

M2Z

M2Z

# CATS WHISKERS JANUARY 2006



G3SDS

G8SDS



**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL**

**SUPPORT SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY**



**CHAIRMAN  
GRAHAM WEBB 2E1GOQ**



Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

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# SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY CHRISTMAS EVENT 2005

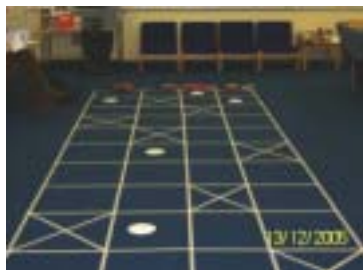


Jamie 2E0WON  
Manning the doors for  
the night.  
Munchies to wet the  
appetite on the way in.  
Arrived in full suit,  
shirt & tie.  
He was (for once) the  
perfect gentleman.  
He did a marvellous job  
too  
**BIG THANK YOU**

Side food table with all the Salad and Sauces for the night. Nobody went hungry, in fact, they all went home with a goody bag each and in two cases a Pineapple as well.  
(No not the one's from the top of Ridgeway, we wish-sorry)



Full English and Indian Buffet food laid out on the night. A good selection to choose from, including sweets of Bannoffe Pie and Meringue Treats.



Reindeer Race Track with a difference. The Circles where forfeits and the Crosses where Chimneys.



Terry G0VHS wanted to join in the races, but unfortunately had an operation on his elbow. We wish him a speedy recovery. He managed the food okay, and took a Pineapple home as well. Nice to see him.

managed the food okay, and took a Pineapple home as well. Nice to see him.



Graham playing with his balls again. Making sure he had the right number!!!!

Ruth 2E1RRH,  
Susan 2E0THW,  
Steve White's YL  
and Gerry M1IPZ  
taking part in one  
of the Races.  
Six Races where  
held altogether and  
you could place  
bets on your  
chosen Reindeer



Our Chairman 2EG0Q having his turn on the race track, with Norman G0ASP, Arthur M0VAW. G0RYL was trying to sabotage the Race.



Robert G0RYL picked up a forfeit and had to run round the outside of the building



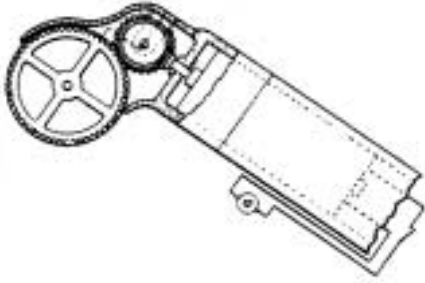
G0ASP I have just seen what the others had to do, so I hope I do not land on any forfeits. PLEASE



G0RYL, this is not fair I have already had to kiss Graham 2E1G0Q once, and run round the Building, that is enough torture for one night!

The idea was for teams of five people. They had to pick someone to be their Reindeer. When this was done, everybody placed their bets, (10p—50p could be bet) The first reindeer home was the winner, so if you picked the winning reindeer you won your share of the Pot. A REALLY GOOD FUN NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL. SO THANKS TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO CAME AND FOR THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IN WHICH THEY TOOK PART. ALSO THANKS TO STEVE WHITE AND HIS YL FOR COMING SO FAR TO JOIN IN OUR EVENING. THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED CLEAR AWAY.

## MONTHLY WEIRD AND WACKY INVENTIONS



### WHAT IS IT FROM LAST MONTH?

1. A scalp shampooer & massager
2. A wrinkle remover
3. An eye-examining device
4. An electric safety razor

### ELECTRIC SAFETY RAZOR

This is an early electric safety razor invented by Charles Bailey. The sharp cutting blades were built into large wheel. As this large wheel turned, the user would move it back and forth across his face, cutting facial hair in the process. The interesting thing about this razor is that the blades came into contact with the skin. So while this was obviously a faster way to shave, it increased the chances of cuts and nicks and could hardly be considered a “safety” razor. Now most electric razors have a fine mesh screen that separates the blades from the skin, reducing the possibility of accidents.

### WHAT IS IT FROM LAST MONTH?

1. A hairbrush for horses and sheep
2. A moustache curler
3. A face scrubber
4. A toothbrush for dogs and cats



### TOOTHBRUSH FOR DOGS AND CATS

Even dogs and cats need to have their teeth cleaned, so Bird Eyer invented this toothbrush for dogs and cats. It is used just like an ordinary toothbrush. The up-and-down and back-and-forth movement of the soft spike cylinders was supposed to remove food particles and any tartar build up. While this sounds very simple to do, in practice it is not. Dogs and cats have very sensitive gums, so even the most careful brushing is painful. Today most people take their dog or cat to the Veterinarian to have its teeth cleaned. There the animal is given mild anaesthetic to eliminate the pain, and an electric machine just like the one that cleans our teeth is used.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WAS USED FOR? ANSWER NEXT MONTH

THIS IS JUST FOR FUN

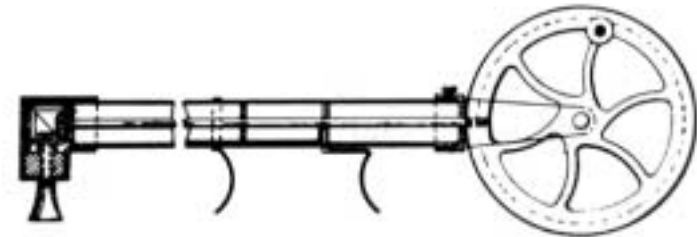
## MONTHLY WEIRD AND WACKY INVENTIONS



### THIS MONTH'S WHACKY INVENTION NO. 1

This invention consisted of a hat made of a hard material and a streamer made of a flexible fabric. When the streamer moved the wearer was supposed to enjoy what happened.

1. A toy hat
2. An army helmet with portable weather detector
3. A motorcycle helmet, radio, and advertising banner
4. A rain hat and lighting rod



### THIS MONTHS SECOND WHACKY INVENTION NO .2

Carl Wahl wanted his machine to make an important activity that we do every day easier and more efficient. The handle on one end turned a small, soft brush at the other end.

1. An applicator for cosmetics
2. A shoe polisher
3. A tooth-cleaning device
4. A device for cleaning glasses

**BLAST FROM THE PAST—  
FROM MIKE MURPHY (HB9LFT/G0LQI)**

Hi Mike, great to hear from you.

Well done on correctly naming everyone bar one! The one on the far right is Geoff, G4XSC. The QTH is Maiden Castle and you are probably close with the date although I would have thought maybe it's a little earlier than that. I am not sure who took the picture although I can remember the event. I could have been Geoff G4XSC using a self timer and tripod. You might find the attached picture slightly better quality than the one in Catswhisker.

There is a complete list of all members (ALL TIME MEMBERS LIST) up to 2001 here [www.g3sds.org.uk/membersonly.htm](http://www.g3sds.org.uk/membersonly.htm)

Don't forget to keep a look out for GB3SD-R on Echo Link, it should be connected most evenings and weekends now. It would be great to have a chat through 'SD! 73 de Geoff

**Mike Murphy wrote:** Hi Geoff,

I was interested to see the fox hunt picture in the latest Catswhisker. My guess is that it was taken around about 1990. I think I remember all the faces but not all the names. From left to right: **Geoff G0EVW, Mike G0LQI, Johnathan G1TGM, Mike G0NEV, Geoff G4FJO, John G0HVA, Dennis G0JLA, Bill G3EAT, Konrad G1AHK,** and the last OM I recognise, but I can't remember his name or call.

I still do a bit of radio when I get time, mostly PSK31. I have two mag loops and an auto tuned wire, but they all have to fit on my balcony. So, as you can imagine, I don't put out a big signal. All the best for Christmas and the New Year. 73 de Mike HB9LFT/G0LQI



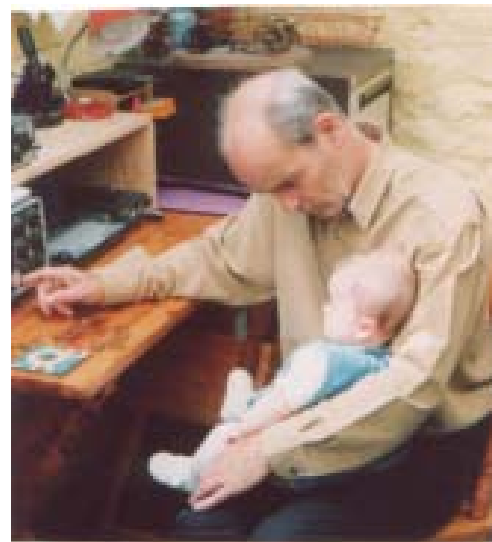
**BLAST FROM THE PAST—  
GUESS WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE, IF YOU DARE?**



**WHO IS THIS HANDSOME  
LOOKING SCHOOL BOY?  
YOU DO NOT NEED TOO MANY GUESSES  
DO YOU?  
I WONDER IF HE WAS AS ANGELIC AS  
HE LOOKS IN THE PICTURE?  
MAY BE HE WILL TELL US!!!!!!**



**I DO NOT THINK YOU WILL NEED  
MANY GUESSES AS TO WHO THIS  
IS? TAKEN AS ONE THE YEARLY  
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS.**



**ROBERT G0RYL AND MERCEDE  
TRYING TO TEACH ONE OF HIS  
NEW GRAND-DAUGHTER'S THE  
HOBBY.  
THEY SAY IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY  
OR LATE TO START A NEW HOBBY  
SHE WAS ACTUALLY SAT THERE  
WATCHING HIM FOR ABOUT  
HALF AN HOUR.  
SO MAY BE A FUTURE RADIO HAM  
IN THE MAKING, ONE CAN HOPE.**

# Just a quick note...



## News from the South Dorset Repeater Group - posted 26/11/05

Mark, M5MKW has kindly provided the following information on his new Internet Linked Node.

IRLP Node 5704 located in Wyke Regis IO80so.

Frequency of 434.525 MHz. No CTCSS tones required even though it will transmit 71.9 Hz.

This is a pure radio based system as there is no computer user program to access it.

A list of nodes and reflectors (conferences) are available on [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net) Click on NODE INFO and there are several options to download/print the lists.

Operation of the node is very similar to Echolink.

Key the radio and enter the number of the node to be connected to.

Listen to any announcements.

If connected, leave a few seconds between overs.

To disconnect transmit 73

Currently there are a few problems with the node.

- 1) It does not beacon.
- 2) No script to interrogate if the link is on/active/connected.
- 3) No script to have random connection.

All these are currently being looked at, 73 de Mark M5MKW

SDRG - [www.gb3sd.radiouk.com](http://www.gb3sd.radiouk.com)

## News from the South Dorset Radio Society - posted 16/11/05

### SDRS MONDAY NIGHT 2M NET -

#### MOVE to GB3DR on 145.7375MHz

Starting next Monday the 21st of November and continuing for the next few weeks, the Net will QSY from 145.350MHz simplex to the new South Dorset Repeater, GB3DR. It is hoped that this will enable more people to take part. The Net will run from 2000 to 2100 local time.

Reports please to Graham, 2E1GOQ who normally runs the Net. Find out all about the South Dorset Repeaters at [www.gb3sd.radiouk.com](http://www.gb3sd.radiouk.com)

# Just a quick note...



Never up to date, unless you up date me.

**FROM THE NET MANAGER AND CHAIRMAN  
GRAHAM WEBB 2E1EQ**



## SDRS WEEKLY NETS

**Mondays 20:00hrs onwards 2mts on 145.350 MHz**

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MEMBERS**

I would like to thank all the Members and Committee for there support during the first half of this year, it's been a big learning curve for me and for the Committee getting used to me. I know that things never go to plan all the time but we can only learn, as with every year we start to plan for the 2006's events and of course the first one on the list for the club is

Marconi, this year the main station will be at the Field Barn Centre with the Portland Station with just a small crew. Everyone is welcome to come to both Stations.

This years Christmas bash went very well indeed and was well attended by Members and Guests, with everyone saying that they had a wonderful time, the Reindeer Racing went at a trot with the President Bill (G3EAT), Committee and Steve White from the RSGB joining in, my thanks to all those who attended the event and those who helped Carol (2E1RBH) with the setting up and cleaning afterward.

This year has also seen the new 2 metre repeater go on air GB3DR and so far it has performed very well although at times there is some break through from other sources, the coverage is very similar to that of GB3SD the 70cm repeater, talking of which is now Internet linked during evening times, our thanks to Rob (G0ECX) for this. I would also like to thank the Repeater committee for using GB3DR for the Monday night net.

I hope that 2006 will be a good year for the club and it's members, please do come to the meetings which are on every second Tuesday of the month we have some very good talks from people who give up their time to come and see us.

Do have yourselves and your families a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year from all on the committee. Graham (2E1GOQ) Chairman 2005/6

## SDRS MEMBERS INFORMATION

**Birthdays/Anniversary's**—If anyone has a Birthday/Anniversary next month, please except the Club's best wishes and we hope you will have 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, also

anyone who is ill or just needs cheering up by a visit from us.

**I have no Birthdays or Anniversaries this month to tell you about. If by any chance there are, please accept SDRS Congratulations and have a good time. Carol 2E1RBH**

# THE MORSE CODE FOR RADIO AMATEURS

Compiled by: Margaret Mills G3ACC—Editor: John A Rouse G2AHL  
From Radio Society of Great Britain Circa 1964

How did all get on last week with lesson two. Here we go with Lesson Three:

## LESSON THREE TIMED WORDS.

Sent in 1 minute = 12 words per minute

AND	THE	TEA	TON	BOB	NOT	ANT	BUS	ODD	SAT
EVE	HAT	TOM	SHE	HIT	HIM	HOT	TIM	MET	SAD

Sent in 1 minute = 12 words per minute

HOUND	BENDS	ABOUT	DAUNT	SOUND	VOTED
ABOVE	BEAST	ABBOT	BOAST	MOUND	NOTED

Sent in 3 minutes = 12 words per minute

AVENUE	TOMATO	BOVINE	TEASED
MOBBED	VETOED	VESTED	ABBOT
BOAST	VOTED	NOTED	HOUND
MOUND	ABOUT	SOUND	ABOVE
BEND	DENT	BENT	BOMB
DONE	BONE	BAND	TIME
DANE	SENT	BEST	HAND
BASS	BUST	BEAM	TONE
BOSS	BOAT	NOTE	DOME
DOTE	BOB		

## LESSON FOUR:

A (DOT DASH)    W (DOT DASH DASH)    J (DOT DASH DASH DASH)

ANDWA	ANUET	EMEU
JWDJB	EW DVI	DJW TM
BWJBN	MIJBU	MDHOV
JANAA	JMSAN	JEMUD
DWNDW	OHVDW	NWBAT
WABNA	EUBJS	BAIMH
DJDAB	VNATV	VBANS
WDJNA	DWIMH	MJIAV
NAWNW	JBUSO	IMHTU
ADJBD	EANVH	TEUNA
JNAWD	MTWJD	JMUSO
BDAJD	EUMEM	DVEOJ

WE	HEW	WENT	JOVE	JOAN	JAUNT	DOBBIN
WIT	VOW	WISH	JANE	JUDO	JOUST	WANTED
JOE	VIE	WANT	JADE	WAVE	SHOWN	WISHED
JOB	JUT	WEST	JIVE	VANE	WHIST	WEEDED
JOT	OWN	JEST	MOWN	VAIN	WEEDS	SEEDED
JET	OWE	JOIN	TOWN	DUET	SWEDE	JESTED
WET	TOW	WHAT	VOWS	SUET	JUMBO	HAUNTED
VET		HEWN	JUNE	WHEN	OWNED	
		SEWN	JUTE	JOBS	TOWED	
		SOWN			WHOSE	
					JOINT	

DUET	JANE	TOWN	WAVE	VANE	WHAT	WENT	JOIN
SOWN	WEST	WHEN	JUNE	JOB	OWN	USE	VET

JOINT	OWNED	TOWED	WHIST	SHOWN	SWEDE
WHOSE	JAUNT	WEEDS	JOINS	WANTS	JUMBO

TOW	WIT	OWE	JOE	OWN	JOB
JUT	JOT	VIE	JET	VOW	WET
HEW	VOW	JIVE	WENT	JADE	WISH
WANT	JANE	WEST	JOVE	JOIN	SOWN
WHAT	SEWN	HEWN	MOWN	JOB	TOWN
WHEN	VOWS	SUET	JUNE	DUET	JUTE
VAIN	JOAN	VANE	JUDO	WHIST	JAUNT
SWEDE	JOUST	WEED	SHOWN		JESTED

### LESSON FIVE

YOU WILL BE LEARNING THE FOLLOWING LETTERS:

**C** (DASH DOT DASH DOT)

**K** (DAHSH DOT DASH)

**P** (DOT DASH DASH DOT)

**G** (DASH DASH DOT)

SO HAVE A GO IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE GETTING ON WELL WITH THE OTHER LETTERS

Rob Micklewright G3MYM of Yeovil Radio Club has put together a list of talks that he is willing to give to the Club, if so desired:

Could Members please tick the one's that would be of interest to them and return the list to the Secretary.

<u>FIRS</u>	<u>SECOND SYMBOL</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	No
2.	The Origin of Radio Formulas	Yes	No
3.	Re-enactment Radio	Yes	No
4.	The Crystal Diode Centenary	Yes	No
5.	Radio Amateur Spark Transmitters	Yes	No
6.	The first Special Event Station	Yes	No
7.	Phasor Diagrams	Yes	No
8.	Aerial Radiation Patterns	Yes	No
9.	Aerial Induction Field Loss	Yes	No
10.	Short Dipoles	Yes	No
11.	HF Radio Noise	Yes	No
12.	NVIS Propagation	Yes	No
13.	Early Amateur Radio Superhets	Yes	No
14.	Early Direct Conversion Receivers	Yes	No
15.	Sunspot Minimum	Yes	No
16.	HF Signal Strength	Yes	No

### PROBLEM WITH RCD CIRCUIT BOX

The modern version of the old-fashioned fuse box is the Residual Current Device, which senses a fault in the house system and trips out the circuit concerned.

Trouble is, these can be too sensitive, which is causing me no end of problems as there seems to be a very small potential difference between the Earth and the Neutral wires - the neutral is a few Milli volts positive and the RCD doesn't like it!

So, when connecting a piece of test equipment such as an oscilloscope to an old mains radio - especially the AC/DC or Universal models - as soon as the 'scope ground touches the radio chassis everything gets plunged into darkness, the house power circuit trips out and I have to set all the clocks etc. again.

An isolating circuit doesn't cure it, as the ground (chassis) link must

## **SDRS LIST OF EVENTS FOR 2005/2006**

### **THE YEAR 2006**

#### **10TH JANUARY 2006**

##### **SHORT WAVE SHOP**

Pay us another friendly visit

#### **14TH FEBRUARY 2006**

##### **QSL SUB MANAGERS JOB IN THE RSGB**

Mark G0TOC plus hopefully  
John G1DJI who together, write the QSL column

#### **14TH MARCH 2006**

##### **STEVE WHITE**

##### **TALK ON “INSTANT MORSE”**

Volunteers required with no knowledge of  
Morse Code

#### **11TH APRIL 2006**

##### **SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY AGM**

#### **9TH MAY 2006**

Development of Radar  
By Richard Brett-Knowles (G3AAT)  
From HORNDEAN RADIO CLUB

#### **13TH JUNE 2006**

##### **THE FIRST SPECIAL EVENT STATION**

By Rob Micklewright G3MYM

## **SDRS LIST OF EVENTS FOR 2005/2006**

#### **11TH JULY 2006**

TO BE ARRANGED

#### **AUGUST 2006**

**SUMMER RECESS—  
EVERYBODY HAVE A GOOD HOLIDAY**

#### **12TH SEPTEMBER 2006**

TO BE ARRANGED

#### **10TH OCTOBER 2006**

TO BE ARRANGED

#### **14TH NOVEMBER 2006**

##### **EARLY DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVERS**

By Rob Micklewright G3MYM

#### **12TH DECEMBER 2006**

**SDRS CHRISTMAS PARTY  
WILL BE “AMERICAN STYLE”**

**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**

**There will be occasions when we will have to change the  
advertised programme, this we will do as soon as  
possibly known.**

## MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN NEIGHBOURING CLUBS

### FORTHING COMING EVENTS AT YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN

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

- 5TH Jan 2006**-The Original Formulae—G3MYM
- 12th Jan 2006**-Raynet-Rob G6DUN
- 19th Jan 2006**-Surplus Equipment Auction-Auctioneer: Derek M0WOB
- 26th Jan 2006**-Committee Meeting & Station on the Air
- 2nd Feb 2006**-SSTV-G8EGG
- 9th Feb 2006**-Pic-A-Star Experience-Jim G3RTD
- 16th Feb 2006**-The Other Me-Carol 2E1RBH
- 16th Feb 2006**-Latest date of items for Yarc News 77
- 23rd Feb 2006**-Workshop Evening
- 2nd March 2006**-(Provisional) Have ticket will travel & other stories
- 9th March 2006**-Structural design for antenna installations-G0BBL
- 16th March 2006**-The Jurassic Coast-Prof Chris Wilson
- 23rd March 2006**-Construction Contest
- 30th March 2006**-Committee Meeting & Station on the air
- 6th April 2006**-QRP Preparation
- 9th April 2006**-QRP Convention-Digby Hall, Sherborne
- 13th April 2006**-QRP-Debrief
- 20th April 2006**-AGM
- 27th April 2006**-Committee Meeting & Station on the Air

South Dorset Radio Society would like to pass on it's sincere condolences to Yeovil Radio Club and the family's, in the loss of Marguerite Heath M1FAO and Peter Burridge G3CQR.

Would it please be noted that Yeovil Amateur Radio Club will be attending a different Venue for a period (of hopefully) 12 weeks. Renovations to the Red Cross centre will begin after Christmas. Village Hall at Chilthorne Domer. Directions and a map are available on our Website and in our Yarc News.

### AXE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (G8CCA)

Club Meetings 1st Tuesday of the Month at "the Old Inn" Kilmington, 1 'til 2pm.  
Club Nets: Sundays HF 12.30Hrs 80m 3.685Mhz (approx) on LSB  
Thursdays VHF 2M 145.450Mhz (approx) FM

### BOURNEMOUTH RADIO SOCIETY

**Friday, 10th Jan**—Wireless Lans & Amateur Radio by Paul Marsh M0EYT  
**Sunday, 12th March**—18th BRS Annual Sale  
All Meetings held at Kinson Community Centre on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each Month. Start at 8.00pm-Meet in Bar 7.30pm& transfer to Rm5 at 8.00pm



**BYLARA LADIES PAGE  
NEWS AND UPDATES**



Bylara Web Site is up and running: [www.bylara.net](http://www.bylara.net)  
Information up-date from your Chairman: Carol 2E1RBH

### BYLARA NETS

#### **BYLARA (MOBYL) Nets Schedule**

Monday 80m 1945 listen from 1930 onwards. Net control Kay G0KTC  
usually on 3.708 \* QRM but can be between 3.680 and 3.710

**WEDNESDAY 40m** 11.30 Local Time—now on 7.103 ~ QRM

**FRIDAY 40m** 11.30 Local Time—now on 7.103 \* QRM

Net Control both days Irene GMOFTX

With help from Anne M1AIM

If conditions will use the Club Call M0BYL

Or appropriate Regional variation.

YLDX (Triple 2)	14.222 MHz	Mondays	07.00BST
Brazilian YL Net	14.248 MHz	Wednesday	19.30 UTC
CLARA YL Net	14.120 MHz	Tuesdays	17.00z
European YLDX Net	14.242 MHz	Thursday	18.00 BST
Italian YL Net	7.070 * MHz	Mondays	14.00 GMT

Summer

13.00 GMT Winter

Finnish YL Net Sundays 80 metres Phone: 3.688 or 3.710

CW: 3.533 or 3.522. No time given.

#### NEWS FROM BYLARA

**ACTIVITY DAYS**: 6th of every month. Call CQ YL on the hour on frequencies ending 88.

### **JUST A THOUGHT**

It is not the class of licence that the Amateur holds,  
but the class of the Amateur that holds the licence.

### HOW TO CLEAN THE HOUSE

#### USING YOUR COMPUTER

1. Open a new file in your PC.
- 2 Name it "Housework."
3. Send it to the RECYCLE BIN
4. Empty the RECYCLE BIN
5. Your PC will ask you, "Are you sure you want to delete housework permanently?"
6. Answer calmly, "Yes," and press the mouse button firmly....
7. All done. Feel better?

# FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE RAE From Teacher, Sharon Metcalfe BSc (G6LLC)

## Provides some timely last minute advice in two parts

Here is the second part of Final Preparations for the RAE

In my view Examinations should not be treated as purely memory tests, but it is a sad fact that most—including the RAE—are little more.

So take heart if you have not done any maths or science (I was always behind the bike shed with a cigarette for these lessons as where several others) since you were fourteen, passing the RAE can still be within your grasp. A friend of Sharon Metcalfe (G6LLC) was one such candidate who, knowing that her understanding of radio theory was limited, started to learn sections of the RAE Manual by rote. She was very determined and her call sign G6MAA is proof of her success at the first attempt.

People who had learnt typical values of components by rote were actually at a distinct advantage in the December Exam of 1984. One question was set on the values of Components needed for a 'key click' filter. We knew of several candidates with a good grounding in electronics who wasted a considerable amount of their exam time trying to work the values from first principles, before finding that there was insufficient data given. Those who had learnt such information straight from the manual were able to give an immediate answer. So do try to commit such details to memory. If you are experienced in electronics, you may find the exam to be the doddle you'd thought; for, whereas the 'average' candidate in the RAE Manual, you may find yourself coming up with all kinds of 'clever' answers which are beyond the scope of the syllabus!

### **LEARN THE LICENCE**

One section that you have no choice but to memorise is that on the licensing conditions. This is where the less scientifically minded candidate can excel. Indeed, the 'older' Candidates can sometimes

Win hands down over a school leaver, as many questions can be answered from general knowledge and developed 'commonsense'. Be sure to include any changes printed at the front of the manual or as given in Radio Communication. (Any member of the RSGB will be able to help you here.) When reading through the regulations, please take note of such basic details as exactly what Great Britain means in this context and who issues permits for working from alternative premises. ....**LIST EVERY EQUATION GIVEN**.....

By all means, try to learn some of the numbers given under the Class A schedule, but if this looks too daunting, try to pick out the more obvious facts. I would summarise these by noting that the permitted PEP (peak envelope power) from 3.5-440 MHz (with the exception of the 70 MHz band) is always 26 dBW and this power limit applies to SSB operation from 1240 MHz upwards. Thereafter you will just have to hope that you get a question you can answer!

Similarly, the classes of emission A1A, A1B etc can probably be



remembered more easily if the three components are treated independently.

If this still seems too much like hard work, you just learn the more common ones eg F3E, J3E and A1A.

Looking at a breakdown of the content of the exam, such as in the manual, can also help put your task into perspective. In paper 1, most of your marks will come from the licensing conditions but you will need to have a little knowledge of transmitter interference. You could start your revision here by learning about the words in italics eg drift, chirp etc. It may also be within your grasp to learn simple circuit diagrams, such as a typical key click filter as I mentioned earlier—you only have to recognise them in the exam after all. However, you maybe forgiven if, at this late stage, the diagrams of the suppression of low-frequency spurious resonance seem beyond you. One diagram in the manual that is very informative is the block diagram showing the station equipment needed for the minimum of interference. It has already been annotated for you and as such will help clarify the chapter.

The second paper has several sections and it should be possible to pass the RAE while leaving out one of the sections completely. (Not the electrical theory and calculations one please—it has far too many questions based on it.)

However, if the radio receiver section looks double Dutch to you, do not despair. (Indeed Sharon could never look through the circuit of the trf receiver and state what each bit was for, but she still got a Distinction on that paper!) I suggest that you do as I did concentrate on the block diagrams. Additionally, you could learn about the wanted signals and image frequencies produced by mixers and very little else. The chapters on the transmitter and on propagation and antennas are relatively learn these thoroughly

### **.....TRY TO PICK OUT THE MORE OBVIOUS FACTS.....**

The chapter on operating practices needs some thought as to what to learn. The Q-Code looks impossible to learn but by listening to the amateur bands you will hear their use and it is always easier to learn something heard in context; at least ask some amateurs which one's they use regularly and try to remember these. (But watch out for non-standard versions—it is like asking experienced drivers how to drive so as to pass the driving test—they have always acquired 'bad' habits!) Your shortened list will probably look something like QRM, QRP, QRT, QRT, QRX, QRZ, QSL, QSP, QSY and QTH.

Remembering these may be your limit and note that each has a questioning and a statement form, so you can safely opt to learn just one meaning for each. (What are your brains for if not to rework your knowledge and apply it to exam questions?!) It may help you to know that the December 1984 RAE did not have one question on the Q-Code. (In 2005/6 it is going to be a lot different as it is now a multiple choice question paper). The Morse punctuation and procedure signals are also best ignored unless you have already learnt them. After all, this whole chapter is only useful for five out of sixty questions, which hardly seems profitable return for a lot of hard learning.



### **THE BIG DAY**

So you have come to the day. (I wish I had). It really is



worrying to have to wait until 18.30hrs to sit the RAE, so if you were planning to take the day off work 'for last minute revision' - are you sure that it would not make you extra nervous?

By all means take your RAE manual and notebook to work with you to read on the train, at lunchtime etc but, unless you know from experience that last minute cramming aids your recall, you could find yourself becoming more confused and even over-worked. Indeed, staying up to 03.00hrs on the night before (or rather the morning of) the RAE could do little to improve your chances.

By all means take your RAE manual and notebook to work with you to read on the train, at lunchtime etc but, unless you know from experience that last minute cramming aids your recall, you could find yourself becoming more confused and even over-worked. Indeed, staying up to 03.00hrs on the night before (or rather the morning of) the RAE could do little to improve your chances.

A good night's sleep, so that you can think clearly, is bound to be more beneficial. You will of course remember to take to the exam a couple of HB pencils, a good rubber and a well charged calculator. Does your centre require certified photo for identification? Please do not forget these vital pieces of equipment. In fact, you might find it handy to have everything ready in a plastic bag the day before to be certain of no 'slip-ups'.

**.....IF THE RADIO RECEIVER SECTION LOOKS DOUBLE DUTCH TO YOU, DO NOT DESPAIR.....**

You will need to arrive at the centre in good time but arriving half an hour before the exam is due to start will only make you more jittery. So aim to arrive with just a spare five to ten minutes to park the car and find the loo!

And so to the exam itself, have you turned off all the alarms on digital watch? You are going to feel highly embarrassed if your alarm goes off in the silence, especially if you can not find the off button quickly! Look around at the other candidates as you are getting settled. Do they all look half your age! If so, you need a morale booster at this stage. The following was actually told to Sharon as last minute advice when I took the RAE, to keep a sense of proportion.

"Remember that as an 'older' candidate, you have far more common sense and general experience than an 18 year old and as such are far more likely to pass the exam." Keep saying this to yourself and, assuming you have done your preparation for the RAE well, it only remains for me to wish you good luck and hope that once you have got your ticket you will have fun on the air.



<u>FIRST SYMBOL</u>	<u>SECOND SYMBOL</u>	<u>THIRD SYMBOL</u>
<b>Type of modulation of the main Carrier</b>	<b>Nature of signal(s) modulating main carrier</b>	<b>Type of information to be Transmitted</b>
N – emission of unmodulated Carrier	O – no modulating signal	N : no information transmitted
Main carrier amplitude modulated (includes sub-carriers angle modulated):-	1 : single channel containing quantised or digital info. Without use of modulating subcarrier	A : telegraphy for aural reception
A – double sideband	2 : as 1 but with use of modulating subcarrier	B : telegraphy for automatic reception
H – single sideband (ssb)	3 : single channel containing analogue	C : facsimile
R – ssb reduced or variable carrier	7 : two or more channels containing quantised or digital information	D : data transmission, telemetry, telecommand
J – ssb suppressed carrier	8 : two or more channels containing analogue information	E : telephony including sound broadcasting
B – independent sideband	9 : composite of one or more channels containing quantised or digital information, together with one or more channels containing analogue information	F : television (video)
Main Carrier Angle Modulated:-	X : cases not otherwise covered	W : combination of the above
F – frequency modulation		X : cases not otherwise covered
G – phase modulation		<b>Classification of types of radio emissions.</b>
D – main carrier is amplitude or angle modulated either simultaneously or in a pre-arranged sequence		<b>Scan this but do not attempt to Remember it all.</b>
P – un-modulated sequence of pulses		
K – pulse sequence modulated in amplitude		
L – pulse sequence modulated in width/duration		
M – pulse sequence modulated in position/phase		
Q – carrier is angle modulated during the period of the pulse		
V – combination of above pulse emissions or those produced by other means		
W – cases not otherwise covered with main carrier modulated, either simultaneously or in a pre-established sequence, with two or more of the modes:- Amplitude, angle, and pulse		
X – cases not otherwise covered		

## Etching Idea

A few months ago I did some experiments with some house hold cleaners on copper clad board my surprise came when some items could etch copper, preparing some pieces of board with etch resist pen and oil based paint I subjected them to a variation of solutions over a period of time, coca cola turned the copper black and made its mark but no etch was evident but made me think twice about drinking coke, Cillit bang on the other hand did etch some of the board in a about 12 hrs but exhausted very quickly, citric acid (orange) and caustic soda made no mark apart for some stains, battery acid did etch but took 12 days, by far the most effected was hypo ( photographic fixer) that etch the board in 3½ hrs and left the board with clean copper lines, Toilet duck just made it turn green just like its does in the john and not keen on its smell as with malt vinegar that got no practical use except for putting on chips, you will be glad to know that Paracetmol had the longest treatment with no effect what so ever, there maybe other products that will be more efficient but for now I'm happy with the out come of the experiment, Hypo is certainly more user friendly than Ferric Chloride its not so vigorous and doesn't stain the sink, But don't under estimate the danger of the solutions used in my experiments, some are harmless while others are toxic and very corrosive that will have to be diluted with water before being disposed.

Derek M0WO  
Yeovil Amateur Radio Club



Many thanks to the Chairman of Yeovil Amateur Radio Club for his input—see you all soon—Carol 2E1RBH

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DEFENCE,  
WWI, WWII  
DISPLAYS AND A LOT  
MORE  
BARRACK ROAD  
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**THE NOTHE  
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**NOTHE FORT ARTILLERY  
RE-ENACTMENT GROUP  
LOOK FOR FORWARD TO SEEING  
YOU EVERY OTHER SUNDAY  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

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## **EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

22nd January 2006—Oldham ARC Rally -

Full details and Maps on Website—[www.oarc.org.uk](http://www.oarc.org.uk)

29th January 2006—Horncastle Radio Rally -

Horncastle Youth Centre Contact Tony G3ZPU on  
01507 527 835 Email: [tony@radioman.e7even.com](mailto:tony@radioman.e7even.com)

5th February 2006—South Essex ARS Mobile Radio Rally -

Contact Ken GOBBNon 01842 861 089

Or Email: [hendryken@aol.com](mailto:hendryken@aol.com)

12th February 2006—Wakefield & DRS Northern Cross  
Mobile Rally -

Contact John G7JTH on 01924 251 822

12th February 2006—Harwell ARS Mobile Radio Rally -

Contact Ann G8NVI on 01235 816 379

Email: [ann.stevens@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.stevens@btinternet.com)

18/19th February 2006—World Thinking Day on the Air

Contact Liz on 023 8025 4599 or

Email: [liz@guides-on-the-air.co.uk](mailto:liz@guides-on-the-air.co.uk)

26th February 2006—Swansea ARS Amateur Radio &  
Computer Show -

Contact Roger GW4HSH on 01792 404 422

5th March 2006—Cambridge & Darc Rally -

Contact John G0GKP on 01954 200 072

Or Email: [j.bonner@ntlworld.com](mailto:j.bonner@ntlworld.com)

## **EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

11th March 2006—Junction 28 QRP Rally -

Contact Russell Bradley G0OKD on 01773 783394

Or Email: [russel.bradley@ntlworld.com](mailto:russel.bradley@ntlworld.com)

12th March 2006—Aberystwyth & Dars Rally -

Contact Ray GW7AGG on 0197 611 432

Or Email: [ray@clocktower.go-plus.net](mailto:ray@clocktower.go-plus.net)

12th March 2006—Bournemouth RS 18th Annual Sale -

Contact John GOHAT on 07719 700 771

Or Email: [johncbales@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johncbales@yahoo.co.uk)

12th March 2006—Wythall Radio Club 21st  
Annual Radio & Communication Rally

Contact Chris GOEYO on 07710 412819

Or Email: [g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk)

19th March 2006—Northern Amateur Radio Society Associa-  
tion (NARSA) Norbreck Blackpool Rally -

Contact Peter G6CGF on 0151 630 5790 or

Email: [g6cgf.peter@ntlworld.com](mailto:g6cgf.peter@ntlworld.com)

1st April 2006—GMDX Convention 2006 -

Contact Robert GM3YTS or

Email: [gm3yts@btinternet.com](mailto:gm3yts@btinternet.com)

23rd April 2006—West London Radio & Electronics Show -

Contact Paul M0CJX on 01737 279 108 or

Email: [m0cjx@radiofairs.co.uk](mailto:m0cjx@radiofairs.co.uk)

1st May 2006—22nd Dartmoor Radio Rally -

Contact Rob on 01752 773711

# Just a quick note...



Hi All  
IRLP Node 5704 is now active and located in Wyke Regis IO80so.  
Frequency of 434.525 MHz. No CTCSS tones required even though it will transmit 71.9 Hz.

This is a pure radio based system as there is no computer user program to access it.  
A list of nodes and reflectors (conferences) are available on [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net)  
Click on NODE INFO and there are several options to download/print the lists.

Operation:

Key the radio and enter the number of the node to be connected to.

Listen to any announcements.

If connected, leave a few seconds between overs.

To disconnect transmit 73

Currently there are a few problems with the node.

1) It does not beacon.

2) No script to interrogate if the link is on/active/connected.

3) No script to have random connection.

All these are currently being looked at.

Operation of the node is very similar to Echolink.

Other News.

MB7IOP is suffering some interference problems. This is causing some problems to other users of the system.

The SYSOP Phil M0PKB is currently working on these problems and the link should be in full working order soon.

The gateway is on 144.8375 MHz and a tone of 71.9 Hz is required to access it.

Also M5MKW-L is still in operation running Echolink on 145.3375 MHz and a tone of 71.9 Hz.

73 de Phil M0PKB and Mark M5MKW

SYSOP's of the local Internet Gateways.

**News from the South Dorset Repeater Group - posted 26/11/05**

Mark, M5MKW has kindly provided the following information on his new Internet Linked Node.

IRLP Node 5704 located in Wyke Regis IO80so.

Frequency of 434.525 MHz. No CTCSS tones required even though it will transmit 71.9 Hz.

This is a pure radio based system as there is no computer user program to access it.

A list of nodes and reflectors (conferences) are available on [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net) Click on NODE INFO and there are several options to download/print the lists.

Operation of the node is very similar to Echolink.

Key the radio and enter the number of the node to be connected to.

Listen to any announcements.

If connected, leave a few seconds between overs.

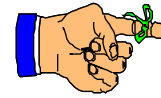
To disconnect transmit 73

Currently there are a few problems with the node.

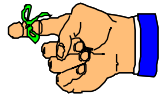
1) It does not beacon.

2) No script to interrogate if the link is on/active/connected.

3) No script to have random connection.



## OTHER INFORMATION



### NEWS FROM SOUTH DORSET REPEATER

Posted 19th November 2005

#### **SDRS MONDAY NIGHT 2M NET - MOVE to GB3DR**

As discussed and agreed at the SDRG AGM; Starting next Monday the 21st of November and continuing for the next few weeks, the South Dorset Radio Society Net will QSY from 145.350MHz simplex to the new South Dorset Repeater, GB3DR. It is hoped that this will enable more people to take part. The Net will run from 2000 to 2100 local time. Reports please to Graham, 2E1GOQ who normally runs the Net.

#### **INTERNET LINKING**

Also, as discussed and agreed at the AGM; Rob, G0ECX has received the NOV and hopes to start Internet Linking GB3SD in the next few days. At the moment the licence conditions still require Rob to be in attendance at the station so linking is likely to be restricted to evening and weekends only.

73 de SDRG [www.gb3sd.radiouk.com](http://www.gb3sd.radiouk.com)

### **THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S RESIDENCE ON THE**

**3RD JANUARY 2006**

**19.00HRS START**

CAH



**SUPPORT YOUR CLUB  
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY**

**SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY  
CLUB NIGHT**

**CHICKERELL YOUTH CLUB HALL  
MAP AND DIRECTIONS ON REQUEST**

**HOPE YOU ALL HAD A GOOD CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR  
AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO  
SEEING YOU ALL AGAIN  
IN JANUARY 2006**

**10TH JANUARY 2006**

**SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY CLUB NIGHT**

**MEET AT THE CHICKERELL YOUTH CLUB  
HALL**

**AT 19.30HRS**

**SHORTWAVE SHOP  
UPDATE**

**SO PLEASE GIVE YOUR FULL SUPPORT**

**Registered South Dorset Radio Society**

**Call Signs**

**G3SDS**

**M3Z**

**G8SDS**

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 Youth Club Hall, Weymouth. (NEW VENUE)  
7.30 for 8.00 pm. No meeting during August.*

**SDRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Graham Webb (2E1GOQ)	<b>Chairman</b>	01305 837356
Please contact another Committee Member		<b>Treasurer</b>
Carol Hodges (2E1RBH)	<b>Secretary/Editor</b>	01305 820400
Janet Dean (2E1NRQ)	<b>Committee</b>	
Jamie Wrightson (2E0WON)	<b>Committee</b>	

**DEADLINE FOR  
CATSWHISKER NEXT  
MONTH ISSUE**

**24TH JANUARY 2006  
FOR YOUR FEBRUARY  
2006  
ISSUE**

Please ensure that I  
receive your  
contributions before  
that date.

**President** Bill Burden G3EAT  
**Vice President** Geoff Watts G0EVW

**Carol Hodges 2E1RBH**  
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**Marine Cottage**  
**1a Clements Lane, Chiswell**  
**Portland, Dorset DT5 1AS**  
**Tel: 01305 820400 or Email: carolonfraggles@tiscali.co.uk**

**Web Site ( Courtesy of Geoff G0EVW ) [www.sdrs.tk](http://www.sdrs.tk)**

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**SEASON'S GREETINGS  
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE  
NEW YEAR 2006 TO YOU, YOUR  
FAMILY AND ALL MEMBERS'  
COMMITTEE.**

**GIORGIO swl IV3 - 57306  
Italy 2005**



**BYLARA LADIES PAGE  
NEWS AND UPDATES**



**BRITISH YOUNG LADIES AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION**

WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL THE MEMBERS OF  
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY,  
YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
IT'S MANY FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND A SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR  
FROM ALL THE MEMBERS OF BYLARA FAR AND  
WIDE AND MAY IT'S ASSOCIATION CONTINUE IN  
THE SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO WORLD WIDE



**TO YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

WE SEND OUR BEST WISHES AND REGARDS FOR  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR  
AND MAY THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN IT'S MEMBERS  
AND OURS LONG CONTINUE IN THE  
TRUE SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO



Inspiration for the logo on the front cover came from  
the late George Gunnill—G3AVV

**TO BLACKMORE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

BEST WISHES FROM THE MEMBERS OF  
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY, BYLARA,  
YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AND  
AXE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MAY THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THESE  
CLUB'S  
CONTINUE IN THE TRUE  
SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO



**TO AXE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

BEST WISHES FROM THE MEMBERS OF  
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY, BYLARA,  
YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AND  
BLACKMORE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MAY THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THESE  
CLUB'S  
CONTINUE IN THE TRUE  
SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO



**TO BOURNEMOUTH, POOLE & CHRISTCHURCH  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS**

BEST WISHES FROM THE MEMBERS OF  
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY, BYLARA,  
YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AND  
BLACKMORE VALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MAY THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THESE  
CLUB'S CONTINUE IN THE  
TRUESPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO

