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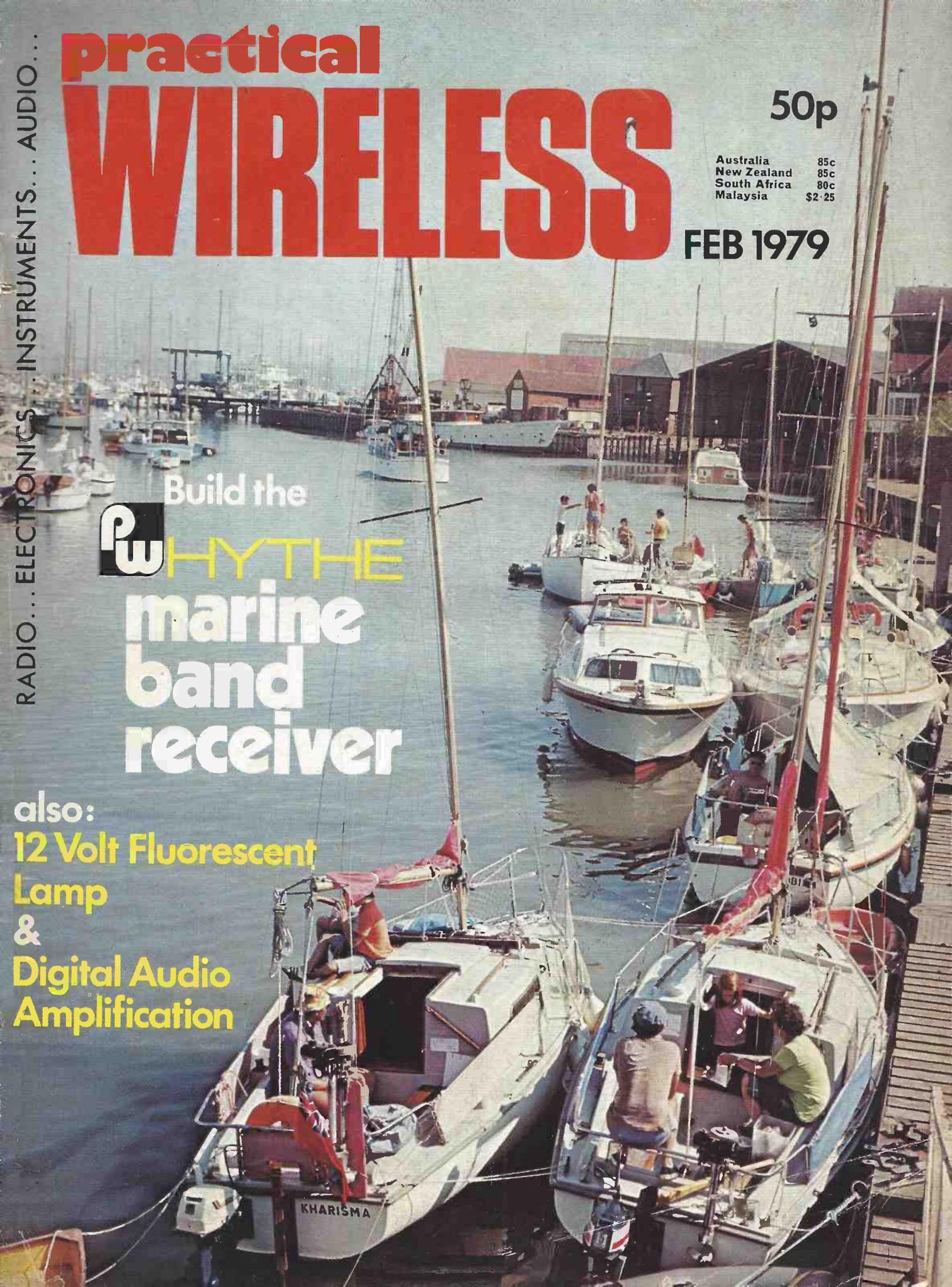
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7409	12p	74130	120p		
7410	12p	74131	90p		
7411	15p	74132	45p		
7412	15p	74135	90p		
7413	25p	74136	80p		
7414	45p	74137	80p		
7416	25p	74138	100p		
7417	25p	74142	180p		
7421	12p	74143	270p		
7422	15p	74144	270p		
7423	20p	74145	55p		
7425	20p	74147	100p		
7426	22p	74150	65p		
7427	22p	74151	45p		
7428	25p	74153	45p		
7430	20p	74156	60p		
7432	28p	74155	45p		
7433	28p	74156	45p		
7437	20p	74157	45p		
7438	20p	74160	55p		
7440	12p	74161	55p		
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7443	60p	74164	60p		
7444	60p	74165	60p		
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7446	50p	74167	160p		
7447	50p	74170	100p		
7448	50p	74173	80p		
7450	12p	74174	80p		
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7453	12p	74176	50p		
7454	12p	74177	50p		
7456	12p	74178	75p		
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7475	25p	74185	100p		
7476	25p	74188	320p		
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4016	30p	4070	12p
4017	50p	4071	12p
4018	55p	4072	12p
4019	40p	4081	12p
4020	50p	4082	12p
4022	50p	4093	70p
4023	12p	4510	60p
4024	40p	4511	70p
4025	12p	4516	65p
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0-47/10V	14p	6-8/6V3	14p
0-47/35V	14p	6-8/35V	14p
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# practical WIRELESS

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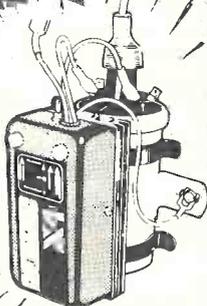
**Our March issue will be published on 2 February**  
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DY88/870	55	EL32	0.80	PCF808	1.80	U31	0.50	5Z4G	0.70	6L6GT	0.90	20P3	0.60
DY802	0.55	EL34	2.20	PCF808	1.80	U31	0.50	5Z4G	0.70	6L6GT	0.90	20P3	0.60
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	1.30	EL81	1.05	PCL82	0.65	UCC85	0.50	6A7C	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
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EBF89	0.50	EM31	0.75	PL36	0.75	UL41	0.75	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
EC52	0.40	EM80	0.60	PL81	0.75	UL84	0.75	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC81	0.55	EM81	0.60	PL82	1.50	UM80	0.60	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC82	0.50	EM84	0.60		0.75	UF41	0.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC83	1.15	EM87	1.00		0.75	UF41	0.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC84	0.45	EY51	0.45	PL504	1.40	UY85	0.50	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC85	0.50	EY81	0.45	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC86	1.25	EY86/87	0.55	PL802	2.80	VR150/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC88	0.60	EY88	0.55	PL802	2.80	VR150/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECC189	0.80	EZ80	0.45	PL83	0.50	UM84	0.40	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF80	0.50	EZ81	0.60	PL84	0.65	UY82	0.55	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF82	0.45	GY301	0.60	PL504	1.40	UY85	0.50	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF801	0.75	GZ32	0.65	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF802	0.45	GZ33	3.50	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF803	1.50	GZ34	2.00	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF804	0.95	GZ37	2.50	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF805	0.45	KT68	0.40	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF806	0.95	KT88	5.75	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF807	0.60	ML4	1.00	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECL83	0.55	ML6	1.50	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECL85	0.65	OB2	0.60	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECL86	0.55	PABC80	0.40	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
ECF17A	1.50			PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
EF39	2.90	PC85	0.50	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
EF40	0.70	PC86	0.85	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80
EF41	0.75	PC88	0.75	PL508	1.30	VR105/30	1.80	6A87	0.60	6D7G	0.80	25L6GT	0.80

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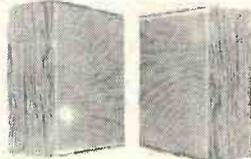
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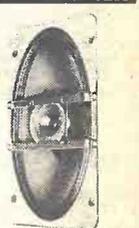
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A most efficient and quiet running blower-heater by Solatron—same type as is fitted to many famous name heaters—Comprises mains induction motor—long turbo fan—split 2 kw heating element and thermostatic safety trip—simply connect to the mains for immediate heat—mount in a simple wooden or metal case or mount direct onto base of say kitchen unit—price £4.95 post £1.50 control switch to glow 2kw. 1kw, cold blow or off available 60p extra.

2 k.w. model made in metal case with control switch £12.00

### THERMOSTATS

Refrigeration as illustrated with 36" capillary £1.62. Impet Stat must be mounted in close contact calibrated 90°-190°F 15 amp contacts £1.62. Appliance Stat fix like a volume control—15 amp contact 30°-80°F 85p. ditto but for high temps £1.25. Over Stat—with Serson and capillary 85p

Wall Mounting by Satchwell £3.00 Boiler Stat. with control 20°-80°C £2.16

### SOUND TO LIGHT UNIT

Add colour or white light to your amplifier. Will operate 1, 2 or 3 lamps (maximum 450W). Unit in box all ready to work. £9.95.



### MINI-MULTI TESTER

Amazing, deluxe pocket size precision moving coil instrument jewelled bearings—1000 opp—mirrored scale. 11 instant ranges measure:—DC volts 10, 50, 250, 1000 AC volts 10, 50, 250, 1000 DC amps 0-1 mA and 0-100 mA Continuity and resistance 0-150K ohms. Complete with insulated probes, leads, battery, circuit diagram and instructions.

Unbelievable value only £8.50 + 50p post and insurance. FREE Amps ranges kit enable you to read DC current from 0-10 amps, directly on the 0-10 scale. It's free if you purchase quickly but if you already own a mini tester and would like one send £1.50p.

TERMS: Cash with order—but orders under £6 must add 50p to offset packing, etc. BULK ENQUIRIES INVITED. PHONE: 01-688 1833.

**J. BULL (ELECTRICAL) LTD**  
(Dept. P.W.), 103 TAMWORTH RD., CROYDON CR9 1SG

## IT'S FREE

Our monthly Advance Advertising Bargains List gives details of bargains arriving or just arrived—often bargains which sell out before our advertisement can appear—it's an interesting list and it's free—just send S.A.E. Below are a few of the Bargains still available from previous lists.

**Telephone Ringing Mains Unit** Rather novel as it not only reduces mains to 50 volts but also reduces the mains frequency to 25 Hz, this frequency gives correct ringing tone for GPO bells. These units were made for the GPO so obviously are first class. Completely enclosed and safe to mount on the wall or stand on a shelf. Price £3.20.

**Telephone Extension Bells** in bakelite wall box, these will save you missing calls when you are out in the garden or shed, etc. Price £3.16.

**Variable Mains Supply** A bench mounting unit which contains an isolation transformer for safety and a 2 amp variac for adaptability. With this you will be able to get continuously variable mains supply from zero to full voltage at 2 amps. A real time saving device, price only £20.75.

**Answering Machines** still available as last month's newsletter but supplies are going down rapidly and this may well be your last chance to acquire one of these.

A very large purchase this month enables us to offer a range of radio items. You will find the prices well below:

**Cassette Recorder/Player** Japanese or Hong Kong made, these have all the normal facilities record, playback, fast rewind, etc., also sockets for stop/start, microphone, earphone and lead for mains as these operate from mains or HP1 batteries. £12.50.

**Six Transistor Pocket Radios** Medium wave only but with Radio 2 and Radio 4 changing places. Medium wave is all the average listener will want in the future. These little radios would make a lovely gift for a child. Modern design and in popular colours, please state preferred colour and give an alternative, price only £1.50.

**AM/FM Radios** There's no doubt that FM does give better reproduction in good areas and more and more our members will be pleased with one of these. The ones we have are in leatherette cases and are battery/mains radios having the mains unit built in and are complete with mains plug. These cover medium wave and VHF with optional AFC. Price £6.75.

**8 Track to Cassette Adaptors** Cartridges are going out of popularity, cassettes on the other hand are being made in increasing numbers and cover practically every field of sound entertainment. Cassettes can be played in 8 track if you have an adaptor. We offer these adaptors complete in carrying case and the price is only £8.50.

**Soft Toy Radios** Not necessarily only for the younger members of the family as these are soft and cute and have universal appeal. Dolls, poodles, elephants and rabbits each with zip compartment at the bottom where the radio fits. Medium wave only, working from PP3 batteries. When ordering please state preference and if possible give an alternative. £4.50.

**5 Band Portable.** A very impressive radio in black imitation crocodile, size approx. 12in. wide and 4in. deep. This has metal embellished carrying handle and a pullout chrome plated FM aerial, covers the following bands AM 535 to 1605 kHz. FM 88 to 108 MHz weather band 162.5 MHz and it has a logging scale. This battery/mains radio has the built in mains unit also serves as a charger if you use rechargeable batteries. The mains lead with plug locks away in its own compartment; another feature is a dial indicator which shows state of batteries. A real snip at £10.50.

**Car Battery Power Unit** made for Rank Radio. This unit has been designed to operate 6V battery powered equipment from a 12V car battery, it provides a reliable source of stabilised voltage and gives protection to your equipment in the case of accidental reversal of connections also against excessive car battery voltage should this occur. The unit is very robust and virtually everlasting if used sensibly. It uses a negative earth circuit but it will operate in a positive earth car providing the instrument being used is not connected to the car chassis. A real bargain at £2.20.

**Extension Speaker Cabinets** new delivery of these enables us to bring down the price quite a lot. We can now supply the smaller ones (11in. x 8in. x 4 1/2in. approx.) at £1.95. Post £1.00 and we have a larger one with a silver finish size approximately 12 1/2in. x 9in. x 5 1/2in. Price of this is £1.69, post £1.50. If you can call and collect these cabinets you can save yourself the quite considerable postage and you only have to pay a few to get a discount as well. The quantity discount for these is a special rate of 25% if you buy four or more. Note these cabinets are very good quality (made for Rank Audio Systems) the grill material is Dacron.

**Slide Switch Bargain** Double pole changeover standard size with good length of connecting wire soldered to each tag—10 for £1.35.

**Six Digit Counter** Mains operated, 1 pulse moves counter through one digit, not resettable but all you have to do is to make note of the numbers before the start of each count. Real bargain at 80p.

**Be Prepared** for possible blackouts and interruptions in electricity supply this winter I have some emergency lighting ready. We still have the fluorescent outfits for operating 12in tubes from 12V car battery and the price is still the same £3.95 plus 50p post complete with a 21in tube.

**Stereo Car Speakers** usual type in neat compact enclosures for the rear shelf of the car. 8 ohms 5 Watt £5.50 per pair.

**Bleepers** 6/12V battery or transformer operated, ideal for using in many alarm circuits but particularly for car and motor cycle alarms. These give a loud shrill note. American made by Delta Alarms. Price £1.08 + 8p. Large quantities available.

**Most Useful Timer** Up to 12 on/off per 24 hours is what you can get from the Verner time switch if you fit our adaptor. The shortest on/off or time is one hour but you can use any combinations of on/off to make up the 24 hours. An obvious use for this is to control immersion heaters. These are real current consumers and even though the thermostats are working properly, economies can be quite considerable if a time switch is used. Our Venners are all capable of 20 amp switching. There are of course many other applications for the time switch, which you will remember in its basic form follows the sun switching on at dusk and off at dawn. Price £3.24 plus 50p post. If switch with adaptor, extra for plastic case £1.08 or metal case £1.16 + 18p.

**Safe Soilstat** For growers who use soil heating on benches, economies can be made by using a thermostat but if mains voltage equipment is used then the thermostat must be enclosed in a waterproof and earthable container. We can now supply this price £3.78 + 26p. This container will accept the normal immersion heater type thermostat but for soil heating you will want one which covers 50 deg. fahrenheit and upwards, we can supply these at £3.20.

**Motorised Light Flasher** We can offer two motorised units both capable of 2 000V of light. Our 3 second flasher changes every 1/2 second and the 2 second flasher changes every 2 seconds. Either type £6.40.

**Frightening Fuel Bills** could lose some of their sting if you fit double glazing but even if the fuel bill does not come down much you will have a more comfortable home less draughts, etc. Double glazing frames, movable in the Spring, can be quite easily made using rigid PVC sheetings. We have this, it is as clear as glass and virtually as everlasting. It is easy to fit as you can cut it, bend it, nail it, etc. A recent purchase enables us to offer this at well below current price. It is 600mm (23 1/2in wide) and available in any length (it rolls up like lino). Price 15p per sq ft. Minimum order 20 sq ft for £1.05 post 50p orders over £6.00 post free, longer lengths price negotiable.

# Technical Training in Radio, Television and Electronics

ICS have helped thousands of ambitious people to move up into higher paid, more secure jobs in the field of electronics—now it can be your turn. Whether you are a newcomer to the field or are already working in the industry, ICS can provide you with the specialised training so essential to success.

## Personal Tuition and Guaranteed Success

The expert and personal guidance by fully qualified tutors, backed by the ICS guarantee of tuition until successful is the key to our outstanding record in the technical training field. You study at the time and pace that suits you best and in your own home. In the words of one of our many successful students: "Since starting my course, my salary has trebled and I am expecting a further increase when my course is completed."

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Excellent job prospects await those who hold one of these recognised certificates. ICS can coach you for:  
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 Radio Servicing Theory  
 Radio Amateurs  
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 Electronic Engineering and Maintenance  
 Computer Engineering and Programming  
 Radio, TV and Audio, Engineering and Servicing  
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## Qualify for a New Career

Home study courses for leading professional examinations and diploma courses for business and technical subjects:—

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60 subjects	Farming	Sales
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"A" levels	Industrial	Work Study
Accountancy	Management	
Air	Mechanical	
Conditioning		
Building		

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Dept C276 Intertext House, London  
 SW8 4UJ or telephone 622 9911

Subject of Interest .....

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone Number .....

### DIODE SCOOP!!!

We have been fortunate to obtain a large quantity of untested, mostly unmarked glass silicon diodes. Testing a sample batch revealed about 70% useable devices—signal diodes, high voltage rects and zeners may all be included. These are being offered at the incredibly low price of £1.25 /1000—or a bag of 2500 for £2.25. Bag of 10,000 £8. Box of 25,000 £17.50. Box of 100,000 £62.  
 50 Diode Circuits Book 75p.

### PC ETCHING KIT Mk III

Now contains 200 sq. ins. copper clad board, 1lb. Ferric Chloride. DALO etch resist pen, abrasive cleaner, two miniature drill bits, etching dish and instructions. £4.25.

### RELAYS

W847 Low profile PC mntg 10 x 33 x 20mm 6V coil, SPCO 3A contacts. 93p.  
 W832 Sub. min type, 10 x 19 x 10mm 12V coil DPCO 2A contacts £1.15.  
 W701 6V SPCO 1A contacts 20 x 30 x 25mm. Only 56p.  
 W817 11 pin plug in relay, rated 24V ac, but works well on 6V DC. Contacts 3 pole c/o rated 10A. 95p.  
 W819 12V 1250R DPCO 1A contacts. Size 29 x 22 x 18mm. Min plug-in type 72p.

### 1979 CATALOGUE

64 big pages with 50p discount vouchers + qty prices for bulk buyers + reply paid envelope—All this for just 45p inc. post.

### EDGE CONNECTORS

Special purchase of these 0.1" pitch double-sided gold-plated connectors enables us to offer them at less than one-third their original list price!  
 18 way 41p; 21 way 47p; 32 way 72p; 40 way 90p.

All prices include VAT—just add 25p post

### RESISTOR PACK

Carbon Film 5% mostly 1/4W, few 1/2W resistors. Brand new, but have pre-formed leads, ideal for PC mntg. Wide range of mixed popular values at the unrepeatable price of £2.50 per 1000; £11 per 5000.

### DIN SOCKET OFFER

2 pin switched speaker socket. PC mounting; 5 pin 180° PC mntg or chassis mntg (clip fix). All the same price, any mix: 10 for 70p, 25 for £1.60, 100 for £5.50.

### BC182B OFFER

Special Offer for quantity users 1k .035 + VAT; 5k .032 + VAT. Price negotiable on 10k Approx. 100k available.

### POLYTHENE SHEET

Size 36 x 18" 200g. Hundreds of uses around the home. 100 sheets for £1.50. Box of 1500 for £19.

### AIR FRESHENER KIT

As featured in Nov. EE. Complete kit inc. case and instructions. Only £7.95 + 55p p & p.

### 74 SERIES PACK

Selection of boards containing many different 74 series IC's. 20 for £1; 50 for £2.20; 100 for £4.

### TRANSFORMERS

All mains primary: 12.0-12V 50mA 85p; 100mA 95p; 1A £2.50. 6.0-6V 100mA 85p; 1 1/2A £2.40. 9.0-9V 75mA 85p; 1A £2.10.  
 Multitapped type 0-12-15-20-24-30V, 1A £3.95; 2A £5.35; 3A £6.9 20V 2 1/2A £3.90; 25V 1 1/2A £2.25; 12V 8A £4; 24V 5A £7.50; 0-22-34-41V 4A £7.50; 20V + 300mA twice £2.50; 12V @ 250mA twice £2.00.

### HEAT SINK OFFER

Copper TOS sink 17mm dia. x 20mm. 10 for 40p; 100 for £3; 1000 for £25.

**GREENWELD**

443 Millbrook Road Southampton SO1 0HX

## FANE NEW "POP" RANGE SPEAKERS

Improved appearance — higher sensitivity



12" 'POP' 40T	Dual Cone 45w	Rec. Price £14.95
12" 'POP' 50H	50w	£16.99
12" 'POP' 75	75w	£23.95
15" 'POP' 65	70w	£25.95
15" 'POP' 80	80w	£31.95
18" 'POP' 100	100w	£52.75
18" 'POP' 150	150w	£57.95

### SPECIALIST RANGE

Each designed to produce the individual sound for its purpose. Robust Cast Alu. Chassis. * As reviewed in Int. Musician.	12" DISCO/80 80w*	Fitted large Tweeter Cone	Rec. Price £29.95
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	12" GUITAR/80L 80w*	For Lead Guitar	£28.95
	12" GUITAR/80B "	Prs rec for Bass Guitar	£29.95
	12" PA/80 80w	Dual Cone. For general purpose P.A.	£28.95
	15" BASS/85* 85w	For Bass Guitar	£41.95
	15" BASS/100 100w		£44.50

### HIGH FREQUENCY HORNS

**J44** Range: 2-5KHz-15KHz Power: 50w with HPX2R  
 HPX2R 30w with HPX1R  
 Imp: 8 ohms  
 Size approx 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 3" **£7.95**



**J73** Range: 2-5kHZ-20kHZ Power: 50w with HPX 1R  
 Imp: 8 ohms  
 Size approx: 7 1/2" x 3" x 6 1/2" **Rec Price £11.95**



**J104** Range: 2KHz-15KHz Power: 50watt with HPX1R 70 watt with HPX2R  
 Imp: 8 ohms  
 Size approx 10 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 7 1/2" **£16.95**



**920/2** Range: 1 KHz-18KHz Power: 100w with HPX1. Imp: 8 ohms  
 Size approx 14" x 9" x 15" **Rec. Price £62.95**

**HIGH POWER "CROSS-OVERS"**  
 HPX1R (3.5KHz) **£3.65**  
 HPX2R (5KHz)

Impedance or total impedance of Bass Drivers not to exceed 8Ω. Otherwise use series Horns or attenuation provided with HPX1R and HPX2R.

**FANE SPEAKERS—SUPPLIED TO MOST LEADING U.K. MANUFACTURERS OF GROUP & DISCO EQUIPMENT**  
 2 years guarantee on speakers & Horns **Rec. Prices INCLUDE VAT.**  
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# RADIO EXCHANGE LIMITED

## NEW ELECTRONIC MASTER KIT



With special V.H.F. Tuner Module to construct. A completely Solderless Electronic Construction Kit, with ready drilled Bakelite Panels, Nuts, Bolts, Wood Screws, etc. Also in the kit: Transistors, Capacitors, Resistors, Pots, Switches, Wire, Sleeving, Knobs, Dials, 5" x 3" Loudspeaker and Speaker Case, Crystal Earpiece, etc. Also ready wound Coils and Ferrite Rod Aerial. These are the Projects you can build with the components supplied with the kit, together with comprehensive Instruction Manual Pictorial and Circuit Diagrams.

### Projects:

V.H.F. Tuner Module ★ A.M. Tuner Module ★ M.W. L.W. Diode Radio ★ Six Transistor V.H.F. Earpiece Radio ★ One Transistor M.W. L.W. Radio ★ Two Transistor Metronome with variable beat control ★ Three Transistor and Diode Radio M.W. L.W. ★ Four Transistor Push Pull Amplifier ★ Eight Transistor V.H.F. Loudspeaker Receiver ★ Variable A.F. Oscillator ★ Jiffy MultiTester ★ Four Transistor and Diode M.W. L.W. Radio ★ A.F. R.F. Signal Injector ★ Five Transistor Push Pull Amplifier ★ Sensitive Hearing Aid Amplifier ★ Three Transistor and Diode Short Wave Radio ★ Signal Tracer ★ Three Transistor Push Pull Amplifier ★ One Transistor Class A Output Stage to drive Loudspeaker ★ Sensitive Transistor Pre-Amp ★ Transistor Tester ★ Sensitive Three Transistor Regenerative Radio ★ Four Transistor M.W. L.W. and Diode Tuner ★ Five Transistor M.W. L.W. Trawler Band Regenerative Radio ★ Five Transistor V.H.F. Tuner ★ Three Transistor Code Practice Oscillator ★ Five Transistor Regenerative Short Wave Radio ★ Four Transistor and two Diodes M.W. L.W. Loudspeaker Radio ★ Seven Transistor M.W. L.W. Radio with Loudspeaker Push Pull output ★ One Transistor Home Broadcaster.

**£14.99 + P & P £1.10**

## V.H.F. AIR CONVERTER KIT



Build this converter kit and receive the aircraft band by placing it by the side of a radio tuned to medium wave or the VHF band and operating as shown in the instructions supplied free with all parts.

Uses a retractable chrome-plated telescopic aerial, gain control, V.H.F. tuning capacitor, transistor, etc. Size 5½" x 1½" x 3½". All parts including case and plans.

**£4.95 + P & P and Ins. 60p**

## ELECTRONIC CONSTRUCTION KIT E.C.K. 2



### Self Contained Multi-Band V.H.F. Receiver Kit.

8 transistors and 3 diodes. Push pull output. 3 in. loudspeaker, gain control, 7 section chrome-plated telescopic aerial, V.H.F. tuning capacitor, resistors, capacitors, transistors, etc. Will receive T.V. sound, public service band, aircraft, V.H.F. local stations, etc. Operates from a 9 volt P.P.7 battery (not supplied with kit).

Complete kit of parts

**£7.95 + P & P and Ins. 90p**

## NEW MODEL R.K.1.

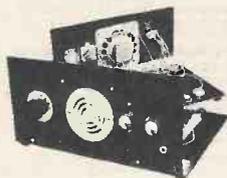


### MultiBand A.M. Receiver.

M.W.L.W. Trawler Band and Three Short Wave Bands. Seven Transistors and Four Diodes. Push Pull Output stage. 5" x 3" Loudspeaker. Internal Ferrite Rod Aerial. Kit includes all parts to build it up including Carrying Strap, Rubber Feet and ready-drilled Panels. Comprehensive Instruction Manual for stage by stage construction. Uses P.P.9 Nine Volt Battery.

**£8.99 + P & P 90p**

## EDU KIT JUNIOR



Completely Solderless Electronic Construction Kit. Build these projects without Soldering Iron or Solder

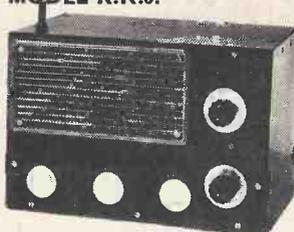
- ★ Crystal Radio Medium Wave Coverage—No Battery necessary
- ★ One Transistor Radio
- ★ 2 Transistor Regenerative Radio
- ★ 3 Transistor Earpiece Radio Medium Wave Coverage
- ★ 4 Transistor Medium Wave Loudspeaker Radio

- ★ Electronic Noise Generator
- ★ Electronic Metronome
- ★ 4 Transistor Push/Pull Amplifier

All parts including Loudspeaker, Earpiece, M.W. Ferrite Rod Aerial, Capacitors, Resistors, Transistors, etc. Complete kit of parts including construction plans.

**£6.95 + P & P and Ins. 90p**

## NEW ROAMER TEN MODEL R.K.3.



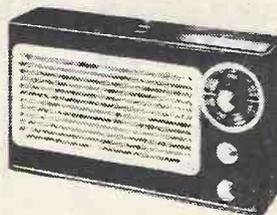
### Multiband V.H.F. and A.M. Receiver. 13 Transistors and Six Diodes. Quality 6" x 3" Loudspeaker

With Multiband V.H.F. section covering Mobiles, Aircraft, T.V. Sound, Public Service Band, Local V.H.F. Stations, etc. and Multiband A.M. section with Airspaced Tuning Capacitor for easier and accurate tuning, covering M.W.1, M.W.2, L.W. Three Short Wave Bands S.W.1, S.W.2, S.W.3 and Trawler Band. Built-in Ferrite Rod Aerial for Medium Wave, Long Wave and Trawler Band, etc., Chrome-plated 7 section Telescopic Aerial, angled and rotatable for peak Short Wave and V.H.F. reception. Push-Pull output using 600mW Transistors. Gain. Wave-Change and Tone Controls. Plus two Slider Switches. Powered by P.P.9—9 volt Battery.

Complete kit of parts including carrying strap. Building Instructions and operating Manuals.

**£14.79 + P & P £1.10**

## E.V.6 PLUS ONE



Build this exciting new design. Now with 7 Transistors and 4 diodes. MW/LW. Powered by 9V battery. Ferrite rod aerial, tuning condenser, volume control, and now with 3in. loudspeaker. Attractive case with red speaker grille. Size 9in. x 5½in. x 2½in. approx. All parts including Case and Plans.

Total Building Costs:  
**£6.95 + P & P and Ins. 90p**

## EDU-KIT MAJOR



Completely solderless Electronic Construction Kit. Build fifteen projects including:—

- Signal Injector
- Transistor Tester NPN-PNP
- 7 Transistor Loudspeaker Radio MW/LW
- 5 Transistor Short Wave Radio.

### Components include:

- 24 Resistors
- 21 Capacitors
- 10 Transistors
- 5" x 3" Loudspeaker
- Earpiece
- Mica Base-board
- 3 12-way Connectors
- 2 Volume Controls
- 2 Slider Switches
- 1 Tuning Condenser
- 3 Knobs
- Ready Wound MW/LW/SW Coils
- Ferrite Rod
- 6½ yards of wire
- 1 yard of sleeving, etc.

Complete kit of parts including construction plans.

Total building costs:

**£9.99 + P & P and Ins. £1.10**

## RADIO CONSTRUCTION KIT Q7



A compact small radio kit covering Medium Wave and Long Wave bands. Rugged Micronite construction and simple square design allows for easy carrying and positioning. Ideal for the Garage, Workroom, Kitchen, etc., has seven Transistors and four Diodes, quality Loudspeaker, ready wound Ferrite Rod Aerial and Carrying Strap. Size 4½" x 4½" x 4½". All parts and plans excluding 9v PP7 Battery.

**£6.25 + P & P and Ins. 75p**

## POCKET FIVE



NOW WITH 2½" LOUDSPEAKER 3 Tuneable wavebands. M.W., L.W., and Trawler Band. 7 stages, 5 transistors and 2 diodes, supersensitive ferrite rod aerial, attractive black and gold case. Size 5½" x 1½" x 3½" approx. All Parts including Case and Plans.

Total Building Costs  
**£4.95 + P & P and Ins. 80p**

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61A High Street, Bedford MK40 1SA

Tel.: 0234 52367

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# ambit international

Production of the new catalogue has been held up for a few weeks - since we have just been appointed as distributors for two of the most exciting ranges of radio components products yet: The Micrometals range of iron dust torroids cores and formers, and the OKI range of VLSI for digital frequency displays for receivers. We apologize for any inconvenience, but these two ranges are really worth the wait, and include some products you will find hard to believe, like the MSM5523 IC, an IC with less than ten external components that gives AM frequency readout to 1kHz from LW to 39.999MHz, FM frequency readout in 100kHz steps - (all usual IF offsets programmable by diodes), a 24 hour format clock with 12 hour display, independent on and off timers, time signals on the hours, stopwatch facility and a sleep tuner. This costs £14 with its timebase crystal, and makes all that has gone before an expensive and time wasting exercise. Rather like the way the Intersil ICM7216 has revolutionized the instrument counter market. (See the OSTs ad.) And those of you familiar with Amidon and IG dust torroids, favoured in many new RF designs, will be pleased to know Ambit will be stocking a broad range of the Micrometals types for applications from EMI filters to RF PA stages.

OKI frequency counter ICs: details in cat2  
MSM5523 for CA LEDs with RHDP such as FND507 £14 inc xtal  
MSM5525 for 3 1/2 digit LCD AM/FM with direct segment drive, no clock or timers £11 inc xtal  
Other types for fluorescent displays etc OA

Other new semiconductor additions:  
KB4437 pilot cancel mpv decoder 4.35  
KB4438 muting stereo preamp 2.22  
HA1370 supercodes TDA2020 2.99  
TDA1090 HiFi AM/FM 3.35  
TDA1220 low cost AM/FM 1.45

**PRICES DOWN ON VMOS:** as expected, this new technology in power transistors getting cheaper. 120v comp pairs /1000 for £10.00  
Price reduction on CA3189E .....now £2.20  
New varicaps: to add to the biggest range.....  
KV1211 2.9v bias to tune MW, like the KV1210, but a double diode £1.75  
New pilot tone filters from TOKO.....  
208BLR series, individual per channel with a 26/38kHz version for pilot cancel decoder applications. Flat to 15kHz £0.90  
New crystal filter for amateur NBFM.....  
TOYO 10M481 with over 90dB adjacent ch. rejection for 2m NBFM. 10.7MHz £14  
New ceramic IF filters for 455kHz.....  
CFM455H 6kHz/6dB, 15kHz max./60dB - ideal for MC3357 etc. £10

A brief summary of some of our range of ICs:  
TDA1062/1.95; TDA1083/1.95; HA1197/£1.40  
CA3123E/£1.40; TBA651/£1.81; CA3089/1.94  
HA1137/£2.20; MC1310/£2.20; HA1196/£3.95  
KB4424/£2.75; KB4423/£2.53; SD6000/£3.75  
KB4412/£2.55; KB4413/£2.75; KB4417/£2.55  
MC1495L/£3.86\*; MC1496P/£1.25  
LM381N/£1.81; LM1303/£0.99; ULN2283B/£1.00; LM380N/£1; TBA810AS/£1.09  
TCA940E/£1.80; TDA2002/£1.95;  
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TERMS etc: CWO please, VAT on Ambit items is generally 12%, except where marked (\*). Catalogue part 1.45p, part 2.50p all inclusive. Postage 25p per order, carriage on tuner kits £3. Phone Brentwood (0277) 216029/227050 9am-7pm. Callers welcome inc. Saturdays.

## At last, DIY Hi Fi which looks as if it isn't.

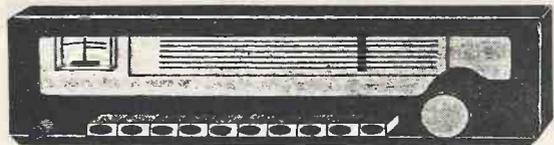
That's not to say it doesn't look like HiFi - just that it doesn't look like the usual sort of thing you have come to associate with DIY HiFi. The Mk3 outstrips and outperforms all British made HiFi tuners, and most imported ones too. Certainly at the price, there isn't one near it. But more than that, it looks superb. A small pic here would be an insult, so send an SAE for details on the kit that looks as if isn't. It's something else.....

- ★ Exceptionally high performance - exceptionally straightforward assembly
- ★ Baseboard and plug-in construction. Future circuit developments will readily plug in, to keep the MkIII at the forefront of technical achievement
- ★ Various options and module line-ups possible to enable an installation approach to the system

and now previewing the matching 60W/channel VMOS amplifier:

- ★ Matching both the style and design concepts of the MkIII HiFi FM tuner
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- ★ Backed with the usual Ambit expertise and technical capacity in audio

## The PW Dorchester LW, MW, SW, & FM stereo tuner



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4039	250p	4502	91p		
4040	83p	4503	69p		
4041	90p	4506	51p		
4042	85p	4507	55p		
4043	85p	4508	248p		
4044	80p	4510	99p		
4045	150p	4511	149p		
4046	130p	4512	98p		
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7402	14	20	7463			74132	73	78	74190	115	92	74379	130
7403	14	20	7470	28		74133		29	74191			74386	37
7404	14	24	7472	28		74136		40	74192	105	180	74390	140
7405	18	26	7473	32		74138		60	74193	105	180	74395	139
7406	38		7474	27	38	74139		60	74194	105	187	74396	133
7407	38		7475	38	40	74141	56		74195	95	137	74398	180
7408	17	24	7476	37		74142	265		74196	99	110	74399	150
7409	17	24	7478			74143	312		74197	85	110	74445	92
7410	15	24	7480	48		74144	312		74198	150		74447	90
7411	20	24	7481	86		74145	65		74199	160		74490	140
7412	17	24	7482	69		74147	175		74248		90	74668	110
7413	30	52	7483A			74148	109		74249		93	74670	249
7414	51	130	7484	97		74150	99		74251		90	MISCELLANY	
7415	24	7485	104	99		74151	64	84	74253		105	NE555	30p
7416	30	7486		40		74153	64	54	74257		108	NE556	78p
7417	30	7489	205			74154	96		74258		153	NE568	150p
7420	16	24	7490	33	90	74155	54	110	74259		420	ICM7217	950p
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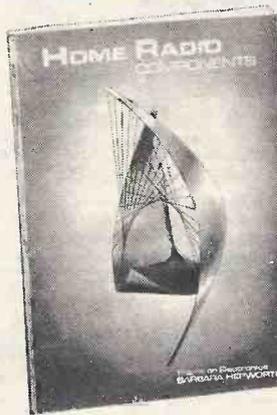
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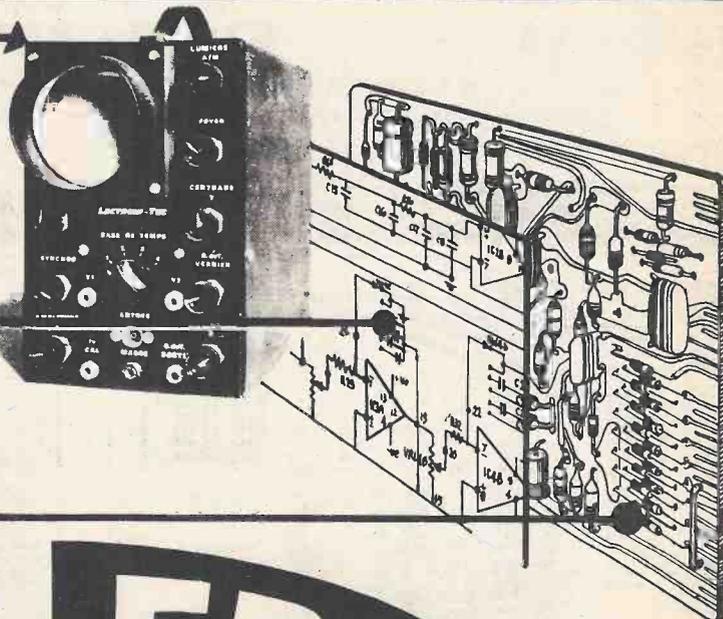
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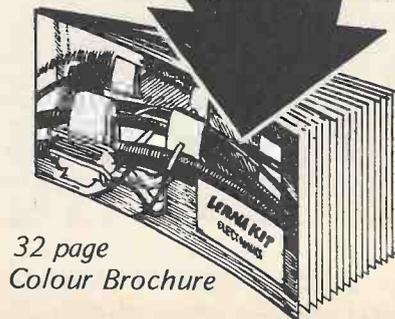
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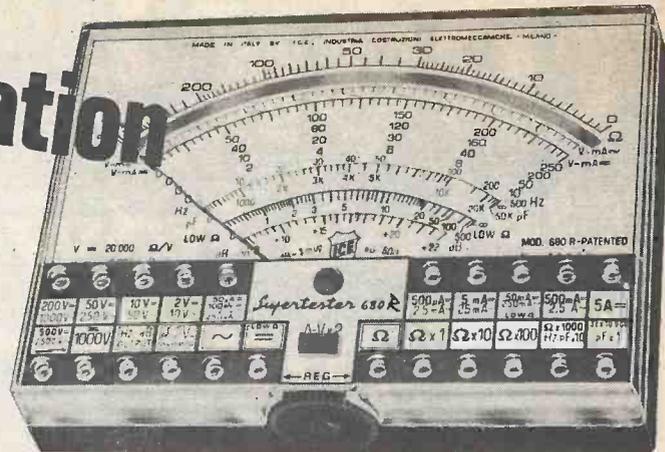
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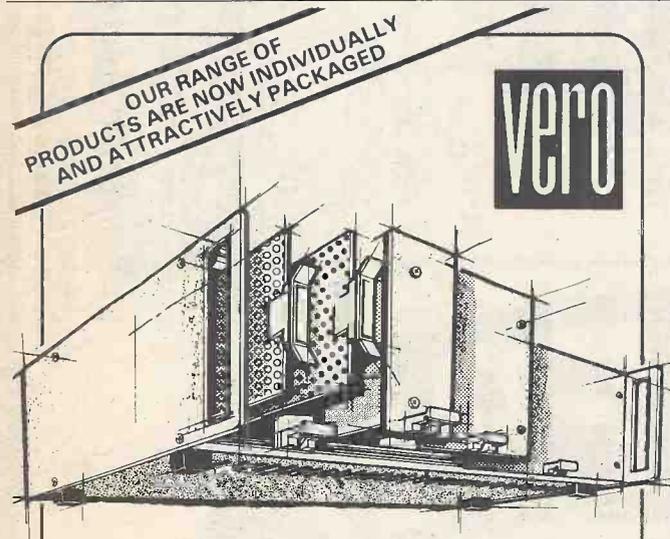
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2N2194 0-42	2N3702 0-14	2N4250 0-26	2N6122 0-44	AS228 1-30	BC239C 0-17	CA3018A 1-10	CA3075 1-70	LM371H 2-35	LM1304N 1-52	MC1433G 3-65	SN76228N 1-55
2N2217 0-55	2N3703 0-14	2N4266 0-32	2N6123 0-48	AS228 1-30	BC239C 0-17	CA3020 2-20	CA3076 2-12	LM350K 6-45	LM1305N 1-52	MC1436G 1-20	SN76531N 0-82
2N2218 0-55	2N3704 0-14	2N4284 0-38	2N6123 0-48	AS228 1-30	BC239C 0-17	CA3021 2-50	CA3080 1-85	LM353N 3-35	LM1307N 1-22	MC1439G 1-75	SN70532N 1-55
2N2219 0-38	2N3705 0-14	2N4286 0-22	2N6124 0-46	BC107 0-16	BC256A 0-29	CA3022 2-20	CA3080A 2-10	LM374N 3-35	LM1309N 1-20	MC1440G 1-85	SN78533N 1-30
2N2221 0-25	2N3706 0-14	2N4287 0-22	2N6125 0-47	BC108 0-16	BC257A 0-18	CA3023 2-20	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1310N 2-10	MC1456G 2-15	SN78544N 1-60
2N2222 0-55	2N3707 0-14	2N4288 0-22	2N6228 0-50	BC109 0-16	BC258B 0-24	CA3024 2-50	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2270 0-49	2N3708 0-12	2N4292 0-27	2N6228 0-50	BC113 0-22	BC259B 0-19	CA3025 2-20	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2388 0-27	2N3709 0-12	2N4302 0-31	2N6228 0-50	BC114 0-22	BC261A 0-25	CA3026 0-30	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2369 0-27	2N3710 0-12	2N4303 0-33	2N6228 0-50	BC115 0-22	BC262B 0-26	CA3028 0-30	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2483 0-30	2N3711 0-12	2N4342 0-60	2N6228 0-50	BC116 0-21	BC263B 0-26	CA3028A 0-90	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2613 0-80	2N3712 1-39	2N4401 0-20	2N6228 0-50	BC118 0-22	BC264B 0-65	CA3028B 0-90	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2645 0-90	2N3714 1-55	2N4402 0-20	2N6228 0-50	BC135 0-22	BC307B 0-16	CA3029 0-75	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2648 0-80	2N3716 1-70	2N4403 0-20	2N6228 0-50	BC136 0-22	BC308B 0-16	CA3029A 0-90	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2904 0-31	2N3794 0-21	2N4822 0-83	2N6228 0-50	BC137 0-22	BC309C 0-18	CA3030 1-50	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2905 0-31	2N3819 0-36	2N4870L 0-58	2N6228 0-50	BC138 0-44	BC327 0-22	CA3030A 2-20	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2906 0-25	2N3820 0-39	2N4871L 0-51	2N6228 0-50	BC140 0-30	BC328 0-20	CA3033 3-70	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2907 0-25	2N3821 0-95	2N4898 1-55	2N6228 0-50	BC141 0-32	BC337 0-20	CA3034 2-75	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2923 0-17	2N3827 0-27	2N4901 1-65	2N6228 0-50	BC142 0-32	BC341 0-17	CA3035 1-95	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2924 0-17	2N3854A 0-30	2N4902 2-20	2N6228 0-50	BC147 0-13	BC415 0-16	CA3035 1-21	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N2925 0-19	2N3855 0-30	2N4903 2-75	2N6228 0-50	BC148 0-15	BC416 0-17	CA3038 2-90	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3011 0-37	2N3856A 0-19	2N4904 1-85	2N6228 0-50	BC149 0-15	BC547A 0-13	CA3038A 4-10	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3020 0-75	2N3858A 0-20	2N4905 2-40	2N6228 0-50	BC153 0-30	BC547B 0-13	CA3039 0-77	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3053 0-25	2N3859A 0-22	2N4920 0-83	2N6228 0-50	BC154 0-30	BC548 0-13	CA3040 1-65	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3054 0-72	2N3860 0-18	2N5085 0-30	2N6228 0-50	BC157A 0-15	BC549B 0-14	CA3041 1-65	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3055 0-75	2N3866 1-98	2N5087 0-30	2N6228 0-50	BC158 0-15	BC558 0-13	CA3042 1-65	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3056 0-75	2N3901 0-30	2N5088 0-30	2N6228 0-50	BC159 0-17	BC559 0-15	CA3042 1-65	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3133 0-50	2N3904 0-18	2N5089 0-30	2N6228 0-50	BC160 0-38	BC554 2-40	CA3043 2-20	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3242 0-68	2N3905 0-18	2N5129 0-62	2N6228 0-50	BC167B 0-13	BC558 0-27	CA3045 1-58	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3250 0-35	2N3906 0-18	2N5130 0-22	2N6228 0-50	BC168 0-13	BC570 0-21	CA3046 0-77	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3301 0-45	2N3962 0-95	2N5131 0-22	2N6228 0-50	BC169 0-13	BC571 0-26	CA3047 2-20	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3302 0-39	2N4031 0-55	2N5137 0-22	2N6228 0-50	BC170B 0-19	BC572 0-13	CA3048 2-45	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3392 0-17	2N4032 0-65	2N5143 0-22	2N6228 0-50	BC171B 0-17	BC578 0-43	CA3049 1-93	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3394 0-17	2N4033 0-65	2N5180 0-58	2N6228 0-50	BC172C 0-15	BC121 2-20	CA3050 2-66	CA3086 0-50	LM377N 1-80	LM1458N 0-45	MC1463R 3-90	SN78545N 1-80
2N3397 0-19	2N4036 0-72	2N5190 0-65	2N6228 0-50	BC173C 0-17	BC131 0-55						

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Daylo Pens	98	Approx. .79mm thick, sq. ft.	£1.25	£1.50
		Single-sided Copper-clad paxolin		
		Pack of 10 sheets each 245mm x 150mm	£2.50	

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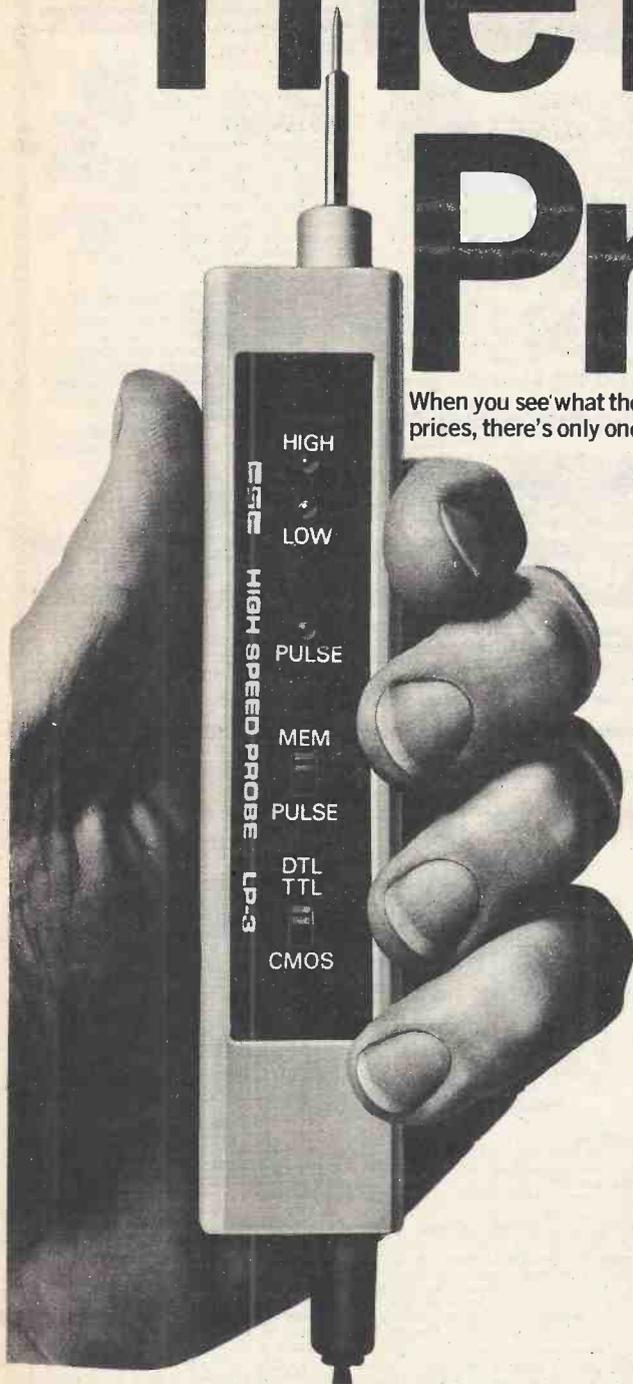
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# The Logic Probes

When you see what these new CSC logic probes can do, in such a small size, and at such small prices, there's only one word for it:-

## Amazing!



**LP-1** Unit Price £31.00 • Post & Package £1.50 • VAT £2.60 • **Total £35.10.**  
 Clip the leads to the power supply of the circuit under test, touch the probe tip to any pin, pad or component and you're in business. The 'HIGH' and 'LOW' LEDs show logic states 1 or 0, if neither come on you've got open circuit, tri-state, signal out of tolerance (or no power!). The 'PULSE' LED flashes once for any pulse 50nsec or longer, and flashes regularly at 3Hz for high frequency trains. Then, while 'PULSE' is flashing, 'HIGH' will come on alone to show duty-cycles over 85%, 'LOW' alone to show less than 15%, and with both on together duty-cycles can be estimated between 15% and 85% by relative brightness. In the MEMORY mode, the leading edge (positive- or negative-going) of any pulse will latch a flip-flop on and keep the PULSE LED lit as long as power is applied to the probe. You can catch events that are hard to see even with a high quality scope!  
 LP-1 is switch-selectable for DTL/TTL and HTL/CMOS circuits.



**LP-2** Unit Price £18.00 • Post & Package £1.25 • VAT £1.54 • **Total £20.79.**  
 Economy version of LP-1, with the same HTL/CMOS and DTL/TTL capability. 'HIGH' or 'LOW' LEDs function as in LP-1, 'PULSE' catches pulses as short as 300nsec and shows pulse trains as 10Hz blink. When pulsing, 'HIGH' comes on to show duty-cycles above 70%, 'LOW' shows below 30%, both on together show between 30% and 70%. 300,000 Ohm input impedance protects your circuit under test, and the low price brings the advantages of our quick, easy LOGIC PROBE technique to anyone interested in logic circuitry.



**LP-3** Unit Price £49.00 • Post & Package £1.50 • VAT £4.04 • **Total £54.54.**  
 Super-high speed version, captures pulses as short as 10nsec, and monitors pulse trains as rapid as 50MHz. That's better performance than many oscilloscopes! And no bulky instruments, no set-up time. At frequencies up to 1.5MHz you can estimate duty-cycles by the High/Low relative intensity, as with LP-1. DTL/TTL and HTL/CMOS are switch-selectable, of course, plus 'MEM' memory mode to latch on to any pulse, pulse train or passing transient. LP-3 is the ideal trouble-shooter for your fastest logic circuits, and like all CSC probes is well-designed, handy and easy to use, robust, reliable and individually tested before it leaves the factory.



**And the new pulser DP-1** Unit Price £51.00 • Post & Package £1.50 • VAT £4.20 • **Total £56.70.**  
 The Digital Pulser: another new idea from CSC. The DP-1 registers the polarity of any pin, pad or component and then, when you touch the 'PULSE' button, delivers a single no-bounce pulse to swing the logic state the other way. Or if you hold the button down for more than a second, the DP-1 shoots out pulse after pulse at 100Hz. The single LED blinks for each single pulse, or glows during a pulse train. If your circuit is a very fast one, you can open the clock line and take it through its function step by step, at single pulse rate or at 100 per second. Clever! And a very reasonable price.



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Specification	LP-1	LP-2	LP-3	DP-1
Input Impedance	100,000Ω	300,000Ω	500,000Ω	Output Tri State
Minimum Detectable Pulse	50ns	300ns	10ns	Autopolarity Pulse Sensing
Max. Input Signal (Freq.)	10 MHz	1.5MHz	50 MHz	Sink and Source 100 ma
Pulse Detector (LED)	High Speed Train or Single Event	High Speed Train or Single Event	High Speed Train or Single Event	Pulse Train: 100pps
Pulse Memory	Pulse or Level Transition Detected and Stored	None	Pulse or Level Transition Detected and Stored	LED indicator flashes in Single Pulse. Stays lit on Pulse Train

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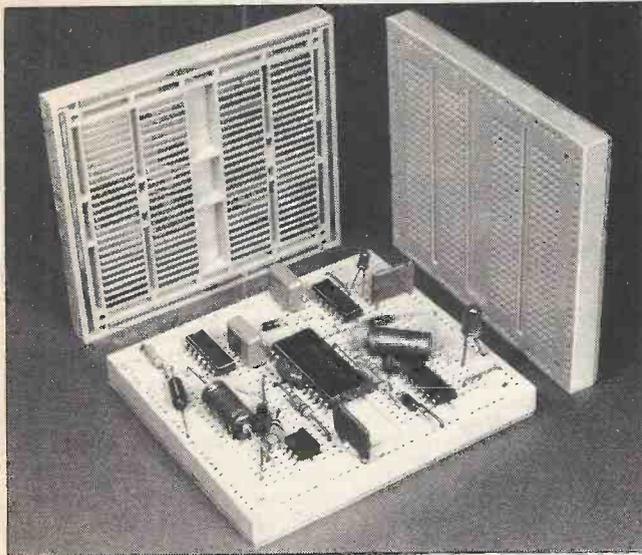


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### SRX-30

For the advanced, keen short wave listener, the choice of receiver has usually been between cheap and nasty or very good but very expensive equipment. We think that the SRX-30 will provide that listener with excellent performance at a reasonable cost and is the answer to this eternal problem.

The SRX-30 provides AM, CW, USB and LSB reception on all frequencies from 500 kHz to 30MHz. All right, so does your Sooper Blooper Mk. 3 but you can't set the Sooper Blooper dial to the frequency you want and be sure that it's correct! The SRX-30 tuning system is so simple to operate. You have a dial reading in MHz from 0-29 and a main tuning dial reading 0-1000 kHz. So—if you know that Radio Siobovia is broadcasting on 10.295 MHz, you set the MHz dial to 10, the kHz dial to 295 and there you are. The MHz dial setting is not critical, as stability is guaranteed by a triple mixing drift cancelling system, thereby overcoming another problem in your Sooper Blooper Mk. 3: drift.

A further drawback to cheap receivers is massive image interference on the higher frequencies due to the use of a low IF, typically 455 kHz. The cure for this problem is the use of a high IF and the SRX-30 employs a first IF of around 40 MHz—so goodbye to first IF images. You could of course find the same system as this in the Racal RA17 series receivers; after all, the SRX-30 has copied the basic idea from this very receiver. The big drawback to the RA17 (apart from the price !!) is that unless you have the muscles of a prize fighter, lifting the RA17 may send you for a holiday at Hernia Bay (staying at the Truss House?).

To summarize, the SRX-30 covers 500 kHz to 30 MHz with excellent dial readout and reset accuracy; it has all mode (AM, CW, SSB) reception and is equally at home in broadcast or amateur bands; it has all the facilities of a top class communications receiver, RF gain, fine tuning, selectable sidebands, built in loud-speaker, operation from ac mains or 12v. Dc, rugged construction and super styling and all at an attractive price—£175 inc. VAT. Carr £3.

See it soon at your nearest stockist, you will be agreeably impressed.

For all that's good in Amateur Radio, contact:  
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### SPECIFICATIONS

<b>AMPLIFIER</b>	<b>Nominal</b>	<b>Intermediate Frequency:</b>
Power Output:	2 x 25 watts RMS.	AM 475KHz
Distortion:	THD @ 2 x 20 watts 0.7%	FM 10.7KHz
Frequency Range:	@ -1.5dB 30Hz- 15KHz	Aerial input:
Tone Control Range:	18dB	AM (Internal)
VC-20dB	@ 100Hz-14dB	AM (external)
Basic Electrical centre	@ 10KHz+8dB	FM (external)
Treble Electrical centre	@ 10KHz+8dB -14dB	Ferrite Rod
Loudness Control:		2 pin DIN
VC30dB	@ 100Hz+14dB	Co-axial 75 ohm
VC30dB	@ 10KHz+11dB	unbalanced!
Filters:	@ 10KHz-6dB	AGC:
VC30dB		For 6dB audio change
Controls:	5 rotary: volume, balance, bass, treble tuning.	IF Bandwidth
Switches:	0 push button: phono, tape, radio, aux. input, mono/ stereo, loudness, filter, speaker switching, separate mains switch.	@ max sensitivity
Meters:	2 signal strength: FM tuning	RF Sensitivity:
Sockets:	Headphones: 5 pin DIN Aux: AM aerial (ext) FM aerial (co- axial): 4 x 2 pin DIN L/S	@ 20dB S/N Ratio
		200KHz
		600KHz
		1400KHz
		FM:
		RF Sensitivity:
		@ 26dB S/N (mono)
		85MHz
		100KHz
		@ 46dB S/N (mono)
		@ 46dB S/N (stereo)
		Distortion:
		@ Decoder O/P
		Frequency Response:
		@ ± 1.5dB
		30Hz-15KHz
		40dB
		Stereo Separation:
		Audio Filter
		Flat to 55KHz 50dB @ 130KHz

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Stereo power amp 25w rms P/channel	£7.50
Low noise pre amp. Full freq correction	£5.99
RF Board MW/LW/MPX Fet. 3 x IC	£9.99
P.S.U. £3.50 Transformer £5.50	
Selector Board 8 way	£3.99
Complete chassis massive 22 Inches	£8.50



## TU020

### A Hi Fi tuner amplifier

This unit can be built from our modules or as a complete kit. Input for mag cartridge, tape record/playback, MW/LW/VHF stereo, tuner. Uses the same R F Board as does the Wimborne with birdie filters, multiplex filter, varicap tuning on MW and LW. Items from the Wimborne numbers 2 and 3 can be used for different performance specifications.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Power output 25 Watts RMS per channel (both channels driven)	FM sensitivity 1.0µV for 26 dB S/N ratio
Total harmonic distortion 0.05%	IF rejection 60 dB image rejection 60 dB
Bass 100 Hz ± 12 dB	Stereo separation 40 dB
Treble 10 KHz ± 12 dB	AM sensitivity 200µV at 1600 KHz 20 dB S/N ratio.
Frequency response ± 1.5 dB 30 Hz—20 KHz	
Fully wired modules, Preamplifier,	Magnetic PU amp £2.99
Power amplifier £6.99	Hardware kit £7.99
RF Board £33.95	<b>PLEASE ADD £1 for postage and packaging for each item except the mag PU amp which is 30p.</b>
Power supply unit £3.99	
Transformer £4.50	

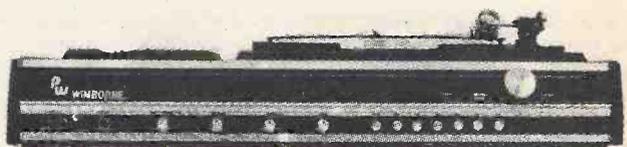


## AU10

A Radio Record Player Kit which has everything you need to make a first class three band STEREO unit. Can be assembled in modular form or from scratch. A professional finish is guaranteed.

### SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Amplifier</b>	<b>Output</b>	2 x 10W RMS, both channels driven
<b>Distortion:</b>		1% ± 2 x 5 watts
<b>Controls:</b>	<b>Four rotary</b>	1. OFF/ON/VOLUME 2. Balance 3. Treble 4. Bass
<b>Tone Control Range:</b>	<b>Bass @ 100 Hz ± 9dB</b>	
	<b>Treble @ 10 kHz ± 9dB</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	2 x 2-pin DIN for 8 ohm loudspeakers	
	1 switched stereo headphone socket	
	1 5-pin DIN Aux. Tape in/out socket	
<b>Stereo Performance:</b>	Frequency response @ ± 1.5dB 30 Hz—15kHz	
	Separation 40dB	
	Audio Filter—flat to 55 kHz—50dB @ 130 kHz	
<b>Controls:</b>	7 Push Button: Phono, Tape, Mono, FM, MW, LW, AFC	
	1 Rotary: Tuning	
<b>Radio Tuner</b>	<b>Waveband Coverage:</b>	Medium Wave 525—1620 kHz
		Long Wave 155—280 kHz
		FM VHF 88—108 kHz
<b>Price Hardware Kit</b>	<b>8.90</b>	<b>RF Board 21.95</b>
<b>Amplifier &amp; Pots</b>	<b>8.75</b>	<b>Record Deck 13.95</b>
<b>PSU &amp; Transformer</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>Dust cover 6.00</b>



## PW WIMBORNE

The most versatile music centre ever. Complete kit price approximately £110 comparable price £180.

- 1 Hardware Kit, for a professional finish, trim, knobs, extrusions, sockets, top moulding 50 plus parts. £9.95.
- 2 Amplifier Module (11-14) watts RMS per channel, wired and tested, £19.95, kit price £13.95.
- 3 Mechanically tuned RF Board, absolutely complete and tested 1.5µV sensitivity FET front end 7 way switch, MW, LW, stereo VHF, only requires 13 VDC. £21.95.
- 4 Stereo cassette module, with CRO2 switching, low noise devices, ALC tape counter, excellent specification, incredible price £24.95.
- 5 Varicap tuned RF Board, the ultimate AM/FM Receiver kit, MOSFET front end, Deviation mute, interstation mute, fantastic performance 1.0µV sensitivity, Hitachi, AM receiver IC, excellent MW/LW performance, complete with 7 way switch, The basis of the finest Hi Fi system, fully wired and tested. £33.95. Kit £26.95.
- 6 Magnetic PU Amp with LM387 or discrete (BC 149). Both £2.99 each.
- 7 Wooden Plinth plus base board £9.95.
- 8 Perspex dust cover plus hinges £6.50.
- 9 Mains transformer £2.99.

All items include VAT. Please add £1 per item for postage and packaging, item 6 30p. For further details please send 15p.

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7400	£0.07	7427	£0.21	7472	£0.19	74107	£0.22	74185	£0.65
7401	£0.09	7428	£0.25	7473	£0.22	74110	£0.35	74166	£0.75
7402	£0.09	7430	£0.08	7474	£0.22	74111	£0.55	74167	£2.00
7403	£0.09	7432	£0.20	7475	£0.27	74118	£0.75	74174	£0.60
7404	£0.09	7433	£0.28	7476	£0.22	74119	£1.10	74175	£0.60
7405	£0.09	7437	£0.20	7480	£0.40	74121	£0.22	74176	£0.55
7406	£0.22	7438	£0.20	7481	£0.80	74122	£0.35	74177	£0.55
7407	£0.22	7440	£0.10	7482	£0.65	74123	£0.38	74180	£0.80
7408	£0.12	7441	£0.45	7483	£0.55	74136	£0.50	74181	£1.25
7409	£0.12	7442	£0.38	7484	£0.82	74141	£0.50	74182	£0.55
7410	£0.09	7443	£0.68	7485	£0.65	74145	£0.54	74184	£1.00
7411	£0.15	7444	£0.68	7486	£0.22	74150	£0.65	74190	£0.68
7412	£0.14	7445	£0.64	7489	£1.60	74151	£0.45	74191	£0.68
7413	£0.22	7446	£0.60	7490	£0.30	74152	£0.45	74192	£0.65
7414	£0.45	7447	£0.45	7491	£0.60	74154	£0.80	74193	£0.60
7416	£0.22	7448	£0.52	7492	£0.32	74155	£0.48	74194	£0.55
7417	£0.22	7450	£0.09	7493	£0.28	74156	£0.48	74195	£0.55
7420	£0.09	7451	£0.09	7494	£0.70	74157	£0.48	74196	£0.60
7421	£0.19	7452	£0.09	7495	£0.45	74160	£0.55	74197	£0.58
7422	£0.15	7453	£0.09	7496	£0.48	74161	£0.60	74198	£1.00
7423	£0.20	7454	£0.09	74100	£0.80	74162	£0.60	74199	£1.00
7425	£0.18	7460	£0.09	74104	£0.35	74163	£0.60	74279	£1.00
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CD4002	£0.13	CD4019	£0.35	CD4037	£0.78	CD4059	£0.15
CD4006	£0.80	CD4020	£0.80	CD4040	£0.78	CD4070	£0.15
CD4007	£0.14	CD4021	£0.75	CD4041	£0.68	CD4071	£0.15
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CD4009	£0.40	CD4023	£0.13	CD4043	£0.78	CD4081	£0.15
CD4010	£0.42	CD4024	£0.55	CD4044	£0.78	CD4082	£1.15
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CD4012	£0.14	CD4026	£1.00	CD4046	£0.95	CD4511	£0.80
CD4013	£0.35	CD4027	£0.45	CD4047	£0.75	CD4516	£0.85
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CD4015	£0.70	CD4029	£0.75	CD4050	£0.35	CD4520	£0.85
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Incorporating a short circuit protection and current limiting:  
Voltage Regulation 2-30V  
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AC Input Maximum 25V  
Eliminates the use of batteries and thus saves £1's—can be used time and time again.  
ONLY £7.60 + V.A.T.

**Brand New**  
ITT 923 Silicon Diodes 200mA 200V  
100 off — £2.00  
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**Single-Sided Fibre Glass Board**  
12" x 3 1/2" approx. 2 pcs £0.60

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16201	18 Electrolytics	4.7µF - 10µF
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All 3 at SPECIAL PRICE of £1.20*	
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16219	40 1/2W. 1K - 8.2K
16220	40 1/2W. 10K - 820K

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µA723C T099	38p	72723 14 pin Dil	38p
LM309K	£1.20		

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No. S17	5 x Miniature Slide Switches	40p*
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S4	2 x Stereo Jack Plugs	30p*	
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S7	8 x Phono Plugs Plastic	50p*	
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S9	5 x 2.5 mm Chassis Sockets (Switched)	25p*	
S11	2 x Stereo Jack Sockets with instruction leaflet for Hi/Phone connection	50p*	
S12	5 x 5 Pin 180° DIN Chassis Sockets	40p*	
S13	8 x 2 Pin DIN Chassis Sockets	50p*	
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S110	Mixed Bundle. P.C.B. Fibre-glass/paper, single and double-sided. Fantastic value	75p

## SPECIAL OFFER!

UNTESTED SEMICONDUCTOR PAKS		
Code No's shown below are given as a guide to the type of device. The devices themselves are normally unmarked.		
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No. 16132	100 200mA Sil. diodes like OA200	40p
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No. 16134	50 750mA Sil. top hat Rects. like 20 3 amp Sil. stud Rect.	40p
No. 16136	50 400mw Zeners D.O.7 case	40p
No. 16137	30 NPN Plastic trans. like BC107/8	40p*
No. 16138	30 PNP Plastic trans. like BC177/8	40p*
No. 16139	25 NPN trans. like 2N697/2N1711 T039	40p
No. 16140	25 PNP trans. like 2N2905 T039	40p
No. 16141	30 NPN trans. like 2N706 T018	40p*
No. 16143	30 NPN Plastic trans. like 2N3906	40p*
No. 16144	30 PNP Plastic trans. like 2N3905	40p*
No. 16145	30 PNP Germ. trans. like OC71	40p
No. 16147	10 NPN T03 Power trans. like 2N3055	80p

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Approx. 200 Pieces. Assorted fall-out integrated circuits, including: Logic, 74 series, Linear, Audio and D.T.L. Many coded devices, but some unmarked—you to identify.		
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MATCHED PAIRS OF PNP GERMANIUM MED. POWER TRANS		
2 amp 750mW		
VCE	VCB	HFE
NKT301	40	60
NKT302	40	60
NKT303	20	30
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From U.S.A. by **DINDY** SCREW CASED LOW NOISE CASSETTES



Order No. S53 10 for £3.50\* C90

### HEAD-CLEANING CASSETTE 45p each

RETURN OF THE AL20A		
By popular demand—this useful 5W RMS power amplifier is offered at the re-introduitory price of £2.75 + V.A.T.—Hook-up and data supplied.		

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Order No. 1609		50p each

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Metal Stud Mounting		
No. S45	50V (KBS 005)	28p
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# SALE T-TIME again!

## SPECIAL OFFER! COMPONENT PAKS

Order No.	Quantity	Price
16168	5 pieces Assorted Ferrite rods	40p
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16172	3 Micro switches	40p
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Trans types		
16177	1 pack Assorted Hardware nuts/bolts etc.	40p
16179	20 Assorted tag strips and panels	40p
16180	15 Assorted control knobs	40p
16184	15 Assorted Fuses 100mA 5 amp	40p
16188	60 1/2W resistors mixed values	40p
16187	30 metres stranded wire assorted colours	40p
S100	120 1/2 watt resistors. Pre-formed 1978 Prod. Our mix	60p*
S101	120 1/2 watt resistors. Pre-formed 1978 Prod. Mixed values	60p*
S102	250 1/2 watt resistors Range 100 ohms - 10 meg.	£2.00*
S103	220 1/2 watt resistors Range 100 ohms - 10 meg	£2.00*
S104	60 Low ohms 1/2 watt resistors 10 - 100 ohms	60p*
S105	40 Low ohms 1/2 watt resistors 10 - 100 ohms	60p*
S106	25 Mixed wirewound resistors	80p*
S107	20 Tantalum bead caps 0.22 - 100mF. Our mix	£1.00*
S108	High quality electrolytics 10mF - 500mF voltage range 15 50V Our mix 40 For	£1.00*
16204	C280 Pak Contains 50 metal 10p caps	£1.00*

## POTENTIOMETERS

### Slider 40mm TRAVEL

Order No.	Quantity	Price
16191	6 x 470 Ohm LIN Single	40p*
S24	6 x 1 K LIN Single	40p*
S25	6 x 5 K LIN Single	40p*
16193	6 x 22 K LIN Single	40p*
16196	6 x 47 K LOG Single	40p*
16194	6 x 47 K LIN Single	40p*
S27	6 x 100 K LIN Single	40p*
S28	6 x 100 K LOG Single	40p*
S29	6 x 500 K LOG Single	40p*
S32	6 x 500 K LIN Single	40p*

### Slider 60mm TRAVEL

S30	6 x 2.5 K LOG Single	40p*
S34	4 x 5 K LOG Dual	40p*
S36	4 x 100 K LOG Dual	40p*
S37	4 x 4.3 MEG LOG Dual	40p*
S34	6 x 220 K LIN Single	40p*
S95	6 x 100 K LOG Single	40p*
S96	6 x 500 K LIN Single	40p*
S38	Mixed slider pots, various values and sizes. Our mix	only £1.00*
S39	6 x Chrome slider knobs	40p*

## WIREWOUND

S90	Wirewound Pots Linear 1 Watt rating Mixed useful values 5 for	£1.00*
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## CARBON TYPES

S91	Car Radio type Dual Switched Pot P.C. mounting 100 K Lin switched 2.5 K Lin	each 60p*
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## DUAL POTS P.C. MOUNTING

6mm Shaft		
S92	4 x 100 K Lin	£1.00*
S93	4 x 100 K Log	£1.00*
16173	15 Rotary Pot Assorted	40p*
16186	25 Pre-seals Assorted Values	40p*

## ZENER PAKS

No. S55	20 mixed values 400mW Zener diodes 3-10V	£1.00
No. S56	20 mixed values 400mW Zener diodes 11-33V	£1.00
No. S57	10 mixed values 1W Zener diodes 3-10V	£1.00
No. S58	10 mixed values 1W Zener diodes 11-33V	£1.00

## SILICON POWER TRANS. N.P.N.

S97	BD371 2 Amp 1.2w. 60Vceo Hfe 40-400. Case T092 with heat tab. 5 for	60p*
S98	2N5293 R.C.A. 36w 4 Arms 75Vceo Hfe 30-120. 5 for	£1.00*

## CRYSTAL EAR PIECES

S126 Less plug £0.20

Plugs for above		
No. 16106	2.5 plastic	£0.09
No. 1697	3.5 plastic	£0.11

Mono Crystal Cartridge		
S127	GP91/1SC Special Offer	£1.00

Nickel Cadmium Rechargeable Batteries 1.25V		
S128	35000 Cell size = U2	£2.50
S129	900C Cell size = J11	£0.90
S130	Complete kit of parts to build nickel cadmium charger	£3.50

Super Save Pak		
S124	6 x 741P	£1.00
S125	5 x 555	£1.00
S138	Surplus/end of manufacturers line/pre-amp. with base, treble, volume control and circuit diagram supplied. ONCE ONLY OFFER	£1.25

S137	20 Assorted Slider Knobs—chrome/Black	£1.00
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S131	2 x 12V Relays plastic case	£0.70
S132	2 x 24V Relays plastic case	£0.60
S133	1/2 switch bank 5-way incl silver knob	£0.75

S134	2 x Magnets suitable for reed switches	£0.10
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S135	1 Veroboard pak 2 pcs 45sq. ins. approx.	£0.80
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S136	15 Veroboard pak 2 pcs 60sq. ins. approx.	£1.10
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16199	1 Veroboard pak 30sq. ins. approx.	£0.50
16200	15 Veroboard pak 30sq. ins. approx.	£0.50

Tools		
No. 2011	5 in. wire cutters	£1.55
No. 2012	5 in. long wire pliers	£1.45

## SUPER DUPER COMPONENT BOX

Min. 3lb in weight consisting of a fantastic assortment of Electronic Components—Pots, Resistors, Condensers, Switches, Relays, Board—Semiconductors, wire, hardware, etc., etc., etc.  
\*This is a large box and is sent separate to your order.\*  
£2.50 including p. & p.

## TRANSFORMERS SALE OFFER

S144	0235 240V primary 0-55V at 2A secondary	£4.50* + £1.00 p. & p.
S142	0349 240V primary 0-20V at 2A secondary	£3.50* + £0.86 p. & p.

## COMPLETE AMPLIFIER KITS:

STA 15	15 watts per channel amplifier kit Consists: 2 x AL60; 1 x PA100; 1 x SPM80; 1 x 2034; transformer; 2 x coupling capacitors. £37.70 inc. VAT. 85p P&P
STA25	25 watts per channel amplifier kit Consists: 2 x AL60; 1 x PA100; 1 x SPM120/45 - 1 x 2040; transformer; 1 x reservoir capacitor; 2 x coupling capacitors. £41.45 inc. VAT. £1.16 P&P.
STA35	35 watts per channel amplifier kit Consists: 2 x AL80; 1 x PA100; 1 x SPM120; 1 x 2041; transformer; 1 x reservoir capacitor; 2 x coupling capacitors. £48.45 inc. VAT. £1.16 P&P.
STA50	50 watts per channel amplifier kit Consists: 2 x AL120; 1 x PA200; 1 x SPM120/65 - 1 x 2041; transformer; 1 x reservoir capacitor; 2 x coupling capacitors. £58.20 inc. VAT. £1.10 P&P.
STA125	125 watts per channel amplifier kit Consists: 2 x AL250; 1 x PA200; 2 x SPM120/65 - 2 x 2041; transformers; 1 x reservoir capacitor; 2 x coupling capacitors. £72.85 inc. VAT. £1.25 P&P.

## TRANSISTORS

### BRAND NEW—FULLY GUARANTEED

Type	Price	Type	Price	Type	Price	Type	Price	Type	Price
AC107	25p	BC177	12p	BF194	*9p	TIP32A	34p	2N1613	15p
AC126	14p	BC178	12p	BF195	*9p	TIP32B	35p	2N1711	15p
AC127	16p	BC179	12p	BF196	*12p	TIP32C	36p	2N1893	28p
AC128	16p	BC182	*9p	BF197	*12p	TIP41A	34p	2N2218	15p
AC128B	24p	BC182L	*9p	BF200	25p	TIP41B	35p	2N2218A	18p
AC176	16p	BC183	*9p	BF229	22p	TIP41C	36p	2N2219	15p
AC176K	24p	BC183L	*9p	BFX84	18p	TIP42A	36p	2N2219A	18p
AC187	16p	BC184	*9p	BFY50	12p	TIP42B	37p	2N2221	15p
AC187K	26p	BC184L	*9p	8FY51	12p	TIP42C	38p	2N2221A	16p
AC188	16p	BC12	*10p	8FY52	12p	TIP2955	65p	2N2222	15p
AC188K	26p	BC12L	*10p			TIP3055	42p	2N2222A	16p
AD161/1		BC213	*10p	MPSA05	*22p	ZTX107	*6p	2N2369	10p
162 MP	80p	BC213L	*10p	MPSA06	*22p	ZTX108	*6p	2N2904	14p
AF139	30p	BC214	*10p	MPSA55	*22p	ZTX109	*7p	2N2904A	15p
AF239	30p	BC214L	*10p	MPSA56	*22p	ZTX300	*7p	2N2905	14p
BC107	6p	BC251	*10p	QC44	12p	ZTX301	*7p	2N2905A	15p
BC108	6p	BCY70	12p	QC45	12p	ZTX302	*7p	2N2906	12p
BC109	6p	BCY71	12p	OC71	9p	ZTX500	*8p	2N2906A	14p
BC118	*10p	BCY72	12p	OC72	12p	ZTX501	*10p	2N2907	12p
BC147	*8p	BD115	40p	OC75	10p	ZTX502	*12p	2N2907A	13p
BC148	*8p	BD131	*35p	OCB1	14p	2N696	10p	2N2926G	*8p
BC149	*8p	BD132	*37p			2N697	10p	2N2926Y	*7p
BC154	*16p	BF115	17p	TIP29A	35p	2N706	7p	2N3052	11p
BC157	*9p	BF167	19p	TIP29B	36p	2N706A	8p	2N3055	35p
BC158	*9p	BF173	20p	TIP29C	38p	2N708	8p	2N3702	*7p
BC159	*9p	BF180	25p	TIP30A	36p	2N1302	12p	2N3703	*7p
BC169	*10p	BF181	25p	TIP30B	37p	2N1303	15p	2N3704	*6p
BC170	6p	BF182	25p	TIP30C	38p	2N1304	15p	2N3903	*11p
BC171	*6p	BF183	25p	TIP31A	32p	2N1307	18p	2N3904	*11p
BC172	*6p	BF184	25p	TIP31B	33p	2N1308	22p	2N3905	*11p
BC173	7p	BF185	25p	TIP31C	34p	2N1309	22p	2N3906	*11p

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BA115	5p	BY100	15p	BYZ19	28p	0A95	7p	IN5401	11p
BA144	5p	BY127	*10p					IN5402	12p
BA148	10p	BYZ10	32p	0A47	5p	IN34	5p	IN5404	13p
BA173	10p	BYZ11	32p	0A70	5p	IN60	6p	IN5406	16p
BAX13/		BYZ12	32p	0A79	7p	IN914	4p	IN5407	17p
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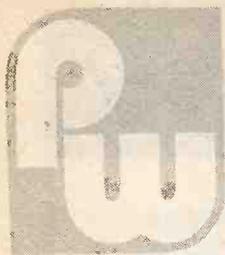
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## Our Role

**O**BVIOUSLY, with a title like *Practical Wireless*, our main aim in life must be to impart practical information—working designs, with instructions on building and using them. We don't see that as the whole story, though. We think we're here to educate you too, and this side of things takes many forms.

First there is the item which is straight theory, though often incorporating practical hints such as the *Introduction to Logic* series which concludes in this issue. This sort of article is intended to help you to understand text-books or manufacturer's data sheets, which often assume a fairly advanced level of knowledge and tend to be somewhat obscure in their treatment, or simply to keep you up to date with developments.

A second type of article is typified by the *"FM Receivers—Devices and Circuits* series, and by its predecessor on a.m. receivers. These present outline circuits and explain how they work, but do not give constructional information. Their intention is to provide a basis for further experimentation by interested readers.

Of course, the constructional articles also have quite a big teaching role, too, either in "learning by doing" or "learning by reading". This last category is particularly important, as some part of a circuit will often trigger off an idea for another project in someone's mind, or will provide a solution to a design problem that has been bugging them. And it is the reason that we sometimes publish articles which will, we think, only have direct appeal to a limited number of readers, but where the principles involved are of wider interest. The *Videowriter* project published in *PW* in 1976 was rather in this category, though as it turned out, it was built in quite large numbers and used in applications which we never foresaw.

As already hinted at above, we want to help you to understand text-books etc., and part of that understanding is the ability to take in the various abbreviations and symbols used. This is part of the reason for our decision to change, over the next few issues, to a new but now widely-adopted convention for quoting component values on circuit diagrams. This involves using the unit multiplier instead of the decimal point, so that for example  $4.7\text{k}\Omega$  becomes  $4\text{k}7$ , and  $2.2\mu\text{F}$  becomes  $2\mu 2$ . The decimal point, being just a small dot on the paper, is so easily missed, and this new method is intended to overcome the problem. Note also that the unit, which is obvious anyway, has been dropped, thus saving space on congested circuit diagrams. More details will be given in our next issue, for the benefit of those unfamiliar with the scheme.

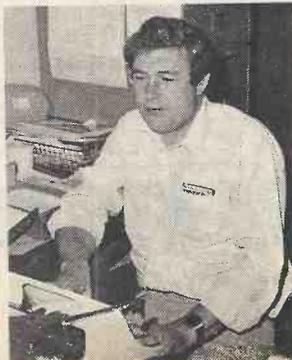
### Alan Martin—News & Production Editor

Following technical college, Alan began his working life as a draughtsman. His first contact with *PW* was as a technical artist in the latter days of F. J. Camm—the founder. After a spell in the technical publications dept. of a large electronics firm, Alan started his own company, specialising in the preparation of technical literature. He joined the staff of *PW* in 1973.

Having lived in West London for most of his life the move to Poole proved quite an upheaval for himself, wife and two daughters. However, the move has been a great success and the family have settled very happily in Christchurch.

Alan's interests include darts, swimming, the countryside and lately gardening, mainly the labouring aspect!

**PERSONALITY**



## New Battery

Chloride Silent Power Ltd. has received a £1.9 million grant from the Government to support the continued development of a revolutionary new battery in which Britain has a world lead.

This is the sodium sulphur battery, which has been under development by Chloride Silent Power, at its Runcorn research establishment, since the formation of the company—jointly owned by the Electricity Council and the Chloride Group—in 1974.

With at least three times the energy of the lead acid batteries now used in battery-operated vehicles, the new battery would give road vehicles a range of well over 100 miles compared with the 60-mile range of the present advanced Silent Karrier vehicles.

Among the many advantages of this new battery is that it uses two materials which are relatively cheap and plentiful throughout the world—sodium and sulphur. Demand for this battery will accordingly not affect supply or cost of these raw materials.

The £1.9 million grant is from the Department of Industry, under the Science and Technology Act 1965, from funds being made available under the Government's new Product and Process Development Scheme.

To date, £2.6 million has been spent by Chloride Silent Power Ltd. on sodium sulphur development, and the DOI grant is a contribution towards further development expenditure over the next four years, including the building of a pilot manufacturing plant. *Chloride Group Ltd., 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AU. Tel: 01-730 0866.*

## New Catalogues

Greenweld Electronics, the wholesale/retail suppliers of electronic components and equipment, have recently published their new 64 page catalogue. Also provided is an order form and reply paid envelope, five 10p discount vouchers and a bargain list. The catalogue costs 30p plus 15p P&P and is obtainable from: *Greenweld Electronics, 443 Millbrook Road, Southampton SO1 0HX. Tel: (0703) 772501.*

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Electronic Brokers' latest catalogue is the largest the company has ever produced, with 86 pages devoted to second user electronic test equipment, computers and peripherals, plus new electronic products. Copies of the catalogue are available, free, to bona fide companies writing in on their letter heads. For private individuals, the charge is £1, and overseas enquiries £2—to cover P&P. From: *Electronic Brokers Ltd., 49/53 Pancras Road, London NW1 2QB. Tel: 01-837 7781.*

Heathkit have their latest 40 page catalogue ready, containing scores of electronic kits dealing with radios, digital clocks, test instruments, metal locators, car tune-up systems—and a new range of personal computers. Also available is their 16 page computer brochure. Both the catalogue and brochure are obtainable for 20p each, from: *Heath (Gloucester) Ltd., Dept. PW, Bristol Road, Gloucester GL2 6EE. Tel: (0452) 29451.*

## Club news

Ormskirk Amateur Radio Club will be holding their A.G.M. on Wednesday 17 January 1979. The club meets on Wednesday evenings at members' homes; often there is a talk-in on 145.000MHz at about 2000 GMT. New members are very welcome. For further details contact: *Peter J. Kay G4GCB, Hon. Sec. OARC, 24 Laurel Avenue, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancs. Tel: Burscough 89 2416.*

Verulam Amateur Radio Club will be holding the 1979 G3PAO Memorial Lecture in the Ex Civil Defence Hall, Chequers Street Car Park, St Albans, Herts on Thursday 25 January at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. This event is held in memory of their former Chairman and Founder Member, George Slaughter, who passed away in 1977. The lecture entitled "EME Transmissions" will be delivered by Peter Blair G3LTF, and will be illustrated with slides and tape recordings. Interested parties are welcome to attend. Further details from: *Hon. Sec. G4DUS QTHR. Tel: Rickmansworth 77616.*

## Microprocessor Courses

Bleasdale Computer Systems in conjunction with Texas Instruments Ltd. is expanding its existing range of Microprocessor courses to cover the TI9900 family of microprocessors and TI990 microcomputers.

The courses are run by consultants who are actively involved in designing and building m.p.u. based systems. They are designed to give the participants in-depth practical experience in designing and building such systems. To achieve this, Bleasdale has designed and developed a range of Input/Output devices which can readily interface with microprocessors.

Currently available there is a one-week course for people with little or no previous microprocessor experience entitled "The Fundamentals of the 9900". Also a 2-week workshop entitled "Designing Systems with 9900", which is an advanced workshop for people with knowledge of microprocessors and their operation. For further information contact: *Bleasdale Computer Systems Ltd., 7 Church Path, Merton Park, London SW19. Tel: 01-540 8611.*

## Sound and Video 79

Arrangements for Sound and Video 79, the North West's Audio, Hi-Fi and Video exhibition are now well under way and more exhibitors than last year have agreed to participate.

The exhibition will be held for the 3rd year at the Excelsior Hotel, Manchester Airport from Thursday, 18 January until Sunday, 21 January and entrance will be free. For further information: *R. J. Taylor, Advertising & Promotions Manager, Hardman Radio Ltd., Head Office & Accounts, 26 Exchange Street East, Liverpool L2 3PH. Tel: 051-236 2828.*

## RAE Reprint

A reprint of the complete series—So You Want to Pass the RAE?—including details of the new examination format being introduced this year, is now available.

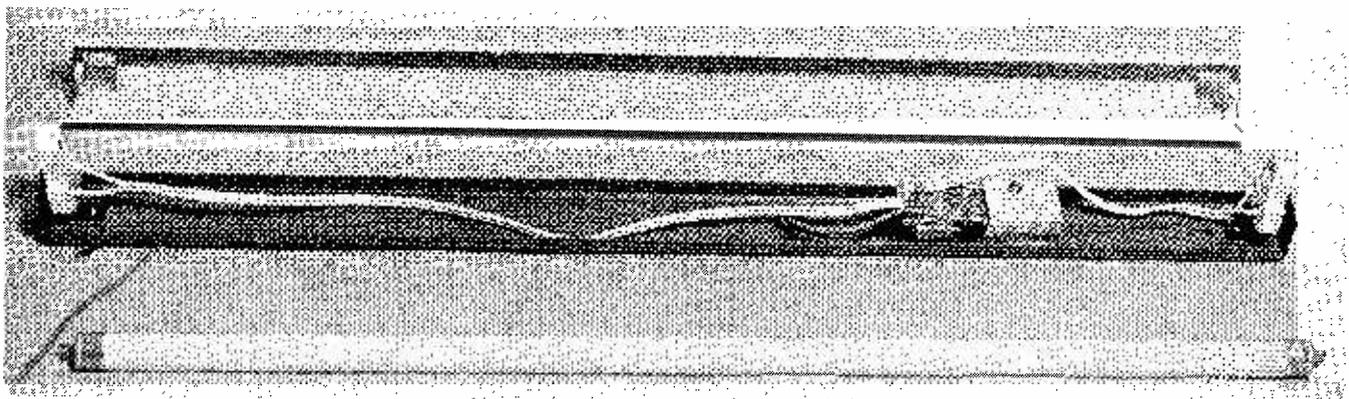
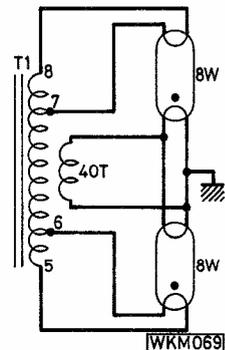
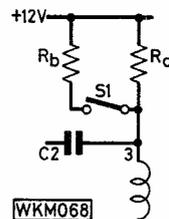
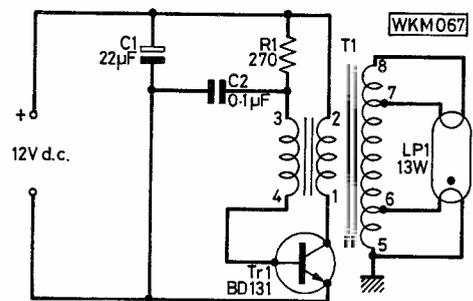
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# 12V FLUORESCENT LIGHT

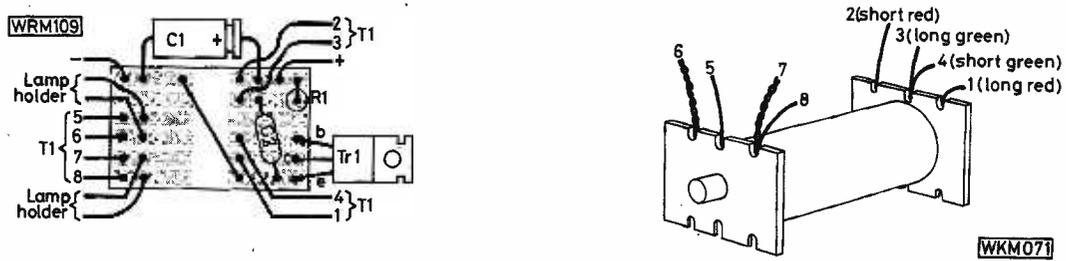
Low-voltage fluorescent lamp fittings have many applications. For boats and caravans, where often the only power supply is an accumulator, they form a permanent light source. For emergency or other intermittent use, the scope is even wider: in the home, when power failures or cuts occur; in the car, for breakdowns and punctures; when camping.

A 13 watt, 21 inch tube will provide a very useful level of lighting for a consumption of about 1 ampere from a 12 volt battery, when driven via a suitable inverter circuit such as that shown in Fig. 1. Transistor Tr1 operates as a blocking oscillator, with feedback from the primary winding (1-2) to the secondary winding (3-4) of transformer T1 applied to its base. Resistor R1 sets the base current for Tr1, with C2 providing decoupling to ensure maximum feedback efficiency.

The pulses at Tr1 collector are also coupled to T1 tertiary winding (5-6-7-8) which is connected to the fluorescent tube LP1. At switch-on, all power will be directed to the tube heaters. When operating temperature is reached the high voltage present across the secondary of the transformer will cause rapid striking of the tube and the heaters will be extinguished. Operation in this manner prevents the tube "blackening" at the ends. When the tube has struck, this voltage drops to a much lower value due to the load then imposed on T1.



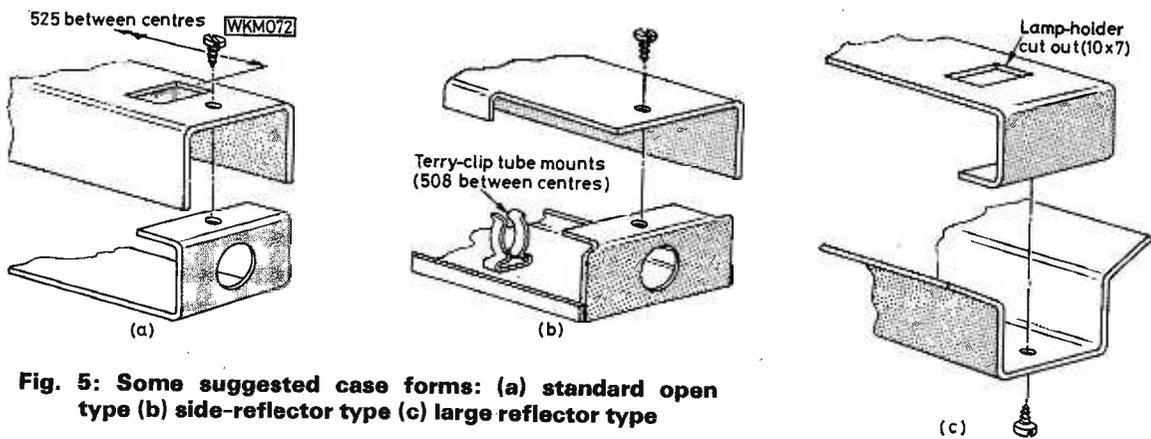
Interior view of the complete unit



**Fig. 4: Board layout and transformer terminations**



**Assembly of board, transformer and heatsink**



**Fig. 5: Some suggested case forms: (a) standard open type (b) side-reflector type (c) large reflector type**

## Components

The type of transistor used in this circuit is not too critical and any h.f. *npn* power transistor can be used. Some types (for instance the 2N3055) will tend to self-destruct if run off-load. In this case, a cure is to connect an 82V Zener diode between the emitter and collector of Tr1 (cathode to collector). With transistor types other than that specified, it may be necessary to alter the values of R1 and C2 for optimum working.

The transformer is of a special design for use with this inverter circuit, and it is not practicable for the home constructor to wind a component to meet the required tolerances.

## Dry Battery Operation

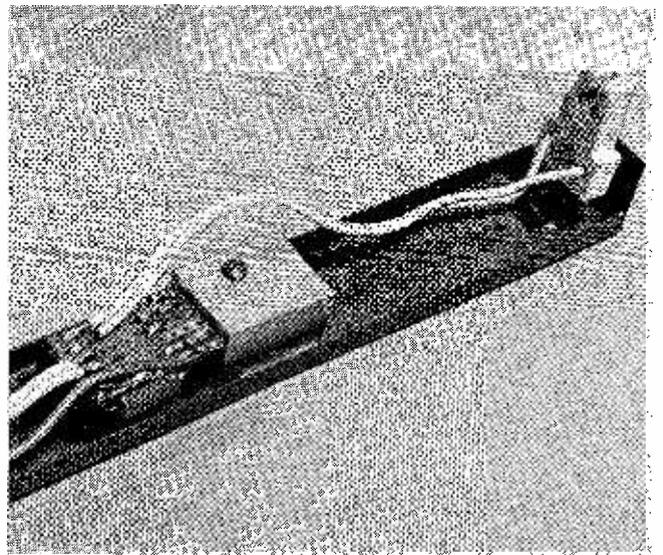
For operation from dry batteries, say two 6V hand-lamp batteries in series, the load of 1A is rather heavy, and in this application, the consumption can be reduced somewhat by increasing the value of R1. The light output will, of course, be reduced also, but a more serious drawback is a possible reluctance of the tube to strike. The easiest way to overcome this is to fit a "Start/Run" switch, which will provide increased bias current to Tr1 to get the circuit going. A suggested arrangement is shown in Fig. 2, where  $R_A$  is of the value required to give the desired running current, and  $R_B$  is switched in parallel with it for starting, by closing switch S1. The value of  $R_B$  should be chosen so that in parallel with  $R_A$  it provides a resistance of about  $270\Omega$ .

From the point of view of the mechanical design of a portable lantern powered from dry batteries, it is probably more convenient to use a shorter fluorescent tube. This may be done without loss of light output by using two 8 watt tubes. These should be connected as shown in Fig. 3, with the centre pair of heaters powered from an additional winding of about 40 turns of 34 s.w.g. enamelled wire wound on the outside of T1.

## Construction

The circuit is so simple that a printed circuit board is hardly justified. Instead, the components are mounted on a small piece of Verostrip or Veroboard. A suitable layout is shown in Fig. 4. The transformer and board may be held together by means of a double-sided sticky pad. Take care not to break the transformer leads, as these are fragile, particularly on the tertiary winding. The transistor heat-sink can be secured and insulated from the case with another double-sided sticky pad.

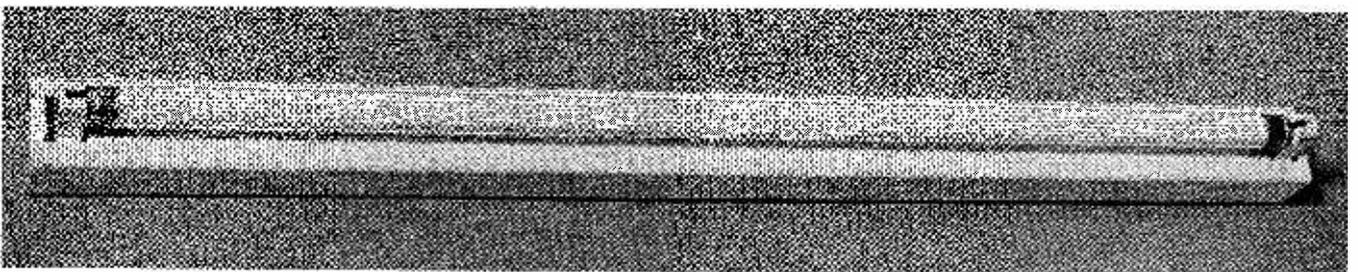
The exact form of the case metalwork will depend to a large extent on what metalworking facilities are available to the constructor. The only critical dimension is the spacing of the two lampholders. Some suggested designs are shown in Fig. 5.



## ★ components

<b>Resistors</b>
R1: 270 $\Omega$ 1W (or 2 x 500 $\Omega$ 2W in parallel)
<b>Capacitors</b>
C1: 22 $\mu$ F 63V tubular electrolytic
C2: 0.1 $\mu$ F 250V polyester
<b>Transistors</b>
Tr1: BD149
<b>Miscellaneous</b>
T1: 12V 13W inverter transformer (G. F. Milward, 359 Alum Rock Road, Birmingham B8 3DR)
LP1: 13W 2ft fluorescent tube with 2 bi-pin holders
Verostrip or Veroboard, 0.1in matrix, 16 x 26mm
Materials for case and heat-sink

To ensure reliable starting, one end of the tube must be connected to one side of the 12V supply and/or the lamp case. This is achieved in the layout of Fig. 4 by the circuit board mounting screw. If the lamp is to be used in a vehicle on which the positive supply line is connected to vehicle chassis, then care must be taken that no connection exists between the 12V negative supply line and the lamp case. In the two-tube version, this "earthing" connection should be made to one side of the centre pair of heaters, as shown in Fig. 3. ●



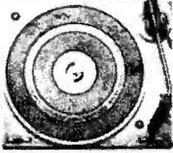
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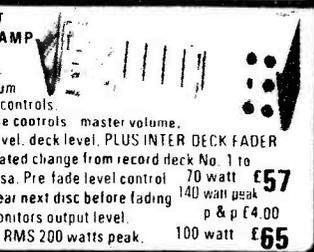
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# DIGITAL AUDIO AMPLIFICATION

Gordon J. KING

Almost all audio and hi-fi amplifiers employ a push-pull output stage biased either to class A or quasi-class B (which is rather like class AB), so that the analogue input signal swings over a fairly linear part of the transfer characteristic. To combat residual non-linearity and hence to reduce the distortion a liberal amount of negative feedback is commonly used, and with quasi-class B designs, which are currently the most common, the output transistors are biased for a small quiescent current to avoid transfer characteristic discontinuity at the centre, low-level point where the characteristics of the two output transistors join. Power amplifiers of this kind are well known and it is not here intended to dwell on their design.

A less well-known technique converts the analogue input signal to a digital format which is used merely to switch the push-pull output transistors on and off. The digital format is a pulse train derived from a stable squarewave generator, and the width of the pulses is caused to vary in direct sympathy with the audio information carried by the analogue signal, which is the usual output from a gramophone pickup, tape deck, radio tuner, etc.

The analogue signal is reconstituted for driving the loudspeaker by passing the encoded pulse chain through a low-pass filter which, while greatly attenuating the relatively high-frequency pulses, yields an output which is proportional to the average value of the pulse chain at any instant. Because the squarewave pulse chain is effectively modulated by the analogue signal, the system is generally referred to as pulse width modulation, or p.w.m. for short.

It is not new from the technical point of view, for amplifiers adopting the principle were referred to way back in 1947<sup>1</sup>, well before the days of fast-switching transistors, and more recently in 1960 in terms of a practical design<sup>2</sup>. Since then one or two commercial amplifiers have appeared for a short time, later to be taken off the market as the result of various shortcomings, not the least of which being a high level of radiation of the harmonics of the squarewave switching signals. Audio amplifiers are designated class A, class B and class AB, and since class C refers to r.f. amplification, the next class in line was class D, so in the early days the first p.w.m. amplifiers were designated class D.

It is of interest to note that the Dynaharmony range of amplifiers by Japanese Hitachi have been designated class E in the US. This is because they employ an auxiliary output amplifier which automatically switches to a higher voltage supply on high amplitude signals as a means of combating bad distortion on the peaks, which other am-

plifiers of similar main-amplifier power may well clip; also, of course, because the letter "E" was the next in line! This range of amplifiers is also referred to as class "G" (mainly in the UK), but there is no connection with class D.

## Principle of PWM

With the advent of fast-switching power transistors and more sophisticated circuit techniques there has been a revival of interest in p.w.m. amplifiers, and one or two excellent designs, including the recent Sony TA-N88<sup>3</sup>, are on the market. The time is now ripe to explore the basic principle of class D operation, to see whether there are advantages (or, indeed, disadvantages) with respect to ordinary analogue power amplification, and to investigate some of the performance parameters of a commercial design.

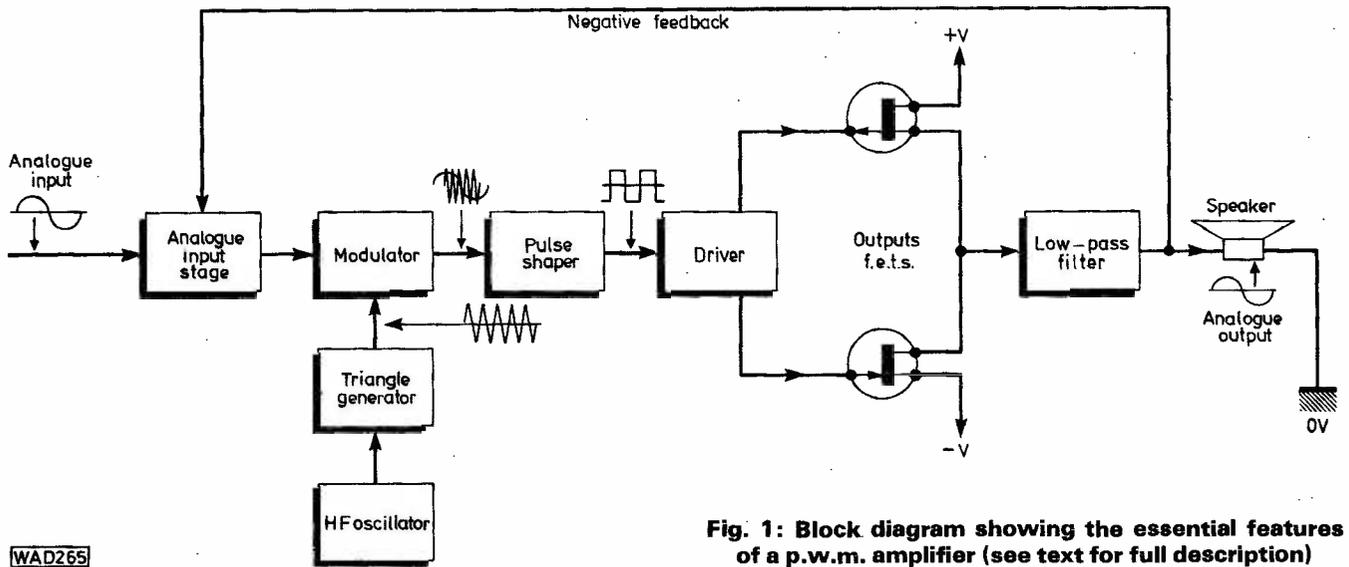
An impression of the make-up of a p.w.m. amplifier is given by the elementary block diagram in Fig. 1. Here the switching devices are *p*- and *n*-channel V-type junction f.e.t.s (a complementary pair) which are switched on and off by the driver stage feeding the gates.

There are various ways in which the pulse chain can be modulated by the analogue signal, such as by a Miller integrator (an arrangement similar to this being found in the Sony TA-N88) or by a "comparator" stage, shown in the diagram by the block labelled Modulator.

The pulse chain starts life as a high-frequency sinewave, and is then changed to a square or triangle wave, depending on the nature of the modulation, after which it is buffered before being applied to the modulating system. A transformer feedback type of oscillator may be used, though, from the point of view of subsequent filtering, there can be merit in using a crystal-controlled oscillator. One design<sup>4</sup>, in fact, employs a television subcarrier reference crystal which runs at 4.433618MHz, which is followed by a divide-by-ten TTL stage to yield a frequency of 443kHz. The Sony TA-N88 amplifier employs a transformer-coupled oscillator running at 500kHz.

Clearly, the switching rate must be much higher than the highest audio frequency. The higher the frequency the better, since this makes it easier to achieve high attenuation of residual ripple signal at the loudspeaker terminals. However, there are constraints related to the switching speed of the output devices and the losses involved if the switching rate is too high. With contemporary power transistors a fundamental switching rate of about 500kHz, corresponding to 2 $\mu$ s, seems appropriate. This also satisfies the requirement for an upper-frequency response extending to around 50kHz before the analogue output is unduly affected by the low-pass filter action. Moreover, if negative feedback is taken after the low-pass filter, as shown in the diagram, the phase shift of the filter at the frequency of unity gain must not be so large as to incite instability. The use of a high switching rate also helps in this respect. When the pulse chain is derived from a very stable oscillator, such as a crystal-controlled oscillator, very high-*Q* filtering can be employed for ripple rejection which, of course, is not possible if the oscillator is likely to drift slightly in frequency.

With the Miller integrator type of modulator, the tops of the pulses widen and the spaces between them shorten as the amplitude of the analogue signal increases and, conversely, as the amplitude of the signal falls so the tops of the pulses shorten and the spaces between them widen. Analogue signal is continuously changing in amplitude as the information carried by the signal changes, so this is encoded in terms of the pulse chain continuously changing in effective mark/space ratio. Information on the frequency components (rise-time, etc.) of the analogue signal is encoded in terms of rate-of-change of the mark/space ratio



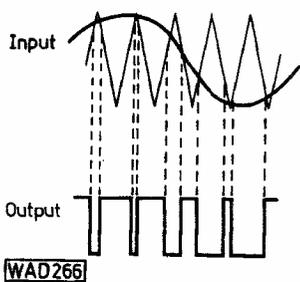
**Fig. 1: Block diagram showing the essential features of a p.w.m. amplifier (see text for full description)**

of the pulse chain. When there is no analogue input the pulse chain assumes a steady-state 50:50 mark/space ratio, which means that the tops of the pulses and the spaces between them are equal.

The Sony p.w.m. amplifier uses a dual-f.e.t. in differential configuration which, with current regulators and a bipolar stage, forms an integrator to which are applied the analogue and squarewave signals. It works by subtracting the inputs from the output, and has a bandwidth from d.c. to several megahertz. This is followed by a comparator composed of an i.c. containing three differential amplifiers, and its job is to produce the modulated pulse chain for switching the output devices via a driver amplifier. The configuration ensures that the rise-time of the pulse formation is less than 20ns.

Another method of modulation<sup>4</sup>, which is that shown in Fig. 1, works in the manner shown in Fig. 2. As already noted, the analogue and pulse information, the latter first converted to a triangular wave format, are fed to the two input ports of the comparator or modulator. A simple sinewave analogue signal is shown in the diagram for the sake of rendering the description more apparent. In a practical situation, of course, the analogue signal would be continuously changing in amplitude and rate in accordance with the audio information. To ensure a faithful conversion to digital, and hence to minimise the amount of false information on the reconstituted analogue signal, a primary requirement is for the triangle wave to be very linear.

The diagram reveals that the output pulse chain encoding is a function of the amplitude of the analogue input



**Fig. 2: Showing one method of encoding a pulse chain with information carried by an analogue signal**

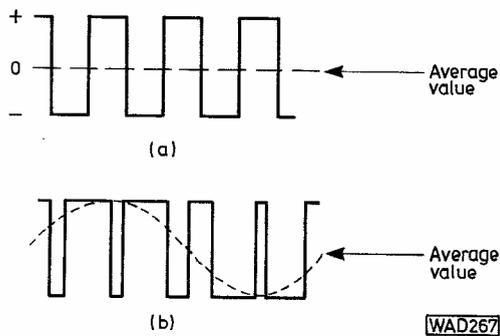
at any instant resulting from the corresponding changes in "slicing" level with respect to the constant-rate triangle wave input. The implication here is that the triangle wave rate is about four and a half times greater than the frequency of the analogue signal. Thus, if the triangle wave repetition rate were, say, 500kHz, then the analogue signal being encoded would have a frequency of around 111kHz. At lower analogue frequencies, of course, there would be many more triangle wave cycles per analogue cycle.

To avoid the former happening, the frequency of the analogue signal fed to the modulator for encoding is deliberately restricted by low-pass filtering. The audio spectrum is generally regarded as extending from 20Hz to 20kHz, and an amplifier with a small-signal response, at least, of less than this would certainly not be regarded as "hi-fi" by the devotees. However, having said that, it is of interest to note that even a high-quality stereo f.m. transmission carries little or no information below about 30Hz, while at the upper end of the spectrum the output is swiftly attenuated above about 15kHz or, perhaps, a trifle higher owing to the demands of pilot tone filtering.

Well-recorded gramophone records played with a top-flight pickup system fail to extend noticeably above the f.m. audio spectrum. Output below 50Hz is tamed by the specified low-frequency 3180 $\mu$ s time-constant of the RIAA equalisation, while the more recent IEC requirement calls for further filtering at 20Hz, corresponding to a time-constant of 7957 $\mu$ s. It is thus unlikely whether the equivalent rise-time of most of the best programme material fed into a hi-fi amplifier is quicker than about 15 $\mu$ s.

Nevertheless, to avoid this rise-time being further slowed down by rise-time limitations of the amplifier to which the programme material is fed, it is generally considered that the amplifier's small-signal frequency response at the -3dB points should extend to about 40kHz, corresponding to a rise-time of just under 9 $\mu$ s. Some amplifiers boast a small-signal rise-time of less than 2 $\mu$ s, corresponding to an upper-frequency response around 200kHz. It is my judgement that this is totally unnecessary and can detract from, rather than enhance, the reproduction.

It is not unreasonable, therefore, to filter the analogue signal before it is applied to the modulator so that the small-signal response is down to -3dB at 40kHz or, perhaps, a little higher (say, 50kHz). The p.w.m. amplifier design in Ref. 4 specifies a Bessel input filter for control-



**Fig. 3: The analogue of the pulse chain is represented by the average value of the pulse chain, which is shown at (a) with respect to 50:50 mark/space ratio (zero analogue) and at (b) when the pulse chain is encoded with sinewave signal, as produced by the process shown in Fig. 2**

ling the input signal rise-time. As with any hi-fi amplifier, the design should aim for the widest open-loop bandwidth of the **power amplifier** section to prevent the effects of so-called transient intermodulation distortion (t.i.d.) which, to some extent, establishes the small-signal upper-frequency response of the analogue signal at the modulator input. To avoid phase distortion at infra-bass frequencies it is now common practice to employ direct coupling throughout the power amplifier system; this presents no problem.

## Digital-to-Analogue Conversion

Referring to Fig. 1, the encoded pulse chain is fed to the output f.e.t.s merely to switch them on and off. In Fig. 3 a pulse chain of 50:50 mark/space ratio is shown at (a). Since this chain is perfectly symmetrical its average value is equal to half the peak-to-peak value which is zero. This is the condition when there is no analogue signal input.

Since this chain is fed to the loudspeaker through the low-pass output filter the current flowing through the loudspeaker is zero (the symmetrical switching of the complementary output f.e.t.s also ensures that this is the case). The filter, of course, greatly attenuates the switching component, and when the pulse chain is encoded the average value corresponds to the analogue input signal, as shown at (b) in Fig. 3, which is the pulse chain resulting from the sinewave modulation in Fig. 2. The result is that current corresponding to the analogue signal flows through the loudspeaker, along with a little switching residual, as shown in Fig. 4.

With a suitably high switching rate and well-designed filtering the switching residual is generally much lower than that implied by Fig. 4. The design aim is for a rejection ratio of 100dB which, referred to 100W output into 8 ohms, corresponds to a residual as small as 283 $\mu$ V; but not all commercial designs appear yet to be meeting this aim. The design in Ref. 4, aided by the crystal-controlled switching rate source, is one which has, at least, achieved the aim.

Although a higher level of ripple appears not to affect the reproduction (since it is well outside the response capability of the loudspeaker and up in the r.f. realm), it can cause medium-frequency radio interference owing to radiation from the amplifier direct and from the loudspeaker cables. This was one of the major problems with early p.w.m. amplifier designs. Some produced more than 1V of ripple signal, which is well above the requirements of international standards.

## Advantages and Disadvantages of PWM

What are the advantages of p.w.m.? Probably the main advantage is high efficiency, which means that powerful amplifiers can be made in small size without undue overheating. With "linear" amplification the power transistors are not working very efficiently because a relatively high average power is dissipated by them. The maximum efficiency of push-pull class A working is only 50%. The efficiency is improved by class B, it working out to 78.5% excluding the driving and pre-amplifiers, of course<sup>5</sup>.

Because the output transistors of p.w.m. remain either bottomed or cut-off for most of the time the efficiency is very high. Maximum theoretical efficiency is 100% (output power the same as the input power). In a practical design an efficiency of up to 90% is realisable. The loss stems mainly from the saturation voltage and the peak current in the "on" state. If it is assumed that these are respectively 1V and 6A, then the power dissipated by the transistors would be a mere 6W, while the peak power into an 8 $\Omega$  load would be 288W. Other small losses result from transient switching dissipation.

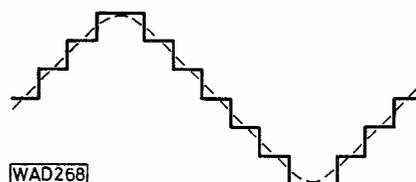
The Sony TA-N88 p.w.m. power amplifier will deliver 2 x 160W average power into 8 $\Omega$  loads yet its size is only about half that of a 2 x 100W quasi-class B amplifier. In comparison with a class A amplifier of similar power yield, the Sony has a power-to-weight ratio advantage of four or five times!

A quasi-class B amplifier is inherently a very non-linear animal in open-loop mode, which means that a high degree of negative feedback needs to be applied to bring its performance up to an acceptable hi-fi standard. Sadly, negative feedback is not a cure for all amplifier troubles and, contrary to some opinion, there are times when an increase in feedback can actually impair the performance.

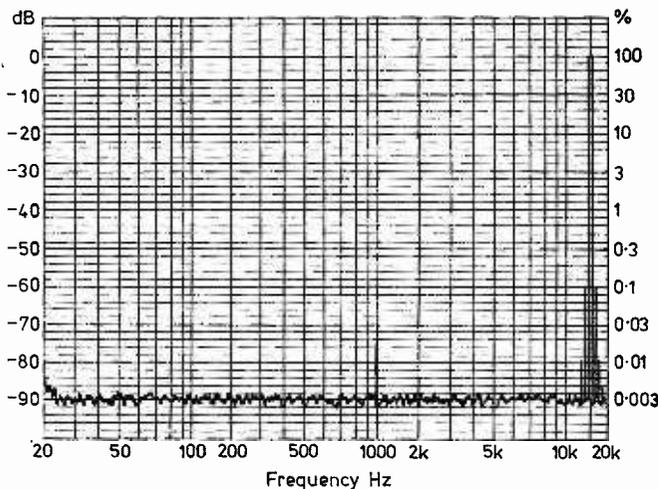
On the other hand, a class A amplifier behaves much more linearly in open-loop mode, which means that it requires less feedback for a given fidelity. This is undoubtedly one of the reasons why class A power amplification has been favoured by devotees over the years. When a lot of power is required for driving very inefficient loudspeakers in large rooms, for example, then the major disadvantage of this type of amplifier is the abysmal power-to-weight ratio—very large and massive heat sinks being required by the output transistors along with large transformers to yield the high standing power.

A well-designed p.w.m. amplifier is endowed with virtually the same open-loop linearity as a class A amplifier yet it possesses a far more acceptable power-to-weight ratio. Hence, a p.w.m. amplifier calls for a relatively small amount of negative feedback merely to improve upon an already good intrinsic linearity rather than to correct for the shortcomings of some quasi-class B designs, which is the hallmark of favourable auditioning.

The greatest disadvantage is really related to the switching signal and the probability of this being radiated



**Fig. 4: Reconstituted analogue signal at the output carrying residual switching signal. In practice, the level of the residual is well below that implied by the waveform**



**Fig. 5: CCIF intermodulation distortion produced by the Sony TA-N88 p.w.m. amplifier when delivering 38V peak composite signal across a load corresponding to a "difficult" loudspeaker of about 5 ohms modulus of impedance and 60 degrees phase-angle**

if it is not suppressed properly. Most of the earlier problems have been resolved by the advent of new solid-state devices, including fast-switching i.c.s and power transistors.

Non-linearity arises when the pulse chain varies in amplitude or width from causes which are not directly related to the analogue modulation process. When this happens harmonic and intermodulation components and products appear across the output load, but by the use of suitably fast switching devices allied with competent design these aberrations are minimised. Normal feedback is possible from the analogue output to the analogue input, as shown in Fig. 1.

In some designs the feedback voltage is obtained prior to the output low-pass filter, as in the Sony, and with others the voltage is picked up after the filter, as in Fig. 1. The latter would appear to have merit, provided the filter does not cause phase shift likely to evoke instability, because it keeps the source impedance low and hence the damping factor high.

## Limiting and Protection

Input overload can result in the loss of switching pulses at the extremes of modulation, accompanied by a severe rise in distortion and an increase in r.f. emission. To avoid this, most p.w.m. amplifiers are equipped with a "soft limiting" circuit in series with the analogue input signal. In the Sony, for example, this consists of a high-speed f.e.t. attenuator whose gate is connected to current sensors in the output stage. When the current threshold is exceeded the attenuator is activated so that the level of analogue signal reaching the modulator is reduced.

Thermal and short-circuit protection circuit are also included. These operate a relay whose contacts are in series with the loudspeaker, so that in the event of an output short-circuit under heavy drive or an abnormal rise in temperature the contacts open and disconnect the load. The relay is also connected to an energising delay circuit so that the contacts close after the power supply has fully

stabilised. This avoids the switch-on "thump" from the loudspeaker when the power switch is turned on.

## Auditioning

How do p.w.m. amplifiers compare in reproduction with more conventional class A and quasi-class B designs? Of the p.w.m. amplifiers that we have auditioned we have found the sound quality to be very close to that expected from a well-designed class A transistor or valve amplifier.

## Lab Performance

As already noted, the Sony TA-N88 produced a full 160+160W into 8Ω loads to the threshold of heavy distortion rise (just prior to the peak clipping point) at any frequency, at least, within 20Hz to 20kHz. Second harmonic distortion at 1kHz and with both channels delivering 160W was -70dB, corresponding to about 0.03%. Odd-order and higher-order distortion was negligible, being equal to or below the residual of the switching signal at the output.

At 10kHz and the same two-channel power the distortion was, as would be expected, higher, corresponding to about 0.25% second harmonic, which predominated. The third harmonic was about 64dB down, corresponding to about 0.063%.

At lesser output power all distortion components shrank towards the level of the switching signal residual, which measured about 100mV r.m.s. across the output of one channel (less across the other). Although rather on the high side, the reproduction was not affected, but radio interference could just be detected on medium frequencies when a receiver with a ferrite rod aerial was placed a short distance away from the amplifier (a really tough test!).

The spectrogram in Fig. 5 shows the measured CCIF intermodulation distortion with 38V peak of composite two-tone signal across an impedance load corresponding to a "difficult" loudspeaker. There was a rise in amplitude of the IM products with increasing output voltage.

The amplifier required just under 1.5V r.m.s. for full drive; stereo separation was as high as 88dB, and residual mains ripple below 90dB. The damping factor was not too good, being 28 at 40Hz and 2.3 at 20kHz. This could possibly be improved by taking the feedback from the output side of the low-pass filter. Small-signal bandwidth was from d.c. to almost 90kHz (-3dB), after which the roll-off rate was 12dB/octave, corresponding to about 4μs, which we regarded as unnecessarily fast.

The amplifier is equipped with two pairs of complementary junction V-f.e.t.s in parallel. These devices or MOSFET power devices are ideally suitable for p.w.m. amplifiers, as also are fast-switching power bipolar transistors. However, with the inevitable price reduction of the V-f.e.t. species of power transistors, such as the Hitachi V-MOSFET, we are almost certain to experience a revival of the p.w.m. amplifier, especially when the pundits fully realise just how fine such an amplifier can audition. ●

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# Follow-up to

# P<sub>w</sub> Wide range CAPACITANCE METER

Ian HICKMAN

Requests from readers for an even wider capacitance measurement range set the author thinking and here is the result—an add-on unit which enables the Wide Range Capacitance Meter (PW Sept '76 issue) to measure capacitors up to 30 millifarads, i.e. 30 000 $\mu$ F. Modifications to build the extra ranges into the original capacitance meter were hardly practical and this add-on unit involves only minimal changes, namely the addition of two 2mm sockets to the front panel.

To avoid possible confusion, component references for the extender follow on from those of the original capacitance meter.

## Circuit Description

Fig. 2 shows the circuit diagram of the extender. It works on the same principle as described in the original article. The capacitance under test shunts a voltage waveform generator of known source impedance. The lowest impedance available in the original circuit was about 220 $\Omega$ , limiting the measurement range to 10 $\mu$ F or 30 $\mu$ F with the function switch at x3. The extender unit takes the test waveform (at 220 $\Omega$  source impedance) via an extra socket on the front panel of the meter and feeds it to a 220 $\Omega$  attenuator chain; the extra loading of this chain attenuates the test waveform by 6dB. The chain is tapped at points where, looking in, one 'sees' a 22 $\Omega$  source resistance (x10 socket) and a 2.2 $\Omega$  source resistance (x100 socket). The latter point represents a further 40dB of attenuation of the test waveform and IC1 provides 46dB of gain, so producing the same voltage at its output as would have appeared at the red C<sub>x</sub> terminal originally. The op. amp. output has a d.c. blocking capacitor whose reactance at the frequency of the test waveform is very low, and by setting the range switch to 10–100pF, the f.e.t. Tr5 is biased via R22 but 'sees' a.c. signals only from the op. amp. Clearly, a 100 $\mu$ F capacitor connected to the x10 terminal, or 1000 $\mu$ F at the x100 terminal, will produce the same attenuation (in dB) of the test waveform as 10 $\mu$ F connected to the original meter (on the 1–10 $\mu$ F range).

Push button S3 reduces the source resistance at the x100 socket from 2.2 $\Omega$  to 0.22 $\Omega$  and raises the gain from the op. amp. to 66dB (x2000) to compensate. This provides a x1000 range, at reduced accuracy. This is because of the reduced bandwidth of the op. amp. when supplying the extra 20dB of gain. In particular, the x1000 range should only be used in conjunction with the x3 range of the function switch, as on x3 the test waveform frequency is reduced by a factor of 3. Even so, R46 has been set at 430k $\Omega$  instead of the theoretical 390k $\Omega$ . The latter value should be used if you use a high-speed op. amp. such as the LM318 instead of a 741. If using a 741,

it should be a full spec. device from a reputable source—not a 'reject' or 'fall out'!

Note that no polarising voltage is applied to the capacitor under test, thus avoiding the inconvenience of a 6 seconds time constant for charging when measuring 30 000 $\mu$ F! The amplitude of the test wave form applied to the capacitor under test is so small that the absence of a polarising voltage is of no consequence.

## Construction

The author used a diecast box and though only just deep enough internally, this fits neatly in front of the capacitance meter leaving the controls unobstructed. Any similar sized box would do, but metal is preferable to plastic. The box is connected to the black C<sub>x</sub> terminal, i.e. the case of the capacitance meter. Two additional connectors are required on the capacitance meter, one to make the 12V supply available to the extender and one to

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**This unit is an add-on extender for the Wide Range Capacitance Meter described in Practical Wireless September 1976. It is presented for the benefit of those readers who have already built the main instrument. We regret that the issue in which the meter originally appeared is no longer available.**

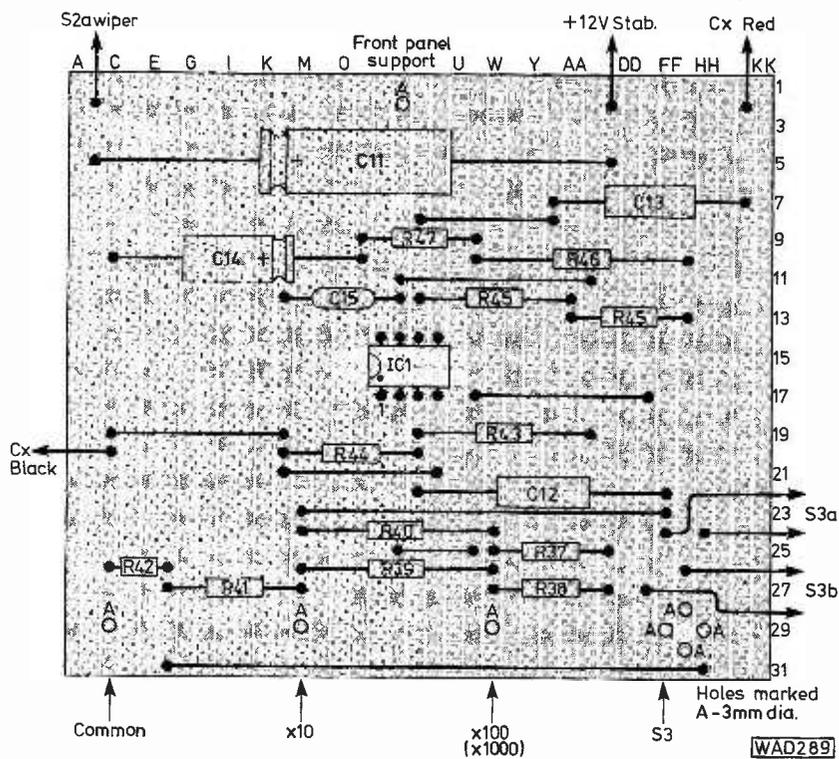
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supply the test waveform. These were added one either side of the existing C<sub>x</sub> terminals.

The circuitry of the extender was made up on a piece of 0.1 inch pitch Veroboard as shown in the component layout drawing Fig. 1 and mounted on the three 4mm sockets and S3 along one edge of the board, the other edge being supported by a long 6BA bolt fastened to the back of the front panel with Araldite.

Resistors R41 and R42 may be wound using Eureka wire: 126mm of 36 s.w.g. gives 1.98 $\Omega$  and 124mm of 24 s.w.g. gives 0.22 $\Omega$ . This allows 2.5mm each end for soldering. Alternatives are to use 3.9 $\Omega$ , 4.7 $\Omega$  and 27 $\Omega$  in parallel for R41 and a 0.22 $\Omega$   $\frac{1}{2}$ W metal film resistor for R42.

On completion of the extender, check that it will not short the stabilised supply of the Capacitance Meter, connect up and switch the Meter to x1 and 10–100 $\mu$ F. Check that the voltage at the junction of R45 and C13 is about 6V. The meter should read off-scale to the right. Connect a 20 $\mu$ F capacitor between the x10 terminal and common and check that the meter reads in the region of 20 $\mu$ F (i.e., 2 on the upper scale). Note that the tolerance on electrolytics is typically  $-20 + 50\%$ , so precision cannot be expected!

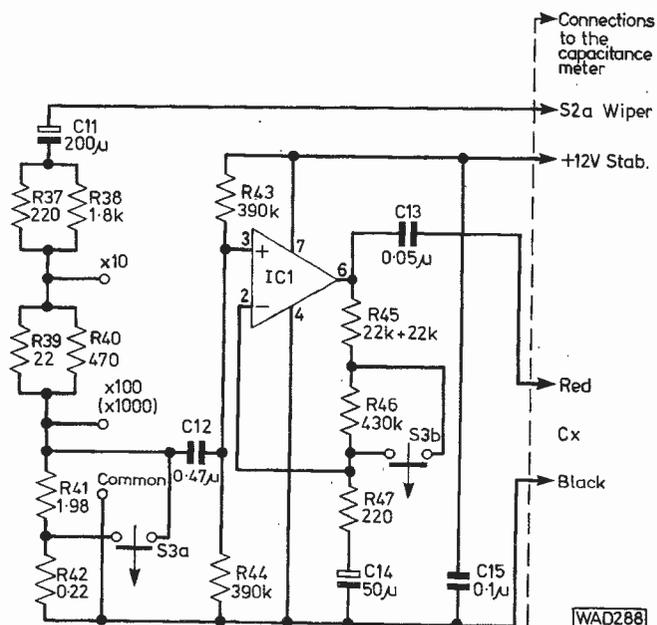


**Fig. 1: The component layout of the add-on millifarad extender unit. 0.1 inch pitch Veroboard is used. The 741 op. amp. i.c. is shown as an 8 pin d.i.l. package but the alternative 14 pin d.i.l. package can also be used on the same board layout**

**Fig. 2: The circuit diagram of the extender unit**

## ★ components

Resistors			
2% 1/2W metal oxide or thick film			
22Ω	1	R39	
220Ω	2	R37, 47	
22kΩ	2	R45 <sub>a, b</sub>	
430kΩ	1	R46	
5% 1/2W			
470Ω	1	R40	
1.8kΩ	1	R38	
390kΩ	2	R43, 44	
see text for R41 and R42			
Capacitors			
Disc ceramic			
0.1μF	1	C15	
Polyester			
0.04μF	1	C13	47μF 10V
0.47μF	1	C12	220μF 10V
Electrolytic			
			C14
			C11
Semiconductors			
Integrated Circuits			
741	1	IC1	
Miscellaneous			
2 pole min. push button switch (RS 337-942) (1)			
Diecast box 114 x 89 x 55mm approx. (1)			
Veroboard 0.1 inch pitch 36 tracks x 32 holes			
2mm sockets (5)			



## Use

Following the above checks, the unit is ready for use, as there is no calibration to carry out. Capacitors in the range 10–100μF can be measured by connecting between 'common' and 'x10', whilst capacitors between 100μF and 1000μF (3000μF with the function switch at x3) are connected between 'common' and 'x100'. These terminals are also used for measuring capacitors between 3000μF and 30 000μF, with press button S3 depressed and the function switch at x3. As the reactance of 30 000μF at the test frequency is only tens of milliohms, good quality plugs and crocodile clips with short stout leads should be used for connecting the capacitance under test to the extender.

**SPECIAL  
PRODUCT  
REPORT**



**DM235  
DIGITAL  
MULTIMETER**



Every person who claims to be actively interested in wireless or electronics needs some form of multi-test meter. If you are richer than most then this will probably be the ubiquitous Avo Model 8, for long regarded as the Rolls Royce of conventional multimeters. For the not quite so well off a lower priced oriental meter will suffice, some of them having a bewildering array of ranges—my own one even tests transistors.

The digital multimeter, or d.m.m. for short, is relatively new to the amateur scene mainly because of its very high initial cost for an instrument with a limited number of ranges.

Recently, however, several such instruments have been launched by manufacturers obviously aimed at the amateur segment of the market. The Sinclair DM235 is such an instrument and forms the subject of this test report.

A 3½ digit, six function multimeter, the DM235 is both a bench-top and a fully portable unit. The carrying handle is arranged to act as a leg to tilt the case for easier reading of the display. With a set of dry batteries in the rear mounted

compartment the instrument can be carried very easily with the front uppermost. The test leads fit neatly into a space behind the battery compartment panel when not in use. If you intend to carry the meter around a lot then an ever-ready carrying case is available as an extra. In use the DM235 proved to be simple to operate and the display was easily read with the unit on the bench top. Range selection is by two rotary switches, one of which acts as a function selector and other determines the full scale reading. A slide switch selects d.c./Ω or a.c. readings and a second slide switch controls the power to the unit.

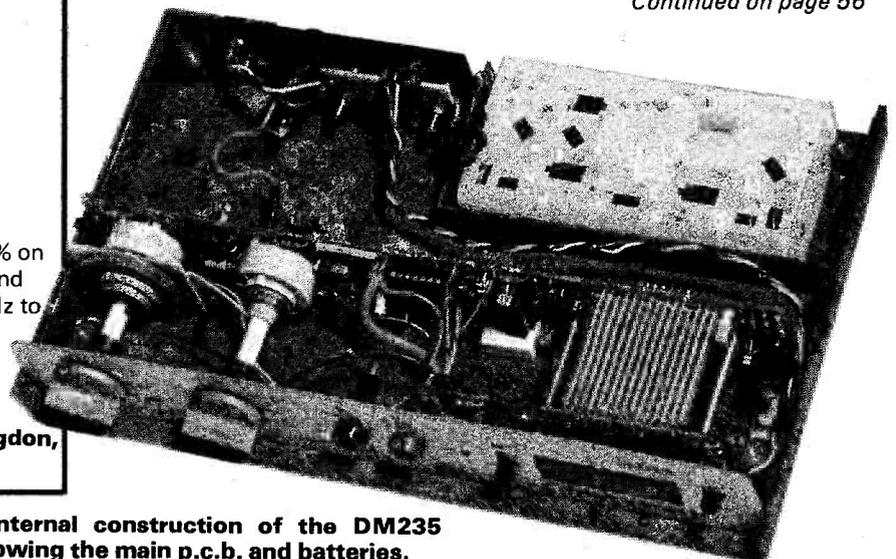
The test leads provided are the usual type with a banana plug at one end and a spring-loaded hook-grip at the other end. I found these to be more of a nuisance than useful. They never seemed to grip properly when I tried to hook them over a test point but when finally in position they seemed reluctant to let go. Also they proved difficult to use as a probe as the wire hook tends to get hidden inside the plastic end. The wander plugs fitted tightly into the two sockets provided on the front panel.

**★ specifications**

- Voltage:** 1mV to 1kV d.c.  
1mV to 750V a.c.
- Current:** 1μA to 1A d.c.  
1μA to 1A a.c.
- Resistance:** 1Ω to 20MΩ
- Diode test:** 0.1μA to 1mA
- Input impedance:** 10MΩ
- Basic accuracy:** 0.5% on 2V range; 1% on all other d.c. ranges and resistance; 1.5% 30Hz to 10kHz a.c. ranges
- Size:** 254 × 147 × 41mm
- Weight:** 682gm

**Sinclair Radionics Ltd., St. Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE17 4HJ.**

*Continued on page 56*



**The internal construction of the DM235 showing the main p.c.b. and batteries.**

NEXT MONTH IN...

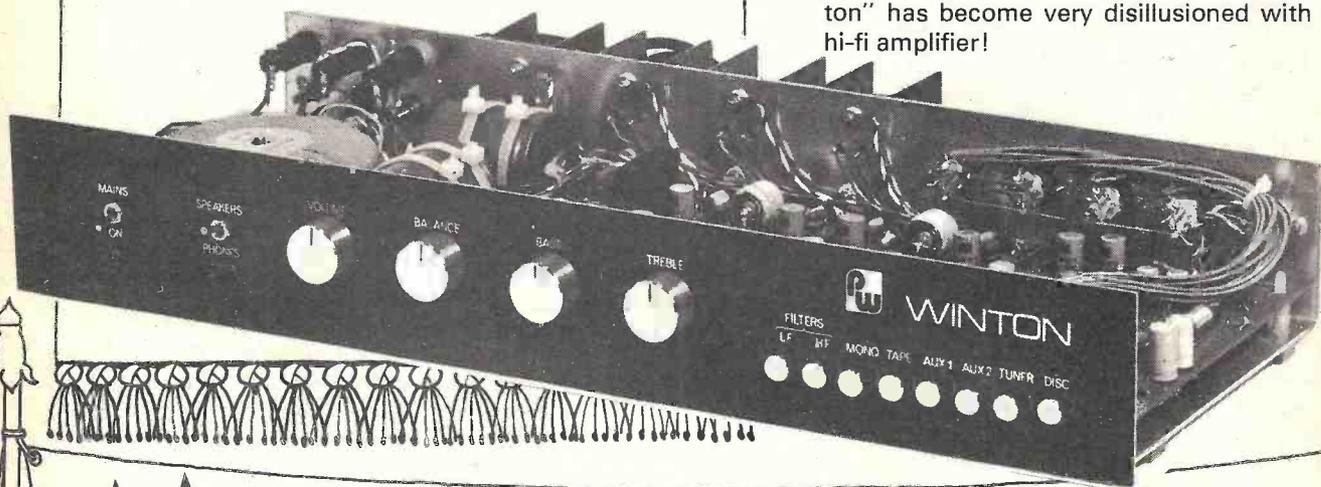
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## DEVICES & CIRCUITS

### PART 2

M. J. DARBY

In the first part of this feature we saw that the front-end unit of a receiver provides a 10.7MHz intermediate frequency output signal. The i.f. stages must amplify, filter and limit this signal before it is demodulated. Current trends are strongly towards the use of one or two integrated circuits in the i.f. stages rather than the use of discrete components, whilst ceramic filters are generally employed rather than inductance-capacitance tuned circuits, since they provide the required selectivity without the necessity for alignment.

In most designs a single quadrature-tuned circuit is employed in the demodulator circuit and this must be aligned so that it resonates at 10.7MHz. A few years ago Signetics produced an integrated circuit phase-locked loop, the NE563, which required no tuned circuits in the i.f. or demodulator stages, but this device is no longer available. Nevertheless, when using a commercially manufactured front-end unit, the alignment of the receiver is very simple—only the demodulator circuit need be adjusted. The position is very different to the alignment of the many tuned circuits in the older valve type of receiver where any slight mis-alignment of the band-pass tuned circuits or of the ratio detector circuit could result in considerably greater distortion.

### Available Devices

There are quite a number of integrated circuits available which include all the devices required for the i.f. amplifier/limiter and demodulator stages of an f.m. receiver. The decoder required for stereo reception is always a separate circuit, normally a phase-locked loop i.c., but some amplifier/limiter/demodulator devices incorporate an audio amplifier. Many of the devices designed for use as amplifier/limiter/demodulators in the sound section of television receivers are suitable for use in f.m. radio receivers. A selection of typical amplifier/limiter/demodulator devices is shown in Table 1. These devices are suitable for the f.m. section only of receivers which cover both the f.m. and a.m. bands. However, some details will be given later of devices which can be used in both parts of an a.m./f.m. receiver.

### Sensitivity

It is quite reasonable to feed the output from a high gain front-end unit through a single ceramic filter into a high gain i.f. device (such as the 3089) for local station reception, but in a situation using a relatively insensitive device, such as the  $\mu$ A2136 or the LM2111, it is almost essential to employ an interfacing amplifier in order to obtain adequate gain, reasonable a.m. rejection, etc. The amplifier used may employ one or two discrete transistors, but an integrated circuit amplifier is often much more convenient.

The sensitivity of the devices shown in Table 1 is expressed as a value which is known as "the input limiting voltage at the  $-3\text{dB}$  point" or sometimes as the "limiting sensitivity" or the "input limiting threshold", any of these terms being used in various data sheets. Let us consider what this definition means. If the input signal level to a device is relatively high, the amplitude of the output signal will be unaffected by any reasonable variations of the input signal, since the output amplitude is controlled only by the limiter circuit. As the input voltage falls, a point is eventually reached at which the input to the limiter is inadequate for it to operate correctly and the output amplitude must then fall. When this fall is equal to  $-3\text{dB}$ , the input signal level to the device is known as the "input limiting voltage at the  $-3\text{dB}$  point" or one of the other terms mentioned. The lower the value of the input limiting voltage, the more sensitive the device.

It can be seen from Table 1 that the input limiting voltage ranges from about  $12\mu\text{V}$  up to about  $450\mu\text{V}$ .

The main difference in the internal circuits of such devices is the use of a more sensitive amplifier-limiter with more amplifying stages in the more sensitive devices. Although it must be remembered that the more sensitive devices are likely to become unstable if the circuit layout is unsuitable, all of the devices should be stable if used in a reasonable circuit layout with the input well away from the output. The input to a sensitive device should not consist of a length of copper strip on a board, but rather a miniature coaxial lead or at least a short wire.

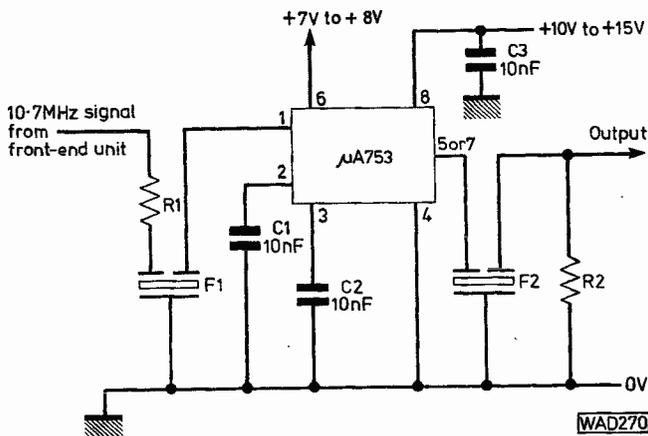
### Facilities

Another important factor to be considered when choosing an amplifier/limiter/demodulator device is the range of facilities provided by each of the integrated circuits concerned. The 3089 device, the TDA1200 and the CA3189E offer a very wide range of facilities, including a.g.c. output, a.f.c. output, muting of noise when tuning between stations and generally a very high performance for high quality equipment. A few devices, such as the LM1808, are available with an incorporated audio amplifier and this can be useful when space is at a premium.

### Gain Block

Before we consider typical amplifier/limiter/demodulator circuits, we will look at an integrated circuit gain block which will provide ample gain between the front-end unit of the receiver and any of the devices shown in Table 1.

The circuit of this 10.7MHz amplifier is shown in Fig. 7. A Fairchild  $\mu$ A753 integrated circuit (in a plastic 8 pin dual-in-line package) is very convenient for use in this type of circuit for a number of reasons. There is a choice of a



**Fig. 7: A simple  $\mu$ A753 10.7MHz amplifier with ceramic filters**

gain of about 34dB if the output is taken from pin 7 or a higher gain of about 50dB if the output is taken from pin 5. Another feature of the  $\mu$ A753 is that its input and output impedance have been chosen to match those of the ceramic filters normally used in the input and output circuits.

It is important that the filters (marked F1 and F2 in Fig. 7) should be reasonably closely matched with the circuit impedances. The 10.7MHz filters now available from Toko, Vernitron and Murata have been designed to operate with their inputs and outputs connected to circuits of 330 $\Omega$  impedance; if the "in" and "out" impedance is far from this value, the band-pass characteristics of the filters will be impaired.

The input impedance of F1 can be matched by making the value of R1 equal to 330 $\Omega$  minus the output impedance of the front-end. Similarly the value of R2 is selected so that this resistor, in parallel with any load which the circuit feeds, forms the required 330 $\Omega$  value across the output of F2. The values of these resistors are not at all critical and R1 can often be 270 $\Omega$  whilst R2 may be about 390 $\Omega$ .

Ceramic filters are marked with a colour code to indicate the approximate resonant frequency. It is vitally important that the two filters used in the Fig. 7 circuit should both have the same colour coding or they will not match one another accurately enough in frequency; they must also come from the same manufacturer. Two such filters provide almost the ideal band-pass characteristic with a rejection of around 100dB at frequencies 0.2MHz or more from the resonant frequency. However, it is possible to omit F2 and to couple pin 5 or pin 7 through a small capacitor (perhaps 1nF) directly to the input of an amplifier/limiter/demodulator device. The rejection of unwanted frequencies will then be of the order of 55dB—which is adequate for many locations.

The  $\mu$ A753 provides a stabilised output of +7.8V from pin 6. This is ideal for use as a power supply to certain front-end units (such as the Mullard LP1186), but some of the Toko front-end units require a higher voltage supply which can be conveniently obtained using a Zener diode. The maximum current which can be taken from pin 6 of the  $\mu$ A753 is about 10mA.

The  $\mu$ A753 has been designed to operate over a wide temperature range, namely  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$ , at almost constant gain. Naturally care must be taken to ensure that the leads to the decoupling capacitors C1, C2 and C3 in Fig. 7 are kept as short as possible.

There are few other similar gain blocks available. The Fairchild  $\mu$ A3076 (available from Arrow Electronics Ltd.)

provides a relatively high gain (around 80dB) for use with a demodulator of moderate sensitivity.

## Amplifier/Limiter/Demodulators

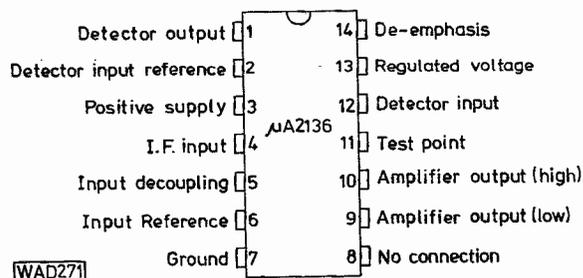
The output from the circuit of Fig. 7 may be fed into one of the amplifier/limiter/demodulator devices listed in Table 1. We will now consider some typical applications circuits using some of these devices. Although the principles of operation of each type of device are the same, the individual features of the devices (and therefore practical circuits) differ considerably. A common feature is that they all require a phase shifting "quadrature" tuned circuit.

## The $\mu$ A2136

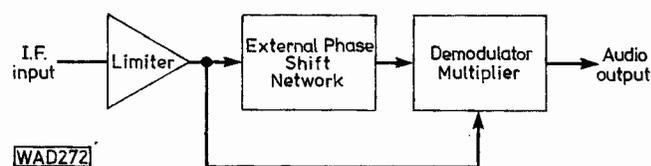
The Fairchild  $\mu$ A2136 is a relatively simple device with moderate gain, three stage input amplifier/limiter, a quadrature demodulator circuit, an audio output amplifier, an internal voltage regulator and other circuitry. The connections of this device are shown in Fig. 8; it is available in a standard 14 pin dual-in-line case from Arrow Electronics Ltd., Coptfold Road, Brentwood, CM14 4BN at a price of about £2.

The basic circuit for a limiter/demodulator using a device such as the  $\mu$ A2136 is shown in block form in Fig. 9, whilst a full typical circuit is shown in Fig. 10. The input from the amplifier which follows the front-end may be coupled through C1 to L2 and hence into the limiter of the  $\mu$ A2136 device. Although inductor coupling is used in this circuit, other types of input coupling can be employed, such as in the examples used with other circuits in this article. It is important to note, however, that the maximum resistance between pins 4 and 6 is about 300 $\Omega$ ; in Fig. 10, this resistance is that of the winding L2 which is very low.

The output of the limiter is fed to the quadrature detector and appears at pin 10; after attenuation by a factor of about seven times, it also appears at pin 9. The quadrature tuned circuit is connected between pins 2 and 12, R1 damping the resonance of the circuit. The value chosen for R1 is a compromise between obtaining a relatively high audio output voltage and obtaining the lowest possible distortion at the output.

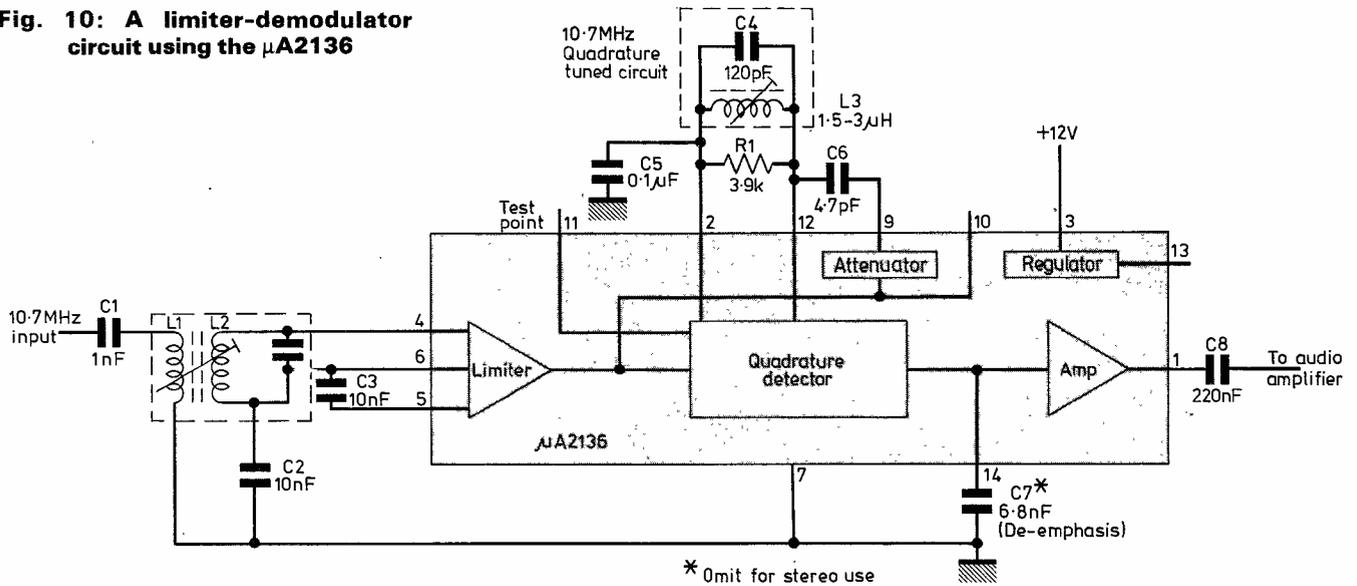


**Fig. 8: The  $\mu$ A2136 connections**



**Fig. 9: Basic circuit in block form for a limiter and f.m. demodulator**

**Fig. 10: A limiter-demodulator circuit using the  $\mu$ A2136**



The output from the quadrature circuit is amplified and fed to pin 1. A de-emphasis capacitor should be connected from pin 14 to ground, the internal resistance of the device at pin 14 providing the required resistive component of the de-emphasis network.

The regulated voltage appears at pin 13, but this voltage is also used to power the input limiter and the quadrature detector; the internal connections are not shown in Fig. 10 in order to keep the circuit as simple as possible. No external connection need be made to pin 13.

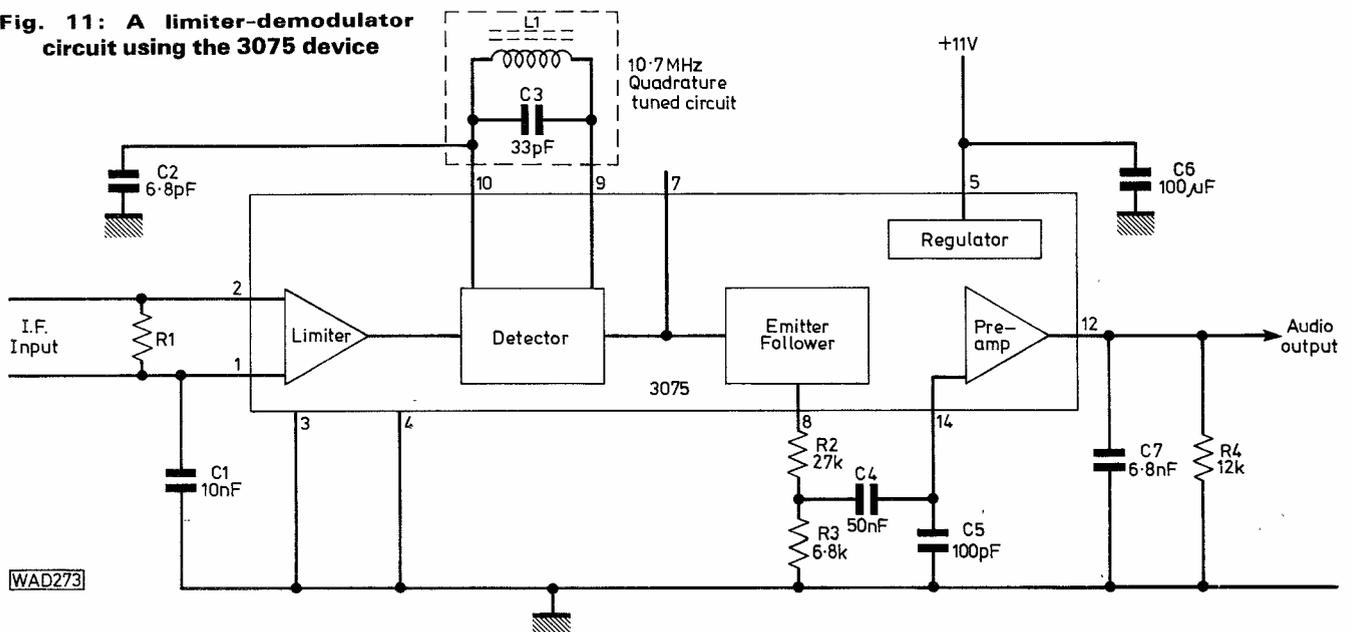
It may be noted that the  $\mu$ A2136 device is an improved version of the earlier ULN2111 14 pin dual-in-line device. The Sprague ULN2111 has no internal voltage regulator and the positive supply of about 12V must be connected directly to pin 13 instead of to pin 3. Otherwise, the connections are the same. Further similar devices are the ULN2111A (Sprague), the CA2111AE and its quad-in-line version the CA2111AQ (RCA) and the MC1357 (Motorola). The  $\mu$ A2136 is a direct equivalent of the Sprague ULN2136.

### The 3075

The Fairchild  $\mu$ A3075 (available from Arrow Electronics Ltd.), the National Semiconductor LM3075 and the RCA CA3075 are somewhat similar devices to the  $\mu$ A2136, but an audio pre-amplifier is incorporated on the same chip as the i.f. circuitry. These are 14 pin dual-in-line plastic devices.

A typical 3075 circuit is shown in Fig 11. The i.f. input circuit may be similar to that of Fig. 10 or one of the other circuits, but the effective resistance between pins 1 and 2 must be fairly small so that pin 2 is correctly biased from pin 1. The 3-stage limiter has a gain of about 60dB and feeds a quadrature detector, the output from which feeds an emitter-follower before being coupled to the input of an audio pre-amplifier at pin 12. The output from the pre-amplifier stage is fed to pin 14. The capacitor C7 of Fig. 11 is for de-emphasis and should be omitted from a stereo circuit. The audio pre-amplifier provides a gain of about 21dB, but there is a loss in the coupling network between the emitter follower and the pre-amplifier.

**Fig. 11: A limiter-demodulator circuit using the 3075 device**



## TBA 120 series

The TBA120 device was developed for television sound circuits and contains a six stage limiter, but the more sensitive TBA120S with an eight stage limiter is normally preferred for f.m. receiver applications (available from Chromasonic Electronics, 56 Fortis Green Road, N10 3HN). The TBA120T is similar to the TBA120S, but has an  $820\Omega$  input resistor to match it to the 5.5MHz ceramic filters used in television receivers; the TBA120U is another device in this series designed to be used with L/C tuned circuits. These devices are manufactured by Siemens, AEG-Telefunken, etc.

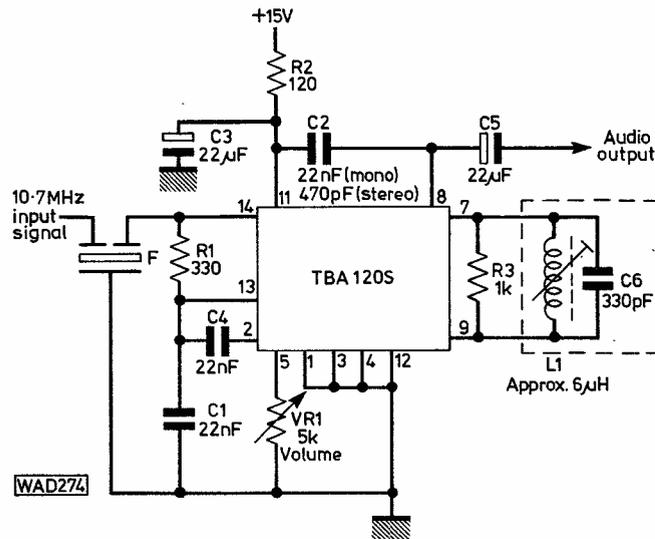


Fig. 12: A limiter-demodulator using the TBA120S device with an electronic volume control

A typical TBA120S amplifier/limiter/demodulator circuit is shown in Fig. 12. A particular feature of all the TBA120 series of devices is an electronic attenuator in the circuit shown. VR1 will provide a variation of about 70dB in volume and since only d.c. levels are involved the volume control leads need not be screened—this is another feature of the TBA120 and the LM1808 devices.

The filter F in Fig. 12 may well be the output filter F2 of the circuit of Fig. 7. L1 and C4 form the normal quadrature circuit of the demodulator.

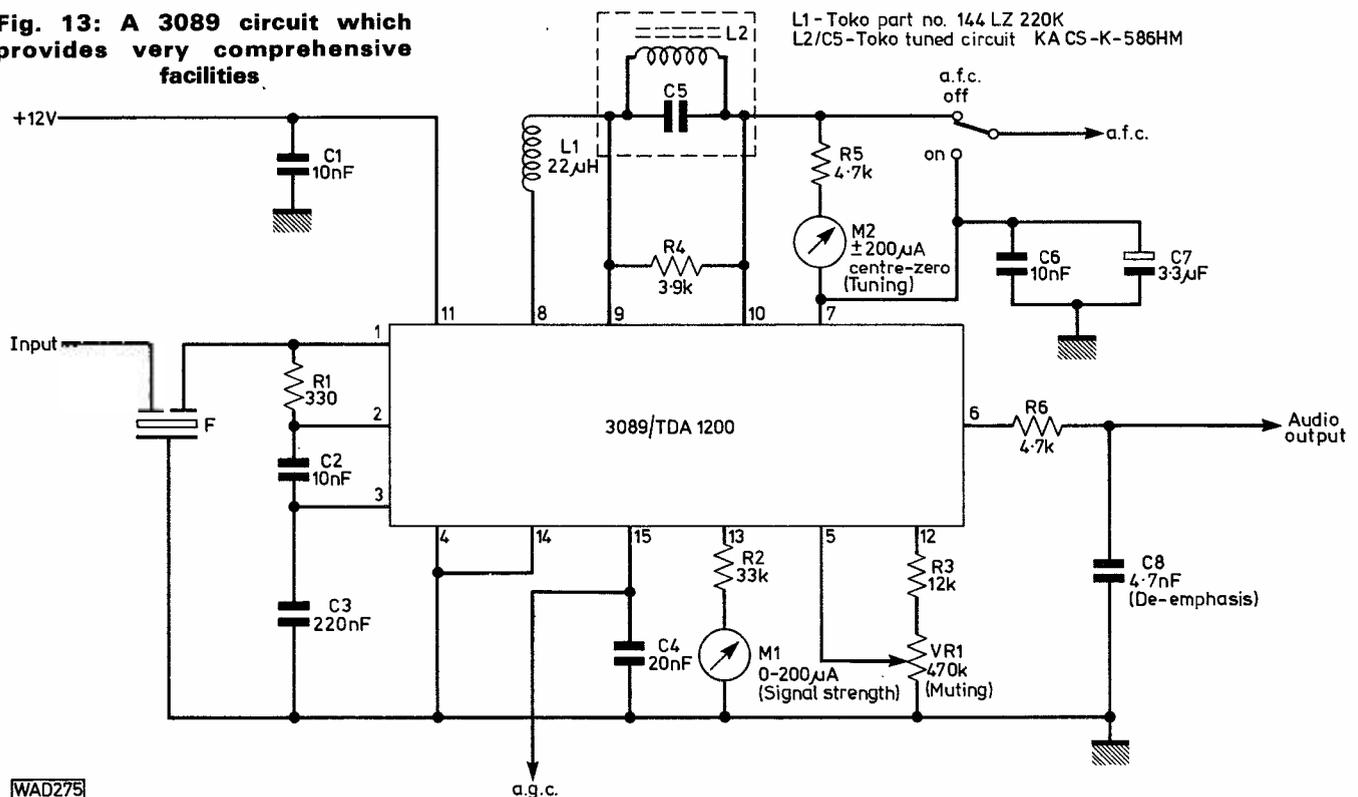
## The 3089

The 3089 type of device (equivalent to the TDA1200) is probably the best known of all limiter/demodulator integrated circuits for 10.7MHz f.m. i.f. use; it is an "industry standard" type available from many manufacturers and provides a wide range of facilities for use in high quality equipment. It has been included in many circuit designs which have appeared in this magazine. It is a sensitive device with a  $12\mu\text{V}$  limiting sensitivity.

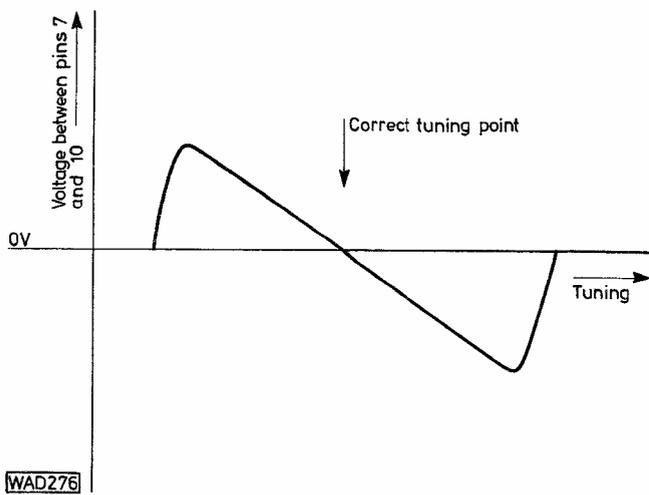
A 3089 circuit is shown in Fig. 13. The input to pin 1 is obtained from the 10.7MHz ceramic filter F (which may be the output filter F2 of Fig. 7). Inside the device the signal passes through three cascaded amplifier/limiter circuits and hence to the quadrature detector circuit. This part of the circuit requires a  $22\mu\text{H}$  choke (L1 in Fig. 13), but a miniature Toko component is available for this application. The Toko Company also produces a KACS-K-586HM 10.7MHz tuned circuit in a miniature can which has been especially designed for use as the quadrature detector tuned circuit with 3089 devices.

The output impedance of the 3089 device at pin 6 is about  $5k\Omega$ , so when the value of the series resistor R6 is added to this, the total of nearly  $10k\Omega$  produces the required  $50\mu\text{s}$  de-emphasis time-constant with C8. The capacitor C8 should be omitted in stereo circuits.

Fig. 13: A 3089 circuit which provides very comprehensive facilities



WAD275



**Fig. 14: Variation of the 3089 pin 7 potential with tuning**

The meter M1 provides an indication of the signal strength of the i.f. signal at pin 1 of the device. The potential at pin 13 of the device increases approximately as the logarithm of the signal strength and the meter reading increases in proportion to this voltage. The logarithm scale has been chosen so that a very wide range of signal strengths can be accommodated and shown on the meter. In practice, the circuit can indicate any input signal level between about 5µV and 100mV by means of M1.

Each of the three cascaded amplifier/limiter circuits in the input of the device has a signal level detector

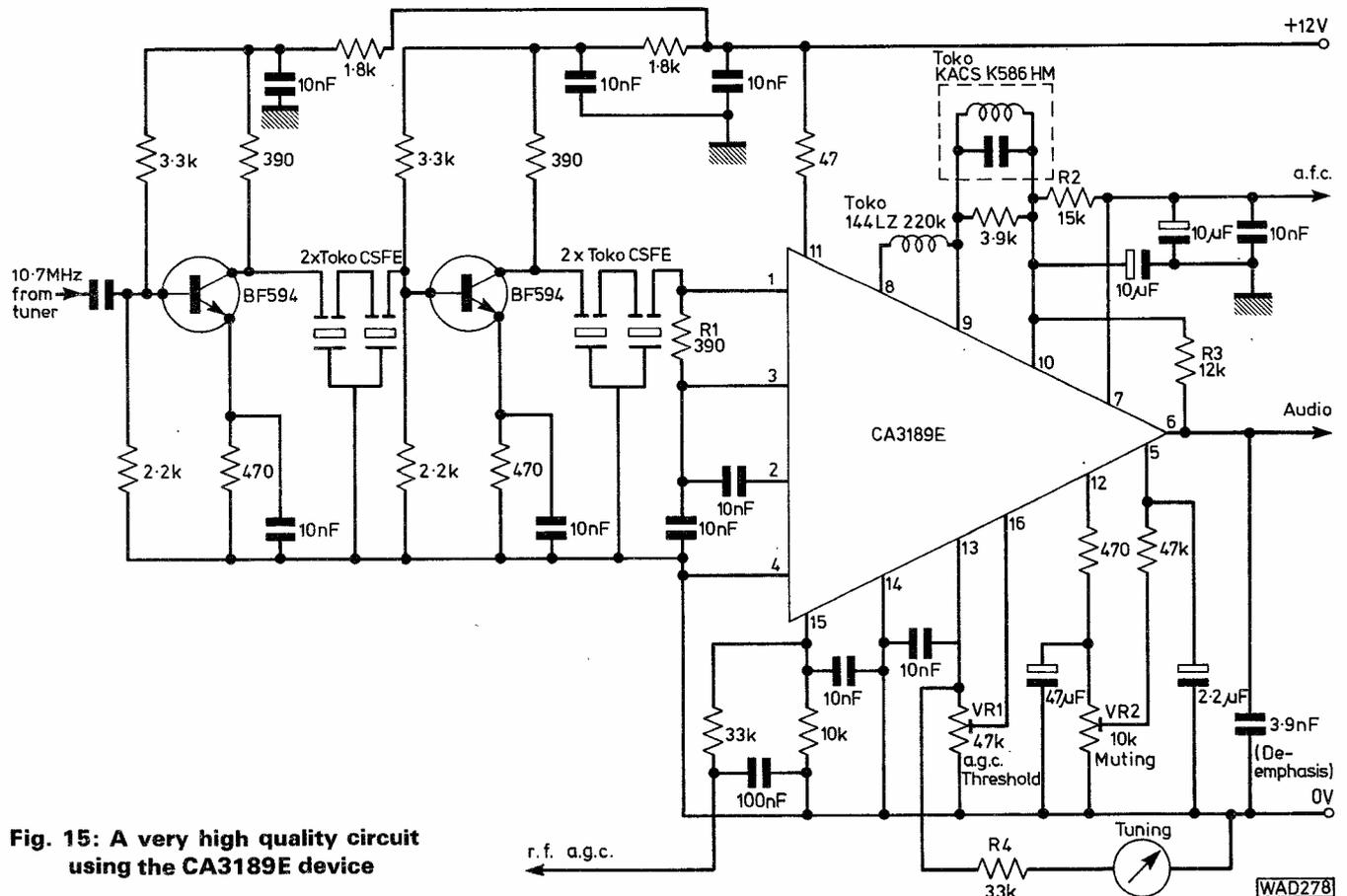
associated with it. The combined outputs of these signal level detectors control the deflection of the signal strength meter. The first level detection circuit also provides the a.g.c. control signal from pin 15 which may be fed to the front-end unit.

The centre-reading meter M2 can be used as a tuning meter. When tuning towards the centre frequency of the signal, the meter needle is deflected to one side, but as tuning becomes closer to that of the signal, the meter needle returns through the centre position (when tuning should be exact) and is displaced to the other side. This variation of the potential at pin 7 with the tuning is shown in Fig. 14.

All the phase quadrature circuits discussed in this article must be aligned before use by adjusting the position of the core of the phase quadrature coil, whilst the extra input coil used in Fig. 10 must also be aligned. The alignment is greatly facilitated by the use of the meters shown in Fig. 13. When L2-C5 is correctly tuned, the meter M2 will show almost a symmetrical response when tuning through the signal (see Fig. 14) with optimum results when the receiver is tuned to the centre point of the curve.

The use of the meters in the Fig. 13 circuit is optional and some readers may wish to construct the circuit so that a meter is used only during the alignment of the receiver, since the incorporation of a meter permanently into a circuit does increase the cost of the receiver. The full scale reading of M1 and of M2 is not at all critical, as the values of the series resistors R2 and R5 can be adjusted to obtain suitable deflections with the meters available. However, the full scale deflection should not exceed a few mA or the device operation may be affected.

When tuning an f.m. receiver, a considerable amount of unpleasant random noise ("hiss") is formed when tuned to



**Fig. 15: A very high quality circuit using the CA3189E device**

Device	Package	Sensitivity (Input voltage at -3dB point)	Supply Voltage	Supply Current (in mA at 12V)	AM Rejection (dB)	Total Harmonic Distortion	AFC Output	AGC Output	Muting	On-chip Audio Pre-amp	Electronic Volume Control range (dB)	Remarks
$\mu$ A2136	14 pin d.i.l.	450 $\mu$ V (max. 800 $\mu$ V)	12V (20V max.)	17 (max. 22)	40	1% (max. 3%)	—	—	None	—	—	—
3075	14 pin d.i.l.	250 $\mu$ V (max. 600 $\mu$ V)	12V (max. 18V)	17 (max. 28)	50 (min. 40)	1% (max. 2%)	—	—	None	Yes	—	—
3089 or TDA1200	16 pin d.i.l.	12 $\mu$ V (max. 25 $\mu$ V)	12V (max. 16V)	23 (max. 30)	55 (min. 45)	0.5% (max. 1%)	yes	yes	Noise only	—	—	Industry standard type
CA3189E	16 pin d.i.l.	12 $\mu$ V (max. 25 $\mu$ V)	12V (max. 16V)	14 (max. 18)	55 (min. 45)	0.5% (max. 1%)	yes	yes	Noise and deviation	—	—	used in high quality receivers
TBA120	14 pin d.i.l.	80 $\mu$ V	12V (max. 14V)	14 (max. 20)	60 (min. 50)	—	—	—	none	—	80	designed for television sound
TBA120S	14 pin d.i.l.	50 $\mu$ V (max. 100 $\mu$ V)	12V (max. 18V)	14 (max. 20)	68	0.2%	—	—	none	single transistor available	85 (min. 70)	Internal transistor and Zener diode
LM1808	18 pin d.i.l.	200 $\mu$ V (max. 400 $\mu$ V)	18V (max. 26V)	11 (i.f. only)	min. 40	1.2% (max. 2%)	—	—	none	2W power amplifier	75	On-chip power amplifier with protection
2111A	14 pin d.i.l.	300 $\mu$ V	12V (max. 15V)	17 (max. 22)	40	0.3%	—	—	none	—	—	—

Parameters may vary from one manufacturer to another.—consult data sheets

Devices suitable for use as 10.7MHz Limiter/Demodulators

frequencies between the incoming required signals. The 3089 device incorporates a circuit which is able to mute or silence the receiver when no signal is being received. A muting signal is obtained from a level detector connected to the quadrature circuit which feeds a steady output voltage to pin 12, this voltage varying according to whether an input signal or only noise is being received.

A fraction of the voltage from pin 12 is tapped off by VR1 and fed to pin 5, the muting input. The voltage fed into pin 5 can mute the audio pre-amplifier inside the 3089 so that no audio output is obtained whilst tuning between input signals.

The total harmonic distortion at the output of the 3089 device is about 0.3%, this being lower than that of most other similar devices. This distortion level is mainly a function of the phase linearity characteristic of the quadrature tuned circuit. A considerable reduction in the distortion level can be obtained by employing two tuned circuits instead of one between pins 9 and 10, but the alignment is then far more difficult and suitable test equipment is required to set up the double tuned circuit correctly. However, it is possible to reduce the total harmonic distortion at the output to a level of less than 0.1%.

## The CA3189E

The RCA device type CA3189E is a recent development of the 3089 type of device. Like the 3089, it is encapsulated in a 16 pin dual-in-line package and the connections to the two devices are almost identical (except for pin 16), but the external circuits which must be used with the two devices are somewhat different. The CA3189E is the latest device for use in equipment of the highest quality.

The bandwidth of the CA3189E circuit has been restricted to about 15MHz (as opposed to the 25MHz of

the 3089 type devices); this not only improves the noise level by reducing the amount of "in-band" noise generated by two signals outside the pass band, but also renders the circuit layout less critical and improves stability.

Unlike the 3089, the CA3189E includes an adjustable delay for the a.g.c. system; this means that the signal level at which the a.g.c. voltage commences to reduce the gain of the device is adjustable. Improvements in the design of the CA3189E internal circuit have resulted in the signal-to-noise ratio being increased to over 70dB. Another feature unique to the CA3189E is the inclusion of a "deviation" muting circuit in addition to the normal noise muting circuit used in the 3089 devices. This deviation muting circuit results in the muting of the "thump" noise when turning rapidly through a fairly powerful signal.

A typical CA3189E circuit is shown in Fig. 15. The limiting sensitivity of the CA3189E is about the same as that of the 3089 device and a similar input circuit can be employed. However, Fig. 15 shows a different type of input circuit using two BF594 npn transistors and a total of four Toko CSFE ceramic 10.7MHz filters which provide a band-pass characteristic which enables a signal-to-noise ratio of about 40dB to be obtained at an input signal level of only 3 $\mu$ V.

It is possible to omit one of the BF594 amplifier stages and two of the ceramic filters; the input signal is then fed directly (through a capacitor) to the base of the second BF594 transistor. In this simpler circuit the signal-to-noise ratio is appreciably lower, being rather over 20dB at the same input signal level of 3 $\mu$ V.

The similarity between the CA3189E and 3089 circuits can be seen from Figs. 15 and 13. An important difference between the two is the use of an external audio load resistor 12k $\Omega$  between pins 6 and 10 in the CA3189E circuit, whereas the load resistor is fabricated on the

continued on page 71

# HOTLINES

## A REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

*In general, the author does not have any more information on products than appears in the article.*

### **MPU bank cards**

A popular cheque scheme on the Continent is one in which the owner's photograph is printed on each cheque. This gives a useful security "cheque"! The Continental bankers have again been looking at services to customers and on French electronics company has warmed to this theme by proposing to stick a microprocessor into everyone's bank credit card.

Cards in current use can store only a limited amount of information in magnetic stripes. The proposal is that, by using a microprocessor, every transaction could be recorded and the holders bank balance could be updated at each transaction.

While all this "with-it, latest, state-of-the-art" approach might be applauded by electronics pundits, I keep hearing about electronic accounting systems charging people idiotic amounts, like the £8 million gas bill etc. The Ginsberg abacus rules—OK?

### **What is an 1154?**

Say 1154 to most Lisle Street electronics buffs and they will draw you a picture of an enormous ex-RAF transmitter, complete with coloured knobs and a couple of PT15 directly heated valves in the p.a. stage.

Contrast this nostalgic colossus with the new i.c. that incorporates its own 4MHz oscillator. The chip uses silicon gate techniques (not to mention a touch of c.m.o.s.) and sips only a dainty 6µA at 1.55V. It is aimed at the watch market and deliveries are now rumoured to be rife.

### **Meter magic**

So now I've heard it all, Magic Meters—well, they appear to be magic to me. A new range of analogue panel meters just out on the British market look all very smart in their black edged cases and large white dials with black lettering. The scale reads 0–150A (on the one I'm looking at). But if I want it to read 0–15kV, I can simply unplug one scale, and insert another. And the readings are guaranteed to be accurate to Class 1.5 accuracy. There's virtually dozens of scales; another reads 0–1000kW.

The nice thing about these meters is that they are dustproof, the scales have a positive "click" insert mechanism, and you can change scales without

taking the meter to pieces or, indeed meddling with anything else on the instrument.

The range of scales available is truly enormous, ranging from milliamps to Megavolts. These meters are intended for the professional who should look for the IMO J Series instruments.

### **Confucius—II dit**

Someone in History is always having his magic phrase "Damned clever these Chinese" repeated. Alas, to bring it up to date we must substitute French. An electronics company in Toulouse has been watching the growing market in home computing and business computing. Now, it is to launch its X1 system which is based on the Motorola 6800. The X1 offers 8K of memory, two minifloppy discs, keyboard, and 12in display monitor all for around £2000. The display can handle 24 rows of 80 characters. Strong rumours persist that a basic version will be made available for around £500.

### **The murky depths revealed**

Television cameras on the seabed are all very well—until there's turbulence, or the water gets murky, then they're blind and virtually useless.

A British company has come up with a solution—use an ultrasonic TV camera. While the possibility has been argued about since the late 1930's, it is only now that a practical solution has been achieved. In use, an array of ultrasonic transducers fire forward to "illuminate" the screen at ultrasonic frequencies.

The reflections are focused onto a special converter tube. A half-wavelength piece of quartz is embedded in the faceplate of the converter tube and it is this that accepts the ultrasonic echoes and translates them into a voltage pattern. The new unit is said to operate at depths down to 30 metres, but can be used down to 300 metres with an added pressure window.

The TV scan details are 12½ frames/second 201 lines/frame. Using a frequency of 2MHz it is claimed to see clearly through several metres of very murky water.

While underwater enthusiasts celebrate, doubtless Hams will wonder about further QRM at the high end of Topband!

### **Hothouse transducers**

If you're interested in checking relative humidity, then you might be pleased to hear about a special relative humidity transducer that has recently appeared on the American market. It measures only 41 x 22 x 1.6mm and the humidity is sensed by an electrically conductive surface. It can monitor from 0% to 100% relative humidity over the temperature range –60°F to +200°F. Useful, perhaps, for electronics gardeners or budding sauna enthusiasts.

### **Optical disc store**

In previous Ginsberg writings I mentioned that video discs were a reality and that many manufacturers were producing these. It now seems that these discs will have another application—for storage in computers. A European company has produced an optical disc memory system that looks very promising. One, single 12 inch double sided disc can store the equivalent of half a million pages of typewritten matter. This is considerably more than magnetic discs. The mean access time to any address anywhere on the disc is 250ms.

### **Self checking**

When using computers and computer systems it is not unusual to find a thing called "self-diagnostic". This is where the computer (or system) fires signals around its own circuitry to check that all its circuits are functioning correctly. This usually happens in those fractions of a second that the system isn't being used.

The latest digital multimeter to arrive on the market does the same thing. It will self-check itself and, if it does find something it shouldn't, it will isolate the fault to one of the five basic boards. It will also function as a d.m.m. to an accuracy of better than ±2 p.p.m. of reading, and 1 p.p.m. of full scale (6½ digits). Input impedance of this truly magnificent beast is 1000MΩ and the input is also fully protected against overloads to 1kV. And the price!

*Ginsberg*

# Pw HYTHE marine band receiver

Part 1

M. TOOLEY & D. WHITFIELD



This modern receiver design offers very good performance at low cost, is easy to build and uses readily available components. The receiver provides for the reception of a.m., c.w. and s.s.b. signals. The construction of the receiver unit makes use of a single printed circuit board and the alignment procedure is simplified by the use of a pre-tuned ceramic i.f. filter. The resulting performance is more than adequate to satisfy the needs of the discerning short wave listener or medium wave DXer.

Although the basic receiver design is for a frequency coverage of 1.5 to 3.5 MHz, coil winding details are also given for alternative frequency bands in the range 1 to 12 MHz. Only two coils need to be wound by constructors and, to further simplify this task, they each make use of only a single tuned winding.

The multi-mode capability and the 2 MHz tuning range of the receiver also makes it ideally suited for use as a 'tunable i.f.' in conjunction with a front-end convertor for the v.h.f. aircraft or amateur bands.

The receiver utilises the National Semiconductor LM373N i.f. amplifier. This versatile device, designed specifically for communications subsystems, provides all

the necessary facilities for a complete multi-mode i.f. amplifier and detector. The LM373N is a 14-pin dual-in-line integrated circuit which comprises a gain-controlled i.f. preamplifier, main i.f. amplifier, f.m./c.w./s.s.b. product detector, a.m. peak detector and an a.g.c. system.

The product detector operates in an unbalanced mode for a.m. reception and functions as an amplifier followed by an envelope detector. For f.m. reception, the product detector is supplied with a signal which is in phase quadrature with the original i.f. signal (i.e. 90° out of phase). The product detector inputs for s.s.b. operation are the i.f. signal and the b.f.o. output. The audio output is then derived before the envelope detector. The envelope detector then acts as an audio frequency peak detector and the output of this stage is used for a.g.c. purposes.

## Circuit Description

An overall block diagram of the receiver is shown in Fig. 1. It is a conventional single-conversion superhet which makes use of five transistor stages and two integrated circuits. The circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 2.



For this external view, the receiver has been fitted with satin-finish aluminium knobs, contrasting the black front panel

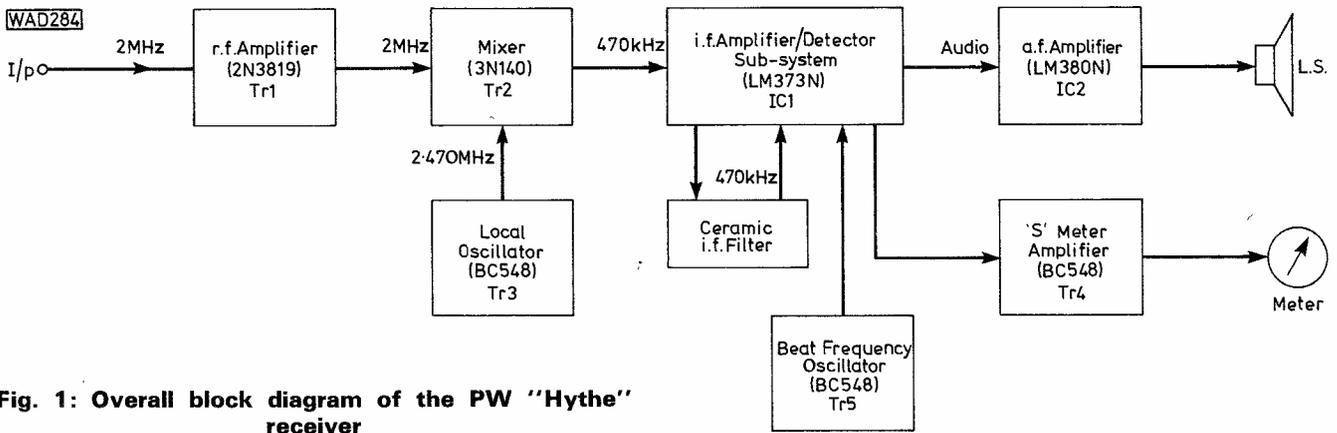


Fig. 1: Overall block diagram of the PW "Hythe" receiver

Amplification at r.f. is provided by a junction gate field effect transistor, Tr1, operating in common gate configuration. This stage exhibits a low input impedance, ideal for matching long wire aerials, and a high output im-

pedance, which is necessary to reduce the loading on the r.f. tuned circuit, L1 and VC1.

A dual gate field effect device, Tr2, is used in the mixer stage. The signal from Tr1 is applied to gate 1 and the

### ★ specification

**Frequency Coverage:** 1.5 to 3.5MHz

**Modes of Operation:** AM, FM, CW and SSB

**Intermediate Frequency:** 455kHz (nominal)

**Sensitivity:** 1.5µV RMS typical for 10dB S+N/N ratio measured at 2.5MHz (30% modulation at 100Hz)

**Selectivity:** 5.6kHz at -3dB points  
11.9kHz at -20dB points

**AF Power Output:** 500mW maximum into 8Ω loudspeaker at 1kHz

**AF Response:** 130Hz to 3.5kHz at -6dB

**Image Channel Rejection:** Greater than 20dB at 2MHz. This figure is considerably improved with the aid of an aerial tuning unit or preselector.

**IF Rejection:** Greater than 55dB at 2.5MHz

**AGC Range:** AM; less than 3dB change in audio output for 40dB change in input. Measured at 2.5MHz, 30% modulation

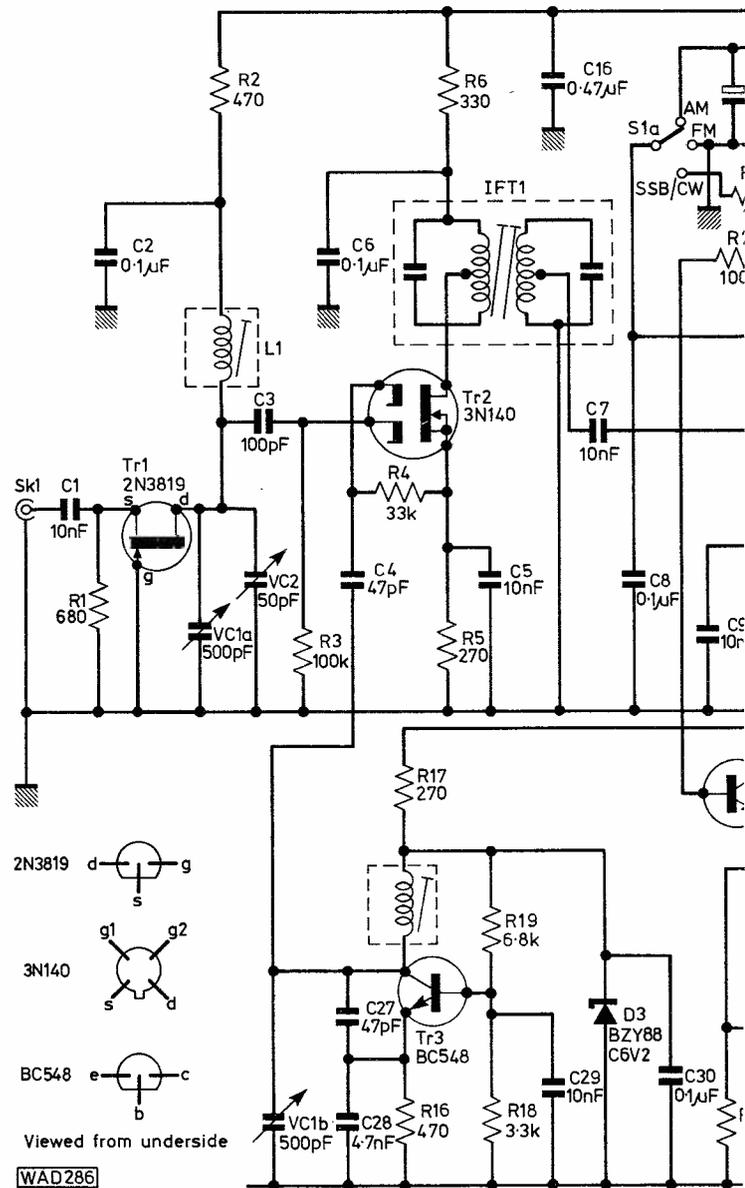
**BFO Tuning Range:** 2kHz centred on 455kHz (nominal)

**Input Impedance:** 600Ω (nominal)

**Output Impedance:** 8Ω to 16Ω (nominal)

Table of component changes for alternative frequency coverage

Frequency coverage	L1		L2		C28
	Turns	SWG	Turns	SWG	
1.0-2.5MHz	140	34	105	34	4.7nF
2.5-6.0MHz	65	30	50	30	1nF
5.0-12.0MHz	40	30	38	30	470pF



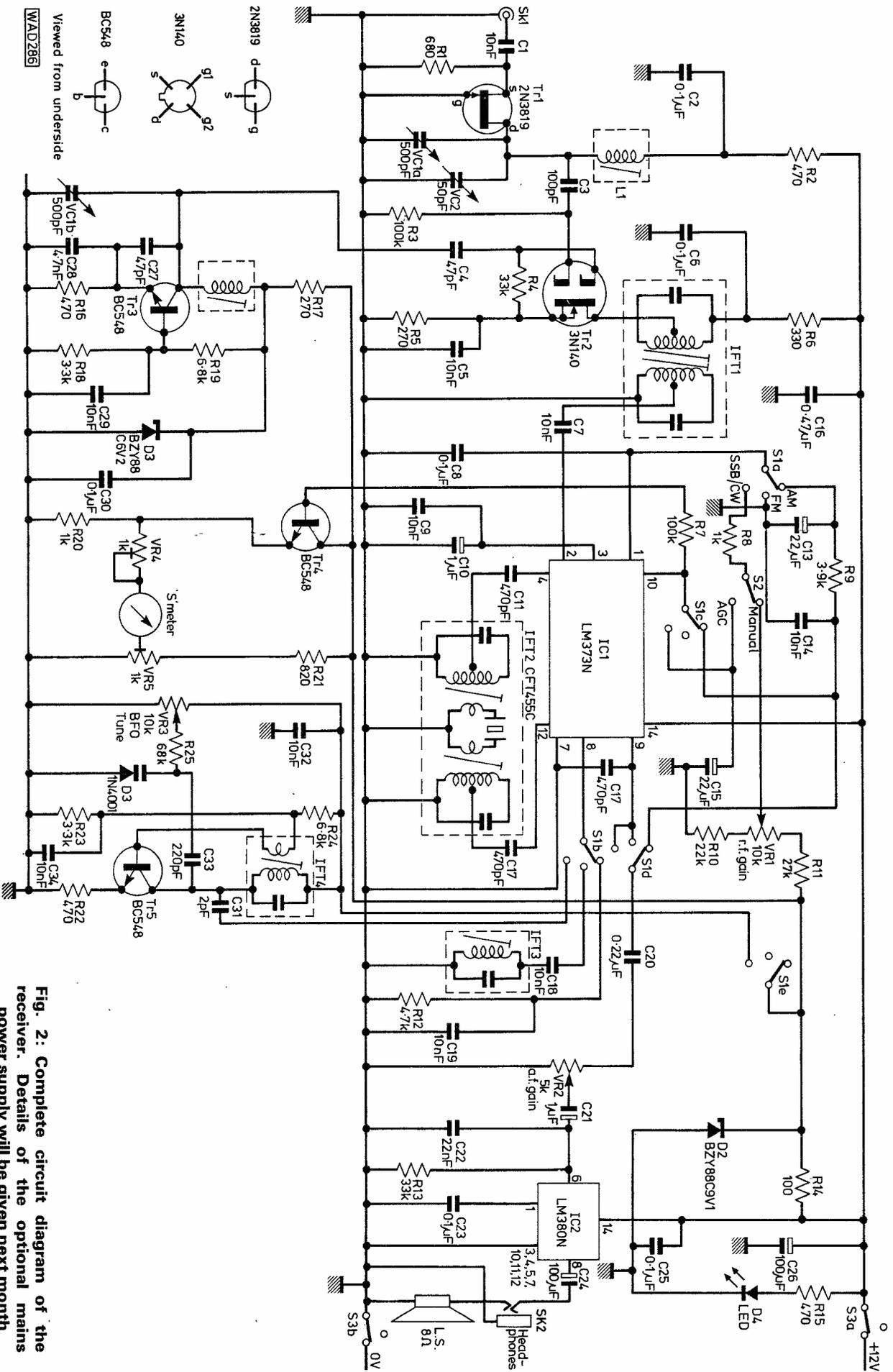


Fig. 2: Complete circuit diagram of the receiver. Details of the optional mains power supply will be given next month

local oscillator signal to gate 2. This type of mixer offers very good performance, providing considerable conversion gain and minimising the loading on the r.f. amplifier and local oscillator tuned circuits. The drain load of Tr2 is a double-tuned i.f. transformer, used to select the desired intermediate frequency signal.

The local oscillator stage is somewhat unconventional in design. A bipolar transistor, Tr3, is connected in common base configuration in a modified form of Colpitts oscillator. This arrangement provides an almost constant output level over a very wide tuning range, with the added advantage of requiring only a simple untapped inductor. The power supply to the oscillator is stabilised by a Zener diode, D1.

The i.f. amplifier and detector functions are provided by IC1. A ceramic filter is used to define the overall selectivity of the receiver. The LM373N is ideally suited for filters of this type having medium level input and output impedances.

External switching is used to select the different modes of operation. This switching is important, not only to

select the appropriate signal paths, but also to ensure that the correct a.g.c. characteristics are provided.

As the LM373N uses only a relatively small a.g.c. voltage swing compared with a conventional i.f. amplifier, it is necessary to provide additional d.c. amplification in order to drive the signal strength meter. The current amplifier, Tr4, operates as an emitter follower which has a high input impedance in order to minimise the loading effect on the a.g.c. line. Pre-set potentiometers, VR4 and VR5, are respectively used to allow calibration and balancing of the 'S' meter.

The beat frequency oscillator (b.f.o.) stage uses a transistor, Tr5, operating as a conventional common emitter, tuned-collector oscillator. The emitter load, however, is left un-bypassed in order to improve the purity of the output waveform. The operating frequency of the b.f.o. is pre-adjusted by the core setting of IFT4. Fine frequency adjustment is achieved by means of a conventional silicon diode D3, connected as a "varicap"—i.e., to a variable reverse bias potential derived from a potentiometer across the supply. The b.f.o., a.g.c. amplifier and local oscillator

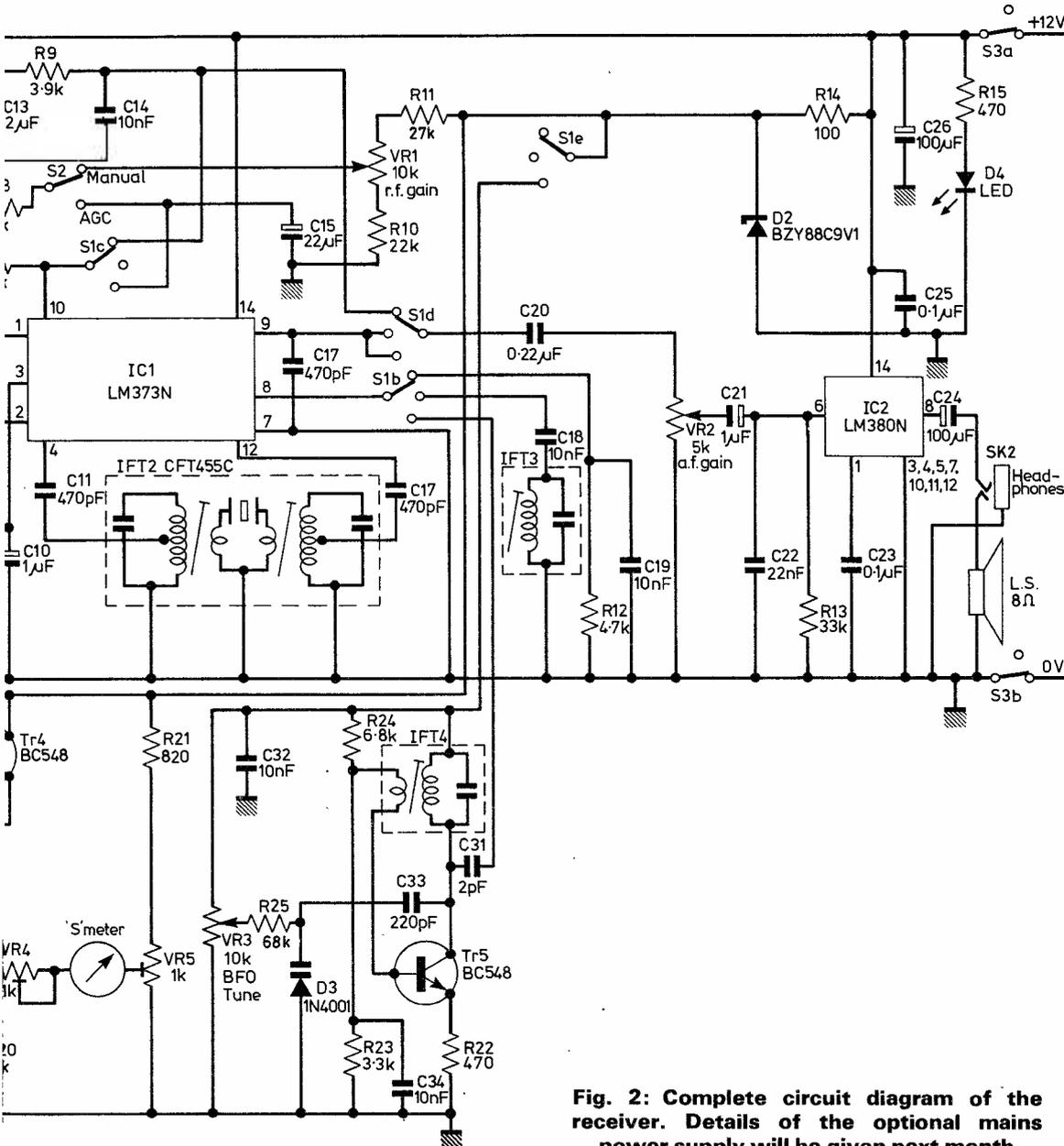
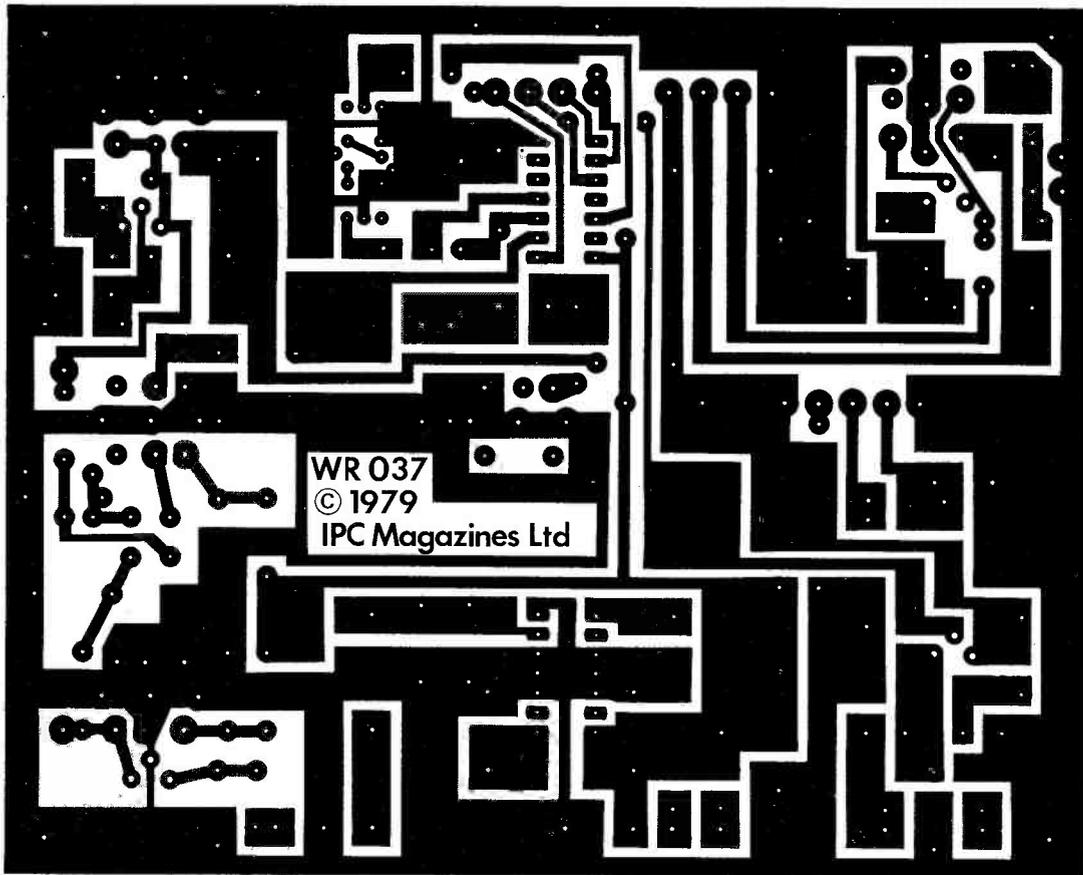
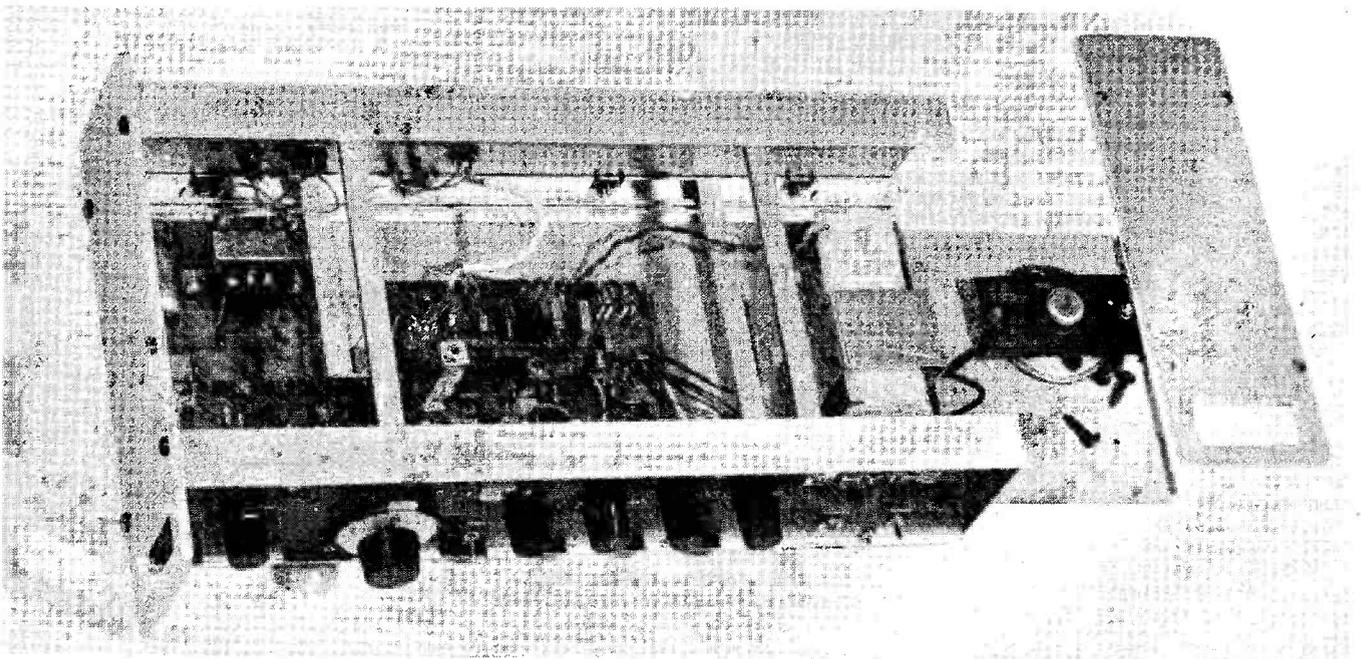


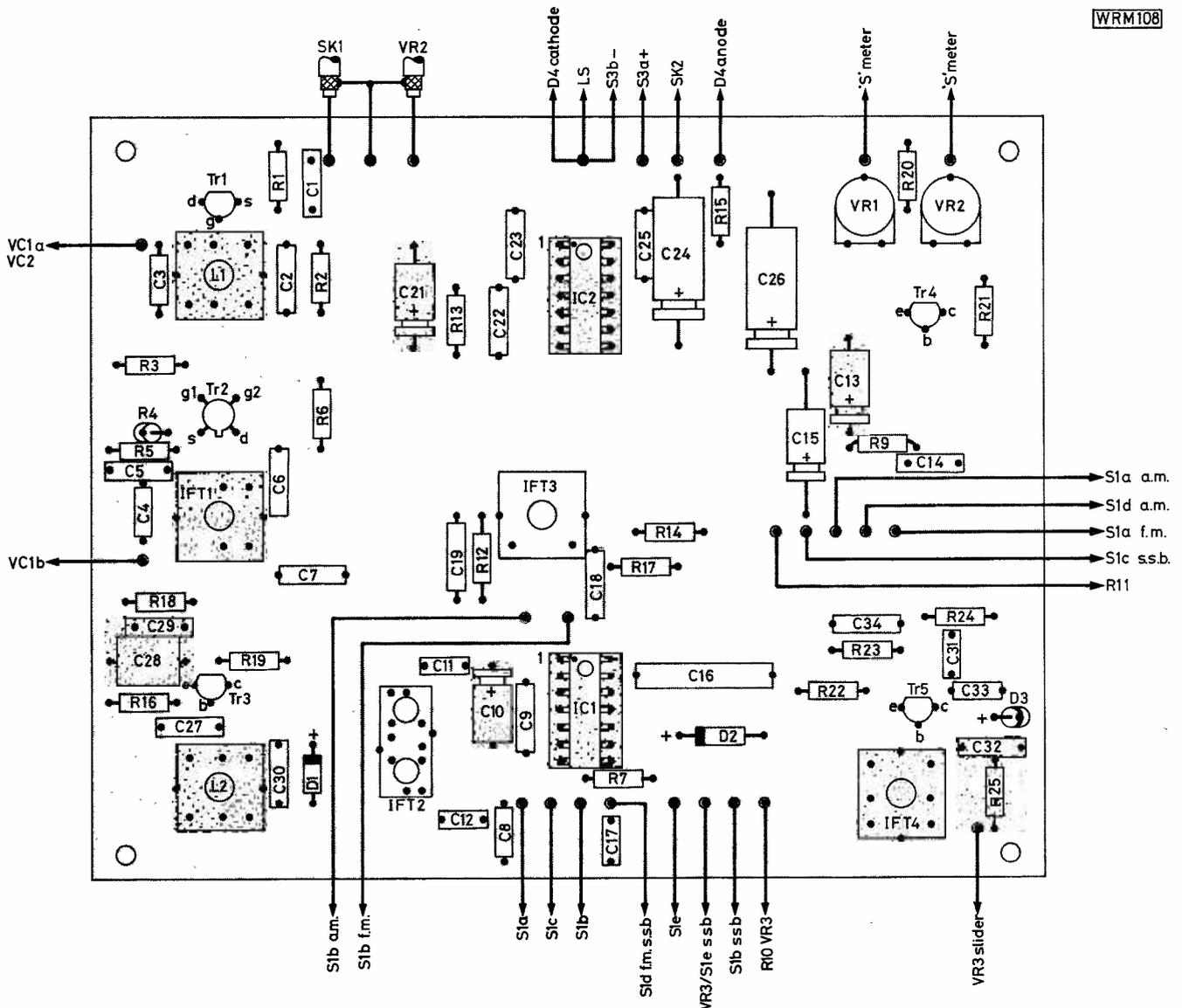
Fig. 2: Complete circuit diagram of the receiver. Details of the optional mains power supply will be given next month



**Fig. 3: Printed circuit board track pattern, shown full size**



**Internal view of the PW "Hythe". Access to the internal battery pack is by removing the right-hand end of the case. The case specified is also suitable for mounting in a standard 19 inch rack cabinet**



**Fig. 4: Component location and external connections for the receiver printed circuit board**

stages are all powered from a nominal 9V stabilised supply provided by D2.

Audio amplification of the detected signal is provided by IC2. This is a conventional arrangement using an LM380N. Little comment is needed, save to mention that this arrangement provides an adequate power output, with a fixed voltage gain of around 50, and uses an absolute minimum of external components.

## Construction

The majority of components are located on the p.c.b. with

controls and switches mounted on the front panel. After completing the assembly of the p.c.b. a careful visual check should be carried out in order to ensure that all components have been soldered correctly into place and that no dry joints or inadvertent short circuits exist. It is essential that the p.c.b. should be thoroughly checked at this stage since it is difficult to remove it for inspection once it has been wired to the front panel components. Push-fit terminal pins may be inserted into the p.c.b. to readily facilitate connections to the rest of the circuit. The p.c.b. is secured above the base of the chassis close to the front panel by means of four short stand-off pillars. The wiring from the main p.c.b. to the front panel, and par-

# ★ components

## Resistors

all  $\frac{1}{4}$ W 10% carbon

100 $\Omega$	1	R14
270 $\Omega$	2	R5, 17
330 $\Omega$	1	R6
470 $\Omega$	4	R2, 15, 16, 22
680 $\Omega$	1	R1
820 $\Omega$	1	R21
1k $\Omega$	2	R8, 20
3.3k $\Omega$	2	R18, 23
3.9k $\Omega$	1	R9
4.7k $\Omega$	1	R12
6.8k $\Omega$	2	R19, 24
22k $\Omega$	1	R10
27k $\Omega$	1	R11
33k $\Omega$	2	R4, 13
68k $\Omega$	1	R25
100k $\Omega$	2	R3, 7

## Miscellaneous

S1 miniature Maka-switch, two 4p 3w wafers and spacers, S2 s.p.d.t. miniature toggle switch, S3 d.p.d.t. miniature toggle switch, IFT1 Denco IFT18, IFT2, IFT3 Denco IFT13, VC1 dual gang 500pF (365pF if reduced frequency coverage acceptable). VC2 50pF variable. Ceramic filter CFT455C (6kHz bandwidth) Ambit International. Coil formers 4.8mm dia  $\times$  27mm in length 2 off, base plates, cans and dust cores to suit. 8 $\Omega$  speaker (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in dia), moving coil meter (see text), 50mm vernier drive, terminal pins, stand-off pillars, round BNC socket, countersunk 4BA screws, 15mm long (min.) 3 off, 4BA clearance spacers 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm long (min.) 3 off, standard jack, battery holders (optional), West Hyde "Brightcase" BC2121, front panel (D. J. Pattle).

## Potentiometers

all carbon track

1k $\Omega$ lin	2	VR4, 5
5k $\Omega$ log	1	VR2
10k $\Omega$ lin	2	VR1, 3

## Capacitors

Silvered mica

2pF	1	C31
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Polystyrene

47pF	2	C4, 27
100pF	1	C3
220pF	1	C33
470pF	3	C11, 12, 17

Polyester min dipped

4.7nF	1	C28
10nF	10	C1, 5, 7, 9, 14, 18, 19, 29, 32, 34
22nF	1	C22
0.1 $\mu$ F	6	C2, 6, 8, 23, 25, 30
0.22 $\mu$ F	1	C20
0.47 $\mu$ F	1	C16

Electrolytics

63V tubular

1 $\mu$ F	2	C10, 21
22 $\mu$ F	2	C13, 15
100 $\mu$ F	2	C24, 26

## Semiconductors

LM373N	1	IC1
LM380N	1	IC2
2N3819	1	Tr1
3N140	1	Tr2
BC548	3	Tr3, 4, 5
BZY88 C6V2	1	D1
BZY88 C9V1	1	D2
1N4001	1	D3
TIL 209	1	D4

ticularly that associated with the tuning capacitor VC1, should be as short and direct as possible, and wiring from the board to the volume control, and from the aerial socket to the board, should employ short lengths of screened cable. Some care is needed here in order to ensure that the control spindle of VC1 is correctly aligned to the shaft of the drive. If this alignment is not correct, undue wear may be placed on the vernier drive mechanism and also the tuning may be found to be somewhat erratic.

Inductors L1 and L2 consist respectively of 120 turns and 80 turns of 32 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire wound in two layers on a 4.8 mm diameter former fitted with a base, screening can, and dust core. In each case, care should be taken to ensure that the terminal pins of the base align correctly with the p.c.b. connections. After completing the winding of the coils, they should be liberally coated with a polystyrene impregnant in order to hold the windings in place. The screening can is then fitted and the entire assembly is located and soldered to the p.c.b. If an alter-

native frequency coverage is required, coil winding details are provided in the table shown. The moving coil meter used in the prototype was a miniature edgewise tuning indicator of approximately 200 $\mu$ A full-scale deflection. The receiver will, however, operate satisfactorily with moving coil meters having anything between 100 $\mu$ A and 1mA full-scale deflection and, if desired, constructors may choose to use a properly calibrated 'S' meter. In the authors' experience, however, the calibration of such meters in all but the most expensive of receivers has been found to be somewhat arbitrary and, for most purposes, a conventional linear meter scale will be found to be quite satisfactory.

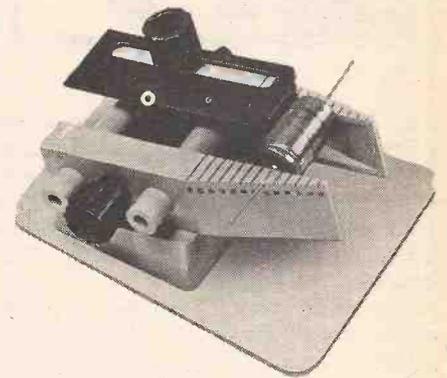
The second part of this article will deal with the two optional items involved—the power supply, and an aerial matching unit, the latter providing an improvement both in image rejection and impedance matching. Details will also be given for setting up and operation of the receiver generally.

# PRODUCTION LINES

alan martin

## If you please

Would readers kindly mention "Production Lines", when applying to manufacturers or suppliers featured on this page.



## Neat job

With the home constructor demanding a highly professional standard of finish to his projects, a useful tool has been introduced by Litesold.

The Opsec component lead bending tool is designed for simple and accurate preforming of component leads prior to insertion into the p.c.b.

The jaws may be adjusted, up to a maximum of 45mm, to accommodate most lengths of components likely to be used on circuit boards. An adjustable stop and numbered slots on the jaws ensure accurate positioning of the component prior to bending. The base is engraved in steps of 2.5mm to aid initial setting-up.

Manufactured in Deroton, a tough, high impact plastic and with the base fitted with non-slip feet, which may be drilled through and the unit screwed securely to the bench, the Opsec tool costs £4.99 plus 8% VAT and 15p P&P. *Light Soldering Developments Ltd., 97/99 Gloucester Road, Croydon, Surrey CRO 2DN. Tel: 01-689 0574.*

## Cases Galore

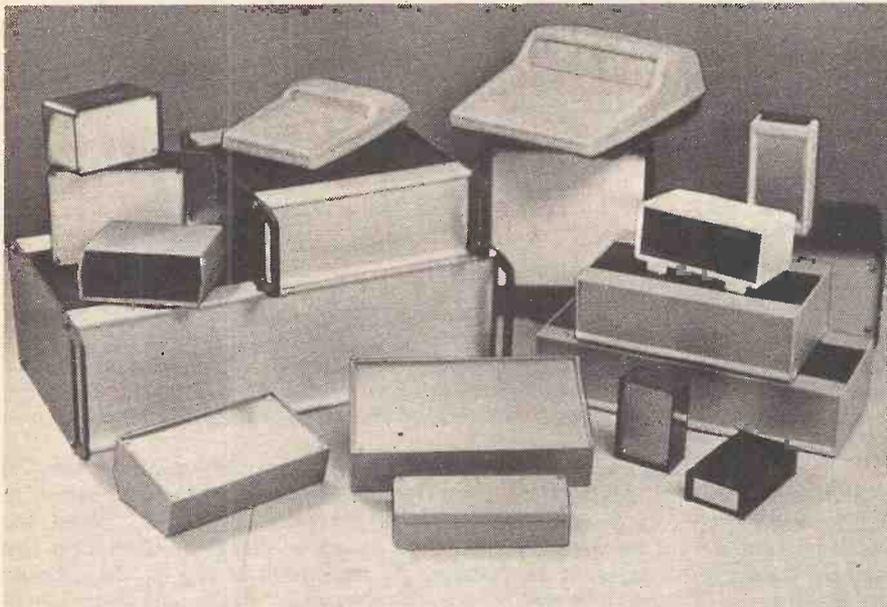
West Hyde Developments, the Aylesbury based electronic hardware suppliers, inform me, that they can supply from stock a case to house virtually all projects likely to appear in journals such as *Practical Wireless*. The photograph shows a selection of the various families of cases available, however, the combination of sizes multiply this selection enormously.

West Hyde can also offer a full range

of accessories such as knobs, handles, switches, indicators and tools.

With the aid of a computer, designed to complement West Hyde's accounting system, they are able to provide a speedy turnaround of orders.

To obtain their latest, free catalogue and price list, applications should be sent to: *West Hyde Developments Ltd., Unit 9, Park Street Industrial Estate, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1ET. Tel: (0296) 20341/4.*



## Drill stand

Recently introduced by Mega Electronics Ltd., a new low-cost p.c.b. drill stand designed for use with conventional hand-held p.c.b. drill units.

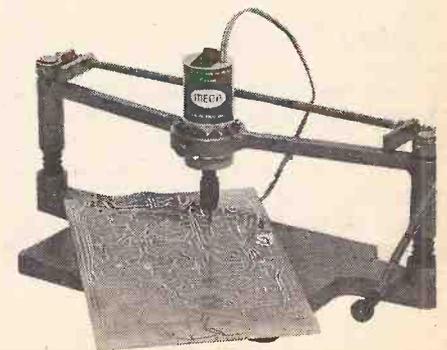
Designated the Photolab PLST-12A, the drill stand is constructed with a strong base of machined cast iron supporting precision steel guides by means of which the standard 12V drill is raised and lowered.

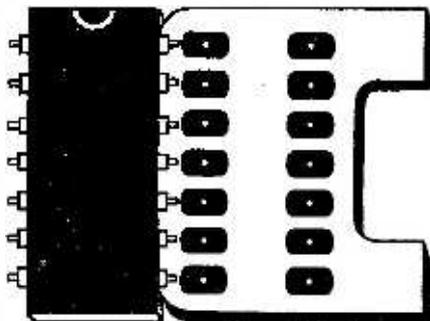
Important features are its combined simplicity and accuracy, and the fact that it will accept both the Mega and

other proprietary drills of 34mm body diameter. Additionally, the same basic drill stand is available to special order from Mega, capable of accepting drills between 20mm and 41mm diameter, at marginal extra cost.

Printed circuit boards of up to 254 x 228mm (10 x 9in.) overall will be accepted by the drill stand.

The Photolab drill stand is priced at £16.50 which includes VAT, and is available from: *Mega Electronics Ltd., 9 Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1EP. Tel: 0799 21918.*





# OF THE MONTH 73

Brian DANCE M.Sc

## NATIONAL LM391N-60 AUDIO DRIVER

The design of high quality audio power amplifiers is quite complex, and poorly constructed circuits may develop distortion or even burn out if used in a warm room. To avoid the problems associated with the construction of a complete amplifier using discrete semiconductor devices, a complete audio hybrid module or integrated circuit power amplifier can be used.

However, another approach involves the use of an audio power driver i.c. which contains most of the circuitry required for the early stages of the amplifier, but which is not itself designed to supply high power levels. This device will provide signals which can be used to drive external power transistors feeding the load.

Unfortunately very few audio power driver devices have been manufactured, but recently the new LM391N-60 has become available to the home constructor. This is a 16 pin dual-in-line device with the connections shown in Fig. 1 which can be used to construct audio power amplifiers producing only about 0.01% total harmonic distortion. It has the advantage that it is internally protected against output faults causing excessive current flow. In addition, it is protected against thermal overloading, and also protects the external power transistors.

A typical LM391N-60 amplifier which will deliver up to 20W into an 8Ω loudspeaker or up to 30W into a 4Ω loudspeaker when operated from suitable power supplies is shown in Fig. 2. Pin 8 of the LM391N-60 can deliver an output current of up to 5mA to the base of the BD345 driver transistor Tr1; this latter device amplifies the current before it is again amplified by the BD346 power transistor, Tr2. Pin 8 is a current source, but pin 5 accepts current and is therefore known as a current sink. The current is withdrawn from the base of the BD344 transistor Tr3 into pin 5; Tr3 drives the BD347 power transistor Tr4.

The positive half cycles of the waveform are handled by the BD346 power device, the current passing through R9, L1 and the loudspeaker to ground, but during negative half cycles current flows from ground through the speaker, L1, and R10, to the BD347 and hence to the negative supply line. This is a normal type of Class B operation in which each output transistor conducts alternately.

### Circuit Details

The audio input signal is coupled by C1 to pin 1 of the device, R1 being the ground return resistor. The values of these components must not be too low or the bass response will be reduced. The amplifier input impedance is approximately equal to R1, but if this resistor has a very high value, board layout problems may occur when designing for stability. In addition, the use of a very high value for R1 may result in a high offset voltage at the output.

Negative feedback is taken from the output through R4 to pin 2. The gain at audio frequencies is equal to  $(1 +$

$R4/R2)$  or about 20 (26dB) with the component values shown. However, the value of R2 can be altered (within reasonable limits) to obtain various values of gain. The input voltage required for full output power is about 630mV with the values shown. The value of R4 should be approximately equal to R1 for minimum offset voltage.

Capacitor C2 prevents the flow of a steady direct current in the feedback circuit so that there is 100% negative feedback at zero frequency; this reduces the gain of the circuit to unity at zero frequency with the result that any small input offset voltage is not amplified to produce a large output offset. Such an output offset would not only reduce the output voltage swing in one direction (and hence limit the maximum output power), but would also drive a steady current through the loudspeaker so that the loudspeaker coil would be displaced in its magnet gap or perhaps even burnt out. The value of C2 should be adequate to prevent the attenuation of bass frequencies.

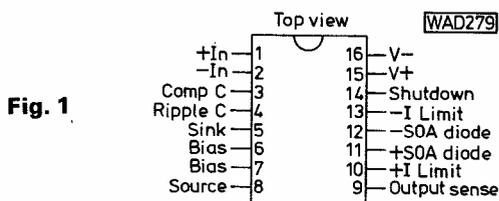


Fig. 1

The 5pF capacitor C4 is for frequency compensation (as in an operational amplifier) and sets the high frequency gain-bandwidth product. This component is required for high frequency stability. Capacitor C3 connected to pin 4 improves the rejection of mid-band and high frequencies (see Fig. 3) and if used should have a value equal to that of C4.

The potentiometer VR1 between pins 6 and 7 sets the bias for the external transistor output stages. Too little bias will result in excessive crossover distortion, whilst too much will result in an excessive power consumption and possible overheating. In the circuit of Fig. 2, VR1 should be adjusted for a quiescent current in the output devices of about 15mA, since this is just a little more than is required for minimum crossover distortion (as shown in Fig. 4). Crossover distortion is best detected at high frequencies and at low signal amplitude. The component C5 is a bias by-pass capacitor which reduces high frequency distortion and improves the transient response.

The components L1 and R14 connected in parallel may be made as a single item by wrapping about 25 turns of 19 s.w.g. wire around a 10Ω 2 watt resistor and soldering the ends of the wire to the resistor leads. It is possible to omit these two components completely with some loads, but the inductance L1 greatly improves the stability of the circuit with a capacitive load. Almost all the load current flows through the wire of the inductance (except at very high frequencies) rather than through the resistor R14. The value of this inductance is not at all critical, 2 to 12μH being suitable, but the wire used for L1 must be able to carry the

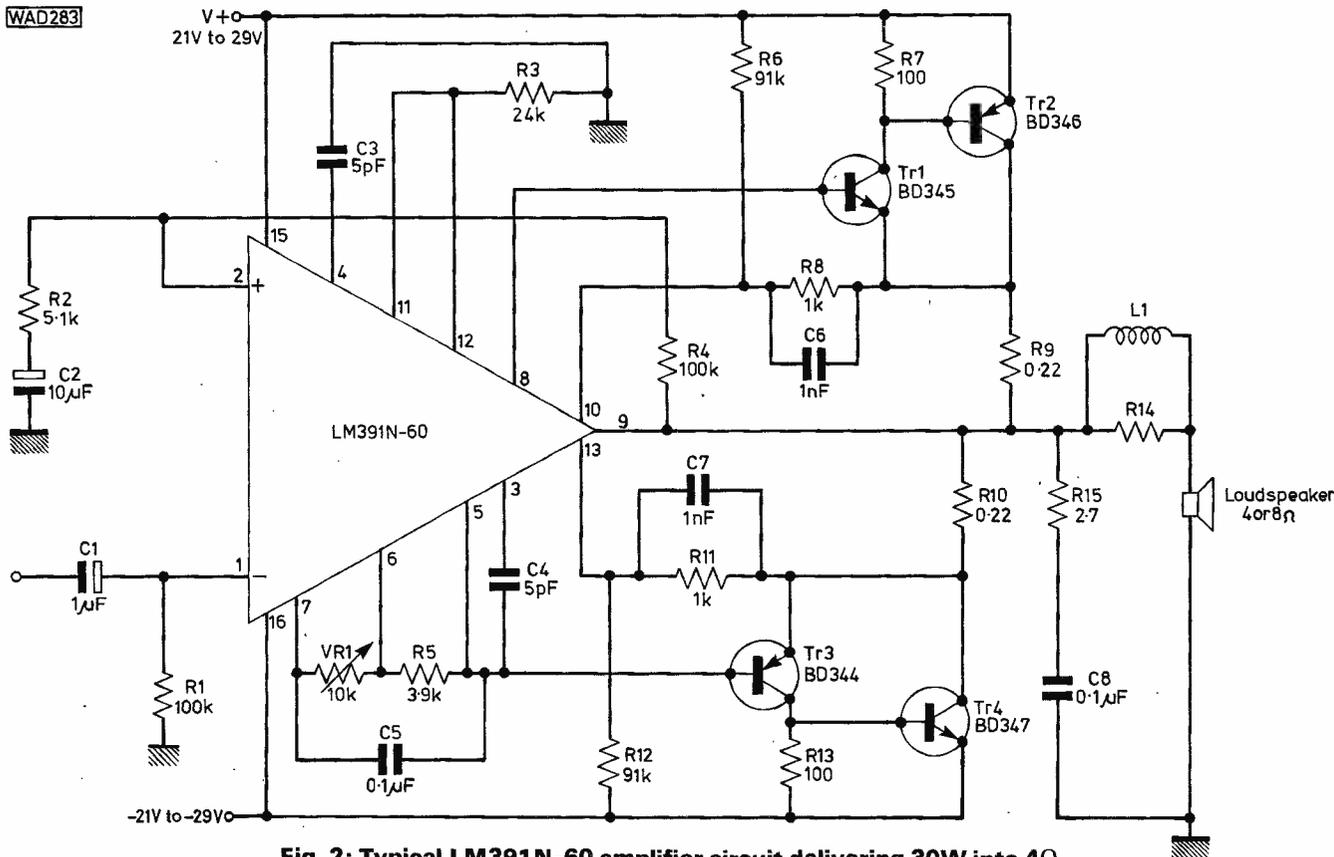


Fig. 2: Typical LM391N-60 amplifier circuit delivering 30W into 4Ω

peak current required by the loudspeaker.

The components R15 and C8 form the normal Zobel network which improves the stability at very high frequencies with certain types of load. Although the circuit may possibly operate satisfactorily without these two components, it is wise to include them rather than risk having trouble with the finished amplifier.

The resistors R9 and R10 are the emitter stabilising resistors for the power output transistors Tr2 and Tr4 respectively. They can easily be wound from a short length of resistance wire (possibly around a resistor of higher value), but the resistance wire used must be able to carry the peak current passed by the transistors. R9 and R10 stabilise the output stage quiescent current against variations of temperature.

The resistors R7 and R13 are bleed resistors which remove the charge stored in the base of the output transistors and thereby speed up the operation of these components.

## Protection Circuit

If an excessive current passes through R9, the voltage drop across this resistor will be passed to pin 10 of the LM391N-60. The internal circuit of the device will then cause the current drive to pin 8 to be reduced so that the current passing through R9 is limited to a safe value. Similarly, a high current through R10 results in an increased voltage being applied to pin 13; this results in a reduction of the pin 5 current so that the current in Tr4 is limited to a safe value.

The limiting action of this protective circuit commences when the voltage between pins 10 and 9 or between pins 9 and 13 exceeds about 0.65V. When the component values shown are used, this means the output current in each transistor is limited to a few amps.

The safe operating area (s.o.a.) protective diodes connected in the pin 11 and pin 12 circuits are not used in the relatively simple circuit of Fig. 2 and neither is the device shutdown facility of pin 14. However, a thermal switch may be fitted to one of the output device heat sinks so that this switch closes when the temperature rises above a certain level and connects pin 14 directly to ground. A current of less than 0.5mA in the pin 14 circuit is adequate to shut the device down.

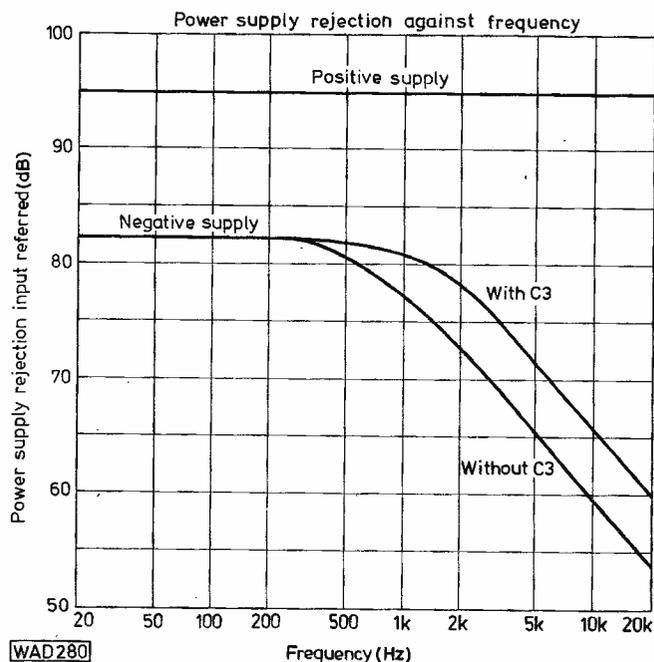


Fig. 3

## Power Supply

The maximum power supply voltage which can be safely applied to the LM391N-60 is  $\pm 30V$ . However, it is wise to keep the applied voltage appreciably below this value so as to provide a margin of safety to allow for any normal increases in the mains supply voltage producing a higher supply line voltage. An upper limit of 27V is suggested unless stabilised supplies are employed. If the power supply voltage is low, the maximum output power may be reduced. The LM391N-60 draws a quiescent current of about 3mA (maximum 10mA for any device of this type).

The output voltage of a typical LM391N-60 can swing to within 5V of the potential of either of the supply lines. When using a supply of  $\pm 21V$ , the maximum output voltage swing will therefore be about  $\pm 16V$ . The current in a 4 $\Omega$  load will be  $16 \div 4 = 4A$  peak, whilst the peak power

will be  $16 \times 4 = 64W$ . In Europe amplifiers are rated according to the maximum mean power they can deliver; the mean power is one half of the peak power in the case of a sine wave, so the peak power could be about 32W provided the current limiting circuit does not limit at a current under 4A.

When employing an 8 $\Omega$  loudspeaker with  $\pm 21V$  power supplies, the peak current is  $16 \div 8 = 2A$  and the peak power  $16 \times 2 = 32W$ . Thus the maximum mean power is about 16W. A little more power can be obtained with an 8 $\Omega$  load if the power supply voltage is increased to about  $\pm 23V$ .

The LM391N-60 provides excellent rejection of noise and hum present on the power supply lines. The amplitude of any such noise and hum signals at the output of the device is typically 31 600 times (or 90dB) less than their amplitude on the power supply lines; the typical variation of the rejection with frequency is shown in Fig. 3. The minimum rejection figure for any LM391N-60 is 70dB or 3160 times.

The noise generated by the LM391N-60 is only 3 $\mu V$  referred to the input.

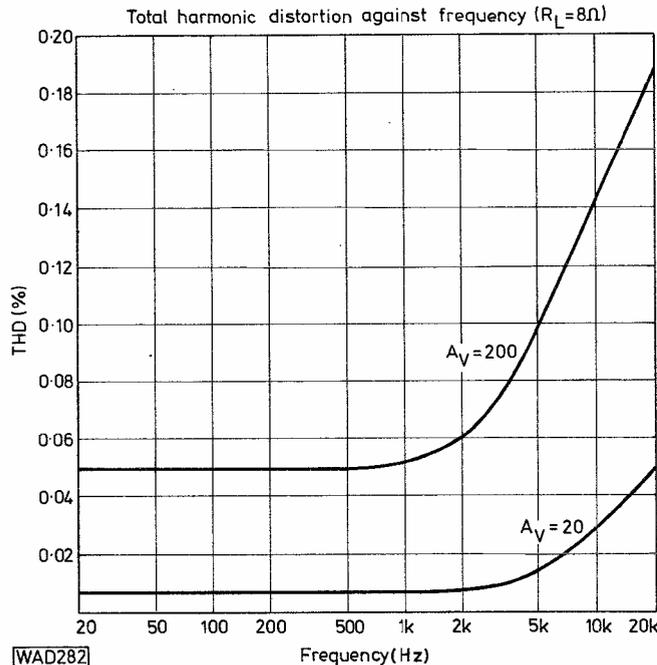
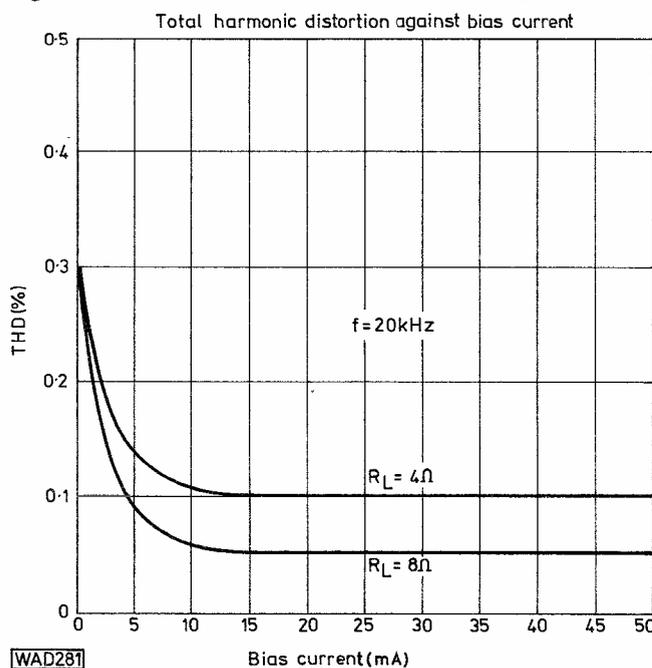


Fig. 4: Above

Fig. 5: Below



## Performance

The total harmonic distortion in a LM391N-60 circuit is about 0.01% at 1kHz when the circuit gain is 20, but it increases with frequency as shown in Fig. 4. The distortion is also higher in circuits employing higher gain, since the amount of negative feedback is smaller. Typical values of the total harmonic distortion at two values of gain are shown in Fig. 5. The intermodulation distortion has been measured as 0.01% for signals of 60Hz and 7kHz simultaneously present.

## External transistors

Various types of complementary output transistor (Tr2 and Tr4 in Fig. 2) may be used with various types of driver device (Tr1 and Tr3). The transistors used must have a V<sub>CEO</sub> breakdown voltage rating which is not less than the total voltage applied across the circuit (namely the sum of the positive and negative supply voltages). The maximum current at the LM391N-60 outputs is 5mA. The gain of the driver transistor multiplied by the gain of the output stage must be adequate to bring up this 5mA current to a value which is great enough to drive the loudspeaker at the required power level.

The complementary driver transistors in the circuit shown have a gain of 40 at 200mA collector current. Thus they can bring the 5mA output up to the 200mA level. The output transistors have a minimum gain of 30 at a current of 4A, so this is adequate for the purpose. The driver transistors should have a much higher transition frequency ( $f_T$ ) than the output transistors to prevent instability.

It is recommended by the device manufacturers that the output transistors of the Fig. 2 circuit should each be mounted on a heatsink of thermal resistance not more than 4.8°C/W or alternatively both could be mounted on the same heat sink which should not have a higher thermal resistance than 2.4°C/W. No heat sinks are required for the driver transistors. These heat sinks are not designed to cope with long duration short circuiting of the output to ground.

The LM391N-60 can be used together with external transistors in high fidelity amplifiers which are reasonably simple to construct. The device is available from Arrow Electronics Ltd., Coptfold Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4BN.

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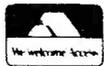
## Regulators

## Linear I.C.'s

7400.13	19*	7449	—	.87*	74136	—	.39*	74191 1.21*	.75*	4000	.15*	4053	81*	DIL (Texas)	Static RAM's	1+	17-63 64+	78M Series	CA3080	75
7401.13	19*	7450	16*	.19*	74138	—	.55*	74192 1.21*	1.85*	4001	.16*	4054	1.29*	8 pin 10*	2102A (350ns)	1.05*	95*	88*	CA3130E	90*
7402.15	19*	7451	16*	.19*	74139	—	.55*	74193 1.21*	1.85*	4002	.16*	4055	1.46*	14 pin 12*	2102A-2 (650ns)	1.29*	1.15*	1.08*	CA3140E	37
7403.15	19*	7453	16*	.19*	74141	.76*	—	74194 1.21*	—	4006	.92*	4059	5.18*	15 pin 13*	2111A-1 (500ns)	2.46*	2.19*	2.05*	LM301AN	30
7404.16	21*	7454	—	.19*	74145	.75*	1.05*	74195 1.01*	1.05*	4007	.18*	4060	1.24*	18 pin 18*	2112A-2 (250ns)	2.14*	1.90*	1.78*	LM324N	73*
7405.16	21*	7455	—	.19*	74147	1.59*	—	74196 1.18*	1.05*	4008	.92*	4066	4.8*	20 pin 20*	21102 (350ns)	1.07*	.96*	.88*	LM348N	99*
7406.26	—	7460	16*	—	74148	1.32*	—	74197 1.18*	1.05*	4009	.54*	4068	2.1*	22 pin 24*	MM5257 (TMS4044)	8.10*	7.19*	6.75*	LM380N	97*
7407.26	—	7470	27*	—	74150	1.02*	—	74198 1.81*	—	4010	.54*	4069	2.1*	24 pin 26*	(450ns)	8.10*	7.19*	6.75*	LM381N	173
7408.17*	19*	7472	23*	—	74151	.67*	.88*	74199 1.81*	—	4011	.18*	4070	2.1*	28 pin 30*	6810	3.50*	2.97*	2.52*	LM382N	133
7409.17*	19*	7473	28*	.29*	74153	.67*	.48*	74221	—	4012	.18*	4071	2.1*	40 pin 44*	—	—	—	—	LM3900N	65*
7410.15*	19*	7474	28*	.29*	74154	1.21*	1.25*	74240	2.25*	4013	.48*	4072	2.1*	—	—	—	—	—	LM3909N	70*
7411.25*	19*	7475	44*	.43*	74155	.75*	.78*	74241	—	4014	.92*	4077	2.1*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7601N	102
7412.18*	19*	7476	30*	.29*	74156	.67*	.78*	74242	2.25*	4015	.92*	4081	2.1*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	232
7413.27*	40*	7478	27*	.29*	74157	.67*	.55*	74243	2.25*	4016	.43*	4082	2.1*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7414.71*	78*	7482	73*	—	74158	—	.55*	74247	—	4017	.81*	4083	9.2*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7415	—	7483	—	.75*	74160	1.21*	.99*	74248	—	4018	.92*	4086	9.2*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7416.25*	—	7485	1.18*	.88*	74161	1.21*	.85*	74249	—	4019	.56*	4093	8.1*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7417.34*	—	7486	25*	.29*	74162	1.21*	1.25*	74251	—	4020	.92*	4099	1.81*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7420.16*	19*	7489	2.60*	—	74163	1.21*	.65*	74253	—	4021	.92*	4092	9.2*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7421	—	7490	34*	.62*	74164	1.02*	1.15*	74257	—	4022	.92*	4508	2.46*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7422	—	7491	73*	1.05*	74165	—	.78*	74258	—	4023	.18*	4510	1.07*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7423.25*	—	7492	46*	.75*	74166	1.02*	—	74259	—	4024	.65*	4511	.95*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7425.25*	—	7493	34*	.85*	74168	—	1.85*	74266	—	4025	1.84*	4514	2.70*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7426.25*	19*	7495	54*	.88*	74169	—	1.85*	74273	2.25*	4026	1.84*	4516	2.70*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7427.39*	19*	7496	67*	1.25*	74170	1.85*	1.85*	74279	—	4027	.51*	4517	4.10*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7428.38*	19*	74107	27*	.35*	74173	1.41*	.88*	74283	—	4028	.70*	4518	.95*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7430.18*	19*	74108	44*	.35*	74174	1.01*	1.85*	74290	83*	4029	.18*	4521	2.64*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7432.25*	25*	74112	—	.35*	74175	81*	1.05*	74293	83*	4030	.56*	4522	1.89*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7433	—	74113	—	.35*	74176	1.01*	—	74295	1.05*	4031	.108*	4522	1.89*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7437.25*	25*	74114	—	.35*	74177	1.01*	—	74298	1.25*	4032	1.08*	4522	1.89*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7438.25*	25*	74121	27*	—	74180	1.01*	—	74365	—	4034	.188*	4526	1.89*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7440.17*	19*	74122	50*	.75*	74181	2.21*	2.99*	74366	—	4035	1.06*	4528	.92*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7441.70*	—	74123	80*	.78*	74182	81*	—	74367	—	4040	.92*	4534	7.12*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7442.50*	55*	74124	—	1.25*	74184	1.81*	—	74368	—	4043	.81*	4536	3.74*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7445.60*	—	74125	—	.39*	74185	1.62*	—	74369	—	4046	1.06*	4533	4.53*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7446.60*	—	74126	51*	.39*	74188	2.97*	—	74386	—	4049	.43*	4566	1.51*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7447.60*	87*	74132	72*	.65*	74189	3.17*	2.25*	74670	—	4050	.43*	4583	1.02*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155
7448.60*	87*	74133	—	.19*	74190	1.21*	.75*	—	—	4051	.81*	4585	1.07*	—	—	—	—	—	SN7603N	155

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# Introduction to

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# LOGIC ~ 7

Having examined the various types of logic element and some typical applications it may now be interesting to look at some of the more recent developments in digital integrated circuits and see how they might affect amateur projects in the future.

Probably one of the more significant advances in the technology of integrated circuits in recent years has been the development of Large Scale Integrated (LSI) circuits in which there might be a thousand or more gates, or flip-flops, on a single silicon chip. This has been made possible by using larger chips, maybe 4mm square, and better photographic and etching techniques allowing more components to be packed into the chip. These complex chips make it possible to build a complete logic system into a single i.c. package. Even more complex devices, having tens of thousands of gates on a chip, known as Very Large Scale Integrated (VLSI) circuits are now being developed which promise to reduce complete computer systems to little more than a handful of i.c. chips.

## MOS Logic

Most of the LSI logic devices currently being built use MOSFETs to form the logic elements. Unlike CMOS logic, which uses both *p*- and *n*-channel devices, the MOS logic in LSI chips uses either all *p*-channel or all *n*-channel type transistors.

The earliest LSI chips used *p*-channel transistors and this type of logic is generally referred to as PMOS logic. Power supplies for PMOS devices are negative and often there are two or three different voltages required to produce the correct bias conditions. Typical devices might use supply lines of  $-5V$  and  $-12V$  although some circuits may need as much as  $-20V$  for the supply rail. Because the logic signals are of different amplitude and opposite polarity there can be problems in interfacing PMOS logic with normal TTL and CMOS circuits. Discrete transistor circuits are normally used to match the PMOS outputs to TTL inputs and vice-versa.

Production of LSI circuits using *n*-channel transistors was initially more difficult than that of PMOS devices, but, once the fabrication problems has been overcome, these new NMOS devices, as they came to be called, were found to be better than their PMOS counterparts.

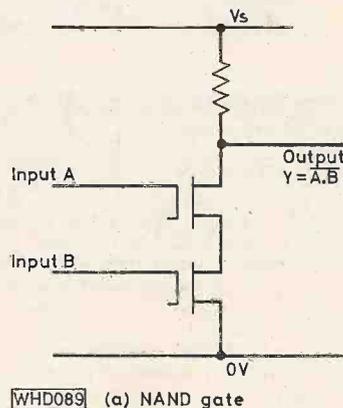
Initially NMOS devices, like the PMOS types, used two or three positive power supply rails but in many of the new NMOS circuits the bias supplies are derived inside the chip so that only a single supply voltage is required. One big advantage of NMOS circuits is that they can easily match up with TTL or CMOS logic and in many cases direct connection between the two types of logic is possible. Most NMOS logic circuits are faster in operation than PMOS equivalents.

A typical NAND gate in NMOS logic would have a circuit arranged as shown in Fig. 77(a) whilst a NOR gate

would be as shown in Fig. 77(b). As with CMOS the input impedance of PMOS or NMOS circuits is very high so static electricity can be a problem. Most modern LSI chips will have protection diodes built in to minimise the possibility of damage due to static. Nevertheless it is wise to handle all MOS LSI type devices with the same care as CMOS, and they should be stored with all device pins shorted together by aluminium foil or conductive plastic foam.

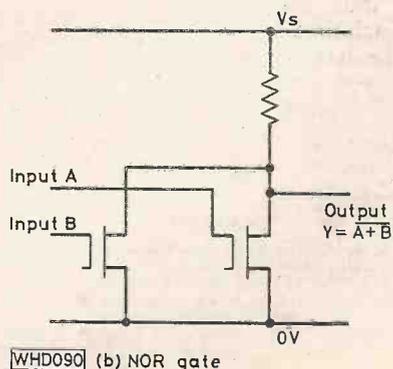
## Semiconductor Memories

Among the earliest applications of LSI techniques was the production of semiconductor memory systems for use



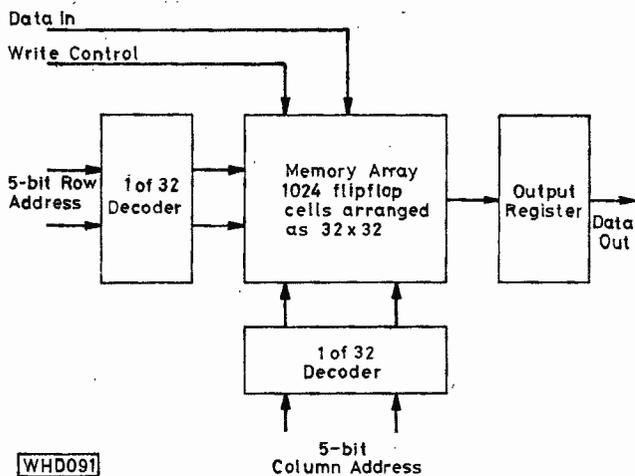
WHD089 (a) NAND gate

Fig. 77 (a): Typical MOS LSI NAND gate



WHD090 (b) NOR gate

Fig. 77 (b): Typical MOS LSI NOR gate



**Fig. 78: Organisation of a typical 1024-bit (1K) memory**

with small computers. Prior to the mid-1970s virtually all of the digital computer systems used ferrite cores as memory cells. These small ferrite ring cores were magnetised one way to represent a logic 1 state and the magnetisation polarity was reversed to represent a 0 state. A vast array of these tiny magnetic cores would be used to store the states of perhaps thousands of bits of data. Complex addressing logic had to be used to select a particular core in the array, to read its state or to write in new data. Because the windings often consisted of only one turn quite large current pulses were needed to magnetise the cores, so power supplies tended to be rather large.

A semiconductor memory can readily be produced by using a flip-flop for each memory cell. Using LSI techniques it is possible to build 1 000 or more such cells on a single chip and with MOS logic the power requirements will be relatively small.

To simplify the addressing logic the array of flip-flop cells in an MOS memory would be arranged as, say, 32 rows and 32 columns, and the general arrangement of the chip would be as shown in Fig. 78. To select a particular memory cell a 32-way decoder is used to select one row of flip-flops. Next a second decoder is used to select one of the 32 columns and hence will select one flip-flop in the chosen row. The input and output circuits of this selected flip-flop will now be routed to the input and output pins of the chip. When a clock pulse (called the Write input) is applied, the selected flip-flop will take up the state of the data input line thus allowing data to be written into the memory. Each time a flip-flop is selected, its output will be routed to the data output line of the memory chip allowing the data to be read out.

In a typical memory device, such as the 2102, there might be 1024 cells arranged as a  $32 \times 32$  array. Such a chip would be called a 1K memory. Note the convention by which the "binary thousand" (1024) is denoted by a capital K. Thus a 4K memory would hold  $4 \times 1024 = 4096$  bits, a 16K memory would hold  $16 \times 1024 = 16384$  bits and so on. The address decoders would each be 32-way devices and would be controlled by a pair of 5-bit binary codes, giving a total of 10 pins allocated to address signals for the memory. Apart from the address and power supply there will also be data input and output and a Read/Write control signal to be accommodated. Some chips also have a Chip Enable (CE) line and provide a tri-state output signal. The connections for a 2102 memory are shown in Fig. 79.

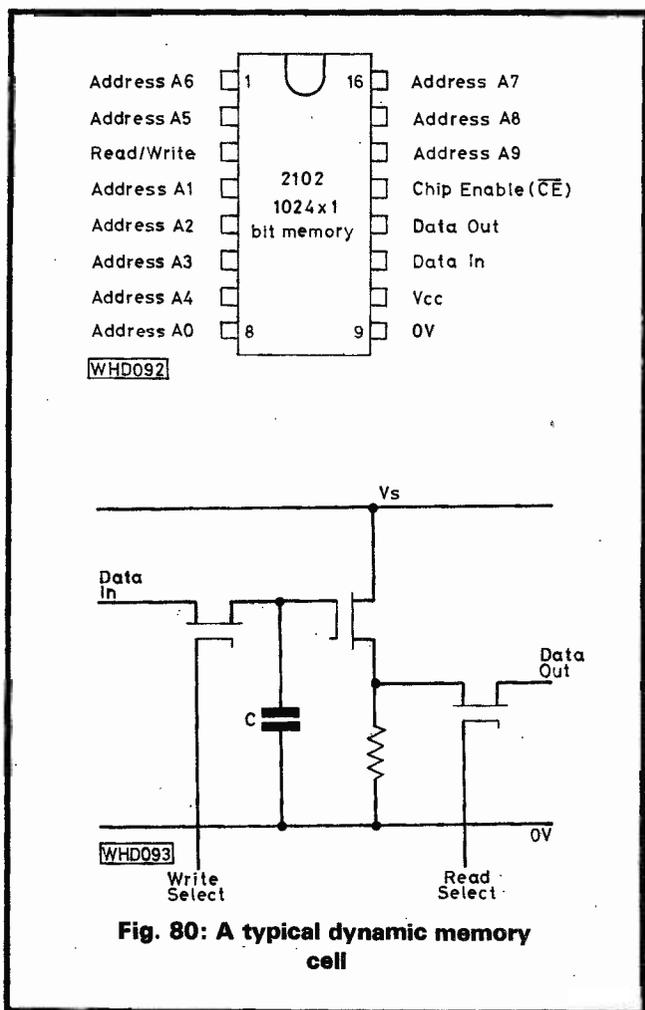
Larger memory devices use capacitors as the storage device and the 0 or 1 state is determined by whether the capacitor is discharged or charged. A typical memory cell of this type is shown in Fig. 80.

One problem with capacitor-type memories is that, due to leakage paths on the chip, the charge on the capacitor is slowly leaked away and memory would be lost unless the cell could be topped up. In fact this process of "refreshing" the state of the memory cell is achieved by regularly reading the state of the cell and rewriting this state back into it. This refresh process needs to be carried out at about 2ms intervals and for this reason such memories are called dynamic memories, whereas the normal flip-flop types are referred to as static memories.

In a dynamic memory the capacitors used for storage of data are very small and in a typical chip there may be as many as 16 384 cells together with the addressing logic. Newer types with 65 536 cells are already starting to appear. Static memories, with their more complex cell structure, tend to be less dense and may have perhaps 4096 cells, although here too larger devices are being developed.

## Digital Calculators

Until a few years ago most engineers used slide rules or mathematical tables to carry out their calculations. Today they almost invariably use an electronic calculator and even the housewife shopping at the local supermarket may be found using a pocket electronic calculator to check prices.



**Fig. 80: A typical dynamic memory cell**

Prior to 1971 calculators were desk-top machines which were either mechanical or used a vast array of SSI devices. The complex logic of these machines was however an ideal application for the new LSI techniques. In 1971 MOSTEK were to produce the first calculator chip which could add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers. The LSI revolution had begun.

Early calculator chips used PMOS logic and needed a number of extra circuits around them to drive the displays and communicate with the keyboard but despite this it was possible to build a complete four-function calculator unit into a case that would fit into a coat pocket and run from a set of batteries.

The basic logic scheme inside a typical calculator is shown in Fig. 81. At the heart of the device is the ALU (arithmetic and logic unit). This is a complex logic array which can add or subtract two numbers and perform one or two simple tests on the result. For convenience the numbers are represented in the BCD format and the ALU deals with them four bits (one BCD digit) at a time. For multiplication and division a sequence of successive additions or subtractions is carried out in much the same way as if the sum were being worked out on paper.

Apart from the ALU there are flip-flop registers which will hold the two numbers to be operated upon and the result of the operation. An 8- or 10-digit l.e.d. or l.c.d. seven-segment display is provided to present the numbers in visible form. To minimise the number of pins needed on the calculator, chip display is multiplexed with the digits flashing up in sequence at a sufficiently high rate to produce a flicker-free display. A further complex section of logic controls the activities of the ALU, registers, keyboard and display to produce the desired results.

Suppose we are going to add two numbers. At the start the control logic connects the keyboard and display to the "A" register, and as numbers are keyed in their 4-bit data patterns are shifted into this register one digit at a time. The display will show the contents as the number is fed in. When the "+" function key is pressed, a flip-flop is set to select the addition process whilst the keyboard and display are switched to the "B" register where the second number will be stored. When the second number has been entered and the "=" key is pressed, the numbers from the "A" and "B" registers are routed to the inputs of the ALU which adds them together, and the result from the ALU is fed to the display. Digits are switched in sequence by the control logic and any carry bits from one decade are added in as the next decade is dealt with.

In the case of multiplication and division, a sequence of add or subtract operations is carried out in the ALU as the control logic works its way through a preset sequence of commands. These commands switch the operation of the ALU and control the transfer of numbers between it and the other registers. A similar complex sequence of operations is used in some modern calculators to work out trigonometric and other mathematic functions. Sometimes additional registers will be included to allow intermediate results of a complex calculation to be stored temporarily.

## LSI in Television

Another application of LSI devices which has come into prominence in the past year or two has been the TV game. In the early 1970s TV based games, such as Pong (or TV tennis), began to make their appearance in the amusement arcades. In these early games conventional logic devices were used, but soon GI introduced an LSI chip which could provide a choice of several different games such as tennis, hockey and squash. Recently much more sophisticated games such as tank battle, which would have needed hundreds of TTL devices, have been introduced.

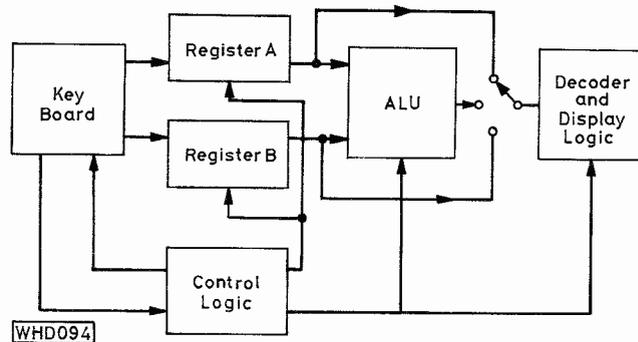


Fig. 81: Block diagram of a digital calculator

The games chip itself has to generate a complete video signal for the game display including sync pulses and in some cases colour signals. Sound effects, such as the ball striking the bat, are generated as bursts of pulses by the games chip. Apart from producing the display the chip must control the motion of bats, balls, etc., and also detect scoring moves and keep the score for both players. Further logic is needed to display the score on the screen and to control the selection of the various games.

External controls for bats, tanks, etc., are normally potentiometers which alter the timing of delay circuits in the chip and hence alter the position of objects on the TV screen. Sometimes the speed of movement may be controlled in a similar way as in the stunt rider and racing car games.

Another recent application of LSI devices in television has been in building decoder systems for the Ceefax and Oracle teletext transmissions now being broadcast by the BBC and ITV.

In teletext decoders the logic must select out the data signals from the television picture signal and decode them. A particular page of text, selected by the viewer, must then be detected and removed from the incoming data stream. The selected page of text is stored as a set of binary data words in a memory and data from this memory is regularly read out and converted into video signals to produce a text display on the screen in place of the programme picture. Using conventional logic such a decoder system might require about a hundred TTL devices whereas by using LSI it is possible to reduce this to perhaps six to ten chips which will fit conveniently on to a small card mounted in the back of the television receiver.

## Universal Logic Chips

One of the problems facing the manufacturer of LSI chips is to decide what to put into them. As the logic gets more complex the number of options also increases as each user will want his own favourite features. Unfortunately it costs a lot of money to design an LSI chip and unless it can be made in thousands or even millions it will not be economic to produce it.

One solution to this problem adopted by the chip makers was to build a standard chip which contained a large array of identical gates and to tailor the devices to the user's requirements by interconnecting the gates as required during the final stages of making the device. Thus only the final interconnection pattern needed to be designed for each new application and the overall cost of a new device could be kept down.

Another approach was to make the circuit on the chip more versatile so that it might satisfy a number of varied applications. The limit here is in the number of pins that can be used on the chip package and typically a 40-pin

d.i.l. is about the biggest practical container for normal use.

Intel faced this basic problem when they were making calculator chips for various designs of calculator unit. It occurred to their engineers, however, that basically all of the systems were the same but the control sequence used in each calculator was different. Since most logic systems can be broken down into a sequence of separate logic operations, a universal logic chip might now be produced where the set of commands to the ALU and control logic was fed in from an external memory. Now the basic calculator or logic operation chip could be standard and mass produced, whilst its action could be tailored to suit the user's needs by supplying the appropriate sequence of instructions from some external memory device. The basic idea of the microprocessor has been born and Intel's 4004 device became the world's first microprocessor chip which could handle 4-bit data words and process them in any way the user desired.

## Microprocessors

Recently, microprocessors have been very much in the news and in some circles have taken on the aura of being a kind of magical device which can solve all of our problems. In practice, as we shall see, the microprocessor is nothing more than a very versatile logic element that will respond to a set of external commands to perform a wide variety of logic functions. In essence the device works in virtually the same way as the central processing unit of any digital computer system.

Internally a microprocessor will be arranged more or less as shown in Fig. 82. It consists basically of some control logic, an ALU and a set of registers which connect to two external data bus systems. At any time the signal interconnections between the internal circuits are set up by the control logic in response to the external commands, and the internal circuits can communicate with one another via an internal data bus system. Outside the chip an 8-bit-wide data bus is used to carry data to and from the processor chip. A second bus, usually 16 bits wide, carries address signals from the processor which define the particular external circuit that is to talk to the 8-bit data bus. Usually most of the external circuits are memory arrays and the address bus will select the particular memory location where the desired data is to be found or sent to.

The ALU is perhaps the heart of the processor since it can add or subtract numbers, carry out AND, OR, INVERT and EXCLUSIVE OR logic operations or act as a counter or shift register. This is the versatile logic element. The control logic decodes the command instructions fed in from the external memory and sets up the appropriate operation in the ALU and the interconnections between the registers.

The Accumulator register is used to take data from the external data bus and process it via the ALU, after which the result is held in the Accumulator. A second register, called the Program Counter, keeps track of the memory address where the next instruction is to be found. The Program Counter also controls the transfer of instructions from the data bus into the instruction register, from whence they pass to the control logic for decoding and execution.

An Address register is used to hold the current memory address for any data or instructions that are to be passed from the data bus into or out of the processor. Two other registers may also affect this address signal. One is the Index register which allows the processor to modify the memory address during program execution whilst the

Stack Pointer register is used to hold the address of a special area of memory used as a scratchpad by the processor as it executes the program. Finally there is usually a Status register which provides information on the state of play within the processor device. This register can for instance indicate if the result of the last arithmetic operation was zero or negative.

## Microcomputers

A microprocessor chip by itself is totally useless, apart from its value as an objet d'art or collectors item. To produce a working system it needs the addition of some memory to hold program and data information and also there must be input-output circuits to allow the device to talk to the outside world. A typical microcomputer system might be as shown in Fig. 83.

To make the system work, a set of program instructions must be written into the memory system and the program counter register is then loaded with the address of the first instruction of the sequence. Each instruction may consist of from one to three 8-bit data words. The first word is always an Operation code which will tell the processor what to do. The second and third words convey the address in the memory where any data needed is to be found or stored. As each of the instructions is executed the Program counter register is updated automatically so that

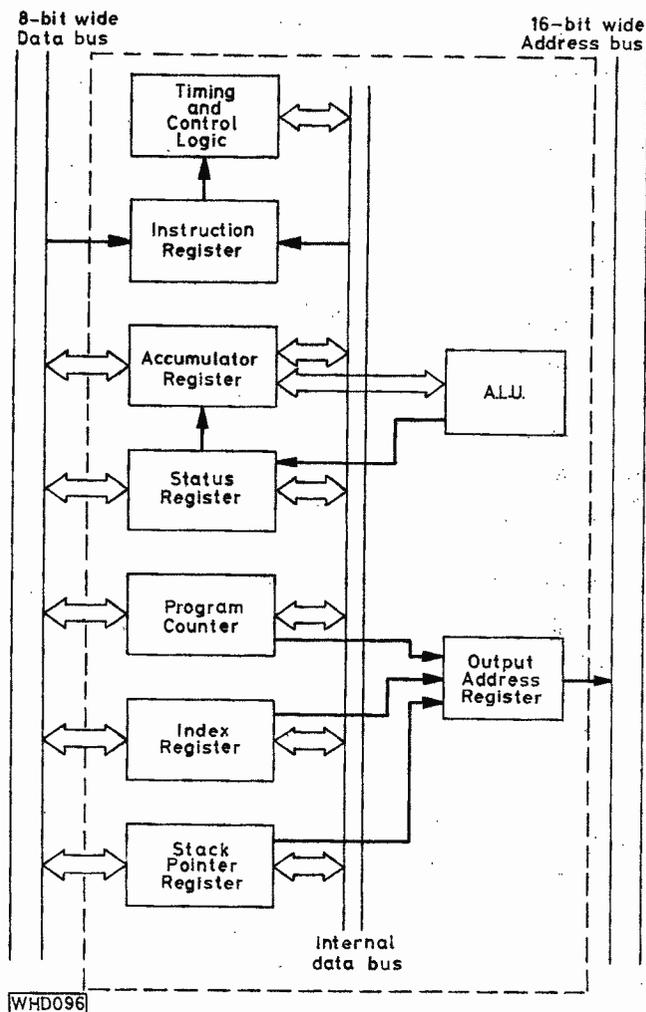
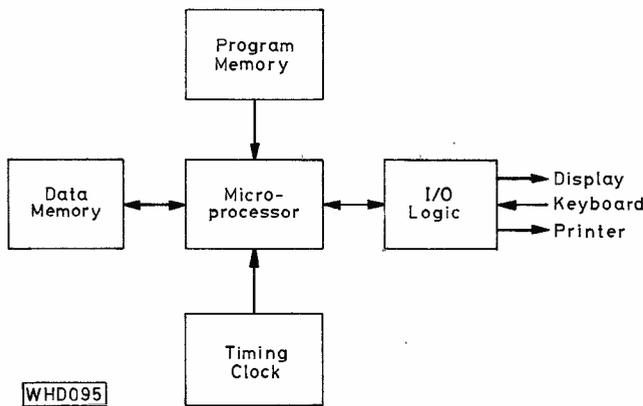


Fig. 82: Block diagram of a simple microprocessor chip



**Fig. 83: Block diagram of a typical microcomputer system**

it now contains the address in memory where the next instruction to be executed is to be found.

## Programming

Perhaps the most important part in designing a system using microprocessors is the process of writing the program of instructions, or software as it is called in computing circles.

Actual instruction codes stored in the memory are just 8-bit binary numbers which represent instruction codes and addresses. Programming in this machine code is difficult and definitely not recommended. To overcome this problem a new language called Assembler code is normally used for writing the programs for a microprocessor. Here each operation code is given a mnemonic name such as ADD, SUB or LDA (Load the Accumulator) and the memory addresses can be given names, such as TEMP, SPEED or SUM.

Suppose we want to add two numbers together. The set of instructions might be;

```

LDA N01    (Load N01 into accumulator)
ADD N02    (ADD N02 to accumulator)
STA SUM    (Store the result in SUM)
  
```

When the complete program has been written in this mnemonic language it must next be translated into the 8-bit binary words of the machine code before it can be loaded into the microcomputer's memory system for execution. The translation is carried out by a complex program called an Assembler. This translation process may be carried out on a similar microcomputer system or on a full-size digital computer system. Once the machine code data has been generated it may be put on to a cassette tape or written into a Read Only Memory. In the small microcomputer system the program is either loaded from cassette tape into a normal read/write memory or read directly from the programmed ROM in order to make the microprocessor carry out its required operations.

Where the microprocessor is being used as a calculator or computer it is convenient to use a higher level language than the Assembly code. Typical of these are the FORTRAN and BASIC languages used on larger digital computers. In this case our simple addition program is reduced to the statement:

$$C = A + B$$

where A and B are the two numbers and C is the answer. These high level languages also need to be translated. In the case of BASIC this is done by using an interpreter-type program to translate each instruction as it is executed, but FORTRAN is translated to machine code in much the same way as the Assembly code.

## Where do we go from Here?

In this series the basic principles of logic have been discussed and some of the applications of these devices to amateur electronic projects have been touched upon. It is to be hoped that the reader will now be in a position to understand how a logic system works and perhaps to follow the descriptions of logic operation in books and articles, though it must be admitted that some books on logic tend to be a bit obscure.

How will microprocessors and LSI affect our projects? It is certain that microprocessors are here to stay and that they will feature in the more advanced amateur projects such as RTTY systems, Morse decoders, control systems and various types of electronic games.

LSI devices are already making themselves felt in the field of amateur electronics. It is now possible to buy a single LSI chip which, with a suitable display, makes a very nice digital voltmeter. The counter and control logic for a digital frequency meter can now be reduced to a handful of LSI chips whilst text displays can readily be produced on the domestic TV screen using a few LSI devices.

Small logic circuits and discrete transistors will not disappear however, and still have their uses in the simpler applications. It's foolish to use a microprocessor when a few simple gates will do the job, unless of course the microprocessor is already in the system somewhere. It's always a good idea to look at the simple approach first before a microprocessor or LSI chip is considered. The problems are all out there waiting to be solved so why not see if you can put those logic chips in the junk box to some good use?

## SPECIAL PRODUCT REPORT—DM235

*continued from page 32*

The readout is a full  $3\frac{1}{2}$  digit i.e.d. display with 8mm high red digits reading up to  $\pm 1999$ . The digits are bright and well formed giving a good angle of view.

The instrument is well built with most of the components on one main printed circuit board. The two halves of the plastics case are held together by several screws. The display board is mounted onto the main board.

For use in the lab it would make sense to use the a.c. mains adaptor which is built into a 13A plug. This small unit was a shade tight fitting into a standard mains socket but otherwise was satisfactory, and should repay its cost by saving on dry batteries. Rechargeable batteries are also available and can be recharged from the mains adaptor while the instrument is being used.

The advantages of a d.m.m. over the conventional analogue type is the unambiguous readings given by the digital display. Even with a mirror scale such as provided by the Avo 8 type of instrument it is difficult to obtain an accurate reading and almost impossible if you cannot stand right over the scale. The d.m.m. eliminates any parallax error as well as any misreading of ranges or scales. Against this, however, is the comparatively slow scanning rate of the DM235. It can be a little disconcerting for the newcomer to digital meters to have to wait for three or four changes of the display before the true reading is shown. With an analogue meter the reading is instantaneous. Also, if you are used to using your conventional meter to indicate maximum or minimum voltages, such as when tuning a circuit, then the digital readout will be no real substitute, as it is difficult to interpret trends.

However, taken all round the DM235 represents good value for the enthusiast and should prove to be a useful addition to his workshop test equipment.

**Dick Ganderton**

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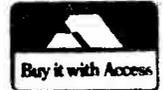
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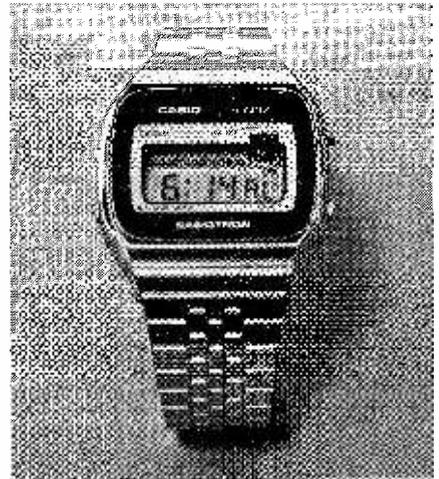
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## High power batteries

A new heavy-duty battery has been added to the range of transistor and high-power types from the Vidor division of Crompton Parkinson Ltd., a Hawker Siddeley company.

The new Vidor battery, which is known as the VT3C, is identical in size to the "small" transistor type currently available. It has been designed for use in portable electronic and electrical equipment and is particularly suitable for heavy-duty applications where sustained high power is required.

Typical applications for the VT3C include calculators, TV games, toys, remote TV programme selectors and small battery-powered domestic appliances.

The new VT3C complements the recently introduced HP7C calculator battery. *Crompton Parkinson Ltd., 50/52 Marefair, Northampton NN1 1NY. Tel: (0604) 30201.*

## Alarm watch

If you feel like treating yourself to a really nice present, the Casio Alarm watch (25CS-14B) should fit the bill.

Presented with a superb stainless steel case and strap, the watch displays in the normal time mode—hours, minutes, seconds, a.m./p.m. and day, with a claimed accuracy of  $\pm 10$  seconds per month.

The calendar mode displays day, date, month, year and is pre-programmed until the year 2009.

Also the watch features an alarm facility with a rather piercing voice.

Powered by one silver oxide battery (type UCC393) with an operating life of approx. 15 months, calculated on the basis of 5 pushes of the light button per day for 1 second duration each, and the alarm running for 60 seconds.

The recommended retail price is £74.95, but Tempus offer the watch at a discounted price of £59.95 which includes VAT. *Tempus, Dept. PW, 19/21 Fitzroy Street, Cambridge CB1 1EH. Tel: 0223 312866.*

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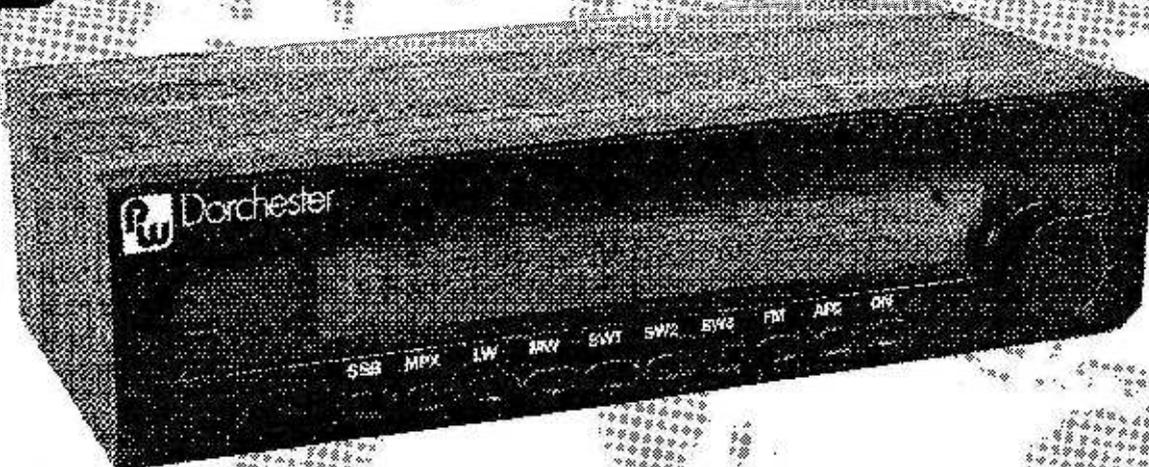
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# ALL-BAND TUNER

W.S. POEL

This part deals with the extensions and accessories that you may wish to consider in connection with the "Dorchester" tunerboard, some of which are likely to be methods of housing, powering and tuning the receiver, in a manner which will not disgrace your sitting room.

The case housing the Author's unit was modified from parts used for a commercial design which is no longer produced. In this way, a professional standard of presentation, with a neatly sculptured front panel and proven mechanics were available instead of the usual combination of folded aluminium and Dymo tape.

The basic mechanical layout of the prototype is given in Fig. 11: subsequent versions had the chassis deepened slightly to accommodate the tuner with a little more ease. An extension shaft is required which is fitted to the tuning capacitor spindle and held rigid by means of a bush mounted on a bracket.

The tested tuner board—remember not to expect a completely un-tried unit to work first time, no matter how carefully you may have constructed it—is fitted to the base plate by means of pillars mounted in the bottom of the chassis. The Author prefers spacers which are

designed for use with self-tapping screws so that the pillars are fixed down independently of the tuner board. The approach whereby the bolt is simultaneously passed through a pillar and fixed through the p.c.b. is usually frustrating and tedious to perform.

## Tuner Power Supply

This unit (Fig. 12) is simply a mains transformer, followed by a rectifier and three-terminal voltage regulator from the 7812 series, or the SGS TDA1412. Radio frequency interference from this type of regulator needs to be suppressed with additional filtering circuitry, so note the extra decoupling.

The current-handling capacity of the power supply needs to be about 150mA—but in the prototype, a degree of headroom has been left, so that the illumination of the meter and tuning scale may be included. Before you consider attaching any sort of audio power amplification to the tuner supply, make absolutely certain that there is sufficient reserve to prevent the voltage from falling below the minimum at which regulation takes place.

Where a steel chassis is used, it is desirable to mount the ferrite rod antenna on the back panel (outside) or the efficiency will be greatly impaired. There are various methods employed in commercial designs, the most elegant of which is to mount the rod in a non-ferrous tube on some form of infinitely-adjustable pivot so that the angle may be adjusted to the user's requirements. A long wire antenna coupled to the rod tends to reduce directional effects and can be the conveyor of problems arising from one of the many thousands of sources of r.f.i. This design makes a simple approach, using proprietary parts and tubing—since it seems the more intricate mechanical arrangements are exclusively customised to individual manufacturers' specifications.

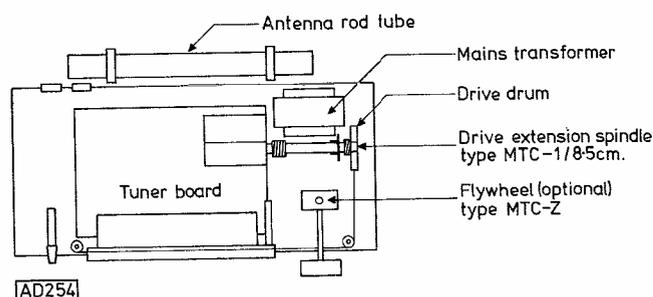


Fig. 11: Mechanical layout of the tuner

## Coverage and Sensitivity

In the Author's prototype, SW3 was restricted to a maximum of approximately 22MHz. In this way, the main broadcast bands are given a bit more spread on the dial. No modification of the circuit is necessary, since the adjustment is simply carried out using the trimming adjustments of capacitors and tuning slugs.

A preselector is frequently suggested for use in conjunction with receivers that are to be fed with nondescript antenna arrangements and have broad coverage—and before considering a suitable design here, it is very important to bear in mind that gain and h.f. receivers are not necessarily the best of companions. Certainly everyone likes to think their set can resolve s.s.b. below  $1\mu\text{V}$ , but then, there isn't much point if the set overloads when another station a few kilohertz away flattens the whole thing with a  $1\text{mV}$  input!

The basic tuner has excellent sensitivity for a unit of this type—a broadcast transmission receiver, first and foremost. An antenna of some twenty feet in length proved to be more than adequate, so before getting carried away with antennae it must be borne in mind that some selectivity in the tuner is called for, to limit cross-modulation of the mixer by strong adjacent channels.

The average casual listener usually has a length of wire for an antenna, and as far as receiving is concerned, this can be turned into a beautifully affective and versatile arrangement with a simple pi-network tuner. Various designs have been featured over the years (Fig. 13 shows two examples) and so we will not go into too much detail here. By switching coil taps at various positions along an inductor, almost any piece of wire can be tuned to resonance at h.f. Wires that are much shorter than a wavelength tend to exhibit a high impedance—and the pi-network is one of the best ways of matching.

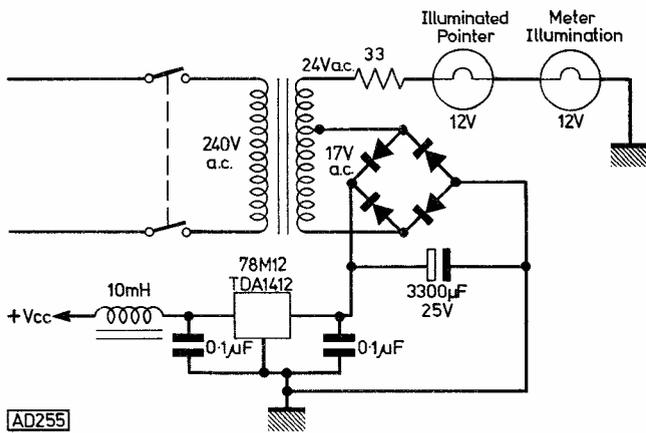
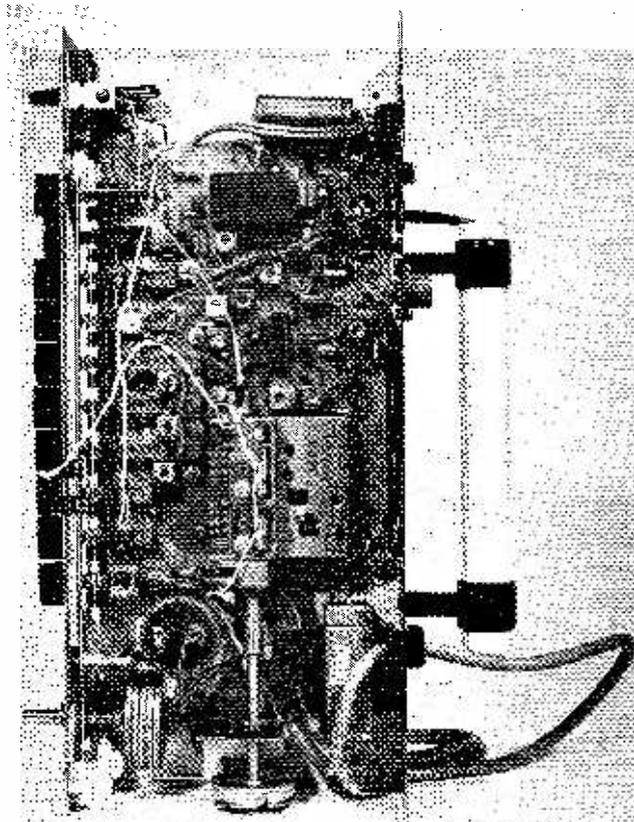


Fig. 12: Power supply arrangements

In stretching the wiring feeding the ferrite rod, the possibility of extraneous pickup on the coupling leads has been greatly increased, so this wiring must be tightly wound and kept to an absolute minimum. It is not feasible to use fully screened connections of this length, since their additional capacitance would restrict the necessary bandwidth.

Remember to secure the coils on the rod when you have adjusted them. This should be carried out whilst the rod is in place at the rear of the chassis, since the presence of adjacent metal will tend to modify the aerial tuning characteristics somewhat.



A view of the completed unit prior to the outer case being fitted

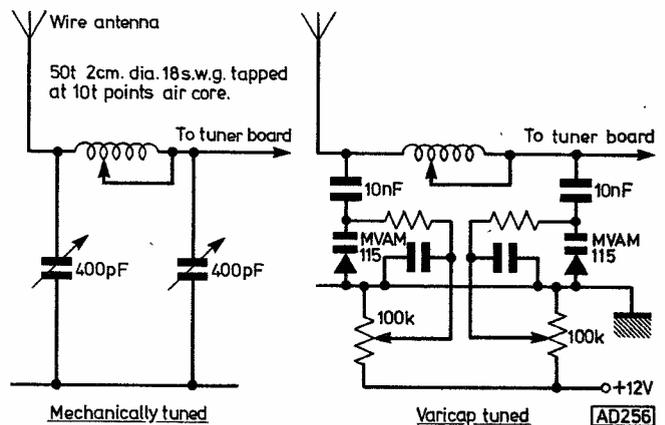
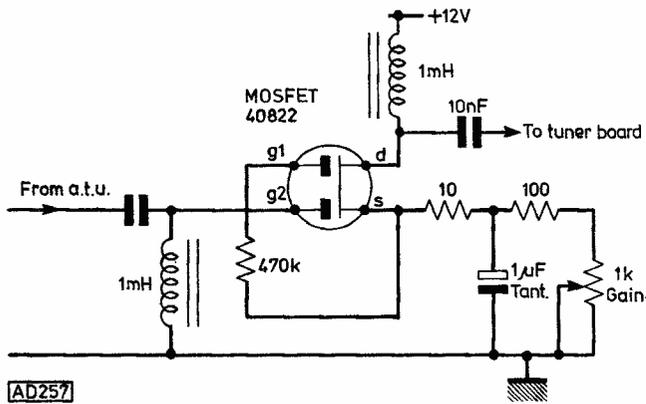


Fig. 13: Typical pi-network aerial tuning arrangements with (left) ganged variable capacitor and (right) varicap diodes

If you still want more gain with your tuner, then the circuit of Fig. 14 is suitable, but remember that the gain control is not merely an adornment, but a necessity—since the preselector may be used as a tuned attenuator when things get out of hand simply by backing-off the gain control.

If you are a keen s.w.l. then a digital frequency-readout is a virtual must these days. The recently-published PW design will readily suit this receiver. Take the oscillator from pin 20 of the i.c.—or by f.e.t. buffering from the oscillator section of the tuning capacitor.



AD257

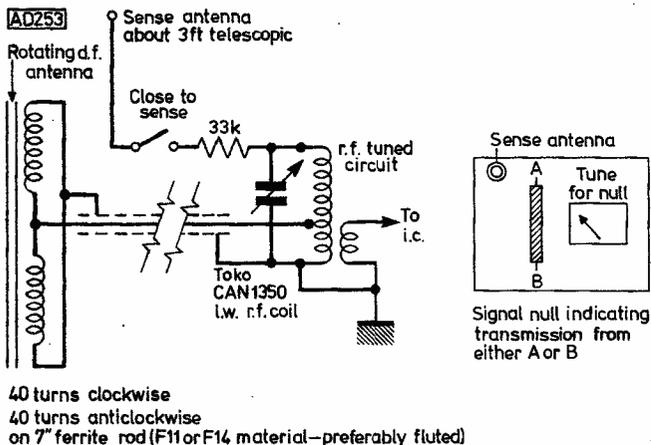
Fig. 14: R.F. pre-amplifier

## Audio

Some readers may wish to include audio amplification within the tuner—and the many i.c.s that exist to fulfil this requirement scarcely need additional comment here. However, there is one point to watch, and that is the almost universal tendency of such amplifiers to exhibit h.f. oscillation at their output. Remember to decouple the power supply carefully—and feed the loudspeaker/headphones using screened audio cable, taking care to follow manufacturers' recommendations concerning Zobel networks, ferrite bead suppressors, etc. The high gain of the tuner makes it susceptible even to quite low levels of spurious radiation that most applications could quite easily ignore.

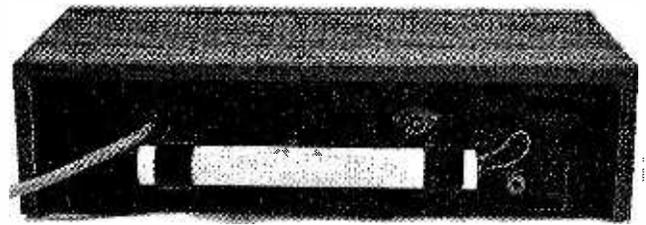
The question of using the tuner in a portable configuration was briefly discussed in the first part of this article. The main i.c. consumes a fair amount of current for this application—especially in the a.m., mode; but in f.m. the consumption reaches around 23mA, with another 12mA for the tunerhead. This is not necessarily unreasonable by modern standards, and indeed, many of the larger portables have a much higher consumption.

Thus the unit makes the basis of a very fine portable. The really superfluous part of the circuit would then be the stereo decoder, for however desirable the idea of a stereo portable may seem, it is usually a wasteful extravagance. In units incorporating mains/external 12V options, the decoder arrangement should be locked out when the internal batteries are used. All scale lighting functions should be wired so that they only illuminate on the operation of biased switch or pushbutton.



40 turns clockwise  
40 turns anticlockwise  
on 7" ferrite rod (F11 or F14 material—preferably fluted)

Fig. 15: Typical arrangements when direction-finding facilities are to be incorporated

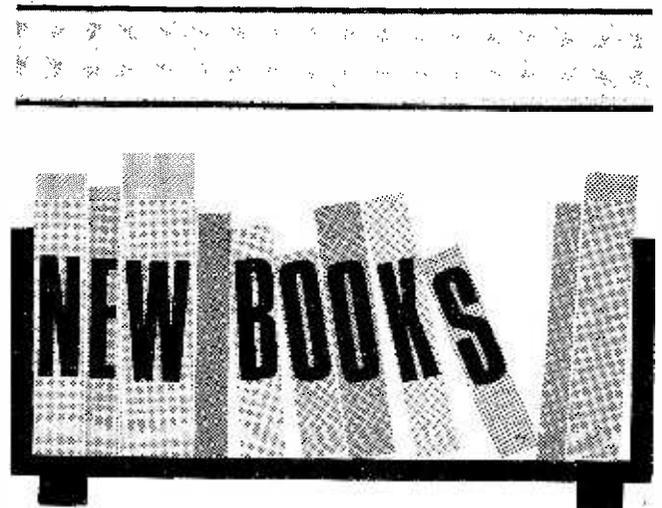


A rear view of the Dorchester showing the ferrite rod aerial and other connections

The question of direction-finding has recently been raised, and since the nautical and aero transmissions are located in the only section omitted from the standard broadcast range of 175kHz to 30MHz (250–400kHz approx.) one of the s.w. bands has to be sacrificed if the facility is to be accommodated. This will probably be SW3 and oscillator coil is changed for a 632μH DF band type. The antenna coil is also changed, and a second ferrite rod antenna for the DF band fitted—or, as an alternative, the "loopstick" arrangement used to permit sensing of the rod position relative to the transmission (Fig. 15).

The tuned circuit for DF is then the l.w. r.f. coil, with the DF rod coupled to the tap.

Work on DF applications is far from finalised as yet, but if sufficient reader-interest is apparent, then further developments will be published at a later date.



## ELECTRONICS—an elementary introduction for beginners

by L. W. Owers

Published by Talbot House Press

Freeland, Oxford OX7 2AP

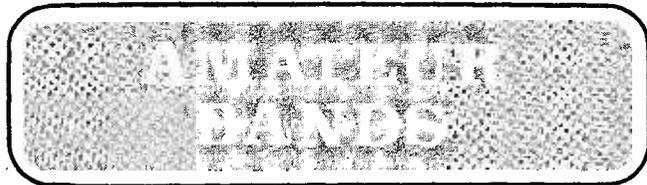
119 pages. 209 × 149mm. Price £2.95

This book sets out to give a broad introduction to the subject of electronics, providing a background for more advanced study. This is achieved well, starting with the discovery of electric charge and ending with semiconductors.

Moving away from electrostatics into the realm of moving charges and conduction we meet resistors, capacitors and inductors, progressing through valves and the cathode ray tube into semiconductors and the doping of semiconductor materials to form transistors and integrated circuits.

The whole book is well illustrated with some excellent diagrams which are available as 35mm slides for teaching purposes.

KA



by Eric Dowdeswell G4AR

The business of listening on the amateur bands ought to be more than just a matter of entering long lists of stations in the log. After some months it will become apparent that there is a definite pattern to the times at which stations in different parts of the world appear on the various bands.

I have mentioned this before as a means of understanding the mechanics of the propagation of radio signals in connection with the 11-year sunspot cycle. However there is another aspect which should not be overlooked. Since none of us have unlimited time to spare listening or working on the air, it is essential that the time we do have available is well-spent.

The newly-licensed amateur whether a G4 or a G8 is going to waste an awful lot of time if the optimum band or mode is not chosen as a result of experience gained as a listener. The tyro may call CQ for hours without a reply on a dead band or use the wrong mode for a particular part of a band.

On the h.f. bands a note should be kept of prefixes and when they are heard, at what time and which band, to build up a picture over a year or so. If a band is found to be dead then note it and check all bands if possible, whenever sitting down to listen.

For the listener who is able to copy c.w., check the c.w. end of each band as it is strange how often there is activity there when the s.s.b. part is comparatively dead. In contest work the listener and the transmitting amateur can perform much more efficiently by choosing the right band to work on at any given time. In days gone by I would always watch the bands for a couple of weeks before a big international contest just to get the feel of them, noting when the more elusive countries and prefixes were coming in well, band by band.

Then an operating schedule was compiled of bands against time for 24 hours thus giving two "windows" for working a particular DX station in a 48 hour contest, all aimed at reducing unnecessary operating to a minimum. This resulted on one occasion in being able to work 99 countries on c.w. in a weekend contest using all bands from 3.5 to 28MHz.

It will be noted that occasionally signals from the west coast of the US and from VK are audible in the early morning and late afternoon due to short and long path propagation, thus doubling the possible openings for working or copying stations in these areas.

## On the Bands

In spite of our most welcome Indian summer the change to winter conditions has gone on apace on the h.f. bands, exemplified by reports from readers such as **Ian Marquis** A9140 of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, who copied CT2, EA6, EA8, JA, VP2 and 9K2 on 80m s.s.b. Ian's FRG-7 and long wire also found the extremely rare Willis Island in the form of VK9ZM on 20m, in the DX Net on 14 265kHz. 15m revealed another new country in KV4KV/D on Deception Island, plus WODX/D on c.w. on 10m, part of the same set-up there.

**Richard Smith** in Porthcawl, S. Wales, has forsaken his old and trusty t.r.f. set for a KW77 and is particularly glad to find it incorporates a crystal calibrator. He plans to put a 2m converter in front to get the feel of the v.h.f. world before he takes his RAE in the not too distant future. Richard found a 5Y3 and 7X2 on 80m so let's hope this is a sign of more good stuff to come from that direction. African activity has always been low on the l.f. bands due to the high level of static experienced there. It's something that has to be experienced to be believed!

SSTV has captured the imagination of **Simon Robinson** in Stocksfield, Northumberland, and now G8POO. Using an MK Electronics monitor he has seen DL, OZ, I, EA and OK stations, using a 10in diagonal c.r.t. The only call of interest on 10m s.s.b. was JW7FD on Bear Island.

**Rod Hunt** (Darlington) sticks with his t.r.f. rig and to date has logged over 80 countries on it, mainly on 21 and 28MHz. The latter band has come up with DX such as JW7, ZP5, with 21 producing EA0, HP0, ZB2DV (G4EMR on holiday!), ZL1, 3D6 and 9J2. Rod has started his own RAE course and is not neglecting to get some practice in on the key, while a G3 "on the other side of the hill" is giving advice and assistance.

Loft aerials for **Bob Bell** in Blyth, Northumberland, means sloping tubular ones with coils to load to a particular band but due to the awkwardness of the set-up it's all likely to finish up in the garden very soon! Bob found PY0EG on 20m s.s.b. and an early morning session provided VK7, not heard too often, ZL4 and VK5.

Not a very exciting month for **Bill Rendell** of Truro but KG4KG in Guantanamo Bay is a rare bird on 20m s.s.b., with KC6GF a good find. Bill also intends dumping his attic aerials and getting something up outside. **Allan Stevens** is still plugging on with his *PW* direct conversion set plus PR40 preselector and has notched up 81 countries so far including excellent find VR6TC on Pitcairn, a real rarity.

In Oswestry, Salop, 14-year-old **David Wyatt** has moved to the amateur bands with his home-brew 4-transistor superhet plus audio amp and b.f.o. Prefixes like HH and HP and another KG4 aren't bad on 20m but an AR88 is in the pipeline. **John and Steven Goodier** have been struggling over the rig trying to decide on BC or amateur bands and I'm glad to report that the latter has won the day! Reports to follow regularly now, I gather. They've been looking for LU3ZY on South Sandwich but no-one seems to have heard them yet. J and S have an FRG-7 and 30ft wire so it can't be the rig.

## With the Clubs

**Barking Radio & Electronics Society** is on a recruitment drive and meets, wait for it, FOUR nights a week, Monday to Thursday. Morse classes Tuesdays and main club night Thursdays, all at 1930. Stations G3XBF and G8GPK are active on h.f. and v.h.f. but club activity tends to favour v.h.f. at the moment, hopefully to be redressed very soon! So pop along to the Westbury Recreation Centre, Westbury School, Ripple Road, Barking, Essex some time or contact Sec Nick Dowsett G8PUY, 44 St Ann's, Barking, Essex.

Every Tuesday sees the **Bury RS** hard at work at Mosses Centre, Cecil Street at 1930 onwards with RAE classes at nearby College of FE. 9 Jan has G2BTO on TVI and the Amateur, with G4CLF holding forth on the SL600 series of i.c.s on 13 Feb. The subject on 13 March is v.h.f. linear amps with G8NOF covering Orbiting Satellites on 10 April so there's plenty to look forward to at Bury RS. Write to Eric Thirkell G4FQE, 59 Oulder Hill Drive, Rochdale.

It's all go, down with the Wessex AR Group with a proposal to revert to the old title of the Bournemouth ARS, similar to the society that was first formed there in 1922. As an outsider I heartily approve! Don't like changes that cause a group to lose its identity! Meetings are held at the Dolphin Hotel, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth at 1930 hours. Friday 19 Jan sees G2YH talking and demonstrating miniature v.h.f. transmitting devices while 2 February is devoted to "Planning and Preparation for HF and VHF Contests". Note new QTH of Sec/Editor Geoff Cole G4EMN 3A Cavendish Road, Bournemouth or ring 20027.

## Log Extracts

**R. Bell:**—20m PY0EG 20m VK7AZ 15m JR3IIR

**S. & J. Goodier:**—20m CE0AE HK0QA (San Andres) KG6SW KJ6BZ VK2AGT (L. Howe Is) VK9ZM (Willis Is) VK9ZR (Mellish Reef) VP2EEK VP2GVI VP5BD VR6TC ZK1CV

**D. Wyatt:**—80m VO1FG 20m CT2CB HH2SD HP1XDN KG4EP

**A. Stevens:**—20m JW7FD (Svalbard) VE8RCS VK7AZ VR6TC WA4YUG/VQ9 (Diego Garcia)

**W. Rendell:**—20m CT2BQ HR1JAG KC6GF KG4KG VK7AE VP2AW 15m C5ABK HV3SJ KZ5BA ZB2DV 10m CT2SH HK4DF

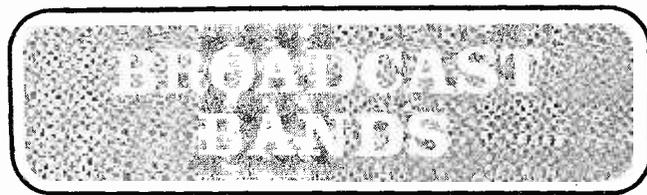
**I. Marquis:**—80m CT2QN EA8CR JA6BSM VP2SD 9K2IX 20m PJ8CO VK9ZM VP2VER 15m EA9EO JW7FD KV4KV/D (Deception Is) TA1DF 10m EP2SL FG0EID/FS VS6FE W0DX/D (Deception Is) YJ8KM

**R. Smith:**—80m 5Y3GT 7X2DG 40m EA8CR 20m CT3AC S79MC VP8PF 15m AP2KS 10m EL2AG

**S. Robinson:**—SSTV 20m DL6HP OZ2ARD I2II EA2JO OL7VI 10m JW7FD

**R. Hunt:**—15m EA0NS HP0ED ZB2DV 3D6BP 10m JW7FD ZP5AO 9K2DR

All s.s.b. unless indicated otherwise.



## MEDIUM WAVE DX

by **Charles Molloy G8BUS**

This is the time of year to listen to North America on the medium waves. Although reception is possible at any time of year it is in the winter when the nights are long that one can pick up a few local broadcasts from across the Atlantic before going to bed. Listen between 2300 and midnight, as European interference begins to subside for CKVO in Clarendville, Newfoundland on 710kHz, CJYQ in St John's, Newfoundland on 930, WINS in New York City on 1010 and WNEW also in New York on 1130. These are but a few of the many North Americans that can be picked up in the UK when conditions are favourable but be careful. All transatlantic signals are subject to slow fading and it is very easy to pass over quite a strong signal that is temporarily in the minimum of a fading cycle. So tune carefully and slowly. The path is not always open and fadeouts do occur at times so if you are unsuccessful at first then try again a few nights later.

## North American Medium Wave Stations

There should be no problem identifying North American DX, for nearly all broadcasts are in English and all, without exception, are issued with call signs which the stations are obliged to use when they identify themselves. In the United States the call signs are either of four or three letters which begin with a W or a K. For example, WINS is the call of the station on 1010kHz located in New York while KDKA on 1020 is in Pittsburg. Similarly in Canada where the prefix is C, or V in the case of a few outlets in Newfoundland.

The station separation in North America is 10kHz instead of the 9kHz we have in Europe and each channel is also a multiple of 10kHz which means that the band is divided up into 107 "channels" starting at 540kHz and ending at 1600kHz. It is a lot easier to use kHz instead of metres when dealing with North Americans and receivers in that part of the world are often marked from 54 to 160, i.e., with channels 54 to 160.

North Americans are usually good verifiers, that is of course if you send them an accurate reception report. The time to gather material for the report is just before the hour and the half hour when commercials (jingles),

Reports on the various bands are welcome and should be sent direct, by the 15th of the month, to:

**AMATEUR BANDS** Eric Dowdeswell G4AR, Silver Firs, Leatherhead Road, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2TW. Logs by bands, each in alphabetical order.

**MEDIUM and SW BANDS** Charles Molloy G8BUS, 132 Segers Lane, Southport, PR8 3JG. Reports for both bands **must** be kept separate.

**VHF BANDS** Ron Ham BRS15744, Faraday, Greyfriars, Storrington, Sussex RH20 4HE.

weather reports, news items and station identification takes place. The reports themselves should be sent to the chief engineer of the station and the address should include the call letters of the station and the town or city mentioned in the announcement. For example, The Chief Engineer, WNEW Radio, New York City, NY, USA will certainly find the station on 1130kHz.

## Loops and Aerials

Although the standard 40in box loop has a single turn for the coupling winding it is worth experimenting a bit to find out what suits your particular receiver best. This point is highlighted by **Harold Emblem** (Mirfield) who tried the effect of using two turns instead of one with a Lafayette HA63 receiver a few years ago. The two turns gave much better results with this receiver. Harold thinks it is worthwhile trying a second turn to see if there is any significant improvement and also the adjustment of the position of the two turns is worthwhile.

Shortwave DXer **J. F. Porter** of Belfast would like to listen to some medium wave DX and he wonders if a ferrite rod aerial could be used as a substitute for a loop. The pick-up of a ferrite rod aerial is really too small for serious DXing. I have played about with ferrite rods (see July 1978 *PW*) and they can be useful for semi-DX but this is really the field for someone who likes experimenting rather than hearing DX. There is nothing wrong with an FRG-7 plus Joystick or 100ft long wire for m.w. DXing and if you want a substitute for a full size loop then try Bob Bell's half size loop (Nov. 1978 *PW*).

## Beacons

Although the medium waves are supposed to be used exclusively for broadcasting there are a small number of navigation beacons that operate inside the band at the low frequency end. In answer to **E. C. Adams**, this is probably what you are hearing around 460 metres. Navigation beacons have call signs which are repeated in Morse and the majority of them operate on the long waves on frequencies between the long and medium wave broadcasting bands. The third harmonics of some of these beacons occasionally appear on the medium waves to cause QRM with broadcasting stations and to mystify the DXer. Sometimes these harmonics can travel a considerable distance, much farther than the fundamental. For a number of years, using several different receivers, I have picked up the call SW (... ---) on approx 930kHz while listening to CJON (now CJYQ). There is an SW on 310kHz situated at the Cabo de Santa Marta Grande lighthouse on the north-west coast of Brazil which transmits with a power of 0.5kW (fundamental) and it is interesting to speculate whether it really is the tiny third harmonic of this beacon that we hear as QRM on CJYQ.

## Readers' Letters

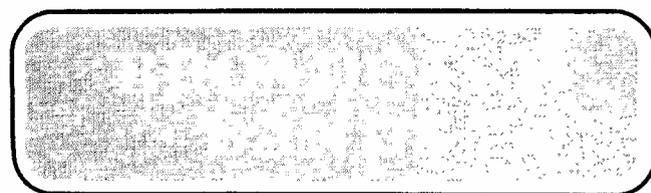
A number of interesting loggings of stations in the USSR come from **Bob Bell** in Blyth who uses an FRG-7 receiver and a mini (half-sized) loop. These are Kharkov on 836 (837), Stavropol 881, Arkhangelsk 908, Tallin 1034 (1035), Yoshkar Ola 1061 (1062), Baku on 1295 and an unidentified station on 1525. The frequencies are pre-Geneva Plan and those in brackets are the new ones where known. The station on 1525kHz may in fact be in China even though the language was Russian and there is often jamming to be heard on this unauthorised channel. Bob is willing to supply information and to advise anyone who is genuinely interested in his half-size loop. Letters

should go direct to Bob at 5 Byron Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 5RN with, I would hope, a stamped addressed envelope for a reply.

News of Manx Radio comes from **Douglas Gibb** (Selkirk) who heard their test transmission on 1368kHz last September. This local station is now full-time on the new frequency and the 219 Times gives details of their broadcasts. It is available from Manx Radio, Broadcasting House, Douglas, IOM which is also the address for reception reports. Manx Radio will QSL by return.

Some countries are easier to hear on the medium or long waves than on the short waves and this has been noted by **David Wyatt** of Oswestry who logged Radio Andorra on 710kHz. He received a QSL in three weeks in answer to a report made out in French. On the long waves he picked up Radio Algeria in English on 251kHz at 2025, another country he had not been able to hear. The receiver in use is a 1947 Kolster Brande BR20 and a 90ft long wire. These older domestic sets often perform very well on the medium waves especially when used with a loop. Why not try this before looking for another receiver; it is possible to use low impedance phones in place of the loudspeaker. Be careful though to keep away from the chassis which may be live.

Sweden Calling DXers is now on a second frequency on the medium waves as the transmitter at Gothenburg on 991kHz has been allocated to the foreign service during the evening according to a station announcement. A final item from **Ian Rennison** (Horsham) who has logged Radio Paradise, St Kitts on 1265kHz at 0014, details of receiver, etc., not given.



## SHORT-WAVE BROADCASTS

*by Charles Molloy G8BUS*

The majority of short-wave receivers tune from 6MHz to 18MHz, a range which includes six international broadcast bands. These are the 49 metre band (6MHz), 41m (7MHz), 31m (9MHz), 25m (11MHz), 19m (15MHz) and 16m (18MHz). There are also the 13 metre band (21MHz), the 11m band (26MHz) and the 75m band (4MHz) which are within the range of some receivers. It is traditional to quote a band by its wavelength in metres and the individual station within the band by its frequency in kilohertz (kHz) but there is a trend these days to refer to a band by the frequency in megahertz (MHz) and this is the figure shown in brackets. The 49m band for example can also be referred to as the 6MHz band. The relationship between MHz and kHz is quite simple. 1MHz is the same as 1000kHz. Radio Nederland is on 6020kHz in the 49m band but it may appear on 6.02MHz on some receivers.

Short-wave reception is entirely by means of the sky wave, which is reflected by the ionosphere many miles above the surface of the earth. The sky wave is influenced by the amount of daylight between transmitter and

receiver. The more daylight the higher the frequency that may be used. DX is possible on the highest frequencies during the day and on lower frequencies after dark. Short range reception is on lower frequencies by day and either 75m or the medium waves by night. In general, the frequency in use over any particular path will be higher during the day than after dark. In order to help beginners to find their way about the different bands it might be useful to have a look at each one in turn to see what sort of DX can be found there, starting this month with 25m.

## 25 Metre band

The 25m band has official limits of 11 700kHz to 11 975kHz, though in practice stations are to be found between 11 600kHz and 12 100kHz. There is something to be heard on 25m at any time of the day or night or during any season of the year and for that reason it is a good place for the newcomer. Last autumn the Radio Japan relay in Sines Portugal could be heard on 11 825kHz from 2200 to 2230, but after sign-off the much weaker Voice of Free China in Taiwan could be heard in English in its place, so always investigate weak signals.

During the day, look for distant broadcasts from Radio Pakistan on 11 640kHz, Radio Australia 11 760 and 11 900, Madagascar 11 730, Bonaire 11 790, Kuwait 12 085. Medium range stations that can be heard are Vatican Radio 11 740, Finland 11 755, Spain 11 815, Austria 11 855, Norway 11 865, Budapest 11 910, Greece 11 925 and Bucharest on 11 940. Latin America appears on 25m during the evening. Look for Radio Guaiaba on 11 785, Radio Globo 11 805, Pernambuco on 11 865, all of them being in Brazil, and Radio Habana Cuba on 11 760. Other DX that may be heard at this time are WFYR Family Radio USA on 11 805, ELWA Liberia 11 835, Canary Islands 11 880, Radio Bamako in Mali on 11 960 and Radio Abidjan Ivory Coast on 11 920. Broadcasters on the short waves often move around and some of the frequencies mentioned may change but the list is typical of what a DXer may hope to hear without too much difficulty on the 25m band.

## Readers' Letters

**Sean Stray** of Market Harborough (details of receiver and aerial not mentioned) reports some useful DX heard during his recent half term holiday. Radio Japan is a regular on 21 535kHz in the 13m band between 0800 and 0830. The signal is weak but clear of interference but a curious echo effect was observed, probably the result of propagation along different paths through the ionosphere. Radio Nacional Argentina was logged on 11 715 in the 25m band at 2320 and the address for reception reports is RAE Ayacucho 1556, 1000 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Riyadh in Saudi Arabia was picked up at fair strength at 1930 the address to write to being Ministry of P and T, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. An unidentified with the call Radio Tinian (not Tirana) was heard on the 25m band at 2145. Has anyone any ideas on this?

A signal like a short burst of machine-gun fire is reported by **T. M. Headley** of Seaford in Sussex who has started listening on the short waves again after an absence of many years. This is over-the-horizon radar which can be heard all over the short waves and was the subject of international complaints to the USSR a year or two ago. A Sanyo RP8700 portable communications receiver which was a present from USA is in use by 13-year-old **Paul Cox**

of Twickenham. When used with a 70ft long wire this rig pulled in Delhi on 11 740 at 2125 SIO 544, Radio Kuwait 12 085 at 1940 SIO 544 and Radio Japan on 17 820 at 0715 SIO 344. From Walsall comes another report of reception of R. Japan on 17 820 from **Craig Kelly** who used a t.r.f. receiver and 75ft long wire. Craig asks for identification of a station playing guitar music but he forgot to mention the frequency or band concerned. Requests for identification should contain as much detail as possible including the frequency, date, time and station announcement and the language used.

## Tropical Bands

From Blyth in Northumberland comes an interesting log compiled by **Bob Bell** using his FRG-7 and home-made vertical antenna. On the 60m band he heard USSR (unid) on 4775kHz at 0255, Radio Lara Venezuela on 4800 at 0300, Radio Luz y Vida in Ecuador on 4800 at 0405, plus Radio Nacional Canaries on 11 880 in the 25m band at 1400. A Vega 206 plus 20ft outdoor aerial are in use by **Bill Stevenson** who heard Radio Yaounde Cameroon in French on 4850 at 0430 SIO 333, Radio N'Djamena Chad also in French on 4905 at 0430 sign-on SIO 333 and Radio Nigeria in English on 4990 at 0430 SIO 333, all on 60m. Bill has built an r.f. pre-amp for use with his receiver but it does not give good results. The symptoms are of overloading. Bill would be interested to hear from other Vega 206 users. Replies direct to him at 10 Crompton St, Swinton, Lancs.

## Reception Reports

A DX Press Release from Radio Finland makes disturbing reading for the DXer. This station has stopped using QSL cards. In their place there will be audience cards with a different card for each month of the year. The new cards will not confirm the date, time or frequency and will therefore only be an acknowledgment of the listener's letter.

The reasons for the change are interesting. Radio Finland gets about 300 reception reports a week and to quote the press release "you could say we were keener to receive programme comments". Of course, if they stop issuing QSLs then they may not get any reports at all and a better policy surely would be to restrict QSLs to reports that are of real value to the station. None-the-less the point of view expressed by Radio Finland is a valid one. A short-wave station transmits a programme for its audience to listen to rather than a signal for DXers to pick up and DXers should bear this in mind when writing to a station. Perhaps if DXers were to include comment on the programme heard and how it compares with other stations, which apparently is what Radio Finland wants, in addition of course to the reception reports, then everyone would be satisfied. The "powers that be" at Radio Sweden, according to a recent broadcast from that station, feel they have few listeners but many DXers for an audience and this might be a prelude to another attempt to cut back the popular Sweden Calling DXers. Radio RSA has reduced its English transmission and cancelled its DX Corner, so abruptly that the editor Gerry Wood did not even have the chance to say goodbye. The future for DXers does not look too good at the moment. On a lighter note. A DXer who recently sent a report to a Middle East country received the reply "Don't you have radio in your country, why you listen to ours?"

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# Science of Cambridge

PW2

and Greenland (i.e. between us and the magnetic pole) and over the equator in the South Atlantic". So far he cannot correlate these effects with solar disturbances but there is, writes John, "A positive correlation with time of day, the equatorial disturbance being most marked in the evenings".

For about 20 minutes at 1258, on 27 October, John heard the Russian amateur radio satellite, RS-1, come up over North America, heading east, and pass between his QTH and the pole. The satellite appeared again at 1502 and John accessed it on 145.890MHz (Down link 29.370MHz), called CQ and immediately a c.w. station answered, so excited that he sent John's call sign six times and forgot his own! The next pass was at 1708 when John had a good five-minute QSO with G3IOR. On the 28th he had his first transatlantic QSO via the new bird with W2BXA in New Jersey, followed by contacts with DC9II and DC9ZP. During the same orbit 5 GMs were in QSO with European stations and, that afternoon, a delighted GM8PSM made his first contact outside the UK via RS-1.

**by Ron Ham BRS15744**

What more could we v.h.f. addicts ask for than a new amateur satellite to play with, the 10m band alive with signals from all parts of the world, a tropospheric opening which sent the amateur and broadcast bands haywire, and all between mid-October and 18 November?

## The 10 Metre Band

How often the new recruits to amateur radio must have heard the old hands reminiscing about the great 10m openings of the past. Well, hopefully, those good times are here again, but now, thanks to the RSGB, we have the International Beacon Project going well and it is almost a daily occurrence to hear strong signals from the beacons in Bahrain A9XC, Bermuda VP9BA, Cyprus 5B4CY, Florida N4RD and Germany DL0IGI indicating the best DX path to use.

Like many other clubs and individuals throughout the world, the Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society entered the CQ World Wide contest on 28/29 October from their club shack in Burgess Hill. During the event the operators, G3JMB, WPO, WYN, ZYE, G4GNX and HHB, worked almost 500 stations and more than half of these were on 10m. Afterwards, G4GNX said that conditions were so good that around 1800 on the 28th they worked 60 Ws in 45 minutes, and at 0730 on the 29th they had 16 contacts with JAs in about 20 minutes. Throughout the contest good signal reports were exchanged with stations all around the world, and N. Clarke BRS 34306, Knottingley, Yorks, logged all W call areas within one hour.

While John Branegan GM8OXQ, Saline, Fife, N. Clarke and myself kept a daily watch on the IBP signals and found that A9XC was the most consistent, closely followed by 5B4CY, DL0IGI, N4RD and VP9BA. Graham Lay, West Chiltington, Alan Baker G4GNX, Newhaven and Ian Rennison, Horsham, all in Sussex, listened to the world-wide DX on 28MHz. Ian also mentioned the very strong American CB signals he heard in the 27MHz band, especially on 21 October.

## Solar Activity

Although the sun has been "quiet" at 136MHz compared with the same period in 1977, a few small bursts of solar radio noise were recorded on 6, 7, 8, 11 and 13 November by John Branegan, Cmdr Henry Hatfield, Sevenoaks, John Smith, Rudgwick, Sussex and myself and, on 6 and 13 Nov., Henry saw several filaments on the sun's disc with his spectroheliometer.

## Satellites

John Branegan has completed a 6-month survey of 70cm propagation from space, based on the signals from OSCAR-8J and says "Not only is OSCAR-8J affected by propagation disturbances both in, and way above, the normal E and F regions, all 70cm satellites are affected. Attenuations of up to 20dB (not due to polarisation rotation) seem to occur regularly in two regions of the world. The most noticeable are the Denmark Strait between Iceland

## Microwaves

The two Ernns, G8BDJ and G8GKV assisted Mitch Tribe G8PMT, Worthing, a newcomer to 10GHz activity, to contact four QRA locator squares on Sunday morning, 12 November. While Mitch set up his equipment, with a 60cm dish aerial, on Chanctonbury Ring, a high spot on the South Downs, G8GKV, accompanied by Matthew Walton a keen SWL and student of microwave activity, took his gear to other high spots in squares AK, AL and ZL. G8BDJ made the QSO with Mitch in ZK. Conditions were good and all contacts were 59. During the morning both G8BDJ and G8PMT heard the Isle of Wight beacon, GB3IOW on 3cm, and were later joined by G3JHM to make arrangements for future tests on the band.

## Tropospheric

On 18 October, the atmospheric pressure rose rapidly from 30.0in to 30.4in, and with a few fluctuations it remained high until 12 November when it dropped back to 30.1in. This high pressure, coupled with mild and fine weather, frequently upset the v.h.f.s between 27 October and 12 November and as usual, our readers were both active and observant. At 2237 on 27 October, Alan Baker worked G8FRB/P near Derby on 2m s.s.b. and during the evening of the 28th, Belgian stations were working through the Dover repeater GB3KR, R4. While continental broadcast stations were audible in Band II on 28, 29 and 30 October, I frequently received strong pictures from the IBA transmitter at Lichfield, 189MHz, with a dipole aerial. Between 1900 and 2000 on 5 November, Dermot Cronin G4GRO, Royal Sovereign Light, heard 2m s.s.b. signals from DM, HG, OE and OK and at 2057 Ken Smith, Horsham reported patterns on u.h.f. TV. On the 9th both Ken and Ian Rennison heard continental stations in Band II and Alan Baker heard DL3HB and worked F6EVL on 2m c.w. At 0044 on the 10th, Alan, behind 400ft of chalk had a QSO with G8FUE in Somerset on 2m s.s.b.

Although conditions were generally very good for v.h.f. and u.h.f. DX throughout the 10th, 11th and part of the 12th, some strange things also happened. For instance, during the morning of the 10th, Brian Houghton G4BCO, Hastings, worked a station in Luton on f.m. running 1 watt from a hand-held set and Brian Fenwick G8BTC, Brighton, was listening to G8BDJ in nearby Southwick on 2m f.m., when suddenly his strong signals were obliterated by a station in Birmingham.

At 0843 on the 10th, I received strong pictures plus co-channel interference from Lichfield, and with patterning

on some u.h.f. TV channels I was not surprised when I heard signals from the 70cm beacons at Emley Moor GB3EM and Sutton Coldfield GB3SUT, using only a dipole aerial. Around 1800 **John Keegan**, Steyning, Sussex saw German TV signals, complete with adverts in Band V. Later the same evening, **Peter Beer**, near Saffron Walden, Essex, using a loft aerial, received pictures from French u.h.f. television.

Mitch Tribe was delighted with his achievements on the 10th because, using his Multi-800D rig from his stationary car, he worked several PD0 (Dutch Novices' call sign) on 2m f.m. and at 1300 G4GNX/M, situated on Beachy Head, worked PA0 and DJ via the Brugge repeater ON0VW, R2. Between 2145 and 2230 Ian Rennison received Belgian, Dutch and French stations in Band II, using a dipole aerial into his AIWA 5080 stereo system. At 0054 on the 11th, **John Cooper** G8NGO, Cowfold, heard an OZ on 2m s.s.b., and periodically between 0900 and 1400 both Ian Rennison and myself received pictures from a Dutch station on Channel E4.

## Amateur Co-operation

While in contact with PA0OOM at 0036 on the 11th, G4GNX learnt that the Dutch station had been trying for two years to work a station in QRA square ZK, so he called G8NGO who lives in ZK who was very soon in touch. Later, PA0OOM told G4GNX that he was going QRT, a very happy man.

During the opening, several amateurs and u.h.f. televiewers complained about total loss of signals and a good example was a local QSO in Hastings between G3JSF and G8PUW on 2m, only about three miles apart, who suddenly completely lost contact with each other. More fading was reported by **Guy Stanbury**, Chelmsford, who became aware of the disturbance when he saw patterning on Band V pictures on the 10th, and from about 1900 received f.m. signals, some in full stereo, from stations in West Germany and the Low Countries. Throughout the evening he noticed that signals would appear for a while and then fade away, and very soon the space would be taken by another. Guy also remarked about the extensive fluctuations in signal strengths and writes "I am sure you will agree that this type of opening is as fascinating when it deteriorates as when it starts".

## New VHF Repeater

The first QSO through the Brighton repeater GB3SR, which commenced operation on R3 at 1900 on 15 October, was between G8ETL/M, Brighton, and G3WPO, Worthing, who was using a home-brew, hand-held transceiver. The Sussex Repeater Group, who are responsible for the station, are delighted with its initial performance despite the fact that they are using temporary filters.

## From our Overseas readers

Congratulations to **Anthony Mann**, Applecross, Western Australia, who sent us the exciting report that he had received Ch.B1 BBC TV sound, 41.5MHz, down-under, on 13, 14, 16 and 19 October, the vision, 45 MHz, on the 13th and Ch.F2 French sound, 41.25MHz, on the 16th. Anthony also received strong f.m. signals from the Korean Broadcasting Service, 44.3 and 44.9MHz, on each of these days and Russian signals on 41, 42 and 43MHz on the 19th. Also on the 19th he heard signals from Japanese amateurs on 52MHz, and Chinese and Malaysian TV signals on Channels R1 and E3 respectively.

"You might realise that any v.h.f. from the north is DX long before it arrives" writes **Ian Roberts**, Pretoria, South Africa, who also says that 19 October was remarkable because he was receiving Ch. R1 vision at 0900 and the Cyprus beacon, 50.5MHz, just above the noise. Also on the 19th, Ian heard the second harmonic of the French (Issoudum, 500kW) programme at 43.16MHz S5, while the fundamental at 21.58MHz was S9.

**Oddleiv Tungland**, Trondheim, Norway, is now licensed as LA3GW and is operating from LA1K, the club station of the students in Trondheim. Oddleiv is also interested in DX TV, and in recent years has received signals from about 10 European countries using a dipole aerial in Band I.

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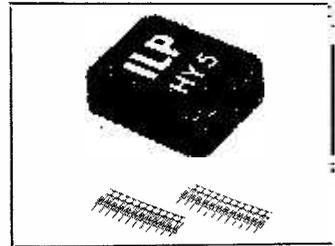
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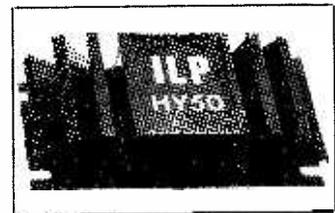
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**FEATURES:** Complete Kit—Low Distortion—Short, Open and Thermal Protection—Easy to Build.

**APPLICATIONS:** Updating audio equipment—Guitar practice amplifier—Test amplifier—audio oscillator.

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**INPUT SENSITIVITY** 500mV. **FREQUENCY RESPONSE** 10Hz-16kHz—3dB.  
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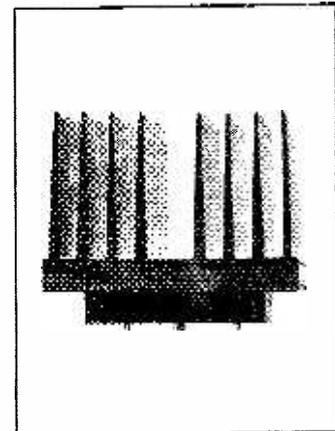
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**FEATURES:** Low Distortion—Integral Heatsink—Only five connections—7 amp output transistor—No external components

**APPLICATIONS:** Medium Power Hi-Fi systems—Low power disco—Guitar amplifier

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**SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO** 75dB **FREQUENCY RESPONSE** 10Hz-45kHz—3dB.  
**SUPPLY VOLTAGE** ± 25V **SIZE** 105 50 25mm  
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**FEATURES:** Very low distortion—Integral heatsink—Load line protection—Thermal protection—Five connections—No external components

**APPLICATIONS:** Hi-Fi—High quality disco—Public address—Monitor amplifier—Guitar and organ

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

**INPUT SENSITIVITY** 500mV.  
**OUTPUT POWER** 60W RMS into 8Ω **LOAD IMPEDANCE** 4-16Ω **DISTORTION** 0.04% at 60W at 1kHz  
**SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO** 90dB **FREQUENCY RESPONSE** 10Hz-45kHz—3dB **SUPPLY VOLTAGE** ± 25V  
**SIZE** 114 50 85mm  
**Price** £19.01 + £1.52 VAT P&P free.

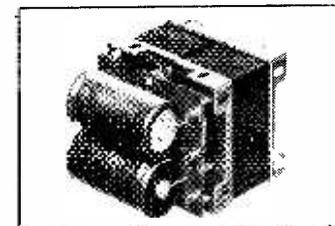
The HY200 now improved to give an output of 120 Watts has been designed to stand the most rugged conditions such as disco or group while still retaining true Hi-Fi performance.

**FEATURES:** Thermal shutdown—Very low distortion—Load line protection—Integral heatsink—No external components

**APPLICATIONS:** Hi-Fi—Disco—Monitor—Power slave—Industrial—Public Address

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

**INPUT SENSITIVITY** 500mV  
**OUTPUT POWER** 120W RMS into 8Ω **LOAD IMPEDANCE** 4-16Ω **DISTORTION** 0.05% at 100W at 1kHz  
**SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO** 96dB **FREQUENCY RESPONSE** 10Hz-45kHz—3dB **SUPPLY VOLTAGE** ± 25V  
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**FEATURES:** Thermal shutdown—Very low distortion—Load line protection—No external components.

**APPLICATIONS:** Public address—Disco—Power slave—Industrial

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

**OUTPUT POWER** 240W RMS into 4Ω **LOAD IMPEDANCE** 4-16Ω **DISTORTION** 0.1% at 240W at 1kHz  
**SIGNAL NOISE RATIO** 94dB **FREQUENCY RESPONSE** 10Hz-45kHz—3dB **SUPPLY VOLTAGE** ± 45V  
**INPUT SENSITIVITY** 500mV **SIZE** 114 100 85mm  
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240 Watts into 4Ω

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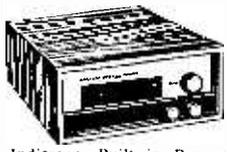
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7408 19p	74116 200p	74290 150p	74LS242 175p	74C176 210p	*CA5019 .80p	BC115/8 11p	*CA5019 .80p	*NE540 200p	BC115/8 11p	*BU205 220p	*ZTX500 15p	*2N4289 20p	*OA202 10p	7409 19p	74118 130p	74294 200p	74C182 150p	*NE556 25p	BC115/8 11p	*BU208 240p	*ZTX502 18p	*2N4401/3 27p	*IN914 4p
7410 15p	74119 210p	74298 200p	74LS243 175p	74C183 155p	*CA3038/0E 12p	BC117 12p	*CA3038/0E 12p	*NE556 25p	BC117 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN916 7p	7411 24p	74120 180p	74298 200p	74C189 150p	*NE557 175p	BC117 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN917 7p
7412 20p	74121 25p	74305 150p	74LS245 175p	74C191 110p	*CA3090/A 375p	BC118 11p	*CA3090/A 375p	*NE556 155p	BC118 11p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN918 4p	7413 30p	74122 45p	74306 150p	74C192 150p	*NE567 175p	BC118 11p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN919 7p
7414 60p	74123 55p	74307 150p	74LS246 175p	74C195 110p	CA3130S 160p	BC119 18p	CA3130S 160p	*NE567 175p	BC119 18p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN920 4p	7415 27p	74125 55p	74307 150p	74C195 110p	*RC4151 75p	BC119 18p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN920 4p
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7418 27p	74126 60p	74310 150p	74LS248 175p	74C205 110p	CA3160E 750p	BC121/2 11p	CA3160E 750p	*SN76033N 140p	BC121/2 11p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN923 4p	7419 27p	74127 60p	74310 150p	74C205 110p	*ICL7106 825p	BC121/2 11p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN924 4p
7421 40p	74132 75p	74315 150p	74LS249 175p	74C211 110p	ICL8038 340p	BC122 12p	ICL8038 340p	*SN76033N 140p	BC122 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN925 4p	7422 22p	74136 75p	74315 150p	74C211 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC122 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN926 4p
7423 34p	74141 70p	74316 150p	74LS250 175p	74C215 110p	LM301A 36p	BC123 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC123 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN927 4p	7424 22p	74137 75p	74316 150p	74C215 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC123 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN928 4p
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7440 17p	74156 90p	74325 150p	74LS257 175p	74C250 110p	LM301A 36p	BC130 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC130 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN941 4p	7441 17p	74157 90p	74325 150p	74C250 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC130 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN942 4p
7442 40p	74158 100p	74326 150p	74LS258 175p	74C255 110p	LM301A 36p	BC131 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC131 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN943 4p	7443 60p	74160 100p	74326 150p	74C255 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC131 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN944 4p
7444 11p	74161 100p	74327 150p	74LS259 175p	74C260 110p	LM301A 36p	BC132 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC132 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN945 4p	7445 100p	74162 100p	74327 150p	74C260 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC132 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN946 4p
7446 90p	74163 100p	74328 150p	74LS260 175p	74C265 110p	LM301A 36p	BC133 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC133 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN947 4p	7447 90p	74164 120p	74328 150p	74C265 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC133 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN948 4p
7448 80p	74165 120p	74329 150p	74LS261 175p	74C270 110p	LM301A 36p	BC134 12p	LM301A 36p	*SN76033N 140p	BC134 12p	*BU406 145p	*ZTX504 30p	*2N4470 20p	*IN949 4p	7449 80p	74166 120p	74329 150p	74C270 110p	*SN76033N 140p	BC1				

silicon chip of the 3089 device. The use of an external load resistor in the CA3189E enables any noise at pin 10 to be decoupled by a 10 $\mu$ F capacitor to ground; in addition, the value of the load resistor can be selected as desired so as to vary the audio output level, which increases with the value of the load resistor. The value of the de-emphasis capacitor from the output to ground must be chosen according to the value of the load resistor used so that the produce of the values of these two components is about 50 $\mu$ s.

There is no connection to pin 16 of the 3089 devices, but in the CA3189E this pin is used to feed the controlling voltage for the a.g.c. threshold into the device. This controlling voltage may be obtained using the voltage at pin 13 as shown in Fig. 15, in which case the onset of a.g.c. action will vary from about 200 $\mu$ V up to 200mV at pin 1 according to the setting of VR1. When the a.g.c. voltage is plotted against the input voltage a curve with an extremely sharp "knee" is obtained, so the onset of a.g.c. action is very rapid. When the a.g.c. voltage from the CA3189E is fed to one of the gate electrodes of a MOSFET in a front-end unit, a range of 40dB in the gain is easily obtained.

### FM/AM Devices

The f.m. i.f. devices we have discussed process only an f.m. signal, but many new devices are now coming onto the market which will not only handle the f.m. i.f. signal, but which will also process an a.m. signal. When an f.m. front-end unit is coupled to such a device together with an audio amplifier, all the devices (except possibly one or two diodes or transistors) which are required in a receiver to cover both a.m. and f.m. bands are then available. Devices in this class include the Fairchild  $\mu$ A721, the A.E.G.-Telefunken TDA1083, the Mullard TBA570 and their new TDA5700 and the SGS-Ates TDA1220 device.

One of the problems of using these devices in a home constructed receiver is the complexity of the circuitry around a single integrated circuit. Many constructors therefore prefer to keep the a.m. and f.m. sections of their receivers quite separate. However, in car radio receivers and in small portable receivers where space can be at a premium, these new combined a.m./f.m. devices are very attractive, especially to the receiver manufacturers.

### The $\mu$ A721

The Fairchild  $\mu$ A721 device is encapsulated in a standard 16 pin dual-in-line plastic package (available from Arrow Electronics Ltd.). It contains the semiconductor devices required for the a.m. r.f. stage, oscillator, mixer and i.f. stage together with an f.m. limiter and quadrature demodulator circuit. Although all of this circuitry has been compressed onto a single chip, the total quiescent current required is only some 20mA. The device operates from a supply of about 9V.

The f.m. section input has a limiting sensitivity of about 500 $\mu$ V and provides an audio output signal of about 520mV r.m.s. at a typical total harmonic distortion of some 0.9% (maximum for any  $\mu$ A721 device is 2%). The signal-to-noise ratio is typically 75dB with a minimum value of 60dB. The rejection of a.m. signals is some 46dB (as opposed to about 60dB in the case of the CA3189E).

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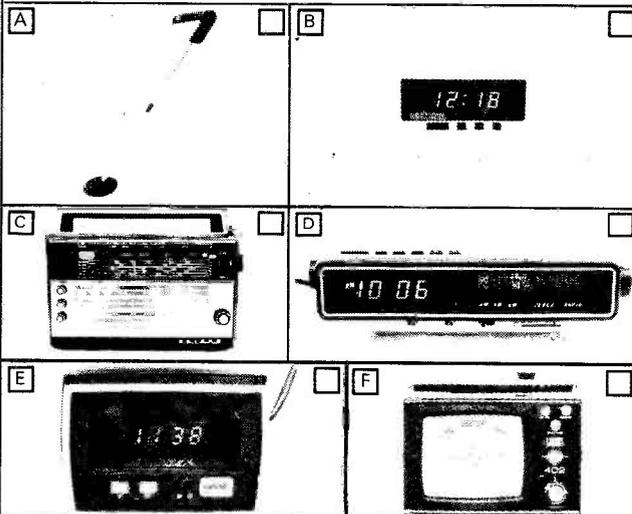
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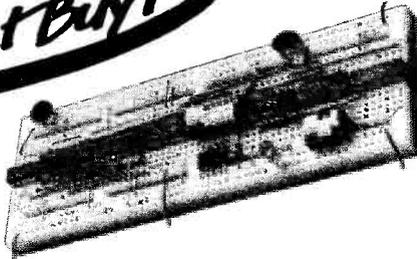
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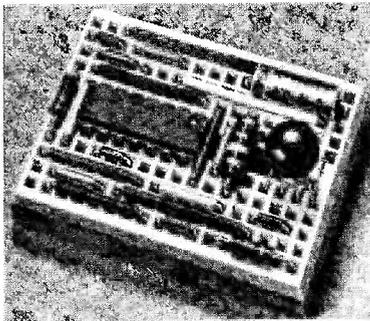
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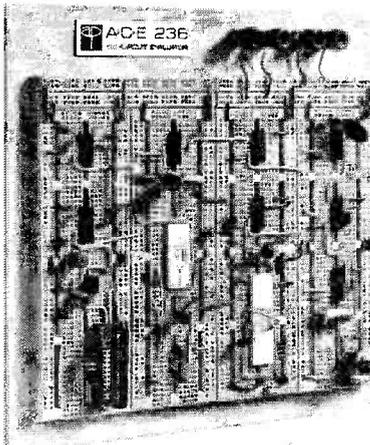
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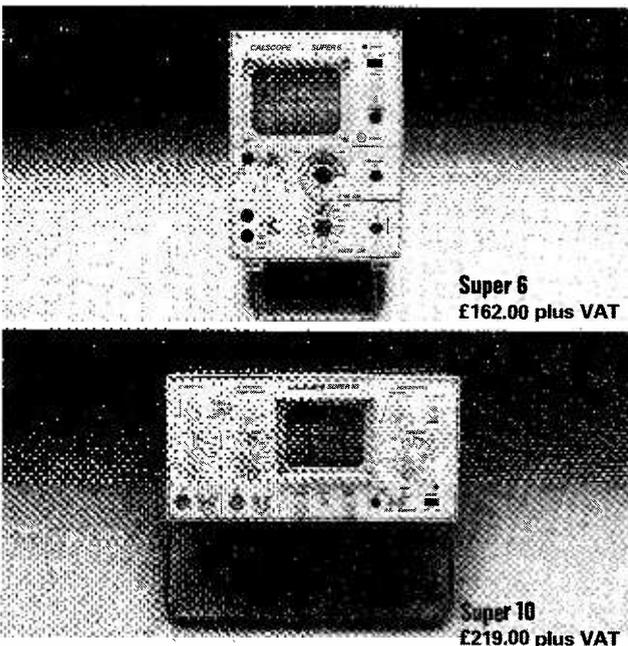
## COMPLETES THE CIRCUIT

# \*BUY BIG AND SAVE POUNDS\*

Transistors				Transistors				Transistors				TTL				CMOS				Thyristors				Bridge Rect				LEDS				Diodes				DII Sockets				Voltage Regs				Triacs				LM301A			
1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+	1+	25+	100+	+
AD143	.80	.82	.89	TIP31C	.38	.35	.29	2N6099	.58	.53	.45	TTL	1+	25+	100+	4000A	.19	.175	.15	T0220	1+	25+	100+	LM301A	.28	.25	.21																								
AD149	.85	.86	.72	TIP32	.35	.32	.27	2N6101	.60	.54	.46	7493	20	18	15	4001A	.19	.175	.15	2A 100V	.45	.41	.35	MC1310P	1.35	1.22	1.03																								
AU106	2.16	1.96	1.65	TIP32A/B	.35	.32	.27	40366	.40	.36	.30	7494	40	36	30	4011A	.19	.175	.15	2A 200V	.46	.42	.35	N5555	.28	.25	.21																								
AU110	2.08	1.89	1.59	TIP32C	.38	.35	.29	40406	.41	.37	.32	7495	23	21	18	40111/2A	.19	.175	.15	2A 400V	.50	.45	.38	N5566	.51	.46	.39																								
AU113	2.08	1.89	1.59	TIP41C	.57	.52	.44	40407	.41	.37	.32	7496	34	31	26	4011A	.19	.175	.15	6A 100V	.51	.46	.39	SN76003	2.20	2.00	1.88																								
BC107A/B	.12	.11	.095	TIP42A/B	.53	.48	.40	40411	.88	.80	.68	7497	102	94	78	4011A	.19	.175	.15	6A 200V	.52	.47	.40	SN76013	1.47	1.33	1.12																								
BC108A/B	.12	.11	.095	TIP42C	.57	.52	.44	40594	1.18	1.06	.90	74100/4	.71	.65	.56	4011A	.19	.175	.15	6A 400V	.56	.51	.43	SN76023	1.47	1.33	1.12																								
BC109A/B	.12	.11	.095	TIP47	1.45	1.32	1.11					74100/9	.35	.32	.27	4011A	.19	.175	.15	10A 100V	.82	.74	.63	SN76033	2.20	2.00	1.88																								
BC109C	.13	.115	.10	TIP48	1.54	1.39	1.17					74101	.42	.38	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	10A 200V	.84	.76	.64	UA709C	.38	.35	.29																								
BC142	.26	.24	.20	TIP110	1.00	.92	.77					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	10A 400V	.91	.82	.69	UA741CP	.28	.25	.21																								
BC143	.28	.26	.22	TIP111	1.05	.95	.80					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	UA747C	.68	.61	.52	UA748C	.38	.35	.29																								
BC182A/B	.07	.06	.055	TIP112	1.20	1.10	.92					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TAAS70	2.14	1.94	1.84																												
BC182C	.10	.09	.075	TIP115	1.02	.92	.78					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8120SD	.91	.82	.69																												
BC183A/B/C	.07	.06	.055	TIP116	1.07	.96	.81					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8520Q	2.04	1.85	1.56																												
BC184B/C	.07	.06	.055	TIP117	1.24	1.13	.95					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8530Q	1.79	1.62	1.36																												
BC184L	.10	.09	.075	TIP120	1.03	.93	.78					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8540Q	1.92	1.73	1.46																												
BC212A/B	.07	.065	.055	TIP121	1.05	.95	.80					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8550Q	2.29	2.08	1.75																												
BC212L	.10	.09	.075	TIP125	1.02	.92	.78					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8560Q	2.36	2.13	1.80																												
BC213A/B/C	.07	.065	.055	TIP126	1.07	.96	.81					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8570Q	1.79	1.62	1.36																												
BC214L	.10	.09	.075	TIP127	1.24	1.13	.95					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8580Q	2.42	2.19	1.84																												
BC300/1/3	.25	.23	.20	TIP305	.62	.57	.48					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8590Q	2.20	2.08	1.75																												
BC337	.09	.08	.065	TIP305S	.62	.57	.48					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TA8590Q	2.04	1.85	1.56																												
BC441	.29	.27	.22	2N1132	.26	.23	.20					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TC4270Q	1.79	1.62	1.36																												
BC461	.30	.27	.23	2N1102	.38	.34	.29					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15	TC4800	2.82	2.55	2.15																												
BC546B/9/7	.07	.06	.055	2N2218/A	.24	.21	.18					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BC550B/7	.07	.065	.055	2N2219/A	.24	.21	.18					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BC558B/9/60	.07	.065	.055	2N2221/A	.17	.16	.13					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BC570	.18	.16	.135	2N2222/A	.15	.14	.12					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD131	.39	.36	.30	2N2946	.41	.37	.31					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD132	.40	.37	.31	2N2904/5	.24	.21	.18					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD142	.88	.80	.67	2N2904/5A	.25	.22	.19					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD226/1	.45	.40	.34	2N2907A	.16	.15	.12					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD227	.42	.36		2N3053	.23	.20	.17					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD228/4	.49	.44	.37	2N3054	.67	.60	.51					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD239	.32	.29	.24	2N3055	.68	.61	.52					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD240	.34	.30	.26	2N3232	.83	.76	.64					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD241	.32	.29	.24	2N3440	.80	.73	.61					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD242	.37	.33	.28	2N3442	1.43	1.30	1.08					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD243	.42	.38	.32	2N3703	.83	.76	.64					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BD244	.45	.40	.34	2N3704/5/6	.09	.08	.065					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BF257	.26	.23	.20	2N3771	2.06	1.89	1.57					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BF258	.27	.24	.20	2N3772	2.08	1.89	1.59					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BF259	.28	.25	.21	2N3773	3.45	3.12	2.63					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BF337	.27	.24	.20	2N3904/6	.08	.07	.06					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BRF39A/0/1	.19	.18	.15	2N4035	.26	.23	.20					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BRF39/90/1	.19	.18	.15	2N4037	.25	.22	.19					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BFY50/1/2	.23	.21	.18	2N4294	.46	.42	.35					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BFX84/5/6	.24	.21	.18	2N4296	.40	.37	.31					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
BFX87/88	.25	.23	.19	2N4298	.49	.45	.38					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP29	.33	.30	.25	2N4515	1.08	.97	.82					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP29A/B	.35	.32	.27	2N4516	1.39	1.26	1.06					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP29C	.38	.35	.29	2N4540	.58	.52	.44					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP30	.34	.31	.26	2N4542	.61	.55	.46					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP30A/B	.35	.32	.27	2N4544	.64	.58	.49					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP30C	.38	.35	.29	2N4546	.66	.59	.50					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																
TIP31A/B	.35	.32	.27	2N4598	.58	.53	.45					74111/16	.41	.37	.32	4011A	.19	.175	.15																																

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# ELECTROVALUE Buying Guide

## Section 5

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

With completion of our series of itemised advertisements we announce release of our newest catalogue, CATALOGUE No. 9—completely revised, enlarged and best yet.

SEND FOR YOUR FREE COPY NOW TO DEPT. PW29

## HARDWARE/SOLDER TOOLS

Catalogue No. 9  
NOW READY

### SOLDER TOOLS

<b>ORVX50</b>	
Temp controlled	£9.75N
Spare element	£3.50N
Bits (11 types)	ea. £1.00N
<b>ORVX Super 30</b>	£4.45N
Spare element	£3.00N
Bits as for ORVX50	
<b>ISO-TIP Quick Charge cordless</b>	
iron	£20.50N
Bits micro 7566	£2.30N
fine 7545	£2.30N
h.d. 7546	£2.30N
Std 7535	£2.30N
PC drill attachment	
6500	£10.60N
Spare bulb	35pN
<b>ERSA Sprint</b>	
Solder gun	£8.62N
Spare element	£5.00N
Bit No. 862VN	40pN
<b>ERA solder station</b>	
Temp controlled iron	
with stand	£59.00N
<b>GREENWOOD PYROMETER</b>	
	£25.00N

<b>DESOLDER TOOL</b>	
SR3A	£6.50N
Spare nozzle, PTFE SR3AN	70pN
<b>ANTEX C-240V 15W</b>	£3.60N
Spare element	£1.60N
Nickel plated bits	46pN
No. 2 .094"; No. 4 .187";	
No. 6 .047"	
Iron coated bits	46pN
No. 102, 104, 106	
<b>ANTEX CCN-240V</b>	£3.80N
(low capacitance) 15W	
Spare element	£1.90N
Iron coated bits	46pN
1100 .094"; 1101 .225";	
1102 .187"	

<b>ANTEX CX 240V</b>	£3.60N
Spare element	£1.60N
Bits for CCN above	

<b>ANTEX X25-240V 25W</b>	£3.60N
Spare element	£1.60N
Iron coated bits	50pN
50 .094"; 51 .125"; 52 .187"	
<b>ANTEX STAND ST3.</b>	£1.50N
No. 666 Sponge	6pN

<b>SOLDERSTAT RANGE</b>	
HMS 240V 16W	£4.75N
HMS 240V 24W	£4.75N
HMS 110V 16W	£4.75N
HMS 110V 24W	£4.75N
Spare elements	£2.35N
Nickel plated bits	
2037 3-2mm	80pN
2038 2-4mm	80pN
2003 2mm stub	80pN
Iron plated	
2032 4-5mm	£1.90N
2033 6-5mm	£1.90N
IC desolder head for HMS	
Irons	
14-way	£5.70N
16-way	£5.70N
HMS 240V Solder Kit in presentation box	£8.90N
HMS 12V Solder Kit in wallet	£7.60N

<b>POT CORES</b>	
<b>FERRITES</b>	
<b>BOOKS</b>	
Latest price list of all ranges free on request.	

<b>PRINTED CIRCUIT MATERIALS</b>	
<b>COPPER CLAD BOARD</b>	
300 x 150mm	
Single sided	
SRBP 85p; Fibreglass	£1.85
Double sided SRBP	£1.00
<b>UNCLAD SRBP</b>	
300 x 150mm	56p
<b>FERRIC CHLORIDE</b>	
Lab grade 100gm pack	47p
500gm jar	£2.30
<b>POSITIV-20 Aerosol 75cc</b>	
with instructions	£1.30
<b>ETCH RESIST PEN</b>	
Decon with spare tip	85p
73.00 63.00	
<b>SILVER CONDUCTIVE PAINT</b>	
3gm vial	
Elecolit 340	£2.20

<b>RELAYS</b>	
<b>MINIATURE CONTINENTAL TYPE</b>	
Type R42 12V 185Ω 2 C/O	£2.00
Type R44 12V 185Ω 4 C/O	£2.20
PC socket type P40	97p
Ordinary wiring skt. W40	88p
Mounting strip 6 posn. R40	26p
<b>PIGMY MAINS RELAY 3 C/O</b>	
10 amp 6V 29Ω. 12V 110Ω. 24V 475Ω.	
all d.c.	each £2.30
240V a.c. 3200Ω coil	£2.55
<b>REED RELAYS</b> open construction	
5V 106Ω CSA5 single n/o	90p
12V 645Ω CSA 12 single n/o	
5V 57Ω CDA5 double n/o	£1.28
12V 320Ω CDA	
12 double n/o	£1.19
<b>REED RELAYS</b> enclosed type n/o	
LPS 12 single 590Ω	98p
LPD 12 double 355Ω	£1.44
<b>LATCHING RELAYS</b>	
enclosed n/o	
CLA5 5V 400Ω	£1.90
CLA12 12V 225Ω	£2.30
<b>EDGE CONNECTORS</b>	
Gold flash contacts	
0-1" 24 way	£1.06; 32 way
£1.29; 36 way	£1.55.
<b>PHONO</b>	
Single socket 5p, plug 6p	
Twin socket 9p	
Quad socket 13p	
Plug colours: blk, red, yellow, grey.	
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<b>CONNECTORS</b>	
(V.A.T.—12½%)	
DIN	
3 way	11p
4 way	13p
5 way 180°	14p
5 way 180° PC	12p
5 way 240°	15p
6 way	16p
7 way	18p
Socket	9p
10p	
12p	
15p	
16p	
18p	

<b>CONVERTERS</b>	
(V.A.T.—12½%)	
DIN	
3 way	11p
4 way	13p
5 way 180°	14p
5 way 180° PC	12p
5 way 240°	15p
6 way	16p
7 way	18p
Socket	9p
10p	
12p	
15p	
16p	
18p	

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### VERO PRODUCTS

<b>VEROBOARD</b>	
0-1" matrix copper clad	
3-75" x 2-5"	46p
5" x 2-5"	55p
5" x 3-75"	55p
8-45" x 1-5"	57p
DIP-BOARD	£2.78
VQ Dip-Board	£1.11
24-way plug-in	£2.20
32-way	£2.40
EURO Dip-Board	£3.57
0-1" matrix unclad	
3-75" x 2-5" 31p 5" x 3-75" 56p	
EURO Board	89p
0-15" matrix, copper clad	
3-75" x 2-5" 44p 5" x 2-5" 53p	
3-75" x 3-75" 53p 5" x 3-75" 74p	
8-45" x 1-5" 57p	
0-2" matrix, copper clad	
5" x 3-4" TO CLEAR 30p	
<b>PIN INSERTION TOOLS</b>	
No PIT 1 for 0-040" pins	
(0-1" matrix)	£1.27
No PIT5 for 0-052" pins	
(0-15" matrix)	£1.27
<b>SPOT FACE CUTTER</b>	
Suitable for any matrix	89p

<b>TERMINAL PINS</b>	
(Not made by Vero)	
0-040" dia for 0-1" matrix per 100	35p
per 500	£1.15
0-052" dia for 0-15" matrix per 100	40p
(Both types double ended)	
<b>VEROBX STANDARD BOXES</b>	
High impact polystyrene light grey top, dark grey bottom section.	
Type L W H	
2514F 100 50 25	£1.64
2516G 100 50 40	£1.86
2518H 120 65 40	£2.07
2520J 150 80 50	£2.45
2522K 188 110 60	£3.13
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Constructed from ABS material light grey top & dark grey bottom section. Anodised all front and rear panels. Internal guides for PC boards.	
Type L H D	
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1238D 154 60 85	£2.82
1239K 154 80 85	£3.38
1410J 205 40 140	£3.53
1411D 205 75 140	£3.96
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<b>GP501 50V 1A</b>	£4.30
tapped 19, 25, 33, 40V	
<b>GP502 50V 2A</b>	£6.30
tapped 19, 25, 33, 40V	
<b>GP601 60V 1A</b>	£4.60
tapped 24, 30, 40, 48V	
<b>GP602 50V 2A</b>	£6.70
tapped 24, 30, 40, 48V	
<b>50T52 50V 2A</b>	
tapped 25, 45V	
Pri/sec shield	£6.55
<b>50T52A 50V 2A (110/120V pri)</b>	£6.55
tapped 25, 45V	
Pri/sec shield	£6.55
<b>28T05</b>	£4.40
12V, 12V, 2-0-2V 0.5A	
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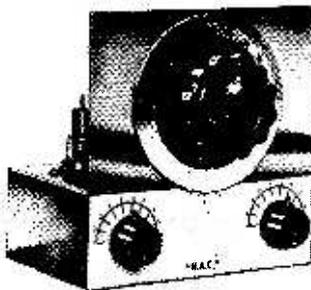


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Ref	mA	Volts	£	P&P
238	200	3-0-3	2.57	0.55
212	1A, 1A	0-6, 0-6	2.85	0.78
13	100	9-0-9	2.14	0.38
235	330, 330	0-9, 0-9	1.99	0.38
207	500, 500	0-8-9, 0-8-9	2.77	0.71
208	1A, 1A	0-8-9, 0-8-9	3.53	0.78
236	200, 200	0-15, 0-15	1.99	0.38
214	300, 300	0-20, 0-20	2.80	0.78
221	700 (DC)	20-12-0-12-20	3.41	0.78
206	1A, 1A	0-15-20-0-15-20	4.63	0.96
203	500, 500	0-15-27-0-15-27	3.99	0.96
204	1A, 1A	0-15-27-0-15-27	6.04	0.96
239	50	12-0-12	2.57	0.38

## COMPONENT PACKS

65	High Quality Metal Oxide
5%	1/2 & 1/4 W resistors.
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10	Reed Switches.
50	Wire Wound Resistors
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Hardware	pack nuts, bolts, washers, insulators
200	Mixed Resistors.
70p	ea. P&P 40p. VAT 12 1/2 %

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3A	14.70	1.48
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5A	26.64	2.15

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41 x 41mm	62 x 82mm		
0-50µA	£5.50	0-50µA	£6.70
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0-1mA	£5.50	0-1mA	£8.40
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174	3A	3.75
175	4A	5.73

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(Continued from opposite side)

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AA129 25	1A/50V 20	2 1/2" 2" 85
AA130 15	1A/100V 22	40Ω 2.5" 65
AA215 15	1A/200V 22	64Ω 2.5" 65
BA100 19	1A/400V 28	8Ω 5W
BY100 24	1A/400V 28	7" x 4" Yellow, Grn. Amber
BY126 12	1A/600V 34	ORP16 63
BY127 12	2A/50V 35	ORP12 64
CRO33 148*	2A/100V 44	ORP21 84
OA9 75	2A/200V 44	2N5777 45
OA47 12	2A/400V 53	<b>OPTO ISOLATORS</b>
OA70 12	2A/600V 65	TIL111/2 15
OA79 12	4A/100V 72	TIL114 15
OA81 15	4A/200V 75	TIL117 110
OA85 12	4A/400V 79	<b>VOLTAGE REGULATORS*</b>
OA90 6	4A/600V 105	T03 Can Type
OA91 6	4A/800V 125	1A +ve: 5V, 12V, 15V, 18V 145p each
OA85 8	6A/100V 73	-ve 0.5A: 5V, 6.2V, 8.2, 12, 15V 86
OA200 8	6A/200V 78	-ve 1A: 5V, 12V 110
OA202 8	6A/400V 85	LM309K 598
OA200 8	6A/600V 85	LM323K 598
OA202 8	6A/800V 85	MVR5 or 12 159
IN914 4	6A/100V 95	1A -ve: 5V, 12V 220
IN916 5	12A/100V 60	<b>Plastic Case +ve</b>
IN4001/2* 5	12A/200V 70	0-1A (TO92) 5V, 6.2, 8.2V, 12V, 15V 30
IN4003* 6	16A/100V 95	0-1A (TO220) 5V, 12V, 15V, 18V, 24V 85
IN4004/5* 6	16A/200V 105	<b>ROCKER:</b> (white) 5A 250V SP change-over centre off 30
IN4006/7* 7	25A/800V 295	<b>ROCKER:</b> (illuminated, red) Chrome Bezel 5A 250V SP 52
IS44 20	40669 95	<b>ROTARY:</b> "Make-A-Switch" Make your own multiway Switch, Adjustable Stop Shafting Assembly. Accommodates up to 6 Wafers 90
3A/100V* 18	<b>DIAC* V22</b> 25	<b>ROTARY:</b> Mains 250V AC, 4 Amp 41
3A/100V* 20	<b>VEROBOARD*</b> Pitch 0.1 0.15 0.1 0.15 (copper clad)	<b>PW PROJECTS</b>
3A/800V* 27	2 1/2" x 3 1/2" 41p	General Coverage Receiver, Chroma-chase, 24hrs. Digital Clock, 'JUBILEE' Electronic Organ, General Purpose SW Receiver, Gas & Smoke Sensor Alarm, Metal Locator, 'PURBECK' Oscilloscope, Audio Distortion Meter, 'AVON' 2m FM Transmitter.
3A/100V* 30	2 1/2" x 4 1/2" 49p	Send SAE plus 5p per list.
3A/100V* 37	3 1/2" x 5 1/2" 60p	
6A/800V 65	3 1/2" x 7" 58p	
	3 1/2" x 17" 152p	
	3 1/2" x 17" 193p	
	4 1/2" x 17" 252p	
	Pkt of 36 pins 30p	
	Spot face cutter 85p	
	Pin insertion tool 88p	
	<b>VERO WIRING PEN*</b> + Spool 325p	
	Spare Wire (Spool) 80p; Combs 7p ea.	
	<b>FERRIC CHLORIDE*</b> 1lb bag Anhydrous 85p + 30p p. & p.	
	<b>DALO ETCH RESIST PEN*</b> Plus spare tip 75p	
	<b>COPPER CLAD BOARDS*</b> Fibre Single-Double-SRBP Glass sided 7.5" x 7" 6" x 6" 75p 30p 60p 6" x 12" 135p 175p	
	<b>SOLDERCON PINS*</b> 100 pins 50p; 1000 pins 400p	
	<b>DIL SOCKETS*</b> : Low Profile (TEXAS) 8 pin 10p; 14 pin 12p; 16 pin 13p; 18 pin 20p; 20 pin 27p; 22 pin 30p; 24 pin 30p; 28 pin 42p; 40 pin 55p; 60 pin 225p	
	<b>SCR's*</b> Thyristors	
	1A50V 38	
	1A100V 42	
	1A200V 47	
	1A400V 52	
	1A600V 78	
	5A300V 35	
	5A600V 43	
	8A300V 48	
	8A500V 58	
	8A600V 85	
	12A300V 59	
	12A500V 92	
	C106D 38	

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TIL211 Grn	TIL307
TIL212 Yellow	22 TIL321-5" C.An
0.2" Red	19 TIL322-5" C.Cth
0.2" Yellow	15 DL704-3" C.Cth
Grn. Amber	99 DL707-3" C.Anod
ORP16	63 DL747-6" An
ORP12	FND357
2N5777	MAN3640
45	XAN351-3" Green
<b>ISOLATORS</b>	15 Liquid Crystal Display
TIL111/2	15
TIL114	31
TIL117	110

## VOLTAGE REGULATORS\*

T03 Can Type	Plastic Case +ve
1A +ve: 5V, 12V, 15V, 18V 145p each	0-1A (TO92) 5V, 6.2, 8.2V, 12V, 15V 30
-ve 0.5A: 5V, 6.2V, 8.2, 12, 15V 86	0-1A (TO220) 5V, 12V, 15V, 18V, 24V 85
-ve 1A: 5V, 12V 110	
LM309K 598	
LM323K 598	
MVR5 or 12 159	
1A -ve: 5V, 12V 220	

## ROCKER:

(white) 5A 250V SP change-over centre off 30
(illuminated, red) Chrome Bezel 5A 250V SP 52

## ROTARY:

"Make-A-Switch" Make your own multiway Switch, Adjustable Stop Shafting Assembly. Accommodates up to 6 Wafers 90
Mains Switch DPST to 6 Wafers 34
Break Before Make Wafers, 1 pole/12 way, 2p/6 way, 3p/4 way, 4p/3 way, 6p/2 way 47
Spacer and Screen 5
<b>ROTARY: (Adjustable Stop)</b> 1 pole/2 to 12 way, 2p/2 to 6 way, 3 pole/2 to 4 way, 4 pole/2 to 3 way 41
<b>ROTARY:</b> Mains 250V AC, 4 Amp 45

## PW PROJECTS

General Coverage Receiver, Chroma-chase, 24hrs. Digital Clock, 'JUBILEE' Electronic Organ, General Purpose SW Receiver, Gas & Smoke Sensor Alarm, Metal Locator, 'PURBECK' Oscilloscope, Audio Distortion Meter, 'AVON' 2m FM Transmitter. Send SAE plus 5p per list.

## SWITCHES\*

TOGGLE 2A 250V	255
SPST	28
DPST	34
DPDT	38
4 pole on off	54
<b>SUB-MIN TOGGLE</b>	
SPST on off	50
SPST bleated	55
DPDT 6 tags	70
DPDT C/OFF	79
DPDT Bleated	115
<b>SLIDE 250V</b>	
1A DPDT	14
1A DPDT C/O	15
1A DPDT	13
4 pole 2-way	24
<b>PUSH BUTTON</b>	
Spring loaded	
Latching	60
SPST on off	60
SPDT C/O	65
SPDT	65
<b>MINIATURE</b>	
Non Locking	
Push to make	15
Push Break	25
<b>ROCKER: (Black)</b> on/off 10A 250V 23	



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1X2B	1-20	6BA6	0-45	6D09B	1-45	12AU6	0-65	ECF801	0-95	EY81	0-50	PCL84	0-75	PY88	0-75	UCH80	0-75
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5T4	0-75	6BF5	0-85	6DT8	0-80	12AV6	0-80	EGH42	1-10	EY88	0-55	PCL805	0-75	TT21	7-80	UCH81	0-65
5U4G	0-60	6BF6	0-75	6DW4	0-90	12AV7	0-90	EGH44	1-10	EY88	0-55	PCL805	0-75	TT22	7-80	UCL81	0-70
5U8	0-75	6BG6G	0-30	6ESS	1-00	12AX7	0-75	ECH200	0-80	EZ80	0-50	PL36	1-10	U25	1-00	UCL82	0-75
5V4G	0-60	6BH6	0-85	6EV5	1-50	12AY7	0-85	ECL80	0-80	EZ81	0-50	PL81	0-50	U26	1-00	UCL83	0-80
5X4G	0-80	6BJ8	1-20	6EW6	0-80	12BA6	0-80	ECL81	0-75	GY501	0-90	PL82	0-55	UABC80	0-58	UF41	1-00
5X8	0-90	6BJ7	0-65	6G8A	0-80	12BF6	0-80	ECL82	0-75	GY501	0-90	PL83	0-55	UAF41	0-80	UF80	0-50
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5Z4GT	0-65	6BN4A	0-90	6GK8	0-90	12BL6	0-70	ECL84	1-10	GZ33	3-80	PL504	1-05	UBC81	0-60	UL84	0-85
6AB7	0-60	6BN6	0-80	6J4	1-20	12B08	0-80	ECL85	0-65	OA2	0-55	PL508	1-30	UBF80	0-60	UM80	0-60
6AC7	0-80	6B07A	0-65	6J5GT	0-80	12BY7A	0-80	ECL86	0-85	OA3	0-75	PL802	0-75	UBF89	0-60	UM81	0-75
6AD8	0-60	6BR8A	1-20	6J6	0-55	12CJ6	0-90	EF80	0-40	OB2	0-60	PY81	0-70	UBL21	0-85	UM84	0-45
6AF4A	0-80	6BS7	2-30	6J7	0-80	19A05	0-75	EF85	0-48	OB3	0-75						
6AG5	0-65	6BU8	0-85	6K5GT	0-75	19B06G	0-85	EF86	0-60	OC2	1-40						
6AG7	0-85	6BW7	1-00	6K6GT	0-85	35A3	0-70	EF92	0-75	OC3	0-75						
6AH6	0-95	6BZ6	0-65	6L6GT	0-85	35B5	0-65	EF97	0-70	OD3	0-75						
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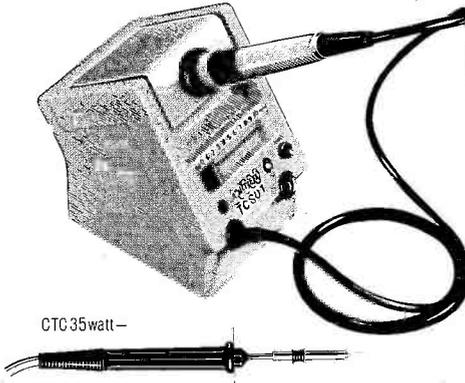
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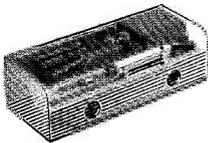
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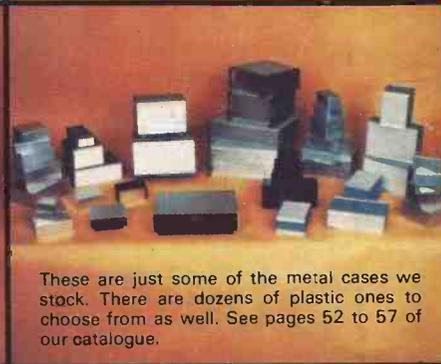
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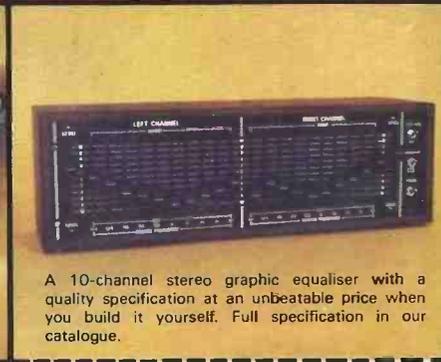
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