, but it's better than most! Make your choice an IC-720A.

IC-PS15 Mains PSU

Tono RTTY and CW computers 9000E



The TONO range of communication computers take a lot of beating when it comes to trying to read RTTY and CW in the noise. Others don't always quite make it!

Check the many facilities offered before you buy – especially look at the 9000E which also throws in a Word Processor. Call us for further information and a brochure. Receive only version – Tono 550

IC-730 The best for mobile or economy base station



ICOM's answer to your HF mobile problems – the IC-730. This new 80m-10m, 8 band transceiver offers 100W output on SSB, AM and CW. Outstanding receiver performance is achieved by an up-conversion system using a high IF of 39MHz offering excellent image and IF interference rejection, high sensitivity and above all, wide dynamic range. Built in Pass Band Shift allows you to continuously adjust the centre frequency of the IF pass band virtually eliminating close channel interference. Dual VFO's with 10Hz, 100Hz and 1kHz steps allows effortless tuning and what's more a memory is provided for one channel per band. Further convenience circuits are provided such as Noise Blanker, Vox, CW Monitor APC and SWR Detector to name a few. A built in Speech Processor boosts talk power on transmit and a switchable RF Pre-Amp is a boon on today's crowded bands.

Great base stations

IC-251 £499. IC-451



ICOM produce a perfect trio in the UHF base station range, ranging from 6 Meters through 2 Meters to 70 cms. Unfortunately you are not able to benefit from the 6m product in this country, but you CAN own the IC-251E for your 2 Meter station and the 451E for 70 cms. Mains or 12 volt supply. SSB, CW and FM.

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IC-R70, The very latest from Icom!



Now that we have tried the R70, we believe that it is going to be a real winner.

The R-70 covers all modes (when the FM option is included), and uses 2 CPU-driven VFO's for split frequency working, and has 3 IF frequencies: 70MHz, 9MHz and 455KHz, and a dynamic range of 100dB.

Other R-70 features include: input switchability through a pre-amplifier, direct or via an attenuator, selectable tuning steps of 1KHz, 100Hz or 10Hz, adjustable IF bandwidth in 3 steps (455KHz). Noise limiter, switchable AGC, tunable notch filter, squelch on all modes, RIT, tone control. Tuning LED for FM (discriminator centre indicator). Recorder output, dimmer control.

The R-70 also has separate antenna sockets for LW-MW with automatic switching, and a large, front mounted loudspeaker with 5.8W output. The frequency stability for the 1st. hour is ± 50 Hz, sensitivity-SSB/CW/RTTY better than $0.32 \mu\text{V}$ for 12dB (S+N) \div N, Am- $0.5 \mu\text{V}$, FM better than 0.32 for 12dB Sinad. DC is optional on the R-70. It has a built-in mains supply.

The IC-R70 measures 286mm x 110mm x 276mm and weighs 7.4Kg., making it a very attractive package indeed. Are you ready for this truly excellent receiver? You must hear it, we know you will be impressed!

IC-25E The Tiny Tiger And NOW the 70cm version IC-45E.

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Study the front panel controls of the ICOM IC-740. You will see that it has all of the functions to give maximum versatility to tailor the receiver and transmitter performance to each individual operator's requirements.

Features of the IC-740 receiver include a very effective variable width and continuously adjustable noise blanker, continuously adjustable speed AGC, adjustable IF shift and variable passband tuning built in. In addition, an adjustable notch filter for maximum receiver performance, along with switchable receiver preamp, and a selection of SSB and CW filters. Squelch on SSB Receive and all mode capability, including optional FM mode. Split frequency operation with two built-in VFO's for the serious DX'er.

The IC-740 allows maximum transmit flexibility with front panel adjustment of VOX gain and VOX delay along with ICOM's unique synthesized three speed tuning system and rock solid stability with electronic frequency lock. Maximum versatility with 2 VFO's built in as standard, plus 9 memories of frequency selection, one per band, including the new WARC bands.

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Once again YAESU lead the field with the exciting new FT-102 HF transceiver—no other manufacturer offers so many innovative features.



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The extra high-level receiver front end uses 24 VDC for both RF amplifier and mixer circuits, allowing an extremely wide dynamic range for solid copy of the weak signals even in the weekend crowds. For ultra clear quality on strong signals or noisy bands the high voltage JFET RF amplifier can be simply bypassed via a front panel switch, boosting dynamic range beyond 100dB. A PLL system using six narrow band VCOs provides exceptionally clean local signals on all bands for both transmit and receive.

Total IF Flexibility

An extremely versatile IF Shift/Width system, using friction-linked concentric controls and a totally unique circuit design, gives the operator an infinite choice of bandwidths between 2.7kHz and 500Hz, which can then be tuned across the signal to the portion that provides the best copy sans QRM, even in a crowded band. A wide variety of crystal filters for fixed IF bandwidths are also available as options for both parallel and cascaded configurations. But that's not all; the 455kHz third IF also allows an extremely effective IF notch tunable across the selected passband to remove interfering carriers, while an independent audio peak filter can also be activated for single-signal CW reception.

New Noise Blanker

The new noise blanker design in the FT-102 enables front panel control of the blanking pulse

width, substantially increasing the number of types of noise interference that can be blanked, and vastly improving the utility of the noise blanker for all types of operation.

Commercial Quality Transmitter

The FT-102 represents significant strides in the advancement of amateur transmitter signal quality, introducing to amateur radio design concepts that have previously been restricted to top-of-the-line commercial transmitters; far above and beyond government standards in both freedom from distortion and purity of emissions.

Transmitter Audio Tailoring

The microphone amplifier circuit incorporates a tunable audio network which can be adjusted by the operator to tailor the transmitter response to his individual voice characteristics before the signal is applied to the superb internal RF speech processor.

IF Transmit Monitor

An extra product detector allows audio monitoring of the transmitter IF signal, which, along with the dual meters on the front panel, enables precise setting of the speech processor and transmit audio so that the operator knows exactly what signal is being put on the air in all modes. A new "peak hold" system is incorporated into the ALC metering circuit to further take the guesswork out of transmitter adjustment.

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Three 6146B final tubes in a specifically configured circuit provide a freedom from IMD products and an overall purity of emission unattainable in two-tube and transistor designs, while a new DC fan motor gives whisper-quiet cooling as a standard feature. For the amateur who wants a truly professional quality signal, the answer is the Yaesu FT-102.

New VFO Design

Using a new IC module developed especially for Yaesu, the VFO in the FT-102 exhibits exceptional stability under all operating conditions.

ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT

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FC-102 1.2 KW ANTENNA COUPLER

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FT-290R All-mode 2 m portable



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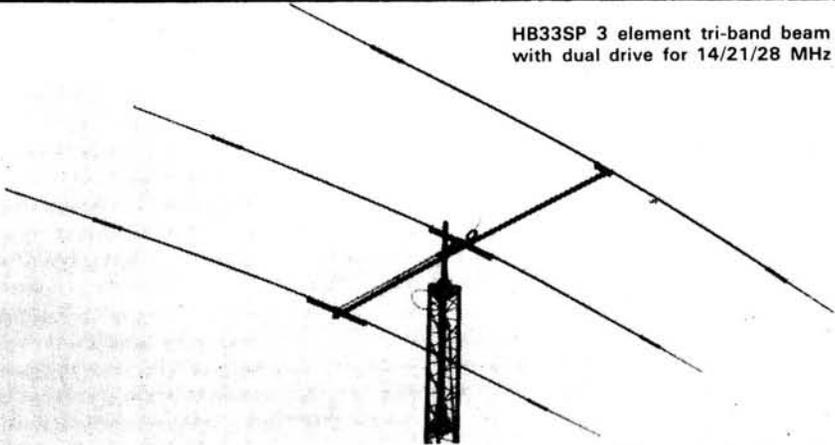
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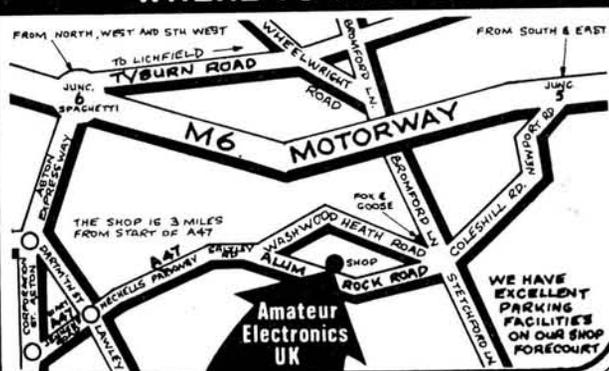
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Merseyside | Northern Communications
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West Yorkshire |
|---|---|---|

Ant Products

Ant Products All Saints Industrial Estate Baghill Lane Pontefract West Yorks. tel (0977) 700949

MORSE TUTOR

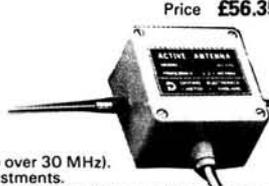
The uniquely effective method of improving and maintaining Morse Code proficiency. Effectiveness proven by thousands of users world-wide.



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- ★ D70's unique "DELAY" control allows you to learn each character with its correct high speed sound. Start with a long delay between each character and as you improve reduce the delay. The speed within each character always remains as set on the independent "SPEED" control.
- ★ Features: long life battery operation, compact size, built-in loudspeaker plus personal earpiece.

ACTIVE RECEIVING ANTENNAS

Datong active antennas are ideal for modern broadband communications receivers - especially where space is limited.



Price **£56.35**

- ★ highly sensitive (comparable to full-size dipoles).
- ★ Broadband coverage (below 200 kHz to over 30 MHz).
- ★ needs no tuning, matching or other adjustments.
- ★ two versions AD270 for indoor mounting or AD370 (illustrated) for outdoor use.
- ★ very compact, only 3 metres overall length.
- ★ professional performance standards.

Prices: Model AD270 (indoor use only) **£51.75**
Model AD370 (for outdoor use) **£69.00**

Both prices include mains power unit.

VERY LOW FREQUENCY CONVERTER

If your communications receiver gives poor results below 500 kHz Model VLF is the answer.

- ★ Connects between antenna and receiver input.
- ★ Converts signals between DC and 500 kHz to the range 28 to 28.5 MHz with low noise and high sensitivity.
- ★ Crystal controlled for high stability.
- ★ Quality construction in diecast aluminium box (size 112 x 62 x 31mm), SO239 connectors, LED indicator, in/out switch.
- ★ Operates from internal 9 volt battery or external supply (5-15 volts DC).

Price: only **£29.90**

Our full catalogue plus further details of any product are available free on request.

All prices include VAT and postage and packing.
Goods normally despatched within 3 days subject to availability.

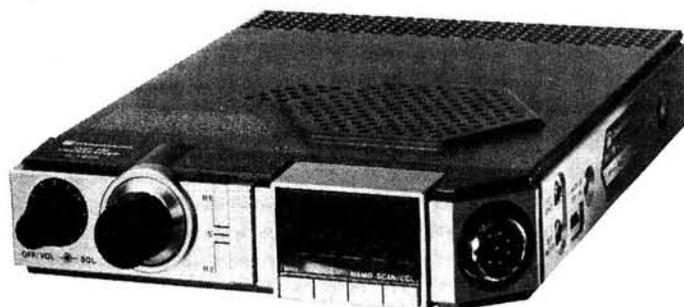
DATONG ELECTRONICS LIMITED

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Bramley, Leeds LS13 3HE
England
Tel: (0532) 552461



Lee Electronics Ltd

TWO NEW SLIMLINES FROM STANDARD C7900 70cms - C8900 2mtr



Prices: C7900 - £269 inc. & C8900 - £239 inc.

SPECIFICATIONS

General	
Frequency coverage	144-146MHz
Mode of operation	F3
Voltage	DC 13.8V
Power drain	2.8 Amp TX, 0.4 Amp RX-Standby
Polarity	Negative only
Dimensions (H x W x D)	31 x 138 x 178 mm
Weight	1.1Kg
Transmitter	
RF power output	10 watt minimum + 60dB
Spurious emission	± 5 KHz
Maximum deviation	
Modulation	Reactance modulation
Receiver	
Sensitivity	- 10dB (12 dB SINAD)
Bandwidth	± 7.5 KHz (-6dB)
Receiver system	Double superheterodyne
Intermediate frequency	1st IF 10.7 MHz 2nd IF 455 KHz
Selectivity	More than 60 dB
Squelch sensitivity	- 16 dB
Audio output	2W (into 8 ohms with 10% THD)

The specifications for both sets are the same, it's the frequency that's different!!

We have improved and enlarged our workshop facilities to provide a better service for our customers.

At long last Standard have released the C5800. They have taken a long time to satisfy themselves (and us) that there are no bugs to sort out. I hear you snigger "No Bugs?"

Well, after 6 months of field testing what do you expect!! Now read on.

SPECIFICATIONS

- General Specifications**
 - Transmission frequency . . . 144.00000 - 147.99999MHz (E)
144.00000 - 145.99999MHz (W)
 - Type of emission FM (F₃), SSB (A₃J), CW (A₁)
 - Frequency stability . . . ±300Hz within 1-60 minutes after power on 50Hz every 30 minutes
 - Power supply 13.8VDC
 - Power consumption Transmission: H1, 3, 7A, LOW; 1.5A
Reception standby: 450mA
 - Microphone input impedance 600Ω
 - Antenna impedance 50Ω
 - AF output impedance 4 or 8Ω
 - Grounding system Negative
 - Dimensions 149mm (W), 55mm (H), 218mm (D)
 - Weight 1.90 kg
- Reception Specifications**
 - Reception system FM: Double super heterodyne
SSB, CW: Single super heterodyne
 - Intermediate frequency FM: 1st IF 10.7MHz
2nd IF 455kHz
SSB, CW: 10.7MHz
 - Sensitivity FM: 0.19µV (12dB SINAD)
SSB, CW: 0.15µV (10dB S/N)
 - Pass bandwidth FM: ±6kHz, SSB, CW: 2.2kHz
 - Selectivity (60dB) FM: 25kHz, SSB, CW: 4.2kHz
 - Squelch selectivity 0.15µV (FM)
 - AF output More than 2W
(into 8 ohms with 10% THD)

Price: £359 inc.

C5800 MULTIMODE



- Transmission Specifications**
 - Power output 25W/1W
 - Modulation FM: Reactance modulation
SSB: Balanced modulation
 - Maximum frequency tolerance ±15 × 10⁻⁶
(-10 - +50°C)
 - Spurious attenuation 60dB
 - Carrier suppression 40dB
 - Undesired side band suppression 40dB
 - Maximum deviation ±5kHz

These specifications are subject to change without notice in the event of improvements.

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Please allow up to 14 days
for delivery



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	List	12 pay-	
	Price	ments	
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FT 101ZDAM	£650	£325	£27.10
FT 101ZDFM	£665	£325	£28.40
FT 101ZD	£635	£325	£25.90
FT 707	£569	£290	£20.83
FT 102	£725	£370	£29.59
FL 2100Z	£425	£215	£17.50
FRG 7700	£329	£170	£13.25
FT 480R	£379	£190	£15.90
FT 230R	£235	£126	£9.20
FT 290R	£249	£125	£10.40

Other items + accessories usually in stock.

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IC 740	£699	£350	£20.09
IC 720A	£883	£442	£36.76
IC 730	£586	£290	£24.67
IC 251	£499	£250	£20.76
IC 290E	£366	£180	£15.50
IC 2E	£159	£80	£6.59
IC 4E	£199	£100	£8.25
IC AT500	£299	£150	£12.42
IC AT100	£249	£125	£10.34

Why wait. Order your entire station needs, including Antennas etc., calculate 50% deposit and balance over 12 months interest free.

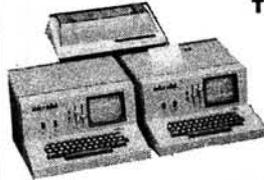
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Best Part-Exchange Prices: Second Hand machines usually in stock. Contact us for up to date list.

THE MICRODOT

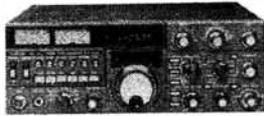
This amazing British made RTTY + C/W Terminal, represent incredible value for money, all you need in one unit, eliminating the clutter on those contest expeditions. Full details on request.

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ICOM IC740

£669 inc. IC 740 Icoms latest thoroughbred at S.W.C.



FT 102 Continuing a tradition of excellence from the Yaesu Musen stable.

Price **£725** inc.

Learning Morse? Here's the answer: facilities include repeat last letter, continuous morse, group of five random letters, speed & space control, practice oscillator, built-in P.S.U.

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i Ball Joint Base	Mobile	£12.65	£1.50 p&p
70cm 3 Stage Colinear	Mobile	£14.95	£1.50 p&p
10 Metre Fold Over Whip	Mobile	£13.80	£1.50 p&p
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PAN ANTENNA PRODUCTS

Fibre Glass Spreaders for H/Brew Antennas

O.D.	TUBE	I.D.	PER MTR.	p&p
			incl.	mtr
9.5mm	TUBE	6.35mm	71p	15p
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16.2mm	SOLID ROD		£2.30	23p
4" pole spider up to 2" boom up to				
1" spreader			£8.80	£2.20
8 pole boomless up to				
1" spreader			£16.60	£3.20

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We will have two licensed engineers in attendance to help you with any problems that you may have and they will be willing to repair rigs that were bought elsewhere! We will even offer you the use of a LOAN SET while yours is being repaired!!!

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ICOM

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TRIO — We are offering substantial reductions on TRIO prices to personal callers only.
(Trio 930S with built-in auto A.T.U. — now in stock)

STANDARD — We now have in stock the C58, the C78 and the brand new multi-mode — the superb C5800 (25 watts) only **£359.**

ANTENNAS — We now have in stock the full range of TONNA and JAYBEAM antennas. We also have some very special bargains such as:—
 2m Colinear (3dB) **£17.50** (Base station)
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ROTATORS — Kenpro KR 250 (Light Yagis) — KR 400 (Medium to Heavy) — KR 600 (Heavy) Daiwa DR 7600 (Heavy) — Hirschmann 250 (Heavy).

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 807 Valves **£2.00 each**
 We cannot list all of the switches, coils, transformers and components that we have in stock so **COME IN AND RUMMAGE.**

SWITCHES — Co-axial antenna switches from DAIWA — 4 Way **£36.99**; 2 Way **£10.50.**

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METERS — We stock the full range of DAIWA crossed needle SWR/Power meters.

CUE DEE

Specifications:

Antenna	4144A	10144A	15144A
No. Elements	4	10	15
Gain	8dBd	11.4dBd	14dBd
Front/Back	20dB	20dB	26dB
Front/Side	40dB	40dB	40dB
Boom Length	1.1m	4.5m	6.45m
Weight	1Kg	3Kg	5Kg
Boom	3 sections		4 sections

Independent Tests

Model	Boom Length	Gain Annaboda*)	Claimed
15144 (A)	3.1A	13.0dBd	14.0dBd
C. C. Boomer	3.2A	12.8dBd	16.2dBd
14 el Parab	2.9A	12.7dBd	13.7dBd
Tonna	3.1A	12.2dBd	15.7dBd

*) Gain over dipole under matched condition.

TONO

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2M-50W	40 Watt Linear For 2 Metres	65.00
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comment...

Tightening Up

THE LONG-AWAITED AMENDMENTS to the Wireless Telegraphy Acts 1949 and 1967, which presently control the use of radio in the UK, were included as part of the Telecommunications Bill¹, published on 19 November 1982. The provisions have two purposes: to rationalise and update the penalties for wireless telegraphy offences, and to introduce new powers to enable more effective enforcement of the law.

The provisions include: powers for the police or members of the Radio Interference Service of British Telecom to seize apparatus for the purpose of proceedings; a limited power of arrest without warrant for the police in cases involving the illegal use of radio transmitters; power for the Secretary of State to control the sale and possession of specified wireless telegraphy equipment.

This last provision is aimed particularly at illegal CB transceivers, which are still generating about 1000 complaints of interference to domestic TV and radio reception every week. Under present legislation it is illegal to manufacture or import such transceivers. The new law would make it possible also to prohibit their advertisement, sale or possession. It is likely that a limited amnesty period—perhaps six months—would be allowed.

The powers of seizure and arrest should certainly improve the effectiveness of action against the illegal use of transmitters, jamming and the sending of misleading messages. The new Criminal Justice Act 1982 will raise the maximum fine for the unlicensed use of a transmitter from £400 to £1000.

The Telecommunications Bill was due to have its second reading in the House of Commons on November 29, and then goes into Committee. We have not yet had time to analyse the Bill in detail, but it appears at first sight to be a step in the right direction towards curbing some of the more antisocial abuses of radio, whilst not unduly restricting responsible users, among which the majority of licensed amateurs are to be numbered.

Geoff Arnold

¹ Telecommunications Bill, 162pp (0 10 301583 3) £7.60



services

QUERIES

While we will always try to assist readers in difficulties with a *Practical Wireless* project, we cannot offer advice on modifications to our designs, nor on commercial radio, TV or electronic equipment. Please address your letters to the Editor, "Practical Wireless", Westover House, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1JG, giving a clear description of the problem and enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope. Only one project per letter please.

Components for our projects are usually available from advertisers. For more difficult items, a source will be suggested in the "Buying Guide" box included in each constructional article.

PROJECT COST

The approximate cost quoted in each constructional article includes the box or case used for the prototype. For some projects the type of case may be critical; if so this will be mentioned in the Buying Guide.

CONSTRUCTION RATING

Each constructional project will in future be given a rating, to guide readers as to its complexity:

Beginner

A project that can be tackled by a beginner who is able to identify components and handle a soldering iron fairly competently. Generally this category will be used for simple projects, but sometimes for more complicated ones of wide appeal. In this case, construction and wiring will be dealt with in some detail.

Intermediate

A project likely to appeal to a wide range of constructors, and requiring only basic test equipment to complete any tests and adjustments. A fair degree of experience in building electronic or radio projects is assumed.

Advanced

A project likely to appeal to an experienced constructor, and often requiring access to workshop facilities and test equipment for construction, testing and alignment. Constructional information will generally be limited to the more critical aspects of the project. Definitely not recommended for a beginner to tackle on his own.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are available to both home and overseas addresses at £13 per annum, from "Practical Wireless" Subscription Department, Room 2816, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Airmail rates for overseas subscriptions can be quoted on request.

BACK NUMBERS AND BINDERS

Limited stocks of some recent issues of *PW* are available at £1 each, including post and packing to addresses at home and overseas.

Binders are available (Price £5.00 to UK addresses, £5.25 overseas, including post and packing) each accommodating one volume of *PW*. Please state the year and volume number for which the binder is required.

Send your orders to Post Sales Department, IPC Magazines Ltd., Lavington House, 25 Lavington Street, London SE1 0PF. All prices include VAT where appropriate.

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INSURANCE

Turn to the following page for details of the *PW* Radio Users Insurance Scheme, exclusive to our readers.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

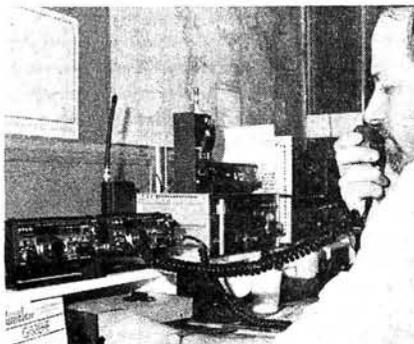
Electronics Hobbies Fair — 1982

Following many months of preparation, Thursday 18 November 1982 arrived and for the staff of *Practical Wireless*, *Practical Electronics* and *Everyday Electronics* it was all systems go at the Electronics Hobbies Fair, our first venture into running an exhibition for the radio and electronics enthusiast.



The early arrivals queue

The Fair was held over four days in the new Alexandra Pavilion, next to Alexandra Palace. Most of the available stand space was taken, and the variety of exhibits included amateur radio equipment, live satellite TV programmes from the USSR, component suppliers, home computing and video games, holography display, robotics, demonstration by the Royal Corps of Signals and many other interesting stands.



G8VFH working 432MHz

A talk-in station on S22 was run by the North London RAYNET Association and for our part we ran v.h.f., u.h.f. and h.f. stations, using the special event call signs GB8EHF and GB2PW, we also demonstrated the reception of slow-scan ATV on the h.f. bands and a fast-scan ATV link, on 10GHz, with the assistance of Wood and Douglas. Our transmissions on the 934MHz CB service gave us contacts with mobile operators and two base stations in South London, distanced 13 and 18 miles away. The transceiver used was a Reftec 934 through a conventional (and legal) 4-element beam. This demonstration certainly generated a lot of interest among the more serious CB operators who visited the stand. Our antennas, other than the 32m long trap dipole for the h.f. bands, were mounted on a 10m mobile mast kindly loaned to us by Allweld Engineering.

PW also ensured that interest for the radio enthusiast was guaranteed by arranging a stand for the RSGB plus demonstrations of radio control by Model Land and RTTY by the British Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group.



The Model Land demonstration with PW's stand beyond

With over 11 000 visitors during the four days, the first Electronics Hobbies Fair represents for *PW* a great success, that encourages us to make the Fair an annual event. In fact plans are now under way for this year's Electronics Hobbies Fair on 27 to 30 October 1983.

ISKRA3 Now You See It, Now You Don't

Following a report by Tass News that a second amateur radio satellite, called ISKRA3, has been successfully launched by the crew of the Salyut 7 manned space laboratory currently circling the earth, Ron Broadbent G3AAJ, Hon Sec of AMSAT-UK, promptly sent us further information on the space vehicle.

ISKRA3 was launched, by hand, at 0756GMT on 18 November 1982, from the Salyut 7 spacecraft, and since then ground control tests confirm it was operating well. For the record the satellite carried a 21-28MHz active transponder with telemetry output on 28.587MHz.

Unfortunately, the altitude and orbital velocity of this spacecraft dictated a rapid orbital decay and re-entry. By the time this issue of *PW* is printed, ISKRA3 will, most likely, have re-entered the Earth's atmosphere and deposited its burnt-up remains

somewhere in the Indian Ocean.

Reporting news of this satellite proves the need for constantly updated information, particularly if your interest lies with satellite communications. One of the best ways to obtain this information is to become either a member of AMSAT-UK or listen-in on the several nets AMSAT-UK run (which are open to non-members) where news is disseminated and questions can be asked. The most regular of these is on 3780 kHz (\pm QRM) every Sunday morning at 1015 UK local time. Other, more local, nets take place from time to time: usually weekly and mostly on 144-28MHz. There is also a half hour information net on 3780kHz every weekday evening at 1900 hrs.

Further afield AMSAT-USA also run nets on Sunday evenings on 14.282 and 21.280MHz usually at 1800 and 1900GMT.

For details of membership etc. contact: AMSAT-UK, 94 Herongate Road, Wanstead Park, London E12 5EQ.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

FM for the IC-720A & IC-730

Owners or prospective purchasers of either the top of the range IC-720A base station or mobile/base station IC-730 h.f. transceivers, will be pleased to know that purpose designed f.m. modules are now available.

For the IC-720A the module (FM04) costs £79.00 and for the IC-730 (FM03) costs £49.00. Both units are available from: *Thanet Electronics, 143 Reculver Road, Herne Bay, Kent. Tel: (02273) 63859.*

GB3WD — 144MHz Repeater Project

When next you visit or are perhaps taking your annual holidays in the deep South West, take a look at R4 and if the current progress has been maintained, the West-Devon 144MHz repeater GB3WD will probably be there.

The local repeater group has been formed there for some time with the prime objective of providing v.h.f. coverage into the exceedingly hilly geography of Devon, currently isolated from existing repeater coverage.

As is usually the case with such devices, the greatest practical problem facing this group has been the logistics of acquiring a suitable site. Many repeater groups throughout the UK have benefited from the exemplary policy of the BBC and IBA to assist by allowing the radio amateur to share the use of their sites in these ongoing experiments. Negotiations, over siting GB3WD, have progressed to an advanced state, not without considerable assistance from both the BBC and the RSGB Repeater Working Group. It is hoped that GB3WD will become operational in early 1983, from North Hessary Tor on Dartmoor.

The omni-directional antenna system will consist of two Jaybeam 7050 folded dipoles mounted 70m a.g.l. on the NE and SW faces of the BBC mast, spaced off by $\lambda/4$. A single run of Andrews LDF4-50 coaxial feeder will carry r.f. to the antenna, and the system's RX/TX isolation will be achieved by a locally constructed six section cavity diplexer. Control

functions will be handled by a GB3US logic system.

The group have modified an Icom IC-240 for the TX and RX sub-systems with an outboard 25W p.a. stage for transmit.

A video film of the installation and constructional phases of the project is being prepared and will be made available to local radio clubs and any other interested parties.

Membership of the West Devon Repeater Group can be obtained for the modest sum of £3.00 per annum — each applicant will receive a comprehensive newsletter containing full technical details of the system etc., in addition, the first 150 applicants will receive an impressive "Founder Member" endorsed certificate.

If sheer enthusiasm were the only criteria for success, this group would achieve all its goals; however, as with all repeaters, their continued operation lies entirely in the hands of those who USE and support them. Think about it!

Further details of GB3WD, applications for group membership and offers of assistance/funds should be addressed to: *Membership Secretary, Trevor Day G3ZYY, QTHR or tel: Saltash (075 55) 5913.*

Testmex '82

Attendance at Testmex '82 was 12½ per cent up on the 1981 figure, quite an achievement at a time of generally declining exhibition attendances. Several new and exotic test and measurement instruments were on show, but the thing that really came home was the reversal of the trend towards digital test instruments, logic analysers and the like. Radio communications test gear was the "in-thing", with particular interest being shown in spectrum analysers covering frequencies up to at least 2GHz.

For your new diary, make a note that Trident, the organisers of Testmex for the past five years, will be staging their own show, called Test '83, at the Wembley Conference Centre between 15 and 17 November, 1983. This follows a serious disagreement with the SIMA Exhibition Committee as to the future shape of the Testmex exhibition.

Extension Course for Radio Amateurs

Readers living in the Bedford area may be interested in a course designed particularly for radio amateurs who have passed the RAE and wish to extend their knowledge.

Subject areas of the course are v.h.f./u.h.f. propagation, antennas, s.w.r., modulation and digital integrated circuits.

The course commences on Monday 17 January 1983 and will run for eight weekly sessions. The lecturer will be C. P. Meadows G4KWH.

For further details contact: *Bedford College of Higher Education, (Mander) Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AH. Tel: (0234) 45151 Ext. 240.*

PW ZX81 Programs — 1

The ZX81 programs described in the *ZX Computing for the Radio Amateur* supplement (December 1982) are available on a special cassette. The cassette costs £3.50, which includes post and packing, and is available from the Editorial Office at our Poole address. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

We hope soon to produce a version of these programs that is suitable for the Sinclair ZX Spectrum.

Old and New

Since the company's launch some 15 years ago to pioneer the concept of the second-user market in the UK—the purchase, refurbishment and resale of electronic test and measuring equipment—Electronic Brokers Ltd. has made that market both respectable and successful.

From a humble beginning, selling to small firms and the hobbyist, the company has grown to become the largest of its type in Europe, handling computers as well as T&M.

Now Electronic Brokers have signed an agreement to distribute a wide range of new test instruments from Philips Electronics Instruments Division, and will have these on display at their 61/65 Kings Cross Road, London WC1 showroom. In charge of new products for EB is Tony Morris G4LCD.

Passport to Amateur Radio — Reprint

The long-awaited reprint of the very popular *Passport to Amateur Radio* series is now available. Full details of how to obtain a copy are published on page 52 of this issue.

First for British Telecom

The world's longest optical fibre telephone cable came into service on 22 July 1982, between London and Birmingham, the busiest trunk route in Britain. This is the latest addition to British Telecom's "Lightlines" optical fibre network.

Optical fibres are hair-thin strands of glass carrying messages and information as pulses of light. The glass used is so pure that a block 20km (12 miles) thick would be as transparent as a window pane.

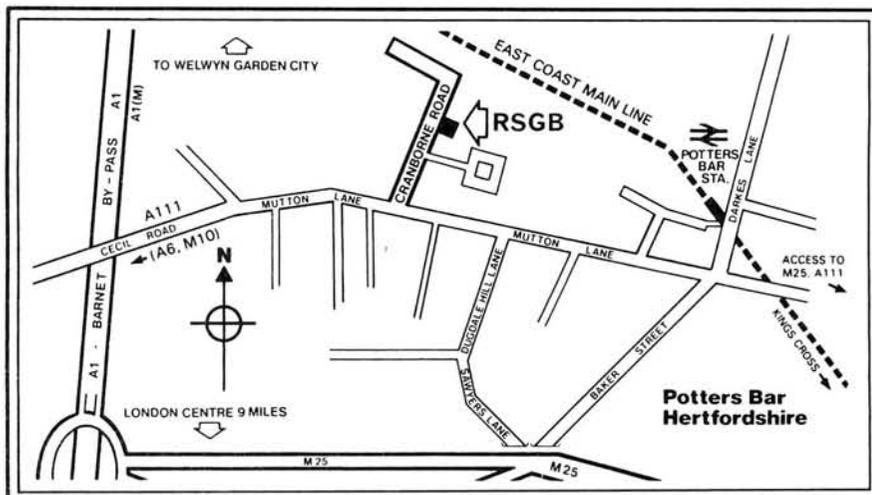
Each hair-thin strand is capable of carrying up to 2000 simultaneous telephone calls, and five strands, enough to carry 10 000 calls, would pass through the eye of a needle.

Because the message is carried as digital light pulses, it means that more and different types of information can be carried, faster and with better reception. Optical fibres are immune to electrical interference, eliminating cross-talk and noise, and allowing perfectly clear transmission.

Traditional copper cable needs to have the signal boosted every two kilometres (just over one mile), whilst with optical fibres the signal requires boosting less frequently. With this installation, the new cable is the first in the UK to operate at long wavelength, and boosters can be placed ten kilometres (six miles) apart.

Other advantages in the system are, optical fibres take up less room than copper cable, allowing more calls to be carried using the same cable duct, and very important, is the fact that glass fibres are inexpensive, the raw material being sand, which is both cheap and abundant.

The cable has been made by BICC Telecommunication Cables Ltd. and Plessey Telecommunications Ltd. has supplied the associated electronic equipment.



RSGB's New HQ

As reported last month, the RSGB are now well established in their new HQ. Visitors will no doubt be interested in this map of how to get there. The new

address, once again, is: *RSGB, Alma House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 3JW. Tel.: (0707) 59015.*

US News

Morse code free licence: Against the unanimous recommendation of the ARRL executive (the US equivalent of the RSGB) the FCC is to introduce a "code free" licence as soon as the Goldwater Senate Bill and corresponding House of Representatives Bill amendments to the amateur licensing procedures have been adopted, and additionally, the ratification of the WARC 79 recommendations.

The FCC Commissioners approved the proposal, in a 7 to 0 vote, to introduce a "high technology" licence similar to the Canadian digital licence. To obtain the new licence, the applicant will, amongst other things, be capable of passing a "difficult" technical examination on digital theory. Privileges awarded to this category of licence holder will be the same as for the existing technician class for use on frequencies above 30MHz. There are currently 74 000 technician class licensed operators in the US.

Mobile r.f.i.: An interesting report in the October 1982 issue of *CQ*

magazine, is that the Japanese car manufacturer Subaru are warning potential customers to avoid installing CB or amateur radio transmitting equipment into their 1982 model vehicles. The reason being, the cars are fitted with electronically controlled carburation, and strong r.f. fields could cause all sorts of problems. The ramifications of this sort of problem could prove to be quite serious or indeed positively dangerous.

Cable TV: Current specified levels for maximum permitted equivalent radiation (r.f. leakage) from cable TV distribution systems are set by the FCC at 20µV/m at 3m. The FCC are considering **relaxing** this level to between 50 and 100µV/m at 3m, apparently in response to requests for a lowering of the specification from the cable industry. The cable industry's request is based on the results of extensive study and monitoring that has revealed that no significant interference has yet been caused to aeronautical frequencies. No similar study has been carried out as to the effects either to or from amateur radio transmissions.



ANTENNA WIND LOADING G3UDO

For the growing number of radio amateurs and s.w.l.s putting up beams, it is useful to be able to calculate the wind resistance of the antenna and extension mast. A number of antenna manufacturers specify wind loadings, but in many cases these are not true figures as they include a factor of safety. This means you could end up using a tower, mast or rotator that is much larger than is really necessary for the antenna it carries.

It is a relatively simple matter to work out the wind resistance of an antenna so long as some basic rules are followed—there is no mystery.

Horizontal Antennas

A typical 5-element Yagi is shown in Fig. 1. To obtain the wind resistance, one must first find the maximum area that the antenna will present to the wind at any time. This is **not** the area of the side profile.

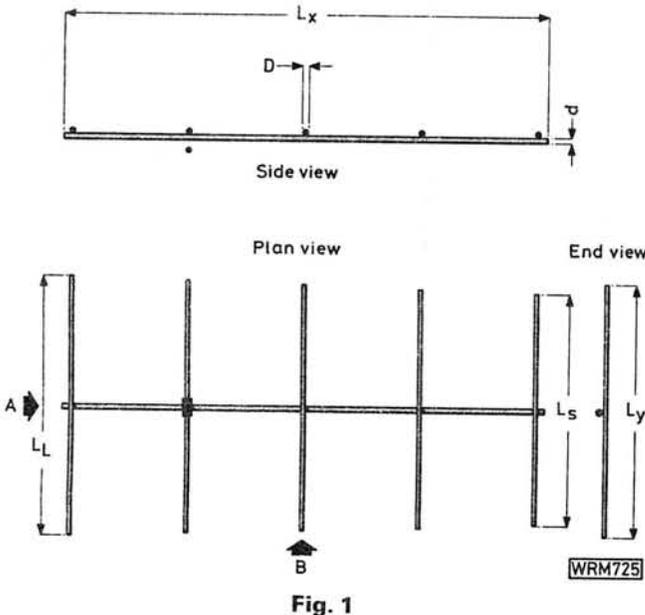


Fig. 1

To find the maximum area, we must first calculate the area of the antenna as viewed from the end "A", and the area as viewed from the side "B".

Area A is the average area of a single element multiplied by the number of elements N in the antenna, though if the driven element is a folded dipole that counts as two. The average area is found by taking the average length L_Y and multiplying it by the diameter D. The average length is simply obtained by using the formula:

$$L_Y = \frac{L_L + L_S}{2}$$

Since the end profile of the boom is small in comparison to the area of the elements, it can be ignored except by the purists, so the Area A is:

$$A = D \times L_Y \times N.$$

Area B is basically the area of the boom, which is equal to its length L_X multiplied by its diameter d. Again, the ends of the elements can be ignored. Where traps are fitted, find the area of the circle corresponding to their diameter, multiply by the number of traps, and add this figure to the area of the boom.

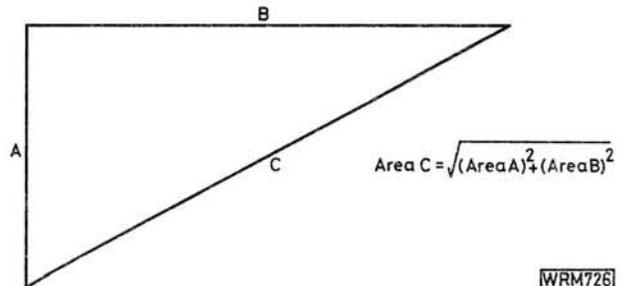


Fig. 2

Referring to Fig. 2, you will see a right-angled triangle whose sides represent the areas in question. This shows that C is the maximum area to be found. This is obtained by using Pythagoras (remember him?), thus:

$$\text{Area C} = \sqrt{(\text{Area A})^2 + (\text{Area B})^2}$$

The area calculated is as it would be for a flat plate of equivalent size at right angles to the air flow. However, if the antenna is made of round-section tubes or rods, it presents a much better aerodynamic shape, and the resulting wind pressure would be much less than that on the equivalent flat plate. This should be allowed for by multiplying the maximum area C by an aerodynamic factor of 0.6.

Having got the maximum effective area of the antenna, the wind resistance is calculated by multiplying the area by the wind pressure relative to the wind speed being used. There are a number of variables that have to be considered in relation to wind speed and pressure, but in order not to confuse the issue, the wind speed used here is applicable to antennas at a height of 15 metres, situated in open country with scattered wind breaks.

The values of wind pressure quoted are taken from CP3, Chapter V, Part 2, 1972 and are as follows:

Wind speed (miles/hour)	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
Dynamic pressure (lb/ft ²)	6.4	9.2	12.5	16.4	20.7	25.6	31.0	36.9

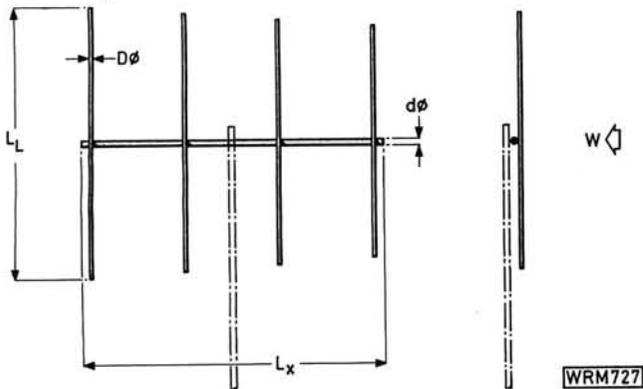
Note that CP3 states that the basic wind speed is taken as a 3-second gust speed estimated to be exceeded on average once in 50 years. It is assessed for the UK on a statistical basis from continuous wind records.

Vertical Antennas

Antennas mounted with their elements in the vertical plane, i.e., for vertically polarised signals, are considered a little differently from those mounted horizontally. In this case the maximum wind force will result when the wind is sideways on to the antenna (Fig. 3). The effective area is then worked out as follows. Area of the longest element multiplied by the total number of elements, plus the area of the supporting boom. Thus:

$$\text{Total area} = (L_L \times D \times N) + (L_X \times d)$$

Fig. 3



If the boom and elements are made of round rod or tube, then the result must be multiplied by the aerodynamic factor of 0.6, as for horizontal antennas.

Television-type antennas are a little more difficult to deal with because they are generally constructed from flat formed strips screwed onto square section tube (Fig. 4). These behave quite differently from round tube in an air stream and produce more turbulence and drag, i.e. wind resistance. However, without going into the domain of pundits of aerodynamics, for our purpose it will be enough to consider the antenna as being made of flat strips or plates of the equivalent dimensions. The total area of the antenna can be worked out as before, but in this case no correction is made for aerodynamic effect as with round

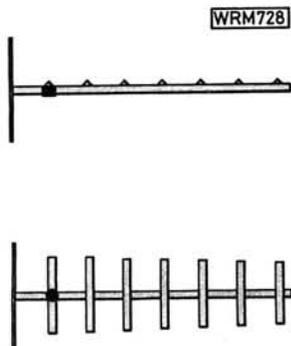


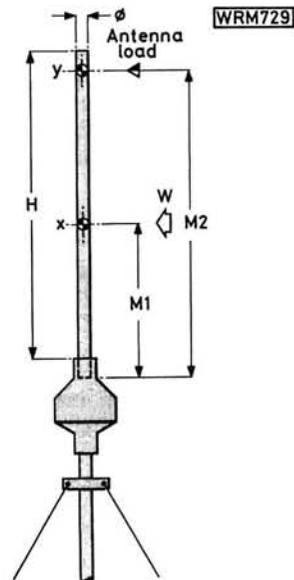
Fig. 4

tube; i.e., total area = effective area. In order to allow for "turbulence" add an extra 10 per cent to the wind pressure to get a reasonable approximation to the wind load.

When considering wind load for antennas, it is advisable to take into account the wind load of the supporting mast or extension, i.e., the bit above the rotator or mast top. The total area, effective area and wind pressure are worked out as for antennas using round section tube. However, there are two things to take into account (see Fig. 5): 1. The sideways load caused by the wind load of the antenna; 2. The sideways load due to the wind pressure on the extension mast itself. These two forces (loads) result in a bending load being exerted at the bottom of the extension tube, which is transmitted to the rotator or mast top.

The bending load due to the antenna is found by multiplying the antenna wind load at point Y by its distance above the bottom of the extension (M2). Taking these in pounds and inches respectively gives an answer in lb in.

Fig. 5



The wind load on the extension mast is taken as acting at the mid-point X of the exposed length H, i.e., half of the length which is above the rotator or mast. The bending load due to the wind resistance of the extension is then equal to the wind load at point X multiplied by its distance above the bottom of the extension (M1), which is half of the length H plus the bit inside the rotator clamp.

The total bending load at the bottom of the extension is the total of the two bending loads, again in lb in.

Ice

Iced-up antennas will present a greater area to the wind than a clear un-iced array as so far considered. However, we are now in no-man's-land with no real guidelines. For all practical purposes, iced-up conditions as applicable on average to the UK can be allowed for by adding 25 per cent to the final value of wind resistance calculated.

Conclusion

This is not intended as a scientifically precise method of getting a value for wind resistance, but is intended to enable the average radio amateur to get some idea of the forces acting upon the antenna he puts up. ●

LMS REGENERATIVE RECEIVER

R.F. HAIG

PART 1

Superhet receivers with general coverage of the long, medium and all of the short wave bands are expensive to buy and home construction is a daunting prospect for all but the more experienced amateur.

Simple regenerative receivers are, however, capable of very worthwhile results. Indeed, there can be few other circuits which give such high performance with so great an economy of components. Extremely weak signals can be rendered audible, and selectivity is increased to a very significant extent.

The technique of regeneration, which dates back to the early days of radio, is combined with modern components to form the receiver which is the subject of this article. A novel method of connecting the tuning coils into circuit eliminates the problems associated with band change switching.

The Circuit

The complete circuit of the LMS receiver is given in Fig. 1, where inductor L1 couples the antenna to the tuned circuit formed by L2, C6, C8 and C9. The r.f. signal is applied, via C7, to gate 1 of the 40673 dual gate MOSFET transistor, Tr1. This transistor acts as the regenerative detector, the audio signal being developed across the drain load resistor, R5. Residual r.f. is filtered by R8, C11 and C13 and the signal is fed, through the d.c. blocking capacitor, C14, to the base of Tr2.

Transistor Tr2 is used as a conventional grounded emitter audio amplifier stage to boost the low level output from the detector. The amplified signal is taken from the collector of Tr2 and applied to the volume control, R12, via C16. Capacitor C17 imparts a measure of "top cut" and improves the general tonal quality of the receiver.

The slider of the volume control is connected to the input pin of IC1, a TBA820M integrated circuit audio power amplifier. The specified device is capable of supplying about 1.5 watts into the 3Ω loudspeaker LS1, when connected to a 9 volt d.c. supply. In this application, the amplifier is battery powered and the ripple rejection capacitor normally connected to pin 8 of the i.c. was found to be unnecessary.

Considerable a.f. gain is developed by the circuit, and decoupling has to be thorough in order to avoid low frequency instability or "motor boating". Accordingly, the supply decoupling capacitor, C15, has the rather high value of 1000μF.

Regeneration and Tuning

The effectiveness of a regenerative detector, especially one used for s.w. reception, is almost wholly determined by the smoothness and freedom from backlash of the reaction control. As the control is advanced and retarded, the detector should gently go into and out of oscillation, at any setting of the tuning capacitor. If this requirement is not met, it will be difficult or even impossible to make the critical adjustments necessary for the reception of weak signals. The reaction circuit of this receiver will be found to be extremely smooth and completely free from backlash.

Transistor Tr1 source is connected, via R6, R7 and C12, to a tapping on the tuned winding, L2. Reaction is controlled by R2 which sets the voltage applied to gate 2 of Tr1 and thereby varies the gain of the device. The drain



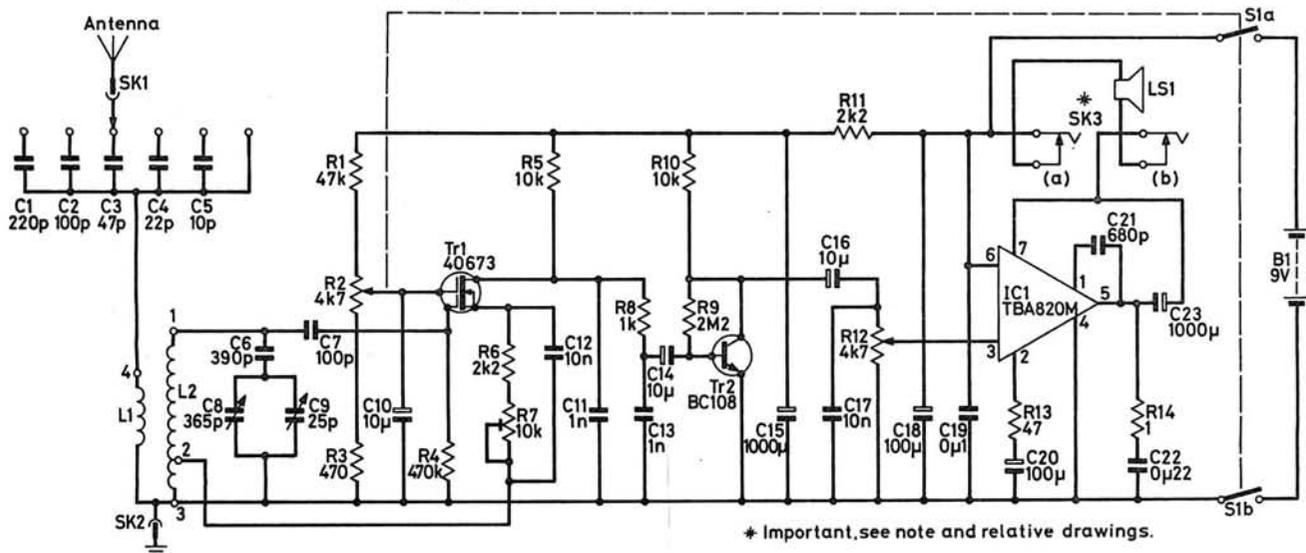


Fig. 1: Circuit diagram of the LMS receiver. Inductors L1 and L2 are constructed as coil packs (Fig. 2). Headphone socket SK3 is wired to connect both earpieces in series

of Tr1 is grounded at r.f. by C11. Many constructors will recognise this arrangement as the transistor equivalent of the electron coupled circuit, once popular for mains valve regenerative detectors and renowned for its stability and smoothness.

Some specimens of the 40673 MOSFET oscillated more readily than others. Pre-set resistor R7 adjusts the source bias to compensate for this spread in characteristics and enables the performance of the detector to be optimised.

On the s.w. bands, it was found impossible to maintain completely smooth control of regeneration over tuning capacitor swings greater than about 200pF. Because of this, the 390pF capacitor, C6, is connected in series with the tuning capacitors, C8 and C9, to reduce the combined maximum capacitance to approximately 195pF. This tuning capacitance still permits continuous coverage from 190kHz to 30MHz with only six coils.

The larger of the two tuning capacitors, C8, is known as the BANDSET control, as it enables the tuning of the receiver to be set to one or other of the various amateur or broadcast bands. The smaller variable capacitor, C9, is known as the BANDSPREAD control. This permits the fine tuning of the receiver across an individual band.

Capacitors C1 to C5 prevent reaction "dead spots" which can sometimes arise when long wire antennas are connected directly to the receiver. The higher value capacitors will be effective on m.w. and l.w., whilst the lower value components should eliminate dead spots on the s.w. bands.

Coil Holder and Coils

Figure 2 gives full details of the construction of the coil holder and coil packs. The coils comprise one continuous winding, with tappings anchored to solder tags. The 6BA bolts which secure the tags, which are gripped by the coil holder clips, should preferably be new, brass or plated ones, as this will ensure a good contact. A pair of tweezers will be found useful for inserting the contact bolts into the holes in the middle of the formers.

The spacing of the bolts must, of course, accurately match the spacing of the crocodile clips on the holder.

Construction of these items should, therefore, begin by soldering the crocodile clips to the tag strip. The position of the holes on the coil formers can then be marked out by placing the formers against the ends of the clips.

A bar of insulating material is secured across the clips. When pressed, this opens all of the jaws at once. The bar can be cut from thick Perspex or Paxolin sheet, or the plastic barrel of a ball point pen. It is fixed to the outer clips by 8BA nuts and bolts.

Appropriate tags on the strip are carefully removed, and the holes gently enlarged to accept the 4BA bolts which rigidly secure the assembly to the platform inside the top of the cabinet. Make sure that the bolt heads and stand-offs are not shorting adjacent clips together.

Before commencing the coil winding, check that the 6BA contact bolts are correctly aligned and are gripped properly by the crocodile clips when the former is inserted into the holder. Winding the coils is not difficult, as the

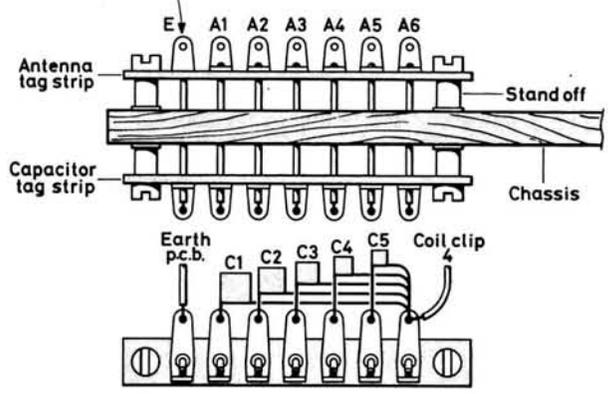
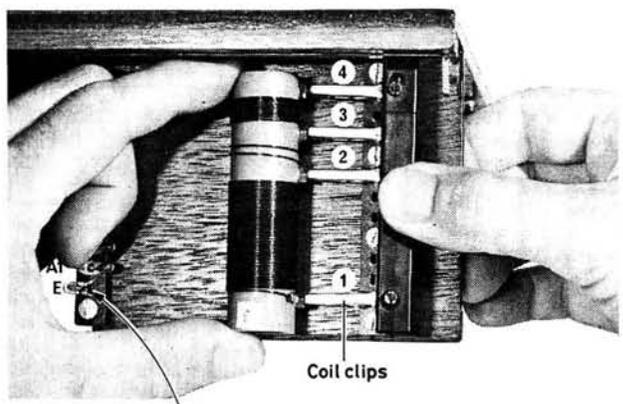
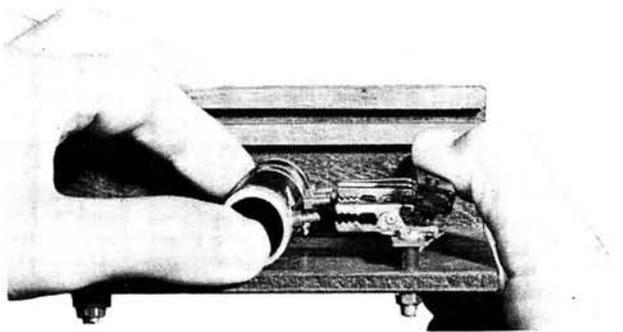
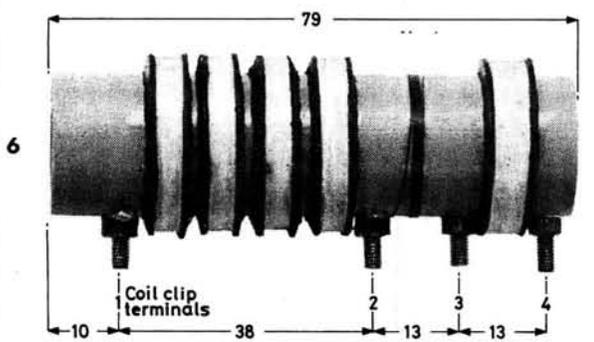
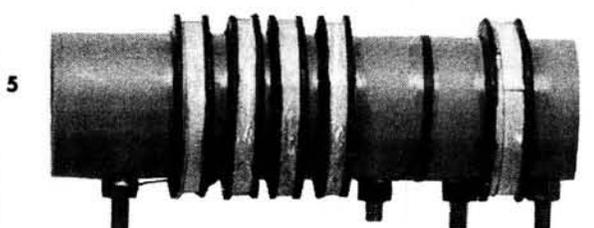
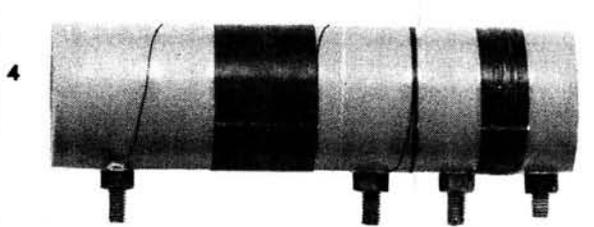
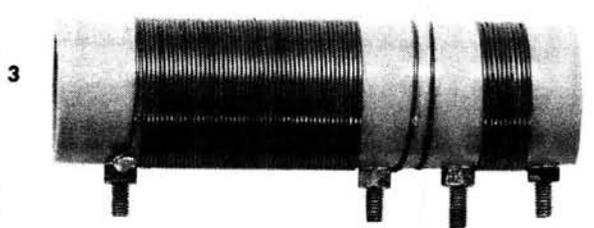
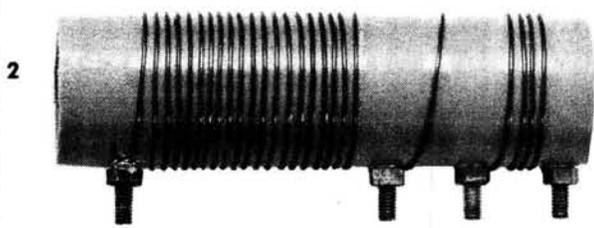
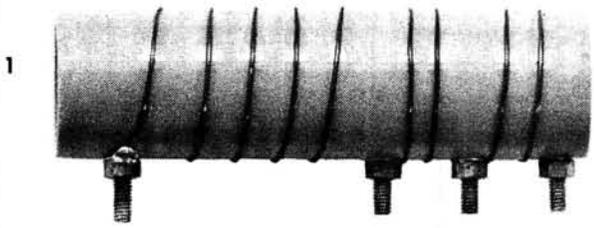
CONSTRUCTION RATING **Beginner**

BUYING GUIDE

All components for this project are available from a number of sources. Variable capacitors used in the prototype were obtained from Electrovalue. The coils are mounted on plastics overflow pipe available from most d.i.y. shops.

APPROXIMATE COST **£18.50**

Coil	Coverage	Number of turns			SWG
		1-2	2-3	3-4	
1	30MHz - 10.4MHz	5 spaced over 38mm	2	2	24
2	12MHz - 4.8MHz	20 spaced over 38mm	1	4	24
3	5MHz - 2.1MHz	50 close wound	2	10	24
4	2.2MHz - 900kHz	90 close wound	4	60	38
5	900kHz - 400kHz	208 4 piles of 52 turns	8	100	38
6	400kHz - 180kHz	500 4 piles of 125 turns	10	200	38



Coil formers made from stiff card

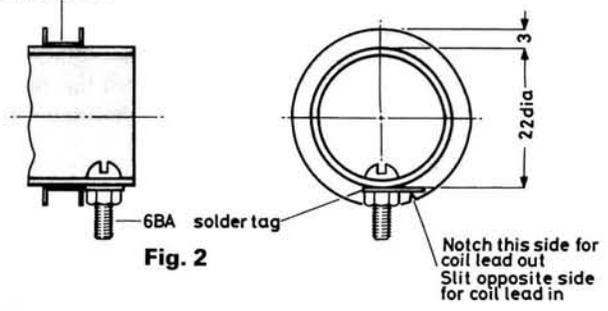


Fig. 2

WRM692

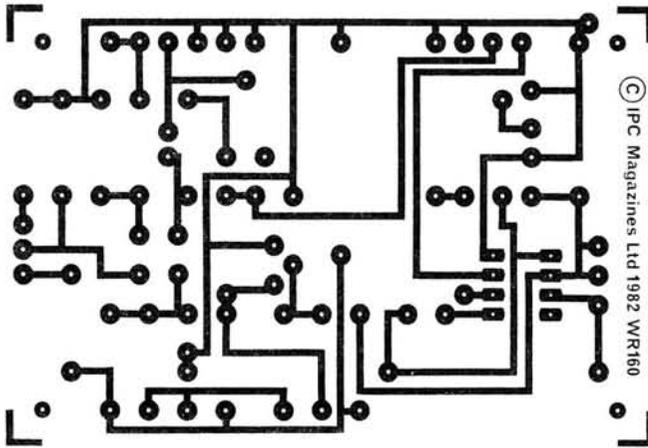
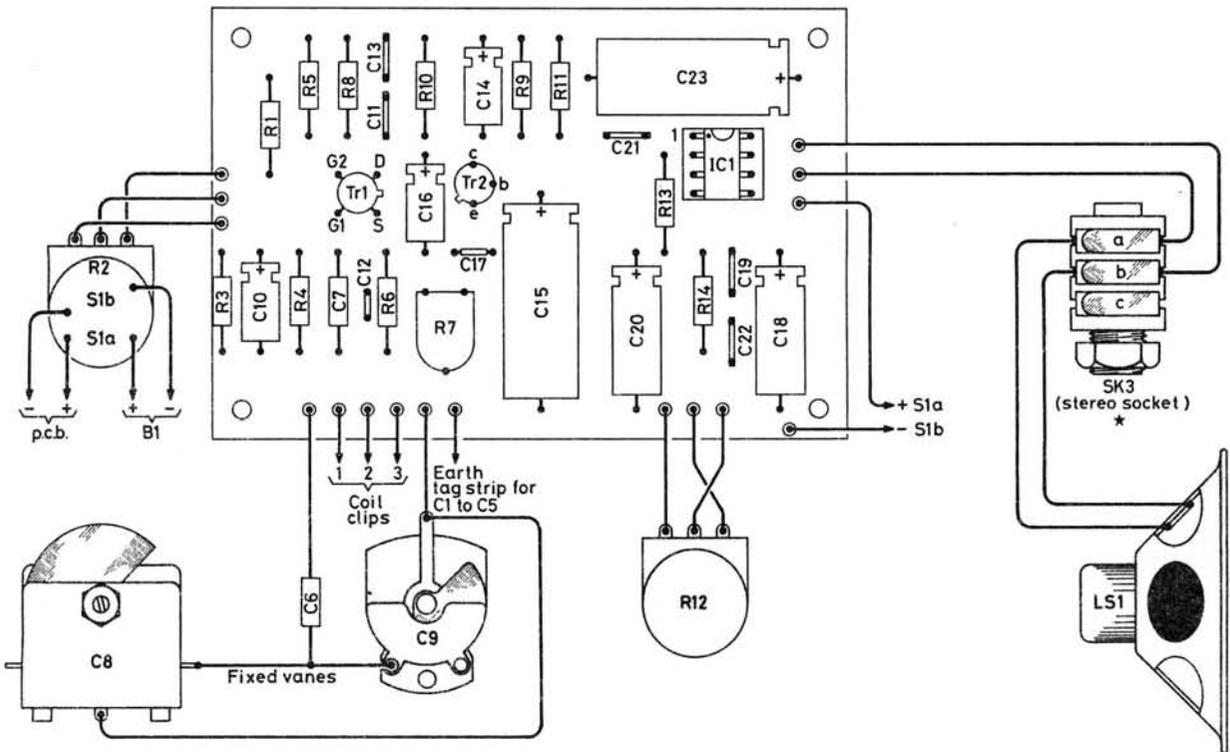


Fig. 3. Track pattern and component layout, shown full size, with off-board connections



wire can be anchored to the solder tags at the beginning and end of the windings and at the tappings. Care must however be taken to completely remove the enamel, before wrapping the wire around the tags, to ensure good soldered connections.

All turns are wound in the same direction and can, if desired, be fixed in position on completion by a coat of clear cellulose or Denfix polystyrene cement.

The pile windings which make up the m.w. and l.w. coils are held in place by cardboard bobbins, which are slid onto the formers before the end contact bolts are inserted. Cut a strip of card as wide as the spacing between the bobbin cheeks, wind this round a former and glue it with balsa cement or other quick setting adhesive. Cut out the card rings which form the bobbin cheeks, slide these onto the former, and glue them to the paper strip with a liberal application of balsa cement. Note that the bobbins for the l.w. coil are slightly wider than those for the m.w. coil.

After the coils have been wound, the turns can be protected by a strip of masking tape.

Construction

All small components, with the exception of C1–C6, are mounted on the single-sided glassfibre p.c.b. Details of component placement and the p.c.b. track layout are given in Fig. 3. Vero pins inserted at the lead out points aid wiring up and the component layout shown should be adhered to. Of particular importance is the point at which the negative supply lead is connected to the p.c.b. track. Low frequency instability, or "motorboating", is almost certain to result if this lead is connected to the earth line close to the early stages of the receiver.

The layout of the remaining components is not critical, but interconnecting leads should be as short and direct as

★ components

Resistors

$\frac{1}{4}$ W 5% Carbon film

1Ω	1	R14
47Ω	1	R13
470Ω	1	R3
1kΩ	1	R8
2.2kΩ	2	R6, 11
10kΩ	2	R5, 10
47kΩ	1	R1
470kΩ	1	R4
2.2MΩ	1	R9

Miniature horizontal preset

10kΩ	1	R7
------	---	----

Carbon track potentiometer

4.7kΩ (log)	1	R12
4.7kΩ	1	R2 (with d.p. switch)

Capacitors

Miniature ceramic plate

10pF	1	C5
22pF	1	C4
47pF	1	C3
100pF	1	C2
220pF	1	C1
1nF	2	C11, 13
10nF	2	C12, 17
0.1μF	1	C19
0.22μF	1	C22

Polystyrene

100pF	1	C7
390pF	1	C6
680pF	1	C21

Electrolytic double-ended, 10V

100μF	2	C18, 20
1000μF	2	C15, 23

Electrolytic double-ended, 25V

10μF	3	C10, 14, 16
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Variable

25pF	1	C9 (Jackson type C804)
365pF	1	C8 (Jackson type 5250/1)

Semiconductors

Transistors

BC108	1	Tr2
40673	1	Tr1

Integrated Circuits

TBA820M	1	IC1
---------	---	-----

Miscellaneous

177 × 100mm 3Ω speaker; 19mm i.d. plastic pipe (see text); 24 s.w.g. and 38 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire. 3-pole jack socket (6mm). Case materials.

possible. It was not found necessary to screen the leads to R12. Figure 2 shows how C1–C5 are mounted on a tag strip located beneath the top shelf. The bolts which hold this tag strip also secure an identical strip above it, and holes bored through the shelf enable the two sets of tags to be connected together. Antenna and earth leads are attached to the appropriate upper tags by means of crocodile clips. This arrangement is cheaper than sockets or terminals and facilitates the quick selection of the most suitable antenna input capacitor. Capacitor C6 is soldered directly to the fixed vanes tag on C8.

Final part: Full setting up and operating details

Get it right from the start.

A GOOD START is essential to short wave listening and expert advice is important in achieving this. Firstly, a receiver is only as good as the antenna it sees. The old adage regarding wire antennas "as long and as high as you can" is still good, but at best is only good for PEAK PERFORMANCE on one or two frequencies, or at worst none.

For PEAK PERFORMANCE on all frequencies you need good matching between your Receiver and Antenna. If you plan to listen on the high frequency bands up to 30MHz then you know you can't have an antenna for every frequency! BUT we can offer you MUCH IMPROVED PERFORMANCE from your receiver by using an antenna tuning unit that will electrically change the length of your antenna to match the frequency you select. In other words – A MATCH FOR ALL FREQUENCIES.

You'll see many antennas being advertised under gimmicky names, but when it comes down to it they're only random wires or odd configurations, but at the end of the day, if you're expecting the performance the manufacturers specified, then you'll have to buy an antenna tuning unit. DON'T! We'll give you one ABSOLUTELY FREE when you buy your receiver from Amcomm, as well as complete advice on an antenna to suit your available space.



1 YAESU FRG 7700 +	£329.00
FRT 7700	inc. VAT
1 YAESU FRG 7700M +	£409.00
FRT 7700	inc. VAT
1 ICOM ICR7 +	£469.00
FRT 7700	inc. VAT
1 TRIO R1000 +	£297.00
FRT 7700	inc. VAT
1 TRIO R600 +	£249.00
FRT 7700	inc. VAT



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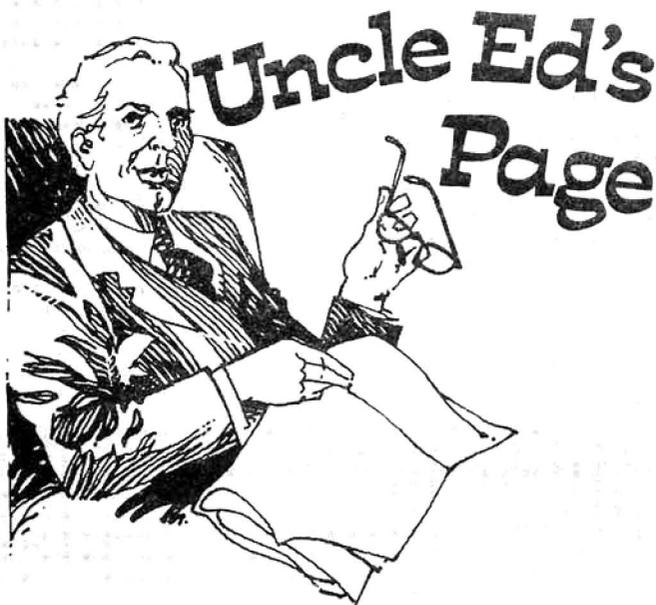
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A monthly look at some aspect of the radio/electronics hobby that seems to bug the beginner, or occasionally a more advanced topic seen from an unusual angle.

TRANSFORMERS—3

The voltage rating of a mains transformer secondary winding is the voltage it should produce when on full load, when it is supplying its maximum rated current. When the winding is more lightly loaded, its output voltage will rise. The change between the "no-load" (or "off-load") output voltage and the "full-load" voltage is converted into a percentage and called the regulation of the transformer.

$$\text{Regulation} = \frac{\text{Off-load voltage} - \text{full-load voltage}}{\text{Off-load voltage}} \times 100\%$$

Notice that it's the **change** versus the **off-load** voltage, in other words it's a measure of how much the output voltage falls when the load is connected. That fall is due to the resistance of the windings, and leakage of the magnetic flux linking primary and secondary. Typical values of regulation for a small low-voltage transformer range from about 10 to 25 per cent.

Losses of various sorts mean that any transformer is less than 100 per cent efficient. Therefore, more power ($V \times A$) will be taken by the primary than can be drawn from the secondary windings. As a general rule, efficiency is greater for high-power transformers than for low-power.

If you look at a text-book covering the basic theory of transformers, you'll find that the voltage step-up or step-down from primary to secondary is proportional to the ratio of the number of turns in each winding. Say we had a transformer with a 240V primary having 1200 turns. This works out at 5 turns per volt (fairly typical for a small transformer), so for a 12V secondary winding the calculation would come out at $5 \times 12 = 60$ turns. If you actually wound a transformer like this though, you'd find that the output voltage was low by anything up to 10 per cent. This is again due to losses in the transformer, and the manufacturer will compensate for it by increasing the number of turns on the secondary winding. This does mean, though, that should you want to use a transformer "back-to-front"—applying the input to what was the secondary winding and taking the out-

put from the primary—you'll get a lower voltage out than you'd expected. An example would be a mains isolating transformer (240V in/240V out) intended for use when servicing or testing live-chassis equipment like TV receivers. Connect that back-to-front and you'll be lucky to get as much as 220V out even before you connect a load to it.

At one time, it was common to find a tag or terminal on a mains transformer labelled "E.S.", which stands for Electrostatic Screen. If the transformer you're using does have one, it should be connected to the equipment chassis or earth line. The electrostatic screen, which is an incomplete loop of copper foil, placed between the primary and secondary windings, serves two purposes. First, as its name implies, it serves as a screen to prevent noise pulses being coupled electrostatically from primary to secondary or vice versa. Secondly, it provides an earthed safety barrier between the windings, so that if the insulation on the primary turns should break down, the mains supply would leak first to the earthed screen, whereupon the input fuse should blow, instead of to the secondary winding where it could be very dangerous both to the equipment and the user.

Nowadays this second function (which is generally the most important) is often taken care of by the "split-bobbin" technique, where the primary and secondary windings are put on quite separate sections of the bobbin, side by side with a substantial plastics cheek between them, rather than being wound one over the other with just layers of fabric between as used to be normal. So, many transformers no longer have that E.S. terminal.

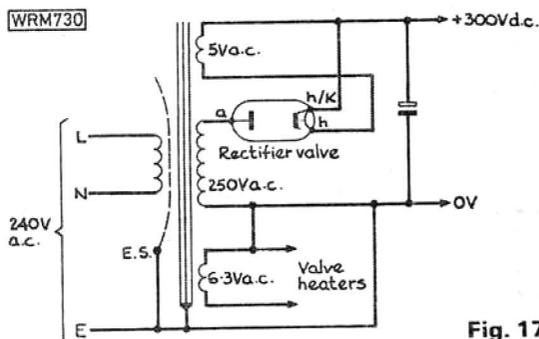


Fig. 17

On the subject of winding insulation, remember that most transformers with more than one secondary are intended to be used with all those windings connected to circuits sitting at around the same potential. In a valved receiver of bygone days, there would typically be three secondary windings (Fig. 17), the h.t. (high tension) winding might give 250V, an l.t. (low tension) winding would give 6.3V to drive most of the valve heaters, and another l.t. winding might give 5V to drive the heater of the rectifier valve. The valve heaters connected to the 6.3V winding would be at or near chassis or earth potential, but the rectifier heater would be up at the voltage of the h.t. rail of the receiver, which could be in the region of +300V d.c. So the rectifier heater winding would have to have insulation suitable for at least 300V, even though it only gave out 5V itself.

That sort of situation isn't come across very often in modern equipment, but it can happen. If you want to produce two 12V supplies, one of which has one side earthed whilst the other has to be tied to a point in a circuit which is at high potential, it's wiser to use two separate transformers rather than two secondary windings on a single transformer. Unless, of course, the transformer manufacturer can assure you that his particular product is suitable for that purpose.



ANTENNA SPECIAL



BEAM ANTENNA

C. LOFTUS G6AFJ

★ components

Broomstick or dowel; Motor car brake pipe 584mm long (2 lengths); Aluminium tube 12.5mm dia (2m total); Wood block 75 x 50 x 12mm; Screws 2BA x 50mm long with nuts and washers (6); Solder tags 2BA (2).

Simple antennas are always popular with *PW* readers especially if they use easily obtainable and cheap materials. This design meets these criteria and offers a respectable

performance. The original antenna allowed the author to work into a Belgian repeater using one watt output from his home QTH in Birmingham.

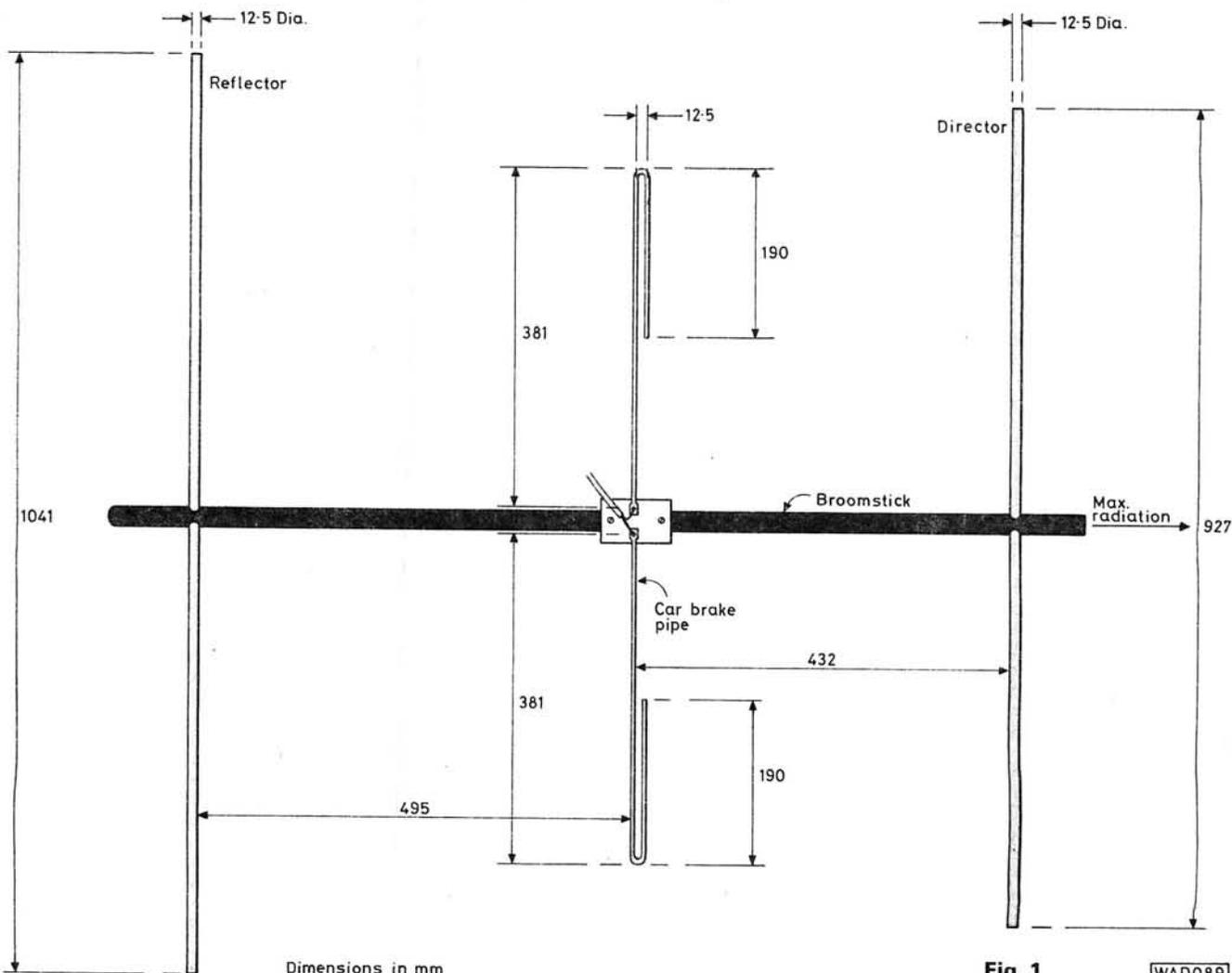
Construction

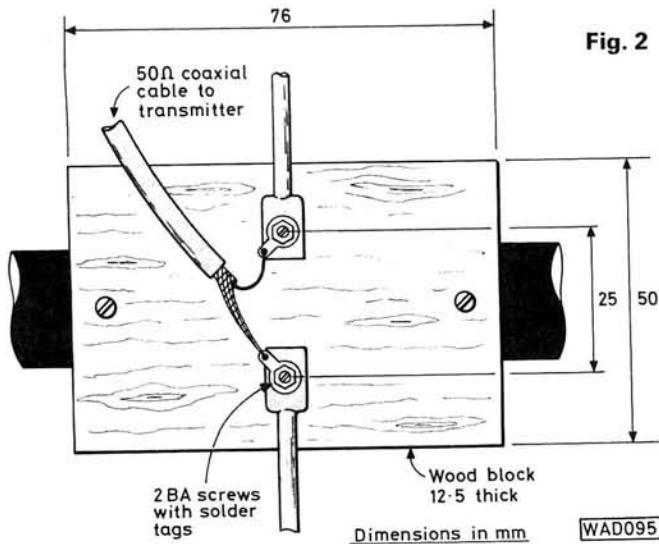
The boom is a standard wooden broomstick to which the three elements are attached by long 2BA screws. The reflector and director are plain lengths of 12mm diameter aluminium tube cut to the lengths shown in Fig. 1 with a 4.8mm diameter hole drilled at the centre for the mounting screws.

The driven element is constructed from two lengths of car brake pipe. Flatten one end of each length of pipe using a vice and drill a 4.8mm hole through the flattened ends to clear the 2BA fixing bolts. Carefully bend the pipes to the shape and dimensions shown and screw the two elements to a wood block as shown in Fig. 2.

Adjustment

The feed impedance with the driven element as shown should be 50Ω but the antenna can be tuned by altering the position of the bends in the folded elements to vary the gap. After the antenna has been successfully adjusted it can be given a coat of varnish to render the wooden boom waterproof.





CONSTRUCTION RATING **Beginner**

The aluminium tube used for the reflector and director can be obtained from your local aluminium stockist (Yellow Pages) while the brake pipe should be available from motor factors.

APPROXIMATE COST **£3**

Modifying the 3.5/7 MHz G-WHIP

Ian H. CROWTHER G3KLF

The arrangement described in this article has been used by the author for some time now, with good results, as an alternative to the full sized version recommended by the manufacturer.

The G-Whip has, of course, been used by h.f. mobiles world-wide for many years with great success. Indeed for the 14, 21 and 28MHz band (20, 15 and 10m) operation the antenna is an exceptional performer with an attractive appearance.

There is however a slight problem on the 3.5 and 7MHz bands (40 and 80m) in that the height of the antenna is about 2 metres. It also tends to be relatively rigid and noticeable to various sections of the public who might wish to steal or vandalise it.

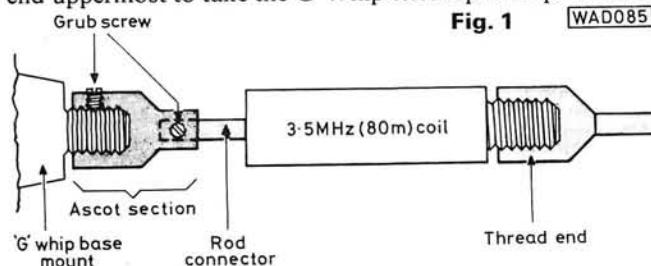
At first, it seemed that this was just something to be lived with, and hopefully remembered prior to driving into multi-storey car parks etc. Then whilst browsing through the mobile antenna section of a popular radio handbook, it was noted that the inductance of a centre loading coil on a standard 2.6 metre mobile whip was about double that of the base loaded equivalent coil.

This fact promoted some thought as to whether the G-Whip 3.5MHz centre loading coil might function in a base loading mode, and if so, what length of element might be required above it to resonate over the 3.5MHz band.

Adaptor

As the intention was to use the standard G-Whip base already fitted to the car, the first problem was to design or modify some sort of adaptor to join the coil to the base mount.

The coil was mounted in its normal way, i.e. threaded end uppermost to take the G-Whip telescopic whip and the



rod connector fitted to the G-Whip base mount using the centre section of an Ascot v.h.f. mobile antenna base as shown in Fig. 1.

The Ascot base section was drilled to accept the coil rod connector at the narrow end and the G-Whip base mount thread at the other. Grub screws fitted to the Ascot section were used to secure the assembly.

Obviously any method of joining the coil to the G-Whip base mount would be satisfactory, but the method described is certainly quick and easy.

The antenna was assembled and the whip section extended to about the usual length necessary in the full size version. Using an Atlas transceiver about 100 watts of r.f. was applied and the s.w.r. observed.

To the author's amazement, sweeping the 3.5MHz band indicated resonance at 3.7MHz with unity s.w.r. Subsequently it was found that the entire 3.5MHz band could be correctly matched by simple adjustment of the telescopic whip length. The overall length of the complete antenna was measured at around 900mm.

The 7MHz coil was tested in the same way and a similar result was obtained, this time with an overall length of around 760mm at midband.

Tests

Obviously the big question was, how would the short antennas radiate? A series of tests on the 3.5MHz and 7MHz bands was required, comparing signal strengths between the short and normal versions of the G-Whip. On the 3.5MHz band the short version was found to be about one "S" point down on the standard version, and on the 7MHz band half an "S" point loss was noted.

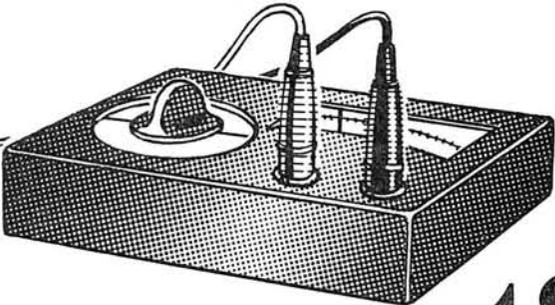
In the author's opinion, this is acceptable in view of the absolute "S" meter readings obtained over the test distance of 250km i.e. "S"8 on the standard version and "S"7 on the short version.

The author is now able to work the 3.5 and 7MHz bands with an antenna scarcely longer than that used for the 144MHz band. He can also forget the worries of losing the antenna under low bridges or in a car park! The G-Whip can be quickly restored to full length if required by simply slackening off the two grub screws in the Ascot adaptor.

are the voltages correct?

PART 9

ROGER LANCASTER



Solution to last month's problems: The circuit is reproduced here in Fig. 9.1.

No. 1: The estimated potential at Tr3 emitter was 0V and that at Tr4 collector was +20V. A 20 000Ω/V meter was used to carry out these measurements and readings of +1.2V and +19.5V respectively were obtained. You were asked to decide whether these readings were reasonable or whether a fault existed.

The potential at Tr1 collector was estimated to be +1.7V and Tr3 was shown to be non-conducting. This meant there was no path for D4 to conduct and so Tr3 emitter was "floating" and therefore at 0V. When a meter is connected between the point and earth, however, a conduction path for the diode is completed. The equivalent circuit of this is shown in Fig. 9.2. Used on its 20V range, the meter's resistance will be $20 \times 20\,000 = 400\text{k}\Omega$. Since this is a large resistance and the applied voltage is only 1.7V, there will be about 0.5V across the slightly-conducting diode, leaving 1.2V across the meter, which will be the voltage indicated: no fault, the reading is reasonable.

Transistor Tr4 was shown to be cut off and therefore its collector potential should be at +20V. However, when the

meter is connected we have a potential divider, R9 and R_{meter} , between the +20V line and earth, as shown in Fig. 9.3. So the voltage across the meter will be

$$\frac{400}{410} \times 20 = 19.5\text{V}, \text{ which the meter will show: again no}$$

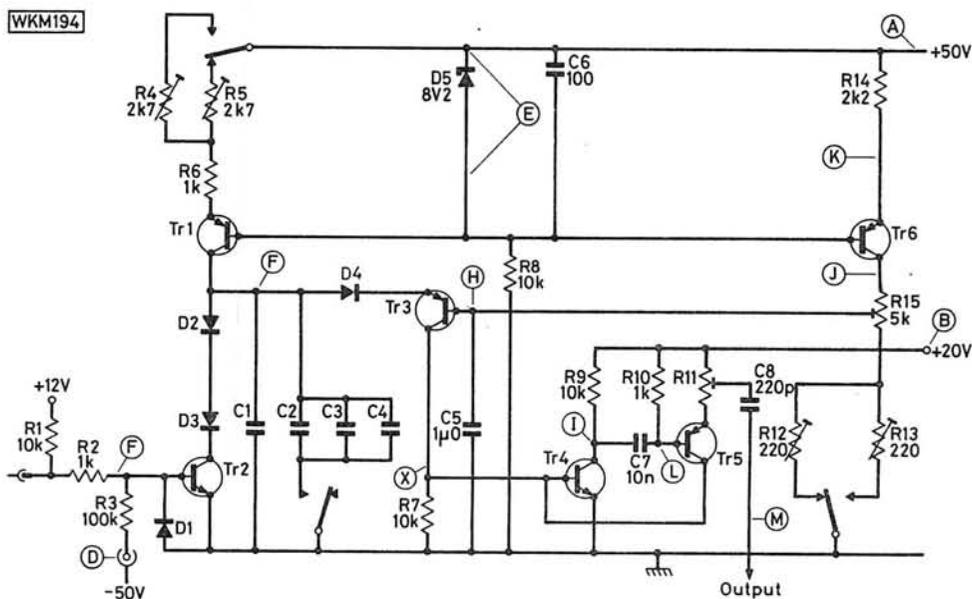
fault, a reasonable reading.

No. 2: The circuit is reproduced here in Fig. 9.4. You were asked to estimate all transistor electrode potentials.

Diodes D1 and D2 conduct because there is a circuit through them and R2 between the -50V line and earth. Thus there will be 0.6V across D2, leaving the base of Tr3 at -0.6V and reverse biasing D3. Similarly, D4 conducts via R5 and therefore its cathode (and Tr1 emitter) is also at -0.6V. With -0.6V on both base and emitter, there is no forward bias for Tr1, which is therefore cut off. The only current which can flow through R4 is therefore the sum of any base currents of Tr2 and Tr3. Since both these transistors have emitter resistors and we usually ignore base currents in these circumstances, there will be negligible voltage developed across R4 and Tr1 collector will therefore be at +12V.

Transistor Tr2 will conduct heavily since its open-circuit base-emitter potential is 62V (12V plus 50V) and its

Fig. 9.1



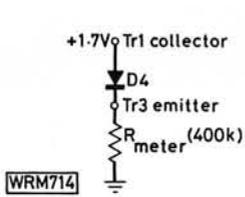


Fig. 9.2

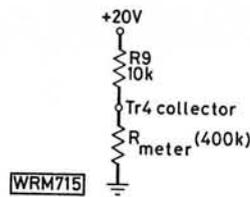


Fig. 9.3

base resistor is only 1kΩ. With its base at +12V its emitter will be at about $+12 - 0.8 = +11.2V$. Its collector is connected to the +12V line direct.

Transistor Tr3 open-circuit base-emitter potential is 12V and its base resistor is only 1kΩ so it too will conduct heavily, with base at +12V, emitter at +11.2V and collector connected to +12V.

In practice, since Tr2 and Tr3 are conducting heavily, base currents will be relatively high, so the collector potential of Tr1 and the base and emitter potentials of Tr2 and Tr3 will all be slightly lower than our estimations. (When measured, these potentials were actually 0.2V lower than estimated.)

The +12V line is not quoted on the manufacturer's circuit diagram. It is one of those key points whose potential we must measure and accept as being correct until any faults have been repaired, as explained in part 8.

If you have been following this series from its commencement in the June 1982 issue, you should now be in a position where you can estimate potentials in any transistor circuit. It is an easy matter to put your knowledge to the test.

Take any item of transistor circuitry which is in good working order and estimate the emitter, base and collector potentials of all the transistors using the techniques described in this series. Then verify these by measurement. Whenever you are faced with a discrepancy between estimated and measured voltages, search for the reason: it may be meter resistance modifying the circuit, it could be due to an error in your calculations, something you have overlooked, or the reading might be accurate enough when you take into account base currents and/or resistor tolerances.

If you give yourself plenty of practice at this sort of exercise, you will gain confidence and develop valuable fault-finding skills which will stand you in good stead for the day when you are faced with a circuit which is faulty.

When looking for faults, remember they can be either component or wiring faults. If the circuit is newly constructed and has never been working, your suspicions should be biased towards wiring errors, whereas if the gear

was working satisfactorily before the fault occurred then component failure is perhaps more probable. Whichever type of fault it is, however, estimation of voltages and subsequent measurements within the suspect area will reveal the trouble in the vast majority of cases.

The remainder of this series will be devoted to voltage checks around various common circuit elements, such as f.e.t.s, i.c.s and valves.

Field Effect Transistors

FETs are characterised by high input impedance and are found in many applications, in particular r.f. amplifiers, oscillators and mixers. They are sometimes used simply as variable resistors whose resistance is controlled by voltage rather than by manual means.

There are several different types of f.e.t. and they will be considered separately.

JUGFETs

This term stands for junction gate field effect transistor. There are two main types: *n*-channel and *p*-channel. Their symbols are illustrated in Fig. 9.5 (a) and (b) respectively. Note the names of the electrodes are not part of the symbols.

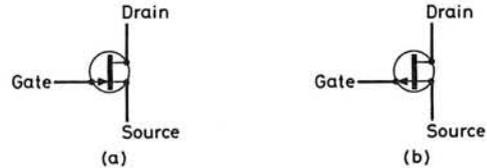


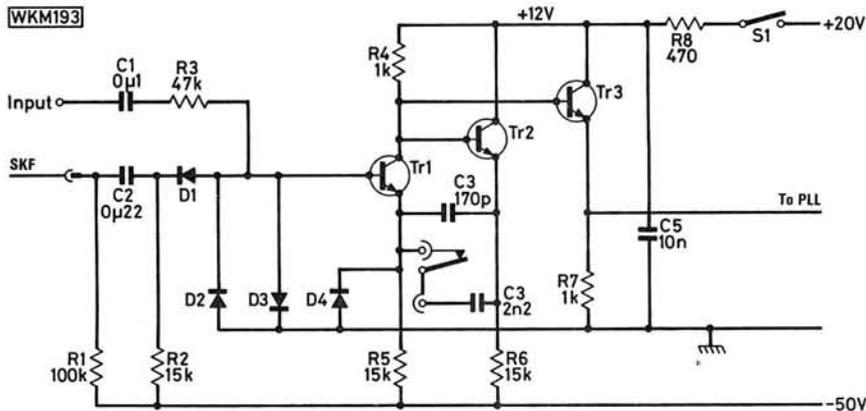
Fig. 9.5

The thick line represents the channel of semiconductor material between source and drain, the width (and hence the resistance) of which is controlled by the voltage on the gate electrode. It is useful to remember that, as with bipolar transistors, the arrow points towards *n*-type material (and away from *p*-type).

Before a gate voltage is applied, the source-drain resistance is very low (a few hundred ohms) but there is a *p-n* junction between the gate and the channel and when this is reverse biased the resulting field causes a narrowing of the channel and hence an increase in source-drain resistance.

So when the gate-source bias is zero, the device conducts heavily from source to drain when a circuit is completed. The gate-source junction is normally reverse biased, however, thus limiting drain current. Small variations in g-s bias can cause large changes in s-d current, enabling the device to function as an amplifier.

Fig. 9.4



Since the g-s junction is reverse biased we shall not be certain what potential to expect across it beyond the fact that it is typically somewhere between 0V and 8V. We shall, however, know what its polarity should be: gate negative with respect to source for the *n*-channel and gate positive with respect to source for the *p*-channel.

The g-s bias voltage can be derived from its own separate supply line or it can come from an a.g.c. (automatic gain control) line, but usually it is derived by developing a voltage across a resistor in the source line, as shown in the circuit of a simple common-source amplifier (Fig. 9.6).

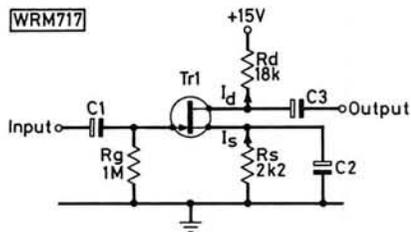


Fig. 9.6

The source current (I_s) develops a voltage across R_s to give the source a positive potential with respect to earth (in the case of the *n*-channel JGFET here). There is virtually no current in the gate lead or R_g (because of the reverse biasing) as the gate is at 0V with respect to earth. Thus the gate is **negative with respect to source** by the voltage developed across R_s (see "Points of Reference" in part 1).

The source current flows through **both** R_s and R_d , that is $I_s = I_d$. We cannot calculate this current without knowing a p.d., however, because we are unlikely to have sufficient information available to enable us to calculate the resistance of the channel under any particular operating conditions. All we can do is to check that the correct **relationship** between the electrode potentials exists.

Gate potential should be **zero** (no current through R_g). Source potential should be positive between 0V and 8V. Suppose we measure it and find it to be +1.2V. This seems reasonable, and we should now be able to calculate the drain potential from it.

$$I_s = \frac{V_s}{R_s} = \frac{1.2}{2.2} = 0.55\text{mA}$$

This flows through R_d , so voltage across R_d
 $= I_d R_d = 0.55 \times 18 = 9.9\text{V}$

Therefore, drain potential = +15 - 9.9 = +5.1V.

A *p*-channel circuit would be the same apart from all polarities being reversed.

Whatever the type of circuit, the same sort of relationship between the electrodes should be found.

Fig. 9.7 shows an r.f. amplifier circuit. Here the source resistance is variable to provide gain control. This means the source potential will vary with the setting of R_s . Gate potential will be 0V via R_g regardless of the setting of R_s . Suppose R_s is set to maximum resistance and source potential is +4V under these conditions.

$$I_s = \frac{V_{R_s}}{R_s} = \frac{4}{10} = 0.4\text{mA}$$

$$V_{R_d} = I_d R_d = 0.4 \times 1.8 = 0.7\text{V}$$

Drain potential = +12 - 0.7 = +11.3V

Very often there is no R_d and drain potential is then equal to the supply potential via the r.f. transformer primary.

If the voltages are unreasonable, we may suspect the f.e.t. itself, in which case it must be removed from the circuit (or at least two of its leads unsoldered) and tested by ohmmeter.

G-S and g-d readings should be similar to those of the b-e and b-c of a bipolar transistor. With one prod on the gate, g-s and g-d readings should be **either** both high

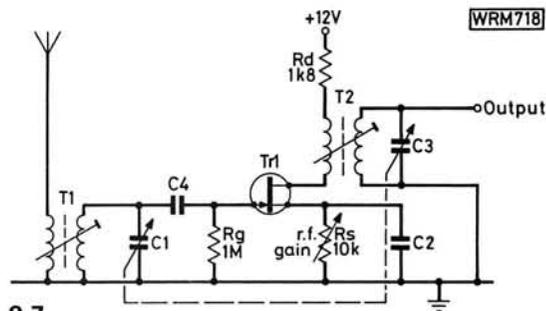
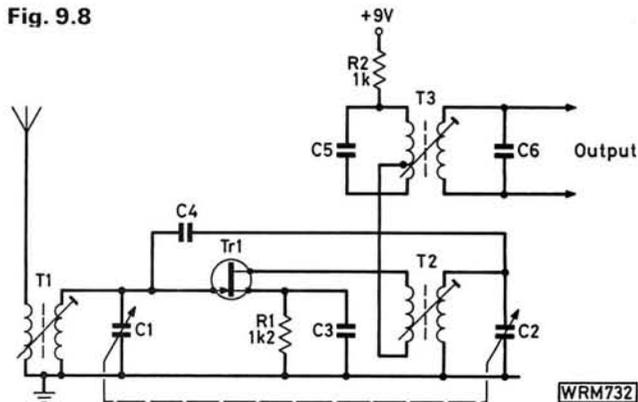


Fig. 9.7

resistance (needle barely moving off the back stop) or both low resistance (about 1kΩ). Reversing the prods, the two readings should again be the same as each other but **opposite** to that recorded in the first pair of tests. S-D resistance should be **low** (anything from 5Ω to 5kΩ), regardless of which way round the meter is connected.

Fig. 9.8



If the f.e.t. passes the ohmmeter test, we measure the voltages with it out of circuit. These should be: source = 0V, gate = 0V, drain = +15V (Fig. 9.6) or +12V (Fig. 9.7). Any errors here could point to a faulty component or wiring.

If these measurements still do not reveal the fault, take the readings with respect to the supply rail rather than earth (still with the f.e.t. out). These should be: source = -15V (Fig. 9.6) or -12V (Fig. 9.7), drain = 0V.

The taking of gate potential with respect to the supply rail with the f.e.t. in circuit is not recommended as the meter resistance would provide a potential divider with R_g thus **forward** biasing the g-s junction and resulting in totally misleading readings.

This month's problems are based on the mixer circuit of Fig. 9.8. The source potential was measured as +2V with respect to earth when the circuit was working properly. Capacitor C2 is short-circuited during measurements to prevent oscillations upsetting the d.c. conditions (see part 7). Transformer T1 primary is shorted out to prevent any received signals doing the same (unlikely as this would be). Full solutions will be given next month.

No. 1: What should the gate and drain potentials be with respect to earth?

No. 2: Suppose the following voltage readings are measured with respect to earth with Tr1 in circuit: source = +4.5V, gate = 0V, drain = +5.25V. The f.e.t. is removed, checked by ohmmeter and found to be good. The following voltages are measured with the f.e.t. still out of circuit (again with respect to earth): source = 0V, gate = 0V, drain = +9V. Finally, still with the f.e.t. out of circuit, the following readings are obtained with respect to the +9V line: source = -9V, gate = 0V, drain = 0V.

Which component is faulty and what is wrong with it? Next month we shall be taking a look at IGFETS.



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1225	FT-101ZD/AM 101Z plus AM unit, digital	619.00
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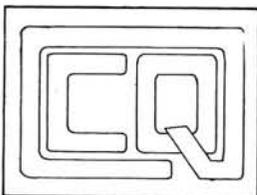
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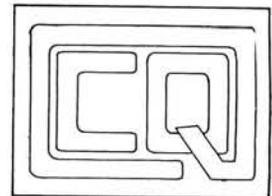
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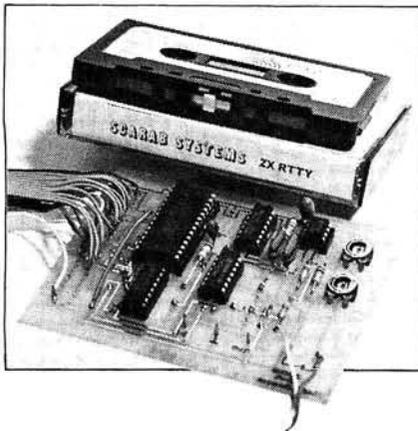


RTTY Breakthrough

The usual view of the radio amateur's shack running an RTTY mode transmission would include a large, very noisy, oily smelling electro-mechanical piece of equipment. Now a relatively cheap method of receiving and transmitting RTTY signals is available.

First, you must own a ZX81 microcomputer, 16K RAM pack and terminal unit, then with the addition of the Scarab RTTY cassette program and interface board, a RTTY mode station can be run without the previously mentioned drawbacks.

With the use of the 16K RAM pack, the program, written by C. G. Barker, has five programmable memory stores enabling your callsign and other relevant station details to be called-up and transmitted by single key operation. Other features include "Scrolling Screen" presentation, auto carriage return and line feed plus an adjustable Baud rate.



The Scarab System. Note the components shown are available, but not included in the prices quoted

Circuit details of the interface board, which can be wired direct to the RAM pack thus avoiding the need to open the computer to make connections, are included with each cassette, and a pre-drilled p.c.b. is also available. The BARTG ST.5 terminal unit can be used, with slight modification to convert the output to "logic level" (5V). Details of the circuit, the modifications and availability are also supplied by Scarab.

The VAT and p&p inclusive prices are, £9.75 for the cassette and £3.70 for the interface board. Both products are available from: *Scarab Systems, 141 Nelson Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 4LT. Tel: (0634) 575778.*



Safety System for Mobile Operators

We have recently received reports of both radio amateurs and CB operators being stopped by the police and warned, that operating hand-held microphones whilst driving, could result in them being prosecuted for "not having proper control of the vehicle". I have details of a product that could provide the mobile operator with the means of avoiding police attention in this particular circumstance.

Called the Monolock Safety Microphone System, it comprises an Electret condenser microphone with clip for attaching to the lapel, and a small unit containing a send/receive switch, microphone pre-amp with adjustable gain control and time-out facility, which mounts on the car's gear lever.

The unit is simply installed on the gear lever and, using a suitable microphone socket for the particular rig in use, power to automatically recharge the NiCad cell is derived from the p.t.t. line.

The time-out facility allows approximately four minutes of transmit time, on any over, after which the unit automatically drops transmission until the circuit is reset by operating the concealed reset switch. The unit is also supplied with a connecting lead and connectors, for recharging the NiCad cell from the car's cigar lighter socket, should the charge drop over a period of months.

The inclusive price of the Monolock safety microphone system is £31.45 and is available from: *Automatic Safety Lighting Ltd., 311 Lidgett Lane, Leeds 17, West Yorks. Tel: (0532) 682682.*

432MHz Beam Antenna

Latest addition to the product range of Ant Products is the Silver 70, a 14-element, high gain long Yagi, for use on the 432MHz (70cm) band.

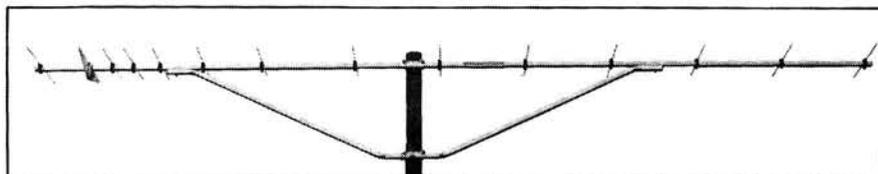
A major feature of the antenna is a silver plated driven element which requires no setting-up adjustments prior to use. The remaining elements are made from stainless steel, fastened into quick fitting clips insulating them from the boom. The makers claim that by using this combination of materials the antenna will retain its specified performance, and not suffer from atmospheric contamination with subsequent detuning effects.

Principal technical specifications for the antenna are: gain 16dBd; bandwidth at 2:1 v.s.w.r. is in excess of

10MHz; beamwidths at the half power points are 24° in the H-plane, 22° in the E-plane and the front-to-back ratio is 24dB.

The overall boom length of the Silver 70 is 2.7m with a wind loading figure of 0.08 sq. metres and it weighs only 1.1kg. Connection to the driven element is via an N-type connector, feeding a gamma match to the dipole assembly thus ensuring an accurate match to 50Ω coaxial cable.

The Silver 70 is manufactured in the UK from the highest quality materials, costs £31.95 plus £4.00 for delivery via Securicor and is available from: *Ant Products, All Saints Industrial Estate, Baghill Lane, Pontefract, West Yorks. Tel: (0977) 700949.*



BASIC QSOs

PART 1

G.W.Roberts GW4JXN

in German

The format and outline of this article is very similar to that in *Basic QSOs in French* which appeared in the June and July 1982 issues of *PW*. Thus, this article will not teach you how to speak German, it will only give you enough for a basic QSO with a German speaking contact.

German is spoken as the first language in Germany, both East and West, Switzerland (where approximately 70 per cent of the inhabitants speak German as their first language) and Austria. In addition, German is often spoken as a second language in many countries, and also by expatriate Germans around the world. The importance of German to us, however, is that it is not only an important commercial language but is the native language of a large number of very active and keen radio amateurs.

QTH Locations

It is possible to locate a station to a region in Austria from the number which follows "OE" e.g. OE6 is Steiermark around Graz, OE7 is the Tyrol. Similarly, the last letter of a callsign in East Germany denotes the district, e.g. "O" indicates Berlin, "A" is the area around Rostock, "M" is the area round Leipzig.

The author has found it very useful to have an atlas of Europe with a detailed index of place names, so that one can check fairly easily and predict the spelling of certain place names. The German alphabet is given in the appendix as this might be used instead of the International Phonetic Alphabet for the spelling of place names and operators' names. Again, the appendix has a list of first names to help make identification as easy as possible.

Bilingual Conversations

Many German speaking amateurs speak very good English and revel in the chance of using it, but this is not true of all, especially East Germans with whom contacts have, in my personal experience, tended to be rather short and formal. Many German speakers unexpectedly are pleased and relieved to speak German. Many such amateurs have admitted that they hadn't quite understood the English answers and repeated the questions in German! It is not unusual either to find it easier to overcome the interference on h.f. by speaking the other person's language, i.e. the German contact speaks English for your benefit and you speak German for his benefit. It is after all much easier to understand your own language than a foreign one in the QRM.

What we should learn from the Germans speaking English is that they are willing to try and speak English and we should try and speak German. Even a few words of German promotes a favourable reaction.

The German used in this Article

Many German stations can be heard on the 7MHz (40m) band but these are usually conversations between friends. These are unlikely to be of use to the English listener. The topics covered are much wider ranging than those covered in this short series. There is, furthermore, a much greater dialectal variation in German than say French and there is a great pride in these dialects. North German is different from Southern German, and Swiss and Austrian German can be quite distinctive. In talking to strangers and to foreigners, however, a standard German "Hochdeutsch", i.e. "book German" is used and this is the form used in the article.



The QTH is one metre above sea level

In using the information contained in the article please note that the amount of English technical words, e.g. "fading" instead of the German "Schwund", "callbook" instead of the "Rufzeichenliste", "das Sked" instead of "Verabredung" will vary from individual to individual. It is better to follow the lead given by the person you are talking to. Purity of German language can be appreciated by the speaker as a sign of politeness. The amount of "hamisms", e.g. the use of the Q Code will also vary — here the Q code is pronounced as in the German alphabet given in the appendix.

As there are variances in language usage the author would welcome any corrections or alternatives offered by native German speakers, though the contents are the result of many hours' listening on the air and checks on usage with native speakers over the air. The whole article has been checked for correctness and authenticity by linguistically sensitive German speakers.

Now a very short word about the nature of German. Historically German is more closely related to English than say French and, in fact, many children learning languages prefer German to French. However, German tends to use home-made long compound words rather than borrow an English/French word of possibly Latin/Greek origin. For example "Fernsprecher" in addition to "Telephon". Consequently, many words look strange. There is one great consolation — the pronunciation of German is much more closely related to the written form than either the French or English.

German is different to English in that it has "cases". This need not concern us too greatly in teaching such basic German but it does mean that you will see, for example, many words for "the", not just the masculine "der", the feminine "die", neuter "das" and plural "die". Do not be confused by them. German also has a very strict word order system, the verb sometimes comes at the end of the sentence. Try to stick accurately to the text given, you do not have the flexibility of French and English.

How to use this Article

I suggest that you choose from the different headings your own basic QSO by writing down suitable sentences from the article and keeping this by your rig. Later, when you have more practice and confidence, you can add to this and make your conversation longer. But if you do not try you will get nowhere, so try — even if your first attempt is only "auf Wiederhoren": "until we hear each other again" or "vielen Dank": "thank you very much".

German Pronunciation

The stress varies on German words and in the pronunciation hints with the article the stressed syllables are set in bold type. The following German consonants are to be noted:

"v" is pronounced as "f"; "w" is pronounced as "v" (remember Volkswagen); "ch" varies dialectally between "sh" and "ch" as in loch (technically it is in between them) and "z" is pronounced as "ts". All letters in a word are pronounced. Vowels followed by a single consonant are generally long, but two consonants are generally short. German has one accent, the "umlaut" which changes the sound of the vowels as follows:

ö becomes "oeh"; ü like the French "u" or a sound between "i" and "w" and ä becomes "ay".

The author would like to thank Dr Jo Desch, Lector in German, University College of North Wales, Bangor and Manfred Grab DL7GAB for their help in preparation of this article.

Making a call
CQ Germany, Switzerland, Austria or a German speaking country. This is (own callsign) calling CQ and standing by.

Replying to a call
(Other callsign phonetically) this is the British/English/Welsh/Scottish/Irish/Australian/American/Canadian/New Zealand/South African station (own callsign) calling you/returning your call.

The German speaking station this is . . .

After someone has replied to your call
I heard more than one station replying. Go ahead (XYZ). Try again (XYZ) please wait. This is (own callsign). Good morning/afternoon/evening old man. Thank you for returning my call.

I think this is the first time we have worked each other.

CQ Allgemeiner Anruf an Deutschland, die Schweiz, Österreich oder eine deutschsprachende Station. Hier ruft (own callsign) mit einem allgemeinem Anruf und geht jetzt auf Empfang. Bitte kommen!

(Other callsign phonetically) Hier ruft der Britische/Englische/Walisische/Schottische/Irische/Australische/Amerikanische/Kanadische/Neuseeländische/Südafrikanische Sender (own callsign), der auf ihren Anruf zurückkommt.

Die deutschsprachende Station hier ruft . . .

Mehrere Sender haben gleichzeitig geantwortet. Bitte schön (XYZ). Versuchen Sie noch einmal (XYZ). Warten Sie bitte! Hier spricht (own callsign) Guten Morgen/Tag/Abend mein Lieber. Ich danke Ihnen für die Antwort auf meinen Ruf.

Ich glaube das ist das erste Mal daß wir miteinander sprechen.

Tsay Koo **Algemeiner anroof** an doitshtlant, dee Shwaits, **Oesterreich** odoe **aine** doitshtshprechende shtatsion. Hear rwft (own callsign) mit **ainem** **algemeinem anroof** unt gayht yetst awf empfang. **Bitter** komen.

(Other callsign phonetically) Hear rooft der Britische / Englische / Walisische / Shohtische / Irishe / Awstralishe / Amerikanishe / Kanadishe / Noyzeealandishe / Sidafrikanishe **Zender** (own callsign) der awf **eehren anroof** **tswrrik**komt.

Dee Doitshtshprechende shtatsion hear rooft . . .

Merere zender haben **glaichtsaitig** goeantvortet. **Bitter** shoen (XYZ). **Ferzoochen** zee noch ainmal (XYZ). **Varten** zee **bitter**. **Hear** shpricht (own callsign) **gooten Morgen/Taag/Abent** main leahber. **Ish** danke **eehnen** fear dee antwort awf **mainen** roof. **Ish glawbe** das ist das **erste** mal das **viir** mitainander **sipprechen**.

<p>I think we have worked before. The name is . . . I'll spell it for you phonetically. I repeat.</p> <p>Location The location is . . . I'll spell it for you, in the county of . . . / state of . . . in North/South/West/East England/Wales/Scotland/Ireland/Canada/USA etc.</p> <p>The location is in the centre of . . . On the island of . . . In the small/big town/city of . . . In the seaside town of . . . About . . . kilometres from . . . The longitude and the latitude is . . . degrees — minutes North/South, degrees — minutes East/West.</p>	<p>Ich glaube, wir haben schon miteinander gesprochen. Ich heie . . . Ich buchstabiere phonetisch. Ich wiederhole.</p> <p>Der QTH/Sendeort ist . . . ich buchstabiere ihn fr Sie, in der Grafschaft von . . . /im Staat von . . . in Nord/Sd/West/Ost England/Wales /Schottland/Irland/Kanada/in der USA.</p> <p>Der Sendort ist in der Mitte von . . . Auf der Insel . . . In der kleinen/grossen Stadt/Grostadt von . . . Am Seebad . . . Ungefhr . . . Kilometer von . . . entfernt. Die Lnge und die Breite sind . . . Grad-Minuten nordlich/sdlich, Grad-Minuten stlich/westlich.</p>	<p>Ish glawbe vir haben schon mitainander geshprochen. Ish heise . . . Ish boochstabiere foneetish. Ish veederhole.</p> <p>Der Koo Tay Ha/Zenderort ist . . . Ish boochshtabiere een fear zee, in der grafshaft fon . . . / im shtat von . . . in Nord/Zid/Vest/Ost Englant/Vales/Shotlant/Irlant/Kanada/in der Ooessah. Der zenderort ist in der mite fon . . . Awf der inzel . . . In der klainen/grossen shdat/Grossshdat fon . . . Am zaybaat . . . Wngefyr . . . Kilometer fon . . . entfernt. Dee laynge unt dee braite zint . . . Graad-Minwwten nordlich/stdlich, Graad-Minwwten oestlich/veestlich.</p>
<p>Sie sind fnf und neun in . . . Ihr Rapport ist . . . Ihr Signal ist schwach/stark/sehr schwach/schwach/stark/sehr stark/ausgezeichnet. Es gibt keine Strungen. Es gibt viele rtliche Strungen. Ihre Signale schwinden. Ihre Modulation ist gut/schlecht. Ich verstehe Sie ganz leicht. Ich verstehe Sie nur mit grossen Schwierigkeiten.</p>	<p>Ich glaube, wir haben schon miteinander gesprochen. Ich heie . . . Ich buchstabiere phonetisch. Ich wiederhole.</p> <p>Der QTH/Sendeort ist . . . ich buchstabiere ihn fr Sie, in der Grafschaft von . . . /im Staat von . . . in Nord/Sd/West/Ost England/Wales /Schottland/Irland/Kanada/in der USA.</p> <p>Der Sendort ist in der Mitte von . . . Auf der Insel . . . In der kleinen/grossen Stadt/Grostadt von . . . Am Seebad . . . Ungefhr . . . Kilometer von . . . entfernt. Die Lnge und die Breite sind . . . Grad-Minuten nordlich/sdlich, Grad-Minuten stlich/westlich.</p>	<p>Zee sint finf wnt noin in . . . Ear rapor ist . . . Ear signal ist shwankend/seer shwach/shwach/shtark/seer shtark/awsgetsaichnet. Es gibt keine shtirwngen. Es gibt feele oertliche shtoenwngen. Ear signale shwinden. Earre modiwlatson ist goot/shlecht. Ish fershtayhe zea gants laicht. Ish fershtayhe zea noor mit grossen Shveerigkaiten.</p>
<p>Signal report You are five and nine in . . . Your report is . . . Your signal is variable/very weak/weak/strong/very strong/excellent. There is no interference. There is a lot of local interference. Your signals are fading. Your modulation is good/bad. I can understand you very easily. I can understand you only with great difficulty.</p>	<p>Geben Sie mir bitte Ihren Namen/Ihren Standort/ihr Rufzeichen. In welchem Land sind Sie? Buchstabieren Sie bitte Ihren Namen/Standort /Rufzeichen!</p> <p>Knnen Sie mir bitte einen Rapport geben? Bitte wiederholen Sie. Bitte srechen Sie langsamer. Haben Sie viele Strungen? Schwanken meine Signale? Waren wir schon mal verbunden — auf diesem Band/auf zehn, fnfzehn, zwanzig, vierzig, achtzig, hundertsechszig Metern. Es tut mir leid, ich verstehe Sie nicht. Ich verstehe/spreche nicht sehr gut deutsch. Warten Sie bitte. Versuchen Sie es nochmal. Knnen Sie mich aufnehmen/hren/verstehen? Wie nehmen Sie mich auf? Ist diese Frequenz frei/besetzt?</p>	<p>Geben zee mir bitter earen namen/earen shtandort/ear rooftsaichen. In velschem lant zint zee? Bwchshtabearen zee bitter earen namen/shtandort/rooftsaichen. Kooenen zee mir bitter ainen rapor gayben? Bitter veederholen zee. Bitter shprechen zee langzamer. Haben zee feele shtoenwngen? Shvanken maine signale? Varen veer shon mal ferbwnden — awf deezem Bant/awf tsayn, finftsayn, tvantsig, feartsig, achttsig, hwndertsextig metern. Es toot mir lait, ish fershtayhe zee nicht. Ish fershtayhe/shpreche nicht zer goot doitsch. Varten zee bitter. Ferzwchen zee es nochmal. Kooenen zee mich awfnaymen/hoeren/fershtayhen? Vee naymen zee mich awf? Ist deezee freqvents frei/bezets?</p>
<p>Asking for information and commands Please state your name/location/your call sign. What is your country? Please spell your name/location/call sign phonetically. Please can you give me a report? Please repeat. Please speak more slowly. Do you have a lot of interference? Are my signals fading? Have we worked each other before — on this band/on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160 metres? I'm sorry, I do not understand you. I do not understand/speak German very well. Please stand by. Please go again. Do you receive/hear/understand me? How do you copy? Is this frequency free/occupied?</p>	<p>Geben Sie mir bitte Ihren Namen/Ihren Standort/ihr Rufzeichen. In welchem Land sind Sie? Buchstabieren Sie bitte Ihren Namen/Standort /Rufzeichen!</p> <p>Knnen Sie mir bitte einen Rapport geben? Bitte wiederholen Sie. Bitte srechen Sie langsamer. Haben Sie viele Strungen? Schwanken meine Signale? Waren wir schon mal verbunden — auf diesem Band/auf zehn, fnfzehn, zwanzig, vierzig, achtzig, hundertsechszig Metern. Es tut mir leid, ich verstehe Sie nicht. Ich verstehe/spreche nicht sehr gut deutsch. Warten Sie bitte. Versuchen Sie es nochmal. Knnen Sie mich aufnehmen/hren/verstehen? Wie nehmen Sie mich auf? Ist diese Frequenz frei/besetzt?</p>	<p>Geben zee mir bitter earen namen/earen shtandort/ear rooftsaichen. In velschem lant zint zee? Bwchshtabearen zee bitter earen namen/shtandort/rooftsaichen. Kooenen zee mir bitter ainen rapor gayben? Bitter veederholen zee. Bitter shprechen zee langzamer. Haben zee feele shtoenwngen? Shvanken maine signale? Varen veer shon mal ferbwnden — awf deezem Bant/awf tsayn, finftsayn, tvantsig, feartsig, achttsig, hwndertsextig metern. Es toot mir lait, ish fershtayhe zee nicht. Ish fershtayhe/shpreche nicht zer goot doitsch. Varten zee bitter. Ferzwchen zee es nochmal. Kooenen zee mich awfnaymen/hoeren/fershtayhen? Vee naymen zee mich awf? Ist deezee freqvents frei/bezets?</p>

This frequency is in use old man, I'm sorry.
I have a sked.
Can we change frequency? How about 10kHz up/down if the frequency is free?
How about S19?
Can we go simplex?
I shall see you on the ... repeater.
Shall we try sideband?
How about Morse?
I'll give you a report on the next over.

Diese Frequenz ist schon besetzt old man, Tut mir leid.
Ich habe eine Verabredung.
Können wir die Frequenz wechseln? Wie wäre es mit zehn Kilohertz höher/tiefer, wenn die Frequenz frei ist?
Wie wäre es mit S neunzehn?
Können wir eine Direktfrequenz benutzen?
Ich werde Sie über das ... Relais wiederhören.
Versuchen wir mal Seitenband?
Wie wäre es mit Morsezeichen?
Ich werde Ihnen einen Rapport während Ihres nächsten Durchgangs geben.

Deeze frequents ist shon bezetst old man, toot mir lait.
Ish habe aine ferabraydngwng.
Koenen veer dee frequents vechseln? Vee vayre es mit tsayn kiloherts hoeher/teafter ven dee frequents frei ist?
Vee vayre es mit ess neunzehn?
koenen veer aine direktfrequents benwtsen?
Ish verde zee iber das ... relay veederhoeren.
Ferzwchen veer mal saitenbant?
Vee vayre es mit Morsstaichen?
Ish verde eenen ainen rapor vayrend eerer nexten beshprechwng gayben.

Net working

I think it is (XYZ's) turn.
I've forgotten whose turn it is.
Over to ... with the group.
Break.
Over.

Ich glaube daß (XYZ's) d'ran ist.
Ich habe vergessen wer d'ran ist.
Mikrofon an ... mit der Gruppe.
Unterbrechung.
Zurück.

Ish glawbe das (XYZ's) dran ist.
Ish habe fergessen ver dran ist.
Mikrofon an ... mit der groupe.
wnterbrechwng.
tswrick.

Rig and Antenna

The rig here is ...
I'm using a ... transceiver.
I have here a ... receiver and ... transmitter with a transmitter/with a linear amplifier.
I am putting out 10, 20, 50, 100, 150 watts.

Meine Station ist ein ...
Ich benutze einen ... Senderempfänger.
Ich habe hier einen ... Empfänger und einen ... Sender mit Transverter/und Linear (Verstärker).
Ich sende mit zehn, zwanzig, fünfzig, hundert, hundertfünfzig Watt.

Maine statsioon ist ain ...
Ish benwtse ainen ... zenderempfaingyer.
Ish habe here ainen ... empfaingyer wnd ainen ... zender mit transverter/und linearferstarkyer.
Ish zende mit tsayn, tsavantsig, finftsig, hwndert, hwndertfinftsig vat.

The rig is home-brew with modifications.
My antenna is a dipole/is a trapped dipole/a beam with three elements.
A Yagi with 10 elements.
with horizontal/vertical/circular polarisation.
with a gain of ...
A quad/a long wire/an end fed Zeppelin/a centre fed Zeppelin.

Mein Gerät ist Selbstbau mit Verbesserungen.
Mein Antenne ist ein Dipol/ein Dipol mit Traps/(ein Beam) ein Richtstrahler mit drei Elementen.
Ein Yagi mit zehn Elementen.
mit horizontaler/vertikaler/Kreis-polarisation.
mit einem Gewinn von ...
Ein Quad/eine Drahtantenne/eine am Ende/eine in der Mitte gespeiste Zeppelin.

Main gerayt ist selbstbaw mit ferbeserwngen.
Main antene ist ain dipol/ein dipol mit traps/(ain beam) richtstraalier mit drai elementen.
Ain Yagi mit tsayn elementen.
mit horizontaler/vertikaler/kraiz-polarizatsion.
mit ainem gewin fon ...
Ein kvad/aine draantanene/aine am ende/aine in der mite geshpaiste Tseppelin.

The antenna is about ... metres above ground level.
The QTH is ... metres above sea level/at sea level/below sea level.
The antenna has a rotator.
I'll turn the antenna on you during the next over.

Die Antenne ist ungefähr ... Meter über Grund.
Der QTH ist ... Meter über Meereshöhe/auf Meereshöhe/unter Meereshöhe.
Die Antenne hat einen Rotor.
Ich werde die Antenne an Sie während ihrer nächsten Besprechung richten.

Dee antene ist ungefayr ... meter iber grwnt.
Der koo tay ha ist ... meter iber mereshoeh/awf mereshoeh/wnter mereshoeh.
Dee antene hat ainen rotor.
Ish verde dee antene an zea wayrent eerer naychsten beshprechwng richten.

I rotate the antenna by hand.
The antenna is in the garden/attic/on a ... metre high mast.

Ich richte die Antenne mit der Hand.
Die Antenne ist im Garten/auf dem Boden/auf einem ... Meter hohen Mast.

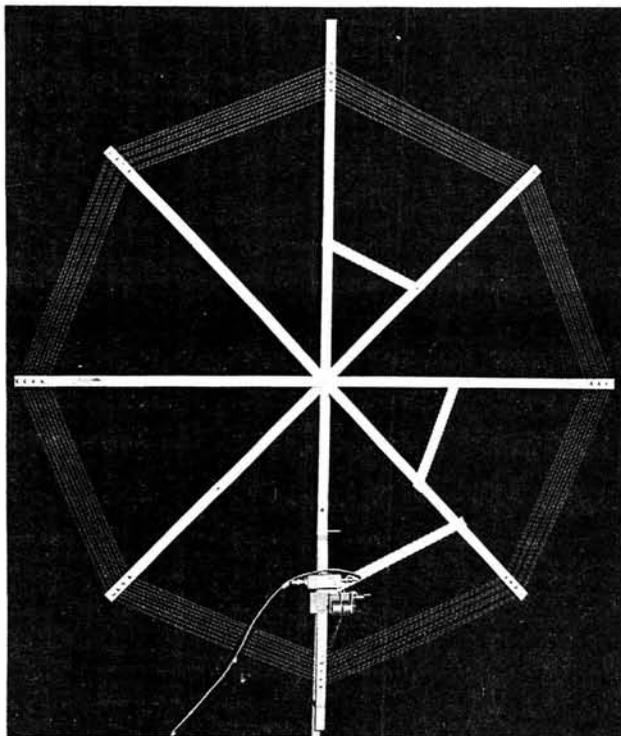
Ish richté dee antene mit der hant.
Dee antene ist im garten/awf dame boden/awf ainen ... Meter hoen mast.

I am testing the rig.
I am glad of your report.
I like my ... I want to change my ...
How do you like your ...

Ich prüfe die Anlage/ich prüfe das Gerät.
Ich freue mich über Ihren Rapport.
Mein ... gefällt mir. Ich will mein ... umtauschen.
Wie gefällt Ihnen Ihr ...

Ish prüfe dee anlage/ish prüfe das gerayt.
Ish froye mish iber earen rapor.
Main ... gefaylt mere. Ish vil main wmtawshen ...
Vij gefaylt eenen ear ...

The second part of this article will appear next month



MW LOOP DIFFERENTIAL AMPLIFIER

S. WHITT

Several years ago an article was published in *PW* describing a differential amplifier for a m.w. loop antenna. The author constructed and used this circuit for some time and felt that the original design could be improved upon.

Despite a recently published design for a Q multiplier for a m.w. loop, there is still a need for a high performance balanced amplifier if the inherently balanced output of a loop is not to be upset by direct connection to the unbalanced input of a receiver.

Circuit Description

No great claim of originality is made for the circuit of Fig. 1, since the circuit shown will be found in many design books. However, it has a number of advantages over the design originally published.

Transistors Tr1a and Tr1b are an accurately matched pair of Siliconix n -channel j.f.e.t.s contained in one package. They form a long-tailed pair differential amplifier stage with a very high input impedance thus applying negligible loading to the loop tuned circuit.

Semiconductor Tr3 operates as a constant current source ensuring satisfactory operation of the long-tailed pair. The use of a matched dual f.e.t. and 1 per cent tolerance components for R1 and R2 ensures an excellent

common-mode rejection ratio for the circuit, thus maintaining the sharpness of the loop's directional null.

The stage formed by Tr2 operates as a unity gain source follower amplifier, acting as a buffer between the relatively high output impedance of the long-tailed pair and low impedance of the receiver input. The input bias resistors R6 and R7 are chosen to be $1M\Omega$ to prevent loading of the Q of the loop. In the original article these resistors were $47k\Omega$ and this would significantly degrade the performance of high Q loops. Table 1 provides details of loop loading variations. Note all measurements were made with the amplifier driving a 50 ohm load.

The overall amplifier has a 12dB voltage gain and is happy handling large input signals, as shown in Table 2.

The circuit was constructed on a small p.c.b. as shown in the photographs and due to its simplicity should cause

Table 1: LOOP LOADING

UNLOADED LOOP Q	PARALLEL RESISTANCE	LOADED LOOP Q
70	100k Ω	46
70	2M Ω	70
100	100k Ω	57
100	2M Ω	100
140	100k Ω	70
140	2M Ω	132

Table 2: SIGNAL HANDLING @ 1MHz

GAIN dB	INPUT LEVEL mV r.m.s.	COMPRESSION dB
11.9	1.16	0
11.9	3.67	0
11.9	11.6	0
11.8	36.7	0.1
11.7	116	0.2
11.5	223	0.4
11.3	366	0.6

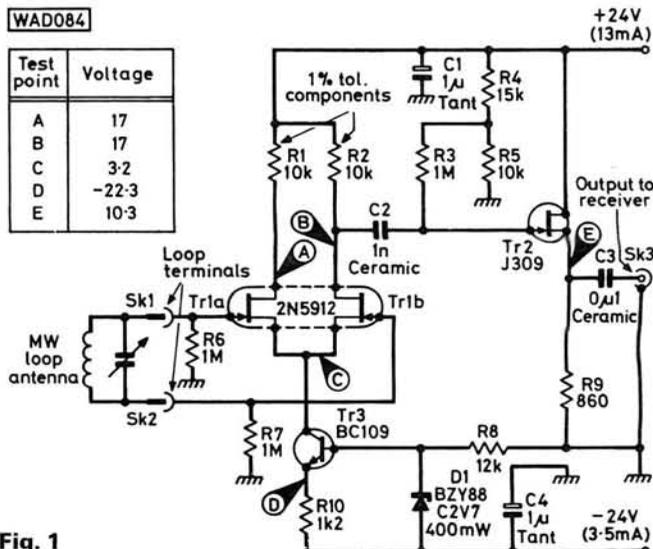


Fig. 1

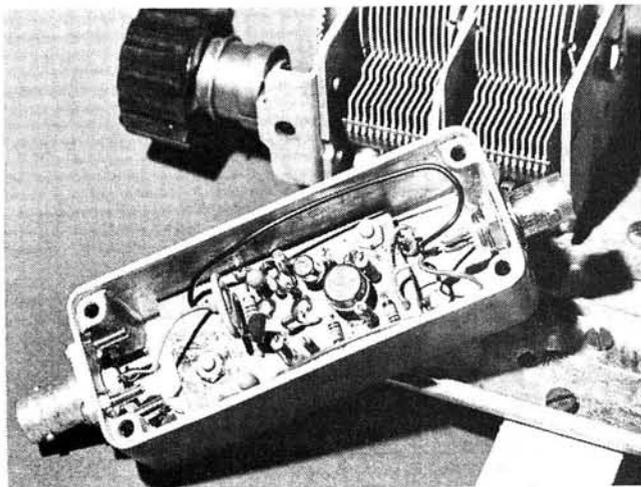
Table 3: FREQUENCY RESPONSE

GAIN dB	FREQUENCY MHz
12.4	0.5
11.9	1.0
10.9	1.5
9.4	2.2 (-3dB point)
6.4	3.6
0	8.3

no constructional problems. Both Tr1 and Tr2 are obtainable from several sources including Semiconductor Specialists (UK) Ltd., of West Drayton, Middlesex. Total constructional cost of the amplifier and housing should be approximately £7.50.

Applications

Primarily this amplifier allows the easy interconnection of a loop antenna and a receiver input without degrading the loop's performance. The additional gain provided will help compensate for the proportionately smaller signal pick-up of small loops. However, large signals, from larger loops, are likely to overload the subsequent receiver input stages long before the amplifier is affected. If this problem does occur a solution is provided by the insertion of an attenuator between the amplifier and the receiver.

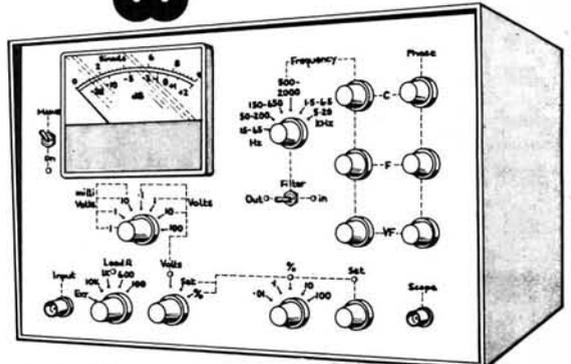


The prototype amplifier shown above was built and housed in a small diecast box attached to a 1.3m diameter octagonal spiral loop and used in conjunction with an Eddystone 940 receiver. This combination produced some excellent DX and revealed no particular operating problems, although it was possible to overload the valve input stage of the receiver unless an attenuator (variable 1-31dB) was inserted in circuit.

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2M Repeater Datacard





M.J.AXSON B.A.G8WHG

One of the attractions of Amateur Radio lies in the very wide range of activities which it covers, and the opportunity it gives to become involved in other branches of technology. Working DX on the v.h.f./u.h.f. bands through an OSCAR series communications satellite is a very good example (OSCAR stands for Orbital Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio).

In essence this is a very simple procedure. The satellite is in effect suspended high in the sky somewhere above you, and it contains a receiver and a transmitter, which operate on different frequencies. You transmit a signal up to it, which is then received and retransmitted (Fig. 1). Any other station within "line of sight" of the satellite can then receive your signal via the satellite.

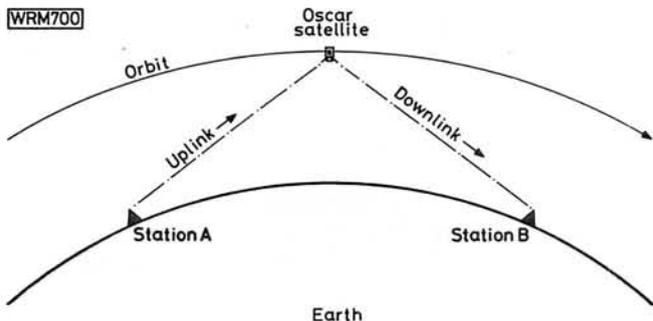


Fig. 1: The basic principle of satellite communication between distant ground stations

The system is rather like the very familiar repeater units used on 144MHz and 432MHz for mobile/portable working, but with two main differences.

Firstly, the satellite is at a height of several hundred miles, so the line of sight from it extends over a very wide area, hence the possibility of DX communication. The second difference is that the satellite, which is about the size of a tea chest, is moving round the Earth at a speed of several km a second, so that the area which is in line of sight is constantly changing. Furthermore, the e.r.p. of its transmitter is only in the region of a few watts, so in theory it would seem that sophisticated tracking equipment would be required so as to keep your TX and RX antennas lined up on it. Fortunately, in practice this is not the case and many amateurs have had a lot of satisfying contacts using relatively simple equipment, so why not join them?

Orbit Principles

The first requirement is to know a little bit about the mechanics of satellites and their orbits, so that they can be located from the published data. There is no need to go into the mathematics involved, just simply to understand the basic principles and learn some of the associated jargon. Let us first consider the case of a satellite in a circular (or near circular) orbit, such as OSCAR 8.

We all know that what goes up must come down, but satellites don't, at least not for quite a long time in human terms, so why should this be so? Imagine that you are throwing stones or some other object parallel to the ground. You throw one fairly gently and it hits the ground close to you, throw a bit harder and it lands further away. The harder you throw, the further the object travels before hitting the ground. This is so elementary that babies learn it in their prams, but have you ever thought why it should be?

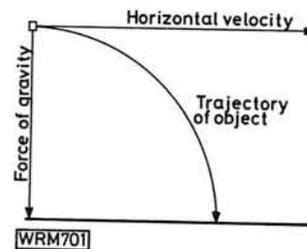


Fig. 2: The basic trajectory of a falling object is determined by two separate forces

Conveniently ignoring air resistance, there are two forces acting on the object. One is the force of gravity which pulls the object down to the ground. Near to the Earth's surface gravity gives an acceleration of 9.75m/sec/sec, which simply means that the object will fall 9.75m in the first second after it is released, 19.50m in the next second and so on, therefore if you are 9.75m above ground level your object will hit the ground after one second.

Now for the other force which you supply by throwing the object. It is going to hit the ground after one second so, the greater its horizontal velocity, the further it will travel, Fig. 2. Of course if you are only 9.75m above ground level no matter how much horizontal velocity you give to the object, it won't travel very far because a tree, house, or rise

in the ground will soon intrude and stop it abruptly. But, if you could stand on a point say 256km high, these problems would not arise and the same basic principle applies: the greater the horizontal velocity given to the object, the further it will travel before hitting the ground, in this case after a period of approximately 250 seconds.

However, as the velocity rises and the distance travelled increases, the curvature of the Earth's surface comes into play, and although the object has fallen 256km in 250 seconds the ground has curved beneath it and it still retains some height. Eventually, a velocity will be reached at which the fall due to gravity is matched by the curvature, so the object remains at a constant height above the Earth's surface; in other words it is in orbit, Fig. 3.

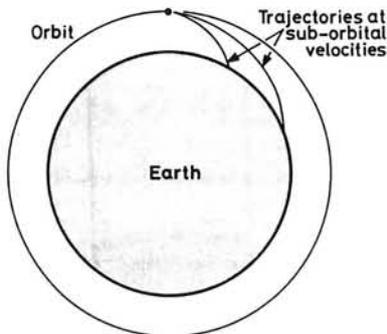


Fig. 3: At the correct velocity an object will remain in orbit above the earth

At an altitude of 256km, this critical orbital velocity is approximately 28 000 km/hr. It is thus easy to calculate the time required for the satellite to complete one orbit, which is known as its "period", and in this case it is about 90 minutes.

The gravitational pull of the Earth on any object decreases slowly with distance. At an altitude of 160km it still has 99 per cent of its sea-level value, but at 1600km it is down to 64 per cent and at 2720km it is halved. This means that the object will fall through a lesser distance in any time period and so the orbital velocity is slower at greater heights. It is therefore obvious that the period will be longer, and this is of course accentuated by the fact that the distance it has to travel to complete one orbit has also increased. For orbital heights of 1600km and 2720km the periods are about 118 minutes and 143 minutes respectively.

Increment and Inclination

Having got the satellite into Earth orbit, we want to know what path it traces over the surface, so back to school geography, from which you will remember that the Earth rotates around an imaginary axis through the North and South poles in a west to east direction, completing one revolution in 24 hours.

This means that from the Earth's surface, on every orbit, the satellite's track will appear to move to the west. How far it moves depends on the period of the satellite since the Earth's rotation is a constant 360 degrees in 24 hours. The number of minutes in 24 hours is $24 \times 60 = 1440$ so the Earth rotates through $1440/360$ degrees in

one minute. Hence the apparent westward move of the satellite will be its period in minutes $\times 0.25$ degrees e.g. period 90 minutes, westward move is $90 \times 0.25 = 22.5$ degrees. In the jargon, this is the "increment" of the satellite. OSCAR orbits are tilted at an angle with respect to the Earth's equator and this angle is called the "inclination", Fig. 4.

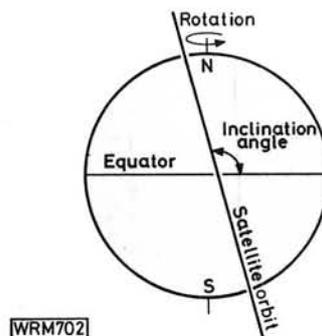
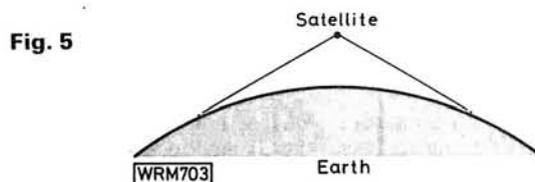


Fig. 4: The angle between the orbital plane and the equator is known as the inclination angle

Coverage Area

As has been said, the satellite has to be within line of sight in order to be used, and the area of the Earth's surface for which this is so at any moment in time is a circle whose centre lies directly below the satellite and whose diameter depends on the orbital height, Fig. 5.



Since the satellite is moving round the Earth, this circle of visibility is also moving and the satellite can be seen for the longest period when its orbit passes directly overhead, Fig. 6. In practice, of course, most passes are to one side of your location and the visibility period, the time available to communicate via the satellite, is less.

Let us put some figures to these parameters for the OSCAR 8 satellite. In real life nothing is perfect and they vary slightly from time to time, so the figures are approximate, but near enough for our purpose. The orbital height is 904km, inclination 98.9 degrees, increment 25.8 degrees, with a period of 103 minutes and a maximum ground range of 6400km.

It is possible to work out the orbital details for yourself, but quite unnecessary since predictions are available from several sources, notably AMSAT-UK, and occasionally on the RSGB GB2RS News. Of course if you have a ZX81 you can use the program on the *PW Radio Programs-1* cassette.

Look up tables are available which will then give the time of acquisition of satellite, bearing, elevation and loss of satellite. The predictions give the time of the start of the orbit, which is taken to occur when the satellite crosses the equator going north, and is given in Universal clock time.

continued on page 57 ▶▶▶

This lower power version, similar to the h.f. dummy load described in Part 1, caters for frequencies above 30MHz and up to 500MHz with a slight rise in insertion v.s.w.r. in the region 400-500MHz.

The load is housed in a small syrup tin as shown in the photograph with the load resistors mounted on a printed circuit board. As the circuit (Fig. 4) shows, nine 470 ohm 2 watt high stability carbon film resistors are used in parallel to give $470/9 = 52$ ohms. The diode and load resistors for the l.e.d. bring this down to 50 ohms ± 1 ohm.

Construction

The p.c.b. is shown in Fig. 6 and measures 60mm diameter so as to fit inside the tin used. The 470 ohm 2 watt resistors R1 to R9 are mounted upright on the board as in Fig. 5 and the free-end wires all join in a tight bunch for soldering to the "N" type input socket. The resistor R10 is soldered vertically in the centre of the resistor assembly. Four 16 s.w.g. copper wires support the p.c.b. and are soldered to four solder tags bolted to the fixing bolts holding the "N" type input socket to the lid. Note that the centre resistor R10, which is part of the l.e.d. voltage network, is coupled across to the diode via the single printed circuit strip from the centre of the circuit board.

The final resistance will be 50 ohms ± 1 ohm but attempts to measure this with an ordinary ohmmeter may well give a false reading as such meters are not very accurate at low ranges. A number of assemblies of this dummy load were compared with a laboratory grade 50 ohm dummy load rated for use up to 500MHz in conjunction with a Bird Thruline r.f. power meter and found to be within the tolerances given.

RF Power Meters for VHF

A meter such as the Daiwa model CN630 operates from 140 to approximately 500MHz and will give direct r.f. power reading up to 200 watts as well as simultaneous indication of v.s.w.r. by means of the crossed-needles meter system employed in these instruments.

There may be others capable of providing this facility of course and one expensive but really accurate meter for use

R.F. Dummy Loads

PART 2

F.C. JUDD G2BCX



A small syrup tin is a convenient source of a box for the dummy load

★components

Resistors

$\frac{1}{4}$ W Carbon film 5%
2.2k Ω 2 R10, 11

2W Carbon film high stability 5%
470 Ω 9 R1 to 9

Semiconductors

Diodes

1N4148 1 D1
Red l.e.d. 1 D2

Miscellaneous

Socket "N" type (RS 455-769); Printed circuit board; Small syrup tin (see text).

CONSTRUCTION RATING

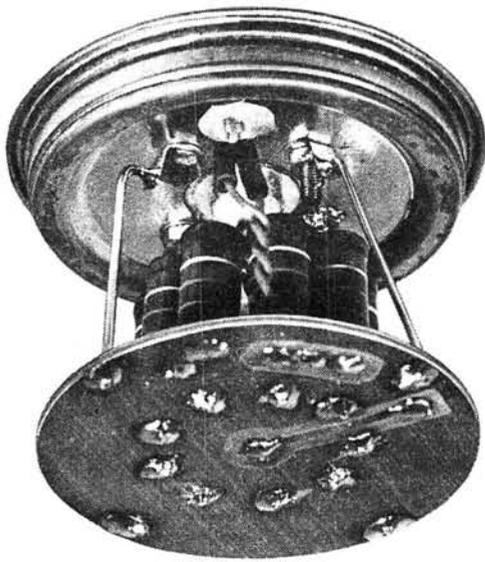
Beginner

BUYING GUIDE

All components are readily available from many of our regular advertisers. The "N" type socket must be a square-flange type (RS Components 455-769 or similar). A suitable housing is a well washed-out syrup tin, small size, although a small rectangular aluminium box was successfully used by the author for one of the prototypes.

APPROXIMATE COST

£3.50



Constructional details of the v.h.f./u.h.f. 50Ω dummy load

Table 2

	Power	Time	Can Temp.
Continuous carrier	10W	Indefinite	24°C
	20W	6 min. max	25°C
Carrier with white noise or speech and s.s.b. mod.	25W	6 min. max	27°C
Carrier and/or peak s.s.b. power	100W	½-1 min.	27°C

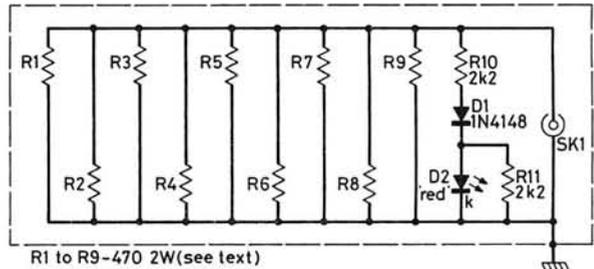


Fig. 4: The circuit diagram of the dummy load

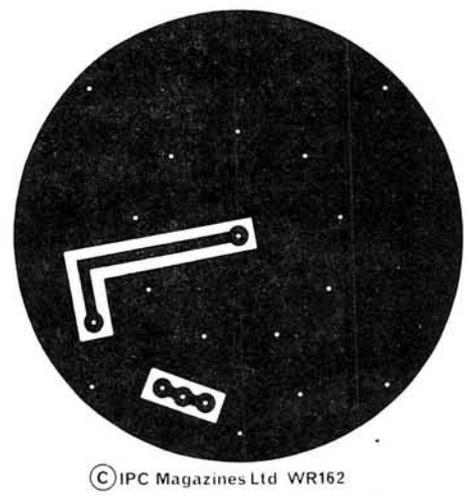
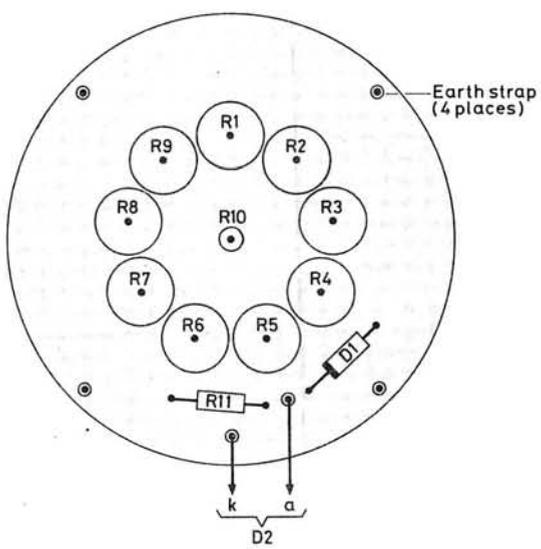


Fig. 6: Full-size p.c.b. copper track pattern

WRM731

in the region of 500MHz (or higher) with suitable couplers is the Bird ThruLine directional r.f. wattmeter model 43. Ordinary power/v.s.w.r. reference meters are of no use for direct measurement of power.

The only meter known to the writer that will give accurate "peak" power readings from s.s.b. modulated r.f. power in the v.h.f. range above 150MHz is the Bird ThruLine directional r.f. wattmeter model 4314/4311. There may also be other meters that have this facility as well but the reader should beware of cheap foreign-made instruments claiming to measure such parameters.

Meter Reading Errors

With the exception of high grade laboratory meters that will read with an accuracy, or rather inaccuracy, of around plus or minus 2 per cent, some may not be better than to within 20 per cent or more, which can give very false indication as the graph Fig. 7 illustrates. For example a *negative* inaccuracy of 20 per cent can account for nearly 1dB. This may not sound much but does in fact account for about 1 watt out of 10 when the meter has for example a full scale reading of 10 watts. A study of meter accuracy specifications is always worthwhile.

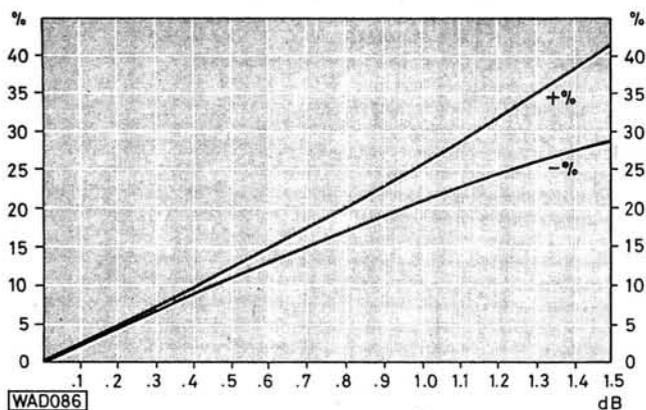
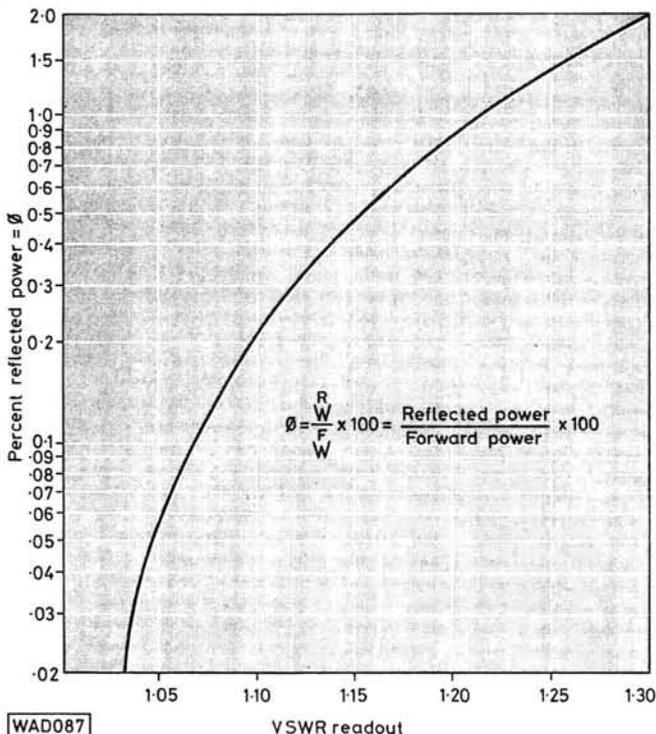


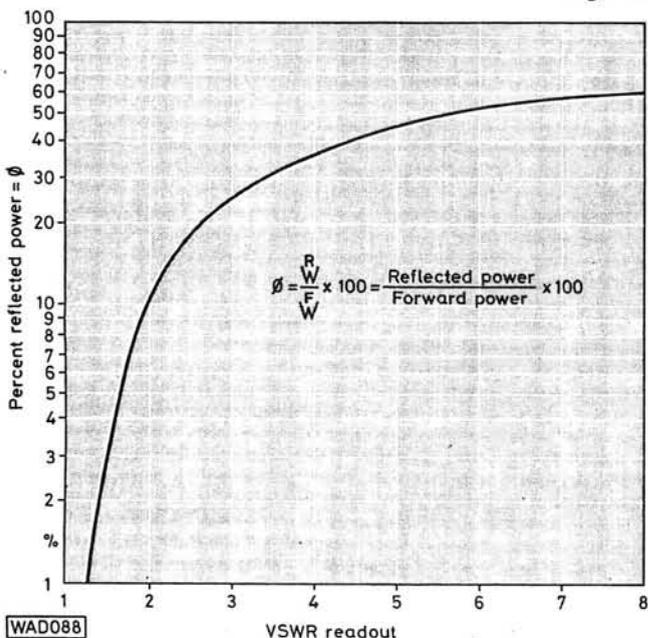
Fig. 7 ▲

Fig. 8 ▼



WAD087

Fig. 9 ▼



WAD088

The inclusion of the other two graphs may be found useful to those new to amateur radio with Fig. 8 covering the v.s.w.r. range from 1 to 1 up to 1.3 to 1. For higher ranges refer to the graph Fig. 9 which covers the range from 1.3 to 1 up to 8 to 1. From these graphs it is interesting to note that a v.s.w.r. of 2 to 1 represents approximately a 10 per cent reflection of power from a poorly matched antenna and which is power lost. One should certainly aim for the lowest possible v.s.w.r. particularly with low power transmitters but how accurate is your v.s.w.r. meter?

dB or not dB and what is a dB Watt?

The new Home Office amateur licence schedules now quote permitted power output in dBW which simply means dB related to a reference power of 1 watt. *It is important to understand that a decibel is not a measure of anything* but merely a ratio of one power (or voltage, or current) level to another which is why a reference must always be given. The ratios for decibels in power are quite different to those of voltage or current and normally given as follows:—

Voltage and Current The formula is

$$20 \text{ Log}_{10} \frac{V2}{V1} \text{ or } \frac{I2}{I1} = \text{positive dB where either } V1 \text{ or } I1 \text{ is}$$

the reference. If the ratios are inverted e.g. $20 \text{ Log}_{10} \frac{V1}{V2}$

then the dB ratio is negative.

Power The decibel power ratio is derived from

$$10 \text{ Log}_{10} \frac{P2}{P1} = \text{positive dB or}$$

$$10 \text{ Log}_{10} \frac{P1}{P2} = \text{negative dB.}$$

The reference should be quoted as for example dBW which equals dB relative to a reference power of 1 watt, or as another example, dBd which is the power gain of an antenna with reference to a dipole (d) or we can have dBi which is antenna gain with reference to an isotropic (i) and so on.

Referring to the new amateur radio schedule we have for example peak envelope power for s.s.b. as 26dBW for the h.f. bands 3.5 through to 29.7MHz. So what is this in real watts? The answer may be found from 10^{yx} the index yx being derived from the figure given as dBW divided by 10. So for 26dBW, $yx = \frac{26}{10}$ or 2.6. The actual wattage is

therefore $10^{2.6}$ which is 398.107 watts. As another example we have a continuous power supplied to the antenna for the frequency band 1.81 to 1.85MHz (top band) of 9dBW. The power in watts will therefore be 10^{yx} where $yx = 9 \div 10$ or 0.9, the final answer being $10^{0.9} = 7.943$ watts. For the 144MHz band with continuous power to the antenna, as for f.m. operation, we have 20dBW which is 10^2 or 100 watts.

Finally the writer would like to thank Aspen Electronics Limited (UK), who are the agents for Bird RF Measuring Instruments, and Messrs. Bredhurst Electronics and Western Electronics for photographs and information on the meters mentioned in these articles. ●

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FT290R	2m portable synthesised multimode	£249.00	(n.c.)
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From experience gained in testing an assortment of CB rigs in our laboratory, plus quite a lot of listening and a little talking on the band from 27.6 to 28MHz, it seems that the transmitter function, fairly tightly defined in HO Specification MPT1320, is pretty much of a muchness. Speech quality varies a bit, and there are one or two "rogue" rigs around which put out signals

in places where they really didn't ought to!

A particular hate of mine at the home QTH is a mysterious spurio, apparently the result of a mixing process inside one or more models of CB transceiver, which comes up in the bottom megahertz of the 28MHz amateur band. When the CBer is on Channel 1, the spurio is around 28.01MHz, and when he's on Channel 40 it's at about 28.79MHz. So the spurio shifts in frequency at twice the rate of the fundamental. If the CBer is "S9 + 40dB" with me (which one of these rigs is), the spurio is about "S3". I haven't checked the "S" meter on that particular receiver, but if it's accurately calibrated it would mean that the spurio is about 76dB down on the fundamental, which is within specification for that band segment under MPT1320 (0.25µW against 4W). Not that this is very much comfort when I'm trying to listen to a weak amateur signal.

Anyway, all the transmitters tested seem well behaved from the point of

view of frequency tolerance and stability, deviation limiting, power output and spurious radiation. What is becoming a real problem though, in areas with a large CB population, is receiver selectivity—particularly the ability to reject a signal on the adjacent channel.

So in the group of CB transceivers covered this month, I've concentrated on that very aspect of performance where lab tests are concerned, and tabulated them along with the other salient features of each set. The measurement method adopted was that laid down in BS6160: Part 3: 1981 (IEC 489-3: 1979) for testing f.m. receivers used in the mobile services. The outputs of two signal generators are mixed in a hybrid combiner and applied to the receiver antenna socket. One generator represents the wanted signal, with a level which is adjusted to give a standard receiver output SINAD ratio (12dB), and then increased by 3dB. The second generator, which must have very low noise, repre-

	 LUCAS ACB88	 OSCAR CBM271
Sensitivity (e.m.f. input for 12dB SINAD)	0.42µV	0.22µV
Adjacent channel selectivity	54dB	66dB
Signal/power meter	●	●
Channel indicator	Green l.e.d.	Red l.e.d.
Front panel finish/controls	Satin and bright chrome	Satin chrome and black
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Ext. loudspeaker socket	3.5mm jack, 4-8Ω	3.5mm jack, 8Ω
Selective calling socket		
10dB Attenuator switch	Front	Front
RF Gain control		
Tone control		
Noise blanker		
Channel 9 selector		●
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sents the unwanted signal on the adjacent channel, either 10kHz up or 10kHz down in the UK 27MHz CB system. Its output level is increased until the receiver output SINAD level falls to 12dB, due to the "interference". The ratio of the output level of generator 2 to the output level of generator 1 that originally gave 12dB SINAD, is the adjacent channel selectivity of the receiver. If the results on the two adjacent channels differ, the worst one is taken. Generators used for these tests were Marconi Instruments 2019 and 2017 respectively, plus a Hatfield 3159 hybrid combiner and a Marconi Instruments TF2337A distortion and SINAD meter.

Accessories

A wide range of accessories—antennas, power supplies, s.w.r. meters, etc., is available from most CB stockists, but some rig suppliers produce their own branded accessories

which have been designed and tested to complement their product.

Lucas produce voltage-dropping units which allow the ACB888 (and presumably any other 12V equipment drawing a similar current) to be used in commercial vehicles having 24V electrical systems.

The SMC Oscar range includes a wide variety of antennas and mounts for mobile and base station use, s.w.r. meters and extension loudspeakers. For base station operation, the RU-12-04-06 power supply gives 4A constant, 6A surge, and has proved very reliable and quite impervious to r.f. in our tests. Foldback current limiting is provided, and regulation was measured at 8.8 per cent. The Oscar 100LP30 low-pass filter is one of the most effective we've tested, giving 35dB attenuation at the second harmonic of 27MHz and an ultimate rejection of 70dB, with a power rating of 100W.

From Shogun comes a selective calling unit which simply plugs into the rear of their rig. It controls the receiver



The Shogun Selective Calling unit simply plugs into the rear of the rig, replacing a linked connector

so that the audio output is muted except when a call is received from another CB rig equipped with selective calling and transmitting the appropriate coded sequence of audio tones. A front-panel switch allows 40 different codes to be selected, although the total capacity is increased to 2560 possible codes by using an internal bank of six switches, providing $2^6 = 64$ sets of 40 codes. Once the called receiver has been alerted, its audio circuits remain operational, and further "overs" can proceed without use of the

		
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Front, 4p NEMA 3.5mm jack, 4-8Ω	Left-hand side, 5p NEMA 3.5mm jack, 4-8Ω	Left-hand side, 5p DIN 2p DIN, 4Ω
Rear	Front	Front
● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●
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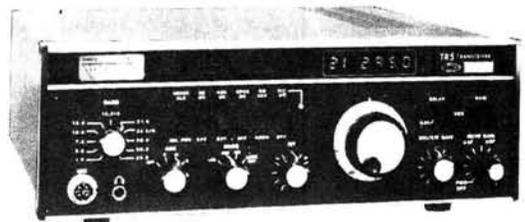
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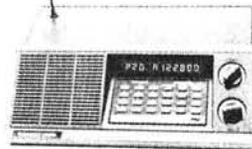
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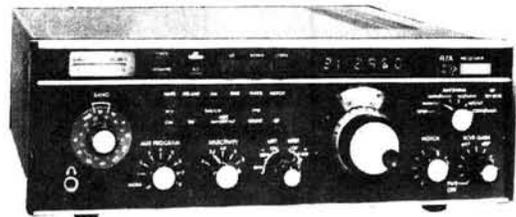
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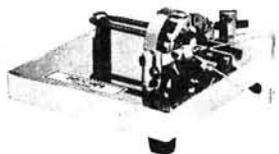
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ANTENNAS

PART 1

F.C. JUDD G2BCX

This series of articles is intended for newcomers to amateur radio, whether licensed for Class B operation on the v.h.f.-u.h.f. and microwave bands only, or for the Class A holder with access to the h.f. bands as well.

The influence of natural environment over the performance of any antenna is difficult, if not impossible to fully assess and express in meaningful terms. This is particularly so in view of the fact that amateur radio antenna installations differ widely, even though the same basic antenna may be used by a number of different stations.

Measurement Techniques

Evaluation of the normal electrical performance of antennas can be carried out under so called "free space" or ideal conditions so as to obviate the effects of proximity to ground and/or surrounding structures etc. Whilst this is not difficult to do at frequencies in the v.h.f./u.h.f. regions where a few wavelengths (λ) represent only a small physical distance or height difference, the problem becomes difficult where large h.f. band antennas are concerned and the wavelengths are therefore relatively long.

The measurement of general parameters such as gain, front-to-back ratio, and free-space radiation fields etc., should be made with the measuring equipment and its antenna at least 10λ from the antenna being tested. Both antennas should be at least that number of wavelengths above ground. Obviously it is not exactly a practical proposition to erect a tower 500 metres high and have a helicopter fly round and round in order to plot the free-space polar patterns of an h.f. antenna in both vertical and horizontal mode without the influence of ground! One alternative is to use very high frequency scale models of antennas so that heights and distances in wavelengths are reduced to convenient dimensions, permitting the free-space condition to be simulated.

Since accurately made high frequency models of low frequency antennas behave the same way electrically, so the various parameters mentioned can be measured with a reasonable degree of accuracy. On the other hand simulated effects due to other structures in the vicinity, as well as the effect of ground itself, can be introduced to obtain pretty close approximation of the performance of an antenna in what we may now call a normal environment.

It must be remembered that many h.f. band antennas rely on ground reflection to attain suitable vertical angles of radiation.

Some of the work carried out by the author in this direction has been previously published in *PW* and by various investigators in other technical publications. However, the equipment shown for the first time in Fig. 1.1 was specially constructed by the author so that the radiation patterns of antennas at various heights above ground could be measured at all vertical angles through 180 degrees and all horizontal angles through 360 degrees.

The frequency of operation is 3000MHz (10cm) and the system is based on that used by the American National Bureau of Standards. Simulation of environmental effects, i.e. the presence of other structures, reflecting and conducting objects and wires, height of antenna above ground etc., can be introduced as required. Results obtained by simulation with models reveal very close approximations to what might be expected in "real size" situations.

Obviously natural radio propagation conditions cannot be simulated but answers to localised problems can usually be obtained. For example: will a different antenna, or re-siting the existing antenna, result in some worthwhile improvement? Would increasing the height of an existing antenna above ground prove more effective than using one with a higher gain factor at the original height?

In this series of articles we will delve into the performance of antennas generally, see what effects environment can have and at the same time investigate the merits of some of the popular commercially made antennas presently available for amateur radio use. For instance, are combination multi-band antennas as efficient as they are made out to be? How true are the claims made for gain from all

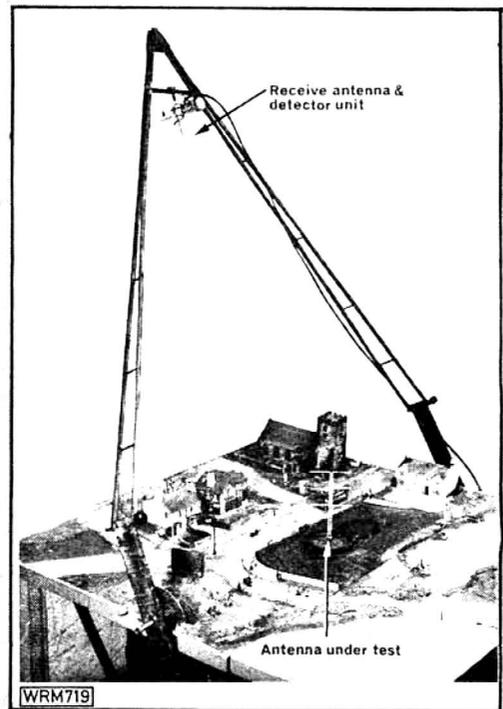


Fig. 1.1: The author's 3GHz (3000MHz) antenna test table

regular types of antennas and so on and do such claims agree with recommendations laid down by the International Electro-Technical Commission.

We now have h.f. amateur bands based on 1.8, 3.5, 7, 10, 14, 18, 21, 24, and 28MHz. What are the possibilities of combined, but efficient, antennas for at least the last five of these bands? The two most used v.h.f.-u.h.f. bands are 145 and 432MHz and Class A licensees also have 70MHz. Combination multi-band or broad-band antennas for these three bands seem feasible but would the higher efficiency of three separate and fully resonant antennas specifically designed for each band prove far more effective despite cost and space requirements?

Broad-band Omni-directional Antennas

Considerable interest has been aroused by the appearance on the market of "discone" type antennas intended for use with multi-frequency scanner receivers. The discone is a vertically polarised broad-band omni-directional antenna capable of maintaining a v.s.w.r. of 1.5:1, or less, over its working frequency spectrum.

Little real information is available on the electrical function of the discone but the general design dimensions are given in Fig. 1.2. The configuration of the discone is such that the dimension $L\lambda$ of the equilaterally skirted bottom section (the cone) is approximately equal to the free-space $\lambda/4$ at the lowest frequency at which the antenna is to be used. This is known as the **design frequency** and below this the v.s.w.r. rises rapidly. However, within the "resonant" region the antenna provides a reasonably good match to a 50 ohm source.

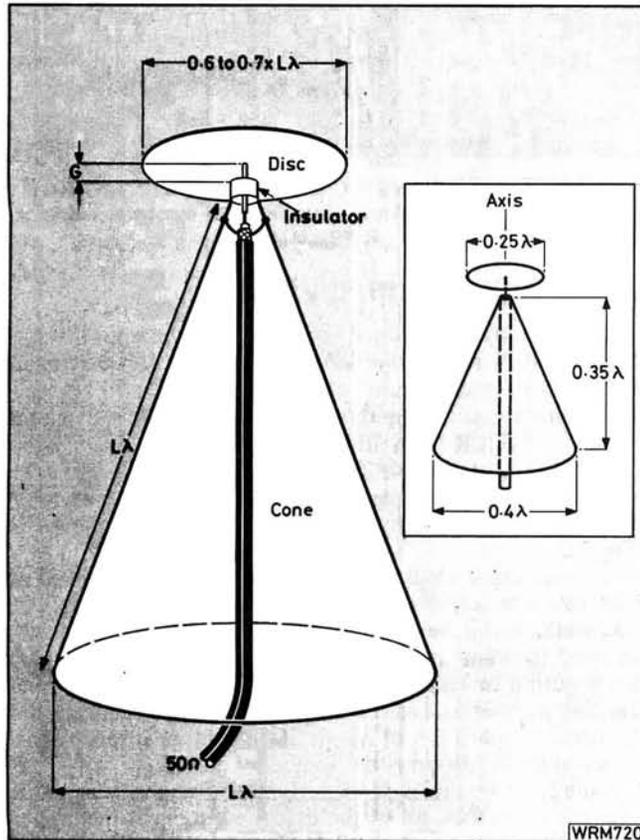


Fig. 1.2: The discone antenna configuration. Dimension $L\lambda$ equals $\lambda/4$ at the lowest frequency of operation; see text regarding construction. The inset shows the J.D. Kraus dimensions referred to in the text

Because of its relatively large size the discone has little application for h.f. band operation but does offer possibilities at v.h.f. and u.h.f. If designed for a lowest frequency of around 70MHz it will also operate on 144 and even up to 432MHz, if the claims made for v.h.f.-u.h.f. discones of Japanese manufacture can be supported.

Construction for v.h.f. or u.h.f. operation does not require the use of sheet metal cones or discs as the diagrams might imply. Both can be made from aluminium rods or tubes spaced about 0.02λ apart as shown in Fig. 1.3, which illustrates a discone made by the author for operation with a lowest frequency of 70MHz.

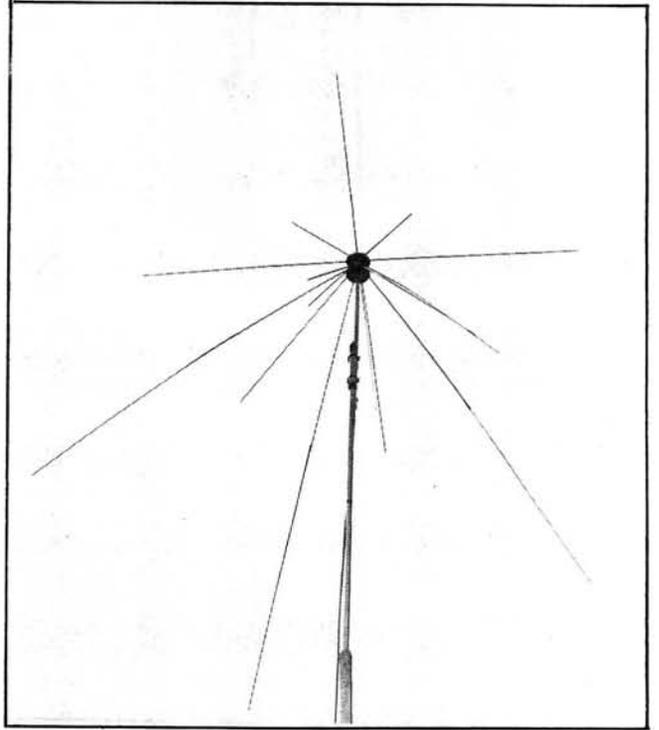


Fig. 1.3: Discone antenna constructed by the author to the dimensions given in Fig. 1.2

The disc section must be insulated from the cone and this is accomplished with a block of insulating material such as Tufnol or Delrin with a metal centre inserted and strong enough to support the disc. The inner of the coaxial cable feed to the antenna is connected directly to the disc and the shielding braid to the top of the cone, as in Fig. 1.2.

The optimum spacing or gap between the cone and disc is not critical in the v.h.f.-u.h.f. region and dimension G of Fig. 1.2 need be only about 25mm. The vertical angle radiation is low and in fact virtually broadside to the antenna as indicated in Fig. 1.4, which also shows the relative omni-directional radiation pattern. The discone has unity gain over its working bandwidth, i.e. its gain may be referred to 0dBd as direct comparison with a reference dipole has indicated.

Other Discone Dimensions

The dimensions given in Fig. 1.2 are generally used to obtain the lowest working frequency for a bandwidth which then extends upwards in frequency by about two octaves as illustrated in Fig. 1.7. The inset to Fig. 1.2 shows the J.D. Kraus *Dimensions for the Centre Frequency of a Discone* but it is estimated that the actual bandwidth will be about the same, i.e. two octaves. The commercially made Japanese discone antennas appear to

be dimensioned on the J.D. Kraus configuration although in some instances are modified to obtain an extended bandwidth by lengthening some of the cone spines.

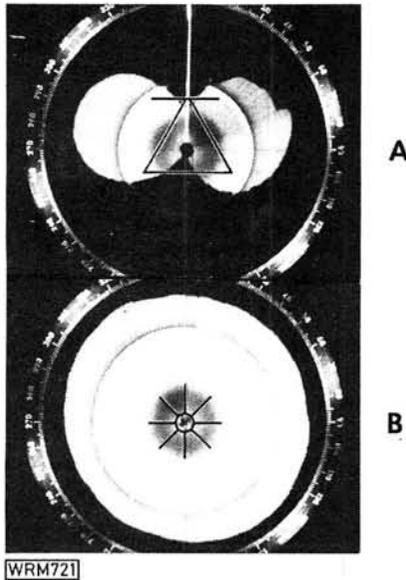


Fig. 1.4: The discone antenna has an omni-directional radiation pattern (B) and vertical angle radiation (A) that is at right angles to the axis of the antenna. Gain = 0dBd or unity

A selection of discone antennas are available from various UK suppliers including South Midlands Communications and some are quite suitable for transmitting on 144 and 432MHz, including one which it is claimed will cover the 70MHz band as well (Fig. 1.5). Amongst these are the SMC GDX1, SMC GDX2, SMC GDXA(N) and the TW435D which is a small discone for operation between 400 and 1200MHz. This proved to be an excellent mobile antenna for 432MHz when used on a standard

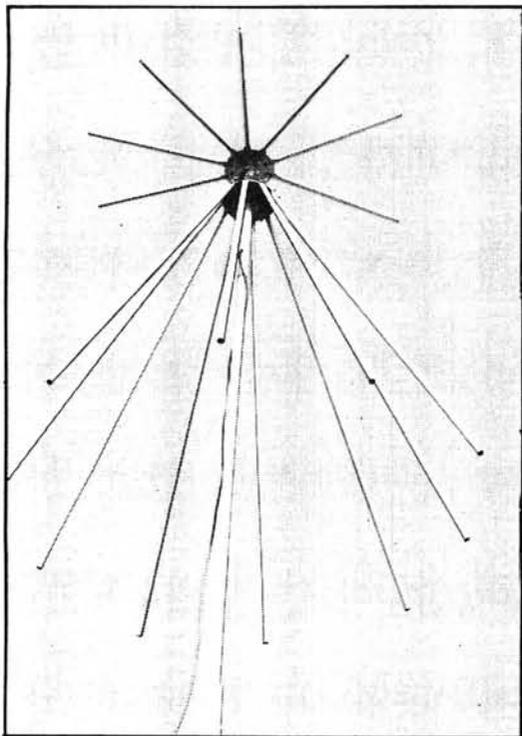


Fig. 1.5: Typical GDX discone antenna with extended cone spines. Frequency range is approximately 70 to 480MHz

gutter mount. It is only about 380mm high and rather unusual looking as can be seen from Fig. 1.6. Direct comparison between this and a 432MHz version of the *PW Slim Jim* for mobile operation proved to be interesting. This latter antenna design will be dealt with in Part 2 of this series.

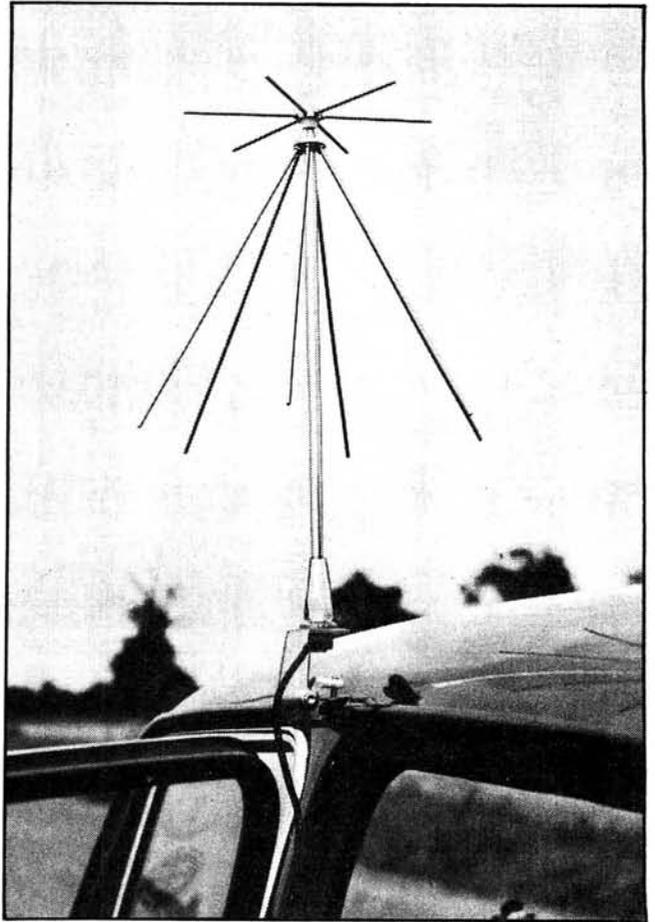


Fig. 1.6: The SMC type TW435D 400MHz to 1.2GHz discone antenna, gutter mounted for mobile working on 432MHz

Discone Bandwidth v VSWR

As already mentioned the discone antenna has a bandwidth of about two octaves and the v.s.w.r. remains fairly flat over the whole bandwidth, as shown in Fig. 1.7, rising sharply at the band ends. Tests carried out using the Yaesu FT-720R plus the FT-720RV and FT-720RU combination 144 and 432MHz transceivers, revealed a flat v.s.w.r. over the complete frequency range of each band when using the GDXA(N) discone antenna, shown in Fig. 1.8.

In addition a duplexer unit, type HS770, was used so that two transceivers, one on 144MHz and the other on 432MHz, could be operated simultaneously. This device allowed the same antenna to be used with either, or both, transmitting or receiving at the same time, without either causing interference to the other. The HS770 duplexer has a channel separation of about 30dB and an insertion loss of less than 0.5dB on either frequency band.

Finally, for those who are multi-frequency scanner receiver operators, all of the discone antennas mentioned (the GDX series and the VHFL, which is an RX only device) were found to give excellent results with scanner sets such as the JIL SX200N and the Bearcat 220. It is recommended that ultra low loss semi-airspaced 50 ohm coaxial cable is used with these antennas, whether for

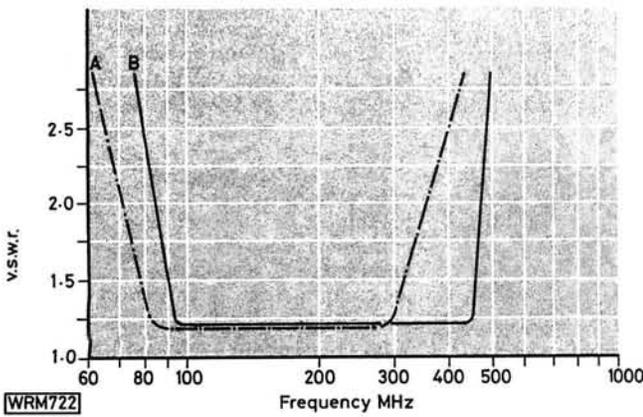


Fig. 1.7: Typical discone antenna v.s.w.r. curves over the designed bandwidth. (A) receiving type by JAIA 80-300MHz, (B) JAIA (GDX type) transmitting 80-480MHz. (From Japanese edition CQ Ham Radio No 4)

transmitting or receiving. Coaxial cable such as UR43 or similar will result in more than half the transmitted power (or received signal) being lost, even with a length as short as 6 metres. Cable such as RG8U or UR67 (MUR67) will also result in considerable loss at 432MHz and higher when the cable length exceeds 30 metres.

Recommended 50 ohm coaxial cables for use at 432MHz and higher frequencies are shown in Table 1; all these cables have a loss of 3dB or less per 30 metres at up to 600MHz.

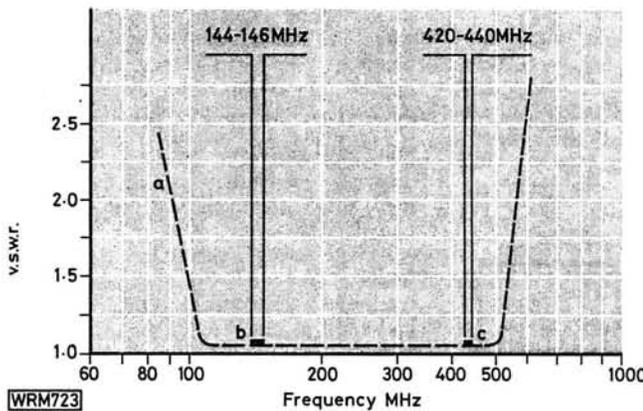


Fig. 1.8: Plot of v.s.w.r. from discone antenna type GDXA(N) (a) over normal bandwidth, (b) 144MHz band, (c) 432MHz band (including USA allocation)

Table 1

BICC No	RG Number	MUR Number
T3348	221U	—
T3347	220U	—
T3346	219U	75
T3345	218U	74

One discone antenna which has not been mentioned is the DC1/WB made by Jaybeam Ltd. Its physical appearance and size is similar to that shown in Fig. 1.3 except that the cone base diameter is wider. It has been designed for transmitting, has an input impedance of 50 ohms and a power handling capacity of 250 watts. Gain is unity and although the v.s.w.r. readout over the whole bandwidth may look a bit variable this is normal with most discones. However, as the graph of Fig. 1.9 shows, v.s.w.r. can be less than 1.5:1 for operation in the region

of both the 144-146MHz and 430-440MHz amateur bands. Further information on this antenna from Jaybeam Ltd. Northampton NN3 1QQ. The radiation patterns for this antenna would be similar to those shown in Fig. 1.4.

Details of the other discone antennas mentioned are available from South Midlands Communications Ltd., SM House, Rumbridge Street, Totton, Southampton SO4 4DP.

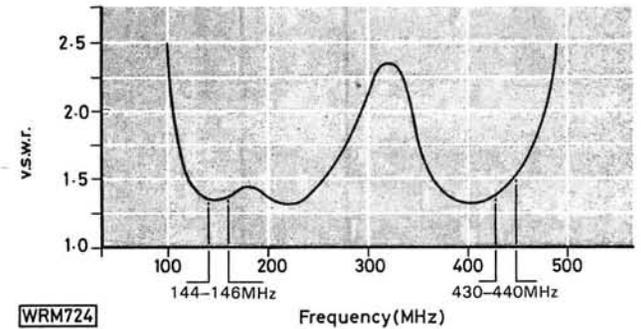


Fig. 1.9: The v.s.w.r. readout of the Jaybeam Ltd. discone antenna type DC1/WB

References

Designing Discone Antennas. Nail J.J. *ELECTRONICS*. Vol. 26. August 1953, pp 167-169.

Discone 40-500MHz Skywire. Bower J.M. *CQ Magazine*. Vol. 5. July 1950. (Information by courtesy of The I.E.E.)

Part 2 of this series will provide full constructional details of a 432MHz version of the *PW Slim Jim* antenna, together with a discussion on other types of wide band antennas including helical and log-periodic dipole arrays.

INTRODUCING OSCAR-1

▶▶▶ continued from page 45

The point where this occurs is given in degrees west of Greenwich (the zero degree meridian), unlike longitude which uses degrees east and west of Greenwich.

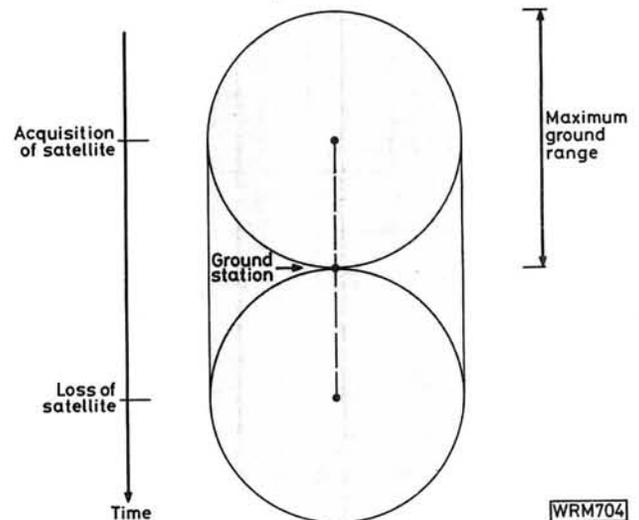
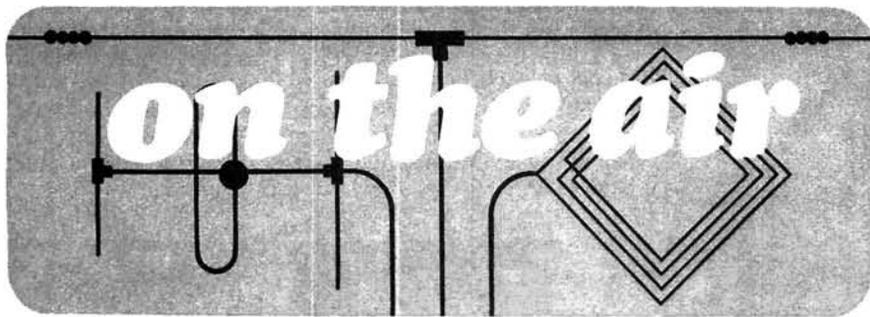


Fig. 6: Satellite on overhead pass

Having got the details of the orbit, you will then know in what direction to point your antenna and what time to start listening.

The next article in this series will discuss the actual equipment required to operate through OSCAR 8.



Amateur Bands

by Eric Dowdeswell G4AR

Reports to: Eric Dowdeswell G4AR
Silver Firs, Leatherhead Road,
Ashted, Surrey KT21 2TW.
Logs by bands in alphabetical order.

Although many readers are now running communications receivers which use the latest technology the constant complaint is still that of apparent interference between stations and of the set's inability to sort them out.

Given two s.s.b. signals on the same frequency and of reasonably similar strength there should not be any more difficulty in copying the wanted one than there would be in holding a conversation in a room with several other people talking at the same time. It has oft been said that the human ear is the best filter in the chain between the antenna and the brain, and I have certainly found this to be true.

It is not difficult, more a matter of experience, to develop the ability to pick out the signal YOU want from a mass of others.

This ability shows up particularly well on c.w. A good op will tell you that he can copy code from a station so weak that an inexperienced listener can't even hear it! He can also cope with c.w. beat notes that may be only a hundred or so hertz apart.

But what if one of the s.s.b. signals is much stronger than the other? Well, it should not be any more difficult than listening to someone talking when someone else is shouting. A few words might be missed here and there, but that doesn't matter very much. However, in the case of our receiver certain factors come into play that certainly do not help the op to resolve weak signals.

All receivers incorporate automatic gain control (a.g.c.) in which a bias voltage is derived from the amplified signal's carrier component and then fed back to the i.f. amplifying stages and frequently to the r.f. stages as well. This

negative feedback means that the receiver's gain is reduced on strong signals and increased with weaker ones. The object is to keep the resultant audio signal at as constant a level as possible with the wide changes of signal level that are generally due to fading.

In older receivers (Fig. 1) a.g.c. was a permanent feature but nowadays on a communications set it can be switched off and there may be a choice of fast or slow a.g.c. As there is no carrier as such with an s.s.b. signal the a.g.c. has to be derived from the resultant audio signal but as the speech level fluctuates over a very wide range it is necessary to introduce a circuit which will "hold" the signal at a given level to prevent these violent fluctuations, reflected otherwise as variations in the set's noise level which would be very objectionable. The duration of the hold represents the fast and slow positions.

The reader may be surprised to learn that in the many receivers I have constructed over the years I have never incorporated a.g.c.! Being mainly interested in contest operation, both c.w. and s.s.b., the average QSO only lasts a few seconds during which time the signal does not change very much, so why complicate matters with a.g.c.? It also means simpler circuitry, improved stability and a saving in components.

The benefits of a.g.c. fall down when there are, say, two signals in the receiver's i.f. passband (and probably more!) one weak and wanted and one strong and unwanted, Fig. 2. The a.g.c. will now operate on the stronger signal, pushing the set's gain down, possibly to the extent of reducing the wanted signal to inaudibility! All is not lost, as the simple answer is switch the a.g.c. off, and to read the wanted station through the unwanted one.

Where the two signals are slightly different in frequency the elegant solution is to move, electronically, the whole i.f. passband to one side or the other of the nominal i.f. (Fig. 3). Very few receivers have this added facility but it is becoming increasingly available on transceivers and it works amazingly well in practice, mainly because the principle is a sound one, for a change, rather than a sales gimmick.

For existing receivers the op is advised to keep the a.g.c. off for best results with weak signals. If an a.g.c. switch is not

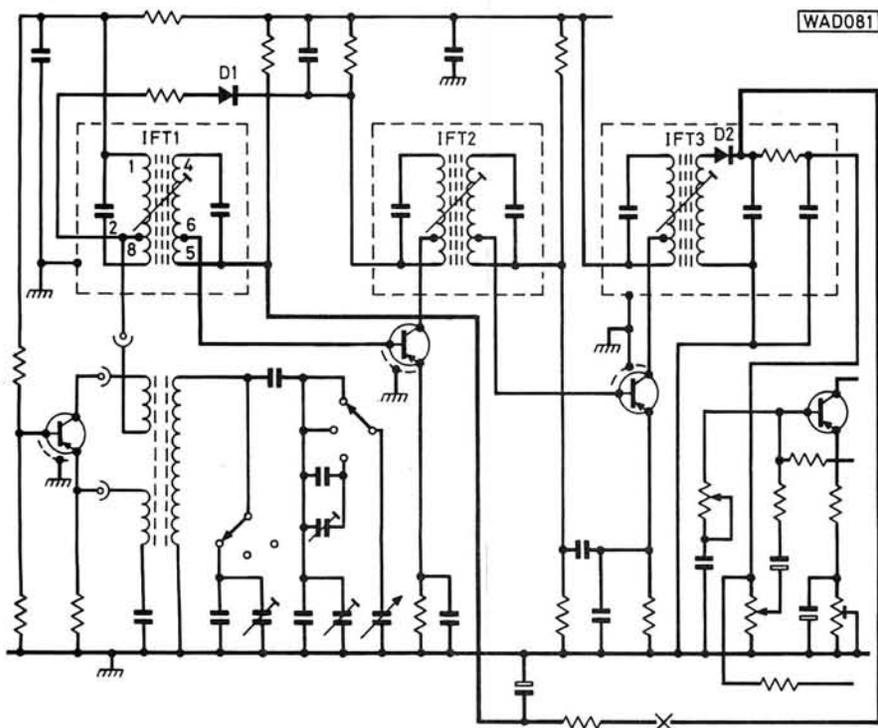
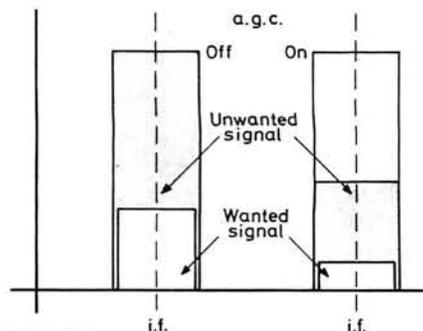


Fig. 1: In this part circuit of a simple receiver the positive a.g.c. voltage is developed at D2 in IFT3 from the i.f. signal and applied to pin 5 of IFT1 and thence, via pin 6, to the base of the first i.f. stage transistor, feeding IFT2. The route is shown by a heavy line. An a.g.c. on-off switch can be inserted at point X



WAD082

Fig. 2: The action of the a.g.c. voltage can reduce the level of the wanted signal to almost zero

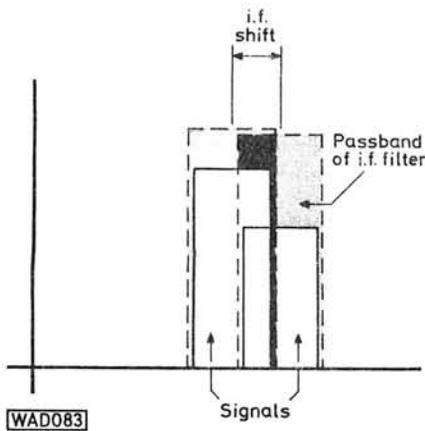


Fig. 3: The "i.f. shift" facility allows the i.f. passband to be moved to accommodate a particular signal, often eliminating an unwanted signal. Unfortunately the filter response "curve" used here is an idealised one

fitted then one can be added which either breaks the a.g.c. line to the i.f. stages or shorts it to earth, depending upon the circuit. The maximum advantages of dispensing with a.g.c. on weak signals come when the receiver has separate r.f. and i.f. gain controls, which, when used carefully, can eliminate a lot of the cross-modulation that occurs between signals, which is generated in the receiver itself, a fact which seems to surprise some listeners.

Remember that the best results are not obtained with everything at maximum. The less r.f./i.f. gain the better for the signal-to-noise ratio, which, after all, is the ultimate target, not absolute signal strength. If you are one of the lucky ones prepared to dive inside your receiver then separating the r.f. gain control from the i.f. one will be the best move you can make towards improved reception, as well as switching the a.g.c. off, of course!

Contest News

Results are to hand of the 12th Cray Valley Radio Society SWL contest held in September. There were 40 entries from all over the world but as far as the UK was concerned our very own **Jim Durnett** BRS30694, but a G4 by now, was second in the c.w. section, single op. The multi-op section was won by a couple of W5 SWLs. In the 'phone section for single op **John Sutton** BRS35509 came third, **David Whitaker** BRS25429 was fourth, **David Stewart** BRS40293 fifth, **D. Gordon** BRS43752 in GW Sixth, **Paul Crankshaw** BRS48909 in GM made seventh place. A pretty creditable show all round, chaps, and I'm sure that they all benefited from the experience.

DX Doings

Good news from **David Warr** (Weymouth) with his new call G6HRV,

but as he will have got his code chitty by the end of November I'm wondering why he bothered about the G6! It only costs yet more money. A KW2000B is in the offing, a very good rig for the baptism on the air. Stuff heard on 21MHz ran to J3AH, SVILK, VU9RX, 4N5G and 5H3BH, with the FR50B, a.t.u. and long wire. The poor old FR50B got the chop in buying the 2000!

Sticking to 21 and 28MHz in Ramsgate, **Archie McGrath** logged FM7CD, 3V0HA, TU2JL, OY9R, C6AEY and TR8JD on the former, and FY7BC and VP5RAC on 28MHz. This with his Trio R1000, a.t.u. and long wire. Archie has been corresponding with K4NBN who expects to be over here next year, so a meeting is in the offing.

Very glad to get a c.w. log from **Paul Williams** of Whitehaven, Cumbria, who is pleased with his a.t.u., built in an evening for around £10. Sounds a lot to me! He's done it, and that's the main thing, improving reception on the long wire and Realistic DX100L. So, it was 14MHz for C31NP, CT3DJ, EA9KQ, FM7CT (QSL POB 630, Fort de France 97200), FY7YF, J3AJ, JX6RE (QSL LA6RE), VP9JR and 6Y5SG. On the reader-neglected 10MHz band Paul caught KP4CKY, VP8ANT and 9H1CG: all above on c.w.

Andy Durrant in Colchester has been troubled with local QRM via the mains on his AR88 but he did log 4N9YU (YU4FRS in disguise), 7X2LS, DF3NZ/CT2 (ST2??), 4Z6FR and JA1LFR, all on 14MHz. New to our column and to amateur radio **Gordon Carmichael** of Lincoln runs a Realistic DX302 with the almost inevitable long wire and a.t.u. Goodies on 14MHz (20m) included C31YF, CT2ES, EA8ZO, 3A2A and 9G1NO. On 21MHz (15m) FM0GA, S2SI ("Sealand" in the North Sea) of very doubtful legitimacy, VP2VDH, YA7AJH, and 4Y4W.

Much progress in his RAE studies is reported by **Brian Patchett** in Sheffield and being 15 w.p.m.-capable at the moment will go straight for his G4 if he does OK next May. The little listening done on the Grundig Satellit 1400 revealed CE3HUX and CP5CIC on 14MHz and HH7PV, VP8ANT, VP8APK, VP91B plus 5H3DF on 21MHz. A BC348 limits **Stephen Pearson** in Arundel, W. Sussex, mainly to the 14MHz (20m) band where he found C53BT, VP2MF, VP8MY (POB 121, 15 James Street, Port Stanley), G4BUV/VS6, VP9AD, 6Y5MJ while the only bit of excitement on 1.8MHz was 4U1TU. All this on s.s.b.

School studies have kept **David Freeborough** (Sandbach, Cheshire) from his Panasonic RF3100 while a go at the RAE will be held over to late next year. Disappointing, but probably very wise. Heard on 14MHz were EK9F, HI8MPA, TI2J, VQ91B, 4N9WG (YU-land) and 5Z4CH. For David, and possibly others, QTHR simply means that a station's address is in the call book. Unfortunately the term is often used by newly-licensed stations whose QTH won't be in any call

book for up to a year. On to 21MHz and HC5ML, HH5CB, KG6RA, TJ1GH, VP5RAC, Z21GW, 5T5TR, 6W8DT and 9Y4PH.

Studying and listening are the life of **Alan Galloway** BRS51330 of Kincaidston, Ayr, with his Heathkit SB303 and inverted-V's, with hopes of taking the March RAE. The 14MHz band came up with 7Q7LZ, VQ9N, VP2LY, VK9X1, 5H3LV and JW7FO, while on 28MHz it was just PZ1DT. **Jim Durnett** of Prestatyn, Clwyd, could be writing in for the last time as he has now passed his code test and is probably meeting the postman every morning! The FT101 didn't have much trouble bringing in CO2PY, FG7BP, FM7CF, TI2PI and VU9LO all on 28MHz, then CO2GA, FK8CE, HK1QQ on 21MHz, PY0ZZ on Noronha with cards to PY7ZZ, SV0BE/9, 5Y4ITU (via POB 45681, Nairobi), 9J2TS, and on to 18MHz where only catch of note was G4CTQ/ZB2. So to 14MHz and FR7CL, FY7YE, KL7AF, 5B4LY and 9H1DV, and then 10MHz where DL2GG/YV5, JW5VAA, OY7ML and VK3MR were trapped. Sole DX reported on Top Band was ZB2EO on 1848kHz. All these entries were for the c.w. mode.

Dave Coggins up in Knutsford, Cheshire, had fun in the CQ WW contest especially on Top Band where his FRG-7700 + 7700 a.t.u. + delta beam for 28MHz + long wire brought in EA8AK, EA9EU, HZ1AB, K1PBW, RG6G, UK9ADT, VOIDN and 4X4NJ on s.s.b., all on Top Band, I say again, in case you might think it was 14MHz! The 7MHz band, deserted by virtually all readers except Dave, revealed HH2CQ, JH1FFQ, OX3JF, UH8EAA, ZLIBGK and 6W8DY. I know there is a lot of BC QRM there but the DX is there also with a bit of digging down. Delights on 14MHz were T32AF on the Pacific Christmas Island and QSL to WH6AIF, UAOKBO in Chukotka, not too far from KL7-land, VR6TC and ZK1CG on Cook Is. Not finished yet on 28MHz were AH0B on Mariana Is, DL9EAJ/3B9 on Rodriguez Is, KH61BA, HL0B, H44JE, UA0QEP Yakutsk, VS6CX and ZL2BFU. Phew! I'll be glad when he gets his ticket!

John Desmond in Cork, Eire, writes in to say with his FRG-7 and a long wire he logged LX1PD and EA9EU on 1.8MHz plus VP2EC and 6Y5MJ on 7MHz, VQ9VB, C31YF, 9Y4NW, ZB2FA and VP9JR on 14MHz ending with HPIXD, CPIFQ, J3AH, 5T5TO, YB5CE and VS6CT on 28MHz. Everything was copied on s.s.b.

The FRG-7700 and a.t.u. and long wire, what else, have been busy on four bands, starting with 28MHz and JW7FD and 9J2BO, on to 21MHz and FROFLO, HL1AHZ, TL8KA, 5B8TL and 6W8HL. The 14MHz patch saw PZ5JR, 9Y4QU, HH5CB, N3BB/VP9, PJ2DD, VP2KK, VP5GT, VP8AIB, VQ9EF and 3A2CN, ending with CO6RCP, FP8DF, J88AB, VS6DO, 5W1DQ, 6D5AA in Mexico City, PJ9EE, 6Y5IC and

8P6OR, all on 7MHz. All this, I should mention, from **Viv Doidge** who resides in Callington, Cornwall.

Just meeting the deadline this month is **Jonathan Kempster** BRS45205 of Berkhamsted, Berks, who seems to have enjoyed himself in the CQ WW phone contest where 14MHz produced KA2PFV/SV9, FM7CD, ZS3HL, RG6G, D44BC, VQ9CI, CS4YA, CE2AA, EW6V and ES3E. Victims on 21MHz were FM7CD, YC2BSF, VP9AD, 6W8DY, N1GL/6Y5 and EA8ND passing on to 28MHz and 5Y4DE, HH2CQ, J6LOV, 9Y4VT, SV0CT, 7Q7LW, VP5KP, VP2EC, 4T4O, VP5B, DJ0QT/CT3 and HH2WW.

My own idea of fun in contests these days is trying to see how quickly I can work all continents!

News on ZD9 activity from **Ean Retief** ZS6UD reports the departure of Peter ZD9BW from the island. Cards are handled by Ean but he does not reckon to be able to start replying until January. The good news is that ZD9BX is now active on s.s.b. and ZD9BZ will concentrate on c.w. operation. Thanks, Ean.



The trouble with Keith Anderson's XYL comment is that she is dead right, of course!

Bits and Pieces

A very interesting letter from CE3EYN, **David Calderwood**, no less, residing in Santiago and working as an English language teacher, having been on the air there only since August last. Rig is a Trio TS130SE with a 7MHz dipole and a quad loop on 28MHz. David would like to work the UK and will be glad to QSL listener reports from his QTH at Colegie Redland, Cemina El Alba 11357, Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.

From Preston, Lancs, **Keith Anderson** began radio long before the war when as a young lad he plugged a pair of headphones into a socket he discovered on a wall in a new house, getting the BBC "9 + 20" as he puts it, not realising till later that it was wired radio! Interest lapsed in the 50's until recently and now he is back in the fold with an FRG-7700 and matching a.t.u. with an outside wire. Keith's QSL, reproduced above, sums up a situation we have all come across one time or another!

Club Roundup

Acton, Brentford & Chiswick ARC G3IU If you have enjoyed the excellent programme of events over the last year you will get along to the AGM on Tuesday Jan 18 at the Chiswick Town Hall, High Road, Chiswick at 7.30 when potential members and visitors will be welcome, as well as regular members, of course. Try W. G. Dyer G3GEH, 188 Gunnersbury Avenue, Acton, London W3 for latest info on club activities.

Addiscombe ARC G4ALE Welcome to the column! Sec is Peter Hart G3SJK, 42 Gravel Hill, Croydon, Surrey, or 01-656 9054, with meetings every Tuesday at 9pm, yes nine pm, at the Woolpack, Gloucester Road, Croydon. A monthly newsletter keeps the members in touch, from which it seems the club enters every contest going from 1.8MHz to 1296MHz!

Amateur Radio Club of Nottingham G3EKW, G6CW and G8IUT Thursdays at 7.30, Sherwood Community Assoc, Woodthorpe House, Mansfield Road, Sherwood, N'ham. Jan 6 is a forum, a talk on QRP work on the 13th, station activity "on the air" Jan 20, plus a talk and lecture on the 27th. The shack is usually active after every meeting with a final break-up around 10.30. Call the sec P. G. Chapman G4IJL on (0602) 623828 or write via the club QTH.

Aylesbury Vale RS AGM on Tuesday Jan 25 at 8pm sharp at Stone Village Hall, Stone, with the prospect of a natter plus coffee afterwards, not to mention a raffle. More on this and club events from sec Mike Marsden G8BQH, Hunters Moon, Buckingham Road, Hardwick, Aylesbury (0296) 641783.

Braintree & District ARS G4JXG G6BRH Changes in the committee bring in new sec M. Jones G6DFZ, 26 Anson Way, Braintree, Essex, but meeting place is the same, namely the B'tree Community Centre, Victoria Street, B'tree, around 7.45 on first and third Mondays, informal and formal respectively. Informative and lively club mag *BARSCOM* is supplemented on non-club Mondays by a net at 8.45pm on S15. In addition to a code class there are code practice tapes for members.

Carlisle & District ARS The White Quay Inn, Durdar, Carlisle, at 7.30 any Monday, says Paul Boyd G8RJA, 13 Stackbraes Road, Longtown, Cumbria.

Cheltenham AR Association G5BK Good news in the form of an almost certain move to new club premises not too far from present one at the Old Bakery, Chester Walk, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, says club mag *CARA News*. It could all have happened by the time you read this so get on to sec John Holt G3GWW on Witcombe 3435 for latest news.

Conwy Valley ARC Last year was an excellent one for the club with membership topping the 100 mark and more than ever getting their tickets, reports hon sec J. N. Wright GW4KGI who, unhappily, had a "long standing engagement

with the local hospital" when he wrote. Trust you are back home, safe and well, by now OM. Annual dinner takes place on Jan 6 at the Green Lawns Hotel, Bay View Road, Colwyn Bay, with an excellent cabaret to follow. The club meets at the same place on the second Thursday at 7.45pm. More from GW4KGI at 46 The Dale, Woodlands, Abergele but it may be easier for all concerned to ring Abergele 823674.

Crawley ARC Meetings vary between members' homes and the Trinity Church Hall, Ifield, Crawley. One good idea that has been proposed is for members to bring in and demonstrate their test gear for, say, 15 mins. But David Hill G4IQM, the club sec will be glad to fill in with dates, etc., on Crawley 882641.

Derby & District ARS Annual club contest on 144MHz (2m), all modes, happens on Jan 30 with transmitting and receiving sections. All meetings at 119 Green Lane, Derby at 7.30 every Wednesday, plus Morse code classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, same place. Could this be in time for you to go to the New Year junk sale on Jan 5, I ask myself. Anyway, on the 12th talks on the history of the club by Fred G2CVV and he ought to know, he is the club! On to Jan 19 and a computer demo by John Jennings of ICL. Finally, on the 26th Ian Boston explains what contests are all about. If there is anything else you want to know you can have the pleasant task of contacting Jenny Shardlow G4EYM, 19 Portreath Drive, Darley Abbey, Derby, or D'by 556875.

Echelford ARS Second Mondays and last Thursdays at 7.30 in The Hall, St Martin's Court, Kingston Crescent, Ashford, Middx with Sunday net on 1930kHz at ten in the morning, plus 144MHz (2m) net Weds at 8 on 144.575MHz. The club newsletter describes the fun had by G8ALB making and flying a kite to support a long wire. Oh, yes, G4NNS transmits computerised slow Morse on Weds at 7 on 144-625MHz. Sec is Anton Matthews G3VFB, 13a King Street, Twickenham, Middx, also 01-892 2229.

Edgware & District RS G3ASR Jan 9 sees the club joining in the Affiliated Societies contest, followed by the AGM on the 13th. The club building project takes up the evening of the 27th. Note the beginners' evening on Feb 10 which could attract a lot of attention. Very advanced notice of a "Straight Key" evening on 3.5MHz (80m) c.w. on March 31 when iambic, triambic and anything more complicated than a good old-fashioned key will be taboo. So it's the second and fourth Thursdays at 8pm at 145 Orange Hill Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware, Middx about which hon sec Howard Drury G4HMD, 11 Batchworth Lane, Northwood, Middx will tell you more, on Northwood 22776 if you wish. Or drop in on the club net on 1875kHz Monday evenings at ten. The club programme of slow Morse from G3ASR is probably the most comprehensive in the country, on both Top Band and 144MHz.

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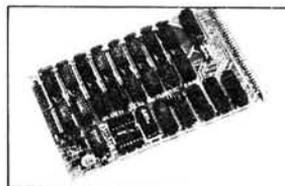
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The RSGB is the national society representing all UK radio amateurs and membership is open to all interested in the hobby, including listeners. The Society also publishes a complete range of books, log books and maps for the radio amateur. Contact the membership services section for more information about amateur radio, the RSGB and its publications.



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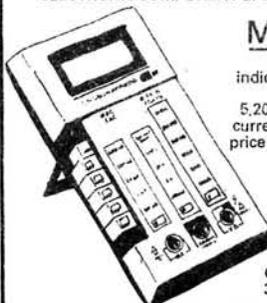
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Great Yarmouth & District ARC Don't forget, the new club QTH is the STC Sports & Social Club, Beevor Road, South Denes, Gt Yarmouth, fortnightly at 7.30, which means Jan 6 and 20th. The club tries to cater for all ages and all interests in the field of electronics. Much more from A. D. Besford G3NHU, 49 Blake Road, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk.

Guildford & District RS It's Party Night on Friday Jan 14 says club news-sheet *The Natter*, "bring something to eat and drink and, of course, your nearest and dearest, and that doesn't mean the new rig you got for Christmas"! Where this rave-up takes place I don't know but sec Helen Mullenger G4OJO will no doubt oblige on Aldershot 20384. Or you can drop in on the club nets, on 144MHz (2m) S20 Sundays at 8pm or the 28MHz (10m) band on 28-535MHz on Monday 8pm.

Jersey ARS GJ3DVC Meets, I know not where, on Fridays from 7.30 to 10.30 and on Sunday mornings from 9.45 to 12.30. Anyone interested in amateur radio is most welcome, says new sec Phil Taylor GJ6BUK, 1 Don Terrace, Don Road, St Helier, Jersey CI.

Mid-Sussex ARS G3ZMS At Marle Place Adult Education Centre, Leylands Road, Burgess Hill, W. Sussex, 7.30 with submarine cables the subject for Jan 13, the AGM coming on the 27th. Note for diary: surplus gear sale Feb 10. Newsy club newsletter *Mid-Sussex Matters* details all the club's activities. Ring Bob Hodge G4MMI on Hurstpierpoint 833559 for more gen.

Norfolk ARC G4ARN G6NRC It's the Cromer Centre, Telegraph Lane, East Norwich at 7.45, says Paul Gunther G8XBT of Norwich 610247, on Wednesdays. On Jan 12 it's a visit and talk by RSGB regional rep G3PLF, with G3IOR dispensing info on matters auroral on the 26th. Intermediate Wednesdays are "short" meetings, probably more of a natter than anything else. An early date is the first meeting to discuss HF Field Day, on Feb 9.

North Bristol ARC G4GCT Every Friday at 7 at the Self-Help Enterprise 7, Braemar Crescent, Northville, Bristol, and you can go home at around 9.30pm. The winter programme is about to be announced and who better to tell you of it than Ted Bidmead G4EUV, 4 Pine Grove, Northville, Bristol 7.

Northern Heights ARS Meets at the Bradford Tavern, Bradshaw, Halifax, on Wednesdays with Geoff Milner G8NWK at 3 Briggs Villas, Queensbury, Bradford, waiting to bring you up to date on meetings. You can also try B'ford 882945.

North Wakefield RC Gathers every Thursday at 7.45 at the Carr Gate Working Men's Club with Jan 6 welcoming G4DXA for a talk on Interference, another outside visit goes to the Wakefield power station on the 13th with yet another, to the Leeds Microcomputer Users Group, on Feb 3. Future plans call for a talk on the RSGB by G4DAX and one on computers in amateur radio. Steve

Thompson G6ELC, 3 Harlington Court, Morley, is also on (0532) 536633.

Radio Club of Thanet G2IC Meetings at the Birchington Village Centre at 8pm or get there at 7.30 if you want to take part in the code practice. Every Friday with emphasis on Jan 7 when there is a talk on video tapes, Jan 21 when G3TRX of Racial gives a chat, then the 28th with a visit to the Richborough power station. G4PTE is the newly-elected sec but before he settles in drop a line to Ian Gane G4NEF, the chairman, of 17 Penshurst Road, Ramsgate, Kent, otherwise (0843) 54154.

Radio Society of Harrow Well-produced club mag *QZZ* covers a wide field of member interests, like construction contests, for sale and wanted feature, v.h.f. antenna construction, to club contest activity. If that has whetted your appetite you may like to call at the Harrow Arts Centre, High Road, Harrow Weald on Fridays at around 8. It may be the Roxeth Room or the Belmont Room but I'm sure you'll find it. Latest info on the club on GB2RS or from Chris Friel G4AUF, 17 Clitheroe Avenue, Harrow, Middx. Needless to say, there are also code classes on the go.

South Dorset RS Meets first Tuesdays at 7.30 at the Wyke Regis Army Bridging Camp, Weymouth. Might be too late for the film show on Jan 4 but there will be an interesting meeting on Feb 1. Club sec R. Cridland G3ZGP is on Upwey 2893, or there is Andrew Prior G6HEL at Greenways, Dewlish, Dorchester, Dorset.

Southgate ARC Lectures, demos and other exciting events have already been planned for the coming year, and you can join in by getting along to St Thomas' Church Hall, Prince George Avenue, Oakwood, London N14 on the second Thursday of the month around 7.30, where, need I say it, visitors will be made most welcome. Feature for Jan is G3JWI on interference suppression techniques with a related talk on radio interference and harmonic radiation at the Feb gathering. It's G8EWG, 16 Kent Drive, Cockfosters, Barnet, Herts.

Spalding & District ARS G4DSP Nice to hear from sec Ian Buffham G3TMA, 45 Grange Drive, Spalding, Lincs (Spalding 3845) that the club meets on the second Friday at 7.30 at the White Hart Hotel, Market Place, Spalding. If you really want to know all about the club then jog along to the AGM on Jan 14.

Stevenage & District ARS A reminder that the club's new venue is T. S. Andromeda, Shephall View, Bedwell, Stevenage, first and third Tuesdays at 8. Details of the Jan 4 and 18 meetings from Les Mather G8OKI, 63 Woodhall Lane, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

Sutton Coldfield RS Special event on Jan 10 is the showing of the BBC's video tape "Secret Listeners" at the Central Library at 7.15pm but I'd get there a bit earlier if you want to get a seat. More from sec Derek Turner G8TUR, 10 Jervis Crescent, Sutton Coldfield, or 021-353 2061.

Torbay ARS G3NJA G8NJA Sec Arthur Cooper has had to resign with health problems but the XYL of G6GLP has stepped into the breach and Margaret Rider can be found at 7 Kingston Close, Kingkerswell or try 08047 5130. Meeting place is at Bath Lane, rear of 94 Belgrave Road, Torquay at 7.30 every Friday with main attraction in February being the RSGB's video tape on satellite communication. PRO TARS is Les Mays G2CWR, Atlantis, Clennon Avenue, Paignton, Devon.

Wakefield & District RS It's "alternate Tuesdays" at Holmfield House, Denby Dale Road, Wakefield at 8pm which means Jan 11, Jan 25 for an on-the-air evening, and Feb 8 for a visit to Radio Aire studios for which an early booking would be desirable. As usual it is sec Dick Sterry G4BLT, 1 Wavell Garth, Sandal, Wakefield, W. Yorks, otherwise W'field 255515.

Warrington ARC G4CDA Every Tuesday at 8 at the Grappenhall Youth & Community Centre, Bell House Lane, Grappenhall, W'ton, Cheshire, with "A mug's guide to satellites" on Jan 11, a hot pot supper on the 18th (yum, yum) and, if I've got it right, an inter-club contest over the air with a fast scan TV set-up, with the Bury mob. Beat that for ingenuity! If I don't tell you now you'll miss G3LEQ revealing the secrets of the sun, earth and radio on Feb 1. All I can tell you about the sec M. W. Mansfield G6AWD is that it is QTHR.

West Kent ARS At the KEC Adult Education Centre, Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on Jan 7 with a chat on keyers and kindred subjects, and the 24th deals with computing in amateur radio. As for Feb 4 there is an energy conversion competition that night, which conjures up ideas of all sorts of gadgets! Drop a line to Brian Castle G4DYF, 6 Pinewood Avenue, Sevenoaks, Kent or, alternatively (0732) 456708 at the shack, or 01-739 3464 ext 565 in the office.

Wimbledon & District RS Get along to the St John Ambulance HQ, 124 Kingston Road, London SW19 round about 8pm on second or last Friday, or, preferably, both, where you will be most welcome. Attraction on Jan 14 is a natter evening and general ragchew on the club's activities. It get's getter . . . on Jan 28 club sec Geoff Mellett G4MVS demonstrates to members how power measurements should be made in the s.s.b. mode. Could be a very popular lecture! Geoff hangs out at 26 Paget Avenue, Sutton, Surrey, likewise 01-644 8249.

Wirral ARS G3NWR First and third Weds at Minto House School, Birkenhead Road, Meols, at 7.45, reports G4KPY, hon sec at 40 Westbourne Road, West Kirby, Wirral. Planned meetings read as follows:—Jan 5 surplus gear sale, Jan 19 building an a.t.u. by G3CSG, and on Feb 2 the hon sec on switched mode power supplies.

Worcester & District ARC The Jan meeting doesn't follow the usual format

as it's on Jan 10, one week late (recovering from the celebrations?) at the Oddfellows Club, New Street, Worcester at 8pm. That on Jan 17 will be held at the Old Pheasant Inn in the same street, also at 8pm. Alasdair Lindsay G4NRD, 11 Durcott Road, Evesham, Worcs will be glad to fill in the gaps in info on Evesham 41508 if you so wish.

I'll finish this month with a brief description of the "home" of the Stratford-upon-Avon & District ARC at the Control Tower, Bearley, which turns out to be on an old airfield outside Stratford, at a useful 107m a.s.l. open in all directions! Antennas run to a 12-element ZL Special for the 144MHz band, 3-element tribander for the h.f. bands plus a

5-element for the 70MHz (4m) band. I am assured that there is space for more if required! How about a few rhombics? New members, get in the queue. It's second and fourth Mondays at 7.30.

That's all folks, sorry if your club hasn't been mentioned but I'd need twice as many pages to get them all in! Don't forget the deadline, the 15th of the month.

Medium Wave Broadcast Band DX

by Charles Molloy G8BUS

Reports to: Charles Molloy G8BUS
132 Segars Lane, Southport PR8 3JG.

Loops crop up regularly in this column but this time the subject takes a new turn in a letter from **Brian Russell** of Runcorn who asks "Do you know the historical aspect of the loop?" Brian goes on to say that he has a 1941 Admiralty publication "which goes into loops as direction finding antennas."

Origin of the Loop

The "frame antenna" used in early broadcast receivers, which was really an enlarged antenna tuning coil, was certainly a descendant of the direction finding loop. The latter pre-dates broadcasting, in fact the Marconi Company were offering a DF set, with crossed loops, before World War I. It seems probable that the loop was derived from a pair of vertical antennas spaced half a wavelength apart. The directional effect of such an arrangement was known at the turn of the century. The Bellini-Tosi system started as four verticals. The tops were led to a single mast and eventually opposites were joined to form a pair of crossed triangular loops. I have been unable to trace the final step to the small rotatable DF loop whose size is small and is not related to the wavelength in use. Can anyone help?

While doing research on this item I dug out my copy of *Direction and Position Finding by Wireless* by R. Keen, published in 1922. This book, which was the fore-runner of the well known *Wireless Direction Finding*, contains quite a bit of information that was omitted from its successor. There is a fascinating chapter on aircraft DF with a photograph of an open cockpit and vertical foremast on the aircraft nose, which supported a fore and aft loop. We medium wave DXers are using techniques from the earliest days of radio when we rotate our loop to null out interference.

At the Controls

All modern receivers are fitted with automatic gain control, abbreviated a.g.c. and known at one time as automatic volume control (a.v.c.). AGC is used to counter fading. When the incoming signal is weak, the receiver gain (r.f.) is at a maximum. When the incoming signal is strong the gain is reduced. This is achieved electronically, automatically and quickly. You could do the job yourself if you were adept enough with the r.f. gain control. To some extent the a.g.c. counters the manual adjustment of the r.f. gain we were discussing last time so to get the best out of the r.f. gain control you have to switch off the a.g.c. When using my BRT400 for m.w. DXing I nearly always have the a.g.c. switched off but few modern receivers are fitted with an a.g.c. on/off switch. You will find though a variable attenuator as part of some receivers.

An attenuator is a device, usually a network of resistors, which absorbs electrical energy. The receiver's attenuator is located between the antenna and the receiver's r.f. stage. It can be adjusted to reduce the strength of the incoming signal and it has a similar overall effect to that obtained from the r.f. gain control. The attenuator is essentially an anti-overloading device and the idea is to use as little attenuation as you can get away with.

My DX160- craftily combines attenuator and r.f./i.f. gain adjustment into a single control labelled r.f. gain. A twin

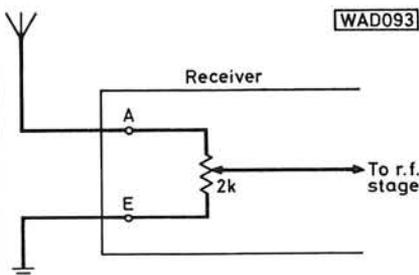


Fig. 1: RF attenuator in DX160

gang potentiometer is used, one section making up a simple attenuator and the other controlling receiver gain in the usual way. The value of the attenuator section of the potentiometer is not critical. If you already have one between 500Ω and 5kΩ in value it is worth making up one for yourself. Fig. 1 shows the arrangement.

Which Direction

Can you define "daylight path and difficult path" asks reader **Richard Hunt** of Tadcaster. The first one is easy. It means simply that the path followed by radio waves when travelling between two places, is in daylight. A difficult path is one that presents problems. It may pass near the magnetic north pole which is in Northern Canada. Radio waves are absorbed here and consequently you are unlikely to log Alaska or Hawaii on the medium waves in the UK. On the short waves a difficult path can sometimes be a long one that is partly in daylight and partly in darkness making it difficult to find a suitable frequency.

Perhaps it is the word "path" that should be defined. I had a letter recently from a reader who assumed, quite reasonably, that radio waves on their journey from the West Coast of North America to the UK travelled overland to the East Coast of the United States before continuing their journey across the Atlantic. The maps in the average atlas would lead one to expect this. If you can get hold of a globe then stretch a piece of thread between San Francisco and London. The thread will mark out the Great Circle path which is the shortest distance between the two places and is the path taken by radio waves as they bounce up and down between the ionosphere and the earth's surface. This path passes over Canada and to the south of Iceland!

You can obtain a Great Circle DX Map, centred on London, from the RSGB, Alma House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts, EN6 3JW for £2.12 post paid. You won't recognise Australia and New Zealand on this map but it does have the advantage that a straight line from London to New York, for example, is the G.C. track and if this line is con-

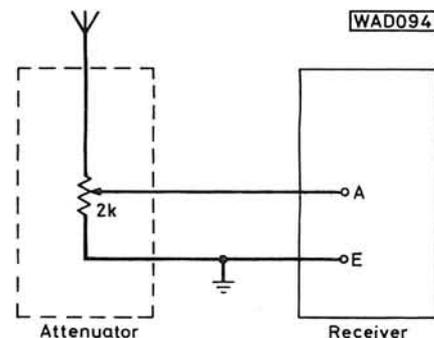


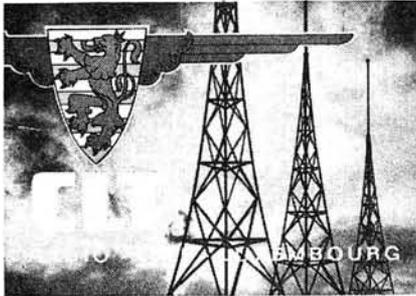
Fig. 2: Adding an external attenuator

tinued to the edge of the map you can read off the bearing. Distance is proportional to the length of the line. If you have a home computer (ZX81) you can load it with the Distance and Bearing Program from the *PW* Radio Programs Cassette, see December 1982 issue. If you know the latitude and longitude of two places then the computer will provide the range and bearing.

It is interesting to examine a G.C. map. Newfoundland, Boston, New York, New Orleans and Southern Mexico are all roughly on the same G.C. track from the UK while the reciprocal passes through Vienna and Istanbul. All these places are in the same direction from the point of view of a medium wave loop antenna which means that it cannot be used to separate stations that lie along this path.



QSL card from Dakar in Senegal



QSL cards from Radio Luxemburg and Radio Warsaw
Adrian Butcher

Radio in the UK

This is the title of a 48 page A5 size booklet produced, in English, by Norwegian DXer Bernt Erfjord. It is mainly concerned with local radio stations. A section is devoted to each broadcaster, giving frequencies, including v.h.f. and some programme details. There is a list of possible verie signers, maps showing ILR and BBC local and national transmitters and a list of all medium and longwave transmitters in frequency order. The booklet is available for seven (7) International Reply Coupons or 25 Norwegian Kroner from Bernt Erfjord, N-4480 Kvinesdal, Norway/Norvega.

Next "some Norwegian information" continues Bernt who says that the old transmitter at Stavanger on 1314kHz was closed down during this summer and replaced with a new transmitter complex at Kvitsoy Island, north of Stavanger. Two parallel transmitters of 600kW pump a total of 1.2MW into the air.



QSL card from RTE2 in Dublin
John Dennis Court

DX Heard

If you haven't heard West Africa yet on the medium waves then listen on 765kHz. Radio Dakar in Senegal is a strongish signal on this channel after Sotens in Switzerland signs-off at 2300. This 200kW transmitter carries the national programme in both English and local languages and the station does QSL. The address is BP 1765, Dakar, Senegal.

Newfoundland is the nearest part of Canada to the UK being no farther away than Egypt. It is only the high level of European interference that prevents some of their stations from having regular listeners in this country but some of them do come in well and have been heard at my QTH this winter, after midnight. Listen for CBNA at St Anthony on 600kHz, CBN St John's on 640kHz and CBGY at Bonavista on 750kHz. All are outlets of the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) and carry the same programme with the announcement "CBC Radio". There is a news bulletin at 0200 which is equivalent to 1030 local time, followed by the maritime weather forecast for Newfoundland.

The most consistent North American station is the commercially owned CJYQ at St John's whose slogan is "First with the news in Newfoundland". I have heard CJYQ several times before midnight this winter and the station is a good pointer to conditions on this path.

Short Wave Broadcast Bands

by Charles Molloy G8BUS

Reports: as for medium wave DX, but please keep separate.

We are all familiar with domestic broadcasting on the long and medium waves and on v.h.f. Stations occupy the same spot on the dial year in, year out with

continuous programming throughout the day and often all night as well. The radio waves travel from the transmitter along the ground to the receiver giving reliable interference-free reception during the day. It is only at night on the medium and long waves that sky wave reception via the ionosphere is possible, which causes the heavy interference familiar to everyone.

Short Wave Broadcasting

The international short wave bands are to be found in the range 5.9MHz to 26.1MHz, a part of the spectrum shared with other users such as shipping, aircraft etc. Broadcasting takes place within bands, which are usually marked by small dashes on the receiver dial. The range of the ground wave is very limited on these

bands and you have to live quite close to the transmitting station to pick it up. On the other hand, sky wave reception via the ionosphere occurs during the day as well as night. Worldwide reception is not too difficult provided you choose the appropriate band for the time of day, the season of the year and the particular path that interests you.

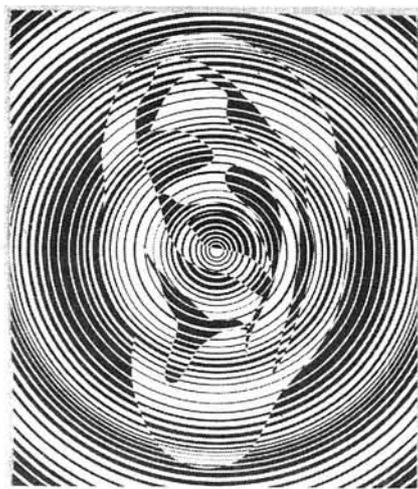
Right away we notice one significant difference between local broadcasting and the short waves. You can leave your domestic radio permanently tuned to your favourite station and all you have to do is to switch on when you want to listen. Not so on the short waves. Even if the station you are looking for is on the air 24 hours a day, reception of it at your location may only be possible for part of the day.

Types of Programme

The programmes you hear on the short waves fall roughly into three categories. Those intended for ex-patriots, those intended for foreign audiences, relays of the domestic service. Domestic broadcasting on the short waves does still exist as it is an economic way of covering the area beyond the normal service area of a m.w. transmitter. It is also a useful way of covering large sparsely populated areas.

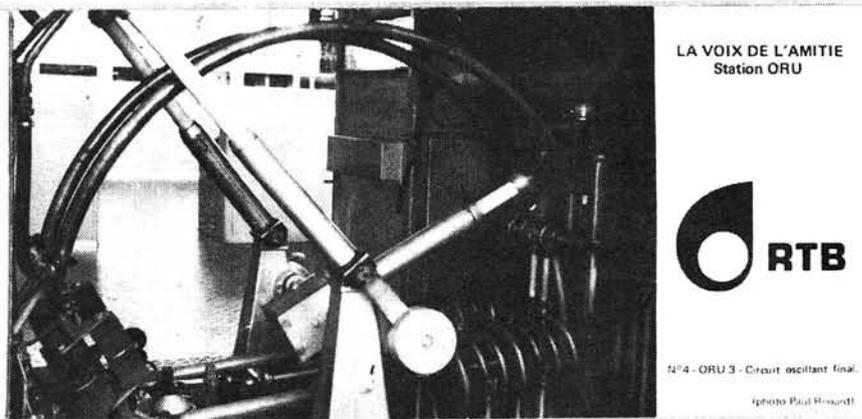
Since these programmes are intended for semi-local reception they are of more interest to the DXer than the general listener, but there are several that can be picked up easily in the UK. The West German regional stations come in well at my QTH during the daytime. Listen for Berlin/Munich on 6.005MHz, Stuttgart on 6.03MHz, Radio Bremen on 6.19MHz, all in the 6MHz (49m) band and for Sudwestfunk in Baden Baden on 7.265MHz (41m band). These stations relay the domestic service that goes out on the medium waves and they could be of interest to anyone studying the German language.

The Northern Service of the CBC (Canada) from Quebec can be found on 9.625MHz (31m band) during the evening and is often a reasonable signal before midnight. It broadcasts in English, French, Eskimo and Cree Indian. There is also the domestic service of the ABC (Australia) in Perth which sometimes pops up on 9.61MHz during the afternoon, but we are now straying into the World of DX! Next time we will have a look at some programmes in English that are heard easily on the short waves, but in the meantime look around 6MHz, above 7MHz, below 10MHz, below 12MHz, above 15MHz, below 18MHz, above 21MHz and around 26MHz for international broadcasting on the short waves.



QSL Sudwestfunk
Anstalt des öffentlichen Rechts

A card from Sudwestfunk on 7.265MHz Richard Hunt



Radiodiffusion Televisions Belge is on 5.965MHz Richard Hunt

Antennas for the SWL

There seems to be some confusion about the best type of antenna to use when listening on the short waves. Some readers who write to me have connected a longwire via an a.t.u. to a portable receiver with disappointing results. Another group have purchased a communications receiver which they use with a metre or so of wire hanging down from the antenna socket. This is not really giving the receiver a chance and again, disappointment follows.

Modern receivers, unlike their predecessors, are extremely sensitive and do not require a large outdoor antenna. A portable is designed to operate with its own antenna and if you take it out in the open, well away from buildings, you will find it quite adequate. The only justification for connecting an additional antenna to such a set is if it is being used in a place where radio waves are weakened—inside a caravan or metal framed building—or somewhere where electrical interference is high.

Modern living means that the average dwelling is surrounded by a haze of electrical interference. The TV is the worst offender but other equipment such as calculators, dimmers, home computers, fluorescent lighting do their share. An example of the latter cropped up last summer while I was afloat. In order to listen to the midnight shipping forecast on 200kHz I had to rotate the receiver and make use of the directional properties of the internal antenna to null out the cabin light, which was generating an awful din.

Antennas for use with a Portable

If you could detach the receiver's telescopic antenna and install it somewhere outdoors then the problem would be resolved. Siting the receiver near a window can bring an improvement. A car antenna or whip, mounted on the window ledge, pointing outwards is even better. A "short" longwire (more correctly, a random wire antenna) about 5 metres long and running away from the

house, is the only external antenna needed. A point easily overlooked is the receiver's own antenna. It should be retracted otherwise it will continue picking up the electrical interference you are trying to get away from.

Antennas for Communications Receivers

These sets do not have their own antenna and most of them have sockets marked Antenna, Earth, A A1 (Balanced Input). You can use a screened lead with this type of set. Join a length of coaxial cable to the Antenna and Earth sockets, the inner going to A and the screen going to E. Lead the coaxial cable away from the set and connect it to the antenna. What sort of antenna? Well the field is open but the "short" longwire mentioned above will give good results. Join the



A pennant from HCJB in Ecuador Richard Hunt

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FM Transmitter (0.5W)	70FM05T4	38.10	23.10
FM Receiver	70FM05R5	68.25	48.25
Synthesiser (2 pcb's)	70SY25B	84.95	60.25
Synthesiser Transmit Amp	A-X3U-06F	27.60	17.40
Synthesiser Modulator	MOD 1	8.10	4.75
Bandpass Filter	BPF 433	6.10	3.25
PIN RF Switch	PSI 433	9.10	7.75
Converter (2M or 10M I.L.)	70RX2/2	27.10	26.10
FM Package 2 (Synthesised)	70PAC2	163.00	128.00
TV Products			
Receive Converter (Ch 32)	TVUP2	26.95	19.60
Pattern Generator	TVP31	39.95	32.53
TV Modulator	TVM1	8.10	5.30
3W Transmitter (boxed)	ATV-1	87.00	—
3W Transceiver (boxed)	ATV-2	119.00	—
Power Amplifiers (FM/CW Use)			
50mW to 500mW	70FM1	14.65	8.85
500mW to 3W	70FM3	19.65	13.25
500mW to 10W	70FM10	30.70	22.10
3W to 10W	70FM3/10	19.75	14.20
10W to 45W	70FM45	58.75	45.20
Combined Power Amp/Pre-Amp	70PA/FM10	48.70	34.65
Linears			
500mW to 3W	70LIN3/LT	25.75	18.60
3W to 10W (Compat. ATV1/2)	70LIN3/10E	39.10	28.95
Pre-Amplifiers			
Bipolar Miniature (13dB gain)	70PA2	7.90	5.95
MOSFET Miniature (14dB gain)	70PA3	8.25	6.80
RF Switched (30W Max)	70PA2/S	21.10	14.75
2M EQUIPMENT			
Transceiver Kits and Accessories			
FM Transmitter (1.5W)	144FM2T	36.40	22.25
FM Receiver	144FM2R	64.35	45.76
Synthesiser (2 pcb's)	144SY25B	78.25	59.95
Synth Mult/Amp (1.5W o/p)	SY2T	26.85	19.40
Bandpass Filter	BPF 144	6.10	3.25
PIN RF Switch	PSI 144	9.10	7.75
Synthesised FM Package (1.5W)	144PAC	138.00	105.00
Power Amplifiers/Linears			
1.5W to 10W FM (No Changeover)	144FM10A	18.95	13.95
1.5W to 10W FM (Auto-Changeover)	144FM10B	33.35	25.95
1.5W to 10W SSB/FM (O/P c/o)	144LIN10A	26.80	19.87
1.5W to 10W SSB/FM (Auto c/o)	144LIN10B	35.60	26.95
Pre-Amplifiers			
Low Noise, Miniature	144PA3	8.10	6.95
Low Noise, Improved Performance	144PA4	10.95	7.95
Low Noise, RF Switched	144PA4/S	18.95	14.40
SYNTHESISER ACCESSORIES			
Display Decoder/Driver	DISP1/2	22.60	16.10
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Kaytone	PTK3	6.80	4.25
Relayed Kaytone	PTK4R	9.95	7.75
Regulator	REG1	6.80	4.25
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4M EQUIPMENT			
FM Transmitter (1.5W)	4FM2T	34.75	21.20
FM Receiver	4FM2R	61.65	43.15
Pre-Amplifier	4PA4	10.95	7.95
Pre-Amplifier, RF Switched	4PA4/S	18.95	14.40
6M EQUIPMENT			
Converter (2M)	6RX2	27.60	19.95

Enquiries by post should contain a SAE. Please restrict telephone technical enquiries between 6 pm and 9 pm in the evening on either 0256 24611 or 07356 5324. Access and Barclaycard orders can be taken on 07356 5324.

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cable inner to the antenna but leave the coaxial screen disconnected at the antenna end of the cable. If you are interested in chasing after weak signals, i.e. DXing, then a longwire plus a.t.u. will help pull them in. Remember though, that such an antenna may be satisfactory on the 15MHz band during the late evening when looking for Latin American DX but it may well overload the receiver when you tune across the same band during the daytime.

Screened Locations

Radio waves are weakened when they pass through solid objects such as buildings. The effect is only noticeable to the s.w.l. when metal is involved and can be significant inside a metal framed building. Some flat dwellers may be confronted with the double problem of weak

signal plus electrical noise. A window ledge whip should bring a dramatic improvement or you can follow the advice of reader **John Dennis Court** of Birmingham who says "if flat dwellers like myself are restricted by space, throw a longwire out of the window! It pulls in DX." I once knew someone who went the other way and supported a vertical by a met balloon filled with hydrogen but I feel such a solution could lead to other problems.

Events on the Bands

Radio New Zealand is still on the air according to their schedule, a copy of which reached me recently. It covers the period up to 5 March 1983, all times being in UTC (GMT).

Pacific Service. 11.96MHz 0730 to 1115 and 1700 to 2000

15-485MHz 1700 to 2000
17-705MHz 2015 to 1715
Australian and NW Pacific Service.
15-485MHz 2015 to 1115

If you want a QSL (card) enclose four International Reply Coupons with your report. This may well be your last chance as the old 7.5kW transmitters are worn out and no money is available for replacement. The address is PO Box 2092, Wellington, New Zealand.

The BBC weekly programme *Waveguide* can now be heard on the World Service at 0915 on Mondays and 1735 on Wednesdays. The best frequency at my QTH and probably for most of the UK is 5.975MHz in the 6MHz (49m) band.

VHF Bands

by Ron Ham BRS15744

Reports to: Ron Ham BRS15744
Faraday, Greyfriars, Storrington,
Sussex RH20 4HE.

Czechoslovakia worked by tropo on 144MHz, a transatlantic QSO on 6m and more DX records on microwaves, what better headlines could a v.h.f. columnist ask for.

Solar

Although the overcast skies have hampered our optical observers, **Ted Waring**, Bristol, counted 28 sunspots on October 23, 38 on the 27th and 14 on November 10. He also saw active areas near the central meridian on October 24, 27 and November 9. Apart from a few small bursts of radio noise at 143MHz on the 26th, 28th and 29th, the sun was quiet for most of October and up to November 10, when I recorded a large burst of noise (Fig. 1) which, true to form, heralded the beginning of a noise storm.

During the morning of November 15, **Cmdr Henry Hatfield**, Sevenoaks, using his spectrohelioscope counted approx-

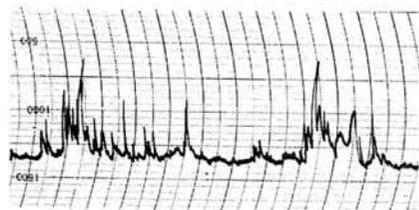


Fig. 1: An isolated 10 minute burst of solar radio noise recorded by the author at 143MHz at midday on Nov 1. Note the peaks at start and finish of the event

imately 30 sunspots in a very large chain of spots near the sun's equator just west of central meridian and no doubt was the cause of the noise storm that Henry and I recorded on the 13th, 14th and 15th.

The 50MHz (6m) Band

"I have been monitoring 'F2' conditions in Band I and heard a few whispers of c.w. activity from VE on 50MHz recently" writes **Sam Faulkner**, Burton-on-Trent, on November 12. This may well have been meteor "pings" Sam, because at 1345 on November 5, **David Newman** G4GLT, Leicester, heard "pings" of c.w. on 50-100MHz. At 1358 he made out "VE1" and during a longer burst at 1402 he read the complete callsign "VE1YX". Suddenly at 1403 "like a rocket out of the blue I heard VE1YX peaking 579" said David, who, like **Gordon Pheasant** G4BPY, Walsall, called him and although the opening was brief, both David and Gordon were delighted to make this cross-band trans-

atlantic QSO on 50/28MHz. Congratulations to all concerned and as you say David, "The moral of the story is that on 50MHz you just have to keep listening".

At 1315 on October 17, David had a cross-band QSO, 50/28MHz, with ZB2BL and between 1130 and 1348 on the 18th, he heard the South African beacons ZS6DN, ZS6LN and ZS6PW and enjoyed cross-band QSOs with ZS6BT and ZS6LN. "The most interesting point about this opening was that the ZS1STB beacon at Still-Bay was audible from 1145-1222, peaking 579 on 50-010MHz", writes David, who sent me a most impressive tape recording of the auroral signal he recorded from GB3SIX between 0656 and 0716 on September 22 and the fluttering signal of ZS6PW on 50-030MHz during the TEP opening between 1931 and 1957 on October 2.

The 28MHz (10m) Band

"Conditions on the 28MHz band have been excellent" writes **Dave Coggins**,

WRM733

	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
A92C																																
DF0AAB																																
DK0TE																																
DL0IGI																																
HG2BHA																																
LA5TEN																																
PY2AMI																																
PY2EXD																																
VK2WI																																
VP9BA																																
VS6TEN																																
VU2BCN																																
YV5AYV																																
ZS1CTB																																
ZS6PW																																
5B4CY																																

Fig. 2: Distribution of Beacon signals

Knutsford, who, as well as echoing the views of many of us, suggests that the most favourable time to listen for VK/ZL, on the long path, is after the band has closed following an opening to South America. Take note new readers, these are the tricks of the trade. Dave, using a Yaesu FRG-7700M receiver with a FRT-7700 a.t.u. and a 2-element 28MHz Delta quad antenna, logged KP21, K5FTC, NC4L, RA6LXB, VE3UK and WB8BTI on f.m. around 29-500MHz.

I was delighted at 1015 on October 19 to hear a strong signal from ZL3ACP while he was working G3ALI, followed by signals from stations in Austria and Greece and from many parts of the USSR. Like many of my readers, I logged several JAs, VEs, VKs and Ws between October 19 and November 18 and at 1430 on October 28, I heard a very strong signal from a Canadian YL operator, Irene VE3LWZ, when she was working into Austria. In general, signals from stateside were very strong and **Harold Brodribb**, St Leonards-on-Sea, reports hearing Utility stations up to 39MHz on October 16 and 17, 40MHz on October 21 and November 7 and 11 and some 6 harmonics from lower frequency broadcast stations between 29 and 31MHz on October 17. There were strong echoes on the signals of G3NSY when he answered a CQ from YO7DL at 0913 on November 7, G4KJF while he was working a VK around 0910 on the 10th and on several French stations early on the 13th.

28MHz Beacons

Norman Hyde G2AIH, Epsom Downs, uses a Trio TS-130S and a NE/SW dipole on 28MHz and along with the reports from **Susan Beech**, Dollar, Dave Coggins, **George** and **John Coulter** from Dover and Winchester respectively, **Bert Glass** BR32693, Plymouth, using a FRG-7700 and a.t.u. David Newman and I, the list of beacons heard, (Fig. 2), was compiled. It's good to see this list getting longer and the signals being heard more frequently, which shows the band is really opening up. Most contributors reported hearing a new beacon, LUIUG on 28-245MHz, which, says George Coulter, "According to the call-book, the station belongs to Radio Club of Pampeano". Among other beacons occasionally heard between October 19 and November 18 were Gough Island ZD9GI, New Zealand ZL2MHF and Spain EA6EU.

Tropospheric

The atmospheric pressure, an important factor in v.h.f. propagation, measured at my QTH rose sharply from 29.6in (1002mb) on October 18th to 30.0 (1015) by midday on the 19th. Apart from a drop to 29.7 (1005) on the 22nd, it remained around 30.0 until 2000 on the 26th when it took off, (Fig. 3), reaching 30.3 (1026) at midday on the 27th, peaked at 30.4 (1029) at midnight

on the 28th. It then began falling slowly at 0400 on the 29th, giving us a good tropo opening, to 30.2 (1022) at 1600 on the 31st. The pressure remained at this level until 0400 on November 5 when it rapidly fell to 29.2 (988) by 0200 on the 8th and as the foul weather, which accompanied the low pressure, passed over, the pressure then rose slowly to 30.15 (1020) at midday on the 11th only to fall again to around 29.7 on the 14th.

During the lift between October 29 and 31, **Don Hunter** G8YCA, Wimborne, using a Trio 9130 and home-brew 16-element ZL antenna, worked 3 stations in Czechoslovakia on 144MHz (2m) s.s.b. as did **John Cooper** G8NGO, Cowfold, Sussex, who ended up the evening of the 30th with 7 OK/Ps, one of them OK1AFN/P was only running 2 watts, 3 East-Germans and 6 West-Germans. Don also worked into East-Germany bringing his total to 15 countries contacted on 144MHz.



Fig. 3: Atmospheric pressure recorded by the author at the end of October

Back in Sussex, **Ian Shaw** G4MWD, made the most of the event by working DB8KJ, EI2DJ and two first time contacts with OE5XDL and OK1KKH/P, he also heard French stations working into Scandinavia. During this period Ian worked stations in PA0 and Y23 bringing his QTH square total to 106 spread through 22 countries on 144MHz.

While the prevailing high pressure, with frontal systems, moved rapidly through the general south-coast area, **Richard Bird** GU6NBS, Guernsey, began a QSO on 934MHz CB with a station in Torquay at 2300 on November 1 which lasted until around 0200 on the 2nd. During the experiments, Richard went mobile over a 5km course and the signals, received in Torquay, varied between 53 and 59 plus and rapid fading was experienced as the vehicle passed through areas of high buildings. Our Technical Editor, **John Fell** G8MCP, heard the signals from the re-built and re-sited beacon in Cornwall GB3CTC 432.970MHz and the beacon in Crowborough GB3WHA 432.810MHz on the 29th and a very strong signal from the Yorkshire beacon GB3EM 432.910MHz on the 31st. John also proved that conditions on 432MHz (70cm) were good on November 1st when he received a 57 report from **John Brakespear** G8RZP on the Isle of Sheppey, using just 8 watts into a 20 element quad loop Yagi at 12m a.g.l. from his home in Dorset. Up in Cheshire, Dave Coggins logged signals from the 144MHz beacons in Angus

GB3ANG on October 17, 18 and November 6 and from Wrotham GB3VHF on October 23, 26, 27 and November 6 and on the 10th, John Cooper worked HWIKAR, a special callign to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Radio Club Normandie, the oldest radio club in France. The club station at the time was being operated by **Claude Roger** F1FJT. Although 144MHz conditions were flat around 1820 on the 15th, John managed to work two German stations in a local contest and they were both very pleased to add a "G" call to their list of stations worked.

Band II

Ian Anderson, Eastbourne, using an AIWA R22 Tuner and a 6-element rotatable antenna can normally receive v.h.f. broadcast signals from the Boulogne area of France and tells me that a fairly new station, Radio Boulogne Littoral, on 103.7MHz is privately owned and operated by the Boulogne Town Council. "RBL broadcasts 24hrs daily in French, but every Monday evening, starting at 2030GMT, the English service takes over," writes Ian who, as one of RBL's English presenters would like to know how many readers are able to hear this station.

With a change in the weather on October 26, **John Williams**, Cheltenham, heard a broadcast station from Eire come up alongside Severn Sound on 95MHz and on October 29, 31 and November 3, Harold Brodribb received around 16 French broadcast stations in Band II increasing to 29 on November 1 and 22 on the 4th. With his mind very much on the prevailing atmospheric pressure, Harold sent the weather maps from his daily paper covering the period October 27 to November 2, clearly showing the movement into the continent of the high pressure system which gave us the DX.

During the evenings of October 28, 29 and 30, **Simon Hamer**, Presteigne, received signals from the BBC radios Cambridge and Northamptonshire, ILRS Capital, Chiltern Radio and LBC, Opera



Fig. 4: Peter Lincoln in his shack in Aldershot

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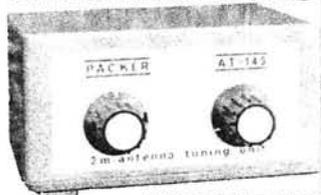
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from BFBS Bielefeld, a variety of programmes from Belgium BRT-11 Egem and RTBF-1 Leglise, TDF Cultor and TDF Musique from France and from Germany NDR-2 Aurich and Hamburg and SDR-111 Heildelberg.

"The tropospheric opening on October 29 and 30 was amazing . . . about the most intense opening I've known" writes **Ian Kelly** from Reading who, like Harold and Simon, received many strong stations from France between 88 and 104MHz in addition to about 20 German stations, "of which a good number were in strong stereo" said Ian, adding "My best log was Radio Luxembourg, which gave me good reception around 0200 on the 30th on 92.5MHz. The transmission was only in mono, but perfect". Well done Ian, another goody in the log. From Dollar in Scotland **Alan Beech** reports hearing Radio Merseyside on November 10.

Microwaves

During the good conditions on October 30, "G3AUS in Devon worked an OK station on 1296MHz (23cm) at 1576km, a new DX record" writes **John Tye** G4BYV, Dereham, Norfolk, who

himself worked OK1AIY/P on 2.3GHz (13cm) at 1027km. PA2DOL worked over 500km on 3.3GHz (9cm) establishing yet another DX record. Congratulations to all concerned, we at *PW* are always pleased to hear about DX records, especially on microwaves, so what about it lads and lasses, drop me a line.

RTTY

The best RTTY DX during October for **Peter Lincoln** BRS 42979, Aldershot, (Fig. 4), was CE3JK, FY7BC, 5N22BSH and the Jamboree-on-the-Air station XT2AW/JAM. Among the other countries copied were HW6, OH, W, YU, Y2 and 4N7. Between October 11 and November 9, **Norman Jennings**, Rye, logged RTTY signals from most European countries on 14MHz (20m) VE, VP and plenty of Ws on 21MHz (15m) and a DJ and several Ws on 28MHz (10m).

Among the interesting two-way QSOs I copied were, a local contact between 2 DLs around 0830 on October 24, I1KUE and DJ4ET at 0929 on November 7, DF9KD and ZB2HL at 0914 on the 10th and at 1415 on the 7th, I logged N8ES in

Ohio calling CQ DARC contest on 28MHz. There appeared to be plenty of activity for the RTTY enthusiasts between October 19 and November 17 because, even with the limited time I spend on the bands I managed to copy signals from 16 countries, DJ, EA, F, GI, GM, HB0, HB9, IT9, KP4, LA, OE, OK, OZ, SM, YU and ZB2 on 14MHz, 4, EA, IT9 OH and SM on 21MHz and 7, CN, HG, I, LZ, OH, W and 5B4 on 28MHz.

Ted Double G8CDW, contests and awards manager of the British Amateur Teleprinter Group, reminds me that the BARTG Spring VHF/UHF RTTY Contest will take place between 1800GMT on April 9 and 1200GMT on the 10th, on the 144, 432 and 1296MHz bands. All details from Ted, QTHR. I see that some of my readers were among the 23 entries in the single operator and the 9 in the multi-operator sections of the Autumn 144MHz RTTY Contest and I congratulate **Colin Desborough** G3NNG and **Jonathan Perkins** G4IVV/A, the section winners and **John Neal** G4NQC and the Bournemouth Radio Society, the runners up respectively. During the event QSOs ranged from Belgium to Scotland and from Germany to Northern Ireland.



"I am very interested in becoming active on the TVDX scene and also interested in Amateur TV", writes **Jim Byrne** from Dublin, whose letter is typical of many which periodically appear in my postbag. As far as ATV is concerned, I recommend that you first join your local amateur radio club and get to know the television buffs and believe me, you will learn far more from them in a short while than you can by scratching around on your own. Whereas activity in the ATV world is being created all the time, DXTV requires a given amount of patience because the enthusiast must wait for an atmospheric disturbance, such as sporadic-E or a tropospheric opening, before receiving some of the juicy pictures that are published in my column.

The majority of the domestic TV channels are shared by international agreement and due to the normal limited range of a TV transmitter, many signals are transmitted on the same or similar channels without interference. The system works fine until an atmospheric disturbance occurs, and for a while the range of a multitude of TV transmitters is increased from about 80 to more than 2400 km and of course, creates what's commonly known as co-channel or adjacent channel interference, Fig. 1.

In general, television signals in Band I, approximately 40-70MHz, are influenced by sporadic-E which, varying in intensity, occurs on most days between late April and mid-August and signals transmitted in Band III, approximately 175-225MHz, and the u.h.f. bands are affected by disturbances in the troposphere which can occur at any time when the atmospheric pressure is high and the prevailing weather is fine and clear. The YL announcer and the speaker in Figs. 2 and 3 were received by the author on Ch. R1, 49.75MHz from possibly Poland or the USSR during the 1982 sporadic-E season. The YL presenter, (Fig. 4), was received in colour, by the author, from Germany on Ch. E10 210.25MHz during a tropo opening in September and the two German stations, Figs. 5 and 6, were received on Chs. 45 and 54 respectively by **Nicholas Wythe**, Folkestone, during a tropo opening in July.

When selecting a receiver for DXTV make sure that it has two TV tuners, one for v.h.f. covering Ch. E2-4 and E5-12 and the other for u.h.f. Chs. 21-69. Suitable sets are usually small screen portables and are made by such firms as Hitachi, JVC, National Panasonic, Plustron, Sanyo, Sony and no doubt others, which I am always pleased to hear about.

SSTV

Peter Lincoln BRS 42979, Aldershot, received slow scan television pictures from F3HD Fig. 7, K4BZY Fig. 8 and OH2BTX Fig. 9 with a Wraase SC-140 SSTV converter and a Hitachi 4.5in por-

table receiver, both seen on the right of the operator's bench in Fig. 10. Peter also received pictures from stations in Finland, France, Germany and Spain and his best DX during October was LU5NA.

Amateur TV

Congratulations to **Roy Humphreys** G6AIW, Worthing, on winning the BATC Summer Cumulative ATV contest. Roy used his TV gear on each of 5 sessions at Chanctonbury Ring, a high spot on the Sussex Downs, and exchanged mono and colour pictures with stations as far apart as F3YX near Paris and G8VBC in Derby.

Our Technical Editor, **John Fell** G8MCP is now active on 432MHz with a Wood and Douglas ATV-2 transmitter fed by a monochrome camera and a Sinclair ZX Spectrum computer for colour transmissions and fellow members of the Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society, **Judith Richardson** G6JGR and **Mervyn Staton** G4BGT, from Corfe Mullen, also have a Wood and Douglas ATV-2 plus 10W p.a. coupled to a 48-element multi-beam antenna and use a Hitachi C750 colour camera and a 6500 video recorder for film making. Judith and Mervyn have plans to operate ATV equipment on 1296MHz, and are looking for skeds, on 432MHz, with stations to the west of Corfe Mullen. Anyone interested, they are both QTHR.

Roy Humphreys and fellow members of the Worthing and District Video Repeater Group are prepared to give talks on the subject, in aid of their funds, so any clubs who are interested should contact Roy at Worthing on 0903 67764.

Band I

As a result of leaving the television gear ticking over whenever I am working in the shack I have seen frequent bursts of signal on Chs. E2 46.25MHz and R1, long enough to identify, the test cards from Austria ORF-FSI, Czechoslovakia RSKH and Poland and such programmes as cartoons and music and, at 0845 on October 24, the caption "Fr" appeared. Any ideas?

Around 1220 on the 31st, **Harold Brodribb**, St Leonards-on-Sea, watched pictures of golf during a sports

programme from Spain on Ch. E2 and, as the camera zoomed on a sign he saw the word "7 pasa" and while using his v.h.f. communications receiver, at 1110 on November 3 he heard many short lived bursts of synchronising pulses on Ch. R1 which as Harold presumes were most likely coming from meteor trail reflection.

Dave Cawser G6NBY, Burton-on-Trent, has shown that it is well worth keeping an eye on Band I outside the sporadic-E season, because at 0929 on October 24 he saw a Russian station identification, with a YL announcer and a clock showing 1229, on Ch. R1. Around

1045 on the 31st, he watched dancing from TVE Spain on Chs. E2 and 3 and at 1150 a weather forecast from RAI Italy on Ch. 1a 53.75MHz. Both Dave and I saw a film about wild birds with their young during a mild sporadic-E disturbance around 0930 on November 14, which seemed to peak around Chs. E2 and R1.

Tropospheric

Around 1500 on October 29, **Adrian Butcher**, Washington, Sussex, using an Ultra 6808 and outside Yagi antenna



Fig. 1: German caption received by the author on Ch. E10. Note the diagonal lines of co-channel interference



Fig. 2: Unidentified signal, received by the author via sporadic-E on Ch. R1



Fig. 3: Unidentified signal received by the author on Ch. R1



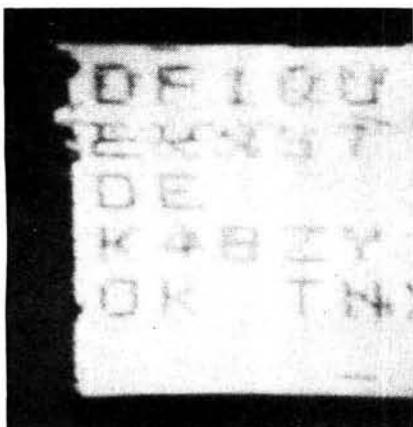
Fig. 4: ZDF programme presenter received by the author on Ch. E10



Fig. 5: UHF picture received by Nicholas Wythe. Note the lines of co-channel interference



Fig. 6: UHF picture received by Nicholas Wythe



Figs. 7, 8 & 9: Slow scan television picture logged by Peter Lincoln

received a strong test card from Belgium BRT TV2 Wavre on Ch. 25 and at 1550 I received BRT TV1 from Wavre on the much lower frequency of Ch. E10. This heralded good DX conditions for the following few days.

At 1930 a news programme came up on Ch. E10 with a YL presenter and reports about a European conference by Renate Butow and the Spanish General Election by Wolf Hanke, followed at 1915 by the weather charts and forecast and at 2225 the German ARD caption. The following morning my Band III beam was still pointing east and at 0804, using a Plustron TVRC7, I received the Dutch test card PTT NED-1 on Ch. E4, pictures of food and wine being prepared on Ch. E5, and colour test cards, from the W. German stations "hr 1 m" on Ch. E7, NDR1 on Ch. E10 and WDR1 on E11. At 1445 there was a war film in black and white, from the E. German station DDR on Ch. E6 followed by a YL announcer and a programme about dahlias, while concurrently, on Ch. E10, was a variety programme in full colour. The ARD clock appeared at 1900 and strong pictures continued on Chs. E6 and E10 for most of the evening.

"During the evening of October 30 BBC television announced that viewers

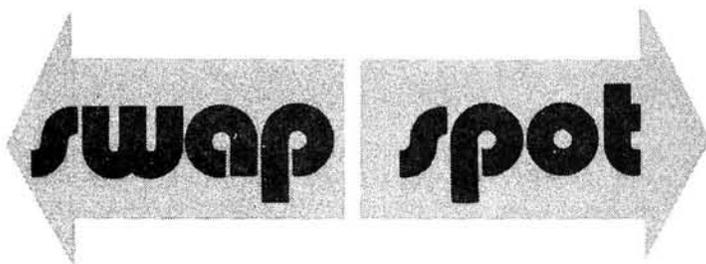


Fig. 10: Peter Lincoln's shack showing SSVT gear on the right of the bench

may experience interference to their programmes as Bands III, IV and V become disturbed" writes **Sam Faulkner**, Burton-on-Trent, who received a very strong IBA Ch. 4 test card from Sandy Heath on Ch. 21, the programme *Heute* and *Das Aktuelle Sport Studio*, from ZDF on Chs. 34, 35, 37 and 39 and from

"Hessischer Rundfunk" on Ch. 52. Also watching u.h.f. was **Simon Hamer** in Presteigne who received France TDF on Chs. 27, 35 and 45. "An ideal birthday present" said Simon who also received pictures from Belgium on Ch. E8 and Germany on Ch. E10.

"Very spectacular" thought Sam as he logged a test card from Denmark on Ch. E5, football from ARD on several Band III channels, news from DDR-1 on Ch. E5 and 12 and his best DX was Czechoslovakia CST, on Ch. R10, who were showing a "Your Letters" type programme which Sam had previously seen on the Band I channels called NAD, DOPISEY, DIVAKU CST. It is worth noting that while Sam received TV pictures from CST on R10, 207-25MHz, several radio amateurs in the UK were working into Czechoslovakia on the 144MHz band. "The best results I've ever had from our set, four countries, all in one afternoon, including good colour pictures from Germany," writes **Ian Kelly**, Reading, who logged 3 editions of ZDF on Chs. E32, 34 and 35 and saw *Charlie Brown*, *Heute*, *The Flintstones* and adverts for German toys, in addition to pictures from Belgium and Holland and many negative pictures from stations in France.



Have Sony music system model HMK77 and two Sony speakers model SS2030. Would exchange for general coverage amateur transceiver with built-in power supply or separate. D. Jenkins, 40 Fraser St., Bedminster, Bristol BS3 4LZ. **P813**

Have nearly complete set of *Practical Electronics* from onset to late seventies. Would exchange for general coverage receiver, age and condition immaterial, even one needing attention—for a keen s.w.l. Williams, 40 Salem Street South, Hendon, Sunderland. Tel: 0783 653097. **P822**

Have photographic colour processing equipment including Durst Enlarger, Melico analyser, timer, drum, filters etc., plus cine equipment. Would exchange for a 144MHz transceiver, h.f. receiver CB transceiver w.h.y. Richard, Okehampton 0837 2484 (Devon). **P829**

Have 1956 Ekco TMB272 9in radio TV (portable), works but needs mains lead. Would exchange for short wave a.t.u. or two 3Ω speakers in cabinets or multimeter. Tel: Blagdon Hill (Somerset) 554. **P840**

Have Kodak instant camera with accessories, also have TV DX converter or 144MHz linear amplifier for IC-2E. A. Dunham, 5 King St., Wimblington, March, Cambs PE15 0QF. Tel: 740660. **P842**

Have 1969 Nikon F camera with photomic head 50 × 1.4, 28 × 3.5 Nikon lenses, 200 × 3.5 Vivitar. Would exchange for 144MHz multimode or other 144MHz equipment considered. Tel: Southport 0704 35775. **P860**

Have Tektronix 5020A double beam oscilloscope with manual, and probes, in good working order. Would exchange for transceiver, receiver or w.h.y. W. Craig, 30 Titania St., Cregagh, Belfast BT6 8NT. **P867**

Have Realistic PR02001 f.m. scanner, 30-50MHz, 68-88MHz, 144-174MHz and 430-512MHz. Would exchange for a Plustron TVR5D TV. E. Eyre, 4 Park Road, Hoddesdon, Herts. Tel: 65165. **P868**

Have 88 receiver, 8-track player, computer panels and a 24-hour timer switch. Will exchange the lot for tuner unit 30-80MHz. Tel: Kennoway 350993. **P869**

Have Bearcat 220FB scanner, boxed with manual. Would exchange for Trio R-1000 or similar type general coverage receiver. Cash adjustment if necessary. I. Baggett, 59 Leigham Vale Road, Bournemouth BH6 3LR. Tel: Bournemouth 420666. **P890**

Have SLR camera Olympus OM1, Zuiko 1.5 50mm lens with case, B/W Zenith 5 portable enlarger with timer, developing tank, dishes and Paterson paper exposure meter. Would exchange for used Microwave Modules MM200/1 RTTY to TV converter. Tel: evenings only, Claude 01-431 2919. **P891**

Have Sommerkamp TS788DX. Would exchange for Reftec 934MHz transceiver and antenna. Tel: 01-987 2296. **P898**

Have Ekco vintage receiver model No. 25, perfect working order. Would exchange for R208 or WS19 communications receiver—operational or otherwise, or w.h.y. P.H. Spencer James, 105 St. Andrews Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2DF. **P901**

Have DX302 general coverage receiver, 18 months old, digital readout, quartz locked circuit, 6 tunable pre-selectors, i.e.d. band indicators, b.f.o., u.s.b. and l.s.b. with built-in Morse practice. Would exchange for current model 144MHz mobile multimode transceiver. J. Docherty, 12 Mallaig Road, Glasgow G51 4NE. Tel: 041-440 0223. **P911**

MODS

IMPORTANT—The ideas presented here are suggestions only, and as they are untried by this magazine, we cannot accept responsibility for any resultant damage, however caused. Before alterations are attempted, care should be taken to ensure that any guarantee is not invalidated, and it should also be borne in mind that modifications usually have an adverse effect on resale prices. In cases where specialist skills or equipment are needed, most dealers will undertake the work for a reasonable fee.

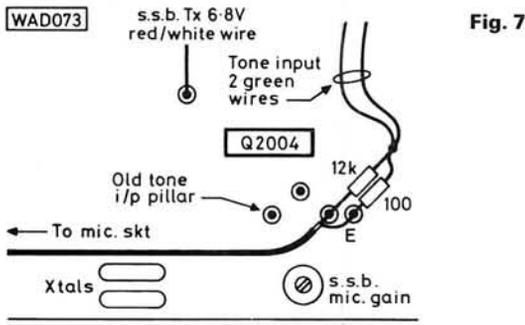
Roger Hall G8TNT(Sam)

No. 19

More mods for the FT-290R this month

SSB Auto Pip-Tone

Tom's second mod is for automatic pip-tone on s.s.b. using the existing tone generator. It involves a fair amount of work but it should not prove too difficult for most people. Having gained access to the Regulator Unit, the first step is to open circuit the TC SW line on the print at Pin 10 of the connector. Either cut the print or remove the connection. Then open circuit the f.m. 6-8V supply at 12 and 13 and replace it with a permanent 6-8V supply which is available at Pin 5 using a short wire link. Now move to the component side of the board and note that the tone input is fed to the f.m. demodulator direct. This tone feed-point must be altered to accommodate s.s.b. operation. Disconnect the two green tone-feed wires from their pillars near Q2004 and connect them to a potential divider of 12kΩ and 100Ω to earth built across the microphone input pillars nearby, Fig. 7. Now the CALL button will activate the tone generator but not the transmitter, and the tone will be audible in the microphone.



The next stage starts by removing the battery housing and the bottom cover. Then connect a 2000µF capacitor from the coil of RLO1, junction Q2011 collector to earth via the NOISE BLANKER switch, which should have had its original wires removed and been wired permanently on so that this switch is available for turning the pip-tone on and off. This capacitor provides a delay on the TX/RX relay which gives us the pip window at the end of the transmission. As it is such a large component, it may be necessary to house it in the battery compartment and run a wire round to the main board. Next make up the AND gate shown in Fig. 8 using any npn silicon BC147-107 type transistors and connect it to the points indicated. Install it straight on the back of the p.c.b. as flat as possible. Tom

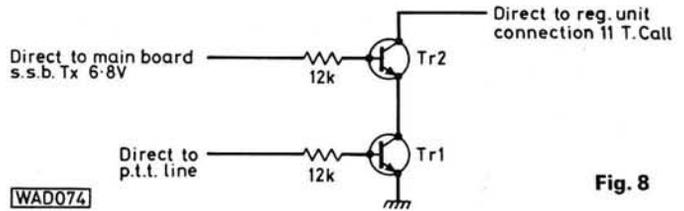


Fig. 8

has put his near to the TX/RX relay as the TX s.s.b. 6-8V and p.t.t. line are nearby, but he has had to run a long piece of wire to the Regulator board. This mod is now complete and it works because when the p.t.t. is pressed, Tr1 is off and Tr2 is on. When the p.t.t. is released, approximately 4V turns on Tr1 and Tr2 is still off because the 2000µF capacitor is holding the relay in the transmit mode, thus supplying Tr2 with bias. Therefore the T. Call line at Tr2 collector is taken towards earth, initiating tone until the capacitor discharges through RLO1 and the RX mode is established. Once on receive, Tr2 loses its bias and its collector rises causing the tone to cease. Even on receive, there is no tone in the microphone unless the CALL button is pressed. The pip-tone is automatically disabled when the f.m. mode is selected because there is no longer the s.s.b. TX 6-8V on Tr2. The potential divider across the microphone is essential as the level of tone is very high.

3SK88

This is the first anti-mod that I have ever published and it will be a disappointment to all of you who are reading this page in the hope of finding out how to install a 3SK88 in the front end of your rig. Instead I am going to suggest that you do not carry out this mod. There was a time when dealers couldn't sell an FT-290R unless they had installed this device, but now most prospective customers are asking for unmodified rigs. The general consensus of opinion among the engineers that I have spoken to, and who work in the dealers' workshops, is that this mod not only does not work, it also degrades the performance of the rig. One of the problems seems to be the 3SK51 (Q1002) mixer which is an average performer but not up to handling the output from a 3SK88 and so it tends to overload. I have also been told of a.g.c. problems with this mod, but the most obvious symptom is nearly always cross-modulation.

Those engineers who have been interested enough to check out this mod on their test equipment have told me that there is a marginal improvement under controlled conditions but out in the real world where there are strong signals nearby, an outboard switchable pre-amplifier with a high Q would have more selectivity and less cross-mod and would be far more versatile. The standard FT-290 is very good when it comes to cross-modulation and it is logical to assume that it is as easy to buy a 3SK88 in Japan as it is in this country and so if the designers of this rig have decided not to use one, they probably had a very good reason. Two dealers have even told of stability problems on transmit which cleared up as soon as this device was removed, but neither of them could explain the cause. In his letter Tom G8HUH, said that he carried out the 3SK88 mod and the results were disappointing, but he managed to improve the performance by grounding the source, thereby removing the d.c. feedback to Gate 1. He also commented on the increased cross-modulation that his rig now suffers from. Most of the engineers who work on these rigs have said that the easiest, and probably the best way to improve the performance of the front end is to re-tune them so that they are peaked on 145MHz.

Note: In the Squelch mod last month, T1007 is a transformer, not a transistor.

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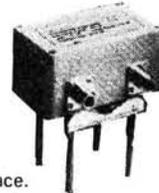
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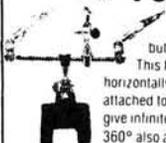
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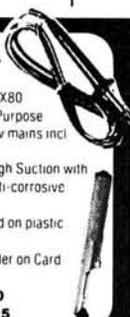
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	1x011	9+9	1.66	
	1x012	12+12	1.25	
	1x013	15+15	1.00	
	1x014	18+18	0.83	
	1x015	22+22	0.68	
	1x016	25+25	0.60	
1x017	30+30	0.50		
50 VA 80 x 35mm 0.9 Kg Regulation 13%	2x010	6+6	4.16	£5.70 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E1 05 TOTAL E6 05
	2x011	9+9	2.77	
	2x012	12+12	2.08	
	2x013	15+15	1.66	
	2x014	18+18	1.38	
	2x015	22+22	1.13	
	2x016	25+25	1.00	
2x017	30+30	0.83		
2x028	110	0.45		
2x029	220	0.22		
2x030	240	0.20		
80 VA 90 x 30mm 1 Kg Regulation 12%	3x010	6+6	6.64	£6.08 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E1 16 TOTAL E6 91
	3x011	9+9	4.44	
	3x012	12+12	3.33	
	3x013	15+15	2.66	
	3x014	18+18	2.22	
	3x015	22+22	1.81	
	3x016	25+25	1.60	
3x017	30+30	1.33		
3x028	110	0.72		
3x029	220	0.36		
3x030	240	0.33		
120 VA 90 x 40mm 1.2 Kg Regulation 11%	4x010	6+6	10.00	£6.90 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E1 26 TOTAL E9 86
	4x011	9+9	6.66	
	4x012	12+12	5.00	
	4x013	15+15	4.00	
	4x014	18+18	3.33	
	4x015	22+22	2.72	
	4x016	25+25	2.40	
4x017	30+30	2.00		
4x018	35+35	1.71		
4x028	110	1.09		
4x029	220	0.54		
4x030	240	0.50		
160 VA 110 x 40mm 1.8 Kg Regulation 8%	5x011	9+9	8.89	£7.91 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E1 04 TOTAL E11 52
	5x012	12+12	6.66	
	5x013	15+15	5.33	
	5x014	18+18	4.44	
	5x015	22+22	3.63	
	5x016	25+25	3.20	
	5x017	30+30	2.66	
5x018	35+35	2.28		
5x026	40+40	2.00		
5x028	110	1.10		
5x029	220	0.72		
5x030	240	0.66		

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	6x013	15+15	7.50	
	6x014	18+18	6.25	
	6x015	22+22	5.11	
	6x016	25+25	4.50	
	6x017	30+30	3.75	
	6x018	35+35	3.21	
6x026	40+40	2.81		
6x025	45+45	2.50		
6x033	50+50	2.25		
6x028	110	2.04		
6x029	220	1.02		
6x030	240	0.93		
300 VA 110 x 50mm 2.6 Kg Regulation 6%	7x013	15+15	10.00	£10.17 +P&E 02 00 +VAT E1 83 TOTAL E14 00
	7x014	18+18	8.33	
	7x015	22+22	6.82	
	7x016	25+25	6.00	
	7x017	30+30	5.00	
	7x018	35+35	4.28	
	7x026	40+40	3.75	
7x025	45+45	3.33		
7x033	50+50	3.00		
7x028	110	2.72		
7x029	220	1.36		
7x030	240	1.25		
500 VA 140 x 60mm 4 Kg Regulation 4%	8x016	25+25	10.00	£13.53 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E2 38 TOTAL E16 26
	8x017	30+30	8.33	
	8x018	35+35	7.14	
	8x026	40+40	6.25	
	8x025	45+45	5.55	
	8x033	50+50	5.00	
	8x042	55+55	4.54	
8x028	110	4.54		
8x029	220	2.27		
8x030	240	2.08		
625 VA 140 x 70mm 5 Kg Regulation 4%	9x017	30+30	10.41	£16.13 +P&E 01 30 +VAT E2 78 TOTAL E17 42
	9x018	35+35	8.92	
	9x026	40+40	7.81	
	9x025	45+45	6.94	
	9x033	50+50	6.25	
	9x042	55+55	5.68	
	9x028	110	5.68	
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SD1127	4w	12dB	12	175MHz	£2.75
2N6080	4w	12dB	12	175MHz	£5.97
SD1143	10w	10dB	12	175MHz	£7.15
2N6081	15w	6.3dB	12	175MHz	£8.88
2N6082	25w	5.7dB	12	175MHz	£9.49
2N6084	40w	4.5dB	12	175MHz	£13.80
SD1428	45w	6.5dB	12	175MHz	£28.16
SD1418	70w	6.7dB	12	175MHz	£31.50
SD1477	100w	6.0dB+	12	175MHz	£31.50
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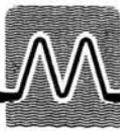
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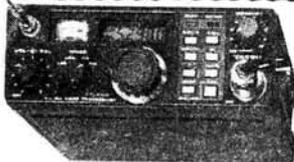
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DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
DL96 2.00	EC8L86 0.74	GZ30 1.20	PL802 3.25	6AS5 1.50	12AY7 2.50	MC1330P 0.75	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	AF126 0.36	BC307 0.10	BT116 1.22	TN3708 0.12	
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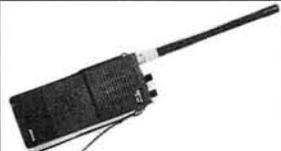
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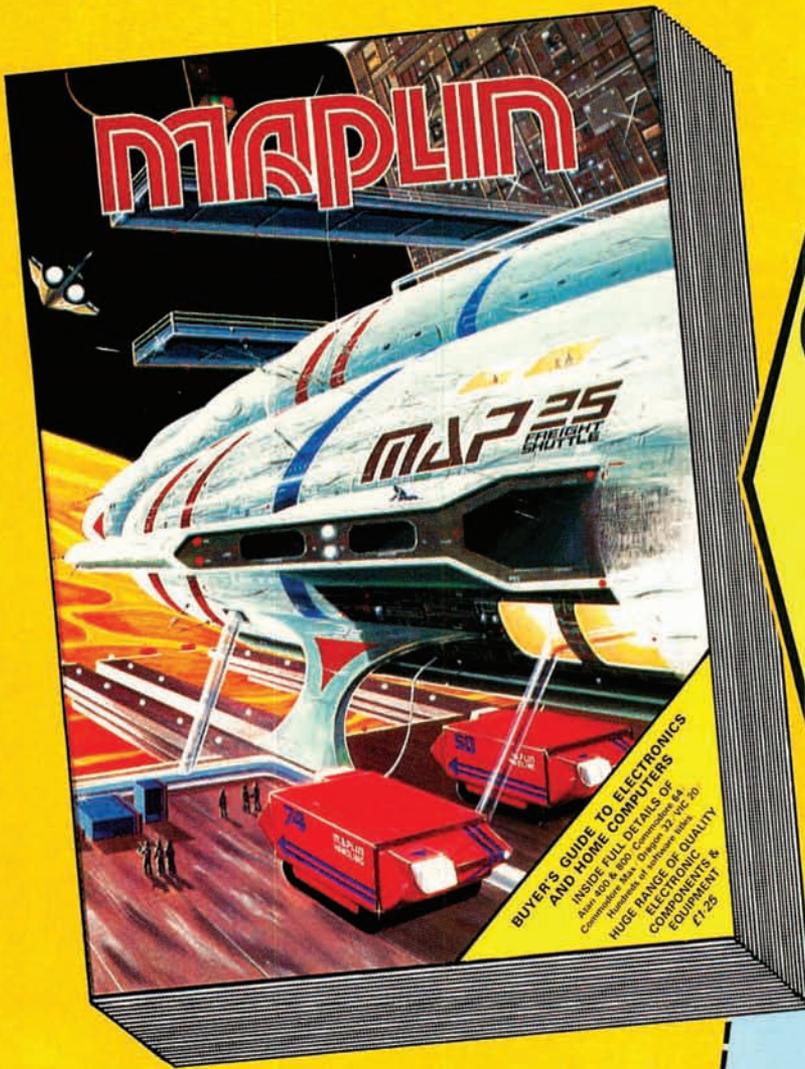
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