

Oct '75

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TELFORD & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.. G3ZME

Contributions to M. Vincent, 9 Sleaford, Long Lane, Telford. Salop.

EDITORIAL

Several years back, our Chairman, Mike, mooted the notion of sections within the Club; it sounded a good idea:- plans were laid, sections and leaders were decided; there was one for G3ZME on the Air, another for New Members, another for Portable etc. etc.

A year later, the Sections were reviewed, and each had met with varying degrees of success. That was about 18 months ago, and since that time they seem to have been forgotten. Perhaps it sounded good in theory but did not work in practice? - or was it the fault of the leaders? - or lack of support from Members? - or lack of precise goals? - poor premises (then)? -

Another way of looking at it might be to suggest that the sections succeeded, but not in the way anticipated. We DID get G3ZME on the air; We HAVE been portable regularly since 1972; We ARE building the latest Club Project; New Members CONTINUE to be attracted, and so on.. It was interesting to note that at a recent meeting, Members crammed into the Black Hole of Calcutta - sorry Aled, the Amateur Radio Operating Room - but then split up into three smaller groups: one for RAE instruction, the second to discuss the circuit of the Club Project, and the third to operate G3ZME on 2m. - plus of course, the hard core of veteran natterers! each group had a room to itself (I almost said quiet room, but thought better of it), and we hope everyone was satisfied. There was even a sprinkling of the fairer sex (not connected with the Club, alas) which some enthusiastic SWLs wanted to enrol (were they too bashful?) Perhaps they really intended to defect to the girls' woodworking class - shapely carvings, and all that.

Sections are not dead, just metamorphosised.

MIV

FORTHCOMING PROGRAMME

(Club meetings marked **)

- ** 22 October "C.W. as she is spoke" Martyn, G3UKV
- ** 29 October "Colour Television", Part 2. Pat, G4AGA
- ** 5 November Natternight, G3ZME on the Air.
- ** 12 November Outside speaker, on SSB probably. (Provisionally)
- ** 19 November Junk Box Swap night. A new idea - bring along Your junk, and take home another lot!!
- ** 26 November R.A.E. round up. Work through past papers; revision.
- ** 3 December Natternight, G3ZME on the Air.
- ** 17 December Club Social. Venue etc. next month.
- ** 24 December No formal meeting. Pub crawl?

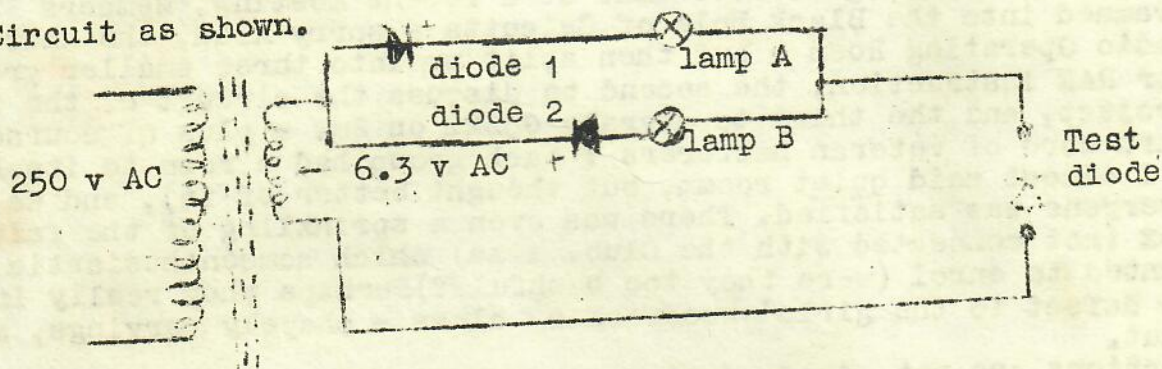
OTHER DATES

October 18-19 7 Mhz CW contest. 1800 Sat - 1800 Sun.
 October 25-26 CQ World Wide DX contest. 0000Sat - 2400 Sun.
 1.8 - 30 MHz. (UK in Zone 14)
 October 26 70 MHz fixed station contest. 0900 - 1500 GMT.
 October 30, 31 & November 1 Trade exhibition, Granby Halls, Leicester.
 Thurs, Fri: noon-8 pm.
 Sat: 10 am - 6 pm. 30p. admission.
 Seats available in Members' cars - apply at Club.
 November 1-2 144 MHz ~~fixed~~ station contest - CW. 2000 Sat - 0100 Sun
 November 1-2 7 MHz 'phone contest. 1800 Sat- 1800 Sun.
 November 8-9 1.8 MHz CW contest. 2100 sat - 0300 Sun.
 November 16 432 MHz open contest. 1000-1800 GMT.

Quote of the month, from John 'AXZ, when asked in the Club quiz what an OC71 is:
 "They're used as confetti for weddings now, aren't they ? "

SIMPLE DIODE TESTER. George Harper.

Circuit as shown.



If lamp A or B light, the diode is serviceable.
 If both light, the diode is short circuit.
 If neither light, the diode is open circuit.

This is a novel variation on testing diodes, compared to the conventional use of an ohms' meter.

CLUB PROJECT: PROGRESS REPORT.

At the October 8 meeting, Adrian '8FSV brought along the complete 28-30 MHz receiver, and plugged in his 2m converter. Although the club antenna proved to be open circuit cunningly, signals could be resolved comfortably. The previous week, those members building the receiver, and present (!), were shown the complete circuit. However, there's nothing like the real MdCoy. The demonstration ~~xxx~~ proved the electrical, and electro-mechanical stability of the unit beyond doubt - although retuning did prove to be necessary when the case was thumped sufficiently hard. (the brute). All mode operation was excellent, with the squelch unit being used in the FM mode - something that seems to make the mode a little bit more civilised. (only a bit, mind you) (continued, page 5)

ALL BAND RECEPTION REPORT. Norman, A8819

(Not strictly Amateur Radio throughout, but certainly a 'different' report - Ed.)

Contributors to the report: Mark A8550, Dave Harris (the quieter of the two &), Derek Norry, Norman A8819.

Medium Wave:-

Pennine Radio (Bradford). Started broadcasts on 1277 KHz (235metres), using a power of 300 watts, and on VHF 96.0 MHz with 500 watts.

Victory Radio (Portsmouth). They are testing from 0700-1700 on 1169 KHz (257 m) at a power of 800 watts and on VHF 95.0 MHz at 300 watts.

Beacon Broadcasting (Wolverhampton). Record Mirror & Disc have reported that Beacon will be broadcasting on 557 KHz (539 m) with 500 watts and on 97.2 MHz using 1KW.

Radio Orwell (Ipswich) has been testing on 1169 KHz, 998 KHz and on 1340 KHz (228m). The advertised frequency was 1169 KHz but because of Mi Amigo (Radio Caroline) another frequency is being found.

On Thursday (26/9/75), after 0000 GMT, several USA and Canadian stations were noted:-

CJON	on 930 KHz	(10 KW)
CJCH	on 920 "	"
CKEG	on 1290 "	"
WHAM	on 1180 "	(50 KW)
WCAU	on 1210 "	"
WBNS	on 1190 "	(10 KW)
WNEW	on 1130 "	(50 KW)
CBI	on 1140 "	(10 KW)
WHW	on 1050 "	?
WBZ	on 1130 "	(50 KW)
WBU	on 1110 "	(10 KW)

The "Peace Ship" has started transmission on the 1/8/75 on 1540 KHz (195 m); they broadcast from 0300-2300 GMT; they are 5 miles off Tel Aviv.

The Dutch Radio Veronica closed on the 31/8/75 because of the Marine Offences Act; they have been given permission to transmit from Hilversum for 3 hours a week from 1/1/76, and 1 hour TV.

Short Wave (broadcast bands)

13 metre band:	R. South Africa. BBC World Service Radio Nederlands Paris calling Africa
19 metre band:	Radio Budapest BBC World Service HCJB Voice of the Andes
25 metre band:	WYER
31 metre band:	Voice of Iran SBC - Switzerland
41 metre band:	Radio Tirrana
49 metre band:	Radio Sweden BBC World Service.

(Cor, not a R. Moscow or Peking among the lot - very selective receivers in use. Ed)

Amateur Bands

- 10 metres: Very poor, no DX. Only station logged PA0CAUL.
- 15 metres: Some very interesting openings on the band. Stations logged OZ3AD, DF2FM, DL9DY, DK6FA, DM5YJO, 8P6FP, OK1AMP, DL2HP, I2KGV, LA1BR.
- 20 metres: Very good DX around this month. 6W8DY (Senegal), 5L2FJ (Liberia), ZP5NA (Paraguay), 9H1DY (Malta), XJ3DDI (?), CN8LP (Morocco), ET3AY (Ethiopia), 9J2V (Zambia), ZB2CD (Gibraltar)
- 40 metres: Would be grateful for any reports for this band.
- 80 metres: Not been very interesting, but noted were: EA3JE, EI2CR, DK1WT, PA0GMW, GI3USK, UA9CBC, EI0CL
- 160 metres: Would appreciate reports for this band.
- 2 metres: Very good during the month. Stations logged on this band during opening 7-9 October GM8BDX, GD8KQF, GC8CEY (Jersey), ON5IW, DC8KT, DJ2KR, F2YY, F1CCP.

Reports for November Newsletter by early November please, to Norman Hartford, A0019., 178, Westbourne, Woodside, Telford, or by hand.

RAE INSTRUCTION

October: Part 2, Section 7. Low power transmitters. Oscillator circuits, use of quartz crystals to control oscillators, frequency multipliers, power amplifiers; methods of keying transmitters; methods of modulation & types of transmission in current use including SSB and FM.

November: Part 2, Section 10. Measurements. Measurement of frequency, Operation of simple frequency meters, (including Xtal controlled types). Use of verniers & other interpolation methods. Dummy loads & their use in lining up transmitters; Method of measuring power input to the final stage(s) of a transmitter. Measurement of current & voltage at audio & radio frequencies. Use of Cathode ray oscilloscope for the examination & measurement of waveform.

Part 1, Section 1. Licensing conditions. Type of licence available & qualifications required of holders. Conditions, (terms, provisions & limitations) laid down by the Home Office in the Amateur (sound) licence A, including the notes appended & the schedule of classes of emissions & frequency bands.

If this work is covered, and all previous sections of previous months, you can't HELP but pass & These 3 sections complete the syllabus, with the December RAE in mind. The date of the Exam is Monday 1st. December. October 22 is the final date for entrants.

OTHER NOTES

Wolverhampton A.R.S. have established a Raynet group (RAEN, radio Amateur Emergency Network). Group Controller is Peter G3UBX, and 144.18 MHz has been adopted as Group channel for net exercises, etc. Manuals (cost 20p), registration forms, and identity cards are available from G3UBX; one presumes Telford Hams & SWLs could join their group, as it is the nearest group to us.

HERE AND THERE: LOCAL NATTERCENTRE.

Heard on the Air - Decca is giving up manufacturing KW Amateur Radio equipment. The G station saying this on 80m. claimed to have visited the Dartford factory recently, where he gathered this info. As it wasn't April, one assumes the story is valid, despite continuing ads. in Radcomm this month. A sad case, but predicted by several 'locals' the same month Decca took over KW electronics. One can only guess at the motivation behind the original purchase a couple of years ago. - perhaps their Dartford factory looked a useful place with other Decca projects in mind? - or just a victim of inflation and Jap. imports?

The new Club Net frequency is 145.190 MHz. In fairness to anyone who may not think this a wise move, it was based on a number of factors, and is the frequency preferred by the active participants in the net:- minimum mods to members' gear: close to well established 'ZME frequency. If the new Band plan had been strictly adhered to, we might face change at any time (it's been changed twice in the last couple of years). Purchasing new Xtals would not automatically ensure any better netting than hitherto.; considerable expense was involved for those with 12 or 24 MHz rocks. However, no sooner had this been decided, after months of dithering, than Dave GM3YEW, our old friend near Perth, dropped a handful of crystals in to Alan, G3WFX, which would come out around 145.33 - smack in the new allocation. So, rather than waste Dave's kind donation, this new frequency will be a "Secondary" channel - perhaps to use if the band-plan changes again, or if the existing net becomes oversized, ~~of~~ (sub-groups during the net). Meanwhile, the new frequency is QRM free to all Members - and it is now worth kitting out that mobile rig with the appropriate crystals. Tuning around the freq. still takes place, untill about 9.3

The Club 70 cm aerial is now aloft, with a SSM 70cm to 2 metre conv. at the bottom of the coax. At present, the GB3SC (Sutton Coldfield) beacon is barely audible at Dawley - so clearly something is amiss! Antennas now include 22el on 70cms, 8 el. on 2m., rotatable trap dipole for 10/15/20 metres, W3DZZ trap dipole for HF bands.

G3ZME/P was not activated for VHF field day. However, not everyone sat at home. Mike G8CMU, Mark A8550 and others from WOLV/Shifnal areas went up Redhill for the duration, and were rewarded with 328 QSOs with Liner 2s and crossed 10 el yagis to help. A multibeam was used on 70cms too.

G8AX/P and G3MWQ/P activated 2 and 4 metres, from Maddock's Hill, near the Wrekin. (920' ASL before the quarrymen got there!). Pete G4AUY and Martyn '3UKV were present some of the time. Some 95 stations were raised on 2m. in about 8 hrs., & 35 on 4 metres.

Those going for the December RAE are reminded entries are due in this month. The Walker Tech. will almost certainly arrange for the exam to be taken there - give them a ring.

Most Members noted our improved score & placing this year in HF field day. (bearing in mind our single band entry). This time we scored 713. Top 14 MHz score was 930, which was one of 7 stations scoring higher than us. Conditions, though poor, favoured a high scoring rate; albeit, we had nearly 100 more QSOs than in 1974.

Going to the exhibition in Leicester? share costs - have a lift, (or give a lift). Ask around at the Club.