

CATSWHISKER MARCH

2005

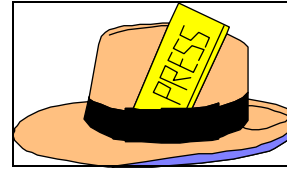
G3SDS

G8SDS



Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

Editors Chatter



Hi to everyone out there,

I hope you all have had a good month with personal & radio orientated work. If you have a Birthday or Anniversary this Month, well, Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary.

Over the page is an article I would like you to read, if you would, as it does concern the whole of SDRS membership. I

will leave it there.

Robert GORYL has been very busy with his duties as Chairman, and is working at this very moment on repairing the Heathkit, that Val G3YIC (an operator in Weymouth) gave to the club for us to sell on for funds. It has a couple of problems which Robert is sorting out, and then it is on it's way to Scotland, Edinburgh to be precise. The Amateur who is buying it has had a Heathkit before and is desperate to get his hands on this one, he telephones every day to see how it is. Hi Hi.

Robert asks if anyone out there has a $425\mu\text{H}$ choke, approximately 1/2 inch, 2.1/2 in ceramic former, with coil length 1.5/8th, biased towards on end. If you have, could you please give him a ring or email me. If he cannot get one, he will have to wind one himself. Poor Robert.

Robert has then to have a look at another piece of equipment donated to the Club by the family of a Silent Key, this is a Yaesu Communications Receiver FRG 7700. It looks in good condition and only needs a good clean and a few, hopefully minor adjustments. This piece of equipment is then being given to the Training Shack at Wyke, which is the family wish, for the use of the Members.

After all of this, he can eventually get down to restoring his Birthday present which I bought for him, which is an AR88, period 1942—1945. I bought it in need of repair, so that Robert could restore a Valve Set, as he has always wanted to. It is in, otherwise, a good condition and only needs general maintenance, he thinks. It will be good for me as well to learn about Valve Radios and how they work as they are so different and much more interesting than the modern day ones (my opinion), before anybody shouts. Hi Hi. I must admit to a great fascination for them. I love watching the valves come alive and then the earthy sounds of the voices coming through.

Talk about liking valves, we went to Yeovil Junk Sale, and they had some beautiful valves (I like the large variety he he), for sale in job lots. I decided to bid for the larger ones and got them for £2.00 for about a dozen or more. There was only one problem, because nobody wanted the box of small valves they got thrown in on the deal as well. So I now have quite a lot of valves, minus two that I dropped on my way out of the Yeovil Hall. Ever felt like you have been had. Still there might be some useful ones in there, so if you need one, do ask, I might have it.

Have any of you any stories of a similar type, that you might want to put into the Catswhisker. It gives people a laugh and the satisfaction that you are not the only one out there that gets the wool pulled over their eyes so to speak.

Anyway, it was a grand evening with good friends, as Yeovil has become to us. We try and go once a month, to see everyone.

Well, that's another Editor letter out, so better think of the next one.

Something always happens to us, sometime during the month. So be here again next month, I hope! 73 Carol 2E1RBH- Secretary/Editor

CAH

LADIES PAGE
MARCH 2005



BYLARA
BRITISH YOUNG LADIES AMATEUR RADIO
ASSOCIATION

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 Girls, Young Ladies and boys in Schools, and any other interested 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 I 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 of had the chance to be able to do before.

BYLARA (British Young Ladies Amateur Radio Association), which is in 14 Countries all over the world, and has just celebrated 25 years of being in existence, is proposing to work along side South Dorset Radio Society in the Science Week venture. As Chairperson of Bylara, I would like to see as many Lady Hams Members as possible there. It will be a good introduction for lady operators to bring Bylara to the attention of other Amateur Radio Clubs as well as the general public, who, do not seem to know that we exist as a group in our own right. I am extremely fortunate to be a Member as well as the Chairperson, and I am determined to put Bylara on the Radio Map. We are also looking to recruit new members, whether you are a Ham or just interested in any aspect of the Hobby.

All Ladies and Gentlemen Operators are welcome to the first South Dorset Radio Society and Bylara joint event. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the South Dorset Radio Society for allowing us to participate in this extremely worthwhile venture, and look forward to the experience.

Would the Bylara Ladies please note that the above symbol of two ladies, in a white oval with the cover of the magazine itself being lilac will now be the image of all our Magazines in the future. It will, in time, be recognised, just by this simple image and colour, as Bylara. At this very moment designs are going ahead to make all our Posters, Advertising Literature, Letter Heads etc. all the same design. This will mean in a few months of selling ourselves to the Radio Clubs out there, and through publicity with the help of the Radio Magazines, such as, Radcom, Practical Wireless and your own local Newspapers, we will be seen to be seen. So, onwards and upwards ladies, this is just the beginning.

2E1RBH Chairperson Bylara

CAH

THE NEW VOICE REPEATER GB3DR

During 2004 it was proposed that a new 2M Repeater should be located on the SDRG site. The call sign chosen is GB3DR (Dorset Repeater) and the channel is RV59; Input 145.1375 MHz and Output 145.7375 MHz.

Many thanks to David, G4RQI who has now delivered the completed GB3DR Repeater to Les, G0FAJ. It is currently on soak test at Les's QTH. Les has also ordered the cavity filters needed for the installation and expects them to be delivered in the next few weeks. David has posted full details about the new Repeater he built for GB3DR, on his web site here www.g4rqi.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/Repeater.html

Many thanks also to the Shortwave Shop www.shortwave.co.uk who have kindly donated a dual band colinear antenna and diplexer to the SDRG.

In the last few weeks the SDRG web site has undergone a tidying up exercise that has required work on every page. If you spot any mistakes please let us know! One of the changes is that e-mail links to committee members and others will now only be found on the contacts page. This enables the HTML to be encrypted so that the e-mail address can't easily be read by software that collects e-mail address's for spam mailing lists.

All the processed paperwork for the Repeater NOV (licence), was completed and returned to the RSGB on December the 2nd 2004 for submission to Ofcom. GB3DR is listed as a proposal on the RMC web site www.coldal.org.uk/rmc.htm and brief details can be seen here www.coldal.org.uk/reps/gb3dr.htm

The 5 year lease on the Repeater Site was renewed in October last year. This year we will also have to find the money for the new equipment for GB3DR. It is therefore vitally important that everybody continues to support the Group and annual subscriptions for the year 2004/5 are now due. If you have already paid or are a life member thank you very much. The proposed small increase in subscriptions to £12.00 a year and £120.00 for life membership was accepted at the AGM and a new annual 'Family Membership' was set at £17.00.

73 de SDRG - gb3sd@radiouk.com - www.gb3sd.radiouk.com

HOW TO CLEAN THE HOUSE USING YOUR COMUTER

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?

SIGNALS INTO OUTER SPACE

Hello All,

Here I am with a new topic. Quite a lot of books and magazines show that at times our signals disappear into space. Well that is not always quite true. Our radio waves are nothing special and travel throughout the Solar system the same way as any other radio signal. You may think this series of topic is perhaps a bit far fetched, you could be right, but hey, lets have a look anyway.

I am not going to include our Star the Sun because most of us already know what happens with that, so lets look at what else is out there that could possibly hear or reflect our signal back to planet earth.

We know that we have to go through certain atmospheric layers to go off into space but what happens after that? Well firstly I am not an expert at this, and I am only giving you my thoughts, so lets get started.

We have an awful lot of Satellites and space junk floating around up there, it could be possible, that just maybe our signals, along with perhaps a million others may get reflected back, this has certainly been done with the International Space Station and our very own Moon. Moon bounce has been done and still remains quite fascinating.

But is it possible that somewhere in many years to come our CQ may reach another planet and perhaps another race. This is where we go into what could be deemed as fantasy, but I don't believe that we are the only race throughout and beyond our Solar System.

As I understand it one of our probes has recently left our Solar System and up to then a signal was still being heard. This gives me an awful lot to think about. Look at all the planets we have found, and look at all the Stars and Supernovas that is also up there in space.

I certainly do think that it is a very strong possibility that our signals go beyond all the space junk, and if we could get probes landing onto these planets to listen for Amateur Radio Signals, it would not be long before we would get some information back saying that our signals have been heard.

The problem will be that at present we do not have the technology to be able to filter everything else out except Amateur Radio Signals, but just maybe, one day it could be possible.

By this time you may be thinking that I have fallen off my trolley? Well perhaps so but I am having a great time doing this hi.

We have only started touching the tip of the iceberg, there is a lot more to take into consideration such as Comets, Asteroid Belts and Meteors.

This series will be broken down into six parts over a six-month period, and I would be delighted to hear from anybody that has something constructive to add. I did put out a Packet Bulletin, but was met with sarcasm and rudeness.

I put this down to the very few that did not have a clue about what I was asking for, but alas, I thanked them very much for the messages, and hoped that I could be of as much help as they were. But hey, this is only a bit of food for thought and fun, there is, and will remain a serious side to all this.

Anyway I hope you will enjoy this series as much as I am getting it all typed out.

All the very best from
Graham M0GAB.

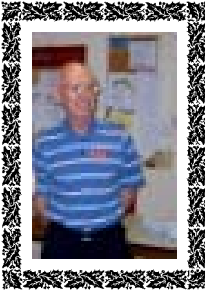
CAH



**BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES OF THE
WYKE REGIS TRAINING SHACK,
KINDLY PROVIDED BY NEVILLE BRIDLE M5NEV
“WHAT A CHANGE” WELL DONE EVERYONE WHO HELPED
NEVILLE DURING THE TRANSFORMATION
SEE WEBB SITE & BOOKLET FOR MORE PICTURES**



Many thanks Graham for the articles to come. I am looking forward to reading them. I hope others will as well. Many thanks for your condolence re: Tripper.



THE HALF WAVE DIPOLE AND EARTH

By Rob G3MYM

When one evaluates an aerial the aerial cannot be looked at on its own. As well as the aerial type it is also necessary to consider the environment in which the aerial is placed and the position of the aerial is placed and the position of the aerial within that environment. A simple and effective HF aerial situation is a half wave dipole that is placed above and parallel to the ground.

The presence of the ground beneath an aerial will affect the aerial efficiency, input impedance and radiation pattern, and the factors involved are the wavelength of the radio wave, the type of ground, the height of the aerial above ground level, and the position of the aerial relative to the ground. For the aerial situation described above the aerial is parallel to the ground, i.e. it is a horizontal half wave dipole, and the wavelength, the type of ground, and the aerial height will determine how many the half wave dipole performs compared with how it would perform in free space.

If a horizontal half wave dipole is less than a quarter of a wavelength high, a significant fraction of the dipole's displacement current will flow through the ground, and as the ground has resistance radio power, it will be lost as heat in the ground leaving less power for the aerial to radiate, therefore the aerial efficiency will be lower, and the lower the aerial height the lower the aerial efficiency. Overall, the best type of ground for an aerial to be over is probably loam and the worst type is dry sod as this has poor conductivity. Not only does this loss of power affect the aerial efficiency it also changes the aerial input impedance by adding resistance. (The best part of the Earth's surface for an aerial to be over is seawater as this has good conductivity and causes little loss.)

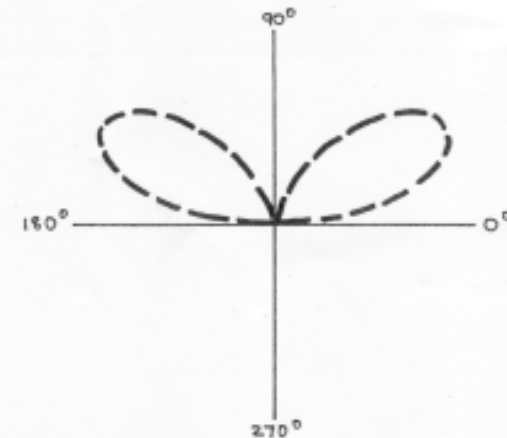
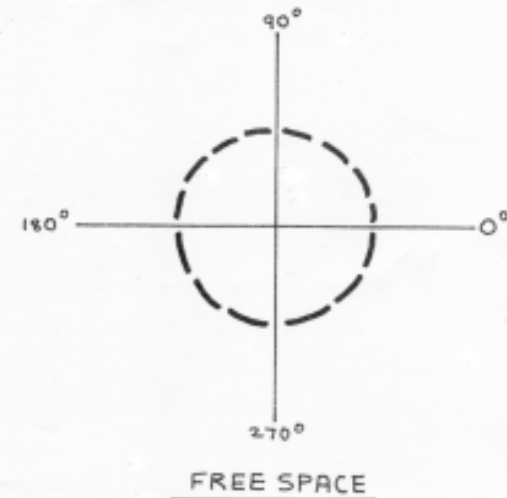
Part of the radio wave that a horizontal half wave dipole radiates will be reflected off the ground and back on to the dipole. This will induce a voltage into the aerial and this will change both the resistance and reactance of the aerial input impedance. The amount of change depends on the wavelength, the type of ground, and the height of the dipole above ground level. The change in the aerial input resistance will affect the aerial efficiency and the aerial power gain.

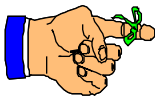
Part of the radio wave that a horizontal half wave dipole radiates will travel in a particular direction towards the ionosphere. Another part of the radio wave will reflect off the ground and then also travel in that direction towards the ionosphere. Thus there are two parts of the radio wave going in the same direction towards the ionosphere. This will either decrease the strength of the far field radiation in that direction and what happens will depend on the wavelength, the type of ground, the aerial height, and the direction. When all directions are taken into account the end result is a complete change to the shape of the free space radiation pattern.

(See figure 1 for an example)

Once again thank you to Rob G3MYM for your article.

FIGURE 1 - VERTICAL RADIATION PATTERNS OF RELATIVE FIELD STRENGTH AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE AERIAL AXIS FOR A HALF WAVE DIPOLE FOR THE SAME AERIAL INPUT CURRENT





FORTHING COMING EVENTS
AT YEOVIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IN
JANUARY 2005

- 17th February 2005**—Construction Contest Adjudication
24th February 2005—Committee Meeting and Club station on the Air
3rd March 2005—RSGB Talk if available
10th March 2005—SSTV Talk and Demonstration
10th April 2005—QRP Convention—Digby Hall, Sherborne
21st April 2005—Annual General Meeting

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

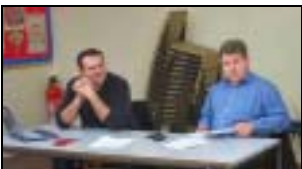
From Mark Wootton M5MKW

A C TCSS 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



FOR SALE

2 x 4 Max Dual Band Antenna for 2 mtrs & 77's—£65.00
 Please contact Harry G0LHX—on 07790031415



Richard Beere 0117 9597215
 Local Representative

**DAVID WOODGATE AND
 RICHARD BEERE
 TECHNICAL INVESTIGATION
 OFFICERS FROM OFCOM
 See attached pull out for more
 pictures and information**

SDRS CONTEST CALL SIGN M2Z

Richard, M5RIC will be using M2Z 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. CAH

OTHER CLUB INFORMATION

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. CAH



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**Did you see two of our members listed in Radcom as
 long-serving RSGB members?**



G3EAT— Bill Burden - 58 years membership
 G3EFK— W. Clegg - 57 years membership
THAT IS DEDICATION FOR YOU

**I EXPECT THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DEAL OF CHANGE
 OVER THE YEAR'S.
 DO YOU STILL HAVE ANY OF YOUR FIRST EDITIONS?
 SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY CONGRATULATES YOU**

FROM THE NET MANAGER

Never up to date, unless you up date me.



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

Hi Carol.
Not much to report on the Nets, the 10M net is very quite with one or two stations. The 2M net is a bit better, if the trend on the 10M net is not improved we will look at closing down the Thursday net. We will keep it open for another month.
Please say a well done to Terry and Anna (G0VHS & 2E1VHS) on their new born from the NET CONTROLLER. Graham.

WHY HAMS?

(A SEARCH ON THE INTERNET BY G6ZDE (D FELINGWORTH)
BROUGHT AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION)

Have you ever wondered why radio amateurs are called “HAMS”? Well, it goes like this: The Word “HAMS” as applied to 1908 was the station CALL of the first amateur wireless stations operated by some amateurs of Harvard Radio Club. There names were ALBERT S. HYMAN, BOB ALMY and POOGIE MURRAY.

At first they called their station 2HYMAN-ALMY-MURRAY”. Tapping out such a long name in code soon became tiresome and called for a revision. They changed it to “HY-AL-MU”, using the first two letters of each of their names. Early in 1901 some confusion resulted between signals from amateur wireless station “HYALMU” and a Mexican ship named “HYALMO”. They then decided to use only the first letter of each name, and the station CALL became “HAM”.

In the early pioneer days of unregulated radio amateur operators picked their own frequency and call letters. Then, as now, some amateurs had better signals than commercial stations. The resulting interference came to the attention of congressional committees in Washington and Congress gave much time to proposed legislation designed to critically limit amateur radioactivity. In 1911, ALBERT HYMAN chose the controversial WIRELESS REGULATION BILL as the topic for his Thesis at Harvard. His instructor insisted that a copy be sent to Senator DAVID I. WALSH, a member of one of the committees hearing the Bill. The Senator was so impressed with the thesis is that he asked HYMAN to appear before the committee. ALBERT HYMAN took the standard described how the little station was built and almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the BILL went through that they would have to close down the station because they could not afford the license fees and all the other requirements which the BILL imposed on amateur stations.

Congressional debate began on the WIRELESS REGULATION BILL and little station “HAM” became the symbol for all the little amateur stations in the country crying to be saved from the menace and greed of the big commercial stations that didn't want them around. The BILL finally got to the floor of Congress and every speaker talked about the

Nation-wide publicity associated station “HAM” with amateur radio operators. From that day to this, and probably until the end of time in radio an amateur is a “HAM”. (With acknowledgement of TA2CNC)

Duke is still looking for the origin of the term shack applied to Amateur radio stations. He did find this piece from the year 2002 appearing on the www.warandpeaceshow.com website: -

“The War & Peace Collection has taken delivery of a rare World War Two US Army ‘Radio Shack’, a specially developed van housing a vast array of communications equipment.


The mobile radio shack was discovered in a scrap yard in the Normandy region of France in 1988, brought to the UK and restored and donated to the collection by Rex and Rod Cadman. It can now be viewed complete with all its original radio broadcast and monitoring equipment and wartime memorabilia used by the men who operated.”

So if you know why, when or how the Amateur Radio ‘Shack’ came into use lets hear your theory.

I would like to say thank you to the Trowbridge & District Amateur Radio Club for being able to use this Article, “Why Hams” from their Magazine “Frequency”. It is an excellent Club Magazine, with a lot of good articles and exercises for the more novice amateur.

Published as from their Magazine— Unedited. CAH

**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.

LIST OF OUR EVENTS FOR 2005

MARCH 2005

8TH MARCH 2005
JOURNEAUX HISTORIC WIRELESS TALK
BY H. JOURNEAUX

13TH MARCH 2005
BOURNEMOUTH RADIO RALLY

14TH-19TH MARCH 2005
SCIENCE WEEK 2005

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

APRIL 2005

12TH APRIL 2005
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY AGM

23TH & 24TH APRIL 2005
MARCONI WEEKEND
FIELD BARN, BRADFORD PEVERELL

MAY 2005

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
Your opinion would be helpful
Watch this space for more information

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**

**MEMBERS INFORMATION AND UPDATES
WHICH YOU MIGHT FIND USEFUL**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
11TH TO THE 20TH MARCH 2005**

National Science Week is from the 11th March 2005 to 20th March 2005.

It is an Annual Appeal to support the BA's (British Association for the Advancement of science) National Science Week, and we will be taking part in this Event to promote Amateur Radio during this month. Look at (www.the-ba.net/the-ba) where more information is available.

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. I am 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 pupils may participate in the Event for a morning or afternoon each during Science Week.

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, 14th March 2005 to set up the displays, posters, leaflets etc.

Rob Micklewright G3MYM (Yeovil Amateur Radio Club) has volunteered to come down and give lectures to the School's (if we can persuade them to come), he 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.

There is hoped to be a display of many kinds of Radio's that depict Radio Through the Ages. Some have already been volunteered, maybe you have something to add to the display. 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 the Asian tragedy. we believe she is still operating today, trying to contact people and re-unite families. I believe she and the other ladies were 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.....

I would appreciate the Club's backing in this, especially on the Saturday, when the display, posters etc. have to be taken out of the Library.

73 Carol 2E1RBH

CAH

**NOTHE FORT
MUSEUM OF
COASTAL DEFENCE,
WWI, WWII
DISPLAYS AND A
LOT MORE
BARRACK ROAD
WEYMOUTH
DORSET**

**THE NOTHE
FORT**



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

**SOUTH DORSET
RADIO SOCIETY
SUPPORT THE
NOTHE FORT**

CANTEEN FACILITIES AVAILABLE

**SUPPORT IS REQUIRED IN THEIR BID FOR LOTTERY
FUNDING FOR VITAL REPAIRS TO THE NOTHE FORT.
IT WILL INCLUDE A LIFT FOR THE DISABLED,
THE REMOVAL OF EARTH WORKS AROUND THE
PERIMETER OF THE FORT, DAMP COURSING WORKS
AND UPPER LEVEL RESTORATION
SO PLEASE GO ALONG AND SUPPORT THEM**

The Lightest Satellite Station in the World?



Pedro EB4DKA recently demonstrated how small an Amateur Satellite Station could be when he had a QSO with ON5NY via the Oscar 50 satellite. Pedro used just an ordinary Alinco DJ-C5 credit card handheld with the DJ-C5's own antenna. He was running just 300 mw of FM and the complete station weighed only 85 grams!

The uplink frequency for Oscar 50 is 145.850 MHz and the downlink can be received on 436.795 MHz (+/- Doppler shift of 10 kHz). When transmitting through the satellite a CTCSS tone of 67 Hz needs to be enabled.

At AMSAT-UK's Space Colloquium which runs from Friday 29th to Sunday 31st July at the University of Surrey, Guildford, there will be special sessions for beginners to teach them how to use the FM satellites.

If you want to find out more about Amateur Satellites why not join AMSAT-UK? Membership is just £15 a year for which you receive a bi-monthly newsletter packed with the latest Amateur Satellite news. For details contact Jim Heck G3WGM
Tel: 01258 453959

Email: g3wgm@amsat.org

Website: <http://www.uk.amsat.org> - Published as received

FORTH COMING COUNTRY WIDE EVENTS

5TH MARCH 2005 -CRYSTAL PALACE R & EC—Spring Radio & Electronics Sale— Contact Bob on 01737552170 or look at Website [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— Contact C Nancy on 0191 477 0036 or 07990 760 920 or email 2001@yahoo.co.uk

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

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

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

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

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

NORTHERN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETIES' ASSOCIATION (NARSA) - Contact Peter G6CGF on 0151 630 5790 or email emg6cgf.peter@ntlworld.com

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

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

FROM FEBRUARY UNTIL 12TH JUNE 2005

24th APRIL 2004—ALRIDGE & BARR BEACON ARC—Annual Surplus Radio & Electrical Sale— Contact Doug on 01543 571 269.

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

WEST LONDON RADIO & ELECTRONICS RALLY— Contact Paul M0CJX on 01737 279 108 or email 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 on 01822 852586.

MID-CESHIRE ARS RALLY— Contact David G4XUV on 01606 77787

15TH MAY 2005—MID-CESHIRE ARS RALLY—Civic Hall, Winsford — Contact David G4XUV on 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—
Contact—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— Contact Les G4CWD on 01332 559 965 or email les@g4cwg.com

19TH JUNE 2005—NEWBURY & DARS CAR BOOT SALE—
Contact—Kevin G6FOP on email g5xv@ntlworld.com



A SIMPLE BALUN FOR YOUR HF STATION

**By kind permission of Jan Verduyn G0BBL
Trowbridge & District Amateur Radio Club**

Here is a simple and cheap project for both newcomers to the hobby as well for everyone else. The project is an HF balun, which is very simple to construct, using parts that are easily available. At the same time offering this design good performance and you will save yourself a bundle of money compared with the Amateur Radio emporiums. The material costs you about £3.00 and construction only takes half an hour or so.

Following parts are needed:

Minimum of 5 meters 50 ohm coax cable RG58.
2 meter length of 40mm (1.5 inch) white plastic water pipe (69 pence from Wicks)
PL259 plug and SO239 socket to suit connection to station

Construction:

Cut off an 18cm (7 inch) length of plastic waste pipe. (Keep the remainder of the pipe safe for another beginners project in the next edition of **Frequency!!**)
Drill a 5 mm hole about 1 inch (2.5cm) from one end.
Thread through a length of about 25cm of coax cable through the hole. Wind the other end of the RG58 over the plastic pipe. Wind about 26 turns (not Critical!!) over the length of the plastic pipe. Drill another 5 mm hole and thread through the other end of the coax through the plastic pipe. Use a glue-gun to seal down the ends of the coax cable.

Performance and Uses

A balun (Balun stands for BALanced to Unbalanced) is used to convert a a-symmetrical transmission cable. The best example is when we want to connect a dipole via a modern Amateur Transceiver. Use of the balun ensures that the Dipole radiates as designed and prevents potential TVI to neighbours televisions. This balun will handle up to 200 watts from 1.8MHz up to 30MHz. My prototype was measured on a MFJ Antenna analyser. One end of the Balun was connected to a 50-Ohm dummy load, simulating the Antenna. The MFJ Analyser connected to the other end shows a near perfect match with 1:1 SWR over the entire range. You can drill two holes in one side of the balun and use this as a centre for your HF dipole. Just make sure that you seal the ends of the coax with self-almagating tape to prevent water getting inside. Multiband operation is possible by fitting a nest of dipoles as described in various handbooks. Dipoles for 80, 40, 20 and 10 meter will cover all 5-ham bands. The 40-meter dipole will also cover 15 meters. Good Luck and best 73 Jan G0BBL.

Thanks Jan G0BBL, I will be having a go at this myself.
Published as received.

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

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

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

**WILL REPEAT THIS REQUEST EVERY MONTH UNTIL ALL MEMBERS
HAVE COMPLETED THE FORM. ONLY SIX MEMBERS HAVE RESPONDED.
WITHOUT THESE DETAILS THE SOCIETY CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE
FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING SOCIETY MATTERS AND EVENTS BEING
FORWARDED TO YOU.**

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

CALL SIGN.....
FULL NAME.....
POSTAL ADDRESS.....
.....
.....
POST CODE.....
TELEPHONE
NUMBER.....
MOBILE NUMBER (IF HAVE ONE).....
EMAIL ADDRESS.....
DATE OF BIRTH.....
(YEAR NOT ESSENTIAL)
THIS IS ONLY SO THAT SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY MAY WBIRTH-
DAY IN THE CATSWHISKER MAGAZINE.

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

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

Just a quick note...



**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVERLEAF
AND RETURN TO THE SECRETARY**

Hi ,

We have recently opened a radio shop in Edinburgh. So If you could spread the word to all Amateurs you know and at your Club.

The Address is: **The Wireless Emporium 90A Walter Scott Avenue, Edinburgh EH16 5RL**

Telephone Number: 0131 672 2884

The Website isn't up and running yet, but soon will be, the site address: www.wirelessemporium.co.uk.

Let everyone know there is a New Shop In Edinburgh Very Close to The New Royal Infirmary.

Best Wishes Peter Easton GM1RCP

MARCONI'S BEAM WIRELESS STATION AT DORCHESTER

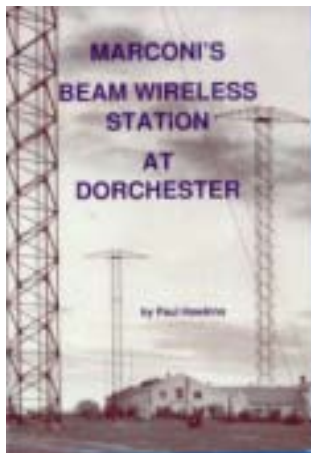
By Paul Hawkins G4KHU

**IS STILL AVAILABLE
THROUGH THE CLUB ON REQUEST
THE BOOK WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO VIEW AND BUY ON
MARCH CLUB NIGHT.**

**OR CONTACT THE SECRETARY
On 01305 820400**

**PART OF THE PURCHASE PRICE WILL GO
INTO CLUB FUNDS**

£3.75 each



The item below from WIA News shows what is happening in the hobby in other parts of the world. I wonder if this is what OFCOM had in mind when they said they wanted to radically streamline access to Amateur Radio in this country ?

There are a number of Amateur Radio clubs in the USA who do "Memorize the Answers Only" one day course and exam.

The candidates who complete these courses are eligible under the reciprocal Licensing arrangements for an M0 Advanced Call sign in this country.

73 Trevor M5AKA

Ham Radio License In A Day

Jeremy D. Zawodny noted that the aviation frequencies he and his group use for air-to-air communication becoming more crowded, a growing number of Sail Plane and Hang Glider pilots are turning to Amateur Radio for more spectrum.

He attended what can only be described as a one day crash course constructed for the sole purpose of passing the FCC's test.

The test consisted of 35 randomly selected questions from a bank of a few hundred.

Like all tests issued by federal government agencies, the questions and answers are known and published in advance. They're even available on-line.

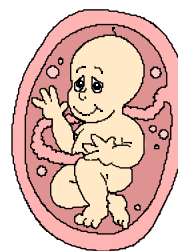
The cramming (err,"study") process is fairly straight forward. The test questions are printed on 60 pages. First, study a set of 10 pages worth of questions for 45 minutes, reading question and correct answer only. Take a 15 minute break after each session.

Then, after 6 sessions (and a mid-day lunch) take the test. Using that method, you don't learn a lot doing it, though for his purposes, this got him a license.

WIA News

This was emailed to me, the other day. We can only dream. I still prefer our way.
2E1RBH

I'VE ARRIVED



**EMILY
SIMONS
"BEAUTIFUL"**

**TO ANNA 2E1VHS & TERRY G0VHS
THE GIFT OF A BABY GIRL
BORN ON FRIDAY
4TH FEBRUARY 2005
WEIGHED 8LB 1/2OZ
ARRIVED AT 22.18**

**SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY
WELCOMES YOU INTO OUR
HEARTS & HAM WORLD
GOOD LUCK, HEALTH & HAPPINESS
TO YOU ALL**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JOHN RHODES FOR THE
23RD FEBRUARY 2005**

HOPE YOU HAD A LOVELY DAY

GENERAL INFORMATION

SDRS CLUB NIGHT

**TUESDAY
8TH MARCH 2005
JOURNEAUX HISTORIC
WIRELESS TALK
By H. Journeaux**

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

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

CAH

Registered South Dorset Radio Society

Call Signs

G3SD

Contest Call Sign for selective contests.

G8SD

M2Z

For more information on the use of these calls,
please speak to a member of the committee.

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

SDRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Robert Hodges (GORYL) **Chairman - 01305 820400**
Brian McKenzie (GORWL) **Treasurer - 01305 781042**
Carol Hodges (2E1RBH) **Secretary - 01305 820400—Mobile 07761773948**

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

Co-opt: Jamie Wrightson (2EOWON)
Richard Brokenshaw (M5RIC)

President Bill Burden G3EAT
Vice -President Geoff Watts G0EVW

Carol Hodges 2E1RBH
Secretary/Editor Catswhisker
Marine Cottage

1a Clements Lane, Chiswell
Portland, Dorset DT5 1AS
Tel: 01305 820400—Mobile Number 07761773948
or Email: carolonfraggle@tiscali.co.uk

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

**DEADLINE FOR
CATSWHISKER NEXT
MONTH ISSUE**

15th March 2005

Please ensure that I
receive your
contributions before
that date.

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and Advertisements is printed in good faith.

We cannot be held responsible for any incorrect information.

The opinions voiced in articles are not necessarily those of the Editor or
Publisher.

CAH