

C A M B E A M

JOURNAL OF THE CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER 1981

Once more pressure from members forces pen to paper and produces the latest newsletter. In this, hopefully, will be included all the bits and pieces from members and all the latest news.

The Club was hoping to rent a room at Wandlebury for our meetings. This will not be possible as the Cambridge Preservation Society has the bungalow in question rated as a classroom, and its use by us would result in the rates being increased to a point where we could not afford the rent.

You will, no doubt, have heard of the education cuts in Cambs, which will also affect the Club if weekend and Friday evening closures come into effect. There is, however, a great deal of opposition to this and the Education Committee may re-consider - we hope so anyway. If the worst comes to the worst we will have to take another evening, preferably Thursday.

Since the last newsletter, there has been two Foxhunts. The first with Martyn, G3WOT, and Ivan, G8ZRD, as the Fox, found by the Secretary and XYL outside Haddenham. The second Foxhunt was held on a very windy and wet night. Dave, G8JKV, was the Fox and hid in the middle of Over Fen. The only team to get anywhere near him was Martyn, G3WOT, and Dave, G6TQB, who were about 1/2 mile away when G8JKV decided it was time to give up; and they will receive the award for the occasion. The teams then retired to the free house in Over.

Two of our members have left for overseas. Dave, G8TQB, has emigrated to Australia with his family, donating his ZL Special to the Club before doing so. He hopes to pass his Morse test and obtain a full Australian licence.

Gerald, G8AKL, has gone to Brunei for two years and will no doubt be able to give us an interesting talk on his return.

HASLINGFIELD FIELD DAY - by Wilfred Dunell

The Club Field Day at Haslingfield on 25th July was quite a success. Fifteen members turned up, and with their families made a total attendance of about thirty.

The weather was just about perfect and by 2 p.m. two stations, G2XV on H.F. and G8JKV on 2m, were on the air and operating. A steady stream of contacts all the afternoon kept up the interest in both stations.

G2XV in one tent was using the club FT250 H.F. rig and the Club's 14 - 21 -28 MHz and 3.8 MHz trapped dipoles, operating from a nearby mains supply.

G8JKV in the other tent used the Club's ICOM 245 into an eight element Yagi atop a 30 foot telescopic mast, borrowed for the occasion. This station operated from the Club's petrol generator which ran perfectly all the afternoon after a rocky start when it apparently would only deliver about 3 volts. However, in Dave Leary's capable hands this was soon found to be due to a lack of field current and quickly cured.

The children seemed to find the site an ideal picnic place and in fact it proved to be a very enjoyable day for everyone, even though somewhat bewildering to the good people of Haslingfield, some of whom on seeing our notices signposting the entrance wanted to know what the word CDARC meant and what language it was.

Grateful thanks to G3BYW, C&AKD, G8JKV, G8VCN, G6AZI, Brian Davy and Mark Huntsman.

- The Club should like to thank Wilfred Dunell and his wife for the use of their field for this occasion.
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2m CONTEST

The 2m contest was held over the weekend of 5-6 September, at Moat Farm, Castle Camps - courtesy of Mr Haylock. The weather was splendid, in fact too warm at times, and this helped to make the event a great success. The station ran for the full 24 hours of the contest, the only mishaps being the overheating of the linear P.S.U. and the breaking of one of the generators petrol tank straps, this was repaired by Martyn, G3WOT, with elastic straps.

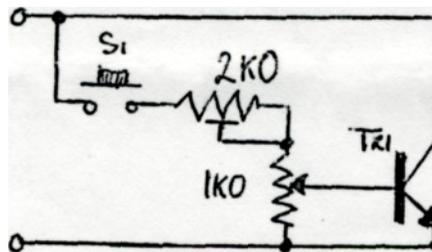
The aerial was a six element quad at about 50 foot. Great fun was had raising and lowering the mast which waved about wildly despite lot of guys and pulleys.

The Secretary's thanks to those who took part or lent equipment for the event. We learnt a lot from this event and hope to do better next time. After a lot of calculations the final score came out to about 2,6000. (I'm afraid I have forgotten the exact amount). However, the winning station last year scored over 12,000. Still we are in there somewhere. - Those attending were forced to contribute to a collection for the farmer and he was presented with a 1/2 bottle of whisky and some Babycham for his wife. Note this was the cheapest contest we have entered as the only cost was a few stamps. No one has submitted any claims for anything else, (and if you're thinking of doing so, it's too late!!)

P.S.U. TESTING

by Ivor Blown-Fuse c/oMartin, G4FFO)

Ever need one of those huge RHEOSTATS, like the one we used at school, to test a PSU? (Surely even black box operators make their own PSU's don't they? G8VCN managed it.) Well, you'll scour the rallies in vain so here's a substitute even a PSU operator can manage.



Yes folks, it's a 2N3055 on a heatsink acting as a variable resistance load, in the usually forgotten Vbe multiplier arrangement. The bush button is for momentary testing in case you're a bit stingy with the heatsink. The 2K preset pot is for setting the minimum load resistance and you vary the resistance of the load with the 1K.

No excuse now.

(oops, anyone got a 5 amp slow blow?)

Now that the nights are drawing in it's the time for new projects, and so we offer the following information: -

THE SIX PHASES OF A PROJECT

- 1) Enthusiasm
- 2) Disillusionment
- 3) Panic!
- 4) Search for the guilty
- 5) Punishment of the innocent
- 6) Praise and honours for the non-participants

NEW TERMS

Have you been reading through the ads. in the Amateur Magazines and wondered what they meant by "New", "Distinctive" or "Futuristic"? The definitions of those terms and several others follow:

NEW: Different colour from the previous design.

ALL NEW: Parts not interchangeable with previous design.

EXCLUSIVE: Imported product.

UNMATCHED: Almost as good as the competition.

DESIGN SIMPLICITY: Manufacturing costs cut to bone.

FOOLPROOF ADJUSTMENT: No provision for adjustment.

ADVANCED DESIGN: Ad writer doesn't understand it.

IT'S HERE AT LAST: Rush job, nobody knew it was coming.

FIELD TESTED: Manufacturer lacked test equipment.

HIGH ACCURACY: Unit on which all parts fit.

DIRECT SALES ONLY: Manufacturer had argument with distributor.

RUGGED: Too heavy to lift.

LIGHTWEIGHT: Lighter than Rugged.

YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT: Finally got one that worked.

BREAKTHROUGH: We finally figured out a way to sell it.

FUTURISTIC: Can't figure out another reason why it looks the way it does.

ENERGY SAVING: Achieved when the power switch is off.

DISTINCTIVE: A different colour or shape from the competition.

PERFORMANCE PROVEN: Will operate through the warranty period.

- Borrowed from the LERC bulletin with thanks.

FUTURE MEETINGS

PLEASE NOTE THE DAY OF THOSE MEETINGS AT COLERIDGE AFTER NOVEMBER MAY BE ALTERED DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

OCTOBER 23 Informal and Morse Class

OCTOBER 30 COLERIDGE SHUT., Visit to LINEAR ACCELERATOR at New Addenbrookes Hospital by courtesy of Ron Gouldstone, G3TAG. Visit starts at 8 pm. Meet at 7.50 pm in carpark by roundabout.

NOVEMBER 6 Informal and Morse Class NOVEMBER 13

"In your shack" - part two NOVEMBER 20 Informal and

Morse Class

NOVEMBER 27 Proposed evening out at Harston Village School. - To take the form of a buffet etc. Cost will be approx £3.50 per head - no reductions for double tickets, parties, O.A.P.*s or anything else! If you wish to come please contact the Secretary immediately.

DECEMBER 4 JUNK SALE - Another special Junk Sale. To be held in the Village Hall at Comberton. Please pass the word amongst your friends and ensure you bring plenty to sell.

All unsold items must be removed by those who brought them.

The hall will be open from 6.30 pm, the sale will start at 7.00 pm.

There will be a small charge for entry on the door -this covers raffle and refreshments.

DECEMBER 11 Equipment Evening - get your rig checked.

DECEMBER 18 COLERIDGE SHUT. Meeting at Prince Regent - Little Shelford, where we will take part in a Darts Match. All those that can tell one end of a dart from the other please report to the Secretary to make up a team.

DECEMBER 25 NO MEETING

JANUARY 1 NO MEETING

JANUARY 8 BROADCAST TRANSMITTERS by Ron Huntsman

JANUARY 15 Informal and Morse Class

JANUARY 22 COLERIDGE SHUT. Curry Evening - details to follow

JANUARY 29 Informal and Morse Class

FEBRUARY 5 SPORADIC E and LONG DISTANCE TV by John Worsnop

FEBRUARY 12 Informal and Morse Class

FEBRUARY 19 TELEVISION SYSTEMS by Chris Rowsell

ADVERTS

FOR SALE FT101 SD. Apply to G3HSZ. QTHR.

FOR SALE R1132's & R1148's five off total. VHF receivers, different frequencies. Some with PSU's & loudspeakers. £5-00 each.

Wobbulator. Unknown type. £2-50.

Pye U450L. UHF TX/RX, plugs and sockets to make up interconnecting cables. Would cost over £30 at a rally. Bargain £10.

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R1155 receiver much modified but should work. £5.

Apply to Dave G8JKV.

WANTED 1000p feedthroughs bolt up type 20+. RTTY

tape punch. FV101 Apply to Dave G8JKV.

THE CLUE NET IS HELD ON WEDNESDAY S21/22 AROUND 8. 30pm. DO TRY AND TAKE PART. DON'T BE DISCOURAGED IF NO ONE IS ON EXACTLY ON TIME, TRY A LITTLE LATER. SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY.¹

A few games for Christmas -

The "Volkswagen" Game. For 3 or 4 Players

For this you require a television set, the idea is for you to spot the first VW in any American film or programme, and after all there must be some on during Christmas. You have to estimate how long it will be before the first one appears. To date 54 seconds is the winner in a Kojak film. You then carry on giving each player a choice of colour, white counting 1 point, red 2, yellow 3, blue 3, and black 10 and of course the winner is the one with the most points!!

The "Let's Go" Game

This time you have to listen to the whole programme,, and count the number of times you hear "Let's go" used. To vary this a bit you can give each player a character and top up the number of times they say it, on a points system. Hawaii Five 0 is tops so far with 9!!

This is the "Unfinished Drink and Unsnioked Cigarette" Game.

Take any play or film and count up the number of drinks left unfinished and/or cigarettes lit and then 'dogged' out after only a couple of puffs, you'll be surprised how many!!

Of course all the above games improve as the bottle empties and you get into the spirit of it!

MEMBERSHIP

The membership for 1979/80 stood at around 65. This year it has dropped to 35 or so. Now it appears that there must be somewhere in the order of 300 Amateurs in the Cambridge area. If half of them are busy on Fridays and half of the rest don't like clubs, that leaves 75. Club members account for 35 so there are about 30 who might be persuaded to come along and swell our membership - get persuading!!

PROGRAMS

We are always open to suggestions for talks, visits etc., especially if someone else is prepared to arrange them. So if you have any ideas please let us know as it is difficult to know what people want without any input.

That's all for now folks, see you at the Club.

73's

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave', written over a light grey rectangular background.

G8JKV