

Editors Chatter

CATSWHISKER
FEBRUARY

2005



G3SDS

G8SDS



Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain



Well here we are again, the time of the month when one has to put pen to paper, in this case hands to keyboard.

It has been a difficult month for us, because of the death of our dog, "Tripper" below; she had lived with us for 13 of the 18 years of her life. The time you dread had come to say goodbye, and let her rest in peace.

She was an ex-police dog, left at a Rescue Centre when we first adopted her. We did not know anything about her, other than that she had not been suitable for the force. I wonder if this is why! Well, one day on a walk over her Victoria Park she chased 5 plain clothed policemen out of Victoria Gardens. They were patrolling the park because Prince Andrew was due to commemorate a plaque. She knew who they were, and decided to go full pelt at the nearest one, snarling and barking, causing this particular policeman to jump the hedge, and once he was gone, she went after the others. Once they were all on the other side of the hedge, I managed to catch her, talk about being left red faced. It seems she hated Policemen and she proved this many times, luckily, this time, they saw the funny side of it. So as soon as she showed the signs, we had to restrain her and always had to be careful after that, because she could spot one a mile off, as the saying goes.

We still have the two smaller dogs, (Father and Son), and they can come with us to events etc, but there is still a big gap left. Time will heal.

This is also the month when Valentine's show up, or should do; will the Club have any announcements this month? (I wonder hi hi). Now that I have put it in black and white, you cannot say you forgot, so remember the Card's and Flowers gentlemen, and ladies, I leave it to your imagination!

It was a very good Club Night on Tuesday, so read all about it in the magazine. The next meeting will be a Talk by Ofcom, and will be based on the technical aspects of the day-to-day fieldwork they undertake. Sounds interesting, so another good evening to look forward too.

If you have any Articles, Birthday/Anniversary, or information concerning the health of one of our members, and you would like to put in the next issue, please let me have them by the deadline.

Have a good month everyone, and may your God go with you. 73 Carol



TRIPPER

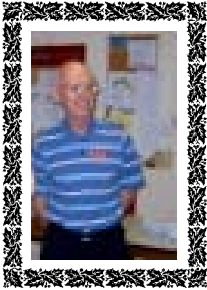
Went peacefully to sleep on
Tuesday 4th January 2005.

In the arms of her human Mum & Dad, aged 18 years
She will be missed by all the family

TO THE OPERATORS WHO HAVE BEEN ASSISTING WITH OPERATIONS DURING THE TSUNAMI DISASTER, AND ARE CONTINUING TO DO SO.

THE WORLD'S OTHER OPERATORS SALUTE YOU FOR THE DEDICATION YOU HAVE SHOWN, AND THE FINE WORK THAT YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN

**FOR THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND THEIR PEOPLE.
THIS IS IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO.**



HF RADIO NOISE

By Rob Micklewright G3MYM

Since the advent of the valve it has been possible to amplify an infinitesimal radio signal to a level sufficient to operate a loudspeaker. So why is it not possible when a band is open to the other side of the world to have a QSO with a station from there that is using an extremely low power transmitter?

The answer is that a radio signal is always accompanied by radio noise and to be heard a radio signal needs to be greater than any background noise, therefore if a receiver is sufficiently sensitive to enable radio noise to be heard, and practically all radio receivers are, then it is the level of radio noise that determines the weakest signal that can be heard.

There are two types of radio noise, aerial noise and receiving system noise, and on HF, unless the receiving system is very noisy, it is aerial noise that dominates. Aerial noise is radio noise waves that are picked up by the aerial, and for HF aerial noise can be divided into three main types of noise, atmospheric noise, cosmic noise, and man made noise.

Atmospheric Noise

Atmospheric noise is radio waves that are generated by lightening and for HF these waves travel around the world by means of ionosphere propagation. As there is usually a thunder storm happening somewhere in the world at any given moment, atmospheric noise is continuous source of radio noise and has a level that drops dramatically above about 15 MHz. During the daytime the level of atmospheric noise is reduced by D region absorption.

Cosmic Noise

Cosmic noise is radio waves that are generated by the sun and other stars in the cosmos. Cosmic noise is not normally received on lower frequencies because the lower the frequency the more likely it is that these waves will be returned to space by the ionosphere and therefore not reach the aerial.

Man Made Noise

Man-made noise is radio waves that are generated by man made equipment. The level of this type of radio noise is greatest in industrial and urban areas and least in the remote countryside. Man made noise is radiated by mains wiring and is generally vertically polarised.

The level of man-made noise is often greater than the level of atmospheric or cosmic noise particularly in built up areas. Because of the likely polarisation and the fact that man made noise is radiated by mains wiring, it may be possible to reduce the level of man made noise that is picked up by an aerial by using a balanced horizontal aerial that is well away from buildings and above their height. Such an aerial will also reduce the possibility of EMC problems when transmitting.

Thank you Rob G3MYM for your contribution this month.

I am afraid to say that there will be no Article from Graham Barlow this month. He has been unwell with a tummy bug; it seems to have caught quite a few people out. So we hope he feels well really soon. Graham will resume in the next month's issue of Catswhisker, and he will write a series of articles "Radio Waves in Outer Space". This has got me interested straight away—where do they go? This is the big question.

Mr & Mrs John Hilton of Dorchester has kindly donated a Yaesu FRG 7700 Receiver to South Dorset Radio Society. It belonged to Silent Key, Graham Twinn (sorry no call sign known), who died a little while ago. Graham Twinn worked during his life for Marconi, and his other interests where working on a lathe (doing what, we do not know). Story we where told, was that, they had to remove a window from his lounge in order to put the lathe in that room. He must have been quite a character. So our thanks and sympathy go to the family.

RAISING FUNDS FOR SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY TRAINING CENTRE— WYKE REGIS

Buy a square in a field for 20 pence and when the field is full, the square with the cowpat in it will be the winner. A visiting speaker will draw the square number as soon as the field is full of names or call signs

NOTHE FORT

NOTHE FORT
ARTILLERY
RE-ENACTMENT
GROUP
LOOK FORWARD
TO SEEING YOU
EVERY OTHER
SUNDAY
THROUGHOUT
THE YEAR



*NOTHE FORT
MUSEUM OF
COASTAL DEFENCE
BARRACK ROAD
WEYMOUTH
DORSET*

SUPPORT REQUIRED IN THEIR BID FOR LOTTERY
FUNDING FOR VITAL REPAIRS TO THE FORT
INCLUDING LIFT FOR THE DISABLED
SO PLEASE GO ALONG AND SUPPORT THEM

JANUARY'S TALK BY BARRY SCARISBRICK OF THE RSGB RSGB AND WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

It was lovely to see Barry Scarisbrick G4ACK again, and he looked really well.

Phil Mayer G0KKL, who also brought along with him our New, accompanied him Regional Manager, Peter Clifford M0PTR. Phil Mayer is retiring after many years of being a tremendous support to Radio Clubs in his Region, and we wish him a Happy Retirement, so that he can enjoy whatever road he decides to take in the future. We also say welcome to Peter Clifford M0PTR, and hope that he will be happy in his new position as Regional Manager. It is up to all Clubs in his Region, to be of help to him in his settling in period, we wish him the Best of Luck for the future.

Barry G4ACK showed us two DVD's on the night, one showing an introduction into Radio Amateur, via the RSGB, by taking Radio into School's all over the Country. From what was shown on the DVD, it seems that the children really enjoyed the experience, especially when they got to talk to an Amateur in the Space Station. The RSGB mobile van appears to be well equipped with all the latest technology, giving parents, teachers and especially the children a very good idea of Amateur Radio today.

The second DVD showed how the RSGB Headquarters puts together the Radcom Magazine that we receive every month, from when an Article arrives at the Office, through to Editing, and on to another Company for compiling, then on again to be type set and printed. They also dealt with the QSL Bureau, sorting so that cards go to the right places in the country, and the world.

There is an awful lot of work goes into producing a Magazine as big as Radcom, and as they say, "you cannot get it right for every one all the time", but they do try to cover a wide range of subjects that will suit every one. If there is something special you want to see or know about, well, get in touch with them and let them know, this is their only way of redressing the matter.

Personally, I would like to see more Articles that cover the younger age group. We now have Amateurs that are as young as 7 or 8, because of the new Foundation Exam Making it a lot easier for children to grasp the basics of radio. It would be good for then to include articles that are written with them in mind, not too technical, but slowly guiding them further so that they advance in the hobby. I think it would give them more encouragement to move forward and talk to Amateurs who have been in the hobby for years. These people I have found, are very patient, understanding and helpful when it is known of the caller's junior status.

So please Radcom, let us have at least one article per month for the very junior/junior members to get their teeth into. Maybe a small item to build in simple, understandable language, or some write-ups by the juniors themselves on their experiences since becoming Licensed, so as to encourage others to take up the hobby. Believe it or not, **THEY ARE OUR FUTURE RADIO AMATEURS**, and deserve the help of the RSGB, and the help and encouragement of all Radio Amateurs, and Clubs, in this country, and world wide, to maintain and take forward the hobby. There are so many knowledgeable amateurs out there, who have so much to give to the newcomers that it will be a great loss if it is not passed on.

It can, of course, be difficult for Clubs to have younger members, may be because of the Child Protection Act, but that is just a stepping stone, not an excuse, as SDRS have proved.

73 Carol 2E1RBH

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

We are participating in Science Week from 14th to the 19th March 2005, and this will be the ideal opportunity to take Amateur Radio out there to the Schools, and other people. So let us take it by the hand and use it to encourage people of all ages to look at Amateur Radio as fun, educating and a great hobby.

Personally, I have made an awful lot of new friends and do not regret the day I took up the hobby. I have been able to meet people from all walks of life, all ages and from many Countries, which I would never have been able to do before.

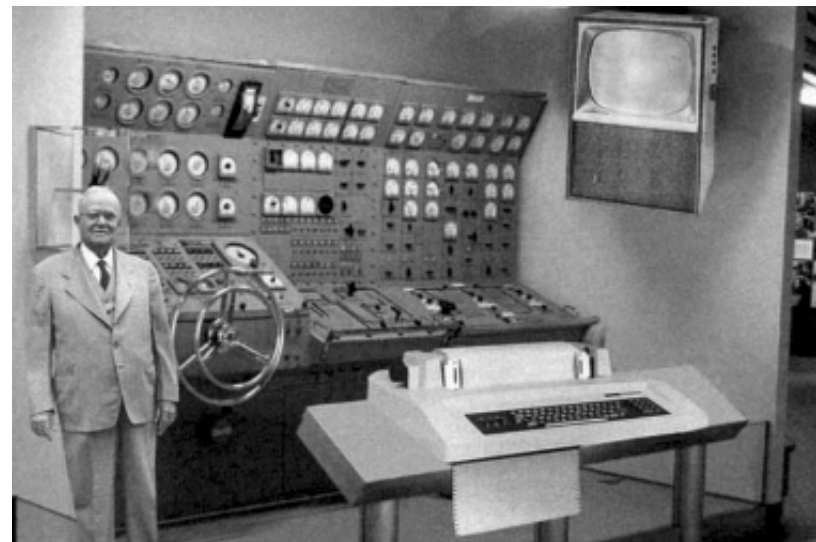
Carol 2E1RBH

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK Mr. N. Nielsen of Wyke Regis, for the loan of the Special Projector for the evening and also to Robert G0RYL (Chairman) for the loan of the other equipment, which I hope you will loan the Club again if needed. Thank you to everybody who helped set up the equipment and put it away after.

Also thanks to Janet 2E1NRQ for the excellent spread, which I am sure you all enjoyed.

73 Carol 2E1RBH

NEVILLE M5NEV WANTS ONE OF THESE— NOW I KNOW HE HAS LOST IT!



Scientists from the RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a "home computer" could look like in the year 2004. However, the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but in 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With Teletype interface and the Fortrun language the computer will be easy to use.



**FORTHING COMING EVENTS
AT YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN
JANUARY 2005**

10th March 2005—SSTV Talk & Demonstration.

10th April 2005—QRP Convention—Digby Hall, Sherborne

If anyone is interested in any of these Meetings get in touch with 2E1RBH to see about sharing transport.

SDRS CONTEST CALL M2Z

Richard, M5RIC will be using M2Z (MU2Z) during the CQ WPX SSB contest from Guernsey Island, QRA IN89RK over the weekend 26/27 March. Full details about the SDRS Contest Call-sign and it's use can be found on the SDRS web site.

OTHER CLUB INFORMATION

Jim Barton G7JIM has another date for the end of the month to go into hospital. We wish him Good Luck (if not cancelled again) and all our thoughts are with him and his wife. If there is anything we can do while he is in, then please contact us.

Practical Wireless—we have been mentioned in despatches. A write up about the club and where it meets etc.

Birthdays/Anniversary's—If anyone has had a Birthday/Anniversary this month, please except the Club's best wishes and we hope you had a lovely day. If you know of anyone with a Birthday/Anniversary please let the Editor know and it will be included in the Catswhisker.

South Dorset Radio Society— would like to wish their Chairman, Robert GORYL a very Happy Birthday for the 27th January 2005.

WYKE REGIS TRAINING CENTRE

I would like to say well done to all who have been involved in the refurbishment of The Training Centre in Wyke Regis. There was an open evening on Wednesday 19th January 2005 to show it off to those who go regularly on a Wednesday. Rob GORYL and 2E1RBH dropped in, and everybody seemed to be having fun. So congratulations Neville and all your little helpers for a job well achieved. 73 Robert GORYL, Chairman



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mike@mbfreight.gb.com

Size - Distance - Location
Has never been a problem.



Here is the Net News

FROM THE NET MANAGER

**I WILL LET GRAHAM TALK
HIS WAY OUT OF THIS ONE!!**



SDRS WEEKLY NETS

Mondays 20:00hrs onwards 2mts on 145.350 MHz

**Thursdays 19:00hrs onwards on 10mts on
28.350 MHz**

Thanks to **Graham 2E1GOQ** for running the nets

MARCONI'S BEAM WIRELESS

STATION AT DORCHESTER

By Paul Hawkins G4KHU

**IS NOW AVAILABLE
THROUGH THE CLUB ON REQUEST**

**THE BOOK WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT
FEBRUARY'S CLUB NIGHT.**

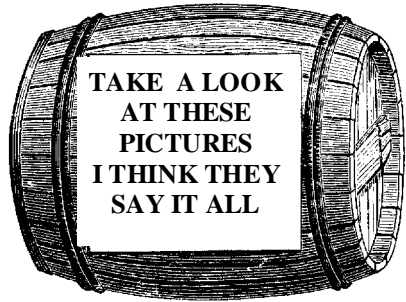
**YOU WILL BE ABLE TO
PURCHASE ONE ON THE NIGHT
OR CONTACT THE SECRETARY
PART OF THE PURCHASE PRICE WILL GO
INTO CLUB FUNDS**

On 01305 820400

£3.75 PER



MORE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DECEMBER BUFFET/SKITTLES NIGHT



**BOB G7LNJ (Guest)
FROM YEOVIL
"WHERE HAS
OLLIE GONE"!**

&



**JIM G7JIM
"OVER HERE
STANLEY"**

**SORRY BOB & JIM, BUT I
COULD NOT RESIST THIS ONE**



**ALEX G3KKJ
ALL DOTS &
NO DASHES**



**RUTH M3RRM, GRAHAM 2E0GOQ,
ALAN M3WSZ & ASHLEY**



**CHARLIE 2E1LEC
THOUGHT YOU WERE
AT A SKITTLES MATCH
NOT A WEDDING
"VICAR"**



**GRAHAM 2E0GOQ
"STICK THEM UP"**



**RUTH M3RRM
& G7JIM'S XYL**



**JUST SOME OF THE GANG
AND THEIR XYL'S**



**CAROL 2E1RBH
SOMEONE HAD
TO DO IT !**



**YOUNG LOVE !!!
I PREFER SKITTLES**



PHIL 2E1SSB & JON G2FHF



**BOB G7LNJ GUEST FROM YEOVIL
WITH MARK M5MKW
MAKING SURE ALL FAIR
IN LOVE & SKITTLES**



**JAMIE 2E0WON
JUST WAIT TILL
I'M 18**



**G3MYM
ROB
MICKLEWRIGHT
GUEST FROM
YEOVIL CLUB**

**SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY
A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED
THE SKITTLES & BUFFET NIGHT.**

**I HOPE YOU ALL ENJOYED THE EVENT
THANKS TO CHARLIE & SUE FOR ORGANISING THE RAFFLE,
TO WYKE WORKING MEN'S CLUB FOR HAVING US.
THE CATERER FOR A LOVELY BUFFET.**

SKITTLES/BUFFET NIGHT EXTRAGOOD NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL
The pictures were not very good last month, so thought I would put the Event in again

LIST OF OUR EVENTS FOR 2005

FEBRUARY 2005

8TH FEBRUARY 2005

TALK BY OFCOM

Technical aspects of the day to day field work they do at Ofcom

MARCH 2005

8TH MARCH 2005

JOURNEAUX HISTORIC WIRELESS TALK

BY H. JOURNEAUX

11TH-19TH MARCH 2005

SCIENCE WEEK 2005

Can you help 2E1RBH to promote Amateur to the general public
By either loaning some radio equipment, or an hour here or there

APRIL 2005

12TH APRIL 2005

SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY AGM

23TH & 24TH APRIL 2005

MARCONI WEEKEND

MAY 2005

7TH & 8TH MAY 2005

WINDMILLS/WATERMILLS ON THE AIR WEEKEND

At David Saunders Field, we hope again this year

8TH MAY 2005

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

At the Nothe Fort, Weymouth (Volunteers required)

10TH MAY 2005

PROPOGATION by Rob Micklewright G3MYM

“How to understand it better, and how it works”

JUNE 2005

14TH JUNE 2005

ECHO LINK BY M5MKW

18TH & 19TH MUSEUMS ON THE AIR

MUSEUMS ON THE AIR WEEKEND

JULY 2005

12TH JULY 2005

B.B.Q & CAR BOOT SALE (VENUE TO BE FOUND)

Would like to discuss having these as two separate events

Watch this space for the decision

LIST OF OUR EVENTS FOR 2005

AUGUST 2005

VJ DAY

AWAITING DATES AND CONFIRMATION

FROM NOTHE FORT

20TH/21ST AUGUST 2005

LIGHTHOUSE/SHIP ON THE AIR

TO BE HELD AT THE NOTHE FORT

SEPTEMBER 2005

13TH SEPTEMBER 2005

CLUB MEMBERS MEETING NIGHT

Just to have a general, informal evening with

Tea, Coffee and Cake and bring along any items of interest

For other members to see

OCTOBER 2005

11TH OCTOBER 2005

Trying to persuade our new Regional Manager,

Peter Clifford M0PTR to give us a talk

AWAITING DATES FROM THE FORT

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF

THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

NOVEMBER 2005

8TH NOVEMBER 2005

HAMS ACROSS THE SEA

By Tony Wormold M0TRW

(One of our own members)

DECEMBER 2005

13TH DECEMBER 2005

SKITTLES & BUFFET NIGHT

AT WYKE REGIS WORKING MEN'S CLUB

WYKE REGIS

**THIS IS NOW GOING TO BE A REGULAR FEATURE IN THE
MAGAZINE AND WILL BE UPDATED EVERY MONTH
DAYS AND DATES WILL BE PUBLISHED AS SOON AS THEY ARE
KNOWN**

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
11TH TO THE 20TH MARCH 2005

National Science Week is from the 14th March 2005 to 19th March 2005 for SDRS.

It is an Annual Appeal to support the BA's (British Association for the Advancement of Science). (www.the-ba.net/the-ba) National Science Week, and we will be taking part in this Event to promote Amateur Radio during this month. I have booked the Mulberry Room in the Weymouth Library for the Week, and hope that Members will become involved in talking to Visitors about Amateur Radio and it's associated subjects i.e. - Mathematics, Science, and Geography. We are approaching all the Schools in the area with a sample pack; this will provide them with as much information as possible. It is hoped that this will encourage the School's, to come to the Library with their pupils. So that they may participate in the event, maybe during a morning or afternoon that National Science Week takes place.

I have already taken the liberty of contacting the RSGB for more relevant information, also for all the Advertising material that we will require to hold this Event. It is a good chance to show Amateur Radio, as well as introducing the Hobby to younger people. It should also interest the School's because it covers three vital elements in the school, curriculum.

We are booked from the 14th to 19th March 2005, and will be allowed in early on the Monday morning to set up the displays, posters, leaflets etc.

Rob Micklewright G3MYM (Yeovil Amateur Radio Club) has volunteered to come down each day to give lectures to the School's (if we can persuade them to come), and has proved his popularity with the younger element at our own Special Event Day's over the last year or so.

We would hope that as many Members of SDRS as possible will at least give up a few hours of their time to support the Event. I appreciate that some of you work, so maybe we could borrow bits of equipment from you for display purposes, to give the Visitor's some understanding of Amateur Radio.

I am trying to find out whether it is going to be possible to have a working station there. I do not see why not, as long as it does not interfere with the Library's functioning. We shall see what can be organised in this particular area.

It is hoped that there will be a display of many kinds of Radios that depict the ages of

radio advancement, some have already been agreed, and may be you can help in this area. I guarantee to safe guard them with my life.

This, I feel is a wonderful opportunity to show Children and Adult's the other side to Amateur Radio that they do not otherwise see. As well as, showing that it has many uses in Emergency, Sports Events, Disasters and other elements not really thought about. (It was a lady amateur radio operator who made the first contact

out after Asian tragedy. She is still operating today, trying to contact people and re-unite families. I believe she and the other ladies where taking part in a DXPedition at the time, but where taking a break, back at the hotel when it happened). Just goes to show how important it is to keep Amateur Radio going, and there is only one way of doing that. Take it out to the people.....
73 Carol 2E1RBH

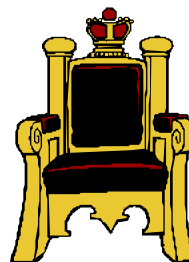
**Did anyone find one of these parcels on the back of their
Catswhisker?**



If you were lucky enough to have one, could you please send it to me and I will give you a belated Christmas Present. There are only 10—so have a look, you never know you maybe lucky. 2E1RBH—Carol - This is the last time of asking.

IF NOBODY HAS CLAIMED ONE OF THE TEN PRIZES ON OFFER YET

The prizes will go into the Monthly Raffle



**PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT AS FROM THE
AGM IN APRIL, OUR CHAIRMAN ROBERT
GORYL WILL BE STANDING DOWN FROM
HIS POST, DUE TO
PERSONAL AND OTHER
COMMITMENTS.**

**Radio or PC problems?
Need some help?**



Why not give Terry GOVHS a call.
He will access the problem and tell you if it can be fixed
and give you an estimate.

All free of charge.

Why not order your electronic components from me?

Contact GOVHS on: telboy_vhs@yahoo.com

Amateur radio modifications (Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood etc). Servicing,
expansion for the latest 40m allocation.

FORTH COMING COUNTRY WIDE EVENTS

6TH FEBRUARY 2005—SOUTH ESSEX ARS Radio Rally—Radio, Computers and Electronics. Brian, G7110, 01268 756 331 or brang7iio@yahoo.com (www.southessex.ars.btinternet.co.uk)

13TH FEBRUARY 2005—HARWELL ARS Rally—Ann G8NVI on 01235 816 379, email -ann.stevens@btinternet.com (www.hamradio.harwell.com)

13TH FEBRUARY 2005—WAKEFIELD & DRS—14th Northern Cross Radio Rally— John- G7JTH. 01924 251 822 or g7jth@wdrs.org.uk. (www.wdrs.org.uk)

20TH FEBRUARY 2005—SOUTHGATE ARC - Stevenage Radio & Electronics Show— C Steve G4UKR- 07950 327 822. Or email Stevenageshow@dsl.pipex.com

27TH FEBRUARY 2005—Amateur Radio & Computer Show— Roger GW4HSH 01792 404 422

5TH MARCH 2005 -CRYSTAL PALACE R & EC—Spring Radio & Electronics Sale— Bob 01737552170 [www.members.aol.com/rfcbums]

LAGAN VALLEY ARC ANNUAL RALLY—no contact, email or web site given

6TH MARCH 2005—TYNE & WEAR REPEATER GROUP— Auction— C Nancy -0191 477 0036 or 07990 760 920 or email 2001@yahoo.co.uk

13TH MARCH 2005—ABERYSTWYTH Amateur Radio & Computer Rally—Ray GW7AGG, on 01970 611 432. Ray@clocktower.go-plus.net

BOURNEMOUTH RS—17th Annual Sale— John G0HAT- 07719 700 771— johncbales@yahoo.co.uk

BREDHURST RECEIVING & TRANSMITTING SOCIETY— 18th Rainham Radio Rally—Mike 01634 313 905

WYTHALL RC Radio & Computer Rally— G0EYO 07710 412 819 or g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk

20th MARCH 2005 -CAMBRIDGE & DARC Rally— John G0GKP 01954 200 072

FROM FEBRUARY UNTIL 12TH JUNE 2005

NORTHERN AMATEUR RADIO RADIO SOCIETIES' ASSOCIATION (NARSA) --Peter G6CGF—0151 630 5790— g6cgf.peter@ntlworld.com

NORTHERN AMATEURS RADIO SOCIETIES' ASSOCIATION (NARSA) -Peter G6CGF, 01516305790, g6cgf.peter@ntlworld.com

3RD APRIL 2005—NORTHERN MOBILE RALL (HARROGATE) - Gerald G0UFI—07734 478 080.

10TH APRIL 2005 -21st YEOVIL QRP CONVENTION— George Davis—01935 425 669—george@mudford.fshnet.co.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE REPEATER GROUP ANNUAL RALLY—Paul GOLUC, 01462 683 574, g0luc@btinternet.com [www.bg3pi.org.uk]

ALDRIDGE & BARR BEACON ARC—Annual Surplus Radio & Electrical Sale—Doug 01543 571 269.

24TH APRIL 2005— ALDRIDGE RAC SPRING BOOT SALE— Terry G8ALR, 01980 629 346, g8alr@ukgateway.net

WEST LONDON RADIO & ELECTRONICS RALLY—PaulM0CJX, 01737 279 108, m0cjx@radiofairs.co.uk, [www.radiofairs.co.uk]

2ND MAY 2005 -THE 21ST DARTMOOR RADIO RALLY— to be held at Tavistock, Devon -Contact—Ron G7LLG—01822 852586.

MID-CESHIRE ARS RALLY— David G4XUV, 01606 77787

15TH MAY 2005—MID-CESHIRE ARS RALLY—Civic Hall, Winsford.—Contact—David G4XUV—01606 77787

MIDLAND ARS DRAYTON MANOR RADIO & COMPUTER RALLY-Contact Norman G8BHE-0121 422 9787 or 07808 078 003 [www.midamradio.co.uk]

5TH JUNE 2005—SPALDING & DARS ANNUAL RALLY— Ambrose M0DJA, 07989 302 815, or John 07946 302 815, [www.sdars.org.uk]

12TH JUNE 2005—NUNSFIELD HOUSE ARG 36TH— Elvaston Castle National Rally—Les G4CWD, 01332 559 965, les@g4cwd.com

PROBLEM SOLVING DISCUSSION

Last month you may have tried an experiment measuring current and voltage in circuits with two identical bulbs, compared with one.

In Parallel. Each bulb drew 0.3A (300mA). The voltage remained constant but the *current* requirement of two bulbs doubled. Each bulb was connected across the battery terminals but the current had to be split two ways for maximum illumination. Your Ammeter read 0.6A.

In Series. Each bulb required its nominal *voltage* (6V in this example). The 6V was present between the beginning of one bulb's filament and the end of the other one's, therefore the mid-point, where they met, could only have been at 3V (similar to two resistors forming a voltage divider). Increasing the voltage to 12V met the bulbs' requirements. but the *current* was still 0.3A.

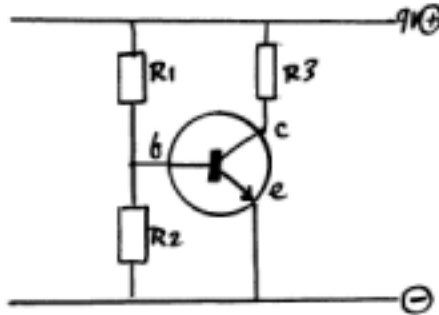
Ohm's Law $W=IV$. In parallel, $W=0.6A \times 6V = 3.6$ Watts. In series, $W = 0.3A \times 12V = 3.6$ Watts. So, in each example, the power developed in the circuits was 3.6 Watts.

What is Current?

It is the rate of flow of electrons, and is expressed in Amperes. It is not the quantity or amount of electrons.

An Ampere is a Rate of Flow where 6.29×10^{18} electrons flow past a given point in an electric circuit in one second. Clearly, the ability of the conductor to pass these electrons is important: if the wire is too thin, or the circuit requirements too great, then the wire may not be able to carry the flow and will overheat. A bulb's filament is designed to do exactly that, and the heat expresses itself as light.

The 6.29×10^{18} electrons forms a quantity of electricity called a Coulomb (Q).



What is Voltage?

The power that drives these electrons along derives from the Electromotive Force (EMF) and is expressed in Volts. Sources would include a battery and a dynamo. Along the circuit there are components all of which somehow influence and interrupt the current flow, thus creating local Potential Differences (PD) which are also expressed in Volts. PD and EMF are often wrongly transposed.

For instance, in this simple transistor circuit the Base needs to be held at 1V. If R1 and R2 are correctly chosen, the PD where they meet will be 1V, and the base voltage is taken from there. The Collector needs a nominal 6V: R3 develops the PD to supply this voltage.

The force that drives the whole circuit is the EMF of 9V supplied by a battery.

By John Rose M0BQO—Thank you John for your contribution. 2E1RBH

Mayor of Chickerell, Bill Dean G0NRQ we remember you.

On 15th February 2000, 5 years ago, the Club, lost a very good friend and World Wide Operator.

We celebrate his life and remember your dedication to your family, Amateur Radio and the South Dorset Radio Society.

We all remember you this day with happy and different memories, with special thoughts for your family at this time; they still love and miss you so much. You meant something special to each one of us.

We also on this day, remember all the **Silent Keys** that we have known, and say they are still greatly thought of, talked about and missed.

WE DO REMEMBER THEM

From Mark Wootton M5MKW

A CTCSS tone is now on the m5mkw-1

It is currently 71.9Hz (B)

A "B" is sent at the end of the overs as a reminder.

This tone will now stay switched on until an official tone is sent to me by the Repeater Committee and then the reminder letter will be changed.

Thank You—Mark M5MKW

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**COULD ALL CLUB MEMBERS PLEASE SUPPLY THE
FOLLOWING**

**THIS IS TO UPDATE SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY
RECORDS FOR 2005 ONLY**

**CALL SIGN—FIRST & SURNAME—FULL POSTAL ADDRESS
WITH (POST CODE) - YOUR LAND LINE NUMBER—YOUR
MOBILE NUMBER—YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF YOU HAVE
ONE)—PLUS DATE OF BIRTH PLEASE.**

REPEATING THE REQUEST MADE LAST MONTH. AS ONLY ONE MEMBER
HAS RESPONDED TO THE SECRETARY AS YET.
WITHOUT THESE DETAILS THE CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR
INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SOCIETY MATTERS AND EVENTS BEING
FORWARDED TO YOU ALL.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS PAGE AND RETURN OR EMAIL, POST OR
TELEPHONE YOUR DETAILS TO 01305 820400 or
carolonfraggil@tiscali.co.uk**

CALL SIGN.....

FULL NAME.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS.....
.....
.....

POST CODE.....

LAND LINE NUMBER.....

MOBILE NUMBER (IF HAVE ONE).....

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.....

DATE OF BIRTH.....

(YEAR NOT ESSENTIAL)

THIS IS ONLY SO THAT SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY MAY RECOGNISE
YOUR BIRTHDAY IN THE CATSWHISKER MAGAZINE.

**INFORMATION, YOU CAN BE ASSURED THAT IT WILL BE KEPTED
SECURE IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND NOT PASSED ON TO
ANYONE THIRD PARTY WITHOUT YOUR PRIOR PERMISSION.**

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE ABOVE FORM SO THAT WE CAN KEEP OUR
RECORDS UP TO DATE AT ALL TIMES.**

T'WAS THE MONTH AFTER CHRISTMAS

'T'was the month after Christmas and all through the house
Nothing would fit me not even a blouse.

The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got to the scales there arose such a number!
That when I walked to the store (it was less a walk than a lumber)

I'd remember the marvellous meals I'd prepared:
Gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared.

And the wine and the rum ball, the bread and the cheese
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."

So I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt.

I said to myself, as only I can,
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!
So---away with the last of the sour cream dip.
Get rid of the fruitcake, every cracker and chip.
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie – not even a lick.

I'll want only to chew on a celery stick.

I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread or pie,

I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,

But isn't that what January is for?

Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.

Happy New Year to all and to all **a good diet!"**

AFTER XMAS CONTRIBUTION BY NEVILLE M5NEV

GENERAL INFORMATION

SDRS CLUB NIGHT

**TUESDAY
8TH MARCH 2005
JOURNEAUX HISTORIC
WIRELESS TALK
A LOOK AT SOME OLD RADIO'S**

**SDRS CLUB NIGHT
ON 12TH APRIL 2005
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY AGM**

SDRS WEEKLY NETS

**Mondays 20:00hrs onwards 2mts on 145.350 MHz
Thursdays 19:00hrs onwards on 10mts on
28.350 MHz**

Thanks to **Graham 2E1GOQ** for running the nets

**THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT
THE TRAINING SHACK,
WYKE REGIS
ON THE
22ND FEBRUARY 2005**

Registered South Dorset Radio Society

Call Signs

G3SD

M3Z

G8SD

Contest Call Sign for selective contests.

For more information on the use of these calls,

*South Dorset Radio Society meets on the second Tuesday of every month,
at Chickerell Church Hall, Weymouth.
7.30 for 8.00pm. No meeting during August.*

SDRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Robert Hodges (GORYL) **Chairman** 820400
Brian McKenzie (GORWL) **Treasurer** 781042
Carol Hodges (2E1RBH) **Secretary** 820400

Mark Wootton (M5MKW) **Committee**
Janet Dean (2E1NRQ) **Committee**
Charlie Cattel (2E1LEC) **Committee**

Co-opt: Jamie Wrightson (M3WON)
Richard Brokenshaw (M5RIC)

President Bill Burden G3EAT
Vice President Geoff Watts G0EVW

Carol Hodges
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Web Site (Courtesy of Geoff G0EVW) www.sdrs.tk

**DEADLINE FOR
CATSWHISKER NEXT
MONTH ISSUE**

18TH MARCH 2005

Please ensure that I
receive your
contributions before
that date.

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