

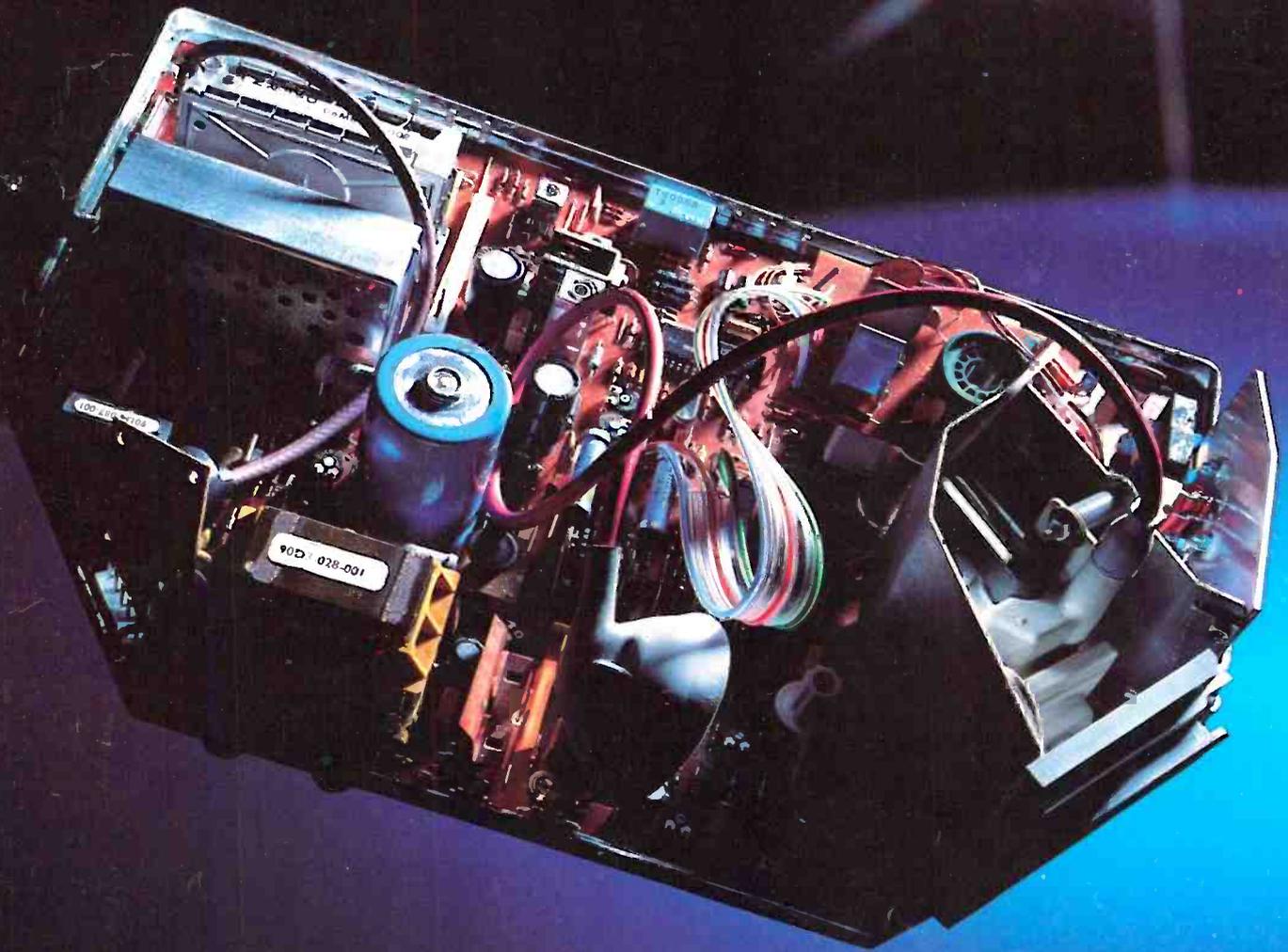
FEBRUARY 1980

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TELEVISION

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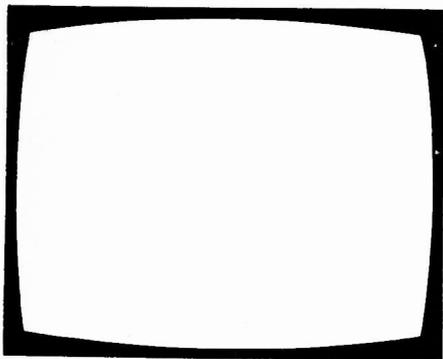
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TCE 950/100/300/100/16	1.00
TCE 1400/150/100/100/100/150	3.70
TCE 1500/150/150/100	2.10
TCE 3000/3500/175/400/100/100/350/270	1.30
TCE 3000/3500/220/100	0.70
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TELEVISION

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1980

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QUERIES

We regret that we cannot answer technical queries over the telephone nor supply service sheets. We will endeavour to assist readers who have queries relating to articles published in *Television*, but we cannot offer advice on modifications to our published designs nor comment on alternative ways of using them. All correspondents expecting a reply should enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Requests for advice in dealing with servicing problems should be directed to our Queries Service. For details see our regular feature "Service Bureau". Send to the address given above (see "correspondence").

this month

- 177 **Leader**
- 178 **Teletopics**
News, comment and developments.
- 180 **Assessing the Thorn TX9 Chassis** *by Eugene Trundle*
The Thorn TX9 is a remarkable chassis – the most compact colour receiver to date, making extensive use of i.c.s to keep the component count to a minimum. There are nevertheless some interesting features: a novel though simple power supply, an elaborate anti-breathing system, and switch-off spot suppression for example. We passed our review set on to E. Trundle who gave it a thorough test and reports on its performance and the interesting new bits of circuitry.
- 187 **Fault Round-up** *by John Coombes*
Notes on fault conditions in a wide variety of TV sets – in particular the various Rank solid-state colour chassis. Valuable assistance for the busy fault-finder!
- 190 **Vintage TV: The English Electric Model 16T11D** *by Vivian Capel*
Interest in old equipment seems to be spreading from one field to another. Perhaps old TV sets will be the next to be rescued and lovingly restored. This new series will look at some of the more interesting sets of yesteryear, starting with the English Electric 16T11D of 1953. If you've never come across a Barretter or a metal-cone c.r.t., read on...
- 191 **Next Month in Television**
- 192 **Oh Dear What Can the Matter be?** *by Les Lawry-Johns*
Once upon a time there was a bright fellow who could diagnose faults without taking the back off the set. No longer! This, so he says, explains the endless series of cock-ups reported for your entertainment and enlightenment.
- 194 **Computerised TV, Part 1** *by David K. Matthewson, B.Sc., Ph.D.*
It's all microprocessors and microcomputers nowadays. They're now getting into TV sets and VCRs. So it's time to take a look at them, with a view to finding out what they can do and how they can be used in domestic TV equipment.
- 196 **VCR Troubles** *by Steve Beeching, T.Eng.(C.E.I.)*
The aim is to pass on useful gen to those new to video servicing. Apart from the machines themselves, Steve has had problems with the cassettes.
- 198 **Colour Receiver Options, Part 4** *by Luke Theodossiou*
Constructional details of the teletext plus remote control option. Also how to add LCD channel indication to this option.
- 201 **Letter**
- 202 **TV Servicing: Beginners Start Here... Part 29** *by S. Simon*
This time the awkward bit: what to do when you encounter a colourless colour set. Plus other colour faults.
- 206 **Long-distance Television** *by Roger Bunnay*
Reports on DX reception and conditions, and news from abroad. There's been more spectacular F2 reception. Also, in the beginners' section, notes on preamplifiers and filters for removing interference.
- 209 **Readers' PCB Service**
- 211 **Service Bureau**
- 213 **Test Case 206**

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Postage & Packing £1.00

MAIL ORDER T.V.s. IN GOOD WORKING ORDER

COLOUR		COLOUR		COLOUR	
Pye	19" £60.00	22" £65.00	26" £75.00	20" & 24" S/S	£16.00
GEC	19" £60.00	22" £65.00	26" £75.00	20" & 24" D/S	£14.00
Bush	19" £80.00	22" £80.00	26" £90.00	19" & 23" D/S P/button	£12.00
Philips	G6 —	22" £63.00	26" £70.00	19" & 23" D/S Rotary	£8.00

Many other makes & models available.
Please ring or write for information.

**PERSONAL CALLERS
WELCOME.**

MONO
20" & 24" S/S £16.00 Pye, GEC, Bush etc.
20" & 24" D/S £14.00 Pye, GEC, Bush etc.
19" & 23" D/S P/button £12.00 Pye, GEC, Bush etc.
19" & 23" D/S Rotary £8.00 Pye, GEC, Bush etc.

Please note there is 15% V.A.T. on all the above prices.
Plus £8 P&P. England, Wales & Scotland for colour T.V.'s.
Inland N. & S. Ireland P&P £15. P&P £5 for mono T.V.'s
to England, Wales & Scotland. Inland N. & S. Ireland £7
per set.

Briarwood T.V. Limited
Britain's Mail Order
T.V. Specialists

BRIARWOOD

THE PROFESSIONAL CHOICE. NATIONWIDE

NEW SPARES

TYPE	PRICE £	TYPE	PRICE £	TYPE	PRICE £	TYPE	PRICE £	TYPE	PRICE £	TYPE	PRICE £	DIODES	E.H.T. TRAYS MONO		
AC107	0.20	AF170	0.25	BC172	0.08	BD222/T1P31A	0.37	BF260	0.24	OC45	0.20	1N4001	0.04	950 MK2 1400	2.00
AC113	0.17	AF172	0.20	BC173	0.12		0.37	BF262	0.28	OC46	0.35	1N4002	0.04	1500 18" 19" stick	
AC115	0.17	AF178	0.49	BC177	0.12	BD225/T1P31A	0.39	BF263	0.25	OC70	0.22	1N4003	0.06		2.37
AC117	0.24	AF180	0.60	BC178	0.12		0.39	BF271	0.20	OC71	0.28	1N4004	0.07	1500 24" 5 stick	2.48
AC125	0.20	AF181	0.30	BC179	0.12	BD234	0.34	BF273	0.12	OC72	0.35	1N4005	0.07	Single stick Thorn TV	
AC126	0.18	AF186	0.29	BC182L	0.09	BD222	0.50	BF336	0.28	OC74	0.35	1N4006	0.08	11.16K 70V	0.75
AC127	0.19	AF239	0.43	BC183L	0.09	BDX22	0.73	BF337	0.24	OC75	0.35	1N4007	0.08	TV20 2 MT	0.75
AC128	0.17	AU113	1.29	BC184L	0.09	BDX32	1.98	BF338	0.29	OC76	0.35	1N4148	0.03	TV20 16K 18V	0.75
AC131	0.13			BC186	0.18	BDY18	0.75	BF42	0.26	OC77	0.50	1N4751A	0.11		
AC141	0.23	BA130	0.08	BC187	0.18	BDY60	0.80	BFT43	0.24	OC78	0.13	1N5401	0.12		
AC142	0.19	BA145	0.14	BC209	0.11	BF115	0.24	BFX84	0.27	OC81	0.20	1N5404	0.12	IC's	
AC141K	0.29	BA148	0.17	BC212	0.09	BF121	0.21	BFX85	0.27	OC810	0.14	1N5406	0.13	3N76013N	1.20
AC142K	0.29	BA155	0.08	BC213L	0.09	BF154	0.12	BFX88	0.24	OC82	0.20	1N5408	0.16	3N76013ND	1.00
AC151	0.17	BAX13	0.05	BC214L	0.09	BF158	0.19	BFY37	0.22	OC820	0.13			3N76023N	1.20
AC165	0.16	BAX16	0.08	BC237	0.07	BF159	0.24	BFY50	0.15	OC83	0.22			3N76023ND	1.00
AC166	0.16	BC107	0.10	BC240	0.31	BF160	0.23	BFY51	0.15	OC84	0.28			3N76226DN	1.50
AC168	0.17	BC108	0.10	BC281	0.24	BF163	0.23	BFY52	0.15	OC85	0.13			3N76227N	1.20
AC176	0.17	BC109	0.10	BC262	0.18	BF164	0.17	BFY53	0.27	OC123	0.20			TBA341	0.97
AC176K	0.28	BC113	0.09	BC263B	0.20	BF167	0.23	BFY55	0.27	OC169	0.20			TBA520Q	1.10
AC178	0.16	BC114	0.12	BC267	0.19	BF173	0.21	BHA0002	1.90	OC170	0.22			TBA530Q	1.10
AC186	0.26	BC115	0.10	BC301	0.22	BF177	0.26	BR100	0.20	OC171	0.27			TBA540Q	1.45
AC187	0.21	BC116	0.10	BC302	0.30	BF178	0.24	BSX20	0.23	OA91	0.05			TBA550Q	1.40
AC188	0.20	BC117	0.11	BC307	0.10	BF179	0.28	BSX76	0.23	BRC4443	0.65			TBA560CQ	1.50
AC187K	0.30	BC119	0.22	BC337	0.11	BF180	0.30	BSY84	0.36	R2008B	1.50			TBA570Q	1.00
AC188K	0.30	BC125	0.12	BC338	0.09	BF181	0.34	BT106	1.18	R2010B	1.50			TBA800	1.00
AD130	0.50	BC126	0.09	BC307A	0.10	BF182	0.30	BT108	1.23	R2305	0.38			TBA810	1.50
AD140	0.65	BC136	0.12	BC308A	0.12	BF183	0.29	BT109	1.09	R2305/BD222	0.37			TBA920Q	1.50
AD142	0.73	BC137	0.12	BC309	0.14	BF184	0.23	BT116	1.23	SCR957	0.65			TBA990Q	1.50
AD143	0.70	BC138	0.21	BC547	0.09	BF185	0.29	BT120	1.23	TIP31A	0.38			TCA270SQ	1.45
AD145	0.70	BC139	0.21	BC548	0.11	BF186	0.30	BU105/02	1.50	TIP32A	0.36			TCA270SA	1.45
AD149	0.64	BC140	0.24	BC549	0.11	BF194	0.09	BU105/04	2.00	TIP3055	0.53			TCA1327B	1.00
AD161	0.40	BC141	0.22	BC557	0.11	BF195	0.09	BU126	1.40	T1590	0.19				
AD162	0.40	BC142	0.19	BD112	0.39	BF196	0.12	BU205	1.20	T1591	0.19				
AD161 }		BC143	0.19	BD113	0.65	BF197	0.10	BU208	1.60	TV106	1.09				
AD162 }	1.30	BC147	0.07	BD115	0.30	BF198	0.11	BY126	0.09						
AF106	0.42	BC148	0.07	BD116	0.47	BF199	0.14	BY127	0.10						
AF114	0.23	BC149	0.07	BD124	1.30	BF200	0.28								
AF115	0.22	BC153	0.12	BD131	0.32	BF216	0.12	OC22	1.10						
AF116	0.22	BC154	0.12	BD132	0.34	BF217	0.12	OC23	1.30						
AF117	0.30	BC157	0.10	BD133	0.37	BF218	0.12	OC24	1.30						
AF118	0.40	BC158	0.11	BD135	0.26	BF219	0.12	OC25	1.00						
AF121	0.33	BC159	0.11	BD136	0.26	BF220	0.12	OC26	1.00						
AF124	0.33	BC160	0.22	BD137	0.26	BF222	0.12	OC28	1.00						
AF125	0.29	BC161	0.22	BD138	0.26	8F221	0.21	OC35	1.00						
AF126	0.29	BC167	0.09	BD139	0.40	BF224	0.12	OC36	0.90						
AF127	0.29	BC168	0.09	BD140	0.28	BF256	0.37	OC38	0.90						
AF139	0.39	BC169C	0.09	BD144	1.39	BF258	0.27	OC42	0.45						
AF151	0.24	8C171	0.08	BD145	0.50	8F259	0.27	OC44	0.20						

DIODES	
1N4001	0.04
1N4002	0.04
1N4003	0.06
1N4004	0.07
1N4005	0.07
1N4006	0.08
1N4007	0.08
1N4148	0.03
1N4751A	0.11
1N5401	0.12
1N5404	0.12
1N5406	0.13
1N5408	0.16

VALVES	
DY87	0.52
DY802	0.64
ECC82	0.52
EF80	0.40
EF183	0.60
EF184	0.60
EH90	0.60
PC86	0.76
PC88	0.76
PCC89	0.65
PCC189	0.65
PCF80	0.70
PCF86	0.68
PCF801	0.70
PCF802	0.74
PCL82	0.67
PCL84	0.75
PCL86	0.78
PCL805	0.75
PLF200	1.00
PL36	0.90
PL84	0.74
PL504	1.10
PL509	2.45
PY8B	0.63
PY500A	1.60
PY81/800	0.57

SPECIAL OFFER	
SL901B	3.50
SL917B	5.00

SPECIAL OFFER	
Philips PL802	2.55

E.H.T. TRAYS COLOUR	
Pye 731	5.20
Pye 691/693	4.50
Decca (large screen)	
CS2030/2232/2630/2632/2230/2233/2631	5.00
Philips G8 520/40	5.30
Philips 550	5.30
GEC C2110	5.50
GEC Hybrid CTV	5.10
Thorn 3000/3500	5.00
Thorn 8000	2.42
Thorn 8500	4.75
Thorn 9000	5.50
GEC TVM 25	2.50
ITT/KB CVC 5/7/8/9	5.10
RRI (R8M) A823	5.00

All transistors, IC's offered are new and branded. Manufactured by Mullard, I.T.T., Texas, Motorola etc. Please add 15% VAT to all items and overseas at cost P & P U.K. 25p per order, overseas allow for package and postage. Cash with all orders. All prices subject to alteration without notice.

TELEVISION SALE DISCOUNT FOR QUANTITY

Please note all mono sets sold as 100% comp. No broken masks, no broken panels etc. Colour sets sold with good c.r.t.s and 100% comp. Working Mono £3.00 extra. Working Colour £15.00 extra. Supplied in 1's or 100's.

MONO Rotaries 19" & 23"		S/S 20" 24"	
GEC	£3.00	Bush 313 etc.	£12.00
Thorn 950 etc.	3.00	Pye 169 chassis	12.00
K.B.	3.00	Thorn 1500	12.00
Pye	3.00	GEC series 1 & 2	12.00
Thorn 1400	4.50	Decca MS series	12.00

D/S P/B 19" 23"		S/S COLOUR				
Thorn 1400	7.00					
Bush 161 etc.	7.00					
Baird 660 etc.	7.00					
Philips 210 etc.	7.00					
Pye Olympic etc.	7.00					

D/S P/B 20" 24"		S/S COLOUR				
Bush	10.00					
GEC	10.00					
Philips	10.00					
Pye	10.00					
Thorn	10.00					

MAINS DROPPERS

Mono	
Bush 161	60p
Philips 210 30+125+2K85	50p
Philips 210 118R+148R	48p
Thorn 1400	75p
GEC 2018	58p
Thorn 1500	70p
Colour	
Bush A823	72p
Pye 723 27Q+56Q	57p
GEC 2110 -41Q	45p
GEC 2110 -12R5+12R5	47p
GEC2110 -27R5	45p
Thorn 3500	58p
Thorn 8000	58p
Thorn 8500	54p
Philips G8 47R	30p
Philips G8 2.2+68	42p

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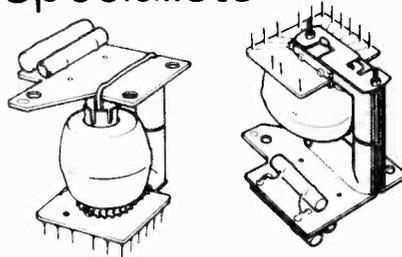
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LINE OUTPUT TRANSFORMERS

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Various other models available on request



Set Manufacturer	Chassis/Model	Price. £	Set Manufacturer	Chassis/Model	Price £
Pye	731	12-50	Scantic	2621-1/2621-2	12-50
Philips	G8	9-50	Scantic	Chassis 32.631 - Series 2	
Philips	K70	18-75		2635-1/2635-3/ 2636/2636-2/ 2636-4/2637/ 2638/2639/ 2645/1805-6482	12-50
Decca	30 (Bradford)	9-25	B & O (Beovision)	3100/3300/3400	13-00
Decca	1730	9-25	B & O (Beovision)	3100/3300/3400	
Decca	80	9-00		EHT Transformer	14-50
Decca	100	9-00	B & O (Beovision)	3500/3600/4000/ 5000/6000	12-50
Decca Mono	MS1700/2020/ 2001/2401	8-00	Tandberg	CTV 1/2/2-2/ Colour 102/103/ 104/105/106	12-50
Korting	51763/51765 - 22"			CTV 55552	
	52665/52666 - 26"	12-00		Chassis 711A	12-00
	52865/52866 - 26"		Telefunken	Chassis 2682/2683/ 2684/2282/2283/ 2284	12-00
Korting	53701/02/08/09		Autovox 90°	2684/2282/2283/ 2284	12-00
	54701/02/07/08/547	11-20		Autovox 110°	12-00
	55606/55700/02/ 711/735/747		Siemens	Chassis 2693/2694	12-00
ITT	CVC25/30/32	9-00		2221-1/222-2/ 2621-1/2621-2/ 2622-1/2622-2/ 2623-1/2623-2/ 2624-1/2624-2	12-50
Grundig	1500/2000/2500/ 3000/3010	12-50	Zanussi	B2222-2/3 B2223-2/3	11-20
Grundig	5010	13-00	Baird	27" 110°	11-20
Grundig	5010 EHT Transformer	14-50	Salora	BP-CTV 225 & 265 BP-7-663291/ BP-7-663691	12-00
	Series 5005/ 2222/6000/6010/8000	12-50	Indesit Mono	ED/B24 EG/B	8-50
Luxor	Chassis 32.617 - Series 2				
	2031-1/2031-2/ 2227-1/2227-2/ 2229-1/2229-2				
	Chassis 56.307 - Series 1 & 2				
	22307/22309/22317				
	26305/26307	12-00			
	Chassis 56347 - Series 1				
	TV 22347-2217-1				
	22349-2219-1				
	26345-2615-1				
	26347-2617-1				
	26349-2619-1				
	26347-2227-1				
Luxor	Chassis 32.621 - Series 1	12-50			

6 MONTH GUARANTEE

p & p 1-00

INSERTS (WINDING)

PYE 691 or 697	Small	3-65	Decca CTV 25	(Non Tripler Type)	
PYE 691 or 697	Large	5-10		Overwind	8-50
Bush CTV 25 Mk 3	Underwind	7-25	Philips G6 S/S or D/S	Underwind	7-90
Philips K70	Underwind	8-00		Overwind	8-50
			Philips G6 Overwind on Exchange basis only		
			EMO 90° Winding		7-90

MONO

Bush 161V Series		8-45	Philips 210, 300		8-45
Bush 313 Series		8-45	PYE 368		8-45
Decca DR1 to DR24		8-45	PYE 169 or 569		8-45
GEC Series 1-2		8-45	BUSH 816		12-00
ITT K13 VC 200		8-45			

Briarwood House, Preston Street, Bradford
West Yorkshire BD7 1LU
Tel: (0274) 306018

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TRANSISTORS

Transistor		Transistor		Transistor		Transistor													
AC127	48	AF238	1.00	BC119	1.40	BC173	1.40	BC464	1.00	BD1508	1.29	BF123	23	BF222	23	BF450	42		
AC128	58	AF2785	1.20	BC125	2.00	BC178	1.90	BC485	1.20	BD150C	.84	BF154	20*	BF224	18*	BF458	1.00	BU111Y	2.50
AC141	48	AL102	2.90	BC126	2.0*	BC179	1.9*	BC547	1.4*	BD163	.73	BF156	43	BF240	18*	BF459	1.00	BU128	2.10
AC142	40	AL113	2.90	BC135	2.0*	BC182L	1.4*	BC548	1.4*	BD166	.48	BF158	39	BF241	18*	BF481	1.50	BU204	1.50
AC153	57	AU103	2.11	BC136	2.0*	BC183L	1.4*	BC549	1.4*	BD181	.77	BF180	59	BF255	25	BF482	1.50	BU206	1.50
AC178	59	AU106	2.69	BC137	2.0*	BC184L	1.4*	BCX31	.26	BD182	59	BF187	48	BF256	50	BF483	1.50	BU208	1.50
AC187	38	AU107	2.06	BC139	.39	BC186	2.0*	BCX32	.24	BD183	.78	BF173	50	BF257	49	BF484	1.50	BU208/02	2.99
AC188	38	AU108	2.06	BC140	.39	BC187	.29*	BCX33	.22	BD187	.66	BF177	50	BF258	49	BF485	1.50	BU209	1.50
AD149	1.00	AU110	2.90	BC141	.33	BC212L	1.5*	BCX34	.27	BD201	.76	BF178	26	BF259	45	BF486	1.50	BU407	2.90
AD161	.75	AU111	2.90	BC142	.33	BC213L	1.5*	BCX36	.27	BD222	.35	BF179	49	BF262	49	BF487	1.50	BU407	2.90
AD182	.75	AU112	2.40	BC143	.39	BC213L	1.5*	BCY70	1.18*	BD225	.45	BF180	49	BF263	52	BF488	1.50	ME8001	2.6
AF115	.80	AU113	2.90	BC147	.15*	BC214L	1.6*	BCY71	.24	BD232	.47	BF181	59	BF271	49	BF489	1.50	MJE340	40
AF167	.80	AU114	2.90	BC148	.15*	BC237	1.5*	BCY72	.19*	BD233	.47	BF182	50	BF273	19*	BF490	1.50	MJE520	45
AF178	.59	BC107	1.8*	BC149	.15*	BC238	1.4*	BD115	.49	BD234	45	BF183	50	BF274	24	BF491	1.50	MJE2955	1.49
AF188	.59	BC108	1.8*	BC153	.15*	BC239	1.2*	BD118	.71	BD237	58	BF184	49	BF324	43	BF492	1.50	MJE3056	1.29
AF125	.59	BC109	1.8*	BC154	.15*	BC307	1.4*	BD131	.69	BD238	50	BF185	49	BF336	49	BF493	1.50	OC28	2.00
AF126	.61	BC113	1.5*	BC157	.15*	BC327	1.4*	BD132	.60	BD435	78	BF194	18*	BF337	49	BF494	1.50	OC35	2.00
AF127	.60	BC114	1.5*	BC158	.15*	BC337	1.4*	BD133	.69	BD437	75	BF195	14*	BF338	49	BF495	1.50	OC36	2.10
AF139	.80	BC115	2.0*	BC159	.15*	BC338	1.4*	BD135	.58	BD509	58	BF196	14*	BF355	80	BF496	1.50	OC44	40
AF178	1.54	BC116	2.0*	BC160	.39	BC384LC	.22	BD136	.58	BD610	49	BF197	14*	BF362	47	BU106/01	1.69	OC45	43
AF180	1.60	BC117	1.9*	BC170B	.20	BC481	.27	BD140	.58	BDX32	2.17	BF198	14*	BF363	47	BU106/02	1.64	OC71	49
AF181	1.61	BC118	1.9*	BC171	.15*	BC482	.65	BD144	2.49	BF115	.59	BF199	14*	BF422	47	BU108	1.80	OC72	49
				BC172	1.9*	BC483	.65	BD150A	.69	BF121	.21	BF200	21*	BF423	51	BU110	3.00	OC76	37

THYRISTORS, SILICON SWITCHES, DIACS

BFT42	.49	BT100	1.20
BFT43	.49	BT116	1.24
BR100	.49	BT119	2.49
BR101	.59	BT120	2.49
BR4443	1.30	CI065	1.10
BT106	1.50	OT112	1.60
BT108	1.30	TIC46	.80

BRIDGE RECTIFIERS

B40	1.05	KB501	1.40
BY164	.60	WO2	.58
BY179	.83	WO4	.58
BYW21	1.96	WO4	.54
BYW24	2.50	WO6	1.28
BYW61	3.20	BR1	.52
BYW62	3.20	BR2	.74
BYW64	4.70	BR3	.88
ITT3CD	.60	BR4	.82

DIODES AND RECTIFIERS

AA112	20*	BA115	22	BAX16	08*	BY206	19*	BYX10	20*	IN4007	16*
AA118	18*	BA145	16*	BY126	20*	BY207	22*	OA47	18*	IN4148	06
AA119	18*	BA156	20*	BY127	15*	BY210/400	40	OA91	18*	IN4448	34
AA143	20*	BA202	18*	BY176	16*	BY210/800	50	IN4001	10*	IN5401	24
AA144	14*	BA219	18*	BY182	1.03	BY251	35	IN4003	12*	IN5404	32
AY102	2.99	BA316	40	BY184	1.84	BY255	38	IN4004	12*	IT744	.48*
AY106	2.30	BA317	44	BY187	1.00	BY298	70	IN4005	12*	ITT2002	.38
BA102	2.36	BAX13	16*	BY199	3.3	BY299	72	IN4006	14*		

ZENER DIODES

400Mv 82V8E TYPE	.12*
Values 2.4V 62V	
1W 82X81 TYPE	.25*
Values 3.3V 200V	
10W (STUD MOUNTING)	1.30
Values 4.7V 200V	

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

BRCM200	3.34	SN72723L	2.20	TBA851	3.00
BRCH300	3.42	SN7603N	2.90	TBA873	2.19
BR1330	.80	SN78013N	1.90	TBA890	2.85
BT122	5.21	SN78013ND	1.90	TBA100	1.61
BT15018	2.57	SN78023N	1.90	TBA120A	2.84
CS00	3.87	SN78023ND	1.51	TBA120	2.00
CA270A	3.80	SN78033N	1.90	TBA800	1.22
CA270BE	3.70	SN78110N	1.90	TBA101AS	2.62
CA505	1.61	SN782260N	1.98	TBA105	2.22
CA758E	4.10	SN78227N	1.70	TBA820	1.50
CA920A	2.58	SN78228N	1.85	TBA890	3.94
CA2121	2.40	SN78530P	1.60	TBA920	3.23
CA3089E	4.48	SN78532N	2.00	TBA940	3.09
CA3090Q	1.98	SN78533N	2.00	TBA9502A	3.07
ETT6016	3.20	SN78544N	2.00	TBA970	4.09
ETT6016B	3.20	SN78546N	2.90	TBA980	2.93
LM1351	2.00	SN78686	1.30	TBA1440G	3.33
LM1370	2.38	TAA350A	2.80	TAA1441	3.33
MC1307P	2.80	TAA550A	.60	TCA270	3.00
MC1310P	2.40	TAA550B	.60	TCA270S	4.09
MC1327AP	3.27	TAA550C	.60	TCA290A	3.23
MC1327P	1.50	TAA570	1.98	TCA420A	2.04
MC1330P	1.00	TAA591	2.77	TCA440	1.98
MC1348P	1.98	TAA611B	2.83	TCA840	2.97
MC1351P	1.98	TAA630S	2.80	TCA850	3.42
MC1352P	1.65	TAA661B	2.83	TCA730	3.22
MC1358P	1.60	TAA700	3.91	TCA750	2.43
MC7724CP	1.80	TBA231	1.29	TCA800	3.12
ML237B	2.80	TBA240A	4.67	TCA820	2.17
SAA570	2.68	TBA325	1.57	TCA830S	2.13
SAA700	4.90	TBA395	3.34	TCA900	3.00
SA560S	3.30	TBA396	2.79	TCA910	2.90
SA5670S	3.30	TBA440C	3.30	TCA940	1.90
SA580	3.84	TBA480	2.20	TDA440	3.54
SA590	3.84	TBA500	2.63	TDA440	3.33
SA5660	4.20	TBA500	2.63	TDA440N	3.33
SA5670	4.20	TBA510	2.83	TDA1170	3.81
SC9503P	1.60	TBA520	2.00	TDA1412	1.00
SC9504P	1.84	TBA530	2.00	TDA2522	4.18
SC9508P	3.20	TBA540	2.20	TDA2530	2.77
SL437F	7.20	TBA550	2.90	TDA2560	3.63
SL901B	5.40	TBA560	2.34	TDA2590	2.68
SL917B	6.99	TBA641A12	2.71	TDA2600	2.93
SL918A	6.99	TBA641B11	3.99	TDA3950	2.57
SN1684AN	2.50	TBA641B11	3.99	TMS3848N	4.37
SN16861NG	2.50	TBA641B11	3.00	ZTK33A	.72

EHT MULTIPLIER TRAYS

TCE1400 (5 Strk)	3.80	TCE3000, 3500	7.00
TCE1500 (3 Strk)	3.80	TCE4000	7.90
TCE1500 (5 Strk)	4.30	TCE8000	3.00
ITT CVC 5.7.8 & 9	6.40	TCE8500	6.00
ITT CVC 20.30	6.40	TCE9000	6.00
GEC 2028, 1040	6.40	RR1 Dual Standard CTV	8.00
GEC 2110	6.40	RR1 A823	6.90
GEC 2100	6.40	RR1 A823B	6.90
GEC 2200	6.40	RR1 2718	6.40
PVE 691.693	5.50	GRUNDIG 5010/8010, 88A0	4.30
PVE 731 (4 lead)	6.40	GRUNDIG 3000	6.40
PVE 731 (5 lead)	6.40	KORTING	6.40
PHILIPS 520,540,550	6.40	SIEMENS TVK31, 5172	6.40
PHILIPS 550 (long lead)	6.40	SABA/FFK/SITA/DORIC	6.40
PHILIPS G9	6.40	TANBERG TV2-2, TVC M6	6.40
DECCA CS1730,1830	6.40	EUROTRAY	6.00
DECCA CS2030,2230 etc.	6.40	CONVERSION BRACKET A	6.00
DECCA CS1910,2213	6.40	CONVERSION BRACKET B	6.00
DECCA 80/100/Talpro	6.40	TV18 EHT STICK	1.60

VARICAP TUNERS

ELC 1043 05	7.40
ELC 1043 06	7.40
U321 (Philips G11)	7.51
Delay line DL50	4.50
Delay line DL60	4.30
Luminance Delay Line For TBA560	1.50
Transductor AT4041/37	1.68
Linearity Coil AT4042/02	1.50
Linearity Coil AT4042/04	2.00
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Focus Resistor (Thick Film)	.98

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POWER SUPPLY 0.30V	
0-1 A PS301	48.50
POWER SUPPLY 5-18V	
0-2A PS302	48.50
POCKET SIGNAL INJECTOR	
(Requires U7 Type Battery)	2.28

REPLACEMENT DROPPERS

PHILIPS G8	.68
PHILIPS G8 (47R)	.50

QUARTZ LCD 5 Function

Hours, mins, secs., month, date, auto calendar, back-light, quality metal bracelet.

£6.65

Guaranteed same day despatch. Very slim, only 6mm thick.



M1

SOLAR QUARTZ LCD 5 Function

Genuine solar panel with battery back-up. Hours, mins., secs., day, date. Fully adjustable bracelet. Back-light. Only 7mm thick.

£8.65

Guaranteed same day despatch.



M2

QUARTZ LCD 11 Function

SLIM
CHRONO

6 digit, 11 functions. Hours, mins., secs., day, date, day of week. 1/100th, 1/10th, secs., 10X secs., mins., Split and lap modes. Back-light, auto calendar. Only 8mm thick. Stainless steel bracelet and back. Adjustable bracelet. Metac Price

£10.65 Thousands sold! Guaranteed same day despatch.



M3

QUARTZ LCD ALARM 7 Function

Hours, mins., secs., month, date, day. 6 digits, 3 flags plus continuous display of day and date or seconds. Back-light. Only 9mm thick.

£12.65

Guaranteed same day despatch.



M4

MULTI ALARM 6 Digits 10 Functions

- Hours, mins., secs.
- Months, date, day.
- Basic alarm.
- Memory date alarm.
- Timer alarm with dual.
- Time and 10 country zone.
- Back-light.
- 8mm thick.

£18.65



M5

FRONT-BUTTON Alarm Chrono Dual Time

6 digits, 5 flags, 22 functions. Constant display of hours and mins., plus optional seconds or date display. AM/PM indication, month, date. Continuous display of day. Stop-watch to 12 hours 59.9 secs., in 1/10 second steps. Split and lap timing modes. Dual time zones. Only 8mm thick. Back-light. Fully adjustable open bracelet.

Guaranteed same day despatch



£22.65

M6

SOLAR QUARTZ LCD Chronograph with Alarm Dual Time Zone Facility

6 digits, 5 flags. 22 functions. Solar panel with battery back-up. 6 basic functions. Stop-watch to 12 hours 59.9 secs., in 1/10 sec., steps. Split and lap timing modes. Dual time zones. Alarm. 9mm thick. Back-light. Fully adjustable bracelet.

£27.95

M7



ALARM CHRONO with 9 world time zones

- 6 digits, 5 flags.
- 6 basic functions.
- 8 further time zones.
- Count-down alarm.
- Stop-watch to 12 hours 59.9 secs. in 1/10 sec. steps.
- Split and timing modes.
- Alarm.
- 9 mm thick.
- Back-light.
- Fully adjustable bracelet.

£29.65



M8

SOLAR QUARTZ LCD Chronograph

Powered from solar panel with battery back-up. 6 digit, 11 functions. Hours, mins., secs., day, date, day of week. 1/100th, 1/10th, secs., 10X secs., mins. Split and lap modes. Back-light, auto calendar. Only 8mm thick. Stainless steel bracelet and back. Adjustable bracelet. Metac Price

£12.65

Guaranteed same day despatch.



M9

SEIKO Alarm Chrono

LCD, hours, mins., secs., day of week, month, day and date, 24 hour Alarm, 12 hour chronograph, 1/10th secs., and lap time. Back light, stainless steel, HARDLEX glass. List Price £130.00

METAC PRICE

£105.00



M10

SEIKO MEMORY BANK

Calendar watch M354. Hours, mins., secs. Month, day, date in 12 or 24 hour format all indicated continuously. Monthly calendar display. Monthly, year and all dates for any selected month over 80 year period. Memory bank function. Any desired dates up to 11 can be stored in advanced. 2 year battery life. Water resistant. List Price £130

Metac Price **£79.50**

M11



SEIKO-STYLE Dual time-alarm Chronograph

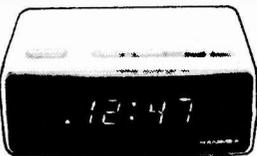
Mineral glass face. Battery hatch for DIY battery replacement. Top quality finish with fully adjustable bracelet.

£35.00



M12

HANIMEX Electronic LED Alarm Clock



Features and Specification:
Hour/minute display. Large LED display with p.m. and alarm on indicator. 24 Hours alarm with on/off control. Display flashing for power loss indication. Repeatable 9-minute snooze. Display bright/dim modes control. Size: 5.15" x 3.93" x 2.36" (131mm x 11mm x 60mm)
Weight: 1.43 lbs (0.65 kg). AC power 220V.

£9.65 Thousands sold!

Mains operated.

Guaranteed same day despatch.

M13

HANIMEX portable LCD clock radio



- Time set & alarm controls.
- Snooze & sleep controls.
- Wake to music or alarm.
- AM/PM indicator.
- Battery operated. No plug required.
- Receives all standard AM radio broadcasts.
- Drawstring carrying case included.
- Back-light.
- Batteries supplied free.
- Quartz crystal controlled.

£17.95

M14

HOW TO ORDER

Payment can be made by sending cheque, postal order, Barclay, Access or American Express card numbers. Write your name, address and the order details clearly, enclose 30p for post and packing or the amount stated. We do not wait to clear your cheque before sending the goods so this will not delay delivery. All products carry 1 year guarantee and full money back 10 day reassurance. Battery fitting service is available at our shops. All prices include VAT.

Trade enquiries: Send for a complete list of trade prices - minimum order value £100.
Telephone Orders: Credit card customers can telephone orders direct to Daventry or Edgware Rd., 24 hour phone service at both shops: 01-723 4753 03272-76545.



QUARTZ LCD Ladies 5 Function

Only 25 x 20mm and 6mm thick. 5 function. Hours, mins., secs., day, date and back light and auto calendar. Elegant metal bracelet in silver or gold. State preference.

£9.95

Guaranteed same day despatch.



M15

Price breakthrough only £18.95



OUTSTANDING FEATURES

- **DUAL TIME.** Local time always visible and you can set and recall any other time zone (such as GMT). Also has a light for night viewing.
- **CALENDAR FUNCTIONS** include the date and day in each time zone.
- **CHRONOGRAPH/STOPWATCH** displays up to 12 hours, 59 minutes, and 59.9 seconds.
- On command, stopwatch display freezes to show intermediate (split/lap) time while stopwatch continues to run. Can also switch to and from timekeeping and stopwatch modes without affecting either's operation.
- **ALARM** can be set to anytime within a 24 hour period. At the designated time, a pleasant, but effective buzzer sounds to remind or awaken you!

Guaranteed same day despatch. **M16**

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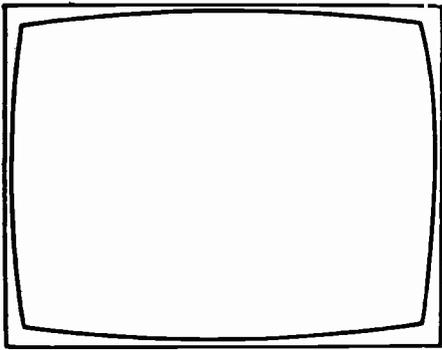
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AC107	0.48	AU103	2.40	BC192	0.58	BC377	0.29	BD234	0.68	BF222	0.51	BPX29	1.82	MPSU05	0.68	ZTX500	0.18	2N3819	0.47
AC117	0.38	AU107	2.70	BC204*	0.39	BC394	0.39	BD235	0.63	BF224 & J	0.21	BR101	0.53	MPSU06	0.78	ZTX502	0.22	2N3820	0.72
AC126	0.38	AU110	2.40	BC205*	0.39	BC440	0.52	BD236	0.63	BF240	0.32	BR103	0.64	MPSU07	1.28	ZTX504	0.28	2N3868	1.08
AC127	0.54	AU113	2.80	BC206*	0.37	BC441	0.59	BD237	0.68	BF241	0.31	BR303	1.00	MPSU08	1.32	2N404	1.30	2N3904	0.20
AC128	0.48	BC107*	0.18	BC207*	0.35	BC461	0.78	BD238	0.68	BF242*	0.51	BR303	1.00	MPSU08	0.82	2N696	0.46	2N3905	0.20
AC128K	0.58	BC107*	0.18	BC208*	0.37	BC477	0.30	BD239	0.68	BF244*	0.43	BR339	0.60	MPSU131	0.58	2N697	0.48	2N3906	0.20
AC141	0.65	BC109*	0.18	BC209*	0.39	BC478	0.26	BD410	1.65	BF254	0.48	BR358	0.44	OC26	1.90	2N706A	0.33	2N4036	0.94
AC141K	0.70	BC113	0.22	BC211*	0.36	BC479	0.33	BD433	0.65	BF255	0.68	BS527	0.92	OC28	1.48	2N708	0.29	2N4123	0.17
AC142	0.80	BC114	0.22	BC212*	0.17	BC547*	0.13	BD435	0.70	BF256L*	0.49	BT108	1.50	OC29	1.80	2N714	0.32	2N4124	0.17
AC142K	0.85	BC115	0.24	BC212L*	0.17	BC548*	0.13	BD436	0.71	BF257	0.44	BT109	1.99	OC35	1.25	2N716	0.46	2N4126	0.17
AC151	0.31	BC116*	0.28	BC213*	0.16	BC549*	0.15	BD437	0.74	BF258	0.52	BT116	1.45	OC38	1.26	2N718	0.84	2N4236	2.20
AC152	0.36	BC117	0.30	BC213L*	0.16	BC550	0.24	BD438	0.75	BF259	0.54	BT119	3.18	OC42	0.90	2N730	0.29	2N4289	0.32
AC153	0.42	BC118	0.30	BC214*	0.18	BC556*	0.23	BD519	0.88	BF262	0.73	BU102	3.58	OC48	0.89	2N1304	1.40	2N4416	0.85
AC153K	0.42	BC119	0.30	BC214L*	0.18	BC557*	0.16	BD520	0.88	BF263	0.88	BU108	2.95	OC70	0.65	2N1305	1.29	2N4444	1.90
AC154	0.51	BC125*	0.34	BC225	0.42	BC558*	0.17	BD599	0.87	BF270	0.70	BU108	2.95	OC71	0.73	2N1306	1.49	2N4921	0.80
AC176	0.48	BC128	0.30	BC237*	0.18	BC559*	0.17	BD600	1.23	BF271	0.42	BU108	2.95	OC72	0.73	2N1307	1.32	2N5042	1.65
AC178	0.51	BC132	0.20	BC238*	0.18	BC560*	0.17	BD638B	0.86	BF272A	0.80	BU126	2.81	OC81	0.83	2N1308	1.53	2N5060	0.28
AC179	0.55	BC134	0.22	BC239*	0.18	BC561*	0.17	BD639	0.86	BF273	0.33	BU204	2.80	OC81D	0.95	2N1711	0.47	2N5061	0.30
AC187	0.65	BC135	0.21	BC251*	0.25	BC572A	1.19	BDX32	2.95	BF274	0.34	BU205	2.58	OC139	1.30	2N1893	0.52	2N5064	0.63
AC187K	0.65	BC136	0.22	BC252*	0.26	BC573A	1.02	BDY16A	0.63	BF336	0.63	BU206	2.59	OC140	1.35	2N2102	0.71	2N5068	0.49
AC188	0.52	BC137	0.30	BC253*	0.38	BC572	0.27	BDY18	1.25	BF337	0.65	BU208	2.78	OC170	0.80	2N2127	0.58	2N5087	0.50
AC188K	0.52	BC138	0.35	BC261A*	0.28	BD115	1.35	BDY20	2.59	BF338	0.65	BU407	2.80	OC171	0.82	2N2218	0.38	2N5208	0.59
AC193K	0.70	BC140	0.36	BC262A*	0.28	BD123	1.80	BDY38	1.38	BF355	0.72	BUV77	2.80	OC200	0.82	2N2219	0.42	2N5209	0.58
AC194K	0.74	BC141	0.44	BC263*	0.26	BD124	1.85	BF115	0.48	BF362	0.49	CI06D	0.80	OC201A	0.85	2N221A	0.58	2N5298	0.68
ACV17	1.20	BC142	0.35	BC267*	0.20	BD130Y	1.58	BF117	0.45	BF363	0.49	CI06E	0.43	OC202	2.40	2N222A	0.41	2N5298	0.71
ACV29	0.98	BC143	0.38	BC298*	0.28	BD131	0.58	BF120	0.55	BF367	0.29	CI11E	0.40	OC205	3.95	2N2369A	0.40	2N5322	1.16
ACV39	2.02	BC146*	0.12	BC297	0.49	BD133	0.70	BF121	0.55	BF451	0.43	E300	0.47	OC211	1.98	2N2401	0.80	2N5449	0.18
AD140	1.29	BC149*	0.13	BC291	0.27	BD135	0.37	BF125	0.68	BF458	0.49	E1222	0.42	ON236A	0.94	2N2484	0.35	2N5457	0.48
AD142	1.90	BC152	0.42	BC294	0.37	BD136	0.38	BF127	0.51	BF459	0.52	E5024	0.19	R2008B	2.72	2N2570	0.74	2N5458	0.40
AD143	1.80	BC153	0.38	BC297	0.36	BD137	0.40	BF137F	0.78	BF594	0.16	ET872	0.48	R2010B	2.79	2N2646	0.82	2N5459	0.88
AD149	1.42	BC154	0.41	BC300	0.62	BD138	0.42	BF152	0.19	BF596	0.17	ME0402	0.18	R2322	0.75	2N2784	1.15	2N5494	0.85
AD161	0.66	BC157*	0.13	BC301	0.38	BD139	0.48	BF158	0.25	BF597	0.27	MF0404/02	0.18	R2323	0.85	2N2869	2.08	2N5496	1.05
AD161/162	1.22	BC158*	0.12	BC302	0.86	BD140	0.50	BF159	0.27	BF599	0.20	ME6001	0.18	ST2110	0.49	2N2894	0.48	2N6027	0.58
AD162	0.71	BC159*	0.14	BC303	0.64	BD144	2.24	BF160	0.20	BF640	0.39	ME6002	0.18	ST6120	0.48	2N2904*	0.48	2N6107	0.71
AF114	0.35	BC160	0.52	BC304	0.44	BD145	0.78	BF161	0.84	BF641	0.30	ME6003	1.20	TIC44	0.25	2N2905*	0.39	2N6122	0.60
AF115	0.35	BC161	0.58	BC307*	0.17	BD150A*	0.51	BF162	0.85	BF650	0.29	MJ3000	1.58	TIC48	0.35	2N2906*	0.38	2N6178	1.07
AF116	0.41	BC162	0.18	BC309*	0.18	BD157	0.81	BF166	0.50	BF651	0.28	MJE340	0.58	TIC47	0.45	2N2926G	0.15	2N6180	1.39
AF117	0.42	BC163	0.18	BC317*	0.15	BD158	0.75	BF167	0.38	BF662	0.29	MJE370	0.74	TIP29A	0.47	2N29260	0.14	2N6211	2.74
AF118	0.41	BC169C	0.14	BC318*	0.15	BD159	0.68	BF173	0.35	BF678	0.29	MJE371	0.79	TIP30A	0.50	2N2926Y	0.14	2N6237BP	4.28
AF121	0.68	BC170*	0.15	BC318*	0.15	BD159	0.68	BF177	0.36	BF680	0.29	MJE520	0.85	TIP31A	0.51	2N2955	1.12	2N6434	2.25
AF124	0.38	BC171*	0.15	BC319*	0.19	BD160	2.89	BF177	0.36	BF681	0.30	MJE521	0.95	TIP32A	0.58	2N3054	0.86	2N6434	2.25
AF125	0.38	BC172*	0.14	BC320	0.17	BD163	0.67	BF178	0.48	BF681	0.30	MJE521	0.95	TIP32A	0.58	2N3054	0.86	2N6434	2.25
AF126	0.36	BC173*	0.22	BC321A&B	0.18	BD165	0.66	BF179	0.58	BF688	0.42	MJE2955	1.20	TIP32C	0.72	2N3055	0.72	2N6434	2.25
AF127	0.86	BC174A & B	0.18	BC322	0.28	BD166	0.88	BF180	0.53	BF741	0.48	MJE3000	1.95	TIP33A	0.77	2N3250	0.82	2N6172Y	1.50
AF139	0.58	BC175*	0.26	BC323	1.15	BD175	0.90	BF181	0.53	BF743	0.55	MJE3055	1.22	TIP34A	0.86	2N3254	0.58	2N6178	1.07
AF147	0.52	BC177*	0.22	BC327	0.18	BD177	0.58	BF182	0.44	BF743	1.02	MJE3055	1.22	TIP41A	0.72	2N3391A	0.38	3N128	1.60
AF149	0.45	BC177*	0.20	BC328	0.18	BD178	0.92	BF183	0.52	BF743	1.02	MJE3055	1.22	TIP42A	0.60	2N3633	0.80	40250	0.98
AF178	1.35	BC178*	0.22	BC337	0.17	BD178	0.92	BF183	0.52	BF743	1.02	MJE3055	1.22	TIP42A	0.60	2N3633	0.80	40250	0.98
AF179	1.35	BC179*	0.22	BC337	0.17	BD178	0.92	BF183	0.52	BF743	1.02	MJE3055	1.22	TIP42A	0.60	2N3633	0.80	40250	0.98
AF180	1.29	BC182*	0.15	BC340	0.19	BD183	1.34	BF186	0.42	BF760	0.85	MPS6523	0.36	TIP3055	0.58	2N3704	0.19	40327	0.67
AF181	1.33	BC182L*	0.15	BC347*	0.17	BD184	2.30	BF194*	0.13	BFX29	0.38	MPS6566	0.44	TIS73	1.36	2N3706	0.16	40362	0.50
AF186	1.48	BC183*	0.14	BC348A & B	0.17	BD187	1.20	BF195*	0.14	BFX84	0.42	MPSA05	0.30	TIS90	0.23	2N3707	0.18	40410	0.94
AF202	0.27	BC183L*	0.14	BC349	0.17	BD188	1.25	BF196	0.15	BFY50	0.38	MPSA06	0.32	TIS91	0.28	2N3708	0.17	40429	0.88
AF239	0.73	BC184*	0.15	BC349B	0.17	BD189	0.71	BF197	0.18	BFY51	0.37	MPSA55	0.43	TIX108	0.14	2N3716	1.70	40530	0.79
AF240	1.40	BC184L*	0.15	BC350*	0.24	BD222	0.91	BF198	0.29	BFY52	0.36	MPSA56	0.46	ZTX109	0.16	2N3771	2.08	40585	1.39
AF279S	0.91	BC185	0.38	BC351*	0.22	BD225	0.91	BF199	0.29	BFY53	0.36	MPSA57	0.56	ZTX110	0.16	2N3772	2.08	40603	1.13
AL100	1.30	BC186	0.25	BC352A*	0.24	BD232	0.91	BF200	0.25	BFY90	1.98	MPSU01	0.61	ZTX300	0.16	2N3773	2.80	40636	1.25
AL103	1.58	BC187	0.27	BC353*	0.59	BD233	0.62	BF218	0.42	BPX25	1.62	MPSU01	0.61	ZTX304	0.28	2N3794	0.40	40654	0.88

Alternative gain versions available on items marked*

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LINEAR IC's		DIODES		VDR's, etc.		VALVES		RESISTORS	
88C1330	0.93	SN78008K	2.58	BY114	0.60	E2952	0.75	Carbon Film (5%)	10 of one
88C100M	2.44	SN78013N	1.88	BY116	1.10	/01	0.28	1W 5.0-330k (E12)	3p 20p
CA3005	1.88	SN78013ND	1.40	BY126	2.00	/02	0.28	1W 100-10M (E24)	3p 20p
CA3012	1.45	SN78023N	1.88	BY127	0.21	E2980	0.25	1W 100-10M (E12)	5p 80p
CA3014	2.23	SN78023ND	1.40	BY133	0.35	E2980	0.25	2W 100-10M (E9)	5p 80p
CA3018	2.71	SN78033N	2.20	BY133	0.35	/A258	0.22	Wirewound (5%)	10 of one
CA3020	1.85	SN78110N	1.20	BY140	1.40	/A260	0.22	0.1W (Vertical and Horizontal)	18p
CA3028A	0.89	SN78115N	1.62						



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CORRECTIONS

An error occurred in Fig. 7, page 148 last month in connection with converting the Sony Model KV2000 Mk. II for use as a receiver/monitor. IC301 at the top left of this diagram should have been shown as IC201. IC201 is the i.f./video/a.g.c. i.c., type CX100D in the earlier version of the chassis and type CX177 in the later version. IC301 is the chroma/luminance signal processing i.c., type CX108 in both versions.

For those who wondered what the gap in the right-hand column on page 138 was about, the sidehead "Chroma Demodulators" apparently fell off before the page was photographed for platemaking.

The \$64,000 Question

"I'm thinking of buying/renting a new TV set" he/she says. Excellent you think. Do the trade no end of good. That's the sort of thing we like to hear. Sir Jules will be pleased. Then it comes. What you should have expected from the start. "What do you suggest?" Er, you start (we'll assume you're not a salesman, who's supposed to be trained to deal with this sort of thing), well, ah, um, let's see . . . Your mind races round, remembering that the last set you actually bought was five years ago and secondhand then, though a jolly good buy. Come on, think, there must be something obvious to suggest! The mind seems to be getting blanker however. Perhaps to be helpful one could suggest a couple of makes to avoid? Not so easy as a few years back. Meanwhile he/she's still waiting, beginning to wonder no doubt why the person who's supposed to know about TV can't give an instant answer to a simple question like that. Amazing how we get caught out by it, isn't it?

We had a reader write in the other day. "Why don't you do reviews of TV sets?" he asked. People would certainly sit up and take notice. "Double the sales of that issue" he said. But (to sidetrack for a moment) that wouldn't be very helpful to us. Magazine publishing could not adjust to sales jumping up and down in such a manner. It assumes a fairly steady sale, increasing a bit if you spend a little on advertising an issue, print orders otherwise being based on what was sold the month before. There just aren't the facilities for slapping the print back on the presses and running off a few thousand more. But I digress.

Next came a cruel jibe. If *Which?* can do it, surely with your experience . . .? Well now, we have a high regard for *Which?* It fulfills an extremely useful role, and has without doubt contributed no little to the standards of consumer goods and services. But: when you plough through (some of them need it) a *Which?* report and get to the recommendations at the end, you may sometimes feel that you haven't exactly been vouchsafed a divine revelation on the subject. A couple of duds may have been exposed, and some recommendations within a certain price range made. Really, *Which?* scores with those who have the time to study their findings and don't have much idea to start with about what they want and what's available. So, TV wise, you'd get a run-down on the various facilities offered by different types of set, and the prices they sell for. Plus some indication of performance – with TV sets this will inevitably be rather vague.

With a publication such as *Television* we have to assume that our readers are reasonably familiar with the currently available chassis and the "extras" on offer – teletext, remote control and so on. If not, you haven't been paying attention, have you? So you should be way ahead of the *Which?* reader. If you really think we can come up with a snap recommendation however, you must think we've got some vital inside information. But we haven't, and there isn't any.

All we can say is: make sure to start with you know what you want and, having done so, look for a good offer from a reputable outlet. The fact is – and this probably applies to most consumer goods nowadays – that sets are much of a muchness. They have to be, if setmakers are to stay in business. You won't find junk, and you won't find a set that's vastly superior technically because it would cost so much to make that no one would buy it. It'll have either a PIL type tube or a 20AX/30AX tube. Probably a U321 tuner unit and a TDA2540 i.f. strip. There'll be circuit diversity elsewhere, but you'll get solid-state reliability. The picture won't vary all that much between sets, while the sound will obviously depend on the speaker used. Some imported sets may have higher than average gain, but unless you live in a remote area this fact will be quite irrelevant to your viewing.

So what are we doing publishing a long article on the Thorn TX9 chassis? Well, we think this is a notable achievement as a piece of careful engineering aimed at a certain section of the domestic market – smaller screen colour sets. The idea primarily is to examine the technical features. As to what you eventually buy – we must hand you over to the salesman!

Ah yes, and that opening question, still unanswered. How do you deal with it? Well, you can hum and ha, as we've done. You can outline the main features of today's sets. You can then turn the tables: "You'll have to make you're own mind up" you say. "Decide what you want, then check up on what's on offer". Only we never do. We just hum and ha and look silly. It's an unfair world, isn't it?

Teletopics

TELESOFTWARE

Whatever next? Well, it seems that ITV and Mullard have been working for some time on a project, called Telesoftware, that would add to the teletext system a home computing facility. The idea is logical enough. Given a teletext receiver, you've already got a computer display system and a certain amount of computer storage capacity. What you haven't got is something to do the computing and computer programmes. In this age of the microprocessor the former is simple and cheap enough to provide, while simple computer programmes could be transmitted as extra teletext pages and stored in the receiver for use as required. In fact the IBA has for a couple of years been carrying out experimental transmissions to test the viability of the system, while Mullard have been working on the extra chips that would need to be added to the teletext receiver. The advantages then are that for little extra cost a teletext-equipped receiver could be adapted to act as a home computer, with a range of computer programmes that would otherwise be expensive to obtain available off-air at no extra cost. The cost of adding this computing facility to a teletext equipped receiver is, in mass production terms, expected to be about £50.

The Department of Industry has provided funds to enable Brighton Polytechnic to instal ten specially equipped receivers so that further tests and experiments with the system can be carried out. The proposed computer programmes would be suitable for making simple calculations and could provide a wide variety of TV games, educational courses etc. off-air. According to the IBA, the basic system has already been proved to be workable and the next step is to decide upon a standard format. In this connection, talks are being held with BREMA, the Post Office and the BBC. The chairman of the steering committee is Bernard Rogers, who was very much involved in the development of teletext.

A further user requirement would be a keyboard, though this is already part of a viewdata installation. The computer programmes would be decoded off-air for immediate use or stored for later use. According to the IBA, users would require no special computing knowledge – in fact operating Telesoftware would be “as easy as selecting Oracle pages”.

The IBA is also carrying out a series of trials, in conjunction with the National Maritime Institute, to assess the usefulness of teletext as a navigational aid. The Dover transmitter is being used to provide ships with details of wrecks and hazards in the English Channel, one of the most congested shipping lanes in the world.

MORE MICROCOMPUTERS

Sorry if it seems to be all computers this month, but that seems to be the way things are going at present. Last month we mentioned the systems being proposed by Philips and ITT, using a microcomputer as the basis of a flexible TV receiver control system. The idea is that using an off-the-shelf microcomputer chip enables such systems to be realised more cheaply than using complex i.c.s specially developed for the purpose. At the recent Electronics '79 exhibition, Mullard were demonstrating an up-market “all-electronic” radio, in which a microcomputer chip is used as the centre of a system providing digital control of both the r.f. and a.f. sections of the

receiver. No need to touch the set any more: just send it some signals from the remote control transmitter unit and the set will tune itself as required and adjust its volume/treble/bass/stereo balance – with numerical read-out so that you can see it's done what you asked it to do.

Meanwhile GI Microelectronics have introduced a low-cost system called Teleview, giving access to both teletext and viewdata in conjunction with a normal TV set. The system is controlled by a microcomputer chip of course, GI's PIC1650. This, together with two other LSI chips and some interfacing components, can be mounted on a printed board measuring about 4 x 6in. GI claim that the system offers significant performance advantages over existing teletext and viewdata systems using special-purpose chips. The system is compatible with GI's existing TV chips for digital tuning, channel indication, remote control – and also with external accessories such as copy printers and keyboards. Because the system uses a standard microcomputer chip, GI hope that the cost will be low enough to attract manufacturers of TV add-on equipment as well as setmakers.

Texas Instruments have introduced in the UK a home computer, Model TI-99/4, which can be used by beginners and skilled users alike. All they need is a power supply source – and a TV set to provide the display. The programmes are held in solid-state modules which can be snapped into position. The cost of these varies from £14.95 to £44.95 depending on the complexity of the programme. The TI-99/4 itself comes at a price of about £665 including VAT. Various accessories, including a speech synthesiser, remote control and a printer, will be made available later this year.

In view of all this activity, it's as well that we're starting a two-part article this month on Computerised TV. This explains how a typical microcomputer chip, a version of the Texas TMS1000, is used to control various operations in Sanyo's Betamax VCR. Well now, what would you expect to find in the new range of TV sets just introduced in the UK by Finnish setmaker Salora, the F range? You guessed it of course: another version of the Texas TMS1000 chip, used here to control a digital search-tuning system and to make provision for additional facilities which can be added later – for example remote control with a standard set, video input/output, teletext and viewdata. Incidentally, Salora refer to the chip as a microprocessor, though it's actually a microcomputer chip. There seems to be some general looseness about the use of these terms at present. The difference is explained in our Computerised TV article.

Finally, if you want to teach yourself computer programming, Cambridge Learning Enterprises have just published a four-part self-teaching course at £7.50. This is available from Cambridge Learning Enterprises, Rivermill Lodge, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire PE17 4EP. You don't need to have a computer to follow the course, and at a quick glance we thought we might even be able to follow it ourselves...

TOSHIBA TO LAUNCH LVR VCR IN THE UK THIS YEAR

Toshiba's fixed-head, longitudinal-scan VCR, which uses an endless loop cassette and was unveiled in prototype form only last June at the Chicago Consumer Electronics Show, is scheduled for launch in the UK this September – at a “target price” of £250. The machine will have a two-hour recording capability, and a three-four hour cassette is under development. At the sort of price envisaged, the Toshiba LVR machine must be considered a very serious contender in the domestic VCR market. As to the viability of the LVR system, it's interesting that Toshiba's fixed-head VTR technology is already in use in a microcomputer controlled document filing

system which was announced in Tokyo last November: equipped with an electronic printer/copier, the system stores information on cassettes which can each handle 3,000 A4 pages of information.

The first "Made in Britain" Toshiba colour sets are now being produced at the Rank-Toshiba Plymouth plant – just eleven months after the joint venture and manufacturing agreement were announced. The new production line for the sets is the first phase of a £3 million modernisation programme. A second line, boosting production to 350,000 sets a year, 40 per cent of which will carry the Toshiba brand name for both home and export sale, is scheduled for phase two of the programme. The first sets incorporate a Toshiba black-stripe, 90° 20in. SSI tube: production of 22in. sets will start this month (February). The chassis is the Rank T24E, and we'll be including more details of this next month.

In Japan, Toshiba have shown a talking TV set! The receiver will accept thirty commands, such as select channel four or switch off, giving the message OK if the command has been received and understood.

Scheduled for release by Toshiba in the UK late this summer is a 45in. screen colour projection system priced at "around £2,000".

RANK'S VIDEOCASSETTE LIBRARY

Rank is the latest firm to enter the pre-recorded videocassette field. The first twenty titles in the Rank Video Library include such well-known films as "The 39 Steps", "Bugsy Malone", "Brief Encounter" and "Doctor in the House". Every title is available in the VHS, Beta and Philips VCR/LP formats. At the moment Rank is signing up dealers to handle the cassettes.

MONO PORTABLE WITH REMOTE CONTROL

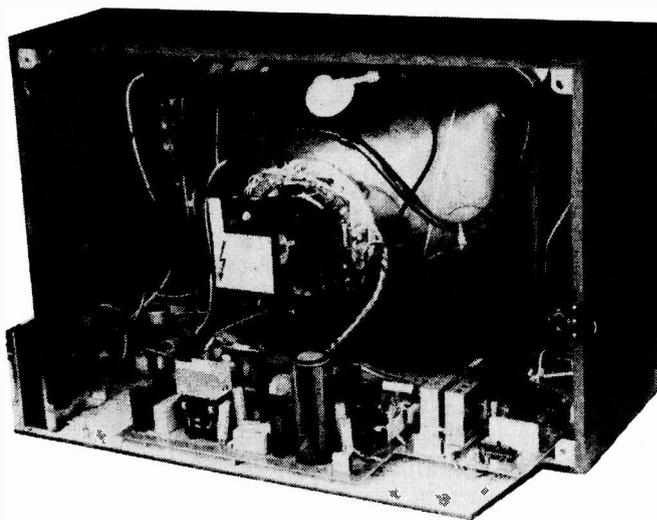
A new version of the Pye/Philips TX 12in. monochrome portable receiver is being launched, featuring the addition of a remote control handset. It will be the world's first monochrome portable with remote control, and is being produced, along with the existing TX receivers, at the Lowestoft plant. The new version is expected to sell for around £72, about £12 more than the basic version, and will be known as the TX+.

NEW COLOUR CAMERA FROM THORN

A new colour camera, Model 3V17, has been added to the Thorn range of video equipment. The camera is based on the JVC GX33, and incorporates a newly-developed single 2/3in. vidicon tube with integral colour-stripe filter. It weighs only 1.4kg, has a ×3 zoom lens with TTL (through-the-lens) viewfinder and a built-in split-image range finder as an additional check on focusing. The auto iris control can be overridden for manual adjustment under difficult lighting conditions. There's also a three-position colour compensation switch (with additional manual control for fine adjustment) to ensure that natural colours are obtained in any lighting conditions without the need for optical filters. Using the sensitivity select switch, recording in light conditions as low as 100 lux is possible.

TRADE FIGURES

The latest figures issued by BREMA cover the first nine months of 1979. The total number of colour sets delivered during the period was 1,272,000, of which imports accounted for 354,000. This represented a very slight increase in total



The "Television" colour receiver project – Manor Supplies' version which can be seen at 172 West End Lane, London NW6.

deliveries compared to the same period in 1978, with imports taking a slightly higher proportion. Deliveries of small-screen monochrome sets totalled 925,000, of which just over half were UK produced. There was a substantial decline (38 per cent) in deliveries of large-screen monochrome sets.

The biggest growth was in VCR deliveries, where the total rose to 129,000, 180 per cent higher than in 1978. This increase was somewhat higher than general expectations in the trade.

We're inclined to doubt however the suggestion made in one quarter that by the end of 1979 over 250,000 VCRs will have been installed in UK homes. Though this claim was arrived at after "an analysis of import figures over the last five years", it would assume that all the VCRs imported have actually been sold/rented out – and that all have gone to domestic users! Prior to 1977 the number of VCRs supplied to domestic users was minimal – a few thousand. 1978 saw the full impact of the Philips N1700 and the introduction of the SVR, VHS and Betamax systems. VCR deliveries in that year were in the region of 60-65,000. Exact figures are not available since some machines are re-exported and the totals include professional VTR equipment. The educational and industrial market is understood to total around 20,000 machines annually.

In the first four years of Ceefax/Oracle transmissions, only some 4,500 teletext equipped sets were sold. There was a substantial improvement during 1979, with the total number of sets sold/rented rising to over 35,000 and the prediction that 40,000 sets would be in domestic use by Christmas. Sales of around 200,000 are predicted for 1980.

SIBILANTS – KT3 CHASSIS

A few Pye/Philips colour sets fitted with the KT3 chassis have produced complaints of excessive sound sibilants. The recommended modification is to increase the value of the de-emphasis capacitor C5177 from 0.0082µF to 0.022µF.

IBA'S DIGITAL DEVELOPMENTS

The IBA has drawn up specifications for an experimental two-hop, two-way 11GHz microwave TV link using digital techniques. The aim is to provide a test bed for the further evaluation of digital TV techniques and bring to light any problems that may arise when a digital link is used with existing analogue links.

The feasibility of practical video recording in digital form

– continued on page 210

Assessing the Thorn TX9 Chassis

Eugene Trundle

SINCE the start of colour TV in the UK, Thorn have always been amongst the first in the field with technical advances. The world's first solid-state colour receiver (the 2000 chassis); the first use of a switch-mode power supply in a TV chassis (the 3000/3500); the use, right from the start, of modular chassis construction; and the Syclops integrated line timebase/power supply system (9000 chassis) – all these are outstanding examples. Much of Thorn's technology has been concerned with cost reduction and simplified field servicing, reflecting the fact that with only a few exceptions the receivers produced by the company have been for the rental and the bread-and-butter type of market – a sort of Volksvision one might say.

We have the greatest respect for Thorn as technical innovators, despite many a workbench skirmish with one or other of their products, and many a muttered oath when we should have known better . . . Those of us in the servicing trade have necessarily got to know Thorn colour sets well over the years: they've often been featured in these pages, and there can be few engineers who are not familiar with the 3000/3500 and 8000/8500/8800 series of chassis.

World-wide excess colour television receiver production capacity and the saturation of most of the main domestic TV markets in the developed world have led to a period of harsh competition. In the past many UK setmakers have produced a multiplicity of chassis types and variations to cater for different presentations and tube types. Such extravagance is no longer feasible, and many of the chassis that have become familiar in recent years are now being phased out.

A major part of Thorn's plans for survival as a large-scale setmaker in these difficult circumstances is the TX9 chassis, which is intended to drive any size of 90° PIL type tube up to and including 20in. It's understood that larger sets will be fitted with the forthcoming TX10 chassis – for 22 and 26in. 30AX tubes. The TX9 requires only one simple modification for different tube sizes – a shorting link in the beam limiter circuit – and will operate on mains voltages in the range 185-265V with no adjustment.

Basic Features

Gone is the metal chassis – the TX9 consists of a single braced PCB with one daughter board containing the i.f. strip. Since the chassis is intended for export as well as the home market, the pluggable i.f. panel simplifies production. The power consumption is way down on previous Thorn chassis, being only 45W at zero beam current. An inverter which fits inside the cabinet is available, enabling the set to be operated in a boat, car or caravan from 12 or 24V d.c. supplies. The very compact board layout has been made possible by the use of seven i.c.s, including a 28-pin chip which handles the luminance signal and carries out the complete decoding process. There's a diode-split type line output transformer, and a new full-wave thyristor power supply circuit: these two areas should represent a vast reduction in complexity and an improvement in reliability compared to current designs.

A great deal of money has been invested by Thorn in setting up the production line for the TX9, whose name we're told stems from the T of Ford motor car fame, since the

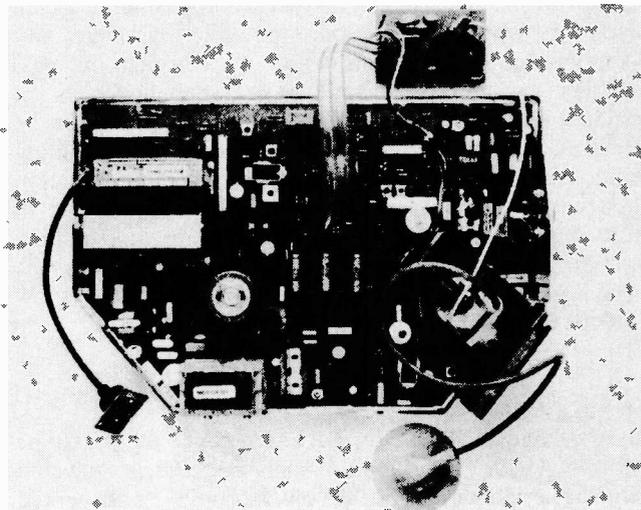
production philosophy and intended market are similar, X for extra technology and 9 for the tube's deflection angle. Much of the production line is automated and under computer control. New flow-soldering techniques are used on the single PCB which, because of its construction, brings other advantages. The total component count for the TX9 is 410, compared with 618 for the 9000 chassis it replaces. This implies greater reliability, especially as there are 400 or so fewer soldered joints to worry about and a corresponding reduction in plugs, sockets and wiring. There are fewer internal adjustments in the TX9 compared to its predecessors – and visually the set is less complex than the monochrome receivers of fifteen years ago.

These then are the bare bones of the TV chassis on which Thorn is pinning its future. The techniques used are not completely new: some Japanese colour sets have for a time used a single PCB; SAW filters and diode-split line output transformers have been used in other setmaker's chassis for some time now; while our own colour receiver project very nearly had a single-chip decoder (and a modified version soon will have – editor). Nevertheless the chassis as a whole represents a well thought out use of the latest in TV receiver technology. So let's take a closer look at some of the more interesting departments.

The tube used in the initial models is a 90° black-matrix PIL (precision in-line) type made by Hitachi. It incorporates soft-flash and other recent developments in tube technology, and has a sealed on, self-converging saddle/toroidal deflection yoke. No NS raster correction is required, while a diode-modulator provides EW raster correction and width stabilisation. The type used in the 14in. models (the 3755 and 3790) is designed to run at a higher than normal focus voltage (7kV) in order to minimize spot size. The tubes are guaranteed for two years, with an optional extension.

Signal Stages

The first models (14in.) to use the TX9 chassis employ a conventional six push-button assembly for programme selection, though there'll no doubt be many variations on later

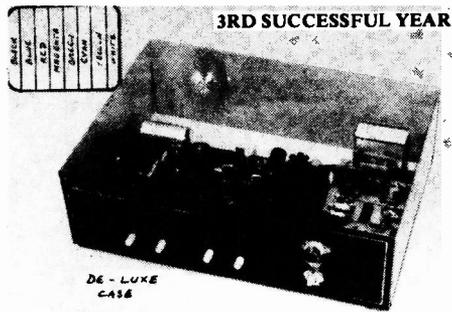


Thorn's TX9 single-board colour chassis.

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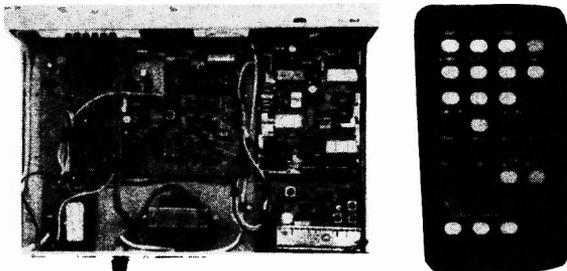
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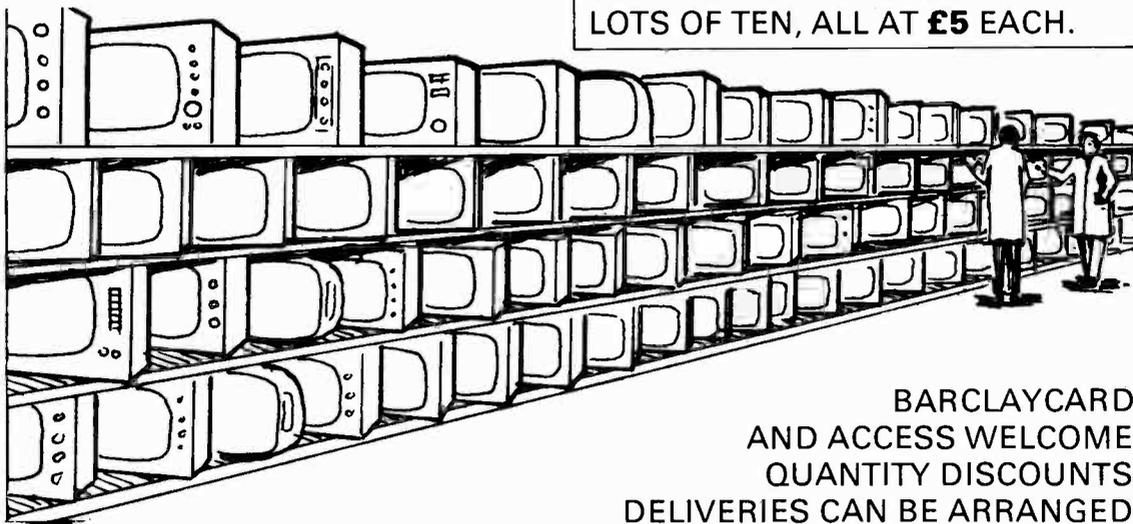
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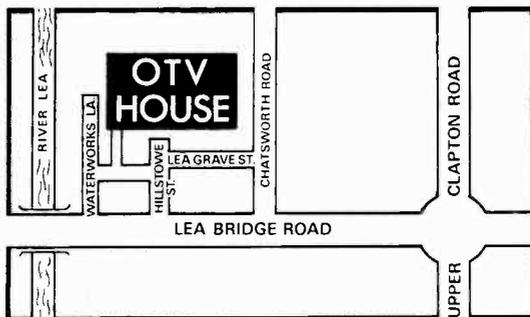


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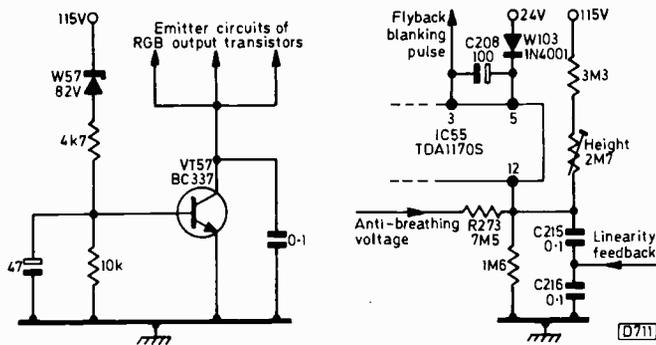


Fig. 1 (left): Switch-off spot suppression circuit.
 Fig. 2 (right): The height and field flyback circuits.

models. The varicap tuner is followed by a Plessey SL1430 i.f. preamplifier i.c. which provides a differential output to drive the SW153 surface acoustic wave filter. The latter forms the i.f. pass band, and in turn provides a differential output to the i.f. amplifier/demodulator chip. This is the current favourite amongst setmakers, the TDA2540. There are two novel features here. First the provision of a "video defeat" line to pin 14, for possible future use with sweep tuning. And secondly the presence of an odd capacitor (C44, 10pF) in series with the a.f.c. tank coil. This capacitor effectively inserts a notch at about 37MHz in the a.f.c. circuit's response, compensating for a.f.c. asymmetry due to filtered noise.

The sound department – intercarrier sound amplifier/demodulator plus audio amplifier and output – consists of a single TDA1035S i.c. driving a 15Ω loudspeaker. A feature of the chip is a silent warm-up arrangement consisting of an internal zener diode connected to supply pin 10. This forestalls the sound output until the supply voltage, which is obtained from the line output transformer, has built up to about the normal working level. The nominal audio output is 1W.

Single-chip Decoder

Probably the most novel feature of the TX9 chassis is the UPC1365C single chip colour decoder, which is manufactured by NEC in Japan and has been developed from a very successful NTSC version. The decoding system itself is quite conventional – a detailed block diagram is included in the TX9 circuit diagram. Only one additional transistor is used – the chroma delay line driver. A single line-frequency pulse of the sandcastle type is fed in at pins 19 and 23 and is used for all the gating, clamping and triggering operations in the i.c. It's obtained from the TDA9503 "line processor" i.c.

RGB Output Stages

The RGB matrix in the chip drives the three RGB output transistors. The output stages operate in the class A mode, with very hairy 12kΩ collector load resistors. These resistors are very prominent in the middle of the chassis, and at first sight appear to represent a power loss and source of heat. In practice they normally dissipate less than half a watt each, and are heavily rated to comply with BEAB requirements in the event of one or other of the BF460 output transistors going short-circuit.

Switch-off Spot Suppression

The emitter circuits of the RGB output transistors are returned to chassis via the spot suppression transistor VT57 (see Fig. 1). This transistor is normally held fully conductive,

its base being taken to the 115V h.t. rail via the 82V zener diode W57. Once the h.t. voltage, following switch off, falls below 80V the zener diode and in turn VT57 cease to conduct. The RGB transistors will also cease to conduct of course, so the c.r.t.'s cathode voltages rise and the tube cuts off. This removes the usual coloured-ball effect following switch off. It also provides protection against the effects of "hot switching", i.e. off and then immediately on again. Without this protection, the decoder i.c. can drive the RGB output transistors and thus the tube into heavy conduction after hot switching.

Field Timebase

A single TDA1170S i.c. provides all the field timebase functions. No field hold control is required, but a removable link is provided to take up tolerances if necessary. To maintain height stability with e.h.t. variations, pin 12, to which the field charging circuit (C215, C216 etc.) is connected, is linked via R273 to the picture size stabilising circuit (see Figs. 2 and 3). The 24V supply to the i.c. is fed to pin 5 via W103; during the flyback this diode switches off, and the associated electrolytic capacitor C208 provides bootstrap action. Field flyback faults such as teletext lines at the top of the screen or top foldover should lead to a check on these components therefore – repeated failure of the i.c. can be due to C208 being open-circuit.

Line Timebase

The TDA9503 "line processor" i.c. contains a noise-suppressed sync separator, the line oscillator and the flywheel line sync circuit with switched time-constant for VCR operation. The chip also provides the sandcastle pulse for the decoder i.c., and incorporates an under-voltage switch which forestalls any output until the supply to the i.c. exceeds about 4V. This ensures that no damage can occur in the line driver or output stage due to an under-size or misshapen drive pulse, and produces a clean kick start. The line shift control supplies a d.c. voltage to pin 14, operating on one of the phase comparators in the i.c. This pin also receives a picture position correction voltage from the earthy side of the e.h.t. system (see below).

The output pulse from the TDA9503 is a.c. coupled to the line driver transistor which, as in the 9000 chassis, also provides the start-up supply for the line oscillator. Once the line output stage comes into operation, the oscillator is powered from a scan-derived 12V rail.

The line output stage itself is straightforward, with a high-level diode modulator circuit and using a diode-split output transformer which incorporates the thick-film focus potentiometer. The diode modulator is driven by a Darlington compound transistor (VT72, type TIP110) which receives its input from a differential amplifier. There are some nice touches here. The differential amplifier receives not only the field frequency waveform required for EW raster correction but also an anti-breathing input to correct for variations in width with changes in the e.h.t. and a ripple input from the h.t. supply to cancel residual hum on the raster. (Hum cancellation is also applied to the c.r.t grids incidentally.)

Beam Limiting and Anti-breathing

The beam limiting and anti-breathing arrangement is particularly intriguing (see Fig. 3). Instead of being taken directly to chassis, the tube's external aquadag coating is a.c. coupled to chassis by C205. Thus the voltage (nominally 6.4V) at the junction of the aquadag coating and C205 is

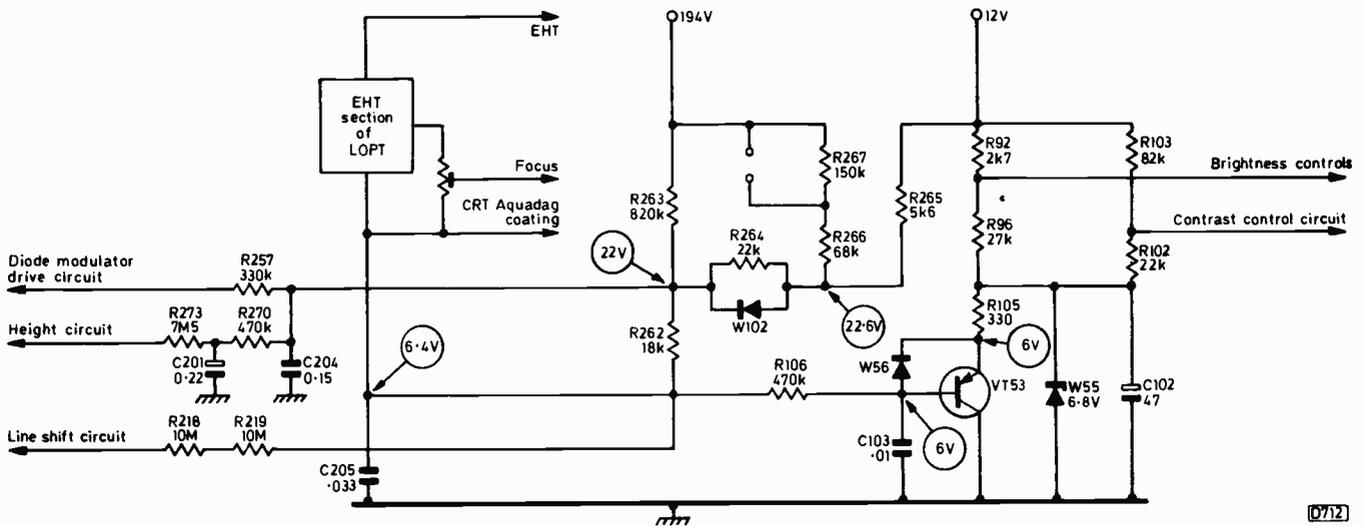


Fig. 3: The beam limiting/anti-breathing circuitry.

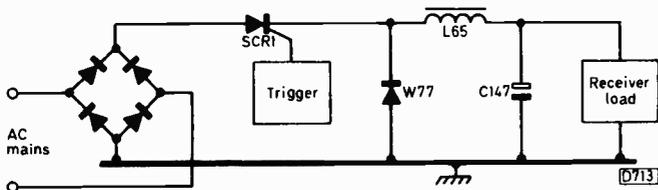


Fig. 4: Skeleton circuit of the power supply.

proportional to the beam current. This voltage is linked via R218/R219 to the line shift circuit for picture centring correction, and to the anti-breathing network R262/R263 etc. The voltage at the junction of R262/3 is fed via R257 to the diode modulator circuit and via R270/R273 to the field charging circuit.

The active element in the beam limiting circuit is VT53, which is normally held non-conductive. When the beam current exceeds $600\mu\text{A}$ (for 14in. tubes – for larger sizes R267 is shorted out so that the tubes will operate at a higher maximum current), the base voltage of VT53 falls sufficiently

for it to conduct. In consequence it shorts the zener diode W55, which normally clamps VT53's emitter at 6.8V. With VT53 conductive, the brightness/contrast levels are reduced via R102 and R96. To prevent short-duration highlights activating the beam limiter circuit, the time-constant network R106/C103 is included in the base circuit of VT53. Picture emphasis is thus retained. Once the limiter comes into operation, the time-constant is made much longer by C102, thus preventing shading over the field. At low beam current levels (less than $50\mu\text{A}$) W102 cuts off. This increases the gain of the beam sensing network to compensate for the higher output impedance of the e.h.t. system.

POWER SUPPLY

The power supply is one of the few areas in modern TV receiver design where a great diversity of approaches is to be found – not only amongst different manufacturers, but between successive chassis from individual setmakers. Like

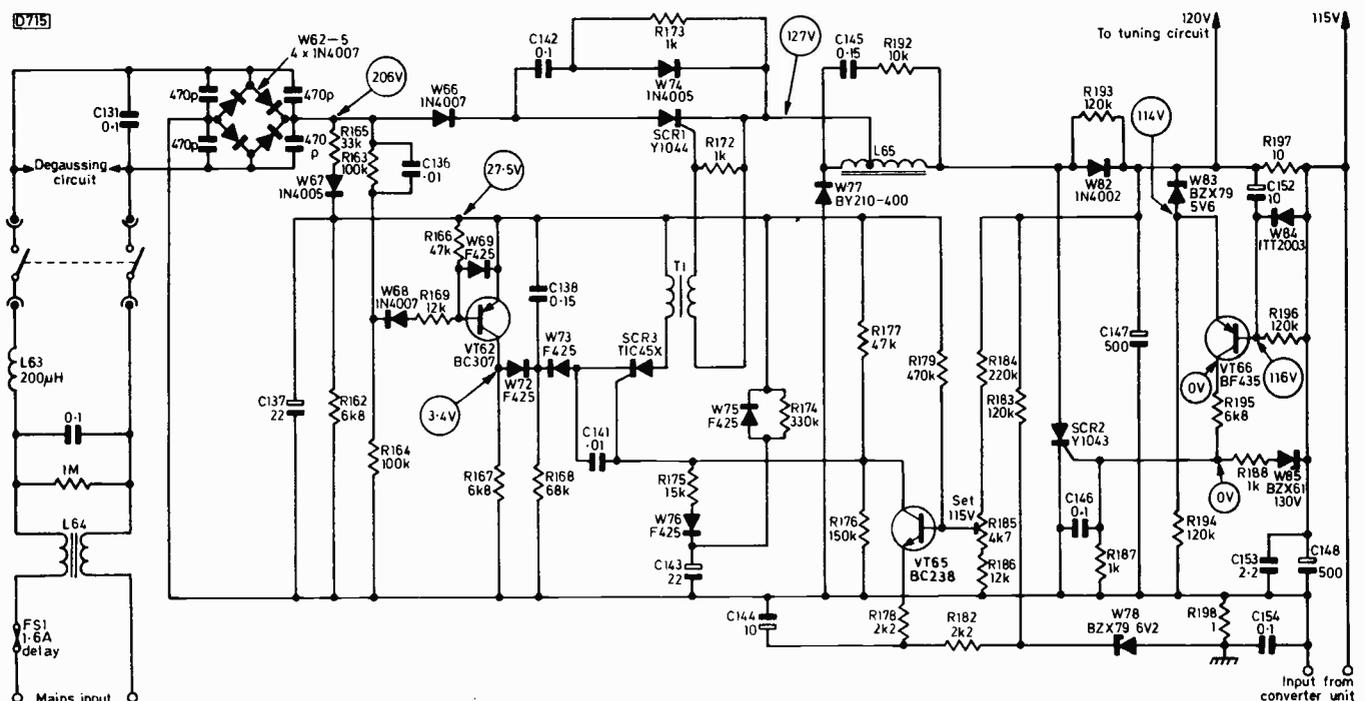


Fig. 5: Complete circuit of the power supply.

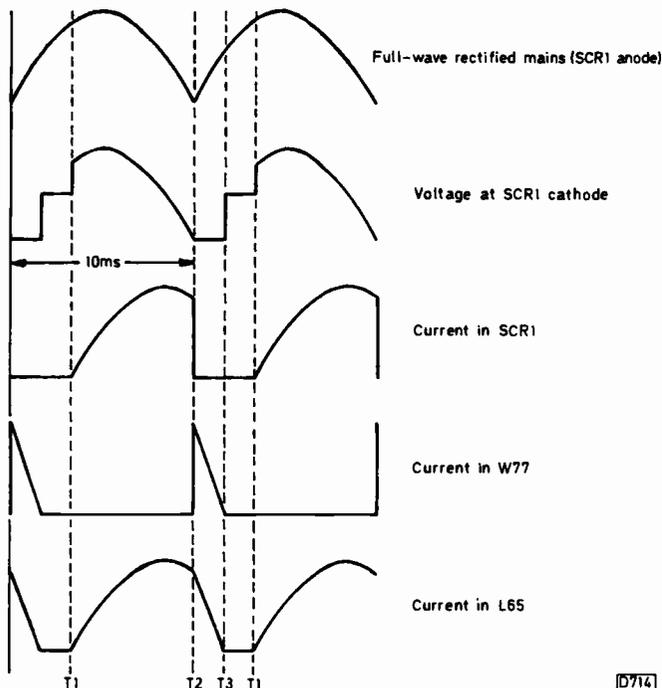


Fig. 6: Power supply waveforms. The thyristor is triggered on at T1. Point T2 is the mains zero crossing point, and T3 the point at which W77 turns off. During T1-T2 the thyristor feeds energy into the circuit. From T2-T3 the receiver draws on energy stored in L65 as magnetic flux. From T3-T1 the reservoir capacitor C147 maintains the output voltage.

Sony, Thorn have in the past used many power supply techniques – series regulators in the 2000 chassis, a series chopper in the 3000 chassis, a thyristor circuit in the 8000 chassis, a parallel chopper in the 4000 chassis, and Syclops in the 9000 chassis. The new circuit used in the TX9 seems to be a very well engineered, cost-effective design which should keep everybody happy.

It's based on the use of a thyristor as the regulating element, but the resemblance to earlier designs ends here! In the past, thyristor power supplies have been justly criticised on the grounds of r.f. radiation and the huge, short-duration bites they take from the mains supply – in early designs, on one half cycle only. The TX9's power supply circuit overcomes these problems by the use of a large inductor downstream from the thyristor, which in turn draws on both half-cycles of the mains input.

The circuit is shown in skeleton form in Fig. 4. The full-wave bridge rectifier presents the thyristor's anode with a train of half-sinusoid pulses at 100Hz. As each pulse approaches peak voltage, the thyristor is triggered into conduction, feeding energy into the inductor L65, the reservoir capacitor C147 and the receiver load. When the input voltage drops to zero at the end of the half cycle, the thyristor cuts off and W77 switches on, clamping the input end of L65 to chassis. The energy stored in L65 as magnetic flux then maintains the flow of current, sustaining the output voltage. The operation is much the same as with the 3000's chopper, but this time at 100Hz. When the magnetic field around L65 has collapsed to zero, W77 turns off and the energy stored in C147 maintains the current flow until the thyristor is once again triggered on to restart the cycle. The waveforms in Fig. 6 show the timing.

A neat idea, but with the circuit as shown in Fig. 4 we cannot guarantee that at the end of each half cycle the thyristor's anode voltage will drop below that at its cathode. If this requirement is not met, the device won't turn off. The solution is to move the thyristor's injection point along the

choke towards the reservoir capacitor (see Fig. 5). This has the effect of forcing W77 to conduct before the input voltage drops to zero at the end of the half cycle. In fact the tapping point is fixed so that W77 starts to conduct when the input voltage is still 15V above earth, thus ensuring that the thyristor is well and truly cut off until the next trigger pulse arrives. C142/R173/W74 protect the thyristor against transients, while C145/R192 damp the choke L65.

The trigger circuit is quite simple. An unregulated supply of about 28V is developed across C137, which is fed via the potential divider R165/R162. As a result, C138 begins to charge via R168. Let's assume that the gate of the trigger thyristor SCR3 is at a fixed positive potential. As C138 charges, a negative-going voltage will be developed at its lower plate. When this voltage is less than the voltage at the gate of SCR3, W73 and SCR3 will switch on. As a result, the charge developed by C138 will produce a current pulse in the primary winding of T1. The pulse appearing across the secondary winding fires SCR1. At the end of each input half cycle, the pnp transistor VT62 conducts briefly to ensure that C138 is fully discharged ready for the next cycle of operation.

Regulation

To obtain regulation, the voltage at the gate of SCR3, and thus its firing time, are varied. The control action is provided by VT65, which operates in the normal error detector fashion – its emitter voltage is held steady by the zener diode W78, while its base is fed with a potted down voltage obtained from the main 120V h.t. rail. R179 monitors variations in the mains voltage via the unregulated 28V line.

Soft Start

It's desirable that the h.t. voltage should rise gradually to the normal working level over a period of a second or so after the set is switched on. C143 provides this soft-start facility. At switch on, C143 starts to charge via R175 and R177. The values of these resistors are selected so that SCR3 cannot conduct to start with. As C143 charges, the voltage at the gate of SCR3 rises and it's fired progressively earlier. This results in a gradual rise in the h.t. voltage. W76 isolates C143 once normal receiver operation has been established.

The delay introduced by C143 also ensures that the automatic degaussing is completed before the tube starts to be scanned.

To reset the slow-start circuit quickly, C143 is discharged via W75 and VT62, which remains conductive until C137 has discharged. This ensures that the slow-start action occurs even when the set is switched off and on again quickly.

Power Supply Source Impedance

As colour chassis become more efficient, so the current demand on the power supply becomes progressively more dependent on beam current. Modern power supply circuits in fact have to cope with a current demand ratio approaching 2:1 between full and zero beam current. In consequence the power supply must have a low effective source impedance if picture breathing is to be avoided, i.e. the voltage regulation must be good!

The use of RC smoothing (C147/R197/C148) downstream from the thyristor-choke combination means that the power supply's source impedance will not be less than 10Ω (R197). This is not good enough, so the feed-forward technique is used to lower the effective source impedance of the power supply. The receiver's current demand is monitored by the 1Ω sampling resistor R198, which is in series with the

earthy side of the power supply. The voltage developed across this resistor is proportional to the current demand and is added to the voltage at the emitter of the error detector transistor VT65. R182/C144 smooth this voltage so that the circuit is immune to ripple components at 50Hz or above. The effect of the feed-forward arrangement is to give the power supply an effective source impedance of less than 1Ω .

Protection

Apart from the mains fuse, the protection in the TX9 is based on the crowbar thyristor SCR2. To provide over-voltage protection, the gate of SCR2 is connected via the 130V zener diode W85 to the 115V h.t. line. Should the h.t. voltage exceed the zener voltage, W85 and SCR2 will conduct, earthing the cathode of the regulator thyristor SCR1 and thus blowing the mains fuse. Excess current protection is initiated by VT66. Under normal operating conditions the set's current consumption is around 500mA, resulting in a voltage of about 5V across the smoothing resistor R197. Should this voltage rise significantly, indicating an overload, VT66 will turn on and fire SCR2. To avoid false alarms due to flashovers or transients, the time-constant network C152/R196 is included to delay the response.

Power Supply Summary

To sum up, a good power supply, and provided the components are reliable it should be a winner! We did some comparative measurements on the TX9 and the earlier 8000 chassis power supply circuits. With our none-too-stiff mains supply in a Sussex village, the 8000 gulped a huge, steep-sided 7.5A spike from the positive mains half cycle only: the TX9 took a gentle 800mA swell at a 100Hz rate – see Fig. 7. We also discovered that our review set worked happily with a mains input voltage as low as 152V.

SERVICING

A great deal of attention has been paid to the servicing aspect of the TX9. The single PCB can be withdrawn from the cabinet and mounted vertically, locating in a slot at the bottom of the cabinet moulding. This gives simultaneous access to both sides of the board. The i.c.s are not pluggable, for reasons of reliability – there have been many problems in the past with i.c. holders in various makes and models, and they are often less reliable than the chip itself.

For testing the operation of the power supply, the load presented by the set can be simulated by a resistor of about 384Ω , rated at 34W. This can be made up of heavy wire-wound resistors or old heating elements.

The service manual is excellent and includes a circuit description. In addition, component functions are included in the parts list – something we've not had since the 1590/1591

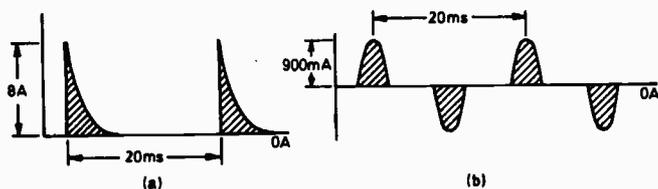


Fig. 7: (a) Mains-current waveform with the earlier 8000 series chassis, which also used a thyristor power supply. The sharp rise time and heavy transient current pulse caused interference radiation, stress in the power supply components and a d.c. drain on the mains supply. (b) The more civilised mains-current waveform with the TX9 chassis.

series manual was published in 1972. The list also reverts to quoting part numbers – a good thing as far as we're concerned, having come unstuck many times for various reasons since Thorn dropped part numbers some years ago.

Spares prices are surprisingly low. At the time of writing, we've been quoted the following which are approximately net trade: line output transformer/e.h.t./focus unit £12; luminance/chrominance i.c. £4; SAWF i.f. module £9; complete chassis assembly £110. The components are guaranteed for one year. The c.r.t. guarantee is two years, with an optional extension to four years.

CONCLUSIONS

The set we had for evaluation was the first model to be released – the 14in. Model 3755. We sought several opinions, both technical and lay, while we had the set.

We were impressed by its apparent lightness. In fact it weighs 13kg (29lb), marginally lighter than other comparable models. The illusion is due to the provision of recessed carrying grips at the sides rather than the usual single handle. These and the folding u.h.f. loop aerial, plus the optional battery facility, make the 3755 truly portable, though for use when travelling around a rotary tuning knob covering the whole u.h.f. band would save a lot of fiddling.

On test, the picture was found to be slightly green tinted. This was put right with a tweak on the G background control. The sound was a little distorted on some programme material, but slight readjustment of the sound detector coil soon cured this.

Earlier Thorn sets often suffered from a fierceness of customer control operation – the slider controls on the 8000 and 8500 chassis are notorious in this respect. The rotary controls on the TX9 are not so bad as earlier models. The brightness and contrast can be set fairly easily, though most of the business is done over little more than half the track range. The volume control did nothing until advanced almost a quarter turn, the next quarter turn increasing the sound virtually to full. The saturation control was a little better, but zero to full saturation occupied only the middle half of the available knob travel.

The set was placed alongside an ITT 16in. colour portable. It was difficult to put a pin between the two pictures from the performance point of view. Slight differences in the phosphor colour were noticeable with the sets side by side, but not otherwise. Most observers agreed that the sound from the ITT set was marginally better, even after our adjustment of the sound detector coil in the TX9. Critical appraisal of the relative performances of the two sets on test card, also with a 14in. Decca Model CN0701 (70 chassis), showed that the picture performance was virtually identical, though neither the ITT nor the Decca set matched the picture breathing v. brightness performance of the TX9. It must be added that these remarks should be read in the light of the relative prices of the sets concerned.

Inside the set, we noticed that the e.h.t. lead and cap have been given much beefier insulation. This should score in adverse environments, and is very relevant to a portable which may see service anywhere from a boat to a kitchen. The only really heavy component, the power supply choke, is braced by the peripheral metal chassis reinforcing rib. Such sources of heat as exist, and there are very few of them, are well distributed around the chassis.

By way of conclusion, we are convinced that the TX9 represents a milestone in TV receiver design. Congratulations are due to the Thorn design team. On a more personal note, we were very sorry to lose the review model: it makes our 1970 vintage Bush set look very tired indeed! ■

R334 was intermittently open-circuit. When it goes completely open-circuit, there's severe non-linearity. It's worth changing both R334 and R333 to prevent a call-back. The field linearity controls R326 and R335 are also occasionally responsible for flickering at the top and bottom – look for burn marks where the wiper rests on the carbon track.

If you find it necessary to keep replacing the PCL805 field timebase valve in these sets due to field roll, check the heater chain. Some sort of internal short seems to occur in the PY500 boost diode, as a result of which its heater voltage falls to about 25V a.c. instead of 40V a.c. Replace the PY500 and PCL805 and all should be well. For some reason no fault other than field roll shows up.

Mitsubishi

Model CT200B: One of these sets came in with the complaint small picture – lacking in width and height. There was a slight hum on sound (the give-away) and also a weak, grainy picture. The trouble was due to loss of capacitance in the main reservoir electrolytic C907 (820 μ F). The replacement has to be a genuine Mitsubishi one since it has four earthing tags, with the positive terminal almost in the centre.

A fault we've had on several occasions with this set is the picture size varying – it's more noticeable on test card. The picture suddenly increases in size, then just as suddenly returns to normal. This may happen quite often or only a couple of times an hour. The cause each time has been the zener diode D923 (type EQ401-12) in the regulator error amplifier circuit.

Model CT202B: We've had several cases of sound but no picture on these sets, due to either the second (Q202, type 2SC710C or 2SC454A) or third (Q203, type 2SC620C) luminance amplifier transistor being faulty. The two stages are d.c. coupled, so if the voltages in both stages are wrong replace Q202 while if only the voltages in the later stage are wrong replace Q203.

The procedure for dealing with colour noise on a monochrome picture on these sets is as follows. First see whether the colour noise disappears when the colour-killer control VR604 is rotated (see Fig. 2). If it does, check the condition of the track or better replace the control (1k Ω). If the colour noise is still present, check the a.c.c. amplifier's drain voltage. This should be 5.2V (Q612). If this is correct,

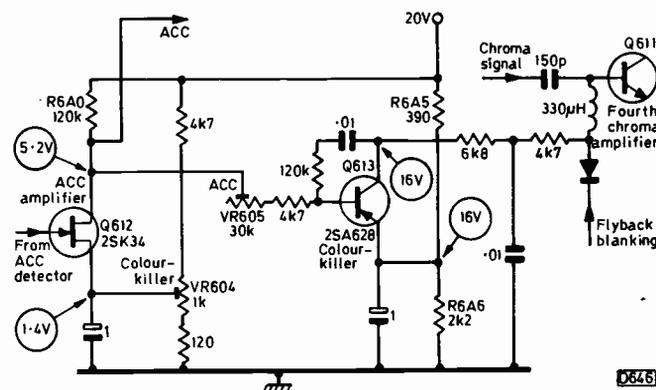


Fig. 2: The a.c.c. amplifier and colour-killer circuits used in the Mitsubishi Model CT202B. Similar circuitry is used in other Mitsubishi models of the period. The a.c.c. detector is of the synchronous type, producing an output when the colour burst is present. This output is fed to Q612, which in turn drives Q613 into saturation, thus providing Q611's base with forward bias. Note that the output from the collector of Q613 also activates the 4.43MHz trap in the luminance channel during colour reception.

replace the colour-killer transistor Q613 (2SA628). If Q612's drain voltage is incorrect, check the voltage at its gate (should be 1.1V). If this is normal, replace Q612 (type 2SK34): if not, check for a fault in the a.c.c. detector circuit (D611, D612, D605 etc.).

Perdio

Model RP206CS: When switched on, the sound came up with a gurgling effect and there was no raster. The voltages around the regulator were all over the place, so attention was turned to the line output transistor Q403 (2SC508). The voltages here were also wrong. It turned out that the line section of the deflection yoke was open-circuit between tags 26 and 27. A replacement yoke restored normal operation.

Philips

G8 chassis: In the event of no sound plus field collapse, check whether the 45V supply from the line output stage is present at pin 4 of plug U. If not, the 1.25A fuse F5512 will probably be found blown, due either to the rectifier diode D5540 (BY210-800) or its reservoir capacitor C5537 (800 μ F) having gone short-circuit.

In the event of no results except for a slight hum when the set is first switched on, proceed as follows. Check whether the 205V h.t. supply is present at TP61 in the line output stage. If so, check for voltage at the collector of the upper line output transistor T5531. If everything is in order thus far, check with a scope whether the line oscillator input is present at pin 2 of socket G. If not, check whether the 205V supply is reaching TP49 on the timebase panel. If 205V is present here, check wirewound resistor R4516 (10k Ω) which could be open-circuit. If the resistor is intact and warm, suspect the zener diode D4531 (BZY88/C18) or the smoothing electrolytic C4518 (47 μ F) of being short-circuit.

G9 chassis: One of these sets came in with the dead set symptom. There was a.c. at the anode of the thyristor rectifier but nothing at its cathode. A check of the voltage at the collector of the control transistor T7 (BC147) revealed zero instead of 14.7V, due to the charging capacitor C15 (0.22 μ F) being short-circuit.

Rank

A823 chassis: The pincushion distortion correction transducer 6T3 on this chassis gives a fair amount of trouble. On one set the report was that it had started to smoke. The set was switched on and worked, but there was pincushion distortion. On examination, the fusible resistor 6R15 was found to be open-circuit. This is connected between the line-frequency windings on the transducer: a new transducer stopped the burning and restored normal results. The transducer can also be responsible for intermittent field collapse, or even intermittent field bounce, due to dry-joints on the board.

Problems not infrequently arise in the c.r.t. first anode circuitry. 4R3 (220k Ω) on the c.r.t. base panel tends to increase in value, causing excessive brightness and a poor grey scale. The first anode potentiometers (7RV11/12/13) also tend to change value. In a recent case one of them had fallen from 2.2M Ω to 400k Ω . The odd thing is that the effect of this may not be noticeable until an attempt is made to set up the grey scale. It's best to replace all three controls.

Another fault one sometimes encounters on this chassis is excessive brightness with flyback lines due to 6R8 (820k) in the coupling between the line output transformer and the e.h.t. tripler going open-circuit. This resistor is not easy to

change, being behind the line output transformer. The symptoms that are evident arise due to the effect of the fault on the c.r.t.'s grid circuit (via the beam limiter). Uncontrollable or varying brightness can be due to 8C11 (0.1 μ F) which couples the clamp pulses to the decoder/RGB drive panel.

One of these sets with the two-chip decoder came in recently with the complaint loss of colour. A replacement decoder panel made no difference, so attention was turned to the i.f. panel – the first two chroma amplifier stages, plus the a.c.c. transistor, are housed in module Z on this panel. The trouble was due to the supply line smoothing electrolytic 2C48 (10 μ F) being short-circuit. Note that any of the three transistors (2VT7/8/9) in this module can be responsible for loss of colour: if this is suspected, change all three as they don't always read faulty when checked.

Z179 chassis: Lack of width on one of these sets was traced to 4C41 (4.7 μ F) in the EW modulator circuit being open-circuit. Another capacitor in this area, 4C68 (1.5 μ F), causes bowing at the sides when it goes open-circuit.

Z718 chassis: Bad sound distortion is usually due to the transistors in the sound output stage. There are two, the output transistor itself 3VT14 (BD166) and 3VT15 (also BD166) which acts as a constant-current source. They are mounted on the decoder panel (Z905). The trouble may simply be a dry-joint: if it's necessary to replace them however, it's important to adjust the set audio current control 3RV9. The procedure is simple. Connect the meter across 3VT14's emitter resistor 3R88 (2.2 Ω), and adjust 3RV9 for a reading of 0.44V – corresponding to 200mA through the audio output stage.

Very bad distortion on one occasion was found to be due to 3R88 being open-circuit. On another set the sound would disappear almost to nothing, even with the volume control turned fully up. This was traced to the TBA120SB intercarrier sound i.c. 2SIC2. The voltages around the i.c. varied slightly from cold to when the set had warmed up, and a spray of freezer would restore the sound for a short time.

The complaint on a couple of occasions has been "burning". On the first occasion the trouble was due to 4R39 (56 Ω), the base bias transistor for the field convergence output stage. One of the transistors (4VT11, BD509) in this stage was found to be short-circuit. Replacing 4R39 and 4VT11 restored normal operation. On the second occasion 4R30 (13 Ω) was found to be cooking. This is the emitter resistor of one of the two field driver transistors (each field output transistor has its own driver). The cause of this sort of trouble is usually a leaky diode in the field output stage. There are four diodes, 4D4, 4D5 and 4D6, all type 1N4001, and 4D7 which is type 1N4148. Replace all four to be on the safe side.

Intermittent field collapse on these sets can usually be cured by resoldering the tags on the NS correction transducer 5T4 (on the line output panel). On one occasion however we were led quite a dance, until we discovered that a spray of freezer on 4VT22 in the field scan generator circuit would open out the picture to normal height. Replacing 4VT22 (BC158) completely cured the trouble. Another fault in this area was traced to 4C7 (2.2 μ F): the symptom was slight field bounce.

The dead set symptom on one of these receivers turned out to be due to an unusual fault. The fusible resistor 5R6 (68 Ω) which provides the supply to the line driver stage was found to be open-circuit. The supply is obtained from the centre point of the line output stage, so I suspected the line output transistors. These were replaced and the base balance adjustment carried out. The setting up seemed to be

o.k. but I left the meter in place to monitor the conditions and noticed that every now and then the voltage reading would jump right off the scale (15V a.c.). With the aid of a scope, it was found that the line driver transformer 5T1 was faulty, replacement stopping the voltage variations and giving correct balance.

Lack of width after the set had warmed up, the width then slowly reducing, was traced to a dry-joint at the collector of the EW modulator output transistor 4VT19 (2N5296).

A case of fluctuating signals was traced to 2C18 (0.01 μ F) in the a.g.c. circuit.

An inoperative brightness control with some shading at the bottom of the picture turned out to be due to a defective diode in the burst gating/black-level clamp pulse generator circuit – the culprit was 3D5 (1N4148).

T20 chassis: Intermittent mains fuse (7FS2) blowing has been a problem with this chassis. Rank dealt with it by changing 7FS2 from a 1.6AT fuse to one rated at 2.5AT.

Where the fault is no h.t. output from the T114A switch-mode power supply panel, first check the h.t. rectifier diode 7D1 (BY299) in case it's open-circuit, then if necessary check diodes 7D3/4 in the chopper transistor's base circuit. If either of these is found to be short-circuit, check zener diode 7D7 (BZY79/C10) which could also be short-circuit.

If the switch-mode power supply won't start (again no h.t. output), check the two fuses (7FS1 and 7FS2), then 7D8 (1N4148) for being short-circuit and zener diode 7D9 (BZY88/C6V8) for reverse leakage: if these are all o.k., check 7R9 (220 Ω) for being high-resistance – I've had this one on several occasions, replacing the resistor restoring normal results. Note that if the start-up circuit is in order an audible clunk will be heard at switch on: check as suggested in the previous paragraph.

Note that 7FS1 must be a HRC type (1.6A), and that if either the chopper transistor 7VT2 (BU326) or the trigger SCS 7THY1 (BR103) is defective both must be replaced. Rank comment that 7R15 (8.2 Ω), which is in series with the crowbar thyristor, should always be checked for being open-circuit whenever the power supply is serviced, and if necessary replaced. Rank also point out that the power supply module can be serviced outside the set by providing a mains input and a suitable dummy load – two 60W lamps in parallel to simulate the normal load (600mA) and three 60W lamps in parallel to simulate full load (870mA).

Thorn

8000 chassis: We had one of these in the other day with the dead set symptom. This was quickly traced to W704 (BY127), the protection diode in series with the thyristor controlled rectifier, being open-circuit.

9000 chassis: Crinkly verticals on this chassis are usually due to C431 (10 μ F), which seems to dry up: it decouples the emitter of the line oscillator transistor VT411. If the grey scale is unstable, check C174/5/7: these 560pF capacitors provide emitter decoupling in the RGB output stages.

Toshiba

Model C800B: We were called to a strange fault on this set – there was no sound or raster, with the tuner neons flickering on and off in an odd manner. A quick voltage check in the line oscillator stage revealed that the trouble was due to line oscillator failure. The circuit is a bit unusual for a colour receiver, consisting of a pair of transistors (T401 and T402, both type 2SA495Y) in an emitter-coupled multivibrator stage. The trouble was due to one of the cross-coupling capacitors, C408 (0.0043 μ F).

very reliable component, and frequent calls had to be made to replace it. You're unlikely to be able to get one now, but a 140Ω resistor rated at 15W at least will do as a replacement.

Metal HT Rectifier

The h.t. was supplied by a metal rectifier. This can of course be replaced by a silicon diode, with a series resistor (21Ω, 10W is suitable) to provide surge limiting. Nowadays rectifier replacement is usually required because of catastrophic failure of the silicon diode – a short- or sometimes an open-circuit. In the days of the metal rectifier however the most common fault was a gradual increase in the rectifier's forward resistance with age, thus lowering the h.t. voltage. You'd get various symptoms, the most common being reduced height and width, often accompanied by field rolling.

Occasionally there would be a short to the mounting rod and bracket, as a result of which the unit would overheat. This could be quickly diagnosed without removing the back from the set, since it produced a dreadful smell like a blocked drain! The rectifier would sometimes go on working in this condition, and many a householder was mystified as to the source of the smell. I used to know two old ladies who would bring in a bucket of water with Jeyes fluid added every time they watched TV. It eventually got so bad that they would turn the set round to face the window and take their chairs out into the garden to watch!

Signal Stages

Anyway, back to the English Electric 16T11D. Note that the earthy end of the volume control does not go to chassis but via a screened lead to the junction of the two resistors in the cathode circuit of the ECL80 audio amplifier/output valve (see Fig. 2). Since the triode/pentode ECL80 has a common cathode, the idea of this arrangement is to enable a higher bias voltage to be applied to the pentode than to the triode section of the valve. Watch this point therefore when replacing the volume control.

The front end of the receiver is of interest. To start with, provision is made for using balanced twin, screened balanced twin or coaxial feeder. Then there are two r.f. amplifier stages before the pentode frequency changer. A sensitivity control varies the cathode voltage of both the r.f. amplifier valves (see Fig. 3), enabling a wide range of reception conditions to be covered without the need for attenuators or boosters. The tuning is fixed to just one of the five Band I channels, by means of four plug-in coils mounted along the bottom right-hand corner of the chassis.

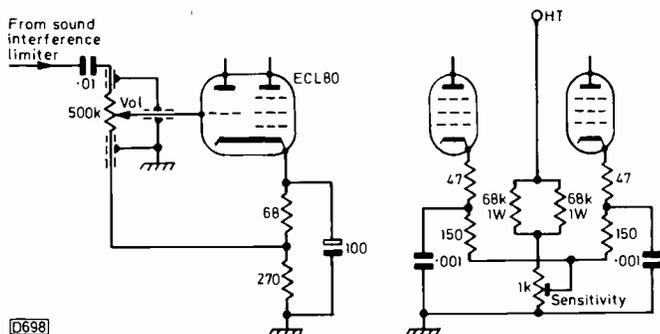


Fig. 2 (left): The volume control connections can be confusing if you don't know where the earthy end should go.

Fig. 3 (right): Method of varying the gain of the two r.f. amplifier valves to provide sensitivity control. An identical arrangement was used in the vision i.f. stages for contrast control.

next month in

TELEVISION

● 50 YEARS OF TV

Fifty years ago TV was poised to become part of the domestic scene. Rapid progress was being made in several countries, but Baird in the UK was in the lead – with his original mechanical TV system. In March 1930 the BBC provided Baird with the facilities to demonstrate the simultaneous transmission of vision and sound programme material, and in the same year TV receivers first went on sale – at £18. To commemorate the achievements of the time, the Science Museum is holding a special exhibition. The technical history will be summarised in our cover feature.

● TV/VDU CONVERSION

TV sets can be adapted for use as VDU displays, while still providing off-air reception, if suitable signal switching and interfacing is provided. Alan Kitching presents a suitable circuit, with details of how to adapt several common TV chassis.

● SERVICING ZANUSSI COLOUR RECEIVERS

Yet another of the foreigners that came into the UK in appreciable numbers during the great colour boom of the early seventies. The set is a 26in. 110° one, using a solid-state chassis with a thyristor line output stage, and many have appeared on the ex-rental market. Faults and servicing are described by Mike Phelan.

● BEAM LIMITING SYSTEMS

To prevent damage to the tube and e.h.t. system, colour receivers incorporate beam current limiting. George Wilding takes a look at some typical arrangements.

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way. Customer's complaint: very poor focus for the first half hour, gradually improving; no variation in picture size. Diagnosis: faulty thick-film focus unit.

Now it should be pointed out that there's no tripler in this chassis. Instead, a large overwinding feeds a single stick rectifier (see Fig. 2). The full e.h.t. is applied to the focus unit, which reduces it to the 4-5kV required at pin 9 of the tube. There are two 100kΩ resistors in the circuit, but both seemed to be in order. A meter check confirmed that the voltage at pin 9 of the c.r.t. was low, while fully advancing the focus knob produced little improvement. So a new focus unit was fitted. No improvement.

We wept bitter tears until we recalled our friend Ray moaning and groaning about the type of tube base socket used in these sets. "Makes you think the bloody tube has clapped out" he'd said, "until you take the tube base off and find the tube's pins pitted and corroded." So we removed the base socket and found pin 9 pitted. The quick meter check had not taken into consideration the very high resistance of the thick-film unit, and the 3kV in fact was some 5kV.

Carefully cleaning the pin and fitting a new tube base socket restored normal focus, and we resolved to write it down so that others would not be similarly fooled.

A Thorn 1590 with No Results

A Thorn 1590. Now any fool can diagnose the faults that occur on these well known portables. Only an idiot could get mixed up. We did.

"It doesn't come on" said the customer.

"Blown l.t. fuse" we correctly diagnosed, in a blinding glimpse of the obvious.

Cold checks on the line output transistor and the associated diodes and electrolytics revealed nothing amiss, and we didn't even notice the spidery black lines across the top of the line output transformer. A meter in place of the fuse read 3A when the set was switched on, with pretty blue arcing across the top of said transformer. Now we didn't immediately condemn the transformer to the rubbish bin: it occurred to us that the set was probably used in the kitchen, and that the top insulating material had probably suffered as a result. The conductive paths were scraped away therefore, and the fresh surface treated to a dose of silicone. A 2.5A fuse was fitted, and the set switched on. Pop went the fuse, after only a very brief period. The meter was brought back and showed 3A as before, but there was no sign of life around the line output transformer.

"It must be bugged after all" we thought. It wasn't of course, but we touched it to see if it was warm and were struck by the warmth coming from the e.h.t. stick. "Well I never" we said. "Either the stick is faulty or the 1kpF disc e.h.t. reservoir capacitor is short-circuit (C115, 1590 chassis only). So we disconnected the capacitor and found it short-circuit. "Oh well" we said, "if it's left out of the 1591 it can be left out of this one too."

In went another fuse, and we switched on. Pop went the fuse, just as before. "Goodness gracious me" we murmured, "the stick is still sick." So we changed this and the 1590 lived happily ever after, because before we wrapped it up we checked the supply line and found it a little high, resetting the regulator to reduce the supply to 11.5V.

VHFOK, NoAM

A Fidelity radio, type 23. Just for a change we thought we'd tackle a radio. "V.H.F. o.k., no a.m." said the customer. The diagnosis was swift and wrong: faulty a.m.

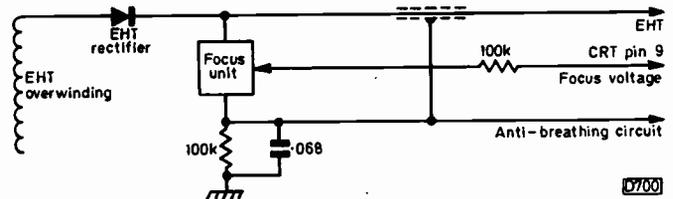


Fig. 2: Focus circuit, Rank T20 chassis.

mixer-oscillator transistor (BF194).

The back was off in a trice, but the panel took a little longer because when we took out all the screws the tuning dial fell off. Eventually the panel was in one piece and out.

Sure enough, touching the base of the BF194 restored medium and long wave reception, so the suspect was removed and a new one fitted – without melting the dial cord (our usual forte). The a.m. reception was now good, so the panel was manfully refitted and secured, together with the rear cover. Recheck to be sure. No a.m. Remove rear cover and explore area of the BF194. The 4.7kpF capacitor at the top of the panel was tapped and the signals returned. As we fitted a new capacitor the cat watched intently, probably wondering why we seem to have to do everything twice.

The Day the VAT man Came

On the morning the VAT man came to check the books and figures the daily comedy was already in progress. We were on the phone trying to find out if there should be some form of tube guarantee form with the new Pye/Philips colour portables (KT3 series) with the 14in. tube. As the 16in. version comes complete with said form or card, it seemed reasonable that there should also be one with the 14in. version – at least it did to our befuddled mind.

We were put through to one department after another of the mighty Philips organisation.

Service: "We don't know. Try new sales."

New sales: "We don't know. Do you want a card sent to you?"

"No, I only want to know if there should be one or not."

"We don't know. Hang on, we'll put you through to P.R." (I think that's what he said).

On it went, from pillar to post, all for the want of a yes or no. Finally it must have been the managing director who said "we'll ring you back." But he never did. We now know that there's no separate guarantee card with the 14in. version, simply because none have had one.

The Vatman sat with the books and found all the mistakes we've made over the past couple of years, whilst we attended to the customers.

Small boy. "Can you mend my torch?"

Tall man with pointed teeth. "I put the battery you sold me in my clock but it doesn't work, so I've brought the clock in for you to look at."

Local vet. "The auto-pilot on my boat keeps sending me round in circles. I think it's this 12 to 24V power unit. Can you check it at 100mA?"

Local vicar. "This slide projector isn't working properly. Just have a quick look will you?"

And so the morning passed. "Can you come and look at the telly, all the buttons get ITV." The frustration built up and the Vatman looked on pityingly. "No wonder you make mistakes in the books. If I'd to contend with that lot I'd be barmy too. When are you going to put some money in the till?"

Smarting under this, we decided to vent our spite on a

dear little old lady who crept quietly in and stood hesitantly, looking from me to the Vatman.

"Television" she said in a very small voice. Thinking she'd come to ask daft questions about her no doubt clapped out old set, we started an imitation John Cleese/Basil Fawlty tirade.

"Television, television. Of course television. No doubt you want to buy a nice new one. How about a splendid new 22in. colour set with all the trimmings?"

"Yes please" she murmured. "How did you know what I wanted?"

The Vatman collapsed with laughter, while we were made to look dafter than ever.

Solly, Velly Solly

Finally an apology. Apparently one or two readers wrote to say they found our far eastern adventures (December issue) vulgar and offensive (and probably dull too). We're sorry, and to prove it we cut out the succeeding account of our adventures in the frozen north, where we travelled to meet Solo Joe and Eskimo Nell. We try to have our bit of fun, but apparently it doesn't always come off.

Computerised TV

Part 1

MICROPROCESSOR and microcomputer i.c.s seem to be cropping up everywhere nowadays. It's hardly surprising therefore that TV manufacturers have found uses for them. First, what's the difference? Well, they both enable a great deal of digital signal processing to be carried out in a single chip. The differences relate to the internal memory arrangements. Clearly the chips require memories so that they can remember what they're supposed to do and how to do it, and to store data as necessary during the processing operations. A microprocessor's memory is of the ROM (read-only memory) type, i.e. it provides outputs as required but you can't feed data in and get it back later. Typical examples of ROMs are the character and graphics generator i.c.s used in VDUs and teletext decoders. A microcomputer is more flexible because it also incorporates a RAM (random-access memory) which will hold and release data as instructed. The data store in a VDU and the page memory device in a teletext decoder are of the RAM variety.

The use of digital techniques in domestic TV sets started a few years back – with a rather expensive, up-market Barco colour receiver. This had an automatic tuning system – similar to the arrangement used in the Grundig SVR videocassette recorder, described in these pages last July. Digital tuning and remote control systems are becoming increasingly common in TV sets, and are also found in the latest VCRs. Once you start using digital control systems, it's logical to employ a microcomputer i.c. to control the system. Both Philips and ITT have published details of microcomputer TV receiver control systems recently, and we shall doubtless find these in the more complex TV sets featuring teletext and viewdata facilities before long.

One of the first items of domestic TV equipment I've had an opportunity to examine using a microcomputer chip is the Sanyo VTC9300P, a Beta format VCR. This uses a microcomputer to act as an off-air timer and tape counter. In other VCRs these functions are carried out by a mixture of special-purpose i.c.s, standard TTL i.c.s and electromechanical devices.

It's worth taking a look at the techniques used in the VTC9300P, since the microcomputer system Sanyo use is fairly simple yet has all the features found in more complex systems. In fact it provides a good introduction to the microcomputer.

The microcomputer chip itself is the Texas TMS1070, a variant of the TMS1000. Before delving into it however, let's briefly outline what a microcomputer is and can do. It's a simple computer of course, and has been described as a

very large-scale integrated circuit (VLSIC) which, by performing a sequence of programmable (in manufacture) operations, can fulfil a wide range of different electronic functions. The advantages of using a microcomputer are its low cost (less than £5), the low component count achieved, and the ease with which the instructions (and thus the functions the device will perform) can be changed by the i.c. manufacturer to cater for different applications.

The TMS1070

Like the other microcomputers in the TMS1000 series, the TMS1070 is basically intended for calculator applications, use in cash registers, and to control microwave ovens and simple industrial processes. The TMS1070 contains all the essential elements of a microcomputer in a single 28-pin package. Fig. 1 shows the basic elements of a microcomputer. The data enters via the input/output interface, is modified or acted upon in the central processing unit in accordance with the programme held in the memory (ROM), and is then fed out. The microprocessor is basically the same, with the omission of the store (RAM) which increases the flexibility of the processing system. The TMS1070 is a p-channel MOS device and is equivalent to some 125–150 TTL i.c.s.

A block diagram of the TMS1070 is shown in Fig. 2. The following is a simplified account of what goes on in it.

Programme Memory

The ROM holds the basic programme material, i.e. the operating instructions. It's constructed in accordance with the basic specification for the device, using a single-level masking technique. Once programmed therefore the TMS1070 cannot be altered. In other microprocessor/microcomputer systems an external instruction ROM can be used to increase system flexibility.

The ROM in the TMS1070 can contain up to one thousand and twenty four instructions, arranged in eighteen pages, i.e. sixty four instructions per page. The microcomputer can taken any one of these instructions from the ROM and carry it out in twice ten to the minus six seconds – pretty fast!

Each instruction consists of eight bits (binary digits). So the ROM contains eight thousand one hundred and ninety two bits. Why these rather odd numbers especially as, in Fig. 2, the ROM is labelled one k but contains one thousand and twenty four instructions? The answer is that since this

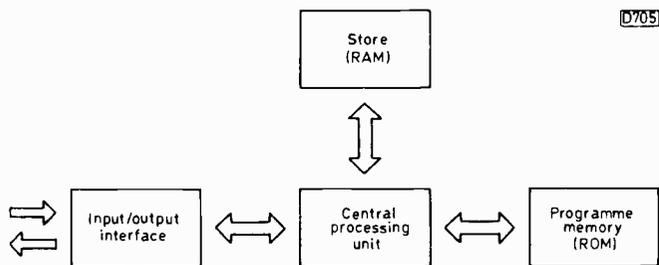


Fig. 1: Basic elements of a microcomputer i.c. A microprocessor i.c. is similar, with the omission of the RAM store.

is a binary system everything is based on powers of two, and two to the power of ten is one thousand and twenty four, etc. The binary system is ideally suited to electronic processing of course since numbers can be represented by 0s and 1s, i.e. a pulse or no pulse. In microprocessor/microcomputer jargon each group of eight bits is called a byte, which so far as the TMS1070 is concerned is equivalent to an instruction "word". The ROM can be said to contain one thousand and twenty four words therefore, each of eight bits or one byte.

The Store

The RAM is the other memory section of the TMS1070, and is used to hold data obtained from the chip inputs and also to hold information during intermediate steps in the operating processes. You can envisage it as a sort of buffer and scratch pad! It consists of two hundred and fifty six bits, with access to each (i.e. each can be "addressed") without going through any irrelevant storage cells. The bits are arranged in four files, each containing sixteen four-bit data words, i.e. a total of sixty four words.

Arithmetic Logic Unit

The central "working" part of the microcomputer is the ALU (arithmetic logic unit) which performs logic comparisons, arithmetic comparisons and carries out addition and subtraction. More on this later.

Inputs and Outputs

There are four data inputs to the TMS1070 called, by

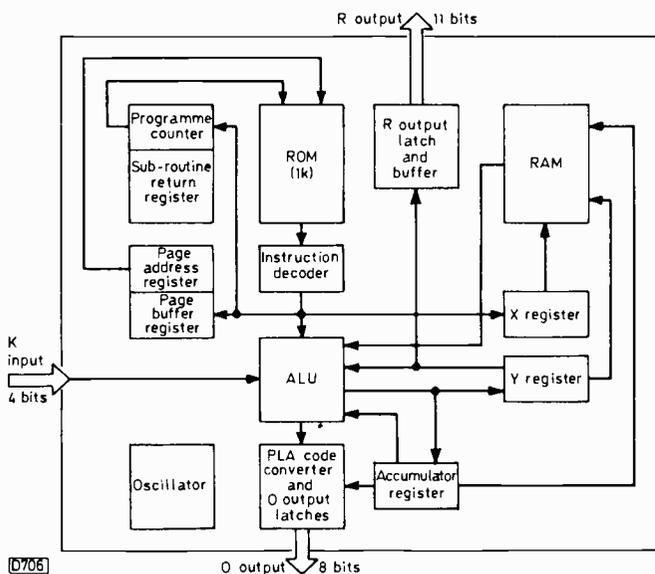


Fig. 2: Block diagram of the Texas TMS1070 microcomputer i.c.

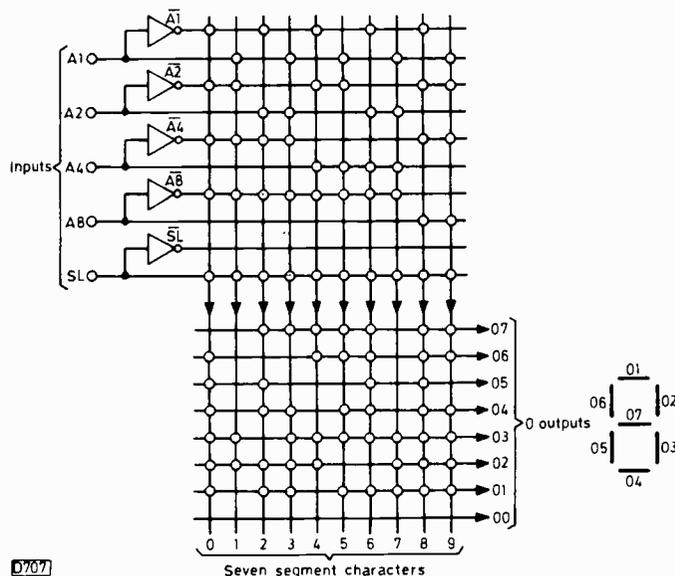


Fig. 3: How the O output programmable logic array turns a five-bit input into an eight-bit output. Inputs A1, A2, A4 and A8 come from the accumulator, SL from the status latch. The O encoding for a seven-segment display is shown on the right.

convention, K1-K4. These feed directly into the ALU. The rate at which data – in the form of four-bit words – is fed into a microcomputer is usually controlled by one of the R outputs acting as either a "clocking signal" or as a multiplexing system. In the TMS1070 the internal clock (oscillator) supplies the timing pulses for this purpose.

The device's outputs are taken via two multipurpose channels designated, again by convention, R and O. The R outputs are fed via thirteen latches which store the information until required (a latch is basically an unlocked flip-flop). The eight parallel O outputs come via the five-bit to eight-bit code converter shown as the PLA (programmable logic array) in Fig. 2. The O outputs also have latches. A typical use for the O outputs is to send data to drive a seven-segment display. The information is coded by the PLA as required for the particular application. Fig. 3 shows how the O output PLA can encode a five-bit input, converting this to provide an output to drive a seven-segment display device.

Instruction Decoder

The instruction decoder (see Fig. 2) is another PLA, consisting of thirty programmable input NAND gates. These are used to decode the eight-bit instruction words (i.e. parts of the programme) from the ROM. After decoding, each word will have provided a combination of sixteen microinstructions which in turn control the ALU, send data to the RAM and so on.

The Rest of the Four-bit Microcomputer

The other sections of the TMS1070 consist of various registers which are used for short-term information storage – rather like latches. A flip-flop can be considered as a one-bit register.

That really sums up what's in the TMS1070, a typical four-bit microcomputer. The latter term is used because the microcomputer handles data in four-bit chunks. We'll look at the operation of the various sections of the TMS1070 in greater detail next month, and will also show how the device is employed in the VTC9300P.

VCR Troubles

Steve Beeching, T.Eng.(C.E.I.)

THE first faults to be dealt with this time relate to Sony Betamax VCRs. Before going further however I'd like to discount any impression that these machines are unreliable. The fact is that one of my clients has a large number of them out in the field, so we're beginning to get quite a bit of experience of them. The purpose of these notes is, hopefully, to save fellow engineers with less video experience some time and perhaps a nervous breakdown...

A Betamax that Wouldn't Play

The first time a Sony Betamax VCR came in with the fault "the play button will not stay down", I must admit to going round the houses a bit before finding the cause of the trouble. This is bound to happen when you get new faults on new equipment, and at the moment every fault on domestic VCRs seems to be a different one.

Anyway, after removing the top from the VCR, inserting a tape and pressing the play button, sure enough it wouldn't latch down. An optimist might look for a broken latch spring, but this is a VCR, not an audio cassette deck, and anyway I'm a bit of a pessimist. A quick check underneath revealed that a stop/release solenoid was operating as fast as the button could be depressed. I also noticed that the head drum was not rotating. Now every VCR has a safety circuit to bring everything to a halt if the head drum is not revolving, and this seemed a likely cause of the stop solenoid operating. Wrong! A thorough check on the head drive motor and relay showed no obvious fault. What we did find was that there's a microswitch, operated by the stop solenoid, in series with the head motor. Maybe this was why the head wasn't rotating: the motor was being switched off immediately.

Time to apply Spock type logic. The stop solenoid is operating not because the head motor is not revolving. The stop solenoid is preventing the head motor revolving via the microswitch. So there must be some other cause of the fault. Brilliant!

The most sensible approach seemed to be to work back from the system control board, muting the operation of the stop solenoid to ascertain why it comes into operation. Pin 15 of

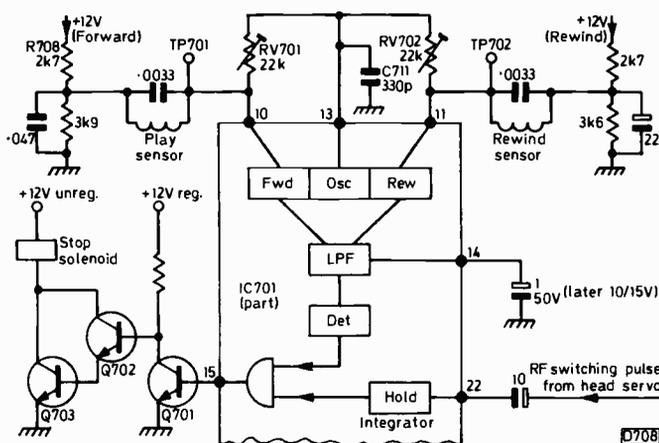


Fig. 1: The end-of-tape stop system used in the Sony Betamax Model SL8000 (simplified circuit).

IC701 (see Fig. 1) is normally in the high-voltage state; in the stop mode it goes low, switching off Q701. To override the system, connect the base of Q702 to chassis. Now one shouldn't override safety circuits without due consideration of the effect the action will have. Having considered, we shorted the base and emitter of Q702. The play button stayed down, the head drum revolved – but pin 15 of IC701 remained low. This proved that the fault did not lie in the head safety circuits: the r.f. switching pulses from the head servo were arriving at pin 22, so everything was in order here unless the chip was faulty.

The other system feeding the and gate which provides the output at pin 15 of the chip is the end-of-tape stop circuitry. The sensors are two little inductors in close proximity to the tape, one for stopping at the end of a cassette in the fast forward or play mode, the other for stopping the cassette at the beginning in the rewind mode. Both operate in the same way, and in fact share a common oscillator and low-pass filter. In the play mode, 12V is applied to R708 from the forward switch. The 200kHz output from the oscillator within the i.c. appears at pin 13. The level is set to 3V peak-to-peak at TP701 by means of the 22kΩ preset. The sensor coil sits lightly on the tape, and is tuned to 200kHz by the parallel 3,300pF capacitor. When the end of the cassette is reached, a metal foil comes into proximity with the coil altering the tuning so that the oscillations cease. In fact even a reduction in the level of the oscillations at TP701 results in the stop solenoid operating.

The problem was found to be no oscillations when the play button was pressed, so that the end of tape stop action was initiated. Now the oscillator was working, monitored at TP702, and the rewind action was normal. There was also 12V at R708 and about 6V at TP701. But no oscillations. At least at first. While checking through, the oscillations suddenly appeared and all attempts to find out why were defied!

There are several PCB links between pin 10 of IC701 and the socket connection to the sensor coil, so all the joints were resoldered, and the plug and socket and sensor leads were checked. No obvious reason for the trouble could be found. I tend to worry a bit with a situation like this, since there's usually a return visit with the same fault.

Some time elapsed, and my client then phoned to say that he had another faulty Betamax but this time the rewind button would not latch down. Now Beeching is not one to be caught twice. The machine was sent over, and a check was immediately made at TP702. Sure enough, no oscillations, though they were present at TP701. Again we went over all the joints concerned, though none of them looked particularly bad, and cleared the fault. Up to now there's been no recurrence of the fault on either machine.

Intermittent Loss of Colour

Two more Sony Betamax VCRs came along recently. Both had been running for some time, and both suffered from the same problem. Perhaps they fail in pairs! The fault was intermittent loss of colour, accompanied by horizontal lines. Clogged heads we thought. Wrong again! The heads

were cleaned, but the fault reappeared at varying intervals. So being of a gentle nature, I gave one of the machines a bash. The picture cleared. Bash again. Noisy picture. Same with the other machine. The temptation was to send them both back with a couple of rubber hammers, but instead we stripped one down to investigate.

The f.m. replay signal loss was traced right back to the video head record/playback switch S101, which can be got at only after removing the complete tuner unit. A cure was effected using lubricant switch cleaner, but if the trouble appears again we'll replace the switch.

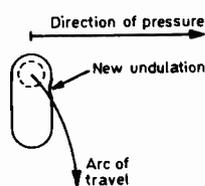
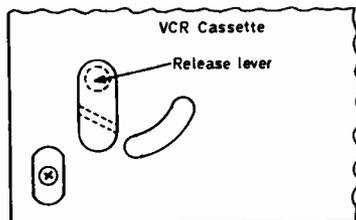
A Philips Cassette Problem

Now a Philips cassette problem. Something rather annoying, since I object to spending a lot of time looking into faults brought about by production changes.

There was a panic call to an N1502. In the past, this had suffered from threading problems, as a result of which a new threading motor, belt and gearbox had been fitted. The complaint was that the machine had been left on the timer to record a programme but had failed to operate, switching off without any recording taking place – after releasing the record and start buttons. The fault in fact was that the VCR would not thread up when used on “timer start”, but worked all right when operated manually. In the fault condition the head assembly would start to thread, then jam up, putting considerable pressure on the head drum which slowed down, eventually initiating the unthread operation via the safety circuits. Why?

I eventually noticed that the mechanism that releases the turntables within the cassette was not moving far enough to release the reels. This prevented tape being withdrawn from the cassette of course, and consequently the head drum assembly from rotating. Again no problem was present or could be found in the manual mode – or in any mode if a cassette was not inserted. Great consternation all round! Close inspection of the leverage didn't reveal any clues: it was quite free of any impediment.

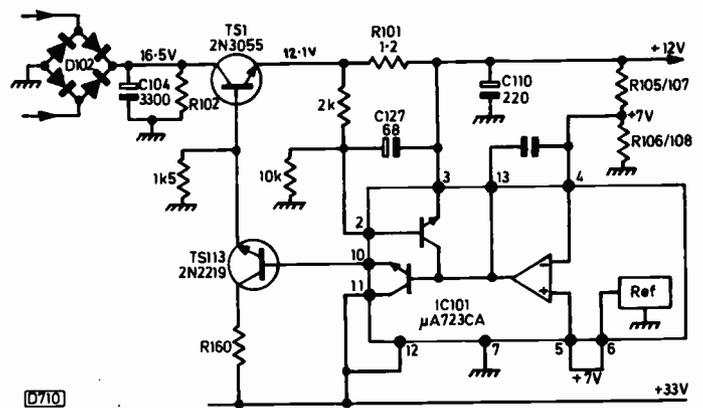
Attention was then turned to the cassette, which was a recently purchased new one, and it was noticed that the slot into which the brake release lever is inserted is not the same as with older cassettes. Fig. 2 shows the slot in the old moulding, and the position of the release lever: Fig. 3 illustrates the small undulation (lump) found on all new cassette mouldings. It was this small lump on the new moulding that was causing the trouble. As the lever's arc of travel is towards the lump, it pressed against the surface of the lump and would not travel over the lump. The lever itself is powered by a spring which activates the lever after being released by the threading system. In the manual mode this release is sudden, and the lever jumps over the lump (most of the time). In the timer mode, when the start button



D709

Fig. 2 (left): Bottom view of a Philips VCR cassette, showing the position of the reel brake release slot.

Fig. 3 (right): Position of the undulation in the brake release cut-out in recent cassettes.



D710

Fig. 4: 12V power supply circuit, Philips N1700 VCR.

is pressed the release is slower and the lever is impeded by the lump. The cure is to bend the lever away from the lump slightly – i.e. to the right-hand side of the VCR, viewed from the front.

Obviously the slot in question had straight sides when this N1502 was made. The additional bit on the new moulding is thus causing problems. If you're sceptical about this, compare new Philips' cassettes with those purchased a year or so ago – I don't know exactly when the moulding was changed. BASF cassettes are not affected incidentally.

It's worth noting that serious damage to the heads and threading components – the motor, belt and gearbox – can occur if the matter is left unattended.

Timer Record Problem

There was a note with a Philips N1700 I recently serviced – new heads and belts and a general tidy up – to the effect that it blew 13A fuses when left on the timer to do a recording. As usual, I was sceptical: any fault that would blow a mains fuse would burn the VCR somewhat! The timer circuit was tried by setting it and advancing the clock manually. No fault showed. Next I set the clock for a minute in advance, and left the machine for more important activities like drinking coffee.

The VCR obliged by switching on and going dead. No clock, nothing. The same thing happened two or three times in succession, leaving the machine in the dead condition, and investigation revealed that there was no 12V supply as a current limiter in IC101 had operated. The excess current switch is held on by C127 (see Fig. 4), so power has to be removed for a short time or C127 shorted out to restore the machine to normal operation. So the question to be answered was, why does the current trip operate only with the timer?

Crowbar tactics were tried next: link out C127 and try again. The machine operated perfectly. So the VCR was left running while I finished by coffee. Time next to try out my new Philips digital voltmeter. A few measurements later I was as confused as ever. The only voltage that was incorrect was 14V at the emitter of the series regulator transistor TS1. Then the penny dropped. The 12V supply was correct, so there was 2V across R101. But R101 is 1.2Ω, which means that 2A must be flowing. Impossible. Check R101 and find it's 136Ω.

While chatting to a friend at Philips Service, it transpired that this fault is not exactly uncommon. “Wait till you get one that's only 4Ω” he said! It seems that the machine then shuts down every so often on timer record as an intermittent fault. So if you get one that does this sort of thing, check R101 ...

Colour Receiver Options

4: Teletext, Remote Control and Channel Display

Luke Theodossiou

CONSTRUCTION of the interface board is quite straightforward using the double-sided p.c.b., ref. no. D070.

The only exception is the top soldering required on some components, including i.c.s. Ordinary i.c. sockets cannot be used for this reason, so constructors have the choice of either being brave and soldering the i.c.s straight in or using "soldercon" sockets. The other difficult area is the top soldering on the collectors of Tr16-Tr31. The easiest way we found of doing it is to solder one transistor at a time instead of inserting them all at once. Don't forget to put the through-hole links in where indicated.

The Tifax XM11 module is mounted on top of the interface board using suitable spacers and the mounting holes provided. Connections between the two boards are on a point-to-point basis and a very neat job can be achieved

using ribbon cable which is soldered on the interface board and terminated on the sockets provided with the Tifax module. Connections to the receiver are shown in Table 1. The video signal connection to B9 on the interface board should be made with screened cable with the screen earthed at the signals board end only. The same applies to the line pulse connection to D1 with the screen earthed at the timebase board end. This avoids earth loops which can cause jitter, hum bars, line pulling and other undesirable phenomena.

As with the teletext only option, R49 on the signals board is changed from 2k2 to 68Ω.

The remote control transmitter unit is available from ITT Consumer Products Ltd., Service Dept., Eldon Way, Paddock Wood, Kent. The stock number is 16554.

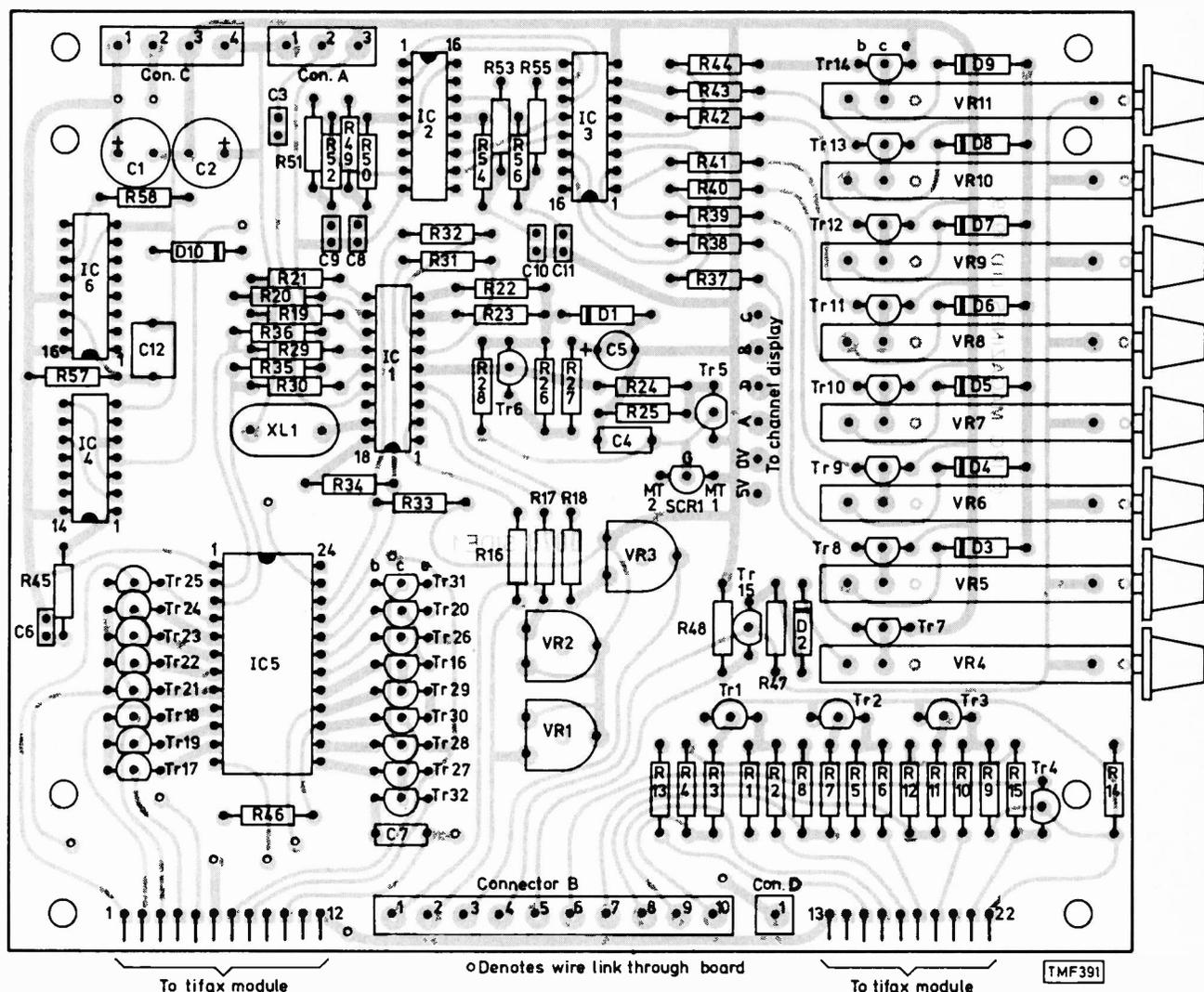


Fig. 1: Layout of the teletext plus remote control interface board.

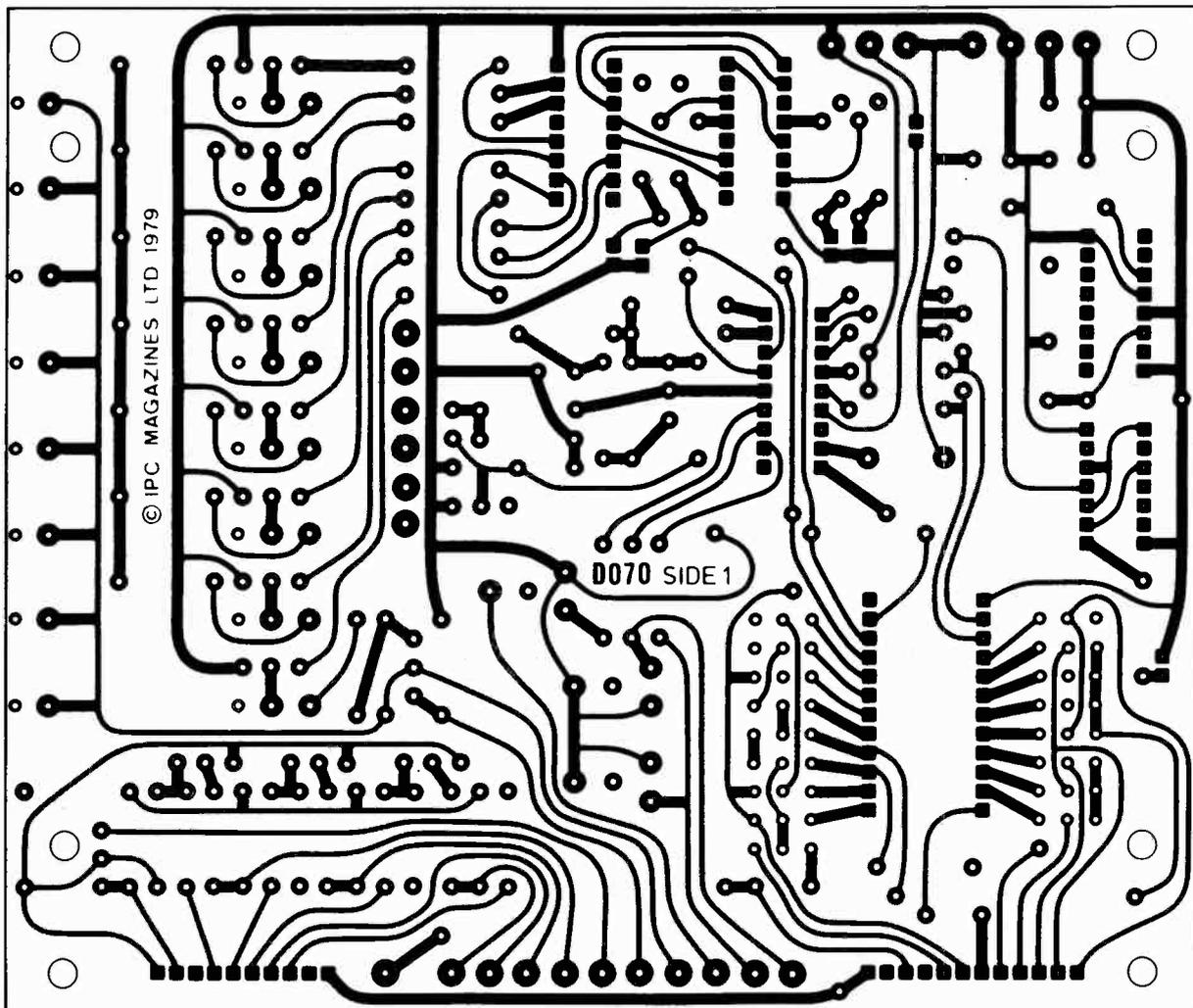


Fig. 2: Interface board print pattern, side 1.

Capacitors:

C1	100 μ 16V pluggable electrolytic
C2	100 μ 25V pluggable electrolytic
C3	2n2 ceramic plate
C4	100n Siemens 100V polyester
C5	2 μ 2 35V tantalum bead
C6	10n ceramic plate
C7	100n Siemens 100V polyester
C8	10n ceramic plate
C9	10n ceramic plate
C10	10n ceramic plate
C11	10n ceramic plate
C12	680n Siemens 100V polyester

Semiconductors:

D1-D9	1N4148
D10	BZX83 C13V
Tr1-Tr3, Tr6	BC212L
Tr4, Tr5, Tr7-Tr32	BC182L
SCR1	TRI400-0.35 triac
IC1	SAA1130
IC2	4042
IC3	4028B
IC4	4001
IC5	4514
IC6	4528

Resistors: all 0.25W carbon film, \pm 5%.

R1	1k	R26	100k	R51	100k
R2	3k3	R27	22k	R52	22k
R3	270	R28	2k2	R53	100k
R4	68	R29	100k	R54	22k
R5	1k	R30	100k	R55	100k
R6	3k3	R31	100k	R56	22k
R7	270	R32	100k	R57	1M
R8	68	R33	39k	R58	100k
R9	1k	R34	39k		
R10	3k3	R35	39k		
R11	270	R36	39k	VR1	10k
R12	68	R37	10k	VR2	10k
R13	15k	R38	10k	VR3	1k
R14	2k2	R39	10k	VR1-VR3 are miniature skeleton types.	
R15	1k5	R40	10k	VR4-VR11 100k Helical multiturn tuning potentiometers	
R16	5k6	R41	10k		
R17	5k6	R42	10k		
R18	5k6	R43	10k		
R19	100k	R44	10k		
R20	100k	R45	22k		
R21	100k	R46	100k		
R22	100k	R47	470k		
R23	10k	R48	27k		
R24	22k	R49	100k		
R25	10k	R50	22k		

Miscellaneous:

XL1	4.43MHz crystal
0.2"	Molex pin connectors
PCB	D070

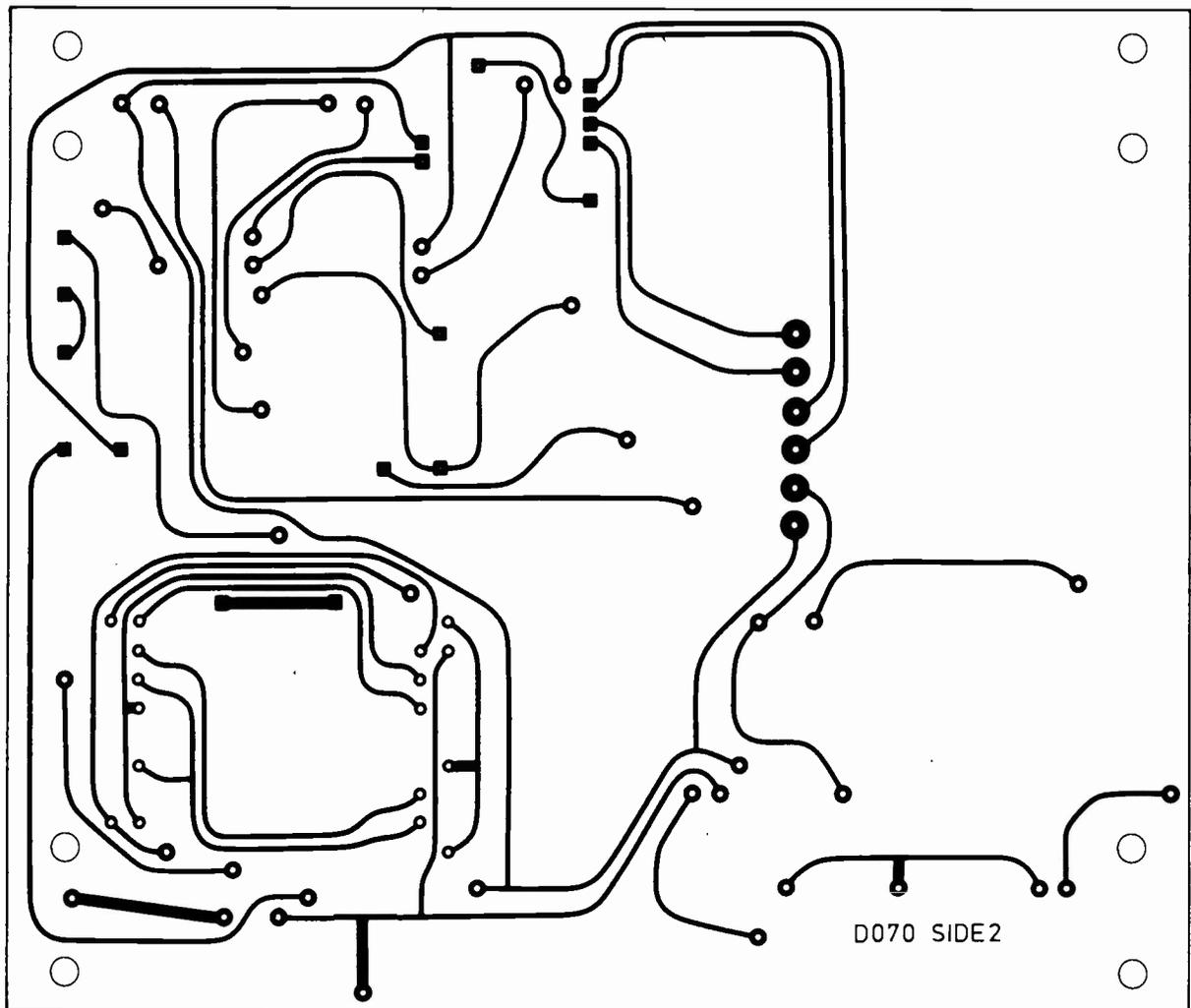


Fig. 3: Interface board print pattern, side 2.

Table 1

A1 →	} To preamplifier
A2 →	
A3 →	
B1 →	A6 on signals board
B2 →	A5 on signals board
B3 →	A9 on signals board
B4 →	A12 on signals board
B5 →	A18 on signals board
B6 →	A1 on signals board
B7 →	A4 on signals board
B8 →	A3 on signals board
B9 →	A20 on signals board
B10 →	A2 on signals board
C1 →	F3 on PSU board
C2 →	F1 on PSU board
C3 →	F4 on PSU board
C4 →	F2 on PSU board
D1 →	E3 on timebase board

Channel Indication

We originally considered using an on-screen display for channel indication, but the idea was discarded in favour of the very simple i.e.d. circuit shown in Fig. 4. The heart of the system is the Motorola type MC14493 i.c. which is a binary to seven segment latch, decoder, and driver. The decoding is binary plus one which matches the SAA1130

output code. The latch is not used in our application since the programme outputs from the 4042 i.c. are already latched.

The MC14493 is designed to drive common cathode i.e.d. displays, but we chose a common anode type which in fact takes more current than the i.c. can provide.

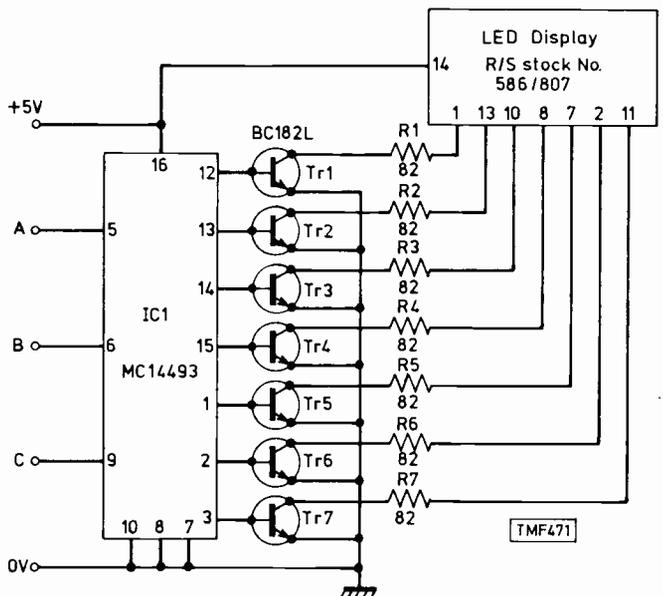


Fig. 4: LED channel display circuit.

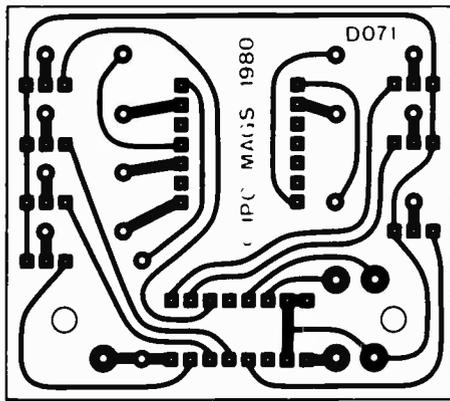


Fig. 5: Display board print pattern.

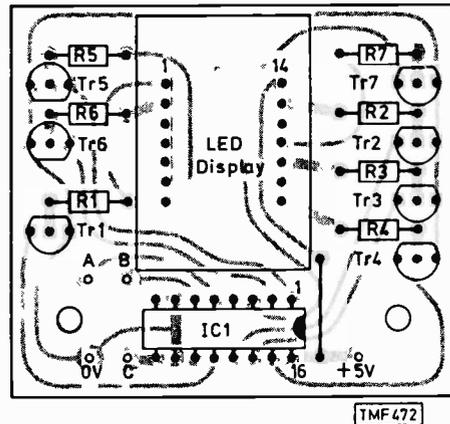


Fig. 6: Display board component layout.

Transistors Tr1-Tr7 act as inverters and current amplifiers for each segment, whilst resistors R1-R7 limit the current to around 20mA.

The copper pattern for the display board is shown in Fig.

5, whilst Fig. 6 shows the component location. Wiring is to the points provided on the interface board. Note that since we only use 8 channels, control bit D is not used, although it is available on the interface board.

Letter

A DANCE WITH KÖRTING

We had a real awkward fault recently on a Körting hybrid colour set. I recount the tale in case it may help others confronted with this confusing problem.

The symptoms were a blank raster and low sound, at first intermittent. One of our field technicians first encountered the trouble, and got as far as finding that the voltage at the cathode of the video detector diode D102 (see Fig. 1) was 26V, biasing it off, before the fault cleared. The fault would not return, at least until several weeks later. Meanwhile C142 was changed "on spec". When the set finally arrived in the workshop, the fault was permanent. The detector diode was biased off, also the video preamplifier transistor T105 because of its high base voltage (26V). Since T105 was biased off, its collector was at chassis potential and there was no luminance signal.

As there was another of these sets in for repair, we swapped over the i.f. panels and found, to our surprise, that the fault was not in the i.f. strip at all. At this point I decided to double check the voltages. The 24V supply was spot on, and sure enough there was 26V at the cathode of D102. Where was it coming from? A scope at the anode of D102

revealed all – a 2.5V peak-to-peak signal since with T105 cut off there was no a.g.c. action. The 26V seemed to be due to C138 and other stray capacitances, including the Avo, charging to the peak value (20.8V plus 5V).

Since there was no a.g.c. action the i.f. strip was working flat out and the whole thing seemed to be something of a vicious circle. Lack of a.g.c. gating pulses was suspected, but they were present and correct. A bias voltage is fed to the a.g.c. circuit from a potential divider in the timebase panel, so these two resistors were checked – and found to be o.k. We seemed to be getting nowhere.

After scratching head and lighting pipe, another go at voltage checks was made. This revealed that the emitter of T105 was at 19V. Strange, since with it cut off by the high voltage at its base, its emitter voltage should have been at something approaching 24V. We then remembered that the fault was not in the i.f. strip itself. Now in addition to driving the a.g.c. gate, the emitter of T105 provides the video input to the decoder panel. A measurement was made at the junction of C746 and R758, where a reading of 8V was recorded. All was now clear: C746 on the decoder panel was leaky, and since this pulled down T105's emitter voltage there was no a.g.c. action. In retrospect, the 26V reading was a bit of a red herring, T105's emitter voltage providing the real clue to the fault. Quite an interesting one!

Mike Phelan
Holmfirth, Yorkshire.

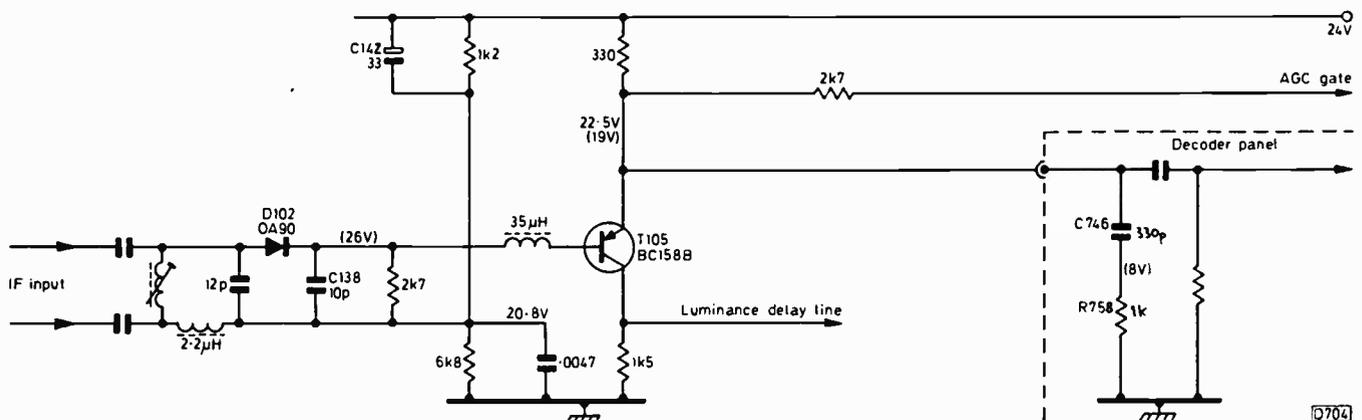


Fig. 1: Video detector and preamplifier stages used in Körting hybrid colour sets. The incorrect voltages in the faulty set are shown in brackets.

TV Servicing: Beginners Start Here...

Part 29

S. Simon

ONE point worth making clear before we go any farther is the fundamental difference between the luminance and the colour-difference signals. Say we want to drive the cathode of a monochrome tube from peak white to black. The voltage swing required would be from maybe 50V (peak white) to 200V (black). The point about such a signal change is that it is a d.c. one, i.e. the signal has only positive values, not positive and negative ones (with respect to a datum point, which may or may not be zero) as with an a.c. signal. The RGB signals used to drive the cathodes of a colour tube are of the same type. As we've seen however the colour-difference signals are used to supplement the basic brightness signal, so that we can obtain more or less red, blue and green as required. This means that the colour-difference signals must be a.c. signals, i.e. with both negative and positive values so that they can add to or subtract from the luminance (brightness) signal.

This is the reason why we have to use a synchronous demodulator to detect the colour-difference signals. A simple diode will not do since it will provide only a positive- or a negative-going output depending on which way round it's connected. A synchronous detector however acts as a switch, allowing the input signal, whether positive- or negative-going, to pass through at the instant it's switched on by the reference signal.

Let's take a closer look at one of the chroma demodulators in the Pye circuit shown last month (see Fig. 1). The reference signal switches the diodes D34-37 on once during each reference signal cycle. With the reference signals as depicted – of opposite polarity at each end of the secondary winding on T16, the negative-going half cycle on the left will switch on diodes D35 and D36 while the positive-going half cycle to the right switches on D34 and D37. During the succeeding half cycle all the diodes remain cut off. When the diodes are switched on, the signal at the input, whether positive- or negative-going, appears at the output. This system works because the rate at which the signal modulation varies is much less than the reference signal frequency. The amplitude of the reference signal has to be significantly greater – say five times – than that of the

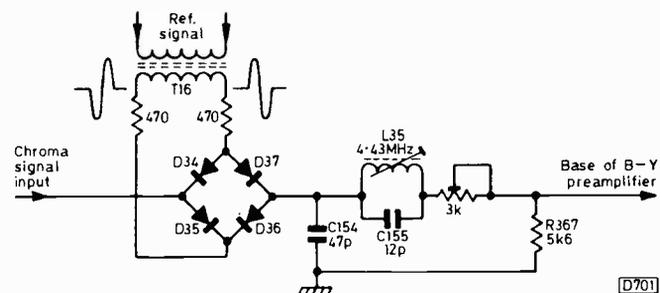


Fig. 1: One of the synchronous chroma demodulators (B-Y) used in Pye hybrid colour chassis. The four diodes are switched on once during each full subcarrier cycle. The series trap L35/C155 presents a high impedance at 4.43MHz, so that the subcarrier signal is not passed on to the base of the B-Y preamplifier.

input signal so that only the reference signal controls the switching of the diodes. The reference signal itself is filtered out by L35/C155.

If this is the case you might ask, how does the chroma signal get through the single diode detector commonly used to demodulate the i.f. signal? The answer to this is that the i.f. signal is a double sideband one, with the chroma signals carried pick-a-back style on each sideband. So whichever sideband is passed by the vision detector, both the luminance and the chrominance signals appear at its output.

The burst detector operates in a similar, though not identical, manner. The point here is that we require from the burst detector a positive- or negative-going output to pull the reference oscillator back into phase lock. So the outcome is much the same.

Automatic Frequency Control

This talk of positive- and negative-going control voltages is leading up to something else – automatic frequency control (a.f.c.). The object here is to control the oscillator in the tuner. Accurate tuning is more important in a colour receiver than a monochrome one since the colour information is carried by a subcarrier which is towards one end of the channel bandwidth. So the vast majority of colour receivers feature a.f.c. The a.f.c. action is effected by the use of varicap diodes in the tuner unit, the control voltage being used to adjust the tuning.

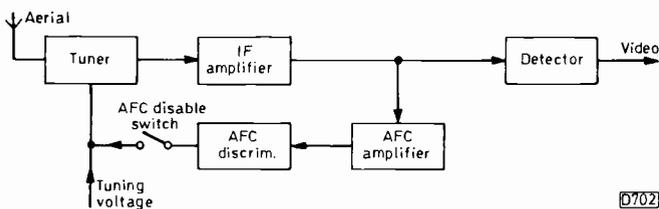
The basic idea is shown in Fig. 2. The signal appearing at the collector of the final i.f. amplifier transistor is fed to a separate amplifier stage which drives a frequency discriminator circuit. This detects variations in the i.f., and produces a positive- or negative-going control voltage which is added to the tuning voltage applied to the tuner unit. The result is that any drift in the oscillator frequency is corrected. The discriminator itself consists of a rather complex tuned circuit and a couple of diodes: its operation depends on any phase difference between the i.f. and the signal provided by the i.f. amplifier. To enable the channel to be tuned in correctly, the a.f.c. has to be disabled – otherwise it would counteract the attempt at accurate tuning. For this reason an a.f.c. disable switch is incorporated in the system.

When You Meet a Faulty Set

We're sorry for all the theory we've been serving up over the last couple of parts in what's intended to be an essentially practical series. But with a complex thing like colour decoding the basic processes involved have to be sorted out before any logical attempt at fault finding can be made. Now for the awkward part – when you actually meet a set which is faulty from the colour point of view.

No Colour

Probably the most common fault is no colour. It often presents a trap for the uninitiated. What to do? It's what



0702

Fig. 2: Basic idea of automatic frequency control. The a.f.c. discriminator produces an output proportional to any signal deviation from the nominal i.f. This output is added to the tuning voltage applied to the tuner, restoring correct tuning.

you don't do to start with that's more important. You don't disturb the decoder in any way. You don't even take the back off the set. What you do do is to take a good look at the picture displayed. In all probability it is not a very good monochrome picture, but this condition is a side track and has probably been present for some time, due possibly to the tube wearing or the grey scale not being correctly set up.

Note whether there's a "colour off" button at the front or the rear (fitted mainly on some older sets), and ensure that the colour/saturation control has not been turned right down. Check the tuning carefully. If there is colour at one point when the button is tuned, but it cannot be held when the button is released (exact arrangements depend on the set), check the a.f.c. disable system which may be a slide switch at the front or a push-on/push-off switch at the front or rear. If you find that the colour can be held with the a.f.c. system disabled, you've established the probable source of the trouble – the a.f.c. circuit. It's likely that the adjustment of one or more coil cores in this department is all that's required. Consult the appropriate circuit diagram to find out which small section of the set provides the a.f.c. action – it will almost certainly be on the i.f. panel.

Preliminary Checks

If the tuning is not at fault, the picture is well contrasted (not weak and grainy – check the aerial and feeder/connections in this event) and there are no hidden colour-off buttons, it's time to remove the rear cover and make a few preliminary checks. First ensure that the decoder section is receiving its power supply, and that the burst gating pulses are present. Whilst a multimeter will record the presence of the d.c. voltage supplies, some sort of diode probe is required, in conjunction with the multimeter, to record the presence of the gating pulses (the diode rectifies them, charging a capacitor to produce a measurable d.c. voltage).

In many cases you'll find the gating pulses absent, and in all probability restoring them will produce full colour – if someone else hasn't been making hopeful adjustments to the preset controls and coil cores in the decoder in an attempt to get the colour back. You'll have to refer to the circuit to find out where the pulses are fed into the decoder and where they come from (probably the line output stage). Check any series feed resistors (a likely cause on some chassis) and capacitors (less likely) plus such mundane things as dry-joints at the line output transformer leadouts or tags, the plugs and sockets and if necessary the continuity of the print tracks involved.

Overriding the Colour-killer

If the gating pulses are present, disable the colour killer so that the chroma amplifier can amplify any signals that are presented to it. The method of overriding the colour-

killer varies from chassis to chassis. In some sets you link two points together, in others you add a resistor to bias on one of the chroma amplifier transistors, whilst in a few you rotate a control fully to one end (e.g. in some Bush/Murphy sets you turn the ident control 3RV4 fully clockwise). Follow the maker's instructions in all cases.

Colour-killer Faults

If this simple action of overriding the colour-killer restores normal colour, the killer circuit itself obviously requires attention. The fact that you've been able to get normal colour means that the colour burst is present, the reference oscillator is working and the chroma channel is otherwise in order. This narrows the possibilities to a very small area. The checking list includes the killer circuit components such as the rectifier diode and/or switch transistor, the reservoir capacitor, print contacts and so on. The ident stage could be producing a 7.8kHz signal of inadequate amplitude – check the tuning of the coil and in some cases the transistor's emitter decoupling capacitor. In the case of the ITT hybrids (CVC5-CVC9 chassis) the bistable circuit could have stopped operating, since the colour turn-on voltage is obtained by smoothing the output from one of the two transistors. In this case you'll have to check the two transistors, the presence or not of the triggering pulses, the colour detector circuit and the tuning of the ident stage.

Still no Colour

If overriding the colour-killer does no more than produce some coloured noise (confetti like) on the screen, it probably means that the chrominance/burst signals are not reaching the decoder or once there are not travelling along their respective paths, or alternatively the reference oscillator is not working. We say probably because there are other possibilities depending upon the particular chassis, and by this time we would have taken the set and model number into consideration and started to proceed according to our previous experience of it, checking the signal input to the decoder and if this is absent checking back to the i.f. panel as there are often one or more chrominance amplifier stages here. If the decoder is receiving its signal input (checking this with our scope or a diode probe), we'd check the reference oscillator stage – the transistor, tuning capacitors and maybe the crystal (this is not often at fault, but is a possibility). Polystyrene (see through) capacitors are a common cause of a non-operative reference oscillator. If in doubt and there are two or more suspects in the stage, replace the lot. Voltage checks on the chroma and burst amplifier transistors are usually enough to identify which is inoperative and for that matter why. You can treat the chroma amplifier and the a.c.c. system in exactly the way you would tackle the i.f. amplifiers and the a.g.c. circuit, checking voltages to find the source of the trouble.

Weak Colour

More often disabling the colour-killer will produce weak colour, unlocked colour or both. Weak, correctly locked colour merely means a repeat of what we've just said, i.e. check the chroma signal path from the i.f. through the early stages of the decoder. The fault would not normally be in the later stages of the decoder, since the colour-killer had to be overridden to show it up. If there's an a.c.c. preset, check the setting of this. If everything seems in order so far, the fault is probably around the killer, the burst amplifier, the

burst gate etc. — it depends on the particular design, and there's a certain amount of interaction between these stages.

At this point the effect of adjusting any other relevant preset controls and cores can be tried, being extremely careful to return each to its original position if no improvement is obtained. In all probability however you will find that something produces an improvement, since you've already checked the d.c. conditions and found the stages to be working normally, and it's now the phasing or timing that require setting up. Do it as laid down in the manufacturer's instructions.

Unlocked Colour

Bands of colour drifting across the screen mean that although the reference oscillator is working it is not operating at the correct frequency, probably due to a fault in the burst detector or the d.c. amplifier stage. Adjust the "set oscillator frequency" control to see if this improves matters. Follow this up with adjustment of the reference oscillator's collector coil. Check the voltages in the d.c. amplifier circuit — note that a field effect transistor is sometimes found here, for example in the Thorn 8000/8500 series. Check the components in the burst detector circuit, including any electrolytics and zener diodes used to stabilise the voltages in the control loop, and set up the burst detector circuit (bridge balance etc. according to the circuitry employed).

Defective ICs

Where i.c.s are used in the decoder, they are a common cause of no colour, weak colour and various defects which seem to differ from occasion to occasion and for which no hard and fast rules can be laid down. The SL917A i.c. used in the Z584 decoder fitted in the Rank A823A chassis is particularly prone to producing one or more of these symptoms, and is the first suspect if the chroma signal is reaching the decoder board from the i.f. panel (check the transistors in the upper can, marked chroma amp, of the i.f. panel if the signal is weak or absent). When a new SL917A has been fitted, turn the ident control 3RV4 back from its fully clockwise position (where you put it to override the colour-killer) until a fully identified picture is obtained. Hold it in this position and change channels several times to prove that the faces remain flesh colour and don't turn to green (incorrect ident). If there is a tendency to change, readjust the control slightly until correct operation is obtained after every channel change.

This digression on to the Rank A823A chassis illustrates how the same fault may require rather different treatment in different chassis, as did our earlier mention of the unusual colour-killer arrangement in the ITT hybrid chassis (CVC5 on).

Basic No Colour Routine

In a nutshell, the basic routine to follow in the event of no colour consists of first checking the user controls and tuning, making sure that the aerial and its connections are adequate, checking the operation of the colour saturation control and the colour-off control if present; next checking the decoder supplies and the presence of gating pulses; and if these are present overriding the colour-killer, or check the chroma amplifier stages to see whether these are biased on or off.

The results of these checks should indicate whether the chroma amplifier, the colour-killer or the reference

oscillator is at fault. It should also be appreciated that it's no good the gating pulses arriving to open the burst gate if the burst is not there at the same time. We don't mean simply that there's continuity of the chroma/burst signal path. Suppose that the burst is there, but the burst gating pulse doesn't arrive at the same time? How come, you may say? Well, if the pulses come from the line timebase, the setting of the line hold control can have an appreciable effect on their timing.

Incorrect Burst Gating

Line drift due to component changes (resistor values, leaky semiconductor devices or capacitors) can sometimes result in loss of colour, and it's instructive on chassis such as the Thorn 3000/3500 to rotate the line hold control and observe the result. You might think that there would be loss of line hold to draw attention to the cause of the trouble, but this is not always so — though some horizontal picture shift may be noticed.

In some sets the gating pulses are derived from the line sync pulses — the main example is the Pye hybrids whose decoder we described last month. In this decoder coil L28 tunes the gating pulses to ensure that they coincide with the burst. Large amplitude pulses from the line timebase are still required for other purposes — to drive the bistable circuit etc. — so the line timebase will always have some effect on the decoder as a whole even where it's not the origin of the all important burst gating pulses.

Intermittent Colour

Quite often the complaint is of loss of colour after the set has been on for some time, or that the picture appears in monochrome for a period before the colour appears. Once again this could be due to tuner drift or faulty a.f.c. action, and the effect of retuning should be the first check.

If the tuning is not at fault, it's instructive to note the effect of using a hair dryer to warm up suspect areas of the decoder, and/or a freezer aerosol to achieve the opposite effect. A fruitful area for this warming and cooling is around the reference oscillator, where it may be found that a half turn on the relevant coil core is all that's required to achieve reliable colour operation.

CDA No Colour Faults

In some hybrid sets it's quite possible for the decoder to be operating correctly but still with no colour on the screen. We refer in particular to the Pye 691 and the GEC hybrid sets, also dual-standard models from Decca and Bush/Murphy, where the common screen grid feed resistor

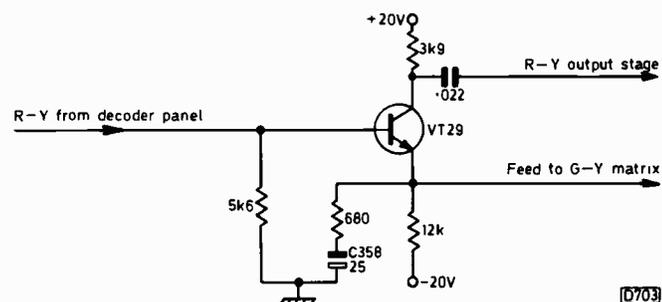


Fig. 3: The colour-difference preamplifier stages in Pye hybrid colour receivers are unusual in being connected between + and -20V supplies. In the absence of either supply there will be no outputs from the preamplifiers. The circuit above shows the R-Y preamplifier.

to the three PCL84 colour-difference output valves can go open-circuit. With no screen grid voltages, the PCL84s fail to amplify the signals presented to them. You don't get quite the same effect with the later Pye hybrids (693 and 697 chassis), since the resistor concerned in these sets also feeds the varicap tuner tuning system – so you don't get any sound or luminance either. It may not be the resistor itself that's open-circuit: you may find a hair-line crack on the print.

Another point is that the three colour-difference signal preamplifier stages in the Pye hybrid chassis are mounted on the colour-difference amplifier panel. So no supply to these would again remove the colour. Two supplies are involved here, the 20V supply to the three collectors and a –20V supply to the three emitters (the three transistors are operated without forward base bias – see Fig. 3). While on the subject of these transistors, note that two of them have a 25µF emitter decoupling capacitor. These electrolytics can leak, removing the bias to the transistor concerned. Say the R – Y preamplifier transistor's emitter decoupling capacitor goes short-circuit: red goes, and green is reduced since there's no contribution from this stage to the G – Y matrix. So you may have to check the transistor or its electrolytic emitter decoupler for this sort of fault. It's not, we hasten to add, one of the more common defects.

Wrong Colour

This last point has taken us from no colour to wrong colour. Before going farther, we must emphasize that the majority of wrong colour faults are due to defects in parts of the set other than the decoder – the RGB or colour-difference amplifier stages and the controls which provide the tube's first anode supplies in particular. We've tried to outline these troubles in previous issues.

As far as the decoder is concerned, there are several colour errors that can be puzzling to the new arrival on the servicing scene. For example, the centre of the picture may be in perfect colour, but the sides – usually one side or the other – completely wrong. In this case you say to yourself: timing. Something is clearly not happening at the right time. The trouble in fact is probably due to incorrect PAL switching, and the usual cause is mistuning of the 7.8kHz coil which controls this. Sometimes the coil slips down its former – something that happens with the Thorn 3000/3500 chassis from time to time. In the Thorn 8000/8500 chassis, if tuning the coil fails to produce a cure, perhaps only moving the incorrect colour from one side of the screen to the other, it may be necessary to replace the i.c. that contains the PAL switch (the MC1327PQ, SN76227N or T2079).

Then there are Hanover bars – horizontal bands of incorrect colour. If the effect is severe, the PAL switch has stopped, probably due to a defective transistor in the bistable circuit. If the effect is not so severe, i.e. alternate lines miscoloured (take a close look at the screen), the trouble is due to incorrect alignment of the chroma delay line circuit and/or incorrect phasing of the reference signals. Coils and presets are provided to enable all this to be set up accurately, but it's best to leave these alone unless you have a colour-bar generator and an oscilloscope, plus the maker's alignment instructions. In the absence of these, adjustment can be tried if the circuit and layout are to hand and a steady test card pattern is being transmitted. Readers are strongly recommended to refer to our January 1979 issue where Mike Phelan, in his article on *Renovating Colour Receivers*, gives a comprehensive decoder alignment check for most of the common hybrid sets, including the

Pyes, with diagrams illustrating the key points where the diode probe should be connected and listing the adjustments to make in the correct order.

Quite a common fault is green faces, with the greens in the picture taking on a reddish hue. We've already referred to this in discussing the setting up of the ident control on the Rank A823A chassis. While it's fairly common, on some sets you don't see it until the colour-killer is overridden because the fault (incorrectly synchronised PAL switching) brings the colour-killer into operation. The things to check are the ident stage and the coupling components between it and the bistable.

Different Chassis

The colour decoders used in different chassis have their own peculiarities, both from the design and the fault point of view, which makes it impossible to give a more detailed practical outline of decoder faults. For example, we've said that the reference oscillator crystal is a possible though not a common cause of no colour. In the Thorn 8000/8500 series however the crystal is a common cause of this fault. The preceding f.e.t. d.c. amplifier (type BC256LC) is another suspect.

So you just have to accept that different decoders have to be tackled in different ways. The only alternative to practical experience is avid reading of the various servicing articles published in this magazine and also attention to the problems pages, where many decoder faults have been dealt with in the past.

Finally, if all this talk of different faults in different decoders is beginning to depress you, remember that the decoder remains one of the most reliable sections of a colour receiver.



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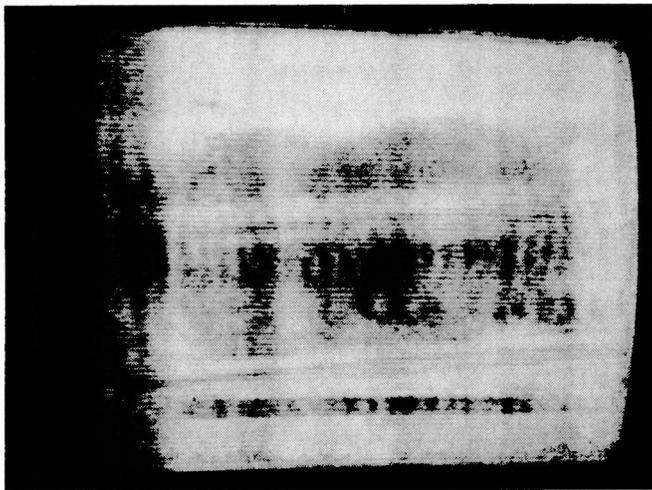
Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

On Sunday, October 4th I received ch. E2 signals from Ghana. Written a couple of years ago, this would have been a remarkable event, even more so perhaps than receiving Gwelo ch. E2 from Rhodesia. At present however African reception is regarded as commonplace. The final week in October and the first two weeks of November produced signals that have certainly been record breaking. In the last column I wondered what would be reported next? Reception from North America maybe? In fact the North Atlantic has been bridged in a spectacular manner!

Following reports from Australian enthusiasts of reception of BBC TV towards the end of October, the BBC has confirmed that the ch. B2 sound and vision signals Anthony Mann received in Perth, Western Australia were from Holm Moss (zero offset). I gather that this is a record distance for reception from a ch. B2 transmitter. Meanwhile, Crystal Palace ch. B1 has been continuing its "World Service" transmissions, and Australian vision signals were received here in South Hampshire on October 31st and November 1st. Mike Allmark (Leeds) received Australian vision as late as the 9th (0850-1030). I've very carefully tuned to just below ch. A0 in the hope of receiving the New Zealand ch. 1 vision, but alas with no success. This could be due to NZ being some +12 hours GMT, with suspected early closedowns due to economic problems, so that signals aren't available when the propagation path is open.

Attempts are being made to identify some of the Australian signals. Fortunately in the case of the ch. A0 signals received on the 1st, the programme could be identified (namely "Mash"). Two stations were transmitting this at the time - ATV0 which carries an hour's "double feature" and TVQ0 with a single programme. Hugh Cocks



American television, received in Holland by Ryn Muntjewerff at 1330 on November 7th last. The ch. A2 transmission was carrying adverts at the time.

(East Sussex) observed captions just after 0900 UK time, suggesting that the signals came from TVQ0. He's waiting confirmation from the station. The signals were very strong, with commercials at 0915-0919 and further ads at 0930. The 51.75MHz sound channel appeared at this time, but by 1000 all signals had gone. Incidentally, Hugh mentions F2 backscatter, with Auroral type signals (rumbling and hum) from directions other than the correct one - CST (Czechoslovakia) from the West etc.

Clive Athowe noted definite Chinese captions on ch. R1 on November 12th!

At about 1230 UK time on November 7th, North American TV (ch. A2) was seen at fair strength in both the UK and Holland. What's surprised us is the relatively large number of people who have reported this signal opening, especially as it was a midweek workday! There was sustained reception during the period, and at some locations two or three signals were sometimes present. The quality was similar to that of the Russian F2 signals commonly present during the past six weeks, i.e. strong but with ghosting and very smeary - so much so that no definite indication of transmitter origin has been possible.

Ryn Muntjewerff monitored communications signals on ch. E2 from mobile transmitters in the New York/Boston area during this period. Much of the programme material from 1300 seemed to be a news/breakfast show interspersed with commercials (Andrew Tett noted a soap ad for "Shape"). From photographs sent in by both Ryn and Cliff Dykes (Potters Bar) it certainly appears that identification is going to be difficult if not impossible: unfortunately the m.u.f. didn't rise sufficiently for the ch. A2 sound to appear. Ch. A2 operates with 55.25MHz vision and 59.75MHz sound, 525 lines and 60 fields. Those who received the signal(s) all report reduced height and a rolling picture. Correct locking was usually possible, with no adjustment of the line hold control. As Brian Fitch commented, it was necessary to adjust the field hold control for steady locking.

Ch. A2 was observed on subsequent days, but not reaching the same intensity as on the 7th nor for such a prolonged time.

F2 signals from deepest Russia on ch. R1. have been present almost daily. On some days a variety of test patterns have been seen - crosshatch, the "letterbox" electronic pattern, the Leningrad and 0249 patterns, with floaters most of the time. At times the signals have been very intense - BBC Caversham measured upwards of 1mV field strength.

In concluding this report of the month's activities, I'm sure you will forgive my missing for once mention of the MS and tropospheric signals that usually entertain us this time of the year.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS . . .

The continuing exceptional F2 conditions have resulted in the biggest post bag ever. Though I can't mention all correspondents in the column, letters are nevertheless always welcome, whether on a reception report or a problem! Please include an s.a.e. however.

Robert Copeman (Sydney) received ch. B1 vision on November 17th, at fair strength. He tells me that George Palmer (Queensland) has received both Hawaiian and American Samoan TV via F2 in recent times. Robert has pulled off another first - reception of WIN ch. 58 (a u.h.f. transmitter link between WIN4 and a mountain near Wollongong where the WIN3 transmitter is situated). He monitored conditions in New Zealand during a holiday

there. Both Auckland and Wellington have many low-powered relays, and the Band I situation seems to be very saturated.

John Cowan (Ayr) has noted the recent excellent F2 conditions and mentions a very unusual smudgy F2 signal, with severe ghosting/multipath effects, from Switzerland in Band I – evidence of backscatter. On October 22nd he received a very strong ch. R1 TVP (Poland) signal, in the midst of F2 activity. This suggests that almost all countries in Europe are likely to be received via this propagation mode (F2 backscatter).

David Burton is another of the enthusiasts who received American TV on November 7th. He suspects that the programme was the NBC's "Today" show, a breakfast show with news, interviews etc. The signals at his Tolworth (Surrey) location were sufficiently clear for him to be able to make out a vague station identification consisting of a circle breaking into three or four smaller ones with several letters inside the circles, the last one being C.

Anthony Mann (Perth, Australia) has received a Fubk pattern on ch. E2. He measured the exact carrier frequency and from a study of known transmitter offsets suggests that the signal was either from Grunten (W. Germany) or from one of the Finnish transmitters! This was on October 24th. The photograph shows that the identification was unfortunately smeared into a white band.

Another first for Geoff Perrin, now in the Sultanate of Oman where he received Forest Side, Mauritius ch. E4. The reception has been confirmed by the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, who comment that it's the farthest known reception to date of their transmitter.

Cliff Dykes (Potters Bar) received a total of four ch. A2 signals on November 7th. Like Hugh, he also saw strong but short-lived ch. A2 signals on the 16th, at 1618 GMT. Cliff has sent us a photograph showing a weak PM5544 pattern he received on ch. E2 at 1400 on the 25th. This suggests origination in Dubai State on the Gulf.

Finally, the Solar Flux on November 9/10th reached record figures, giving a roughly smoothed sunspot count of 300/360, something recorded only a few times since 1947.

GHANA TV

Costa van der Linden (Holland) has sent information supplied by a friend at GBS. There are plans to phase out the existing Band I services in favour of Band III. At present, the three main transmitters operate in Band I – Kissi near the Cape Coast on ch. E2 at 20kW e.r.p. (directional); Yamasi in the Ashanti region on ch. E3 at 20kW e.r.p.; and Adjankote near Accra on ch. E4 at 20kW e.r.p. Transmission times (GMT) are 1730-2030 weekdays, 1700-2045 Saturdays and 1515-2100 Sundays.

NEWS ITEMS

Burma: Colour transmissions in the capital, Rangoon, are to start this year. The service is being established with Japanese help and is to be extended across the whole country during the next ten years.

New Zealand: The TV1 and TV2 networks are to be merged into a single two-channel network known as "TV New Zealand".

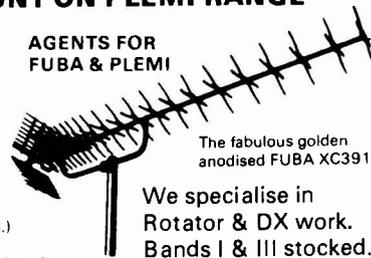
Sri Lanka: Regular TV transmissions are due to start later this year.

South Africa: A programme channel aimed at the coloured community is to be fully operational by 1982, financed by advertising and government grants. There will be at least three hours' transmissions daily, more at the weekends.

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DX-TV FOR THE BEGINNER – 6

The aerial preamplifier is used between the aerial and the receiver and provides a signal voltage gain with, hopefully, a minimal contribution of noise and, where used near a local high-power transmitter, minimal interference from this.

Preamplifier gain is quoted in decibels (dBs), similarly to aerials, but whereas the latter will be a measured power gain relative to a half-wave dipole an amplifier gain figure is usually a voltage gain. If the amplifier has a voltage gain of two, this is quoted as a 6dB gain; a voltage gain of four is quoted as 12dB. Where an aerial provides a voltage gain of two with respect to a half-wave dipole, this is a power gain of 3dB.

The amplifier's noise figure indicates the quality of the signal it provides. All amplifiers contribute some noise, something we can well do without where the signal itself is very weak. Commercial aerial preamplifiers are now available with gains up to 25dB and noise figures below 3.5dB – the lower the noise figure the better.

Cross-modulation occurs when an amplifier is presented with one or more very high input signal voltages. These strong signals mix, producing spurious signals on frequencies other than the carriers, or two or three signals superimposed on each other with characteristic overload buzzing and vision distortion. The Labgear single-stage CM6000 u.h.f. preamplifier can handle a single signal of up to 25mV before overloading effects occur, but with three signals present overloading may occur at 14mV. Its higher-gain two-stage counterpart will safely handle a single 63mV signal, or 35mV in the case of three signals.

Manufacturers often quote figures relative to 1mV, 6dBmV representing a doubling from 1mV to 2mV. It's as well to have a reference book that includes a discussion of decibels, since gains, losses and other characteristics are usually quoted in dBs.

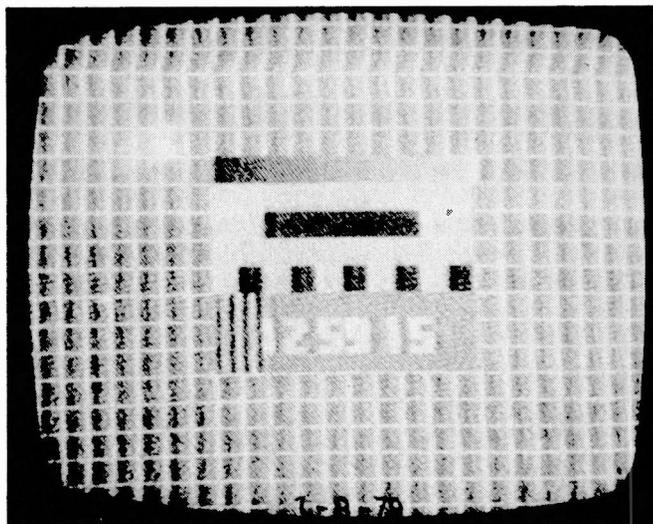
There are many commercial preamplifiers available, covering Bands I-V inclusive, v.h.f., u.h.f. or parts of the u.h.f. broadcasting spectrum. In addition, many designs have been published in the magazine from time to time, while my DX-TV book (published by Babani Publishing Ltd.) also includes suitable designs.

The enthusiast who wants to make an amplifier covering Bands I-V inclusive (30-900MHz), for indoor use, is strongly advised to consider the design featured in the July 1978 issue of *Television*. This incorporated a hybrid i.c. made by SGS – in two versions, the 24V SH221 and the 12V SH120A. This gives a voltage gain of 18dB (eight times) over the bandwidth, with a noise figure of 5dB at 30MHz and 4dB at 900MHz. The cost of the device, which is available from Maplin Electronics, is about £9, and in addition a 12 or 24V power supply will be needed. Photostats of the two-page article can be supplied for 50p.

When constructing a v.h.f. or u.h.f. amplifier, great care must be taken to keep lead lengths to a minimum – too much lead length can introduce sufficient inductance to degrade performance.

Masthead amplifiers are commonly used, particularly at u.h.f., where losses in the downlead would otherwise result in very little signal reaching the receiver. They also improve the overall noise performance of the system. Most aerial manufacturers produce or have available a range of weatherproofed units with medium or high gain, covering various bandwidths. The more adventurous constructor could follow the design by Hugh Cocks featured in the December 1975 issue of *Television*, using a varicap u.h.f. tuner as a remotely tuned masthead amplifier.

Perhaps the most difficult reception problem is



The Russian letterbox type test pattern, with numbers, received by Ryn Muntjewerff on ch. R2.

interference from a strong local TV transmitter. This is particularly trying when the wanted signal is a weak one. A receiver with a wide i.f. bandwidth, i.e. an unmodified u.h.f. one, is likely to be more susceptible to such adjacent channel interference. Reducing the i.f. bandwidth will improve matters, but unfortunately this is not a simple thing to adjust on modern receivers. An easier approach to narrowing the bandwidth is to include a narrowband stage at the input to the i.f. strip: the stage could well be switched into or out of circuit to give switched selectivity. The simplest way of going about this is to add one of the Philips G8 selectivity modules, adjusting the coils for optimum results. Enthusiasts have been known to use two such units, one after the other, to get sharper selectivity. Such a modification should enable you to receive say ch. 23 or 25 as a fringe signal in the presence of a strong local signal on ch. 24.

Low-cost v.h.f. and u.h.f. notch filters are available with a rejection level of some 24dB down, and will also assist with the "local" problem. With the i.f. input modification the improvement is available throughout the tuning range, a notch filter resolving the problem on one channel only. In the main however a single notch filter of proven design will remove that annoying sound splatter or vision spread – simply tune the notch to the unwanted carrier frequency. Depending on how well the filter is constructed (by making the coil absolutely symmetrical) a notch as deep as 40dB can be obtained. One enthusiast designed a double notch filter to remove both the sound and vision carriers, completely clearing his problem.

A notch filter will obviously not help where the problem is that the wanted vision signal is on ch. E2 and the local interference is the ch. B2 sound carrier, since the two carriers are both at 48.25MHz. A lot of thought and effort have been put into trying to overcome this difficulty. One approach that's produced a degree of success is to use a special aerial array with a null pick-up point, aligning this null with the local signal. This can reduce the level of the local signal sufficiently to enable the distant signal to be received. Another approach is to use two aerials, adjusting the level and phasing of the signals thus obtained so that the unwanted one cancels out.

A problem with the use of a wideband preamplifier at v.h.f. is that Band II f.m. signals can be present at the lower end of Band III (second harmonic breakthrough). The

solution to this is to use a GPO type 35A bandpass filter, or alternatively a home constructed bandstop filter resonant in Band II.

Electrical interference can arise due to badly suppressed/designed equipment such as thermostats, cleaners etc., and car/motor cycle engines. Suppression components are available and the cure is usually easy once the source of the interference has been traced. Unfortunately this can be difficult, while some types of equipment may present problems. I've personally had trouble with r.f. diathermy from the outpatients surgery at a local hospital; a rasping Band I hum which turned out to be due to an electric pump in a large oil-fired heating system at an old people's home some 120 yards distant; high-level patterning across ch. E4 due to r.f. welding equipment some two miles away (I can still receive this effect at a distance of some 11 miles!); and, a current problem that's lasted for three years, radiation at 1.55MHz intervals between 27-200MHz due to a VDU/terminal installation some 60 yards away.

Problems with domestic equipment are usually easy to resolve on a personal basis, but difficulties due to industrial equipment may not be so easily dealt with. This may be particularly so if the interference has become "established",

i.e. has continued for some time. It's in your interest therefore to object at the earliest opportunity if you notice a new source of interference. The GPO will help where difficulty is experienced in tracing the source of the trouble, but only where the interference affects local transmissions. The fact that reception on ch. R1 is difficult due to interference from say r.f. welding equipment will not interest the GPO, but if the welding equipment also disrupts the local BBC f.m. service action will be forthcoming.

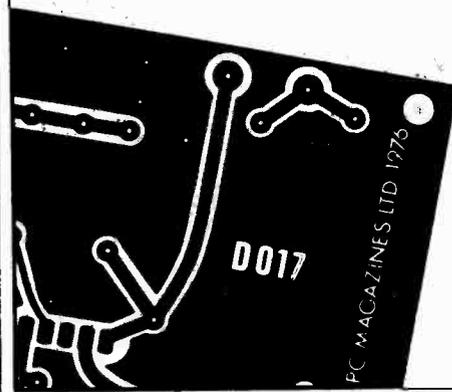
Since starting this brief series for beginners I've received several letters querying various points. If sufficient queries arrive I may be able to put together a "questions and answers" section. Off-screen photography seems to be one subject that causes uncertainty. There have also been queries about the reception of paging station calls in Band I (at approximately 54MHz) in the Surrey area. In this area there's also apparently a pirate radio station that swamps ch. E2. Once again, a stamped, addressed envelope with any queries will help!

Finally, anyone experiencing difficulty with adjacent channel reception will find much useful information in Hugh Cocks' article on the subject in the November 1977 issue of *Television*. This includes details of suitable filters etc.



All boards are epoxy glassfibre and are supplied ready drilled and roller-tinned.

Any correspondence concerning this service must be addressed to **READERS' PCB SERVICES LTD**, and not to the Editorial offices.



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Teletopics

— continued from page 179

was demonstrated by the IBA at the last International Broadcasting Convention: the IBA's prototype experimental recording system uses no more tape than the latest types of analogue machine. Development of a practical digital video recorder is regarded as the key to the all-digital TV studio.

TRANSMITTER OPENINGS

The following relay transmitters are now in operation:

Camperdown (Tayside) Grampian Television ch. 23, BBC-2 ch. 26, TV4 ch. 29, BBC-1 ch. 33. Aerial group A.

Chambercombe (Devon) BBC-1 ch. 21, Westward Television ch. 24, BBC-2 ch. 27, TV4 ch. 31. Aerial group A.

Clettravel (Hebrides) Grampian Television ch. 41, BBC-2 ch. 44, TV4 ch. 47, BBC-1 ch. 51. Aerial group B.

Clun (Salop) BBC-1 ch. 55, ATV ch. 59, BBC-2 ch. 62, TV4 ch. 65. Aerial group C/D.

Daliburgh (Hebrides) TV4 ch. 53, BBC-1 ch. 57, Grampian Television ch. 60, BBC-2 ch. 63. Aerial group C/D.

Donhead (Wiltshire) Southern Television ch. 41, BBC-2 ch. 44, TV4 ch. 47, BBC-1 ch. 51. Aerial group B.

Durham City BBC-1 ch. 40, Tyne Tees Television ch. 43, BBC-2 ch. 46, TV4 ch. 50. Aerial group B.

Keighley (W. Yorkshire) Yorkshire Television ch. 23, BBC-2 ch. 29, TV4 ch. 29, BBC-1 ch. 33. Aerial group A.

Kilbride (Hebrides) BBC-1 ch. 39, TV4 ch. 42, BBC-2 ch. 45. Grampian Television ch. 49. Aerial group B.

Newry (Co. Down) Ulster Television ch. 41, BBC-2 ch. 44, TV4 ch. 47, BBC-1 ch. 51. Aerial group B.

Till Valley (Wiltshire) BBC-2 ch. 40, Southern Television ch.

43, BBC-1 ch. 46, TV4 ch. 50. Aerial group B.

All the above transmissions are vertically polarised. The IBA transmitter installed at the Clettravel site incidentally has an e.r.p. of 2kW and is the highest power all solid-state u.h.f. transmitter so far installed in the UK.

AERIAL CATALOGUE

South West Aerial Systems of 10, Old Boundary Road, Shaftesbury, North Dorset, proprietors Roger Bunney and David Martin, have produced a comprehensive catalogue of aerials, fittings etc. they can supply. Copies are available provided 20p in stamps is sent to cover postage.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY FOR SOUNDS VINTAGE

The bi-monthly subscription magazine *Sounds Vintage* is celebrating its first anniversary. Our congratulations! This independent magazine is dedicated to things close to the heart of your editor — old records and equipment, and interesting historical articles. The subscription is £6 for a year, from Sounds Vintage Subscription Dept., 28 Chestwood Close, Billericay, Essex. Airmail subscriptions cost £9.50 Zone B, £10.50 Zone C.

IBC-80

The 8th International Broadcasting Convention, IBC-80, will be held during September 20-23 at the Metropole Conference and Exhibition Centre, Brighton. It's the first time the convention will be held outside London, but the organisers say that it's outgrown the London venues previously used.

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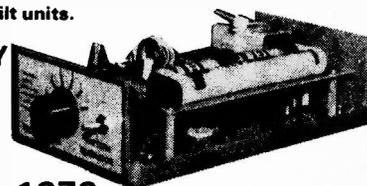
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THORN 3500 CHASSIS

Four white bars about an inch wide, spaced some five inches apart, run from the top to the bottom of the screen, right across the picture. When anyone passes through these lines they appear to go out of focus and the picture goes wavy.

If the bars are brighter on the left-hand side of the screen, check the line linearity coil's damping resistor R521 (should be 1.2k Ω). If the bars are of even brightness and extend evenly across the screen, check the plug and socket connections between the line timebase and beam limiter boards, also the electrolytics (C901/2) on the latter board. This sort of trouble is normally caused by a poor connection, as a result of which there's interaction between one part of the circuit and another.

DECCA MODEL MS2000

With no signal input, there's a dark band half an inch wide down the centre of the screen. With a signal tuned in this appears as a bright band, about a quarter of an inch wide, still in the same place. On close examination it can be seen that this band is actually severe cramping at the centre of the picture, although the width seems to be about right. The line timebase valves have been changed.

These sets use an ECC82 anode-to-grid cross-coupled multivibrator as the line oscillator. We suggest you check the values of the two anode load resistors R132 (15k Ω) and R133 (56k Ω). If these components are in order, check the line drive coupling capacitor C123 (0.01 μ F) and the drive waveform shaping components R141 (120k Ω) and C121 (1,500pF).

HITACHI MODEL CSP680

The trouble with this set is a shrinking picture. First, a gap of about an inch occurred at the top and bottom, with a quarter inch gap at the left-hand side and a half inch gap at the right-hand side. When the brightness is turned up the volume falls and there's a slight reduction in the picture size. The contrast is at maximum. Adjusting the timebase controls only results in non-linearity.

All these problems indicate a low h.t. line with poor regulation. The set uses a conventional series regulator circuit. Check the h.t. at fuse F905. If less than the correct 120V, first try adjusting R911. If a large adjustment is needed, or 120V can't be obtained, the suspects are R912 (18k Ω) which is in series with R911, the error amplifier transistor TR43 (2SC458), and the diodes in this stage – the zener CR39 (AW01-07), CR37 (1N34A), VA901 and VA902 (both type HV23).

THORN 9000 CHASSIS

R724 and R725 in the beam limiter circuit have burnt out, and severe arcing is apparent between the right-hand degaussing screen (viewed from the rear) and the tube's graphite coating. The resistors were replaced, but the arcing persists.

The trouble is due to the e.h.t. tripler having failed. Replace it along with the two resistors.

SANYO MODEL 10-T150H

The trouble with this set is no field scan, just a horizontal white line across the screen. The sound is normal.

The usual cause of field collapse on these sets is damaged preset controls at the rear, due to the use of too large a screwdriver and too much pressure. Check these and replace as necessary. If the controls are in order, check the field output transistors Q118 (2SC1024 or 2SD315) and Q119 (2SB474), the driver Q117 (2SC536) and oscillator Q116 (2SC536), and the voltages in these stages.

ITT CVC5 CHASSIS

The problem with this set is no colour. I changed the colour-killer reservoir capacitor C162 without improving matters, then discovered that disconnecting the emitter of the bistable transistor T37 produces a blue and yellow picture. The voltage at each side of the colour detector diode D37 is the same – about 5V.

Since the output from T37 is smoothed to give the colour turn-on voltage, disconnecting its emitter so that its collector voltage remains high will have a similar effect. The key to the problem seems to be that the ident stage is not supplying a signal to the colour detector diode D37. The voltage across its reservoir capacitor C218 should be 11V with a colour signal present. Since this is apparently not the case, see whether an improvement can be obtained by adjusting the tuning of the ident coil L75d, then suspect the ident transistor T35d and the burst detector assembly L74d.

THORN 1590 CHASSIS

The trouble with this set is no field hold, though the line sync is o.k. The supply line is slightly low, but this doesn't seem to have led to any other observable faults. The field timebase transistors and diodes, and the variable controls, have been tested, but the trouble persists.

We don't think the fault is in the timebase. Our first suspect would be the 3.3M Ω resistor R41 which biases the base of the sync separator transistor. If this is correct in value, check C44 (0.01 μ F) which couples the sync pulses from the sync separator to the sync amplifier/phase splitter transistor, then suspect signal clipping in the i.f. strip. This could be caused by the 4.7 μ F a.g.c. smoothing capacitor C17 or a faulty i.f. transistor. Emitter voltage checks should reveal whether there's a faulty i.f. amplifier stage. Make sure that the preset contrast control R2 is not over-advanced.

PYE 725 CHASSIS

The problem on this set would seem to be due to dirty channel change switches. I'd like to clean or replace these, but can't see any way of removing them – they appear to be moulded into the cabinet.

The switchbank is a single plastic moulding which is held in position by clips round the side. The knobs must be removed before dismantling. Be careful what sort of cleaning solvent you use, as the plastic frame is readily attacked. Electrolube for instance can turn the assembly into a gooey mess.

BEOVISION 3400 CHASSIS

The red in the top half of the screen seems to be washed out, and there's a faint hum bar (predominantly red) that travels from the bottom of the screen to about half way up, then fades. I've tried valve replacement without success.

This condition is symptomatic of hum on the 32V line. If the peak-to-peak hum level exceeds 60mV, there's probably a fault in the regulator circuit. Suspects are the driver transistor 2TR28 (use a BC107B) and the series regulator transistor 0TR8 (2N3055), either of which could be leaky. A less likely possibility is failure of one of the diodes in the bridge 2D15-18.

THORN 8000 CHASSIS

When the set is switched on the sound and vision appear for about a minute then the raster goes off. On checking I discovered that R727 gets very hot, but nothing else in this area seems to be faulty.

R727 is the anti-breathing resistor in the h.t. feed to the line output stage, where the fault must lie. The line output transistor or flyback tuning capacitor could be responsible, but heavy damping on the line output transformer is a more likely cause. Try disconnecting the e.h.t. tray and checking whether R727 still overheats. If it doesn't, fit a new tray.

PYE 368 CHASSIS

The picture is too dark to watch in daylight, and when the brightness control is advanced the picture balloons. Another fault is poor line hold. The valves in the line output stage have been replaced, also the boost reservoir capacitor C118.

The low e.h.t. is most likely to be the result of insufficient heater supply to the DY802 e.h.t. rectifier valve, due to deterioration of the 1-2Ω resistor R163 which is in series with pins 1 and 9 of the base. The poor hold could well be due to the PCL85 valve – the triode section acts as a phase splitter, driving the flywheel sync discriminator circuit.

ITT CVC9 CHASSIS

The screen is entirely green for about three minutes after the set is switched on. The picture then appears. Most of the time it's o.k., but occasionally there's more green than usual.

Check for dry-joints and similar print defects around the green drive transistors T25d and T26d – a common weak point is the printed circuit land adjacent to R176d, via which the collector of T25d is earthed to the metal chassis strip. If these points are in order, the green output transistor T26d or, less likely, its load resistor R179d are suspect.

GEC SERIES 1 CHASSIS

The fault shows up as three dark vertical bands on the right-hand side of the screen. When the tuner is disconnected however there's a clear, full raster. Is the tuner suspect, or is there anything else that should be checked?

We don't suspect the tuner. There are several things to check, as follows: poor bonding of the tuner to the chassis; the c.r.t.'s external coating not efficiently connected at either the tube coating or the c.r.t. base; poor decoupling (smoothing) of the 18V supply line (check C224/C225); the tuner's i.f. output coaxial lead not properly connected either at the tuner end or after the bandpass filter (at connection PL1/3 to the PCB); or a poor chassis earth connection.

THORN 1613 CHASSIS

The initial symptom was low output from the voltage regulator circuit, with the TIP42A series regulator transistor and its two base resistors R203/R210 overheating. These were replaced, restoring normal operation of the set, but the TIP42A runs so hot that the heatsink can barely be touched, and I fear for its early failure.

It seems that the BC337 driver transistor is passing excessive current. We suggest replacing it with a BFT84, which is more reliable.

PHILIPS TS7 CHASSIS

This set (Pye Model 173) developed a tuning fault, with vision buzz on sound. After replacing the tuner unit and the TAA550 voltage stabiliser i.c., good pictures can be obtained on all six buttons but I can't get rid of the buzz. When the buzz is at maximum, the sound is much reduced, even at full volume, though the picture is steady. This is so on all six buttons. Slight tuning adjustments decrease the buzz on some selectors, but not much.

This could be a difficult problem to deal with. We'd be inclined to check the cores of the sound i.f. coils U15, U6 and U7 to see if they've been disturbed. If they have, they'll have to be returned to their original settings. Then check the ratio detector reservoir capacitor C121 (10μF). If all is well with the 6MHz sound channel, check C179 (22μF) which decouples the video bias supply and C151 (100μF) which smooths the a.g.c. to the tuner. The a.g.c. is produced by the TBA890 jungle i.c., which could be at fault. We presume that the alignment of the i.f. strip has not been disturbed.

THORN 8500 CHASSIS

The trouble with this set is pulling on captions – mainly white lettering. The picture is otherwise perfect.

First ensure that the aerial system is in order and is supplying a clean signal. If so, it's likely that the MC1330 vision detector i.c. is faulty. Check voltages around it for any clues. It would be worth checking the 3-3μF coupling capacitor C196 in the video section.

TRANSISTOR EQUIVALENTS

Could you suggest suitable replacements for the following transistors used in the Sony Model KV1800UB – the regulator driver transistor Q601, type 2SC1124, and the error detector transistor Q602, type 2SC926A?

The 2SC1124 can be replaced by a BF380, BD232 or a BD410; the 2SC926A by a BF298, BF422, BFT58, BFR88 or 2N5550.

THORN 8000 CHASSIS

I've an Alba set fitted with this chassis. The trouble with it is a red "ghost" to the right of objects, i.e. the red seems to run on. The red spreading is reduced if the brightness is decreased, but the brightness level is then too low for normal viewing. Could it be the tube?

Unfortunately yes. We're inclined to suspect that the red gun is soft. Reactivating it might help for a while, but replacing the tube is the only long term solution. Colour spreading can be caused by an open-circuit frequency compensating capacitor in the appropriate output stage, C193 (330pF) in this case, but this spreading would not be affected by the brightness level.

PHILIPS G8 CHASSIS

The problem is intermittent foldover at the bottom of the raster. This is occasionally present continuously until the set is switched off, but is usually present for only a few seconds at a time, generally after the set has been on for an hour or so. I've changed the field charging and bootstrap capacitors.

The trouble is most likely to be due to a dry-joint or other poor connection associated with the field output transistors. The solder connecting the body of the BD124 types used in earlier panels to the collector tags was a prime source of this sort of trouble. Check all soldered connections associated with the output transistors, then check the field bias and linearity presets if necessary.

THORN 3000 CHASSIS

The set works perfectly except that at irregular intervals the cut-out operates. This may happen anything from once a week to three times a night. On resetting the cut-out the set may operate for several hours but occasionally cuts out again immediately.

It's quite likely that the cut-out itself is faulty. For test purposes replace it with a 2A anti-surge fuse. If this holds, replace the cut-out. If the fuse fails, check the over-voltage zener diode W617 (BZX61/C72) which can short intermittently. Also check whether the h.t. is too high, the condition of the chopper transistor's insulating washer, and the crowbar thyristor W621 for corrosion.

TEST CASE

206

Each month we provide an interesting case of television servicing to exercise your ingenuity. These are not trick questions but are based on actual practical faults.

A colour set (Sobell Model 1040) fitted with the GEC single-standard hybrid chassis would suddenly lose line sync. Tests proved that the cause was a decrease in line oscillator frequency, since adjusting the line hold control so as to increase the frequency slightly restored the lock, though with slight loss of picture width. This condition would remain stable for a while, then the oscillator would jump back to its original frequency, calling for a further adjustment of the line hold control.

This is another of those chassis using a PCF802 sine-wave line oscillator, with the tuned circuit connected between the screen and control grids of the pentode section of the valve while the triode section acts as a variable reactance, controlled by the flywheel sync circuit, to adjust the oscillator's frequency. So the cause of the fault could be either in the line oscillator stage itself or in the flywheel sync and the variable reactance part of the circuit.

As a first step, the valve was changed. This made no difference however. Next, in an attempt to save time and considering the age of the set, a blitz was made on the components around the valve – the oscillator feedback capacitor C509 and all the resistors in the valve's grid circuits were replaced. Still the problem persisted.

Attention was turned to the flywheel sync circuit therefore, where the diodes, the coupling capacitors and the load resistors were replaced. Once again there was no significant change in the fault condition, and it was concluded that there must be an intermittent fault in the oscillator coil assembly. A replacement was not in stock however, so the set was put on one side for further appraisal by another technician.

This technician spent about half an hour probing in the

oscillator circuit, eventually tracing the component responsible (not the coil). Which component had the first technician overlooked? See next month for the answer and another item in the series.

SOLUTION TO TEST CASE 205

– see page 156 last month –

The sets fitted with the Pye 691 chassis have been around for quite a time now, and many of the components are beginning to protest. Resistors can go up or down in value, while capacitors can change their Q (goodness factor), decrease in value, or go intermittently open- or short-circuit in a random manner. Some of the smaller components in the timebase circuits are particularly vulnerable, and when there's an intermittent fault a small pulse or transient may be sufficient to temporarily clear it, the capacitor concerned testing correctly when checked.

You'll remember that the trouble reported last month was that the picture sometimes took a long time to appear after the set had been switched on, and that there was intermittent loss of line hold.

Whilst checking the line oscillator stage, the picture vanished completely – due to the oscillator stopping.

The technician discovered that the oscillator could be triggered back into activity simply by connecting the voltmeter's prod to the PCF802's screen grid pin. It seemed likely therefore that the oscillator's feedback capacitor C211 (320pF, connected between the screen and control grid circuits of the pentode section of the valve) was responsible, and on replacing this the intermittent fault vanished.

In cases of intermittent line timebase operation with the 691/693/697 chassis therefore it's a good idea to replace this capacitor before carrying out further tests.

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TELEVISION FEB. 1980

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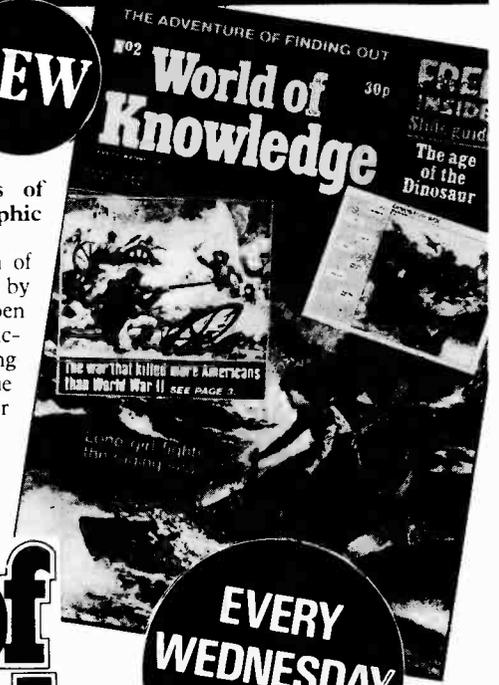
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AQ2000 Calculator with clock in hrs, mins, sec, stopwatch, calendar and alarm, also countdown alarm 1 year battery life **£23.95**

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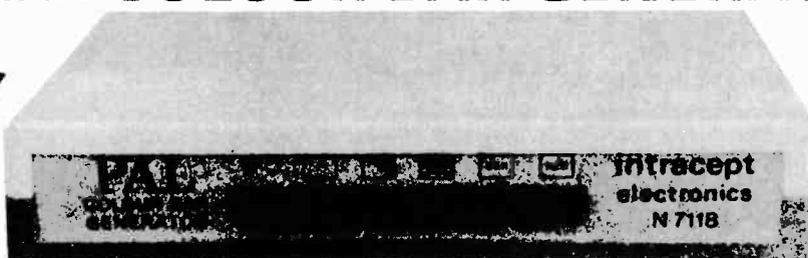
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*Compare the specifications with any kit or manufactured Colour Bar Generator on the market. Then compare the price.

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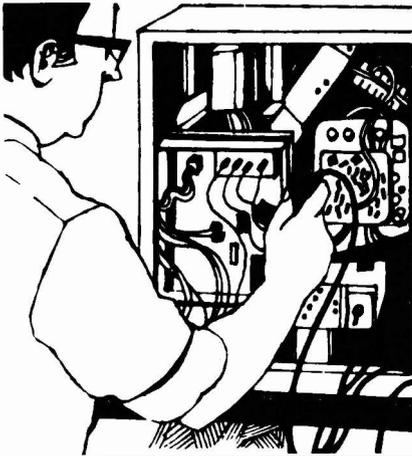
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