

WATERSIDE SHORTWAVE CLUB

NEWSLETTER No 13 : MAY 1982

Well, here starts another year of our Shortwave Club, it's fourth, and also of course the third year of our Newsletter. To mark this achievement the newsletter has been prepared on my micro and hopefully the type face available from my printer is acceptable to your eyes. One of the advantages of using a word processor for the production of the newsletter is of flexibility. As the masterpieces arrive from their respective authors they can be keyed into the micro and once entered can be edited, shifted around, deleted and added to at will. The ease at which this can be done should hopefully enable each newsletter to be produced to the same standard as you are all used to, but with a little less effort.

Anyway, lots of input to the newsletter this month including a brief report of the AGM and the following committee meetings. Also, for your convenience, a list of members that was taken from a list that Alun produced back in January, and, I hope, a copy of the ammended constitution which was put together from some rough notes made at the AGM. To start with, a brief report of the AGM and following committee meetings.

The Annual General Meeting of the Waterside Shortwave Club took place at the community centre on Tuesday, 27th April at 19:30 BST. The clubs constitution was ammended and discussion on publicity of the club, the book service, test equipment pool and the use of a larger room took place. It was decided to participate in the community centre open week and the special event call sign GB2BCC will be applied for. At the following committee meetings several topics were discussed in detail. The book service is still in operation and if those willing to lend books could let me have a list of those available then these can be included in the next newsletter. Service manuals for radio and televisions can also be included. A list of test equipment available for loan can also be drawn up if you can let me have the details.

It was decided to organise another HF pic'nic and this should take place on the afternoon of Sunday 15th August. Phil, G6DLJ is in charge. We also hope to run some DF events this year on both 2 metres and 70cms. Graham, G4IXE and Pat are working on this.

Events for the future are HMS Mercury on 13th June and Lonsleat mobile rally on 27th June. The Itchen valley club have expressed a wish to join forces again in respect of a coach for the Lonsleat rally. If your are interested please contact Phil, G6DLJ as soon as possible.

Our own club meetings are planned as follows:-

May 25th.....	Plannings
June 22nd.....	Junk Sale
July.....	Exhibition
August.....	Community centre closed
September 28th.....	Intruder Watch
October 26th.....	Computer Interfaceing

THOUGHTS ON SWR METERS. No 17

In recent months I have been involved with the RAE classes at Hardley and in my somewhat privileged position with City and Guilds I can now reveal one question that had to be withdrawn from the May exam at the last moment because the examiners could not agree which answer was correct.

The question was:

If you were to break into a squeakies antenna farm one dark night, climb his tower, disconnect his aerial from the feeder and replace it with a 50 ohm resistor, what would his actions be the next day?

- a) Assume that the bands were a bit flat and just work through the local repeater.
- b) Replace the front end of his receiver.
- c) Replace the PA of his transmitter.
- d) Replace his transceiver with an even bigger black box.
- e) Give up and start collecting stamps instead.

[The thoughts of one amateur I know seem to indicate that it would make very little difference...Ed]

Please send your answers on the back of a f5 note to the editor.

Graham
G4IXE

LISTENING HAS IT'S REWARDS

After four years of listening to QSO's from all over the world on the HF bands, an exercise involving much knob twiddling at all times of the day, I feel that I have in some measure been rewarded by receiving "THE DX LISTENERS CENTURY AWARD".

Although to date I have cards from 121 countries confirming the QSO's, over 250 countries have hopefully received my card, so there may be more yet to come. This means a return rate of 50% which is not bad considering the fact that no IRC's were included for return postage in cases where I had mailed direct. Had I done so the response may have been far greater.

There are of course many duplications of some countries involving many cards but an added bonus concerning those mailed direct is an interesting collection of foreign stamps. I did receive a card by mail from an Italian station who gave me a rollicking (in English) for not sending postage money. However, in order not to disrupt international relations in the Mediterranean area, I sent him an IRC and a picture of the New Forest and hopefully he was appeased.

QSLing through the bureau is a slow process, in fact only last month a card dated 1978 arrived by that means. Many cards have a cheery greeting written on them and express a hope that one day I will work the sender on the air. That is an ambition I hope to realise as soon as Samuel Finley Brease Morse's (1791-1872) code has sunk in.

John Gay
G6CDA

WATERSIDE/ITCHEN VALLEY RADIO CLUB'S VISIT TO "ALLY PALLY"

On Saturday April 17th a party of twenty nine of us clambered aboard a Marchwood Motorways coach for the annual pilgrimage to the RSGB's Alexandra Palace exhibition in London. Those who had brought along their 2 metre handhelds were able to sample the delights of GB3SL, birthplace of the term "Saueaky".

Once inside the exhibition the party dispersed and went their separate ways. As expected the major names in amateur radio were displaying their wares, although Lowe Electronics were nowhere to be seen despite the recent opening of their London branch. For those with an eye for detail there were quite a few bargains, one chap from our party picked up a Commodore desk calculator printer for £5 after much haggling.

Of course there were the novelties of the hobby such as the Microwave Modules "speaking" morse tutor, which had a distinct American accent and their RTTY convertor, which caused some embarrassment. From my own point of view I found it very interesting to meet some of the people behind the various bodies of Amateur Radio such as AMSAT UK and RAYNET, from which I derived much useful information for current projects.

Despite any rumours you may have heard Roy, G3OZT did not purchase a top band quad although, on the way out of the exhibition, I did notice one chap carrying an FT ONE in his arms. I was a little disappointed at the apparent lack of antennas on display, perhaps the exhibitors were expecting hordes of people with polaroid cameras and tape measures.

On the whole, I think it was a worthwhile trip and by joining forces with the Itchen valley club we managed to keep the cost of the coach fare down to £3.25 per head, including the drivers tip.

73's Phil
G6DLJ

NOSTALGIA CORNER

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be, so I thought that it might be interesting to start a series to bring back memories of the good old days.

I was recently reminded of Lowes adverts when he was a Vaseu dealer and I enclose a few quotes to illustrate his style. He might start off with, "OK Lads, my shelves are full, the floors swept, all pretty well organised and ready to relieve you of the contents of your bulging wallets".

Sometimes he wasn't so cheerful, "No light hearted cracks this month gentlemen. I lost money on a trade in deal and I'm still in mourning. Blinds down, beam at half mast and all that". However, he was always ready to be helpful, "To those prepared to contribute to the credit company directors next Rolls Royce, I can arrange HP", and, "Money refunded if not satisfactory (mind you I usually reply, "Dear Sir, Your money is perfectly satisfactory. Yours faithfully.....ect)".

Lets have some of your recollections for future newsletters.

Graham
G4IXE

Heard on 40 metres

An old timer was talking about the complexity of modern riss. He said that he was just beginning to understand the feelings of the old timers he remembered from when he was a boy, who had threatened to give up radio when valves began to have more than four pins.

CLUB NETS

Just a reminder about our regular net on Sunday mornings at 09:00 clock time. We are to be found around 3.775Mhz with Fred, G4CTW in the chair. It has also been suggested that we have a net through GB3NF on the Tuesday evenings when we don't have a meeting :- Why not come up and give Phil some tips on how to get his kids out of the bath!

Constitution of the Waterside Shortwave Club

- 1)..The club shall be known as the Waterside Shortwave Club.
- 2)..The club shall be run by a committee elected at the Annual General Meeting, and shall comprise:- Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and five or more members.
- 3)..The committee has the power to co-opt any member onto the committee they consider desirable.
- 4)..The aim of the club is to promote interest in all aspects of lesistimate short wave radio.
- 5)..Members of the club shall also become members of the Blackfield Community Association whilst meetings are held at the community centre.
- 6)..The club shall hold an Annual General Meeting. An Extraordinary General meeting may be called by five members. Four weeks notice of such meetings shall be given.
- 7)..The club rules may only be changed at a General Meeting.
- 8)..No club member shall vote at an AGM or stand for election to the committee untill he has been a member for at least one year.
- 9)..Attendies to sign the attendance book at club meetings.
- 10)..Non members are asked to apply for membership.
- 11)..Anyone applying for club membership should be nominated by a club member.
- 12)..The auorum for the transaction of business shall be five members.
- 13)..Subscriptions shall be paid on joinins. The rate shall be set at the Annual General Meeting. The fee shall be reduced for members under eighteen years of age. Members more than six months in arrears shall forfeit their voting rights.
- 14)..Honary members may be elected at the discretion of the committe.

FOR SALE

Eddystone HF Receiver. Type EC10 MK 1
550khz - 30Mhz professionally re - aligned £30 ono
Contact Joe, G6DXD on Fareham 289266

FT290R 2 metre portable multimode used once only
£180 ish contact Mike G4HXT or Clive G4KCM

A few bits and pieces of information and comment that I can't put under a heading follows.

Our congratulations to Pete Fry, Ken Fokett and John Laurance who are now the proud owners of G6GUK, G6GUJ and G6GXI. Well done sents. Also we wish the 8000+ candidates who took the RAE last Monday the very best of luck, especially those members of the club who sat the exam at Hardley. We look forward to hearing some new callsigns later on in the year.

It was suggested that the lecture on the formal meetings should start around 20:15 and thus give plenty of time to carry out club business on those evenings. It would mean we could have tea first and then the lecture. This would also give the lecturer more time to arrive. Some news for 70cms buffs: GB3BR, the Brighton repeater seems to have been switched off due to QRM from navigational location system operating in its area. GB3SW, the Salisbury repeater was heard being tested on RB6 late on Thursday evening.

For those wishing to use them, the RSGB slow morse transmissions on 2 metres takes place on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 20:00 clock time on 144.245Mhz from G8FG, Wimbourne. The toneburst circuit from Clive, G4KCM in the last newsletter seems to have been popular and successful. To date I have heard two working units on the air. Any more ideas for small circuits that we can publish?

Phil has managed to book room "C" for our formal meetings from now on. This should give us a little more room for the more popular lectures and for the Junk Sale. The hire charge remains the same.

Our most popular event, the Junk Sale, takes place on June 22nd with Ray, G3YJJ, volunteering as auctioneer. Now's the time to start wondering if you really need those boxes of junk under the bench. Remember, 10% from each item goes to the club.

The newsletter can only appear if there is something to put in it so please try and contribute. Anything goes. Your first day on the air, the day you sat the RAE, your experience of amateur radio while on holiday. My thanks to all contributors to this newsletter, let's have some more.

Lastly, our thanks to last years committee, who in my opinion did a splendid job in organising lectures and events. Let's hope that the club continues to grow as it has during the last (first) three years.

Mike Lord
G4HXT

WATERSIDE SHORTWAVE CLUB

MEMBERSHIP LIST : 1st MAY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
M. J. LORD	G4HXT:	
C. W. SANDERS	G4KCM:	
U. F. WILTON	G8TGA:	
J. LUNN	G4JAX:	
C. SMITH	G3GHV:	
G. WALMSLEY	G4IXE:	
J. GAY	G6COA:	
F. RADWELL	G4CTW:	
P. BRIDGES	G6DLJ:	
P. HICKEY	SWL :	
R. HICKEY	SWL :	
C. BABBS	G5IG :	
W. WARWICK	G6CUM:	
R. PALMER	G3YJJ:	
N. CURTIS	G3UPC:	
E. DAVAGE	SWL :	
R. NATHAN	G4IYV:	
J. LAMRANCE	G6GXI:	
R. HODGSON	G3TBT:	
J. SHAW	SWL :	
K. FOSKETT	G6GUJ:	
R. FRENCH	SWL :	
D. GREEN	SWL :	
P. FRY	G6GUK:	
T. BUTLER	SWL :	
D. LATHAM	SWL :	
J. OMAN	SWL :	
J. LANE	SWL :	
P. LEWIS	G4LDK:	
P. WOODS	G4GGM:	
D. MACKEY	SWL :	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN.....	M. J. LORD
SECRETARY.....	P. BRIDGES
TREASURER.....	D. MACKEY
	G. WALMSLEY
	P. HICKEY
	P. FRY
	R. PALMER
	D. GREEN
	R. HICKEY