

CATSWHISKER

DECEMBER
WINTER WINTER WINTER



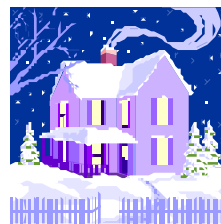
G3SDS

G8SDS



Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

Editors Chatter



Hi Everyone

I hope you are all looking forward to the Skittles/Buffer Night that has been organised for you all at the Wyke Working Men's Club in Wyke Regis.

As you know the Tickets cost £5.00 per head for Guests and £3.00 a head for Members. It was agreed at the last Committee to subsidise the Members so as to make it more affordable for everyone to be able to go and have a good night out.

Please let me know in good time the numbers and names of those able to attend, as the Club wishes to have a list that can be checked off, for Fire Regulations and because this is their Policy, which I have signed and agreed. So if you are coming please let one of the Committee know as soon as possible.

I know last year we had a really great evening, with Teams playing against each other in the Skittles, and everyone got to play if they wanted.

According to my sources, the Buffet is going to be really nice and have something for everyone. So we can look forward to this as well as have a good light hearted night out. Well, this is the last Catswhisker of 2004, it does not seem possible, that I have been writing the Catswhisker since April this year. I hope it has come up to Neville's standard, as his will take some beating that's for sure.

I really do enjoy putting it together for you all each month, the Articles from different people are both varied and interesting to say the least. I think we can look forward to reading more and more every month now.

I wish we could have more input from the Ladies side of things, so we can do things, or base talks with them more in mind. Everything takes time, and maybe one of them will venture forward, how about it Ruth!!

We have invited Rob Micklewright, Bob Woolridge, Kerry of PARC, Neville and Mark M5MKW to be our Invited Guests, to acknowledge all they do for Radio and the Club. We hope they will be able to come, and I know you will all make them welcome if they come.

Well, I hope you all have a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR, may you get things you want, but if you do not, well keep it for the Club's next year's Raffles which raise money for the Club Training Centre and Club Activities.

I would also ask those that are coming to the Skittles/Buffer to bring along a Christmas wrapped something to put into the Raffle that night. The choose is yours, lets beat last year.

I have been asked by Geoff G4XUG and Mike M0VET (move it) to extend their Seasonal Greetings to you all at the Club and to say, they look forward to meeting up with you all next year.

Well, there is still a lot to do in this Month's Catswhisker, so will say T A T A for now, have a good Christmas, speak to all again in January Catswhisker.

WINTER WINTER WINTER WINTER WINTER WINTER



Ruth Haines M0RRM has passed her Intermediate Exam and is awaiting confirmation of her new Call Sign.

I also apologise to her Son for getting his name wrong. It is of course Matthew.

We have a New Member joined the Club this Month—

G7LNI Bob Woolridge—has joined the South Dorset Radio Society so that he can get a bit more involved with Events the Club puts on.

Rob Micklewright G3MYM writes an Article for the Catswhisker every month, and passes on information that might be of interest to the Club, so he is quite involved with the Group.

Phil Curtis 2E0SSB has also joined the Club at the last Club night, we say welcome and hope that he gets involved in all of the Clubs activities.

We must also say a big thank you to **Graham M0GAB** for all the Articles that he has been sending me to put into the Catswhisker each month. I personally know nothing about HF, but from what I am reading it sounds well worth investigating at some point.

As stated on the next page, myself, Graham and Ruth are aiming to take our RAE in March, so for the time being, it is going to be study, study, study with a lot of help from Robert (God help me) for myself. I expect Graham and Ruth will be able to help each other along the road, and maybe we can all get together one night a week to help each other to get through.

BYLARA NEWS

I am going to meet the Secretary of **Bylara (British Young Ladies Amateur Radio)** on Sunday, as we both have a considerable distance between us, we have decided to meet at Southampton. After this Meeting, I probably think that I will well and truly know what task I have taken on.

There are two New Members joined and that is **Ruth 2E0RAH** and **Janet 2E1NRQ**. Bylara has been going for 25 years now, and the numbers are slowly increasing again, which of course, is good news. There are operators in 14 different Countries. It is my plan that in the future we may be able to be in contact with the other Ladies in other parts of the World more easily, especially when I pass my RAE. So I am hoping for a good response from the other Members. We shall see.



MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANY LAST MINUTE UPDATES



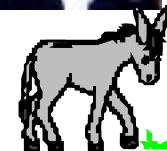
**MIKE WILLIAMS 2E1NAY—
NOW M0VET (think about it !!!!)**

**HE PASSED HIS RAE
ALONG WITH PHIL
2E0SSB**

IS THIS BIG ENOUGH FOR YOU MIKE!

This is because he told me off for not mentioning it in the last Catswhisker

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH



MESSAGES TO MEMBERS WHO ARE UNWELL

It is with great joy that we have been informed that Sue has come home from Hospital, but will still be undergoing tests. We wish you both all the best.

It was nice to see Geoff G0EVV back with us again, and also that his wife is on the mend too.

To Sue & Charlie Cattell, who we hope will see an Improvement in their backs soon

BIRTHDAYS THIS MOPNTH

We also have to wish a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Members—

**Mark Wootton M5MKW
George Curtis G3DLG and
Paul 2E1SSB (New Member)**

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU KNOW OF ANYBODY
WHO YOU WISH TO MENTION FOR WHATEVER
REASON**

CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
CLIP CLOP
MOVET!!!



**SWL
M3RRM
2E0RAH
“NOW THE**

**WE ARE PLEASED TO
ANNOUNCE THAT RUTH M3RRM HAS ALSO NOW PASSED
HER INTERMEDIATE STAGE AND HAS HER
NEW CALL SIGN WHICH IS 2E0RAH
ALL PASSED IN 2004**

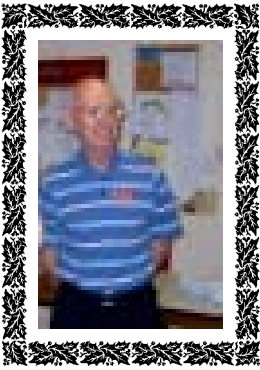
WELCOME ABOARD RUTH

**2E1GOQ, 2E0RAH & 2E1RBH
ARE TAKING THEIR RAE
IN MARCH**



QSL CARDS

By Rob G3MYM



Radio Amateurs use QSL cards to achieve three objectives:

- A) To give written confirmation that a QSO has taken place.
- B) To give a written description of the station.
- C) To give the other Station a written Report of how well the Signals from that Station were received.

No one knows for certain where or when the first QSL Card was used. It was probably in the USA in 1917 or 1919. The first QSL Card in Britain was that of G2UV in 1922. Before World War I, Radio Amateurs probably sent a letter out lining their Equipment and Aerial to the Stations that they had contacted, but when Amateur Radio started again after World War I (1920 in Britain and 1919 in the USA) the Triode Valve was now a practical device, and as such, could be used by Radio Amateurs to amplify weak signals. (Prior to World War I, Receivers had no Signal Amplification). Because weak signals could now be amplified, the range over which Radio Amateurs could make contacts increased from tens of miles to hundreds of miles, and later when Radio Amateurs developed Short Wave Radio Communication (early 1920's), the distance increased to thousands of miles. This meant that the number of Stations that a Radio Amateur could make contact with increased dramatically and writing and sending a letter to each Station was no longer viable.

Having a pre-printed card that could be filled out quickly and having a cheap means of getting the card to the other Station was the solution, and the first QSL Bureau in Britain was set up in 1926.

Before World War II, practically all Amateur Radio equipment was home made and QSL Cards of this period are a prime historic source for tracing the technical development of Amateur Radio.

After World War II and up to the end of the 1960's, Radio Amateurs generally still built their own Transmitters, but tended to use surplus World War II Receivers. After the 1960's, as a direct result of Radio Amateurs developing Single Sideband as a Mode of Telephony Transmissions (between 1948 and the late 1960's), commercially made Amateur Radio equipment became the normality and QSL Cards from 1970 onwards are a Historic Record of the changing preferences of Radio Amateurs for the use of different Bands, Modes of Transmission, and makes of Commercial Equipment.



In the 1950's and earlier, the trend was to display QSL Cards on the wall of the Shack. Today, this is not usually domestically acceptable and QSL Cards now tend to be kept in boxes or in Photograph Albums.

From what I have noticed at Special Event Stations, the general public is very interested in a display of QSL Cards. At such a display there should be a sign explaining what a QSL Card is, and the QSL Cards should be displayed in some kind of order, by Country, is a good one and in this case the Cards chosen for the Display should be those of which have the name of the Country printed on them, since the general public is not familiar with Call Signs. QSL Cards which are special in some way should be displayed separately and include a write up outlining why that QSL Card is special. Many Radio Amateurs today are not interested in Sending and Receiving QSL Cards, but to save today's QSL Cards would provide future generations of

Radio Amateurs with Information about Amateur Radio as it is today, and today, as an alternative to housing a Collection of QSL Cards, it may be possible to Scan QSL Cards on to a CD Rom and not keep the originals Cards, except for those that are required for claiming Amateur Radio Operating Awards.

Rob Micklewright G3MYM

Yeovil Amateur Radio Club

Comment:

From **2E1RBH**—

Personally, I think it would be a shame to dispose of QSL Cards altogether, and only keep certain ones and put the others on CD Rom. There is nothing like the feel of your first QSL Cards, plus you can look back at them, with memories and pleasure. The general public cannot look at a CD Rom at every Special Event, as the Radio Operator has enough equipment to carry around as it is. No doubt, future technology will make it possible one day. But there is still nothing better than the real thing.

Maybe other Radio Amateurs have their own opinions on this matter, and I would be very pleased to hear from you. It would be a pity not to voice your thoughts, or even let me be able to put any magical ones you have received by you in the Catswhisker as well as the Bylara Magazine.

There is still a lot of interest out there for QSL Cards, my reason for this statement is the amount that the Club have to deal with.

We must not lose things connected to Amateur Radio, Past, Present or that's to come in the Future. It needs to be passed on to the Amateur Radio Operators of tomorrow, because there will always be Operators of Yesteryear listening out there.



THE WEYMOUTH THREE OF 1924

How it worked

The set - made by W. Smith & Sons of Weymouth - is a TRF receiver. TRF stands for Tuned Radio Frequency, for it contained three tuned circuits which when peaked gave quite a good output with reasonable selectivity.

The valves were Triodes - all that were available in those days. Electrons given off by the directly heated filament (the Cathode) found their way to the Plate (Anode) thence around the circuit. The signal was fed into the Grid, whose voltage varied slightly with the magnitude of the input signal, thus controlling the flow of electrons to give a much stronger image of itself at the anode. In valves, small changes in the positiveness or negativeness of the grid cause large changes in anode current.

Tuned Circuits

You should be familiar with them: all the tuned circuits in this set are formed by capacitor and coil in parallel. The inductance of the coils was of course fixed; if you altered the capacitance using a variable capacitor you changed the frequency at which the circuit resonated.

The Aerial circuit and V1

The tuned circuit VC1/L1 was set to resonate at the frequency of the required signal, one of many radio waves coming down the aerial wire. The selected signal was passed to the Grid of V1 to be slightly amplified by the time it emerged from the anode.

V2 and Tuned Anodes

HT for the anode was delivered via Coils L5 and L3 which also formed tuned circuits made variable with VC2. This circuit when peaked made the required frequency much sharper. It was known as a Tuned Anode circuit. Some of the signal emanating from V1 made its way to the grid of V2 via C1 and through the anode to L4 and L2 which are close to L5 and L3 - in fact, the pairs are wound together as transformers and interact if set at similar critical frequencies, which is accomplished by fine tuning VC3. The interaction between these coupled circuits is called *reaction* and results in a very strong oscillation which passes via C1 to V2, being heard in the headphones as a most uncomfortable howling and squealing. This is a form of positive feedback: it only works if the wiring to the coils is the right way round, otherwise they cancel each other out. The trick then is to de-tune one of the circuits until a good signal is heard.

V2 is known as the *Detector* valve. The voltage at the grid - usually held slightly negative with respect to the filament (cathode) - varied with the incoming signal. It was set so that the valve operated only during the positive part of the cycle, responding to the audio modulation on the carrier wave, thus sending a low-frequency (i.e. audio) signal to the next valve.

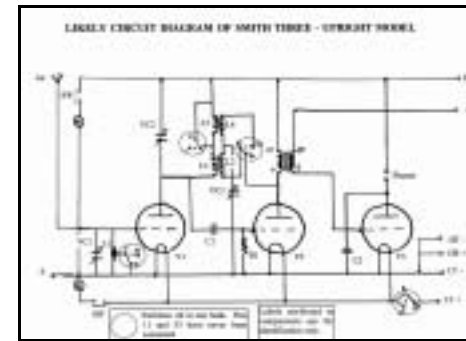
The grid of V2 is held steady by Grid Leak R1 which maintains the filament-grid-anode voltages as required, but also allows spare electrons in the valve to leak away during the null periods. (Bear in mind the action of the Capacitor C1 when passing an alternating current.)

The Output Valve V3

The easiest path for this detected signal is now through the LF transformer which, with a few



ARTICLE BY JOHN ROSE
M0BQO



more turns in its secondary gives a slight gain. V3 is a robust valve able to cope with the large grid swings and heavier anode current so that the signal can be heard via the headphones.

Power Supplies

To supply electrons to the circuit, the valve filaments had to be heated. They needed a 2V supply (called Low Tension) and a lot of current - a job best done by an accumulator which needed charging regularly. The current was mainly used for heating the filaments.

The High Tension came from a 120V battery, which lasted much longer as the current demand of the working circuits was low.

Two press-switches on the set's front panel allowed the meter to indicate LT or HT voltages so that Dad could judge the state of the batteries

A Grid Bias battery with tapings down to about -9V, and about the size of a VHS cassette, maintained the setting of the audio valve's grid; the various tapings made it possible to alter the grid voltage and with it the audio output, so it was a kind of volume control..

The Wave change Switch and other controls

TRFs often had a lot of controls. This is no exception.

A switch on the fascia (top left) is labeled 'Push for 5XX and Paris. Pull for other stations' It was either an old fascia from their stock, or someone later changed the switch, as the one in place is a three-way rotary switch, the central position turning the set off. I am inclined to think this was indeed the original. In those days 5XX and Paris were the long-wave stations, 5XX being Marconi's experimental transmitter at Chelmsford. It was transferred to Daventry in 1925 as a broadcast station for the BBC. This switch operated the coil banks L2-3 and L4-5. It selected either half the coils (i.e. half of L1, plus L3 and L2) for Medium Wave reception, or the full inductance of all, L5 and L4 being brought into the circuit as loading coils to receive Long Wave programmes.

The signal was 'found' using VC1 (bottom left). VC2 (upper right) and VC3 (lower right) then had to be set to give the best volume. A loud screech warned that the circuits had been driven into oscillation and were likely to act as a small transmitter, interfering badly with neighbouring sets, so if you were public-spirited you eased back one of the controls for a comfortable listening level. The same technique could be used for weaker signals, increasing the selectivity of the set and also acting as a crude volume control (they had not become common then).

In 1924-ish this set cost £40 - a lot of money; and, apparently, though cleverly designed and well specified, it didn't work very well. Mr. Smith was angry that Marshall's of Portland could make a better set cheaper - but that's another story!

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DOES ANYONE REMEMBER THIS?
D-DAY COMMEMORATIONS 2004

IT'S ALL GO AT THE NOTHE FORT



Mark M5MKW
 getting into the spirit of the event



M5MKW

After all that hard work it's time to
 catch up on the resting bit



BOB M3PDQ

Bedford Bob is all ready to get to grips with
 the next pile-up on top band

2E0WON



Jamie learning fast from the others

IS THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL
A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS 2004/5



2ND DECEMBER 2004—YEOVIL RADIO CLUB—
CR-100 the talk by Bob Woolridge G7LNJ at British Red Cross HQ, 72 Grove Avenue, Yeovil, Somerset.

Email: MOWOB@tiscali.co.uk

14TH DECEMBER 2004—SKI TTLES/BUFFET NIGHT—To be held this year at the Wyke Regis

Working Men's Club, Wyke Regis. Please give your names in asap.

Contact Carol: 2E1RBH on 01305 820400 or email

Carolonfraggil@tiscali.co.uk

Please give names into the Secretary as soon as possible to allow the Club to know who is going to go.



11th JANUARY 2005—RSGB—WHERE DO WE GO FROM- HERE - Talk by Barry Scarisbrook G4ACK

Contact: Carol 2E1RBH on 01305 820400 or email

Carolonfraggil@tiscali.co.uk

8TH FEBRUARY 2005—OFCOM—

How it works or how it should, or how it will. For more details

Contact: Carol on 01305 820400 or carolonfraggil@tiscali.co.uk

8TH MARCH 2005 - JOURNEAUX HISTORIC WIRELESS TALK See Catswhisker nearer the time for a introductory

write-up. Talk by H Journeaux. Contact Carol on carolonfraggil@tiscal.com

PRESENTATION OF THE CONSTRUCTORS CUP

10th APRIL 2005—YEOVILS'S QRP CONVENTION

At the Digby Hall, Sherbourne. It is the 21st Convention and the doors open at 10.00hrs. There are talks, stalls, and other Club Stalls. Free Car Parking at venue.

For more details contact: george@mudford.fsnet.co.uk



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS 2004/5

12TH APRIL 2005—SDRS AGM— This is the night you can get rid of us lot and put a new lot in charge

BLACKMORE VALE ARS—meet every Tuesday at Shaftsbury Club for Young People, Coppice Street, Shaftsbury. For more info contact

bvars@bvars.org.uk

14TH JUNE 2005—ECHO LINK- WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT— This is going to be a talk by our very own debonair Mark Wootton M5MKW, and should not be missed. For further information please contact:

Carol2E1RBH on 01305 820400

Or email: carolonfraggil@tiscali.co.uk

12TH JULY 2005—BBQ & CAR BOOT SALE—Venue to be arranged- suggestions would be appreciated.

Contact Carol on 01305 820400 or email:

carolonfraggil.@tiscalico.uk

BOURNEMOUTH RS—meet every 1st/3rd Friday of the Month at Kinston Community Centre, Kinson, Bournemouth.

Contact m5agg@btinternet.com

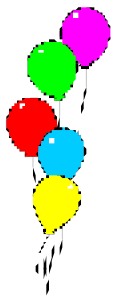
YEOVIL & DARC—Meets at 17.30hrs every Thursday at The British Red Cross HQ, 72 Grove Avenue, Yeovil, Somerset.

Email: MOWOB@tiscali.co.uk

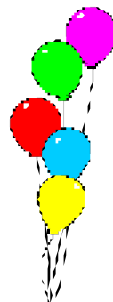
7TH AUGUST 2004—HAMFEST 2005

Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society, Wimborne, Dorset—Further information, including trading booking forms, can be obtained from the FRARS Website at [Http://www.frars.org.uk](http://www.frars.org.uk) or email





**LIST OF EVENTS
SO FAR
FOR 2005**



APRIL 2005

QRP CONVENTION AT SHERBORNE 10.00—16.00

MARCONI WEEKEND

MAY 2005

*WINDMILLS/WATERMILLS ON THE AIR WEEKEND
60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY*

JUNE 2005

*MUSEUMS ON THE AIR WEEKEND
VJ DAY WEEKEND*

JULY 2005

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

AUGUST 2005

HAMFEST—WIMBORNE

OCTOBER 2005

*200TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR*

DECEMBER 2005

SKITTLES & BUFFET NIGHT

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



Here is the news

From the Net Manager

The 25th of November will be the last time the 6 Metre Net is run, this is due to the more popular request of 10 Metres.

As some of you know, we have been testing 10 Metres over the last few Thursday's and have found it to be more acceptable for more operators to use.

My thanks to all those who have been on the 6 Metre Net, all SWL's and those who have tried to get on.

As of the 2nd of December the NEW 10 Metre net will begin

**THERE WILL BE AN UPDATE FROM
THE NET MANAGER EVERY MONTH
SO PLEASE LET HIM KNOW OF ANY CHANGES THAT
WILL EFFECT THE CLUB ETC**

Never up to date, unless you tell me.

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**READ ON THE RSGB WEBSITE—INFORMATION FOR
CLUB MEMBERS AND NEW MEMBERS**

Following discussions between the RSGB and OFCOM, changes will be made in the Advanced Radio Communications Examinations, the Examination that qualifies Amateurs for the Full Licence. The changes have been made following current pilot scheme, which has been in effect since the Exam's introduction in February 2004. To bring it into line with current Educational practice, a Formula Sheet will be included in the Exam material. This will allow Candidates to concentrate on the concepts required, rather than having to memorise equations. In addition, the number of questions will be reduced to 62 from the current 68, to shift the emphasis more towards operating than electronic theory. The changes will come into effect from the beginning of 2005.

RSGB Board member Ed Taylor, G3SQX, said, "We proposed some amendments in the operation of the Advanced Exam, following comments that the new exam was more technical than the old RAE. Ofcom agreed, and we are pleased that a way was found to implement changes without reducing the rigour of the system."

To allow for the proposed changes to be implemented in March 2005, the Exam Group has requested that the previously-advertised Exam Timetable for 2005 be amended. The revised dates for the Advanced exam are now:

WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2005—1830 START

TUESDAY 17TH MAY 2005—1830 START

SATURDAY 9TH 2005—1430 START

MONDAY 22ND AUGUST 2005—1830 START

SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2005—1030 START

The dates of all Intermediate and Advanced Examinations can be found on the RSGB Website. The Foundation Exam is available at 10 days short notice.

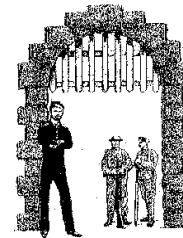
[Http://www.rsgb.org/news/gb2rs.htm](http://www.rsgb.org/news/gb2rs.htm)

G3SDS—JIM BARTON

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT JIM G3SDS HAS TO GO INTO HOSPITAL ON THE 15TH DECEMBER. HE WILL HAVE HIS OPERATION ON THE 16TH DECEMBER 2004
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO WISH HIM ALL THE VERY BEST OF LUCK AND THAT WE WILL BE THINKING OF HIM.

IF THERE IS ANYTHING ANY OF US CAN DO TO HELP YOU OR YOUR SWL, LET A MEMBER OF THE CLUB KNOW.

**THANK YOU LETTER RECEIVED FROM
NO THE FORT FOR THE CLUB'S DONATION
OF £50.00 TOWARDS LOTTERY APPEAL**



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Mrs Carol Hodges
Secretary/Editor
South Dorset Radio Society
Marine Cottage
1A Clements Lane
Chiswell
Portland
Dorset
DT5 1AS

Dear Carol,

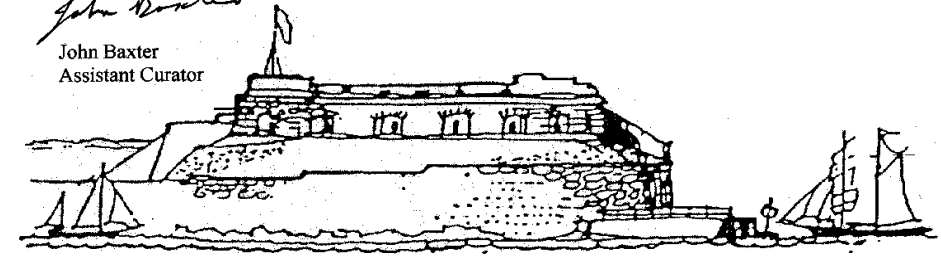
5th November 2004,

John Bithell has asked me to write and thank you and the South Dorset Radio Society for your generous donation of £50 towards the restoration of the Nothe Fort. We were very pleased that you were able to join us over the summer for the 60th Anniversary D-Day Celebrations. I believe everybody enjoyed themselves very much. You enquire if we are holding any celebrations for VE Day and the 200th Anniversary of Trafalgar. Yes we will be holding events for these occasions and will be pleased to have your involvement. We have as yet to set dates for our activities but hope to firm up the programme before Christmas. I suggest we contact you when we have a clearer idea of our programme plans.

We have had an excellent response from the people of Weymouth, and we are very grateful that the Nothe Fort is held in such high regard. I will arrange for the South Dorset Radio Society to be placed in the Book of Donors.

Yours Sincerely

John Baxter
Assistant Curator



*The Nothe Fort is operated by the Weymouth Civic Society, a Registered Charity No SW/271135A/L2.
Scheduled National Monument No. 33199 Museum (Resource) Registration No. 1648.*



APRS & ECHOLINK

Use it or lose it

Hello folks well we seem to have these **APRS &**

ECHOLINK

But it doesn't seem to be very active here in Weymouth.

I must admit to being one of those people who tend to listen rather than Operate, but honestly folks our Local Radio Amateurs have taken the time and effort to set these Modes up. Although we see many call signs on APRS we just do not seem to be communicating. As you are all aware the continuation of Packet Radio is now in question.

But it looks like we may be having a 2m Repeater which may open things up a little.

The Echo Link is set up for us to use and it is always interesting to listen to people from all around the world. You do not necessarily need the Internet to use it, but if we don't make regular use of the Link we may lose the whole thing. Our local Radio Amateur, who actually runs the Mode, may decide it is not worth carrying on with, especially when they have gone to so much trouble to give us the opportunity to use it.

There are obviously some expense incurred in having the Echo Link running, and up to now we have not heard from the appropriate people as to whether or not the expense can be covered by us the Local Amateurs.

APRS can be a great way of passing information around, if you do not know what I mean, just have a look at how the Americans run there APRS. I am sure you will see what I am talking about.

I.E— Storm Chasing, Weather Watch, Emergency Services and so on. I have set up an Information Bureau and others have set up Weather Information so it can easily become a much more interesting and important way of communicating.

So have a look and see.

All the very best from
Graham MOGAB



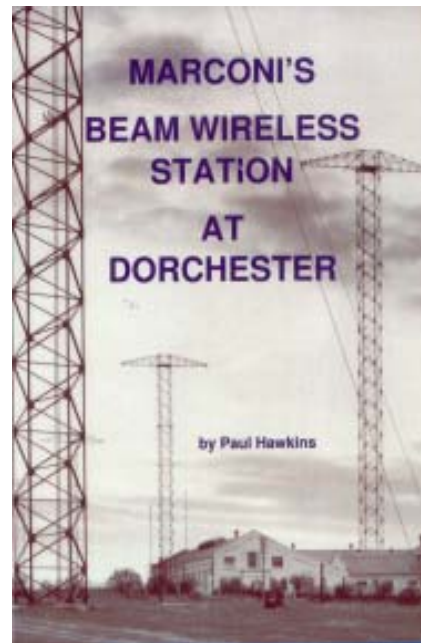
G3MYM HOLDING A DIAGRAM OF THE TRANSMITTER



The transmitter used by G2OD for 20 metres was home made and was an advanced design for 1925. It consisted of a Tuned Anode Tuned Grid Oscillator feeding a Power Amplifier which had it's output tuned to the Fifth Harmonic of it's input. The output power of the transmitter was probably about 40 watts.

(On 11th November 2004. The receiver used by G2OD for 20 metres was almost certainly one valve detector with reaction, followed by a one valve audio amplifier.

Today, you can hear radio amateurs in Australia most days on the 20 metre amateur band at around 0700 UTC on frequencies around 14.160Mhz. The talk given by G3MYM was reported in last month's Catswhisker.



MARCONI'S BEAM WIRE- LESS STATION AT DORCHESTER

By Paul Hawkins G4KHU

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

If you are interested in Ordering one of these copies, please let the Secretary know

**THE BOOK WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT
DECEMBER'S
SKITTLES/BUFFET NIGHT**

HF DATA

What is all the noise about

Hello to you all once again.

Apart from what we know as Amateur Radio Data such as Slow Scan TV, Morse Code and various other data.

There is plenty of commercial data on HF.

Now we have all wondered what is all that noise and in the beginning had no idea at all until we started finding the software to decode some of it.

Apart from some of what we have already touched on there is Weather Fax, Commercial Rtty, Commercial Black Box info, Commercial Morse Code and yes it is still used at present and like anything else that is Radio oriented it can sometimes be very interesting.

Of course there is a lot of things that can't be decoded but a trained ear can pick out beacons and you can have a very good guess at a lot other pops, squeaks and whistles.

With other such things you have to slowly tune around and you will drop onto commercial data right through the whole of HF.

One of many things you can pick up is repeated medical info.

I have decoded this in the past and from time to time the frequency does change

The easiest things that we can decode is HF Weather fax and some of the Morse Code but you will need appropriate software to do this and it is available on the internet.

Don't ask me where, as I am not on the Internet, because my old computer will most likely fall over hi.

I have promised you all some frequencies to get you started and I am presently working on it and should have it ready for next months Catwhisker.

But the only real way of looking at the subjects I have touched on is by going to have a look yourselves.

Like many other things on HF the data side of things can become very interesting.

You have all probably realized that I have tried to keep away from the Amateur Radio side of things because most of us have been there and still doing it hi.

I personally do enjoy down loading HF Weather Fax and some of the Morse Code but unfortunately most of the commercial rtty is to fast for most Amateur Radio software to cope with and can lead to messing things up by changing the settings in the software.



I have tried it and because I am not the best at setting things up I have completely caused havoc hi.

I didn't think to back up the settings before changing things around so be warned make a copy of all your settings in your Data Software before starting to play.

As I usually say there are a lot of you out there that know a lot more than I do on these various subjects and I would appreciate any input or ideas that you may have .

I am only an amateur in more than one way.

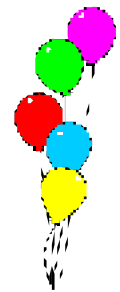
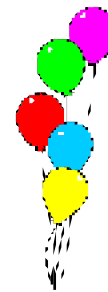
Commercial HF can be fascinating especially when conditions are up.

Well I think I have gone on long enough with this months subject and I hope that once again you have found it of interest

All the very best from

Graham MOGAB.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MEMBERS OF
SOUTH DORSET RADIO SOCIETY**



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

NOTHE FORT



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



**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**



Registered South Dorset Radio Society Call Signs

G3SD

G8SD

Contest Call Sign for selective contests.

For more information on the use of these calls,

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 28TH DECEMBER 2004

*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 (G0RWL) **Treasurer** 781042
Carol Hodges (2E1RBH) **Secretary** 820400

**DEADLINE FOR
CATSWHISKER NEXT
MONTH ISSUE**

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

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

19TH DECEMBER 2004

Please ensure that I
receive your
contributions before
that date.

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

President Bill Burden G3EAT
Vice President Geoff Watts G0EVW

Carol Hodges
Secretary/Editor Catswhisker

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

SDRS CLUB NIGHT

**TUESDAY
11TH JANUARY 2005**



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